



Winter Park Training and Behavior Center at Winter Park Veterinary Hospital

Mimi Ford with Dixie

I was recently asked what I thought of the WPVH Training and Behavior Center. Simply put, it allowed our Jack Russell Terrier, Dixie, to remain a member of this family. Dixie is not our first Jack; our family has owned Jack Russells for several decades. We are well acquainted with the breed and what comes with it. Jacks are headstrong, opinionated, extremely energetic, and smart. That being said, you cannot be a known biter and remain a Ford...period. I tried a touchy feely dog trainer initially with Dixie. Worked her through her commands often and wound up with Dixie just humoring me by sitting and staying while she continued to be a hot, neurotic mess. She incessantly paced, licked the rug, "scream-barked" at passing dogs/humans/bicycles/leaves...and then began attacking dogs and humans even though on a choke chain. She bit the drycleaner delivery person, tried on a regular basis to attack the UPS man through the plate glass, and then bit a friend who was giving us a hug upon entering our home. If she was crated and the doorbell rang or she heard a noise she didn't approve of she would go insane. Dixie would shred her bed and lose her mind. None of this behavior is conducive to remaining a Ford! With Dixie now five years old, my first visit to Ina at the WPVH Training and Behavior Center was one of desperation. I was worried that rehabilitation was impossible, but after meeting with Ina and listening to her training techniques, coupled with the fact that she would have Dixie in her charge for four days a week, I left hopeful. After only a few short weeks Dixie is a changed Jack Russell...truly. She is a shadow of her old neurotic self and that is directly attributed to Ina and the training center. Their training credentials are solid and they are firm trainers who do not tolerate nonsense and only reward proper behavior. Biting/attacking and neurosis is dealt with swiftly and consistently. The trainers were able to communicate with me on how to train Dixie at home and how to deal with her unpleasant behaviors. We now have a much happier dog that is enjoyed. We feel blessed to have found Ina and the staff at WPVH Training and Behavior Center. I know that Dixie's behaviors were extreme and most owners just want their dogs properly trained from the start...I can only think that any dog owner would find success at WPVH Training and Behavior Center. I recommend it highly!

Mimi Ford