



## *BARC Park at Hannah More*

### September 2008



#### Reisterstown Parade

The members of the BARC park community were unable to march in the Reisterstown Festival parade this year due to a hurricane. In fact, the Festival itself was cancelled for Saturday. Next year we will be ready to march behind our beautiful new banner.



#### **"The Power of the Dog"**

There is sorrow enough in the natural way  
 From men and women to fill our day;  
 And when we are certain of sorrow in store,  
 Why do we always arrange for more?  
 Brothers and Sisters, I bid you beware  
 Of giving your heart to a dog to tear.  
 Buy a pup and your money will buy  
 Love unflinching that cannot lie  
 Perfect passion and worship fed

By a kick in the ribs or a pat on the head.

Nevertheless it is hardly fair  
 To risk your heart for a dog to tear.

When the fourteen years which Nature permits

Are closing in asthma, or tumour, or fits,

And the vet's unspoken prescription runs

To lethal chambers or loaded guns,

Then you will find -- it's your own affair --

But . . . you've given your heart to a dog to tear.

When the body that lived at your single will,

With its whimper of welcome, is stilled (how still!)

When the spirit that answered your every mood

Is gone -- wherever it goes -- for good,

You will discover how much you care,

And will give your heart to a dog to tear.

We've sorrow enough in the natural way,

When it comes to burying Christian clay.

Our loves are not given, but only lent,

At compound interest of cent per cent.

Though it is not always the case, I believe,

That the longer we've kept'em, the more do we grieve;

For, when debts are payable, right or wrong,

A short-time loan is as bad as a long --  
So why in -- Heaven (before we are there)  
Should we give our hearts to a dog to tear?

*By Rudyard Kipling  
Submitted by Eileen Marzen*



### **Brian's Corner**

I went outside to take a pee,  
My daddy found a tick on me,  
He washed the pillows, He washed the sheets.  
I thought he was going to wash my treats.

He vacuumed the room,  
He washed my bed,  
After washing me he combed me from tail to head.

Now here I sit on the top stoop,  
Afraid to death to take a poop,  
But que serra, Whatever will be.  
Please god don't let him find a tick on me.

*Author Unknown*



### **Committee News**

Interlocking play equipment has been placed in the small dog area. It is hoped that this will encourage people with small dogs to use the Small Dog area. It is dangerous for most small dogs to be in the larger area. More play equipment will be placed in the small dog area. Larger equipment will be ordered for the large dog area to be installed later. Trees will be planted in the small dog area in November. Stay tuned for more information. Help will be needed to plant these trees.

### **Letter recently sent from dog park committee to all members:**

September 24, 2008

Dear Dog Park Members,

As we approach one year that the dog park has been opened we would like to update you on all things dog park related. At this time we have close to 550 members, once again many with more than one dog. Play equipment is in the process of being set up in the small dog area and will eventually be placed in the large area as well. Trees will be planted in the small dog area. The pools will be replaced next year, and we want to thank all members who donated pools without ever being asked. It is truly appreciated. The water will be turned off during the winter months. We will try to give everyone fair notice.

The park continues to attract a crowd. For those who use it regularly, you already are aware of that. The small dog

park does not seem to get the use we had hoped, but we are continuing to work on that aspect. We once again want to remind owners of smaller dogs that it is not how big the dog thinks they are, but the actual size that really matters. We don't want any dog getting hurt, but we would hate to have a smaller dog trampled accidentally in the large park. There have already been at least two instances that the committee is aware of where there has been injury to a small dog running in the large park. Another area that requires mentioning is aggressive behavior. Many dogs will run to the entrance when a new dog approaches. They like to be the "meet and greet" committee, and some will bark incessantly until the new dog comes in, and then the sniffing begins. This is not considered aggressive behavior. This is just what dogs do. Barking for the most part is just the way the dogs communicate, and each of us has to know our own dog's behavior to be able to assess when it is inappropriate. The same goes for chasing and nipping. This is just the way some dogs play. Some dogs like to be the chasers and some the "chase-ees" (not a word, but hopefully you understand).

The committee has recently discussed some areas of concern. We have received letters from members complaining about some dogs in the park. We try to respond to each letter as quickly and thoroughly as possible. Please keep in mind that every dog will not get along with every other dog and they may not want to play in the same way. There are times when you may need to leave the park if you see that things are not working out well. We have rescinded the memberships of dogs who are clearly aggressive, but that is on a case by case basis. The small dog park

can be used as an overflow area for large dogs who may be timid or just don't want to play with some of the more active larger dogs or if your dog is having a bad day. This can only be done if nobody in the small area objects.

The committee has recently discussed problems that have occurred in the large park due to the proximity of the bench to the entrance. The bench is used quite often with people just relaxing and dogs resting under or near the bench. This creates issues with members who are trying to enter the park. The dogs near the bench see it as their territory and it sometimes becomes difficult to enter.. We have been told that the bench cannot be moved, so we feel it is necessary to make you aware that this is not the best possible situation. We want to reiterate that although the park has benches, the intention was not to have people come in and read the paper, drink coffee or do computer work while your dog is roaming the park unsupervised. The park is a great social area, but we must keep an eye on our dogs. Please keep your leashes with you as this is the only way to restrain a dog quickly if the need arises. Once again, no children 0-12 are allowed in the park. And please make sure to clean up after your dog.

We will be having our First Anniversary/Halloween party on November 1<sup>st</sup>. More details will follow.

Your cooperation is appreciated and we hope that you continue to enjoy the park.

Sincerely,  
The Dog Park Committee



## **Breed Profile** **St. Bernard**

The **St. Bernard Dog** is a very large [breed](#) of [dog](#) originally bred for rescue and as a [working dog](#). A full-grown male can weigh between 160 and 240 lb (72.5 / 110+ kg) and the approximate height is 27½ inches to 35½ inches (70 to 90 cm). Saint Bernards are one of the largest dog breeds. There are two varieties of the breed: the *short-haired* or *smooth-coat* variety and the *long-haired* or *rough-coat* variety. St. Bernards are gentle, friendly, and generally fond of children. It is strikingly similar to that of the [English Mastiff](#), since it was used to redevelop that breed when it was near extinction after World War II. Extremely loyal, this breed is eager to please its owners but due to its size, it is essential that proper training and socialization begin early in life while the dog is still a manageable size. An unruly St Bernard presents a problem for even a strong adult so control needs to be asserted from the beginning. St Bernards will bark at strangers and their size makes them good deterrents against most intruders although their aggression as guard dogs rarely equals breeds designed for that purpose.

Source:wikipedia



## **Notes From the Behaviorist**

Just a reminder about Dogfest at the Humane Society on Nicodemus Road. Website is [www.dogfest2008.org](http://www.dogfest2008.org); Delights include dog games, contests, a chance to be the next Baltimore Dog cover dog, a 1.1 mile walk or a 5k-9 run with your dogs, antiques car shows, a beach, big pools etc. Lots of fun for dogs and people. All money goes to benefit Baltimore County's homeless dogs.

Rachel Lachow, CPDT  
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### **DOGS' PRAYER**

#### **Lend Me a Pup**

I will lend to you for awhile  
a puppy, God said,  
For you to love him while he  
lives  
and to mourn for him when he is  
gone.  
Maybe for 12 or 14 years,  
or maybe for 2 or 3  
But will you, till I call him  
back  
take care of him for me?

He'll bring his charms to  
gladden you  
and (should his stay be brief)  
you'll always have his memories  
as solace for your grief.  
I cannot promise that he will  
stay  
since all from Earth return,  
But there are lessons taught

below  
I want this pup to learn.

I've looked the whole world over  
in search of teachers true  
And from the fold that crowd  
life's land  
I have chosen you.  
Now will you give him all your  
love  
Nor think the labor vain,  
nor hate me when I come to take  
my pup back again?

I fancied that I heard them say,  
"Dear Lord, Thy Will Be Done,"  
For all the joys this pup will  
bring  
the risk of grief you'll run.  
Will you shelter him with  
tenderness,  
Will you love him while you may?  
And for the happiness you'll  
know forever grateful stay.

But should I call him back  
much sooner than you've planned,  
please brave the bitter grief  
that comes and try to  
understand.  
If, by your love, you've managed  
my wishes to achieve,  
In memory of him that you've  
loved,  
cherish every moment with your  
faithful bundle, and know he  
loved you too.

- Author Unknown

If anyone has any articles, poems or dog  
park photos they would like to see  
published in the newsletter, please send  
them to Marilyn at [Chesdel@aol.com](mailto:Chesdel@aol.com)



### **1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary/ Halloween Party**

On Saturday November 1 from 11 a.m.  
to 2 p.m. the BARC Park will have a  
PARTY. There will be food, drinks,  
dog games, and a costume parade.  
There will be prizes for the most  
unique, scariest, cutest, etc.  
(dogs, that is). Food and drink  
tables will be set up in the parking  
area. The rain date for the party is  
November 8. We ask that people park  
up at Hannah More and walk down for  
the time period of the party. The  
dog games will probably be set up in  
the small dog area, leaving the  
large area for normal use. If anyone  
has any Halloween decorations such  
as sheets for ghosts, skeletons,  
corn husks, hay bails, etc., etc.,  
we could borrow for the few hours of  
the party, please let us know. We  
still could use more volunteers to  
help with the party. If interested,  
e-mail Eileen at  
[bookwormnumber1@msn.com](mailto:bookwormnumber1@msn.com).

## **KARMA DOGS**

Last month, the Karma Dogs started a HEARTS program in Harford County, launched a very special year-long reading program at the Children's Guild and are planning their busiest month ever! It is also the two-year anniversary of Karma Dogs - thank you to everyone for your help in making our programs so successful!

In September, the Karma Dogs started the very first HEARTS program in Harford County. The Aberdeen library is hosting the first dog reading program in the area for the next 6 Saturdays. So far, every session has been filled and the dogs are making lots of new friends! The response to the program has been great from parents, the library and kids alike! There are spaces left, so if you are interested, contact or stop by the [Aberdeen Library](#) to reserve your space.