



# Timber Ridge Newsletter

December 2024 Issue

## The Barking Bulletin

### NEXT MEETING

December 9, 2024

Holiday Party - Backwoods Bar and Grill

1511 Second Drive North, Stevens Point, Wisconsin 54482

Meeting @ 6:00 pm. Dinner @ 6:30.

### Upcoming

#### Events

**2025 Spring Obedience & Rally Trial**

(February 1-2)

**2025 Spring Agility Trial**

(April 26-27 at OKC)

**2025 Labor Day Agility Trial**

(Aug 31-Sep 2 at OKC)

### Consider

#### Volunteering

Volunteers are always needed for all our events.

It is a great way to meet people and learn how these events run.

Plus, what could be more enjoyable than a day spent with dog people?

As events are posted here in the newsletter, please consider helping the club. None of these activities can continue without your help!



**Mark this date  
on your calendar!**



## **2024 Timber Ridge Membership Meetings** (second Monday of the month)

**December 9, 2024** Holiday Party - Backwoods Bar and Grill  
1511 Second Drive North, Stevens Point, Wisconsin 54482  
Meeting @ 6:00 pm. Dinner @ 6:30.



### **TIMBER RIDGE MEMBERS ARE FIT!**



On Saturday, November 16th we held a FITdog walk in Stevens Point. This walk was longer than our previous walks, over 3 miles, and included a section of the Green Circle Trail.

The walk was enjoyed by 14 dogs and 11 humans!

Submitted by Asa Plonsky



# SIT! STAY! COMPETE!!

## Timber Ridge Fall Obedience & Rally Trial









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## Adult Dogs and New Puppies: Understanding Both Dog's Needs

By Sassafras Patterdale, CPDT-KA, CTDI

### Would Your Dog Benefit From A New Puppy?

Before bringing a puppy home, it's important to be honest about your adult dog's temperament and level of training. If you have an adult dog who is dog-reactive or who dislikes other dogs, it can be very challenging to get a puppy. In these situations, you must consider if you have the time, resources, and space to manage if the dogs need to live separately within the house. This could be a temporary situation if the older dog adapts to the presence of the puppy or could be a permanent arrangement.

If your dog likes to play with other dogs, they might still struggle with having a puppy in the house. "Even though you may have a dog who gets along really well with puppies, it doesn't mean they will get along with a puppy in their own home. It's very different to have a puppy visiting you vs one that is there 24/7," explains Dr. Valli Parthasarathy, PhD, DVM, DACVB Fear Free Elite, Low Stress Handling Certified, who is a board-certified veterinary behaviorist and the co-founder of Synergy Veterinary Behavior. With that in mind, there are things that dog owners can do to help set both older dogs and puppies up for success with cohabitation and reduce conflict between dogs.

## Before You Get a Puppy

Dr. Valli encourages dog owners to be proactive with helping older dogs adjust even before a new puppy comes home. “The first thing I would do is take the older dog into your vet, and make sure the older dog is healthy.” She notes that it’s important to identify and address any arthritis or other sources of pain before a puppy comes into the house. This is important because any kind of physical discomfort can increase reactivity for a dog and potentially increase the likelihood of conflict between dogs and puppies. In addition to pain management, you may also want to investigate other supportive treatments if your older dog has chronic health conditions such as canine massage therapy.



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In addition to making sure your older dog’s health is in a good place, we also want to consider their level of training. “Before you



get a new dog, be as confident as possible that your current dog is in a good place emotionally and behaviorally,” Dr. Valli encourages. The added distraction and stimuli of a puppy in the house is likely to exacerbate any ongoing behavioral issues, so working on training before bringing a puppy home is best. Otherwise, you’ll be finding yourself doing remedial training with your older dog and puppy basics at the same time.

## **The Importance of Supervision**

It’s impossible to stress enough the importance of supervised interactions between older dogs and puppies. As much as we want our puppy and older dog to get along, that doesn’t always happen overnight. Even when dogs and puppies are getting along, they’re still dogs and accidents can happen, potentially resulting in injuries. Proper introductions between your new puppy and your older dog are important, but that’s just the beginning of helping them form a healthy relationship.

Dr. Valli notes that a mistake that many dog owners make is that they’ll replicate interactions like they see on TV where a new puppy comes home, the older dog sniffs the puppy, and everything is fine moving forward. She notes that the older dog will show signs that they’re uncomfortable with the puppy as these behaviors continue. These signs of stress are ignored, and then the older dog snaps at the puppy later, and dog owners feel like the aggressive incident came out of nowhere.



Milles Studio

Dr. Valli encourages owners to pay special attention to the body language of their dogs. “Just because two dogs are playing or appear to be playing doesn’t mean they are comfortable,” she explains. Watch your dogs’ body language closely as they’re playing. Does your older dog initiate play? Dr. Valli advises that older dogs can seem like they’re having fun with a puppy, but they end up engaging in “defensive play” because the puppy is constantly bothering them. The result is the other dog engaging in play just to get the interaction over with, but they aren’t actually having fun. This can build frustration in your older dog which can lead to conflict between the dogs later.

Supervision and careful monitoring of interactions between dogs and puppies is important, regardless of the size of the dog and puppy. However, the bigger the size difference, the easier that an



injury can occur, even accidentally in play. This is true if you have a large puppy and a smaller older dog or a small puppy and a larger older dog. Dogs should always be supervised while interacting or playing, but when you have a significant size difference between dogs, supervision is even more important so that rough play can be appropriately interrupted and redirected.

## **Give Older Dogs Breaks**

Puppies can be exhausting! It's a lot of work to bring a puppy home, which can be stressful for dog owners. Even when older dogs and puppies get along great, they still need breaks from time to time. Don't wait for one of the dogs to get frustrated. If you notice that either dog is getting tired, frustrated, or disengaged, it's important to step in. Consider interrupting a play session and play with the puppy yourself or enforce some separate rest time in a crate, playpen, or other puppy-safe area of your home away from your older dog.

## **Dogs Need Space**

Dr. Valli explains that dog owners bringing home a puppy need to have a set-up where the puppy has their own contained area. She explains that this can be helpful with house training and cutting down on chewing inappropriate items. Plus, it can help foster a good relationship between the dogs. By limiting interactions between dogs to when they can be directly supervised, you decrease the likelihood of conflict developing. Using a playpen can allow a puppy to be part of daily activity while being separate from the older dog when you cannot fully supervise their interactions. This setup also allows the puppy to have a safe space to be when your older dog gets tired and needs a break from play.



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## **Make Time for Training**

All dogs benefit from training. While it's best to have your older dog's training in an established place before bringing a puppy home, it's important to continue training together without the puppy's involvement. "It's important for them to be separated from each other and be able to do things and do cues in each other's presence and each other's absence," explains Dr. Valli. Training is a way of building communication with your dog. Dr. Valli encourages dog owners to make sure they spend time teaching and reinforcing training cues with their dogs to strengthen their bond and connection.

## **Don't Make Your Dog Correct the Puppy**

When it comes to getting used to our routines, puppies can learn a lot from watching older dogs. However, we don't want to rely on our older dogs to train or raise our puppies. Dr. Valli noted that one of the big myths is that dogs can work out issues by themselves. She explains that a problem of letting dogs navigate conflict together is that puppies often aren't socially savvy enough to recognize when an older dog has had enough. Older dogs can also overcorrect puppies, or correct repeatedly, with the puppy not understanding or not responding as expected. As a result, the puppy keeps going back and interacting with the older dog who is becoming increasingly frustrated. The result can be a fracturing of the relationship being built between the older dog and the puppy.

In this case, the puppy can become frightened of the older dog after being corrected. Dr. Valli explains that, depending on your puppy's temperament, they may also take the correction as a challenge, which can lead to conflict escalating between the dogs and a fight breaking out. Dog owners must be involved in any interactions between their older dog and a new puppy, especially while their relationship is still in its early stages. If you notice your puppy playing rudely with your older dog, step in and redirect the play yourself.

## **The Complication of Puberty**

Don't forget that puppies are actively growing and changing. While your dog and puppy might get along great when first introduced, their relationship will continue to evolve. Many dogs may tolerate rude and playful behavior from very young puppies, but that can change as puppies get older. Dr. Valli explains that when puppies start to hit puberty, between the time they're 6 months to a year old, an older dog may become less tolerant of their behaviors. As your puppy is reaching maturity, continue



paying close attention to canine body language to ensure interactions are still positive between your older dog and puppy. If you notice uncomfortable body language from either dog, separate or redirect their interactions.

## **Get Support if Needed**

It's never too early to reach out for professional support when it comes to dogs and puppies living together in the home. It can even be useful to start working with a dog trainer before bringing a puppy home. A dog trainer who utilizes positive reinforcement training approaches can help you refresh training plans with your older dog and help you prepare the home environment for adding a puppy.

They can also help you identify what interactions between dog and puppy are normal, and what could signify a potentially larger problem. If you're struggling with introductions or see any kind of avoidant or aggressive behavior between your dogs, Dr. Valli recommends seeking professional support sooner rather than later. In the most serious cases of aggression or avoidance, you may also be referred to a veterinary behaviorist through your veterinarian, who may suggest medication support for your dog or puppy, in addition to training.



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# That's my dog!



1 Novice  
Scent Work +  
1 Novice  
Obedience =  
2 New Titles!

This Adds Up  
To A Lot Of  
Pride!

Sandfox Jacobin (**Oliver**) has had a successful couple of months! In September, he finished his Scent Work Novice title at the MAKC Scent Work Trial. At the November Timber Ridge Obedience Trial, he finished his Novice Obedience title, earning his CD; and also received his 1st qualifying score in Rally Advanced. Ollie may not be a ball of fire, but he gets the job done! Proud of my little guy!

Submitted by Jocelyn Reid







## REESE HAS A NEW TITLE!

Thanks to Timber Ridge and a very nice judge, **Reese** (Reese De Hemert) scored 95 points, placed 2<sup>nd</sup>, and earned her Rally Intermediate title at the Fall Obedience & Rally Trial on November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Submitted by Sarah Krueger



**ALL  
(RALLY)  
SIGNS  
POINT  
TO Q'S!**

Submitted  
by Serena  
Menge

Jai Dee & **Molly** got Q #2 at our TROCCW Obedience & Rally Trial. **Cora** earned her Rally Excellent title the same day. Her refusal to pose with ribbons is still going strong.





# LUKA IS EXCELLENT!

Luka earned his CDX on November 3 at the Timber Ridge Obedience Trial.

Submitted by Linda Redfield

Braggs  
are due by  
**NOON** on  
December 31<sup>st</sup>  
for the  
January  
Newsletter!

**TIMBER RIDGE OBEDIENCE CLUB OF CENTRAL WISCONSIN, INC.**  
**MEETING MINUTES**

November 11, 2024 – 6:30 pm Meeting – Prairie Room – Portage County Public Library

Hospitality: Karyn Kopecko

Meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm by President Karyn Kopecko

Members in Attendance: Ann Hanson, Chris Jarvis, Deanna Willems, Jocelyn Reid, Karyn Kopecko, Kathy Schuh, Laurie Bandy, Melanie Wiltse, Phyllis Christensen, Rose Gottung, Serena Menge. Via Zoom: Dana Nelson, Sarah Krueger, Suse Reinke Riddle, Wendy Carlson. Guests: Cindy Rodeback (2<sup>nd</sup> meeting), Karl Weyers, Liz Marie Berg.

Minutes of last meeting/motion to dispense: Motion to dispense made by Serena Menge, seconded by Melanie Wiltse.

President's and Board Report: a Board Meeting will be held via videoconference on Tuesday, December 3 at 6:30 pm. A copy of the agenda and meeting link will be sent to board members.

Secretary's Report: None

Treasurer's Report (subject to audit): Checking: \$9,984.39 – Savings: \$22,815.08 – Christmas Club: \$0 – CDs: \$8787.46. Total assets of \$41,586.93.

**Committee Reports**

1. **Website** – Jona Decker – none
2. **Awards Committee** –Serena Menge and Amy Sjomeling – none
3. **Sunshine Committee** – Chris Jarvis – none
4. **FIT Dog** – Asa Plonsky – next group walk is **Sat Nov 16 at 11 am**. Meet at the intersection of Whiting Avenue and Sherman Avenue in Stevens Point ( the River Pines section of the Green Circle Trail). Approximate length: 3 miles. For anyone pursuing FITdog titles, this would/could either count for a group walk/hike OR it could count as a community walk/run if you go through some additional steps and use the walk as your AKC FITdog Turkey Trot 5k. If you go with the Turkey Trot, you also get to buy a cool medallion.
5. **Nov 2-3, 2024 Fall Obedience & Rally Trial** – Wrap Up – Laurie commented that it was a smaller show, but Jennifer did a great job as chair, the volunteers were great, the judges haven't judged in this area in awhile and had nothing but good things to say about the trial.
6. **Nov 9-10, 2024 Fall Agility Trial** – Wrap Up - Chairs: Lisa Huber (Nov 9) and Janet Smith (Nov 10) - The Nov. Agility trial at OKC went very smoothly, OKC members were a huge help in addition to all the TR members. Volunteer spots were all filled as needed. Special thank you to Lori Schuman who again drove over on Fri. just for set-up, and Dee who stayed late Sunday for breakdown. There were 271 runs on Sat. & 226 runs on Sun. Profit looks to be quite good. We received a number of compliments, no complaints and no reportable incidents.
7. **Feb 1-2, 2025 Spring Obedience & Rally Trial** - Judge panel has been approved by AKC for both obedience trials and both rally trials. Received event approval notices for both obedience trials, but not the rally trials yet. Cindy resubmitted them. Looking for someone to organize potluck hospitality. We will also need committee members but not sure how many we need. Laurie Bandy moved that going forward for obedience trials, including February, the Club should purchase the main dish from an outside vendor (Subway, Arby's, etc.) rather than relying on volunteers. Sides and desserts would still be provided by volunteers. Anne Hanson seconded the motion, and the motion passed. Budget will vary depending upon the size of the trial.
  - a. Co-Chairs: Asa Plonsky and Kathy Schuh
  - b. Chief Ring Steward: Mary Frisch (also ordering ribbons)
  - c. Trial Secretary: Rose Gottung
  - d. Committee: \*\*\* VOLUNTEER(S) NEEDED \*\*\* Mary Frisch

- e. Judges: Laurel Stern (Rally) and Lynn Tamms (Obedience)
- f. Hospitality: \*\*\* VOLUNTEER(S) NEEDED \*\*\*
- g. Venue: Camp Bandy
- h. Individual Volunteer Sign-up: (link coming) \*\*\* VOLUNTEER(S) NEEDED \*\*\*

**8. Apr 25-26-27, 2025 Spring Agility Trial** – This coincides with the NFL Draft being held in Green Bay. Hotel rooms will be hard to find. Karyn will book a block of rooms either at LaQuinta or Holiday Inn Express.

- a. Chairs: Karen Lemke
- b. Trial Secretary: Lorah Markquardt
- c. Course Builder: \*\*\* VOLUNTEER(S) NEEDED \*\*\*
- d. Committee: \*\*\* VOLUNTEER(S) NEEDED \*\*\*
- e. Judge: Terry Elger
- f. Venue: Oshkosh Kennel Club
- g. Volunteer Coordinator: \*\*\* VOLUNTEER(S) NEEDED \*\*\*
- h. Individual Volunteer Sign-up: (link coming) \*\*\* VOLUNTEER(S) NEEDED \*\*\*

**9. Aug 31-Sep 2, 2025, Labor Day Agility Trial**

- a. Chairs: \*\*\* VOLUNTEER(S) NEEDED \*\*\*
- b. Trial Secretary: \*\*\* VOLUNTEER(S) NEEDED \*\*\*
- c. Course Builder: \*\*\* VOLUNTEER(S) NEEDED \*\*\*
- d. Committee: \*\*\* VOLUNTEER(S) NEEDED \*\*\*
- e. Judge: Han Yu
- f. Venue: Oshkosh Kennel Club
- g. Course Builder: \*\*\* VOLUNTEER(S) NEEDED \*\*\*
- h. Volunteer Coordinator: \*\*\* VOLUNTEER(S) NEEDED \*\*\*
- i. Volunteer Sign-up: (link coming) \*\*\* VOLUNTEER(S) NEEDED \*\*\*

**Elections** – Cindy Rodeback – 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting – she unanimously elected as a new member of Timber Ridge.

**Unfinished Business**

1. Board Meeting – Karyn Kopecko - a Board Meeting will be held via videoconference on Tuesday, December 3 at 6:30 pm. A copy of the agenda and meeting link will be sent to board members.
2. Nominating Committee – positions expiring Jan 1, 2025: Laurie Bandy – VP, Ann Hanson – Treasurer, Kathy Schuh - Board Member, Dana Nelson - Board Member. Rose Gottung and Karyn Kopecko are on the committee. One more position to fill. There was some discussion about which club members might be a good fit for the open positions. Please contact Karyn Kopecko if you would like to serve on the nominating committee. Nominations from the floor will take place at the December meeting.
3. Blog posts to Jona Decker – Chris will send a reminder to those that initially volunteered,
4. Social media for promoting club activities – reminder to post club activities on any social media sites you belong to.
5. Holiday Party location – Laurie suggested sending a short-lived survey to members to choose a location between two suggestions. Survey was sent Monday night and expires Tuesday night at midnight. An RSVP and a Facebook post will go out when details are solidified. Karyn will handle the details with the location. Dana Nelson volunteered to help with “party activities”.



## **New Business**

1. **Annual Dues due December 31.** You only need to fill out the renewal form if your information has changed. Send forms/checks to Chris Jarvis, 3631 Heritage Ridge Drive, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494
2. **2025 Fast CAT** – the club needs to decide if we want to continue to host Fast CAT trials. They are a tremendous amount of work. It was noted that a Fri-Sat-Sun trial would be more successful for the same amount of work. Most trials in 2024 were 3 days, we did not run Friday in 2024. The 2024 trial netted about \$1000. We need to secure a trial chair ASAP if we want to continue in 2025. Karyn will reach out to Jona Decker.

## **Next Meeting Hospitality:** Holiday Party

**Next Meeting:** December 9, 2024– 6:00 pm meeting – 6:30 pm dinner – Location TBD – A separate RSVP will be sent as soon as location is determined. The window to RSVP will be short due to the limited time to the event, so please RSVP as soon as possible.

**Meeting Adjourned** – Laurie Bandy moved to adjourn the meeting and Melanie Wiltse seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:21 pm.

**Braggs!** Send your brags to Sarah Krueger by November 30 for the December newsletter.

# November 2024 Treasurer's Report

|                          |            |                               |
|--------------------------|------------|-------------------------------|
| Opening Balance          | 9,984.39   |                               |
|                          |            |                               |
| Storage                  | -35.00     | Storage Unlimited             |
|                          | 9,320.00   | Deposit agility trial         |
|                          | 5,053.00   | Deposit obedience trial       |
| OKC                      | -1,100.00  | arena rental                  |
| November obedience       | -22.13     | Dana food                     |
| November obedience       | -49.67     | Jennifer Kressin misc         |
| November obedience       | -800.00    | Camp Bandy arena rental       |
| November obedience       | -844.00    | Charlotte Mielzner judge      |
| November obedience       | -1,128.12  | Patricia Strong judge         |
| November obedience       | -505.10    | Jennifer Kressin judges hotel |
| November agility         | -441.00    | Rodney's Cafe lunch           |
| November agility         | -1,104.75  | Ronda Bermke judge            |
| November agility         | -686.25    | BluestemATsecretary           |
| November agility         | -1,739.50  | AKC recording fees            |
| November agility         | -76.00     | Karen Alvarez injured dog     |
| November agility         | -106.18    | Janet Smith misc              |
| November agility         | -6.98      | Lisa Huber misc               |
| November obedience       | -87.63     | Chris Jarvis food             |
| Transfer to savings      | -10,000.00 |                               |
|                          |            |                               |
| Expenses                 | -4,359.31  |                               |
|                          |            |                               |
| Balance checking account | 5,625.08   |                               |
|                          |            |                               |
| Savings Balance          | 32,815.08  |                               |
| Christmas Club           | 0.00       |                               |
| Balance CDs              | 8,808.04   |                               |
| Total Assets             | 47,248.20  |                               |
|                          |            |                               |
| Pineries – CDs           | 2,807.17   |                               |
|                          | 2,905.69   |                               |
|                          | 3,095.18   |                               |
|                          | 8,808.04   |                               |
|                          |            |                               |

# Officers & Contacts

|   | <u>Term</u> |
|---|-------------|
| <b>President:</b> Karyn Kopecko <a href="mailto:k.kopecko@gmail.com">k.kopecko@gmail.com</a>          | 2025-2026   |
| <b>Vice President:</b> Laurie Bandy <a href="mailto:laurie@campbandy.com">laurie@campbandy.com</a>    | 2024-2025   |
| <b>Treasurer:</b> Ann Hanson <a href="mailto:alhanson1@gmail.com">alhanson1@gmail.com</a>             | 2024-2025   |
| <b>Secretary:</b> Chris Jarvis <a href="mailto:ckjarvis22@gmail.com">ckjarvis22@gmail.com</a>         | 2025-2026   |
| <b>Board Members:</b>   |             |
| Rose Gottung <a href="mailto:rosesbeagles10@gmail.com">rosesbeagles10@gmail.com</a>                   | 2024-2026   |
| Kathy Schuh <a href="mailto:kschuh@charter.net">kschuh@charter.net</a>                                | 2024-2025   |
| Jocelyn Reid <a href="mailto:jocelynreid23@gmail.com">jocelynreid23@gmail.com</a>                     | 2024-2026   |
| Dana Nelson <a href="mailto:nelson.dana22@gmail.com">nelson.dana22@gmail.com</a>                      | 2024-2025   |
| <b>Newsletter:</b> Sarah Krueger <a href="mailto:sarahinpaca@charter.net">sarahinpaca@charter.net</a> |             |
| <b>Club Website:</b> <a href="http://www.trdogtraining.com">http://www.trdogtraining.com</a>          |             |

## Camp Bandy Members Only Training Times



### Sunday, December 8th

11 - 12:30 | Obedience, Rally & Individual Skills

12:30 – 2 | FULL COURSE Agility

### Sunday, December 22nd

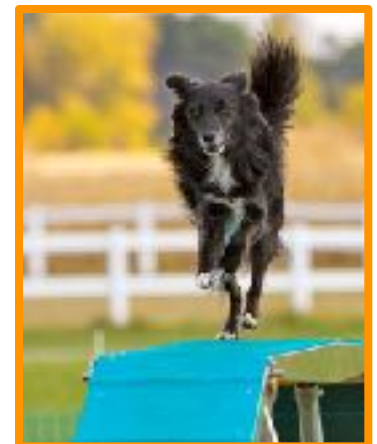
11 - 12:30 | FULL COURSE Agility

12:30 – 2 | Obedience, Rally & Individual Skills

\*Members set up rings and courses\*

### **GUIDELINES**

1. Please gate off the section you are working on during separate skills.
2. Please ask if the person is done using the equipment before you start working your dog.
3. Please have gating across the front while running full course agility.
4. Please have dogs on leash while entering and exiting the building.





## **A REMINDER FROM THE PAST PRESIDENT!**

**Because we have recently added many new members (YAY!!), here are a couple of reminders about training time:**

1. Members set up the rings and courses. If you aren't able to help or arrive later, please don't jump in and start using things that others have spent the time setting up before they have had a chance to use the ring/course. We have Camp Bandy for this time frame only. Many hands make work light.
2. Crate your dog(s) unless you are working them in the ring/course or in a spot in the arena. Be mindful of other people and dogs.
3. Agility time is for a full course. Agility time is set aside so people can run full courses. If there are a lot of people, work together to change jump heights, etc. Gate off the area by the door.
4. Obedience rings should be used to work your dog either on a 'run thru' or a set of exercises for a reasonable amount of time. Everyone should have time in the ring. If you wish to work on an individual skill for agility, great. It means one piece of equipment (so no multiple pieces of agility equipment during obedience time).
5. Communicate with each other. If someone is taking too much time, tell them. If you need to leave in 20 minutes - ASK if you can go next. If someone sets up a course or a ring say thanks. If you need help with something, ASK. This is a great group who is more than willing to help out.
6. If you put food on the walls to mark the go-out (or for any other reason) please clean up the spot, remove the food, etc.
7. If you are there alone or just a few people, work it out, if you don't need a ring, great. You don't have to set it up. You can be there for the full 3 hours or only 15 minutes.
8. Training time is meant to be used by any/all members. Keep in mind people use these times in different ways. Whatever way you use the time...enjoy training your dog!

**Many great friendships have been made during this time!**