

May 2002

Volume 5, Issue 3



The Scoop

Roseville Dog Owners' Group

Did You Know . . .

- The newsletter is switching to a different publishing schedule. You will receive another newsletter in June, and every second month thereafter.
- RDOG meets the first Tuesday of each month at the Christian Life Center in Roseville. See page 6.
- The May meeting will be on Tuesday, May 7, 2002, starting at 7:00 pm.
- RDOG's web site is at www.rosevilledog.org

Officer Ferguson Discusses Animal Control Issues

At our April meeting, Officer Troy Ferguson of the Roseville Police Department spoke on several interesting subjects relating to obligations and responsibilities of dog owners. Officer Ferguson is one of the city's animal control officers, a pet owner himself, and a regular visitor to the Marco Dog Park. He also provided some insight about current issues.

The issue of vaccinations and dog licenses was discussed thoroughly. There have been some recent rabies cases in the area, including the case this month of a Willows resident who died of rabies contracted from a bat. Officer Ferguson mentioned that he vaccinates his pets every six months as a precaution since he comes in contact with so many animals in his work.

A lively Q&A session followed, much of it focusing on the recent dog mauling case in San Francisco and on local dog nuisance ordinances. Another topic was the laws related to use of

Marco Dog Park. All dogs playing in the park must be currently licensed in the jurisdiction where they live.

We would like to thank Officer Ferguson for his time. RDOG hosts guest speakers at our meetings in even-numbered months.



Inside this issue:

Recent Achievements Improve Dog Life in Roseville	1
Agility: Dogdom's Newest Fun Sport	3
Volunteers Needed!	4
Easter Bake Sale Photos	5

Recent Achievements Improve Dog Life in Roseville

By Donna Treibel
RDOG President

After a long year of talks and emails with the City of Roseville Parks Department, Marco Dog Park looks like a brand new park! Some of the new improvements include:

- The park now has twice as many benches as before
- The granite area has been replenished and increased
- Several new trees and improved irrigation have been installed

- Additional garbage cans are in place
- A concrete pad with drain has been laid
- Three additional dog waste dispensers are now available
- RDOG has provided a much needed shade canopy

In June, Marco Park will have been open for five years and RDOG is sponsoring a Fifth Anniversary Party for dogs and their human caregivers! Hats off to the RDOG Park Improvement Committee, and especially Ken, along with his crew, Don, Phil,

(Continued on page 5)



Happy Birthday!

May

- Indiana Sadler, May 1
- Euler St. Denis, May 1
- Jessie Walther, May 1
- Lucky Jackson, May 1
- Virginia Money, May 1
- Mayson Blair, May 5
- Mia Lean, May 9
- Nikki Muniz, May 13
- Remington Anderson, May 14
- Maggie Billings, May 15
- Monet, May 16
- Stanley Dunlap, May 26

June

- Tika Barbree, June 1
- Jazelle Harman, June 1
- Betty Waldie, June 1
- Roseann Waldie, June 1
- Samantha Waldie, June 1
- Anna Medley, June 5
- Sadie Burger, June 6
- Edna Ma Dunlap, June 11
- Duffy Molina, June 15
- Ch. Jack's Robbie for Top Hat, June 15
- Darcie Anderson, June 16
- Casey Jon Preece, June 16
- Spencer McPherson, June 17
- Dexter Pice, June 22
- Maya Jasper, June 24

The Scoop

The Scoop is the official newsletter of the Roseville Dog Owners' Group (RDOG), P.O. Box 1216, Roseville, California 95678. The newsletter is published bi-monthly and is included in the annual membership dues.

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President	Donna Treibel
Vice President	Lyn Billings
Recording Secretary	Chris Dunlap
Corresponding Secretary	Debbie Lean
Treasurer	Patty Diehl
Parliamentarians	Pamela Dallas Vickey Meyer
Newsletter Editor and Webmaster	Josh Jacoby

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810 Riverside Ave., Roseville
(916) 782-2123

Willow Rock Pet Hospital

6661-M Stanford Ranch Rd., Rocklin
(916) 630-9234

Agility: Dogdom's Newest Fun Sport

By **Norma Bennett Woolf**
Canis Major Publications

Agility is the latest dog activity to gain recognition by both the American Kennel Club and the United Kennel Club.

It's no accident that the obstacles in a dog agility course are reminiscent of jumps and barriers on a horse-jumping course – the dog sport was born in England to provide entertainment during breaking in horse-jumping competitions. Agility scores reflect speed and accuracy; the judges add fault points to the score for each obstacle that is not taken cleanly.

Agility is fun. Dogs enjoy the freedom and speed and challenge. Owners enjoy the increased bond with the dog as they work out the challenges inherent in mastery of each obstacle.

"The main thing I like about agility is the bond it creates with your dog," said competitor and judge Tammi Skillman of Morrow, Ohio. "I've learned so much about dogs by being involved in agility."

The dog must be in perfect sync with the owner on the agility course for there is no leash and collar for control. Since the order of obstacles on each course is different and the pathway between the obstacles twists and turns, dogs must learn a whole new vocabulary so they don't run up A-frame when they should be headed for the weave poles.

Conditioning is critical for strenuous agility competition. Puppies can be started in training with regular walks at four months of age. As they age, the walks should get longer so that they cover a couple of miles a couple of times a week. Obstacle training can begin in a variety of ways. An eight-inch board raised a few inches off the floor is a good beginning for the balance beam, known as the dog walk on the agility course. A ramp can be a board braced firmly on an incline, its upper end about a foot off the ground. A beginner's "jump" can be anything from a broomstick propped an inch or two off the ground up to an eight-inch board that puppies can step over to get the idea that obstacles can be overcome.

Naturally, there are precautions. Young dogs should not jump; landing on immature forelegs and shoulders can cause injuries. Dogs must be taught not to rush the obstacles, as they can injure themselves by falling from the A-frame or the dog walk if they throw caution to the winds. The climbing obstacles on an agility course have yellow

low contact areas painted across the bottom; dogs must touch these contact areas on the way up and down the ramps. Ramps also have cross-laths to provide traction as the dogs scabble up the incline.

Dogs who compete in agility must be under control when not on a leash. Thus basic obedience and a desire to follow instructions are a must.

Dogs gain confidence in their abilities as they learn to climb, jump, or crawl through agility obstacles. The learning may be tough for the dog afraid of heights or reluctant to enter dark spaces, but determined owners can coax them through the uncertainty. There's no pressure with agility – it's pure joy. Dogs can compete for years as long as they stay in shape.

Almost any dog can do agility. Giant breeds and those with a wide wheelbase may have trouble with some obstacles, but if the dog is game, it can be done. (An Irish Wolfhound competed in the agility trial at one Louisville, Kentucky, spring show and a Newfoundland wowed the crowd in a demonstration at a Columbus pet expo.) The most popular agility breeds are the medium-to-large dogs that are quick on their feet – Border Collies (of course), Pulis, Shetland Sheepdogs, Golden Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers, Australian Shepherds, etc. – but almost any dog, including mixed breeds, can learn, enjoy, and earn agility titles.

Resources for more information include:

- U.S. Dog Agility Association (USDAA) on the web at www.usdaa.com
- North American Dog Agility Council on the web at www.nadac.com
- Canine Performance Events (CPE) on the web at www.k9cpe.com

Local resources include:

- Pam Rogers with classes in Lincoln and Grass Valley at www.greendogsandpam.com
- Starfleet Agility at www.starfleetagility.com
- Tough and Go Agility, email at kathie@touchngoagility.com
- Hautw Dawg Agility Group on the web at www.hautdawgs.org

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"The main thing I like about agility is the bond it creates with your dog."

Volunteers Needed! Help Make a Difference

RDOG exists and fulfills its mission because of the work of a number of dedicated volunteers. We're asking for some more volunteers to become involved with our committees. A small commitment of time is all we ask, and your efforts will go directly towards making our community a more dog friendly place. Please take a moment to review our committees and select one or more you would like to learn more about. Thank you for your involvement!

Park Improvement Committee

This committee, chaired by President Donna Treibel, focuses on partnering with the City of Roseville Parks Department to make Marco Dog Park better. Recent achievements of the Park Improvement Committee include the additional benches, trash cans, and gravel replenishment in the park this season. The Committee and City have approved a concrete pad for the wading pools to help reduce the muddy mess. A new shade canopy is also in the works to provide some much needed shade until the trees grow in. Ongoing discussions include the addition of shade trees, a new dog park in West Roseville, and a fence to prevent dogs from playing in the creek.

This is a highly important and visible committee for RDOG because of its direct impact on the

community and the dog park. If you are a frequent park user and would like a voice in how it is run and maintained, this is the committee for you!

Education, Legislation, and Publicity Committee

The EL&P Committee, chaired by Co-Parliamentarian Pamela Dallas, is a new committee with the mission to provide dog owners in our community with a unified voice. The committee is in the process of defining legislative goals, including securing funding for a proposed dog park in West Roseville and relaxing the on-leash dog ban in city parks. This committee is also working on an exciting project to produce a series of public

service videos on selecting a dog, the different breeds of dogs, and more, which will be shown on Roseville Public Access television.

This is another highly visible committee, which will interact with the public, the Parks Commission and the City Council. The video project in particular will be a lot of fun, so join now!

Activities Committee

The Activities Committee, chaired by Vice President Lyn Billings, organizes group outings to places like the beach, the mountains, and other events, especially during the rainy season when the dog park is closed. A recent outing included the 2002 Golden Gate American Kennel Club dog show in San Francisco in February. [We're planning the Marco Dog Park 5th Anniversary Party for mid-June and really need some help!!](#)

Fundraising Committee

The Fundraising Committee, chaired by Jana Mauk, coordinates and executes our highly-successful bake sales and rummage sales to generate funds for RDOG and our park improvement fund. Recent fundraising events have financed the concrete pad project and the new shade canopy. This is an important committee to provide funds for the group's activities.

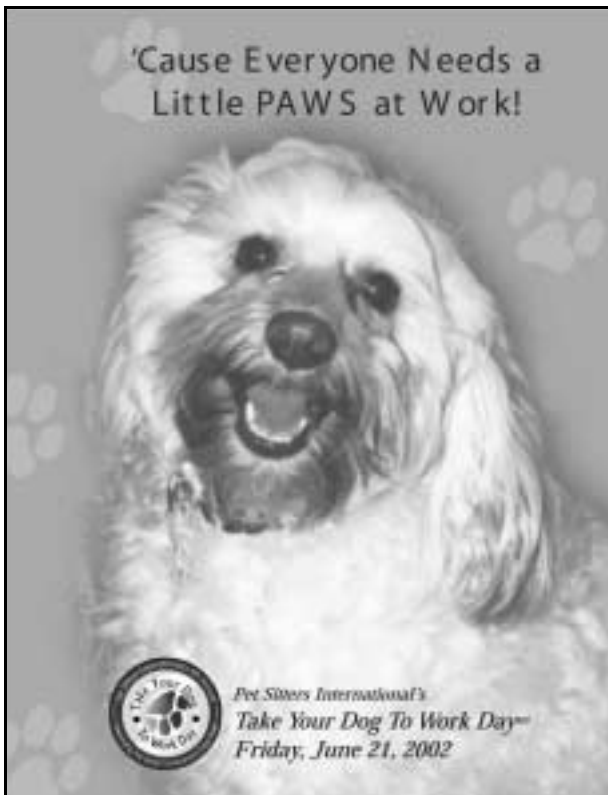
Speakers Committee

The Speakers Committee, chaired by Treasurer Patty Diehl, is charged with identifying and scheduling speakers with interesting information and experiences to share with the group at our monthly meetings. Past speakers have included animal control officers, veterinarians, and assistance dog trainers for the disabled. This is a fun committee to identify new and interesting topics for the group meetings.

Membership Committee

The Membership Committee, chaired by Corresponding Secretary Debbie Lean, has the mission to increase membership in RDOG, both with individuals and business sponsorships. By increasing membership, the group has more resources to finance park improvements and work towards making our community a more dog friendly place.

To join a committee, please visit our web site at www.rosevilledog.org and sign up, or send an email to info@rosevilledog.org



Recent Achievements. . .

(Continued from page 1)

and Bill, at the Roseville Parks Department. Together, they have established a good working relationship to achieve such a tail wagging feat!

RDOG has also set out to increase involvement and revenue through increased awareness and membership. Information and applications are now at veterinarians, groomers, trainers, and pet supply stores all over Placer County. So far, RDOG has increased membership by 20% and counting. Our website has proven to be a success, with all types of information, including membership and volunteer applications. Of course, the newly designed newsletter is just what is needed to keep everyone informed.

Our highly successful bake sales and upcoming rummage sale help to raise money to cover our expenses. In addition, the informative speakers at

our meetings have proven to be real crowd pleasers.

The City of Roseville Licensing has allowed RDOG's information and membership application to be inserted in with the annual Roseville dog license renewal notices. Currently Roseville has over 6,000 licensed dogs, so RDOG will surely be getting noticed.

Future projects now in the works are include working with the Parks Department on the second dog park (near Junction and Baseline in West Roseville) as well as legislation to get dogs back in the local Roseville parks! We have a hard job ahead of us, but with continued and increased support, we will make our voices heard.

Thanks everyone for a job well done, and your continued support!

Easter Bake Sale a Huge Success!

The Easter Bake Sale held on Saturday, March 30th, was an enormous success. The group raised \$448.51 and completely sold out of all the delicious treats and goodies.

The bake sale was the result of the hard work of several dedicated RDOG volunteers. Many thanks go to Jana Mauk, Lyn Billings, Patty Diehl and her dog Talon, Maggie Vining, Chris Dunlap, Lisa Mayeda, Randy Hale, the Steinharts, and Debbie Lean. Also, an extra special thank you to Petco on Douglas Boulevard in Roseville for allowing us to hold our bake sales in front of their store.

Funds raised from our bake sales go towards improvements at Marco Dog Park.

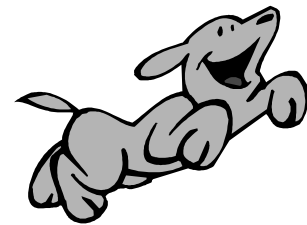


Roseville Dog Owners' Group

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Promoting Responsible Dog Ownership



WE'RE ON THE WEB!
WWW.ROSEVILLEDOG.ORG

RDOG Meeting Information

The Roseville Dog Owners' Group (RDOG) meets monthly on the first Tuesday of each month, starting at 7:00 pm. We are pleased to announce our new permanent meeting place:

The Christian Life Center
119 Fern Avenue
Roseville

If you are coming from Cirby on Riverside (heading towards Douglas) the street after Darling is Fern. Take a right turn and the next street is Clinton. The church is on the corner.

Meeting Schedule

- Tuesday, May 7, 2002, 7:00 pm
- Tuesday, June 4, 2002, 7:00 pm
- Tuesday, July 9, 2002, 7:00 pm
- Tuesday, August 6, 2002, 7:00 pm
- Tuesday, September 3, 2002, 7:00 pm
- Tuesday, October 1, 2002, 7:00 pm

