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Violet Rose
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Dog Activity 2019

The Final Refuge dogs featured in the header are (L-R) Woof, Chase, Rowdy, Winston, Nicky & Ole.

The dogs shown in the "thank you" are (L-R) Demi, Shadow, Archie, Zorg, Shelby, Caden, Dandy, and Peanut. These dogs represent the over 325 dogs in our care that are grateful for your support.



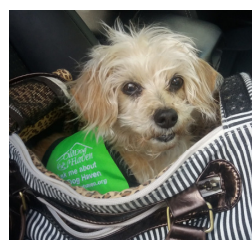
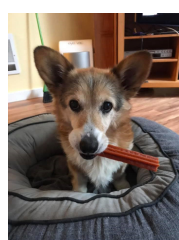
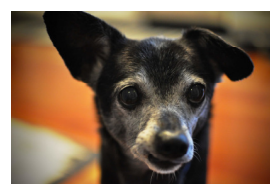
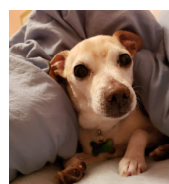
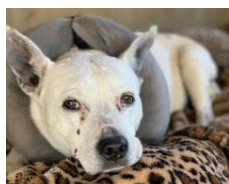
CARMELA

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. What we do wouldn't be possible without your generous donations. PAWS UP TO ALL OF YOU!

THE PAST 15 YEARS, ODH HAS HELPED **6,954** DOGS!



ADOPT!

All of the senior dogs pictured in the border that runs the length of the newsletter (see left) are available for adoption (as of 1/3). 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) to find out more about these adoptable dogs.

WE LOVE OUR SEAHAWKS!



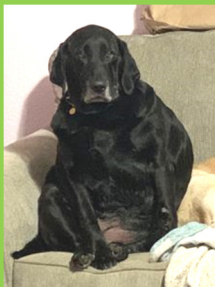
AASTE



COURAGE

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



JANE

VIOLET ROSE

By Virginia Grace

Violet Rose, a very tiny little Chihuahua, was rescued from the shelter and there was no history of any kind about her. The staff at the shelter realized she had a serious disability and contacted Old Dog Haven. Violet Rose was evaluated by a neurologist and diagnosed with C1-C5 myelopathy. Her gait is very unusual. Basically, she cannot walk but she does hop some. She was emaciated, which caused generalized muscle atrophy. The cause is unknown. She also had a large inguinal hernia and an ultrasound showed she needed a spaying. In addition, she had dental disease.



I was honored to be chosen as Violet's foster mom, and she became part of our family on July . I gave her the name Violet Rose. She sees her vets for vaccines and routine care, but the inguinal hernia was affecting her bowels so it had to be dealt with immediately and in order to know if she could tolerate anesthesia, Violet Rose was referred to a specialty center for a consult with a neurologist. He confirmed that her issue is most likely a cervical fracture which affects her mobility as well as her odd bark. The good news was that there was no brain lesion so she could have surgery, which also involved being spayed.



The challenges involved in getting Violet Rose to gain weight have improved with an introduction to another Chihuahua—Olive—in September. Even though we have other dogs, Violet Rose needed a dog close to her size. Thanks to Judith's idea, Violet Rose no longer takes four hours to get a few

tablespoons of food down. She tries to copy Olive in walking and eating. They are now inseparable. Violet Rose still faces challenges walking and tires easily, (two feet knuckle and one back leg doesn't bend) but she can wag her tail like a propeller. Perhaps when she's stronger she'll be able to use a specialized wheelchair. Violet Rose has gained about five ounces and now weights four and a half pounds.

The next step will be to care for Violet Rose's teeth, which will happen this month. She probably won't have any teeth left after her dental, but that won't slow her down.

Despite her neurological disability, Violet Rose can look forward to a long happy life. Both Violet Rose and Olive have brought smiles to the people they meet.

Without Old Dog Haven, dogs like Violet Rose would most likely never get a forever home and the health care they need. Old Dog Haven pays for all vet bills. All donations to ODH make miracles like this happen. Thank you.



Thank you Virginia for taking such good care of Violet Rose and for giving her a second chance at happiness.
(photos by Erin Grace)



BELLA

SISSY

By Tina Nabseth

Sissy's lifetime owner was leaving the country and could not bring her along. She told us that her family had raised Sissy but the kids had left the house and no one in her family wanted Sissy because "her breathing is hard because she is overweight." Even though her lifelong family felt this way, we say that we won "the Sissy lottery!"



Sissy was indeed very overweight; upon intake she weighed 108 pounds. When she was surrendered she was flea infested, horribly matted, and in truly awful shape. In spite of her neglected condition, Sissy was a dear, sweet, easy patient for the vet techs as they worked on her to shave her mats, cut her long nails, clean and treat her ears and do what needed to be done to help her. Testing found she had Cushing's

Disease, high blood pressure, hypothyroidism, arthritis, infected ears and a UTI. It's no wonder her breathing was "hard!"



Because of the extra weight she carried, Sissy had a very hard time getting up and down and even walking for any distance. We knew gradual weight loss through diet and gentle exercise would be best for her and over a few months time, Sissy started to lose weight. She was treated for her UTI, started on thyroid supplement, high blood pressure medication, medication for the pain from her arthritis and treatment for her Cushing's Disease.

Recently Sissy had a large benign growth taken off her lovely face. She has had terrific veterinary care, thanks to Old Dog Haven donors, with special thanks to a donor we call Sissy's "Fairy Dogmother," a woman who is a lover of golden retrievers.



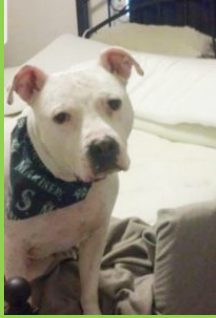
Sissy now weighs 72 pounds. She no longer has high blood pressure. She will always have Cushing's but she is currently symptom free. Sissy takes walks with her forever foster dad through their property. She has a special spot she likes to do happy rolls in, kicking all four of her legs in the air while she's on her back. Sissy and her foster dad Rick have a very special bond.



This very special girl is just about perfect in every way. Sissy is excellent with the group of little old dogs with whom she shares her home. She has been wonderful with our grandkids when they come to visit. She rarely ever barks, but when she does, there's a good reason for it! Sissy is such a GOOD GIRL.

In December 2019 Sissy turned 14, which for a golden retriever, is quite an accomplishment. Of course we hope for a lot more time with our "Sissy Girl." It's remarkable how we can fall so in love with these old dogs that come to us in the twilight of their lives. They become part of our family and we can't imagine how anyone could have ever parted with them. It's definitely "our gain" and we are so grateful.

Thank you Tina and Rick for welcoming Sissy into your family.



BUDDY

If you have feedback about this newsletter or ideas for future newsletters, please send them to ardethdv@comcast.net

WE REMEMBER KAYCEE

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

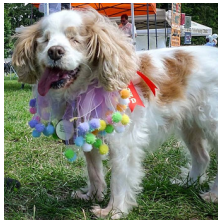


perfectly formed puppies were seen on the film. 10 days later KayCee gave birth to two puppies. How she survived not only the surgery but carrying puppies to full term in that condition just astounded all of us. What a survivor. For years KayCee was ODH's longest resident and oldest dog until she moved on to her next expression of spirit in November 2019.



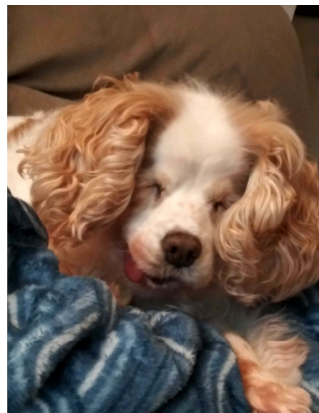
KayCee had a calm, nurturing temperament which she shared with the residents of Clearbrook Inn who all loved her and valued her time with them.

Being blind was never a problem for KayCee because she saw with her heart. She had no fear of people, especially young people. She especially loved teenagers, and they were so taken with her they took videos and photos of her all the time. Something about her reached out to them.



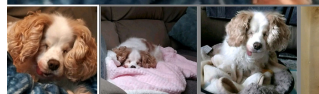
KayCee loved attending ODH functions, especially the Walk where she was crowned "oldest dog" several years in a row. Her foster mom says that she "always knew she was with her people, and she knew exactly where she was when we went to any ODH function. She

had a lot of energy for this type of thing. She had a very soft, beautiful personality and instantly mesmerized everyone she met. It was pretty amazing to watch."



KayCee had a truly wonderful life. She was a gentle spirit that taught us the value of living in the moment and seeing with our hearts. We all celebrate KayCee's presence in our lives, and are grateful she was able to stay as long as

she did. She was a perfect example of the difference ODH can make in the lives of unadoptable senior dogs.



Special thanks to Rhonda, Monica and Marti who all loved KayCee, cared for her, and welcomed her into their homes and hearts.



QUEEN



Forward to a Friend

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



OLIVER

MAILBOX

We're always happy to hear that our courtesy posts on the ODH website, Facebook and Instagram are so successful. In 2019 225 dogs were adopted through our courtesy posts! Thanks to everyone for sharing them and spreading the word. Here are two happy endings that happened because of those posts:



It was love at first sight for Blanca's new family and the feeling is mutual, apparently! She has joined a truly wonderful family.



Tiberius and Roxie

"Ty came to us earlier this year with a very nervous condition and a tenacious UTI. We got him into our favorite vet and first cleared the UTI, then weaned him off of the Prozac. He still needs anti-anxiety meds on rare occasions. He is a lover, a snuggle bunny and just so sweet! We joke that my husband,

Jonathan, is Ty's "therapy human." What a goof-ball. We crack up every time he can't see Jonathan because he starts to explore every room for him. We have come to realize Ty is almost 100% deaf! We think that is where the nervousness comes from and why he needs to have company. He is so gentle and kind with our little dog, Mia and has settled in so nicely into our family. Oh, he and Roxie get along famously!

Roxie!

"What a joy she is. She is 100% lab, through and through. Our home is so perfect for her. She starts every day with a swim in the lake. Followed by swimming in the lake for the majority of the day. Ha ha (With several breaks to lay in the sun) She loves everyone, every dog, even cats. She is gentle with the children of the neighborhood and patiently waits for them to throw the ball for her.

"There is something so incredibly special about older dogs. Their gentle eyes, patience and abundant love. We are so blessed! Thank you again for helping us find these beautiful, sweet souls."

Jennifer and Jonathan

THANK YOU DR. MC CALLA



After 18 years of serving the ocular health needs of pets in Northwest Washington and in Southwest British Columbia, Dr. Terri McCalla has retired.

All of us at ODH wish Dr. McCalla a very happy retirement and we send our heartfelt thanks to her for the excellent care she gave ODH dogs for many years.

Dr. McCalla always made time for our dogs and had a special place in her heart for ODH. We'll miss her!

Contact Us

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www.olddoghaven.org

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(206) 280-7614

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office@olddoghaven.org

Help with placing your dog & social media placement
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DOG SMILES

WE'RE IN THIS TOGETHER



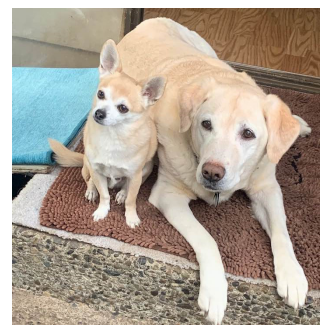
Augustus and Ichiro keep each other company when they visit the vet.



Lil Kimmie (in chair) takes her guardian job very seriously as she watches over baby Kai.



Henry, Bella, Chia, Talla, Bernie, Chase and Louella all waited for Santa together.



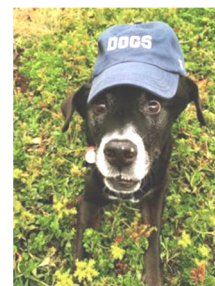
Posey and Wally are wondering why dinner isn't being served.



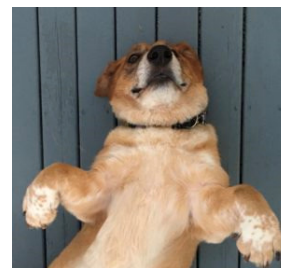
Fiona and Tanner think walking together at the beach is the best way to enjoy the day.

ODH DOG GOALS FOR 2020

Now that we've officially started a new year most people have goals they hope to accomplish in 2020. I figured our dogs might have some goals too so I asked a few of our Final Refuge dogs about their goals for the year. Here's what they had to say:



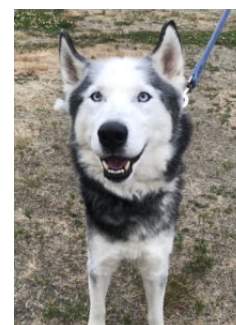
Agatha (L) and Sadie's goals for the new year are to get modeling gigs so they can show off designer hats for dogs.



Barley's goal for the new year is to open his own yoga studio, specializing in relaxation techniques.



Rudy's goal for the year is to be the first dog candidate representing the ODH party.



Mieko's goal is to train his foster dad to bring the squirrels closer to the house.

MESSAGE FROM DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR PAULA MORESCHI



BUDDY



MILO



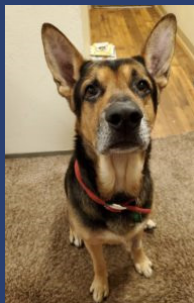
HAZEL



COCO



MOOSE



TANK

Our Gratitude to You Runs Deep and Will Never End.

Words can't express how grateful we are for all you do for the dogs. With every penny you donate, every good wish you send our way, every minute you spend reading our newsletters, emails and blog, you bring sunlight into our lives.

We have so much to be thankful for:

The 2019 [Maranda Fund](#) celebration raised over \$22,000. Thank you to those who support this life-saving fund.

The [Walk for Old Dogs](#) was a huge success, raising over \$120,000 for the dogs. Thank you to everyone who participated.

The [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) pages continue to help us find homes for so many senior dogs in need and help spread the word about Old Dog Haven. Thank you followers!

The [Golden Guardian](#) monthly donors help ensure a reliable source of income to provide for over 325 dogs in permanent final refuge care. Thank you for helping the dogs over and over and over again.

The dog [sponsors](#) become their guardian angels and help with much needed veterinary expenses. Thank you for your friendship and support.

The [Workplace Giving](#) donations are often doubled or even tripled! Thank you for giving through your workplace and thank you to the companies who offer matching gifts.

The staff, fosters and [volunteers](#) keep the foundation in place. Thank you for your devotion.

In 2019 Old Dog Haven celebrated its 15th anniversary. Since the organization was founded YOUR never-ending love and devotion has enabled us to help almost 7000 senior dogs in need. This is an amazing achievement and your kindness touches our hearts.

From all of us at Old Dog Haven, thank you and best wishes in the new year.

Paula



DOG ACTIVITY NUMBERS: 2019 WRAP UP

2019

330 DOGS IN CARE AT YEAR END

236 ACTIVE FOSTER HOMES (MORE NEEDED!!)

476 NEW DOGS HELPED

191 PLACED IN ODH FOSTER HOMES

92% OF THOSE FROM SHELTERS AND RESCUE GROUPS

8% OF THOSE FROM INDIVIDUALS

240 DOGS ADOPTED (15 ODH & 225 referrals)

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
P.O. Box 1409
Oak Harbor WA
98277

Or, if you prefer to donate online, just click on the link below the donate button.

DONATE

<https://olddoghaven.org/donate-now/>