

**"Ida" Matteucci of Bakersfield**

## "Dobie Doings"

2946 Young Road  
Fillmore, California  
93015

Phone (805) 524-5102

Fax (805) 524-7327

This issue is actually a little bit early so that we would have the opportunity to wish each of you a very happy holiday season.

So, Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, Happy Hanukkah, or whatever it is you celebrate and whomever you celebrate it with, make it the best ever!

Many of you send us beautiful holiday photos of yourselves and your pets. Unfortunately, these reach us too late to print in time for the holidays. So in this issue, our "centerfold" is a collection of a few of your wonderful pictures from years past. We fervently hope these precious pets are still alive and well, and enjoying this holiday season with you.

Sincerely,

*Ardis Braun*

Director

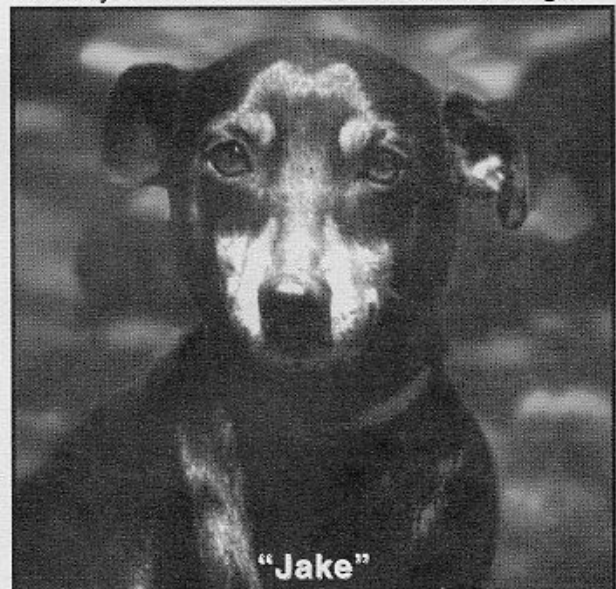
P.S. - The next Dobie Rescue garage sale will be on Saturday, December 14, or in case of rain, December 15, at the same location as the last one:  
27681 Estepona, Mission

Ardis Braun Director
Suzette Smith Graphic Designer
Dennis Bolton Aaron Lucas Printer
☛ Waiting for homes
☛ Adoption Updates
☛ Centerfold
☛ Medical Matters

Viejo. If you have any items to donate for this or any subsequent garage sale, please call us if you would like to have them picked up. Thank you!

## Adoption Updates

Here are updates on a few of the sweet faces you saw in our last Dobie Doings.



**"Jake"**

Little **"JAKE,"** the Miniature Pinscher who needed leg surgery, got it, thanks to your donations. He also got a warm, loving home in which to recuperate and live out his days: with Jenette Roby of Long Beach, who previously adopted two other dogs from us, which she still has. Jake has become Jenette's shadow, and all are doing great!

Sadly, our sweet old **"KILEY"** was not fated to find her own home that she waited nearly five years for. She was becoming quite stiff in her hindquarters, and we could not bear to subject her to the cold, wet elements of another winter...



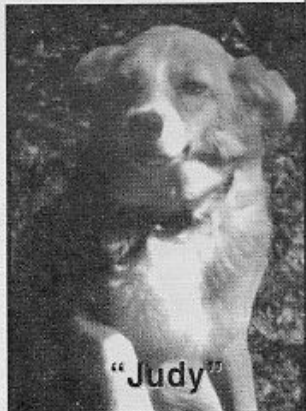
**"Raggedy Ann"**

**"Raggedy Ann"** the sweet abused Terrier mix, also found a home, with Nora Babineau of Wrightwood. Nora adopted two dogs from us, which gave Raggedy Ann a more self-assured friend to follow. At last report, she had nearly completely overcome her fears

in her new environment and had bonded well with Nora.

## Here are a few faces Waiting for Homes

**"Judy"** is a six-month old Shellie mix puppy who was so frightened of people when she arrived at Dobie Rescue that she tried to bite everyone. She has matured into an excellent watchdog because she is still very suspicious of strangers, but is very happy and playful with all other dogs and with her master.



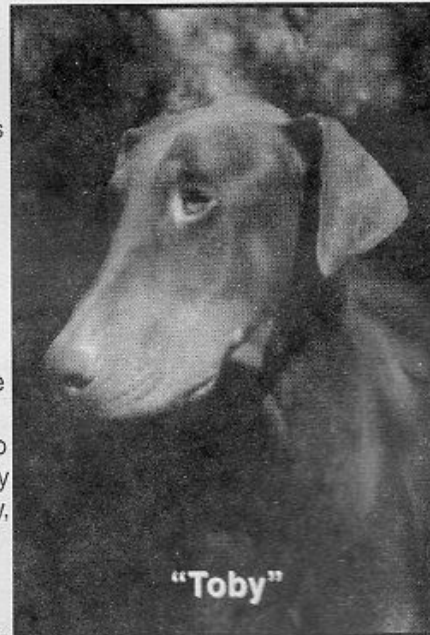
**"Judy"**

Here is **"Toby,"** just one year old when we rescued him from an animal shelter several months ago. Tragically, Toby was turned in to the pound by his owners because they had no time for him.

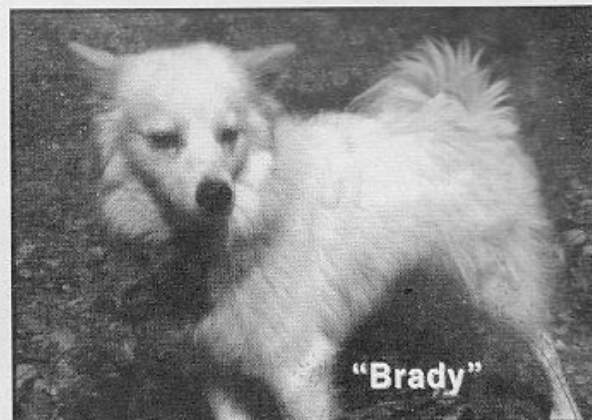
There he was placed in a kennel with an Akita and a Pit Bull for one week before we became aware that he was there.

The other two dogs viciously attacked Toby, nearly killing him, and it was clear from his emaciated body that they also had not allowed him to eat anything for the entire week.

It took months of patient hand-feeding and medication to heal Toby's wounds and bring him to the state of good health he enjoys today. The only evidence of his horrible encounter at the pound is some thinness and lingering stiffness from the muscle damage he sustained. Toby is a very tall, elegant red male Dobie who does well with all female dogs.



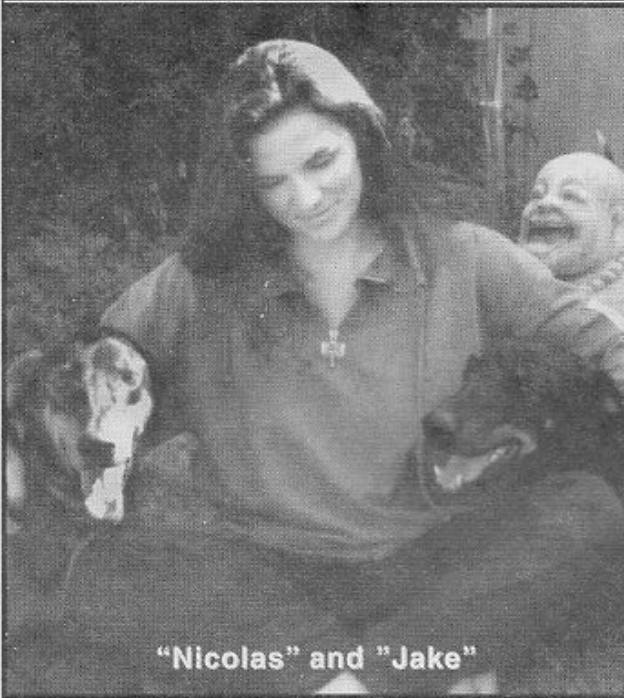
**"Toby"**



**"Brady"**

**"Brady"** is a one-year-old American Eskimo, as cute as can be. He gets along with all other dogs, but needs a special home where he can be nurtured and patiently trained. Because his owner kept him in a cage for his first year, he is not well socialized and not very trusting at first. But Brady is a loving dog and wants to be hugged and pampered, and he is a wonderful watchdog.

## URGENT PLEA!



"Nicolas" and "Jake"

We had an urgent plea for help from Lisa LaPoint of Van Nuys. Lisa adopted two wonderful Dobie mixes from us in the past few years and is now moving and cannot take them. Here are excerpts from her letter:

"Nicolas and Jake are very special... they were abuse victims saved and nurtured back to health by Dobie Rescue. Nicolas... 4 years old now.. was very hand shy. When I raised my voice and cupped my hand around my mouth so someone across the yard could hear me, Nicolas went down. He would roll on his back, shake, and tinkle on himself. Now you can't love him enough. He craves your touch and love. SWEET is the perfect description of our Nicolas. About one year after we got Nicolas we went in search for a friend. After depleting all other resources we were back at Dobie Rescue. There he was: Jake. Nicolas loved him and home he came.

Jake...3 years old now. Ardis informed us that Jake was found starving under a house. Jake took more time than Nicolas. He was very distrusting. He did not come remotely near the house, nor would he come to us. He was a digger, and had no happiness in his eyes. Slowly Jake gained trust. Now Jake.. has the best smile; we can go for walks without a leash... (he) has stopped digging and can jump and play.

To sum up, Nicolas is the sweet, love-me type and Jake

is the funny, happy-to-have-a-home type. I now need to find someone special to take care of my boys. I know everyone who meets my boys will see their very special personalities. They need a very special home. I love my boys; PLEASE HELP ME."

Lisa will be moving at the end of the year. Do you know of anyone who could give these boys their "special home?" Call us at Dobie Rescue or Lisa at (818) 782-4051.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

One of the tasks that needs to be done in rescue is the canvassing of animal shelters for purebred dogs that are adoptable. Often the animals in shelters are sickly, thin, poorly socialized, or otherwise not good candidates for adoption by the public. Many shelters are located in such poor areas that adoptions are rare; these shelters destroy nearly every animal they impound.

A few shelters are motivated to place all of their animals that are placeable. These shelters have paid staff or volunteers who walk through the kennels and make lists of rescuable animals and then call the rescuers who would be able to rescue them. Unfortunately, many shelters do not have the staff available to do this, nor the motivation, so animals which could otherwise be saved, aren't.

It is a difficult task to do; walking through a shelter requires being somewhat hardened to the dozens of imploring eyes that watch every visitor. It also requires knowledge of breeds of dogs and, to a lesser extent, cats.

We are seeking to locate individuals who know breeds who would be willing to visit one or more of the following shelters at least once a week: Lancaster, Carson, Devore, San Bernardino, Los Angeles (North Central, near Griffith Park, and South Central, near USC), East Valley (North Hollywood), and Orange County (Santa Ana, and the city of Orange) .

What would be required is for the volunteer to make a list of all purebred animals, with their impound numbers and available dates, and then to either telephone each individual rescuer with their specific information, or to relay the entire list to one responsible party, such as ourselves, so that we may then call each individual rescuer.

Many rescuers cannot help each and every animal of their breed but can sometimes do a direct referral when they know someone in a particular area is looking for a specific breed. Other rescuers will accept almost any animal of their breed, regardless of age or condition. Doberman Pinscher Rescue will, subject to availability of space, accept any Doberman of reasonable age, condition, and temperament, regardless of whether it may have long ears and tail.

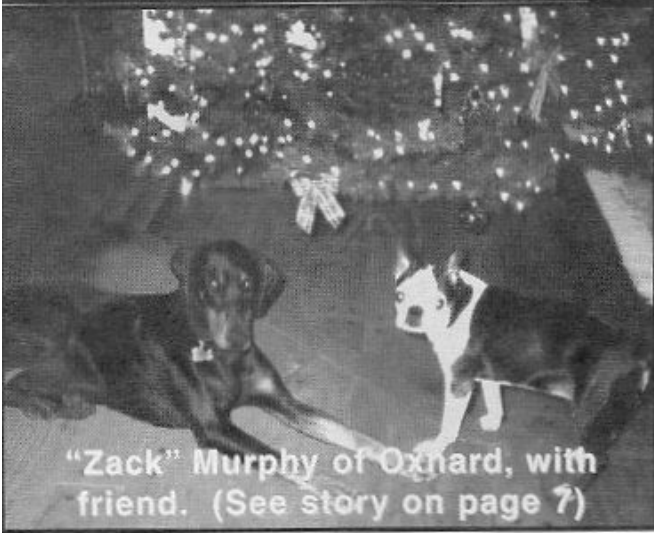
Please call us if you might have any interest in helping with this important work.



Jeff and Patty McMillan,  
of Ventura, with  
"Jessie" and "Thor"



"Ricca" DeLong  
of Oak View, with friends



"Zack" Murphy of Oxnard, with  
friend. (See story on page 7)

# Happy Holidays Doberman P



"Maggie" Gapen of Los Osos

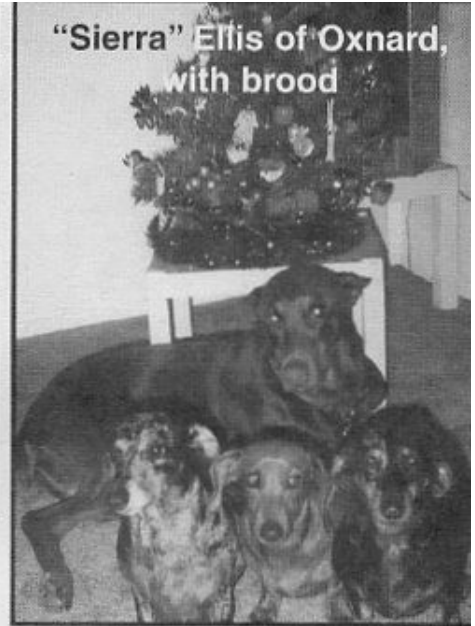


"Gidget" Fitzgerald of  
Northridge

**"Angel"  
Samp of  
Los  
Angeles,  
with  
friends**



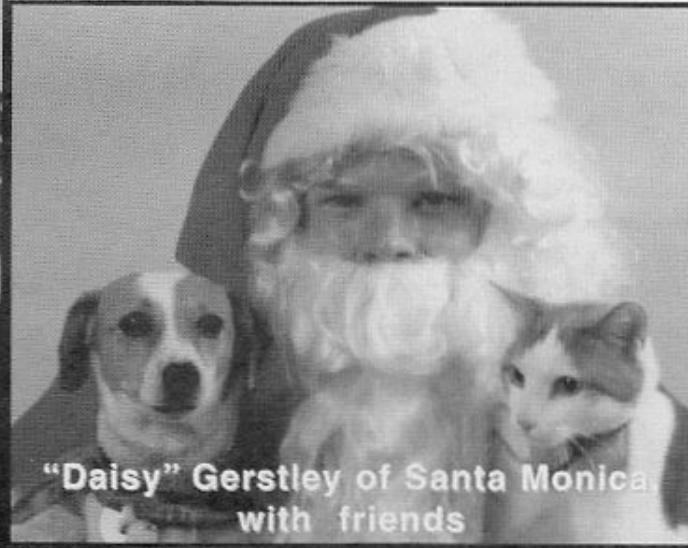
**"Sierra" Ellis of Oxnard,  
with brood**



**"Sam,"  
"Sasha,"  
and  
"Cleo"  
Evans of  
Anaheim,  
with  
owners  
Fiona  
and  
Steve**



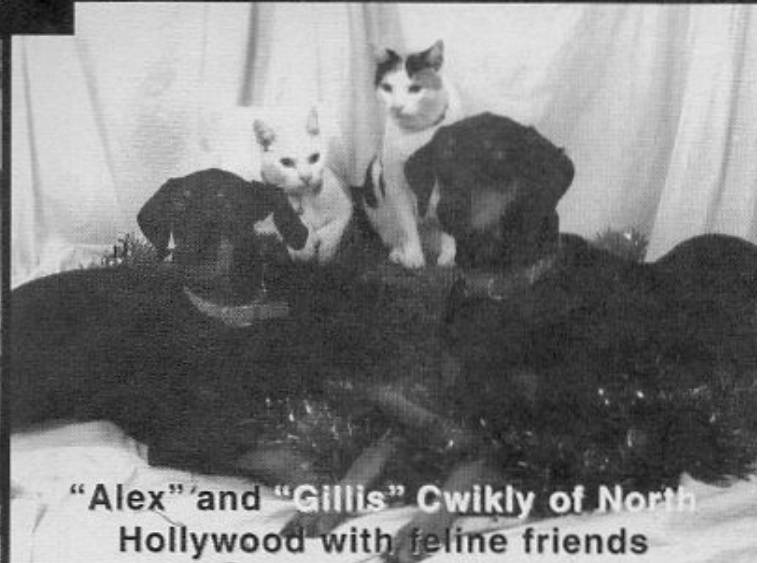
**om all of us at  
cher Rescue**



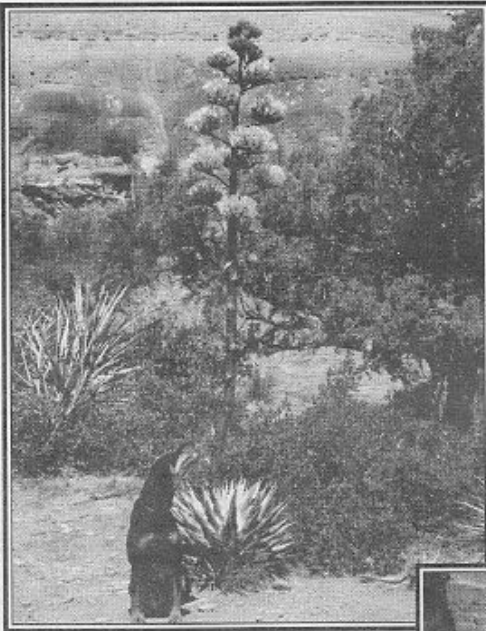
**"Daisy" Gerstley of Santa Monica,  
with friends**



**"Shayla" Reinheimer of  
Rancho Cucamonga**



**"Alex" and "Gillis" Cwikly of North  
Hollywood with feline friends**



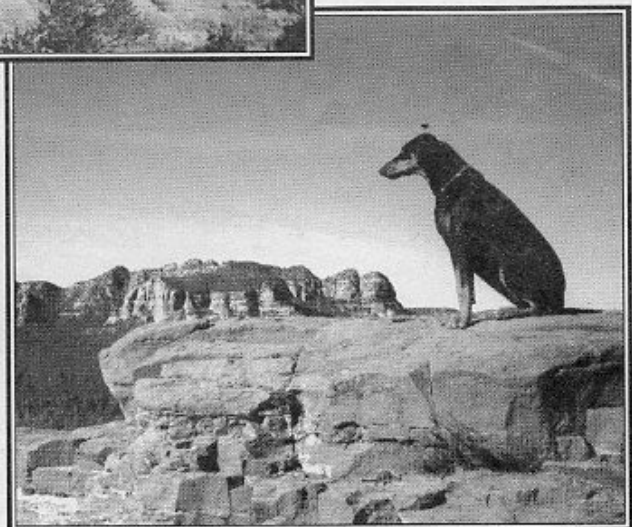
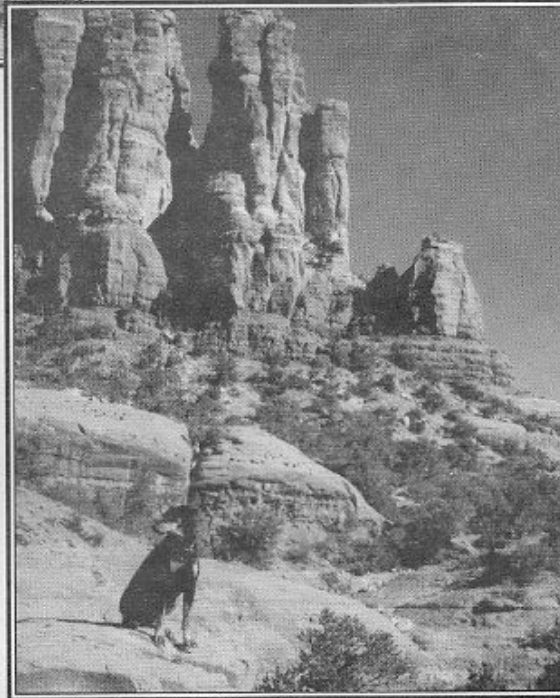
### Desert Angel

**W**e've had requests for more "feel good" stories. Rescue work brings many "highs" from the happy endings we never get tired of. There are enough of these to fill a book! Sadly, there are also too many heartbreaks. Actually, even one is too many. Many times a dog's life is sad without the owner even realizing it. For example, imagine how you would like to be confined somewhere for the rest of your life with only the company of your family for, perhaps, 10 minutes a day. That leaves 23 hours and 50 minutes a day when you are just alone.. lonely. Yet so many dogs are confined to back yards without the company of another dog and never allowed in the house. Small wonder that many of these dogs have barking problems, or become destructive, or try to escape. For example, take the story of "Angel," now owned by Lynda McEvoy of Sedona, Arizona. We rescued Angel as a juvenile Doberman (under one year old) from an animal shelter and placed her almost immediately. Very young

dogs are highly in demand and the placement appeared to be a good one: nice family in Beverly Hills with a lovely home and yard, and Angel was to be an inside dog with toys and attention. But something was wrong. Angel was not happy. She became quite destructive, and the family finally returned her after she had caused over \$3,000 in damage, including serious damage to the leather upholstery of their Mercedes Benz.

Enter Lynda McEvoy. She wanted a young female and immediately noticed the beautiful Angel. We always try to be as honest as possible about each dog's traits to avoid disappointments later, so we told Lynda that Angel had been a very destructive young dog and

might continue to be for some time. She decided to adopt Angel anyway. That was in September, 1992, and all we get to this day from Lynda is rave notices about Angel. Angel is not only not destructive, she is about as perfect as a dog can be. These are 1996 photos of Angel taken in the desert near Lynda's home in Sedona, Arizona.



## MEDICAL MATTERS

Recently we received a letter from Kathy Murphy of Oxnard. (Kathy and husband Walt adopted their wonderful Dobie, Zack, from us in July, 1994.) In her letter, Kathy described a rare skin condition that Zack became afflicted with that the veterinary specialist who treated him fears may signal the beginning of a new canine skin epidemic. Thanks to the expertise of their specialist and their commitment to Zack, Kathy and Walt now have a healthy pet. Since we have no idea how prevalent this and other skin ailments are, we're asking you to call us if your dog has a skin problem so that we can share information with you that your vet may not have or know. Many people say they trust their vet and believe in him or her, but none of them know everything!

Probably the most common skin problem dogs have is flea allergic dermatitis. It is, simply, an itchy allergic reaction to flea bites and is most noticeable on the dog's back, particularly above the tail, and on its underbelly. This condition usually improves in the cooler months when fleas are dormant, and it is manageable all year through diligent flea control. Remarkable successes have been achieved with a new product called Advantage, available through veterinarians. Another fairly common skin ailment in dogs is sarcoptic mange, which is caused by tiny mites not visible to the naked eye. This condition

spreads easily from one dog to another, but not all dogs, and usually not humans, will be affected by it. In dogs infested with it, though, it is a living hell. The dogs' skin itches so badly that some will literally rub their fur off their bodies, leaving weepy patches of raw skin. Hair loss and very itchy behavior when no fleas seem to be present may indicate the presence of mange. Veterinarians can sometimes diagnose this condition by doing skin scrapings and looking at them under a microscope to see if living mites are evident. Often, though, the condition exists even if no mites can be found. If your dog is constantly biting on its legs or tail, scratching, trying to rub its head or back, wiggling back and forth on its back on your lawn, or excreting matter from its eyes, you should probably look for the reasons. This type of mange is highly treatable with dips and the dog will generally feel quite comfortable after the second dip if it is not able to reinfect itself with mites living in the home environment.

Another type of mange, demodectic mange, is a nastier form of mange which is hereditary and more difficult to treat, but generally still treatable with dips and injections.

Also, of course, many individual animals are allergic to specific things, just like people are. Grasses, food additives, and a host of other things can cause hives and other allergic reactions.

If your dog has a skin problem and you don't know why, please call and discuss the symptoms with us so that we may share information with you. Your dog could be another one like Zack, and the Murphys' experience with Zack could help you and your pet.



### I want to support Doberman Pinscher Rescue!

I am making the following contribution:

( ) \$100. ( ) \$50. ( ) \$20. ( ) \$10.

I am enclosing the best gift I can: \$\_\_\_\_\_

I cannot contribute money right now. I would like to support  
by: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form with your contribution  
Your contribution is tax deductible (Federal I.D. #77-0357865)

## PARTING SHOTS...



Have you ever  
seen a white  
Doberman?  
Well, you have  
now!!

For those of you who have been following the story of Dawn, our seizure-alert Dobie, she was featured on October 10 on ABC's "Turning Point," with Diane Sawyer. She looked as stunning and wonderful as ever and there was actual video footage of Dawn laying across Cissy, the young woman she protects, preventing her from getting up until her seizure ended. We taped this episode of "Turning Point," if any of you have serious interest in viewing it.



"Dawn" and Cissy

### IN OUR NEXT ISSUES:

- Dobies who love water?
- New addition to the rescue ranch
- "Believe It or Not" stories

## Doberman Pinscher Rescue



2946 Young Road  
Fillmore, California 93015

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage

**PAID**

Fillmore, CA  
Permit #63