



Freedom Tails

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Check it Out – Over 300 Lives Saved!



Freedom Tails adoptions have surpassed the 300 mark! Freedom Tails started back in 2009, and with the help of this program and an unfathomable amount of people involved, **305** dogs have found new, forever homes! And this doesn't include the dogs that transferred over to Brigadoon. How cool is that? Graduation was held in the Visit Room on March 31st – was there any special meaning to this? Well, sure! Dogs went to new forever homes! BUT, two didn't, and are still looking for a home – Yahoo and Maco. Pictures and bios of these two boys (Yahoo is posing majestically in the picture above lower right) can be found later in the newsletter. Graduation had visitors from PetSense, Nutri-Source, and surrounding shelters along with staff and adopters. The four-legged furry kids did a great job of showing off their handlers' capabilities and kept them in line the entire event amidst laughter, and yes, some tears. If you have yet to attend graduation, it's time to do it! And, even if you have in the past, it's time to do it again! The changes throughout the 10-week training period can be seen not only in the dogs, but in the handlers. As Pat McCarty, FT Trainer says, "It's amazing what a little four-legged critter can do to change the outlook on how an offender sees himself just by wagging its tail."



(L): SCCC's kitchen goes over and above with this graduation! Check out the cupcakes. You won't find them at your local....uh, anywhere or anything! Thank you Joe and the kitchen workers! (R): Program Manager CUS Cherry stands by as Kelly Dietz from Nutri-Source informs adopters of the goodies waiting for them, then turns and thanks the handlers for all their hard work and dedication.



Next Time, Shouldn't You Be There?



"I have been watching a few different dog handlers and listening to the conversations that I can hear, and these dog handlers show amazing care and compassion for the program and the dogs themselves. Any one that adopts dogs that these inmates have worked with should feel lucky... Since this program started I was skeptical, but by watching it change people I believe in a positive manner is above words. Keep on with the great job."

-SCCC Officer



Top L-R: a little guy can always use a helping hand; just hanging out waiting for their time to shine; "Hey, I'm taller when I'm vertical, right?"

Above L-R : CUS Schreiber from G-Unit espouses the benefits of the program; PetSense rep's Katie and Demetria enjoy the "pupcakes on platter" from Asst. Trainer Dailey.

L and below L: Wookie and handler Sanford show off "how to pose" abilities;

Below L-R: Trainer McCarty shows how Nemo behaves with just anyone; handler Chargualuf and Nemo prove that with training, miracles happen. (Nemo is deaf and blind in one eye. She is staying with the program for a second round of training so she, and her family to be, will have a strong and lasting relationship; handler Essik and Tick mirror each other in intensiveness. At the time Tick didn't have a new home....He does now!



Two Pups Still Looking For That Special Place...



Maco (L) and Yahoo (R) are still looking for homes. Maco is a sweet 6yr old Chi mix who is happy just sitting in your lap and cuddling up. He gets along with other dogs, and will be your best friend once he gets to know you. Maco knows all his commands and is ready to show them off to you! Yahoo is a gorgeous 8-9 year old long-haired Lab mix. He gets along great with other dogs, (but doesn't have a lot of patience for the smaller ones!) and is very laid back. Yahoo was trained by a handler in a wheel chair, so knows exactly how to maneuver around someone using one. His handler, Oppen, said he learned more from Yahoo than Yahoo learned from him. You too could have such a special relationship with this wonderful dog!



It is a myth that dogs are color blind. They can actually see in color, just not as vividly as humans. It is akin to our vision at dusk. If never spayed or neutered, a female dog, her mate, and their puppies could produce over 66,000 dogs in 6 years! A dog's mouth exerts 150-200 pounds of pressure per square inch.



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



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>