



# FLBDP News

SUMMER 2008

VOLUME 4, NUMBER 2

*"Together, we  
can KEEP it for  
the dogs..."*



**Oslo**  
sports an LBDP cap  
(He borrowed it from FLBDP  
Treasurer Joy Butterfield.)

**DON'T BE SHY!**  
**THE DOG PARK IS**  
**GETTING MORE USE THAN**  
**EVER. WE CAN HELP...**  
**REMINDE YOUR FELLOW**  
**DP USERS TO**  
**SCOOP THE POOP!**

## THE GOOD NEWS IS...

We're still here, still kickin' and still working hard on behalf of the fabulous Laguna Beach Dog Park! In our last newsletter, we listed several improvements we'd like to see at the Dog Park in 2008, and we are happy to report that visible progress has been made on at least one front. Regulars will have noticed that the city recently relocated the water station outside of the entrance area, as we had requested. They also provided a new fountain installation at their own cost. (We know what you're thinking, and the city has been notified about the operational problems with the fountain. Also, the location is still not ideal, and whatever the location, a concrete pad will need to be poured around it to minimize mud. Be assured, we are working on these issues.)

As pleased as we are that we have made some progress with the fountain, we have been frustrated that we have not gained more ground on other issues. The fact of the matter is that whatever we do has to be done by (or at least with the official approval of) the City of Laguna Beach, usually through the Parks Department. Even if we are the ones paying for an improvement, we still have to jump through city hoops. As we had begun to fear at the time of our last newsletter, the reconstruction of Heisler Park has been monopolizing most of the Parks Department's resources this year, which has had the effect of making it very hard for us to get the city to prioritize Dog Park needs.

Our sign project is a case in point. It has been very slow in coming to fruition, in spite of city approval and the best of intentions. Never fear, we will persevere! Realistically, we can't and don't expect much during the summer months. The flood of visitors into Laguna keeps all city personnel very busy and less responsive to non-urgent matters. Our plan is to have things lined up to make more progress in the fall.

On a positive note, the city was extremely responsive in handling a problem with the access gate at the north side of the park. The gate was out of kilter, leaving a substantial gap through which dogs could escape, and the city had the problem corrected within a day of our notifying them. Many thanks to the Parks Department!

As a reminder, here's the list of items on our "to do" list:

- Find a good, final location for main water station; add a station to the Small Dog Area;
- New signs throughout the park;
- Message board in the entrance area;
- Reconfiguration of the entrance area at the bridge to alleviate the bottleneck effect of people entering and exiting the park;
- "Donate-a-Bench" program;
- Additional shade for the park;
- Trash containers outside the fenced area.

Please keep up the great input! A number of you are helping us stay current on maintenance issues and happenings at the park, and this is extremely helpful, since we all keep different park hours aren't always aware of things that don't occur on our watch. The more we know, the more effective we can be in our communications with the city, and the better able to achieve our mission.

## GET INVOLVED!

Volunteer for  
My Best Friend's  
Brunch!

contactus@  
lbdogpark.org  
or call

949-910-9947

to be added to our  
list of volunteers.



Cisco & Mesa

roll and romp at the DP  
(they caught a ride over  
with Nanci Nicoli)

### Friends of Laguna Beach Dog Park

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Laguna Beach, CA  
92652-0164

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We're on the Web!  
[www.LBDoqPark.org](http://www.LBDoqPark.org)

**Tax-Exempt Status**  
FLBDP is a tax-exempt  
organization under IRS  
Section 501(c)(3).

## MY BEST FRIEND'S BRUNCH – Save the Date!

Our third annual "My Best Friend's Brunch" fundraiser is set for **Sunday, October 26, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.** Be sure to mark your calendar and plan to join us!

Once again, MBFB will be held at Tivoli Too on Laguna Canyon Road. For those of you who have ventured to the art festivals that opened last week, Tivoli Too is the site of the Art-A-Fair. And once again, our thanks and undying appreciation go out to **June Neptune** for furnishing this amazing venue and offering us truly world-class service and hospitality. June, you are simply the BEST!

Stay tuned for more details as the date gets closer, and in the meantime, note that...

### ***VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR MY BEST FRIEND'S BRUNCH!***

**While experience is welcome, none is necessary. We need volunteers to help with planning and organizing, to solicit donations for the silent auction and raffle, to get the word out, and to lend a hand at the event itself. If you are willing, we will be able to accept your help! Whatever amount of time you have to give will be greatly appreciated – every effort counts, large or small. Jump on in – this is your chance to shine, make a difference, and have fun with other dedicated dog lovers while you're at it!**

**[contactus@lbdogpark.org](mailto:contactus@lbdogpark.org) or (949) 910-9947**

## AFFORDABLE SPAY & NEUTER CLINIC OPENS JULY 15

This new clinic is being founded by Laguna Beach residents Matthew and Blythe Wheaton as part of their larger effort, The Pet Rescue Center. Check both out at [www.thepetrescuecenter.org](http://www.thepetrescuecenter.org) and [www.affordablespays.com](http://www.affordablespays.com). Matt is a local vet who has operated the Alicia Pet Care Center in Laguna Hills for several years. Now, they are opening the Affordable Spay & Neuter Clinic (ASN) as a facility specifically dedicated to offering low-cost but high quality spay and neuter services to local rescue groups and pet owners in need. The Wheatons have undertaken an important and ambitious effort. FLBDP is pleased to support them, and we hope you will, too. Visit the websites and spread the word!

Oh, and did we mention that the Wheatons first met at none other than...the Laguna Beach Dog Park!

## RENEW YOUR FLBDP VOTING MEMBERSHIP – WE'LL SEND YOU A T-SHIRT OR HAT

We need to do some work on the membership front. FLBDP was founded in 2005, and though we currently have almost 400 members, we have yet to collect paid annual memberships for this term. Although general membership is free, a payment of \$25 gets you membership with eligibility to vote at our general meetings, and helps our organization to grow and thrive.

So while you're thinking about it, go online at [www.lbdogpark.org](http://www.lbdogpark.org) and sign up for your paid membership for July 2008-July 2009, or contact us (see our info on the left). For your trouble, we'll send you a t-shirt or hat of your choice. Major credit cards and PayPal are accepted on the website.