



▶ DOGS NEEDING HELP

○ Winter ○ 2014



▶ COMMUNITY



▶ RECREATION

EDO A focus

Eastham Dog Owners' Association
Advocating on issues effecting dogs and dog owners
in Eastham, Massachusetts

Join us on-line at www.easthamdog.org

“Don’t Worry, Be *Happy Diligent*” A message from Ed Daniels, EDOA President

I am not much of a worrier about my dog. He runs out every morning to pick up the newspaper in the driveway. He and his best friend Tobey get into some pretty rough ‘rasslin’ before the ‘referee’ steps in – usually to the relief of both of them. Monty gets wet and muddy chasing after sticks and balls. I’m good with that. It makes me happy that my dog gets to be a country dog.

Monty has leashes hanging by the door, in my back pocket, in the pockets of car doors, in his “go bag”, and on my workbench. Everywhere but around his neck. In order to earn this level of freedom, we continue to work hard on our “sit”, “stay”, and “heel” commands. Besides our walks around the woods, beaches and back roads of Eastham, we also hike in the mountains during our summer trips – mostly off lead. I never worry that he is momentarily out of sight, exploring off trail. This 2 year old Labrador retriever is energetic and a committed socialite, so this lack of restraint suits him just fine. If he spots another dog and receives his release from me, he bounds toward his potential new friend with enthusiasm. So far, Monty has given me no reason not to trust his judgment of the other dog’s temperament. He seems to send the right signals himself and heeds the other dog’s “warnings” if any are given. So, I don’t worry.

This attitude doesn’t work for everybody or every dog. I get that. It doesn’t work for my wife. Nancy is more of a worrier. Monty and I are both under greater levels of restraint in her company. A loose dog doesn’t work in every situation. We settle on a comfort level that is right for us and our dog in the situation.

Well, here is a situation. February is mating season for Coywolves (the coyote/wolf hybrid that is a common Cape Cod predator). It is also deep into the winter season. Weather can make hunting difficult and prey scarce. Young, inexperienced males are making their first foray into life on their own. Passion and desperation can make for a different animal than we see most of the year. They may range into areas they are not generally seen, and be willing to take chances they generally wouldn’t take.

Like all the Outer Cape Cod’s wild animals, coywolves, fishers and bobcats take advantage of opportunity. Small, infirm, or old pets are particularly vulnerable as easy prey. Larger, younger dogs might not be attractive prey, but they could be perceived as threats and therefore become involved in a wild animal conflict.

Recently, a 13-year-old Lab named Laney became a case in point. Let out near her home in Eastham for her usual

Eastham Dog Owners Association			
	New Likes	Talking About This	Weekly Total Reach
	2	78	367



Beloved Laney

evening break, she failed to return. She was located the following morning in a condition no pet lover ever wants to see. Exactly what happened could not be determined, and there were more questions than answers. Some wild animal had been involved. Laney may have presented as easy prey. She may have died and become carrion. There was some evidence there had not been a fight. What kind of animal was involved could not be determined. What is certain is that this was not the way anyone wants their beloved pet to go. It must have been a horrible discovery and our hearts go out to Laney’s people. By all accounts, she was a sweet and gentle soul. Laney’s owner gave us her permission to pass along her story as a cautionary tale.

Don’t worry, but please be diligent.

Ed Daniels is a retired
Biologist and Science Educator



The Cape sure has had a lot of snow this winter, compared to recent years past! Spring coming soon!

NEWS & EVENTS

The Board of Eastham Dog Owners' Association sends a special thank-you to everyone who renewed their membership for 2014. And, we welcome all new members! Join us the 3rd Thursday of each month at our board meeting. 6PM - Eastham Town Hall.

Buddy Scholarship application deadline is March 28, 2014 to coincide with Nauset Regional High School's other scholarships. Reminders will be posted around town, and on our web site and Facebook page.

Find out more on EDOA's website www.easthamdog.org

And follow us on [Facebook!](#)



Until next time, happy "tails" to you!



Model dog wearing GPS collar
Photo courtesy of Vetstreet.com

LOST DOG NETWORK

LOST DOG



"Beau Bar" Male Rat Terrier, B...



THE LOST DOG NETWORK

(LDN) is happy to report that the 6 lost dogs reported in November, December, and January all found their way home with minimal LDN involvement. LDN Alert Signs will now include a photo of the dog inserted into a protective plastic sleeve to help identify missing dogs. LDN meetings for coordinators and searchers will be scheduled soon and announced on our web site and Facebook page. Click [here](#) for more Lost Dog News! You may also find [this article from 3milliondogs.com](#) interesting.

DISASTER BASICS - Learn to prepare yourselves, your family and your pets in time of disaster at the Dennis Police Station on *Saturday, March 29th*. Also on tap is a discussion about the expectations CC Disaster Animal Response Team (DART) has for its volunteers. What to expect in deployment is also part of the day – from initial phone alert all the way through to setting up and breaking down shelters here on Cape Cod. This is the first of 6 classes plus graduation day. Membership application forms are requested prior to the start of this class. EDOA supports the emergency pet shelter component at the Nauset Regional High School and welcomes your participation.

Learn more and sign up now at www.ccdart.org/contact.html.



JANUARY'S DOG OF THE MONTH

Lost Dog Network coordinator Larry DiBona's, Priscilla made an encore appearance at January's EDOA board meeting. After lots of cuddles from the board members, she promptly fell asleep in her daddy's arms!

GPS FOR YOUR DOG

Ah, Cape Cod and its breathtaking, wide-open spaces, isn't it beautiful? But what if Fido gets loose? Most of us have ID tags, and microchips, but wouldn't it be cool to be able to track your pooch using GPS and wireless technology? There are many options available for pet tracking, from pricey, to reasonable, to inexpensive. Brands like [Tagg petracker](#) even include a feature to check how much activity your dog is getting while you're at work or out of town! [Consumer Reports analyzed 3 GPS devices in a 2012 report](#). Here's a 5-star review of [Garmin's doggie tracking collar](#). Vetstreet compared nine GPS devices in their lengthy [January 2014 article](#)

Special Thanks to:

- Eastham Town Hall for providing meeting space to the EDOA Board
- *The Cape Cod Dog* and *Nauset Pet Services* for their continual support to EDOA

EDOA's Board of Directors

President, Ed Daniels; VP, Cindy Nicholson; Treasurer, Lu St.Aubin; Secretary, Kathy Herrick; Directors: Vicky Anderson; Cindy Blum; Per Bentsen; Dianne Cullen; Kathleen Mueller; Ellen Murray; Tracey Plantier and Larry DiBona