



# Old Dog Haven

DogNews DogNews DogNews DogNews DogNews DogNews

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Volume 10 Number 1

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**TISHA & TRACIE**



**REMY**

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

**A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS!**



As we start a new year we'd like to offer special thanks to all who make our efforts possible. We'd love to publically acknowledge you by listing your names, but in the interests of respecting your privacy, we won't do that. Many of you have generously and consistently supported ODH since the very beginning and we want to let you know how much we appreciate your loyalty and commitment to our cause. Since we don't receive any government funding, what we do wouldn't be possible without your generous donations. **PAWS UP TO ALL OF YOU!**

**DURING THE PAST 11 YEARS, ODH HAS HELPED 4,625 DOGS!**

## ADOPT!

All of the senior dogs you see pictured in the border that runs the length of the newsletter (see left) are available for adoption (as of 1/6) Some are in shelters, living in cages, desperately waiting for a forever home; many are in foster care, and some are posted for individuals. All of these amazingly resilient dogs are looking for forever homes. Go to our website ([www.olddoghaven.org](http://www.olddoghaven.org)) to find out more about these adoptable dogs.

**GO SEAHAWKS!**

## About Old Dog Haven

Old Dog Haven provides assisted living and hospice care for senior dogs, as well as help in placing senior dogs in new, loving homes. We serve Western Washington, with foster and Final Refuge homes from Blaine to Vancouver. To find out more, see [www.olddoghaven.org](http://www.olddoghaven.org)



**CALLIE**



**STEVE**



**DUCHESS**

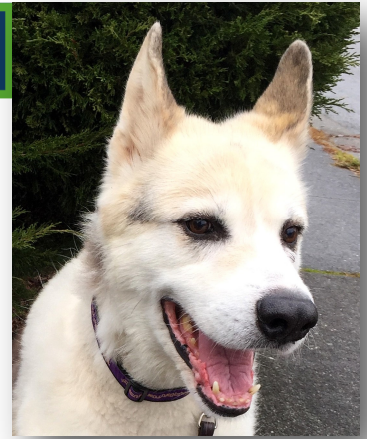
## How to Help

There are many ways to help! You can do anything from taking a foster or Final Refuge dog into your home, to hanging a poster or two. [Click on the Donate/Help us link on the Home page of our website for more information.](#)

## HAPPY ADOPTION: SAMPSON

**By Cheryl Reynolds and Brenda Schwald**

Last year Old Dog Haven was able to facilitate the adoption of 385 dogs posted on our website and on Facebook by shelters, other rescue groups and individuals. Sampson is a wonderful example of a senior dog that needed a home because of life-changing circumstances in his family and we were happy to help him find his new family.



Sampson was posted by Cheryl Reynolds who says, "Sam was adopted by my daughter from a shelter and lived 10 happy years in her care and in the company of Freedom, a beautiful husky and a wonderful playmate for Sam. This year Freedom died and my daughter became so ill that she needed a lung transplant and was no longer able to play with and walk Sam. He was so very lonely ... until Brenda and Sadie came into his life. As my daughter fights for her life, this happy ending for Sam is such a highlight and joy for me. I'll always be grateful to Brenda for opening her heart to Sam and taking him into her life."

Here's Sam's happy ending story as told by his new mom Brenda:

"I started following ODH's website and Facebook page after seeing it linked through another local adoption organization while searching for puppies and realizing that something was just "not quite right" about trying to adopt a puppy for us at this time.

"I was grieving the loss of my old lab mix Cooper and even though I still had my 13 year old Golden Retriever Sadie, my heart was broken and there was a huge void in both of our lives. Sadie had always had Cooper as her best buddy and I thought maybe she might enjoy being an "only dog" with just me for her remaining years. But here we were, both so heartbroken and doing the "only lonely dog" thing. I JUST knew we had to mend our broken hearts by opening them to adopting an OLD DOG that needed us as much as we needed him!!

"That's when I saw Sampson's picture posted on Facebook and I instantly fell in love with him!! I read Sam's bio and he sounded like a perfect fit for our family, which has proven to be exactly the case. It may also sound strange to some, but I felt like Cooper was coming back to me through Sam somehow or at least leading me to him, as there were a lot of little "Cooper signs" throughout the whole process.



**Sam on his way to his new home with Brenda and Sadie.**

"Sam is the best dog. He is smart and well behaved. He learned to use the doggie door within the first three minutes of arriving here on his "gotcha day." He's been to the groomers and to see the vet twice and has come back with rave reviews of "what a good boy" he was! He's just a ball of joy no matter what you do; his tail is constantly wagging. He's a big love bug and loves his belly rubs.





**MAZIE**



**ABBY**

"Sam starts my day each and every morning with the most gentle kisses on my nose and lays his head right on the edge of my bed; he is the Sammy Alarm!! Sadie has learned that she too can get morning snuggles this way...it's not all about running off to the food bowls as soon as I'm awake!



"Then when I come home from work, both dogs are right there greeting me at the door and I just love how excited Sam is to see me!! His whole body is wiggling and he does these little hops on his front paws. Sometimes he even "talks" to me and tells me all about his and Sadie's day together.

"There have been no issues with Sam's transition here; it's all gone really smoothly like he's always been here, although one of my cats would probably disagree with me on that!! Miss Izzy is the bossy one of the house; her sister Bella and the dogs have the same calming personalities, but I'm afraid Izzy and Sam won't be becoming best friends any time soon.

"That's okay though, because Sam and Sadie have become best of friends pretty quickly. I had been waiting to see if Sam could or would encourage Sadie to play chase with him in the yard and finally a couple weeks ago, I witnessed this for the first time. Sam initiated it and Sadie took his cues. It made me so happy!! I hadn't seen Sadie play like that with another dog for a couple of years and Sam seemed to enjoy himself too!

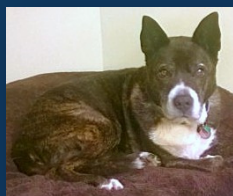
"At night when they go to sleep, they usually will start out on different dog beds, but within minutes Sam is moving closer to Sadie or Sadie is moving closer to Sam. Guess I should just get one giant sized bed for the both of them and then a bigger bedroom!

"I will always stay in touch with Sam's first family as I know how much they love him and how difficult a decision it was for them to have to part with Sam. I am thankful that they knew about Old Dog Haven and that they chose Sadie and I to be his remaining furever family. We all couldn't be any happier!"



Thank you Brenda, for welcoming Sam into your home and heart. And thanks to all of you who see postings of senior dogs in need of homes on our website and on Facebook and share them with your friends.





**REESE**

If you have feedback about this newsletter or ideas for future newsletters, please send them to [ardethdv@comcast.net](mailto:ardethdv@comcast.net)



**KENDALL**

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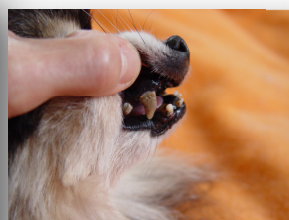
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**Karin Artman**  
**Shirley Munson**  
**Eleni**  
**Tegen Locker**  
**Heidi Hurn**

Editor  
**Ardeth De Vries**

## FINAL REFUGE: MIA

*by Karin Artman*

"Mia, who actually prefers to be called Mimi, is a Pomeranian who came from a hoarding situation when she was 11. When I first picked her up she was a pile of feces-caked mats with rotten teeth wobbling around in her tiny mouth and claws long enough to plow a field. My heart sank as I picked up this skinny 4.7 pound bundle from the ODH transport volunteer. My vet-tech friend and I spent 2+ hours shaving, nail-trimming and bathing this tiny angel who held oh so still, never taking her beautiful little button eyes off me.

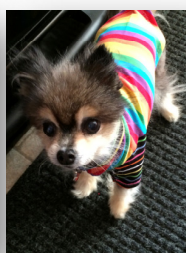
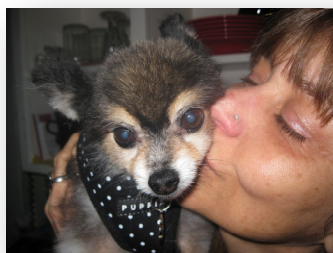


**Mia when she first arrived**

"After much vet testing and a full-mouth dental extraction, little Mia is flourishing with her tri-pawed sister and kitties. The two girls enjoy snuggling together on their dog beds and LOVE sleeping with Mama in the BIG bed. To think that she could barely walk with those horrid toenails seems unreal now when I see her running in and out to be in the garden. Following her meals, she stretches her hind legs backwards, alternating several times: 'And one, And two, And one, And two...'

"Mia has been with me for three years and is an absolute love bug. She's brought a LOT of joy into our home, being the perfect companion. I'm head over heels for that tiny wonder."

**Thank you Karin for giving Mia an opportunity to be a happy, healthy and well-loved dog!**



**Editor's Note: According to the Humane Society of the U.S. "over 250,000 animals are victims of animal hoarding each year. Unlike other types of animal cruelty, the perpetrators don't always accept or recognize the cruelty animal hoarding inflicts on their animals--rather, animal hoarders usually ardently believe they are saving or rescuing the animals they imprison. Animals in hoarding conditions often suffer extreme neglect, including lack of food, proper veterinary care, and sanitary conditions. Approximately 3,500 new cases are discovered each year."**



**Karin with Pepita (L), Mia and Laila**





**JOBE**



### Forward to a Friend

Know somebody who loves old dogs? The more people who join our network, the more old dogs we can help!



**SADIE**

## WE REMEMBER SYLVIA

*by Shirley Munson*

"I adopted Sylvia on 10/2/2009 and she fit into my little family so well. My poodle Ginger was 12 at the time so I thought it would be nice for her to have a friend. In very short time Sylvia was the alpha dog and Ginger just didn't seem to care, so they got along quite well. I had a car seat for Ginger to use when I took her to work with me, but Ginger never cared for it. Sylvia, on the other hand, would get in and be asleep before I left the driveway. I took both of them to work with me for a while to make sure they would be ok alone.



"I saw the transformation in Sylvia when she knew she was loved and cared for; she knew she was home! Syl had the sweetest disposition, just as she was described on the ODH website. She was a very docile and loving girl.

"I have so many wonderful memories of her: When I first got her I put broth in her food so she could eat it easier, but she quickly let me know that wasn't necessary. The first Christmas I had Syl I took both girls to have a picture with Mr. & Mrs. Santa Claus, but only Sylvia got her picture taken. In the summertime when it wasn't too warm I would put her in the car seat and have the garage door open while I worked in the front yard. She preferred that to being alone in the house.

"This year she 'let me know' that she preferred a bed on the floor because it was becoming difficult for her to jump. Her health began to decline and in early October I knew that I had to make that heartbreaking decision to release her from her pain. She was the third poodle that I've done that with but it is never easy. I stayed with her as she crossed to her next life. I will always remember my sweet lil Syl and treasure all the time I had with her."



Thank you Shirley for providing an opportunity for Sylvia to be a well-loved happy girl and for your continuing support of ODH.

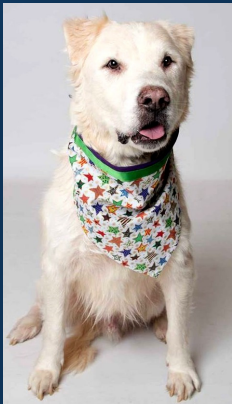


**BUSTER**

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**BLAZE**

## MAILBOX

### From: Furbaby Rescue:

"Not long ago our rescue was asked to take two wonderful 8 year-old Shih Tzus. The one little girl had severe glaucoma and needed to see an eye specialist and subsequently have her eyes removed. Our rescue was not able to afford these procedures but Old Dog Haven said 'We will take care of it if you can take the dogs into your rescue.' We agreed. With ODH's help the one little Shih Tzu was able to have an eye exam with the specialist, and then have her eyes removed by our vet, and the other little girl had a full dental.

"We cannot thank ODH enough for their help with these babies. It was a rough few days for Tipper after her surgery but she is doing fantastic now. I am happy to report we found an awesome home for these girls with a prior adopter and her family who are amazing.

"Isn't it fantastic when rescues can work together?"

Eleni

Founder of Furbaby Rescue

**Tipper and Scooter**

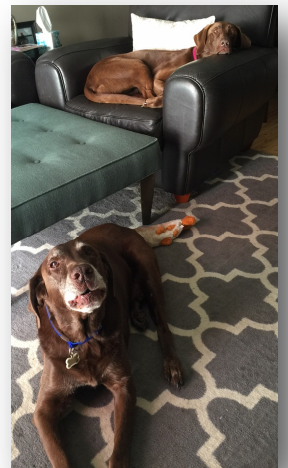


**Easton with ODH foster mom Trina**

### From: Shelter Manager Tegan Locker, Camano Animal Shelter Association:

"We work with a number of other organizations and Old Dog Haven is one of them. We could not speak more highly of a rescue group. They give second chances to dogs most would shy away from. Although we only had Easton for a week we grew quite attached to him and we are so excited that he's in the loving arms of an Old Dog Haven foster home now. We saw him start to fill with life again while at the shelter so we know he will blossom even more now. Congrats on your new beginning Easton." ❤️

**From Heidi Hurn:** "Just wanted to send an update on the new addition to our family that was an ODH cross-post. My fiancé, Chad, and I brought home 12-year-old Jake this weekend and I have attached pics from the pickup and his first day home with his new sister, Bailey. The transport from Vancouver to Seattle was not as easy as the shelter pulls I've done for ODH because it was obviously really hard for him to leave the only family that he's known, but hopefully he will grow to love us too. He's a very sweet guy, loves going for walks and Bailey is helping him settle in. We are so happy to have him with us!"



**Editor's Note: Heidi is a transport volunteer for ODH.**



# Contact Us

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[www.olddoghaven.org](http://www.olddoghaven.org)

Phone:  
(360)653-0311

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[office@olddoghaven.org](mailto:office@olddoghaven.org)

Help with placing your  
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Corporate giving, Walk  
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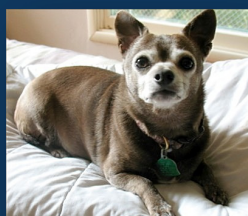
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**TWINKIE**



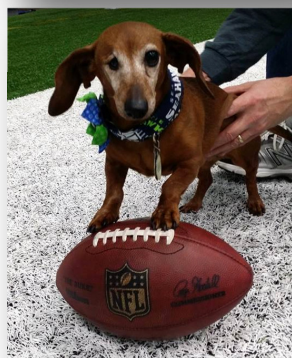
**KD**



## NEWS BITES



### MINNIE RUNS FOR OLD DOG HAVEN!



Thank you to Gretchen Howell of Dachshund Race for Rescue and the **Seattle Seahawks** for inviting Old Dog Haven to again participate in their Halftime Wiener Races on November 22nd. Final Refuge dog Minnie returned to represent Old Dog Haven and even though she didn't win, Minnie crossed the finish line with ears flying. Pretty amazing for a 12 year-old dog that's blind in one eye! ODH received a generous donation from the Seahawks and Minnie was a star! We are so very grateful to be a part of a community that supports our mission. Go Hawks!

### ODH FINAL REFUGE DOG TERENCE WELCOMES NEW BABY

Congratulations to Final Refuge parents Magen and Ken Bady! and ODH dog Terrence on the arrival of their new baby.



### ODH DOG AND FRIEND GRANT BIRTHDAY WISH



Melanie Granfors (K-911 Therapy Dogs on Call) brought her blind ODH Final Refuge dog Coco (on floor) to make her debut as a visiting comfort dog so Coco and her assistant Sammie could wish a happy 95th birthday to Aladeen, whose one birthday wish was a "visit from a dog."

Sadly, not long after this visit, Coco suddenly collapsed and when an inoperable mass was found in her abdomen she was released from her body by her family who describes her as "such a light in our lives."

## 2016 ODH CALENDAR AVAILABLE



Do you have your **Old Dog Haven 2016 calendar** yet? Our new calendar, designed by Joe Myers, features beautiful photographs of many of the ODH dogs and is now available.

The calendar is available as a gift with donations of \$30 or more or can be purchased from many retail outlets and veterinary offices in the Puget Sound area. Check the home page of our website ([www.olddoghaven.org](http://www.olddoghaven.org)) for outlet locations and information about how you can donate.



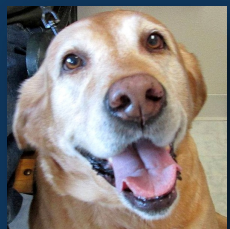
**STEWIE**



**SNOOPY**



**POKEY**



**ANGEL**



**MARVELOUS**

## DOG ACTIVITY NUMBERS: 2015 WRAP UP

2015

**296 DOGS IN CARE AT YEAR END**

**201 ACTIVE FOSTER HOMES (MORE NEEDED!!)**

**679 NEW DOGS HELPED**

**201 PLACED IN ODH FOSTER HOMES**

**93% OF THOSE FROM SHELTERS AND RESCUE GROUPS**

**7% OF THOSE FROM INDIVIDUALS**

**410 DOGS ADOPTED**

Even non-profits are affected by the economy. Because our responsibilities, expenses, and dogs in care are increasing, your donations are more important than ever. If you can help, please send your tax-deductible donation to:

Old Dog Haven  
621 State Route 9  
PMB A-4  
Lake Stevens WA  
98258-8525

### WAYS TO HELP OLD DOG HAVEN

**SPONSOR A FINAL REFUGE DOG** (MAKES A GREAT GIFT!)  
<http://olddoghaven.org/how-to-help/sponsoring/>

**PROVIDE A FINAL REFUGE HOME**  
<http://olddoghaven.org/fostering/>

**DONATE YOUR VEHICLE**  
<http://olddoghaven.org/donate-2/donate/>

**SIGN UP FOR A RECURRING DONATION**  
<http://olddoghaven.org/donate/donate/>

**HELP SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT OLD DOG HAVEN BY PROVIDING BROCHURES AT YOUR LOCAL COFFEE SHOP, PET STORE OR VETERINARY CLINIC.** [outreach@olddoghaven.org](mailto:outreach@olddoghaven.org)



## NEWS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



**ANANA**



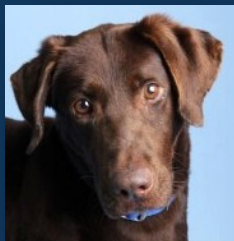
**RAJA**



**SLATER**



**WILLIE**



**BREE**



**ANGEL**

ODH has completed 11 years, has grown a great deal, and has changed the fate of homeless senior dogs in western Washington. We would like to express our deep gratitude to those who have made this happen:

Our 200 fabulous **foster families**, the very center of what we do

Our **staff members**, Tina and Barb, who put their souls and lives into the "job"

Our wonderful dedicated **Board members** who give SO MUCH time, energy and talent

Our **volunteers** who transport dogs, write thank-you cards, man outreach tables or attend events in all weather, monitor donation cans, work on the website and Facebook page, develop data bases, and other non-glamorous jobs

The many **veterinarians** who work so hard to help our old dogs with ridiculously challenging problems and no health history

The **businesses, clinics, and individuals who hold benefits** to raise funds for ODH – these have been a real boost (and sometimes a lot of fun too!)

The **businesses who sell our calendar or book and also introduce their customers to ODH**

**Most important:** Our incredibly generous donors, from all over the country, who make this possible. Caring for nearly 300 old dogs is extremely expensive and you allow us to give them what they need. With special thanks to those who've been loyal to us since our early years, we are very grateful to ALL who are part of the ODH effort.

It truly warms our hearts to know how many people care about abandoned old dogs and want them to end their lives with love and comfort in a family that wants them. You are remarkable!

*Judith and Lee Piper, founders*



The Final Refuge dogs featured in the group photograph on page 1 are:  
(Top– L-R) Shy, Sunshine, Gigi  
(Bottom– L-R) Dory, Debbie, Eric, Lady, Louie, Eleanor Rigby

They represent the 296 dogs in our care that are grateful for your support.