“What do you want out of life?”
If your dog could talk, I’m guessing he would answer, “fun and games!” The common phrase, “your dog needs a job to do” doesn’t quite cut it. Dogs don’t want responsibility or the drudgery of a 9 to 5; they want to HAVE FUN in ways that challenge and condition them physically and mentally, help them grow as individuals and connect with the people and world around them in positive ways.

Life is a Box of Tricks.
Everything your dog needs to know, whether it’s obedience work or agility or just plain good pet dog manners, he can learn through tricks. We tend to approach “obedience” work very seriously and tricks training with a sense of humor, but from a dog’s perspective there should be no difference between “work” and play. Your approach to training determines the relationship you have with your dog. The earlier in your dog’s life you begin this fun and games approach, the greater his potential.

Be your Dog’s own Personal Wii.
Imagine if your dog chose you over a tempting distraction, looked to you frequently with joyous anticipation, kept close tabs on you, hoping you’ll engage him in some new game, were addicted to you because of how important and incredibly intelligent you make him feel. This is all possible through tricks training.

Help your Dog be all that he can BE.
Dogs are brilliant. Brilliant at problem solving and experimentation. Many dogs are not given the opportunity to be the dogs they could be simply because they haven’t exercised their bodies and brains enough. Teaching tricks teaches you how to become a better trainer and to get to know your dog better. Teaching tricks teaches your dog how to learn and think in complex ways... and to get to know you better. Teaching tricks builds confidence, muscles, flexibility, coordination, stamina, balance and emotional bonds. Teaching tricks teaches a dog to learn to use his body in different ways and be conscious of his own behavior in truly amazing detail.

No Wrong Answers. No Mistakes.
“Show me what you’ve got!” This is what I might say to my dogs when I’m lazing on the couch hungry for some canine entertainment, or on a leashed or off-leash walk with them. They know what to do... whatever comes into their doggie minds and bodies. I observe, marking and rewarding - collecting - the stuff I like and they will eagerly offer me interesting behaviors. Engaged, happy, playful, enthusiastic connected dogs. There is nothing they do that is “wrong,” nothing that will get punished, no mistakes. Only the opportunity to “win” at a new and fun game.

Old Dogs Need New Tricks.
Tricks keep an older dog mentally and physically engaged.

Sign up for a Tricks Class
Call or write today to find out more!

DIANA LOGAN, Certified Professional Dog Trainer
Pet Connection Dog Training
North Yarmouth, Maine
207-252-9352

10 year old Dory still has her skateboard driving license