



“Roxie” Chomiak of Cerritos

“Dobie Doings”



2946 Young Road

Fillmore, Ca 93015

Phone (805) 524-5102

www.dobierescue.org

www.DobiesandLittlePawsRescue.org

E-mail: dobierescue@earthlink.net



“Indie” Bernard of Tarzana

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

We all survived the 4th of July again this year, despite our little town selling fireworks at 25 or so booths along a 5-mile stretch of highway and putting on its annual fireworks display. Poor Jazzy (story on page 6) was our only seriously traumatized dog this year. She had just been returned to us the day before, and she pulled on her kennel perimeter fence until she was bloodied and frantic. I gave her a sedative and sat with her until she mellowed and the fireworks were over.

We have a new graphics person, who produced this newsletter: Colleen Anderson. This woman has become indispensable to our organization, and she now displays her talents in yet another venue! Suzette Smith, our amazing graphics volunteer for the past 17 years, expressed an interest in “retiring,” and Colleen volunteered herself. As you know if you read our last newsletter, she also created our new web site, www.dobiesandlittlepawsrescue.org, which has essentially replaced www.dobierescue.org, and it delivers timely and different information. Typing in either web site address will now bring up the new site.

Adoptions during the summer were slow but steady. Foreclosures and job losses requiring people to move and give up their dogs continued unabated, so our plea to all of you who are able to adopt or foster another dog also continues unabated. Please remember that, should you ever have to give up your own adopted dog, we are ALWAYS here for our dogs. Though some folks think it best to try to find a new home for their dog rather than return him or her temporarily to our kennel, the new owner may pass the dog along to someone else, who does the same, until the dog is unwanted and ends up in an animal shelter.

It seems that I am always behind on sending thank-you cards to those of you who generously help us financially...and that’s because we’re always giving all our time to the dogs in our care. Please know how grateful we are and how appreciated you are! We have had the worst financial year in our history due to having to spend over \$70,000 required by the county to renew our Conditional Use Permit, so we are seriously underfinanced at present. Every penny you have donated and can donate adds up. Thank you again!

Sincerely,

Ardis Braun

Adoption Updates

Only two of the dogs featured in our last newsletter have happily-ever-after stories to tell, but that’s two stories we’re happy to tell!

TIPPY

is a little black-and-white Rat Terrier-Chihuahua mix who was taken to a vet by his original family, but when they were told what it would cost them for his medical treatment, they said it was ok to put him to sleep.



ADOPTION UPDATES CONTINUED...

Fortunately, the vet convinced them to sign the dog over to him, he did the surgery, and then gave Tippy to us for adoption.

Tippy lucked out! Susan Lydon and her husband of Santa Barbara had adopted from us before, a Terrier mix they still have named Teddy, and they really desired another dog that would be acceptable to Teddy, a pretty cranky guy with most other dogs. They came to meet Tippy and brought Teddy with them, and the rest is history. He's a happy little dog living in Santa Barbara now, having only a slight allergy to grass to bother him on occasion.

GRANDE

is still up for adoption, but she did sort of get adopted...by us! We decided one day that in her senior years she might be tolerant enough of



other dogs, both sexes, to be a "free-roamer" on the six acres we fenced so that dogs could do just that: roam free, chase squirrels, eat avocados, play with other dogs, and get exercise.

It wasn't too much of a surprise to find that, so far, Grande can do this without any problems at all. We joke that she has the finesse of a great big bus, ambling right into us as we walk around, stepping on our feet, etc., but we all feel that it's worth it to see one of our favorite dogs enjoying her senior years.

WAITING FOR HOMES

"BEAR"

is wearing his "lion" haircut in this picture. He is Pomeranian mixed with something the next size up; he weighs about 25 pounds. Bear has had

several homes, as he can be untrusting of men, and he's dominant with other dogs, though we have successfully kenneled him with many other dogs during the years he has been with us. Bear is about 7 years old, housebroken, very affectionate and charming, always alert and eager to greet his loved ones.



"KILO"

will be the perfect dog for someone who wants a needy



"Velcro" companion that will also be a good protector.

When inside his kennel, he is a frighteningly good watchdog.

To people he knows who enter his kennel, it's hard to work without a large nose in the middle of everything. Kilo is about 5 years old and in good condition, though he will eat anything in sight, given the chance. We think Kilo would do best as the only dog.

"VIDA"

was a favorite at the Weimeraner rescue kennel, from whom we agreed to take her. She had been rescued by them from a source that identified her as a

Weimeraner, due to her fawn coloring. In general, Vida is a quiet girl who loves people but not other dogs (according to information we were given). She is about 3 years old, with a thin



coat, typical of fawn and blue Dobies.

“TAFFY”

most definitely is NOT a beauty queen, and she needs a special home in more ways than one. Her new owner will not only need to overlook her wiry-haired, snaggle-toothed appearance, but also her unease with anything scary and new. Taffy was originally found by friends who were moving to Oregon a week later and had tried many methods of finding her owners, to no avail. During her stay with them, she got along beautifully with their male Boxer, and she was housebroken and devoted to the adult couple. She has also been very social with her small male dog companions while in our care. The ideal home for Taffy would be with calm, quiet adults who would love a sweet, lightweight (15-pound) Terrier mix in their home and on their laps.



“JAZZY AND OTIS”

were adopted by a couple in their 40's who happened to love middle-aged and senior dogs. Jazzy was already



quite old when she was adopted; Otis was about 4. In June, 2011, the husband died of a massive stroke at age 48, leaving his wife rudderless and unable to keep the dogs. Jazzy is now at least 10 years old and is extra large; Otis is 6 and is large-bodied, though not as tall. Otis is

even-tempered and can probably live with anything except cats. Jazzy responds well to non-demanding, gentle attention without dominance. We are so hoping these sad souls can be adopted again, ideally together, but even individually.

(See story about Otis on page 6.)

“SAMMY”

is a good-sized purebred Beagle that we took from a sanctuary in Taiwan and placed in a home about two years ago. Due to ill health, the owner has relinquished Sammy back to us. This dog came back seriously overweight and with the reputation of hating other dogs and being completely disinterested in and not affectionate to the owner.



We have found him, on both occasions that we have had him, to be just the opposite. Sammy has gotten along with all other dogs, has been very attentive to us, and is very smart.

“MICHELLE”

has been with us a long time. She is pretty gray now, so she is probably about 8. Unfortunately, we don't think she can live with other dogs, but she is such a



personable dog with us that we loathe the idea of her dying of old age in her kennel. Michelle is a Dobie mix, black and tan, with natural tail, and she's the size of an average female Dobie.

MEDICAL MATTERS

Maybe you noticed that dog foods always seem to come with chicken, beef, or lamb; never pork. Did you ever wonder why? We certainly did, but we thought maybe all parts of the pig were used in making sausage!

We still aren't sure of the official reason, but we learned something ominous about pork just lately: pork is high in copper, and some breeds are at high risk of copper retention, which can be toxic enough to be fatal. At the top of that list are Dobermans and Terriers.

So please, folks, no pork chop bones, no pork leftovers, maybe even no pig ears! Just to be on the safe side....



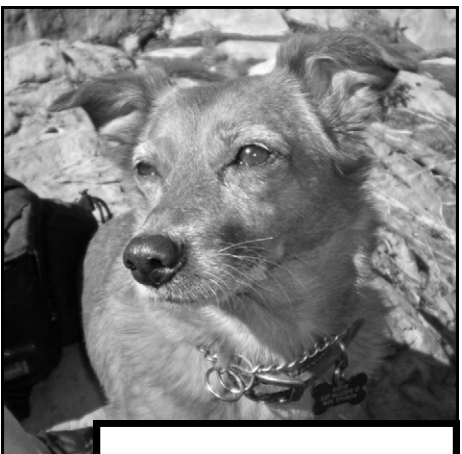
"Ginger" Michon of Ventura, with Sandy



"Jenny" Sessa of Lexington, KY



"Hunter" and **"Gigi"** Hagman of Santa Clarita



"Sofie" Learned of Santa Barbara

"Dewey" Manning of Goleta



"Dodger" Galvan of Fillmore, with Juliana



HAPPY ADOPTEES!



"Bella" Gould of Modesto, with Susan



"Dolly" Schisler of Santa Monica



"Rosebud" and "Thomas" Kereakes of Lompoc



"Jinx" Gaston of Oxnard

"Zeppelin"

Kovack of Chino Hills

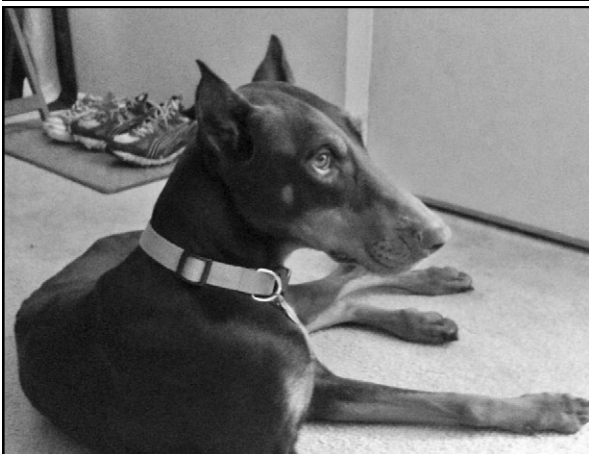


"Beto" Thompson of Palmdale, with David and "Tex"



"Charlotte"

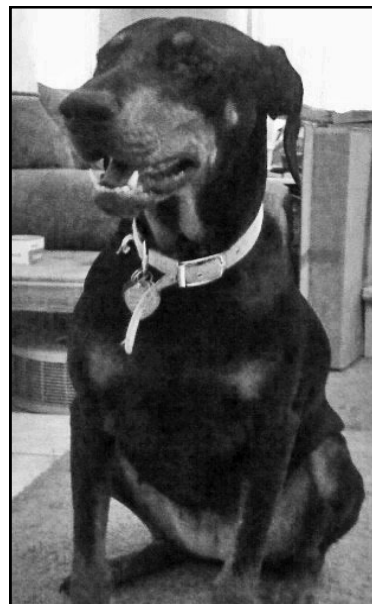
Ray of Fillmore



"Ruby" Miller of Goleta



"Oreo" and "Kitty" VanGundy of Ventura



"Maggie" Shannon of Highland

LUCK IS A FOUR-LETTER WORD

There are so many stories rescuers can tell. Most of them are good, which help to keep the balance with those that are heartbreaking. Some of them are emotional roller-coasters, usually ending well, but often, not.

We first met Mark and Janice Fournier of Ventura when they came to meet our dogs and ended up taking home Moose, a large, goofy, energetic young red male Dobie that was fairly new in our program. Things went well with Moose, and given how dog-social he seemed, they decided he probably would enjoy a playmate, preferring someone a little more laid-back than Moose, hoping to “mellow him out” a little. Another of our dogs got lucky that day.

Their choice was Louise, a red female Dobie mix who had arrived with her twin sister YEARS before, from the 29 Palms area, with a shelter volunteer who represented the twins as brother and sister purebred Dobermans, a year old or so. When they arrived, we were disappointed to see that they were perhaps only half Doberman, and mixes can be very hard to place. The next surprise was that the twins were not brother and sister, they were sister and sister, whom we named Thelma and Louise. Needless to say, we haven't heard from that volunteer since.

The day before the 4th of July this year, a pair of Dobies was returned to us by a very devastated Carol Nunez of Lancaster, who had just lost her 48-year-old husband, Erwin, to a massive stroke. This lovely couple loved and enjoyed older dogs, having adopted Jazzy a few years prior as a senior, and Otis two years prior at age 4. The picture below shows Carol and Erwin on the day they adopted Otis, whom we brought to meet them back then. But now, Carol no longer could live at the house she had shared with her husband, and the dogs became homeless.



It so happens that Jazzy is terrified of loud noises, and Fillmore sells fireworks every year, also hosting an elaborate fireworks display. Jazzy was panicked and crazed. She tried to force her way through fencing at the perimeter of her kennel, bloodying herself and shrieking.

She eventually calmed as we gave her sedative and sat with her until it took effect. Her companion, Otis, stayed by her side.

Less than three weeks later, Mark and Janice returned for a visit with Moose and Louise, now called Lucy, and they commented that they really felt for the older dogs that would benefit from a foster home. Never allowing a moment like that to pass, we immediately offered suggestions of foster candidates that might work with their little pack. They first suggested Johnny, Louise's old roommate, but he and Moose couldn't tolerate each other at all. Then we suggested Otis: easy-going, laid-back Otis.

A few minutes into the introductions, Moose was doing play-bows to Otis, and Otis, true to form, was taking it all in stride. An e-mail from the Fourniers on July 26 complimented Otis' sweet demeanor, the way he loves children, and how well things were going.

A week later, on August 2, Janice called to say Otis would have to be returned because Moose had become so jealous and possessive of his toys and everything else in his environment that Otis' quality of life and physical well-being was suffering. Otis was returned that day and went back to his kennel, keeping company with Jazzy, no doubt wondering what happened to his loving home and comforts. The picture below shows Otis luxuriating on the couch a few days before his luck changed.



And then, on August 16, Tracey Dautenhahn and her daughter, Chelsea, of Santa Clarita revisited Otis, whom they had met a week earlier, having decided to foster him. As of his writing, he's nice and comfy again and will hopefully continue to be accepted by their resident Dobie girl, Ruby. Otis is going to dog parks and getting good training, so he'll be even more adoptable than he already is. (If they don't decide to keep him, that is.)



I want to support Doberman Pinscher and Little Paws Rescue!
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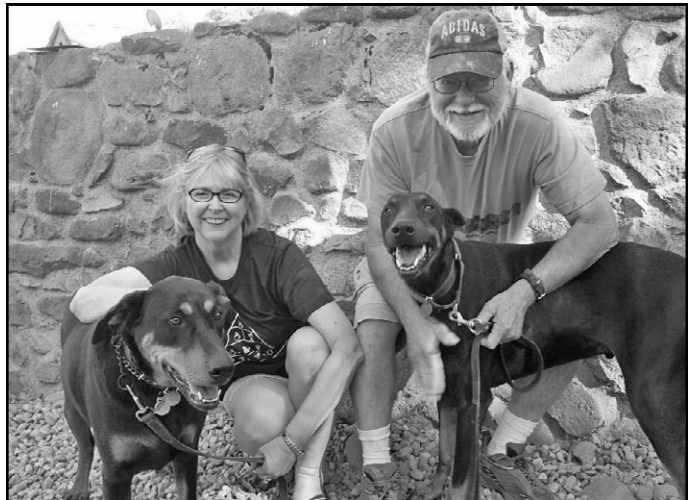
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Please return this form with your contribution
 Your contribution is tax deductible (Federal I.D. #77-0357865)
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 100% of your contribution goes directly to benefit the animals.

OUR FOSTER PROGRAM

We've talked about our foster program before and how valuable it is to get some of our less adoptable dogs into real homes for a variety of reasons: their lives are more enjoyable because they get more attention and comforts; we learn more about them while they are being fostered, which helps with rehoming them, if necessary; they get more training in the home environment; and best of all, they often get to stay!!

Here are three lucky dogs, two of whom were with us over nine months, who all went to their foster homes in July, and who appear to be able to stay!



"Chloe" Klee (on left) of Ventura, with Tricia, Michael, and "Puma"



"Diablo" Mueller of Ventura, with Michele



"Jake" Logue of Nipomo, with Karina



Doberman Pinscher Rescue
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

“VIRTUAL ADOPTION”

by Colleen Anderson

We’re starting a new program at the rescue to help some of our less-adoptable dogs. Unfortunately, many dogs in our program end up not being the best candidates for adoption. For various reasons including medical and behavioral issues, they are just undesirable for most homes. Because we are no-kill here at Dobies and Little Paws, these dogs become sanctuary dogs, and we focus on giving them good quality of life for their remaining years. Some are lucky enough to find foster homes, but even then the rescue takes financial responsibility for them. We often hear, “If only I could take another dog, it would be that one.”

Well, that is why we are offering “virtual adoption.” You don’t need a yard, more room, or even time. All that’s required is to pledge support for one of our deserving sanctuary dogs, and you can be the “virtual adopter.” You can make a monthly donation of any size (even if it’s only \$5 a month) that will go towards the care of any sanctuary dog you choose. You may not be able to take him or her home, but you can make sure we have the means to provide “your” dog with food, water, a clean place to live, and vet care. You can visit our web site and click on the Sanctuary button to learn more and choose a specific sanctuary dog to “adopt.” Remember that every bit helps, and we couldn’t be more thankful for your contributions.

PARTING SHOTS

**“I am NOT a Cavalier King
 Charles Spaniel...**



but I AM royalty.”

“Prince Reggie” Caramadre of Thousand Oaks