

## ADOPTING OLDER PETS AND A LIST OF PET RESCUE GROUPS

- “The kids lost interest.”
- “We work so much, we just don’t have time to train it.”
- “I didn’t think a puppy was this much work!”
- “He’s too hyper.”
- “She wakes me up too early to go potty.”
- “The puppy tore up my best shoes.”

These are examples of the hundreds of excuses why puppies end up in shelters after Christmas. Due to the state of the economy, the number of adult dogs in shelters unfortunately has also increased. This Christmas, how about giving an adult or senior dog a second chance?

The majority of these dogs are already housebroken. They’re graduates of not only Doggy Door 101, some even come with basic training on their resume. Some have been nannies and are good with children. Some play well with others, in case you have other pets in the household. There is nothing wrong with having a dog that prefers to be the only child. They, too, deserve a loving home.

Senior dogs are my heart. I have a 16 yr. old Golden-Aussie that I adopted when she was 11 yrs. old and a beagle I adopted at 8 yrs. old who is now 9 yrs. old. Both of them bring a lot of happiness into my life.

Kay DeLoach of Westie Rescue of Orange County and Beyond writes:

*Senior pets through no fault of their own find themselves homeless and the reasons behind it are of little consequence. They are brought to shelters because they can’t run like they used to. Or they need help climbing stairs, or they become incontinent, or they may need vet care more often than the younger dog. The tragic truth is that every day, they are discarded because they are older and they are not considered adoptable. These perfectly healthy dogs with wonderful personalities are euthanized every day.*

*When our beloved senior dogs are abandoned, we don’t think of them as old, crippled, or too much trouble. They may be hard of hearing, have cloudy eyes, be a little slower than the rest, but they’ve earned it! Some seniors’ behavior completely changes once they have found their forever home, because they are no longer vulnerable. They now feel safe and loved. They want nothing more than companionship.*

Please visit your local shelters and check the website for dog rescues.

Shelters and rescues have wonderful adult dogs and adult cats too, waiting to go home. Please consider opening your heart and home to one this Christmas.

If you are interested in making donations to any of these rescues, please contact them and ask how you can help.

**A Home 4 Ever Rescue -**

<http://ahome4everrescue.org>

**Animal Crackers of Laguna Beach**

**30822 S. Coast Drive, Laguna Beach, CA**

**(949) 499-1988 – ask for Gina**

**Animal Network Rescue Directory**

[http://www.animalnetwork.org/ANIMAL\\_NETWORK/Rescue\\_Directory/Contact.htm](http://www.animalnetwork.org/ANIMAL_NETWORK/Rescue_Directory/Contact.htm)

**Basset Hound Rescue**

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

**Basset Hound Rescue of Southern California -**

[www.bhrsc.info](http://www.bhrsc.info)

**Beagles and Buddies -**

[www.beaglesandbuddies.com/](http://www.beaglesandbuddies.com/)

<b>Boston Terriers - Boston Buddies -</b>	<a href="http://www.BostonBuddies.org">www.BostonBuddies.org</a>
<b>Bunny Bunch Rabbit Rescue -</b>	<a href="http://www.bunnybunch.org">www.bunnybunch.org</a>
<b>Brussels-Griffon Rescue</b>	<a href="http://brusselsgriffon.rescueme.org/California">http://brusselsgriffon.rescueme.org/California</a>
<b>Coastal German Shepherd Rescue -</b>	<a href="http://www.coastalgsr.org">www.coastalgsr.org</a>
<b>Dachshund Relief Inc Rescue -</b>	<a href="http://www.scdr.org">www.scdr.org</a>
<b>Fast Friends Greyhound Rescue -</b>	<a href="http://www.fastfriends.org">www.fastfriends.org</a>
<b>Foxy Doxy Dachshund Rescue -</b>	<a href="http://www.foxydoxydachshundrescue.com">www.foxydoxydachshundrescue.com</a>
<b>German Shepherd Rescue of Orange County</b>	<a href="http://www.gsroc.org">www.gsroc.org</a>
<b>Golden Retriever Rescue Greater LA -</b>	<a href="http://www.grcglarescue.org">www.grcglarescue.org</a>
<b>Maine Coon Cat Rescue</b>	<a href="http://mainecoon.rescueme.org/California">http://mainecoon.rescueme.org/California</a>
<b>Old English Sheepdog Rescue - So. Cal. -</b>	<a href="http://www.oesrescue.com">www.oesrescue.com</a>
<b>Pugs 'n Pals Southern California -</b>	<a href="http://www.pugdogrescue.com">www.pugdogrescue.com</a>
<b>Retrievers and Friends Southern California -</b>	<a href="http://www.retrieversandfriends.com">www.retrieversandfriends.com</a>
<b>Southern California Basset Rescue -</b>	<a href="http://www.bhrsc.info/">www.bhrsc.info/</a>
<b>Stella's Hope - All breed rescue</b>	<a href="http://www.stellashope.org">www.stellashope.org</a>
<b>WESTIE RESCUE OF OC AND BEYOND</b>	<a href="http://www.westierescueoc.com">www.westierescueoc.com</a>
<b>ASPCA -</b>	<a href="http://www.aspca.org/">www.aspca.org/</a>

[www.petfinder.com](http://www.petfinder.com) is another helpful site where you can look for any kind of animal and find other information about pet care as well.

#### **THIS COMES FROM FRED**

I will add to your list of dogs and one of the best rescue groups from which to adopt such a dog:

1. greyhounds
2. **Greyhound Adoption Center (GAC)** [www.houndsavers.org](http://www.houndsavers.org) or [www.greyhounddog.org](http://www.greyhounddog.org)

The need is great, as it is with other dogs, to find homes for these former racers.

Watch out for the myths about greyhounds as they are a gentle, affectionate dog and most of them are great with children and small animals.

They must never be off a six foot fixed leash (no extendible leashes) when in an unenclosed area. We have four that live with us and a cat; they are taken to many schools and have traveled all over the country when we did our on-the-road dog care show. We have never had a problem with them and small children because we tell what small children must never do with any dog. We profile our dogs to determine its personality and make the best match possible of dog to home and home to dog. We get them from racing tracks every Saturday and put them into kennels to be cared for by greyhound-knowledgeable people until they are ready for a home. Our newest kennel will, eventually, hold 110 greyhounds. We are glad to answer any questions about greyhounds on our toll-free 877 line which is: 1-877-478-8364.

#### **MARISOL SHARES**

Other fantastic organizations are the **Southern California Labrador Retriever Rescue** at [www.sclrr.org](http://www.sclrr.org) and the Southern California Bulldog Rescue at [socalbulldogrescue.org](http://socalbulldogrescue.org). Also, you can go check out dogs, cats, and bunnies in person at the Huntington Beach Humane Society on Newland Street in HB.