

O.L.A.E. Newsletter

Volume No. 03

Issue No. 03

Date: Fall 2008

Published Quarterly



4TH ANNUAL HALLOWEEN HOWL

Mark the date of **October 18th** on your calendar now!!! It is time to start planning that doggie costume for our 4th Annual Halloween Howl (**11 am to 2 pm.**) Costume judging will be at 2 pm. Entrants from previous Howls will tell you the costume prizes are fabulous and your dog receives top dog billing on our website. There will also be a silent auction, raffles, and local vendors showcasing their goods and services. So, we hope to see you there!

If you are interested in either donating an auction or raffle gift or being part of the Halloween Howl contact us at O.L.A.E@comcast.net.

SPECIAL THANKS!!!

On a hot summer Sunday, Danny Prall of Boy Scout Troop 319, Chief Seattle Council, completed his Eagle Scout proposal by installing two heavy wooden structures that now hold our plastic bags. He completed the project along with Niccolo Fortes, Philip Ramono and Nick Titus. **Unfortunately, we are no longer using recycled grocery bags; so please, recycle those bags at your local grocery store and do not tie them to the fence.**

COSTS ESTIMATES TO STEWARD OUR PARK

Expenses	
Beach Maintenance (rental equipment, dump, etc.)	\$ 975
Plastic Bags for poop	\$1,519
Special Projects	\$ 500
Prof. Services (signs, newsletters, etc.)	\$ 576
P.O. Box, Web site, Stamps	\$ 146
TOTAL	\$3,716

Many users of the dog park do not realize that O.L.A.E. members volunteer to keep the park clean and the non-profit corporation partially funds park supplies and maintenance. So, please, get involved either through volunteering or helping us fund supplies and maintenance through donations.

NEW YAPPIE CLUB MEMBERS!

Let's give a hand to **Edmonds Westgate Veterinary Hospital** for their generous donation of \$300 to help fund costs at the park. Located right up the street from the dog park, Drs. Zacharia, Earls, and Bowden, along with their wonderful staff, can take care of any of your pets needs.

Combined donations from **Carla Sophia of Sophia Ray Designs** and **Peter Scholz of Showcase Cabinets, Inc.** funded the entire cost of the Eagle Scout Project! Way to go Carla and Peter!

For more information on our new Yappie Club members go to www.olae.org/sponsors.htm. Please try to utilize all of our sponsors.

O.L.A.E. BOOK CLUB

Fall Review: From Baghdad, With Love: A Marine, the War, and a Dog Named Lava by Jay Kopelman and Melinda Roth. This touching book describes Iraq veteran Jay Kopelman's adoption, training, and complicated efforts in safely transporting Lava, the stray dog his Marine unit found, back to the U.S.

Members of the First Battalion, Third Marines, called "Lava Dogs" (named after the jagged pumice they'd trained on back in Hawaii) found a stray pup at a Fallujah compound. They named him Lava. This newest grunt was treated for fleas with kerosene, de-wormed with chewing tobacco, and pumped full of MREs (Meals Ready to Eat). The Marines kept the dog in violation of military orders; Kopelman made Lava's safety and well-being his mission. Lava quickly learned "The two most important rules of boot camp: you don't chew on bullets and you only pee outside."

While the text is rough and raw at times (after all, Kopelman is a Marine in a war zone), it is also

genuine and emotive. In Kopelman's words, "The best part was how these Marines, these elite, well-oiled machines of war who in theory could kill another human being in a hundred unique ways, became mere mortals in the presence of a tiny mammal. I was shocked to hear...weird, misty words that ended with ee." "Are you our brave little toughee? You're a brave little toughee, yesssirree."

This is a book that will be enjoyed on many levels; but it is not recommended for children as it brings to life the reality of war. Jay Kopelman has also written the follow-up book From Baghdad to America: Life Lessons from a Dog Named Lava (hardcover release was July, 2008).

MAJOR CHANGES TAKING PLACE

Edmonds P&R has notified us that the old oil pier will be removed beginning October 2008 and ending March 2009. **Construction activities may cause occasional disruption in accessibility to the Marina Beach Area (for your safety.)** The area will be made into additional parking and new fencing will go up. **The dog park will NOT be expanded**, but parking will be less tedious. So, please be patient during construction and be kind to workers.

Yes, the railroad (BNSF) will be adding a second rail at the waterfront. While we do not know all the specifics, BNSF has notified the City of Edmonds that grading will begin in 2009. The duration of the grading work will take one or two seasons. BNSF owns ten feet of land along the fence area and we do not know how this expansion will affect our area. It is anticipated that the additional track will be east of the existing track, but nothing is known for sure.

We have received a few inquiries (some not so nice) regarding what O.L.A.E can do to stop development plans which could potentially effect the off-leash area. This activity is not one of O.L.A.E.'s mission statements. While some of the Directors are involved in local focus groups, it is up to you, as individual users of the off-leash area and members of the community, to take personal responsibility for staying informed and getting involved in issues of importance to you. As always, we will continue to keep our members informed of relevant activities.

ABOUT US

O.L.A.E. (Off-Leash Area - Edmonds) became a non-profit organization in August 2005, to fulfill our

mission to steward and maintain the off-leash dog area in Edmonds. Please visit www.olae.org.

BECOME A MEMBER

There are a lot of great reasons to become a member of O.L.A.E. Member dues go towards promoting and improving our dog park. Members will receive a subscription to our quarterly newsletter which provides information on upcoming events, news and educational features. All donated funds are TAX DEDUCTIBLE.

O.L.A.E.
P.O. Box 1562
Edmonds WA 98020 - 1562

Please check one: New Member Renewal

Please print clearly:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Evening Phone: _____

Email: _____

Dog(s) names: _____

Can we email you the newsletter: Yes

Contact me to help volunteer: Yes

Annual Membership

\$ 10 Individual

\$ 20 Family

\$ 50 Supporter

\$100 Barking Business Lounge (free advertising on O.L.A.E. website).

\$250 Yappie Club Level (free advertising on O.L.A.E. website and newsletter).

Make check payable to O.L.A.E. Thanks!

Current Yappie Club Sponsors:

Edmonds Westgate Vet Hospital: www.evwh.com

Etta Says! www.ettasays.com/home.php

Helping Hands Vet Clinic: www.helpinghandsvet.com

Carla Sophia: www.sophiaray.com

Peter Scholz: www.showcasecabinets.com

Petosa's Family Grocery

Scub-a-Pup: www.edmondsscubapup.com

Corinne Beuchet of Hair Company (Greenwood at 84th)

B.B. Granda

Steve Tholl

O.L.A.E. is not responsible for any illness or injury incurred during park visit. For information, please visit www.olae.org and look under rules and responsibilities.