



FDTC Training Programs & Services

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Welcome to Family Dog!

Thank you for your interest in our training center. We have been helping families train their dogs for over 30 years. During that time we've helped train thousands and thousands of dogs and their families. We hope you choose Family Dog for all your dog training needs! **(Please note that there is only one Family Dog Training Center. Our business was started in 1979 by Kathy Lang. Although other "trainers" may use similar business names, only classes shown on this document and accompanying schedules are true Family Dog Training Center classes).**

Overview of Our Programs

We offer a wide variety of classes for all sizes, ages and breeds of dogs (regardless of pedigree!), as well as private lessons, seminars and workshops in our 9,300 square-foot facility in Kent. Group classes are limited in size to ensure individual attention. Our average class size is 7 dogs. Family members, including well-behaved children, are encouraged to attend class and participate with the dog. Instructors are available by phone and email to answer their students' questions and help with problems. Because many of our clients have multiple dogs, or take multiple classes with one dog, we offer a discount for additional dogs and/or classes on our 6-week sessions. (Note: Discount applies to dogs and/or classes from the same household when 6-week sessions of classes are taken concurrently & are paid for at the same time.)

Schedule of Classes & Prices

We know how hard it is for the average family to make time for a dog training class! That's why we offer morning, afternoon, evening and weekend classes. Students who miss a week due to illness, travel or scheduling conflicts have lots of opportunities to make up their class during the session. Please refer to our Current Schedule for fees for the various classes. Fees vary based on length of classes & session. You will find our most up-to-date class schedules online at: www.familydogonline.com.

Manners & Home Obedience / Canine Good Citizen / Therapy Dog Training

This is where most families begin their dog's education. This 6-week format allows plenty of time to learn new skills and make lots of progress. Many enjoy these classes so much they go on to earn their Canine Good Citizen certificate. Others get "hooked" and join our Agility, Rally and Competition Obedience programs! All participants receive a detailed Lesson Booklet covering the week-by-week instructions and exercises for each class, plus a copy of "Training Your Family Dog," an extensive reference tool covering all types of behavior problems, nutrition discussions, housebreaking, crate training, nail trimming and more. Each class includes time for student questions & problem solving.

Home Obedience Class Titles & Descriptions

HO1: Puppy Manners, Obedience & Obstacles – one hour per week for 6 weeks

For pups under 5 months of age when class begins &/or toy breeds under 9 months. Puppy socialization & obedience geared for young pups with short attention spans. Puppies are partnered up for play time based on size, personality and confidence level. Obedience portion of class includes walking on leash, sit & down, sit for greeting & come. Obstacles include puppy-sized agility equipment for confidence building & fun. Class also covers housebreaking, chewing & other behavior problems, nail trimming, teeth brushing & more. **The first week is for humans only; please leave your puppy at home until the second week.**

HO2: Beginning Home Obedience – one hour per week for 6 weeks

For most dogs over 5 months of age. (Very small dogs and/or very shy dogs under 9 months of age may do better in Puppy Manners class. Contact us if you have questions.) Lots of work on basic obedience & control, including walking on a loose leash, sit, down & stand stay, come, sit for greeting, go to a rug & lie down. Graduates of this class will learn to respond on the first command! For dogs with little or no formal training and dogs who've done little or no training away from home. Basic behavior problems are addressed in this class. This class is also appropriate for dogs who perform well at home, but are inconsistent around distractions. **The first week is for human training and discussion; please leave your dog at home until the second week.**

HO3: Advanced Home Obedience – one hour per week for 6 weeks

For dogs over 6 months of age who have successfully completed Beginning Home Obedience. Class works on basic exercises with food, toy, people & dog distractions in preparation for off-leash control. Drop on recall & stays out of sight are introduced. **Bring dogs the first week with current training equipment.**

HO4: Canine Good Citizen Practice & Prep & Off-Leash Control – one hour per week for 6 weeks

For dogs who have successfully completed Advanced Home Obedience. Class continues to practice basic exercises in preparation for the CGC test, plus off-leash control, drop on recall & stays out of sight. CGC tests are offered at Family Dog six times per year. **Bring dogs the first week with current training equipment.**

TD: Therapy Dog Practice & Prep – one hour per week for 6 weeks

For dogs who have earned their CGC. Class covers all the specialized dog training and human handling skills needed to pass tests offered by Therapy Dogs International and the Delta Society/Pet Partners. **Bring dogs the first week with current training equipment.**

Teaching your family. Training your dog.

Classes, private lessons & problem solving for puppy manners, home obedience, competition obedience, off-leash control, conformation handling, agility, flyball, freestyle, tricks & games, therapy work, canine good citizen & more! All breeds. All ages. Mixed breeds & rescue dogs welcome.

We Solve Behavior Problems

In addition to teaching basic obedience commands and exercises, we also address common behavior problems all dog owners encounter, including chewing, barking, digging, mouthing, housebreaking and stealing, as well as jumping up on people and counters. This is done as part of the class curriculum—at no additional charge. Our extensive experience with all breeds of dogs allows us to provide no-nonsense solutions to the annoying habits that some dogs develop. In our classes you'll also learn to clip your dog's toenails, clean his teeth and ears, and get all your doggie questions answered! We're also happy to help via private lessons!

Private Lessons

Individualized training is a great way to work through problems, get a head start on classes or work toward specific performance goals.

Description	Cost
In-facility private lessons For families who prefer one-on-one training or dogs with specific behavior problems. Also beneficial for agility, breed ring, competition obedience and/or rally students wanting extra assistance to achieve performance goals. Call or email us with your specific requirements. See our web site for the private lesson questionnaire. In-facility lessons conducted at FDTC's main facility in Kent.	\$75.00 / hour & Includes unlimited email monitoring & email follow-up
In-home visits & private lessons For families who prefer one-on-one training or dogs with specific behavior problems. Call or email us with your specific requirements. Lessons conducted in owner's home or centrally located park. (Travel outside the FDTC service area may result in mileage charges.)	\$95.00 / hour & Includes unlimited email monitoring/email follow-up
Telephone, video & email private lessons Used most often by families living outside the FDTC service area. Call or email us with your specific requirements.	\$75.00 / hour & includes email follow-up
Seminars & Workshops FDTC staff members are available to make presentations to all types of groups on a variety of subjects ranging from behavior problem solving to choosing the right dog, competition obedience, conformation handling, dog/owner relationships, etc.	Varies – please call with your specific requirements.

Agility, Tracking, Tricks, Flyball, Musical Freestyle, Nose Work & Dog Sports

These classes are a great way to continue your dog's education and increase off-leash control, while having lots of fun together. Agility is one of the fastest growing dog sports in the country! To see some of these sports in action, visit Family Dog's youtube channel or do a general internet search. Some of these classes are offered on a workshop or occasional basis as we take names for a waiting list. Contact our office for more information.

Class Titles & Descriptions	First week notes	Class Length
Beginning Agility For dogs who have successfully completed Advanced Home Obedience. Obedience at a distance & off-leash control are emphasized while simple agility obstacles are introduced.	Bring dogs & current training equipment the first week.	One hour class meets once a week for 6 wks
Advanced Agility Classes & Coursework These classes allow the dog & handler to progress as far as they would like to go in the sport of agility. Handling & Coursework prepares the team to compete and earn titles.	Bring dogs & current training equipment the first week.	One hour class meets once a week for 6 wks
Tracking Teach your dog to follow a human track. For dogs that have completed Beginning Home Obedience or equivalent. First class meets at FDTC. Future classes meet at parks & fields in the area.	Bring dogs & current training equipment the first week.	One hour classes meet once a week for 6 wks
Dog Sports Sampler For dogs who have successfully completed Advanced Home Obedience. Fun introductions to flyball, agility, jumping & retrieving, plus obedience reviews in every class.	Bring dogs & current training equipment the first week.	One hour class meets once a week for 6 wks
Tricks & Games For dogs who have successfully completed Advanced Home Obedience. Class teaches lots of fun tricks & takes requests from students.	Bring dogs & current training equipment the first week.	One hour class meets once a week for 6 wks
Flyball For dogs who have successfully completed Advanced Home Obedience, and love to jump & retrieve tennis balls. This is an intro to flyball, not a competitive course.	Bring dogs & current training equipment the first week.	One hour class meets once a week for 6 wks
Scent Hurdle Relay Racing For dogs who understand scent discrimination (scent articles) and love to jump & retrieve. This is an intro to scent hurdle relay racing, not a competitive course.	Bring dogs & current training equipment the first week.	One hour class meets once a week for 6 wks
Nose Work For dogs who love to sniff and find hidden treasures! This is a new sport that can be done for fun or competition. No obedience training is necessary, but basic manners are helpful. No aggressive dogs. No severe behavior problems. Due to the nature of the scenting activity, dogs will be working one at a time while all of the humans observe the dog's body language and listen to the instructor's comments.	Bring dogs & current training equipment the first week.	One hour class meets once a week for 6 wks
Musical Freestyle Classes For dogs who have completed at least one HO or OC class. Freestyle is the exciting new sport where handler and dog create their own routine to music. Freestyle classes include students joining in group routines with occasional opportunities to show off routines at public events and competitions.	Bring dogs to each class with current training equipment.	One hour classes meet once a week for 6 wks

Competition Obedience & Rally Obedience - For Titles or For Fun

Our instructors are experts at working with beginning handlers. Our students regularly achieve the highest titles and winning scores. Whether or not your interest lies in competition, these classes are beneficial for handlers who want to work on attention around distractions, and for handlers who enjoy the process of learning and teaching. Handlers develop a deeper understanding of dogs, dog body language, improving the dog-owner relationship and the science—and art—behind training complicated behaviors.

Competition Obedience & Rally Class Titles & Descriptions	First week notes	Class Length
OC1: Attention& Foundation for Performance Sports For dogs and puppies over 3 months of age with basic control and manners on leash. (Out-of-control dogs, aggressive dogs and those with significant behavior problems should take a home obedience class or private lesson first.) Class introduces focused attention, heeling with attention, fronts & finishes, sit, down, stand & come. It's a great foundation for all of the performance sports.	Bring dogs on any collar & leash the first week. Bring dog treats the dog REALLY likes.	One hour class meets once a week for 6 wks
OC2: Advanced Attention& Foundation for Performance Sports OC3: Retrieving OC4 & 5: Beginning & Continuing Open OC6 & 7: Beginning & Continuing Utility OC8: Heeling, Fronts & Finishes Each competition obedience class builds on the previous classes. Dogs coming to FDTC from other programs must arrange for a private lesson with the instructor to determine the proper class.	Bring dogs to each class with current training equipment.	One hour classes meet once a week for 6 wks
Rally Obedience Classes For dogs who have completed at least one HO or OC class. Rally is a version of obedience involving teamwork and basic obedience commands performed in the order prescribed by a course. Students begin in Rally 1 to learn the "stations" and progress to Rally 2 for advanced coursework.	Bring dogs to each class with current training equipment.	One hour class meets once a week for 6 wks

Breed Ring Handling (Conformation)

If you purchased your dog as "show" quality and want to learn how to handle your dog like a professional, these classes and workshops are for you. Family Dog is the only training center in the area to teach step-by-step instructional classes with handouts and homework assignments. (Many facilities just play "dog show" and ignore the needs of new handlers. Experienced handlers are rarely given instruction that will take their performance to a higher level.) Dogs joining our breed ring classes must be well-behaved. Extremely fearful, aggressive or out-of-control dogs should take a private lesson or home obedience class prior to starting conformation classes.

Breed Ring Handling Class Titles& Descriptions	First week notes	Class Length
Beginning Breed Ring Handling Instructional classes for dogs over 4 months of age and/or beginning handlers. The basics of hand stacking, free stacking, baiting, gaiting & ring procedures are introduced. (Out-of-control dogs and those with significant behavior problems should take Beginning Home Obedience before this class. Very young and/or immature puppies should take Puppy Manners before this class.)	Bring dogs on any collar & leash the first week. Bring dog treats.	One hour class meets once a week for 6 wks
Advanced Breed Ring Handling For dogs with basic breed ring control and handlers with a working knowledge of stacking, baiting, gaiting & ring procedure. This is an advanced instruction class and a continuation of Beginning Breed Ring Class. Experienced handlers/dogs and/or graduates of BR-1 may take this class. (Not sure if this is the right class for you? Contact us.)	Bring dogs & current training equipment the first week. Bring treats.	One hour class meets once a week for 6 wks

Our Philosophy & Training Methods

Every dog is different. Some are hyperactive and others are laid back. A few dogs are shy and need more self-confidence, while others have too much confidence! And some dogs are serious while others are silly. We know all dogs are different, and that's why we have developed a training program that works with a wide range of dogs. We treat each dog and his family as individuals, and we modify our techniques to suit your needs.

Our training methods are based on an understanding of animal behavior – how dogs learn and communicate with one another. Whenever we teach the dog something "new" we begin in a quiet, calm environment and we gently help the dog understand what's expected of him. The atmosphere in our classes is conducive to learning. We are always calm and under control. We do not "hype" the dogs up; we soothe and relax them. One more important thing we don't do – we don't repeat commands. Our dogs learn to obey on the first command. This is especially important when "come" and "stay" might make the difference between life and death in an emergency situation. (Repeating commands is a very bad habit that teaches dogs to ignore their owners. Repeating commands is a form of nagging...and you know what happens when you nag your spouse, friend or child to do something that needs to be done!)

One question that often comes up: our policy on "clicker training." We are not fans of the clicker, although we do utilize the concept of behavior modification. Dogs cannot differentiate between "clicks" in a class environment. (Which click is for which dog?) With clickers dogs do not understand when to continue a behavior vs. when to end a behavior, whereas our voice with a marker word allows us to give degrees of reinforcement and truly communicate with the dog (rather than click and feed). We find that our approach teaches dogs to take responsibility for their actions and pay attention to their owners without the crutch of a clicker. We also find that many clicker trained dogs have a better "relationship" with their clicker than with their owners! (And we find that former clicker trainers ultimately change their approach after attending our classes.)

Another question we're asked has to do with collars, head halters and body harnesses. There are pro's and con's to each and every type of collar, halter and harness. Some work for most dogs, while others tend to be more specialized. We discuss training equipment in our orientations, so we recommend you wait to purchase any new training items until after orientation. (In fact what you already have will probably be just fine to get you started!)

Our Staff Makes the Difference

Kathy Lang, President & Training Director of Family Dog Training Center, has been teaching canine classes since 1977. Kathy is an internationally recognized trainer, instructor, competitor and author who has trained and titled some of the top dogs in the country. She co-wrote and co-starred in one of the nation's first videotapes on dog training, "The TLC Way of Training Your Dog" with the famous actor, Howard Keel. Kathy writes for various dog publications and conducts training seminars and workshops throughout the country. Before she "went to the dogs" Kathy worked in the field of corporate communications for more than 10 years.

Kathy teaches many of the competition obedience, rally obedience, agility and conformation handling classes. Kathy has personally achieved perfect 200 scores, multiple High in Trials and advanced titles on her German Shepherds, Belgian Sheepdogs and Schipperkes. Her dogs are consistently ranked in the top for their respective breeds and she titles dogs in many sports (obedience, rally, agility, herding, tracking, conformation and freestyle). As her time permits, Kathy also writes a column on all types of canine competition for the internationally acclaimed **Front & Finish** magazine. Kathy's students have achieved 10 OTCH titles, dozens of UDX titles, High in Trials and High Combined awards. Kathy's specialty is working with folks who are brand new to the sport of dogs.

When it comes to conformation (breed ring, show) handling, Kathy's personal dogs have achieved many breed championships, best of breed awards, sweepstakes wins and group placements in the US and Canada. Kathy has personally exhibited at the prestigious Westminster Kennel Club in New York, as well as the AKC Eukanuba Championship Dog Show. Kathy's knowledge of structure and movement, together with her outstanding teaching skills, are a great asset to her students, many of whom take their first show dog from puppy to breed champion, group placements and Best in Show/Best in Specialty Show wins.

Family Dog Instructors & Office Manager

Family Dog Training Center's staff members are experienced dog professionals, who are actively involved in the local dog community. All Family Dog instructors train and show their own dogs in all venues and all dog sports, including obedience, rally, agility, herding, tracking, conformation, field trials and more. Many of them are involved with local rescue organizations, animal shelters, 4-H groups and dog clubs. Everyone connected with Family Dog Training Center has gone through an extensive one-year apprenticeship and training program to ensure consistency in techniques, as well as philosophy. Continuing education helps keep the staff up-to-date on the latest changes in all aspects of canine training, behavior and health issues.

All of our staff members "give back" to the dog community through volunteer activities, educational programs, dog club involvement, rescue group support and free workshops. We are very proud to have these individuals associated with Family Dog. Here is a brief review of our staff members. Be sure to visit our web site for photos and more complete biographies. *(Please note: Only the following individuals are endorsed and approved by Kathy Lang, president of Family Dog.)*

Barb Vasey, Office Manager Barb took her first class at Family Dog in the mid '90s. Over the years three of her dogs participated in training at Family Dog, with her Golden Retriever also earning his CGC. Barb's professional career has been varied, including years as office manager for a large emergency vet clinic and time as a small business owner. Barb and husband, Joel, moved to California for a few years, then moved back to Seattle and back to Family Dog with their long-haired German Shepherd, Kadee. Kadee is working toward obedience, rally and agility titles while also serving as half of Family Dog's new office team, greeting visitors when they come to see Barb in the office.

Tasheena Lenti Housman, Senior Instructor Tasheena and her pair of Bichons (6-year old Snowy and 1-year old Liberty) are very popular home obedience and rally obedience instructors. Tasheena started training Snowy at Family Dog in puppy class and became hooked. She finished a year-long apprenticeship program in 2009 and has been teaching classes and conducting private lessons ever since. Snowy has her Rally Excellent and Companion Dog titles and is training for more obedience and agility titles. Liberty is just getting started in conformation showing, and will also earn performance titles when she gets a bit older. When she's not working in the field of accounting, Tasheena and her husband love to take the Bichons, along with their third dog, Jake (a wonderful, goofy Pit Bull) on all types of outdoor adventures!

Jayne Widhalm Bosch, Senior Instructor Jayne's childhood passion for animals both large and small turned into an Animal Science degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Growing up in Illinois, Jayne did research work with dairy cattle and swine, while living with dogs, birds and fish. After moving to Seattle Jayne adopted her Australian Shepherd mix, Otter. A few years later Jayne and her husband added a Kelpie mix, Kepler, to their family. Joining Family Dog Training Center's classes as a student was one of the easiest (and best!) decisions she has made. Otter, Kepler and Jayne are training for competition obedience, rally obedience, flyball, tracking, and agility. Jayne started teaching classes and conducting private lessons in 2011. Jayne's educational background, veterinary assistant skills, and kennel experiences make her a valuable member of the Family Dog team.

Adora Lanphere, Senior Instructor Adora started training her Pembroke Welsh Corgi, Quincy, with Family Dog in 2010. Puppy Manners class helped Quincy gain confidence and today he's training and competing in agility, rally and competition obedience. This past year Adora and her husband added a Flat Coated Retriever, Watson, to their family. Watson is training for conformation and all the performance sports. Adora joined the Family Dog staff in 2011 and currently teaches Saturday morning rally and agility classes. Students with busy weeknight schedules love Adora's flexibility in offering weekend performance classes!

Cheryl Jackson, Senior Instructor Cheryl has been interested in dogs since she was a young girl pouring over her AKC dog breed poster to identify the dogs she saw around the neighborhood. Cheryl started training her Belgian Sheepdog Colt, in Puppy Manners at Family Dog when he was 11 weeks old. They then advanced into competition obedience classes and Cheryl was quickly hooked on training. Colt has earned titles in obedience and rally, and will be competing in agility soon. Cheryl graduated from the FDTC Apprenticeship program in 2012 and loves teaching others how to train and enjoy their dogs. She knows that a well behaved dog is a welcome addition to the family and wants to help others achieve that goal with their dogs.

David Jackson, Senior Instructor Growing up David's family had a variety of mixed and pure breed dogs. When he and his wife, Cheryl, obtained Colt (see above), David also participated in the training classes. David became "hooked" and obtained his "own" competition dog, Cavu (Belgian Tervuren) in 2011. Cavu and David are working in rally, competition obedience and agility. David completed the FDTC Apprenticeship Program in 2012 and has quickly become a popular home obedience instructor. David is also our technical support and website guru.

Ingrida Robinson, Senior Instructor Ingrida started taking home obedience classes with Kathy Lang when she was still teaching for the parks department in North Seattle, more than 20 years ago. Ingrida and her first Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen, Hoover, moved into competition obedience classes and went on to earn their CDX title with many high scores. Sophie, another PBGV, followed in Hoover's pawsteps, going on to earn the coveted Utility Dog title and multiple National Specialty High In Trial awards. Ingrida recently finished the UDX title on her Polish Lowland Sheepdog, Boddington, and she has a new PBGV who's training in all the performance classes and conformation. Family Dog students love to have Ingrida substitute teach their Breed Ring, Rally and Competition Obedience classes, and look forward to the day that Ingrida retires from her full-time banking position to devote more time to the dogs!

Mary Berry, Senior Instructor Mary's first class with Kathy Lang was 30 years ago, when Kathy was still teaching at the Humane Society in Bellevue. Over the years Mary's dogs, all Belgian Tervuren, have earned breed championships, obedience, rally, agility, tracking and herding titles. When Mary is not running her elementary school library in Issaquah, training and showing her own dogs, she assists with several of the classes and workshops at Family Dog, and is a performance class substitute teacher.

Jennifer Mogren, Home Obedience Instructor Jennifer grew up with shelties as family pets, but it was not until she got her own dog Lexi, a Yorkie-Shih Tzu mix, that she became involved in dog training. She began Puppy Manners classes with Lexi in 2012. By the time they graduated from Beginning Home Obedience, Jennifer was hooked and went on to take Competition Obedience classes, where she is plans to compete and earn titles in the near future. Jennifer and Lexi also recently began Agility classes. Her favorite part of training is the relationship it has helped her build with her dog, and she appreciated the way in which Family Dog believes that any breed of dog can learn! Jennifer was thrilled to be asked to join the apprenticeship program at Family Dog. Jennifer is currently enrolled in a Masters in Teaching program to become a high school teacher, and is looking forward to the way in which dog training and her career will overlap and complement each other.

Isabela Mailman, Home Obedience Instructor Isabela has had a lifelong passion for working with animals. She grew up showing horses and running about the neighborhood with her Miniature Dachsund in tow. In 2001, she purchased her first Rhodesian Ridgeback and has been actively competing and breeding Rhodesian Ridgebacks with her husband for over ten years. Besides her pack of Rhodesian Ridgebacks, she has a Border Terrier named Gromit who is quite active in Agility and has earned titles in Earth Dog. Isabela also actively competes with her four horses. Training both equine and canine partners makes up her daily life and she wouldn't have it any other way. She is truly excited to be a part of the Family Dog team, having worked with many different trainers over the years, the philosophy and methods of Family Dog really nurtures the relationship and bond between human and canine. She feels great pleasure in being a part of such a wonderful group of people and trainers.

The following instructors are currently "semi-retired" from teaching, but you'll see them on the schedule as special events, workshops and classes come up!

Denise Paquette, Senior Instructor Denise's involvement in dog training goes back to her teenage years, beginning with the family's Miniature Schnauzer. Her current canine family includes Beanie, a 10 year old Yorkie/Maltese who has his CGC and Therapy Dog certifications and 6 year old Daisy, a Maltese, who is working towards agility, rally and obedience titles. Denise is a very popular home obedience instructor for Family Dog, and finds that her non-dog profession as the owner/director/teacher of a preschool and toddler program reinforces and complements the primary skills needed when working with animals: patience and consistency.

Laurie Cottier, Senior Instructor Laurie has been involved in the dog world for more than 25 years, owning and training a wide variety of breeds, including two Rottweilers, a Bouvier des Flandres, Tibetan Terrier and Coton de Tulear. Laurie first started teaching obedience and therapy dog classes for Family Dog in 2004. Laurie is a certified AKC Canine Good Citizen evaluator, and member of APDT, Delta Society/Pet partners, ARC and ACC. Mocha and Cisco, two of Laurie's Rottweilers, received national awards for their work as Delta Society/Pet Partners therapy dog teams. Laurie is thrilled to be back at Family Dog teaching home obedience, CGC and therapy dog classes, while also training Tazzie, a Coton de Tulear and Harley, her newest Rottweiler.

Megan Miller, Senior Instructor Megan graduated from Family Dog's apprenticeship program in 2011. Megan started training her own pets as a child through 4-H groups. Her interest in dogs led her to volunteer with a local animal shelter. When Jack, one of Megan's foster dogs, became a permanent member of the household she turned to Family Dog Training Center. The training philosophy was one Megan understood and enjoyed! On invitation, Megan was thrilled to further her dog training education as an apprentice, and is honored to have the opportunity to help people with their canine family members. Megan's canine family includes Jack and Lulu two mixes she adopted from the shelter. Both are currently training for Competition Obedience and Rally Obedience. Megan shares her home with her supportive husband Nick, and their cat Tai.

Lee Cummings, Senior Instructor Lee brings more than 30 years of experience training dogs and teaching people to her classes at Family Dog. Lee is an excellent communicator and classroom manager. One of her passions is conducting disaster preparedness workshops for businesses, families and their pets throughout the region. Lee is currently training and showing her Golden Retriever, Cooper, in obedience and rally. They are also a certified Therapy Dog Team. Lee is also quite active in Golden Retriever rescue. In their spare time Lee and Cooper help care for Lee's granddaughter.

Anthony Quade, Instructor Anthony (aka Tony) has always loved having dogs in his life. His childhood mixed breed helped him learn how beneficial training could be. When Tony and his wife, Adora Lanphere, were ready to get their first dog together, their research led them to the Pembroke Welsh Corgi and then to Family Dog. Tony completed the FDTC Apprenticeship Program in 2012 and was a very popular instructor. He's currently taking some time off from teaching, but we hope he'll return in the future!

Proven Track Record

Over the years we have helped train more than 100,000 dogs. Our students are referred by friends, relatives, neighbors, veterinarians, groomers, breeders and pet store personnel. We have clients who travel from Portland to Bellingham to train exclusively with us.

If you are looking at various options for training your dog, we recommend that you contact several instructors/schools and speak with them about their methods, the size of their classes, the types of dogs they have personal experience with, their success rate and their graduating percentages. Ask about their background in animal behavior, class organization, verbal communication and group instruction/motivation and dynamics. When possible go observe classes in progress. Get a feeling for the class environment, the instructor's expertise and communication skills. Look at the facility. Is it clean? Look at the staff members. Are they professional in their appearance and approach?

Beware of so-called trainers who do a great "sales" job but in reality have very little actual dog training experience, as well as individuals who *attempt* to represent themselves as being affiliated with Family Dog. Avoid individuals who learned to train dogs via correspondence course or by purchasing a franchise. It is impossible to become a respected dog trainer simply by reading a book, watching a video or participating in a two-week program. Also beware of training offered in store aisles, parking lots or other locations that are not dog proof and safe. (Only non-aggressive dogs that are properly vaccinated and healthy are allowed in our facility, unlike pet stores where anyone can walk their dog through the aisles.) Our training center is customized for training dogs. Our floors are Everlast brand rubber flooring for traction and safety, and our building is routinely cleaned, disinfected and sanitized. We have comfortable seating for family members, and our facility is well lighted and heated, as well as wheelchair accessible. Our parking lot is paved and spacious.

Registering for Classes

If you have internet access, our web site is an easy and secure way to review our schedule, read about our classes and register. If you prefer to complete a paper form, refer to our current Schedule of Classes to find the days and times that your preferred class is offered. Complete the New Student Class Registration Form and return it to our office with your payment. You may mail, fax or drop off your paperwork or register online. Because classes fill quickly, we cannot guarantee your space in a class without payment. Classes that do not meet the minimum registration requirements will be cancelled and students who did pre-register will be contacted so that a suitable replacement class can be found. After we receive your registration we will send you a confirmation email or postcard (if there's time).

Methods of Payment

We accept Visa, MasterCard, and Discover debit cards, personal checks, cashier's checks, certified checks and cash (note: we do not accept American Express or Diners Club). NSF checks and declined credit cards (for any reason) resulting in late payment are also subject to a \$30 administrative fee. You may also register online via our secure web site.

Make-up Classes, Refunds & Cancellations

Please refer to the Registration Form for our cancellation and refund policies. Please note that we have the most liberal refund policy of any training establishment in the area. We work with our students in the event of illness, dog injury, changes in work schedule, etc. Because we offer so many classes on different days and times, it's easy for students to make up classes when they need to miss a week here or there. Make-up schedules are provided when students attend their first week of class.

For more information

Please contact us if we can answer any questions or help with the registration process. Be sure to visit our website for even more information about Family Dog Training Center, our staff, facilities and various programs. Check out the "Articles" section of the website for lots of great reading on dog-related topics.

Thank You!

Thank you for your interest in Family Dog Training Center. We look forward to meeting you and your four-legged companion! Be sure to contact us if you have any questions or we can help in any way!