

West Los Angeles BUSINESS JOURNAL

www.westlachamber.org

Publication of The West L.A. Chamber of Commerce

September 2002



Paul Owens Honorary Guest/Host at "Bow Wow Meow"

Paul Owens is our honorary guest/host and is the author of "The Dog Whisperer", a compassionate nonviolent approach to dog training. He is the leading expert of nonviolent animal training in the U.S. and is the director of Raise with Praise, Inc. and the founder/director of the children's after-school, violence prevention program, Paws for Peace. I met Paul and found him to be a very conjenial and caring person

who loves what he does. Paul became a Vegetarian due to health issues when he was young and later in life because of sensitivity to all living things. Paul has three rescue dogs and one older dog that is blind.

Paul began training dogs in 1972 and has earned several awards in competitive obedience. His specialty is in the evaluation and behavior modification of aggressive dogs and is frequently consulted and referred by veterinarians. His public service work includes bite prevention programs for children and monthly dog training seminars at area Humane Societies and shelters. Paul has appeared on numerous radio and television programs. His articles and interviews have appeared in several local and national magazines, including The

Pet Press.

Paul has practiced and taught yoga in India and the U.S. for over 25 years. In 1991, Paul drew on his unique experience and background to address the link between human and animal behavior and a few years later, Raise with Praise, Inc. was founded as a nonprofit, educational organization whose mission is to promote nonviolence in the world through the humane caring, treatment and interaction with animals. Fees from group dog training classes support the children's Paws for Peace an after school volunteer violence prevention program in which children learn to interact with dogs with kindness, compassion and respect.

Paul says, "I believe nonviolence fosters nonviolence. Because of the link between animal and human behavior, nonviolent dog training contributes to building a world of peace for humans and dogs. When people, especially children, are successful using nonviolent methods with animals, they feel good about themselves and they are encouraged to have a kinder, more positive attitude with their friends, family, and the environment." "Dogs trained with love, kindness, responsibility and respect are much gentler and well behaved and so are the handlers."

Paul believes that "dogs need consistency, and they need to know what you're going to do and how you will react to given situations." "No hitting, no kicking, no shocking, no shaking, no jerking of dogs and no leash corrections is Paul's formula for training. He believes in training with kindness, gentleness, respect and love.

Come and meet Paul who will be next to our stage area. If you haven't already read the well known book "The Dog Whisperer", here is your chance to buy a copy and have it autographed. What a perfect gift for you or anyone you know who owns a dog.