

SUN CITY PET CLUB NEWSLETTER

"The Scoop"

July, 2023
Volume 2, Issue 7
Membership to date:
901

From the President,

As everyone knows, the Pet Club Board voted to rescind our proposal on the Dog Park project. We are saddened that we had to end this for now. Ruth Olsen and I had a personal meeting with the V.P. of the CA Board, Steve Ricks, and Executive Director, Jim Romine, to explain our issues and deliver the letter in person. We left the meeting with an understanding that we are tabling it for now. This gives everyone a chance to step back and figure out the best way to move forward, resulting in a Dog Park we can all be proud of. I feel we will continue to be in good standing with the CA Board, and we expressed our willingness to help make the Dog Park a first-class amenity.

The Pet Club appreciates everyone's support, suggestions, and concerns over this matter. The Dog Park has been an issue in Sun City for over 20 years, and we are hoping that all our efforts have brought it to the forefront so it can be finally addressed.

Our next Pet Club General Meeting is on September 27, where we plan to show what our proposal was for the Dog Park.

Thank you for your support,

Alan Kamen
President, Pet Club



Ahhhhh! More Ice Please!

Warning!
Asphalt
Too Hot!

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

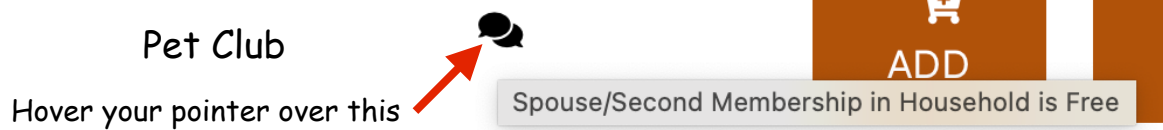
Data Source: Berens J. Thermal contact burns from streets and highways. Journal of the American Medical Association; 214 (11): 2025-2027.

A cartoon dog character with black and white spots, wearing blue pants and black shoes, is pointing towards the warning. The background is orange and yellow, with flames at the bottom.

How to Ensure Both Members of a Household Receive the Pet Club Emails

Once one member of a household joins the Pet Club, the 2nd member must also join by checking the second box.

The membership fee is \$12 per household and is only charged once.



Both boxes must be checked, and are marked "Member" for both in household to receive emails.



New Resource List!

Custom Pet Portraits and Pet Art

Click on Pet Club Website, Click on Resources, Click on Custom Pet Portraits

If you would like to add your name to the list of artists or know anyone who does pet portraits or pet art,

please email Alan at alankamen5253@icloud.com

Sun City Lost Pet Alert System

The Pet Club and the NRO have teamed up to provide the **Lost Pet Alert System**.

These alerts go only to those who opt in, currently over 900 residents.

To make it successful, 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** as well. You don't have to be a Pet Club member to **OPT IN**.

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.



Pet Re-Homing Policy Reminder

The Pet Club has assisted many SC residents in the past to re-home a pet, regardless of whether they were a Pet Club member or not.

The Pet Club has decided to provide re-homing assistance to Pet Club Members ONLY and their personal pet. This is a service we will gladly provide to our members. We will no longer advertise pets from shelters, sanctuaries or from anyone, including members who are fostering a pet.

This also applies to anyone seeking a new pet. We will only put that request on our Newsletter Bulletin Board for Pet Club Members.

While we would like to help everyone, our primary responsibility is to provide this service within our membership.

Thank you,

Alan Kamen
President SC Pet Club

Sun City Community Message Board

If you, or anyone you know, need to re-home a pet or are looking for a pet, the Sun City Community Board is an additional resource to use. After logging onto your Resident Home Page, click on the Community Message Board on the left side of the screen.



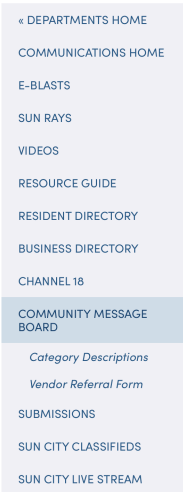
RESIDENT HOME

- [My Profile](#)
- [My Preferences](#)
- [Account Statements](#)
- [Resident Directory](#)
- [My Neighborhood](#)
- [My Memberships](#)
- [My Buddy Lists](#)
- CA CALENDAR
- COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION INFO
- DEPARTMENTS
- COMMUNITY MESSAGE BOARD



RESIDENT HOME

HOW TO PAY YOUR HOA DUES & 2023 HOA/LMH DUES AND GOLF RATES



« DEPARTMENTS HOME

COMMUNICATIONS HOME

E-BLASTS

SUN RAYS

VIDEOS

RESOURCE GUIDE

RESIDENT DIRECTORY

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

CHANNEL 18

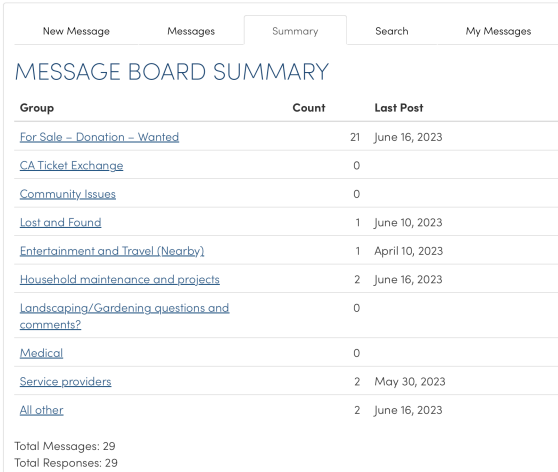
COMMUNITY MESSAGE BOARD

- [Category Descriptions](#)
- [Vendor Referral Form](#)

SUBMISSIONS

SUN CITY CLASSIFIEDS

SUN CITY LIVE STREAM



MESSAGE BOARD

New Message Messages Summary Search My Messages

MESSAGE BOARD SUMMARY

Group	Count	Last Post
For Sale - Donation - Wanted	21	June 16, 2023
CA Ticket Exchange	0	
Community Issues	0	
Lost and Found	1	June 10, 2023
Entertainment and Travel (Nearby)	1	April 10, 2023
Household maintenance and projects	2	June 16, 2023
Landscaping/Gardening questions and comments?	0	
Medical	0	
Service providers	2	May 30, 2023
All other	2	June 16, 2023

Total Messages: 29
Total Responses: 29

Pet Emergency Evacuation: Sharon Dunning

Dog Q & A: \$5

Dog Training Tip of the Month

Positive Reinforcement, Negative Punishment

Many of us recall the good old days of dog training. Push their nose in poop to train them not to poop in the house; push their rear end down to get them to sit; yell at them and punish them for eating your favorite shoes; kick them in the ***** when they jump on you; yell at them for barking; roll them over and lie on them to show them you are the boss.

Well, dog training has progressed over the years to a gentler, calm and respectful method. This is called Positive Reinforcement, Negative Punishment.

Positive Reinforcement: Basically simple, you ask your dog to do something, he does it, you reward him. When training, we use treats to 'lure' the dog into a position by using both hand signals and voice; when the dog achieves the position we want, we reward. Do this often enough, he will perform faster and happier. As children, many of us received an allowance for doing our chores, that was a 'lure.' We wanted money, we did our jobs. Now dogs are doing their jobs to get the rewards - treat, hug, pet, toy or just a YES.

Negative Punishment: This one is a little harder to understand. Your dog wants to greet someone, he pulls on the leash to get to them or, when approached, jumps on them. We want to teach our dog that this is not the correct way to greet someone. So, our dog is taught that he must sit next to us calmly when someone approaches and only goes to that person when given the OK from us. Here is where the negative punishment comes in. If our dog pulls to the person and does not remain calm, he is not allowed to go to that person. He is punished (by not getting what he wants - the other person) for doing inappropriate behaviors (negative - pulling/jumping). Let's go back to our childhood. We wanted to go to hang out with our friends, but we did not do our homework. Negative punishment - we couldn't go to our friend's house until the homework was done.

Using Positive Reinforcement, Negative Punishment encourages and trains our dog to do what we want him to do with respect. Showing our dogs respect when training helps build that vital bond with our dogs. A dog's natural instinct is to do what we want him to do, so by showing him right from wrong, we help him learn faster. When giving the reward, timing is very important. The hand signal YES (nodding your fist a few times) is the fastest way to acknowledge a correct action. A treat can follow if you want. Make training fun - for both of you!

Written by: Ruth Olsen

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
July 13	Mesquite Room, The Oaks	9:30-10:30	10:45-11:45
Aug 7	Mesquite Room, The Oaks	9:30-10:30	10:45-11:45
Sept 14	Mesquite Room, The Oaks	9:30-10:30	10:45-11:45
Oct 12	Mesquite Room, The Oaks	9:30-10:30	10:45-11:45
Nov 9	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



What's on It?

Resources:

**Pet Sitters, Groomers,
Vets, 24-hour Vets,
Shelters, Euthanasia Services,
Agility Groups, Kennels, Rescue
Organizations, Got Skunked?,
Snake Avoidance, Trainers.....**

Pet Partners Therapy Dog Information

Dog Training:

Virtual Dog Training, Monthly Training Information, Dog Class Descriptions.

Newsletters

Custom Pet Portraits and Art

Emergency Pet Information

....and more!

Pet Club Activities

**Look for days and times in our
upcoming newsletters and email blasts**

Jan.: Pet Club Open House

Jan.: C.A. Club Fair

March, May, Sept.: General Meetings with a Guest Speaker

April, June, Sept.: Snake Avoidance

Oct.: Blessing of the Animals

Oct.: Members' Lunch Social

Nov.: Volunteer Appreciation Lunch New!

**Nov.: Pet Partners Therapy
Dog Demonstration **New!****

Dec.: Salvation Army Bell Ringing

Dog Training Classes

Rally O Classes **New!**

AKC Canine Good Citizen Program **New!**

Fear-Based Leash Reactivity Training **New!**

Dog Q&A and Puppy Seminars

Pet Partners Therapy Dog Workshops and Evaluations

Canine Companions Service Dog Puppy Sitters and Puppy Raisers Assistance **Now!**

New Resident Orientation/Club Fairs

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

Georgetown Animal Outreach
txcodigirl@gmail.com

Pet Partners
petpartners.org

Canine Companions
canine.org

Club Dates to Save:

July 13: Dog Education Series

Aug 17: New Resident Club Fair

Sept. 23: Snake Avoidance

Sept. 27: General Meeting Guest Speaker: TBD

Oct. 3: Blessing of the Animals

Oct. 9: Club Lunch Social

Nov. 10: Volunteer Appreciation Lunch

Nov. 16: New Resident Club Fair

Bulletin Board

Cat Corner

information provided by Karyn Beavers

Useful Tips And Tricks That Will Make Anyone A Better Cat Owner

If you've ever owned a cat, then you probably know how much of an enigma they can be. Unlike dogs, they don't usually run up to you with a ball or respond to words like food or walkies. So, it can sometimes be a bit difficult to pin down just what our furry feline friends want or need, whether it be more kitty treats, a new cat toy, or simply to be left alone. That's why we've compiled some of the best tips we could find to help you be the best cat companion you can be, even if you're a seasoned cat owner.

Avoid Irritating Your Cat With Bell Collars

A tiny bell placed on your cat's collar can help you keep tabs on where your friend is, even when you can't directly see them. They can also help other animals, such as birds or mice, avoid becoming a snack for your cat. However, they have their drawbacks. Cats have pretty sensitive hearing, and the bells tend to irritate them. We mean, you'd probably be irritated, too, if you had to walk around all day with a bell attached to your neck.

Keep Your Cat Happy By Giving It A Brush

It might seem like it'd be rather difficult to teach your cat how to brush themselves (they don't have thumbs, after all), but it's actually pretty easy. Cats are already obsessive groomers, and if you just attach a cat brush to a wall, you can bet that your furry friend is going to want to rub up against it. This will help keep them both happy and occupied when they're bored.

Deep Food Bowls Actually Annoy Your Cat

This is one that isn't really talked about all that much. The depth of your pet's food bowl isn't usually something most of us think about when we're out shopping for their bowls. However, it turns out that this should probably be one of the most important things to keep in mind. That's because deep food bowls can actually really irritate cats. Cat's whiskers are sensitive and if they're constantly bumping up against the side of a bowl while they're eating, it's not enjoyable for them.

Most Cats Don't Like Belly Rubs

Your cat might let you rub its belly, and if it does, then that's a sign that it trusts you a lot. However, most cats really don't like belly rubs, especially from people they aren't familiar with, because that's one of the most vulnerable spots on their bodies. So, it's usually a good idea to shy away from giving new cats you meet belly rubs, at least until they trust you.

Remember That Your Cat Is Sensitive To The Cold

Cats might just be little fluffballs, but that doesn't mean that they can endure cold weather. In fact, they're kind of sensitive to the cold. So, it's a good idea not to leave them out at night during the winter months. Cats usually run at about 100-102F°, and a lot of vets will advise you to keep the temperature in your home at at least 70°, so your cat doesn't get too cold.

Help Keep Your Cat Calm With Lollipops

While most cats are pretty calm compared to a lot of other pets, that isn't always the case. Luckily, if your cat is a little high-strung, then there are some simple things you can do to help your friend remain mellowed. Firstly, try giving your cat a lollipop treat. You can generally find them at pet stores, and they easily attach to most hard surfaces, such as walls.

Shorten Your Cat's Name To Help Them Better Recognize It

Naming can be hard, and that goes for just about anything, whether it's your cat or your child. And while it's not uncommon to give a cat a longer name that might seem adorable, you should try to keep your cat's name to one or two syllables. The longer the name, the more difficult it will be for your cat to pick up on the fact that you're actually calling them.

