



Happy "TAILS" to Sr. Animal Control Officer Dawson

We wish to give Sr. Animal Control Officer Debbie Dawson and big Woof-out for all that she had done over the years for the animal community. Officer Dawson will be retiring from the Edmonds Police Department after 30 years of service. There will be a reception for her on April 4th from 3:30 to 5:00 PM in the Police Training Room at the Edmonds Police Department, 250 5th Avenue North. While many of you many have not met her (which is a good thing), Officer Dawson has been a pleasure to work with and was part of our Halloween Howl many years in a row. Happy Trails, Officer Dawson! Woof – you rock!

What does O.L.A.E. do?

In addition to maintaining the off-leash area by filling doggie bags, picking up random poop or slinging gravel to fill the puddles, we attempt to continue educate users about good dog owners behavior and the importance of picking up poop, especially near water. We also keep the web site up-to-date, answer emails, maintain a membership data base and produce this quarterly newsletter.

What else do O.L.A.E. volunteers up to? We have had booths at the Edmonds Summer Market, removed tons and tons of debris from the beach to provide you and your dog with those lovely views, sold t-shirts to support our fundraising causes, coordinated with the City and potential Eagle Scout candidates to complete seven Eagle Scout Projects. But, most importantly, for 11 years, we have been the park liaisons with the City of Edmonds Parks and Recreation staff which recently resulted in a City Council approved version of a new Marina Beach Master Plan. Thank-you to all those that participated in this process and provided public comment. Over the years, we have helped many other dog parks get started in the local area and are an excellent example of a public/private stewardship.

As noted in the last couple of newsletters, we are working on funding for a bronze dog statue for the Edmonds Veterans' Plaza (see back page). This will be the first tribute to a K-9 officer at a Veterans' Plaza.

In May, we will start planning and securing donations for our major fundraiser, the Halloween Howl. Sound

too early to start planning for an October event? Not for us: It takes many hours of planning and effort to organize vendors and secure great prizes for the doggie costume contest and silent auction items.

While it is still cost-prohibitive for O.L.A.E. to purchase bio-degradable bags, we continue to research alternative ways of providing plastic produce bags and pursue avenues of obtaining bio-degradable dog waste bags at the beach. Lastly, we do have an **annual beach clean-up**, so in the interim, please pick up as a clean park provides all those non-dog lovers with an example of our pride for this lovely venue.

So, we have a lot on our plate for such a small group of volunteers. But, we are passionate about the off-leash area. So, please continue to support O.L.A.E. in whatever way you can: Be a responsible off-leash area user; Pick-up poop; Become a member or volunteer; or Donate money or services.

In case some of you are new to the off-leash area, here is what the park USE to LOOK like! You could not see the water or even where your dog pooped.



Vandals Hit the Park!

Vandals cut through fence at Marina Beach to gain entrance to BNSF tracks at entrance of Off Leash Park. Parks is installing temporary fence repair to eliminate anyone or dogs from accessing train tracks. I have contacted Town & County Fence Company to replace an eight foot section of fence which will be completed tomorrow. Additionally, the pad lock was cut at Port's entrance gate to Marina Beach. The

police and Port security have been notified and we ask you to help out as well. If you see anything suspicious, call 911 and report it. This park is run by Volunteer like you and so, please keeps alert.

REMEMBER – THIS IS YOUR PARK and a clean beach is a HEALTHY BEACH.

OLAE always looking for Volunteers to help!

We are always looking for new volunteers or Board Members. We meet once a month at Gallaghers' U-Brew and our main event is the Halloween Howl. If you have any comments or are interested in becoming more active contact o.l.a.e@comcast.net or go to our website www.olae.org to see all that we do.

SCOOP THE POOP!

We really hate bringing this up each newsletter but come on people – dog users – friends – volunteers – if you see poop pick it up. If you see someone who doesn't see where their dog pooped, don't get mad, just take a plastic bag over and say, do you need one of these. Please be peaceful and kind, no need to get into a shout-out or fight.

OLAE Fund-Raising for Veterans K-9 Memorial!

We are working on securing funds for the Edmonds Veterans' Plaza to donate funds for a bronze statue that will be a memorial dedicated to our four-legged furry friends. While everything is still preliminary, we have received one rendition and it looks stunning and interactive.

Donation forms can be found at our website which is <http://olae.org/donate.html> or visit our website at www.olae.org and click on the donate link. You name or those that you wish to honor will be featured on our support page: <http://olae.org/supporters.html> to see how it is presented.

This exhibit might be the first ever dedication to a service dog ever in a Veterans' Plaza.

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. We always need volunteers and financial

donors. Please visit www.olae.org to learn more about us and our mission.

Become a Member

There are a lot of good reasons to become a member. 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.

Off Leash Area Edmonds (O.L.A.E.)
P.O. Box 1562
Edmonds WA 98020 - 1562
EIN #16-1730771

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 Sassy Supporter
- \$100 Best Friends Lounge
(free advertising on O.L.A.E. website).
- \$200 Yappie Club Level
(free advertising on O.L.A.E. website & newsletter).

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

Current Yappie Club Sponsors:

All the Best Pet Care (www.allthepetcare.com)
Bailey and Banjo (baileyandbanjo.com)
Blue Collar Dog House (www.bluecollardoghouse.com)
Edmonds Westgate Vet Hospital (www.ewvh.com)
Jeff, Judy, Tess and Baby Girl
Doggy Haven Resort (www.doggyhaven.com)
Jolene Otter from Quilts from the Heart
Stella and Floyds (www.stellanfloyds.com)
Wash'nWag'n Mobile Pet Service
Alicia Brattin
Jennifer Lill and Eric Johnson.
Fifth Avenue Animal Hospital (<http://www.fifthavenuevet.com>)

Find us
ON



Note: 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.