

Happy Memorial Day to all our Military and Veterans who have sacrificed so much so that we can be free!

Hi Everybody!

Don't forget our End of Spring Doggie Fun Day and Raffle next Saturday, May 31 from 9AM to 1PM. We will be using the two fields, one with a FAST course and one with a Standard nested courses for Novice and Excellent. Novice dogs can run on leash, however, all dogs must know how to do the equipment! In other words, they must have taken agility classes.

Price: \$5 for the first run each dog (3 min.), \$2 second run, \$10 unlimited runs in both fields! Jump heights will be changed every 15 minutes

We are also conducting a BIG raffle with items such as a Botox Treatment with Consultation, a Custom Portrait of your Dog. Limited Edition Wolf Prints and many more items. To see pictures and descriptions visit

www.coolcritters.com/bulletinboard.htm

Come and have fun!

Summer Class Schedule

I will be getting a total hip replacement on June 16, and will not be teaching classes for a couple of months. Puppy classes will be taught during that time by Katie who has been assisting me. Basic Obedience, and Basic Agility classes will resume in August. I have someone in mind to take the Wednesday Intermediate agility class, but there will be no morning agility classes until August.

I will continue to send out the newsletters in order to keep everyone informed about the school and when in August the new classes will start.

Watch out for the Bufo Toads!

It's time once again to be on the lookout for Bufo Toads which are deadly to our pets. Because of the new trap-neuter-release policy of the county, people will be leaving cat food out to feed the feral cats in the area. The dumpster at the shopping center behind the school has food containers all over the ground. Unfortunately, there is also a large retention pond in the center and this will probably attract the deadly Bufo Toads.

The Bufo Marinus, or Bufo Toad is most common in Southern Florida. It was originally released in the sugar cane fields in 1935 to help control rats and mice. It is now commonly found in the South Florida yards, and has migrated to our part of the state as well. It is a large toad, from 4" to 9" that breeds year round in standing water, streams, canals, and ditches. It's primary diet is roaches, beetles, and other large insects, but it also eats dog and cat food that is left outside. It is

rather sluggish, but when threatened, secretes a highly toxic, milky substance from glands in the back of its head. This secretion will burn the eyes, inflame the skin, and kill dogs and cats that ingest it. The poison enters the animal's system rapidly through the membranes of the mouth. A typical example is a dog mouthing the slow moving toad playfully. The dog will immediately start salivating and experience irritation of the mucous membranes of the mouth and throat. If the dog eats the frog or otherwise receives a large amount of toxin, vomiting, seizures, and death will follow in as little as 15 minutes. Even a toad that sits in a pet's watering dish for some time, may leave enough toxin to make the pet very sick.

According to www.safeharboranimalrescue.com, the death rate for untreated animals exposed to Bufo Toad poisoning is nearly 100% in Florida. Veterinarian Dr. Ellen Matheson states that "signs of Bufo toad toxicity vary according to the size and health of the exposed animal and amount of exposure. Some signs that you may see include salivation, head shaking, walking like they are drunk, increased respiratory rate, vomiting, diarrhea, apparent blindness and convulsions."

No medications found in the home are of any value in treating the affected pet. The pet's mouth should be immediately rinsed out with lots of water. Use a water hose and send the water from one side of the pet's mouth out the other. Be careful that the animal does not swallow the rinse water. Dr. Matheson urges that the pet be taken to a veterinarian immediately. Everyone should have their veterinarian's phone posted near their telephone as well as be aware of where the nearest Emergency Vet facility is located!

In landscaped suburban neighborhoods, the Bufo toads like to hide in shrubbery. In fact, one the top Westies in Agility was killed by a Bufo a couple of years ago. The owners rushed to the emergency clinic but did not make it in time.

If you Google Bufo Toads, you will see pictures of the animal, and probably advise on how to kill it. I was told to put it in a plastic bag or empty coffee can and then put it in the freezer. I don't know if I would like that kind of package next to my frozen meats though.

Rally Signs

For those of you do Rally, there is a rally cool Rally "cheat sheet" of all the signs and descriptions in a handy 5 X 7 laminated booklet. It is produced by Gezpez Designs. There is no website, email them at gezpez@gmail.com. I think I paid under \$20 for mine.

From Carol Lukes

IF I HAD MY LIFE TO LIVE OVER - by Erma Bombeck (written in Dec. 1979)

I would have gone to bed when I was sick instead of pretending the earth would go into a holding pattern if I weren't there for the day.

I would have burned the pink candle sculpted like a rose before it melted in storage.

I would have talked less and listened more.

I would have invited friends over to dinner even if the carpet was stained, or the sofa faded.

I would have eaten the popcorn in the 'good' living room and worried much less about the dirt when someone wanted to light a fire in the fireplace.

I would have taken the time to listen to my grandfather ramble about his youth.

I would have shared more of the responsibility carried by my husband..

I would never have insisted the car windows be rolled up on a summer day because my hair had just been teased and sprayed.

I would have sat on the lawn with my children and not worried about grass stains.

I would have cried and laughed less while watching television and more while watching life.

I would never have bought anything just because it was practical, wouldn't show soil, or was guaranteed to last a lifetime.

Instead of wishing away nine months of pregnancy, I'd have cherished every moment and realized that the wonderment growing inside me was the only chance in life to assist God in a miracle..

When my kids kissed me impetuously, I would never have said, 'Later... Now go get washed up for dinner.' There would have been more 'I love you's, more 'I'm sorry's.'

But mostly, given another shot at life, I would seize every minute; look at it and really see it; live it and never give it back.. STOP SWEATING THE SMALL STUFF!

Don't worry about who doesn't like you, who has more, or who's doing what. Instead, let's cherish the relationships we have with those who do love us...

Congratulations to Our Latest Graduates!

Super Puppy:

Aubrey Gorman and Blair (Aussie)
Shirl Grund and Lola (Old English Bulldog mix)
Katlyn Van Dame and Scruffy (Terrier Mix)
Penny Moore and Astra (German Shepherd)
Jennifer Steptoe and Max (Australian Kelpie)
Kay Freeman and Jack (Miniature Poodle)
Sarah Walden & Kenai (Rottweiler)

Class Schedule

Monday:

6:00 to 7:00 PM - Super Puppy (Next class starting July 7, 2014)
7:00 to 8:00 PM - Weaving Proficiency (Class starting May 12, 2014)
8:00 to 9:00 PM - Intermediate Agility

Tuesday:

9:00 to 10:00 AM - Advanced Agility
10:00 to 11:00 AM - Intermediate Agility
6:00 to 7:00 PM - Distance work class
7:00 PM Masters / Excellent Level Agility

Wednesday:

6:00 to 7:00 PM - Super Puppy class
7:00 to 8:00 PM - Intermediate Agility
8:00 to 9:00 PM - Advanced Agility

Thursday:

7:00 to 8:00 PM - Basic Obedience (Next class starting in August)
8:00 to 9:00 PM - Rally Obedience

Friday:

9:00 to 10:00 AM - Advanced Agility
10:00 to 11:00 AM - Intermediate Agility

...and now...

Time for a paws...

Ileana

