



John Barbagallo <john@johntrainsdogs.com>

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## Training Inquiry

14 messages

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**John at John Trains Dogs** <john@johntrainsdogs.com>  
To: gracearit01@gmail.com

Tue, Dec 6, 2022 at 12:06 PM

Hello Gracie,

Thanks for reaching out! I'm sorry to hear about what is happening with your dog.

I can definitely do my best to help, but before going any further I'm going to recommend (if you haven't done so already) your dog get a complete checkup with their veterinarian to rule out any underlying issues that we might not be able to see. And possibly speak with a veterinary behaviorist. Any competent trainer that you speak with is going to recommend you do the same.

If she isn't muzzle trained you'll want to start working on that, too. [The Muzzle Up Project](#) has some great resources.

We could also try a virtual meeting first. I haven't tried it out yet but I do know my provider (Google Meet) does have live captioning options.

Let me know how you'd like to proceed

John

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John Barbagallo  
FDM, KPA-CTP  
[johntrainsdogs.com](http://johntrainsdogs.com)  
401-217-9840 (text preferred)

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**Grace Arit** <gracearit01@gmail.com>  
To: John at John Trains Dogs <john@johntrainsdogs.com>

Tue, Dec 6, 2022 at 5:05 PM

Hi John, thank you for the response, yes we saw online that the first step is to rule out issues with the Vet, so we visited our local vet at Ansley Animal Clinic, and we did all that, she's healthy as can be, and we did learn that she needed to be muzzle trained after the incident, so we worked on that now, she actually likes the muzzle and gets excited for it. We've spent a lot of money with some online help to be honest, and ultimately it's either we're not understanding what needs to be done. We work on engagement training at home, and she understands the engage and disengage game, but when our kids come into the picture, she gets anxious again, so we're not even able to keep her around the house. We did some work outside for a few months, and rewarded for ignoring, as our other trainer suggested, but it hasn't helped much. It's hard to work via zoom sessions because we're in school through the day, and of course with the kids, it's a bit chaotic so we thought we'd rather get in person training for a few weeks. Is that still possible?

I don't mind the zoom consultation with you first though, is that free? May I ask what the consultation will cover? Lastly, is it possible to have the sessions at night, since we're working during the day time.

We followed you on instagram and love your posts. We were hoping to see some more videos of aggressive dogs you have worked with in the past, do you have some videos we could see? My husband has extreme OCD and needs things to feel more in order. I hope this isn't all too much or too complicated. As I mentioned, because of our specific needs, it's not very easy to get the help we need, and many trainers have turned us down. Hope to hear from you soon!

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**Grace Arit** <gracearit01@gmail.com>  
To: John at John Trains Dogs <john@johntrainsdogs.com>

Tue, Dec 6, 2022 at 5:08 PM

Also, we saw the link you sent, and it lead us to Aggressivedog.com, we tried to watch a video but it looks like we have to pay \$500, and it looks more like a site for other trainers? We don't have that much money to spend on that, but we saw

the video on how to train for the muzzle (we watched it on youtube before!)

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**John at John Trains Dogs** <john@johntrainsdogs.com>  
To: Grace Arit <gracearit01@gmail.com>

Fri, Dec 9, 2022 at 1:06 PM

Hi Gracie - Apologies for the delay getting back to you.

So the way it works for in person sessions is we have a virtual initial consultation first, so I can get as complete a history of your dog as possible. Those are not free as they can last about 90 minutes. You'll fill out an intake form that we'll review during the consultation. That intake form and anything we discuss during the consult helps me put the behavior plan together.

We'll also need to put several layers of safety in place for our in person sessions:

- Muzzle
- Double leash connected to harness and collar
- Gates to keep us separated.
  - If gates aren't possible her leashes will need to be tied to something

Since you'll only be here for a few weeks I could offer a modified version of my training package. I'll also need to know where in Rhode Island you'll be. We may be the smallest state but it's not exactly convenient to get to certain parts - especially during rush hour. My service area is listed on my website

If you only wanted to meet virtually we can basically talk about whatever you wanted.

That all being said I would be happy to do the best I can to help you and your family - but my professional opinion is that you should seek out a certified veterinary behaviorist **first**. In my experience they'll tell you to work with a trainer that has experience working with these dogs, but they also have a better understanding of what is going on inside of their heads (for lack of a better term) *and* can assist with behavioral medication.

Let me know how you would like to proceed.

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**Grace Arit** <gracearit01@gmail.com>  
To: John at John Trains Dogs <john@johntrainsdogs.com>

Fri, Dec 9, 2022 at 2:51 PM

Hi John, no problem, I assume you're quite busy. I appreciate that you have virtual training, and as I mentioned, my husband just needs a little more convincing. Do you have any resources where we can see some work you've previously done with aggressive or reactive type dogs? Since we're paying, we just want to make sure, before spending the money. Virtual sessions are stressful for me because of my hearing, but I understand your process.

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**John at John Trains Dogs** <john@johntrainsdogs.com>  
To: Grace Arit <gracearit01@gmail.com>

Sun, Dec 11, 2022 at 7:46 AM

The only videos I have don't actually show dogs being reactive/aggressive - In order to get that video I'd have to put them in the position to practice the behavior. Which isn't fair to them. But all the dogs I work with do have behavior challenges and you can find some testimonials on my website.

I understand your hearing is a barrier but I just can't meet any dogs in person where I haven't had a chance to speak with the family first. Especially aggressive dogs. I have to ensure everyone completely understands the multiple levels of safety that needs to be involved - for my safety.

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**Grace Arit** <gracearit01@gmail.com>  
To: John at John Trains Dogs <john@johntrainsdogs.com>

Mon, Dec 12, 2022 at 6:24 PM

Hi John, thank you for the response. We actually received 2 recommendations for a trainer in Los Angeles named Eric. (@ericandcaprithepup) - both our friends sent their dogs to him and the dogs are so well behaved. He offered to take our dog at no charge, my husband felt more comfortable seeing his work and he gave us free access to his training site to watch full videos. If anything changes, we'll reach out to you again. Take care!

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**John at John Trains Dogs** <john@johntrainsdogs.com>  
To: Grace Arit <gracearit01@gmail.com>

Mon, Dec 12, 2022 at 8:51 PM

Gracie - I'm going to advise you to stay away from Eric Ita. Eric isn't a trainer. He is a social media personality that puts dogs in danger. He let a client's dog attack his own dog. You can read more here: <https://blog.johntrainsdogs.com/2022/07/07/the-dangers-of-social-media-trainers/>

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**Grace Arit** <gracearit01@gmail.com>  
To: John at John Trains Dogs <john@johntrainsdogs.com>

Tue, Dec 13, 2022 at 10:28 AM

Hi John, thanks for the warning ❤️ Actually we just watched some videos on another trainer's page names Gia, and in one of the videos, this trainer is featured with a pitbull. That dog acts just like ours. Very calm, focused, and wants nothing more than to attack. So what is the next step with you? Did you say your virtual consultation has a translation/caption option? Our kid isn't mute so she may be helpful in signing for us, what you're saying. We really were just looking for someone who we could meet in person as we've already done zoom after zoom with no success.

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**John at John Trains Dogs** <john@johntrainsdogs.com>  
To: Grace Arit <gracearit01@gmail.com>

Tue, Dec 13, 2022 at 12:30 PM

Before we can move forward I'll need to know where in Rhode Island you'll be, and when. Rhode Island is small but I don't cover the whole state.

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**Grace Arit** <gracearit01@gmail.com>  
To: John at John Trains Dogs <john@johntrainsdogs.com>

Tue, Dec 13, 2022 at 5:42 PM

We're staying here:

[11 Dorrance St, Providence, 02903](#)

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**Grace Arit** <gracearit01@gmail.com>  
To: John at John Trains Dogs <john@johntrainsdogs.com>

Mon, Dec 19, 2022 at 10:26 AM

Hi John it's been a while since my last message, you're not usually this slow to respond. I follow you on social media so I can see you're not that busy so I'm a bit frustrated that you're not responding effectively enough, considering my predicament.

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**John at John Trains Dogs** <john@johntrainsdogs.com>  
To: Grace Arit <gracearit01@gmail.com>

Tue, Dec 20, 2022 at 8:05 AM

Grace - my last message was on 12/13 when I asked for where you are staying and the dates you would be in Rhode Island. I never received the dates.

I understand that you are frustrated but please don't claim to know whether I am busy or not based on my social media activity.

Best of luck

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**Grace Arit** <gracearit01@gmail.com>  
To: John at John Trains Dogs <john@johntrainsdogs.com>

Tue, Dec 20, 2022 at 8:08 AM

You have no work of your own to show us, you have never trained aggressive dogs, you have barely any videos of you actually doing any training, you're trying to scam us into paying for a zoom session so you can tell us more bullshit. You're not a great person. Have a great day SCAM ARTIST!

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