

Jackie Dougall, Trainer

With more than 30 years' experience in training and showing dogs, Jackie Dougall is an exceptionally well qualified instructor whose greatest joy is developing strong, trusting bonds between dogs and their people. Her motto, "respect at both ends of the leash," underscores her commitment to training tactics which are safe, positive, humane and fun.

Jackie's expansive professional qualifications include showing dogs in a variety of AKC, UKC, and International Kennel Club dog shows since the age of 10 years old to include National Specialties and the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show in NYC. She not only shows her own dogs but trains and handles dogs for clients as well. She has successfully shown several dogs to their breed championships. She's always in the ribbons, sometimes with perfect scores in obedience and rally. Several of her students also have achieved obedience and rally titles and always in the top four placements. She gets a thrill taking her dogs sheep herding and watching them do what they were bred to do. Jackie and her dogs have fun with freestyle, obedience routines set to music think of it as dancing with dogs. Out of the ring, she has worked as a veterinary technician, and for seven years was a top trainer and mentor/trainer for a major pet supply store. Additionally, to ensure the safety and comfort of animal actors, she has served as the American Humane Association's representative at the filming of various movies (*The Truman Show*), television shows (*Second Noah*) and commercials, as well as during the making of *101 Dalmatians* at Walt Disney World in Orlando. In years past she was named Humanitarian of the Year by a group in Citrus county for her rescue efforts for a dog named Karma.

Jackie improves her training skills through regular participation in webinars and workshops, and her services are recommended by a number of high profile veterinarians. She is a member of the Association of Professional Dog Trainers, and is certified AKC/ S.T.A.R. Puppy, Canine Good Citizen Community Canine, and Urban Canine Good Citizen Evaluator. She is also a certified evaluator for Bright and Beautiful Therapy Dogs, Inc. Jackie is the founder of the local B&BTD group in Pasco County, and established the Visiting Dog program at Medical Center of Trinity, which enables therapy dog teams to bring joy and comfort to hospitalized patients and their families. The therapy dogs which were all students of Jackie's – some of whom were traumatized rescue animals – also visit schools, (Jackie formed B&BTD school program for the Great American Teach In), libraries, nursing homes and other facilities where the dogs' healing presence is highly valued. She is a proud supporter of the Trinity Rehabilitation Dog Days, a benefit for pets in need, where for the past four years where her corgis have been the featured *bride and groom*. "It's a good feeling to make a difference in another person's life and help an animal at the same time," she says.

While Jackie has documented success in providing foundation-to-advanced obedience training to puppies and dogs of varying sizes, breeds and temperaments, she gives special attention to the more complicated "dogs with issues," those shy, reactive or impulsive dogs who are often mischaracterized as aggressive or problem dogs. She

provides ongoing consultation to various rescue organizations, and offers foster care and rehabilitative services for “last chance” dogs that have been deemed unadoptable due to their behavioral problems. She has instructed blind, deaf and mobility-impaired dogs, some of whom now work as therapy dogs. She is also sensitive to the requirements of special-needs people, and has successfully trained service dogs that provide mobility and alerting assistance to their human companions.

From Jackie’s perspective, the most vital ingredient in the training process is trust. “It’s important to me that a dog never loses trust in its owner, and the owner never loses trust in me,” she says. To support those trusting relationships, she takes time to connect with each dog and human with whom she works. She provides ongoing education about breed traits, body language and behavioral/developmental stages, and includes affectionate handling and lighthearted play with the dogs in every training session. A good sign is that the dogs enter class with their tails wagging and are eager to start their lessons and seem to not want the session to end.

Whether your ambition is to compete with your top dog in the show ring, to work with your impeccably behaved therapy dog in the community, or to enjoy a fulfilling relationship with your obedient companion dog at home, Jackie’s training methods are designed to develop focused communication and foster a profoundly loving bond between yourself and your canine partner.