

March 2020

Old Dog Haven

Helping Senior Dogs Live Their Golden Years in a Loving Home

MEET FOSTERS MICHELE BELCHER (PERRIGO) & BARBARA HAAS



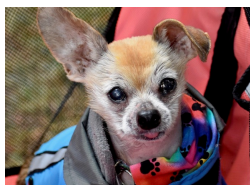
Michele with Lilly and Monte

"I LOVE ODH. My first involvement was as a monthly donor, and then one day I saw a picture of a beautiful dachshund needing a home. I took her home and three years later she is still with me. Fast forward a few years and then came Monte—a fragile Chihuahua in really rough shape. Monte is truly the best decision I

ever made. I sadly had to let him go after 15 wonderful months, and I miss him every day. I also enjoy transporting, and look forward to bringing a foster their new best friend. ODH is an amazing organization and I am proud to do my part."

Michele hasn't given you quite the whole story about her involvement with ODH, so here's more from our Director of Veterinary Services, Judith Piper: "Michele is TERRIFIC; she's volunteered to get a dog in serious condition even if it was an extremely short-term hospice, and she handled that very well even though it was a new experience for her. She's taken dogs into the emergency clinic for fosters who couldn't get out (LONG drive and time commitment), picked up dogs we took from owners—not an easy assignment—and in general nothing is too much trouble for her."

Tina Nabseth, our Placement Coordinator, also has this to say about Michele: "I cannot say enough good things about her. She's a generous and caring person. She's not only a foster, she's an Area Foster Coordinator. Michele will transport at the drop of the hat as well. She is always offering help. She has also represented ODH at events. Recently she's been helping me with our Facebook page, learning how to answer comments and PMs to our page. She has a microchip scanner, and here in Sultan and Monroe she scans dogs and cats when found, including those that are deceased. She also puts signs up for people with her own money for lost/found cats and dogs. Michele is wonderful."



Thank you Michele for everything you do for ODH! You're very much appreciated.



Julie Austin Any Pet Photography

We first learned of ODH in 2010 when we were looking to adopt a small, senior dog as a companion for our 17 year old husky mix. ODH had one listed on their website for adoption, and he seemed to be what we wanted. After bringing our little pom home we decided we would like to try fostering senior dogs. And that was the beginning of our love affair with ODH and senior dogs.

Our first FR was a shih tzu who was blind, deaf, had terrible skin, and was way past just being a senior dog. He was only with us for a few months before we lost him. Since then we have had many ODH FR dogs—all small and with many different issues. Some were with us for years, others only a week or so. But we like to think we made a difference in their lives.

In fostering for ODH you have to have an open mind. These dogs are already old and have many of the ailments associated with older dogs, whether it be the feeding, medication, or having to help them up and down stairs.



But fostering the old dogs is the most important to us. We often sit and ask ourselves how did we end up with a houseful of dogs! The answer: we love animals, and they need us to love them, to give them the best life we can, and to keep them safe and as healthy as possible. We currently have four ODH fosters and two resident dogs. We will keep doing this until our age won't let us do it anymore.

In our spare time Dan and I like to read and work crossword puzzles. Dan loves to cook (thank heavens, because I don't.) I used to write thank you cards, but arthritis in my hands put a stop to that. I also help at events, monitor donation jars and calendar sales at several locations.



Thank you Barb! You and Dan DO make a difference.

FUNDRAISING BENEFITS FOR OLD DOG HAVEN

We're always very grateful that so many individuals, groups, and small businesses take it upon themselves to host benefits for ODH. This kind of unsolicited generosity is a wonderful compliment, as well as a tremendous boost to our financial ability to help old dogs. We'd like to especially thank the following groups and individuals :



Alexander Tsao, a junior at Redmond High School, recycles climbing ropes to leashes and donates profits to ODH and other animal welfare organizations. www.rocks2dogs.com.

The **Northwest Canine Sniffers** had a raffle during their holiday party and donated proceeds to ODH.



PetPros featured Old Dog Haven as part of their Paw-liday Giving during the holidays. Thousands of dollars were raised for our senior dogs.



Thanks to so many we had our best **Giving Tuesday** ever ... raising over \$95,000 for the dogs.

Sunrise Senior Living held a fundraiser for ODH.



Thanks to **Brouwer's Cafe** for choosing Old Dog Haven to benefit from their "BEERlesque" show.

Dreadnought Brewing LLC and **Enchant Vertical Dance** held benefits for ODH.



Thanks to **Dogwood Play Park** for their fundraising efforts on behalf of ODH, and special thanks to **John** who matched his tips from the **Seattle Barkery** for a day and donated the money to ODH.

Populuxe Brewing held a fundraiser in which ODH was the featured charity.



Schlossers and their clients for being loyal ODH supporters.

DirtFish held a fundraiser and raised money for ODH.

The **Bell Vernon Kennel Association** donated proceeds from their events to ODH.

Thanks to the **Nor'West Norwich Norfolk Terrier Group** for raising money for our dogs.

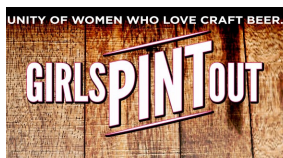


Our wonderful long-time supporters at **Paddywack, Shane and Adam**, held their annual ODH **Have A Heart** sponsorship drive in February. Not only did they match the first \$1,000 in sponsorships, they added the option for people to donate \$1 or \$5 for a heart.



Once again **Alexa Robbins Tarotmancer, Movement-meister Joe Ruiz, and Crescent Moon Yoga** held a Pilates fundraiser for ODH. Between the class and a Facebook online fundraiser, they raised thousands of dollars for our dogs.

Boeing in Everett held a fundraiser for ODH



Olympia Girls Pint Out hosted a Suds and Succulents benefit at Northwest Beerwerks and donated proceeds to ODH.

Lisa Hystek Photography donated proceeds from their dog mini sessions photo shoot to ODH.

Crown Hill Pet Supply and **Wally Pet Supplies** donated proceeds from their Santa photos to ODH.



Soggy Doggy held a fundraiser for ODH.

Thanks to the **employees of UBS Financial Services** for selecting ODH as their charity of the month for Jeans for a Cause.



No Bones Beach Club in Seattle chose ODH to be the beneficiary of their We Give Wednesday in February.



GiveBIG is celebrating 10 years of giving this year bringing thousands of people together to support the causes dear to their hearts. Old Dog Haven has participated in GiveBIG since 2013 and because of your support, it has become one of Old Dog Haven's most important fundraisers of the year. Please consider making a gift to Old Dog Haven on May 6, GiveBIG.

If you or your company is interested in providing a matching gift during GiveBIG 2020 please contact Paula at development@olddoghaven.org

PAWS UP TO VOLUNTEER HOLLY BOEHME



When I was eight years old my mom and dad got me a wonderful Newfoundland puppy. Dad built a big dog house, and the neighbors were laughing at him, but within a year Daphne was as big as a pony. My mom was allergic to dogs, but said every kid needed a dog. I loved that dog, and we had many adventures, but it broke my heart to see her age and develop arthritis. Luckily, she lived out her days with my dad.

My husband and I are both retired from the United States Coast Guard, but before we retired my sweet husband Gary wanted dogs. He was stationed on a ship that left for three months at a time, so I told him once he was finished with ship duty, we would get dogs. Before we knew it, we had two wonderful dogs: Cody, a rottweiler/shepherd mix, and Bullet, a black lab/collie mix and a runner. Bullet had been returned to the shelter three times because he was a handful, and he ran, and ran, and ran. Sweet Cody passed away two summers ago, but Mr. Bullet is doing well. My husband put his cell number on Bullet's collar and received many calls from miles away in the beginning, but luckily Bullet found good people when he was tired and needed his dad. Bullet is 12 now and his running off trips are around the yard. We live on five beautiful acres with dogs, cats, horses, and chickens.

I found out about ODH from our vet and immediately fell in love with the cause. I also transport dogs to new homes. They are all so happy to leave the shelter and get in the car. Many are shaking because they've lost their owners, but I always tell them that they are going to a better place with people who will love them. I also love that everyone who donates to ODH gets a hand written thank you card, so I decided to help write thank you notes. (*Ed note: Holly also sends all of the supplies to the writers, which is a big job!)

I love being part of a group of people who will go to any length to help these dogs, and it's wonderful to see ODH continue to grow. For the love of dogs, thanks to everyone who helps these wonderful seniors.

Thank you for all you do for ODH Holly!

KUDOS TO VOLUNTEER ASHLEY BRADFORD



Ashley with Dixie and Sadie on their rooftop eating gelato. The girls have their Swell Dog Gelato and she has her Talenti human gelato.

I volunteer to help Old Dog Haven as an administrator on Instagram.

In my day to day life I love to hang out with my animals, take photos, and go hiking.

I work at Crown Hill Pet Supply as a Pet Care Specialist, where I also update their social media pages. While working at Crown Hill Pet Supply, I met Paula, the Development Director for Old Dog Haven, when she was shopping for her own pets. We bonded over Old Dog Haven during a typical shopping trip and discussed my administrative work with Crown Hill Pet Supply's Instagram. She liked what I was doing and asked me to do similar work for ODH.

Since September, I have been sharing the amazing things that are happening at Old Dog Haven through social media. I have continued to love my work with Paula and Tina, the Placement Services/Facebook Administrator at Old Dog Haven.

Animals have always been a passion in my life; I love them! Here are the pets I have: Sadie—an 11-year-old Jack Russel Terrier Mix, Dixie—a four-year-old Mini Australian Shepard Mix, Deuce—an eight year-old Red-Bellied Parrot, Dino—a nine-year-old Leopard Gecko, Kyanite and Angelite—two parakeets who are about a year old, and some friendly fish.

My love for animals paired with my understanding for social media have made the past few months with Old Dog Haven extremely fulfilling.

Welcome to the ODH family, Ashley. We love having you help us showcase our dogs and let people know what we do through Instagram.

If you are interested in sponsoring the 2020 Old Dog Haven Walk for Old Dogs please reach out to Paula at development@olddoghaven.org

Yes! I would love to help Old Dog Haven. Enclosed please find a donation in the amount of : _____

Please make check payable to Old Dog Haven.

Old Dog Haven is a 501(c)3 charitable organization. Donations are tax-deductible.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Thank you for your support! Please mail your check to: P.O. Box 1409, Oak Harbor WA 98277

Did you know many employers match charitable donations? Your gift could have twice the impact for Old Dog Haven. Visit your human resource department to see if they offer employee giving.

Want to donate online? You can choose to give a one-time gift or become a Golden Guardian monthly donor.

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

**THANK
YOU!**

If you would like to help by providing a permanent foster home please contact us!
(206) 280-7614

March 2020

A MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTOR OF VETERINARY SERVICES JUDITH PIPER

This month we have particular wishes for our dog program: temporary or permanent foster homes who have no other dogs, AND can provide human company most if not all of the time.

We are sometimes asked by shelters to take dogs that might have kennel cough. Those possibly contagious dogs shouldn't go into a home with other old dogs that are at much greater risk of pneumonia developing if they catch a "cold." A no-other-dogs home could also provide immediate vet care and learn a little about the dog's needs. If you can't make a lifetime commitment, but could help for two or three weeks and then send the dog on to a permanent foster home, we'd love to hear from you!

We would also LOVE to hear from you if you have no other dogs, but have humans around most of the time and are willing to be a permanent foster home. It's important to understand that the dogs coming to us have lost at least one home, often their only home, and usually have been in a very stressful shelter. Separation anxiety is very common, at least until they really understand that you'll be coming back and they won't be abandoned again. These dogs usually do better with dog company if you leave, but if there are humans around almost all the time—at least in the first month or two—often they relax and can be left for short periods. Until then you can expect barking, worry, or perhaps destructiveness if the dog is completely alone.

We know there aren't many homes that fit these descriptions—and who love old dogs enough to take in a neglected, smelly, worried, old creature often in pretty bad health—but if you're out there we really would like to hear from you! You will enjoy watching the dog change with care and love, and you'll be giving an old dog a very great gift. Read our website's "Being an ODH Home" page for details. Thank you!



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Web site: www.olddoghaven.org
Mailing address: P.O. Box 1409, Oak Harbor WA 98277

DOG ACTIVITY 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)

THANKS TO OUR INTREPID MAILING WARRIORS Jane Sims Rotunno, Michele Rotunno, Maryke Burgess, Bev Bowe, Valerie Gilstrap, Genese Harney, Donna Adams, and Elizabeth Woche for once again getting the tax letters ready for mailing. Special thanks to Elizabeth for hosting the party. Paws up to you ladies!

The dogs featured in the header on the front page are (L-R) Tammy, Noodle, Penny, Rusty, Shadow & Bucky.

**Newsletter Editor
Ardeth De Vries**

Help us spread the word. Please consider passing this newsletter on to any of your friends, family or co-workers who love old dogs. Sharing is Caring!