



PROJECT POOCH[®]

Learning responsibility, patience, and compassion for all life

January 2014

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Debbie Cochell, DVM
Barbara Coles
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Steve Seymour

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Volunteer Coordinator:

Kelsey Waymire, DeVida Johnson

Web Manager: Linda Keast

Photos:

Joan Dalton & Nancy Hill

Newsletter:

Joan Dalton & Kelsey Waymire



Happy New Year, from the Board of Directors!

Project POOCH would like to acknowledge and thank all current board members: (from left to right) Barbara Coles, Debbie Cochell DVM, Fred Carter CPA, Tom Lang, and Ellen Bye.

We are very fortunate to have board members who give their time without pay, all for the benefit of our dogs and youth. They have helped guide Project POOCH through 20 successful years, and will continue to do so for what we hope will be many more!

Meet DeVida

This January we welcomed DeVida Johnson to our Outreach Office staff. DeVida is a graduate of Wellesley College. She comes to us with a background in non-profits and has direct experience with the shelter world having worked at the Humane Society of Chittenden County (HSCC) in Vermont. During her 9 years at HSCC she focused on fundraising, events, public relations, and humane education. At HSCC she worked to increase the community's awareness of animal welfare issues, and to fulfill their mission of teaching compassion and respect for all living beings, reducing animal suffering, and encouraging responsible care for companion animals. DeVida looks forward to applying all she's learned in her role here at Project POOCH to help bring people and dogs together. DeVida currently splits her time between here and the Death with Dignity National Center (another issue she is passionate about). She is also a proud mom of a shelter dog, Sadie.



From the Executive Director

Our mission: to learn responsibility, patience, and compassion for all life through working with dogs has produced some note worthy outcomes.

Colby was recently released from corrections after being incarcerated for seven years. Three of those years were spent working with dogs in Project POOCH. Colby been admitted to a college engineering program and will begin classes spring term. He will continue working part time using his dog handling and training skills that he learned in Project POOCH.

Sailor is starting his second term at a college in Alaska where he works part time while taking classes for employment in the petroleum industry. He has received high grades in chemistry and high level math courses.

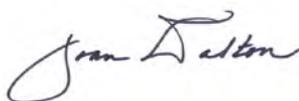
We are very thankful for mentors who give of their time and contacts to help youth transition back into the community and the world of work. Stay tuned for more successes.

Due to the high cost of postage (6% increase for bulk mailing), our newsletters can now be read on our website: www.pooch.org. If you need a hard copy, let us know and we will be glad to send you one.

Kelsey, our college intern, has accepted a full time job with a software company and will be leaving us at the end of this month. We will miss her positive attitude and state of the art skill set. She will continue to be a volunteer with us.

Needs: If anyone out there has wire crates (size 35" or 42") to donate, we can use them and will provide a tax receipt for the donor. Large hard sided crates are always needed as well.

With gratitude,



Joan Dalton
Executive Director

Help Save Bruno!



We recently created a campaign on the fundraising platforms Indiegogo and GoFundMe. Anyone can visit our project on the site and donate to it. Here is our project:

Bruno has been a favorite among the youth working at Project POOCH, so it was a disappointment when we heard about his medical condition. He was recently diagnosed with an inflammatory disorder, which caused atrophy of the jaw muscles, swelling, and pain

upon opening his mouth. Two-year-old Bruno aimed to please his new trainer and quickly learned the skills necessary to pass his Canine Good Citizenship test. Bruno is doing all that he can to get adopted out and find his forever home, but he needs your help. Bruno needs immediate treatment to be stabilized and adopted out by a loving family. He loves to play and cuddle with people. He just needs your help to feel better and be the happy, playful dog that he is! Please donate to help his potential adoptive family offset the costs of the treatment he will need for the rest of his life. He will be forever grateful.

Our goal is to raise \$2,000 in two months and so far we are off to a good start. We have received money at the dog show, through our online campaigns, and through PayPal. Please send the project link (<http://www.indiegogo.com/projects/help-bruno-afford-his-vet-bills>) or <http://www.gofundme.com/6cu9gk> to anyone you think might be able to help!

POOCH is Going Green!

Because of the rising costs of printing and postage, not to mention the amount of wasted paper each day, we have decided to send e-newsletters instead of print copies. If you would still like a printed copy, however, we are happy to send you one. Just send an email with your current address to devida@pooch.org and let us know that you would like a hard copy sent to you.



Please send your donation to:
Project POOCH
PO Box 305
Lake Oswego, OR 97034
Or donate with a credit card at
www.pooch.org

Poor Little Oscar



Oscar Before

When animal control picked him up, Oscar's hair had grown over his eyes and clear down to his nose. He was so matted that he looked more like a Brillo pad than a dog.

Danny, one of the more experienced youth, was confident he could work with Oscar successfully. Since Oscar had to be shaved almost down to bare skin, Danny got him a sweater to wear until his fur grew back. While Danny had trained more than 12 dogs, Oscar turned out to be more of a challenge than expected. Oscar absolutely hated to be groomed. He wasn't very cute with very little hair and tear-stained eyes, but Danny was patient.

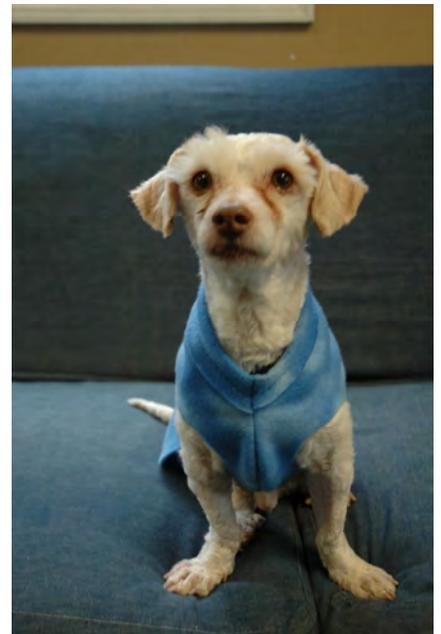
Oscar craved interaction with people and cuddled up to anyone sitting on the sofa. When people came to consider dogs for adoption, Oscar might as well have been invisible. He was just too ugly. After eight long months, a couple decided Oscar was the dog for them.

Danny was thrilled when the adopters sent an email: "Oscar's been doing great. We've found he'll do almost anything for a taste of peanut butter. He expects to be treated like the king he is. He goes on frequent walks and gets pushed around in a cart at the building supply store. He's the happiest dog in the world and gets many compliments on how well behaved and handsome he is. I cannot begin to describe how thankful we are to have him as part of our family."

*Youth's name has been changed for confidentiality purposes.

Rose City Classic Dog Show A Success!

Project POOCH would like to thank Tualatin Kennel Club, Dog Fanciers Association of Oregon, and Portland Dog Obedience Club for giving us a free booth at the Rose City Classic Dog Show! This year's show was a great success and we met many dog show enthusiasts interested in Project POOCH. Some even made appointments to visit dogs available for adoption! Meet Farley, the dog whose family won the raffle for the Project POOCH gift bag! He paid us a visit at the POOCH outreach office and immediately found his toy.



Oscar After

Curious How Your Donations Are Being Used?



We here at Project POOCH would like to send our sincere gratitude to everyone who donated to our organization in 2013. Whether you donated through Willamette Week's Give! Guide, Global Giving, a foundation, an individual donation, in-kind services or volunteering your time, your contributions are much appreciated and needed! Without donors like you, the positive changes that occur in our POOCH dogs and youth would not be possible.

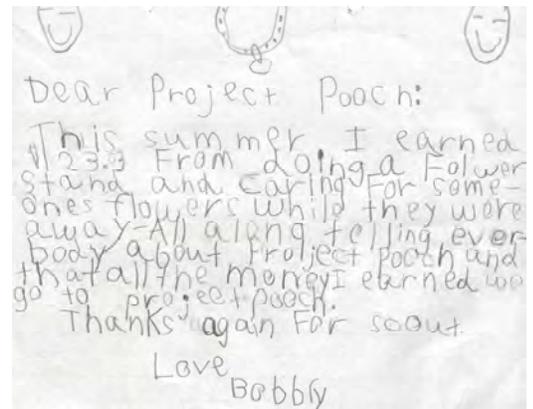
In 2013, Project POOCH spent approximately \$2,630 on dog food, \$2,000 on trainer fees, and \$6,350 on veterinary bills. These are just a few of our major expenses and don't include administrative costs, facility costs, costs for dog and youth supplies (such as jackets for the youth, dog collars/leashes/bowls/crates/blankets/jackets etc.), cleaning/grooming expenses or transportation costs.

In Loving Memory of Scout

When Scout came into Project POOCH, he was limping terribly from torn ligaments in his legs, which required surgery. The Rake family generously offered to nurse him back to health until he was recovered enough to begin obedience training with the POOCH youth. Upon passing his CGC test he was adopted into the Rake home in 2003, where he lived a long and happy life, full of trips to the beach and love from his family. We have just learned that Scout has passed over the rainbow bridge. May he rest in peace.



Left: Scout and Bobby at the beach
Right: Letter to Project POOCH from Bobby



Looking for my Forever Home

Hi there! I'm Ace. I'm a two year-old Cattle Dog Mix, weighing in at 40 pounds. My handlers love me because I am loving, affectionate, and friendly toward both humans and other dogs. I am also a very obedient, smart boy, and am on my way to passing my Canine Good Citizenship test. The guys have found that since I'm food motivated, I'll do almost anything for a treat! I am an energetic pup who would benefit from a family that will be patient with me and help me mature into the fine young dog I can be. Not only am I housetrained, I am also neutered, micro-chipped, and updated on all my vaccinations. If you think I sound like a good fit for you or your family, please call Project POOCH at 503-981-9531, ext. 243.



Praise for Project POOCH Youth

A happy adopter wanted to share with us her positive experience at the Project POOCH kennel (located at MacLaren Youth Correctional Facility). She wrote, "Yesterday morning, my sister and I met Millie and Toby (dogs) at the kennel. We were impressed with the program, the dogs and the two young men who trained those dogs. They were very professional, knowledgeable about the program, courteous and respectful. We commend them for their work with the dogs and their interaction with us. The visit was a very pleasant experience." We love hearing stories about successful adoptions and experiences with both the animals and the Project POOCH youth! Thank you for your submissions and for bringing successes to our attention.



Give!Guide 2013

Thank you to all those who supported Project POOCH by donating through Give! Guide 2013. We earned \$19,903 by the end of the campaign and are so glad that we will be able to use this money to save more youth and homeless dogs.

Are you looking for an obedient, well-trained dog who has passed his CGC (Canine Good Citizen) test? Would you like a loving, loyal companion to spend time with each day? Would your current pets or children enjoy a playmate? If so, contact Project POOCH at (503) 981-9531 ext. 243 or visit our website at www.pooch.org to find your perfect companion.