

**SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:
UPCOMING
MEETINGS**

**January 10 at 10
a.m.** Full Board
Meeting. Lakeview
Bowling Alley
Team Room.

**January 17
9 AM.** General
Meeting.

**TRAINING
SCHEDULE**

**January 14, 9-12
p.m.** Fun Match.

**Jan. 17, after
monthly meeting.**
Class Registration.

**January 18, 9
a.m.-10 a.m.** Per-
forming Agility, off
site. **11 a.m.-12
p.m.** Intermediate
Obedience, arena.

**January 19, 2-3
p.m.,** Agility-
Independent,
arena.

**January 20, 10
a.m.-11.** Novice &
Open Obedience,
arena. **3 p.m. -4
p.m.** Flyball,
arena.

January 21. Be-
ginning Obedi-
ence. ****Change****
Bring dogs to first



PAW PRINTS

Best Friends Dog Club of Sun City

January 2006

The Co-Presidents' Corner

by Skelli Dedmon and Bruce Grounds

Happy New Year!!
As is customary
this time of year we
make resolutions to
exercise more and get
rid of those extra
pounds we accumu-
lated over the holi-
days.



those basic
commands
before winter
classes start.
Registration
for all skill
levels of obe-
dience, agility,

and fly ball will be at the
general meeting January
17th, in the Arizona Room
at 9 a.m., Fairway. Please
make sure that you have
your current RCSC mem-
ber card, pay club dues for
2006 and have your "Best
Friends" license number
and shot record available
during registration. Being
prepared will speed up the
process for all members.

While making these plans
we should include our
"Best Friends" who may
have joined us during all of
the celebrations! A couple
of pounds to them may
have the same effect as 5-
10 pounds for us. Walking
is great exercise for both
and it presents the oppor-
tunity to brush up on



BFDC board members:L to R standing: Secretary Juanita
Braemer, VP Laura Palmer, Co-President Bruce Grounds,
Treasurer Judith Wallick. Seated, Co-president Skelli Dedmon

Class Registration

Class registration will be held
January 17, 2006 AFTER the
monthly meeting. We ask
that you pick up all necessary
forms that morning before
the beginning of the business
meeting and have them com-
pleted with a check made
payable to the Best Friends
Dog Club for \$25.00 per dog
per class. You will need to
show proof of shots, rabies
etc. and we need the dog li-
cense number and date of
expiration. You must be a
member of the dog club in
order to register. Before en-
rolling in the beginning agility
class you must first complete
the basic obedience class. Be
aware, many people will be
registering so please allow
yourself time. Thank You!

Visit our beautiful
and paw friendly website
<http://www.bestfriendsdogclub.org>

Fun Match

Jan. 14 from 9-12

class held in arena.
1:45 p.m.-2:45 p.m..
3 p.m.-4 p.m. 4:15-
5:15. If necessary
 first 2 classes will be
 filled before third is
 opened.

January 23. 9 a.m.-
10 a.m. Beginning
 Agility. **10:15 a.m.-**
11:15 a.m. Continu-
 ing Agility.

BFDC
BOARD OF
DIRECTORS

Skelli Dedmon,
 Bruce Grounds,
 Co-Presidents

Laura Palmer,
 Vice President

Juanita Braemer,
 Secretary

Judith Wallick,
 Treasurer

John Stevenson,
 Diana Barnum,
 Members at Large

Looking to adopt or
 purchase an adult
 Schnauzer. Please
 call Tom Seavey at
 623-546-7174.

REMINDER!!

Please send in your
membership renew-
als with a copy of
your rec card!

In My Opinion, By Dr. Dan Rice

Q: My dogs eat other dogs' poop. Help!

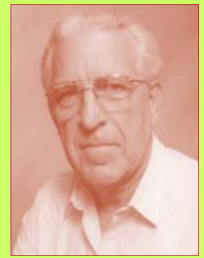
A: Coprophagy is the term applied to eating feces and that disgusting habit is not as uncommon as you might believe. In many zoo animals it's no doubt caused by boredom and primates are commonly involved. Why does it occur in animals? Any of the following causes may be the answer.

As usual, your question doesn't offer as much information as desirable. Because you haven't furnished the dogs' diet, I suppose the cause might be nutritional but probably not. Hopefully you aren't formulating the dogs' diet in your kitchen—are you? Soprophyagy may be caused by vitamin or enzyme deficiency that could be associated with hereditary dietary quirk, especially if the habit involves coprophagy of a single dog. Those causes aren't probable however if your dogs are genetically unrelated to each other and several have begun to eat feces. I'm sure that the fecal taste isn't the attraction but dogs' tastes aren't the same as ours. That's a guess—and who am I to say? (I haven't tried it.) Boredom is said by many to be the major cause of this habit. However in this case that's rather unlikely because you walk your dogs and they are getting sufficient exercise. I gather that you enjoy your leadership in play and training and interact with all your dogs regularly. In addition to boredom, other situations may –predispose to coprophagy, including crowding or eating an im-proper diet. If you are formulating a canine diet in your kitchen, stop it!

Coprophagy could lead to infestation of several serious feces-borne diseases including Parvo virus, Corona virus, Giardia, Coccidiosis, Ascariasis and various other parasites, including bacteria.

There. I've given you my opinion. Coprophagy is not only a disgusting habit—it might be a dangerous one, and in a multiple-dog family, a contracted disease could pass to all your dogs even if only one had eaten the infested feces. Coprophagy could present a major problem if one of your dogs comes into contact with the feces of a strange dog (or coyote).

What to do? There are various home remedies that can be tried. I've had best results with the addition of brewer's yeast to the diet of all involved dogs. The yeast is harmless to dogs but will give their feces a new and hopefully less attractive taste. Several products are available on pet supply shelves and some are more likely to succeed than others.



Meet Laura Palmer
Vice President



For 20 years I have bred and shown Newfoundland under the kennel name, SummerWind Newfoundlands. I have shown dogs in both confirmation and obedience in the U.S., Canada and Mexico earning water and draft titles.

I have served as President of the Idaho Capital City Kennel Cub, on the board of directors for the Newfoundland Club of America and the Northwest Bacon Club. I am currently owned by Sheramor Stargazer lily, our 4 year old Bichon Frise. I decided that after 20 years I was ready to downsize and do away with dog drool and shedding. Lily is currently enrolled in agility where she is attempting to break records in coming out the wrong end of the tunnel!

Speaking of Petiquette. . . .

Instead of a time of bonding, exercise, and fun, the basic dog walk can be a fearsome time for some. WillasArk.com reminds us that when walking your dog and encountering a stranger, it's best to keep your dog close to you, with no slack in the leash. She suggests not to let anyone pet your dog unless you know for *certain* that your dog will not bite.

Remember: if your dog bites a stranger who pets him, even without asking, you can be at fault. And, says Willa, even if you warn a stranger that he might bite and he does, you are liable.

The business of biting should never be minimized or excused. Many dogs are removed from the home to languish behind bars, can never be adopted, or are euthanized for it. Biting a human being is never acceptable behavior—not in games, not in walking. If you can't turn your best friend around, even a puppy, do him a favor, say experts, and get the help you both need.

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