

# Blair County Dog Park



Where Dogs Run Free!

## 2024 Board of Directors

Roseanne Conrad, President  
Bill Lewis, Vice President  
Bonnie Risser, Treasurer  
Caitlin Morder, Recording Secretary  
Karen Lewis, Corresponding Secretary  
Barry Davis, Board Member  
Betsie Claar, Board Member  
Carol Johnson, Board Emeritus

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-or-

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### On Facebook:

Blair County Dog Park

### Website:

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

Blair County Dog Park  
201 Colinkay Court  
Mail to: P.O. Box 192  
Martinsburg, PA 16662

## Spring Newsletter 2024

### RENEWAL TIME

Hello Members! It's almost spring and dog park pass renewal time for you and your pups. Due to the rise in postage, we will not be mailing membership renewal letters this year. Like all other non profit organizations, we're trying to save time and money while creating a smaller footprint on the planet.



Your renewal application is attached with this newsletter. Please fill it out and return it to our treasurer with your updated vaccination record and membership fee. One set per dog, please. Note discounted fees for second and third dog in the same household. The return address is on the application. 2024 Membership year begins April 1st. Lock box code will be changed on that date. If you are a new member who joined after January 1st, your 2024 membership is up to date until March 30, 2025. Yay! A couple of free months for you! You must renew to get the new lock box code. Once our treasurer, Bonnie receives your renewal materials, she will email you the lock box code, new membership card, etc.

### RULES OF THE DOG PARK

This is a good time to reacquaint yourself with the dog park rules. The rules were established for the safety of all concerned—dogs and humans alike. You may not agree with certain rules, but there are reasons for each rule. Breaking the rules might endanger another, may jeopardize our insurance and may result in cancellation of membership.

## GOOD THINGS ARE HAPPENING AT THE DOG PARK!

### WE OWN THE LAND!

As you probably are aware, the Blair County Dog Park Association was provided with the opportunity to purchase the 10.6 acres of land on which the dog park was built this past fall. For 12 years we leased the land. Due to the generosity of the landowners, members and friends, we were able to raise the money for both the land and the closing cost. Colin and Kay Klotz gave us a very affordable cost of which we are forever grateful. Additionally, after a tax hearing and appeal, we were able to get the annual tax down from \$2,400 to \$1,000.



## NEW MOWER

Through the generosity of members Barry and Ruth Davis, we have a brand new zero turn mower to keep our grounds manicured for years to come. The mower was gifted to the dog park last fall. The Davis's, just a year before, provided the park with a brand new garage to house our old mower in (that has since died). In addition, Barry and Ruth provided the funds to have a new roof put on the small shed and monies to pay for our property taxes this year! This generous, Penn State and dog loving duo have been God sent. Thank you, ever so sincerely, Barry and Ruth.



Ruth Davis, Barry Davis (seated with their dog, Ariel), Tim Gallagher (Bobcat) and Bill Lewis

## VOLUNTEERS ARE OUR BIGGEST ASSET!

A great big "THANK YOU" to member Danielle Dougherty and her text team for providing new bluebird boxes at the dog park just in time for nesting season!

Seeing the need, Danielle stepped up to the plate and purchased the bluebird house kits and got others through the game commission. They got together last Sunday to build the houses. Thanks Danielle, Melissa, Matt, Julia, Ruby, Carla, Luna, Billie, Mike, Cathy, Emma, Barb, Roxy and everyone else who helped. They look GREAT!!!!

While on the subject of volunteers, we will never have enough volunteers. There are big and small projects to be done everywhere at the dog park. The more volunteers we have, the more we can accomplish resulting in a better park for everyone. If you have not checked the box on the back of the membership application, please do so with your renewal. Or, send an email or text. Describe your skill sets or knowledge and we can definitely put you to work.

## ANNUAL PARK CLEAN-UP DAY

Volunteers are needed to help clean the park and get it ready for the busy spring season. Our annual Dog Park Clean-Up Day is Saturday, April 27th beginning at 9:00am. In case of rain, we will have it April 28th.

Wear old clothes and sturdy shoes. Bring work gloves, a hat, sunglasses, tools, a wheelbarrow, if you have. Non toxic cleaner and old rags to clean the sheds, windows, etc. We need a good organizer to reorganize the small shed, and throw out the useless stuff. Bring your own water, snacks, etc.

## ORGANIZED PLAY DATES TO START SOON

Carol Johnson will be returning from her winter haven in the south soon. She will be starting up some organized play dates including MINIMUTT MONDAYS, GIRLS NIGHT OUT, and maybe some others. Details will be coming soon. More information will be forwarded via Facebook and on our web page (events section).



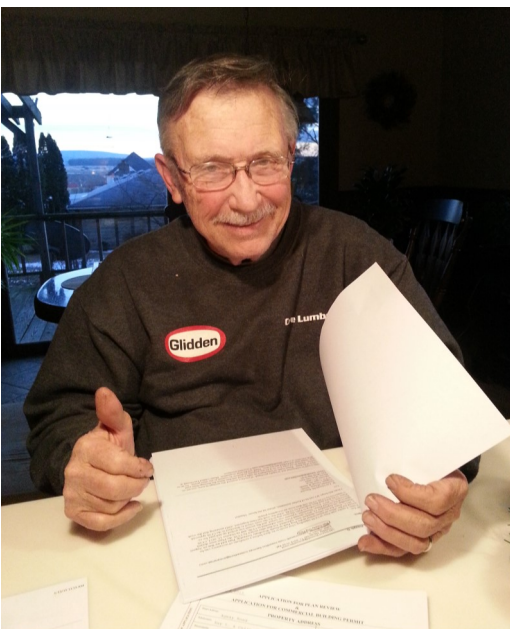
Carol Johnson

## RECALL CLASS & BASIC BEGINNER OBEDIENCE CLASSES

I will be offering two positive reinforcement classes this summer at the dog park. The first one is a 1-Hour Recall Class. You will learn to use verbal cues and hand signals to effectively call your dog to you. The second one will be a 6-week Basic Obedience Class. Those completing all six classes will be eligible to have their dogs tested for their CGC title (Canine Good Citizen) through the AKC. Open to AKC registered, non registered and mixed breed dogs. There will be a charge for each class. If these are successful, more classes will be offered in the future. E-mail me (Roseanne Conrad) if you are interested. videorose@aol.com I am an AKC certified CGC/Trick Dog Evaluator.



# The Dog Park Looking Back ... It was once just a dream



*Harold Johnson  
Forever in our hearts*



## MISSION STATEMENT--BLAIR COUNTY DOG PARK ASSOCIATION

The mission of the Blair County Dog Park Association is to encourage the establishment of dog parks in order to provide safe and secure environments where owners may exercise and train their dogs off leash, thus providing effective socialization opportunities for people and their dogs as well as enhancing positive interaction between dog owners and the community. The organization would promote responsible dog ownership in the community through educational and recreational activities, demonstration projects and training opportunities, thus encouraging current and potential dog owners to develop a more meaningful relationship with their canine companions and the community at large.