



BARC Park at Hannah More

January 2009



Committee News

The committee would like to wish everyone a wonderful holiday season. Thank you for being a part of our dog park family. Don't forget to send in your renewals for 2009. These must be returned by mail by the end of January 2009 in order to be given the new code, which will be sent to returning members on February 1, 2009. If you are a returning member, please write your membership ID number on the new application. If you want to download the application, go to www.reisterstownrec.com/dog.htm and print the application from there.

As we begin a new season at the dog park, the committee would like to infuse some new ideas and new people into the mix. The original committee of which there are only 4 people have been working for nearly 3 years getting the dog park up and running. We would love to have more people involved, and with that being said we would like to have an election so that you can be involved as well. All positions are open. We need a President, Vice

President, Secretary, Treasurer and Liaison to the Rec Council. The positions do not require a lot of work, just a commitment to make sure this park continues to run smoothly.

If you are one of our members that has been using the park in this freezing weather, you must be one of our diehards and your work will certainly be appreciated, even if it's only with a bark or a lick. Please consider getting involved. If you are not interested in one of the "elected" positions but would like to volunteer any amount of time, we welcome your input as well.

We will be having a meeting to fill these positions on February 7th, 11am at the Glyndon Elementary School Rec. Activity Room. At that time we will also begin the process of developing a set of bylaws for the park. To get the School, turn onto Glyndon Drive from Reisterstown Road. Continue all the way around. You will see the school on your right.

Baltimore Dog Magazine

The winter issue of this great, local magazine is available at the Park by the entrance to the large dog area. Enjoy!



Brian's Corner

Just A Dog

From time to time, people tell me, “Lighten up, it’s just a dog,” or “That’s a lot of money for just a dog.” They don’t understand the distance traveled, time spent, or costs involved for “Just a dog.” Some of my proudest moments have come about with “Just a dog.” Many hours have passed with my only company being “Just a dog,” and not once have I felt slighted. Some of my saddest moments were brought about by “Just a dog.” In those days of darkness, the gentle touch of “Just a dog” provided comfort and purpose to overcome the day.

If you, too, think it’s “Just a dog,” you will probably understand phrases like “Just a friend,” “Just a sunrise,” or “Just a promise.” “Just a dog brings into my life the very essence of friendship, trust, and pure, unbridled joy. “just a dog” brings out the compassion and patience that makes me a better person. Because of “Just a dog” I will rise early, take long walks and look longingly to the future.

For me and folks like me, it’s not “Just a dog.” It’s an embodiment of all the hopes and dreams of the future, the fond memories of the past, and the pure joy of the moment. “Just a dog” brings out what’s good in me and diverts my thoughts away from myself and the worries of the day.

I hope that someday people can understand it’s not “Just a dog.” It’s the thing that gives me humanity and keeps me from being “Just a man or woman.” So, the next time you hear the phrase “Just a dog,” smile, because they “Just Don’t Understand.”

Author Anonymous

Submitted by Debvan.



Dog Look Alike

Breed Profile



Chow Chow

The Chow is a sturdily built dog that is square in profile with broad skull and small, triangular, erect ears that are rounded at the tip. The breed has a very dense [double coat](#) that is either smooth or rough. The fur is particularly thick around the neck, giving the distinctive ruff or [mane](#) appearance. The coat may be one of five colors including red, black, blue, cinnamon, and cream.

Their eyes should be deep set and almond in shape. Chows are distinguished by their unusual blue-black/purple tongue and very straight hind legs, resulting in a rather stilted gait. The bluish color extends to the Chow's lips, which is the only dog breed with this distinctive bluish appearance in its lips and oral cavity (other dogs have black or a piebald pattern skin in their mouths). One other distinctive feature is their curly tail. It has thick hair and lays curled on its back. Their nose should be black. Any other tone is disqualification for breeding under AKC breed standard. The blue-black/purple tongue gene appears to be dominant, as almost all mixed breed dogs who come from a Chow retain the tongue color. This is not to say, however, that every mixed breed dog with spots of purple on the tongue is descended from chows as purple spots on the tongue can be found on a multitude of pure breed dogs.

Today the Chow Chow is most commonly kept as a [companion dog](#). Its keen sense of proprietorship over its home paired with a sometimes disconcertingly serious approach to strangers can be off-putting to those unfamiliar with the breed. However, displays of timidity and aggression are uncharacteristic of well-bred and well-socialized specimens. Inexperienced

dog owners should beware of how dogs of this breed encounter those it perceives as strangers; their notoriety is so established that many homeowner's insurance companies will not cover dogs from this breed. Specimens of opposite sex typically co-habitate with less tension than those of the same sex, but it is not unheard of for multiple chows of both sexes to live together peacefully in a home setting. The Chow is extremely loyal to its own family and will bond tightly to its master. The Chow typically shows affection only with those it has bonds to, so new visitors to the home should not press their physical attention upon the resident Chow as it will not immediately accept strangers in the same manner as it does members of its own pack.

Source: Wikipedia



NO CHARGE FOR LOVE

A farmer had some puppies he needed to sell. He painted a sign advertising the 4 pups. And set about nailing it to a post on the edge of his yard. As he was driving the last nail into the post, he felt a tug on his overalls. He looked down into the eyes of a little boy. "Mister," he said, "I want to buy one of your puppies." "Well," said the farmer, as he rubbed the sweat off the back of his neck, "These puppies come from fine parents and cost a good deal of money." The boy dropped his head for a moment. Then reaching deep into his pocket, he pulled out a handful of change and held it up to the farmer. "I've got thirty-nine cents. Is that enough to take a look?" "Sure," said the farmer, and with that he let out a whistle. Here, Dolly!" he called. Out from the doghouse and down the ramp ran Dolly followed by four little balls of fur. The little boy pressed his face against the chain link fence. His eyes danced with delight. As the dogs made their way to the fence, the little boy noticed something else stirring inside the doghouse. Slowly another

little ball appeared, this one noticeably smaller. Down the ramp it slid. Then in a somewhat awkward manner, the little pup began hobbling toward the others, doing its best to catch up.... "I want that one," the little boy said, pointing to the runt. The farmer knelt down at the boy's side and said, "Son, you don't want that puppy. He will never be able to run and play with you like these other dogs would. "With that the little boy stepped back from the fence, reached down, and began rolling up one leg of his trousers. In doing so he revealed a steel brace running down both sides of his leg attaching itself to a specially made shoe. Looking back up at the farmer, he said, "You see sir, I don't run too well myself, and he will need someone who understands. " With tears in his eyes, the farmer reached down and picked up the little pup. Holding it carefully he handed it to the little boy. "How much?" asked the little boy. "No charge," answered the farmer, "There's no charge for love."

--- Author Unknown ---



'Dear Lord: Thank you for bringing me to Timmy's house and not to Michael Vick's -- AMEN!'

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



