

SUN CITY PET CLUB NEWSLETTER

"The Scoop"

February, 2024
Volume 3, Issue 2
Membership to date:
(Renewed/New) 767

Message from the President,

Welcome New and Returning Members!

We have an exciting year planned with several new dog training classes, social events, a volunteer lunch, general meetings with guest speakers, and much more.

The Pet Club has a long history working with the Pet Partners Therapy Dog program. During the past several years, we lost many Pet Partners Therapy Dog Teams for various reasons. We are looking for qualified candidates to help increase the number of therapy dog teams to support the demand to visit local hospitals and schools, etc. To learn more about Pet Partners and to find out if you and your dog qualify or to find out how to become qualified, contact Claire Peel at peelc123@gmail.com

Our first Snake Avoidance session for 2024 is coming up **Saturday, April 13**. This program is provided to teach your dog to be afraid of Rattlesnakes so he doesn't get bit. **Detailed information, ticket sale dates and reminders will be sent out soon.** Sessions after April are in June and September. To find out more about this program, contact Chickie Holt at chickholt@gmail.com

We appreciate you joining the Pet Club as we aim to provide useful pet information, good pet ownership support programs and fun activities.

Pet Club General Meeting: March 6, 2023
9:30 a.m. in the [Lone Star Room, at The Retreat](#)

Alan Kamen
President, Pet Club

Wanted:

Pet Club Webmaster

The Pet Club is looking for a Webmaster who can revitalize our current site and maintain it. Our Webmaster Ginny Patterson is retiring after many years of service to the club. **Thank you, Ginny!**

For more information about this position, contact Alan Kamen at 409-354-1292 or alankamen5253@icloud.com

Donations Leader

Our Donations Program Leader receives donated pet items, inventories them, and loans them out to Pet Club members at no charge. Extra items and equipment are donated to local shelters. You must have storage space in your garage. Full training is available. This is a rewarding position helping others.

For more information about this position, contact Diane Daniel at 512-868-7393 or dadaniel261@msn.com

Dog Trainers

We are always in need of people who want to learn how to become a Dog Trainer. The Pet Club provides over 130 dog training classes annually to members. No previous dog training knowledge is required, only patience, willingness to work with all breeds and good people skills. Learn a valuable skill, how to communicate with dogs. We currently have 15 trainers on our team and are looking for more to help expand this great program.

For more information about this position, contact Ruth Olsen at 512-639-1771 or 6pawstraining@gmail.com

Animal Shelter of the Month

Harley's Angels Sanctuary

FUN FACTS ABOUT HARLEY'S

Harley's, a registered 501c3, relies solely on donations to care for over 50 dogs and cats. Harley's does not receive any type of funding or sponsorship and is owned and operated solely by volunteers. The founders also work nights cleaning banks, churches, and offices.

Harley is a 13-year-old Weimaraner & Staffordshire Mix.

He is the namesake of the nonprofit as he saved Regina from the housefire that destroyed their home. He is the reason Regina and Gary decided to devote their lives to rescuing dogs and cats.

Each animal lives in a climate-controlled cottage.

All animals come to Harley's from various shelters & kill facilities across Texas. The focus is on those that are overlooked or considered un-adoptable due to temperament, medical challenges or are at risk for euthanasia.

Harley's also aids Animal Control agencies with emergency intakes.

CONTACT US & DONATE HERE

www.facebook.com/harleysangelssanctuary

www.harleysangelssanctuary.org

Harley's Angels



Sanctuary

* SUN CITY *

YOU have sustained us through tough times and provide hope for the future of our residents and Sanctuary.

Thank YOU!

WE NEED YOU!

- VOLUNTEERS
- ON SITE CHORES
- DOG WALKERS
- GRANT WRITER(S)
- FUNDRAISING
- ADOPTION EVENTS
- CARPENTRY

Average Monthly Expenses

Electric: \$700

Water: \$600

Groceries: \$1,300

...plus Vet and Other Supplies

DONATION NEEDS

DONATION DROP OFF SITE IN SUN CITY

LISA DIXON

214 Yellow Rose Trail, Sun City

Phone/Text: (713) 444-6499

Email: lisadixon47@yahoo.com

Meat & Vegetables - we will gladly take your meat & veggies (fresh/frozen). We feed a fresh raw and cooked diet. (Beef, chicken, pork, sausage, fish, wild game, organs). There is an ice chest on Lisa's front porch and it is checked many times a day.

Building Supplies - Lumber, insulation, tin roofing sealant, sheathing, tools, hinges, latches, paint

Fence Panels

Kennels

Outdoor Rugs

Sunshades

Astroturf

Pools or water tanks

Buckets

Pooper Scoopers

Toys

Cat Food

Cat Litter

Cat Toys, Treats & Trees

Pee Pads

Supplements

Linens

Foster Families

Transporters

Monetary donations - to help with food, electricity, veterinary care, medicines, and repairs/upgrades to the sanctuary.

DOG TRAINERS NEEDED

The Pet Club has almost 1,000 members. That is a lot of dogs that need training, and we want to be able to offer classes to everyone who wants them, on their schedule and in a timely manner.

Fees for dog training are high - often \$100 or more per hour outside of Sun City. We keep our fees low -- \$30 for three 45-minute sessions. We also have a high ratio of trainers to dogs. We have a trainer for every two dogs. That allows a lot of individual help as needed.

Currently, we offer three obedience-level classes to teach the basic skills and advanced level classes. such as: Canine Good Citizen, Rally, and, coming soon, Canine Enrichment. In 2024, we are opening a new program called Training Clinic where you set up a 15-minute 1:1 appointment with a trainer on one specific issue that you have with your dog. Monthly, the club offers two Educational Seminars - one for dogs over one-year-old and one for younger dogs or new dogs in a household. These seminars are held monthly and open to anyone in Sun City for a small fee.

As our club grows, so does the need for more dog trainers. To become a trainer, contact Lead Dog Trainer, Ruth Olsen, 512 639 1771. Here are the steps:

- 1) Phone interview with Ruth
- 2) Attend four 2-hour group lecture classes
- 3) Observe Obedience and Advanced level classes
- 4) Observe Educational Seminars
- 5) Start training with Ruth
- 6) Continued training with other trainers

.....DOG TRAINERS NEEDED

Requirements are simple - no prior knowledge of dog training is required! You must like dogs and people; be willing to work with all breeds of dogs; be willing to learn the class lessons; be able to train at least one class a month - more if able; must be able to move tables and chairs as needed; attend 2-3 meetings a year; have access and utilize email and text; work well with others and want to have FUN.

In 2023, we had 18 trainers who taught 154 classes and 444 dogs. As our club grows, we have the need for more classes, so we need more trainers.

Please consider joining us in the adventure of dog training (ummm people training!) by becoming a Pet Club Dog Trainer. The next "Train the Trainer" session will start in March 2024. There is no cost involved; you will be provided with necessary supplies by the club.

For more information about How To Become a Dog Trainer, contact Ruth Olsen at [512-639-1771](tel:512-639-1771) or 6pawstraining@gmail.com

Shelters and Organizations the Pet Club Supports

**Williamson County Regional
Animal Shelter**
wcras@wilco.org pets.wilco.org

Georgetown Animal Shelter
animalsvc@georgetown.org
pets.georgetown.org

Living Grace Canine Ranch
karen@livinggracecanineranch.org

Harley's Angels
harleysangelssanctuary@yahoo.com

Texas Humane Heroes
info@txhh.org

All Things Wild
allthingswildrehab@gmail.com

Austin Siamese Rescue
loveasiamese@gmail.com

R.O.C.K.
karah@rockride.org

Pet Partners
petpartners.org

Georgetown Animal Outreach
txcodigirl@gmail.com

Canine Companions
canine.org

Service Dogs, Inc. Sheri Soltres
sheri@servicedogs.org

Sun City Lost Pet Alert System

Sign up to receive Lost Pet Alerts
to help get a lost pet home safely!!

Instructions To Receive Lost Pet Alerts

1. Sign on to your [SC Website/Resident Page](#)
2. On the left, Click on [My Preferences](#)
3. Scroll down to [EMAIL PREFERENCES](#)
4. Check box for [NRO Lost Pet Alerts](#)
5. Click on [SAVE DATA](#)

To Report a Lost or Found Pet

Click on the Lost Pet Icon on the SC Resident Home page.

Follow the instructions to fill out the Form for either a Lost Pet or a Found Pet.



Cat Corner

Nesting Behavior

When an expectant feline mother is in her final weeks of pregnancy, she will seek out potential sites for giving birth. She may root around in closets or cupboards and even appear to be cleaning house-preparing soft material such as blankets or pillows by kneading them. She will continue to search and try out new places until she finds the one that she deems just right. When labor begins, she will return to this chosen spot to deliver her kittens.

Kittens Grow Overnight

When kittens sleep, they release an important growth hormone called dehydroepiandrosterone or DHEA. Kittens are born blind and deaf, but have a strong sense of smell and a strong sucking reflex.

Astronomer, Physicist, and Cat Owner Sir Isaac Newton

Scientist Sir Isaac Newton (1643 - 1727) is credited with inventing the cat door. The story goes that Newton wanted his cats to have access to every room, including the dark room that he used for optical experiments. Newton cut a hole that his cat could pass through and a smaller hole for her kittens. He hung a black cloth over the openings to keep the light out, thereby inventing the first cat flap or cat door.

From Author Tammy Gagne



IF A CUSTOMER CAN'T REACH AN ITEM, JUMP ON THE SHELF AND KNOCK IT DOWN.

I KNEW THIS JOB WOULD HAVE PERKS.

Dog Education Series

Open to All Sun City Residents

Presented by Ruth Olsen of the Pet Club

The purpose of this monthly series is to discuss topics that are not covered in dog training classes. **Come without your dog**, but bring questions, issues, or problems you are dealing with. Topics vary monthly depending on the attendees.

A \$5 donation for each class is suggested for up to 2 people per household to attend.
Pay at the seminar.

Q&A - For issues with dogs 1 year and older. Got a problem? Get a solution! Topics often include proper leash walking, jumping, barking, licking, crates, digging, and many more.

Puppy - Same as Q&A but focused on issues with dogs under 1 year old or someone thinking about getting a new dog of any age.

Date	Location	Dog Q&A	Puppy Q&A
Feb 8	Mesquite Room, The Oaks	9:30-10:30	10:45-11:45
March 14	Mesquite Room, The Oaks	9:30-10:30	10:45-11:45
April 11	Oaks Room, The Oaks	9:30-10:30	10:45-11:45
May 9	Oaks Room, The Oaks	9:30-10:30	10:45-11:45
June 13	Mesquite Room, The Oaks	9:30-10:30	10:45-11:45
July 11	Oaks Room, The Oaks	9:30-10:30	10:45-11:45
Aug 8	Mesquite Room, The Oaks	9:30-10:30	10:45-11:45
Sept 12	Mesquite Room, The Oaks	9:30-10:30	10:45-11:45
Oct 10	Oaks Room, The Oaks	9:30-10:30	10:45-11:45
Nov 14	Mesquite Room, The Oaks	9:30-10:30	10:45-11:45

If you need more information, contact Ruth Olsen, Pet Club Lead Dog Trainer
6pawstraining@gmail.com or 512 639 1771

Pet Club Board and Program Leaders

Board:

President: Alan Kamen, **Vice President:** Liz Wommack,
Treasurer: Karen Davenport, **Secretary:** Pam Sarantos,
Special Projects/Events: Ruth Olsen, **Board Member at Large:** Chickie Holt

Leaders:

Dog Training: Ruth Olsen, **Snake Avoidance:** Chickie Holt,
All About Cats: Karyn Beavers, **Donations:** Diane Daniel
Photography: Anne Marshall, **Webmaster:** Ginny Patterson,
Membership: Verne Palmer, **Pet Emergency Evacuation:** Sharon Dunning



**"My life philosophy can be expressed thusly:
I like naps, and don't share laps."**

