

Second Chance Dog Rescue

Newsletter

Fall 2009



A Message from the Founders: Lisa and Jesse

Well, as many of you have heard from me in the last couple of months, my time with the police department is over. After 25 years, my commute up I-95 at 0400 is over. Hopefully gone are the days when I have to get up at 0300 to let dogs out so I can leave Stafford in order to start work at 0500. With that being said, Second Chance Dog Rescue is going through several wonderful changes. We have many new volunteers that have stepped up to the plate. Mrs. Laura Bonner volunteered to help with our website. She took my ideas and made them a reality for me. She has done this in two different ways. She helped me redo my website so that it reflects the hopes and dreams of this rescue. She also helps with the Newsletter that is put out quarterly.

I can not thank her enough for all the wonderful work she does.



I certainly know how busy everyone is but once again, I am putting out a plea to everyone, the dogs need your time. Everyone wants to come and play with our puppies and we really need that in order to help socialize our animals however when you look at the website, we have several older dogs that need your time also. It would be wonderful if they could have someone come and throw a ball to them. Maybe even brush them or spend 15 minutes petting them. I know this is trivial to most of us but it would mean so much to them.

Of course, we have several other projects that we could use your help so just give us a ring. We will find something for you. If you have a talent or even just a few minutes that you can spare, I will find something for you. You don't have to come every week (of course we would love that) but we would love to see you when you have a few moments.

Have a wonderful fall. If you are interested in writing an article for our newsletter about the pet you adopted from us, we would love to hear from you. Please email your articles to lmr735@aol.com. We are also looking for articles written by children about their pets or updates on how your pet has made a difference.



Inner Strength

- If you can start the day without caffeine,
 - If you can get going without pep pills,
 - If you can always be cheerful, ignoring aches and pains,
 - If you can resist complaining and boring people with your troubles,
 - If you can eat the same food everyday and be grateful for it,
 - If you can understand when your loved ones are too busy to spend time with you,
 - If you can take criticism and blame without resentment,
 - If you can ignore a friend's limited education and never correct them,
 - If you can resist treating a rich friend better than a poor friend,
 - If you can conquer tension without medical help,
 - If you can relax without liquor,
 - If you can sleep without the aid of drugs
-Then you are probably the family dog!



Rescue a SENIOR dog today! www.secondchancedog.com



My name is Jacob and Charlie lives with me, my brother, my mom and dad and our other dog Holly. We got Charlie 2 years ago from Ms. Roosa's house.

When I saw Charlie I knew he was the dog for me. He looked sad because he wanted to go home with me and Ms. Roosa said he could go home with us.

Charlie is a great dog. He runs and plays with me. He kisses me and likes it when I rub his belly. He greets me at the door whenever I come home. My mom and dad love him too; even when he sneaks food or catches birds.

Holly and Charlie get along great. They chase each other and play tug-a-war with their toys. Charlie has a lot more energy than Holly but Holly is still the queen.

Charlie is part of our family and we love him very much. Thank you Ms. Roosa for the perfect dog.

~ Jacob Woollard, Charlie's 7 year old pal



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Second Chance would like to congratulate and wish the best of luck to all of our four-legged friends that have found their wonderful forever homes this year!

Bitsy now known as Kiah

Emily

Omega now known as Molly

Beau

Orville

Misty now known as Maya

Cleo now known as Daisy

there's no place like home



Cougar now known as Bailey

Shannon

peg

Tiffany

Marlene now known as Cali

Harry

Turbo

Lady

Carmin now known as Memphis

Delilah

Our Featured Adoptable Pet

ANDY

As Pet lovers, most of us can't help but fall in love with a puppy's sweet face and exuberant antics. More than likely, we remember a time when we, or someone we know, became drawn to a puppy at first glance and adopted him or her on an emotional impulse. After a couple of shoes fall victim to puppy teething, many new Pet owners find themselves wondering how to balance training and caring for their young Pet, given their busy lifestyle. This is one of the many reasons to consider opening your home (and heart) to an older Pet.

I can't tell you the number of times that I have gone to the shelter and looked into the eyes of an older dog. I know their fate if I leave them at the shelter because few owners want an older dog so Second Chance Dog Rescue makes every effort to bring these dogs into our rescue. I do not believe their final years should be spent at the pound. Please take the time to look at our seniors. All of them are healthy and looking for a soft pillow to live out their final years. We all deserve this respect. Currently our seniors include Lincoln, a 10 year old lab mix who loves hanging out with his people, Felipe and Pierre, both 8 year old poodles who were seized from their owners and our featured pet, Andy, a 12 year old apricot poodle whose owner died. His family could not care for him so they dropped him at the local pound. Look at his sweet face.

What a very sad story I have to tell about this wonderful little dog. Poor Andy was a throw-away after his master died (just like you throw out the trash). Andy was taken to a local shelter because no one in his former owner's life could see fit to take him in.



This wonderful little guy loves people and has rebounded wonderfully. Now up to date on all his shots and neutered, Andy is looking for his own family to live out the rest of his years. Andy does not act like he is 12 years old. He runs around and jumps just like he is a youngster and is always ready to cuddle. Andy would love to find a new home. Are you looking for a wonderful new dog to help you celebrate the holidays? Please fill out and submit an [application](#). Andy's adoption fee is \$275.00 which covers all his shots and his neuter.



Why Should I Adopt a Senior Dog?

- ♥ Senior dogs love to sleep and cuddle the day away. They enjoy a brisk daily walk, but the best part of the day is the nap. They love for you to join them.
- ♥ Senior dogs have a tremendous amount of love to give. When you rescue a senior dog, you have a best friend for life.
- ♥ Senior dogs reward your care with an unwavering devotion. Nothing matches the love of a senior dog for his rescuer.
- ♥ Senior dogs have learned many of life's lessons. They know, for example, that shoes are for walking and bones are for chewing.
- ♥ Senior dogs know that great outdoors is for eliminating and the house is for relaxing. Your carpet will last longer with a senior dog.
- ♥ Senior dogs can learn new tricks and be valuable family and community members. They make excellent therapy dogs.
- ♥ Senior dogs often fit into your household with ease. They find the softest, warmest spot in the house and claim it for their own, but they will share with you, too.
- ♥ Senior dogs make excellent companions for everyone, especially senior people.
- ♥ Senior dogs are often the first to be killed in area shelters. Passed over for cute and cuddly puppies, they often do not have a chance and must go to make space for more puppies.
- ♥ **Adopting a senior dog saves a life!**

Our Adoptable Seniors
Felipe, Lincoln, Pierre and Andy
(left to right)



Rescue a SENIOR dog today! www.secondchancedog.com



From Sad Tails to Waggin' Tails...What are they doing now?

My husband, Cameron, and I adopted Smokey from Second Chance Dog Rescue in January 2005. We had had a German shepherd dog who died of cancer the year before and we were looking for another GSD. When we picked Smokey up at Lisa's house, he was beautiful and a handful. He was the most exuberant animal either of us had ever seen. Since we live in the country, we were a bit wary of turning him loose on his own, so for several days we would only take him for walks on a leash. The time came to turn him loose. I stood at one spot and Cameron stood about 50 yards away. I let him go and Cameron called him. He came. So far so good. But Smokey wanted to play "catch me if you can", and wouldn't let Cameron catch him. I called him with the same result. This went on for about 15 minutes until Cameron had an inspiration and yelled SIT! Immediately, Smokey's bottom hit the ground and I grabbed his collar.



Smokey got along well with our other dog – a Lab - but our two cats were a different story. I don't think Smokey had ever been around cats before and he definitely wanted to grab them. The cats of course were completely terrorized and took off like jets and hid upstairs. That began the long process of acclimating Smokey and the cats to each other. Eventually I was able to have the cats and Smokey tolerate each other in the same room.

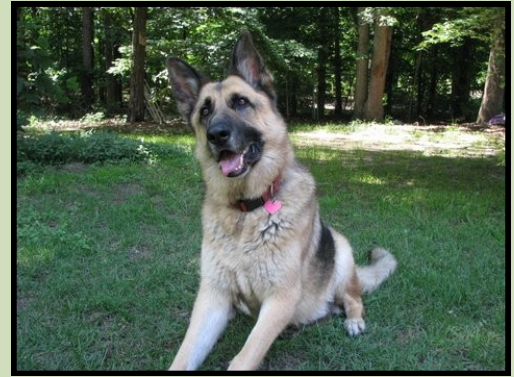


He would lay down and watch them closely but as long as I was there, he wouldn't try to chase them. Today the cats and Smokey are pals and can even touch noses. They all accept each other completely as members of the family. Soon after we got Smokey he started sneezing and had a very runny nose. He also developed an infection from the surgery when he was neutered. We had to make many trips to the vet and his "cold" seemed to be getting worse. Our vet even said that Smokey probably had a weak immune system and might be sick a lot during his entire life and that it might be best if we gave him back to the Rescue. Finally one night we took him to the Emergency Veterinary Hospital and the vet there put him on a different medication and his health began to steadily improve. We had been so worried about him and had wondered if he would ever be well. Through all of this, I talked to Lisa many times and she kept encouraging us to keep Smokey. Thank goodness we listened to her. After that I found another veterinarian and Smokey has been healthy ever since. But those first three months that we brought him home were really rough medically for him and for us.

The other problem that we had with Smokey was that we were concerned that he was too aggressive. He was absolutely fine with my husband and me but if anyone else came to the house he acted like he wanted to bite them. One particular incident involved our adult son and really scared us. Cameron grabbed Smokey before he bit our son and put Smokey in his crate but he still wouldn't calm down. After that I really questioned whether or not we should keep him. Once again I talked to Lisa and she encouraged us to stick with him.



Smokey



I found a dog trainer in our area on the Internet who dealt with dog problems and she came out to evaluate Smokey. She thought that he was not really an aggressive dog but fearful and overly protective in his new environment. We took him for some obedience training and as many places as possible where there were other people and new experiences. Today Smokey adores both of our sons and is thrilled to see them whenever they come to visit.



The single best piece of advice that I could give to anyone who is thinking about adopting a dog is to give the dog time to adjust to his new surroundings. Smokey has become the best dog that we have ever had and we love him dearly. He is loyal, obedient and playful, in short, he is everything that a dog should be. His is truly a success story. If we had not persevered with Smokey during those first early months, we would not have known what a joy it is to have him in our family. ~ Janet Gray



From Sad Tails to Waggin' Tails...What are they doing now?

This is a two-part story, the first part of the story is written by Lisa, Co-founder, Second Chance Dog Rescue and the second part is written by Axel's new family.



Part 1

Sometimes, I just can't believe when my phone rings what the person on the other end of the line is telling me. On this night, my boyfriend's cell phone rings and it is our friend on the other end of the line. Can and do we have room for a pug that is in a neighbor's backyard in a plastic crate.



I remember thinking, you have got to be kidding me. It is freezing outside and we are expecting an ice storm in the next couple of days. Yes of course, I will find room for the pug. When can you bring it? Will the owners sign the dog over and health wise is the dog ok? Yes, Yes, Yes, the owners will sign over the pug because they have moved with their new puppy to their new house. Again, I am always shocked when I hear this but I know it to be true. New house often means new puppy and the other dogs get left behind until the next time when they move and that puppy gets left behind because they are not cute anymore.



When my friend brought me the pug, I remembered thinking, how will I ever find a home for a dog that does not trust humans. When the pug and I get home, the first thing we do is give him a bath and get him some food. Neighbors had been feeding them when they could. After a good bath, I called our vet, Anna who already knew of the situation and agreed to come in the next few days for shots. We named the new pug Axel. Axel seemed to fit into our rescue well. He liked people and other dogs so we posted him to our website. It was not long before Axel's new family came to meet him.

Part II



Our dog's name is Axel and he is a pug. We adopted him from Second Chance Dog Rescue. In the three months since he's been with us, he has had many new adventures. The first thing that we learned is that Axel loves food! He would eat his meals in seconds. We quickly discovered he loved to get into the cabinet to eat our food. Axel tried many of our foods including packs of hot dog rolls, bread, cookies, flour, cocoa, juice boxes and many other items. We had to put a special lock on the cabinet and now he only eats his dog food and his treats. This summer, Axel went to the beach with our family. He had two other dog friends at the beach and enjoyed playing in the sand and sleeping.



Axel



He loved his walks on the beach, but did not like to go in the water or even get his paws wet. We also took him camping with us. He is a great hiker and enjoyed our evenings around the campfire.

Axel loves to ride in the car with us. He will jump inside every time the door is opened (even if we are not going anywhere). He is always around us and likes our company. Axel sleeps with me in my bed on most nights and is great company. I read to him and he watches me play.

Axel is a quick learner – we are taking him to dog training classes each week. He has learned to sit, lay down, paw and stay. He seems to do anything for a treat.

Our family loves him very much. Axel hit the jackpot!

~ Josh (age 7) and Jake (age 9)





Volunteer Spotlight

Laura's Story

About a year ago I experienced a couple of major changes in my life. I was dealing with health issues (thank goodness, none were life threatening) and I went from a high-stress-web-designing-commute-up-I-95-for-many-years-job to a less stressful bus driving job for my county school system. I believe that these two things combined were the main reasons for my strong desire for a canine companion. Being that caring for a dog is a huge commitment, I thought about it for months. The only thing that I was sure of was that if I did decide to commit to a dog that it would be a rescue dog. When I finally began my search, I came across Second Chance Dog Rescue on PetFinders.com. They were local! Yayy! Second Chance listed a dog named Lady that peaked my interest so I sent an email inquiring about her. I explained in my email that I was a 50-ish grandmother that was battling illnesses that made me extremely tired and sluggish. I went on to explain that I was hoping to find a small female dog that I could keep up with. I wanted a dog that would be content to sit in my lap and cuddle. In a nutshell, I was looking for a small dog that was not a bundle of energy and would be my faithful companion. I received a response from someone named Lisa explaining that she did not think that Lady would work for me.

Lisa went on to say that as she was replying to my email Lady was running around her house chasing the other dogs in an effort to get them all riled up. Lady was not the low-energy dog that I desired.

I was disappointed because Lady looked like a doll. Lisa went on to say that she thought she had a dog that would be perfect for me. His name was Beau and he was a Jack Russell.

Oh my goodness, I thought, Jack Russells are one of the most high-energy breeds out there. Not only that but this Beau was a male. What was this crazy lady thinking?!?! I read on and Lisa proceeded to explain that Beau was not a typical Jack Russell. Beau was extremely laid back and perfectly happy to sit on one's lap and cuddle. Beau was also very loyal and dedicated to his people.



Lisa truly thought that Beau would be a perfect match for me. I found Beau's picture and biography on Petfinders and above is what I saw. He was so darn cute.

Ok so maybe this lady was not crazy after all. We exchanged a few more emails and I filled out an application to adopt at www.secondchancedog.com and emailed it to Lisa. While there I decided to see if there were any more pictures of Beau. What I found was confusion. I noticed that there was a whole different set of available dogs for adoption than what I found on Petfinders.com.

I was nervous about being approved. What if they did not find me to be fit enough to handle a dog? I was so nervous that I had a dream that I saw Lisa climbing over my fence checking for holes!

Finally Lisa phoned me to tell me that I had been approved. I was so excited! We made arrangements for me to meet Beau. It was love at first sight. He was absolutely adorable. Beau jumped up in my lap and kissed me all over my face. I knew in a New York minute that Beau was the dog for me. Oh yes, I almost forgot to mention that I met Lisa and Jesse. They were both very friendly and made me feel comfortable right away. We chatted for awhile (mostly about Beau) and did the paperwork thing. As I was walking out the door I asked Lisa, "Who updates your web site"? "No one", Lisa replied. She then went on to explain that the creation of her site was donated by a company that specialized in web design but that updating it had been a problem so it was very outdated. I told Lisa that I had been a web designer in my "former life" and would be more than happy to bring it up to date and keep it updated for her.



I explained that due to the fast pace of technology my skills were rusty but I would do my best. Lisa was extremely excited and appreciative and the next day sent along the information I needed to access her site. I began working on the updates and it was during this time that I really got to know and love Lisa. She is a fun-loving, out-going, generous, and kind person. I also learned that Lisa disliked the color brown. Brown was the main color of her original site so I mentioned that we could redesign. Lisa stated that it was too much work and she couldn't and wouldn't ask me to do it. First of all, Lisa matched me with my Beau. Beau has brought enormous amounts of love and joy into my life.



He loves me unconditionally, trusts me completely, crawls into my lap and kisses me all over, is completely excited to see me even if I am only

gone for a few minutes, burrows under my covers at night and snuggles up against me and he senses and consoles me when I am crying or just sad. Second, Lisa does so much for homeless/abandoned/abused dogs that I wanted to do something to help her. I had the skills to do something that was needed for Second Chance, so I began to redesign the site.

Before I could come up with a design I needed to attempt to figure out what was inside Lisa's head and transfer that onto virtual paper. The emails of questions and answers between us seemed to be endless. One thing I figured out from the beginning was that even though dog rescuing is serious and sometimes very sad, Lisa always maintained a very positive attitude.

I realized that she often did this by finding the funny side of a situation. I wanted to reflect the seriousness of what Lisa does along with her comical way of dealing with it.

With the web site completed (actually a web site is never really completed). Let me begin again.



With the bulk of the web site redesign completed, Lisa expressed an interest in publishing a newsletter. I had no knowledge about newsletters but took a stab at it. I am learning as I go along.

I find volunteering for Second Chance to be extremely satisfying and lots of fun. Satisfying because for the first time in my adult life I am doing something for a wonderful organization not because I HAVE to but because I genuinely WANT to. Fun because Lisa makes it fun.

More help is always needed. Consider volunteering. A few hours a week helps tremendously. ~ Laura Bonner



Or... if you do not have the time to help out by volunteering why don't you consider making a donation? Second Chance is in great need of supplies and a [PetSmart](https://www.PetSmart.com/) gift card or online gift certificate would be perfect.

Information about the two programs can be found here:

<http://www.PetSmart.com/GiftCenter.jsp>

