

PAW PRINTS

BEST FRIENDS DOG CLUB OF SUN CITY SEPTEMBER 2004

PRESIDENTS CORNER

By Jean Buck

Early in the summer I was contacted by the Independent Newspaper about my opinion on the dog park near LaRonde Shopping Center. (You may remember several of you requested a dog park on the questionnaire we gave out at a Meeting in the Spring.)

I was surprised that the subject of "dogs" was on the RCSC Board meeting schedule on a following Thursday. The board was asked to reconsider their position on the property. When one individual from the audience asked about our dog training yard at 107th and Peoria, Gayle Schmidt, from the board pointed me out as president of the dog club and asked me to answer the question. I told the board and the audience about our club and invited those in the meeting with dogs to join our club so that we could work together to improve the situation for all dogs in Sun City. I told them about our training programs, and our fall schedule of classes. I also told them that our Spaces and Places Committee was presenting their long term plans for the training site with a possible indoor-outdoor room in the new Fairway Rec. Center.

I emailed the members of our club for their thinking about a dog park and received in return a variety of opinions, which I will share with you at future meetings.



THE TRAINING SCHEDULE

The time has come to sign up for classes, which will begin in the last week of October. You may register at the September 21st meeting, the meeting in October, or by calling the director of training, Dianne Needham at 974-9282.

There are 8 classes in a series that will last approximately one hour each. All classes cost \$25 and are offered to members of the club.

Class sizes will be limited to ensure balanced, quality teaching. A rabies certificate is required on registration. Check our website for a complete listing of commands to be taught at each Level of Obedience, Agility and Rally. You will find instructions for puppy owners also.

<http://www.bestfriendsdogclub.org>

LOOKING FORWARD

Dr. Dan Rice, Sun City author and former veterinarian will be writing short articles for Paw Prints in future months. If you have a question you would like answered regarding training, feeding, activity, breeding, etc. please call AJ. 933-1197; email, ajcowper@juno.com or catch me at one of the meetings with your request.

The SPACES AND PLACES

Committee submitted our request for additional enclosed square footage to the dog training yard to the RCSC Board. This proposal also included: a double gated entry to conform to insurance regulations; a request for storage space; and viewing bleachers.

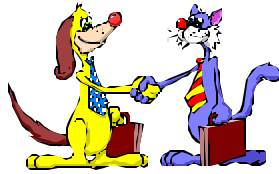
The added area and the double gated entry have been board approved. The storage space and bleacher seating have been put on hold with a suggestion from Mel Mead, Project Manager, that they be included in the Fairway Redevelopment Planning.

Construction was begun in July and will be completed well before out classes begin the last week of October.

See out class schedule and sign up information. We will attempt to post progress pictures on our website: <http://www.bestfriendsdogclub.org>



Editor:
AJ Cowper
933-1197



MAY: NEW MEMBERS

Please add these names, addresses and phone #s to your roster.

Byron Gettle
9816 N. 107th SC. '51
328-9986

Gennie Snyder
102491 Desert Hills Dr.
SC. '51
977-1701

William Cowper
10813 Manzanita Dr.
SC. '73
933-1197

Laura Palmer
10701 Emerald Dr
SC. '51
972-0353

Nancy C. Rust-Cobery
& Robert Cobery
10936 Tropicana Cir.
SC. '51
974-4456

Ethel Denver
13618 N. 98th Ave. #K
SC. '51
815-9374

Jo Harbula
& Albert Harbula
9976 W. Willow Pt
SC. '51
933-0603

WELCOME TO OUR CLUB!

I copied the following piece from Olde English Sheepdogs and Friends Rescue!

A Dog's Prayer

Treat me kindly, my beloved master for no heart in the world is more grateful for kindness than the loving heart of me.

Do not break my spirit with a stick, for though I lick your hand between the blows, your patience and understanding will more quickly teach me the things you would have me do.

Speak to me often, for your voice is the world's sweetest music, as you must know by know by the fierce wagging of my tail when your footsteps fall upon by waiting ear.

When it is cold and wet, please take me inside, for I am now a domesticated animal, no longer used to bitter elements.

And I ask no greater glory than the privilege of sitting at your feet beside the hearth.

Though had you no home, I would rather follow through ice and snow than rest upon the softest pillow in the warmest home in all the land, for you are my God, and I am your devoted worshipper.

Keep my pan filled with fresh water, for although I should not reproach you were it dry, I cannot tell you when I suffer thirst.

Feed me clean food, that I may well, to romp and play and do your bidding, to walk by your side, and stand ready, willing and able to protect you

with my life should your life be in danger.

And, beloved master, should the Great Master see fit to deprive me of my health or sight, do not turn me away from you, Rather, hold me gently in your arms as skilled hands grant me the merciful boon of eternal rest.

And I will leave you knowing with the last breath I drew, my fate was ever safest in your hands.

Written by Beth Norman Harris

SEPT. MEETING NEWS

Librarian, Julie Youngman will discuss a variety of books about dogs at the Best Friends Dog Club Meeting on September 21st at 10AM AM in the Arizona Room at Fairway Recreation Center. Coffee is offered at 9AM followed by a brief business meeting at 9:30. Ms. Youngman has gathered informational as well as fictional books for your enjoyment from the Bell Center Library.

Club members may sign up for obedience and agility training classes at the meeting or by calling Dianne Needham at 974-9282. Sign up now! The fee is \$25.

Be sure to check out our informative new website!

<http://www.bestfriendsdogclub.org> Our webmasters, Lou and Jan Sniderman have also posted links to shopping.

Please forward your favorite dog stories to me at: ajcowper@juno.com