



▶ DOGS NEEDING HELP



▶ COMMUNITY



▶ RECREATION

EDOA

focus

Eastham Dog Owners' Association

Advocating on issues effecting dogs and dog owners in Eastham, Massachusetts

A BIG BARK

It's pouring out and Monty and guest Tobey, two wet dogs, are sleeping at my feet. At least it smells like two wet dogs. Yep. It's them, thank goodness. Great time to get out a note to my friends in EDOA.

Our annual meeting took place last Thursday. Despite the promise of downpours we had between 40 and 50 people drop in. We elected a new director to the board, Steven Cole as well as re-electing the usual pack. Thank you all for stepping up. The new slot was opened due to Kathleen K2 Mueller's resignation. K2 was hit with lots to take care of off cape with her old dog and some family illness so making her usual commitment to EDOA was getting tough. We thank her and wish her well. I know we will see her around helping out whenever she can.

Ruth Bentsen has been appointed our treasurer and will bring her experience and organizational skills to the position. We have recently completed an internal audit of our books and found all properly accounted. I forgot to mention at the meeting that no EDOA funds are paid to officers or directors. All donations are used for the mission of EDOA in service to our members and dog owners in Eastham. The exception is the Buddy Scholarship. Memorial donations to this fund are all distributed to scholarship recipients once a year. I cannot leave the money topic without acknowledging the donation not only of time but personal funds by officers and directors just in the performance of

their volunteer tasks. They ask not for reimbursement or praise for this. Thank you.

Great job by the board getting ready for the event. Once again all took on the job and got 'er done. I know that she would be very embarrassed to have it said but one director, who arranged our speaker, also made a donation of the coffee, hot chocolate and a raffle item - again. Thanks E.M.

Dog behavior consultant Vera Wilkinson was our keynote speaker for the Annual Meeting.

The topic was "The Reactive Dog". After going through some basics of dog and puppy training Vera started answering questions about dog's reactive behavior. And were there questions! Even after 90 minutes of discussion Vera stayed and answered personal queries for another 30 minutes. Lightning, barking, other dogs, dogs on leash, dogs off leash, big dogs, touching here or there, strangers at the door and on and on. It would be safe to say that the dog without some reactive issue would be a rarity.

One of the lessons I took home to Monty involved the correction therapy of "distract, re-focus, reward, repeat". My two year old lab is quiet, calm and affectionate - until someone arrives at the door. Then he has the bark and charge of a secret service dog - except he actually guards. Even people who know him and expect his "greeting" jump and cringe at



his greeting. Mind you, his tail is wagging and he only wants to see if you have treats and lick you - in that order, but we have to get this under control before somebody loses control of their bladder.

My wife's Women's Issues group became my unwitting training partner. I knew that there would be a long line of arrivals coming up the walkway; none of whom would want a barking dog or loss of control for their trouble. So I put Vera's plan into effect.

"Distract": Monty has been trained to come with a clicker so that was used to get his attention. After a bark or two I clicked. He turned.

"Re-focus": With coaxing (I might have said the word "treat" a couple times at first) I got him to move away from the deck railing and over toward me. There I would command him "down".

"Reward": When Monty laid down - no longer barking or even focusing on the guest - he received a bit of kibble. He was doing it rather smoothly after just a few tries.

IT WAS WORKING!

"Repeat": Well, that will be the key in the long run to making this new behavior stick. Vera stressed that point saying that 2 to 4 daily sessions for 15 minutes is recommended.

A dog is a joy. A well trained dog is a joy to all. Now if Monty scares the p%#\$ out of you when you come to visit you'll know who is to blame.

Ed Daniels, President of EDOA

2014 ANNUAL MEETING
OCTOBER 16, 2014



Kathy Herrick & Larry DiBona welcomed members and guests

We hope you were able to attend and welcome our Keynote Speaker:

Vera Wilkinson,
CDBC, CPDT-KA, KPA CTP

Renowned Dog Trainer,
Behavior Consultant and
Owner of "The Cooperative Dog" of
Brookline, MA.



*Practical training
for everyday life*

Much was learned on how dogs communicate & the importance of understanding "why".

Many questions were answered, many laughs were shared and you are welcome to join her blog.

<http://cooperativedog.com/>

Thank you to all who attended!



Tony & Kate, Members

Special Thanks to:

The Cape Cod Dog, Animal Hospital of Orleans and Nauset Pet Services for their continual support.
Eastham Town Hall for providing meeting space for monthly EDOA board meetings.

EDOA's Board of Directors : President, Ed Daniels; VP, Cindy Nicholson; Treasurer, Ruth Bentsen; Secretary, Kathy Herrick; Directors: Vicky Anderson; Per Bentsen; Cindy Blum; Steve Cole; Dianne Cullen; Larry DiBona; Ellen Murray and Tracey Plantier.

Congratulations to our newest board members voted in by the membership: **Ellen Murray, Larry DiBona, Tracey Plantier & Steve Cole**
Ruth Bentsen was also voted in to the Treasurer's position.

NEWS & EVENTS

Eastham's is once again involved with the community **Eastham Turnip Festival** on November 22nd. Be sure to stop by and say hello. Our EDOA clothing line will be available for purchase too; the perfect gift for those hard to get folks on your holiday list as well as supporting your Association.

EDOA is also seeking a website expert volunteer to maintain our website.

Contact Ed Daniels if you're up for the challenge!

**COMMUNITY
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Neighborhood Watch is seeking concerned dog owner residents who as they walk their dogs keep an 'Eye' out for anything unusual that would be of interest to the Police. For more information please call Police Officer Josh Adams at 508-255-0551 in joining the ninety Block Captains scattered about our town.

**THE EASTHAM LIBRARY
COMMITTEE NEEDS YOUR INPUT!**

With the new library in transition, the *Library Committee* is reaching out to the community for input on its adult programming. To ensure they have the interesting adult programs you may be seeking, they need to hear feedback from you. Please take a few minutes to answer some brief questions on their survey. Your answers will be anonymous and confidential.

Simply go to:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/easthamprograms> to better help them improve your life!

***Tis the Season -
Hunting season at the
National Seashore***



Even though hunters are encouraged to recognize their target before they shoot, there are some things you can

do to protect you and your pet.

Know when it's safe

It's Bow & Arrow season NOW; Shot gun starts Dec 1st - 13th followed by "Primitive Firearms" to Dec 31st.

No hunting on Sunday!

**Learn where the hunting
areas are.**

Make sure you know the area you and your pets walk in is safe.

**Use sight and sound to your
advantage.**

"Hunter orange" is a must have for taking a walk in or around wooded areas. While unrecognizable to deer and other animals, the clothing shade is bright and easily recognizable to humans. Add a bell on your pet's collar for added protection.

**It is recommended
to keep your pet
contained**

or on a leash to prevent them from wandering. Even though hunting is prohibited at night, having your dogs and cats secure at all times is the best way to prevent an accident.

