



**Courteous  
Canine, Inc.**



3414 Melissa Country Way  
Lutz, FL 33559  
Phone: 813-949-1465

info@courteouscanine.com

**COURTEOUS CANINE, Inc.**  
Dog School and Doggie Gym!

## August 2007 Newsletter

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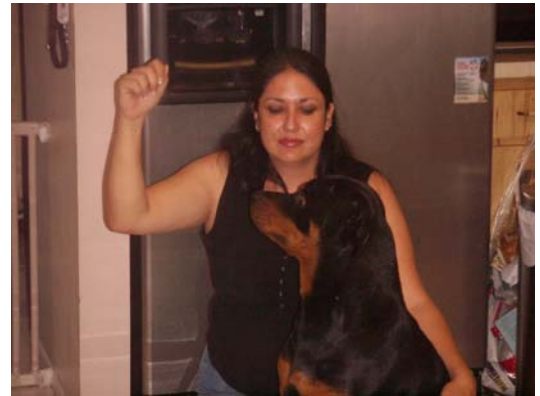
### 1. **Student of the Month**

Anna Florentis and her Rottweiler Aaliyah are students of the month for August! Aaliyah was brought at 8 weeks. Anna knew what a special new friend she would be and decided on Aaliyah as her name, which means "exalted one" or "one who ascends". Anna has been dedicated to positive training methods since day one and within weeks, Aaliyah was housebroken and has never chewed or destroyed a single thing in the house! Anna enrolled her perfect puppy in puppy classes and began socializing her. They have continued with numerous obedience classes to make sure that Aaliyah has a job to do and feels confident.

Aaliyah accompanies Anna to work every day and has made a wonderful companion with near-perfect manners.

At about a year of age, Aaliyah started to show fear-aggressive behaviors. Since Aaliyah accompanied Anna to work each day, she was always meeting new people and until this time, these meetings were positive for Aaliyah. However, now when she met new people, Aaliyah would back away from them and show signs of stress. Anna loves to travel. She has always taken her dogs with her on long trips out of the country and wanted Aaliyah to continue. However, Aaliyah was showing signs of fear around people, and this was spreading to more situations. Anna scheduled a private session with Courteous Canine, Inc. to learn more about Aaliyah's behavior and how to modify it. Aaliyah acted like a little princess and was listening to Anna all of her cues, however, about half-way through Aaliyah started to show her fear, and aggression. Anna was quite surprised at the reaction.

The goal of the training was to watch Aaliyah's body language and define her signs of stress. It was important that Anna be in tune with Aaliyah so that she would know when Aaliyah was starting to become afraid. Because of the bond that Aaliyah shared with Anna, it was easy for Anna to know when Aaliyah became uncomfortable in a situation. It was decided that she was allowed to meet, or not meet, whomever she pleased. These empowerment sessions of meeting new people were kept short to ensure that Aaliyah was comfortable. Other fear issues were addressed by Anna being proactive in asking Aaliyah to perform obedience cues for rewards in order to associate these uncomfortable situations with a positive things for Aaliyah. This is essentially associating something that Aaliyah may not like, with something wonderful. In Aaliyah's case, it was touch. She did not like being touched on certain areas of her body. These



areas were mainly her hind quarters and belly region. Through clicking and treating for touching those areas of her body, Aaliyah learned that touch was a good thing.

Soon Aaliyah and Anna joined the Introduction to Agility class. It was quite a large class, and it was made clear that they may need some space to themselves, just to make sure Aaliyah was comfortable. Aaliyah did not exhibit any signs of stress, even when other dogs came quite close to her. Anna did a wonderful job of managing Aaliyah and making sure that she was kept busy and focused during the classes. Aaliyah's confidence rose as she learned to maneuver an agility course; she was becoming a new dog. During one class, the dogs were learning how to maneuver the dogwalk, this is quite a challenge because the dogwalk is about as narrow as she is, Aaliyah missed her footing and fell off into the trainer's arms, getting caught before hitting the ground. The trainer had the dog by her shoulders and mid section, and with all the work that Anna had done, Aaliyah was relaxed being handled in such an invasive manner.

Anna and Aaliyah are a wonderful team and a true example of what positive training can do for a dog. Below is a quote from Anna to her Courteous Canine, Inc. trainer:  
*"I'm very grateful for your expertise and your help in helping Aaliyah overcome her issues (as well as provide her with a fun outlet in agility). We really appreciate you!"*

## 2. American Temperament Test Society (ATTS)

We will be hosting a test on Saturday, September 8, 2007 starting at 7:30 am at **Courteous Canine, Inc.**

If you want your dog tested sign up now, this event has nearly filled.

## 3. Delta Therapy Dog Test at Courteous Canine, Inc. on Saturday, September 22

"Delta Society's Pet Partners Program trains volunteers and screens volunteers and their pets for visiting animal programs in hospitals, nursing homes, rehabilitation centers, schools and other facilities. Pet Partners Program was established in 1990 to ensure that "both ends of the leash," people as well as animals, were well-prepared to participate in [animal-assisted activity and animal-assisted therapy](#) programs. Pet Partners is the only national registry that requires volunteer training and screening of animal/handler teams."

Steps to take the Delta Therapy Dog Test at Courteous Canine:

1. Sign – up with us
2. Order the text book from Delta [www.DeltaSociety.org](http://www.DeltaSociety.org)
3. Fill out the forms found in the text book
4. Take the open book test
5. Take the Therapy Dog test at Courteous Canine, Inc. Sept.22
6. Mail in the completed packet and test results to Delta.

For more information check out <http://www.deltasociety.org/home.htm>

## 4. NEW Classes at Courteous Canine, Inc.



**Kitten Kindergarten** - - this class will be a two week 90 min per session class meeting on September 23 and 30<sup>th</sup> at 2pm.

**Totally Toys** - -An all age obedience and FUN class for dogs under 12 pounds! Get a flavor of most major dog sports while teaching your dog basic cues for life and fun. Starts September 10<sup>th</sup>. Join the fun!

**Canine Good Citizen** - - Great for dogs that want to do therapy work or learn polite manners! New class starting September 1<sup>st</sup> at 1pm. Sign up at [www.courteouscanine.com](http://www.courteouscanine.com) or call 813-760-9541 for more info!



## 5. PartyLite Pedro Raffle

Joan Miller from PartyLite has generously donated a fantastic, pet friendly reed diffuser for a raffle. The diffuser joins a basket full of fun dog toys and would make a great gift for loved ones, or even yourself!

Joan is also donating 25% of the profit from orders placed by Courteous Canine clients. Contact her at 813-654-9597 office, 813-628-1862 mobile or visit her web site at:

<http://www.partylite.biz/sites/joanmillerlites>

To purchase raffle tickets or make a donation, mail a check with Pedro donation or raffle tickets in the memo to: Jacqueline Munera, c/o Courteous Canine, Inc 3414 Melissa Country Way, Lutz FL 33559 or call 813-949-1465. If you are purchasing raffle tickets, please include your phone number on the check. Drawing will be held September 1st, 2007 and the winner must pick up the prize from the Courteous Canine, Inc Lutz location.



## 6. Pets In Need



Lost :

Petite Tabby Cat in Lutz area near Sunset and Tomlinson.  
Answers to the Name: Mamalayde: wearing gray collar.

Last Seen 7-11-07  
Please Call 813-948-4405  
Reward

Bobby, a 12 to 18 month of Jack Russell Terrier needs a home. Friendly, happy, affectionate and cute and easy to handle. 100% housebroken. He is small (about 15" high at shoulder) healthy, neutered and up to date on all his shots. He is loving and wants to be at your feet all day long. Please call Diane Conroy at 727-545-3888 or [dconroy2@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:dconroy2@tampabay.rr.com)



## 7. Courteous Canine, Inc. Help Wanted

**Grooming** -- We are looking for a part time groomer interested in building business to full time. Alternately if you are a mobile groomer who already has clientele but is looking for a location, please contact [Angelica@CourteousCanine.com](mailto:Angelica@CourteousCanine.com).

**Fitness** -- We are looking for a certified human fitness instructor to conduct handler fitness group classes at Courteous Canine, Inc.'s main location. If you are interested, please contact [Angelica@CourteousCanine.com](mailto:Angelica@CourteousCanine.com).

**Part time Dog Trainer** -- We are always interested in talking to certified trainers who are interested in teaching clicker training at Courteous Canine, Inc. part time. A commitment to force-free training is first and foremost. A minimum of one year of dog training experience and preferably completion of program at [www.CASInstitute.com](http://www.CASInstitute.com) is desired. For more information or to interview please contact [Angelica@CourteousCanine.com](mailto:Angelica@CourteousCanine.com)



If you have ideas for newsletter content or pictures you would like to contribute please email [Info@CourteousCanine.com](mailto:Info@CourteousCanine.com)

**Happy Clicker Training,**

***The Staff of Courteous Canine, Inc.***