



## Building a Brighter Tomorrow for Today's Pets

*Dogs 4 Life is an educational source, based on the whole dog training, structured around the mind, body and spirit of the animal.*



| Up and Coming: |  |                   |
|----------------|--|-------------------|
| July           | ♥♥ What's in the bag Nutrition Awareness<br>Crystal Lake 7-9 PM<br>Schaumburg 6-8 PM | July 9<br>July 16 |
|                | ‡ People Training for Dogs Lombard 7-9pm   | July 23           |
|                | Ⓞ Massage and Acupressure for Geriatric Dogs<br>Crystal Lake 6:30-9 pm               | July 30           |
| Aug            | ‡ Pet First Aid and CPR- Han Over Park 6 9- pm                                       | Aug 6<br>Aug 20   |
|                | ♥♥ What's in the bag Nutrition Awareness<br>Glen Ellyn 6-9 pm                        |                   |
| Sept           | Ⓞ Canine Acupressure and Massage for General<br>Wellness Lombard 7-9pm               | Sep 10            |
|                | ‡ People Training for Dogs Crystal Lake 6:40 8:45                                    | Sep 17            |
|                | ♥♥ What's in the bag Nutrition Awareness Bartlett<br>7-9 pm                          | Sep 24            |

### Class Description

Check website for all updates of new classes and training seminars

Ⓞ **Massage and Acupressure for General Wellness for Dogs.** Explore the basics of Animal Acupressure and Massage for your pet. Learn massage techniques and acupressure points that help promote your dog's health, longevity and increase their zest for life. This is a hands-on class; you do not need a dog to participate

‡ **Pet First Aid:** Learn emergency first aid and CPR procedures for your pet or your client's pets. You will learn how to work with life-threatening conditions and common illnesses. This is a great opportunity for rescues, fosters, daycare, kennels staff, and pet walkers.

♥♥ **What's In the Bag?** K-9 Nutrition Awareness. Where does my dog's food come from? This is a question not many of us think about. We see pictures of prime cuts of meat, grains and vegetables on the bag and assume there is a pet food chief whipping up nutritious meals. This is far from the truth. Learn that what you feed your pet directly affects your dog both mentally and physically. Take an active roll in their health. This course teaches a fundamental understanding of pet food labeling; learn to make intelligent decisions about your dog's dietary needs.

Dogs 4 Life offers a "**Doing good business through good friends**" referral program, for the many thanks to our supporters. Your name must be mentioned at the time of bookings.

Thank you for all your kind words- Christine

**We Can NOW Blog**  
<http://blog.dogs4life.com/>

## Dam Dog River Walk 2009 Every Monday Night!

Come and join me every Monday night beginning June 8<sup>th</sup> through July 26 at 7pm, weather permitting, for **The Dam Dog River Walk**. Exercise is essential for everyone, including our dogs, and what better way to enjoy it than with doggie friends. We begin in Geneva, at Old Mill Park Dam, on the east side of the river. Located off Route 38. Parking is available on both sides of the river there will be a crossing bridge. We then head out for a two mile Hike along the rives trail. Aprox 1 hour, invite friends, family and neighbors to join as we mingle with other dog enthusiasts and enjoy an hour of socialization for both man and beasts. Please be courteous with appropriate dogs and all dogs must be leashed, bring baggies and water.

Ruffners Geneva has been sold. I referred many of you to either St Charles or Geneva locations, for socialization, training, and boarding. Under the new ownership, Dogs 4 Life no longer *supports* or offers *any* of its service under the new facility owner. Dogs 4 Life will continue to offer its services – massage, acupressure, training, socialization, board and trains in St Charles.



**Mind/Mental:** Retract that retractable. People walk their dog's everyday, this is a great because exercise is important for your dog both physically and mentally. But here are some questions to ask your self: Are the walks with your dog more frustrating and exhausting for you? Does your dog pull you at the end of the leash down the street? Are you being dragged as your dog sniffs or when they see another dogs, people, rabbits and squirrels?

Walking nicely on a leash is a big request for a dog trainer from many of our clients. People grumble about how terrible their dog is while out on walks. My question is usually: "what kind of a leash do you use on your walk?" Nine times out of ten it's a retractable. The reply is normally something like; "I want them to get exercise and have some freedom". So there you have it, freedom for them to do as they will and exercise for your bicep.

I'm not anti retractable, but I do believe that training a dog to first walk nicely would be the ideal situation and then add the retractable. Dogs are like kids; give an inch take a yard and expecting anything more, well then we learn the hard way. By putting your dog on the retractable and then allowing them to have the full extent of the leash, sends the wrong message. For you Caesar followers: The leader leads the pack that should be you. Victoria followers: carry peanut butter on a spoon. My philosophy: Train the dog to recall to your side, they should know how to walk nicely, then when it's all clear, release them to explore, this way it can be fun for the both of you. An uncontrolled dog is a safety factor for you, your dog and the community around you.

The problem with an untrained dog on a retractable is that you can't gain control because they're to far out front of you. Then the big "no no" happens, the dog sees another dog, then pulls, while the owner is being dragged behind yelling to the other dog owner..." it's ok he's friendly". Yikes! This can really be a very dangerous situation and this puts you, your dog, and the other party at risk.

To begin to train your dog, place your dog on an 8 foot lead, allow them to venture out and then call them back to you, "come" when they arrive, give them something of great value. Whenever introducing a dog to a new task, we must reinforce the new behavior to get a continued positive response. You will get more motivation from your dog by using this technique as oppose to dragging or choking them on the leash. Forcing something that is a non learned behavior really isn't very fair to the dog.

Once your dog can recall back to you, then lead them out for 2-3 steps at your side and then release them with a word of your choice. As your dog begins to understand that they only need to return for a moment or so, then you can begin to extend the steps and build from there. If they try to zip ahead before the release, "ahh ah ah", recall them back to your side "come" and after a few steps "walk nice", "release" and off they go. If you practice this once or twice daily for 10 -15 minutes for two weeks, I'll bet you, you'll be happy with the results. Happy trails.



**Body/Physical:** I am excited to announce that my newest pamphlet, "*What's in the Bag? Canine Nutrition Awareness*" is near its completion. It will be available on the website for \$14.95. The topic of nutrition and proper feeding has always been a hot topic in both my private training sessions and in the "People Training for Dogs" seminar. With such interest, I have now added a class, "What's in the bag?" through the park districts; the pamphlet is included at the seminar. You may visit [www.dogs4life.com](http://www.dogs4life.com) for times, dates and locations of current class schedule.

