



PAW PRINTS

BEST FRIENDS DOG CLUB OF SUN CITY

APRIL 2004

PRESIDENTS CORNER

By Jean Buck

Hello to Everyone,

I enjoyed meeting so many new members at the picnic. I thought the "Best Tricks" and the "Costume Contests" were especially fun. The two hours flew by, in what seemed like just a few minutes, and the April day was perfect.

Now that the insurance topic has come and gone, our Spaces and Places committee has been busily drawing up ideas to enlarge and equip the training area. Until Fairway is renovated, a plan has been submitted to expand the fenced area so as to accommodate agility and fly ball. A small section of bleachers on the west side of the building between the two trees has been requested. This plan also includes a double gated entry-way on the west side of the yard to accommodate dogs waiting their turn for class and performances. A small storage building has been included in our request, which is to include a bulletin board to showcase the club and training schedules.

This should allow us to expand gradually as the new Fairway facility is being designed and built

If you have any comments or suggestions about this temporary expansion plan, you are welcome to contact Skelli Dedmon, Bruce Grounds or me. See you at the meeting on May 18.

Jean Buck



DR. DANIEL RICE, DVM and long time author of educational books about dogs and dog breeds will be speaking at the May 18 Meeting. Dr. Dan, a resident of Sun City has written over 14 books for Barron's Educational Series. They include special breed books about Highland Terriers, Brittanys, Akitas, German Shepherds, Beagles and Retrievers. Many of his books are in the Sun City Library. Rice also treated birds, fowl, fox, deer, elk and a couple bear for Fish and Game. Don't miss this meeting!

JUANITA BRAEMER will be responsible for sending cards to members in case of illness or loss. Please contact her with any need of which you are aware. Call Juanita at 815-0234 or e-mail her at Juanita.braemer@worldnet.att.net

TRAINING AND CLASSES

Dianne Needham is in charge of training for the club. She wants you to know that you may sign up now for fall classes if you wish. Call Dianne at 974-9282 or catch her at the meeting for instructions. Class sessions are \$25. She has outlined the following classes to begin the last week of October. The first class season will end on or about December 21. This will depend upon the weather conditions.

Each of the eight classes will last approximately one hour. Dogs should be 6 months old and should have their shots. The rabies certificate should be shown at the time they come to the first class. (Puppies under 6 months can attend puppy classes.) I hope to have a puppy teacher by fall. Bunny will teach ages 4 to 6 months and Mary Cook will teach ages 2 to 4 months.



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TRAINING, Continued..

The Obedience Classes are designed to teach you how to train your dog. You will be your dog's teacher but you will both be students while in class. You will be taught how to understand and communicate with your dog and be given exercises that are a means to have a well-behaved dog at all times and in all places. The lessons are scheduled as follows. Most are to be held in the Fairway dog ring.

Level 1: Oct. 25 @ 10AM

Instructor: Dianne Needham

Sit	Halts	Stand
Sit Stay	Slow Time	Stand Stay
Down	Fast Time	Stand 4 Exam
Down Stay	Circle Right	Fronts
Attention	Circle Left	Finishes
Heel	U-Turn	Turns in Place
Leash Handling	Comefores	Give
About Turn	Recall	Long Line
Wait	Leave it	Random Walk

Level 2: Oct. 25 @ 11:15AM

Heel on Loose Leash	Stick Jumping
Proper Heel Position	Walk Through a Crowd
Straight Sits	Grooming
Comefore with sit	Reaction to other dog
Figure 8	Fast Energetic Come
Sit & Down Command	Long Sit/Down out of Sight
Random Sits/Downs	Reaction to Distraction
Excitement Interaction	Supervised Isolation
Accepting Friendly Stranger	CGC Practice

LEVEL 3 OBEDIENCE is training is for CD (Companion Dogs) and will possibly meet on Tuesdays

AGILITY TRAINING:

BEGINNING: Fridays AM will be held in the dog ring.

ADVANCED: Wednesdays AM this class will be held at an off site location.

BEGINNING FLYBALL:

Fridays at 11:30AM



A MAN'S BEST FRIEND

by Patty Gastineau Strickland

As I was walking,
 Early one morn',
 Down a shaded path,
 To meet the sun—
 I realized,
 I was not alone,
 But joined by a creature,
 Who wanted to roam

A huge "chocolate" dog
 Loped along with me—
 Now and then pausing,
 At a special tree,
 He proved a good,
 And faithful friend—
 And stayed by my side,
 Till my journeys' end!

SUMMER IS HERE!

This will be the last Paw Prints you will receive until September. Many have already left the valley in search of cooler weather.

It's a time to consider the comfort of your pet also. In the magazine Doctors Foster & Smith there is an article about "Pet travel essentials; how to make your pet feel at home on the road."

Dr. Martin R. Smith DVM writes: "Traveling with your dog can be a rewarding experience for the whole family, especially if you keep in mind your pet's needs aren't much different than yours."

Dr. Smith says that " New people and changing settings can frighten our pets, making them much more likely to bolt out an open car door or window --- or exhibit problem behavior, or have accidents."

His suggestions include: Calming your pet, keeping it safely restrained or behind the confines of a physical barrier, and preparing a travel kit including food, water, and comfortable bedding.

The board of Best Friends Dog Club wishes you a happy, safe and healthy summer. We look forward to our meetings and class together in the fall.

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