

# SUN CITY PET CLUB NEWSLETTER

## "The Scoop"

July, 2024  
Volume 3, Issue 7  
Membership to date:  
992

### How To Ensure Both Residents of a Household are Members and Receive Pet Club Information

After one person has joined and you wish to add another from the same household, sign on to your Resident Home Page, click on BUY/RENEW MEMBERSHIPS. Find Pet Club, the other person should check the second "Add" box. The membership fee is only \$12 per household, you will not be charged twice.

**Both boxes must be checked for both people to receive emails, Pet Club information, event and dog training announcements, etc.**



Keeping  
Cool



# Animal Organization of the Month

## Furrbaby

As a community-based group, our goal is to offer support during times of financial hardship to help keep pet families together and their pets out of the shelter. Your donations will go toward pet food purchases, pet supplies, and other pantry items to help keep the pantry stocked for members in need. We are a local nonprofit organization and rely solely on donations. Thank you for your kindness!

If you would like to support our mission, find ways you can donate below.

Contact us to find out how you can volunteer!!

### Monetary Donations:

<https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/donation-form/8d33d949-7123-4557-9d8e-f3a3f268443f>

### Amazon Wish List:

[https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2RW25AVO99XXX?ref=wl\\_share&fbclid=IwAR2142ir4o1v-Q3DUjjdGVNx3FQLM2g3vBAW0nU4sJtQERrDqRoyJotQZ-g](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2RW25AVO99XXX?ref=wl_share&fbclid=IwAR2142ir4o1v-Q3DUjjdGVNx3FQLM2g3vBAW0nU4sJtQERrDqRoyJotQZ-g)

### Chewy Wish List:

[https://www.chewy.com/g/furrbaby-food-pantry\\_b111361653?fbclid=IwAR0EyOK3\\_QvcIROI\\_4eFLRztiOz077Gv7gMPsiYIVsVHTp\\_EggGOcgTRXX8#wish-list&wishlistsortby=DEFAULT](https://www.chewy.com/g/furrbaby-food-pantry_b111361653?fbclid=IwAR0EyOK3_QvcIROI_4eFLRztiOz077Gv7gMPsiYIVsVHTp_EggGOcgTRXX8#wish-list&wishlistsortby=DEFAULT)

### Follow us at:

Furrbaby Food Pantry Community Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100095411958913>

Furrbaby Food Pantry of Granger and Surrounding areas: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/215447787846138>

Furrbaby Food Pantry of Georgetown Community Page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/328189632400224>

Korri M. Bindl

President & Founder of Furrbaby Food Pantry

Open Sunday - Friday 11am -2pm

(626) 536-0979

1603 Northwest Blvd Georgetown TX 78626

[Furrbabyfoodpantry.org](http://Furrbabyfoodpantry.org)



# Submitting Pet Club Articles to Any Publication

We are always grateful for coverage of Pet Club events in the various Sun City publications. We sometimes have members who wish to contribute by sending in photos or articles to the Sun Rays, NRO Bulletin, etc., and we want to encourage that. Often it is your candid photos and personal observations which are the most interesting to others.

However, we ask that you please first send it to Alan Kamen or Ruth Olsen to ensure accuracy in all communications representing the Pet Club. We will then submit it to the Sun City publications.

We hope you understand and appreciate this policy for the benefit of the Pet Club. If anyone has any questions, feel free to contact me.

Thank you,

Alan Kamen  
President, Pet Club



## Pet Organizations the Pet Club Supports

**Williamson County Regional  
Animal Shelter**  
[wcras@wilco.org](mailto:wcras@wilco.org)

**Georgetown Animal Shelter**  
[animalsvc@georgetown.org](mailto:animalsvc@georgetown.org)  
[pets.georgetown.org](http://pets.georgetown.org)

**Living Grace Canine Ranch**  
[karen@livinggracecanineranch.org](mailto:karen@livinggracecanineranch.org)

**Harley's Angels**  
[harleysangelssanctuary@yahoo.com](mailto:harleysangelssanctuary@yahoo.com)

**Texas Humane Heroes**  
[info@txhh.org](mailto:info@txhh.org)

**All Things Wild**  
[allthingswildrehab@gmail.com](mailto:allthingswildrehab@gmail.com)

**Austin Siamese Rescue**  
[loveasiamese@gmail.com](mailto:loveasiamese@gmail.com)

**Furrbaby Food Pantry (New)**  
[furrbabyfoodpantry@gmail.com](mailto:furrbabyfoodpantry@gmail.com)

**R.O.C.K.**  
[karah@rockride.org](mailto:karah@rockride.org)

**Pet Partners**  
[petpartners.org](http://petpartners.org)

**Canine Companions**  
[canine.org](http://canine.org)

**Service Dogs, Inc. Sheri Soltes**  
[sheri@servicedogs.org](mailto:sheri@servicedogs.org)

**Blue Moon Animal Sanctuary**  
[info@bluemoonrescue.org](mailto:info@bluemoonrescue.org)

# Dog Treat Rewards

Rewards are important to help your dog understand they did something correct during training. We generally use two methods—hand signal (YES) and treats. But every now and then we get a dog who has no interest in treats.

## Here are the top 10 reasons why dogs don't want treats and how we can change it.

10. **Your dog is a "singleton."** Meaning, it was the only pup in a litter and did not have to fight for food so food has a very low value. Honestly, we can't change that status.
9. **Fear or anxiety.** Most dogs will not take a treat or even their favorite food if they are scared, or overanxious, especially in a dog class. If your dog is stressed in class, let the trainer know so we can help you calm the dog down or change your approach if needed. It is important that you keep all training sessions calm yet upbeat.
8. **Highly stimulated, aroused or an overwhelming environment.** Again, class environment. But also if there is lots going on or the dog has just had a long run or sees other dogs that excite him.
7. **Health issues.** Does your dog have pain, GI issues, allergies, teeth problems? Check with your vet.
6. **Food hygiene.** Make sure the food dishes are clean and the food is fresh. Dog food does spoil if it is old. If you get a large bag, put it in a sealed package once opened, or freeze it.
5. **Too LITTLE daily activity.** Is your dog a couch potato? Does it go on long exciting walks, play ball, run in the yard, play hide and seek with you daily? If not, it needs more exercise to stimulate hunger. Dog exercise is good for you, too. Spend time with stimulating play with your dog.
4. **Value of treats.** Cheerios vs steak? Which would you want? Mix it up, try smelly treats, put a few different food items on a paper plate, see which one the dog takes first. Ask friends to share some of their treats and see what your dog wants.
3. **Deliverance.** Just handing it to your dog in a bored manner is not stimulating. Ice cream at a ice cream shop is much more fun than a bowl of plain ice cream on the kitchen table. Show some excitement when delivering the treat. Try a Snuffle Rug to entice him to hunt for food.

2. **Food refusal.** Your dog has taught YOU to keep going up the food chain to get what he wants. If offered the cheerio - I would wait it out for the delivery of steak too. A dog will NOT starve. Hold back food and treats for a few hours (up to 12) and see what happens. Food can become magic again.

**AND THE MOST COMMON REASON:**

1. **Overfeeding or constant feeding.** Too much throughout the day such as "free feeding" (aka dish on floor all day). The dog does not learn the feeling of hunger, so herefuses treats or only eats a tiny bit at a time. Dogs should be fed on a schedule, and treats (other than at training time) should be limited. Treats in class should be very small and soft for easy fast consumption. Do not feed your dog at least 3 hours before class; hungry dogs work harder to get the treats.

If your dog is not treat motivated, look at the above and think - what category (or categories) is my issue and make adjustments.

If you want tips of how to play games to show your dog value of treats, contact Ruth Olsen at [dogtrainingsctx@gmail.com](mailto:dogtrainingsctx@gmail.com)







# All About Cats

## With All Due Respect

Cats were held in in such high regard in ancient Egypt that they ultimately achieved divine status and were treated with enormous respect.

- \* In ancient Egypt, the crime of killing a cat was punishable by death.
- \* Ancient Egyptians shaved their eyebrows as a sign of mourning when one of their cats died.
- \* In the 5th century B.C.E. when Persian soldiers attacked the Egyptian city of Pelusium, the soldiers positioned at the front line carried live cats as they marched toward the city walls. Just as the Persians predicted, the Egyptians chose to surrender instead of risking the lives of the revered felines.

As a sign of respect for the species, ancient Egyptian artists always depicted cats either hunting or seated in an upright position, never sleeping. Pet Name...The first known cat to be given a name was Bouhaki, who appears in Egyptian carvings as early as 1950 B.C.E.

The Egyptian Mau is a spotted cat, similar to those pictured in ancient Egyptian scrolls and cartoons.

The Egyptian word "Mau" was the ancient Egyptian word for cat, and also meant "to see" or "to foretell".

The Egyptians considered that the cat's unblinking gaze gave it powers to seek out truth and to see the afterlife.

Article from Amazing Cat Facts and Trivia. Tammy Gagne

Submitted by Karyn Beavers



# 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.

**All Seminars listed below are at The Oaks,  
301 Del Webb Blvd.**

Date	Location	Q&A	Puppy
July 11	Oaks Room	9:30-10:30	10:45-11:45
Aug 8	Mesquite Room	9:30-10:30	10:45-11:45
Sept 12	Mesquite Room	9:30-10:30	10:45-11:45
Oct 10	Oaks Room	9:30-10:30	10:45-11:45
Nov 14	Mesquite Room	9:30-10:30	10:45-11:45

If you need more information, contact Ruth Olsen, Pet Club Lead Dog Trainer  
[dogtrainingsctx@gmail.com](mailto:dogtrainingsctx@gmail.com) or 512 639 1771



# Puppy Stroller Socialization Program

The Pet Club recently announced this new program for dogs from 8 weeks until they receive all their shots. By utilizing a dog stroller, the owner can take their new pups outside to be socialized to sights, sounds, people, other dogs etc. while being safe until their shots are completed. Club members can borrow a stroller to help their pup learn their environment to decrease fear and become more confident, independent dogs!

## We Need Dog Strollers

Do you have a dog stroller you want to get rid of?

Sick of looking at it in your garage??

It needs to be in good condition so we can safely pass it on to a club member.

If you would like to donate one to the Pet Club, notify me and I will arrange to pick it up from you at your convenience.

Ruth Olsen

Lead Dog Trainer

512 639 1771

[dogtrainingsctx@gmail.com](mailto:dogtrainingsctx@gmail.com)

# Lost Pet Alert System

The Pet Club manages and operates the **Lost Pet Alert System**. All Lost and Found Pet Reports come to the Pet Club to be sent out to everyone who has opted in to receive the report.

Currently over 1,200 residents receive the report.

We would appreciate that **ALL MEMBERS** please **Opt In** to receive the email alerts to help locate a lost pet.

**Ask your Sun City friends and neighbors to Opt In.**  
**You don't have to be a Pet Club member.**

## 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.



# TOO HOT FOR SPOT!

AIR TEMPERATURE	—	ASPHALT TEMPERATURE
77°	—	125°
86°	—	135°
87°	—	143°

 CRAZYREBELS.COM

BE AWARE OF HOT ASPHALT  
BEFORE WALKING YOUR DOG

Data Source: Berens J. Thermal contact burns from streets and highways.  
Journal of the American Medical Association; 214 (11): 2025-2027.

# Warning!

## Asphalt Too Hot!

At this time of year, everywhere you go you see people walking their dogs. But on the really hot summer days - 75 degrees and higher - you can't help but wince when you see dogs being walked on streets and sidewalks. Their paw pads are akin to having really callused feet, so remember, if it's too hot for you to walk barefoot, it's too hot for them.

Please share so others are aware!

Pads aren't always visibly burned when a dog's been injured. Here are some symptoms that those toes have been toasted:

- Limping or refusing to walk
- Redness or darkening of the pads
- Swelling or blisters
- Excessive licking and chewing of the feet

You don't want to keep your dogs cooped up when the weather is phenomenal, so how can you help keep them safe? Well, in addition to making sure that you keep them hydrated on their walks, you can also protect their tootsies.

- Stick to the five second rule - if you can't hold the back of your hand on the asphalt or pavement for at least five seconds, it's too hot to walk your dog.
- Try to take walks during the coolest times of the day - early morning and late evening.

Source: Online

# How to De-Skunk Your Pet



## Steps To Take When Your Dog Gets Sprayed by a Skunk

### 1. Check Your Dog's Eyes

If your dog's eyes are red or irritated, flush them immediately with cool water. You can also flush their eyes with a dog-safe [veterinary eyewash product](#), and if you live in an area where skunks are common, it may be a good idea to keep this product on hand.

### 2. Remove Skunk Oil From Your Dog's Coat

Bathe your dog outdoors or in a space outside your home (like a garage or barn) if possible, which helps avoid getting skunk smell inside your house. The most common household remedy to get rid of skunk odor used to be a tomato juice bath, although it had limited success. For effectiveness, we recommend a [top-rated skunk shampoo made for dogs](#). Today, there are many effective [de-skunking products](#) on the market, as well as a simple DIY formula you can make with products commonly at hand.

### 3. DIY Skunk Shampoo Recipe

- 1 quart of [3% hydrogen peroxide solution](#) (found at any pharmacy or supermarket)
- 1/4 cup of [baking soda](#)
- 1 teaspoon of [liquid dishwashing soap](#)

Wearing [rubber gloves](#), work the solution into your dog's coat, washing them thoroughly. Don't leave the solution on their fur for too long, since peroxide can bleach the fur. Then [rinse completely](#). You might have to repeat the process more than once.

If you don't have these ingredients on hand, the next best option is one of the old-time remedies, like white vinegar diluted with water. While not as effective, it may still help clean some of the skunk oils off of your dog and reduce the smell.



## 4. Shampoo Your Dog

Use a [regular dog shampoo](#) or [skunk dog shampoo](#) again to remove any residual solution and to leave your dog smelling clean. Always rinse thoroughly.

## 5. Towel-Dry Your Dog

After washing your dog, dry them off with a [absorbent dog towel](#). Let your pet finish drying in a warm room.

## 6. Wash Your Clothes

If any of the skunk smell gets on you during the bathing process, wash your clothes in regular laundry detergent boosted by 1/2 cup of baking soda, or find a skunk odor remover that works in washing machines.

### Things to Note When Your Dog Gets Sprayed by a Skunk

- Use the DIY mixture described above immediately after mixing. Do not store it. It can explode if kept in a closed container.
- Be careful not to get any of the products, solutions or shampoos in your dog's eyes.
- Don't leave the mixture on your dog's coat for too long. Peroxide may bleach your dog's fur.
- Don't use a hydrogen peroxide solution stronger than 3%, as it can irritate your dog's skin.
- It may be impossible to get rid of the odor completely, especially if your dog is sprayed in the face.

Short of somehow training your dog to stay at least 15 feet away from skunks, your best bet for dealing with skunk spray is to have these [skunk products](#), [skunk smell shampoos](#), and [dog skunk odor remover spray](#) on hand

### Note:

#### Supplies to keep on hand to be ready:

3% Hydrogen Peroxide

Baking Soda

Dawn Liquid Detergent

Towels, only used for your pet

#### Information from American Kennel Club:

<https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/health/dog-sprayed-by-skunk/>

This remedy is one of many available online.







# Canine Courtesy

Clean up after your dog, whether in your yard or in a public place.  
People take pride in a clean community.

Train your dog to avoid excessive barking.  
Barking dogs can become a nuisance to the neighborhood.

Keep your dog on a leash when walking in a public area.  
People appreciate well-mannered dogs who are under control.

Make sure your dog does not run loose in the neighborhood.  
It's dangerous for the dog and the community.

Teach your dog to accept friendly strangers, such as neighbors and delivery people.  
No one likes to be greeted by a noisy, snarling dog.

Keep your dog clean and well groomed. People appreciate dogs without fleas.

Take necessary precautions to assure your dog  
does no harm to your neighbor's gardens or property.  
This will make for a better friendship and save you money.

Confine your dogs to prevent unwanted litters.

Help your dog become a Canine Good Citizen®.  
For more information visit:

[www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org)



AMERICAN  
KENNEL CLUB™



## 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  
Pass It On/Recycle: Becky Patterson  
Photography: Anne Marshall  
Webmaster: Jaye Turney  
Membership: Verne Palmer  
Pet Emergency Evacuation:  
Sharon Dunning

## Bulletin Board

To post a pet-related ad on  
the Bulletin Board, Contact  
Alan Kamen at  
[petclubstx@gmail.com](mailto:petclubstx@gmail.com)

As of May 1, 2024, we will  
no longer advertise for  
anyone looking for a pet, or  
help re-home a pet.

## NEW Website List

We are identifying local  
Veterinarians and 24-hour  
Vets who carry the  
Rattlesnake anti-venom  
in case your pet is bitten.

Always call first to  
ensure they have it in  
stock so not to waste time  
to help your pet. The  
Veterinarian List is on the  
Pet Club Website under Pet  
Care Services.

