



# Old Dog Haven

September 2017

Volume 11 Number 3

## In This Issue

### Events

### Featured Dogs:

IVY  
SANDY  
KAYCEE

### 2017 Walk For Old Dogs Report

### Mailbox

### News Bite: CECE

### 2018 Calendar

### Dog Activity

### News from the Executive Director



TESSA

The dog featured in the header is Mojo.

## WE LOVE OLD DOGS!

In this issue you'll read about **Ivy**: "happy, sweet, thoughtful, and caring," **Sandy**: "silly, feels free to be himself," and **KayCee**: "a very special dog that emanates kindness." Also included is a report about the Walk for Old Dogs, Mail Box—showcasing mail ODH has received from various people, news about "Read with Me" dog **CeCe**, and a sneak peak at the cover of the 2018 calendar. As always, there is information about dog activity as well as a message from Madam Old Dog, Executive Director Judith Piper.

## DOG-CENTRIC EVENTS SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

Sept. 2 (Saturday) 11:00 A.M.  
**Meet & Greet Uppercase Bookshop**  
1010 2nd St. Snohomish

Sept. 16 (Saturday) 10:00 A.M.  
**Lake Stevens Meet & Greet**  
Haggen—8915 Market Pl. SE

### SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

Sept. 17 (Sunday) 11:00 A.M.  
**Puyallup Meet & Greet**  
Mud Bay-13210 Meridian E.

Oct. 7 (Saturday) 12:00 P.M.  
**Reber Ranch Meet & Greet**  
132nd Ave SE, Kent

Oct. 21 (Saturday) 10:00 A.M.  
**Burlington Meet & Greet**  
Haggen-757 Haggen Drive



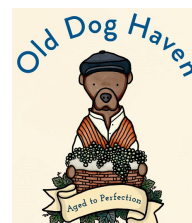
Calendar design: Joe Myers

### SAVE THIS DATE!

**Saturday, October 21 1:00 - 5:00**  
Northwest Cellars, 11909 124th Ave NE,  
Kirkland, WA 98034

### Old Dog Haven 2018 Calendar Release Party

Please join us in for a fun filled afternoon sipping great wine, visiting with Old Dog Haven dogs and their "parents" and celebrating the release of our 2018 calendar.



Label design:  
Gillian Levine

Dogs are also invited and The Seattle Barkery will be joining us at the event with tasty treats for your furry friends! (We will have snacks for their humans as well.) Our special Old Dog Haven labeled wine will be available for purchase (aged to perfection), as well as other fun Old Dog Haven merchandise.

All money raised at the wine event will be used to help over 300 Old Dog Haven dogs in permanent foster care. Ticket price includes a 2018 ODH Calendar. Get your tickets here:

<http://www.northwestcellars.com/events/event-sign-up/287-old-dog-haven-fundraiser-and-2018-calendar-release-party.html>

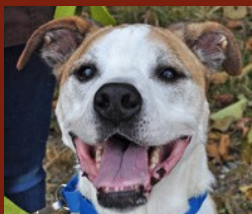
You can also have the 2018 Old Dog Haven label wine shipped. Minimum order is 4 bottles. Please specify ODH in "description if custom designed" section of the order form.

Click here to order the special red blend:

<http://www.northwestcellars.com/wines/red-wines/418-2013-serenade-redblend.html>

Click here to order the Chardonnay:

<http://www.northwestcellars.com/wines/white-wines/424-2015-chardonnay-2.html>



REMINGTON

## 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 8/31). Many dogs are in shelters, living in cages, desperately waiting for a forever home; some are in foster care, and several are posted for individuals and other rescue groups. 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.

## 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)

## 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.

## IVY

by Maryke Burgess



In the photo on the left Ivy is leaving the shelter: beautiful but worried. On the right, Ivy as she is now: still beautiful but smiling.

"My beautiful ODH rat terrier Kane had recently passed away. He was so special to me and I took his passing very hard. I thought it would be awhile before I would bring another ODH dog in to the family. I already live with and enjoy my ODH dog Cedar, and I also have two dogs I adopted from Save-a-Mutt, Louisa and Niva.



"But when I saw that Ivy was likely a hospice dog with just a couple of months to live based on her condition (skinny, flea infested, all of the hair on her tail and near her back and legs gone due to her compromised immune system, and a two pound tumor hanging between her legs, which affected her ability to walk and function) and the sweet picture of her in the Facebook post, I couldn't resist.



"After Ivy arrived I went to work right away getting her immune system built up and strong enough for surgery. With lots of love from me, her fur sisters, and good food and supplements, she was cleared for surgery. (Dr. Linvog, Medical Director at Frontier Village Veterinary Clinic, performed the procedure.) At first, Ivy had to get used to not having a heavy rock of a tumor between her legs, but once she realized it was gone there's been no stopping her!



"She is a favorite among the vet office staff and she's gone from being super skinny to weighing 65 pounds. She runs with joy at daycare and even has her own dog walker who not only takes her on walks but gives her massages. To say that Ivy is a happy, sweet, thoughtful and caring dog to people and other dogs is an understatement. She is simply one of the best dogs I've ever had the pleasure of knowing and I'm so honored to be her mom. Everyone in the family fur pack instantly liked her too.

"The healthier she gets, she now appears to be out of a 'hospice' situation and more into enjoying life! Ivy still has a few health issues but all in all she is thriving under the care and love of ODH!



"A few weeks ago she represented ODH at Poochapalooza in Marysville and was in their fashion show.



"Ivy is: gentle, kind, fun, loves her fur sisters a lot, is a great ambassador for ODH, loves to sing for her treats, loves watermelon and strawberries a lot, and loves to take every toy out of the toy box and spread them all over the yard!

"She is such a joy to be around."



LUCY PUGGLE



SAM

#### Editor's Note:

Just in case you're interested in the initial cost involved in improving Ivy's quality of life, here's a brief summary:

- Intake exam, x-rays, cytology of the tumor, lab work, skin scraping, anal glands- \$639.60
- Abdominal ultrasound by specialist-\$353.75
- Exam, lab work, another cytology of tumor-\$280.00
- Blood work (monitoring the anemia to see if surgery was safe)-\$112.80
- Surgery to remove the mammary tumor-\$1978.50
- Recheck hematocrit to see if still in safe region - it was! \$76.75

TOTAL: \$3643.56 in less than two months.

Perhaps you might look at her shelter photo and say, "Why bother? She's too sick to be helped." After reading her story and looking at photos of her now, you can see why we bothered. This is part of our Mission Statement: **"We intend to keep these dogs as healthy and comfortable as possible by providing excellent veterinary care, without heroic measures intended only to extend life."**

There was nothing heroic in the measures taken to help Ivy. Ivy's determination to be well and Maryke's commitment to her are heroic. Yeah Ivy! Thank you Maryke!

## SANDY

*By Donna Gonder*

**"This is a cautionary tale of bliss.**



**"When I first met Sandy, I picked him up at the Everett shelter. This adorable muppet boy bounded down the hallway toward me weaving back and forth, bouncing. I had been told that he had been in his prior home all his life. I couldn't imagine, seeing him there with all that energy. I knelt on one knee as he came toward me, waiting with open arms ... and he zigzagged right by me. That was my first experience with what I call the 'Flight of the Bumblebee Walk.'**



**"We got in the car and Mr. Furball settled right into the bed in the back seat. His breath was awful, like that of most little senior dogs if their teeth aren't cleaned. But he was happy. We drove home and he walked into the house—in his roundabout way—and began to whimper as he explored. The whimper fairly quickly turned into a whine, then an all out roaring whine. I tried treats, I tried petting (he would have NOTHING to do with being held) I tried a Thunder Shirt, I tried food, water, beds, and just leaving him be. The hollering went on and on. For hours. I tried giving him some Melatonin.**

**Nothing. We went out to go potty and he only stopped yelling long enough to do his business; then back to the loud, high pitched whining.**

**"I kept thinking how frightened he must be, going from his home—where apparently he had lived his first eight years inside as a cherished family member, and then he was put out in the backyard because he was whining. I believe he lived outside for a year, and then was taken to the shelter. He must have been so scared.**

**"His eyesight was bad (I didn't know how bad) and I knew his little heart must be pounding as he tried to find something familiar in all of this, something comforting. Anything. As night approached, I geared myself up for a sleepless night. But then I lifted him onto the bed and he collapsed into a silent deep sleep. WOW! 'A blessing indeed,' I said to myself, 'If he sleeps at night, I can get through this, and we can heal this little boy's fear.'**

**"Sure enough, the next morning, the whining started again enforce. Breakfast, a walk—back to the whining. Both of my dogs and my cat even tried to comfort him.**

**"Then, it was off to the vet. Boy, did we create a ruckus! The whining turned into all out screaming. I took him outside to wait so we didn't disturb all the other clients. When we walked as quickly as possible into the room, Dr. Lynn's eyes were wide! We did our best to soothe him—poor guy. ANOTHER new place! He didn't stop the entire visit. Dr. Lynn is a saint! She was so gentle and her demeanor showed her compassion for Sandy's plight. He had a heart murmur, he was blind in one eye and we weren't sure how much he could see out of the other. His teeth were rotten. All I wanted to do was hold him and let him know he was home now. We tried Melatonin. No luck.**



ZEN



BEAUREGARD



DOMO & LILY



BUSTER



RAY B

"Next was the eye doctor. Seriously, Dr. Sullivan is the dog whisperer. Sandy did his usual hollering and we waited outside. I was so worried about the other patients, but as soon as Dr. Sullivan walked in and started talking to Sandy, he calmed down. He was able to examine his eyes with only minor whimpering. Sandy had only 8% eyesight in one eye and none in the other. Eye drops were issued and he was a dream with application! He just sat there and got a treat for his effort. This poor boy had been put outside to live after eight years in his home! Almost blind! No wonder he whined there! My heart broke for him.



"Back home ... more hollering. All day. Until we went to bed. Sandy was holding up his end of the bargain. We slept. We slept well. He didn't want to cuddle, but he just slept like a rock on the bottom corner of the bed. I hoped he would like being on the bed during the day, but no luck.

"Then to the dentist. More hollering! I am not exaggerating when I say that this boy whined eight hours a day. Every so often he would sit for ten minutes and contemplate, but then the roaring would start up again. His teeth were awful. He had to have all but nine removed. I was hoping this would be the magic, his mouth would feel better and he would relax. Nope. Even on pain meds, he whimpered.



"Now, all fixed up and with his own bed and lots of patience—after a total of two months of whining—yes, two months—he started to relax. Consistent time for bed, time for meals, time for meds and walks. All about consistency. He began to be quiet. The first day with no whining we celebrated with a doggy cake!

"Sandy followed Sparky and Rizzo's examples. He loves walking and would listen for Rizzo's steps in the leaves. Now, Sandy doesn't walk in a straight line EVER. He zigs and zags and turns completely around and backtracks. Our outings are like a circus, but I wouldn't have it any other way.



"He began wanting to sleep touching me. He now sleeps right up against my leg and if I move, so does he. He is a silly little muppet and LOVES when you say loudly, "YEAH!" His tail goes up and he wags all over. He trusts me now and when we go in to the vet, I hold him and, although he doesn't relax, he is quiet and knows he is going home soon. He likes (sort of) to be petted now. Mostly he is too busy!



"Recently, his eyesight has become worse and he started to whimper again. But, we all stayed calm and reassured him, with calm voices, consistency and a comforting home.

"His energy is boundless and he spins and burrows. I swear he laughs. Even though he isn't the cuddler that he looks like he would be, he loves us, and he is cherished for who he is. He was worth every single minute of his whining. He is loved.

"P.S. I think it's important that people know not all dogs are going to be cuddly and quiet. Some dogs have just been through so much trauma that they just need space. And a lot of time. And sometimes they never will be cuddly, like Sandy. He has different ways of showing his love. He's silly, he feels free to be himself, and that means everything to me and my pack."

*Thank you Donna for having the patience of a saint! Your commitment to Sandy is inspiring and remarkable.*

## KAYCEE

By Monica Harle



LUCY

Editor's Note: *Before Monica talks about KayCee, here's a bit of background information about her: When she was brought to the shelter as a stray, shelter staff estimated KayCee's age as 11 or 12. KayCee weighed about eleven pounds, could barely see, her head was hanging down from pain, one of her eyes had ruptured from glaucoma, the other one was swollen with corneal edema, she was severely anemic, she had abscessed teeth, had never been spayed, and had a serious heart condition. The procedure of removing KayCee's badly damaged eyes went so quickly and so well that the vet decided she could also be spayed at that time. As the vet tech was shaving KayCee's stomach, she felt something odd in KayCee's belly. An X-ray was immediately taken and two perfectly formed puppies were seen on the film. 10 days later KayCee gave birth to two puppies. How she survived not only the surgery but carrying puppies to full term in that condition just astounded all of us. What a survivor! It should also be noted that **KayCee is Old Dog Haven's longest resident dog; she came to us in 2009.***



KayCee and her puppies.

*Ok, now here's what Monica has to say about KayCee:*

"KayCee came to live with me in March 2013, so she has been my companion for over four years now, and I, hers. This is her second leg of the Old Dog Haven fostering experience, since she was rescued in 2009, and my home is her Final Refuge home.

"KayCee's history is well documented in Ardeth De Vries' book, *Old Dog Haven: Every Old Dog Has a Story to Tell*. By the time KayCee came to live with me, she had been nursed to health by her first foster family for several years, until they moved away. In this time, KayCee must have slowly begun to heal from her physical traumas related to neglect prior to ODH and emotional traumas, as well. In her first foster experience KayCee attended many social gatherings and was around many dogs of all sizes and temperaments. She became well adjusted around crowds of people as well as dogs.

"So, consequently, my time with KayCee has been remarkably easy and calm compared to what I know about her past. She has easily adjusted to my home, although blind, and travels with me often to Shoreline and Seattle where I work and often stay. She has a dog bed in the passenger seat of the car and is the world's most patient dog—I tell her that often.

"I take KayCee for short walks around the rural cul de sac where we live—she is 18 or 19 now—and we are accompanied by her "nemesi" outdoor kitty companion, who follows us meowing and head bumping when he can get away with it.

"When we are in Shoreline or Edmonds, her favorite walks are Boeing Creek Park, and the bluff on Sunset Ave. overlooking the ferry landing. KayCee is attractive to a lot of people—most stop us to pet her, or ask questions, and so this slows our walks to a pace suitable for an old Cavalier King Charles Spaniel 'princess.' What happened to her eyes?' is the most asked question. Toll booth employees often say, 'Your puppy is really sleepy!'



RUDY



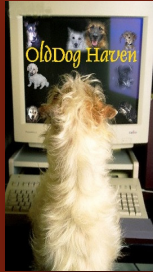
SAMMIE JO



LILLY



MANDY

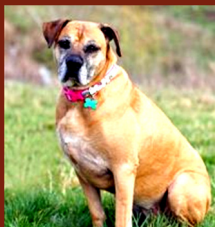


### Forward to a Friend

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



JACK



GRETA

"My philosophy (when practical) is that any hotel or restaurant that accepts both me and my dog is the exact place I want to eat or stay. KayCee has been a guest of the Dungeness Barn House in Sequim, where they also have a 'house dog' who makes sure guest dogs are happy and entertained. Although we often eat 'plein air,' on the patio, we are never 'banished.' I think we are treated even better than if I was to dine with just humans.

"Since KayCee came to live with me in 2013, I have taken only a few flights out of state and KayCee has stayed with a friend once and my sister each of the other times. When my friend and his wife 'hosted' KayCee, she enjoyed regal status at their home they told me—the first time a dog had ever stayed there before—not even family members' dogs. They told me KayCee spent the entire time on their laps in front of the computer ... just the disposition of a Cavalier.



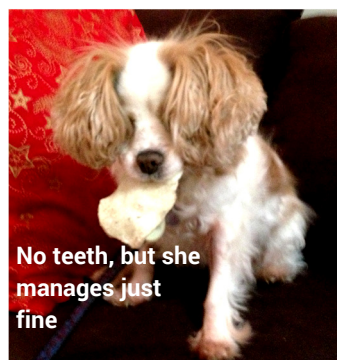
"When my sister takes KayCee they go to work together. She is the assistant activities director for Clearbrook Inn in Silverdale, an assisted living facility. There, KayCee spends the day with residents or walks around the office behind a baby gate where residents stop by all day to pet her. Occasionally we have gone to just visit the residents and perhaps 'therapy dog' may be the next manifestation of her calm nurturing temperament.

"KayCee is fine staying home when the weather is too hot or too cold, but like all dogs, is dejected when she hears the words 'you need to stay here.' Her ears are very expressive—she listens intently to words and conversations and is a very alert and smart girl. Kay Cee isn't like any of the other dogs I read about. She doesn't have 'high energy' or a large presence.

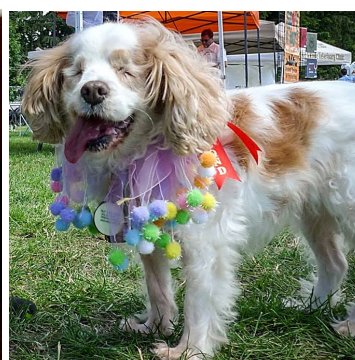
"In all honesty, although it can be concerning walking a blind dog on a leash around curbs ('up, up! I say') and around posts, chair legs, etc. outside, when we are at home or on walks out in the open, she is confident and easy to manage. She has never barked once that I have heard, and this is pretty amazing to someone who has been around Labradors and collies who are quite vocal! She is very quiet, gets along with all dogs and people and emanates kindness.

"I sometimes wonder about the past she had before she came to Old Dog Haven because of her issues with sound. It's very difficult at 4th of July. Also, she has 'freeze' moments. We just power through them and she comes out just like normal in a few moments. I have a lot of compassion for her.

"She has no fear of people, especially young people. She loves teenagers and for some reason, they are so completely enamored with her they take videos and photos of her all the time. Something about her reaches out to them.



No teeth, but she manages just fine



"I'm happy KayCee is here with me and that we share our lives. She is a special girl."

## Contact Us

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

Phone:  
(360) 653-0311

Inquiries about fostering and adoption  
[office@olddoghaven.org](mailto:office@olddoghaven.org)

Help with placing your dog & social media  
[placement@olddoghaven.org](mailto:placement@olddoghaven.org)

Corporate giving, Walk for Old Dogs, marketing & PR inquiries  
[development@olddoghaven.org](mailto:development@olddoghaven.org)

Hosting a fundraiser for ODH, donation can at your business  
[benefits@olddoghaven.org](mailto:benefits@olddoghaven.org)

ODH participation at your event  
[events@olddoghaven.org](mailto:events@olddoghaven.org)

End-of-life decisions & grief counseling  
[ardethdv@comcast.net](mailto:ardethdv@comcast.net)

Address changes & donor inquiries  
[donations@olddoghaven.org](mailto:donations@olddoghaven.org)

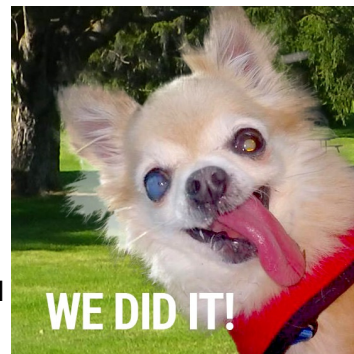
Website questions/issues  
[ODHWeb@olddoghaven.org](mailto:ODHWeb@olddoghaven.org)

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

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

## 2017 WALK FOR OLD DOGS A HUGE SUCCESS!

Once again they came ... between 450-500 people and their dogs celebrated at ODH's 6th Annual Walk for Old Dogs held at Cromwell Park in Shoreline on July 23. Thanks to generous donors and sponsors all over the country we exceeded our goal and over \$140,000 was raised to help our dogs. An incredible effort by all involved. Thank you! Thank you!



Let's take a little photographic tour of a few of the highlights of the day so you have a sense of everything that was happening:



ODH Founders Judith and Lee Piper were recognized for having fostered nearly 400 dogs for ODH during the past 13 years.

Susan Wilcox (with Minnie) was introduced as the newest foster at the Walk.



The top three individual and team fundraisers were awarded ribbons and prizes for their efforts:

3rd Place Individual Fundraiser: Scott Watkins (\$2,335),  
2nd Place: Meredith Moses (\$5,017)  
1st Place: Peabody Johanson (\$5,946)



Team Fundraisers:

3rd Place: Pirate Girls ( \$5,417)  
2nd Place: PNW Spaniel Squad (\$7,566)  
1st Place: South Paws: (\$28,612)

Thanks to organizer Gretchen Howell, The Dachshund Race for Rescue was a huge hit. ODH dogs **Mojo**, **Ginger** and **Schnitzel** all won prizes. And... ODH alum **Floyd** won 1st prize. Results for all three final heats according to Gretchen were:

**Pro:** 1st-Patches, 2nd-Ben Norman, 3rd-Mina Louise, and 4th-Maxwell Smart  
**ODH Fosters/Alumni:** 1st-Floyd Van Howell, 2nd-Ginger, 3rd-Lilly, 4th-Mojo  
**Rookie:** 1st-Teru, 2nd-Toby, 3rd-Ginger, 4th-Schnitzel



## Best Costume



Captain **Marvin** and The Good Ship ODH- 1st Place

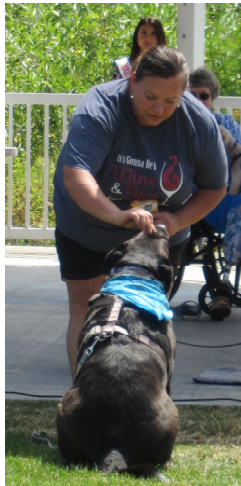


**Abby** left the house with her curlers on but still took 2nd Place



Cancer survivor **Claire** looking pretty in pink won 3rd Place.

## Best Trick



**Chunk** took 1st place by balancing a treat on his nose, tossing it in the air and then catching it.



**Akira** won 2nd place with a series of tricks.



**Hank** managed to roll over with a piano on his back and win 3rd place.

## Three Oldest Dogs



(L-R) 17, 18, 18



JADA

## Thank You to:

- all of our sponsors for being such dedicated supporters of ODH,
- Joe Myers for the original artwork for the logo, totes, for his graphic assistance, and everything else he did as Executive Assistant to the Walk Organizer,
- Walk Manager Jennifer Remy and her host of volunteers,
- all of the individuals and businesses who donated prizes,
- Dawn Ford for contacting donors, collecting and putting together prize baskets,
- photographers Amber Fowler, Joe Myers, Jesse Calhoun, Ken Lambert (Seattle Times), Erin Grace, Anne Williams, Jim Perkins, and anyone else whose photographs captured the day,
- Paula Moreschi—Walk Organizer Extraordinaire,
- everyone who donated, registered, and supported the Walk in some way, and
- **all of the dogs for helping us celebrate your importance in our lives!**

**Special thanks to vendors and food trucks who either donated money for booth space or donated a percentage of their sales (some did both) to ODH.**

## Newsletter Team

Joe Myers  
Distribution

Deeanne Matz  
Web access

Montreaux Rotholtz  
Proofreader

Judith Piper  
(Statistics/  
ED Message  
Resource)

Contributors:  
Maryke Burgess  
Donna Gonder  
Monica Harle  
Laura Demory  
Paula Moreschi

Editor  
Ardeth De Vries

If this email was  
forwarded to you,  
and you'd like to  
receive it in the  
future, send an  
email to  
[donations@olddoghaven.org](mailto:donations@olddoghaven.org)

To stop receiving  
this newsletter,  
send an email to  
[donations@olddoghaven.org](mailto:donations@olddoghaven.org)

To have this  
newsletter sent to  
a different email  
address, send an  
email to  
[donations@olddoghaven.org](mailto:donations@olddoghaven.org)

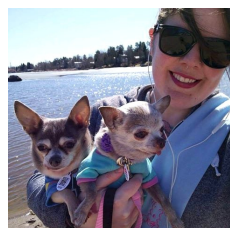
## MAIL BOX



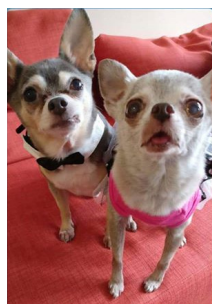
"In the interest of sharing how much your posts truly do matter, I saw this post (see left) almost a year and a half ago as I was sitting in an airport in Las Vegas on my way back to Seattle. Only a month prior, I had said goodbye to my Jack Russell terrier named Hams who moved on just before her 15th birthday. I immediately called the shelter and got information on these two.



"The very next day, I went to the Petco in Kirkland where they were being held with the King County Regional Animal Shelter. I had my adoption papers prefilled out and knew I couldn't leave without them. When I adopted them, I was in the midst of a selection process to study for an additional degree in nursing in Finland. While I knew that adopting two new dogs would cause a lot more work in that process, I couldn't ignore those faces. They came home with me on March 1, 2016.



"I renamed them both since it seemed fitting for their new life. Stubbs is now Jukka and Karmen is now Essi. In August of 2016, we all moved to Finland together and plan to stay. Jukka and Essi could not be better dogs and everyone who meets them immediately falls in love. They've now been fully house-trained and have learned some basic tricks as well. Old dogs can learn new tricks! They've both gotten more and more energetic and vibrant and Essi has gained some much-needed weight.



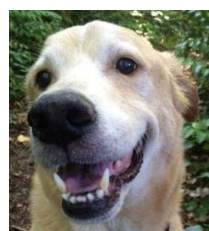
"I can't thank you enough for the work that you do, both in providing Final Refuge homes and in advocating adoptable senior dogs. I can't imagine life without these little monsters and hope we have many years ahead of us." *from Chelsea*



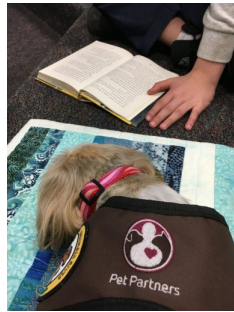
"We've adopted Buddy Blue! I would like to thank Old Dog Haven and Buddy Blue's foster mom, Catherine, for taking such good care of him. He's a dream boat and so sweet, polite and handsome. We are so happy to have him in our lives!" *from Kristen*



"Two years ago you shared a picture on Facebook of a sweet old guy at PAWs looking for a home. For my husband and me, it was love at first sight. Fletcher joined our family, and true to the description you posted, he was a sweet and happy goofball. We had to say goodbye to him yesterday and find ourselves completely heartbroken. We loved Fletcher deeply and feel like a piece of us is now missing. The love and happiness he brought to our lives is immeasurable. We feel so lucky. We spent our final few days together doing (and eating!) all his favorite things. Old dogs really are the best dogs." *from Kristen and Don*



## NEWS BITE : CECE



CeCe & Laura

### From Unadoptable Senior Dog to Unstoppable Read with Me Dog *From Pet Partners Newsletter*

Two years ago, CeCe, a 10-year old Shih Tzu, found herself at a shelter when her owner was no longer able to care for her. As a senior dog, dribbling blood and urine from bladder stones, she was severely overweight, she was not adoptable. Fortunately for CeCe, the shelter called Old Dog Haven, an organization with a mission to rescue unadoptable senior dogs in western Washington state and place them in permanent foster homes, rescued her. She was removed from the shelter, taken for medical treatment, and came to live with me as a permanent foster. It took several months to restore her health.

As CeCe recovered from surgery, lost weight and gained strength, I discovered a calm, sweet-tempered dog that is quite fond of children. It occurred to me that if she could be a therapy dog in a reading program, it would be a great enrichment activity for her. I got permission from Old Dog Haven to pursue becoming a therapy team, signed up with a good trainer and started practicing. It took several months of intensive work because CeCe, although blessed with a sweet disposition and fondness for people, appeared to have had no obedience training at all. Our hard work paid off, and we passed our evaluation in November of 2016 and volunteered to read at two of the local primary schools. CeCe loves this, and so do I. It is so gratifying to see these kids light up when they see CeCe coming and to know that we can bring so much happiness into the school for them. We've only been doing this since January, but it's been so amazing!

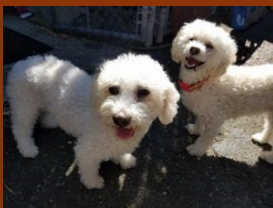
CeCe and I have also been volunteering with the local community partner, Columbia River Pet Partners, as a neutral dog team for evaluations and some of the local events the group has participated in. The most recent, a picnic for foster kids, was the perfect event for a foster dog that loves kids.

To make this story even better, I had retired a few months before CeCe came to live with me. I have gotten so much joy from our volunteer work as a therapy team, I am training with my personal dog for our evaluation in September. My girl Poppy, a 10-year old Lhasa Apso mix, is also a former shelter dog that I adopted from the Humane Society in 2013.

Thanks to CeCe, that little unadoptable senior dog, I have found this amazing way to take my commitment to rescuing shelter dogs to a new level by partnering with my dogs to support my community, and that is a really special thing. *story provided by Laura Demory*



NANY



CASPER & SASSY

## VENDORS NEEDED FOR THE 2018 CALENDAR

The 2018 ODH calendar, created by Joe Myers, will be available soon! If you have a vet clinic, pet store, or other local business interested in selling the 2018 calendar, email:

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





TWINKIE



FLAME



ROXANNE



LUCY



RICKI



TEE

## DOG ACTIVITY NUMBERS JANUARY 1 – AUGUST 31

**310** dogs are in care as of 8/31

**310** are in Final Refuge

**0** are in foster homes awaiting adoption

**131** new dogs were taken into care between 1/1 – 8/31

**121** came from shelters

**10** came from individuals

**271** new dogs were posted for individuals, shelters and other rescue groups.

**402** new dogs were helped 1/1-8/31

**205** dogs were adopted 1/1-8/31

Even nonprofits 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 NE  
PMB A-4

Lake Stevens, WA  
98258-8525

Thank You!

## NEWS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Our main mission at ODH is to get the seniors out of western Washington shelters and into loving safe homes for the rest of their lives. Much of our effort goes into putting those dogs into ODH permanent foster homes (and the occasional adoption from one of our homes). However, we have made an increasing effort to help shelters, other rescue groups, and owners find homes for their healthier seniors directly. This has been a win-win situation: The dogs go to loving homes, ODH can use our resources—foster homes and funds—for the older and sicker dogs.



We are proud to hear from others who feel that ODH has had a big hand in raising awareness about the benefits and good done by adopting seniors. We now hear from wonderful folks who say they will only adopt seniors. In spite of the potentially short life-span of their adoptee, people continue to open their hearts and homes to them and say it was the best experience imaginable.

Sometimes it seems to us that there are thousands of unwanted old dogs in western Washington, all needing homes immediately and there is no way that ODH can take them all in.

By devoting a great deal of staff time to showcasing the dogs that are healthy enough for adoption, we have really made a difference for a lot of dogs. Tina Nabseth, our placement coordinator, spends hours on this and sheds many tears listening to stories that are sad for the humans involved, the dogs, or both. She can take comfort from some amazing numbers:

Over the 13 years we've been growing ODH, we have posted 3130 dogs for others, most of whom have found homes. And in the first eight months of 2017, 193 of the senior dogs we've posted for others have been adopted! Wahoo!