



## May 2021 E-Newsletter

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Featured Dogs:

TIPPY  
SACHEL  
BODIE

GiveBIG

Mailbox

Dog smiles

Message from our  
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Dog activity

In Memoriam

The ODH dogs  
featured in the  
header are (L-R)  
Affie, Betty  
Boop, Juno,  
Cookie, Weasel,  
& Jack.

### WE LOVE OLD DOGS!

If you're reading this E-newsletter for the first time, we'd like you to know that Old Dog Haven publishes two different newsletters: our print newsletters—published in March, July, and November—focus primarily on the people who help our dogs, and our E-newsletters—published in January, May, and September—feature our dogs in a variety of ways. The content is different for each newsletter, so don't miss any of them if you'd like to get the full range of news and features about us and the dogs we love.

In this issue you'll read about Tippy, Satchel, and Bodie, three dogs that came to us with pre-existing conditions that would have ended their lives if ODH hadn't taken them in and treated them. Their stories are a testament to what a difference love, excellent care, and being valued can make in a senior dog's life. We also include important information about GiveBIG 2021, mailbox notes, photos, dog smiles, a summary of dog activity, a message from our executive director, and a tribute to Charlene Allen and Elizabeth Floersheim by Judith Piper.

### EVENTS

Ordinarily, this section would be filled with spring and summer events celebrating all things dog. However, because of social distancing restrictions, all events that might be hosted or attended by ODH representatives during May and June have been cancelled except the following:

**10:00 A.M. Saturday– May 22**  
**Auburn Happy Paws (formerly Petpalooza)**  
**Les Grove Park, 910 9th St. SE, Auburn.**

Check the Events Calendar on our website and the July newsletter for events that might be held later in the summer.

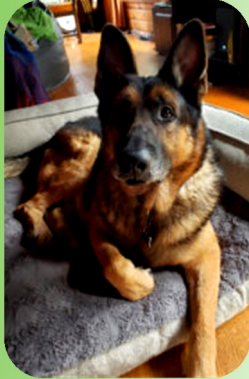


All of us at Old Dog Haven would like to thank those who are out there assisting other people during the COVID-19 pandemic. Your dedication and commitment is inspiring.

Our heartfelt sympathies and healing thoughts go out to people who are struggling financially right now, and to the families and friends of those who have lost their lives because of COVID-19.



ATHENA



KLUNK

### About Old Dog Haven

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

### How to Help

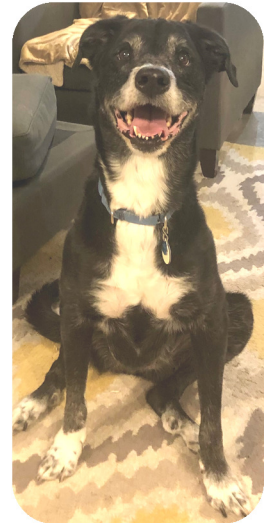
If you'd like to be part of the Old Dog Haven family, select **How to Help** on the home page of our website to see the many ways you can join us in helping our dogs.

## ADOPT!

The adoptable senior dogs you see pictured occasionally in the border that runs the length of the newsletter (see left) are posted as a courtesy for individuals, shelters and other rescues. These dogs are not in our care, but we are happy to post them on our website and in this newsletter with the hope that someone will adopt them. Go to our website ([www.olddoghaven.org](http://www.olddoghaven.org)) to find out more about these adoptable dogs.

### TIPPY *by Rachel Salant*

"Tippy landed at a shelter when her person died and the family couldn't keep her. She was so arthritic she could barely move and would whimper when lying down and getting up. A variety of treatment approaches (medication, Adequan injections, supplements, etc.) along with regular exercise and good food to help her elbow dysplasia, knee arthritis and spinal issues have made a huge difference. Now she's a different dog, very comfortable, very interactive with her family and the other dogs, and enjoying being part of an active family." - *note from Judith Piper, Director of Veterinary Services*



From Rachel:

We instantly fell in love with her, and knew she was a perfect fit for our family. Thanks to ODH she is on all the meds and supplements she needs to feel better and stay mobile. We are also keeping a close eye on her blood work.



Once we got her feeling better and settled into a routine, her personality really started to shine. Tippy is a riot! She makes us laugh every single day. She's got a big personality to match her big frame. Her favorite activities are sharing chew toys with resident dog Diego, throwing toys in the air to herself, sleeping in really weird positions, and farting audibly.



Tippy is a creature of habit. Don't even think about sitting in her spot on the couch at her bedtime, even if it has the best view of the TV. If you are in her spot, she will use her big booming bark right in your face until you move to a different spot. It's hysterical! Tippy joins FR pup Shadow, who looks like Tippy's "mini me." She's our sixth Final Refuge dog, and this is the first time we have had two at the same time.

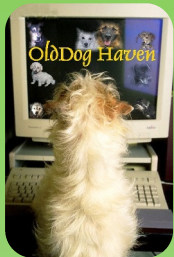


We are so honored and privileged to share our home with these sweet souls for the rest of their lives.



*Thank you Rachel and Steve for welcoming Tippy into your home and hearts.*





### Forward to a Friend

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



SERENITY



LUCY

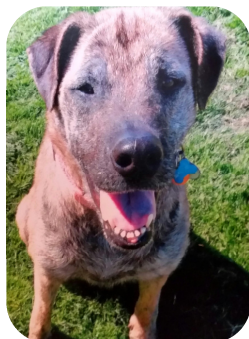
## SACHEL *by Mary Wagner* *Tale of an Imperfect Dog*

What our Final Refuge dog Satchel has been through over these last three years has been a teaching experience for both of us.

Satchel (a lab mix) came as a stray to the shelter with extreme mange. The halter she was wearing upon intake had created a scar across her shoulders and under her arms. After two months in the shelter without hope for a home, ODH was contacted and we went to see her. We've been lucky to share the lives of many Final Refuge dogs, but Satchel was going to be the challenge.



During the initial visit, poor Satchel stress peed, cowered in the corner, and wouldn't make eye contact. We took her home that day whereupon she ate the bark off a tree log in our yard.



After seeing the vet, we met with the allergy and skin specialist. Satchel's itching caused her to tear at what resembled burn scars for skin. Prescription meds, antibiotics, special shampoo, return trips —all of this covered by Old Dog Haven.

In the beginning, Satchel was frightened of people and dogs. Her solution was to always react. On the alert, checking over her shoulder constantly. She'd suddenly pancake at certain sounds. Food guarding of course. Sometimes aggression out of fear though never with our cat who was an old hat at meet-and-greets by this time. Our ODH fur gang took a little bit longer.

The trick was consistent training and to wear Satchel out. And having Judith of ODH on speed dial for advice (thank you!).

We went for miles. She loved it. Ran like a greyhound at times. Smiles while playing chase. Dances in the snow. Scent hunting still a favorite. It gave her personal time to let her know she was valued, safe, and finally home.



Satchel's an old girl now. She continues to have intermittent skin flares, but with all the help from ODH and her specialist, her fur is finally this beautiful honey brindled color. A CCL (torn ligament) last year requiring x-rays and additional meds, which ODH continues to cover, slowed her down. But her new tricks now are riding in the car playing dog pilot, giving sloppy kisses to my grandchildren, sniffing out shells at the beach, trotting to the fence to put her paws on top and bark hello to her pals walking by (got to keep those vocals in shape), being bossed around by our smaller dogs, belly rubs, and lounging in the sun on the 'mohair' couch. They're all Olympic Gold when it comes to keeping us and the furniture furry.

What I've learned from Sweetie (what we call her) is that dogs are love. Despite whatever she went through before we joined up with her, Sweetie's taught me to wait ... wait for the real heart of our dear dog to come out. And she did.

*Thank you for your patience and animal heart, Mary. What a transformation!*





DUKE

## Contact Us

### Website:

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

### Phone:

(206) 280-7614

### 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, fundraisers, PR inquiries

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

### Art & Marketing

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

### Hosting a fundraiser for ODH and ODH participation at your event:

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

### Volunteer opportunities

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

### Donation can at your business:

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

### End of life decisions & grief counseling:

[ardethdv@comcast.net](mailto:ardethdv@comcast.net)

### Address changes & donor inquiries:

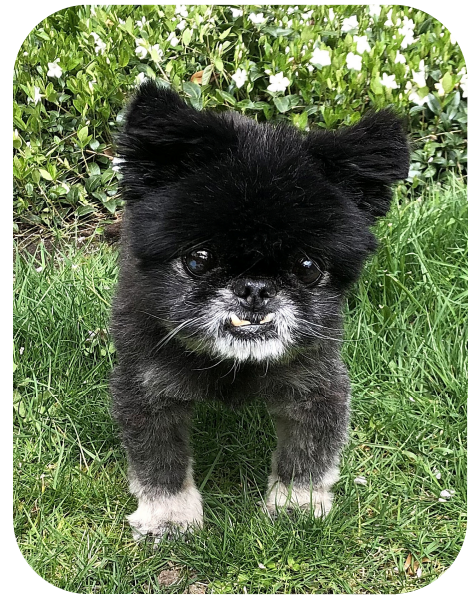
[donations@olddoghaven.org](mailto:donations@olddoghaven.org)

### All other inquiries:

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

## BODIE by Donna Taylor

Bodie arrived in bad shape when he came under Old Dog Haven's care. He transitioned out of a shelter to a temporary foster home, and then to an emergency hospital for a brief stay to address gastrointestinal issues. Finally, he came to my home to join my other Final Refuge dogs, Molly and Iris. When Bodie first arrived in my home last December, his muscles were so weak that he would sway and fall over. He was very, very thin and his coat and skin were in poor condition. He was very withdrawn and slept almost straight through the first few days. But as he grew stronger and his personality began to emerge, these last four months have been full of rewarding firsts—the first time he greeted me at the door, his first tail wag, the first time he was willing to go out on a walk, and the very special first time he stood on his hind legs and put his paws on my knee.



Thanks to Old Dog Haven, his long-neglected health needs are also being addressed. He has already had an echocardiogram, seen an ophthalmologist for cataracts, and will see a dental specialist for possible extraction of teeth from a fracture-prone jaw weakened by infection.



Bodie is very slow and deliberate in everything he does, and we're now often on what I call Bodie Time: when he decides it's time to eat, when we really should be out walking, and if he's ready for breakfast at lunchtime. In the beginning, Bodie didn't show interest in much of anything and didn't seem to expect to be fed, held, or given any attention. Now, I feel he is relishing life and all the affection, attention and food he can get. Bodie is blind in one eye, has limited vision in the other and is deaf, but he doesn't let that hold him back. He's now strong enough that he prances ahead on our daily walks.

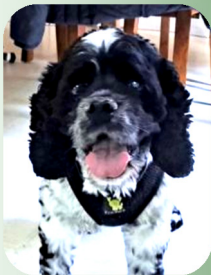


His bounce back from sad and sickly to spunky and strong is just another example of the resilience of these old dogs that make the Old Dog Haven foster experience so special and rewarding.



*Thank you Donna for making it possible for Bodie to be a happy, well loved dog.*

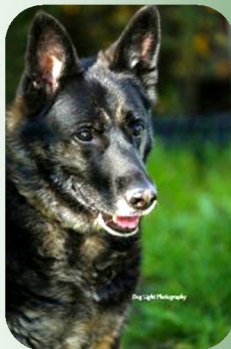




**BUDDY**



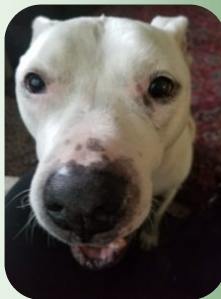
**BABY COW**



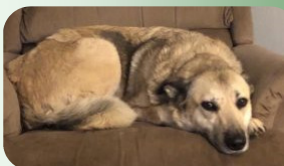
**BEN**



**BUKA**

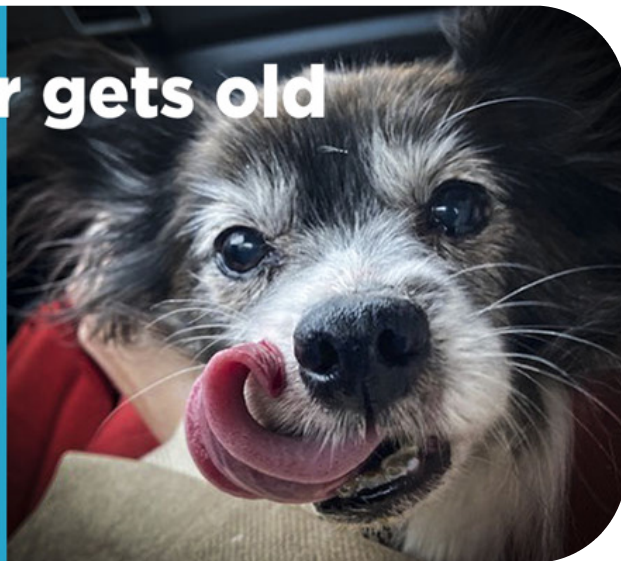


**BUDDY**



**CHLOE**

# Love never gets old

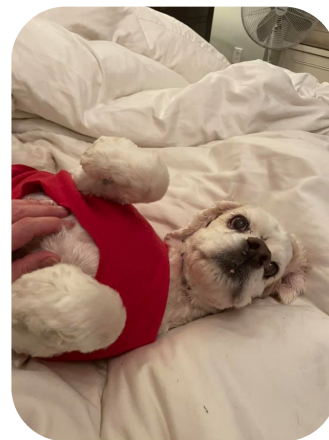


#GiveBIG is Tuesday, May 4 and Wednesday, May 5 and it's a perfect time to remember so many homeless senior dogs in need. For these dogs life seems hopeless, but together we open doors so they can enter permanent homes full of hope, joy and love.

Your #GiveBIG gift will help ensure we can open the door for so many more senior dogs in need just like Henry.



When Henry arrived he was desperately in need of a hair cut and his body was covered with painful growths.



Henry looks so handsome after his haircut, and he has had 14 growths removed. He's now on the road to recovery and is feeling so much better.

Please help us reach our \$100,000 goal to help these sweet old dogs. You can schedule your #GiveBIG gift starting April 20 to be processed on May 4. Just click here: <https://www.givebigwa.org/old-dog-haven>

Thank you for your ongoing support!



## MAILBOX



BRUTUS

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



TOBY



BRUNO



ROWDY



CHARLES

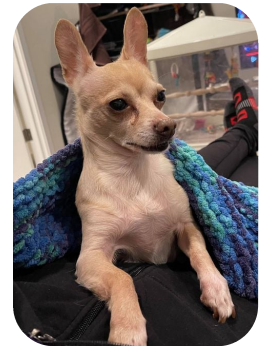
We help adoptable homeless senior dogs (eight years and older) in western Washington by posting their pictures and information on our website and our Facebook page. The dogs shown below were adopted because of those posts AND your shares on Facebook. On behalf of Jack, Percy, Spencer, Marley, and Rugar, thank you for sharing!



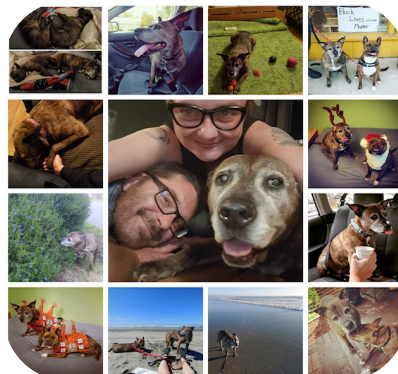
Jack with his new family



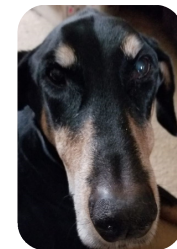
Percy with his forever family



"Spencer is an amazing fit for our family. Thank you for all you do for these wonderful old dogs."



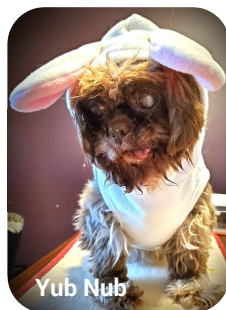
"Thank you SO MUCH again for facilitating Marley finding us, and for all the wonderful work you do for so many other old dogs."



"Rugar is settling in very well. He is living the life here!"

*If you've adopted a dog that was courtesy posted on our website, we'd love to hear from you!*

## DOG SMILES



Yub Nub

"Ok. That's it! I'm NOT wearing these stupid ears next year."



Giorgio

"But, you said you wanted help with the laundry!"



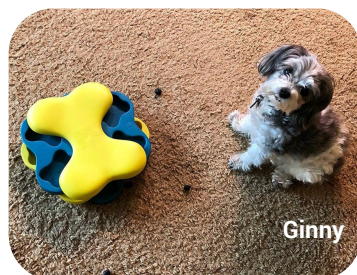
Archie

"Well? Are you coming or not?"



Sweet Thing

"I know. I need to learn to relax. I'm workin' on it."



Ginny

"You can't fool me. I know those little round things aren't treats! Where's the good stuff?"



Dagna

"I am awake. Sorta. Well, maybe not. Are we at Starbucks yet? Wake me when we get there."



**DOG ACTIVITY NUMBERS**  
**JANUARY 1 – APRIL 30**

**307** dogs are in care as of  
4/30

**ALL** are in final refuge

**44** new dogs were taken into  
care between 1/1-4/30

**36** came from shelters  
**11** came from individuals

**52** new dogs were posted to  
help individuals/shelters find  
homes for their adoptable  
seniors

**99** new dogs were helped 1/1-  
4/30

**31** dogs were adopted 1/1-  
4/30

If you'd like to make a  
donation please send your tax-  
deductible  
donation to:

Old Dog Haven  
P.O. Box 1409  
Oak Harbor WA  
98277

Or, if you'd like to donate online,  
please click on the link below  
the  
**DONATE**  
button

**DONATE**

[https://olddoghaven.org/donate  
-now/](https://olddoghaven.org/donate-now/)



**KLAUS**



**AVISHA**

**MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Ardeth De Vries**

**Connections**

Old Dog Haven is very well connected.

Let me show you how: think about the song "the knee bone is connected to the..."

Our fosters are connected to our dogs and each other through love, safety, respect, and mutual need.

Our vets are connected to our dogs through dedication, treatment and excellent care.

Our staff is connected to our dogs through placement and interaction with fosters.

Our volunteers are connected to our dogs through generosity of time and intent.

Our community is connected to our dogs through their support and fundraising.

Our donors are connected to our dogs through financial support and belief in our mission.

Our dogs are connected to each other through mutual gratitude, being loved and valued.

Because we are all connected, the energy we share is extraordinary.

Thank you to everyone reading this for being connected to everyone (dogs and Humans) at ODH.

**ODH REMEMBERS CHARLENE ALLEN & ELIZABETH FLOERSHEIM**



**Angie**



ODH is grieving the loss of foster mom Charlene Allen, who cared for six lucky dogs from 2013 to March 2021. She took in dogs of every kind and size, including Angie whose quite deformed face turned off adopters but was such a loving girl—even loving Charlene's kittens. Charlene got such a kick out of all her animals and loved all the dogs very much. We miss her a great deal.



**Phoebe, Elizabeth's first foster**



**Coco Chanel**

ODH had another big loss with foster mom Elizabeth Floersheim's passing in April 2021. A huge dog lover and friend of those who loved dogs, Elizabeth was incredibly patient and devoted to her two ODH dogs. Both came with very serious medical needs, not easy to care for; nothing was too much trouble for Elizabeth, and she made huge efforts for each of them—beyond the call of duty. She had many friends throughout ODH who are mourning her loss.

*By Judith Piper, Director of Veterinary Services*