

# September 11, Speaker: Sherry Buchbinder, & Kidd-Barker

Founder, President and CEO  
Barker Dog Foundation, INC.



SEPTEMBER 2023

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### Speaker:

### Sherry Buchbinder: Barker Dog Foundation

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Ambassador Kidd-Barker

## Ambassador Kidd-Barker

Breed: Labrador Retriever Birthday: 12/17/17

Favorite Toy: All Squeaky Toys

Activities: Working, Retrieving & Sun Baths

### Titles & Certifications:

Certified Mobility Service Dog 2018-Present\*

Registered Pet Partners® 2019-Present\*

Canine Ambassador with Make-A-Wish 2019

AKC® Obedience- RN 2019

Barker Dog Foundation® Ambassador 2021

A dog house in hot weather is NOT shade, it's an OVEN!!! Take your pets inside or at least get them real shade, plenty of cold water and a baby pool if possible please...



*Barker in his "hot" boots!*

**Members and member guests come to the meeting on September 11, in the Equestrian Lounge. Doors open for refreshments at 6:00 and the meeting is at 6:30.**



## **Sherry Buchbinder, & Kidd-Barker**

It is amazing how one small instance can change the course of one's life. It all started with a little brown dog named Barker... He was a very sick puppy with Parvo, rescued, nurtured back to health, and gifted to us. Barker quickly became the rescue dog who rescued me! The Barker Dogs (Barker, Doc-Barker and Kidd- Barker) have guided me down a path of service, wonderment and growth. With a certified mobility service dog at my side, I became more independent, confident, and before I knew it, we were going places and doing things I never imagined possible.



**Barker Buchbinder**

With my service dogs also being cross-trained as a registered therapy animal, it truly enhanced our human/canine bond, as we became a TEAM in more ways than one. It didn't take long to discover there was a lack of information and understanding regarding the difference between a "Service Dog" (provides unique assistance to someone with a disability or handicap) or a "Therapy Animal" (provides love and comfort to anyone needing the feeling of calm, hope and joy).

With my service dogs also being cross-trained as a registered therapy animal, it truly enhanced our human/canine bond, as we became a

As volunteers, we have been privileged and honored to provide Pet Therapy with and on behalf of several well-known organizations at a variety of venues, all requiring us to adapt to every unique therapy animal visiting environment.



**Doc-Barker**

Sharing the Barker Dogs with others has given me unforeseen purpose and unimaginable joy.

Through the Barker Dog Foundation, our vision is to help educate people about the positive impact of service dogs, therapy teams and enhance the human/canine bond through education. There have been many stops on our journey thus far. Meanwhile, we are pleased to make Tailwaggers another stop on our journey. Hope you will join us.

### **Sherry Buchbinder**



# The trick is learning to know the difference.

## President's Message

Pam Miller

*"God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference..."*

The Serenity Prayer is something I use often when dealing with my dogs. We probably all had a reason for getting the dog we have. Maybe you had a soft heart and saw the cute puppy at the rescue and just couldn't resist taking him home. Or maybe you had planned for a long time to get a dog. You were set on getting just the right puppy and searched and searched for the best breeder to put your name on the list and get your perfect pup. You might even have needed a particular kind of dog to do a specific task or achieve a certain goal, like agility or nosework, or to be a therapy dog.

As for me, I had a hole in my heart I wanted to fill. So, I saw the pregnant mother at the rescue and laid claim to one of the unborn puppies. After they were born, I picked out the smallest pup, the one I thought might need the most love. It has turned out good for me and my pup, but certainly she is not all that I expected!

Just like many of your dogs, she has some characteristics I wouldn't have chosen. She licks too much to be a therapy dog like I had hoped she might be, and she is embarrassingly (for me) submissive around other dogs, groveling on the ground in front of nearly every dog she meets. It doesn't help that her best friend, Rupert, is very outgoing and unafraid of any dog, big or small! (To my point, you might even know him!) So, Rupert runs with the big dogs in the park while Jazzy sits safely on my lap.

I am wise enough to know that all dogs come with their own personalities and behavioral tendencies, for better or worse, and her two particular



**The Perfect Dog - Who's dog is it?**

characteristics are probably not ones I am going to change. I know I need to accept her for who she is including those disappointing traits. I also am very excited to help her develop into the best dog she can be, in ways that I CAN be of some influence. For instance, I try to encourage her in ways that build her confidence by introducing her to new experiences in a safe way to lessen her fear and to train her in ways that set her up for success.

I look at the Tailwaggers Dog Club in much the same way. I watched it grow from a "baby" hoping for the best to what it is today. I get to experience all the joys of people working together to accomplish our mission and I also get to deal with the problems and short-comings that come with any club made up of many individuals each with their own personalities. That usually means I don't always get my way!

I opened up my heart to a dog with an unknown background and eagerly look forward to see where life will take the two of us. I have done the same with the Tailwaggers. I am eager to try and influence what wonderful things the Club can provide to this community. But I am aware that it has a life of its own apart from me and I will, hopefully, accept and support whatever direction its "personality" takes it. I encourage each member to do what they can to influence the direction of the Club for the better and also accept and support the direction it may take, even if it is not perfect, just as Jazzy is not perfect. I nearly always focus on how wonderful AND PERFECT she is in so many ways. Tailwaggers is also PERFECT in many ways, which makes it easy for me to support in every way possible.

# Tailwaggers Happy'ngs

## General Meetings

**September 11, 2023**

**Sherry Buchbinder, ADA Ambassador**

Sherry educates people about the positive impact of service dogs, therapy teams and how she enhances the human/canine bond through education.

General Meetings are the second Monday of every month, unless notified differently. We meet in the Equestrian Center lounge at 6:00 for refreshments and 6:30 for the meeting.

## Special Events

**October 13**

**Club Fundraiser**

**Wine Tasting /Dinner and Silent Auction**

Tehachapi Wine and Cattle Company

(See flyer for details, on page

## Agility Division

**Agility Playdays**

**September 23 & October 21**

Contact Gary Hill, 480-216-8488, or Lucy Radike, 661-904-3379, to sign up and or more information.

## K9 Fitness Division

**WalkABOUTs**

This is a weekly event on Fridays at **7:00**. Meet at the Nature Path by the ball field. It's a wonderful way to connect and meet new TW friends while socializing and exercising our dogs. You can join us with or without a dog.

**HikeABOUTs**

Hiking the trails with our dogs will begin again in the fall, when the weather gets cooler. Have a good summer!

## Training Division Events

### NEW TRAININGS!

**Meg and Molly's Training Academy**

Offerings include AKC S.T.A.R. Puppy training, AKC Good Canine Citizen/Obedience and Rally training. The dates for the next series of classes will be announced soon. For more information, or to sign up for up-coming trainings, text/call Molly Mackin at 818-512-9836.

### NOSEWORK SERIES

**Rebecca Barocas, Competitor and Trainer in Nosework for over 10 years.**

Rebecca is interested in knowing who may be interested in participating in another 6 week series of Nosework classes. Contact Rebecca at 661-435-1194 to sign up or for more information.

## Dog Park Division



## Therapy Dog Division

**Happy Hounds and Friends Reading Program**



**Happy Hounds and Friends  
Reading Program**



For information contact Mary Thompson at 661-972-0731 or Lauren Jaimes at 818-636-9443



**Agility Playdays**  
By Gary Hill

Ok, Tailwaggers Friends - the weather is cooling and the days are getting shorter, so you know what that means! Autumn is coming? Outdoor activities are more pleasant? Schools are in session? Yes, all true, BUT, it also means that **TAILWAGGERS AGILITY PLAYDAYS ARE HERE AGAIN!! WHOO-HOO!!!**

Mark your calendars for Saturday, September 23 and Saturday, October 21 and send a message to either me or Lucy to reserve your spot!

We are going to have a BLAST with our canine teammates and you DO want to be a part of the party at the park...the Dog Park, that is!!

I hope to see our regulars and a bunch of first-timers next month! Do you have questions? Contact me at 480-216-8488.

***Keepin' it Pawsative, Gary***



Dot Ramierz and Skyler. This was Skyler's first time at an Agility Playday, what a brave dog!! Well, he is a Boarder Collie after all.

## Featured Article



### “Genetics load the gun; environment pulls the trigger.”

by Sarah Owings | Jan 1, 2019

I have sat personally and virtually in thousands of homes across the United States talking with clients about their aggressive dog. And everyone has one universal feeling in common....

They feel responsible for their dog’s behavior. They blame themselves.

Everyone blames you, even the people who are supposed to help you.

- Trainers
- The rescue
- The breeder
- Your veterinarian
- Your family
- Your friends
- Social Media

No one argues that genetics are responsible for a dog’s bad hips, bad elbows, allergies, poor coat condition etc.

Yet, no one recognizes that behavior problems, including aggression, are also based in genetics. Puppies are not blank slates that you get to mold into your perfect dog.

Breeds and their genetics play a huge role in your dog’s behavior.

Brene Brown said it best: “Genetics load the gun; environment pulls the trigger.”

Of course, she wasn’t talking about dog behavior, she was talking about human behavior!

Amy and I hiked Mt. Paugus over the weekend with Gio (8-yr-old yellow lab) and Minty (2-yr-old Pit/bulldog mix with 7% lab). Minty, being 93% terrier, Pitbull TERRIER, is always leashed or we’d lose her for sure on a self-designed hunting expedition.



*Minty’s DNA turns on when she sees a squirrel or smells some woodland animal that we’ll never see.*

If you put a beaver in the middle of the desert and play the sound of running water, guess what? She’ll start to build a dam. Her environment pulled the trigger.



If you have a shy, nervous and anxious dog it is not because you didn’t socialize him enough, it’s genetics.

Check out this great article about the role genetics play in our dogs’ behavior:  
<http://bit.ly/roleofgenetics>

## As the Tale Wags with Sandie Jones



***Sandie with Maxximus and Maisie***

This month BVS Tailwaggers honors Sandie Jones, administrator of the group Bear Valley Springs: Lost & Found, who has thus far helped more than 350 lost pets in BVS (and surrounding communities) find their way back to their human families since May 2020. Sandie's posts on Facebook, Next Door, Instagram and "X" (formerly known as Twitter) are usually in response to kind folks in the community who have found a lost dog, cat, horse or farm animal, or in response to frantic human parents of lost pets/livestock. Through the group's extensive community following online, and with the help of her daughter Brittney, these lost furbabies are reconnected with their human families. Sandie has done this work tirelessly, without any monetary compensation. She feels that this is her way of "giving back" to BVS/Tehachapi, which she has grown to love, since moving from Santa Clarita for health reasons in 2019.

Due to her self-effacing nature, Sandie feels embarrassed when her work is called heroic. If one learns more about Sandie Jones's situation, one can see why this adjective is fitting. Sandie has become progressively incapacitated due a combination of difficult to diagnose and difficult to treat comorbid conditions, including Multiple Sclerosis, Systemic Lupus Erythematosus, and a genetic connective tissue disease called Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome. Although she once was a manager/dispatcher for a trucking company, worked with a private detective,

and held other jobs requiring high levels of skill and responsibility, these illnesses have left Sandie unable to drive without transfer assistance, unable to consistently speak clearly or concentrate well enough to hold any paying job since 2005. Sandie is wheelchair bound, has chronic pain, involuntary tremors, body temperature dysregulation, and is often bed ridden.

Due to her disabilities, Sandie has had to learn to accept the help of others with grace. Sandie relies on her daughter Brittney for assistance with meal preparation, laundry, grooming, cleaning and transportation, when Brittney has time off from her night shift job at Domino's Pizza. Her son, Adam, is also very supportive, and is trying to find employment closer to home than his current job as a long distance truck driver to help his mother; while her older daughter, Megan, who lives in nearby Rosamond with her husband and young children, got their dogs at a rescue and have made themselves available to help their rescue when needed. Sandie emphasized that the volunteer work she does would not be possible without the involvement of the community and neighbors/friends who help contact her to let her know about animals that need assistance, commenting on and following her posts and helping her with the "detective work" connecting lost pets with their families, and especially keeping them safe while searching for the family. "It truly takes a village", she said.

Sandie and her family are extremely grateful of the help from community members/neighbors who have been there for them when they have been snowed in on Skyline for many days, needed help with weed abatement, or helped them with minor home/car repairs. She expresses deep gratitude for all the neighborly support.

Because she knows she is not alone, several years ago Sandie also created a Facebook site to offer support to others with debilitating chronic illness and their loved ones, which currently has over 17,000 members.

*Continued*

## Sandie Jones

Sandie went through a difficult time in the years leading up to her diagnoses because her earlier doctors ignored her concerns, choosing instead to dismiss them, causing her to ultimately lose her Social Security Disability claim "without prejudice" after more than a decade long fight. She now receives care through UCLA, and has managed to stay out of the hospital for the past year.

Through these experiences, Sandie learned the importance of building trust with the people she offers help. She tries not to be judgmental when someone's pet has escaped or wandered. An important bit of advice Sandie does offer any pet owner however is to have your pets micro-chipped.

## General Meeting Minutes

By Diana Munday, Secretary  
Monday, August 14, 2023

There was no meeting on August 14, 2023

The doors opened at 6:00 with refreshments.

## Treasurers' Monthly Report

**August 2023**

By Jeannie Alvarado

**Checking Account Beginning Balance** \$5,934.08

### INCOME

Membership 30.00

**Total** 30.00

### EXPENSES

Agility Equipment 89.95

Newsletter expenses (Aug. & Sept.) 300.00

**Total** 389.95

**ENDING BALANCE** \$5,574.13

As of August 31, 2023



# Fundraiser for Tailwaggers!

## Wine Tasting/Food and Silent Auction

### OCTOBER 13

**Tehachapi Wine and Cattle Company**

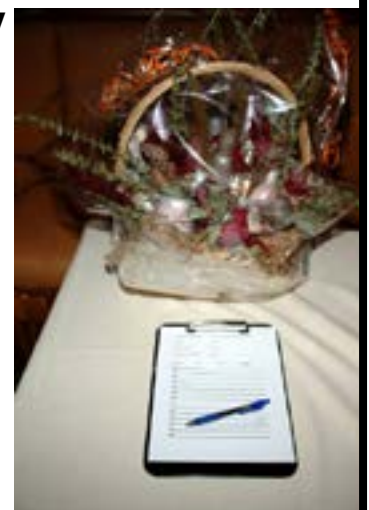
**Time: 4:00 Cost: \$30**

**Food: Tri Tip Sandwich**

**Salads, Desert Cookie**



Contact [Jeannie](#) or [Lucy](#)  
for Tickets or to donate  
items for the auction.





Learn more: <https://dunbar.info/BetterThanABowl>

DUNBAR ACADEMY



# Better than a Bowl

**Don't waste your dog's food by putting it in a bowl**

Use your dog's food to help them overcome fearfulness problems and build confidence, give them something to do when they're bored, or teach them to perform useful behaviors on cue, reliably and promptly!

*Here are just a few of the ways you can use food to train your dog:*

- Settle Down on their Bed
- Toss into their Crate
- Sit on Cue
- Puzzle Feeders
- Hollow Chew Toys
- Watch the World
- Stay
- Come
- Collar Grabs
- Snuffle Mats
- Shush
- Release an Object
- Toss to Floor
- Hug / Restrain
- Chill in the Car



***If your dog needs training, don't feed them from a bowl!***

If you feed your dog from a bowl, they will learn to take food for granted and it will be less useful when you try to use food in training.

Do you feed your dog raw or wet food? <https://dunbar.info/RawForTraining>

# Mission Statement

The BVS Tailwaggers Dog Club is dedicated to responsible dog ownership/guardianship. We are a body of people who care about their dogs and want to be with like-minded responsible people who feel the same. We are committed to sharing and learning. The club will provide experiences through education, training, fun events and social activities. It is designed to improve handler skills and be an information center for owners presenting issues and subjects based on our members' needs.

The club will provide support for local rescues in Kern County.



## Board Members

**President**

Pam Miller  
661-203-5725

**Treasurer**

Jeannie Alvarado  
661-917-1915

**Vice President**

Lucy Radike  
661-904-3379

**Secretary**

Diana Munday  
951-733-3909

**Members at Large**

Nilly Smith 818-519-8383  
Gary Hill 480-216-8488

**Newsletter Editor/Communications**

Pam Miller 661-203-5725  
pambvsprings@gmail.com

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**For those members with horses:  
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 \*We currently provide Recycle Collection Services on behalf of the Bear Valley Springs Veterans Association.

Call for further details

**Billy Curtis 661 345-0971**  
billycurtis37@yahoo.com



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**Hair Artist/Extensionist**  
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**The Snake Guys**  
Preserving the BVS Ecosystem  
A Volunteer Series

Snake Relocation  
Small Wildlife Rescue  
Facebook: Bear Valley Springs Snake Guys

Text or Call

Ron Hoyton	661-203-4468	Debbie Swinars	805-405-6010
Chris Budge	661-972-4320	Craig Swinars	661 821-0968
Key Budge	661-972-4328		

**2023 BVS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB  
APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**

**Mail to: Tailwaggers Dog Club,  
29800 Jamaica Dunes Dr.,  
Tehachapi, Ca 93561**

Annual Dues: \$30.00. Make checks payable to: BVS Tailwaggers Dog Club.

Please print

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Tract & Lot \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone #(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address (if different from above): \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address(s): \_\_\_\_\_

May we publish your name, phone numbers and e-mail address for club use? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide family members' names. Give the current ages and birth dates of your children who may be participating in Tailwaggers' activities. **\*\*All minors must be accompanied by and under the supervision of a parent or parent-designated adult (in writing) while attending or participating in Tailwaggers' activities.**

---

The BVS Tailwaggers Dog Club exists to represent canine interests in BVS, to promote responsible, informed dog ownership, and good fellowship of dog owners and BVS residents, to promote fun dog-related activities, including training, to improve and maintain dog-related facilities within BVS, and to support local canine rescues. Membership is open to adult property owners and residents in good standing with the Bear Valley Springs Association (BVSA).

**ACCIDENT RELEASE: My signature below hereby releases the Bear Valley Springs Tailwaggers Dog Club and the BVSA and all persons connected with these aforementioned groups from any liability/responsibility for any loss/injury/damage to either myself, my family, my dog(s)/or my equipment while I am/we are participating in, assisting with, or working on any event/activity sponsored by the BVS Tailwaggers Dog Club. Pursuant to Section 305 of the BVS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB By-laws, all adult family club members signing below hereby agree: (a) to take physical and financial responsibility for any dog under my custody or control; (b) that if participating in any BVS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB event with a dog that is not my own, they shall be liable for damage or injury inflicted by any such dog(s); and (c) that the Board of Directors or designated Event Coordinator or Trainer of BVS Tailwaggers Dog Club has the right to exclude any aggressive, unruly, or unmanageable dog and their handler from any BVS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB event. All adult family club members signing below further agree to sign and maintain on file with BVS Tailwaggers Dog Club a current year's Waiver, Release of Liability and Assumption of Risk form.**

ALL adult family club members must sign.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

(Parents must sign for minor child)

Tailwaggers Office Use Only

Dues Paid \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Date Paid: \_\_\_\_\_ Cash/Check# \_\_\_\_\_

1 of 2

Liability release/waiver signed: Yes\_\_ No\_\_

## BEAR VALLEY SPRINGS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB

### WAIVER, RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK TO BE COMPLETED AND SIGNED BY EVERY CLUB MEMBER

All club members must sign this form. Please read and be certain you understand the implications of signing. In consideration of my participation in activities arranged by BEAR VALLEY SPRINGS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB (BVS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB), I hereby release and covenant not to sue BVS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB, its owners, shareholders, directors, officers, employees, representatives, agents, and lessees and their successors from any and all present and future claims whatsoever, which the undersigned and any of them and the heirs, representatives, executors and administrators thereof, or any other persons acting in behalf, or on behalf of their respective agents, have or may have resulting from ordinary negligence and inherent risk of my participation in any activities or arrangements and the use of the facilities and equipment of BVS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB and Bear Valley Springs Association (BVSA) and Bear Valley Community Services District (BVSCSD), including but not limited to any loss, injury, damage, illness, sickness, or liability sustained by me while on or about the premises of the BVSA, the BVSCSD, or the BVS TAILWAGGERS DOB CLUB.

Express Assumption of Risk Associated with CANINE-RELATED ACTIVITIES. I, whose name and signature appear below, do hereby affirm and acknowledge that I have been fully informed of the inherent hazards and risks associated with canine activities and sports, including training, showing, competitions, exhibitions, events, meetings, play days and other activities. Inherent hazards and risks include but are not limited to:

1. Risk of injury from the activity and equipment utilized in canine activities of all kinds is significant including the potential for permanent disability and death.
2. Possible equipment failure and/ or the malfunction of my own or other's equipment.
3. My own negligence and/or the negligence of all others, including employees, agents, independent contractors or representatives of the BVSA, BVSCSD, and BVS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB, including but not limited to operator error.
4. The propensity of a canine (dog) to behave in dangerous ways that may result in injury or death to the participant or others or their dog(s) regardless of the dog's previous training and past performance.
5. The inability to predict a dog's reaction to sound, movements, unfamiliar environment, objects, persons, or animals.
6. Propensity for a dog to bite, fight, run, scratch, make unpredictable movements, jump, push or shove without warning or apparent cause.
7. Collars, harnesses, leashes and other equipment may loosen or break, which may result in accident, injury or death.
8. The domesticated animal may also react in a dangerous manner when condition or treatment is considered hazardous to the welfare of the animal.
9. The potential for a participant or others to fail to exercise reasonable care, or take adequate control when engaging in a domesticated animal activity, including failing to maintain reasonable control of the animal or failing to act in a manner consistent with the person's abilities.
10. Broken bones or severe injuries which may result in severe impairment or even death.
11. Pursuant to Section 305 of the BVS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB By-laws, I agree to take physical and financial responsibility for any dog under my custody or control; that if I am participating in any BVS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB event with a dog that is not my own, I shall be liable for damage or injury inflicted by any such dog; and that the Board of Directors or designated Event Coordinator or Trainer of BVS Tailwaggers Dog Club has the right to exclude any aggressive, unruly, or unmanageable dog and their handler from any BVS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB event.

I understand the description of these risks is not complete and that unknown or unanticipated risks may result in injury, illness, or death. I agree that immediately prior to participation in any activity arranged for me by BVS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB I will inspect the facilities and equipment to be used and if any defect is apparent I will not use the facility or equipment and I will notify the management of the BVS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB of the defect.

I HAVE READ AND FULLY UNDERSTAND THE ABOVE WAIVER, RELEASE AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND FULLY UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY SIGNING THIS WAIVER, RELEASE AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND SIGN IT VOLUNTARILY.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Any person under the age of 18 years must have a parent or guardian co-sign this form.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_