

UPPER SNAKE RIVER VALLEY DOG TRAINING CLUB



DECEMBER NEWSLETTER 2022

Dec. Christmas Party

Dec. 10th 6:00 PM @ Valerie Hall
(North Highway Café)

Upcoming Trials

USRVDTC Scent Work Trial Dec. 3rd & 4th
Bonneville County 4-H Building
Volunteers Needed

2023 Membership Fees are Due
Please visit USRVDTC.org to pay
online

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Desirae Chase
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Christmas Party

Dec. 10th 6:00PM at Valerie Hall (Next to North Highway Café)

RSVP to Richard by Dec. 2nd richbriz@gmail.com

\$22 a person -online payments are preferred

BYOB or wine (no liquor) Ugly Sweater Contest Gift Exchange (\$20)

Menu

Roast Beef (Hand Carved)

Broasted Chicken

Water & punch

Mashed Potatoes w/ brown & cream gravy

Dinner Salad

Fresh Rolls & Butter

Homemade country cakes

Fun Facts and
Comics Corner



HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS *for the dog*

TASTY FOOD

AVOID TABLE SCRAPS

FATTY FOODS RAISINS
SEASONING DOUGH
ONIONS BONES

SKIP THE SWEETS

CHOCOLATE XYLITOL
MACADAMIA NUTS
NUTMEG CINNAMON



**BE CAREFUL
WITH COCKTAILS**

SAFE SPACE



CREATE A
SAFE SPACE

FAMILIAR BED,
BLANKET, AND TOYS

PLENTY OF WATER -
CHECK IT OFTEN!

SCHEDULE PLAY &
BATHROOM BREAKS

HOUSE RULES

NOTIFY GUESTS OF
YOUR DOG EARLY

ASK YOUR GUESTS:
TO GIVE TREATS FROM A
DESIGNATED BOWL

TO KEEP DOORS CLOSED

TO BE AWARE WHEN
GOING IN & OUT



holiday decor



Clean up wrapping paper Avoid poisonous plants

Check for anything left behind.

Mistletoe, Holly, and Poinsettias

Blow out candles

Don't leave unattended.

Pet proof your Christmas tree

Securely anchor. Ornaments high. LED lights.

Firework ready

On Christmas and New Year's.

Don't leave gifts unattended

Especially if they contain food. Even if wrapped!

Funny Holiday Dog Stories

A Dog that Guards the Tree

I have a 10-year-old border collie mix who guards our tree. She has been doing this since she was 10 weeks old. I think she likes the lights and does not want to share with our 5-year-old black lab mix. She lays and sleeps under the tree. No presents can go under it because she thinks they are hers...maybe she wants all the presents???????? After Christmas she goes back to her old spoilt self....back to her own bed..... Brenda Tully

Festive Feces

After decorating a traditional Christmas tree, came home the next day to find that my Irish Setter had eaten all the tinsel off the tree that she could reach. For the next few days picking up in the back yard was festive!

Editors Note: Ingestion of tinsel can cause life-threatening gastrointestinal obstructions. Please don't allow your dog or cat to ingest it.

Goats and the Dog

As I was walking down the lane towards the barn with our dog Baby just as my husband was coming into the barnyard carrying our fully decorated Christmas tree from our storage place in the barn. Our five goats spotted him at the same time and all they could see was food. All five of them rushed towards Jay knocking him off his feet. The tree flew in the air and our goats started tearing into it. My husband got up with a set of lights and tinsel on his head and some of the goats were running around with lights and decorations on their horns. Baby was prancing around from Jay to me with a smile on her face. It was hilarious. I had a job getting the tree back together but it was well worth the work. June

Our Dog Ate the Garland

Here's a funny one. This one Christmas I decided we should string popcorn for the tree. That didn't work well, then I saw an ad in a magazine to string cranberries and dried mini marshmallows alternating them. During the first night we heard a strange noise from downstairs. When we checked we found our 8-month-old [German shepherd](#) decided to taste the fruits of our labor. After laughing for a while we

decided to restring them thinking he just pulled them off the tree. But then found out he ate the marshmallows and left the cranberries. Knowing there were some left we went digging in the trashcan looking for dried marshmallows. Whew, we were lucky, we just made it. That was over 30 years ago and we still laugh about it every Christmas. Now we know not to put anything edible on the tree, at least not on the bottom. Mary Ann

Dog with a Ball Fetish

Just this past week I bought Max, our 5-year-old lab mix, a mesh bag full of red and green tennis balls that were in the holiday section at Target. As I was unpacking the shopping bags, I saw out of the corner of my eye, that Max had somehow found the bag of balls, grabbed it between his teeth and quickly rushed out the still open door with it. Once outside, he proceeded to use his paws to hold the bag and his teeth to rip the mesh bag open! He was grabbing them up left an right as red and green balls rolled out onto the patio. He is clever and obviously a ball fanatic! Ali

Baptized the Christmas Tree

When I was single I had an Airedale mix that went everywhere with me. He was very polite and never lifted his leg so I never gave any thought to taking him to a friend's house for a Christmas party - oh, yeah - he found the Christmas tree and "baptized" it in their living room! It was really good my friends had a sense of humor because we spent most of the night laughing about it and Fred (my dog) just looked at us like we were all nuts! Linda Roundy

Sneaky Dogs

My two huskies would sneak rawhide candy canes off the Christmas tree with out touching anything else on the tree. Wish I had a picture of it. Bonnie

At the time, we had only one dog, a chihuahua, and one cat. Plus a live Christmas tree that needed water several times a day on a daily basis. After three days of filling the tree basin, my daughter caught the cat drinking out of it.

What Happens if Your Pet Drinks Water From the Tree

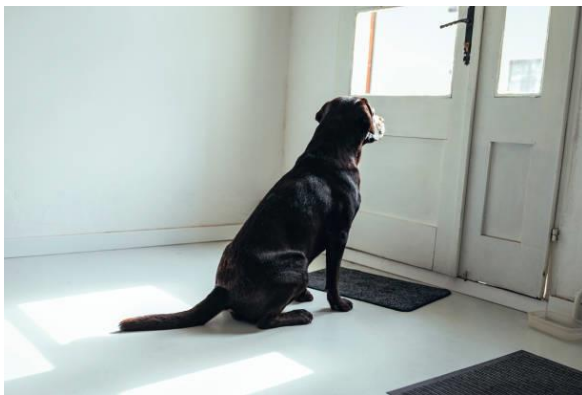
Then the dog. We took a picture of the first culprit drinking the water alone. Then the dog. Of course they were doing this together many times during the day. My daughter made a Christmas card with the cat on the front, saying something to this effect "If you drink too much this is what happens", and then inside the card was the picture of the dog drinking the tree water. Maybe it's just me, but I thought it was very cute. Merry Christmas! Michelle

My Dog Thought the Tree was for....

I had just purchased a house, and it had a 16-foot cathedral ceiling living room. So for Christmas, I HAD to get a 16-foot tree. I struggled to get it into the house, but managed. I then went out and bought tons of decorations, and made it beautiful. As I stood back to admire it and take pictures, the dog came in, sniffed it, and lifted a leg on my gorgeous Christmas tree! I now wish I had gotten a photo of that, but I was too busy screaming at the dog. Keith M. Leonard

*****NEW*****

TRAINING CHALLENGE OF THE MONTH “Wait”



Teaching Wait at the Door

By [AKC Staff](#) Jul 03, 2015

“Wait at the door” differs from [stay](#) in that your dog will get to move forward after given permission. It doesn’t matter if they sit, [lie down](#), or stand as long as they don’t move forward without permission. We first use the door as the prompt, but later a wait can be executed anywhere. We will put the cue on the behavior

from the beginning because we have a way to ensure the dog’s success. Say, “Wait,” wave your hand in front of your dog from left to right, open the door an inch, as soon as your dog looks away from the door, [click](#) or say, “Yes!” and treat. Repeat several times. I suggest alternating permission to “Let’s go” through the door (to something exciting on the other side) with a reward on your side of the door.

Steps to building the behavior include opening the door a little more at a time, increasing how long your dog waits, and escalating the excitement level of things on the other side of the door. Only make one thing more difficult at a time.

When you can open the door all the way and your dog will wait for quite a while, start taking a step forward through the door. Step back to your dog and reward. Build to walking away.

Wouldn't it be nice to leave your door open while you bring your groceries in the house and know that your dog won't go out the door?

5 Ways Dogs Help Humans Be Healthier and Happier

By [Liz Donovan](#) Sep 21, 2016



The old saying “dogs are man’s best friend” is just as accurate as it is cliché. Various studies have proven the effects dogs have on our health and well-being. For instance, in 2011, the [American Psychological Association](#) found that pet owners had “greater self esteem, were more conscientious, were more extraverted, tended to be less fearful, and tended to be less preoccupied than non-owners.”

The list goes on.

Lower stress: Studies have shown that petting a dog or cat can release the oxytocin hormone and decrease levels of the stress hormone cortisol, resulting in a more relaxed state. Incidentally, scientists have confirmed that dogs reap the same benefits from being petted. In recent years, dogs have been brought into airports, nursing homes, even school campuses to help relieve stress and pressure.

Healthier hearts: A study dating back to the 80s found that touching or even talking to a dog can lead to lower blood pressure. In 2002, [another study](#) found that married couples who owned a pet had significantly lower heart rates and blood pressure levels than people without pets. Furthermore, in 2003, the [American Journal of Cardiology](#) published a reported that claims heart attack survivors who own pets are eight times more likely to live another year if they own a pet—this study confirmed the similar findings in the 80s by researcher Erika Friedmann.



More active lifestyles: Need to amp up those steps or drop a few pounds? Owning a dog may be the kick-start you need. A 2011 study by [Michigan State University](#) researchers found that 60% of dog owners who walked their pets regularly met the recommended criteria for regular exercise. “There appears to be a strong link between owning and walking a dog and achieving higher levels of physical activity, even after accounting for the actual dog walking,” said epidemiologist Mathew

Reeves, who led the study. Of course, it’s recommended you select a dog that fits your lifestyle—in other words, a [very active dog](#) would not be a good fit for a more sedentary family.

Fewer feelings of loneliness: From feeling obligated to get out of the house to walk their dogs as well as attracting attention by the presence of a dog, people who own dogs are

proven to be less lonely. A [study published in 1993](#) found that “dog owners reported significantly less dissatisfaction with their social, physical and emotional states.” Recently, researchers at the [University of British Columbia, Canada](#), determined that homesick college students could benefit from dog therapy.



Fewer allergies: According to the Department of Pediatrics, infants in homes with dogs are significantly less likely to develop allergies. “Children who had a dog at home as newborns were much less likely to have allergic dermatitis (12% versus 27%) and wheezing (19% versus 36%) by their third birthday,” the [department claims](#). Also, researchers are [examining whether the bacteria in dogs’ mouths](#) may have a probiotic-like effect on humans after licking their owners.

USRVDTC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date 11/17/22

The regular monthly board meeting of the Upper Snake River Valley Dog Training Club was called to order by President, Nicki Bowden, on Tuesday, November 17th at Plum Loco in Idaho Falls at 7:04pm.

Previous Board Minutes Read/Dispensed: Motion to accept board minutes as they were printed in the August newsletter.

Motion by: Suzanne Belger

Seconded by: Marilynne Manguba

Board Members Present:

Lacey Moon Nicki Bowden Cheryl Loomis Richard Brizzee Suzanne Belger Marilynne Manguba

Report of President: None

Report of Vice President: None

Report of Secretary: Lacey received a notice from AKC reminding us to pay 2023 dues. Suzanne reported they have been paid.

Report of Treasurer: Suzanne requested to hold her report until the regular meeting.

Report of Committees:

Unfinished Business:

New Business:

Motion for Adjournment: Suzanne Belger

Seconded by: Richard Brizzee

Time Adjourned: 7:04

USRVDTC REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date November 17, 2022

The regular monthly meeting of the Upper Snake River Valley Dog Training Club was called to order by President, Nicki Bowden, at 7:05 p.m., on Thursday, November 17th, 2022, at Plum Loco in Idaho Falls, ID.

Board Members Present:

Lacey Moon Richard Brizzee Suzanne Belger Nicki Bowden Marilynne Manguba Cheryl Loomis

Members Present:

Phil Moon John Baughman LaDawn Moad Alicia Thompson Jordan French
Mira Johnson Jimmy Bell Steven Olson Lois Olson Jennifer Evans Rosha Adams Dwayne
Loomis Leslie Hill Dan Allen Teresa Mathis Anelyse Swenson Nichole Crossley Shelby
Moad

Guests

Robert Bonagofski Logynne Peters Austin Messick Cait Messick Chad Mitchell
Melissa McCartney

Minutes of Previous Regular Meeting Read/Dispensed: Printed in Newsletter

Motion by LaDawn Moad to accept minutes as printed in newsletter (Cheryl amended minutes to read "5 entries for tracking test" rather than 4 that was in minutes). LaDawn amended motion to say, "Accept minutes as amended".

Seconded by: Leslie Hill

Report of the President:

Report of the Vice President: Christmas Party will be December 10th at 6pm at the Valerie Hall at North Hi-Way Café. It is online to pay and reserve your spot. Ugly Sweater Contest and White Elephant gift (no more than \$20). Also, BYOB or wine, no hard liquor.

Report of the Secretary: Received an email from the AKC about "Changes From the November 2022 Meeting of the AKC Board of Directors". Changes are printed on the AKC website if anyone has any questions. Also, she received a letter from the AKC Humane Fund. If anyone wants to make a donation, the website is www.akchumanefund.org/donate/one-time-donation.

Report of the Treasurer: Suzanne Belger - YTD balance of \$114,351.06 and YTD net profit of \$2266.11. Reports filed with minutes and available via email if interested in viewing.

Report of Committees:

Agility-LaDawn –Thanks to everyone who helped at the October agility trial. Expenses for trial were \$9054.33. The club made \$9504.00 in entries so we have a profit of \$449.67

Scent Work Trial—December 3rd-4th At the 4H building. It's not quite full. Judith Guthrie is judging again. Come help at the trial about 8am on December 3rd.

Seminar – Suzanne –November 18-20th. This seminar is with Cameron Ford and Natalie Morris. We still have auditing available and 3 working spots left. It will probably be too expensive to have them back again so if you want to do it, this may be your last chance.

Elections – Forms were handed out for member of the year and for board member elections. Board members were unanimously voted in. Board members are: Nicki Bowden – President, Richard Brizzee – VP, Lacey Moon – Secretary, Suzanne Belger – Treasurer, Board Members Marilynne Manguba (3 years), Makayla Summers (2 year), Cheryl Loomis (1 year)

Unfinished Business:

New Business:

Cheryl – Clockwork Farms (11095 S 15th East) has a canvas covered arena that we can use for winter agility practice. It will cost \$20/hour on Monday nights. We are renting the building for 12 weeks. 3 hours per night. We can store our trailer there for an expense but it is extremely muddy so Suzanne would prefer we not keep it there unless it's a steal of a deal. Alicia or Cheryl will call to check on price to keep trailer there for the winter. Alicia moves to have agility practice at Clockwork Farms on Mondays. Phil seconded. Passed. Suzanne will put it on the website so you can pay online. Nicki will need to sign the contract soon so we can start soon. An email will go out to let people know when the practices will start.

Auditing Committee – Rosha, Shelby, LaDawn, Marilynne(board member)

2023 Member Dues need to be paid by January 31, 2023. They can be paid on the USRVDTTC Website.

Membership Applications Read/Approved:

Voting of new members --Chad Mitchell, Judy Hartmann, Austin Messick – WELCOME TO THE CLUB!!

Read: Melissa McCarthy (Lab—Milo) & Robert Bonagofski (Golden – Harley)

Motion for Adjournment: Phil Moon

Seconded by: Shelby Moad

Time Adjourned: 7:46 pm

Meeting Schedule

Board Meetings	General Board Meetings
January	February
March	April
May	June
July	August
September	October
November	November