

can sadness and joy be present or felt by the same person at the same encounter? here at the Gwinnett County Detention Center, those of us involved with the second chance program, with glassy eyes will say, absolutely.

Hutch, a ten month resident and close friend of mine was adopted yesterday. he's a funny dog, scared of doors, sights and strangers, but once he gets to know you, you'll find your self head over heels in love with him.

We don't just train these dogs we bond with them, we love them and this is exactly what they need. it's also no small thing that they love us back which is something some of us need as much as them.

what we find in the second chance program is two species coming together and scratching each others backs, or shall i say in some cases behind each others ears. there are so many dogs that get cast off as trouble when all that was needed was a little time and patience to see how great these dogs truly are. well, one thing we have here at second chance is time and i have found patience to be the gift we receive, i've come to believe that our funny friends are doing a little training of their own.

On February 14th we celebrated our two year anniversary, it was awesome, a lot of much deserved recognition and a chance for those at the bottom, in the trenches, to come together with those who make it all possible. our county ^{inmate} greens faded and ~~red~~ baggies went unseen as two opposing sides of society came together as co-operatives in a campaign of love.

so, you see, second chance is a lot more than a second chance, it's a type of adhesive that binds dog and man, cop and criminal, black and white, christian and muslim, red neck and thug. all of us involved have to learn to set aside our differences and work as a team for a positive goal that only benefits our soul, that is to say, we gain only the sense of satisfaction in seeing these dogs go to homes where someone we don't know will enjoy our hard work. if only we lived in a world where that was everyone's goal. well, second chance is a good step in the right direction.