



# Newsletter

## Summer

### August 2014

## President's Message

This season, as every season, we have an abundance of wagging tails and smiling faces: returning members are excited to be back and new members are thrilled to explore uncharted territory. And everyone eager to make new friends and new memories. Aaah, doggie paradise!

*Welcome to 2014-2015 Season*



*Our eight season of operation*

After getting re-acquainted with some and meeting others for the first time – I set out in search for the gist of the summer newsletter – a theme if you will. After spending several days meeting plenty of fresh faces, it quickly occurred to me – that a celebration of members was the way to go. Throughout the newsletter, you will meet both new and long-time members, enjoy photos – **almost 200 photos**. Fun photos, endearing or quirky traits and preferences – get to know your dog park community and what members like about SWCDP.

We have a great dog park community. Please join me in welcoming our newcomers – and I ask each of you – new and returning members – to join me – help me – keep SWCDP as a top notch area dog park. Please help monitor the playground to make sure rules are followed and let's keep our dog park "clean, green, and fun for all. Hope you all enjoy the season.

**Dobie Girl**



*Willow*

See ya 'round the playground!

**Warmest Regards**  
**Judi & Willow**

[willow.nic07@yahoo.com](mailto:willow.nic07@yahoo.com)



## Contents

**In the spirit of what is possible....**

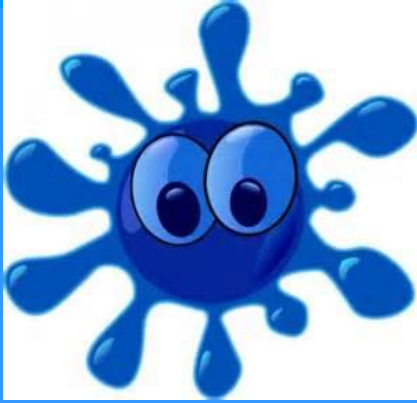
President's Message.....	1
Pool Party Invitation.....	2
Welcome.....	3
Doggie Dreams.....	4
Wilbur's New Life.....	5
Secretary Report.....	6
Having a Puppy.....	7
Expect the Unexpected.....	8
Digging Dogs & Sprained Ankles.....	9
Turf Report.....	10
Water Station 3 Upgrade.....	11
Pool Pad Layout .....	12
Dog Ear Care.....	13
Agility.....	14-15
GMM Event .....	16
Bark in Park Event.....	17
Kick-Off Event.....	18
Broemmelsiek Dog Park Event.....	19
Paddle with Pooch Event.....	19
Food Truck Friday Event.....	20
Littermate Re-Union.....	21
Celebration Photos.....	22-31
Dog Wash, Many Uses.....	32
Universal Play Park Opens.....	33
Bags & Contractor Protocol.....	34
Proper Can Usage.....	35
Rule Reminders.....	36
Volunteers Needed.....	37

### **SWCDP Merchandise Forms**

Print order forms from website or pick up hard copy at Message Center in entry area.

# You Are Invited

# Puppy Pool Party



**Sunday, August 24**  
**10:00 am to 4:00 pm**  
**Alternate Dog Park**

*Sampling of last year's fun . . . A free event*  
We had over 100 4-Leggeds stop by for treats, games, prizes, photos, and of course, plenty of water fun



## Puppies

- 2 Years & Under
- Sign in, get puppy ribbon
- Come for short visit or spend the day!

## Role Models

- Doggies over 2 Years
- Sign in
- Come for short visit or spend the day!

**Contact Judi (Willow), if you can help in any way**  
**[willow.nic07@yahoo.com](mailto:willow.nic07@yahoo.com)**

**We Need . . .**

**Small plastic pools**

(Donate or loan for the event)

**Umbrella, for table** (used crank-style)

**Volunteers** – we really need help,  
don't think "other guy will do it"

**Set up (8:30am)**

**Tear down (4:00pm)**

**Sign-in table & merchandise table**

**Moderate pools / refill**

**Assist with games**

**Take photos – general tasks**



KEEPING PETS AND  
PEOPLE TOGETHER.

Since 2011, SWCDP members have donated pet food to this excellent 501c3 organization. [www.bistatepetfoodpantry.org](http://www.bistatepetfoodpantry.org)

## Will You Donate Dog Food?

Drop off food donations same day as Pool Party  
August 24 – Sunday – anytime before 4pm  
Leave in SWCDP Entry Area



# WELCOME

# newbie

and  
Returning  
Members!



## Meet Happy Members Sneak Peak

*Membership Celebration Continued Pages 22-31*

### Membership Celebration Happy Faces – Wagging Tails

6 Months  
Rhodesian Ridgeback  
Human: Rebecca M  
Member since 2014

#### Great dog park!

SWCDP recommended by lots of people in the neighborhood. Well maintained - always a good crowd. Riley is a 'watcher'. She loves to sit on our deck & watch all the other dogs go by.



**Riley**

### Membership Celebration Happy Faces – Wagging Tails

10 Months  
American Bull Dog  
Humans: Jayson & Lori L  
Members since 2014

SWCDP has exceeded our expectations - not only does it fulfill our original needs – a place for Louie to stretch his legs and make friends - but is a clean, well maintained area with a very friendly atmosphere (people and dogs) "Wanna play?" is Louie's state of mind. We met baby Louie, often compared to dog from "Little Rascals", at a UVA football tailgate party-immediately took him home.



**Louie**

### Membership Celebration Happy Faces – Wagging Tails

3 Years  
Lab Mix  
Humans: Karly C & Caleb A  
Members since 2012

Mac says: I love the park and go crazy every time we turn into Willmore Park! I love the pools and the tunnel in the agility course; and try to get my humans to take me 3 times a week. My humans say the park is "well run and maintained" and they like that "there is always another dog at the park no matter what time we go". They say I always leave the dog park happy and tired – and THEY love that!



**Mac**

### Membership Celebration

## Southside Joey & Sophie

Joey – 5 Years – Sheltie Mix  
Sophie – 8 Years – Sheltie  
Humans: Jim & Gayla D  
Members since 2009



Joey loves to play ball with the humans; Sophie loves to watch and take it all in. We also love all the park improvements done by leadership and volunteers over the years.

## What your dog is dreaming!



**“Woof, Woof, Woof” means**

**“Don’t mess around with my dog park time”**

If your 4-Legged has been enjoying the dog park with any regularity – you know by now that the high dictum of the day (or week) is a trip to the doggie playground. And, if you brave soul, should choose to mess with the doggie schedule – you will likely see a most unhappy canine either following you around with big mopey eyes or finding mischievous to get your attention.

**Dreaming of past dog park play . . .**

**Plotting how to get back to the playground . . .**

After a good play period, our doggies go home and happily nap – but they are surely thinking about how to resume the fun once they wake up. Who can blame them? The thrill of a car ride, the excitement of the approach to the dog park, those over-the-top happy 4-Legged greeters, so many pals and balls and games – jumps and swerves in the agility – and, of course, the cool, splashy water in the beloved pools. Something for everyone! Just can’t beat a good, hard play at the dog park – or a calm, serene walk with lots of sniffing, too.



**Let’s Go – It’s My Time!**

## Membership Celebration Happy Faces – Wagging Tails



**Finn & Rufus**

Finn & Rufus – 7 Years –Littermates  
Chocolate Labradoodle  
Humans: Eric & Stacy S  
Members since: 2008

Kolt, 7  
Shepherd-Boxer Mix  
Olivine, 1  
Shepherd-Pit-Golden  
Humans: Derek & Erin D  
Members since: 2013

## Membership Celebration Happy Faces – Wagging Tails



**Olivine & Kolt**

After 6 yrs as SWCDP members, the dog park is still the highlight of Rufus' & Finn's daily routine. We renew because our boys get great exercise and socialization; we feel this park has good leadership & vision; all of improvements have been exceptional and the commitment of the volunteers is amazing.

**Finn:** I like to chase off leash dogs outside fence; once ran into a tree during a vigorous game of chase – every body who was there made sure I was ok. My brother & I think it's funny to go to the very end of park to do our business so Eric has to walk the length of the park.

**Rufus:** I like to steal tennis balls & get home before Stacy notices what I did. Like water stations & playing chase with other dogs; miss the park when closed, but like to roll around in the thick summer grass.

Exercise and play are essential to keeping our pups happy and healthy – especially our crazy, energetic puppy. We enjoy watching them have a great time with other dogs

**Kolt:** I luv meeting new dogs, chasing anyone or anything on other side of fence, but sometimes just sitting and observing is the way to go. Sure would appreciate others not running into me while I am relaxing. And a nice dip in pool is refreshing and way better than a bath!

**Olivine:** I luv to play, whatever the game. Keep away and tug definitely rank near the top. The new grass is awesome, especially when being dragged while playing tug. Cool on the belly. Pool time is the best. I love to play with my brother, too, but wish he wouldn't pick on me while I am playing with my BFF's.





**Wilbur**

# Wilbur's New Life

## A Second Chance

Say Hello To Wilbur  
When You See Him

### Leiomyosarcoma

By Denise B

That was the result of the biopsy of Wilbur's tumor from his abdominal surgery in June. Leiomyosarcoma is a relatively rare cancer of the smooth muscle, occurring in 35 per 100,000 dogs. Wilbur's tumor was found in the duodenum, the upper part of the small intestine, near his stomach.



Wilbur has always been the heart of our family, possessing an amazing wisdom and sweetness for his nine years. Laid-back and gentle (and always very patient and tolerant of his more exuberant brother, Otis), Wilbur is known for his leaping air kisses and his expert ability to nose out the smelliest spots at the dog park to roll in. Wilbur is also the ultimate food hound, so when he began to lose weight and refuse to eat his favorite foods in April, we brought him in to see our long-time family vet, Dr. Mark Lux. Blood tests were all normal, with only his iron levels being a little on the low-normal side.

Dr. Lux decided to retest for iron in four weeks. In May, retesting indicated a significant drop in iron. He also began to occasionally vomit and he had little to no energy, sleeping for a good part of the day.

Dr. Lux ordered an ultrasound of his abdomen. Results indicated a sizable mass in small intestine, near the bile and pancreatic ducts. At that time, it was not known if the tumor was benign or malignant, but certainly because of its size and location, it was life-threatening. Dr. Lux recommended Veterinary Specialty Services; within 48 hours, Dr. Davida Rausch performed the surgery.

It was a tough one for Wilbur. Of course any human with a 12-inch abdominal incision would also find it to be a difficult experience. Wilbur spent three days in the hospital during which we were all able to visit him as he recuperated. Once he got home, he began to slowly get his appetite back (aided by generous portions of chicken and hamburger with rice) and he began to regain his strength and stamina. Two weeks after surgery he had his stomach



**Wilbur with brother Otis**

staples removed and a consultation with Dr. Bonnie Smith, his oncologist. Biopsy results: malignant leiomyosarcoma. We were devastated, but heartened to find out that it appeared not to have metastasized. Dr. Smith advised a repeat ultrasound in three months to check for any new growth and to also hold off on any possible chemotherapy for the time being. We considered his prognosis good, with a median survival time of 24 months (perhaps a little less or a little more).

### We have our Wilbur back!



In the meantime, Wilbur has been gaining back all of his vim and vigor. Some days he acts like a puppy, other days like the nine-year old that he is. He is a survivor and we are overjoyed to have him back in health. Most mornings he spends roaming the backyard smelling all of the flowers (marigolds are his favorite). If only we could all follow his example



# Secretary Report

By Joan L (Rusty, Casey, Bisky, Caika)

## 75% of Joan's Pack Sharing & Not



*Bisky & Casey share blue pool  
Rusty tries to squeeze in*



*Rusty – first one in  
Bisky & Casey angling for a spot*



*The girls need to rethink it  
Rusty settles in for a good soak*



*Bisky & Casey say "let's try again"  
Rusty says "it's good to be first"*



## SWCDP 2014-2015 Season Begins June 1

Our mail box has been burning up, as it always does this time of year. As the newsletter is published, we have 521 dogs belonging to 361 memberships – the apps are still coming in.

We ask all of our members to review your SWCDP User Guide so that you refresh your memory about the dog park rules and we ask you to help us keep the rules enforced. Hope you all are enjoying the park.

*Till next time . . .*

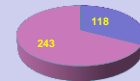
**Woof, Woof, Woof**

**Joan L**

(Rusty, Casey, Bisky, Caika)

### Dog Park Families

■ New members ■ Previous members



### Zip Codes



## Membership Questions

All membership processing and follow up questions should be sent my way. Database info and all dog tag records and tag supplies are in my possession. SWCDP Secretary is your source for membership vetting and membership needs.

[secretary.swdogpark@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.swdogpark@gmail.com)



*Joan's Pack*



## Pack Updates

We have been busy! Since the April newsletter, Bisky and Caika achieved their novice agility titles. They are both working on their CDX in obedience.



**Caika, Bisky, Joan, Casey, Rusty**



## Other Reminders

### New P O Box

Effective start of 2014-2015 Season, SWCDP is using the Post Office on Watson Road in MacKenzie Point.

**P O Box 191152**  
**St Louis, MO 63119**

### SWCDP Mail Box

The black mail box located in our entry is tamper-proof, safe mail box which meets USPS criteria for security. We check this box on a regular basis. Feel free to drop SWCDP merchandise orders, checks, volunteer sign ups, Safety or Incident forms, and anything else intended for the SWCDP management team. Box is not used for postal service, only internal use.

### SWCDP Hotline

We occasionally close the dog park due to extreme weather, safety issues, or repair and maintenance. If ever in doubt, call the Hotline before coming to the park. We do not close for short, normal rain showers, only extreme conditions.

**314/567-2012 #2**

### Dog Roster

Want to know a dog's name or their human's first name? Check the Dog Roaster hanging in the Community Message Board, located in the entry area. We update this frequently. Please read at message board and return to appropriate place so others may use.

### No Tag No Admittance No Exceptions

Keep eyes open for dog's without current SWCDP tags. Ask the human for proof of membership. Be cordial but firm. If not a member (check the Dog Roster if in doubt) explain our rules and membership process – escort to front gate – show them where the app box is located.

### SWCDP User Guide

Folks, read your User Guide; know what is expected, including helpful tips and SWCDP rules.

### City Ordinance 66595

SWCDP rules include all rules in city law regulating city dog parks. Our permit is renewed annually based on our compliance and management success.

<http://www.slpl.lib.mo.us/cco/ords/data/ord6595.htm>

# Having A Puppy ...

In case you forgot

## Welcome Gracie!

One of our newest  
and youngest 4-Leggeds  
20 Weeks Old

**Weimaraner-Lab Mix**  
Gracie starts school in August



Sue: Hurry, hurry, snap it

### Cuddly and Cute

Gracie likes to sleep all day so she can keep Sue up all nite  
Jake puts up with her puppy crazy energy but he sure would like some peace & quiet with his Mom.



Gracie: Mom, are we there yet?



Gracie: What's this wet thing?



Gracie: No way!



Gracie mimics Jake



Gracie: Well, my brother likes it



Jake: Pools used to be fun



Gracie: I haven't seen you for 10 seconds



Jake: Settle down little one

# Be Prepared

It never hurts to be prepared.

There are many products today in the personal alarm category; and by researching to determine which products best fit your needs – you should be able to

purchase a safety solution with an investment of \$6-8 for a loud whistle to \$10-20 for a pocket size alarm.

Vigilant PPS8G 130 dB  
Amazon - \$14.99



To immediately stop the dog being aggressive – carry a dog repellent, such as, Halt or Spray Shield (formerly known as Direct Stop)



## Expect the Unexpected

by Patricia S (Mocha)

My German Shepherd, Mocha, and I went out for a normal afternoon walk around our neighborhood a couple months ago. When I decided to switch our route a little and walk back home through our alley – our “normal” changed dramatically. One of the backyard dogs was particularly upset at us...barking and growling and jumping up on its fence...as we passed by. I hurried Mocha along, thinking this backyard dog would calm down once we got past his property.



Meet  
Patricia & Mocha

We were almost two houses past him when Mocha suddenly wheeled around. The backyard dog had jumped his fence and was charging us, growling and baring his teeth. Mocha's defensive instincts kicked in and she moved forward to take the charge.



Meet  
The Unexpected

The normal afternoon walk was suddenly chaotic. Mocha and the backyard dog were fighting. Even though I was screaming for help, none of the neighbors seemed to be around. Mocha was able to fend off the initial and subsequent attacks. Each time the backyard dog circled around for another charge at us, we inched our way backwards to the end of the alley.

Two weeks later, I was home and heard loud growling and barking and a man yelling in the alley. The same backyard dog had jumped its fence and charged this man and his little dog who were out walking. By the time neighbors responded to the commotion, the man had been bitten on leg and the little dog nipped above the eye.

I was telling Ron (Nico & Sophia) at our dog park about these incidents. Ron suggested always carrying a can of pet deterrent spray. He also suggested that a whistle might help attract the attention of neighbors.

Ron's ideas are good ones, even when going out for a “normal” walk around the neighborhood!

According to the City of St. Louis Animal Care and Control,  
there were 315 animal bites reported in 2013 and 127 animal bites reported so far in 2014.



# Digging Dogs, Please Restrain Otherwise, We Get Ankle Sprain!

By Lissa J (Emma)

I will admit to having a knack for my ankles finding holes in any yard. This is the second time I found one in the dog park. This time the hole was covered over with grass and unfortunately it resulted in a bad sprain (*see lovely photo*). There were a few outcomes from this experience.



First, is that I now better understand why we restrain the dogs from digging! Grass or not, it's still a hole.

Second, I am happy to announce we will now have a supply of dirt stored in the bin near Water Station 3. This extra dirt should be used to fill holes whenever we find them (hopefully, not stepping in them). I have already filled the hole my ankle found as well as another one I barely missed.

Third, and most importantly, I learned we have some wonderful people that attend our dog park.



A huge thank you to the two who helped me out. Karly C (Mac), an occupational therapist, carried me out of the dog park on her back and Robin R (Chloe) drove me and my dog, Emma, to my car which was parked on Hampton. Thanks also to Judi N (Willow) for her caring response and in initiating a dirt bin, and to Bob H (King) for building it. In advance, I also thank those who use the park – for helping to fill holes and keeping us all on solid ground.

## Dog Digging?

Stop him



## Dirt Bin

Fill holes



## Dirt Bin

Located by large tree, near Water Station 3

**We know, dogs like to dig – and dogs will be dogs. Right.**

But it is up to the human members to keep our dog park clean, safe, and fun. That means, doing our best to stop the dogs from digging – AND – when seeing a hole, filling it. SWCDP will keep the Dirt Bin filled with extra dirt, but it will be the responsibility of the members to deal with the holes. There is a scoop inside the bin, and a bucket inside bin, or nearby. Please only use the amount of dirt needed, and return the balance, along with scoop and bucket, back to the bin for future use.

### It's the law!

City Ordinance requires users to fill dog holes.

Let it grow

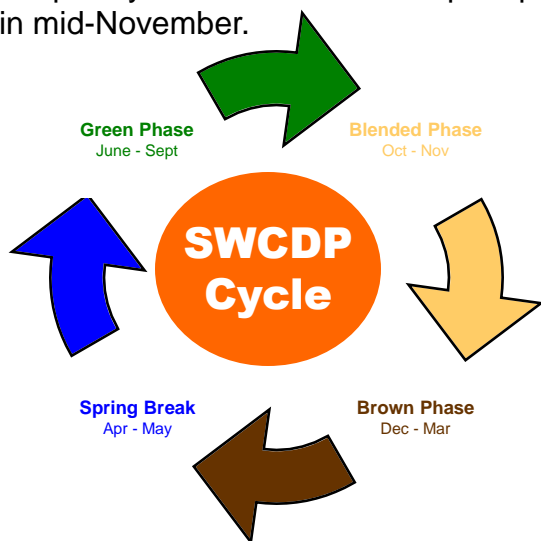
Let it grow

Let it grow

## Turf Report

### .2014-2015 Season

As we begin to wind up the summer, our turf is in decent shape, especially when you consider how many paws and feet have been on it. After switching to smaller sprinkler heads along the ball field side, bringing in 15 yards of dirt, and changing sprinkler system watering schedule, and filling in the larger dips and holes – we see a definite improvement from previous seasons. It's worth the work to see the dogs rolling in the green, and the humans enjoying the green space. Before too long, however, we will be leaving our "Green Phase" so enjoy it while it lasts. The water bowls, sprinkler system, and pool pad will close at the end of October. At that time, Water Station 1 will open, the white drinking buckets remain. Dog Wash is open year round. The temporary winter shelter will be put up in mid-November.



### Thank You All Who Helped During Spring & Early Summer Work Crews . . .

*Photos Only a Sampling of our Helpers!*



### Spring Arrives

All hard work begins to bloom as we open our new season

### Coming in next newsletter

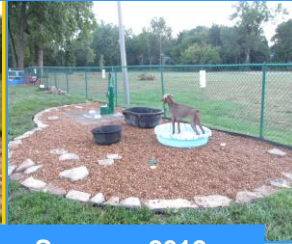
Our long awaited sidewalk project was wrapping up about the same time the summer newsletter was getting ready for distribution. We will share a photo essay and information and appropriate kudos in the next newsletter. But in the meantime – we know everyone is enjoying our new front. Awesome!



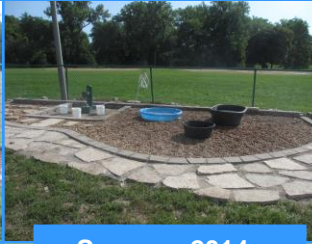
# Water Station 3 Development ...



February 2012,  
contractor install



Summer 2012,  
BIG DIG II



Summer 2014,  
Pool Pad Upgrade

## Problems

- Pools on pad edge
- Mud puddles along edge
- Pools being dumped thru fence  
-gravel/water flowing thru fence
- Filling pools to top & too much pool dumping
- Playing with hose – too much running water
- Pools of waste water around City light post and flooding outside dog park boundaries

Thanks,  
Bob H (King)



Even though Bob's 4-Legged, King, does not care one bit for the pools, Bob has led or co-led every single project and improvement, including BIG DIG I, II, III, and practically single-handedly did the Pool Pad upgrade. We identified the problems, analyzed the dog and human usage, and came up with reasonable solutions. **Bob did most of the installation**, with a few extra hands stopping by to help

from time to time.

By the way, King does like the back wall – it is fun to walk on and to perch upon.



Thanks to all the helpers – photo'd and not photo'd --- and a **big thank you to Bob H (King)**. Photo: Ron K (Tillie), Bob, Bill J (Mr Puggles), Bob, Dennis S (Tessa), Bob



Incorrect pool placement



Muddy pad edge



Waste water flood



In early July, the waste water problem had reached an unacceptable level – and an upgrade to our BIG DIG II Pool Pad project was necessary. This may or may not be the final solution. We had to work with what we had. The next step would be a major upgrade, with City assistance to identify a dumping area and install a pipe and drainage system. Currently, water only seeps into the ground – and often floods.

## Solutions

**Restrict** pools to designated areas; restrict dumping thru fence

**Build** small ledge & new perimeter to help control water direction and remind humans where to dump or place pools

**Add** “fill line” and holes to regulate amount of pool water in oval tub



**Restrict** number of pools – 3

**Add** a “drip zone” for inevitable dog shake off of excess water

**Limit** use of hoses to filling pools and drinking buckets

**Add** 2 yards gravel for drainage

**Add** water loving garden along fence line; add more dirt to level dip and help absorb waste water



**Educate** members about why we have such pool rules; promote a community effort – think about how individual actions affect the overall membership enjoyment.

# Pool Pad Water Station 3

## STATION LAYOUT

### Zone 1 – TRANSITION AREA

*(in front of light post)*

Emergency Shut Off valve is here; this is a water overflow and maintenance area. No pools or hoses here.

### Zone 2 – DRINKING WATER AREA

*(pebbled patio at water bowl)*

Push button on green stationary water bowl for fresh drinking water; or, fill white buckets with hose. If you empty drinking buckets, dump water on gravel. Please don't flood patio. No pools here.

### Zone 3 – POOL PAD AREA

*(largest gravel surface)*

Only 3 containers allowed: kiddie pool, round tub, oval tub. Large tub has "fill line" and drain holes to self-regulate.

### Zone 4 – DRIP ZONE

*(flagstone around edge)*

Dogs carry water with them as they leave pool pad; flagstones provide a buffer area before they reach the turf. NEVER put pools here as that will defeat the purpose.

## POOL RULES & ETIQUETTE

### Community attitude.

Make your hose & pool activities based on what is good for majority of dog park members – not just what is good for you. Will your pool behavior flood the water station?

### Constant pool dumping discouraged.

Use restraint; it is not necessary to dump pools every few minutes. Dump when visibly dirty, not when slightly cloudy. Community pools at dog parks never stay pristine.

### Do not dump pools through fence.

Empty pools by pouring waste water directly on gravel. We cannot have water collect around light post or wash out garden buffer.

### No pools on edge of pool pad.

Keep pools well within the large gravel area. Pools on the pool pad edge create mud around perimeter – and that mud is immediately tracked back into pools – which increases pool dumping – and generates more waste water!

### Do not run the hose endlessly.

Hoses are provided to quickly fill the pools or drinking buckets – not to add more water to a difficult drainage situation. If you want to play with a hose – do it at your home. There is also a hose available for hosing down your dog in the Dog Wash area.

### White Buckets

We have new white buckets for drinking purposes.  
Feel free to scatter a few around the park – Refill as needed.

### Pool Season

Most of our 4-Leggeds are enjoying the pools – and because of the heavy usage by so many members – we will keep the pools open through most of October. While many fall days may be cool, we still have enough warm afternoons that our very active dogs will appreciate a quick dip in the pools.

**June 1 – October 31**

### Temporary Closing

Waste water must slowly drain into the earth – we do not have sophisticated drainage system. For this reason, when our water creates severe muddy conditions, either inside dp or on the ball field side – we will temporarily close pool pad. During closing – one small pool will be available in the front corner of the Main Dog Park. Keep that pool in that corner.

### Alternate Dog Park Protocol

The pool rules & etiquette apply to the pool in Alternate as well – with one difference. We have no pool pad in Alternate – and instead – we must keep the pool on the thickest areas of grass, and move the pool frequently so we do not flood the turf and create mud. Do not put the pool next to Water Station 4 because we do not want flooding and mud in that area. Too close to benches and walkway in Main





## Year Round Ear Care

By Liz R (Floyd)

Did you know that anytime your dog is given a bath or goes swimming you should clean and dry the inside of your dog's ears out? An ear infection comes about when water enters the ear canal; this space is the perfect breeding ground for bacteria and yeast to grow due to the dark and damp conditions.

Signs that your dog may have an infection include: scratching or rubbing of ears and head, redness or swelling of the ear flap or canal, shaking of head, tilting of head, painful around ears, a foul odor, or a change in behavior. Ear infections are common in all dogs and easily resolved with prevention and maintenance; you should talk with your vet about the proper procedure for cleaning your dog's ears and discuss a good ear cleaner to keep on hand.



Liz R (Floyd) works as a Vet Tech for one of SWCDP Veterinary Sponsors, Gavin Hooks, DVM, Big Bend Veterinary Clinic.

## Always Ask Your Vet

### One Product Suggestion

#### Epi-Otic Advanced

A non-irritating ear cleanser formulated with anti-adhesive properties to prevent microbial attachment. Patented anti-odor technology eliminates ear canal odor. May be used to cleanse ear canals with severe otitis externa or prior to administration of other ear preparations in the treatment of otitis externa. For use in dogs and cats of any age. Contains 0.2% salicylic acid.



August 2014 ... Page 13

### While not a SWCDP requirement . . .

We encourage our members to work towards the AKC sponsored Canine Good Citizen designation.

**Test 1: Accepting a friendly stranger**

**Test 2: Sitting politely for petting**

**Test 3: Appearance and grooming**

**Test 4: Out for a walk** (walking on a loose lead)

**Test 5: Walking through a crowd**

**Test 6: Sit & down on command; stay in place**

**Test 7: Coming when called**

**Test 8: Reaction to another dog**

**Test 9: Reaction to distraction**

**Test 10: Supervised separation**



***It's a good thing!***

### Testing Offered By:

Greater St Louis Training Club

<http://gsltc.org/>

Humane Society of Missouri

<http://www.hsmo.org>



Join Our List of

## SWCDP Stars

**Bisky**, Golden Retriever – 2013 (Human: Joan L)

**Coach**, Dutch Shepherd – 2013 (Human: Lynn W)

**King**, Husky/Shepherd – 2013 (Human: Bob H)

**Maggie**, Border Collie – 2011 (Human: Susan B)

**Willow**, Doberman – 2011 (Human: Judi N)

## Tips

Some dogs are finicky about ear cleaning – but most dogs luv a good ear rubbing, and attention from their human. Try this . . .

Slightly heat the solution by running bottle under hot water; soak a small cotton ball with solution, place inside dog's ear, then very gently massage the ear. As you rub the ear, the solution will slowly trickle into the ear and after a minute or two – you can wipe the ear clean. The solution has a drying effect as well. Give your dog a treat afterwards. Between the warm rub, human attention, and treat – your dog will learn to look forward to an ear cleaning.

# Agility

Develops self-confidence  
Builds physical coordination and muscle strength  
Builds bond between human & canine  
Enhances communication & judgment  
It's fun!



**Indi Runs the Course – Go Girl**

**Be Safe  
Be Smart**

Dogs can sustain injuries (*such as a back injury or sprained-fractured leg*) by jumping too high or using agility equipment incorrectly.

When using the jumps - First measure your dog from the ground to the top of his "withers", or shoulders (*which is the highest point at the nape of the neck, where the bottom of the neck meets the back*). Measure him from the side, and use a yardstick or measuring tape.

**SWCDP has a yellow yard stick attached to agility entry post.**

## MEASURE AT WITHERS

AKC Guideline

**10" and under. . . . . 8" jump height**  
**Over 10" and under 14". . . . 12" jump height**  
**Over 14" and under 18". . . . 16" jump height**  
**Over 18" and under 22". . . . 20" jump height**  
**Over 22". . . . . 24" jump height**

### Measure Withers



## Tillie Practicing Her Agility Moves



**Pause Table**



**Tunnel**

## Ron & Shirley's Idea of Agility Moves



**2005 Harley Davidson Ultra Classic**

"Every ride has it's own adventure" says

Ron. He and Shirley have logged over 50,000 miles riding together and feel it is a "great way to see and experience our great country and its many breathtaking sights". A fav trip for sure was to Grand Canyon, AZ & Monument Valley, UT – including scenic shots from movies such as Forrest Gump & many John Wayne movies.



**Start / Stop Target**

**"Saddle up and let's ride;  
I need to feel the breeze on my knees"**



## Metro Area Agility Organizations & Facilities

List is not all inclusive, intended as a starting point. SWCDP does not recommend one over another – but we do have members who have had good experiences with some on the list.

### Greater St. Louis Agility Club (GSLAC)

[www.stlouisagility.org](http://www.stlouisagility.org)

### Gateway Agility Club (GAC)

[www.gatewayagility.org](http://www.gatewayagility.org)

### Dog Sports at Kim's

<http://www.dogsportsatkims.com>

Just have fun – no pressure to take your dog's agility skill to a competitive sports level – unless you both want to.

# Agility



**Cowboy flies thru tunnel**



**Max loves to jump**



**Bisky Makes Clean Jump**



**King shows Willow**

## Keep Agility Gate Closed

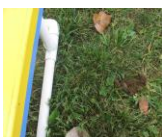


We have a small group of members who continue to *deliberately* leave the agility gate open – and we ask all of you to help us keep our amenities in good shape for all. If you see gate open – close it. If you see someone leaving it open – ask them to close it. Many of SWCDP members enjoy using the agility course – some just for fun, a break in playground play or diverting attention for a time out – and some as practice for further developing agility team work, brain work, and communication & coordination skills.

All dogs & kids must be supervised while inside agility area. When gate is left open – area receives unnecessary abuse and neglect.

### Poop

Unsupervised dogs leave poop, almost daily.



### Bags

Dogs split bags in multiple places by dragging around area; then weather finally finished them off.



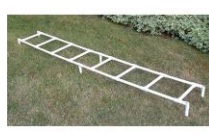
### Gate Hinge

By forcing gate to stay open, our hinge is broken; will need to be replaced.



### Ladder

Our training ladder was broken after an unsupervised child jumped on it.





## GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING (GMM) May 8, 2014

**1<sup>st</sup> Prize** - \$25 towards SWCDP membership fee

Sue M (Jake, Gracie)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize** – Flying Fur gift certificate

Rita M (Doe)

**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize** - Gift certificate Pawsitively Fintastic

Chris G (Sheba)

**4<sup>th</sup> Prize** - Wine

Maggie W (xxx)

**5<sup>th</sup> Prize** - Wine

Carole L (Cynders)

**6<sup>th</sup> Prize** – SWCDP Merchandise

Robin R (Chloe)

**7<sup>th</sup> Prize** – SWCDP Merchandise

Ron D (Elvis, Boris)

**8<sup>th</sup> Prize** – Pedigree tote bag

Ken G (Savannah)

GMM (May 8, 2014) was packed with info for our members, many picked up their season tags, some won attendance prizes or purchased SWCDP merchandise – but the best part of the evening – according to our members – was our speaker:

## Thank You

Animal Behaviorist, **Amy Pike, DVM** spoke for about an hour followed by a Q&A. Members liked what Dr Pike had to say and many said they learned new things from her presentation which will be helpful in understanding their own 4-Legged (s).

Next GMM . . . Spring 2015

## General Membership Meeting

We hold an annual membership meeting. The meeting is held off-site, we provide an in-depth update of decisions, plans, financial status, and when necessary, hold votes on Major policy or procedural changes.

# Thank You



## Next SWCDP Newsletter

### SWCDP Case Studies



We will showcase (*without identifying the member names*) three SWCDP members who will have completed a 3 month learning session with Dr Pike.

Through the experiences of your fellow members - you will see what it is like to work with an Animal Behaviorist and see that no matter how bad things might look – help is available and change is possible. Our members will give overview of their individual problems, their needs and expectations, and outcomes – and what they learned along the way.



# We Surpassed Our Goal!



**Our Goal:**  
**\$500**

**We Raised:**  
**\$922**

**WAY TO GO**  
**SWCDP!**

## Event Overview 21<sup>st</sup> Year

Humane Society of MO - The largest dog festival and fund raiser in the Midwest.  
All net funds support HSMO operating expenses with heavy focus on the HSMO Animal Abuse Task Force services. A non-profit organization, HSMO does not receive any local, state, federal, or United Way funding. Bark in the Park is a critical source of income for HSMO.

## SWCDP Participation Why Get Involved?

Our SWCDP doggie members are indeed – **lucky dogs**.  
As we wrap up another successful and fun dog park season, we ask our members to **pay it forward**. We invite you to join us in another worthy community project – and help us make things just a little bit better for a few not-so-lucky canines.

## Thank You SWCDP Members

Several current members – and a few past members, too – stepped up and donated to Southwest City Dog Park fundraising team. Some joined the 1 Mile Fun Walk – and others simply dropped by to casually enjoy the event. Weather was fantastic – a good time had by all. We were so busy having fun – we only had time to take a couple shots this time.

**HSMO Net Proceeds: \$200,000 +**



**Bob H & King**

Started the day with a pancake, bacon and sausage breakfast. **Yum!**



**Sheba, King, Willow**

Spent the morning sampling lots of free stuff – and getting lots of petting, too!



**Chris G & Sheba**

Made the rounds, visited each booth and game. Plenty to keep Sheba engaged.

Next Bark in the Park  
**Spring 2015**

*Above photos courtesy of HSMO*



ready. set.  
**go!** ★

# 2014-2015 Season Opening Kick-Off – June 14

Hangin' Out, Making New Friends, Buying SWCDP Merchandise



Find the Treat Course – Lots of Hidden Goodies



**Contest**

**PeanutButter Licking**



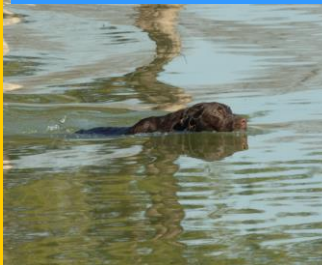
Our annual season Kick-Off event was a huge success. Returning members and new members stopped by with their 4-Leggeds. All had a blast playing games and hanging out together. Great way to spend an early summer day. **Next Kick-Off party will be June 2015.**



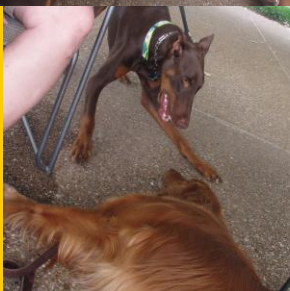
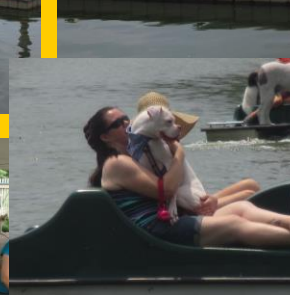
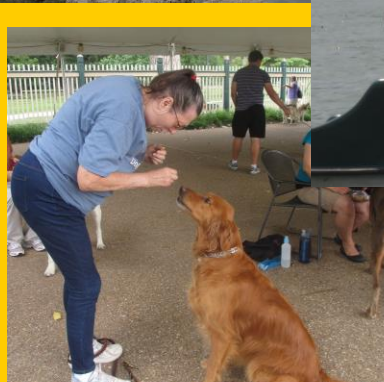


**Broemmelsiek Dog Park Meet-Ups**  
April – May – July  
***We Luv This Place!***

**Next SWCDP Meet Up**  
**September 20**  
8:30am – 10:30am



## **Paddle With Your Pooch**



**Next Paddle with Pooch**  
**Boathouse, Forest Park**  
**Summer 2015**





## Events Past and Future ... Food Truck Fridays



### Tower Grove Park

20+ food trucks, a really good variety of tasty foods and drinks (wine/beer), most items range \$5-10. Free music, free admission, you may bring coolers, chairs, blankets. Doggies on leash. Many SWCDP members have enjoyed this monthly event over the last several months. Two more to go for the season. Join us!

## Upcoming Event Schedule

**September 12th**

4:00 - 7:30 pm

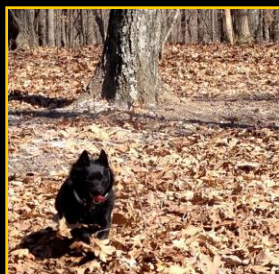
**October 3rd**

3:30 - 7:00 pm

Jasper & Daisy  
enjoy the event



## SWCDP Members Enjoy Run in Woods



Jeter



Paco

Bella

## Tips



## Community Events...

*Learn From Our Mistakes*

**Exercise 4-Legged** Before event, allow your dog to blow off steam, drop by dog park, take a short walk, play ball or chase at home.

**Appropriate Dog Gear** Use the collar & leash which gives you best control over your dog; Bring a soft or collapsible water bowl (& water supply if venue does not supply)

**Appropriate Human Gear** Comfortable walking shoes – this is non-negotiable – be prepared to walk.

## Food Truck Friday...

*Specific Tips*

**Arrive Early** Seriously, as early as you can; last 60-90 minutes is dicey, long lines, trucks run out of food.

**Strategize** Lots of food choices, split up early, buy several items, settle at designated spot – and share! Many foods served in open packaging; bring a small tray to assist in carrying food back to meeting spot.

**Event Specific Gear** Bag chairs & blankets or easy to carry small table or tray are great resources; Settle in and enjoy the evening – without having to stand in expanding lines as event attendance grows.

**Watch 4-Legged** Keep a close watch on your canine – remember, the crowd is packed with people carrying open food; don't let your dog jump up on attendees – or help themselves to food sitting on tables and blankets.



# .. . Littermates

## Membership Celebration Happy Faces – Wagging Tails



**Maggie**

1 Year  
Belgian Malinois  
Humans: Andrew & Melissa K  
Member since: 6/14

The dog park has become a morning routine for Maggie--she loves to run around with her new doggie friends and splash around in the pool; she loves the oval trough so much her humans even purchased one for her home use, too. The dog park has given Maggie great socialization skills and exercise which is critical for her breed. Melissa loves to sit on the bench with a tumbler full of coffee and watch the dogs run around and play and says they have made a great tradition that they hope to continue.

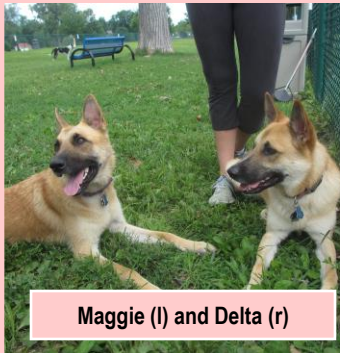
## Looking for Littermate

Maggie was adopted on 10/6/13 from HSMO. She was about 3.5 months old and she had a sister who was also adopted on the same day – after surviving parvo - but the new pet parents never met. Since then, multiple families around St Louis spoke of a dog named “Detla” who looks exactly like Maggie – and she also is a SWCDP member. A re-union had to happen.

# The Re-union!



Girls remember each other immediately



Maggie (l) and Delta (r)



Maggie (l) and Delta (r) posing for photo



Calvin really likes the girls

## Littermates, too!

Finn and Rufus are also littermates – but they need no re-union as they have never been apart. And – Rufus (darker) loves to ham it up for the camera.



**Thank You  
Petco**

Petco donated a case – that is 100 – Frisbees to Southwest City Dog Park.

We are using them primarily as doggie gifts for our games and events – and will also put a few in the toy box in Main – for all to enjoy on the playground.

# celebrate



## SWCDP Membership

### Happy Faces – Wagging Tails

Since the 2014-2015 Season opened,  
we noticed, as we always do,  
lots of happy faces and wagging tails –  
so we set out to interview a few  
**2 and 4 Leggeds**  
and ask for fun photos, too.  
All were asked the same questions.

- How did you find out about SWCDP?
- What were your needs and expectations prior to joining?
- What motivates you to return, if you are a returning member?
- Tell us your thoughts about SWCDP now that you are a member?
- Has SWCDP met your needs and expectations?
- What do you (*humans*) like best?
- If we were to interview your dog (s) – what would he/she say?
- What does he/she (*doggies*) like best?
- Any special experiences or fun things at dog park in particular you'd like to mention?
- If you use Alternate Dog Park - tell us your usage and feelings about this area. Is it helpful?

### Membership Celebration Happy Faces – Wagging Tails

#### Zeus

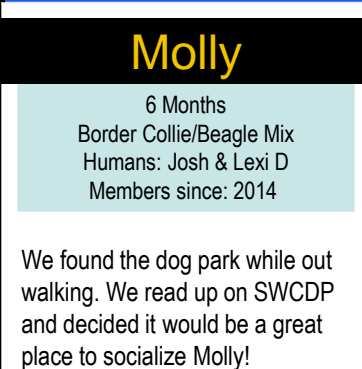


8 Months  
German Shepherd-Lab Mix  
Human: Heather H  
Member since: 2014

**The dog park is really a gift**  
Been hearing about SWCDP since its beginning (thru SoHa) We enjoyed Kick-Off Event; found humans and canines very friendly. Great outlet for using up some puppy energy, run, play, take a dip. Zeus loves the puppy pools.

### Membership Celebration Happy Faces – Wagging Tails

#### Molly



6 Months  
Border Collie/Beagle Mix  
Humans: Josh & Lexi D  
Members since: 2014

We found the dog park while out walking. We read up on SWCDP and decided it would be a great place to socialize Molly!



### Membership Celebration Happy Faces – Wagging Tails

#### Potter

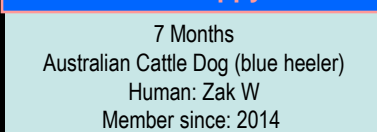


10 Months  
Great Dane Mix  
Human: Rachel F  
Member since: 2014

**We love SWCDP!**  
Potter loves all the new friends and is learning to enjoy the doggie pools very much.

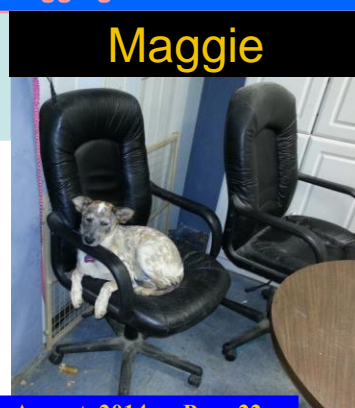
### Membership Celebration Happy Faces – Wagging Tails

#### Maggie



7 Months  
Australian Cattle Dog (blue heeler)  
Human: Zak W  
Member since: 2014

Maggie hangs at work until we go to park. Learned about SWCDP thru Greater StL Training Club; I wanted a place for both of us to socialize & exercise - the park has surpassed my expectations. Maggie says: Why are you talking and not playing with me – then a little bite on the hand.





**Membership Celebration**  
**Happy Faces – Wagging Tails**



**Seamus**



Seamus motivates us to renew each year. In our house we call the dog park the "DP" because if he hears us utter the words – even whisper them - he's sitting at attention at our feet expecting us to put his leash on him and take him. And he'll follow us around the house until we do. We have a good-sized fenced in yard, but Seamus doesn't run in the back yard like he does when he's around the other dogs. What I like best is seeing him take off like a jack-rabbit when we first arrive and run like crazy. There is just pure joy on the dogs' faces when they are all running and playing together. It's so fun to watch – and the people are really nice, too. We love the way SWCDP has changed over the years. It was nice when it first opened, but it gets so much nicer every year. People really take pride in the park and take care of it. Seamus loves nose-diving into the large pools after running around on a hot day! The frequent exercise & socialization with younger

9 Years  
 Boxer  
 (Flashy Brindle)  
 Humans: Mike & Leah M  
 Members since: 2007

dogs keeps Seamus limber, happy and healthy. People think Seamus is only a couple years old because of his playful demeanor and how quickly he can still move for a "senior" dog.

**Membership Celebration**  
**Happy Faces – Wagging Tails**

**Very happy I found SWCDP**

Before we became members – Chief would bark at people (*even my family*) and not come near them – now, we will be at the dog park and he will walk up to people and sit down next to them and let them pet him. Chief hates to walk on a leash so he was getting no exercise.



2 Years  
 Labrador Retriever  
 Human: Sharon G  
 Member since: 2014

**Chief (r)**  
 shares with Stella

We both enjoy coming to the dog park and try to visit every day. I enjoy talking with the other owners and I think it is a great group of people; I can tell that everyone who comes to SWCDP really care for their dogs and other dogs. Chief loves the pools and really loves to be chased and play tug-of-war with the rope. He really has become more social and active; other members have commented that they think he is running faster and has lost some weight (Vet will be happy!).

**Membership Celebration**  
**Happy Faces – Wagging Tails**

**Max**



4 Years  
 Shepherd-Dobie Mix  
 Humans: Lin & Joan R  
 Members since: 2010

We read about SWCDP in Southamton News – location is convenient, price

is very reasonable and we also like all the trees and benches. Max has made friends at the dog park and he really enjoys the agility area. He loves to do the jumps and run thru the tunnel and then sit in place. Max's favorite routine is go to the dog park so he can sniff the ground to see who has been there, then take a good roll in the grass before running and playing with other dogs or working out on the agility course.

**Membership Celebration**  
**Happy Faces – Wagging Tails**



My husband loved to bring the girls to the dog park and it's a special place where I feel close to him since he passed away. I enjoy seeing my dogs have a great time, sniffing and walking, and seeing familiar faces. Maggie barks at everyone and approaches EVERY human for a rub down; she says if you pet her you will be best of friends. Molly will chase and play sometimes if she feels confident and often gets so excited she lets out a big basset Ahrooo! Molly says her sister is a drama queen but it doesn't keep her from seeking new friends.

Been to many dog parks in several states  
 – SWCDP is the best – starting with management, the activities and great

Maggie, 7  
 Molly, 4  
 Bassett Hounds  
 Human: Angela M  
 Member since: 2010

**Molly (t) Maggie (b)**

community of members and dogs – couldn't ask for anything else. We loved the Halloween Party last year – and we luv our dog park!

**Membership Celebration**  
**Happy Faces – Wagging Tails**

**We really do have the nicest dog park around.**

I like the size of the park the best, second best is the amenities, pools, watering stations, park benches and such. The park is a wonderful place to socialize your dog and to let them play and run and wear themselves out - I tell everyone I meet who has a dog and lives anywhere near about SWCDP. Sheba says, "thanks for the big pool all summer and thanks for all the fun".

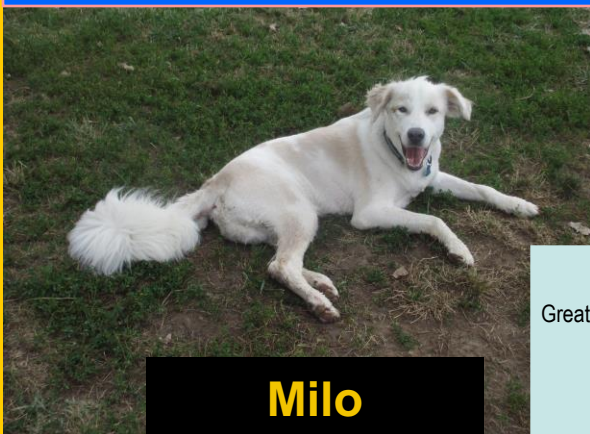
**Sheba G**  
 5 Years  
 English Mastiff  
 (Brindle)  
 Human: Chris G  
 Member since: 2011



**Sheba H**  
 Weimaraner – Lab Mix  
 Humans: Glen & Christy H Member since 2009

**Sheba G (l) Meets Sheba H (r)**

**Membership Celebration**  
**Happy Faces – Wagging Tails**



**Milo**

Milo loves the park and seeing everyone as often as we come – we have been so thankful ever since we learned about SWCDP from another member. I like coming to the park knowing that Milo will have a good time and be worn out by the time we leave. Milo likes the fall/winter season best. He prefers the shady part of the park in summer. Milo's first experience with water/pools was at the park. He was very hesitant at first, but quickly learned that it was a wonderful way to cool off and make waves by moving

3 Years  
 Great Pyrenees-Golden Retriever-  
 English Mastiff Mix  
 Human: Andrea O  
 Member since: 2013

around. We have also used the Alternate Dog Park several times when the pools were closed. It is a great area to have when you want to have your dog focused on playing with just a few friends.





## Membership Celebration Happy Faces – Wagging Tails

1 Year  
Goldendoodle  
Humans: Jared & Kristi B  
Members since: 2013

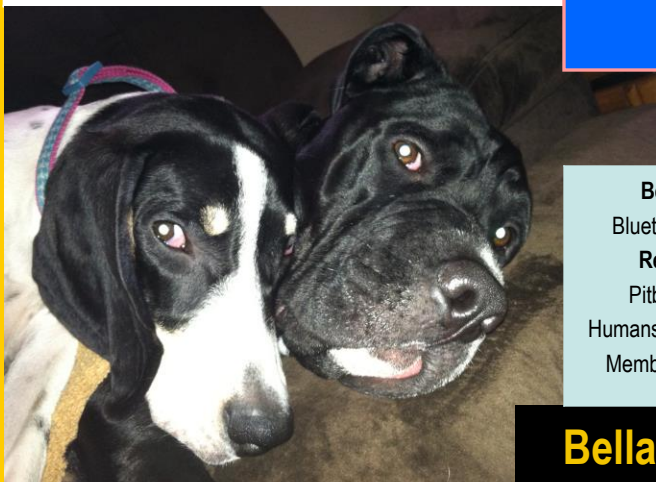
### Gibson



SWCDP has been a godsend. Seriously. We can't imagine our lives without it. 30 minutes at SWCDP equals a 10 mile walk in our opinion. We were so excited to find a dog park close to our house where Gibson could run and make friends. Gibson would say: Ruff, Bark, Ruff – I love the dog park". She never liked to get wet, but now we can't keep her out of the pools. Guess peer pressure works on dogs & humans alike.

## Membership Celebration Happy Faces – Wagging Tails

### SWCDP definitely exceeded expectations



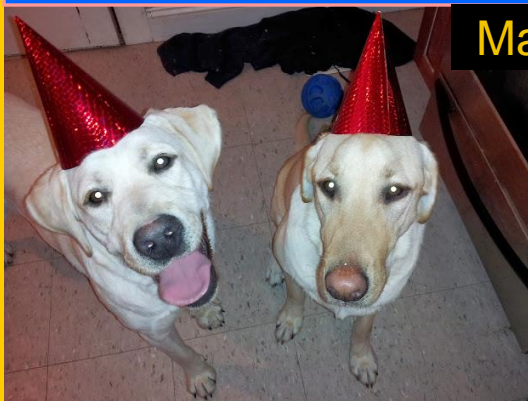
Bella - 1 year  
Bluetick Coonhound  
Rex – 3 years  
Pitbull – Sharpei  
Humans: Ross & Nikee D  
Members since: 2014

### Bella and Rex

Both of our dogs would say it's the highlight of their day to visit the dog park and have fun with their new friends! My husband found out SWCDP so we stopped by and really liked what we saw :) The dog park is a great way to let our dogs burn tons of energy and meet other south city residents who are also dog lovers. We look forward to taking our dogs to visit all season!

## Membership Celebration Happy Faces – Wagging Tails

### Marcus & Mane



Marcus – 2 Years  
American Yellow Lab  
Mane – 3 Years  
English Yellow Lab  
Human: Ellen H  
Member since: 2014

Very pleasantly surprised at the size, amenities and upkeep at SWCDP. The pools and "shower station" exceeded our expectations and we find the double entry handy; we are hoping to work up to the agility course! Our boys love the dog park and have plenty of room to roam and interact with other dogs and their people. Many new smells to explore but they would say they especially love the pools! They get in the pools (*testing each one out, of course*) within their first 5 minutes – then solicit rear-end scratches from their new human friends.

## Membership Celebration Happy Faces – Wagging Tails

Lucy sleeps like a lamb after a visit to SWCDP – it is just a great place for Lucy to enjoy. Lucy loves the opportunity to "hang" with pups and exercise. She says: "I love the park – I feel so free to run and play – Woof, Thank You!"

It's great there are doggie pools for dogs to cool off – Lucy loves water and will play in and drink. If that is an option – she is all about it. Lucy has a sensitive stomach so I tend to keep her away from the pools if they are dirty because she gets gastro upset.

1 ½ Year  
Lab, Retriever, Husky Mix  
Human: Karen O  
Member since: 2013

### Lucy



# More Happy Members . . .

## Membership Celebration Happy Faces – Wagging Tails



**Koji** – 5 Years  
Shiba Inu

**Sushi** – 5 Years  
Shiba Inu

Human: Jan D  
Members since: 2009

We have been to several different dog parks and proud to say ...

### **We belong to the best in the City!!**

SWCDP has everything you could ask for; tons of space to play and run, several water stations for drinking and swimming, a dog wash, and a small dog area. Koji & Sushi love going to the park! Koji's favorite – the various pools to play in; Sushi loves – to meet all of the people! After a good hard run in the large park, they both run to the Alternate Dog Park area, wait patiently by the gate, as this is their favorite place to play together.

### **Koji (l) and Sushi (r)**

## Membership Celebration Happy Faces – Wagging Tails



### **Mable on Table**

9 Years  
Goldendoodle

Humans: Jerry & Sally S  
Members since: 2006

Our dog park has exceeded my expectations in every way. I joined as soon as SWCDP opened in 2006, after signing the original petition for the establishment of a dog park at Wilmore Park. I was interested in socializing my (then) young pup; that's still the motivation to our continuing membership. It has been amazing to see the development across time since its inception. From water service to lighting, to winter shelter to washing station to gardens and now, sidewalk entry, it's been a great progression. One of the best things is meeting a community of other dog lovers. I still get a charge of being recognized outside the park, greeted by other members with "I know you, you're Mable's dad." All of our experiences have been, and continue to be great. Membership is the best investment we make in our "dog-ter" each year.

## Membership Celebration Happy Faces – Wagging Tails

Poppy says: "Mom brought me to the park when I was really young, and boy, did I have a good time. I ran constantly! I wasn't as fast as some of those other dogs, but I fooled them by "dropping and rolling" when they got too close. That really threw them off. I don't run much anymore, but there are so many good smells I just start sniffing - even before I get through the gate! And the best part - tennis balls! Sometimes there are so many I just have to make a point of slobbering on all of them!" Poppy prefers when it's not too hot so we tend to be spring and fall visitors. It's good exercise because I follow Poppy wherever she goes; since her breed is guided by their noses, that means covering park from end to end. I joined upon SWCDP opening because I wanted a well-adjusted dog who was not timid around people of all ages and dogs of all stripes. It worked! Poppy is a laid-back, happy dog who loves meeting new people, especially kids. She "woo, woo's" for them! We keep coming back for the same reason - I want her to have as many social experiences as possible.

8 Years  
Clumber Spaniel

Human: Pamela M

Members since: 2006



### **Poppy**







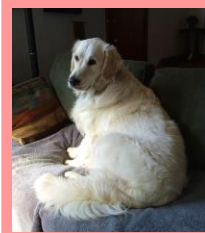
## Membership Celebration Happy Faces – Wagging Tails

**We love the dog park – and go every day!**

### Margot

All of our neighbors are SWCDP members – and we needed a place to socialize and exercise our active puppy. The grounds are kept immaculate, there are plenty of benches and access to bags and water. The other members love their dogs as much as we do, and the entire experience is positive and friendly.

Margot loves to be able to jump in the pool and then shake next to an unsuspecting person.



15 Months  
English Golden Retriever (Cream)  
Human: Sharon A  
Members since: 2014

## Membership Celebration Happy Faces – Wagging Tails



**Top: Mitzy (l) Lyla (m) DeeDee (r)**  
**Bottom: Kali (t) Beau (b)**

**Mitzy** – 2 Years  
Black Mix

**Lyla** – 6 Years  
Boxer-Brindle

**DeeDee** – 1 Year  
Terrier Mix

**Kali** – 9 Years  
Boxer Mix

**Beau** – 8 Years  
Boxer-Brindle

Human: Connie R

Member since: 2006

**We joined SWCDP the first year it opened**

... and we've been coming ever since. My pack and I love coming. It has been a wonderful place for all of us to do a little socializing. I have met a lot of great people and my dogs have met a ton of fun playmates. It has been wonderful place for all of us. I do use the Alternate Dog Park when I bring my newest dog since she has not been socialized before. It is great to have a place where she can play until she learns some manners. I am so appreciative of such a great place to have for my guys to play in. In my opinion, the park just gets better each year. Thank you for all your hard work and dedication.

## Membership Celebration Happy Faces – Wagging Tails

An early 2006 member with my previous Lab, Molly, we rejoined when I got Kate and Scout. Scout loves to run and is very social with other dogs, really likes the white water buckets & drinks out of all of them; she will walk into the water in the little pool. Kate is shy. She and I usually walk perimeter with less doggy interaction. Kate loves the big pool/tub and even with arthritic knees climbs in and splashes water on herself. Kate also likes the paving stones and walks on them entering the park and to get in the pool. After 3 years of dog park attendance, Scout still likes running with others & Kate is interested in and happier in the company of other dogs. I am so pleased with how excited they both are to get to the park and how they have grown calmer in their interactions there – keeping them alert & mentally stimulated as they age. I like the park size, shade trees and effort to keep the grass growing—and beautiful flowers at entry – and now sidewalks that add to the great look. I like that there is water of different types there for them. We use Alternate Dog Park as a cool down on the way out of the park if no one is there. My girls seem to like it as an exit and it gives them one more space to explore for smells.

### Kate

### Scout



**Kate** – 9 Years **Scout** – 8 Years  
Both Labrador Retrievers  
Humans: Sheila K & Roy M  
Members since: 2006

# More Happy Members . . .

## Membership Celebration Happy Faces – Wagging Tails

Charlie LOVES going to the park; it has been great to let him run out his excess energy playing with the other dogs. He says "thank you" for helping him get over his water aversion. He's seen that other dogs like it, and if it's good enough for them - it's good enough for him. (So far, he just dips his paws and head.)



### Charlie Meets Jackson

6 Months  
Lab-Hound Mix  
Humans: Jeff P & Alexander  
Members since: 2014

**Jackson**  
5 Years – Siberian Husky  
Humans: Gil & Jean Member since 2010

## Membership Celebration Happy Faces – Wagging Tails

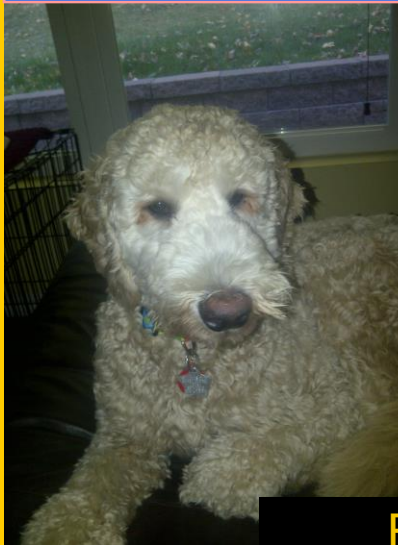
1 Year  
Doberman  
Human: Liz R  
Member since: 2014



### Floyd

We were drawn to SWCDP because of the vast open space and the well-maintained grass. Floyd loves to chase and be chased. When not playing at the dog park, Floyd says he loves food and treats – and then MORE!

## Membership Celebration Happy Faces – Wagging Tails



18 Months  
Goldendoodle  
Humans: Matt & Kim M  
Members since: 2014

Roger has learned to love playing in the water; he loves all the new friends he has met and wants to go to dog park everyday. We live by Willmore Park, so we would walk by SWCDP and thought it would be a great and safe way for him to play with other dogs - and get lots of exercise. Roger is very social and we have had a great experience with the dog park.

### Roger

## Membership Celebration Happy Faces – Wagging Tails



### Winslow

4 Months  
Australian-Shepherd Mix  
Humans: Emily O  
Member since: 2014

So far – so good. We saw the dog park on our morning walks and with only a couple visits so far we like that Winslow can socialize & exercise off leash. Can't wait for Winslow to run with the big dogs.

## Membership Celebration Happy Faces – Wagging Tails



### We have found the perfect setting for Lilly

7 Months  
Golden Retriever  
Human: Kristen M  
Members since: 2014

We were so impressed first time we saw SWCDP and had a great 1st visit. We love the size of park, water stations, and enjoy meeting other owners; everyone is so friendly and loves to talk about pets – we've gotten great toy & treat suggestions. Lilly likes to socialize and she has met dogs of all sizes – it is obvious Lilly is having a ball. We plan to spend a good part of our summer at the dog park instead of our initial plan to visit occasionally. SWCDP has exceeded our expectations, and we are so happy we joined!



### Lilly





## Membership Celebration Happy Faces – Wagging Tails

**Stella**



Stella loves playing, jumping in-out of the pool, wrestling, running & tug of war with all the dogs – the interaction with other dogs is the best. Stella says: “Why do we need to leave so soon (*even after being there 2 hours!*) and when can we go back? We enjoy watching Stella playing and having fun; and almost enjoy the park as much as she does. We needed a place to socialize our puppy and get her extra energy out...we believe a good dog is a tired dog. The dog park has far exceeded our expectations – membership is well worth every penny! The grounds are well kept due to responsible pet owners and all wonderful people who keep it going on a daily basis. We are very blessed to have this dog park so close to home in the city. Even though there are days Stella comes home covered in mud, it's worth it!

15 Months

Boxer Mix

Humans: John & Carla J

Members since: 2013

## Membership Celebration Happy Faces – Wagging Tails

**Maddie**



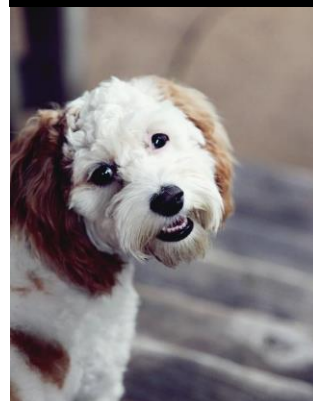
I was completely blown away with the sheer size of Southwest City Dog Park

... and have been in love ever since I learned about SWCDP from a trail walker one day in 2011. The community at the park is a for sure plus :) The moment we became members I've absolutely loved it. It's been so great to really watch the park grow... from it's agility course, to the dog washing station, the dog pools and dog drinking fountains. It's a dog's paradise! My only wish is that I lived closer so I could take them more!

Maddie says she was honored to serve as a “Role Model” at the puppy pool party and how she absolutely loved all of the fun treats she got to sample while she was there. She wasn't too keen on the pools themselves, but she eventually learned to warm up to them (*probably because the heat finally got to her:*) )

Ruthie has only gone once, but she did surprise Scott and I! She normally sticks near myself or Scott anywhere we go, but for the first time we saw her venture off on her own, even without Maddie! I think she'll really learn to love this place!

**Ruthie**



1 Year

Cockapoo

Humans: Scott & Momi G

Members since: 2014

4 Years

Basenji / Lab Mix

Humans: Scott & Momi G

Members since: 2011

## Membership Celebration Happy Faces – Wagging Tails

## Membership Celebration Happy Faces – Wagging Tails

**Zoe**

**Annie**

**Louie**

**Always Playing in Alternate DP  
Great soccer players!**



Zoe likes to run



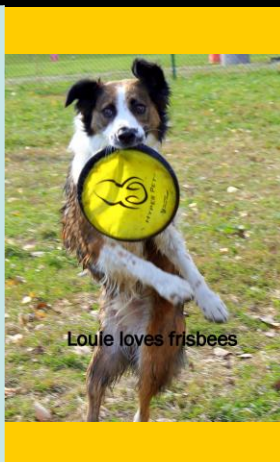
Annie likes to play in the snow

**Zoe** – 11 Years  
Chow – Husky Mix

**Annie** – 6 Years  
Border Collie

**Louie** – 6 Years  
Border Collie

Humans: David K & Susan R  
Members since: 2008



Louie loves frisbees

**Macgregor (r)  
Maisie (l)**



Macgregor & Maisie  
Both – 8 Years  
Scottish Terriers

Humans: Ron & Sheila B  
Members since: 2007

**Always Playing in Main DP – They Have the Moves!**

# Happy Members . . . Last - But Never Least



## Membership Celebration Happy Faces – Wagging Tails

### Stella



6 Years

Yorkie – Maltese Mix

Humans: Paul & Liz G  
Members since: 2009

### Alternate Dog Park Is Awesome!

We love SWCDP because of the people, dogs, pools, and shade - plus, it's close to our house. Having been a member for many years, we enjoy seeing the same humans and 4-legends return each year, plus some newbies. Stella and Nina most enjoy the many doggy pools. They often surprise people because it's unusual for small dogs to high-tail it straight for a swimming pool! Our dogs are small, 14 lbs each. Normally we go in the Main Dog Park, but if there are a lot of big dogs, or they are playing too rough, we go to the Alternate Dog Park so they don't get stepped on. Now that there's water in Alternate it's awesome and we don't feel like we're missing out when in the alternate play area.

Nina was one of our many foster dogs that we kept. She was a very sick and dumped dog, living on the streets in Joplin. Nina was totally full of spunk; we go her healthy and couldn't let her go. Because we were asked so often at the dog park what mix she was – and we didn't know – we had her DNA tested.  
Nina is 25% Yorkie and 75% Min-Pin

### Nina



4 Years

Yorkie – MinPin Mix

Humans: Paul & Liz G  
Members since: 2009

## Membership Celebration Happy Faces – Wagging Tails

**Fritz** – 11 Years – Shepherd Mix

**Caro** – 15 Years – Cairn Terrier

**Heidi** – 6½ Years – Wire-haired Dachshund Mix

Humans: Thomas & Kirsten S  
Members since: 2009

We initially joined in 2009; had never heard of dog parks before and were intrigued. We moved away from the area and moved back this year – and we knew we had to re-join right away.

### SWCDP is wonderful

It was always nice from what I remember, but now it's particularly well run and very clean. My husband and I also love that there are a lot of nice shady spots to sit in. In our experience, most of the owners are very friendly and responsible people who keep a pretty good eye on what's going on with their dogs. Caro and Fritz love to relax in the shady areas with all the lush grass. Heidi, our wild child, LOVES the pool area and the fact that there are so many dogs to sniff and chase. If only I could keep her from crawling underneath the gated agility training area!

### Any Missing Respondents?

If you sent photos and comments, but did not see your doggies featured in the summer newsletter – please contact Judi. We will include your 4-Legged in the fall newsletter. [willow.nic07@yahoo.com](mailto:willow.nic07@yahoo.com)

### Fritz (top) Caro (l) Heidi (r)





# Southwest City Dog Park Offers Variety!

## From Tiny To Not-Tiny

One of our tiniest members



**Tila**  
(Katie)

Our big Dobie boys pose nicely



**Jax & Joey**  
(Matt & Amy) (George & Jackie)

## From Artist Nails To Furry Fun

**Polly**

**Pink Bow and  
Watermelon Nails**  
(Johna)



**River**  
**Mohawk Haircut**  
(Nicole)

## From Table Tops



**Jackson**  
(Gil & Jean)

**The Dude**  
(Tony & Leigh Ann)

**King**  
(Bob)

## From Watching



**Toffee**  
(Laura & Bob)

**Willow & Beatrice**  
(Judi) (Donna)

## To Water Play

We could write a book about  
all our happy water dogs

**Sophie**  
**Soaking Wet  
And Splashing**  
(Nancy)

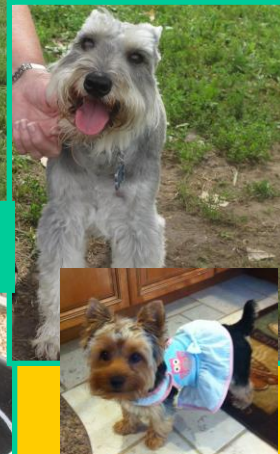


**Mickey's 3<sup>rd</sup> visit**  
(Jack))



## Meet newest newbies

**Jack's 3<sup>rd</sup> visit**  
(Ann)



**Princess** (Joe & Tammy)



## *Lovin' Our Dog Wash*



**Duke** (Kelly)



**Dory** (Robin)



**Wrigley** (James)



**Jiggs** (John)

### **Watching the Play is Fun**



Our Dog Wash is in its second year, and our members are using it more and more. Some use as a cool down and nice break from the playground. After hosing off – they go back to playing with their friends. Some use as a water rinse off at the end of their play session. Good to go home clean! Some use as an “official” stop time in their play. Some doggies use the dog wash as their signal that it is time to go home. However you use it – remember this fantastic amenity was made possible by generous cash donations from our members, a special fund raising campaign – so that no funds were used from our operating account. We also saved a lot of money by doing a big chunk of the work ourselves via a volunteer member work crew during BIG DIG III. Thanks to all.

August 2014 ... Page 32



**Max's Human, Lin,**  
**Likes to Have Fun, too!**



Universal kiddie playground in Willmore Park, Grand Opening was August 9

# Gus' Playground and Theresa's Splash Pad

ADA compliant playground with lots of special features. A collaboration with the innovator whose vision and passion drove the entire project – Unlimited Play – and Developmental Disability Resources & St Louis City Parks Department, and support from Alderman Larry Arnowitz, Mayor Francis Slay

[www.unlimitedplay.org](http://www.unlimitedplay.org)

<https://www.stlidd.org/home.html>



If you have something to contribute to future newsletters, such as,

Dog park photos

Interesting doggie story or experience

Doggie accomplishments, no matter how large or small, like new skills, certifications, awards, such as Canine Good Citizen (CGC) designation – become a SWCDP Star!

Rainbow Bridge , 4--Legged memorial article

**Contact Judi (Willow)**

[willow.nic07@yahoo.com](mailto:willow.nic07@yahoo.com)

## Newsletters

## Thank You



**Southampton Neighborhood Association** has been our dog park sponsor since the first season. We thank the volunteers at SNA for their continued support and encouragement.

**Remember these important contacts**

## Lost or Found Pets

[www.stllostpets.org](http://www.stllostpets.org) - St Louis Lost Pets (the first link) is a collaboration of the Animal Protective Association (APA), St. Louis County Animal Care and Control and the Humane Society of Missouri. 90% of lost, stray and unwanted pets in the St. Louis area end up at one of these 3 agencies. If you lost a pet, or found a pet, this should be your first contact. Databases (for cats and dogs) are usually updated once per hour.

<http://www.stllostpets.org/>

<http://stlouis.craigslist.org/laf/>

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/STLMOlostfoundpaws/>



# Members, Help Keep Our Park Clean

## Bag Bin

Keep Lid Closed – Don't Overload



We have an ongoing need for used plastic bags. Grocery bags are the best size. Large shopping bags are too big & take up too much space in our holders. Please get into the habit of bringing – and repurposing your used bags. Briefly flip the lid as you leave the dog park – to check status of bag supply. If it is full – wait to bring bags until the supply gets low – but do so on a regular basis. It's up to the SWCDP members to bring bags and keep the dog park clean. Currently, bin is low.

## Bag Holders

Keep 'Em Filled

We purchased new pvc material during Spring Break – and Bob H (King) made our new bag holders. New holders are sturdy and should last a long time; we have more holders now to make it easier for members to grab a bag – no matter where they are on the playground. But we need YOU, the members, to help keep the holders filled. New holders, no matter how wonderful, help no one if empty. Pitch in and help keep holders filled!

Thanks to Amy (Layla), John (Mack), Melissa (Maggie), Bill (Cowboy) – and all the other members who have been very reliable in refilling bag holders – but we still need more of you to pitch in, many holders are still empty much of the week. Come on, folks, please.



Protocol for

## Members & Contractors

SWCDP Members must be alert and responsive when contractors are on site... If the dog park remains open during work, such as grass cutting or other minor projects, you should:

- Either go home, or take your dog into which ever area is not being serviced (for example, go to Alternate if work is going on in Main)
- Unless your dog is consistently obedient to call, leash your dog immediately.
- Speak to the contractor, if necessary, to determine what work will be done, and what you can do to maintain a safe environment.

We all want to keep our doggies safe – and with gates being opened and closed, and tools and equipment in use – we think an abundance of caution should be used. This includes during times of a weekly grass cutting, too.

The contractors want to perform their services without interruption or delay. Some workers may be afraid of dogs or not like dogs. Once a member dog bit a worker. Please keep your dog under control

and cooperate with the contractors.





# Members, Help Keep Our Park Clean

## Grey Trash Cans

Place filled poop bags here



**Bill and Cowboy**

We fill the trash cans quickly during the season, and especially during the nice weather.

Responsibility to empty cans and take to the curb falls to the members. Please be sure you put your trash in

Please give a big thanks to Bill A (Cowboy) who has been emptying the trash cans all season. He empties them every few days and takes the filled bags to the curb; City picks up the waste. It would be great if some of you would offer to help him from time to time – or cover for Bill when he is out of town, etc. How 'bout it?

## Blue Trash Cans

Our Recycling Cans

Some of you are putting your poop filled bags into our recycling cans. This contaminates the recycling process. Do not put poop or plastic bags into the blue cans. If we cannot get our members to do a better job on this – we may have to discontinue our recycling program. If you see someone about to put poop in there – please redirect them to the grey cans.



### Volunteers Needed

We need help taking the recycling bags to the Recycling bins located as you leave Willmore Park.

If you can help – contact Judi

[willow.nic07@yahoo.com](mailto:willow.nic07@yahoo.com)

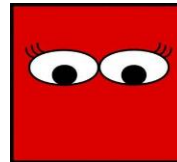


**Pick  
It  
Up!**

***It's the law . . .***

**St Louis City  
Ordinance 66595  
and  
SWCDP Rule #11**

If you see a dog pooping – it is your responsibility to let the human know his dog pooped. Most members are pretty good about poop scooping, but sometimes they just don't see it happening. If you see poop and



do not know where it came from – just pick it up. Get into the habit – Pick up your dogs poop plus 1. Think community!

*None of us want  
poop tracked into  
our cars, homes or  
into our doggie pools!*



# Members, Please Follow Rules



# NO!

## Leashes on fence



### St Louis City Ordinance 66595

#### Section 4 . . .

15. The owner of any dog using the designated exercise areas **must have in his possession at all times** that the dog is in the exercise areas, a leash for such dog which shall be worn by the dog at all times that the dog is not in the exercise area.

#### Let's clarify – Why do we require members to keep leash with them at all times?

A fight or other situation requiring immediate human intervention can happen at any time – and usually with very little warning – like seconds. Humans do not have time to walk to the entry area to retrieve their dog's leash (s). You must keep a collar on your dog – and a leash with you – so that you can take control of the situation, as needed. This rule is for you, too, not just for everyone else. Everyone must comply. Stay alert – and be ready to respond.

## No Children



## Under 8 Years

We welcome families and want our dog park to be fun for all. We recognize that our dogs are family members and our dog park is a nice family experience. But having said that - we must enforce the SWCDP rules – and no child under eight years old is allowed inside the dog park fence. A few members have mentioned that young children are sometimes on the grounds - we ask all of you to respect our rules. Please keep the younger kids at home until they become 8 – or have them watch the doggie play from outside the fence, perhaps with a family member.

## No Smoking



## No Alcohol

Come on – members – it was clearly stated in the rules you agreed to as you submitted your signed membership application. We do not allow alcohol – and that includes the beer being hauled in at night. Southwest City Dog Park is a non-smoking park and we do not allow smoking on our grounds.



# Volunteers Make It Happen

**Our dog park has room for all**

**It is not a requirement of membership to volunteer your time, we have room for all:** those who only want to pay their annual membership fee and not get involved further; those who cannot offer time and talent but donate cash and goods for special projects; and those who contribute their time and energy in a variety of ways as a volunteer. And some who do it all.

**We luv our volunteers!**

To keep our dog park vibrant, active, and appealing to 2 & 4 Leggeds, we need ongoing help. If we don't do the work – it simply will not get done. We currently have several volunteers serving in a few of the areas below but we need more. By sharing tasks we can generate good synergy, fresh ideas, and ensure that no member becomes overloaded or burned out. The capital improvements and large-scale turf management upgrades will be completed this summer – but in order to continue with events similar to past seasons, expanded newsletters with member stories and photos, the proposed activities related to canine education, training, and/or sports, we simply need more help.

You can take on as small or as large a project as your skills, knowledge, and time allow. Rather than post specific jobs – we provide areas in which we could use the help – and we can discuss the possibilities with you, on a one-on-one basis. Contact Judi.

**Will You Raise Your Hand?**



**If interested, send a note to Judi N (Willow)**  
[willow.nic07@yahoo.com](mailto:willow.nic07@yahoo.com)

## **Newsletter**

- Write articles
- Manage event dates for “around town” calendar
- Take photos at SWCDP events
- Newsletter design & layout

## **SWCDP Merchandising**

- Take orders & process orders
- Ensure members get orders when ready for pick up;
- Sell merchandise at events.

## **Safety and Incidents**

- Check grounds for safety issues
- Keep first aid & cleaning supplies stocked
- Review and rule on incidents, complaints
- Keep watch list updated
- Notify or counsel members involved with bad behavior or incidents

## **On-Call for Work Crews**

Be on call list for small to large work crews, as needed

## **Special Events**

### **Social, Educational, Sports, Training**

- Organize, plan, set up / tear down, and work events
- Use template for re-curing events, such as Kick-Off Weekend, Puppy Pool Party, Sunday is Funday, Swim & Romp at Broemmelsiek Park
- Point person with SWCDP Vet Sponsors, trainers and dog sports contacts, rescue groups, and Bi-State Pet Food Pantry
- Assist with GMM event, and more

## **Grounds and Turf Management**

**Trash Management:** Empty cans, take to curb

**Garden Upkeep:** watering, weeding, etc

**Walkways:** repair or clean as needed, snow shovel

**Repairs:** fix fencing, agility equipment, other, as needed before we hire outside contractors

**Turf Management:** renovation and season start-up, ongoing care, including dealing with hot spots, mud closings

## **Special Projects**