A Shout Out From A Former Student

Becky Taylor

I own Tailored Tails Grooming Salon & Pet Spa, Inc., in Colorado Springs, CO. We've been open about 2-1/2 years now and have been lucky enough to be successful (thanks to Stephen & Maddie's From Problems to Profits!) I attended a local grooming academy about 6 years ago, unfortunately a very poor one. I then found Melissa Verplank's Paragon Pet School where I attended for advanced education and received excellent instruction. I then earned my NCG through the NGDAA and will continue that education until I achieve further title. I attend grooming expos for continuing education regularly. After all, those who teach at the trade shows have learned the hard way and are willing to share; we should take full advantage of their expertise and what they've learned from their hard knocks!

I admit it, I was one of "those" groomers who swore off grooming cats! I felt it was too dangerous, too hard to handle, too much risk for someone who earns a living with their hands. I'm here to say I was wrong! I got to thinking about it and realized somewhere along the way that the problem was mine; mine in incorrect handling and my lack of knowledge. Ignorance is always easy to correct, but as Larry the Cable Guy says, "Ya can't fix stupid". Further learning just takes a little education and effort. So…

I enrolled at the NCGIA! It was one of the best decisions I've made for my grooming career! I recently graduated and achieved my CFMG – and I'm the first in the state of Colorado! (pat self on back). The curriculum is challenging, and the requirements to achieve the CFMG are rigorous; we need more of this in the grooming industry if we wish to be true professionals at what we do!

The NCGIA curriculum is very professional. Danelle has written a program that is thorough and detailed, very well thought through, and most of all it is proven correct, and it works. I actually believed that cat grooming would be too difficult. She proved me wrong! Danelle and her staff are friendly, understanding, true professionals in all aspects, experts at what they do, and they have immense patience! In the end I found that not only is cat grooming "do-able", but I truly found it to be enjoyable. Yes, really!

If you're one of those who doubt like I did, please consider enrolling in Danelle's program at the NCGIA. Those of us who've been there can testify to its excellence (that's an invite for you other attendees to back me up here). Danelle and her school are the first and only of its kind in the world, and they are doing wonderful things for the grooming industry, not to mention how wonderful for all those beautiful, sweet cats in nearly every household! I encourage all of you groomers to think again on cat grooming and give serious consideration to enrolling at the NCGIA. The investment will be returned to you in so many ways. Send 'em an email, check out their website, investigate the program a little more. You won't regret your decision to attend!

Thanks again to Danelle, Liz, Olivia, and Dana for all your help, positive attitudes, and encouragement! Thanks also to Patti for your expert advice and CPR training. Thanks to all those South Carolina pet owners who generously allowed students to learn on their kitties, and thanks to those precious sweet little cats who so patiently allowed me to learn my grooming skills on them. Kudos to all of you at the NCGIA, each of you have angels at your side!!

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