

FRIENDS OF DOGBONE MEADOW



A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
DEDICATED TO THE MAINTENANCE
AND BEAUTIFICATION
OF NOVATO'S FINEST DOG PARK

A COMMUNITY FOR DOGS AND THEIR PEOPLE

**THE FRIENDS OF DOGBONE MEADOW IS
A NONPROFIT GROUP DEDICATED TO
SUPPORT AND MAINTAIN THE PARK**



WE LOVE THE NOVATO THEATER COMPANY

The Novato Theater Company is providing entertainment for our Pawsta Feed. Tim Clover, singer extraordinaire, will perform a set of songs from the 50's and 60's. We are so grateful to NTC for stepping in when popular dog park visitor and friend Tim Flavin could not be here because of commitments back in England. NTC is providing an accompanist and keyboard and lending us a microphone. You'll be hearing about their plans for their new theater. Several FODM members are regular attendees at the Novato Players and can vouch for the creativity and professionalism of their shows and the talented people who appear in them. Coming up are "A Case of Libel," "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum," and "Noises Off."

Dog News

Question: I am new to the dog park and I was told by the person who recommended it that the city has a clean up crew and you don't have to pick up after your dog. Is that true? Does the city have a clean up crew to pick up the dog poop on the field?

Answer: No, that is definitely NOT true! I don't know where that person got their information, but the city does not pick up the dog poop on the field, in the parking lot or on the path. There are a couple of cans by the entrance outside the fence, and the city does empty the cans. They also supply the bags and cut the grass. When they mow the grass, if there are lot of droppings on the grass...well, you imagine! On the field or wood chips poop sometimes has paw prints in it...so you can see that other dogs have stepped in it. It is a real health hazard to the dogs and the people who are around them. It can make you cringe when little children are running out in the grass and fall down face first! Please be aware that not everyone picks up after their dog and there is way too much poop left in the dog park. Maybe some people really do believe that someone will come and pick it up...so go ahead and politely tell them about the policy or offer them a bag.

PLEASE PICK UP AFTER YOUR DOG

**LETTER FROM THE
PRESIDENT**

Happy New Year to everyone. We are now about to start the second year of "Friends of Dogbone Meadow." We accomplished far more last year than we ever expected, and it is all due to the hardworking Board of Directors and the volunteers who helped make BarkFest and the park clean-up day such successes.

Our winter fundraiser is a Pawsta Feed that we are holding at the Druids Hall on Saturday, February 18th from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM. We will have food, entertainment and a silent auction (see accompanying article). The dinner prices are VERY reasonable at \$25.00 per adult (in advance, two for \$40.00) and \$15.00 per child 16 and under (in advance, two for \$25.00). Children under 4 are free. I hope we can count on you all to buy tickets and support YOUR dog park. It would be great if every member bought a ticket for himself or herself or bought some to give as gifts to friends. The proceeds will go to make improvements to the dog park.

Speaking of improvements, I want to thank the City of Novato's Public Works Dept. for their work in laying the asphalt to make the entrance to the park ADA compliant. As you all remember, our

group presented the City with \$1000.00 towards this project. The Public Works Dept. did a great job. I also want to thank Pam Shinault and the City's Maintenance Dept. for all their work in helping us to make Dogbone Meadow a great place to bring your dog.

One last thing. We are so grateful for all the volunteers who come out for our events. However, we still need more volunteers, particularly in the area of media and advertising. We will need help at the Pawsta Feed. I know you all have some time, even if it is only an hour a week that you could give to the cause. Please contact us at the Post Office Box or by email at:

Dogbonemeadows@aol.com

Thanks again to you all.

Brian Pearson

President

**dogbonemeadows@aol.com,
P.O. Box 773, Novato Ca 94948
or 415/ 827 0097**

**\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ SILENT AUCTION
AT PAWSTA FEED \$\$\$\$\$\$\$**

In case you miss the mention of it on the other three pages of this newsletter, Friends of

Dogbone Meadow is throwing a "Pawsta" Feed on Saturday, February 18, 2012, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. It's a fundraiser/celebration of our first anniversary as a group – so there will be cake and ice cream for dessert!

As at Barkfest, there will be a silent auction, so bring a little extra cash and/or a checkbook. The silent auction items will range in value from \$20 to \$75. Some of the items that have been donated for the silent auction are:

**Handmade hippo from Kenya
Dogbone Meadow shopping bag (grocery size) *** \$50 gift certificate to Sloat's Garden Shop *** Framed photograph of three dogs running on a foggy morning at Dogbone MeadowClock in photo frame***Pass The Popcorn video game***Vacaville Fruit company dried fruit gift plate
***Matching leash and collar
*** Fascinating bottle cap remover***Extended leash with attached flashlight... and there will probably be more as we continue canvassing. Hope you will join in the fun!**



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My Dog Is A Volunteer

Since last fall my dog and I have been volunteering with a group called LITA- Love Is The Answer. LITA is a nonprofit group that has many programs dedicated to improving the quality of life for persons living in skilled nursing, residential care and retirement residential facilities by providing volunteer visitors as one-to-one friends.

LITA has a program connecting grade school classes with facilities for monthly activities; a program to match families for weekly visits and a program called the PET Connection.

The Pet Connection involves volunteers and their special pets making friends with elderly people in local facilities. Many of the people living in these facilities have few family or friends who visit. Some have given up beloved pets and still miss them. When I come in the facility with my dog I can see it in their eyes how hungry they are to touch an animal! Many people reach out and call her over to them. My dog is large but she is very calm and she loves to stand there while they pet her. She will stand by their wheelchair all day...as long as they are petting her. It is a win win situation for everyone! She also seems to know which people want a kiss and which don't. She is always very gentle when she nuzzles them and it is so sweet to watch.

It is amazing the difference being around a dog makes in

some people. I remember one man who seemed to be unaware of anything around him...until he saw my dog. He became another person. He sat up and even talked. I had no idea that he was able to do either! It was amazing and I realized how much it meant to people to be able to touch a dog again. We know how much pleasure and love we get from our dogs and it is the same with them. I have heard so many stories about their dogs and their memories of dogs. One woman tells me the same story each time...in fact, several times while I am there.

We have a special friend at The Rafael on San Pedro Road. LITA matched us up well and we have become friends. We spend a couple of hours a week together. Sometimes I am there for an activity such as a musical performance and sometimes we look at pictures or we just talk. It is something we all look forward to each week.

If you and your dog have the time and you are interested in being a volunteer with LITA or interested in having a volunteer visit someone you know please contact LITA.

Judy & Xena

You can visit their website at www.litamarin.org, email them at litamarin@sbcglobal.net or call them at 415/472-5482. They have an office in San Rafael.

FIRST
 ANNUAL

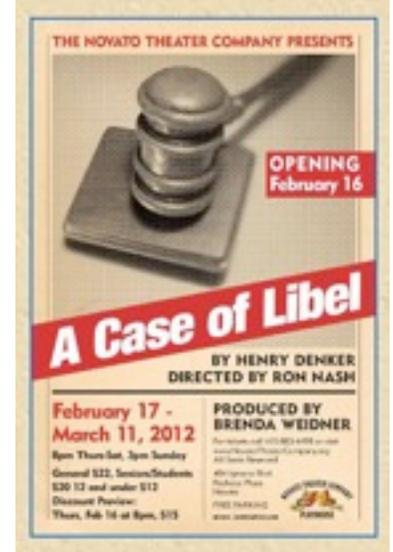
PAWSTA

FEED

FEBRUARY 18, 2012

5 TO 8 P.M.

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 NAILS CLIPPED FOR ONLY \$5 (PER DOG)

UPCOMING EVENTS

**PAWSTA
FEED**

FEBRUARY 18, 2012

DRUIDS HALL

Novato, CA



FRIENDS OF DOGBONE MEADOW

P.O. Box 773

Novato, CA 94948

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____

Street _____

City/Zip _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Dog's name _____

Voting membership (\$26) _____

Or

Associate membership (\$13) _____

And/or _____

Donation _____

TOTAL: _____

Send to:

Friends of Dogbone Meadow

P.O. Box 773

Novato, California 94948