



PAW PRINTS

Memberships Are Due

BEST FRIENDS DOG CLUB OF SUN CITY

FEBRUARY 2005

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Jean Buck

Question: What additional activities would you like to see for our members in 2005?

Answer: Two come to mind. First, I would like to see a monthly fun match or game day. This could be called First Saturday in the Park or something similar. We have had the Fun Match in December as a graduation-celebration event at the end of the fall obedience session. In February we have Fairway Fun Fair, and in April the picnic. Both will have dog games etc. In May we are planning another Fun Match after the spring session of classes. It will be a graduation-celebration open-to-all type event like the December Fun Match. It will be for both the obedience and the agility classes, and will need to be in the morning, due to the heat in May. But then there's nothing scheduled of this type until the Fun Match in December. I'd like to see a "Last Saturday" game day at the end of September, October, and November, so that we would establish a tradition of an activity for the dogs during each of the nine months that the club meets.

I would also like to see us write and publish a book. When you think of it most of our 160 members have had at least 50 years of dog experiences. That's a huge number of years of delightful episodes. These should be recorded. A committee chairman who had publishing and internet experience

would be necessary to bring this all together.

At the March 8 meeting of the board, we will process the questionnaires that have been turned in. Let's see what the members come up with.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

February 15th at 9AM
"Dancing With Dogs"

March 15th at 9AM
"Good Grooming"

Christy Wrather from Free Style Dancing Dogs will be giving a demonstration at our February meeting. Bring a lawn chair to view this exhibition in comfort in the Dog Yard following her talk.

Cherri Freeman from Cruising Critters will do a grooming demonstration at the meeting on March 15th. There will be a drawing for one member's dog to have nails clipped.

GET YOUR
PET'S COSTUME
TOGETHER FOR
THE PETS AND
PEOPLE PICNIC
IN APRIL



Board Meetings Scheduled

The board will meet in the Team Room at Lakeview Bowling Lanes at 9AM on the following

Tuesdays: February 8th, March 8th, and October 11th.

Editor: Ada Jane Cowper
ajcowper@juno.com

THE TRAINING SCHEDULE

Dog Class sessions will begin again in late March. There will be opportunity to sign up for them at the March 15 meeting. Obedience classes will begin on March 24th; Agility Competition class will begin on March 25th and Agility classes begin on March 25th. All classes are filled on a first come, first served basis.

Practice For Flyball

Judy Singleton is overseeing this free activity held in the Dog Yard on Wednesdays from 3 to 4 PM. Judy requests a second person to help with each dog so the course can be accomplished in shifts. The last few minutes will be for socializing. The practice depends upon weather conditions. Sign in will be required at the gate. To know more call Judy, 815-7896.

Remember to visit our website:
<http://www.bestfriendsdogclub.org>

**For training schedules, Club
And Fun Fair Information**

New Members in Jan. 05

Mollie Brand – 922 - 7274
Diane Denton – 583 – 8279
Andy Greene – 933-7972
Dwane & Darlene Headley
602-432-7106
Ann Healy – 362-0993
Carolyn Hunter – 875 – 4992

Jeanne Jones – 583 – 1558
Dee McCarean – 974 – 8272
Haig & Marie Ohanian –
977 – 6057
Paula Rowe - 876 – 0177
John & Heather Stevenson –
815 – 8396
Harriett Taylor – 876 – 8106
Dennis & Marilyn Turner –
974 – 5732
Don & Julie West – 933 - 5347

IN MY OPINION

By DR. DAN RICE

Q. . What are the special needs, regarding feeding times, feeding amounts, sleep, activity, socialization for puppies?

A puppy's special needs include human socialization, canine socialization, good nutrition (including quantity and quality of food), training, rest and exercise (addressed in a previous column), preventive medicine (including vaccinations), parasite control and more. I truly believe the most important single need a puppy has is YOU! Your time and interaction with the dog can't be withheld if you are to have a healthy, well-rounded puppy. If you can't find sufficient time for your pup in your busy schedule, buy a goldfish. I'm not evading the complex questions and I'll be happy to address each question individually and in depth if desired.

Q. Can you give me a prescription of activity for a geriatric dog?

Should a 16 lb adult dog eat only once a day?

A. Activity for a geriatric dog depends upon the activity level of the same dog during its youth and middle age, its diet, its breed, and a rather full menu of facts about the dog such as its attitude and general health and soundness. "Geriatric" is not a description of every dog that reaches a certain age regardless of all life factors. Good exercise habits throughout life affect the physical

and mental condition of older dogs. The worst mistake you might make would be to force exercise on a dog that for 15 years had been a couch potato. If your old dog hasn't been very active for many years, begin slowly with short walks in cool weather and increase the distance about every two weeks. Give me more information and I'll try to do better. (2). Wild canines such as coyotes or wolves often do eat only one huge meal once a day or every 2 or even 3 days. Then the animal fasts until it thoroughly digests the critter eaten. It rests until it gets hungry again, and repeats the process. In the question asked, nothing was said of the age or health of this 16 pound dog and those factors would have a bearing on my answer. However, regardless of a dog's age, weight, breed, and its state of health I believe all dogs do much better if fed twice daily. If the 16 pound dog is an older citizen, it should be fed twice daily using a good, high quality dog food. You'll note that I didn't say twice as much, but if the dog is maintaining a good weight, divide the amount into two meals. The smaller meals allow your dog to eat a nominal amount and digest it over a period of maybe 8 or 12 hours. Two meals per day will also discourage begging, stealing food, eating cat food or cat feces. I've never met a pooch that didn't like at least two meals a day, even if that dog is on a diet!

MOVING RIGHT ALONG

We are official! The Dog House storing our agility equipment proudly displays a BULLETIN BOARD and a NAME SIGN both of which tell the public who we are and what we do as a Sun

City Club. We all thank the **Spaces and Places Committee, namely Skelli Dedmon and Bruce Grounds**, for their perseverance in articulating our needs to the RCSC and the Woodworking Club. Not only that, but also for painting our building and sign in a manner to enhance the property on which it resides. Certificates of Appreciation were prepared and given to the following helpful citizens, Cheryl Johnson, RCSC Club Activities Supervisor; Jack Aasen and Len Phillips of Fairway Woodworking Club.

Dr Dan Rice also received a certificate of our appreciation for the column he writes and sends us each month for the newsletter. Another was sent to John Folden of ID Plus for his gift of a laminator to the club.

PHOENIX FIELD & OBEDIENCE CLUB will hold **Obedience and Rally Trials** on Saturday, February 19 and Sunday, February 20 from 7AM to 6PM. Championship titles are now being offered in the sport of Rally as well as Obedience and Agility. These Trials will be held at Pierce Park, 2150 N 46th Street in Phoenix.

Some of **our members** may be participating in the Rally events. Entering will be: **Marian von Hanstein** with "Barkley"; **Betty Marotti** with "Fame"; **Tory Marotti** with "Diva"; **Jean Buck** with "Gus"; and **Dianne Neeham** will enter "Echo", who will be handled by Jean Buck. Only 70 dogs will be accepted and our entries will know by February 2nd if they will be included.

The 2005 Walk for Kids and Doggie Beach Party is a fund

raiser for children who are victims of abuse and neglect. It will be held on **2/19/05** at Kiwanis Park in Tempe. There will be a 2 mile walk around the lake with your dog, doggie contests, and doggie beach wear costume contest. Also there will be some really terrific raffle prizes. This event is sponsored by Gabriel's Angels. The entrance fee is \$15 for adults, \$5 for children On site is \$20. Go to their website for registration.
www.petshelpingkids.org