

O.L.A.E. Newsletter

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PITT BULL CASE OVER

Please do not be afraid to take your dogs down to our wonderful off-leash area. The pitt bull case is closed and now a public record. It was classified as a ROUGH PLAY INCIDENT and did not mirror any "rumored incident" that occurred at Magneson Park.

The pitt bull incident at our beach caused two large scratches on the belly of the victim dog. We want to thank a park user for reporting this incident as we hear some incidents go unreported. It might seem odd to call 911 to report a dog incident: but our Animal Control Officers are part of the police department and that is how incidents must be reported. *Do not be afraid to call 911* and most importantly, be civil and kind as it is generally not the dog's fault, it usually is the owners.

Education is the most important key to helping all users understand that their dog may have a problem with a certain dog, it is just that simple.

MEETING OUR ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICERS

The City of Edmonds is lucky to have two of the hardest working police officers who handle animal control, parking and ordinance enforcement. Officer Debbie Dawson has been with the department for 23 years and was a former educator. Officer Tabatha Shoemake, who was at this year's Halloween Howl, has been with the department for over a year and was a former IRS auditor. Recently, O.L.A.E.'s Board Member Diane spent an hour interviewing them.

A mission statement of O.L.A.E. is education. We all know an educated park user understands the importance of keeping the off-leash area clean as that equates to a safe and healthy park and a clean Puget Sound. But keep in mind, dogs are a lot like kids or even adults as sometimes we are totally in agreement with the room and other times, there can be a problem. So, keep this in mind while in the park or when walking your dog. We need to be tuned in to our four-legged friends and watch how they are acting with other dogs. It is unfortunate but, sometimes the perfect dog may not always act perfectly.

Another fascinating fact Diane learned was that over 60 percent of people in the USA have pets. If we use this statistic and think of Edmonds (at 40,000+ people), that would equate to 24,000 citizens with pets. Since we

cannot determine the actual number of dogs as opposed to cats in Edmonds (there is no requirement to license your cat unlike surrounding cities such as Seattle and Mountlake Terrace) we will estimate this number by cutting it in half. So, using a 50% cut, we can estimate that there are about 12,000 people in Edmonds who own a dog. Total licenses issued in 2009 were 2,300! WOW, isn't that alarming! Licenses fees have not changed since 1987 and are only \$5.00 and \$18.00 for a non-neutered dog.

The MAJOR REASON TO HAVE A PET LICENSE IS TO AID IN RETURNING A LOST PET; licenses provide records as to where the pet resides. **For the New Year, think about registering your pet as \$5.00 can bring you peace of mind.** To register, visit the local police department and ask for a pet license. Once your pet is licensed, a renewal notice will automatically be sent to your home each year for your pet.

NEW BARKING BUSINESS LOUNGE MEMBERS!

Thanks so much to the following NEW Barking Business Lounge Members: Peter and Claudia Haubold and Whisky (who also utilized their Microsoft Matching program); Jennifer Lill and Eric Johnson and Maddy; Lori and Jason Jones and Meg; Alana, Richard and Anne McGee and Duffy; Arnie's Restaurant of Edmonds; Kakaduty Leashes; Methow Dog; and Trader Joe's of Lynnwood. To see all of our wonderful sponsors, visit <http://www.olae.org/sponsors.htm>.

WOW - YAPPIE CLUB MEMBERS WITH \$\$\$\$

We want to continue to thank our TWO VETERINARY EXPERTS for their continued monetary support. **Edmonds Westgate Veterinary Hospital**, located right up the street from the dog park, is near and dear to a number of our members. Dr. Zacharia and Dr. Earls are fabulous as is the entire staff. We are fortunate that they continue to support our group.

Special thanks to our retiring O.L.A.E. President, Dr. Goutam Mukherjee (Dr. G) from **Helping Hands Veterinary Clinic in Lynnwood** and Julie Bjorland, his technical assistant. Both have been a wonderful source of information to all users of this park and readers of this newsletter. He and his staff have volunteered hundreds

of hours to O.L.A.E. events such as helping us in the Halloween Howl, cleaning up the park, and being a source of intellect for us since our inception.



5TH ANNUAL HALLOWEEN HOWL

We had a great time at the Halloween Howl despite the adverse weather. For pictures of the dogs in costumes and

the costume winners visit <http://www.olae.org> (click under archives for the link for Halloween Howl 5). We want to thank the following vendors and sponsors for making this event successful:

Adventure Days Dog Treat
Ahimsa Dog Training
Arnies in Edmonds
BowWow Fun Towne
Cathy Boyd and Tucker the Cat
City Bones Bakery
Corinne Beuchet of the Hair Company
Costco at Aurora Village
MK and Alina Hagstrom and Tony the Dog
Hands to Paws Animal Massage
Helping Hands Veterinary Clinic
Kakaduty Leashes
Puppy Manners
Bonnie Klasell and Maggie
Kay Loman
Methow Dog
Motley Zoo
NRG Dog Products
Officer Shoemake of Edmonds Animal Control
Pet Sitting by Lisa
Pet Pros
Scrub a Pup
Splash Dogs
Danielle Shepard and Starbucks at Aurora
Smiley Dog
The Whole Pup
Trader Joe's in Lynnwood
Walker's Healthy Pet
Walkin' the Dog
Walnut Street Coffee
Dr. Tracy Wayman, DDS
Karyn Weed in memory of Rosebud and Bentley

Also special thanks to our crew: Mary Barnes, Corinne Beuchet, Julie Bjorland, Diane Buckschnis, Shay Hastler, Glenda Konkol, Lori Parsons, and Steve Tholl.

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 to find out more details. We held our Annual Meeting on December 14th; if you would like to see the new slate of officers, please visit our website and look under Helpful Information. If you're interested in becoming more involved, contact us at volunteerdogs@gmail.com as we are looking for more dedicated volunteers. We have a bunch of fun directors...so think about it.

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

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 & newsletter).

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

Current Yappie Club Sponsors:

Edmonds Westgate Vet Hospital (www.evwh.com)

J2 Building Consultants (www.j2consultants.com)

Helping Hands Vet Clinic (www.helpinghandsvet.com)

Petosa's Family Groc. (www.petosafamilygrocer.com)

The PETCO Foundation (www.petco.com)

Walker's Healthy Pet (www.kismet.net/walkers/index.htm)

Eric & Penny Halverson

Heather and David Revell

B.B. Granda

Steve Tholl

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.