

**SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:
UPCOMING
MEETINGS**

May 17, 9 AM
General
meeting

**October 11
10 AM**
Board meeting
Lakeview team
room

**October 18
9 AM**
General meet-
ing, register
for classes

**November 15
9 AM**
General meet-
ing, elections

December 13
Holiday
luncheon party

Paw Prints is published once a month. In between the time of the paper and the actual event, it's possible for times to change.

Please check our website for scheduling changes. Or call Phyllis Davis, Events Chair.



PAW PRINTS

**Best Friends Dog Club
of Sun City**

May 2005

President's Corner *By Jean Buck*

This will be the last edition of Paw Prints until the fall. Here is a message from Jean, something she found on the internet. And what better words to leave us with for the summer . . .

WHAT OUR DOGS CAN TEACH US

About Daily Living:



Keep only cheerful friends. The grouches pull you down.



Enjoy the simple things. Take a walk with your dog.



Throw out all the numbers. This includes age, weight, calories, accounts, balances and financial worth.



Surround yourself with what you love. Whether it's family, dogs, cats, keepsakes, music, plants, hobbies—whatever.



Tell someone that you love them.

This is short, but I've kept it on the refrigerator door planning to use it for some time now.

Jean, Gus and Kendra

**Get Well Soon,
Jean!**

"Dogs are not our whole life, but they do make our lives whole."

Roger Caras

In My Opinion *By Dr. Dan Rice*

Q: I am hearing contradictory advice over heartworm prevention. Is heartworm a concern here?"

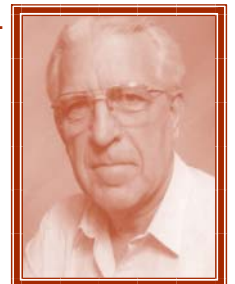
A: I can only guess if heartworm is a risk for your dog because like most questions, I don't have sufficient information to answer definitively.

In a metropolitan society such as ours your

neighbors may be from Georgia or Iceland. In warm humid climates heartworms are ubiquitous because of the mosquitoes, which act as vectors for the disease. Your neighbor's dog may have taken preventive medication regularly all his life or he may be grossly infected with heartworm. You can't tell by the looks of his dog. Heartworm larvae are

transmitted by mosquitoes and that means the deadly disease is of concern anywhere mosquitoes and a reservoir for infection (infested dog) are found. That in-

(Dr. Rice Continued on page 2)



TRAINING SCHEDULE

May 14, 9-11 AM
Fun match

September 7-9 PM
Picnic at Doris Schoeben's home w/dogs

October 14, 9-11 AM
Fun match, agility & obedience

October 17, 9 AM
Beginning Agility
10 AM Continuing agility

October 20 10 & 11 AM
Beginning obedience class
1:30 PM Intermediate obedience class

Nov. 12, 1-3 PM
Fun match, obedience & agility

Dec. 10, 1-3 PM
Fun match, obedience & agility

May I was World Laughter Day. Laughter increases blood flow to the heart. Have some dog-related humor to share? Write it on an index card and bring it to our meetings. The healthier we are, the more we are there for our dogs.



**We And Our Many Friends Barked In The Park
April 19, 2005**

In My Opinion

(Dr. Rice Continued from page 1)
cludes regions where slow-moving or stagnant water is found because the mosquitoes lay their eggs in that medium. If your dog lives in a place where mosquitoes absolutely aren't found and you don't travel with your dog to places where mosquitoes are present, the you shouldn't need to be concerned about heartworm infestation.

The Valley of the Sun is problematical. It is doubtful if heartworm is/was found in this state's dry riverbeds,

Summer Classes

Many of you have expressed interest in training classes over the summer months. We need indoor space for this. Know of anyone with a room to spare? We will be discussing this issue at our May 17 meeting. Your ideas will be welcome!

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distant lakes and reservoirs, and a virtual absence of stagnant ponds and lowland marshes. However today there are artificial breeding grounds in golf club lakes, neighborhood lakes, city lakes, and hundreds of miles of irrigation ditches with accompanying stagnant ponds. Many neighborhoods across the valley house livestock. That situation, together with necessary drinking tanks and field irrigation, also can provide breeding grounds for the treacherous little insects. If you're a dyed-in-the-wool gambler and want to bet that your pet won't be a candidate for mosquito attack, don't bother with heartworm pre-

ventive. However, I can't recommend that course of action. I think that outdoor dogs that have access to yards, parks, and so forth are at risk and should be protected. If yours is a 99% housedog, especially one with long shaggy hair (to discourage the insects), you might get by without preventive monthly doses of Heartguard.

Flyball Through May

Flyball is still Wednesdays at 4 p.m. but just for 1/2 hour due to the heat. This will be the schedule for the rest of April and first Wednesday of May. Most likely it will then change to 6 p.m. through May.

Tell Your Dog's Story

Jan and Lou Sniderman are collecting dog stories and poems to edit into a photo journal. Check the website or contact them for further information about this fun, creative summer activity.

Fun Match Saturday
May 14 from 9-11 a.m.
1 hr. agility and
1 hr. obedience. Cost \$2.

Visit our website
<http://www.bestfriendsdogclub.org>