

"Angel"

"Dobie Doings"



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Another holiday season is nearly upon us...such an exciting time of year! This year, as last year, our centerfold is of your wonderful holiday photos from previous years. We sincerely hope all of these wonderful critters will be enjoying another happy, healthy holiday season with you. We **LOVE** getting your cards, letters and photos, so keep 'em coming!

We also want to thank those of you who have made financial donations for remembering us. Lately we have not been able to personally thank each of you for your generosity due to demands on our time that nearly reach the breaking point, but please know that you have our sincere and heartfelt gratitude!

In our last issue, we explained the difficulties of having older dogs in the rescue program: how it is difficult to place them, why it is difficult to euthanize them, and the fact that they occupy kennel space which ideally should be filled with younger, more placeable dogs. We received in response a very thought-provoking letter from Nancy Koprowski of Irvine, which is included, with her permission, as a "Letter to the Editor." We're very interested in your comments. Of the eleven senior dogs we featured in our August issue, six have, to

date, been adopted into good homes, and one died of natural causes.

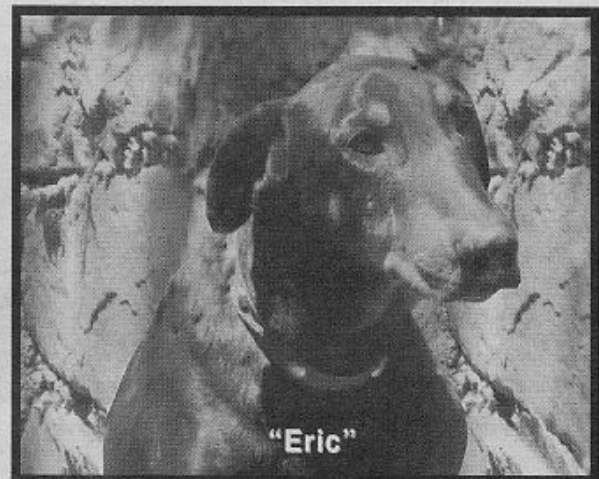
Sincerely,
Ardis Braun

Director

P.S. - Embarrassing to admit, but our cover girl above, also pictured on page 8, is unidentified. Her name is Angel; will her owner please call us so we may credit them properly?

Adoption Updates

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



"Eric"

Ardis Braun
Director

Suzette Smith
Graphic Designer

Dennis Bolton
Aaron Lucas
Printer

- ☞ Waiting for homes
- ☞ Adoption Updates
- ☞ Holiday Centerfold
- ☞ Medical Matters

"ERIC" is now at home with Karen Ledahl of Simi Valley. Karen's other Dobie, Sabre, has graced the pages of *Dobie Doings* before, most recently as the "smiling" Dobie on the back of our August issue. In his new home, Eric (renamed "Maverick") has ten acres of horse property, two other dogs, and wonderful rugs and couches to enjoy. He can't get enough of it!



"Rusty," our August cover girl, is now at home with Melanie Berger of Pasadena. Melanie adopted a male Dobie, Diego, from us a couple of years ago and felt that her home could accommodate another Dobie and be a friend to Diego. Rusty adjusted in one day to a regimen of massages, a weekly egg in her diet, and lots of love from Melanie and her significant other, Tom.



"Helga," renamed Mishada (my shadow), now lives with Louise Gapen of Los Osos. Louise's other Dobie, Maggie, has also graced our pages before, most memorably as the dog sleeping under the covers

between two children. An excerpt from Louise's recent letter: "She (Mishada) has proven, as with most Dobies, that all she wanted was a place and a person/family to love and call her own...she is smart and very eager to please us. Now, with my two Dobies my husband says I've been 'Dobie bookended,' because wherever I go my two Dobies are sure to follow - one on each side. Actually, with one on either side and me wearing white (my nursing uniform), we are more like an Oreo-double stuff! I encourage everyone to reach into their hearts and if you can squeeze in one more Dobie, to do so, so that more of these beautiful dogs can have a family and home of their own. To have two Dobies is not that much more work than one - and they'll give you twice as much love..."

"Ruby" was adopted by Jeanne Ferrel of LaVerne. Jeanne wanted a companion for her juvenile Dobie mix, Zeus, so she needed a dog with a high play drive. Ruby and Zeus played immediately, and Ruby also has many human friends in this family.



"Raven" was adopted by Bill Beckham of Hesperia, who had adopted two other senior Dobies from us over the past several months, Maggie and Darwin (an 8-year-old male who had been in our program for 1 1/2 years). An excerpt from his recent letter: "From the first time I drove up with (Raven) and let her out of my truck, she had a smile on her face. I can tell that she is happy and that brings such joy to my heart. I hope this letter will inspire others to consider adopting a mature animal that so desperately needs to be loved and petted. The joy I receive from my 'kids' cannot be measured by any standard and there shall always be a place in my home for the underwanted. They are truly some of the best dogs to be found anywhere."



"Gretchen," the protector, is now at home with Georgianna Mace of Bonsall. Georgianna's other Dobie, J.C., whom she adopted from us a couple of years ago, failed to bark to alert her when a stranger walked in to her property and caught her unawares. Gretchen, she says, is doing a fabulous job of being her constant companion and protector, and J.C. likes her too.



"Fritz," the "full body wag" dog who was happy with a dog house and daily meal, unfortunately did not live to enjoy his own place; he died of a heart attack after four years in the rescue program.

Still Waiting for Homes



"Duchess"

"Duchess" - Red female, 8-9 years old. Housebroken and very social with other dogs; good off leash. In rescue program for two years.

"Heidi" - Red female, 8-10 years old. Social with all other dogs. Not good off leash. In rescue program for two years. (The animal shelter said she was two years old.)



"Heidi"



"Mondo"

"Mondo" - Red male, 8-9 years old. Has waited for a home for three years. Active, loves children, good off leash. Needs to be an only dog, though.

"Lorenzo" - Red male, 8-10 years old. Must be an only dog. Obedience trained, a "gentleman Doberman." New in rescue program (animal shelter said he was five years old).



"Lorenzo"



"Juno"

"JUNO," named in memory of the wonderful dog mentioned on page 6, is herself a wonderful dog! She loves kids and other dogs, and at approximately 7 years old is a playful, delightful Dobie. Can you make her holiday season happier?

Little **"Yoli"** is a Yorkshire Terrier mix who has waited over a year for her own home. She's now at least seven years old and weighs just ten pounds. Though she gets along with other dogs, she would be happy as an only dog, too. She loves women best.



"Yoli"

Letter to the Editor

Dear Ardis,

Enclosed is a recent picture of our sweet Negra lounging in her favorite spot. She is 8 years old now and in excellent health. She is now and probably always will be the best dog I have ever known.

After reading your most recent newsletter, I want to go on record in favor of euthanasia for dogs older than 8 years (that) have been kenneled for more than six months. Dogs are not people. They live in the moment. They do not know they are waiting for a better life. There is no value in their suffering.

When Negra's health begins to fail, I will take no measures to prolong her life if it means she has to suffer for more than a day. She's too special for that. I love her too much.

I will pray that your newsletter featuring the older dogs will bring new homes for all of them. If it doesn't, I will pray that you can let them go.

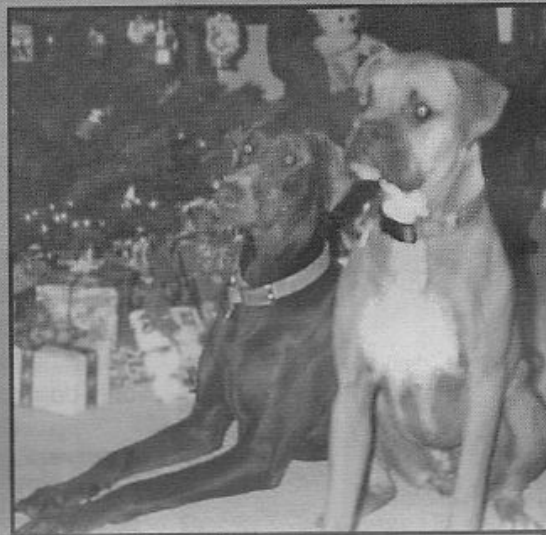
Sincerely,

Nancy Koprowski.

Happy Holidays from all of us at Doberman Pinscher Rescue



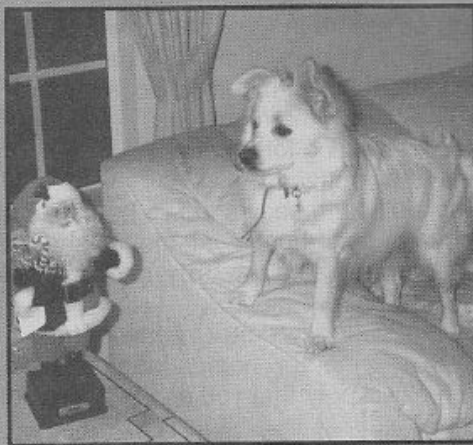
"Mocha" Ivers with owner
Jennifer & friends



"Eli" Foster of Newbury Park,
with Friend



"Angel" Riley
with
Bob, Al
and Jen



"Bear" Brewer of Simi Valley



"Freeway" and "Guinness" Lohaus
(wearing red and green harnesses)
of Vandenberg AFB



"Chili"



"Felony" Roth
of Friday Harbor, Washington



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



of Camarillo
owners
Marina
er Rose



fields of Newhall

"Laverne" Mohlman
of Hermosa Beach,
with Santa

"Challenger" Doyle
(deceased)
of Port Hueneme





Special Delivery

This is a sad story with a happy ending that we hope will make you feel as good as it made us feel.

Almost two years ago, a lovely lady named Jade Kay adopted a small female Dobie from us. She was initially looking for a young black-and-tan female, but she chose a red female, a little older, who was so timid and insecure that she seemed to need a "mother." Jade was touched; she named the dog Juno.

Over the course of the next few months, Jade and Juno developed a wonderful bond. We received cards and letters from Jade in which she described how well they were doing and the love that had grown between them.

Unbeknownst to us until this August, Jade had a terrible car accident in October, 1996, involving "black ice" near her home in New Mexico. Jade and Juno were both ejected from the car; Juno was killed instantly, only ten months after her adoption. Jade was hospitalized for two months with a broken back.

Eventually, through intensive therapy, Jade was released from the hospital and began learning to walk and function again. When she called us this August, it was in response to our plea for homes for our senior Dobies. Jade said she was walking with a walker and could provide a home for an older, not-too-physically-demanding Dobie. She deeply missed having a canine soulmate, and she would fly the dog of our choice to New Mexico.

We discussed the candidates who were available, trying to assess who would be the perfect

choice, since the dog would have to travel far and would be difficult to return if there were major problems.

Our choice was Sienna, not one of our most senior dogs at six years, but temperament-wise a good candidate for Jade's needs. Sienna is a mellow, obedient dog, and well housebroken. Also, we were reluctant to place a really old dog with Jade who would break her heart again in a couple of years.

The next step was getting the dog there. Jade was having another surgery in late September and was psychologically prepared and anxious to spend the interim month enjoying a new dog. But August heat placed severe travel restrictions on airlines' willingness to fly dogs anywhere. One airline said it had lost two dogs due to heat conditions and owners' tardiness in picking up their dogs. No dice. Sienna would have to wait.

Frustrated, but willing to try all avenues, we wrote to a wonderful lady named Karalyn Schuchert. Karalyn and her husband, Joe, live on a large ranch in Wyoming, and recently acquired a new personal jet to simplify their lives and their business. Karalyn had obtained three of our small dogs over the past year for placement in Wyoming, where it is difficult to find small dogs, and all of them were trans-





ported in the Schucherts' jet to their Wyoming location. Maybe, just maybe, we hoped, they had some ideas that could help with this transport.

Rescue carries with it so many miraculous outcomes, but it never ceases to amaze and delight us when another one adds itself to the list. The day she received our letter, Karalyn Schuchert called to say that she and Joe could, indeed, transport Sienna to New Mexico. They were to be in Newport Beach the following week, so we agreed to meet them in Orange County to deliver Sienna and start her on her incredible journey to a new life in Santa Fe.

We were moved to tears by the sight of the beautiful Falcon jet climbing its way into the skies, carrying this marvelous husband and wife and our beautiful rescue orphan, Sienna.

We've had three or four conversations with Jade since the arrival of her new pet; they have bonded and are well suited for each other, and Jade is doing well following her latest surgery.

BRACING FOR EL NINO

For months we've been hearing about the severe weather that we'll be having this winter, including torrential rainfall, high winds, and thunder and lightning. Animals need special care in extreme weather conditions, so here are a few tips:

When you can't be at home, make sure your critters have secure, dry housing. Wooden dog houses can become waterlogged and soggy when they get really wet. Dogloos or the garage are best when you can't be there to let the pooch in the house. Check rugs and blankets regularly to make sure they're dry. Thunder and other loud noises can spook animals; check your fences and gates for holes and loose boards. Put a padlock on your gate latch, as gates will frequently blow open in high winds. (This is not a bad idea anyway, since there is such rampant pet theft for sale to medical research and to pitbull fighting rings.)

MEDICAL MATTERS

Lately we have witnessed a horrendous resurgence of that most dreaded of dog diseases, distemper. Distemper has been discussed in these pages before, but it is important to remember that one vaccination will not protect your pet from this nasty, usually fatal, disease. If your dog has not been vaccinated with the 5-in-1, or DHLP-P shot, within the past year, please arrange to have it done NOW. It usually is not necessary to pay for a visit to a veterinarian to get shots any more; PetSmart, Pet Headquarters, Tags, and many other large pet stores and outlets offer vaccination clinics several times a month where shots can be obtained inexpensively.



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: _____

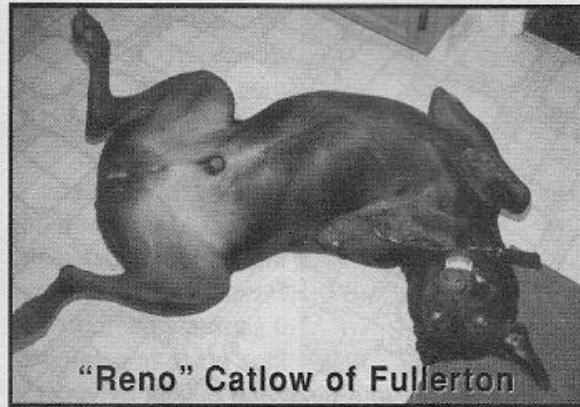
Please return this form with your contribution
Your contribution is tax deductible (Federal I.D. #77-0357865)

PARTING SHOTS...

You loved our "smiling" dog so much, we thought we'd show you a few more!



"Anna "
Lindgren of
Round Lake
Beach, Illinois



Raffle

Yes! We will be having a raffle some time in the spring. Several nice items are promised as prizes, but we will need HELP selling raffle tickets. Please let us know if you would be interested in selling tickets to benefit Dobie Rescue, and how many tickets you think you could realistically sell.

A few of our supporters requested that we offer special gift cards that they could give to dog-lovers on their holiday lists, saying that a donation had been made to Dobie Rescue on their behalf in lieu of a gift. These cards are now available. Call us if you want some.

IN OUR NEXT ISSUES:

- Raffle/Banquet
- To crop or not to crop?
- Training tips.
- Laugh time.

Doberman Pinscher Rescue



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