

# SUN CITY PET CLUB NEWSLETTER

## "The Scoop"

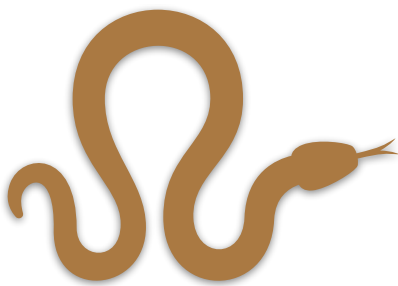
April, 2024  
Volume 3, Issue 4  
Membership to date:  
921



### SNAKE AVOIDANCE

*Learn About Training*

Go to the Pet Club Website to learn all about our Snake Avoidance Program.



### Spring Is Rattlesnake

### Season

## Snake Avoidance

**April 3** is the last day to purchase tickets for the Rattlesnake Avoidance Training and re-testing. Tickets available online or at the Resident Services Office in the Social Center, 2 Texas Drive. Copperhead and Water Moccasin snake training will also be available. This important training to help protect your pet is only available to Pet Club Members.

**Snake Avoidance Training Day,**  
**Saturday, April 13.**

For more information, contact Chickie Holt at [chickholt@gmail.com](mailto:chickholt@gmail.com)



**DOG & CAT  
CHIP READING CLINIC  
MAY 7, 2024**

We are having the Georgetown Fire Dept. and a Georgetown Animal Control officer help us check your pet's current chip information.

**This is a FREE clinic for Pet Club Members Only!**

Details, room and scheduling information will be coming out soon!

# **NEW! Pet Club Refund Policy**

## **Effective March 1, 2024**

**There are NO refunds for any tickets purchased for events or dog training classes after the time of purchase.**

### **All Dog Training Classes:**

If you purchased a ticket from the "ticket" system online or at the Member Services Office and you wish to cancel for any reason, there are NO refunds. If you want to re-sell your ticket, contact the Lead Dog Trainer. After the ticket sales end, you will be provided with a wait list. It will be up to you to contact someone on the list to give or re-sell the ticket. Tickets cannot be sold to anyone who is not on the list. Seller must notify the Lead Dog Trainer of the person who received the ticket or if you choose not to sell your ticket.

### **All Events:**

If you purchased a ticket from the "ticket" system online or at the Member Services Office and wish to cancel for any reason, there are NO refunds. You can sell your ticket to any Pet Club Member. Seller must notify the Special Projects Leader of the person who purchased the ticket.

If you wish to not re-sell any ticket you purchased, it can become a donation to the Pet Club.

Ruth Olsen, Lead Dog Trainer/Special Projects Leader  
[dogtrainingsctx@gmail.com](mailto:dogtrainingsctx@gmail.com)

# Animal Shelter/Organization of the Month

## Williamson County Regional Animal Shelter

### WCRAS FACTS:

Williamson County Regional Animal Shelter is the only shelter solely devoted to the lost and abandoned animals of Williamson County, Round Rock, Cedar Park, Leander, and Hutto. Our mission is to provide a safe haven, with compassionate and humane treatment, for the lost and unwanted pets in our jurisdiction. It is our vision to save every healthy and behaviorally sound companion animal, to save all dogs and cats that can be medically treated and behaviorally rehabilitated and who do not pose a public health and safety risk.

Did You Know? WCRAS has maintained "no kill" status for 14 years running? It's true! Even though we are an open-intake shelter who has not closed our doors to the public, we have saved 90% or more of the animals who come to us, thanks to the support from the community, including our friends there in Sun City!

### CONTACT US & DONATE HERE:

[www.wilcotx.gov/  
pets](http://www.wilcotx.gov/pets)



Thank you, Sun City Pet Club, for the multitude of support and donations! You've helped us through many crises by supplying urgently needed items at a moment's notice! We are so grateful for the support.

### MORE WAYS TO HELP!

Volunteers needed to:

- Walk Dogs
- Wash Dishes
- Do Laundry
- Socialize Cats
- Help at Off-Site Events
- Assist with Fundraising Events

**Fosters are welcome! Fostering opportunities include:**

Foster a future or existing family; puppies, kittens, with or without mommas.

Foster an adult dog to help us make space.

Foster a pet with medical or behavior needs.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Bets For Pets Casino Night is coming up on April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024, from 6-10pm. This fun-filled event is being held at Nyle Maxwell's Vehicles Unique and will benefit the shelter's medical fund, known as Jane's Fund. Jane's Fund is used to provide elevated care to the sick and injured pets brought to the shelter. Many of the animals we are able to help benefit from this fund, and the shelter relies heavily on it to continue our lifesaving mission. We hope you'll attend! What's in store: Fun casino games, just like in Las Vegas; food from Love At First Bite; drinks; and prizes!

Tickets are just \$60. To purchase yours, visit our dedicated fundraiser website here: <https://bets4pets24.givesmart.com>.

**Questions? Email**  
[april.peiffer@wilco.org](mailto:april.peiffer@wilco.org).



**March 6, 2024 General Meeting.**  
**Guest Speaker:**  
**Officer Angela Jones, Georgetown Animal Services**

Officer Jones gave a great, fun, informative presentation of what the Georgetown Animal Services does. She fielded many questions and here are three that stood out.

**Extended (Flexi) Leashes:** Are these considered legal?

**Answer: NO** If your dog is involved in any incident while on an Extended Leash, it is considered an "animal at large" (not in control) and you can be cited. A 6ft leash or less is required (Chapter 7.01, Definitions) for your dog to be considered under your control. Extended leashes are also dangerous to the handler. Your dog can more easily pull someone down or get itself wrapped around your legs.

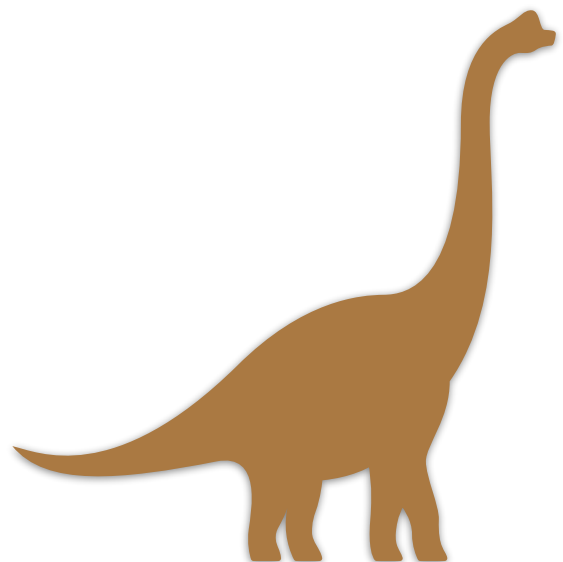
**Dog and Cat Licenses:** It is a City Ordinance that all dogs and cats must be licensed. It is **FREE** to anyone 65 or older, one pet per person. If your pet ends up at the shelter and cannot be ID'd through a chip or a collar with tags, it will be available for adoption in only 3 days. If they do have identification, they are held for 7 days. You can acquire a dog or cat license online or at the GTAS or WILCO animal shelters. Proof of rabies vaccine is required to apply for a license.

**Loose Dogs and Cats:** Sun City's HOA Pet Ordinance is more strict than the City of Georgetown's. HOA rule: "Dogs must be on a leash at all times whenever outside of a fenced area. All dogs must be controlled so as not to interfere with or pose a threat to any Person or other animal, whether wild or domestic."

**"No pets will be allowed to roam free in common or residential areas."**

Below is a link to the City of Georgetown's Pet Ordinances:

[https://library.municode.com/tx/georgetown/codes/code\\_of\\_ordinances?nodeId=COOR\\_TIT7AN](https://library.municode.com/tx/georgetown/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=COOR_TIT7AN)




If you see one these in your backyard, call Animal Control at 512-930-3510 x6

# All About Cats

Grooming pollen off their fur can lead to poisoning.

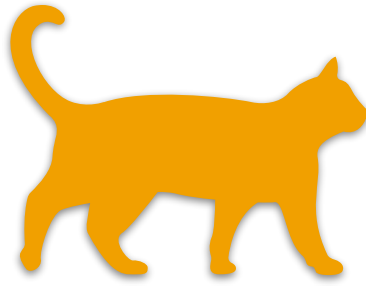
Eating less than one leaf or flower can cause kidney failure!

EASTER LILIES KILL KITTIES

 cathealth.com

**Keep Easter Lilies out of Your Home If You Have Cats!**

<http://www.cathealth.com/toxic-items/easter-lilies-a-holiday-hazard-for-cats>



## Identifying Poisonous Lilies

Some lilies can be extremely dangerous to cats—even just exposure to their pollen can lead to acute kidney injury or toxicosis. Learn which lilies pose the most risk for your feline friend:

Exposure to these lilies can lead to acute kidney injury. The most common clinical signs to watch out for include vomiting, anorexia, and depression.



Exposure to these flowers does not result in acute kidney injury but can still make your pet sick.

**Call your veterinarian or the ASPCA® Animal Poison Control Center if your cat has any exposure to a lily. It is imperative that an accurate identification is made to determine toxicity risk and treatment needed, so take pictures of the flowers, stem, and leaves to help experts identify the plant.**

For more information, visit [aspc.org/apcc](https://www.aspc.org/apcc)



**ASPCA** | (888) 426-4435  
Animal Poison Control Center



**Editor's Note:** Lilies are not as poisonous for dogs, but some varieties are toxic for dogs and could make them sick. Many Spring flowers are toxic. [rover.com](https://www.rover.com)



# 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	Q&A	Puppy
<b>April 11</b>	<b>Oaks Room, The Oaks</b>	<b>9:30-10:30</b>	<b>10:45-11:45</b>
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  
[dogtrainingsctx@gmail.com](mailto:dogtrainingsctx@gmail.com) or 512 639 1771

# Building Confidence

written by Ruth Olsen

## Five Tips to help insecure, fearful, or submissive dogs gain confidence and improve their quality of life in our world.

1. Eliminate scary triggers. Identify what scares your dog. Once you know, you can start to help him. The first step is to eliminate his exposure to scary objects, sounds, and sights. Eventually you will slowly re-introduce your dog to desensitize him at a later time. (See #5)
2. Make everyday life predictable. Work on keeping his routine the same, every hour, every day and every activity. Consistency is vital for a calm, relaxed dog. By doing this, your dog's arousal and fear will be lower, and he will be more able to accept what life throws at him. Always talk to your dog in a calm, soothing voice (not baby talk) to build his confidence in you - so he understands that you are in control of situations.
3. Build your dog's trust in you. You are his guide; you are the person who will help him learn that life is unpredictable but you can manage it together. Don't rush him on a walk; let him sniff to get relaxed. Don't raise your voice near or at him for wrong behavior. Respect your dog's body language and allow him more control in his own life.
4. Do simple training at home. Training = confidence. When a dog knows what you want, he can do it. If he has no idea what you want, he will often do the wrong thing. If he wants the food dish put down, he has to SIT. If he wants a treat, he needs to go DOWN. Doing little training sessions (1-2 minutes) throughout the day engages your dog and builds confidences in himself and you.
5. Set up scary triggers carefully. Life is unpredictable, and we cannot always expect it to go perfectly. Always have a Plan B, Plan C and, yes, Plan D! If you get stressed, so will your dog. If you show fear, so will your dog. Keep the 'scary' triggers at a distance and relax and direct your dog correctly. Praise him for being relaxed and accepting the trigger without fear.

The Pet Club can help you with fearful, insecure, or submissive dogs and show you how to progress your dog to Step 5 in the correct manner. Doing this incorrectly can make the issue worse. Just ask for help. The process of successful desensitization varies from dog to dog and from fear to fear. A dog that shows insecurity, fear or lack of confidence needs a gentle hand from the owner and lots of patience, but it is worth it.

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

After the first person of a household joins the Pet Club, the second person should check the second "Add" box. The membership fee is \$12 per household and is only charged one time. Both boxes must be checked for both people to receive emails.

Pet Club

\$ 12.00 / \$ 12.00

ADD

ADD

## Announcing a New Pet Services List!

Animal hospitals that cater to birds.

Check it out on the Pet Club website under Pet Care Services and Tips.

### Pet Club General Meeting:

May 8, 2024

1:30 p.m.

Georgetown/Florence Room,  
at Cowan Creek

Guest Speaker:

Blue Moon Sanctuary

This is a Rescue for horses and donkeys  
next to All Things Wild

[https://www.facebook.com/  
bluemoonequinerescue](https://www.facebook.com/bluemoonequinerescue)



# Pet Club Website



## Pet Club: Pass It On & Recycle Program

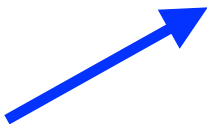
The pet club accepts new and used pet supplies, pet food (new and opened dry). Donations are used for our Free Loan (Pet Club Members Only) and Community Support Programs.

**We will NOT ACCEPT dirty, soiled or broken items.**

### **TYPES OF ITEMS WE COLLECT**

- K9 TREATS, CHEWS & CHEW TOYS
- SURGERY RECOVERY CONE COLLARS
- MESH "BRA" HARNESSSES - ALL SIZES
- K9 "PEE" PADS & DIAPERS
- SHEETS, BLANKETS & TOWELS (CLEAN)
- K9 "THUNDER" SHIRT
- YOGA MATS (USED FOR AGING K9'S)
- FEEDING BOWLS - ALL SIZES
- PLASTIC CONTAINERS W/LID FOR STORAGE
- K9 & FELINE TOYS
- COLLARS - ALL SIZES AND STYLES
- K9 "PLAY" PENS & SAFETY GATES
- FRONTAL "BABY" K9 CARRIERS
- CAT / KITTY LITTER
- PET STROLLERS (all sizes)
- K9 NOSE MUZZLES
- K9 / FELINE TRAVEL CARRIERS
- "STRAP" HARNESS - ALL SIZES
- WET & DRY K9 & FELINE FOOD
- SOFT K9 BEDS - ALL SIZES
- WIRE CRATES - ALL SIZES
- MEDICATIONS OPEN & UNOPENED**
- STEP STAIRS, RAMPS FOR K9 & FELINE
- FELINE SCRATCHING POLES
- LEASHES - ALL SIZES AND STYLES
- K9 "CLOTHES" COATS - ALL SIZES AND STYLES
- CAR SEAT FOR K9 & FELINE
- BARK COLLARS - ALL SIZES
- K9 / FELINE GROOMING TOOLS

**Items can be dropped off at 110 Bunker Hill Lane, Sun City anytime. Leave donated items on the front porch.**



If you have questions about our Pass It On/Recycle Program, contact, Becky Patterson, 512-913-5990 [beckyp592@gmail.com](mailto:beckyp592@gmail.com)

## **Pet Club Board and Program Leaders**

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### **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**

### **LOOKING FOR A LABRADOODLE BREEDER:**

We recently moved to Sun City, and just joined the Pet Club. Our dear companion, Brinkley, passed recently, and we'd love to meet other members to talk about that, and all the things that go with that. We're also intending to buy a Labradoodle puppy and would welcome any recommendations on a good breeder.

Jim and Carolyn Marbry

jim.marbry@att.net,  
510-773-6745

## **IT'S RAINING CATS AND DOGS AT COWAN!**

**Sun City's Creative Clay and China Club** is hosting a special event for all of us cat and dog lovers!

**May 2-July 2** the lobby at Cowan creek will be filled with **one-of-a-kind ceramic cat and dog items...**

sculptures, water/food bowls, treat jars, kitchen items, Christmas ornaments and much more.

Shop early for the best selection!

For more information: Contact Cindy Murphy, 801-554-7221

[Shelters and Organizations](#)  
[the Pet Club](#)  
[Supports](#)

**Williamson County Regional  
Animal Shelter**

[wcras@wilco.org](mailto:wcras@wilco.org)      [pets.wilco.org](http://pets.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)

**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)

# Pet Re-Homing, Foster Policy Reminder

The Pet Club gladly provides re-homing assistance to

**PET CLUB MEMBERS ONLY**  
**AND THEIR OWN**  
**PERSONAL PETS.**

We do not re-home or foster pets from shelters, sanctuaries or find a home for members who are fostering a pet.

Seeking a new pet? We will gladly put that request on our Newsletter Bulletin Board for **Pet Club Members only.**

As a club, our primary responsibility is to our members.

Members can contact the shelter or shelters they support to be put on their mailing list to find out what's going on and their needs.