



## **FIVE FLAGS DOG TRAINING CLUB**

### **WELCOME!**

We invite you to apply for membership in our club at a general membership meeting. You may complete and sign the Membership application (2-sided) and return it to the Membership representative who will conduct your "First Reading" (your application information is presented to members). Your membership will be voted upon at the second general membership meeting you attend.

You must attend a second meeting within three months of your "First Reading." At the second meeting your application will be presented again to the members ("Second Reading") who will then vote on your membership. If approved, you are expected to pay dues at that time.

Annual dues are \$35.00 for an adult (over 18 years old); \$50.00 for a family; \$20.00 for a junior membership (individual under 18 years old). The club's year is January 1 through December 31. Dues paid when you join the club are pro-rated (% of annual amount) based upon the quarter year at that time: 100% Jan-Mar, 75% Apr-Jun, 50% Jul-Sep, 25% Oct-Dec. You will be advised of the amount to be paid

Please read at your convenience the club information attached, which tells you about our members, activities, functions, dog training opportunities, and AKC events. If you have any questions about the club, you are welcome to call me at 932-0279 (evenings and weekends).

Toni Rohlke  
Membership Chairperson



## CLUB INFORMATION

**Five Flags Dog Training Club of Pensacola, Florida, Inc.** (FFDTC) was established in the 1970s and incorporated in 1982 as a not-for-profit organization. The club is dedicated to protect and further the advancement and interest of all breeds of purebred dogs; to promote interest in the sports of dog obedience and agility; and to promote the welfare of all dogs through its various programs and activities. The club serves as an educational resource from which our community learns about responsible pet ownership and companionship through club-sponsored public training classes, educational and pet therapy programs, and demonstrations and information provided at public events.

Club standing rules, bylaws and constitution are available under the documents section of the online discussion group for members: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/fiveflagsdogs>. 🐾

**MEMBERSHIP.** Individual membership is \$35.00, family membership is \$50.00, and junior (under 18 years of age) membership is \$20.00. 🐾

### **CLASSES and ACTIVITIES.**

**AGILITY CLASSES.** The club conducts eight-week (one and one-half hours per week) classes for members and the public. In order to participate, dogs must be well socialized and have solid, basic obedience skills, including staying with the handler when off-lead and coming when called. Classes are held outdoors from early fall through late spring. We offer three levels of classes: introductory (familiarization with obstacles with emphasis on contact obstacles); intermediate (begins to run series of obstacles and turns) and advanced (complete course run with increasing speed and accuracy). Practice evenings are also scheduled for members only. Contact the training committee or agility committee chairperson for class fees, location, dates and details. 🐾

**AKC CANINE GOOD CITIZENSHIP (CGC) PROGRAM.** This AKC-sponsored program, available to both purebred and mixed-breed dogs, promotes canine good citizenship by testing the dog's training and manners. Ten exercises demonstrate the dog is properly socialized and well-mannered, has learned basic obedience skills, and that the handler is in control of the dog's behavior in a variety of situations. It is not a competition and does not require precision performance.

Club members dogs participating in exhibitions and pet therapy are expected to earn a CGC title. The club offers the CGC course periodically and administers the CGC standardized test at the conclusion of the classes. Upon completion of all exercises, an AKC certificate that states the dog is a "Canine Good Citizen" is awarded. Contact the training director for more information. 🐾

**AKC OBEDIENCE AND AGILITY COMPETITION EVENTS.** The club sponsors annual AKC Obedience and Agility Trials. The obedience trials are held in August indoors at the Pensacola Interstate Fairgrounds in Pensacola. The agility trials currently are held in November or December at the Escambia County Equestrian Center (covered arena). Participation in these events is limited to dogs registered with the AKC and their owners or handlers. Spectators are welcome. 🐾



**CARING CANINES.** Members and their dogs perform pet shows, which include tricks and basic agility routines, at various health care facilities and schools. Contact our Caring Canines coordinator for more information. 🐾

**COUNTRY CANINE SQUARE DANCERS & BARKETTES.** Members and their dogs perform dance programs at various community events throughout the year. The County Canines perform short square dance routines with a caller and square dancing music. The routines involve a variety of simple obedience exercises, such as walking on a leash, sits and stays. The Barkettes debuted their Broadway-style routine at Gulf Breeze PetFest 2011. Contact our Special Events Coordinator for more information and scheduling. 🐾

**MEMBER OBEDIENCE CLASSES.** Member training is held on specified evenings throughout the year. You can practice individually or as a group, focusing on specific exercises in the three levels of obedience competition or on the new sport of rally obedience. We also organize “run-throughs,” during which you practice the sequence of exercises for obedience competition with the help of a club member performing the role of the judge. Contact the training coordinator for more information. 🐾

**NEWSLETTER.** The Five Flags Dog Training Club newsletter, *Forward* is published and sent to members monthly. 🐾

**PUBLIC DOG TRAINING CLASSES.** A seven-week course (one hour per week) is offered several times a year as a community service to instruct area dog owners how to teach their dogs basic obedience skills and manners. We teach a consistent and positive approach to dog training. Students should have a commitment to practice with their dogs in order to realize the expected result of making their dog a well-adjusted and happy member of the household. Proof of immunization is required for participating dogs. Contact the training coordinator for class fees, location, dates and times, or more information, or visit [fiveflagsdogs.com](http://fiveflagsdogs.com). 🐾

**“THERA-PAWS” DOG THERAPY PROGRAM.** Our dog therapy program provides members and their dogs an opportunity to spend time at health care facilities in order to enrich the lives of adults and children in residence or receiving treatment. Through guidelines, standards and education for both handlers and dogs and an organized volunteer effort, our goal is to share the love and happiness that comes from the human canine bond, thereby improving the health and well-being of those we visit. Interested handler/dog teams must first satisfy eligibility requirements. Contact the Thera-Paws program coordinator for more information. 🐾

**WEBSITES.** Our website, [www.fiveflagsdogs.com](http://www.fiveflagsdogs.com), provides on-line information about the club’s membership, programs, activities and events. The club is on **Facebook.com** under Five Flags Dog Training Club of Pensacola, Florida, Inc. Members may also join the Yahoo online discussion group at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/fiveflagsdogs>. 🐾