

Scouter By: Raymond Tallman (Good Traine)

Upon receiving Scouter on Friday the thirteenth of May he was anxious and uncertain of his new environment. It has taken some time observing his reactions and behaviors to be able to ~~ass~~ make this evaluation.

His aggression has improved from the state he was in when he arrived. At first I was advised not to touch his ears, tail, or paws! People assumed all kinds of false reasons for his aggressive behavior. The most popular assumption was that his behavior was because of his blindness on his left side since birth. Scouter's senses have become so acute because of his blindness he is very aware of being approached on his left side.

Scouter has never had training or boundaries that can be seen in his response to basic commands or otherwise.

Once some basic understanding

became established between us it was able to observe the following reaction. The reaction was brought forth by simply giving Scooter a down command both verbally and with a hand signal. I did this while keeping him close with my foot holding his leash. While Scooter became restless standing in the same general area he started developing a nervous tick or sharp jerking of the head. He also had an air snapping type reaction that developed with his trouble or problem making a choice. These involuntary movements increased steadily as time passed. Eventually Scooter went into the down position. It is my belief he would have went down more quickly if I had not given him the command. He does know and obey the command (slowly) in his cage or close to it.

It seems likely that Scooter

does have a Neurological disorder that interferes with his decision making process.

At times after taking his leash off of him I can tell he is in a state of confusion and know he will remain that way for at least twenty minutes. Its obvious he is tired and would normally lay down to relax.

As pressure increases so does the probability of his reaction to touch or guidance becoming dangerous.

It is my hope that building a bond and ~~increasing~~ also increasing Scooter's confidence he will become trustworthy.

After two weeks of constant contact and affection Scooter has proved himself my newest friend and companion. He now displays acts of affection lying close that show his willingness to change.

The question being how much is he capable of learning?

Memorial Day 4:30 AM

Attn: Breakthrough

Previous to this days training, my prediction of Scooter's future was uncertain.

Today I am very excited about what I have to tell you.

First, I must apologize for not trusting Scooter or my ability enough.

After what has happened I am happy to say I have never been given a dog I could not change into a trustworthy companion. Scooter will not be the exception!

I was informed Scooter will be evaluated and given a last chance ~~being~~ at life being trained by me. If Scooter is not capable or does not change his aggressive unpredictable biting behavior, he would not be going to his or another home ever again.

Today I am confident and

very proud to tell ~~you~~ anyone who had known or cared about this troubled dog;

"Scooter is going home"  
He will be returning home with a new confidence and skill set that will change the life of his owner(s) and anyone who knew this dog before.

Scooter has:

- learned to play with other dogs
- had his nails trimmed
- allowed me to brush his teeth
- has slept pushed against me with his head next to mine on my pillow!
- learned to calmly walk on a leash around strangers, distractions, other dogs.
- tolerates loud noises and people.
- happily greets people he knows to be pet.

Congratulations for making the choice to not give up on this special Dog.

Scouter has found his way into my heart after only a very short time.

Thank You For letting me have the opportunity to change and save this great pup, my newest friend Scouter!

12 Comp. Books

12 Folder)

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