

CMBP Newsletter

A Free Quarterly Publication for CMBP Users & Supporters

Issue 31

Summer 2004

CMBP Turns 10 this October!

The CMBP Foundation is poised to build on the hard work and dedication of those who have volunteered and worked for the Bark Park over the past ten years. This issue contains many articles on the various projects and improvements planned for the next stage of the Bark Park. Read on and pick a project or issue that is important to you. See how you can help. Volunteers are welcome and needed!

Be a part of our change and win a \$75 Gift Certificate for Maggiano's Little Italy!

To mark the next stage of CMBP development, we're renaming our newsletter and looking for ideas from YOU. Come up with a name for the quarterly newsletter. Submit your entry(s) to the Foundation by July 31, 2004 via email at mail@cmbarkpark.org, Hotline at 949-733-4101 or mail the form on the back of this newsletter to 1835 Newport Blvd, A-109 PMB 153, Costa Mesa, CA 92627.

Be sure to include your name and contact information! Be creative! All suggestions are welcome! The winning name will introduce the 10 Year Birthday/Fall issue in September and the entrant will win a \$75 Gift Certificate for Maggiano's at South Coast Plaza.

DONATION

Green is coming to the park! **United GreenTech (UGT)** of Laguna Hills has generously donated 720 sq.. ft of synthetic turf to the park. It will soon be installed in the bare area surrounding the watering hole on the large dog side.

UGT's synthetic turf is used on sports fields and private dog runs as well as landscaping in high traffic areas and where water availability is an issue.

The synthetic turf was offered to the Foundation because CMBP is an ideal candidate for UGT to test the turf's durability under the intense and constant "abuse" of multiple dogs.

After a presentation by Daryl Green of UGT and discussion, the Foundation voted to accept the donation (valued at over \$4,000 retail). If the synthetic

CONTINUED
Page 7 Donation



REMEMBER

Bath' Stille Day
& Vendor Fair

Saturday

August 7, 2004

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

See Enclosed Flyer for Details

RETIREMENT

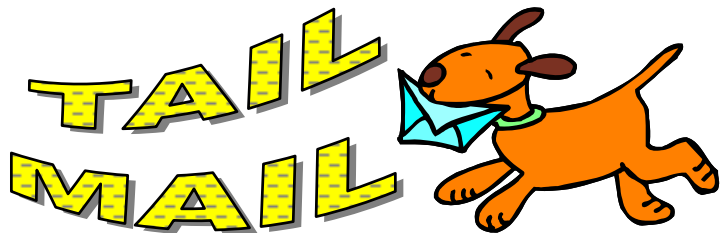
Long-time *Free Pooch Press* editor, Patt Bell, has resigned to pursue new career opportunities. The Bark Park Foundation thanks Patt for her dedication and hard work since the very beginning in 1994 and wishes her success in her new endeavors.

Parking Lot Update

The east half of the parking lot has been striped according to the latest city plan. Please, follow the one-way traffic flow to avoid confusion and prevent traffic jams on busy days.

Beginning in July, the west end of the lot will be used by the city maintenance department for

CONTINUED
Page 4 Parking Lot



Learning in the Park



Via letter:

Please accept this donation to the Bark Park. Since bringing our dog Scooby over to the Bark Park weekly for about the past six weeks we have noticed a vast improvement in his social skills. He doesn't growl at the neighborhood dogs any more. We attribute it to his being able to run free and socialize at the Bark Park. Many thanks.

Jim & Peggy Boeke
Fountain Valley

Via email: (CMBP user has a concern)

You are the dedicated parent or lawful person who makes sure that when driving all occupants are secured in their seat belts. But, you have probably forgotten someone very near and dear to you - your dog. What happens to them when you have to make an abrupt stop or, heaven forbid, you are in an accident?

They can be thrown out the window or tossed about in the car, injuring itself or the other occupants of the vehicle. This horrifying scenario can be avoided by a simple and inexpensive seat belt.

There are special seat belts for dogs. The seat belt goes on like a harness and has an attached loop. The regular car seat belt goes through the loop and buckles into the lock. They come in different sizes and are adjustable and available at major pet stores.

Other advantages include restraining the dog so you are not distracted while driving. Also, if you need to stop somewhere, your dog cannot jump out and run away.

Remember seat belts save lives.
Lora Cate
regular CMBP visitor
& Dixie's mom

The Costa Mesa Bark Park Foundation is happy to present a series of general informational seminars as part of the "educational component" promised in the Park's Articles of Incorporation. The series will be held monthly on the second Saturday of June, July, August and September 2004 from 10-11am in the front corner of the Park Bark.

Most queries received on the Bark Park Hotline & via email are from first time or potential visitors asking what they should do/know to ensure the safety of their canine companion(s). So, the June 12 session addressed "Socialization at any Age." Subsequent sessions will cover Puppy Issues (July 10), Doggie Adolescence (August 14), and Canine Maturity (September 11).

These seminars are presented with the assistance of Golden Collar Dog Training and Trainer/Owner Kelly Sceberras. Kelly is a Certified Group Instructor by Animal Behavior & Training Associates (learn more about ABTA, www.good-dawg.com/gooddawg/about_abta.htm). She has over five years experience training dogs and running her own business. Kelly's training method is positive reinforcement.

Save the enclosed flyer for details and mark your calendars so you and your dog will not miss these informative and practical seminars. If you have suggestions for future seminars, please, call the Hotline 949-73-4101 or email at mail@cmbarkpark.org. Be sure to include your name and contact information.

CLASSIFIED ADS

VOLUNTEER HELP WANTED

Editor to edit & create copy for the quarterly newsletter. Approximately 20 hours per quarterly issue.

Layout &/or Graphic Artist to layout quarterly newsletter & assist with pictures & clip art. Knowledge of desktop publishing desired. Approximately 20 hours per quarterly issue.

Attorney to advise CMBP Foundation Board & Officers, as needed, regarding contracts & required 501(c)(3). Non-profit experienced desired.

Accountant/CPA to advise Foundation Treasurer & assist in converting books to an electronic accounting program

Illustrator to contribute original artwork to the newsletter.

Cartoonist, also for the newsletter.

Writers to contribute articles, stories, canine info to the quarterly newsletter. Ideas, creativity and enthusiasm more important than grammar and spelling. Editor will polish.



A VIEW FROM THE KNOLL

This Quarter's "View" was written by

Terry Tyson, 2004 Vice-Chair

A mature dog has 42 teeth and I recently found out how much those teeth can cost when my Dalmatian "GiGi" had her teeth cleaned. A dog rarely gets cavities but plaque can build up very quickly attracting bacteria to the gums that can get into the blood stream and cause very serious health problems for your best friend. Dental care, dental problems and health problems related to bad dental health are now reported by some sources as the most common health problem treated in small animal clinics today.

Establishing a regular schedule for teeth cleaning is recommended by most pet care professionals. The following steps were recommended to me by my veterinarian:

- First, start by very gently rubbing a finger over the dog's teeth and gums. You may want to try dipping your finger into something like beef bouillon to make it a treat for the dog. Keep the sessions short and don't apply too much pressure and always praise and talk to your dog. Do this once or twice a day and be sure you keep it up on a regular schedule. Depending upon your pet, you may do this for two weeks or more before you move on to the next step.
- Next, gradually introduce gauze over the finger and gently scrub the teeth in a circular motion. Then, you can start putting toothpaste on the gauze. But, only toothpaste made for pets. Make sure you get to the back teeth and the gums. Again, how many sessions or days you do this will depend on your pet. You must decide when your dog is ready to move on.
- Finally, introduce a soft pet toothbrush, nothing harder than a soft toothbrush. Remember to use a soft circular motion cleaning both the teeth and gums. You can find a pet toothbrush and pet toothpaste at your vet's, pet stores and even some drug stores. Do not use human dental supplies, the toothpaste upsets their stomach.

This process should go a long way to keeping your dog "dental happy," but don't forget to keep up those regular visits to the vet. My vet also emphasized that this type of teeth cleaning is very important and you should not expect such things as "teeth cleaning dog biscuits" to do the job alone.

Now, for a very important reminder for all Bark Park users. Did you know that the Bark Park is just like *Star Trek*? Star Trek's Prime Directive was that they would not interfere with the development of other civilizations. The Prime Directive for CMBP users is **THOU SHALT CONTROL AND CLEAN UP AFTER YOUR DOGS**. I am sure everyone agrees that this is a very good directive to live by here at the Dog Park.

You are invited to attend the Foundation's meetings on the 2nd Thursday of each month. The meetings are held in the "Fairview" Room at the Costa Mesa Neighborhood Community Center (NCC) at Lion's Park. New participants are always welcome.

Please remember that the Foundation is nonprofit, totally dependent on volunteers and donations. We encourage suggestions and reports of problems by the Hotline (949) 733-4101 or by email at mail@cmbarkpark.org.

If dogs could teach, You'd learn stuff like:

- When loved ones come home, always run to greet them.
- Let others know when they've invaded your territory.
- Stretch before rising.
- Run, romp, and play daily.
- Thrive on attention and let people touch you.
- Avoid biting when a simple growl will do.
- On warm days, stop to lie on your back on the grass.
- On hot days, drink lots of water and lie under a shady tree.
- When you're happy, dance around and wag your entire body.
- No matter how often you're scolded, don't buy into the guilt thing and pout...run right back and make friends.
- Eat with gusto and enthusiasm. Stop when you have had enough.
- Be loyal. Never pretend to be something you're not.
- If what you want lies buried, dig until you find it.
- When someone is having a bad day, be silent, sit close by and nuzzle them gently.

Courtesy of Debbie & Pat Allen

PARKING LOT continued from Page 1
staging equipment and material for several projects in TeWinkle Park. The current timeline continues on schedule, it will also be used during construction of the skateboard facility starting this fall.

When all construction is completed, the fence around the lot will be removed, new entrances created and the western half of the lot will be striped. Watch the bulletin board in the park for updates.



Working or watching - the Portrait Wall was a popular location during Puppy Luv Adoption Day

Have You Seen the Wall Lately?

Volunteers Dodie Braun, Terry Tyson, Patt Bell, Pat Allen and Cathy Mitchell got together March 13th & 14th to create the background on the storage building for the Portrait Wall inaugurated at the 2nd Annual Puppy Luv Adoption Day & Vendor Fair.

The most popular activity at the March event was painting dog portraits into the park scene. Volunteer artists were on hand to assist those who requested artistic guidance. Eleven dogs were painted during the event, three more dogs have joined the gang since and orders have been placed by an additional 10 supporters. Many thanks to caricaturist Curtis who stopped by to paint his own dog and stayed the entire day to paint other people's dogs. "It takes longer than you'd think," stated CMBPF Treasurer Pat Allen. "But everyone had fun. I'll be back to help during the Bath'Stille Day dog wash fund raiser."

The next "Paint Your Dog's Portrait" opportunity will be during Bath'Stille Day on Saturday, August 7th. If you don't feel artistic and want a volunteer artist to paint the portrait, you can bring a photograph or have one taken that day. Or, you can use the all purpose form on the back of this newsletter and mail it with a photo and check to CMBP, 1835 Newport Blvd, A-109 PMB 153, Costa Mesa, CA, 92627. The cost is \$25 for the first dog and \$10 for each additional dog in your household. All funds generated go directly to support the park.

Additional volunteer artists are needed to keep up with requests, especially artists who are not afraid of heights. Also needed is an extension ladder, so portraits can be painted in the tree house. Contact the CMBP via email at mail@cmbarkpark.org or phone 949-733-4101 with your contact information and availability.

SEEING GREEN AGAIN

Why isn't the Bark Park green like the photo on the web site? Because that picture was taken almost four years ago and hundreds of dogs have visited the park each week with their human companions since then. That's a lot of feet & paws walking, running, chasing and digging.

Will the park ever be truly green again?

The CMBP Foundation is working towards that goal. But that goal entails planning, work and money to bring the grass back. And, it will take just as much planning, work and money to keep it that way going forward.

So what is the plan?

Paul Wizikowski, professional turf consultant with Horizon in Orange, is donating his time and expertise to the Bark Park. He has surveyed the park and is conducting a thorough soil analysis. A preliminary report outlining the issues involved was presented at the monthly Foundation meeting on June 10th. A timeline with cost estimates is scheduled for presentation at the Foundation's July 8th meeting.

How long will it take?

Grass cultivation and maintenance is an ongoing

process. Green grass does not appear overnight (unless it's synthetic – see related article on page 1).

Naturally the preferred option would be to close the large dog side of the park for 4-5 months. The City of Costa Mesa and the CMBP Foundation are working together to investigate this option and are looking for an appropriate area for a temporary park which would be required for this option.

An alternative is to divide the park into sections and cordon them off one-at-a-time for cultivation. This option takes longer for the entire park to become green but is exactly what will be required in maintenance mode.

Who's going to do the work?

Some work such as the deep tine and shatter core aeration will need to be done by professionals. Ideally, a business or individual will come forward to donate or discount their services. If you know of anyone with this skill/knowledge, please, let them know of our plight.

Other work such as the soil preparation, as determined by soil analysis, could be done by volunteers. We are very appreciative that the City Maintenance Department is willing to work with us on

Your Dog's Health & Safety



HEATSTROKE

Dogs will suffer heatstroke if exercised too strenuously on a hot day, especially if it's hot and humid. Too little water or shade and excessive stress can also lead to heatstroke.

Symptoms:

- High fever, sometimes as high as 108 degrees.
- Extreme panting or sudden stopping of panting.
- Shock or loss of consciousness.
- A sure danger sign is if your dog stops panting during exercise. If it does, stop immediately and cool off your dog.

Emergency treatment:

- Immediately move the dog to a cooler place.
- As soon as you can, immerse the dog in cool water, or, if that isn't possible, pack it in ice.
- Take the dog immediately to the nearest veterinarian.
- The veterinarian will continue to cool the dog and administer fluids intravenously. Treatment may also include antibiotics and steroids.

Precautions:

- Run in the early morning or evening after the temperatures have dropped.
- Carry water for you and your dog. Stop often to drink.
- Stop and cool off if your pet appears to be straining and panting heavily.

Help Cut Costs

Help CMBP save printing & postage costs. Send us your e-mail address & receive an Acrobat pdf file by e-mail. Not only will your "copy" be in color and arrive much sooner than snail mail, but you will also receive updates between issues.

Wolfdogs: Myth-conceptions Dispelled

(First in a new series that will feature different dog breeds commonly seen at CMBP.)

Since a number of wolfdogs, including my own, use the Bark Park, the information in this article should contribute to the understanding and appreciation of these unique pets. There are many myths and misconceptions surrounding wolfdogs, but they are not unlike other dogs in most respects.

First, just what IS a Wolfdog? Wolfdogs are the progeny of the interbreeding of a wolf and any one of a number of "wolfy-looking" dogs such as Malamutes, Huskies or German Shepherds, and because wolves and domestic dogs are genetically very close, they can breed true for many generations. They are more correctly referred to as "wolfdogs" or "wolf-crosses". The term "Hybrid", although popular, is incorrect.

'Wolfyness' has some basic apparent physical characteristics such as yellow or light amber eyes, a 'fifth' toe (not a dewclaw), long legs and lean build. Pelage varies from white to black and every color combination between, and many may have the coloration from their 'dog' parent, such as a German Shepherd or Malamute. Some of these traits will vary depending on the wolf-content of the animal. The higher the content, the more pronounced the features are.

The reason many people may be apprehensive about wolfdogs can probably be traced back to traditional folklore, such as "The Big Bad Wolf", and our innate fear of wild animals. Wolfdogs are no more ferocious than any other breed of dogs. In fact, because of their 'wolfy' natures, they're often more reserved or aloof. In Nature, predators do not "spoil for a fight" because almost any injury can be lethal. Nevertheless, caution should always be exercised when approaching a wolfdog, because problems can arise if the animal feels threatened, as with many other dog breeds.

Because wolfdogs have the feral bloodline, their intelligence is often of a different and higher order than domestic dogs. Because of this, they do not usually make ideal family pets. Basically, they obey their master's commands when it suits them. The training of wolfdogs requires extreme patience and a LOT of time! But, I believe it is worth the time and effort.

Contributed by Michael Lehane

(dogs, *Sasha and Scout*)

SEEING GREEN continued from page 5

this effort and allow us to take advantage of the City's purchasing power/discount for supplements.

How much will it cost?

Even with the regular donations and discounts CMBP receives, the entire process will cost more than what is in the Bark Park bank account. This means that Bath'Stille Day on August 7th and Howl-I-Days Boutique on October 31st will be very important in determining the extent and speed of implementation.

So, mark your calendars and come out to support the park. Remember to bring your friends and their canine companions.

2nd Annual Puppy Luv Adoption Day & Vendor Fair

SUPPORT the vendors who participated in this fundraiser:

Orange County Humane Society

21632 Newland St, Hunt Bch
714-536-8480

www.petfinder.com/shelters/CA506.html

Pet Chef Express

Peter Bennett, Owner
Costa Mesa
949-515-9600

www.petchefexpress.com

KaCi Distributors

Cindy, Owner
Costa Mesa
714-839-6991

www.trail-head.com/

Coffee Mill

Inge McKellop, Owner
7561 Center Ave, Hunt Bch
714-898-5111

www.oldworldvillage.net/coffeemill.html

No Vet Labs

Blake Kirschbaum, Owner
800-474-7044

Paws of the Planet

Kathleen, Owner
2813 Lafayette Ave, Newport Bch
949-673-2347

Golden Collar Dog Training

Kelly Scebarres, Owner/Trainer
949-378-7780

Lazy Leash

"Captain" Dave, Owner

Cool Pets

Jean Louise Jirik, Owner
2033 S Hathaway St, Santa Ana
714-545-0700

www.coolpetsrawgourmet.com/

MANY THANKS to the businesses who generously donated items for the raffle drawings:

3 Days Doggie Day Care from

The Bone Adventure

1629 Superior Ave, Costa Mesa
949-650-2692

One Free Dog Bath from

Newport-Mesa Animal Hospital

1542 Newport Blvd, Costa Mesa
949-642-2100

One Free Grooming

M.C. Pet Grooming

Claudia Premali
3023-A Harbor Blvd, Costa Mesa
714-434-2969

42#Nutro Dog Food & Toy Pack from

Feed Barn

2300 Newport Blvd, Costa Mesa
949-548-3151

One Free Annual Exam

One Free Dog Bath

All Creatures Care Cottage Veterinary Hospital

1912 Harbor Blvd, Costa Mesa
949-642-7151

\$10 Gift Certificate

El Pollo Loco

Two 8-Piece Meal Certificates

Bed "Basket" of Dog Goodies

Basket Hounds

Atlanta, Georgia
Debbie Allen, Owner

9" B/W Portable TV

SG Wholesale Roofing

Santa Ana, California

RAFFLE DRAWING WINNERS

Jane Hansen – Costa Mesa

Max Halperin – Orange

Ashley Vikander – Tustin

Lora Cate – Garden Grove

Paulette Lincoln – Costa Mesa

Nilou Dutton – Humane Society

SPRING TRIVIA CONTEST WINNER

Rochelle Grace - Orange

UNSUNG HEROS

21 Bark Salutes to:

Maggie's companion, **Joanne**, who fills the poop bag dispensers whenever she sees they are low or empty.

City Maintenance Manager **Bruce Hartley** and Supervisor **Jim Ortiz** for generously providing 1850 pounds of Gypsum (calcium sulfate) to the park and the city maintenance team of **George Gonzalez** and **Eduardo Avila** for spreading the soil supplement during the Spring Closure. [Gypsum (calcium sulfate) aids in leaching salts out of the ground.]

DONATION continued from page 1

turf holds up and no problems arise during the initial six-month trial, the Foundation will consider if it should be a permanent component of the continuing park maintenance plan.

Keep the Foundation informed! Your impression of the synthetic turf is important. The Foundation is very interested in hearing the experiences of all dogs and their companions. Call the Hotline 949-733-4101; email at mail@cmbarkpark.org or come to the monthly Foundation meeting (2nd Thursday at 7pm). Your input and questions are invaluable. Voice your opinion. Help determine the CMPB's "Green Plan."

Did You Know?

The City of Costa Mesa Maintenance Services Department has completed the replacement of all sprinkler heads in the park to give CMBP a 100% Rain Bird system. Rain Bird rep Scott Caringella arranged the donation of 85% of the sprinkler heads and the City paid for the remainder. Many thanks to Scott, Rain Bird and the City, as well as, the maintenance workers, Terry Pawloski and George Gonzalez, who installed all the new heads.

THE COSTA MESA BARK PARK FOUNDATION
1835 Newport Blvd.
A-109, PMB 153
Costa Mesa, California 92627

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
COSTA MESA, CA.
PERMIT NO. 01366

IMPORTANT NEWS INSIDE

CMBP Supporter Communication Form

1835 Newport Blvd, A-109 PMB 153, Costa Mesa, CA 92627 Hotline 949-733-4101 E-Mail mail@cmbarkpark.org

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

E-Mail: _____ Phone: _____

(ALL contact information is for use by the CMBP Foundation only. We do not sell or share our supporters' information.)

I WANT TO NAME THE CMBP NEWSLETTER & WIN A DINNER AT _____
(No limit to the number of entries per person - creativity encouraged - Deadline is July 31, 2004)

My suggestion is: _____

I WANT MY DOG IMMORTALIZED ON THE PORTRAIT WALL

I have enclosed photo(s) and a check for \$_____. Please, have a volunteer artist paint the portrait. Special instructions _____

I want to paint my dog(s) myself during Bath'Stille Day & Vendor Fair, Aug 7. I plan to be at the park in the AM PM

I WANT TO HELP CUT COSTS.

Please, only send the newsletter via e-mail. Please, send me updates and notices by e-mail, too.

I WANT TO VOLUNTEER.

E-mail Phone me for any project E-mail Phone me only when needs arise involving my areas

My interest/experience area(s): _____