

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:00:06] The Canine Condition. Come. Sit. Stay. Welcome to The Canine Condition podcast. My name is Jacqueline Pinol. I am an actor, documentary filmmaker, and animal rescue advocate. The Canine Condition podcast is a platform to bring awareness to dog adoption, and to provide all dog lovers and pet owners with information and resources on how to raise a healthy and well balanced dog. If you are thinking about getting your first dog, or just want to know where and how you can help a dog in need, this is also a place for you.

[00:00:45] Does balance exist in your life? Because there's no question we all need it, at least in some areas of life. We all know that too much of any one thing is not good for us, like too much chocolate or stress. How do we incorporate balance into our daily lives? No matter what we do for a living and what we come home to at the end of a long day, the sound of having a balanced lifestyle is definitely more appealing than having chaos, disorder, or a whirlwind of unpredictability. Just like we need that balance in our lives, so do our domesticated canine companions. They actually depend on it more than we do because they have no way of dealing with confusion, fear, stress, frustration, or anxiety unless they have clear lines of communication with their human companions. If they don't have a schedule or daily structure, they too are probably starving for balance.

[00:01:45] Since it is my goal on this podcast to also have guests who are knowledgeable and trustworthy in this area, I am thrilled to have Brittanie Gray, founder and owner of Gray's Canine Academy in Georgia, as my guest on the podcast today. Brittanie has been training and rehabilitating dogs for 13 years. She develops a training program to fit your dog's needs because dog training is not one-size-fits-all. Gray's Canine Academy is dedicated to bringing families closer together by giving them the dog they want and deserve; an extremely balanced and well-behaved dog. So let's get to it. Welcome to the podcast, Brittanie.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:02:25] Thank you. Thank you for having me.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:02:27] Yes. I'm so happy to have you share your message with us today.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:02:31] Excellent.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:02:31] Tell me, when was the moment you decided that becoming a professional dog trainer was your calling?

Brittanie Gray:

[00:02:38] So I don't know if it was so much of a "moment." I've been doing dog training for fun since I can remember, since I was a little kid. And I've just grown an interest in just learning. We rode horses and trained horses and that kind of piqued my interest a little bit in that. But it just kind of led to dog training. And when I started help and rescues is when it really, I guess, took off is, I can actually help these dogs that couldn't find homes and turn them around, and they actually got good homes and did really, really well with their new families.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:03:18] Right. And for my listeners, I would like you to know that I met Brittanie Gray back in 2014. Under one of those circumstances, I was helping save dogs out of Georgia shelters. Brittanie Gray is in Georgia, and she was highly recommended by one of the foster moms that was taking care of one of the dogs I sponsored. Do you remember Abbie?

Brittanie Gray:

[00:03:37] Yes.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:03:38] And Tyson? So two American Bulldog Mix Bully breeds. And they were just lost in the system. It was sort of like nobody knew what kind of home they needed. And they were very either shy, or unpredictable. You just didn't know if they liked dogs or all people. There were too many questions unanswered, but they were the most lovable, sweet, deserving dogs. So I called Brittanie. I introduced myself and I said, "I am raising money to sponsor the training for these dogs. Will you take them on?" And she did. And so there is that result that you say both of them are still with their loving families in Georgia. And it was all because of the training and pet owners who committed to following through with all the tools that you gave them.

[00:04:28] So having said that, is that a challenge for you, training dogs? But what happens when you hand them off? Fully trained, the model citizen is handed over to the family. What happens then?

Brittanie Gray:

[00:04:42] So it can be difficult sometimes because when you have a dog and you've seen the bad side of them. So you know without training, they can go backwards.

[00:04:53] So for a new owner to take over the dog, they only see the good side. So they get a little lenient on the dog. So I have to be pretty upfront and say, "Look, this is what needs to happen." And I record everything, all my dog training. I take pictures, I record just so I have a record of this is how the dog was. And it also gives me a good reminder of what I've accomplished, too. So it's kind of like a win-win here. But I can also show those to the new adopted families and say, "Look, this is where he was," because I want to be completely honest and up front, because if they get a dog that they can't handle and don't think they can handle, we definitely don't want them to be returned.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:05:40] Right. And there are some people who don't think they need training, but their dogs have issues. So I hear people complain or share in stories the annoying things or the difficult task of the barking, the pulling on leash, the jumping on people, I mean you name it. Even up to being aggressive with other dogs or very fearful. So then it's unpredictable if that fear will turn into aggression or just pure nerves and they live in that.

[00:06:13] What do you say to people who encounter those situations with their pets and they're not keen on going to dog training? How do we convince them?

Brittanie Gray:

[00:06:22] I try and kind of relate it into people form. So if I were to see a person living in fear all the time, some of those with big hearts and actually know how to help a person that's like that, might want to help a person get out of that because who wants to live with high anxiety, with fear, thinking

something's going to happen to you right around the corner every single moment? I mean who wants to live like that? Nobody. Nobody wants to live like that.

[00:06:54] So I try and make it to where it's relatable to the owner in hopes that they're going to say, "Well, I wouldn't want to live like that." In hopes that they're going to actually get their dog training and actually maintain the training is the more important part. And you have a fearful dog, you have to be an advocate for them. You know, you can't just have every single person walk up to him or every single dog walk up to him. They may never be that happy-go-lucky, Labrador-friendly-type personality. But they can be your best friend. They can go out to town with you, and it's just a level of structure. And that allows the dog to believe that you are its protector so that way it doesn't have to live in fear.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:07:37] That's a really good way to put it, Brittanie. I actually never thought about it that way, but it's like humans who go to therapy. So dog training is a form of therapy. So for a given time, you provide that and then it's time for the family to take the tools from you and say, "Hey, we're going to continue this until it sets in," right?

Brittanie Gray:

[00:07:56] Right.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:07:57] Now, is there a point where you think the family can get a little more lenient and relaxed, they can follow some rules and stick to the commands and stuff, but they don't have to be sticklers every single day?

Brittanie Gray:

[00:08:09] Yes, the tools are supposed to be tools. Now, there are some dogs that push limits a little bit more, or they just might need a little bit more structure than some other dogs. But most dogs, you work with them and as long as you are strict in the very first few months, or if you get them as a puppy and then train them for the first year, maybe two, you can start getting a lot more lenient and letting them have free roam around the house and stuff like that. And dogs that have had bad issues that try to get them to be better, those ones are... you have to be a little bit more strict on those just because they've lived a bad life and now we're trying to have them live the good life.

[00:08:52] So they're kind of going back and forth and it really just depends. Anything can trigger it, it's kind of like PTSD. And so you want to make sure that you're prepared for every scenario or situation that might occur that might trigger the dog for something. And there are so many owners that say, "Oh, my dog just all of a sudden did this." And in reality, it's actually been building for months and months. And so we try to teach our clients what a dog looks like when they're starting to get nervous or unsure. On Facebook or Instagram, I've actually posted some videos of just trying to teach the world what a dog looks like when they're unsure and when it's not a good time to pet your dog, or when is a good time to pet your dog, and just trying to avoid rewarding bad behaviors and rewarding the better behaviors.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:09:52] Right. Okay. And that makes sense to me. Obviously, I've had four of my six professionally trained, one of them by you, my sweet Frances, who is a Lab Pittie Mix. And she was picked up as a stray in Georgia back in 2014. She didn't actually become my dog until 2017, but in those three years, she was in foster homes. Nobody was really applying to adopt her through the rescue. We got her trained. I brought her over to me to foster, and of course she never left because you gave me a model citizen.

[00:10:26] She's fantastic. So the big thing with dog training is that it can be costly. So if people cannot afford it or have to save up for it, let's say they plan on doing it and they can't right away, do you think there are ways that they could start at least get the ball rolling at home, things that they can do on their own to address the issues they're having with their dog? And where would they find these tools?

Brittanie Gray:

[00:10:50] Yes. Me as a trainer, I prefer if your dog's aggressive or fearful, reactive, I would not even try. As a person that doesn't know what they're doing because timing and consistency, and timing is in the very beginning. [inaudible 00:11:08] you have to have great timing. And if your timing is off, you can actually make the dog more aggressive or more fearful. So if they do have those issues, I would absolutely seek professional help. But one of the things that you can help veterinarians, trainers or just neighbors, people around you, if your dog's aggressive or reactive, you can actually muzzle train it just so everybody stay safe. And it also allows the owner not to be so stressed. Muzzle training is, there's bunches of videos on YouTube, Instagram, Facebook, and it's pretty easy. It's more of like a trick. You have to treat at the end of the muzzle and the dog gets the treat when it puts its nose in the muzzle.

[00:11:51] So that way you're not... it's more of a positive outlook to it. But that's just for those kind of things.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:12:00] What if it's a dog like, "My dog chews everything," or, "My dog is just so crazy and jumping and just has so much energy."

Brittanie Gray:

[00:12:07] Yeah.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:12:08] Those seem, to me, easy things to fix based on my experience, but people have different experiences. So I don't know, what would you say to those kinds of clients?

Brittanie Gray:

[00:12:17] So from the very get go, I would crate train. That's going to help prevent chewing, at least, and prevent chewing things... There are some dogs that will just chew walls. And there are some dogs that will just chew everything, like baby toys, kid toys, and not their dog toys. So crate training would be a good way of doing that. Supervising. Supervise, supervise, supervise. That is like the biggest, best thing you can ever do. If you supervise your dog, you are actually able to correct your dog. And a correction can literally be anything. You can say, "Hey!" If you're close to it, you can just kind of tap them, just kind of distract the dog a little bit. You can also do positive reinforcement and try and get them to come back to the food and not jump all over the guests.

[00:13:15] There's bunches of videos out there, though. "Place" is a good one, like when you have guests over, "place" is just like "go to your bed" and that's just allows the guests to move around with ease without the dog getting in the way or jumping on you, trying to lick you, or nip your hands and stuff like that.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:13:31] What about the barking? People are like, "Barks at the UPS guy and the mailman," and there's a laundry list of people they'll bark at if the doorbell rings. That's tough. I do have one dog that started

that recently. And I'll be honest, it's not an easy thing to correct and be consistent with. What do you suggest?

Brittanie Gray:

[00:13:49] So there are many tools out there that can help with that. They've got Pet Convincers. They've got bark collars. I do not suggest bark collars if they are super cheap because they are horrible.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:14:03] What is a bark collar specifically? I don't know a collar by that name.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:14:07] Well, different companies have different names on it. So the e-collars that we use for dog training, they actually call it the "bark-less collar." You can actually set it to allow the dog to bark so many times. So if somebody has their dog just kind of free-roaming in the house, like Chihuahuas, little dogs, they like to bark at everything.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:14:26] Right.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:14:27] You can get a bark collar and set it to bark 10 times because some people like the option of their dog protecting their home.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:14:35] Right. Or strangers or somebody outside knowing, "there's a dog in there."

Brittanie Gray:

[00:14:39] And then once it gets to so many barks, it'll do a beep and then it'll do a stim. And you can set it to whatever stim you would like. So typically a small dog would go on really low levels. There are really hard-headed dogs, or not really hard-headed, but just strong dogs, I guess ones that-

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:14:58] They're like stubborn or they can take a lot.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:15:00] Yes. And so you can go up to the higher levels on that. I would say the average is probably a level two or three for me or most dogs.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:15:09] And what does it do to the dog? Because a lot of people hear these comments or suggestions and they cringe or they go, "no, no, I'm not hurting my dog. I'm not going to hurt them to train them."

Brittanie Gray:

[00:15:19] Right. A stim is providing something that's uncomfortable, but it's not like putting up your hand to an electrical fence, and getting zapped by lightning or anything like that.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:15:33] Right.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:15:33] [crosstalk 00:15:33] that. These are set up like TENS units. So it more contracts the muscle and the dogs have no clue what that is. So a doctor or chiropractor, whoever can explain that, what a TENS unit is, which helps contract the muscles, helps loosen up the muscles so you're not so tense. It's used in massage therapy all the time. But the dogs, we can't explain that to, so it more or less just kind of distracts them, especially when it's on lower levels. And what we're trying to do is distract them enough to create a pattern. So when they bark, they get distracted and they kind of look away like, "What is this tickle on me?"

[00:16:11] So that's one of them. That's one of the easier ones [inaudible 00:16:14]. If you live in a house and your dog only barks in the kennel when you leave, that's probably the better way to go, I would suggest, if you want a quicker fix. Now you can do a lot of other different training stuff that's out there. If you just tire out the dog and then put it in the kennel, that helps a lot. If you put an anxious dog in the kennel, you're only asking for it to bark and freak out.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:16:39] Gotcha.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:16:40] So it really helps to have a good, solid exercise, mental and physical process before you even put them in the kennel. They also have Pet Convincers, which are just compressed air, just noise. It's kind of like the water bottle. But I don't prefer the water bottle method because I don't like my dogs wet.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:16:59] Yeah, that's a good point, actually. And it's funny as you're talking, I'm thinking I know that when I say dog training is expensive, I am referring obviously to the board-and-train programs or the programs where people are like, "I'm going to just send my dog off to get fixed." Which is another thing I want to talk about because there's a misconception of, "I'm going to send it to the trainer to get fixed. It's going to come back and be great and we're just going to move on with our lives," which is not really how it works. But people can also just pay one private lesson, get tips like the ones you're giving us here today, and then go home and kind of do that homework. Right?

Brittanie Gray:

[00:17:35] Right. So how we do everything is, I have a whole list of homework, so there's a written part of the homework and then I have two separate videos. One, that is how you hold the leash, how you add pressure on the leash to make the dog sit or down. And then and then also corrections for on leash. And then we also have one that is for e-collar and to when you use it, how to use it and things like that. So there's plenty of things to learn while the dog is actually in training. So of course, the more somebody studies, the better and easier it is to learn when they actually come and pick up their dog.

[00:18:17] But yes, it is not a fix. Once your dog has experienced bad behaviors for so many months, they're most likely going to test it for months and months after that. I always call about the first month of just any dog coming to live with you. So you can get [inaudible 00:18:34] a rescue, a trainer-

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:18:36] So like the honeymoon phase?

Brittanie Gray:

[00:18:37] Yes. And I call it more of an observant phase for a dog because they literally observe who's boss, who's making the rules, what's going to be expected of this dog, and everything else. So when all we do is cuddle and cuddle and love, and then we don't ever teach the dog, "don't do this" or "don't do that," these are the rules. This is the structure we're providing for you. And if we don't teach that in the first month, that's where typically dogs will start... you'll start seeing bad behaviors.

[00:19:09] So a lot of people they'll these dogs from rescues like, " my gosh, he was so great the first month, or the first two weeks," or however long it takes for the dog for its honeymoon phase. And then all of a sudden, the dog's jumping fences, or jumping on people, or fast-running around the house and breaking lamps. Or it might get food aggressive at that point.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:19:31] They develop later or they start to show up. And is it one of those things that, of course, I've encountered this in speaking to different trainers when I've had my dogs in training, is that too much love or they're not having to earn anything. So they kind of pick up on that and then they just go, " I could do whatever I want because I get loved anyway."

Brittanie Gray:

[00:19:50] I kind of consider it like the king and queen. King and queen... People deliver their food and they're like ring a bell or something and they're like, "Hey, I want some grapes," or something.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:20:04] That's good, actually I just had the visual of that.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:20:06] Yeah. I just-

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:20:07] Right, right.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:20:08] [crosstalk 00:20:08] get it to that. So when a dog's not having to do anything for you, you're not telling it to go lie down, you're not telling it, "Hey, I need space," or, "Hey, walk with me, not in front of me and pull me down the street." Simple, simple stuff. You know, the dog just thinks it's on top everything, and it's thinking it's making the decisions because it's the owners haven't made any decisions with the dog and haven't taught it anything. I think the most important part of having a dog is probably the first month or two, and that's when you need to do most of the training. It's not waiting six months or a year. It's literally the first two months are the most important time to train your dog.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:20:48] And puppies too, right? Just because a puppy is a puppy, and they're little, and they're so cute, and they're harmless. But I've heard some crazy stories about puppies, so you also encourage people who get a puppy to train early. I would think that's even better, right?

Brittanie Gray:

[00:21:03] Absolutely. So the earlier you can train, I'm talking even if you get a dog... There's a lot of rescues where the moms don't make it, or they find a litter of puppies, or somebody throws them out, or whatever it is, and you get them at three, four, five weeks old. So you still got to give them a milk supplement and then transition them over to the squishy food and then on and on and on. But you can literally start training a dog at four weeks old.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:21:32] Oh my gosh.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:21:33] When it can see. When it can hear. When it can smell, you can start training it then. We had a little Rottweiler-Lab Mix we rescued. This was back when me and my sister were probably, I'd say 16-ish.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:21:48] Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Brittanie Gray:

[00:21:48] And that puppy, by six weeks old, knew 10 tricks. And that was just sit, shake, high-five. Super, super easy stuff. Spin. That kind of stuff. So I mean, you can train the puppy puppies early, I mean, the day you get it, you can start training it.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:22:06] Now you seem to have a gift, to me, it seems like you have this gift for communication and understanding and reading dogs. But do you think that if people dedicated themselves to that type of just being in-tune with a dog, that they could train a dog that young or at any age?

Brittanie Gray:

[00:22:22] Well all of that is positive reinforcement. It's what trainers call "luring." It's just where you have the food in your hand, and the puppy follows your hand. And that's all you do with it. And as long as that puppy follows your hand... And I mean you can literally just do a straight line. Food in your hand, do a straight line puppy follows it, give the puppy food. Now it's learning to already follow the human.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:22:46] Gotcha. Okay.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:22:47] Just that simple thing, straight line. And then I'll do circles and all this other stuff to see where their skills are. But yeah, I mean it's not difficult at all. And as long as you pay attention to your puppy or your dog, you'll have it down pat.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:23:05] That's awesome. That's awesome advice. So to all my listeners out there who are thinking about getting a puppy, a dog, or have one, and if you're hesitant or wondering about training, at least start to do some research and some homework. There's so many tools out there. And I hope that this podcast episode gives you enough of that to jump start on training early. I know how much I've

benefited from it, and I feel like I could bring another dog home that fits with my pack to have play dates, which I do all the time. And I always feel safe because my dogs will listen to me.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:23:36] Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:23:36] So that's another nice empowering thing. You know, I'm 5'3". I'm petite. But I feel like I can pretty much handle any dog. I know you're also slender, petite woman, and I see you handle these crazy cases. When I follow you online and I go, "Wow, she's really got this down."

Brittanie Gray:

[00:23:54] Yeah.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:23:55] So you don't think it's about strength or size or anything? You really think it's about how we read dogs, or how we address the issue with training?

Brittanie Gray:

[00:24:06] I think it goes more towards the energy and what you want to do in training. So for me, I have a harder time trying to build drive, and I have a really easy time reading a dog and make it a great house pet like go lay on the couch and do nothing. Now there are other trainers that are way better at building drive. Most owners are great at building drive, where they want to go with it. So they think playing fetch, all these games that the dog's like, "Yes! Yes! Yes! I want to go. I want to go." But then they have a hard time just sleeping on the couch or doing nothing. Every single time the owner just works with them, they're wanting to just go and go and go. And that's a lot of what owners do.

[00:24:53] When a puppy is young and then they build it, build it, build it, that's typically when they call me. So it's I like to balance it where you've got to create an off-switch, which is, "All right. No. We're done with it now." And that's where energy plays in with it. So I always say be the energy you want your dog to be. And then also if your dog's not grasping that concept really quick, you can always put a leash on it or I mean, you can just tap it with your hands a lot of times. A small puppy, you can just poke one finger at it.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:25:28] Right? Right. I've done that with my Pugs. I used two fingers to poke them in the belly when I want to, "Hey, attention."

Brittanie Gray:

[00:25:34] Yeah, exactly. And then they get all surprised and, "What? Why are you doing that?" And like great. All right. Cut it out.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:25:43] Okay. Yeah, I love that. And I love to hear that there are easy, family-friendly ways to train your dogs. That we can take on the training after learning from somebody like you, or that we can do homework and research if we can't afford training or are hesitant to try to put our dog in a program.

Because I feel like a lot of people flinch at dog training or dog trainers, and we'll get into that because I have some questions about that.

[00:26:12] But talk to me right now. I wanted to go back and talk about these tools and collars. Talk to me about the prong collar because I learned to use a prong collar when I had Dublin trained. And from then on, I've used prong collars on walks. I'm a big fan of them. I know there's a specific kind to buy because it's rounded at the tips. But I also don't misuse them and a lot of people do not like even looking at them. Now they make covers for them, I think, because so many dog owners, we get judged. I definitely get the looks, but I'm very confident with the prong collar. So I know I'm not hurting my dog and they really work so well for me. What is your experience teaching dog owners how to use it or do you use it to train the dogs?

Brittanie Gray:

[00:26:57] So the prong collars, I feel, especially in pet training, they're the easiest tool. So they're designed to actually feel like the mother dog nipping you. So when the mother dog starts weaning the puppies, they'll nip at the puppies when it's not time to nurse. And so the puppies are already getting this type of sensation feeling before they even go to the owners. And a prong collar is supposed to resemble that. Now, in order for a prong collar to be safe, it has to fit pretty snug. It can't be like gangster chain, like hanging down on the chest type stuff. I mean, we've got to make sure that the... And the very top of the neck is where you're going to get most of your leverage.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:27:52] Okay. And that's where the momma... You're right. The mom dog grabbed some from there, too, right? I've seen that in movies, too. When you first see moms and their puppies.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:28:00] Mm-hmm (affirmative). But when you have a prong collar too loose in the dog, and you've never done any training to this dog, and it's just like, "cool, the dog responded and it's not pulling as hard," because it's not used to this pressure on its neck. But it only lasts for so long. You walk your dog every day and it gets used to that pressure, it's going to start pulling on the prong anyway. So there's a method to it.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:28:24] Right. There is.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:28:24] But if it's too loose, that dog's going to see a squirrel and be like, "Squirrel!" Boom, hit the end of the leash. And then that's where you see a lot of these bad Internet things, pictures where there's holes in the dog's neck. And it's because the owners didn't properly fit it to the dog. And so there's only pressure on one side of the neck when it's supposed to be all the way around the neck. And it creates it to where it's not going to put any holes in the neck.

[00:28:54] I actually just recently watched a video and this guy, he put a prong collar on a balloon. So he put one that was properly fitted and then he put one that was not properly fitted and then that was not properly fitted. And the one that was not properly fitted popped the balloon, when he did the pop with it. And then the one that was properly fitted, he literally just smashed it all around, popping it all over the place and it never popped the balloon.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:29:19] Interesting. Wow.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:29:21] So it's very important that it's fit properly. And if somebody doesn't know how to fit a prong collar properly, they need to, absolutely, either look it up. Really. I feel like there's at least 20 trainers that I can think of just off the top of my head that actually shows a how-to video on how to properly fit a prong collar.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:29:43] And I always do encourage everyone, even friends... I don't try to say, "Hey, go ahead and use one, they're great." I say, "Learn to use one. Definitely do at least one lesson with a trainer, if that's something you want to lean on as a tool."

Brittanie Gray:

[00:29:56] Any tool can be used improperly. I mean, even harnesses. There's been some where the armpits of the dogs are rubbed raw to the point... I mean they couldn't wear anything. And I mean there's been one that was so tight it grew all the way around its chest, just like an embedded collar, but it was embedded in the chest on around the rib cage.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:30:20] Oh, my goodness.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:30:21] So I mean, even harnesses can get to that point. So it's not just e-collars, prong collars, all those other ones. I mean just the simple stuff that people use every single day can actually be abusive if used incorrectly.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:30:37] Improperly.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:30:38] Right.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:30:38] Right. Okay. Now I wanted to shift to something since we've been talking mostly about rescue dogs and dogs that you and I have worked with together, and adoption. But obviously you're running a business, you're not going to turn down a client because they didn't rescue or save their dog from a shelter. And you get a lot of clients that get dogs from breeders, or who knows, whether they're what you call "reputable breeders" or "backyard breeders." You know me, I don't support breeding. I'm not a fan. Until the day I don't see any homeless dogs in this country, then maybe I will understand breeding all the different breeds.

[00:31:12] But tell me why and how you advocate for breeders and training those puppies, so that they one day, perhaps what, don't end up in a shelter or abandoned. Or what's your logic behind that whole idea?

Brittanie Gray:

[00:31:27] So with breeders, ones that don't do it for money, they actually do it because they have two great dogs and they want to give other families the same joy that they have with their own dogs. So that being said, these dogs are typically very well behaved. I mean, even with no training. They're just naturally well behaved, or exactly what the breed is supposed to do, like Doodles right now, super popular breed.

[00:31:56] I get what you're saying. Let's say there was no rescue needed ever, and people want Doodles. What is it about this breed or why do you think it's just right now the hot... It was like when the French Bulldogs. It's like the big, "Oh, my gosh, I want a French Bulldog."

Brittanie Gray:

[00:32:11] Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:32:12] So tell me about that.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:32:13] On Doodles specifically?

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:32:14] Yeah, whatever your experience has been with working with breeders, and why you agree to train the dogs and find that it is a positive.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:32:23] I mean, any breed when you know the parents you kind of know exactly what the puppy is going to be like. It's either going to be a mixture of the mom and dad, or it's going to be the dad, or it's going to be the mom. You're not going to have two super friendly dogs and create a super aggressive dog. It's genetic, and that's why I advocate for great breeding, not the mediocre, and not the backyard breeding where it's just like, "Oh, I want to make a dollar."

[00:32:49] Doodles, right now, I feel like they're so popular because they have... Well one, everybody thinks they're hypoallergenic. Very false. Not it.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:32:58] Yes, very false people.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:33:00] Most of them are not hypoallergenic. Actually, I think 75% of them, in an article is I think is what I read, are not hypoallergenic. Most of them actually shed. Now they're making, I think it's called Australian Cobberdogs, which is not AKC recognized yet. This is just for Australia.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:33:20] Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Brittanie Gray:

[00:33:21] And they actually they just bred Labradoodle, Labradoodle, Labradoodle, Labradoodle. But they tested all of them and made sure that they are getting the hypoallergenic ones, and the perfect personality so that they are creating this specific personality, with this specific type of fur, and then

creating that breed. So I mean now it's actually becoming a breed, it's just not recognized in the United States yet.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:33:47] Okay.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:33:48] But I think that's where a lot of people are going with it because Labs, they're happy-go-lucky. They're great with kids. They love fetching. And what is a kid's favorite thing to do with a dog?

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:33:59] Play fetch. Run around. Have them chase.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:34:02] Exactly. And I mean, that's what Golden Retrievers and Labs are best at. And then the Poodles are just thrown in for the hypoallergenic side of it, but I mean, it's just... I think people don't do their research a lot of times, and I mean it's the same thing as a person getting a Belgian Malinois and they have no clue how much training they actually require.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:34:22] Oh, yes. The Belgian Malinois. People love to get them as puppies and then... When they hit one year old.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:34:28] Yep, at about nine, 10 months old, they're like, "Oh, I can't handle this." They're jumping fences, digging holes, jumping all over, biting things. I mean, what they're bred to do. If you're a responsible breeder, you breed what a great specimen of a dog is: health and personality. You're looking for things specific, and then you want to also be... Your responsibility doesn't end there. It goes all the way to when you find homes for the dogs, making sure that they are properly going to a suited home that understands the training needs of the dog. Exactly what the personality is. Is it going to suit your life, kind of stuff. They don't want their dogs coming back to them or in shelters. So the dogs that I have ever bought, they have done that exact thing where it's... Even though I'm a dog trainer, they still want to ask me questions. "Well, how do you train? What do you? What do you plan on doing with this dog?" And so I happily tell them.

[00:35:29] Right, that's a responsible breeder. But the ones that are just breeding with no health tests. I mean, German Shepherds are the worst. People will... because they're still popular.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:35:40] Yeah, they're a great breed.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:35:42] And those are probably the most reactive dogs. There are four month, three month old puppies of German Shepherds that are reactive in a bad way that are going to turn aggressive.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:35:52] And is that because of what you're talking about? You think they weren't the mixture of mom and dad was not a good fit?

Brittanie Gray:

[00:35:58] Perfect. Yes. Either mom was fearful and aggressive, or dad was, or both were. One of them had to be. So every time I get a dog... We get Cane Corsos in, Presa Canarios, all those guardians breeds. And when I see a personality that's not supposed to be what's in the breed, I ask the owners. I was like, "Well, did you ever see the parents?" And they're like, "Well, we saw pictures of them or we saw videos of them," so you never met them in person. And then there's one person that was like, "we saw them behind a glass door and they were trying to eat us through it."

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:36:33] Oh, great.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:36:34] Well, there you go. That's why I was like, "Alright. Well thankfully you got your dog in at four months old. And let's be straight, okay? I'm going to be upfront. Your dog has probably a 90% chance if both parents were that way, it's probably 100% chance at that point, and that it's going to be aggressive." So they've got to make sure that the training is extremely structured and they're doing everything right to make sure that that dog is not going to go and get aggressive.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:37:04] Thank you for shining some light on that for me. I understand that there is a way to breed healthily and responsibly versus not, and my big beef is that we just have so many homeless dogs. I wish people could just maybe get over that, "but I want a dog that looks a certain way," and maybe find that great dog in a rescue or a shelter.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:37:22] Right. You want a purebred dog and you don't care about the pedigree, or the behavior. And maybe don't know anything about behavior. I mean go to a rescue. Test one out. Adopt. See how they're going to be, and if you really [crosstalk 00:37:38] love it and have researched the rest of it and everything else, then by all means, maybe you might be ready to get one from a breeder, but a good breeder. There's so many people that just want purebred this, or purebred that, and they could care less. And that's where the ammo comes from, or that the backyard breeders get because they're like, "Oh, these people don't care about this." And so they just breed them to make money just so that they can have a purebred dog. And then so many people are like, "Oh gosh, we're having so many problems," and it's like well...

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:38:14] Right then they call you. Yeah.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:38:17] And then I have to give the bad news of... Well...

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:38:22] We'll work on what we can work on, but they're going to have to follow through with a lot.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:38:26] Yeah.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:38:26] It's homework. It's work for the dog parents.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:38:28] But the good thing that comes from that is, I teach them how to research better and what's good and what's bad. And if you don't care about pedigree, it's probably better to go and spend \$200 at a rescue and help one. I mean, there are a lot that go in at 10 months and a year old just because they're chewing or jumping. The normal stuff that is, to me, super easy to correct. Pulling, jumping, not crate trained, or something like that. And I mean there are really nice dogs in a rescue that people get rid of. There's actually a lot of people that move for their jobs and then can't take their dog, or don't want to take their dog because it's a hassle, and those are good dogs.

[00:39:14] There are some from, what do you call, the mills. Breeding mills or whatever.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:39:20] Oh, from the puppy mills.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:39:21] Puppy mills, yeah. Those ones are not going to be great dogs. They're probably they most of times they're very, very fearful and then a lot of times they turn aggressive.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:39:30] We just had an episode on the podcast actually with an organization called Bailing Out Benji and it was their mission is to end puppy mills for that reason. They are creating a lot of the problem with the crossbreeding of those behavior issues, health issues. Backyard breeders grab those dogs, then breed them with other dogs, and then the shelters are full because people then buy them or adopt them and then they go, "Whoa, whoa, whoa. What am I dealing with?" And they don't think like, "Let me research dog training," or, "How I can educate myself to educate the dog." They just go, "Here, take it."

Brittanie Gray:

[00:40:02] Exactly. And it's just not what you're supposed to do, but people want a purebred dog from a puppy, but they don't want to pay for the genetic testing, or the perfect parents, and all this other stuff that the responsible breeders are doing. Some of them don't even come with their shots.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:40:22] Oh, yeah. A lot of them. A lot of rescue-saved dogs that just got Parvo or got Parvo because the parents didn't, the human parents, didn't vaccinate them and they got them from the breeder unvaccinated and they didn't think one vaccine that's, what, I think \$16.00 at some places, could have saved their life. Yeah.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:40:41] Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:40:41] And look, it's just about, maybe people don't know, but I hope that with podcasts like this, and even you when you come across your clientele, that you pass along simple information that people will talk about it. Because if it comes up in conversation "near the water cooler at the office" as they say, people learn things and go, "Oh, you know what? Someone at work told me blah blah blah, and could literally save a dog's life, that one vaccine.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:41:07] Exactly.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:41:07] Yeah, and as we're talking about families, and I know that you have a section in your website which is really informative and all the different types that you offer people that are having certain issues, one of them talks about helping your kids treat dogs properly, right? So a lot of families have kids, and then suddenly the dog bit the kid, and oh my gosh, they've never done this. And I've seen dogs be put down for it, or immediately turned into the shelter, or families that are pregnant, and they're like, "Ah, we're going to have a baby and we just do not have time for the dog. Here he goes in the shelter." And they are literally... Some of them are purebred Labs, Golden Retrievers, all breeds. What do you suggest or what is your take on what we should be telling families who have children so that they don't come across these issues?

[00:41:59] Typically dogs that will bite the kid are fearful or unsure, and they will nip at anything that makes them unsure. So if they're all of a sudden getting this new baby and they have no clue what it is, it makes a lot of noise and the parents... Here's the biggest mistake parents make is shoving their baby in the dog's face. And maybe not shoving that might be a little bit of a harsh word there. Love my dogs to death. I mean they're, I wouldn't say perfectly behaved, but they are behaved. I mean I could definitely probably sit a baby down on the floor and not worry about anything with my dogs, but I am not going to put my kid on the floor with my dogs free-roaming around it.

[00:42:49] Yeah.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:42:49] I mean it's just not going to happen ever, even with the best behaved dog. I'm not going to even do it. But most of these dogs are fearful and some of it is genetics. Now, of course, then again you can do training, and if it is fearful, which 90% of the time it is.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:43:06] And how much of it, do you think, lies on the human parents, as adults, as parents, teaching our children those boundaries and stuff? Because look I have a 5 year old son, and we had four dogs already when he was born, so there's a lot of stuff we put into place.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:43:22] Right.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:43:22] And so, being a mom to a newborn, and then as he's becoming a toddler, reading these posts that I would come across where people give up their dogs because they're in a situation with the child, or I see children riding dogs like little ponies and things like that. Then you're like, how can you not expect, eventually, something to trigger the dog to be like, "If you don't make this stop, I'm going to make it stop."

Brittanie Gray:

[00:43:44] Look every being on this planet. Dogs, cats, humans, probably whales and dolphins. Every being on this planet has a threshold. They have limits and everybody limits are different. And if we don't know our dogs limits, there's no predicting if your dog's going to bite the kid or not. And that all boils down to training your dog, working with your dog, spending time with your dog, knowing what your dog likes and dislikes, and if you just keep it in your house 24/7 or in a backyard, you have no clue what that dog is going to do. And so when you're bringing something new that's foreign into the house, that creates them to be very unsure, that's literally like, "I want my dog to be a protection dog. I want it to bark at whoever that comes in the house."

[00:44:37] And then now you're bringing in this new foreign object, a baby, and it's making all this noise. And what has the dog been doing for the last three years of its life? Barking at strangers. What is this baby to the dog? A stranger.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:44:51] Oh my gosh, you're right. Yeah.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:44:53] So I mean, in every dog, even if you take it slow and you do all the right stuff and you create space with your dog and everything, when your baby starts crawling, you have to make arrangements to where the baby is... You've either worked with the baby and is like, "Keep away from the dog," or just put the dog in the kennel, or separate him somehow. Because if you can't supervise them, there's no way in telling if that baby is going to go crawl all over that dog pulling its ears, pull its tail, pull its skin, do whatever. Then that goes down to its thresholds. Its mental side of it and it's... I wouldn't be taking that. They're going to snap just like they would at any other dog that's being too much to them, and they're going to snap, and a lot of times that snapping is an actual bite. Now there are other cases where most everything we see are Pit Bulls mauling a kid.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:45:49] Those are the stories that make the news you know and of course the poor Pitties get a bad rep. So I having Pitties and being an advocate for the breed, totally understand it and it makes me so angry because at the end of the day, even though their tragedies, it's the adult's responsibility to keep that from happening.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:46:06] Absolutely. And I've seen Labs tear up kids. I've seen Golden Retrievers tear up kids. I've seen a German Shepherd tear... So all these popular breeds, but they don't report it.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:46:18] Right.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:46:19] Because the Pit Bull is the hype right now of the news. And of course, if you say, "Pit Bull attacks something," on the news, more viewers are going view it. If you say, "Labrador bit a kid," they're going to be like, "Whatever it was probably a nip."

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:46:33] "Oh, it was probably just the bite." Right.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:46:34] Yeah.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:46:35] They don't even equate it.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:46:36] Mm-hmm (affirmative). But there's a lot, a lot of dogs, different breeds that will bite kids. I actually just did lessons with a dog. They were trained by a different trainer. They just had a baby. Well I think they had just had a baby... it was six or eight months old, something like that. And the dog bit the baby. This was when the nanny was there and so the baby and the dog was just free-roaming all over the apartment and the nanny, I guess, is making it a bottle or whatever she's doing, and then just hears this scream and then sees the dog running out of the room. And he's got this big blue face... Or red face, I guess it turned blue when I was there.

[00:47:20] But anyway, their dog was actually fearful. And so the training they got was actually not bad. They did not keep it up. And as much as the dog still knew the basic commands, they didn't... And keeping it up, maintaining it, they didn't take it out. There's little steps that they are missing, just like keeping a dog in the heel and making it follow instead of leading. So it started pulling on a leash, and ultimately, that dog was actually making the decisions. And so, of course, it boils and then the dogs like, "Okay, well I'm sick of this kid," and then boom. It bites.

[00:48:01] So we had to teach them, "Hey, this is how you upkeep this. This is how you're going to build confidence and you need to make sure you create a boundary." And I mean, this is the genetics of the dog. You can't fix fear. You can't fix these things. You can manage them. You can help them. You can prevent things, but you can't fix it. So I told them, "Look if you can't watch them, you need to separate them." And so he just got that really big, huge, long baby gate and put it up so that way the baby can't go and bother the dog. The dog really didn't care about the baby. It was more of when the baby was cornering it.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:48:43] It felt like it needed to defend itself just because.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:48:46] Exactly. So it's not like the dog was going to rush the gate and bite the baby. I mean, it'd probably go hide itself in a corner somewhere on the other side of the gate, and that was a mutt. I mean, it was very... I couldn't even guess the breed if I wanted.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:49:03] What it was? Okay. And it really does, like you said, boil down to "do not leave children unsupervised with dogs."

Brittanie Gray:

[00:49:10] Right.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:49:10] I mean, even I don't. I'm sorry, my son is 5. He's grown up with dogs, loves them and everything, but he is never going to be unsupervised with the dogs. At least not right now because you just never know. Plus we have a wide range of ages, so we have seniors who get moody, we have a couple of young ones who are very energetic and playful, and then we have middle-of-the-road mellow.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:49:32] And you also have it where if your dog all of a sudden gets sick, tummy aches, or maybe it ate, I don't know, a chicken bone and got stuck in the throat or whatever it is. It goes and gives it a hug, and then it presses on that, whatever it is that's stuck in the throat, boom, the dog's uncomfortable and it's going to nip. So even if your dog's perfect, right? With your kid 99% of the time, there's a chance that it's going to get sick one day, not feel good. And then it's going to have a low day. Your kid's not going to know, the kid's not going to know.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:50:07] It's serious people. I mean when we tell people, "Please be careful. You can prevent and avoid all of this, so you're not the next story in the news."

Brittanie Gray:

[00:50:16] But that's what a lot of parents don't do. They just blame the dog and they don't ever teach their kids how to respect space. And then-

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:50:25] Which is super important. It's just don't smother the dogs even if they're puppies and cute and fluffy and playful, and they're acting like they love it. Like you said, everyone has a threshold. And I wanted to, because we're talking about families and trying to advocate for families to consider dog training even with great dogs that are puppies and well behaved, and dogs that may have some issues. So there are many people nowadays, though, that call themselves or consider themselves dog trainers. So then there's a lot of mistrust from the general public not knowing who to trust or where to go to find the correct dog trainer. Sometimes they make mistakes and they go to one, two, three bad trainers and now they won't even try to go to a good trainer. How do you gain trust from the public? How do you make sure that the public understands and knows what is a safe, and good dog trainer. What does that look like?

Brittanie Gray:

[00:51:15] So I put a lot of information out there. I put videos, I put how-to videos. I don't hide what I train. Prong collars, e-collars, I don't hide any of it. There's a lot of trainers that'll hide it just to get more clients. Or maybe more likes on their page or whatever it is. But I don't hide any of my stuff. I put videos out there. I show the bad, I show the good, and I have tons of transformation videos where a dog this

bad can actually get this good, you just got to put the time into it. The trainers that say they're trainers, but they're not great, they typically don't have a lot of information out there. They don't have a lot of videos. They don't have how-to videos. They really don't have a lot out there.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:52:03] Okay. So it's kind of like a red flag for people to kind of look for the ones that are more transparent. Because I know you're in Georgia, and people can certainly reach out to you. But if they're on the other side of the country, or they need somebody in their town or their city, it's kind of like they need to start doing that homework first. They don't just go to the first one they find online.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:52:23] Right. And then also a big thing that a lot of people don't understand is they just think a dog trainer can train all dogs. That's not true. We have trainers that train protection dogs. We have trainers that train duck dogs. We have trainers that do HRD and narcotics, police work. Then we have trainers that do pet work. Then you have positive reinforcement trainers. And then of course you've got balanced trainers, which is me. I mean, there's several different trainers out there and a lot of people are like, "Oh, this is a dog trainer. Let's go to him," and the guy trains duck dogs, and so what's he going to do?

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:53:03] And duck dogs. You mean like hunting dogs?

Brittanie Gray:

[00:53:06] Yes, to go fetch birds.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:53:09] Probably not what you want if you just have a Pug or a little Maltese.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:53:14] And then here's another one is, "Oh, this guy trains German Shepherds. He's gonna be great at it." Well, these people have the idea if they want a pet German Shepherd and then this guy that's training German Shepherds is only training protection dog style German Shepherds. And so when you go to protection dog style people that focus more on that side, typically they teach your dog what we call in-drive, which is a more hyper excited type way, so it's not really ideal for the pet world.

[00:53:47] Most pet owners want a dog that can lay on the ground or the couch and be loved on, not something that can do super fancy quick sits or downs or heels. They just want to walk on the leash nicely, lay down, sit, and be well mannered. So that's another thing that people need to research.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:54:08] Okay. And what about... Sometimes people, for example, they're looking for a trainer like you because you are training family pets, but you can train the family pet that's really good and just needs obedience training. Or you can address issues like aggression or fear, or resource guarding, or leash reactivity. So they need to also look for that in a trainer, don't they? They can't just go to any trainer that gives them food and teaches them to sit, lie down, and stay.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:54:37] Right. So typically if I was not a dog trainer and I was an owner, and I knew kind of what I know today about the different type of trainers. If I needed a trainer, I would say, "Have you trained this type of behavior before?" Not this breed. So there are a lot of trainers that are not good. Dog reactivity, dog aggression, fear dogs. Most trainers that consider themselves trainers are good at obedience only. That's probably, I don't know, rough guesstimate 80% of them.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:55:12] Yeah. Just the basic commands.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:55:14] Right. Basic commands. Commands and behavior are two different things. I can teach a dog a bunch of commands and make him look fancy, and amazing, and he's fast at it. But that dog's not social, and he might bite somebody or fight another dog. I mean, you should see some of the dogs in the sport world. A lot of them are not dog-friendly.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:55:39] Oh, interesting.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:55:41] And I would say few, but there are some that are not even human-friendly. And so they have to have [crosstalk 00:55:47].

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:55:47] Wow, they're just good at doing that thing that they show off doing.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:55:49] Right.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:55:50] But they need to be kept under certain boundaries.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:55:53] Yes. And so, they wouldn't be able to take those dogs out downtown to a restaurant because, "Oh my God, look at a beautiful dog." And then boom, dog's going to bite somebody.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:56:05] Okay. So you have to know what you have, know what you need, and who can address that specific need.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:56:12] Right.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:56:13] And show you the evidence, right? Like you say, you have videos and you have actual material that shows where you've addressed those issues. If a trainer does not have evidence to show you how they've addressed it, or other clients that have come to them, maybe try another trainer.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:56:27] Yes. Try another trainer. But I guess to keep it... Because trainers, like you said earlier, they're not cheap, so you definitely want to do research before putting that money into a trainer. And I even tell my clients now, or the potential clients, they're not even clients yet, I'm like, "Look, if you want to look around or whatever it is." I don't want, especially the ones that are going to take a long time to train, I like our personalities to get along because if we don't get along, they're not going to trust me.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:57:03] You're talking about the human right? You want to get along with the actual human parents.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:57:07] Yes. I can get along with just about any dog. [crosstalk 00:57:10] Are we gonna get along? Most people I can get along with. I would say at least 99% of them yeah, but I mean there are a few that might not like my personality or how blunt I am. I'm very honest and-

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:57:26] You are. And I love that about you because from the beginning, I always knew what we were facing with a specific shelter dog, and we went for it. I think we trained about 8 or 11 together, or you trained them, I just sponsored. But they're all in great homes and thriving, which I'm just so happy about even just to recall that now. Well, thank you for that, Brittanie. And for our listeners who want to follow you or get to know more about Gray's K-9 Academy and your training methods and services, where can they find you on the Internet or on social media?

Brittanie Gray:

[00:57:59] So Facebook is just "Gray's K-9," the letter K-9, "Academy." Instagram, it's under the @graysk9training. Unfortunately, @graysk9academy was already taken. And then my website www.graysk9.com, it's G-R-A-Y-S K-9.com.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:58:23] Perfect. And I will have the live links in the show notes for this episode, so anyone listening can just click on them and find and follow Gray's K-9 Academy.

[00:58:32] Our listeners should know that I am not getting paid to advocate for anyone organization on this podcast. I choose to interview guests from organizations that I know are doing the good work for dogs and for people across America.

[00:58:44] Gray's K-9 Academy has The Canine Condition Seal of Approval from me. Thank you so much Brittanie for this lovely conversation in this dialogue that has opened up so many... I've learned so much from you every time we get to chat, so I appreciate you sharing all this knowledge with our listeners.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:59:00] Thank you, thank you so much for having me.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:59:02] All right. Take care.

Brittanie Gray:

[00:59:03] Thanks. Bye.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:59:04] I truly cherish people I know I can trust. Having had my own dog, Frances, trained by Brittanie Gray before she came to me from the rescue in Georgia, I can tell you that it is worth every effort to seek good and safe dog training, should you feel you ever need it. No matter where you live, there is someone out there you can trust and learn from. In the words of Brittanie Gray, "Where there is a will, there is away. The Gray's way." Thank you for joining me on this episode. Please subscribe to our podcast and tell your dog-loving friends. Until next time, hang on to those leashes.

Jacqueline Pinol:

[00:59:41] The Canine Condition. Come. Sit. Stay.