



**"Chance"**  
Cagliostro of San Pedro

## "Dobie Doings"

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We have a lot of "thank you's" to say in this newsletter! Many of you are aware that we had a major fire in Fillmore the week of May 1 which required the evacuation of every animal at our rescue facility. The evacuation began mid-evening on Sunday, amid 50-mph smoke-laden winds, in the dark (the power went off), and was not completed until 4 a.m. the next day. But for the help of so many dedicated people, it would not have been possible. The Ventura County Humane Society and Animal Regulation Departments sent trucks throughout the night, whisking the dogs off to safety. Volunteer Risa Weiss borrowed a truck and crates and worked all night, as did Ted Berghofer of Oxnard. As the last dogs were being evacuated, we were advised we had five minutes to leave; 75-foot flames were burning on the properties to the north and west of us, and I had no idea whether I and the dogs would have a home to return to or not.

By Tuesday the danger to the rescue facility was past. Then began the enormous task of "repatriating" the dogs. It took two full days and many trips with trucks and crates to collect them all. Ted Berghofer was still on hand, Betty Cochran of the Fresno area Dobie Rescue drove down and worked for two days straight, and Gwen Lucoff of Zuma K-9 in Malibu assisted as well. In the end, every dog was accounted for; not one animal was lost in the mass hysteria that hellish night!

A special thank you to Suzanne Kane of HART and Tina Dunn of Double E Kennel in Simi for taking in animals on short notice, and thank you also to all of you who called with offers of help and concern. It was truly a week to remember!

The **Dobie Rescue** garage sale was mildly disappointing, grossing a little less than \$400, or almost enough to feed the rescue dogs for one

week. We hope to try again in the fall. Thank you to Mrs. Knoppel (my mother) for the use of her garage, and to brother Gene Knoppel and Barbara Allen for helping with the sale. And thank you to the wonderful folks whose donations of household items, yard and sports equipment and clothes made the sale possible.

Now the newsletter. .. enjoy!

Sincerely,

*Ardis Braun*

Ardis Braun

Director

### Photo Contest

The deadline for photo contest entries to be in our hands is August 1. We will select a total of six photos; the winning photos will be published in our next issue for all to enjoy. (Wish we could do this in color!) Winners will receive free boxes of note cards with the winning pictures printed on them, and anyone wishing to buy the note cards can order them for a small donation. The tough part is choosing the best six photos from dozens of great ones. It's still not too late to enter! The only rule is that each entry must show at least one dog of any breed adopted from Doberman Pinscher Rescue. One more small incentive: The Doberman Pinscher Club of America has promised that it will reserve one month of its 1997 calendar for one of our winning dogs' photos. (Sorry, small dogs, this is can only be a Doberman!)

Ardis Braun  
Director

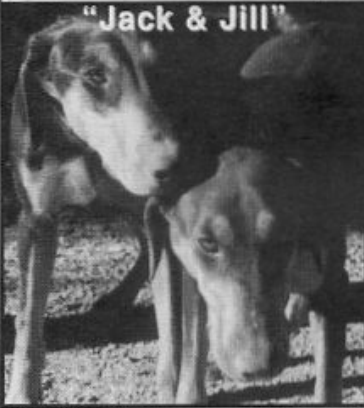
Suzette Smith  
Graphic Designer

Dennis Bolton  
Aaron Lucas  
Printer

- ☛ Adoption Updates
- ☛ Waiting for homes
- ☛ Romeo
- ☛ Dobies in Movies

# Adoption Updates

We could hardly wait to tell you about all of the adoptions of our "special" dogs.



"Jack & Jill"

"**JACK** and **JILL**", the abused youngsters who were afraid of everyone, have both been adopted by folks who have previously adopted our rescue dogs.

**JILL**, now **GENESIS**, so named for her new beginning, is living with Lisa and Maurice Aboulache of Saugus, and is becoming more assertive every day. (Their current problem is trying to teach Genesis not to be so protective as to threaten visitors.) They had a previous abused dog from us and enjoy bringing happiness and confidence to an insecure dog.

**JACK** was adopted by Neva and Rick Hennessy of Palmdale. They, too, have another dog who was very timid initially and is working out well with his new buddy and newly-adopted terrier mix puppy, Sandi. (Sandi was an unplanned addition to the family; they fell in love with her en route to Jack's kennel at our facility.)

**MABEL**, the sweet older Shelly mix, was adopted by a lovely retired lady, Betty Green of Los Angeles, and shares Betty's home with "Snookie," a placid, geriatric Dachshund. Mabel is becoming a watchdog, overseeing a lush hilly yard and duck pond, and she is bonding nicely with Betty. To quote a recent card from Betty: "She is such a joy. ... Snookie thinks she is a great companion. They patrol the back yard together at regular intervals and hunt for lizards (big game for them) ... Thanks again for bringing so much love into my life in the body of one small dog."



"Mabel"

## Great News!

Just as we were going to press, **SMOKY** was adopted by Sandi Schwartz of Los Angeles. He has adjusted well to his new "sister" "Petra" and two cats. He has adjusted very well to sleeping on the couch. (Sandi has to drag him outside to take care of business.) Can you blame him? It took him four years to find his own home with a couch to enjoy!



"Smoky"



"Dooley"

**DOOLEY**, the young Dobie with a misshapen jaw, lives with Carol Long and two tiny female dogs on a marvelous desert landscape in Agua Dulce. On his introductory visit to Carol's home, we watched as Dooley passed through her living room, demolishing en route several pine

cones from baskets near the floor. Carol was unfazed and says Dooley has adjusted well, they have bonded, and Dooley will live happily ever after.



"Kennedy"

**TRUFFLE**, now **KENNEDY**, the Shih Tzu who recovered from a pelvic fracture, lives with the Belsheim family of Simi Valley. He is very social and loves his new neighborhood.

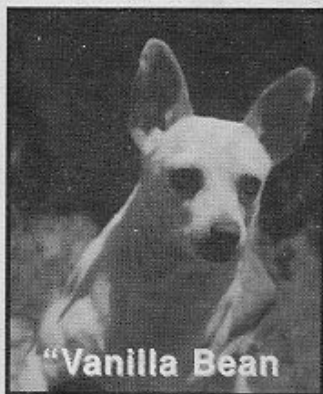
**Naturally we must add a few new "special" dogs needing homes; they all deserve happy endings like the ones above!**



"Frankie"

Here is **FRANKIE**, quite a handsome American Eskimo. He was a pound rescue, a very, very sick dog when he arrived. We believe he actually survived distemper, unusual in itself (this is normally fatal to dogs), even with our good care. He is very lov-

ing, great with all other dogs, and not a "barker," often typical of this breed.



"Vanilla Bean"

**VANILLA BEAN** may look like a German Shepherd in this photo, but she is a 10-pound Chihuahua mix with a very sweet disposition. Her malady is an occasional epileptic seizure; she does not require medication and is in general a happy, healthy little dog. She is probably about three

years old and gets along well with all other dogs.



"Kiley"

Pictured here is **KILEY**, a sweet female Dobie who has been waiting over four years for her own home. She is now about nine years old. Kiley is a lovable, happy dog who has lived

peaceably with a succession of male Dobies over the years, and the only reason we can fathom why she hasn't been adopted is that her cropped ears were poorly done.

## More happy adoption stories

Here are a few more of our happy adoptees... Due to the space needed for our feature stories this issue, we could not print as many of your wonderful photos as we wanted to, but the next issue will have many more.



"Sabre" Ledahl of Simi Valley, with friend "Spock" (practicing to be vampires?)

From Mesonika Piecuch of Agua Dulce:

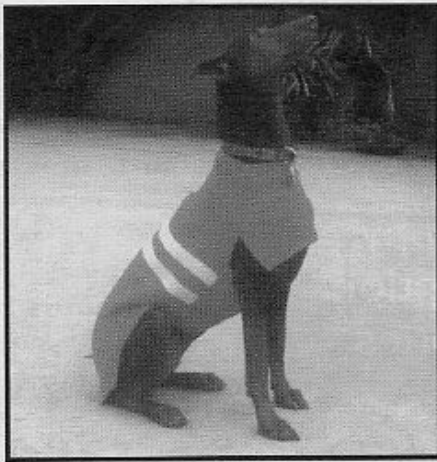
"**Chief** (no picture) as well as my husband and I and Elke (our other rescued Dobie) moved back to Agua Dulce. Elke is too old and decrepit to obedience train but just from being with Chief, she has learned many commands!

Chief is built like a brick — — — house. All that mountain trail riding gave him a chest like Arnold Schwarzenegger. He's so obedient it's amazing. What a heart.

We love your new newsletter. Can't wait to hear about your photo contest. Chief is very photogenic and handsome. Elke is...uh...so...so very *Elke*.

I wish we could adopt all those lovely Dobies. Keep up the good work...God bless and love from us."





From "Chelsea" Paulson of Glendora:  
 "Remember me - sad, toothless Chelsea--well I am one happy pup now, I play, chase butterflies, eat mandarin oranges off the tree and bark all day long. For X-mas I got this beautiful sweater so I wanted to send you my picture, am I gorgeous or what?  
 We really enjoyed the 'Dobie Doings' and as I had been a special medical problem (all my front teeth have been extracted and I had root-canals on my lower canines) I want to make a small contribution to the 'Happy Memorial Fund' - can't afford much but every bit helps."



*"Itsy"*

*She creates a dirtied floor,  
 Rips all the screening off the door  
 Pulls the drapes down, rod and all,  
 Chews the woodwork off the wall  
 (That's OK - she loves me)  
 We'll stick on putty and repaint  
 A shrinking violet my Itsy ain't  
 She leaves a trail of permanent stains,  
 But oh, what love there still remains.  
 (I love her)  
 Chews my robes hanging on the door,  
 Spills her water all over the floor.  
 But it's love in those brown eyes I see  
 When every morning she greets me!  
 Covers my face with sticky love  
 And I feel she was sent from heaven above.*

*Jacqueline Donovan (of Santa Barbara)*

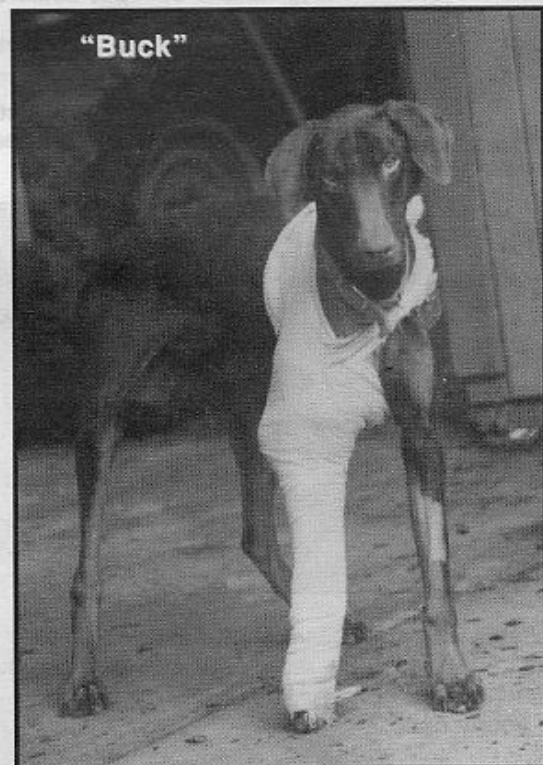
## MEDICAL MATTERS

In a preceding issue we told you the heartbreaking story of "Happy," the wonderful young Dobie whose life was cut short by illness. Some of the funds donated to the Happy Memorial Fund by you, dear readers, helped make possible the rehabilitation of the handsome Dobie pictured here, "Buck."

When we first found Buck, he was standing in a pen at an animal shelter, dangling one front leg. It looked ominous, but he was so charming that we decided to rescue him and attempt to fix his leg.

X-rays at the vet's office revealed a messy old fracture, the kind that requires reconstruction of nerve and other soft tissue, a job for surgical experts. Dr. Ken Bruecker at the Veterinary Medical and Surgical Group in Ventura performed the surgery, which took three hours and was enormously expensive. But, thanks to your donations, the generosity of Dr. Bruecker in deducting a "rescue discount" from his bill, and the assistance of the Doberman Pinscher Club of America, Buck is using his leg normally and is expected to make continued improvement over several more months.

He is ready for adoption, by the way, to a loving home where he would be the only dog, at least until he is fully healed.





## A SPECIAL DOBIE NAMED ROMEO

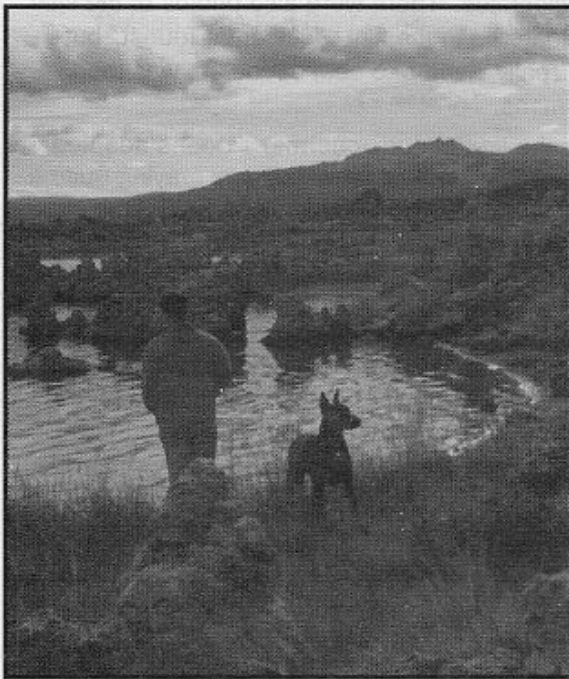
A few years ago, we took in a beautiful red male Dobie from an animal shelter whom we immediately named "Romeo," because prior to his neuter surgery, he believed every dog on earth was intended for his amorous advances. After neutering, he became a stately gentleman Doberman, kind and understanding.

The most marvelous thing about Romeo physically was his ears. They were not only tall and perfect, they were stiff, as though made of cardboard. One day, Romeo's female kennel mate attacked him and bit him in the ear, tearing one of his beautiful ears with about a one-inch gash. Fortunately, with care and proper taping, it mended so well that one could not easily see where the damage had been.

The problem was getting Romeo adopted. As beautiful as he was, he was well into middle age when he arrived, and he ended up spending over a year in the rescue facility. He needed an extra special home to make up for all the waiting. He got it.

Cathy and John Mocniak of San Clemente took Romeo home in August, 1993. Soon we began getting pictures of Romeo on various trips. Cathy and John work for a veterinary clinic, so Romeo got to accompany them to work often. He was loved by all.

Sadly, Romeo was only allowed one year with the Mocniaks before intestinal lymphoma claimed his life, in November, 1994, too soon for one who was so loved and having so much fun. We wanted to share his story as a way of showing these marvelous photos of Romeo on vacation at June Lake.

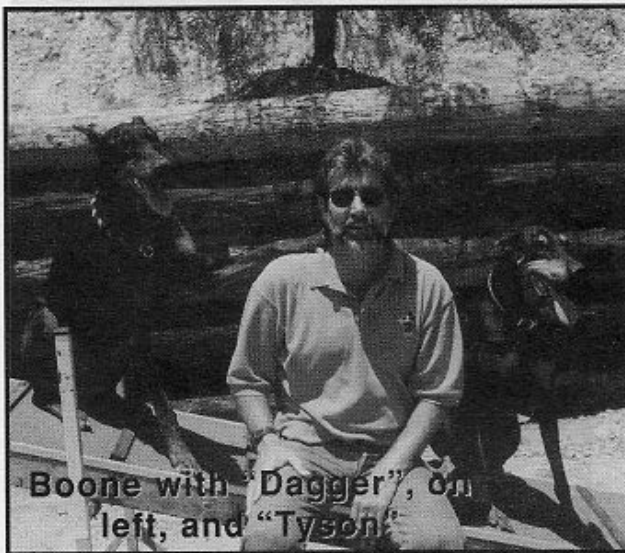




## **DOBIES IN MOVIES**

In our last issue we told you about Dawn, a Dobie we chose to be trained for seizure response work. (Dawn's latest heroics are described in a post-script to this article.) Because Dobermans are sensitive, intelligent, "working" dogs, they enjoy working, be it personal protection work, dog show obedience trials, or movie roles. Unfortunately, the stereotype of the Doberman being what it is, they are usually cast in movies as snarling, vicious attack dogs like the ones in "They Only Kill Their Masters."

Our rescue facility has placed several dogs with movie trainers in the belief that they receive the best of care and lead very interesting lives. They are placed as lifetime employees, not as props to be used in one film and then discarded. Dennis Grisco and Boone Narr, both recognized movie trainers, have received dogs from Dobie Rescue, and I recently paid a visit to Boone's facility in Castaic. What a treat!

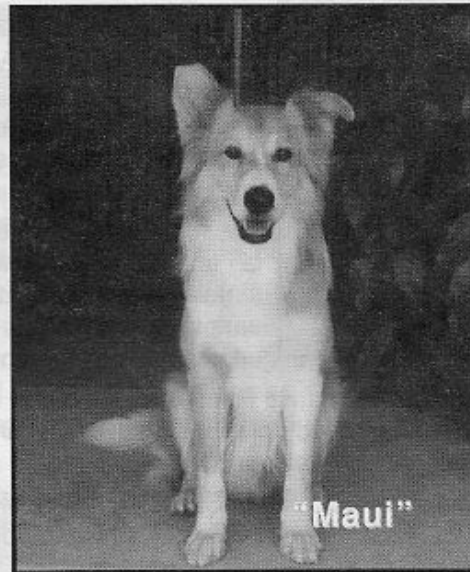


Boone with "Dagger", on left, and "Tyson"

The animals were impeccably clean, pampered and happy, and there were all kinds of them: a kangaroo, an ostrich, camels, lots of chimpanzees, and on and on.

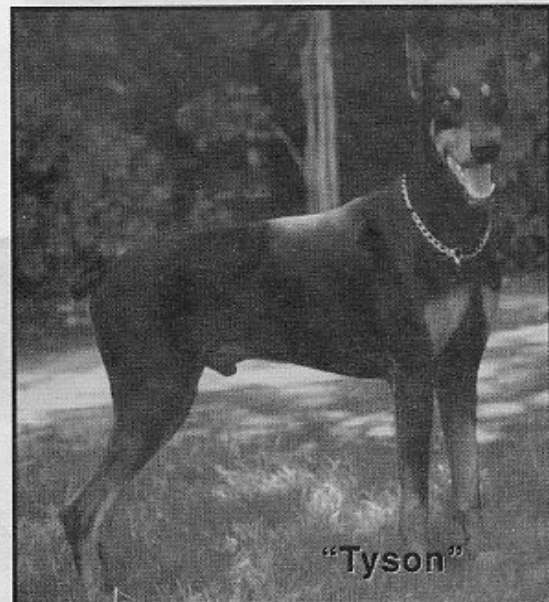
I arrived just as a taping of Oprah Winfrey was concluding. Two of the chimps were sitting around eating lunch with the staff. Boone gave a marvelous tour, cordial, unhurried, and obviously proud of his ranch and his critters. He spoke of how the place had not one tree on it when he bought it ten years ago. I glanced around, noting the beautiful trees and Spanish-style home and office where Boone lives and conducts his business.

He introduced me to Maui, one of the most famous



of his dogs, a tan-and-white Collie mix who has appeared on the cover of TV Guide, and whose pictures dot the walls of Boone's office, posing with various celebrities. There were also photos of the little Corgi featured in the film "Accidental Tourist," but what I really wanted to see, of course, was the Dobermans.

Tyson, the first of our Dobermans Boone adopted, five years ago, looked great but was graying quite a bit in the muzzle. He spends most of the time in Boone's house now. An understudy is being sought so that Tyson can retire to relative couch-potato-hood. Dagger, whom we placed with him in 1994, is a star. Clearly loving to show off, he nearly flew through hoops, over hurdles and a swinging bridge, through a long, tubular tunnel many times his own length, and then wanted his strokes and adoration.





Here is a partial list of TV and movie appearances the Dobies have made:

- Father of the Bride, Part II (movie)**
- Don't Talk to Strangers (TV movie)**
- The Nanny (TV series)**
- Cybill (TV series)**
- Entertainment Tonight (TV)**
- Channel 4 News (TV)**
- Molson Canadian Beer commercial (TV)**
- Drew Carry (TV series)**
- Nash Bridges (TV series)**
- Levi's commercial (currently on TV)**

There are many more great movies starring other members of Boone's canine and exotic animal menagerie, but the list is too long to print. We think Boone and his staff of caretakers and trainers is doing a great job. A big thank you to them all for taking the time to show me around.

P.S. Just as we were going to press, we placed

"Lewis" with Boone to be trained as Tyson's replacement.

### PARTING SHOTS...



From Linda and Paul Cooper of Chatsworth: "Here are some pictures of Savannah, the little one we adopted back on January 11th (1996)...You'll notice how she has taken over command of our 115 lb Lab, Jake. Jake is an aggressive Lab, but Savannah likes to sleep on top of him from time to time and likes to clean his eyes and ears. And he just puts up with it and they get along just fine. This little animal is the sweetest most lovable thing to ever enter our life and we and Jake thank you for having her available for us to adopt."



## Doberman Pinscher Rescue



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### 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)

P.P.S. Here is the update on Dawn, the seizure response dog who assists Cissy, a girl with numerous physical incapacities. Recently a major fire erupted at Cissy's home. There was a frenzied scramble as family members rushed to evacuate. At the first sign of fire, Dawn pulled Cissy to safety. We are told her feet never touched the ground. Though the house was destroyed, the family was safe, and Dawn proved, once again, that she would come through in an emergency.



**"Erica" Henning,  
who loves children, with  
owner Elizabeth Henning's  
great-granddaughter, Chloe**



**"Claudia" Charney of  
Pacific Palisades**

### **IN OUR NEXT ISSUES:**

- Photo contest winners
- A "new addition" to the rescue ranch
- Dobies who tracked their owner down to a hospital room
- Medical matters: how to save your Dobie's neck

## **Doberman Pinscher Rescue**



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