

Martin and Mea – A Christmas Rescue

By: Donna Martinez

Rescue has its highs and lows but brings with it some adoptions that stick in the minds of the volunteers and help them through the lows. The following is one example of just such an adoption.

Martin is a very courageous and gentle person whose last dog, a pit bull mix, was stolen from him approximately 4-5 years ago when he was attacked and beaten by a group of men in a South Bay park. Martin recovered from his injuries but was left with brain damage that affects his mobility and speech but, he still manages to live on his own.



Enamored by the breed, Martin originally came to GSRNC asking for a young, male German shepherd or even a Thulani dog. What he really wanted was a companion, as soon as he could, but we feared that a Thulani dog might not be in his life long enough, which would not be easy for Martin. So the hunt was on to find Martin a calm dog that would fit with his disabilities but still had many good years ahead.

Determined to find Martin the right dog, a detailed inventory of the 100-plus dogs in the GSRNC program was taken and the list was narrowed to two dogs, both 7 years old, which would potentially be a good fit. Martin was notified of the dogs and came to an Adoption Day event in Danville just before Christmas to meet them both. He immediately zeroed in on Mea as his future

companion and could tell right away that she would work out just fine for him.

Signing adoption paperwork, with a grin from ear to ear, Martin let us know that this was his Christmas present to himself. Well, volunteers heard that Martin had finally got his dog, and the emails flying back and forth made us wonder who was happier, Martin or the volunteers!

In follow-up phone conversations with Martin he always starts with: “I am so happy” and “She is so beautiful.” He also let us know that Mea enjoys sharing scrambled eggs with him at breakfast time, sleeps with him on his bed, and is brushed daily, which she absolutely loves – quite the pampered pooch!

When Martin takes Mea to the backyard she loves to play a game of hide-and-seek with him and when he peeks around the corner to where she is hiding, she zooms around the yard as if pleased with the game. Mea also gets walks on leash respecting Martin’s disabilities and, on warm days, Mea lies by the open front door and gives an alarm bark to passersby letting them know not to mess with that house, all of which Martin finds comforting.

Typically, our slightly older dogs have a more difficult time finding the loving, forever homes they deserve. We found it extremely rewarding that we were able to join these two loving souls together before the holidays, and look forward to them enjoying many more in the future.

