



"Rambo" Thomas of Long Beach

"Dobie Doings"



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"Skipper" Love of Santa Barbara

Ardis Braun-Director **Colleen Anderson** -Webmaster & Graphic Designer **Dennis Bolton** - Printer

Adoptions have continued to be pretty good through the summer. This has historically not been true because so many people move and/or take vacations and do NOT adopt until after the summer, so we assume our good adoptions are the result of our wonderful web site and Facebook page, both managed by Colleen Anderson, whose talents never cease to amaze.

Recently we were contacted by Dog Fancy magazine because their October issue is all about Dobermans, and they wanted to know if we wished to place an ad in that issue. (We did.) We're anxious to read that issue and also to see if their authors agree with our opinions about this complex breed!

Colleen has been appearing on Channel 11 Fox News for quite awhile now, monthly at 6:50 a.m., to showcase a dog or two that we have for adoption. Unfortunately, at that hour not as many people view the news as we would like! As of Monday, September 23rd, we have been assigned an approximate 8:45 a.m. time slot. Check us out and cross your fingers for whatever lucky dog gets to go.

By the time you read this we'll have already been privileged to have a garage sale hosted for us by Mitzi Roberts and Tanya Ware at their lovely home in Simi Valley on August 17. We've had to do quite a bit of fundraising this year due to tight finances and heavy demands due to dog food and vet bills. Thank you, Mitzi and Tanya!

A few days after our garage sale, we received a donation of hundreds of items that would have been sold at her pet store by Lesley Giles of Woodland Hills, had she and her husband, Jeff Cohen, not decided to sell their home and move out of the country. We hope to sell much of this top-quality merchandise at a swap meet in the near future. Another thank you, to Lesley!

If you made a financial donation to us and work for a company with a matching-gift program, please make sure your company knows about your donation, as they will match yours, sometimes 100%. And if you have holiday photos from last year that you haven't already shared with us, please do so. We print almost all holiday-type pictures in the issue you receive toward year end.

Please know how much we appreciate and value your donations of every kind. We could not exist without you.

Sincerely,

Ardis Braun



Mitzi, Tom Seckar and their dogs

ADOPTION UPDATES

Once again, we placed most of the dogs featured in our summer issue: six out of seven!

DRUCIE,

now called Chula, was adopted by Joyce Kucinskas and Nick Robles of Moorpark. She spends a lot of time with



Nick's father, where she can usually be found sleeping by him on the couch. She loves all the family members and prefers never to go outside unless accompanied by one of them, always with a sidelong glance to make sure someone will be there with her. One of Chula's favorite things is belly

rubs; imagine that! And they are using a special new shampoo on her, which has virtually tamed her "bad hair" days. She is very loved!

MIJO and KENDALL

were adopted together by Roland Ouellette of Moorpark. We don't have new pictures of this happy pair, but we've been promised pictures before our next issue. The dogs, whose new names are Prince and Samantha, are "lovey-dovey,"

walk well on leash, and are adjusting well to their new home. This family is unaccustomed to Dobies with tails, so the thump-thump of a long tail is a new and amusing experience for them. The Ouelettes are enjoying their new dogs, so that's what's important to us.



WILLOW and NASH

were also adopted together, by Bradley and Jeanne Callahan of Ventura. From Brad's recent e-mail:

"Willow and Max (Nash) are a wonderful addition to our family. They are a couple of fur balls in frenetic motion. They are still learning social graces and they are still learning the concept of leashes. I am becoming

comfortable with taking them for walks around parking lots while my wife shops. As far as social graces go...a friend



left a roast marinating on the kitchen counter while we shopped. Knowing Willow's ability to put her front paws on the counter, I feared the worst for the roast. Sure enough, the roast was gone without a trace! We ate the meat I'd bought for the

dogs, since they had eaten ours and were probably full. They stayed outside more than usual that evening, seemingly realizing their behavior might not be appreciated. When they first came to their new home they stayed together, but now they are comfortable being in different areas of the house/yard....They are sweet, adorable, and a joy to have in our home."

GOOBER (new name Duke)

had been with us 4 years! He was adopted just before we went to press by Charles and Gina Patton of Costa Mesa, to keep company with their female Dobie, Sadie, who was a very timid and skittish dog when they adopted her from us. From Charles' recent e-mail:

"Duke is settling in well with Sadie and she seems to be the dominant one so far, and he seems ok with that. He is loving his daily walks at the river trail. He is quite needy for affection so he is in the right place!! He is not housebroken and we are working on it - we have tile flooring so it's not too big a deal. He loves sunning himself on his new beddie or hanging out in his new favorite armchair with us....Don't worry he will be very happy with us, I promise!"



AN ANGEL...

Years ago, we placed a beautiful little American Eskimo dog with Megan Walker of Valencia. "Angel" recently passed away, and Megan created a beautiful collection of memories about her.

If you feel you're up to viewing this, grab a hankie or box of tissues and go to: <http://megibug.blogspot.com/2013/02/in-loving-memory.html>.

WAITING FOR HOMES

BUDDY



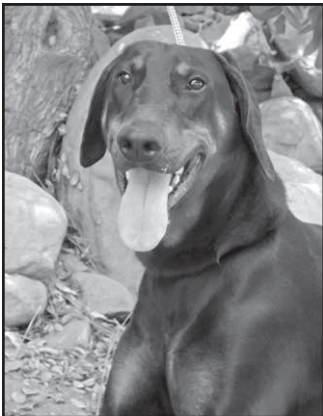
is a beautiful young red male Dobie who must have had a rough start in life, as he's quite timid and flighty with people. He seems to do best with a large, confident female dog to follow. Buddy is ready to be trained and pampered by a single adult or couple who will be patient, calm and gentle with him.

STEWIE

is probably a Doxiepoo, and he's adorable. He's about a year old, on the shy side, and weighs in at about 12 pounds. He's comfortable around other dogs, but small kids might be a little much for him. We think Stewie is a non-shedder, or at least doesn't shed very much.



DALTON



is sort of an exception to the rule as far as dog-sociability. Many dogs are aggressive to other dogs on leash but live easily with another dog off leash. Dalton behaves nicely when on leash, but he can't tolerate living with another dog. He's a young (18-months), very handsome black male Dobie who is a favorite among our dog-walkers and employees because he's such a friendly, happy dog.

YOLI,

a big lovable Irish Wolfhound mix, was adopted for 16 days by a woman who ultimately felt leaving Yoli at home while she worked 12+ hours a day, 4 days a week, was making Yoli too lonely. She raved about what a good dog Yoli is, housebroken, non-destructive, quiet, and affectionate. Though she doesn't care for other dogs, she'll do well in a loving adult home.



SALLY

is a Chihuahua mix, about 4 years old. She's a happy, outgoing dog who is very social with other dogs and should be fine with kids. Sally is a short-haired, easy-maintenance dog who weighs 9.7 pounds. Since she is living in our cattery, we can also say that she is for sure ok with cats.



ALICE

is an easy-keeper: quiet, mellow, doesn't try to escape, easy to walk on leash. Unfortunately, she doesn't like other dogs, but we think she would be a good choice for an older person or couple that might feel they can't handle a large dog any more. Alice is about 5 years old, on the small side at about 64 pounds, and with what we think are probably "home-cropped" ears.



JAKE



was returned to us because he nipped a child (not a family member). His owner said he's great with family members but wary of strangers, especially men. He is apparently trustworthy unless he feels threatened. Jake is housebroken, non-destructive, and very dog-social. He's a short-haired

Whippet-Beagle mix weighing 37 pounds.

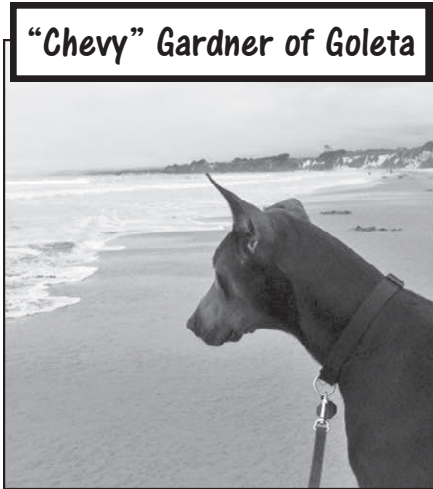
ELLIE

is one of our "all-natural" Dobies (long tail and natural ears) who has had at least one litter, so she needs someone who will love her for her sweetness and sociability. She lives easily with large male dogs, and she isn't a complainer. Ellie is a 4-year-old red female who is solidly built at about 75 pounds.





"Kahlua" David of Lancaster



"Chevy" Gardner of Goleta



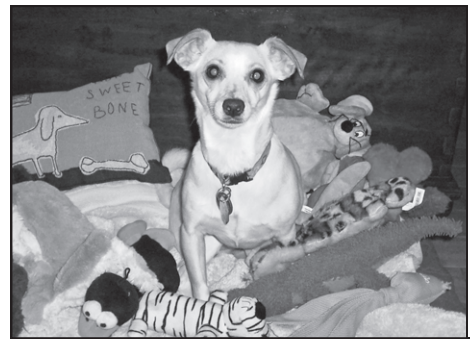
"Amelia" Aluise of Thousand Oaks, with Ariabella



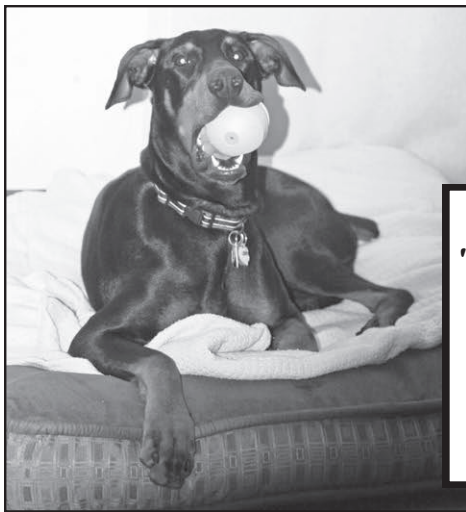
"Maddie" Raach of Lincoln



"Artie" Mensa of Ventura



"Mimi" Morris of Las Vegas



"Maddie" Aldous of Long Beach



"Squink" Crawford of Los Osos, with Katy



"Grimm" Kinsland of Wasilla, Alaska

"Rollo" Bice of Norwalk





**"Hachiko" Matthews of Oak View,
with Richard**



**"Dasha"
Schmidt of
Santa
Barbara**



**"Guthrie"
Shellborn
of
Sacramento**



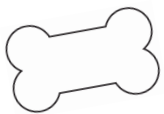
**"Sara" Sullivan of Los
Angeles**



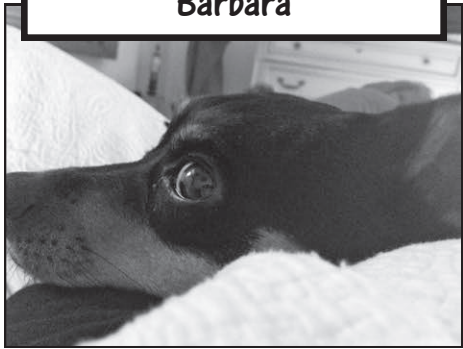
**"Nero"
Perry of
Fairfield,
with
Anthony**



**HAPPY
ADOPTERS!**



**"Sug" Hamilton of Santa
Barbara**



**"Sunny"
Booth of
Oak View**



**"Sheila" Lange-Roberts of Lake
Havasu City, AZ, with Isis**

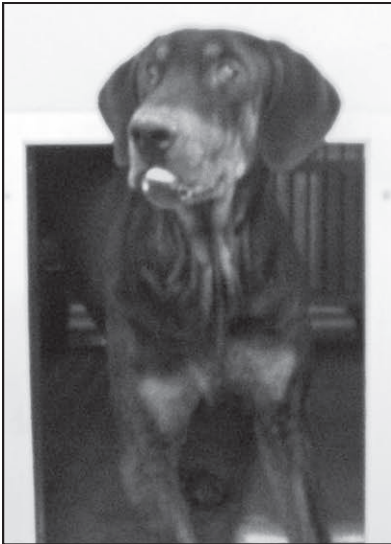


“ANOTHER HAPPY ENDING”

As almost everyone knows, animal shelters are perpetually full of what usually turn out to be very unfortunate animals. Most of them are and were good pets; there are just too many of them!

Though we always have a significant number of small dogs for adoption, our specific rescue breed is the Doberman Pinscher. We count ourselves lucky that there aren't as many of them as, say, German Shepherds, because we would not even begin to be able to rescue all of the good dogs of that breed, and we'd be depressed all the time. There are plenty of Dobermans, of course. We no sooner place one in a wonderful new home than there is another urgent one in a shelter, waiting to take that space.

At this time the outreach of Doberman Pinscher rescuers goes from Red Bluff, in Northern California, to San Diego; and from the Pacific coast to Las Vegas. The Red Bluff rescue woman, Dana Johnson – formerly a Doberman breeder – set up an active message board so that rescuers within the above



geographical area could post the dogs that came to their attention, and the volunteers and rescuers that could help them and share information would post as well. This has led to much better awareness of where the dogs are, as well as pictures from a general message board that shelters use, and often insights about the dogs.

Because of this message board, we learned about a young Dobie boy at the Stockton animal shelter who was impounded on

March 21 this year. Mary and Bert Debusschere of Tracy, California, travel to upstate shelters such as Stockton, Merced, Modesto and others, viewing and evaluating dogs, and often transporting them as far as Fresno, where we meet them and a couple of relays later, get them to Fillmore. Mary and Bert reported that the Stockton dog was young, very sweet, and absolutely infested with a skin parasite that made him almost completely unadoptable by the public.



They picked him up eight days later, on March 29, and transported him to a boarding kennel in Patterson, where he was vetted, diagnosed, and treated for demodectic mange. Demodex, as it is called, is treatable with medications and special dips, and it's not contagious. It generally attacks dogs that are severely stressed, causing the parasite to flourish, often accompanied by staph infections of the skin. The pictures in the left-hand column are of Dillon while he was still at his animal shelter.

Another message board person, Ann Koch, helps with board bills upstate for dogs that wouldn't have a chance

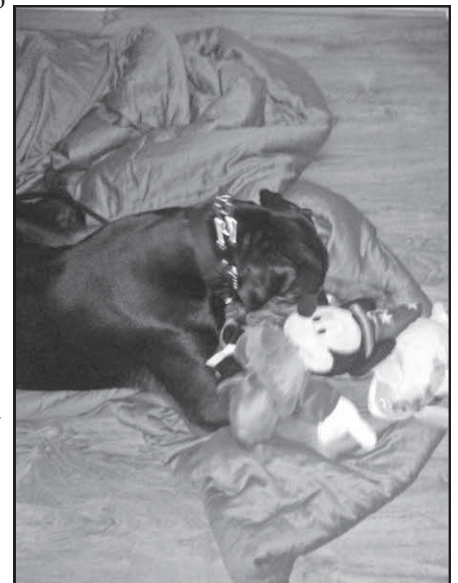


without her. Thanks to Ann, Dillon was able to board at the kennel for several months, where his treatment continued, and he was well enough to be neutered at the end of May.

In June, we finally received Dillon, thanks to Mary transporting him to Fresno for us. He spent a few weeks with Colleen to finish up any remaining medical needs, and then he came to Fillmore to be among our most adoptable dogs. We found him so pleasing: able to be kenneled with virtually any other dog, mellow, and with big feet and a very puppyish face that endeared him to everyone. We estimated him to be approximately a year old.

On July 19, we had an appointment with Johnathan Sampsell of Carlsbad, a man with PTSD who needed an easygoing, mellow dog to train as a service dog companion.

Nathan, as he prefers to be called, brought along his trainer to be sure he would choose the best possible dog for his requirements. We showed him several dogs that were possible choices, with Dillon at the top of the list. It was no surprise that Nathan immediately connected with Dillon, and after just a short time visiting with this great dog, he decided Dillon was the one in whom



to invest his emotional trust and commitment. In this column are his “happy ending” pictures. 😊



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**Imagine a world where dogs
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ODD FRIENDSHIPS

By Colleen Anderson

I have been with Dobies and Little Paws Rescue for 10 years now and I'm happy to say that the dogs continue to pleasantly surprise me every day. Lately I've been blown away by some of the odd friendships that dogs develop.

Most of the time we can predict that two dogs will get along based on age, gender, size, temperament and activity level. However, sometimes we're completely wrong and the one match we don't have much faith in ends up being the best! When adopters come to find a companion for their existing dog we always insist they bring him or her along. It's easy to just show the most "bulletproof" dog we have, but as we've seen, that dog isn't always the best match.

We always say that "it all comes down to chemistry." I suppose it's the same reason that many people fall in love. The ideal mate you have in your mind isn't necessarily the person that ends up being right for you. Also, sometimes the friend that you have almost nothing in common with ends up being your best friend.

For example, we have a red male named Ridley that originally came to us in pretty bad shape. He was likely used as a "bait dog" and had scars all over his face and legs. Ridley was terrified at first and wanted absolutely nothing to do with other dogs. After quite some time in a foster home he started to be more dog social and even liked to play. His female companion had to be moved because she was starting to dig under the fence, so Ridley needed a new buddy. I thought that Coco, a playful red female, would be a good choice for him, but after a day or so it just wasn't going well. They didn't like each other at all. I did notice that he was drawn to a 9 year old male that had just been returned by his owner and was "food aggressive." They got along wonderfully! Not long after, another male was added to the group. He's a shy male named Merlin who was actually having issues with some of the other males. This is a group



Ridley, Merlin, and Duke



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that we would have never thought to put together, but weeks later, the three dogs have never had an incident. They are often found playing, sharing food, and even sleeping together. It just goes to show that some friendships can't necessarily be explained...but those always seem to be the best ones.

MEDICAL MATTERS

Please take note, Doberman owners. At least once a month we hear that someone had to put a Dobie down because the dog had "bad hips." Before you ever assume this could be true, make sure the dog's hips are x-rayed. Hip problems, other than from injury, are very uncommon in our breed. We've often commented how thankful we are that this is one health problem NOT present in the Doberman breed.

What can appear to be bad hips is usually spinal, a condition called Wobbler's Syndrome, or CVI (Cervical Vertebral Instability), which is a spinal disk behind the dog's neck that becomes herniated and puts pressure on the spinal cord, eventually causing complete or near-complete paralysis of the dog from the neck back. The back legs will cease to function and the dog may lose control over his bodily functions.

The good news is that inexpensive medication like Prednisone, a steroid, will take much of the inflammation out of the disk and make the dog mobile again. At the rescue facility, we kept a female Doberman wobbler going for about four years after finding her "down" one day, almost completely paralyzed in the hind quarters. After a short round of Prednisone, she enjoyed running, playing,

eating avocados, and chasing squirrels until her condition eventually worsened so much that she could not walk.

Many vets are reluctant to identify Wobbler's Syndrome – if they even know what it is! (many vets do not, if they haven't had a lot of Doberman patients) – without expensive medical diagnostics that are difficult for the dog as well as for the budget. By the time a dog has difficulty getting up, it's very easy to give a few weeks of Prednisone to try fixing the symptoms. If the dog is helped by the medication, a low "maintenance dosage" will keep the dog mobile for a much longer time. It usually works!

PARTING SHOT

Haven't you ever wanted to lick the bowl?



"Dibu" (in a foster home waiting for a permanent one)