



▶ DOGS NEEDING HELP

○ January

○ 2013



▶ COMMUNITY



▶ RECREATION

# EDO A focus

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

## Winter in Eastham

- a message from Ed Daniels, President

Seems like years since it's been here. Temps in the teens and wind in the 20s have blown sea ice onto our beaches and a half mile out. It has also blown most walkers inside. I'd be there too I suppose if not for the relentless pleas of Monty, our Labrador retriever. In the past two days we have encountered only dog walkers on our travels. How fortunate we are to have dogs to encourage us to recreate even when the weather is unencouraging.

Tucked in at the base of the sea cliff the wind abates a bit. Monty chases his ball but adds a new game. He goes a short way out onto the sea ice and buries his ball into the light, icy snow. Then he gets me to fetch it out. The 1 year old pup is delighted with his new game. Monty yaps and wags and bounds in the snow around the spot - telling me to look for his ball. I learn the game pretty quickly and he rewards me with a few rounds of "happy feet". That's when he races around, zigging and zagging, with unbridled energy. I delight in his display of sheer joy.

Back inside I pull on the slippers Monty delivers to me and put my back to the flaming stove. Monty curls up on my / his slippers and I open the newspaper (bite marked by his other retrieving trick). Again, there are several stories about dogs. Brewster Selectmen continue to pit citizens against each other in an unfortunate row about dogs in Drummer Boy Park. Another story reports of a Massachusetts State panel rewriting dog control laws. A conflict has arisen over towns being allowed to make breed-specific bans. Still another article talks about State Park rules intended to control access to citizens with dogs. So much bad feeling over recreation. So many people pushing to limit public access by another cohort of citizens. It makes me sad.

Recreational space has been set aside in an inspired attempt to preserve and protect a healthy and fulfilling way of life. Dog owners are arguably the most enthusiastic and constant users of those resources. We know they provide places to train our companion animals - and ourselves - to be emotionally and physically fit. Who could be against that?

As righteous as we should be about our access to public lands, it serves us well to look at the issues that might turn some of our fellow citizens against that access. There are few reports of injury, no reports of dog-borne disease, and point source pollution is near impossible to determine. Still the perceptions are understandable that dogs cause these things. A child or stranger to your dog may not be able to differentiate between an enthusiastic greeting and an attack. Dog waste does not belong in recreational spaces where it can come into contact with others or their pets. It is those things that we must take responsibility for - and it can be done.

Be a good citizen. Pick up after your dog - even in the woods - even when no one is looking. Be in control of your dog (leash or voice) and watch for walkers. Call your dog to sit until the walkers pass or show their intention to engage the dog.

Who doesn't like to see a well-trained dog? Having a dog friendly community starts with us. Now get out there and enjoy this beautiful weather. You know your dog will.

- Ed Daniels, President EDOA

Join us on-line at [www.easthamdog.org](http://www.easthamdog.org)

facebook

Name:  
Eastham Dog Owners  
Association

Fans:  
281



Monty - age 1 year - trying to communicate something



January's Dog of the Month is Sydney, an Australian Labradoodle owned by EDOA Treasurer, Lu St. Aubin

Cape Cod Disaster Animal Response Team (CCDART) is seeking members for the Outer Cape Emergency Pet Shelter component. A one-day free informational session on the history of DART, Regional co-sheltering; specific shelter involvement activity such as client registration, shelter design & set-up and personal preparedness will be held **March 9<sup>th</sup>** at the Old Firehouse, **44 Main St in Orleans (9AM-4PM)**. This basic course is the prerequisite to all other CCDART training and membership on the team. *Registration is required for attendance.* To find out more please go to [www.capecoddart.org](http://www.capecoddart.org).



EDOA board member Tracey Plantier's dog, Rigby, enjoys Eastham's beaches!



P.O. Box 274  
Eastham, MA 02642

**WILEY PARK POOP PICK-UP:** Our semi-annual Poop Pick-up at [Wiley Park](#) happened in early January, and the event was hugely successful. If our dogs could talk, they would say: "If you poop, then you must scoop! (and that means always – please pick up after your pooch. Don't leave it behind for others to pick up, or step in!) Better yet, get involved. Grab a pooper-scooper, bag or bucket, tell your friends. Help us pick up after those who don't. We have a lot of laughs, and it's actually kind of fun!"



### TRACEY'S TRAINING TIPS

One of the most misunderstood concepts about dog training is time. Many folks believe that training your dog is going to take lots of time. The first time I took a formal dog training class with a very rambunctious Golden Retriever named Corky, the instructor asked us to practice the lessons we learned in class for 10 minutes, two times per day. I couldn't believe that I could change Corky's behavior in just 20 minutes per day. I was extremely skeptical as Corky behaved like Marley, from *Marley and Me*, in all ways. During the first class, the instructor specifically sought me out to whisper in my ear "Boy, you have your hands full with that one". Ouch! If the instructor was worried, how was I going to be successful making this whirlwind puppy a well-behaved member of the family? I committed to the plan and practiced basic skills - sit, down, stay, heel - for 10 minutes, once in the morning, once in the evening. I didn't cheat. No matter how the session went, either good or bad, I stuck to the plan. Keeping the session light and fun for both human and dog is very important. If your dog doesn't respond to the command the first time, try a second or third, but don't get to the point of frustration, for yourself or for your dog. Move on to another command and try again at the next session. Every day I noticed Corky responding quicker and more consistently to the commands, and both of us gained confidence. In the six short weeks of the class, I couldn't have been a prouder parent when Corky took the first prize in the final class dog show. Two decades later, I continue to use short training sessions as a fun daily activity when spending time with my dog. When my newest dog family member, Rigby, was a young puppy, we had training sessions for no more than 5 minutes 4 or 5 times per day, varying the sessions by judging Rigby's attention and interest. Rigby, now age 2, has long passed the sit, stay, down milestones, but we add distractions, change locations and try new commands and tricks. We do this to reinforce commands and challenge Rigby and keep him interested and learning. Rigby likes to work and experiences these daily sessions as fun. I do too!

– Tracey Plantier, EDOA Board member

## LOST DOG NETWORK

### LOST DOG



"Beau Barker"  
Male Rat Terrier, Black and Wh

### LOST DOG



Ruger  
Male German Shepherd missing Sunday 11/11/12  
from Thumpertown Road in Eastham

The Lost Dog Network "LDN" continues to improve its presence in Eastham and beyond. In January, the LDN received a lost dog request from a dog owner from Queens, NY. Although the LDN could not complete a physical search, as physical searches are limited to Eastham, the team leader of the LDN, Kathy Herrick, spent time educating the owner on tips for finding his dog.

Luckily in Eastham, EDOA members and non-members can contact the Lost Dog Network at our website <http://www.easthamdog.org/id50.html>. The Lost Dog Network team has been trained to lead and complete physical searches and also guide owners in the proper steps for communication of their lost dog.

If you are out of town or need to help a friend or family member with a lost dog the EDOA website is a great resource to help you organize. There is a wonderful communication list to remind you who to notify. From contacting the local police department, local animal rescue agencies, and local veterinary hospitals to the creation of posters and flyers to get the word out. Equally important are the great tips for completing a physical search. You may not know that it is important to not chase a lost dog if sighted. Dogs tend to be frightened when they are lost and may run away from searchers, including family members. There are helpful tips about luring the dog back with scents - like favorite toys and foods, or clothing from the most bonded family member. Searching techniques are important to understand to ensure the speediest return of your pet.

In 2012, the LDN was involved in 16 lost dog requests. Almost all of these efforts were successful. EDOA members interested in learning more about the LDN or thinking of becoming part of the LDN team can email us for further information at [LostDog@easthamdog.org](mailto:LostDog@easthamdog.org).

- Kathy Herrick, LDN Committee Chair and EDOA Secretary

### SPECIAL THANKS:

- The board of EDOA is grateful to Katrina Boucher for lending us space at her store, The Cape Cod Dog, for our recent monthly meetings. Huge wags of appreciation, Katrina!
- Agway and the Town of Eastham Recreation Department each donate "Mutt Mitts" for use in dispensers at Wiley Park and other areas around town. We thank them both for their generous and useful contributions.

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

- The EDOA Board of Directors will donate \$14 each to commemorate the one-year anniversary of the Buddy Scholarship on Valentine's Day. This gives the fund a running start, in celebration of our love of all our dogs. EDOA members are encouraged to [donate](#) as well.
- EDOA's annual Bow-Wow Bash 2013 will be held Saturday, May 18, 2013 at First Encounter Beach starting at **noon**.
- Paws for Celebration 2013 will be held on Saturday, June 22 from 11 am – 3 pm at Nauset Middle School in Orleans.

### EDOA's Board of Directors

Ed Daniels, President; Cindy Nicholson, Vice President; Lu St. Aubin, Treasurer; Kathy Herrick, Secretary; Cindy Blum; Per Bentsen; Katrina Boucher; Karie Miller; Kathleen Mueller; Ellen Murray; Tracey Plantier and Larry DiBona.

\*\* EDOA Board meetings are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs of every month at 6 pm at Willy's Gym on Rt 6 in Eastham. All are welcome to attend.

Click [here](#) for more Lost Dog News!