

We Need Volunteers.

If you have one hour, one day or one week a month we could sure use your help.
Please contact the office for more information - (818) 591-7037

Mark your calendars
the Annual Open
Board Meeting
will be in late
September/early
October.
Details coming soon.

We're on Facebook
Look for Sophie Calabasas
and join
the Group Sophie.

Cypress, 5 year old, male, Border Terrier mix is in need of a new loving home.

This cute guy was rescued at the 11th hour from death row at the Castaic Shelter. His owners gave him up when they lost their home which condemned Cypress almost to death. Fortunately rescuers were able to pull him in the nick of time and brought him to Brittany Foundation. He is a very smart little guy. Knows sit, down, shake, stay. He just needs a new and loving adult home who can have lots of fun with this cute boy.



Call The Brittany Foundation for more information (661)713-5240
or visit www.brittanyfoundation.com

SOPHIE News - Summer Edition
S.O.P.H.I.E.
Los Angeles Pet Memorial Park
P.O.Box 8517
Calabasas, CA 91372

Address Correction Requested

◇ SOPHIE News ◇

Summer Edition

Save Our Pets' History In Eternity

June 2009



Photo of the park taken in the 1930's by Rollin Jones

S.O.P.H.I.E. Board Elections 2009!

S.O.P.H.I.E. needs *your* creative ideas, skills and talents... so why not run in our upcoming election for a seat on the Board of Directors? While serving as a Board Member is a volunteer position, it can be a very rewarding experience. You must be prepared to attend meetings on a regular basis in the evenings and be willing to accept various responsibilities from time to time.

If you would like to participate, you must inform the Nominating Committee by con-

tacting the Park Office before JULY 13, 2009. Just tell the office that you are interested in running for the Board. They will forward your name to the Nominating Committee and one of the members will contact you personally soon thereafter.

Aside from the Nominating Committee's designation of

candidates, a member may be nominated as a candidate for the Board by a **Written Petition of Members.** A petition nominating a candidate must identify the candidate by name and address, be accompanied by a biographical profile (no longer than 100 words) and must be signed by at least 13 members. **Petitions must**

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Springtime at the Park is always a lovely time to visit. Our Park has never looked better, and we are constantly improving the watering and drainage systems.

In these difficult economic times we have been able to maintain a sound financial position, keep all our employees, and provide all our normal services. We are doing everything we can to cut costs.

This fall, the elections will be held for positions on our Board of Directors. We encourage anyone interested in becoming a member of the Board to contact the Park office to receive information on the election process, or refer to the front page of this newsletter.

Along with Directors, we are looking for additional volunteers. The Park office can always use help. We are interested in receiving suggestions from our membership on possible marketing and advertising ideas. We also need someone with sewing skills to make our cremains bags.

We are currently exploring the possibility of a horse crematory and are doing some fundraising and test marketing with the hope that we can soon offer this service.

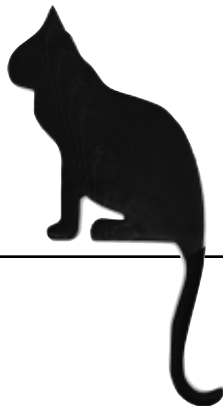
We participated in the Arthritis Walk with Warren Eckstein of the Pet Show, May 3rd, and had a booth at the Nuts for Mutts dog fair on May 17th.

We have also awarded our annual \$1000 scholarship to a Veterinary student at UC Davis.

Our Park is well, happy and very active. We look forward to increased participation from our membership.

Sincerely,

Dave Stiller, President



Cont. from Page 1 **S.O.P.H.I.E. Board Elections 2009! continued**

...be received in S.O.P.H.I.E.'s office no later than JULY 27, 2009. The names of candidates nominated by this method will be placed on the ballot along with the candidates named by the Nominating Committee, and their biographical profiles will be distributed to members along with those of the other nominated candidates.

There are currently four seats open for a two-year term of office (ending in 2011) and one of them could be *yours!* So don't delay...call the office NOW at (818) 591-7037 and let us know of your interest!

**We need a volunteer seamstress to sew the bags that we provide for our urns.
Call the office if you can help. We provide the fabric and thread.
(818)591-7037**



Are you in real estate and interested in volunteering your time?
We need help looking for some land for possible purchase for the future expansion of the Park Please call the office if you are interested.

Size Requirements for Decorations Allowed for Lots:

All (extra) decorations that a lot owner would like to place on his/her lot must be inserted into the vase container, which is provided and imbedded into the ground. Acceptable items are flowers or floral arrangements, pictures or photographs, windmills, and wreaths. The maximum length and width allowed is 30". However all decorations must remain within the borders of the individual's lot, for example an 18 x 36 lot would translate to 18 x 30 and a 24 x 48 lot would be 24 x 30.

Any decoration not in compliance with the specifications herein shall be removed without prior notice. Fresh flowers shall be removed within ten days, or upon their natural expiration.

New advertising opportunities at The Park

We are now offering advertising in these quarterly newsletters to help offset the rising costs of printing. A business card size ad is \$35 per insertion.

We are also offering an advertising program in the showroom where businesses can display their information and business cards. It is \$40 per quarter, \$75 for 6 months and \$100 for one year. Please contact Margie at (818)591-7037 for more information.

Save Our Pets' History In Eternity

S.O.P.H.I.E., Inc.
Los Angeles Pet Memorial Park
5068 Old Scandia Lane
P.O.Box 8517
Calabasas CA 91372
818-591-7037

Park Hours:

MONDAY – SATURDAY
8:00 AM to 5:00 PM
SUNDAY AND HOLIDAYS
8:00 AM to DUSK

NEW Office Hours:

MONDAY – SATURDAY
8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

Website:

www.lapetceemetery.com

e-mail address:

lapetcem@sbcglobal.net

SOPHIE NEWS is published by S.O.P.H.I.E., Inc., Corporate Board members and officers are volunteers and and serve without pay. Membership dues and gifts to S.O.P.H.I.E. are not tax deductible.

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SOPHIE News Staff

Margie Sillman, Editor



Pet Safety Advice contributed by James Speer

It being almost summer, some wonderful summer safety tips written for dogs, but applicable towards any pet or animal, can be found at the AKC's informative website, at the link: http://www.akc.org/public_education/summer_safety.cfm

The article, "Summer Safety Tips", discusses the health risks of hot weather for pets. Like humans, there are also heat hazards for pets. Make sure that your pet always has a shady spot to rest in and plenty of fresh water. Note that dog houses are not always a good idea during the summer as they can trap heat. It has been well-established that there are risks in leaving a pet in a closed vehicle on a hot day.

The article also addresses tips for your visit to the beach, stating how pets are prone to sunburn. Interestingly, the article also mentions how running on the sand is strenuous exercise, a pet that is out of shape can easily pull a tendon or ligament, thus, advising to keep a check on your pet's activity.

"Summer Safety Tips" also addresses helpful tips for traveling by air or by car. It offers a novel idea of putting icepacks or an ice blanket in the pet's crate, which can be created with two-liter soft drink bottles filled with water and frozen.

I also recommend the following link at the Humane Society's website to peruse their article, "Why Dogs and Pickup Trucks Don't Mix", which details the dangers of allowing your dog to ride in the bed of the truck.

http://www.hsus.org/pets/pet_care/dog_care/why_dogs_and_pickup_trucks_dont_mix.html

Some despairing, but hopefully helpful, anecdotal information:

Please take note when tying-up a pet on your raised patio, outside.

I personally know of one sad case in Gainesville, Florida of a patio leash tied dog, which could have been highly preventable. Apparently, the animal had the false security that it could safely jump, from the not-especially-high patio, onto the grass below. Instead, the short leash prevented the pet from being able to completely place its feet on the ground, thus, ultimately choking.

A few years ago, nighttime, a friend of mine, wishing to enjoy the high scenic view, decided to take his dog along with him onto the roof of his 3-story apartment building. While roaming around on the rooftop, the dog not being properly leashed, jumped on his own accord, from the roof, landing on the ground 3 stories below! After experiencing broken bones, as well as two weeks in an intensive-care vet hospital, fortunately, the dog lived and made an almost 100% recovery. Dogs should be leashed whenever in a risky environment.

All this being said, summer can be a beautiful time. Enjoy your pet in the beautiful outdoors this wonderful summer!



From The Desk of The Client Relations Manager

By Sandy Dunaway



Hello to all our friends. Hope this finds all of you doing well and ready for the long, hot summer that will soon be here. Remember to keep all our four legged companions cool and well-hydrated.

The heat also makes it very tough on the crew, so please be patient with them. If you have any questions or complaints please come by the office so we can help you.

Also a reminder the Las Virgenes Water District has everyone on controlled mandatory water limits. It would be helpful if you would not request that the grounds personnel to do otherwise. However, the reclaimed water is helping keep the cemetery nice and green.

Stop by and say hello. We are now carrying some very nice memorial items in our gift store.

I am sure many of you remember "Lucky" the little brown and white Chihuahua mix that used to attend the Annual Meeting and Board Meetings with his family Norman and Doris Johnson. He has passed away. He is now buried here with the other Johnson pets. "Lucky" truly was a very special guy and will be missed.

As a reminder, please keep your pets on a leash when visiting the cemetery. We have gotten a few complaints about pets running around messing up other families' flowers and gravesites.

Thank you in advance for your help.

Sandy



Holiday Edition 2008 Loving Memories correction Page 9 should have read Ralph and Dorene Starita



We'll miss you Lucky!!

Our friend Lucky has passed away. He often attended Board Meetings with his family Norm and Doris Johnson. He has now crossed over to The Rainbow Bridge. Such an attentive little guy.

Remember we have both silk and live floral arrangements available for sale for your gravesites for holidays and anniversaries.



Please remember all pets must be on a leash when at the park.

SOPHIE's Angels

Thank you to the angels who have contributed to SOPHIE thru May 31, 2009

Scott and Cheri Tesar

Carl Izbicki

Carlos & Raquel Garcia

John & Elisabeth Feichtinger

Ralph & Marie Luciano

♥ *Alan & Lynne Gott*

Viola Shelton

Patrick & Janette Poston

Janis Horn

Joan DuPont

Richard Vye

Ida Bercovici

Stacy Fisher

John Sanders

Carole Kasarjian

Edward Stevens

Barbara Meinel

♥ *Edna & Deborah Leslie*

Eric & Cindy Yap

Richard & Sandra Parigan

Joyce Verdi

Greg Chavez & Karen Nakamura

Estate of Pauline B Carlson

Wilma Mundie

NH Willett

Clarence & Florie DeVoe

Rama Sarnoff

Edward & Murphy Romano

Remy O'Neill

Louise Bramson

Nancy Ganio

Joseph Welsch Jr

Bernard & Hilda Hathaway

Kathleen Luciano DDS

David & Mickey Abrams

Susan Cane

Jonny & Susan Munger

Anne Munitz

Ellen & Martin Podway

Allen & Diane Blank

Beverly & Gerald Young

Leslie Buttigieg

Michele Canaleti

♥ *Scott and Cheri Tesar in memory of J,K,K,R*

♥ *Sandra Klone in memory of Tuffy*

♥ *Rosemary Parigan in memory of Norton and Tina Howlan*

Willis Urick in memory of all their pets

♥ *Fatima Malik in memory of Bella Malik*

Orin, Shawn & Cheryl Spence in memory of Belle and Clifton

♥ *Sandra Ramsey in memory of Jolly and Grandma Nancy*

Ronald and Annette Plotkin in memory of Fluffy, Munchie and Lady

♥ *Albert and Ruth Lark in memory of Jessie Wally Sattler*

A Memorial to Boatswain

By Lord Byron

Newstead Abbey, November 30, 1808.

Near this spot

Are deposited the Remains of one

Who possessed Beauty without Vanity,

Strength without Insolence,

Courage without Ferocity,

And all the Virtues of Man without his Vices.

This Praise, which would be unmeaning Flattery

If inscribed over human ashes,

Is but a just tribute to the Memory of

BOATSWAIN, a DOG

Who was born at Newfoundland, May, 1803,

And died at Newstead, Nov 18th, 1808.

When some proud son of man returns to earth,

Unknown to glory, but upheld by birth,

The sculptor's art exhausts the pomp of woe,

And storied urns record who rest below:

When all is done, upon the tomb is seen,
Not what he was, but what he should have been:

But the poor dog, in life the firmest friend,

The first to welcome, foremost to defend,

Whose honest heart is still his master's own,

Who labours, fights, lives, breathes for him alone,

Unhonour'd falls, unnoticed all his worth,

Denied in heaven the soul he held on earth:

While man, vain insect! Hopes to be forgiven,

And claims himself a sole exclusive heaven.

Oh man! Thou feeble tenant of an hour,

Debased by slavery, or corrupt by power,

Who knows thee well must quit thee with disgust,

Degraded mass of animated dust!

Thy love is lust, thy friendship all a cheat,

Thy smiles hypocrisy, thy words deceit!

By nature vile, ennobled but by name,

Each kindred brute might bid thee blush for shame.

Ye! Who perchance behold this simple urn,

Pass on ~ it honours none you wish to mourn:

To mark a friend's remains these stories arise;

I never knew but one, - and here he lies.

Special thanks to:

Estella Zuniga for her kindness

James Speer, Nancy Morgan and Ellen Newth for their newsletter contributions

Volunteers

Clarence and Flory DeVoe
Caryn Belikoff
Jonah Dotan



We need volunteers for help with filing
clean up
organizing
scanning
sewing cremains bags
newsletter design
etc.

Headstone maintenance

The Park is now offering a monthly headstone maintenance service. For a prepaid monthly fee your headstone will be cleaned weekly. Please contact the office for more information.

The Park is now donating your blankets and towels to Blankets of Love, a non profit group that distributes these much needed items to all the pounds and rescues in Southern California.

We also donate beds and carriers to The Pet Adoption Fund rescue in Canoga Park, CA.