



Dog Park Newsletter

Janine Jordan **Park for Dogs** at Lagoon Valley

FALL 2006

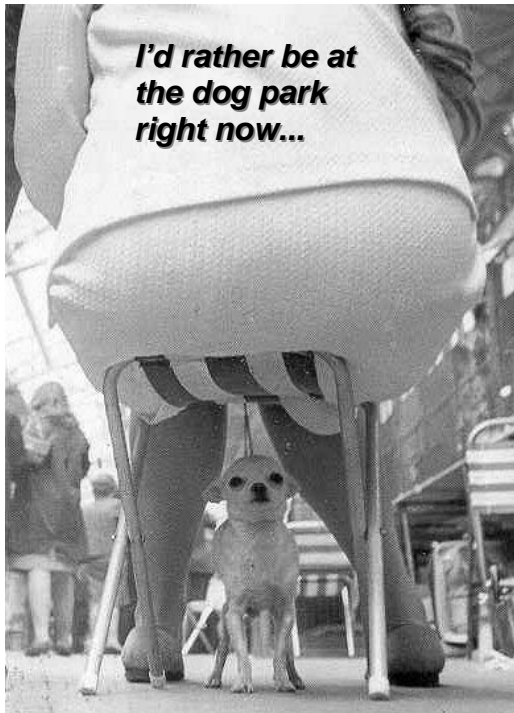
Volunteers Weald Pitchforks and Shovels

PAWS would like to thank the dozens of volunteers who showed up with shovels in hand on Saturday, October 14th, to move 10 cubic yards of sand into the cracks in the dog park. Member, Liz Danner, recruited the volunteers and coordinated with Board Member, Jack Carlson, to make this much needed project happen. Thanks to all involved! The pooches thank you too.



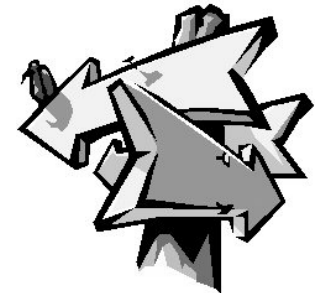
Santa Paws is Coming to Town!

Bring your furry friends and loved ones for pictures with Santa at Western Ranch in Vacaville! 10am to 4pm December 2nd & 3rd and*(continued on page 3)*.



Members Speak Up at Meeting

Last September, PAWS held a public meeting at the dog park to allow members to provide comments and ideas regarding the dog park. The outcome was a list of issues the PAWS Board will be addressing. Some of the questions and answers are below:



Q: Can we BAN aggressive dog breeds?

A: Legally, we cannot ban any breed. However, if an individual dog is acting aggressively and the owner fails to control the dog, we can obtain a restraining order against the dog and owner. In order to do that, we need to be able to identify the owner. Names, license plate numbers, vehicle make/color and any other information can be helpful. We have posted signs in the park that say "No Aggressive Dogs" and rely on the help of our members to enforce that.

Q: Can PAWS post more information on the website regarding dog care and various other topics of interest?

A: Absolutely. In fact, we recently gave the website a face-lift and added a "Links" page with helpful resources.

Our Mailing Address!

People Aware of the Well-being of the Speechless (P.A.W.S.)

P.O. Box 1257

Vacaville, CA 95696-1257

(866) 510-3681

info@ourdogpark.org

www.ourdogpark.org

**P.A.W.S. is a 100% Volunteer
Non-Profit Organization**

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Members Speak Up at Meeting (continued from page 1)

Q: Can we get some lawn or other ground cover put in?

A: We've been working on this one. The problem has been the poor quality of soil, low water pressure, and lack of a sprinkler system. In addition, there is talk about potentially relocating the dog park as soon as the Lagoon Valley area undergoes redevelopment. Planting crabgrass was discussed as a way of avoiding a massive soil replacement project.

Q: What is the possibility of opening a dog park for small dogs?

A: When the dog park was first proposed years ago, the idea was to have three dog parks in Vacaville—the one at Lagoon Valley and two in residential areas. Resources were available at the time to get the Lagoon Valley dog park up and running. The other two dog parks would first require approval by the local residents followed by approval by the City. The possibility is still there, and our Secretary, Joyce Bristow, volunteered to organize a committee to investigate the interest further. If you would like to help on this quest, please let us know!

Q: Can we get some kind of shade structure put in?

A: Yes. We are working with the City now to put in a carport-type structure (see "Just In-time for Summer" blurb on the first page).

The PAWS Board would like to thank all of the members who participated in the meeting, and for all the good comments received. And remember, if you have an idea or comment, we would like to hear from you! You can submit a comment online at www.ourdogpark.org, or call our message line at 1-866-510-3681.

Microchip Your Pet

Consider getting a microchip for your dog. About the size of a grain of rice, the microchip is implanted under the skin between a pet's shoulder blades. The microchip number and owner identification are entered in a central registry. If a lost pet turns up in a shelter, the chip can be scanned and checked against the registry to locate the owner. Contact your vet or the Solano County Animal Shelter.

For more information, please visit:
<http://www.canismajor.com/dog/microchp.html>

Dog Park Likely to be Relocated

If the Lagoon Valley redevelopment project is approved, PAWS has been unofficially notified that the dog park will likely be relocated around the corner to Butcher Rd. There has also been talk about building two dog parks with one dedicated to smaller pooches only. Board Member, Joyce Bristow, is the PAWS advocate for the small pooch park. We will keep you informed as we learn more.



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And "Thank You" to Kopi Works in Vacaville (formerly AlphaGraphics) for the 50% price discount on newsletter copying!



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**Solano-Napa Pet
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Found A Lost Pet?

You can try to locate a pet's owner by visiting www.petdata.com on the web and entering in the pet's license tag in the search field.

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2006 PAWS Board of Directors

PAWS is a 100% volunteer organization managed by a ten member Board of Directors.

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Santa Paws is Coming to Town! (continued from page 1)

This annual event benefits the Vacaville Off-leash dog park and is our major fundraiser of the year. Digital photos are provided on 3 1/2 floppy disk or CD for \$5 each. Printed pictures come with your choice of frame at \$5 each. Children, families and all pets alike are encouraged to have their pictures taken with Santa. For more information call 866-510-3681.

Volunteers Needed for Santa Paws

Volunteers are needed to help with Santa Paws on Dec 2nd & 3rd and 9th & 10th. This is a really fun event to help with. We also need one or two more people to play Santa those days as well. Please call Teri Johnson at 707-452-0618 if you can help.

Pet First Aid training

Do you know what to do if your pet is injured or sick? PetTech of Vacaville's Diana Vazquez is providing Pet First Aid Training to anyone interested in the subject. This course teaches you how to safely approach an injured animal, care for wounds, techniques to perform dog and cat CPR and much more. Techniques are practiced using animal mannequins. Participants receive a 2-year certificate of completion and a Pet Saver Book. No pets are allowed in class. \$31.00. For details and course registration, please visit:

<http://recweb.cityofvacaville.com/Recweb/Activities/ActivitiesDetails.asp?aid=2560>

Please Help Keep the Dog Park Safe and Clean

The dog park belongs to all of us, please help keep it safe and clean! PAWS has received several complaints recently about aggressive dogs at the park. Dog owners/guardians are legally responsible for any damage, injury, or illness their dog(s) may cause to themselves, other dogs or other people. Please help us take action against negligent owners by reporting them to PAWS. Names, license plate numbers, vehicle make/color and any other information can be helpful. You can make a report online at www.ourdogpark.org, or call our message line at 1-866-510-3681.



Poop-bag dispensers and garbage cans are located at the dog park. Please remember to pick-up after your pet.

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CA Legislative News

AB 2110

If passed, would amend the Hancock Animal Cruelty law and would provide that any person who knowingly engages in any activity in which a dog is left untethered and allowed to track and pursue any rabbit, hare, or fox and that results in the injury or death of the rabbit, hare, or fox is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment in a county jail for a period not to exceed 6 months, by a fine not to exceed \$1,000, or by both that imprisonment and fine.

SB 861

This bill would authorize local governments to enact dog breed-specific ordinances pertaining only to mandatory spay or neuter programs and breeding requirements, provided that no specific dog breed, or mixed dog breed, shall be declared potentially dangerous or vicious under those ordinances.

No Food Inside the Dog Park Please

Please do not bring any food, dog treats, etc. inside the dog park. Although your dog might not be interested in your cheeseburger, another dog might!



Tune In!

On December 2–3, more than 150 breeds of the world's most competitive and coiffed canines will compete for the "National Champion" title at the sixth annual AKC/Eukanuba National Championship in Long Beach, CA. Watch Animal Planet and the Discovery Channel, starting at 5 pm.



Scoop the Poop

The City of Vacaville politely reminds you to "scoop the poop." Failure to do so is a violation, per municipal code, and can result in fines.

Animal waste can contaminate the water. Help protect the park and the bottom of your shoes! Poop bags and trash cans are available in the dog park.

Put an identification tag on your dog's collar with your name, address, and phone number. You can make your own at PETCO in Vacaville for a few bucks.

Earthdog?

Earthdog is a sport for some of the smallest, and most tenacious, dogs in the AKC registry: small terriers and Dachshunds. For generations, these dogs were bred as hunting dogs to track game above and below ground; to bark at their quarry in the den and to bolt or draw it for the hunter. Now these wonderful little dogs are very suitable as family pets, however, they sometimes have to be trained not to bark at every little noise and not to dig in the yard or garden. AKC Earthdog tests allow these game little dogs an outlet for their excess energy and instincts in a way that benefits the dogs and the owners. To learn more visit: http://www.akc.org/events/earthdog/getting_started.cfm



How to Care for an Older Dog

The Senior Dogs Project: (1) promotes the adoption of older dogs; (2) provides current information on the special care that older dogs need so that they and their human companions may fully enjoy their golden years; and (3) documents the strong, loving bonds that people have with their older dogs. Visit the Senior Dogs Project website

ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center Hotline

As the premier animal-oriented poison control center in North America, the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center is your best resource for any animal poison-related emergency, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Make the call that can make all the difference: (888) 426-4435.

Have questions about dog park liabilities? Please visit www.dogbitelaw.com for useful information and answers to your questions.

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Snake Bites: Saving Your Dog's Life

If your dog is bitten by a snake, there may be no cause for concern, as the majority of snakes are non-poisonous. The bites of harmless snakes show teeth marks in the shape of a horseshoe, but there are no fang marks.

Treatment of All Bites: First identify the snake and look at the bite. If it appears your dog has been bitten by a poisonous snake (e.g. fang marks), proceed as follows:

1. Restrain the dog. Snake bites are extremely painful.
2. Apply a flat tourniquet above the bite. It should not be as tight as an arterial tourniquet but should be tight enough to keep venous blood from returning to the heart.
3. Using a knife or razor blade, make parallel cuts one-quarter inch deep through the fang marks. On a leg, make them up and down. Blood should ooze from the wound. If not, loosen the tourniquet.
4. Apply mouth suction unless you have a cut or open sore in your mouth. Spit out the blood. If poison is swallowed, the stomach will inactivate it. Continue for thirty minutes.
5. Loosen the tourniquet for thirty seconds every half hour.
6. Keep the dog quiet. Excitement, exercise and struggling increase the rate of absorption. Carry your dog to the veterinarian.

Specific anti-venoms are available through veterinarians. Snake bites become infected. Antibiotics and dressings are indicated.

Did You Know?

- There are 701 types of pure breed dogs.
- It is said that dogs come from a creature similar to a wolf called Tomarctus ("father of dogs") which roamed about 15,000,000 years ago.
- The oldest American breed is the American Foxhound. This dates back to 1650!
- The Afghan Hound is mentioned in writings as far back as 4,000 B.C.
- The Top Dog: Labrador Retriever is the Most Popular Dog in the U.S.
- Wolfhounds have a very short life expectancy of only six years.
- Sugar-free Breakfast cereals with milk are a good source of vitamins and provide a tasty light meal for your dog.
- Avoid feeding your dog tofu and other bean products as they increase mucous production, which can be life-threatening for deep-chested breeds (e.g. Great Danes, Setters, etc.).
- The Hawaiian Poi Poi and the Chinese Chow Chow were originally bred for food.

Pet Insurance

With pet insurance, you have the freedom to obtain the best care for your pet. When your pet is ill or requires emergency treatment you won't worry about how you will pay the veterinary bill! For more, visit www.petinsurance.com.

Emergency Contacts

People Aware of the Well-being of the Speechless (P.A.W.S.)

(866) 510-3681

Any incident or activity that should be brought to the attention of P.A.W.S. This includes vandalism, theft, damage, injuries, etc.

Humane Animal Services

(707) 449-1700

Any incident involving a stray animal entering the dog park and/or causing damage to the dog park.

Vacaville Police Department

9-1-1

Any emergency or life-threatening incident.

Park Superintendent

(707) 469-6500

Any unsafe park conditions.



SOLANO-NAPA PET EMERGENCY CLINIC

4437 Central Place, Suite B3
Fairfield, CA 94534
(707) 864-1444

MONDAY - FRIDAY
6 pm to 8 am

WEEKENDS & HOLIDAYS
24 Hours

In the event you require emergency veterinarian services on weekends or holidays when your primary veterinarian is not available, the Solano-Napa Pet Emergency Clinic in Fairfield is open.

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