



The Grateful Dogs Scoop

GRATEFUL DOGS OFF-LEASH ASSOCIATION
3930 Meridian Street, Suite 291
Bellingham, WA 98226
www.gratefuldogs.org

August 1, 2004

Board Members

Co-presidents
Anara Thomas and
Lucienne Hebert

Treasurer
Mollie Faulkner

Membership
Candace Grene

Newsletter
Jean Webster

Email List
Chris Sandvig

Website
Nate Melanson

Members at large:

David Dean
April Claxton
Sheila Nickerson
Jay Perelman
Cheryl Platt
Leigh Foley

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!

We have many events being planned – if you want to help, email us at: volunteer@gratefuldogs.org

THANK YOU!

Email Version?

We will be offering an email version of *The Grateful Dogs Scoop* starting in spring 2005.

If you are interested in receiving this newsletter electronically, please email Nate Melanson nathanmelanson@yahoo.com

The first issue of 2005 will arrive via email!

Membership Info:

To change your address or for membership questions, please contact Anara at 671-4193 or email smilined@yahoo.com



From the Doghouse

Summer, 2004

Our guardians haven't just been hanging around at the dog parks with us, they have been busy on many fronts on our behalf to secure more off-leash areas because our population is increasing along with the people population.

First there were **board elections**: Anara Thomas and Lucienne Hebert, co-presidents; Mollie Faulkner, Treasurer; Candace Green, Membership chair; Jean Webster, Newsletter chair; Chris Sandvig, email list; Nate Melanson, Website; and members at large are; David Dean, April Claxton, Sheila Nickerson, Jay Perelman, Cheryl Platt and Leigh Foley.

Second, our guardians realized that this organization has evolved into needing to become incorporated. So articles of incorporation were written up by April Claxton and Kelly Pederson, refining wording at the last board meeting. The by-laws will be the next push. Our guardians' goal is to be ready to do fund raising activities to begin work on designated off-leash areas and educating the public.

To incorporate, five board of directors were needed; they are: Mollie, as registered agent, then Anara, Sheila, April and David.

Third, our guardians are negotiating for a **fenced off-leash area at Cornwall Park**, which may require a few more meetings. A 2 acre fenced space is included in the **Squalicum Fields** park plan. However, that space may be on a slope. Our guardians have attended two park design, public input meetings and will attend the final meeting, scheduled:

Tuesday, August 24th - 7pm-9pm

Bellingham Technical College Cafeteria
3028 Lindberg Ave. Bellingham

We encourage your guardians to attend that meeting, although there may be little public input. We should go too, but we're not invited and it might be hard to behave inside for a couple of hours. Ah, if only they held the meeting outside!

Regarding **Lake Padden**, in case you haven't heard your guardians talking, the parks department is currently preparing a fenced two-acre off-leash site at the current off-leash area, which will have drinking water access. Oh, boy, we can hardly wait!

Kym Fedale, a city **Environmental Educator** will be visiting trails where us canines hang out and working to protect bodies of water from dog waste.

She'll encourage people to pick up after us, provide plastic bags and give out coupons for dog products at local dog

Listings are a service provided for businesses that join Grateful Dogs at the Business Level. Please contact Anara at 671-4193 or email smilined@yahoo.com for more information.

Pet Sitters & Boarding
Bellingham Bay Pet Nannies
Full service pet sitting & dog walking.
 (360) 734-PETS

Tails-A-Wagging
Pet Sitting Service, Doggie Day Care & Obedience Training.
 2123 Lincoln St
 Bellingham, WA 98225
 (360) 733-PETS (7387)

Pet Grooming
City Dogs
Grooming for your best friend.
 (360) 756-9515

Pet Shelters/Rescue
Whatcom Humane Society
 3710 Williamson Way
 Bellingham, WA 98226
 (360) 733-2080

Alternative Humane Society Of Whatcom County
 PO Box 2321
 Bellingham, WA 98227
 (360) 733-2088

Pet Stores/Food
Pet Panache
Natural Pet Products
 1901 State St.
 Bellingham, WA 98226
 (360) 671-0116

Hohl Feed & Seed Co.
 1322 Railroad Avenue
 Bellingham, WA 98225
 (360) 734-0300

PetStop
The Pet Food Experts!
 Sehome Village
 Bellingham, WA 98225
 (360) 738-3663

Petco
Where the pets go!
 189 East Bakerview Road
 Bellingham, WA 98226
 (360) 715-3785

Other Services
KC Coonc, Realtor
 Fairhaven Realty
 1100 11th St.
 Bellingham, WA 98225
 Office: (360) 676-8990
 Cell: (360) 305-9977
 Email: kc@fairhavenrealty.com
www.realestatebykc.com

From the Doghouse...cont. from page 1

stores. Her goal is to provide light hearted, dog waste education to our guardians (I wonder what her approach will be at Bloedel Park, talk to the geese?). If you see her around, be nice and lick her!

One last thing, one of our guardians let our website lapse, so it has been down and out and will be up and running again by the time you see this newsletter.

Email pictures that you want posted to Nate Melanson, nathanmelanson@yahoo.com.

The articles of incorporation should be posted after they are approved by the state. We hope you are getting lots of socializing and exercise this summer.

--- From Sunny and Reesha

*"I'm a lean dog, a keen dog,
 a wild dog, and lone;
 I'm a rough dog, a tough dog,
 hunting on my own;
 I'm a bad dog, a mad dog,
 teasing silly sheep;
 I love to sit and bay the moon
 to keep fat souls from sleep."
 --- Irene MacLeod*

Help Your Pet Cope with Summers Heat

*By Jenn Merritt:
 APS of Orange County*

Summer is a wonderful time to be carefree, but not a time to be careless with the health and safety of our pets. Hot, humid days are especially hard on our four-legged family members. According to Dr. Charles Miller, a veterinarian at Triangle Veterinary Hospital in Durham, summer-related pet illnesses that he sees include hyperthermia (heat stroke), musculoskeletal injuries from overexertion (sprains and strains), and flea and tick problems such as flea infestations, allergies, and tick-transmitted diseases. Taking some reasonable precautions can help keep our pets healthy and safe during times of temperature extremes. Heat stroke or hyperthermia can be a deadly consequence of heat exposure. By definition, hyperthermia is an increase in body temperature.

"When not caused by infection, hyperthermia or heat stroke occurs when the body temperature exceeds 106 degrees and the body is unable to cope," said Miller. "It can be brought on by heat exposure and or increased exertion. Symptoms of heat stroke include extreme panting, hyper salivation, depression, coma, and dark mucus membrane gums that are brick red. We can also see pinpoint hemorrhages on the skin, vomiting blood or blood in the stool." Because heat stroke can be fatal, Miller urges pet owners to seek veterinary treatment for their companions immediately. "The key to successful outcome is early recognition and treatment," he said. "While transporting your pet to the vet, turn the car's air conditioning on, spray your pet with cool water, and massage their muscles to dilate the blood vessels. Pets should not be put in ice, in that it decreases the cooling process by

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Help Your Pet Cope with Summers Heat.....cont. from page 2

restricting blood vessels. If the animal is cooled too rapidly, a fatal blood-clotting disorder may result."

To keep your pets safe from heat stroke and heat exposure, leave them indoors in a cool room with access to water, and leave the air conditioning on for them during the hottest parts of the day. If your pet is left outside during the day, provide plenty of shade and access to cool water.

Although a year-round exercise routine is an important part of every dog's life, avoid exercise-related heat illness by not taking them on a run in the middle of a hot and humid day. Exercise during the morning and evening, giving lots of breaks, remembering to take along some water to help them cool down.

To avoid strains and sprains, it's also a good idea not to allow your dog to

overdo it if they are not used to intense physical exercise. "Just like us, pets need to build up to it. And the pads of the animal's feet can also be burned by the hot pavement." Miller said.

Furthermore, skin problems and parasites can be exacerbated by the heat of summer. Regular grooming, removal and trimming of excess hair can also help keep your pet more comfortable. Pets with very short hair, fair pigment or light hair can be sensitive to sunburn. Miller suggests using a light sunscreen, as well as flea and tick protection to keep your pet safe from flea infestations and tick-related illnesses such as Rocky Mountain spotted fever, Lyme disease and ehrlichiosis.

In conclusion, using common sense to keep your pet safe and healthy during summer months is the best advice.

A local business was looking for office help. They put a sign in the window, stating the following:

"HELP WANTED. Must be able to type, must be good with a computer and must be bilingual. We are an Equal Opportunity Employer."

A short time afterwards, a dog trotted up to the window, saw the sign and went inside. He looked at the receptionist and wagged his tail, then walked over to the sign, looked at it and whined. Getting the idea, the receptionist got the office manager.

The office manager looked at the dog and was surprised, to say the least. However, the dog looked determined, so he led him into the office. Inside, the dog jumped up on the chair and stared at the manager. The manager said, "I can't hire you. The sign says you have to be able to type." The dog jumped down, went to the typewriter and proceeded to type out a perfect letter. He took out the page and trotted over to the manager and gave it to him, then jumped back on the chair. The manager was stunned, but then told the dog, "The sign says you have to be good with a computer." The dog jumped down again and went to the computer. The dog proceeded to enter and execute a perfect program that worked flawlessly the first time. By this time the manager was totally dumbfounded! He looked at the dog and said, "I realize that you are a very intelligent dog and have some interesting abilities. However, I still can't give you the job." The dog jumped down and went to a copy of the sign and put his paw on the sentences that told about being an Equal Opportunity Employer. The manager said, "Yes, but the sign also says that you have to be bilingual." The dog looked at the manager calmly and said, "Meow."

DOG DAYS OF SUMMER FUN RUN/WALK & FESTIVAL

Sunday, September 5th ♦ Lake Padden Park, Bellingham

A day of fun for dogs and their people - benefiting the Whatcom Humane Society

5K fun run ♦ 2.6 mile walk ♦ Dog/People games and contests ♦ Pet related vendors and information booths ♦ Breed rescue groups ♦ Tasty food ♦ Prizes & Giveaways

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

9:00am Registration
10:00am Runners begin
10:10am Walkers begin
10:30 - 2:30 pm **Dog Days of Summer Festival**

Pre run/walk registration fee is \$20.00

Day of walk/run registration fee is \$25.00 **Pre-registration forms must be postmarked by August 20th.**

Dog/People Games Include:

Dog/Person Musical Chairs, Dunking for Tennis Balls, Treat Toss, Bow-Wow Bowling and More!

Dog Contests Include:

Best Costume, Best Tail Wag, So Ugly You're Cute, Best Bark/Howl, Best Trick and a Canine Peanut Butter Eating Contest.

Download a Dog Days of Summer registration form at:

www.whatcomhumane.org or pick one up at the following locations: WHS, Paws Awhile Gift Shop, Whatcom County Haggen Food & Pharmacy Stores, PetStop in Sehome Village, Tails-a-Wagging Doggie Daycare or Maplewood Animal Hospital.

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!

We need 7-10 volunteers to help with the booth at the **Dog Days of Summer Event**. We're looking for people to contribute 2 hours apiece to help spread the word about our fantastic off-leash dog parks! Bring a friend and your pooch & meet other dog lovers while contributing "hands on" to your local off-leash association.

Call 647-0391

for more information

THANK YOU!



Membership Application

NAME: _____ DOGS NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

TELEPHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

If you are interested in receiving the newsletter by email, please check box

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP: NEW _____ RENEW _____

(Circle one) FAMILY \$10 INDIVIDUAL \$6 BUSINESS SPONSOR \$25

VOLUNTEER INTERESTS: _____

Please mail this form with your check to the treasurer at:
GRATEFUL DOGS, 3930 Meridian St, Suite C 2-91, Bellingham, WA 98226

About Grateful Dogs

The Grateful Dogs Off-Leash Association is a community organization that acts to protect and enhance our off-leash recreation areas, as well as to promote all aspects of responsible dog ownership. Why should you join us? Your membership in Grateful Dogs expresses your commitment to helping to insure the present

designated areas of the city will continue to be available for off-leash recreation. The future of off-leash recreation in this or any community is dependent upon your supporting organizations such as ours. Please join us and send in your membership form. Membership information is also available on our website at www.gratefuldogs.org.



FAIRHAVEN REALTY
a branch of Lakeway Realty, Inc.

1100 -11th St. Bellingham, WA 98225

Office: (360) 676-8990, 1-800-736-5545
Fax: (360) 734-5109
Cell: (360) 305-9977
E-mail: kc@fairhavenrealty.com
www.realestatebykc.com

KC Coonc, ABR
Realtor






Upcoming Poop Scoop Party Dates...

Post Point: First Saturday of the month; 9am-11am
 Saturday, August 7,
 Saturday, September 4
 Saturday, October 2

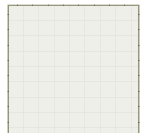
Blodel Donovan: First Thursday of the month; 9am – 10am
 Thursday, August 5th
 Thursday, September 2nd
 Thursday, October 7th

Thank you
for your
support!!!



**GRATEFUL DOGS
OFF LEASH ASSOCIATION**
3930 Meridian Street, Ste.291
Bellingham, WA 98226

*Do you have a pet-related business?
Consider advertising in this newsletter!*



Inside this issue:

- ✓ Board Elections
- ✓ Articles of Incorporation
- ✓ Squalicum Fields Meeting Date
- ✓ Cornwall Park Update
- ✓ Lake Padden Update

**MEMBER NAME
STREET ADDRESS
CITY, STATE ZIP**