

# Therapy Dog Class

(TDI) bases its Therapy Dog Test on the AKC CGC test. Besides the 10 components of the AKC CGC, additional components are added and there are some variations on the AKC's components.

## **The additional ones are:**

- *Leave it*, where the dog walks past food on the ground and shall ignore the food after the command Leave it.
- *Say Hello*, where the dog is made readily accessible for petting (i.e. small dogs can be placed on a person's lap or can be held, medium or large dogs can sit on a chair or stand close so the dog can be easily reached.)
- *Acclimation to Infirmities* where the dog's confidence is tested to people walking with an uneven gait, shuffling, breathing heavily, coughing etc.

## **The variations include:**

- Being tested around medical equipment such as a cane, walker, wheelchair etc. These items would be included in the CGC components 2, 3, 4 and 9 (see AKC CGC).

Classes are offered occasionally to help the dog and handler achieve the confidence and behaviors that will allow the dog to pass the TDI test.

**Eligibility requirements** are the same as those for the CGC class. Dogs must be at least 1 year old to take this test and be tested on a buckle collar. Additional information can be obtained from the TDI web site [www.tdi-dog.org](http://www.tdi-dog.org)