



Freedom Tails

Stafford Creek Corrections Center – May 2015 Vol 7/No 6

A New Girl Has Joined the Gang!



LEAH: is a 16 month old Husky Mix. This gal is very shy, very gentle, and hardly ever barks. We are working on bringing her out of her shell and getting her to play with the other dogs. Leah has the softest fur you'll ever pet, and is great with children and other animals. This sweet girl would make a wonderful addition to your home, and keep you company for years to come. (PAWS of GH)



Below: (L) headed for training; (R) Harry – no comment necessary!



Garth Stein Visits SCCC for a 3rd Time!

Write fat, edit lean – Garth Stein



Friday, May 8th, Garth Stein made his 3rd visit to SCCC. We think he's getting to like it here!

We originally invited Garth to SCCC due to his novel, **The Art of Racing in the Rain**, which is narrated by a dog. This beautiful book has over 4 million copies in print and was on the New York Times bestselling novel list for 3 years! Garth graciously accepted our invitation, met with the Freedom Tails handlers and dogs, and proceeded to discuss the book with program volunteers. With some cajoling from the handlers, Garth agreed to come back for a book read which involved the general population and was an overwhelming success.

Recently, when we contacted Garth, he was happy to visit SCCC for another book read. Not only that, but he donated all the books! This time, **How Evan Broke His Head and Other Secrets** was introduced to the SCCC's general

population. The theme of this novel is based around a man who has found out, long after the fact, that he has a 14 year old son. There are many offenders who have been in, or are in, this situation, so it made for a great novel of choice.

While discussing the book, many other questions came to light – especially on the art of writing itself. Stein informed his audience that the first and foremost rule of writing is: "There is no rule". Questions abounded from the offenders ranging from dialog tagging, point of view, the voice, and the process. One by one, Garth answered all questions – and of course more questions ensued. One point Stein stressed to the offenders was: "The easiest thing to do in the world is to *not* write. The hardest thing to do is write - and, it's easy to find excuses not to write."



Kyle Jorn (R), armed raised, continues to engage in literary debate with Stein (these two met at Garth's first visit). Yet Garth – to Jorn's smiling dismay – wins out with witticism, additional knowledge, and basic Steinism – aka his "tag the tail on the donkey" attitude.

Among the questions asked, many offenders wanted to know how to deal with editing your work. Garth explained that it was necessary to get people you trusted and who would give you honest feedback, but to keep in mind that "other people can tell you where you went wrong, but they can't fix it. Only the writer can fix it."



As usual, Stein's visit was an overwhelming success. Everyone at SCCC truly appreciated him taking the time to come share his talent and knowledge, and we look forward to him coming for another book read in the future!

SCCC's Library crew with Garth Stein (L-R): Clerks Howard E., Jacob M. and Nate H., stand with Stein, Program Manager Laura Sherbo, and SCCC Librarian Jeannie Remillard.

South Beach Bulletin News



Westport welcomes pet owners to “Dog Friendliest Beach”

The City of Westport now has a beautiful dog friendly trail open to the public, to go with the beaches and marina. Westport is located just an hour west of Olympia on the Washington coast. Dogs love the beach and Westport would love to share its beaches with you and your best friend. The City recently installed additional pet watering and waste disposal stations along the Westport Light Dune Trail, a 2.5-mile long 8-ft. wide ribbon of concrete that wends its way along the Pacific Coast shoreline from near the Grays Harbor Light Station north to Westhaven State Park and then beyond to the Westport Marina District, ending at the Port of Grays Harbor Observation Tower.

“Best Friends Day” - A new event to celebrate dogs has been created for June 6, to commemorate the City’s proclamation of “Westport – The Dog Friendliest Beach on the Coast.” “Best Friends Day” activities start in Westport’s Marina District at 11 a.m. on Saturday, June 6. The day’s activities will include a dog jog, a beach romp, a Facebook photo contest, a pet parade, games and prizes. Pet products vendors will also be on site.

Following “Best Friends Day,” each week during following months will feature a different dog group. Lodging discounts and specials are available when you bring your dog to the beach during the featured week. Special “meet up” areas are designated for the different breed/groups, so when you visit you may bump into others who share your interests.

- 1st Week – Terrier Group & Mixed Breeds
- 2nd Week – Working Group & Toy Group
- 3rd Week – Herding Group & Non-Sporting Group
- 4th Week – Sporting Group & Hounds
- 5th Weekend – All Dogs to the Beach



When you access the HAVA website, slowly drop under the Freedom Tails tab...magically an application link appears!



Brigadoon Service Dogs

"Offering a Helping Paw!"

<http://www.brigadoondogs.com/>

HAVA House - 431 2nd Street – PO Box 243
Raymond, WA 98577 – 360.942.4716
For an adoption application see the website or contact:
Christine Balcom at beesnblossoms@live.com
<http://www.hava-heart.org/freedom-tails>