

**SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:**

**UPCOMING
MEETINGS**

**General Meeting
April 18
annual picnic
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
(pg. 2)**

**General Meeting
May 16
9 a.m. to 11 a.m.**

**TRAINING
SCHEDULE**

**Posted on the
web site and
Bulletin Board
at the
Dog House.**

**BFDC
BOARD OF
DIRECTORS**

Skelli Demon,
Bruce Grounds,
Co-Presidents

Laura Palmer,
Vice President

Juanita Braemer,
Secretary

John Stevenson,
Diana Barnum,
Members at Large

**Know anyone in
the club who is
having a difficult
time in their life?**

Call Linda Smith,
"Sunshine Person,"
and let her know.
She will send a

(Continued on page 2)



PAW PRINTS

Best Friends Dog Club of Sun City

April 2006

The Co-Presidents' Corner

by Skelli Dedmon and Bruce Grounds

Now that our Spring Class Registration is complete and training has begun it is time to relax and enjoy learning with our "Best Friend!" For some of us that means going back to the basics to re-enforce the obedience we learned a few years ago. Techniques have changed

and the Club has three instructors now who have individual and unique styles. It's about not getting bored while in training and keeping it exciting for both you and your dog.

The pre-registration of existing students was successful with over 33 classes signed up for that first week. During our March General meeting on the 21st we were able to concentrate on the new members and getting them processed in a timely manner. Welcome to the 21 new members who joined and signed up for Beginning Obedience. We have a

total of 31 registered in 3 classes of obedience, one on Friday and two on Saturday. The other classes

for obedience and all levels of agility are scheduled throughout the week. Thanks to all for making this a great experience. We welcome your suggestions as we try to streamline the paperwork process.

We would also like to thank those members who signed up to volunteer for the fire department emergency pet sitting program. It is a valuable service to this community and we are proud of our members who are a part of it.

Linda Smith (Rudy's Mom) has designed a "Pet Vial for Life" which we will introduce at the April picnic and the May meeting. We would like to ask everyone to save old prescription vials and turn them in for the Club to use with this program. Our objective is

to make sure our pet information is as readily available as our own in emergency situations.

Happy Springtime, see you ALL at the picnic.

Bruce and Skelli

To The Web Master

Hi, I just moved to Sun City and read your web site. . . It's great! You have so much information listed I can hardly believe it. Thanks for all the hard work. I've been looking for dog parks and had checked at the Recreation Center and they couldn't tell me of any—I suggest maybe you post this at the centers or at least at Lakeview where people register. I do have a dog and will probably set up a time for more training in obedience and agility. She does have her TDI certificate and we've started visiting nursing homes. Thanks again for the great web site. . . please pass this praise on to all involved.

Sincerely,
Frances Benedict

***And a resounding Echo
of thanks from all of us
in the Club!***



(Continued from page 1)
card. We as club members want to be helpful to one another when in need.

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**Guest Speaker
May 16 Program:**

From AZ Search Track and Rescue, Inc. which serves community and local law enforcement agencies in searching urban, wilderness, and desert areas, and finding victims of drowning. Demo in dog arena after presentation.

Visit our beautiful

and

paw friendly website

http:

www.bestfriendsdogclub.org

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In My Opinion, By Dr. Dan Rice



Q: What is the controversy all about with Greenies that many dogs are given for their teeth?
A: Greenies are probably a fad. Somebody registered the Greenie label, so it probably pays to advertise and that's why the product is succeeding. Remember back in the mid 1950s when chlorophyll tooth paste popularity rose and fell? Remember what it did to your white shirt or blouse when it dripped on it? Well, that's not going to happen with the canine Greenies if you can believe the advertising, which claims that no staining will result from your dog eating a greenie on your white carpet.

According to advertising, Greenies are purported to: 9!) Leave the dogs' breath fresher, longer than other dental treats. (2) Be specially formulated to eliminate plaque 9!) and keep gums their healthiest. (3) Have over 52% protein, low sodium, and contain only 4% fat. Goes on to say: (4) You can't beat a healthy treat like Greenies! (5) They are available singly or in multi-packs so you can stock up! (6) Independent studies showed feeding one nutritious Greenies® per day resulted in: 62% reduction in tartar (calculus), 14% decrease in plaque formation, 33% reduction in gingivitis, 77% reduction in dental stain formation, and 31% reduction in bad breath. That's a fine bunch of data and almost too wonderful if it can all be proven. Who knows???

Don't take me wrong. I'm neither supporting Greenie use or denying its advertising data, in fact I've never used the product but may try them on my hounddog one of these days.

In His Own Words, Rick Manley

My name is Rick Manley, born in North Carolina and raised all over the country; I was an Air Force Brat. I had one dog while I was growing up and she was around for about 16 years. That was my first encounter with man's best friend.

I married in 1986 and inherited my second dog, a tri-colored collie. While in Virginia (I was in the Navy at the time) I saw an obedience demonstration going on and was very impressed so I signed the dog up and we started our journey into obedience. He was a very good learner and made me look good. In 1989 we moved to Maine where I started learning a new method of training by Volhard. It was a very nice method and I had good success with it.




After I finished my sixth year commitment with the Navy I moved to Phoenix where I developed an interest in Komondorok and Pulik. I also started training at Phoenix Field and Obedience Club (PFOC). After a couple of years of training my own dogs I started helping out with their training classes. Two years ago I was asked to teach the Best Friends Dog Club beginning classes and that is where I have remained.



Let's bark again!

Don't miss our annual Picnic April 18 at Rio Vista Park. Time to finish up on those dog costumes for the contest. Here's some of what's planned.

All kinds of doggy games:

-  tic tac toe
-  musical squares
-  bobbing for
Wieners. . . . And more.

Bring your own lunch and drink.

Check our paw friendly web site for directions and further details.