

# Sunshine Obedience School

## Gerianne F. Darnell

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Dear Obedience/Rally/Agility/Nosework Enthusiast:

I am pleased to announce that I will again offer obedience, rally, nosework and agility classes this spring. Day classes will start on Monday and Tuesday, February 26-27, and Night classes will start on Monday and Tuesday night, March 19-20.

Day classes are four weeks long and the night classes are six weeks long, running in continuous sessions until mid-November. We do take a three week break in July over the hottest part of the summer. There are also no classes during Memorial Day and Labor Day week.

A new sport that has generated a lot of interest in the area is nosework, and since the AKC is now involved, demand for nosework classes is even higher. Dogs are taught to recognize various scents, such as birch, clove, etc., and eventually there are container, interior, exterior, and vehicle searches. I will be teaching two foundation nosework classes this spring, Monday mornings at 9 AM, starting February 26, and Tuesday nights at 6 PM starting March 20. If you are interested in beginning nosework classes, you will have specific instructions as to what to bring to class and what to purchase to get started. There are some different "rules" for nosework class than there are for obedience and agility classes, so stay tuned! I have managed to get students a 10% discount for nosework supplies from a retailer that ships promptly, and I have been very impressed with them. The Monday morning nosework beginners are taking the current agility class slot at 9 AM, and that will only be for the first four weeks, as the Monday morning agility classes will resume on Monday, March 26 at 9 AM. We will then funnel the daytime beginning nosework people in to a different class/time after that first initial four weeks.

Also on Monday mornings beginning February 26th at 10:30 AM will be the Advanced Nosework class. The dogs in this class should be proficient on all five odors, along with being comfortable with all four element searches. The Advanced Nosework class will occasionally have "field trips" to various areas for different nosework searches.

The Tuesday morning obedience classes will begin on February 27th with Open at 9:30 AM, followed by Novice at 10 AM, and Utility at 11 AM. Open and Novice dogs will do their stays together at 10 AM. The day time classes will run in four week sessions, on a separate schedule from the

night time classes. The novice and open obedience classes this year will feature instruction on the new "Command Discrimination" exercise.

Night classes will begin on March 19-20. The two classes on Monday night will be a Novice/Intro to Open Obedience Class at 6 PM, followed by an advanced nosework class at 7 PM. This advanced nosework class will also occasionally have field trips to expose the dogs to different scenting conditions.

Tuesday night will feature a beginning nosework class at 6 PM, and if there is interest, I will hold a rally class at 7:15 PM. The rally class will concentrate on the new Master Rally exercises, along with the advanced and excellent rally exercises.

Cost of the four week day time classes are \$70 for the first class, \$60 for the second class, and \$50 for the third class. The cost for one dog in any of the evening classes will be \$90 per six week session; the second dog/class from the same family will be \$80 per six week session, and the third class will be \$70. If there is space for drop ins, that will be \$20 per day/night, \$15 for the second dog. Please call or e-mail to see if there is space.

Aggressive dogs will not be allowed in any class. Obedience and nosework classes will be in the obedience building, which is matted, heated, and air conditioned. Agility classes will be held in my unheated dirt-floor building, and you will also be working outside as soon as the weather/light conditions permit. All of the classes will start and end on time, so promptness is important! The exercise area for the dogs is south of the driveway (on your left as you drive in), do NOT let your dog eliminate north of the driveway or around any of the agility equipment. Please pick up after your dog, baggies will be provided. With so many dogs in the various classes, you \*must\* pick up after your dog, no exceptions, even in the dark, so you might want to bring a little flashlight early in the year when it is still dark during class. Be sure and park completely on the pavement and not on any of the grassy areas, especially this winter/spring when it will be so muddy. Please park close together to conserve parking space for those coming later. And if you're doing both obedience/nosework and agility on the same day/night, bring a separate pair of shoes, it gets ugly in the obedience room if you do agility and then walk through the snow and mud to do obedience :-)

And, my very biggest "thing", do NOT drive up the driveway a hundred miles an hour, I don't care how late you are. We have a lot of dogs, cats, and people that could be in the driveway at any given moment. If you do this, you will be spanked :-) And do be careful driving out, stop and look both ways, and then look again before you pull out of the driveway.

If there are any questions as to whether class will be held due to inclement weather, check your e-mail as I will be sending out a general announcement by 3 PM at the latest for evening classes and by 8 AM for morning classes. Except in \*very\* extreme heat (It's true, it IS cooler in the country!), class will most likely be held unless driving conditions are dangerous, and since the obedience building is air conditioned, heat will not be a criteria for canceling obedience, rally, or nosework class. Bad weather, of course, will be!

Class size is limited, and there has been a lot of interest in all of these classes. Don't assume you've got a spot in class just because you have been in a previous class or told me at some point you wanted to do it, get your registration in ASAP. If you wish to enroll in obedience, rally, agility and/or nosework class, please return the attached registration form, release form, and class fee. Private lessons are always available and are \$50 an hour, \$30 for half an hour. The agility and obedience buildings are also available for rent for training, \$10 for either building or \$15 for both, per person per hour.

I am looking forward to another great year of classes! If you have any questions, don't hesitate to e-mail or call me at (712) 526-2252.

thanks, Gerianne

**Directions to Sunshine Obedience School:**

Take I-80 to I-29 South. Take the Iowa School For The Deaf/Highway 92 exit. Turn right from the exit and go to the stoplight. This is the intersection of Highways 92 and 275. Turn right (south) on Highway 275 (also called Wabash Ave.) for 2.2 miles. Turn left onto the Pioneer Trail (a paved road.) Go four miles. Turn right onto 240th Street (gravel road). We are the fourth place on the right, the number is 11092. We are on top of the hill after the bike trail. The agility building is the furthest building on the right

## Registration Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (home/cell/work): \_\_\_\_\_

Dog's Name, Breed, Age: \_\_\_\_\_

**DAY TIME CLASSES - Four weeks, \$70 for first class, \$60 for second, \$20 drop in**

**Nosework Class (Monday - Beginning - 9 AM)**

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**Nosework Class (Monday - Advanced - 10:30 AM)**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Agility Class (Monday - Advanced - 9 AM beginning March 26)**

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**Obedience Class (Tuesday - Beginning/Intermediate Open 9:30 AM):**

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**Obedience Class (Novice - 10:00 AM):**

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**Obedience Class (Tuesday - Utility 11:00 AM):**

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**NIGHT TIME CLASSES - Six weeks, \$90 for first class, \$80 for second, \$20 drop in**

**Obedience Class (Monday night – Novice, Beginning Open - 6 PM, starting March 19):**

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**Nosework class (Monday night - Advanced - 7 PM starting March 19)**

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**Nosework Class (Tuesday night - Beginning - 6 PM starting March 20)**

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**Rally Class (Tuesday night – Master, Excellent and Advanced - 7:15 PM starting March 20):**

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**Please return registration form, release form and class fee before the start of classes to:**

**Gerianne Darnell  
11092 240th St.  
Council Bluffs, IA 51503**

**Release Form for 2018 Agility, Obedience, Rally, Herding, Nosework, and Tracking Classes**

**AGREEMENT**

In consideration of the opportunity to participate in the 2018 Sunshine Obedience School agility, obedience, tracking, and/or herding classes I agree to hold Sunshine Obedience School, Sunshine Veterinary Clinic, Gerianne Darnell, and George Darnell harmless from cause directly or indirectly to a person or thing by the act of my dog while in or upon the session premises or near entrance thereto, and I personally assume all responsibility and liability for any such claim; and I further agree to hold the aforementioned parties harmless from any claim for loss of my dog(s) by disappearance, theft, death or otherwise, and from any claim for damage or injury, being caused or alleged to be caused by the theft, death or otherwise, and from any claim for damage or injury, being caused or alleged to be caused by the negligence of the parties aforementioned, or by the negligence of any other person, or any other cause or causes. I hereby assume the sole responsibility for and agree to indemnify and save the aforementioned parties harmless from any and all loss and expense (including legal fees) by reason of the liability imposed by law upon any of the aforementioned parties for damage because of bodily injuries, including death at any time resulting therefrom, sustained by any person or persons, including myself or of my participation in class, howsoever such injuries, death or damage to property may be caused, and whether or not the same may have been caused or may have been alleged to have been caused by negligence of the aforementioned parties or any of their agents, or any other persons. If my dog causes the death of a sheep or duck, I agree that I will pay \$200 for sheep replacement and \$35 for duck replacement.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Dog(s) Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone (Day) \_\_\_\_\_ (Evening) \_\_\_\_\_