

## Schedule of Classes – July 2021

Registration required.

Call Gina - 440-502-7110



***Small class size limited to 6 dogs and ample class time allows for a relaxed atmosphere, more one-on-one instruction and sufficient time to practice.***

### **Canine Head Start – \$145**

***SPECIAL PRICE: \$130.50 (10% discount) for those also taking Canine Elementary School)***

***- Seven 90-minute sessions totaling 630 minutes or 10 ½ hrs. of instruction and practice -***

Section I: Puppies – 8 weeks to 5 months  
6:30 pm to 8:00 pm – Mondays, July 5<sup>th</sup> thru August 16<sup>th</sup>

Section II: Older Puppies (over 5 months) and Adult Dogs  
6:30 pm to 8:00 pm – Tuesdays, July 6<sup>th</sup> thru August 17<sup>th</sup>

This foundational class offers a great start to any canine teaching and training as it focuses on building a lasting relationship with your dog. Whether yours is a new puppy or recently adopted older dog or a dog you've had for a while, this class provides prime opportunities for you and your dog to establish and deepen the human-canine bond through extensive engagement, socialization and regular health and wellness care.

**Note: – You are strongly encouraged to take this class along with Canine Elementary School classes as this class introduces dogs to the essence of basic skills in a fun way and will allow both you and your dog to transition to basic obedience more easily and with much success.**

Topics covered are based on the needs of students and their dogs and are not limited to but may include the following:

- Name Recognition
- Watch Me Games (aimed at helping your dog learn to focus on you)
- Follow Me Fun (sets the stage for successful loose-leash walking)
- Come
- Collar and Body Handling
- Potty Training
- Crate Training
- Mouthing/Biting/Jumping/etc. (techniques to reduce/stop unwanted behaviors)
- Basic First Aid
- General Grooming
- Platform and Touch Training
- Relaxation/Settling Exercise
- Positive interaction with other puppies (Puppy Preschool only), people, surfaces, sounds, smells and familiar/unfamiliar objects

## **Canine Elementary School – \$160**

**- Seven 120-minute sessions totaling 840 minutes or 14 hrs. of instruction and practice -**

Section I: Puppies – 8 weeks to 5 months  
8:00 am to 10 am – Saturdays, July 10<sup>th</sup> thru August 21<sup>st</sup>

Section II Older Puppies (over 5 months) and Adult Dogs (any age with limited or no formal training)  
10:00 am to Noon – Saturdays, July 10<sup>th</sup> thru August 21<sup>st</sup>

The skills introduced and practiced in this basic skills class, along with Canine Head Start for those who took or are taking it, builds a foundation for nurturing a confident, well-mannered, and happy lifelong companion. With your commitment to working on each week's activities at home, by the completion of this class, dogs will be able to demonstrate the skills listed below with a minimum of distraction, distance and duration.

**Note: *Taking Canine Head Start prior to or in conjunction with this class is strongly recommended to give you and your dog***

Topics covered are based on the needs of students and their dogs and are not limited to but may include the following:

- Markers – Praise, Do Over and Release
- Watch Me
- Sit
- Down
- Heel Position
- Loose Leash Walking
- Sit/Stay
- Down/Stay
- Come
- Off
- Drop It
- Leave It
- Take It
- Wait
- Car Etiquette
- Platform Cues
- Touch Exercises with Walking

Upon successful completion of this basic obedience class, handlers will receive a certificate of graduation through Heart of Canine Excellence. In addition, puppies up to one year of age, may qualify to receive the AKC S.T.A.R. Puppy Certificate as the AKC S.T.A.R. Puppy test will be the basis of the final test.

**Please call Gina at 440-502-7110 if you are interested in any of the following classes. Each class will be scheduled and the dates and times announced when at least 3 individuals agree to take that class.**

***Canine Middle School – must have graduated from Canine Elementary***

*School or be able to demonstrate the skills taught at that level with approval of the trainer.*

*This class builds on the skills taught in Canine Elementary School by increasing the levels of distraction, distance and duration and generalizing skills in new situations. This class prepares you and your dog to take the 10-point AKC Canine Good Citizen (CGC) test which will be given during the final session.*

***AKC Community Good Citizen Advanced (CGCA) – must have CGC***

*This AKC title is all about having a well-behaved dog in the community. For the most part, sessions will be offered in the community setting. The 10-step AKC Community Canine test is conducted in real life situations, which can include walking through a crowd on a busy sidewalk, an outdoor shopping center, through a store or in a local park while demonstrating learned CGC skills: self-control and good manners when around other dogs, adults and children and when meeting strangers.*

***AKC Urban Canine Good Citizen (CGCU) - must have CGC***

*requires that the dog demonstrate CGC skills and beyond in an urban setting. As with Canine Good Citizen, AKC Urban CGC has a 10-step test of skills that dogs must pass to earn the official AKC Urban CGC title, but it is administered in an urban setting, a place where there are cars, streets to be crossed, noises, and a great deal of distraction.*

***Certified Therapy Dog – must have CGC***

*In addition to formal instruction and practice, this class includes three Practicums: a mock nursing home visit, attendance at a public event and a library/classroom experience where the dogs will actually be read to by children sitting on a chair, sitting on the floor and lying down on the floor with them. Due COVID restrictions This allows the trainer and handler to assess their dog's comfort levels in each situation and offers direct feedback on their dog's areas of strength as well as those areas that need to be fine-tuned. A final test will be administered. Those who complete it successfully will receive a certificate allowing them to become certified as a dog therapy team with Therapy Dogs Unlimited, an AKC recognized therapy dog organization,*

***Trick Training – open to any dog that can demonstrate the basic skills of sit, down, stay, and come with minimal distraction, distance and duration.***

*A fun class that allows you to become a better trainer, using shaping, chaining and reinforcement to teach behaviors for entertainment like saying Grace, physical activity like right/left spin) or as useful practical skills like “say hello.”*