



The German Shepherd Dog Club of Minneapolis & St. Paul

Socialization/Obedience Workshop with Ron Halling

Location: Animal Inn, Lake Elmo, MN (During the colder weather)
Veteran's Park in Apple Valley MN (During the warmer season for
training in outdoor distractions)

The German Shepherd Club of Minneapolis & St. Paul is pleased to host Monthly Socialization/Obedience Workshops. The purpose of these workshops, is to introduce you to and familiarize you and your family with one of the smartest breeds of dogs. The session also includes how to correct issues such as uncontrolled barking, aggressive tendencies, pulling on the leash and any other issues that arise. Beside the lecture at 10 am and working class time at 11 am, participants meet other local German Shepherd owners as well as club members in a relaxed environment while improving socialization/obedience skills and knowledge surrounded by other families experiencing the same issues.



Students of all levels are welcome from first time owners to advanced trainers. Come learn unique training techniques, increase your demonstrated performance each month and enjoy socializing your dog. Students will have fun training with ideas specific to their dog that they learn and practice during the month to establish good habits. Whatever your goal we work on during the hands-on segment.

Your dog will be wagging its tail while learning to work with you as the pack leader and as a team. This is a positive and confidence building training session for your GSD and yourself. This will provide more thought provoking techniques that will make training your best friend easier. You will develop into a happier and better behaved team at your leisure activities or competing in the ring.



For the pet owners, learn ideas that make owning a GSD a pleasure and not a stressful day in the park. Exercises that make them think turn into a peaceful day at home after taxing their brains.

Learn why GSD's are considered such a smart breed and bring out the best in your pet by learning to be the pack leader and setting the boundaries of your household. Issues such as controlled barking, being a responsible GSD owner, having better control in daily activities and your personal issues are worked on each month. Your dog wants to please you, we show you how to get those desired results by both you and your GSD. Also offered are supervised group walks to work on socialization issues in public while enjoying other owner's company sharing the same issues. Watch as your pack driven animal melts into the pack and learns to behave by example.

This is for those wanting to perfect the techniques' for better socialization skills of you and your dog. Enjoy learning to walk in control of

your GSD responsibly and leave no doubt in your dog's mind that you are the pack leader.

If you are competing, learn ideas to polish you and your dog's ring presence and make you "that team" at the shows or at social functions.

While looking professional you will also learn how to minimize ring errors, to own the ring and practice overcoming distractions. We will work on your particular problems in class.

Other Workshop Activities -

Workshop attendees also can join in other fun activities such as the Demo Team, seen here performing at the State Fair. <http://youtu.be/sxgvYw05n48>

Monthly group walks are also available to continue work on socializing their dogs, enjoy other GSD owners company and are both free to workshop participants. Before the group walk begins watch as all these pack driven dogs assimilate to each other and walk in a quiet pack ignoring the other on-coming dogs and humans which become just normal background.

German Shepherd Dog Socialization Class Lecture at 10 am

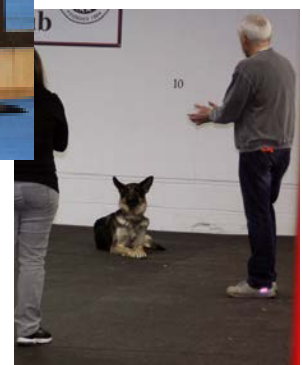
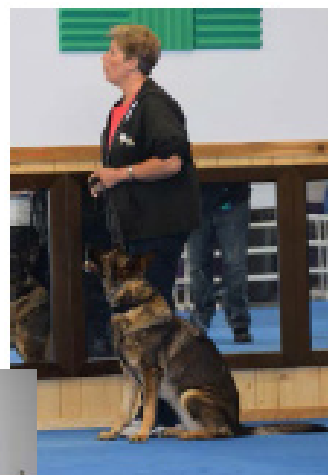
This lecture is designed for first time GSD owners or handlers that are having unique difficulties never experienced with a previous GSD. Many consider it a tutorial to gain the best GSD experiences they never knew were possible. You'll learn tips on what to expect at different imprinting stages, how to be prepared to handle these stages

and make the most of these times in your dog's life.

One of the keys to owning most GSD's is that they need a good pack leader much like a pack of wolves in the wild. This manifests itself usually by the time the dog has reached "the terrible two's" which is a teenager in human years. A GSD's natural instinct drives it to find its own hierarchy in the family which if not defined early can lead to misconceptions by the dog concerning who ranks where in the household. Without leadership many GSD's feel it's their job to protect

the "pack" and that they have ownership of the behaviors they exhibit. Some of the most commonly heard phrases made by participants are "I've owned two or three GSDs in my life and never had one act like this". Or "he/she was so nice and all of a sudden it's starting to bark or act aggressively towards this person or that".

This is why we use the term "non-socialized", because the dog hasn't received the rules defining what's appropriate social behavior and what is not. The one issue we do NOT deal with at the class is a "red zone" dog. One that is trying to attack and neutralize anyone or anything in sight. Otherwise, the dog needs to have your "boundaries" set in place and enforced.



Class Schedule

10:00 a.m. is a tutorial lecture for families new to the breed or owners having issues they are having trouble dealing with. This includes dogs that are performing unwanted behaviors of any sort, from counter surfing, barking, pulling on the leash to aggressive behavior and EVERYTHING in between. This hour is to teach training skills for the owners of these dogs one on one before joining the 11 am included hands-on Beginners class to continue working on socialization techniques. Many students have expressed their relief that they are working amongst others sharing the same issues.

11:00 a.m. Beginner's class is the second half of the tutorial class and owners learn advanced communication and bonding skills. This is also an on-going class to refine skills as necessary.

12 p.m. Pot Luck Lunch (Human Socialization) We supply a main dish, bring a kennel or put your dog in the car and enjoy a bite while chatting with other owners in a relaxed setting. During the warm season food and beverages are available at the American Legion located next door to Veteran's Park while during the indoor sessions participants are encouraged to bring a dish to share while acquainting themselves with other GSD owners or merely train at the allotted time and enjoy the rest of the day as planned.

1:00 p.m. The Afternoon session is for dogs that have attended a workshop or have completed or are attending obedience classes at other schools. Again, this is an on-going class that adds fun activities that also relate to real life situations such as training your dog to back up or walk backwards, hand signals, better stays, recalls and overall better bonding. This class also taxes your dog's brain by teaching him/her to go sit on a spot while you move the cars, come to you according to which direction you choose and other changing monthly topics that can be done by any level owner.

After class we work on the Demo Team which anyone can join with any level of heeling skills. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=poatmYpFaek>

2:30-4 p.m. Open/Utility (must be scheduled in advance)

****If you have not been to a workshop please call or write to discuss which class is right for you and your dog**.**

****Private one on ones and in-home specific issues are also available by request****

Please contact Ron at Hallings@frontiernet.net or 612-720-1536

Price: \$30.00 for the first dog and \$15.00 for a 2nd dog or class.



Meet the instructor

Ron Halling

My name is Ron Halling, I've been involved training GSD's since 1972. I have always owned GSD's because that's the breed I love. They are intelligent and have an overwhelming desire to please their pack leader. Using those two traits I have, over the years, found some interesting concepts that work, and work better for our GSD's.

In the 70's I took my first step into obedience at Twin City Obedience Training Club and about that same time also got to know an instructor for the Mpls. K-9 unit. He helped me work through the terribly aggressive behavior on my own dog that was my best friend and challenge for 14 years until his death. Currently I have two retired dogs that I had brought up to the



UDX level. Besides showing in obedience we also have performed demonstrations working two or three dogs that included the Children's Museum of St. Paul showing multiple uses for obedience rather than just in the ring. In the ring I have won numerous High In Trial, High Combined, won Brace at the GSDCA Nationals for five straight years, 2010-2014 as well as trials nationally, having scored as high as 199 in multiple trials and a National Obedience Invitational qualifier in 2011. During the 2013 GSDCA's 100th year Nationals held in Philadelphia, my female Addie won the coveted Grand Victrix Award becoming the first GSD in Minnesota to ever win this top Obedience title and the 41st dog overall to have ever won this award in 100 years.

I have been on the board of directors as well as the Director of Obedience for the St. Paul Dog Training Club 2008- 2015 and remain active going to obedience seminars which included a class on becoming a judge. Having worked with the twelve instructors at SPDTC and other schools increased my knowledge base. There are many issues that occur when owning and training different dogs. I have taught at all levels at the school as director with all breeds but my heart belongs to the GSD. I have researched to find different approaches that worked with different GSD dogs and have come up with new solutions when their owners felt they had hit a dead end.

I facilitated working seminars from 2008 to 2010 in the Iron Range and have built a reputation for my ideas for both in the ring and out. I also used to write for a nationally published column for another GSD club, dealing with obedience questions and answers along with a new training tip each issue.



I've been facilitating the monthly GSD Workshop in Mpls./St Paul

since 2010 focusing on making obedience fun, functional to our

breed and helping all understand why we need to be the pack leaders with our dogs.

My theory is not to try to replace your current instructor but instead, offer an upbeat and fun hour or two exploring and sharing different ideas and methods that, through demonstrated

performance have proven very helpful to other GSD owners.

Testimonials

*Hi Ron!! Just wanted to send a note of THANKS!! The class was so empowering and I have been on Cloud 9 since....just knowing I can control Deuce and that he can be a contributing member of society. I know you are already aware of this, but the work you do is such a labor of love and I am so deeply impressed and grateful that you offer this refuge for GSDs and GSD owners who need some breed expertise---think of the lives you have saved! I have been breeding for 20 years and I only wish I had discovered you sooner. We will see you at your next class!!

*I just wanted to thank you for your extremely helpful instruction 5/31. I now know I should have contacted you first to see which class to attend, but I hope I didn't slow the class down too much. As I mentioned I have had him in several obedience classes over the years but not consistently. I also have not been able to match a serious obedience class versus casual class with my schedule.

*Hi Ron, I plan to attend at 10 am--just being there with everyone being calm and relaxed helps her chill out and get comfortable -and then she is much more focused to work at 11. You could read the phone book and we'd still attend it for that reason--but instead you talk about relevant dog behavior and training stuff - even better! :-)

*Hi Ron,
I thought I'd send you the attached. Your tip on the escalating corrections worked a small miracle in our house over the last two weeks – my cat can finally walk through the house without my GSD pouncing on her like the walking squeak toy she was. He used to jump up and sit * on her - now he eases up beside her and they get petted together. They aren't buddies, but they are co-existing, and that is a huge improvement.

*Thank you for the update. Do you think it would be worthwhile for Sierra and I to come and work on the whining? We're working on it. It's definitely gotten better, but still happens. I also wanted to tell you that Diane and I were out on the porch talking. Her husband came out the front door. Sierra got up and went over to him, tail wagging and waited for a pet, no barking no jumping around. The next day we were out walking and ran into a family who lives about three blocks away. Sierra went up to the husband, tail wagging, and waited for a pet. The husband said, "Wow, that's a totally different dog than the one I first met that barked and growled and wanted to attack."
It's such a pleasure to have a socialized dog. Without the training from you, Sierra would still be that dog that hated men and scared everyone

*Do have to tell you that Neveah gave me an opportunity to try the arm pit trick you told me. She started the growling/barking etc. with a young boy at the dog park yesterday. Just so happens the guy who recommended SPDTC to me was also there. I told him what you said about the arm pit and I didn't need to say more. He knew it well and had very nice things to say about your training. I was rubbing her front arm pit and was like "this isn't working" and he came up and showed me the right place and just like you said... She melted. That was really awesome. That saved us from another meltdown and shocking stares from all the other dog owners. Thank you so much for clueing me in on that one!!!!

Testimonials continued

*I cant get over the difference my dog is from the first class last fall (where I almost broken down in tears and left) to the dog laying at my side in the September walk photo my daughter took.

*I have never taken a dog into a store, except Petsmart. She was incredible and SO many people commented on her manners and sweet disposition. Big thanks to GSD club Friday night classes, Amber and your classes Ron!

*I so appreciate you coming here two weeks ago and setting us on a course of peace! It was most helpful, and I am now operating with more firm corrections, and a better understanding of good boundaries for both dogs. I am happy to report that things are improving. My female has reduced her dominant growling and attacking of my male, and we are all much more hopeful of making this a manageable issue. Having something to throw at her when she starts up really does stop the behavior, and me just working on being calm but firm and deep with my voice when doing corrections is key as well.

I felt rather deskilled and unsure whether we could work it out before our session; now I feel like we are doing pretty darn good. I took both dogs to the cities today and we went on a three mile walk in a neighborhood, with people and dogs and traffic and both dogs did great. No fighting, growling or pulling! It was a pleasure. Thank you again for coming this far out, and being such a good advocate for these beautiful and smart animals.

* We are grateful for your very wise approach to “training” and help with our two. We think you both have done enormous amounts of good for the club. Altho breed is the foundation for the club, you have recognized the importance of “companion” in the ultimate companion dog.



DIRECTIONS TO ANIMAL INN TRAINING SCHOOL FROM EAST SIDE 494/694/94 INTERSECTION IN WOODBURY/ OAKDALE

Take Highway 694 North for 3.1 miles to Highway 14 (old 5.)

Go East (right) on Highway 5 for 1.9 miles.

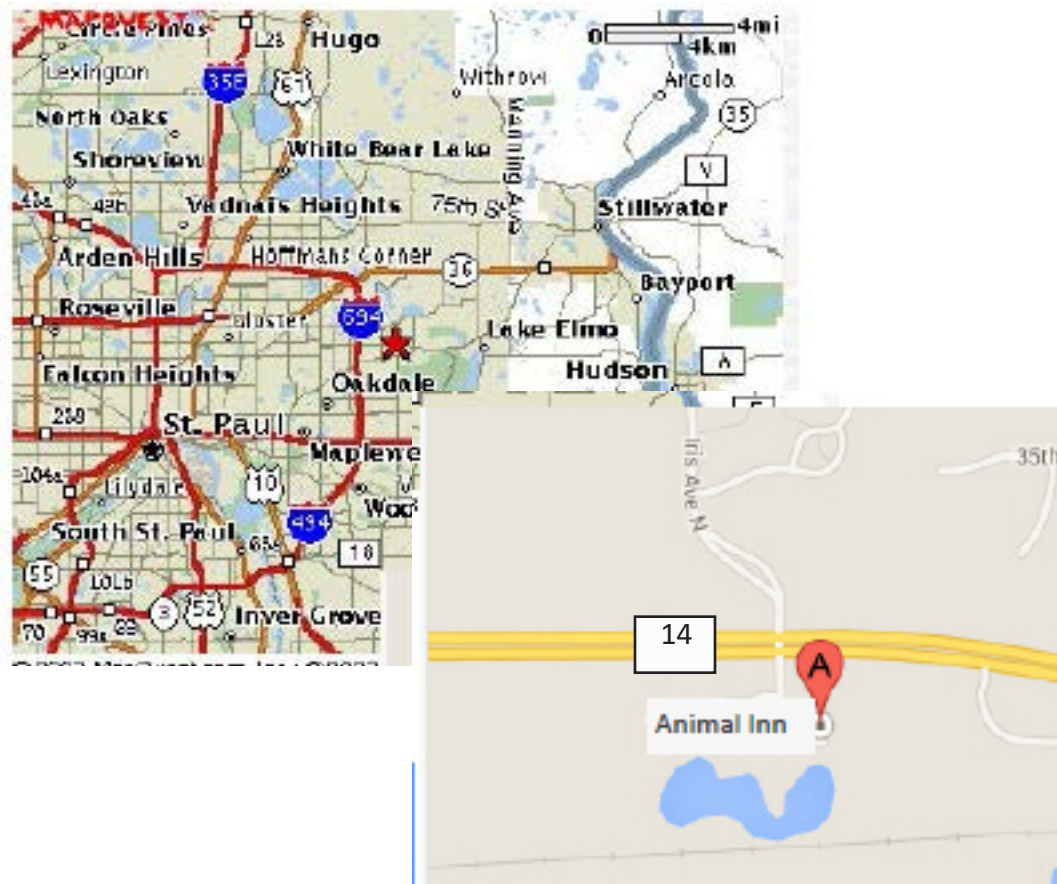
Animal Inn is on your right. At bottom of driveway the school is the building on your left.

FROM HIGHWAY 36/HIGHWAY 694

Take Highway 694 South for 2.2 miles.

Go East (left) on Highway 14 (old5) for 1.9 miles.

Animal Inn is on your right. At bottom of driveway the school is the building on your left.



Outdoor Location;

Veteran's Park, located on South side of
Apple Valley American Legion
Post 1776
14521 Granada Drive
Apple Valley, MN 55124

Just Northwest of Cedar Ave. & County Road 42

