



"Annika"
Forester of Shadow Hills

"Dobie Doings"



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"Fred" Greenberg
of Covina

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We have quite a lot of good news to mention this quarter!

Our new web site, www.dobiesandlittlepawsrescue.org, which was created last year and will eventually replace www.dobierescue.org, is now current again after a break due to the webmaster (Colleen) not having internet service for several months and due to the press of our Conditional Use Permit requirements and the dozens of other things that keep us hopping ALL the time! If you haven't looked at the new site lately, look again!

Our kennels received a facelift to go with our new drainage system. Thanks to so many of you stepping up to adopt or foster dogs that needed to be dispersed so that we could disassemble kennels with damaged concrete flooring, we were able to build new exercise areas for the remaining dogs so that everyone gets to run several times a week. There were actually more of you willing to foster dogs than we had dog-social dogs to foster out. Our hope always is, of course, that these dogs' foster parents will not be able to part with them and that these homes will be their "forever homes."

We were delighted to receive a huge donation

of dog clothing indirectly from a dog clothing company that failed. (See story on page 8.) This donation has helped to chip away at the huge financial burden of getting our Conditional Use Permit renewed for our kennel license. The county planning department charged over \$45,000 during the past year for their time, and the drainage project topped \$25,000, even though adopter Ned Meislin donated all of his own time to manage the construction.

Volunteers Colleen Anderson and Mike Klee represented us at the Orange County Pet Expo April 15-17, singing the praises of Dobies, Dobie mixes, and little paws, and greeting former adopters, dog-lovers, and letting visitors know we're here.

We sincerely hope that none of you suffered losses from the terrible tornadoes, floods, and other natural disasters that have plagued our country during the past quarter. Once again, we thank all of you who continue to support our efforts here with your financial donations and other gifts.

Gratefully,
Ardis Braun

ADOPTION UPDATES

What a pleasure to be able to say that, of the 10 dogs featured in our spring newsletter, 6 were adopted!

DOTTIE,

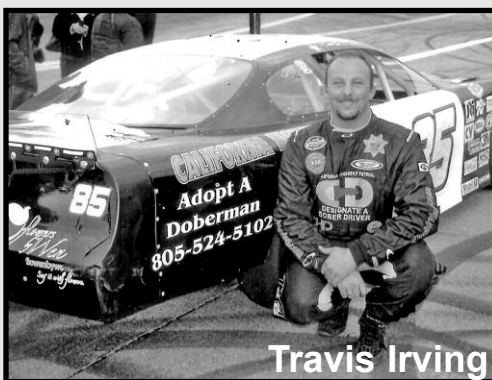
our shy Dobie girl who needed a calm and patient home, and time to adjust, was adopted by Claire and Ed Irving of Whittier. With two gentle



male dogs in the home, we all felt that the lack of competition from these two boys and their kind owners would make Dottie feel unthreatened. Unfortunately, shortly after Dottie's adoption, her elderly Dobie "brother," Lucas, passed away. Daniel, her big Greyhound "brother," has taken her under his paw and become her shadow. From Claire's recent note:

"Dottie, now Dorothy, is still afraid of her own shadow....She is a charming little girl who watches our cats for entertainment and chews little

holes in the blankets when no one is watching. It will take some time to earn her full confidence in us,



but day by day, she is a tiny bit better. We are all working at it and we love her."

Incidentally, the Irving family is seriously "into" NASCAR racing, four generations of

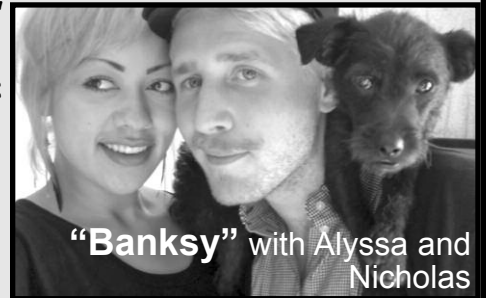
them, and they gave us a little free advertising on their race car, shown below with grandson Travis Irving, who races at Irwindale.

FLOYD,

our precious little boy terrier, now named Banksy, was adopted by Alyssa and Nicholas McClanahan of Ventura. Their other dog, Olive, predisposed them to the small black terrier "look."

From Alyssa's recent e-mail: "They have become so close, he fits so well into our family.

We take him to the beach almost every day and he loves chasing the birds as well as swimming. I couldn't be happier."



WAYLON,

our Dobie boy whose personality fortunately outshines his comical looks, was adopted by Wanda and Frederick Olsen, a lovely elderly couple from Upland. The Olsens had adopted Siena, a matronly red female Dobie with one eye, a couple of months earlier, and upon reading our plea for adopters and fosters, decided that Siena could choose a companion.



It so happened that Siena and Waylon had already cohabitated in our kennel for a couple of years, and they got along well.

Wanda says that Waylon "is just precious." The dogs sleep by her bedside, waking her each morning with their cold noses on her arm. She tells them to go back to their beds until she can dress, so they won't knock her over. Then they all go downstairs together for the first of many backyard

pottie-breaks. We are absolutely certain these two dogs have never had it so good!

LEGS,

so named because he was tall and leggy as a puppy, was adopted by the Bernard family of Tarzana. His new name is Indie.

From their recent e-mail:

"Indie is the perfect match for our family. You were so right, we are all having so much fun. Indie's favorite things are chasing bunnies, catching lizards, morning walks, napping on our bed, playing with his toys and playing with us. He is so smart and a wonderful companion to the whole family. Thank you so very much."



DIXIE,

our sweet little Chihuahua girl, was adopted by Gary Fails of Fillmore. We were unable to get new pictures of Dixie, as Gary travels a lot and couldn't be available for a photo-shoot. He's fond of Dixie, though, and she gets to go with him on his travels.



JACKIE,

our little mini-Cattle Dog mix, was adopted by Tommie Miller of Santa Barbara. She loves Jackie; says she's the best little dog she's ever chosen.



WAITING FOR HOMES

GRANDE

is truly one of our favorite dogs.

She's been with us for more years than we've kept track of, and she's currently around 9 years old.

Part of the reason she's so long-term is because she is a

mix, probably Dobie and German Shepherd. The other reason is that we always believed she needed to be the only dog. Grande came in with her brother, and twice we observed him with a puffy face, almost certainly from having argued with her.

However, for several months she has been kenneled with two really big terrier mixes, both males, and they never quarrel. Grande is so named because she is enormous, well over 100 pounds, and she's mellow and easy to walk.



JOHNNY

has also been with us a long time

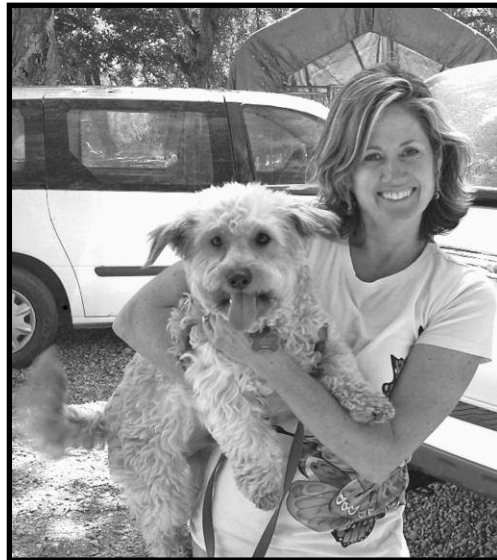
(about two years). He's a black and tan boy, about three years old. He has lived with several large female dogs, most of whom he's gotten along with, though he can be territorial when on leash. He likes kids, and used to greet them by putting his paws on top of a four-foot fence in his ex-owner's front yard.



TIPPY

was featured in our last newsletter and acquired a foster home for a month before returning to us, so we know more about him now. Here is some of what the foster mom said about

Continued P6



"Naco" Murray of Ventura,
with Stephanie



"Emme" Smith-Weber
of West Hollywood



"Dasha" Schmidt of Santa Barbara

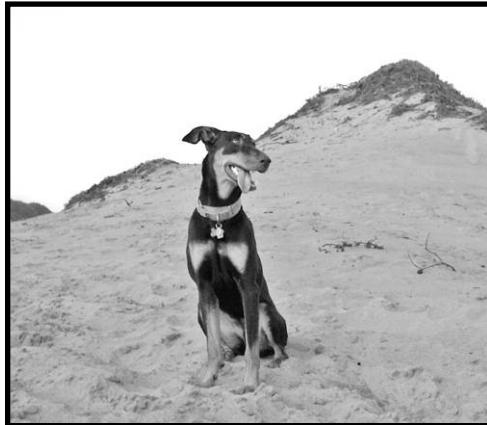


"Vandi" Amon of Sylmar



"Brodie" and **"Tanka"** Colegrove
of Glendora

HAPPY ADOPTEES



"Reagan" Morgan of Glencoe



"Molly" Stevens
of Moorpark



"Canaan" Barrington of
Silver Springs, NV



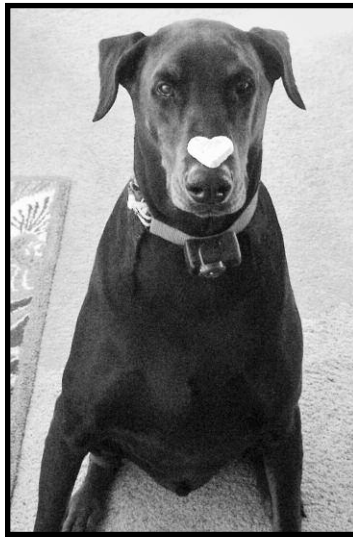
"Bruce" and **"Gunner"** Taylor
of Thousand Oaks



"Jericho" Newell of Van Nuys



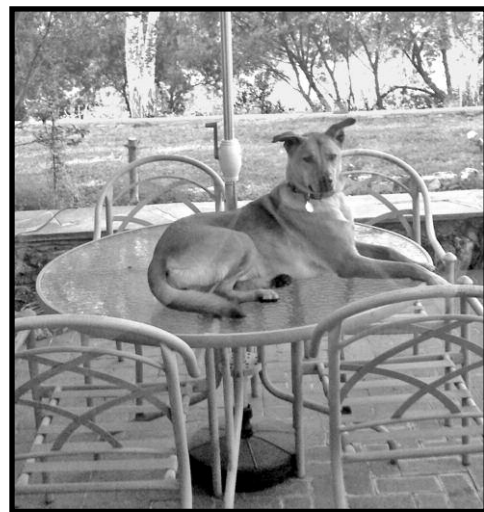
"Cowboy" Wood of Hemet



"Diesel" Long
of Woodland Park, CO



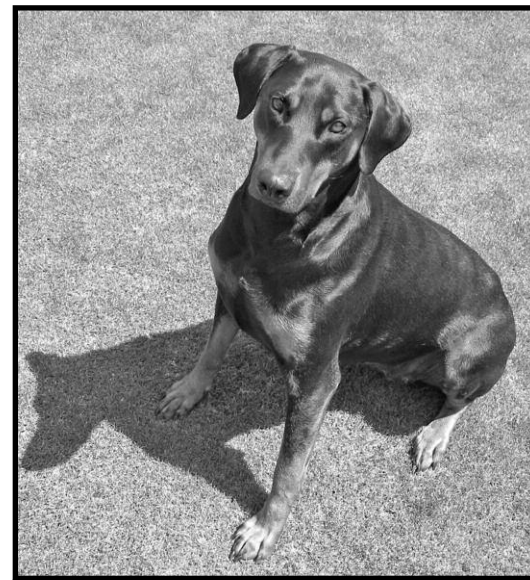
"Bonnie" Acosta of Caruthers



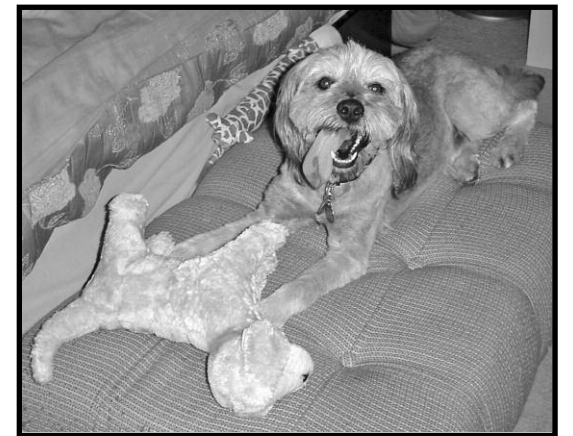
"Tori" Berkhout of Simi Valley



"Mr. Higgins" Chao
of Santa Barbara,
with Robert



"Samantha" Koehne
of Bakersfield



"Beau" Brewer of Simi Valley

him: Tippy is completely housebroken, good with dogs, cats and kids. He can be walked by a toddler, is a good traveler, loves to snuggle and sleep in bed. Tippy is good off leash, never aggressive, and enjoys his toys. There's even more good stuff, which we'll share with anyone interested in adopting this good little dog, who is about 3 years old now and weighs around 12 pounds.



NEIKO

was returned to us after being adopted for many months because he apparently damaged some plantings in the owner's yard. He's a good-sized red male Doberman Pinscher who is about 4 years old, housebroken, and will tolerate some large female dogs. The ex-owners said he requires a large yard for his exercise needs.



THE TWINS,

Mona and Simba, were returned to us a year after being adopted because they persisted in eating the yard sprinklers. They are six years old, Dachshund/ Chihuahua mixes, and if not placed together should at least each be placed with another social dog. (When our dog-walkers take one out for a walk, the other cries until her sister returns.) Mona, black and tan, is a heavy girl (who needs to be on a diet), probably weighing over 25 pounds; Simba, the blonde, is considerably smaller. The ex-owner said they are good with kids, though they are not recommended for a home with cats.



FEARFUL DOGS

It's surprising how many people have "zero tolerance" for a dog making mistakes, whether it's a dog that was adopted as an adult, or one that they raised from puppyhood. These mistakes typically include things like growling at the owner, or nipping a child. Many confident, assertive dogs will test the boundaries on occasion to find out what they can get away with, much as children do. When children overstep those boundaries, though, they are corrected and disciplined, whereas dogs in these circumstances may find themselves turned in to an animal shelter.

The part that is incomprehensible to us is: how is that dog supposed to learn from his mistakes if he isn't trained? The same scenario can be repeated in one or more new homes - if the dog is lucky enough to get a reprieve from the animal shelter - until his luck finally runs out.

Here at the rescue we see quite a few dogs that are fear-aggressive. These are not dogs that intentionally try to bite; they're dogs that are in a new, scary situation and they feel that "the best defense is a good offense." In the dog's view, it's self-defense. In court, self-defense usually exonerates the human, but not the dog.

When a frightened dog does bite, it's a quick bite-and-release, and all of us at the rescue have been bitten by dogs like these. We take the business of being no-kill seriously and we try to rehabilitate these dogs. Some of them come to trust only one person here. Each of us has dogs that trust only one of us. A few of these dogs have actually been abuse cases, but the majority are just dogs that weren't well socialized, like those that never left their yard, never met a stranger or a new dog and were never allowed in the house. Suddenly they're out on their own in an animal shelter and they don't know what to do.

Patience. That's what's required. These dogs don't need to be dominated, they just need a friend. Claire and Ed Irving, mentioned in Dottie's adoption update on page 2, are doing that with her. Tripoli is another; this dog was mentioned in an earlier newsletter. He was tasered by the authorities and then declared a



I want to support Doberman Pinscher and Little Paws Rescue!
 I am making the following contribution:
 \$100. \$50. \$20. \$10.
 I am enclosing the best gift I can: \$ _____

Please charge my Visa or MasterCard!

Card # _____ Expiration date _____

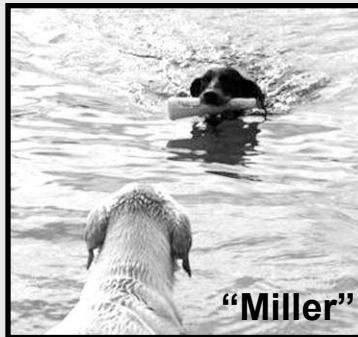
Signature _____

Please return this form with your contribution
 Your contribution is tax deductible (Federal I.D. #77-0357865)
 We also have PayPal
 100% of your contribution goes directly to benefit the animals.

vicious animal, requiring a court order to get him released and two months of love from us before he could be adopted.



Here are pictures of another fearful dog we rescued. He was deemed aggressive by his animal shelter and was impounded on a catch-pole. Last October, he was adopted by the Hyatt family of Escondido. Dayna Hyatt said in her December e-mail: "His name is now Miller. He fits wonderfully in our home and we absolutely love him. He is a very good dog and a quick learner....He has surprisingly become such a swimmer! He is very fast and loves the water!"



Kahlua, another fear-aggressive dog we had for years (until May 2, 2011), whom we had placed FIVE times, is finally home – for good – with Karin Coppens of Kensington, Maryland. We don't normally send dogs like Kahlua such long distances because if the adoption doesn't

work out, it becomes a nightmare. In this case, though, Kahlua had a sponsor: Alejandra ("Alex") Abella of Moorpark, one of our regular dog-walker/trainer volunteers, spent hours with Kahlua, assessing his behavior, working with him, and becoming smitten with him. Her friend, Karin, was well-known to her as a retired canine officer, and if Alex said Karin was the perfect home for Kahlua, we had no doubt she was. We took the lucky dog to the vet for a medical certificate so

he could fly, Alex donated the crate he would fly in, her husband donated half of Kahlua's air fare, and Alex, her



baby daughter, and Kahlua departed for Maryland on May 3rd. This long-awaited picture brought tears to our eyes.

We still have several fear-aggressive dogs that we think will bloom in the right homes. Please let us know if you might be in a position to adopt one. Winning their trust and loyalty feels so rewarding!



Doberman Pinscher Rescue
 2946 Young Road
 Fillmore, California 93015

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

DOG CLOTHES?

OK, we know what some of you are thinking, and we actually - sort of - agree. Dogs don't need to get dressed in clothes, they are perfect just the way they are! Isn't it surprising that we don't get tired of seeing them, every day, dressed in exactly the same coats they always wear? Not a chance.

But...we did get some very cute dog clothing, bandanas, and barrettes, a huge donation of them, that some of you may be interested in.



Take a look at them on www.DobiesandLittlePawsRescue.org, and let us know if you'd like to order any. Sample pictures are shown here; not in color, unfortunately.



When I Got My New Dog

I asked for strength that I might rear her perfectly;
 I was given weakness that I might feed her more treats.

I asked for good health that I might rest easy;
 I was given a "special needs" dog that I might know nurturing.

I asked for an obedient dog that I might feel proud;
 I was given stubbornness that I might feel humble.

I asked for compliance that I might feel masterful;
 I was given a clown that I might laugh.

I asked for a companion that I might not feel lonely;
 I was given a best friend that I would feel loved.

I got nothing I asked for,
 But everything that I needed.

Unknown