

Meet.....

*Owner Handler
Melissa Pevy
Danu Great Danes*



1) How did you get started?

I purchased a bitch with intentions of her being handled by a professional. Things happened, and I ended up handling her. She hated showing, but being in there with me became fun. Thanks to her I learned that I enjoy showing.

2) What has been your most valuable lesson?

I entered a show with much anticipation to show to a certain judge. I had high hopes that he would find us in the ring. He did, but not for the right reasons. While I was nervous - so was my dog and she made an ass of me. I approached him afterward and all the critiques were based on my handling. It was a tough blow and brought me to tears but that day I vowed to do better, be better, and prove that I was meant to be in the ring. I later ran into that same judge, who commented that I was no longer the person he saw in the ring at that show.

3) What tip could you pass on to others starting out wanting to owner handle?

Watch and listen. Show up to your ring early and watch the professionals. Watch how the judge runs their ring. If you have been paying attention you will know what to do when you get in the ring even if you tune out. Watch to see the subtle differences the handlers do. Stick around and watch group. I also believe the Juniors ring can teach us the most. They are judged on their ability - not their dog. They are fluid, capable, confident and charismatic. ASK questions! Ask professionals (most are willing to help) what you could do better or how you can improve.