



"Zoe" Allison of San Francisco

"Dobie Doings"



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As of this writing (February 10), we Southern Californians have endured three major storms in two weeks. Right now there is a beautiful full moon shining down from the heavens, but we're told El Niño isn't finished yet. Hopefully you've all been safe and healthy throughout the season thus far.

Thanks to some marvelous holiday donations, it looks as though we will be able to produce *Dobie Doings* four times this year. Thank you, one and all, for your continued support and devotion!

We will be having a banquet the evening of **April 23, 1998, from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m.**, at the **Fresh Choice** restaurant located at 8850 Tampa Avenue between Nordhoff and Parthenia in Northridge. We chose this location because it is centrally located, within one to 1 1/2 hours from Ventura County, Orange County, San Bernardino County, and, of course, very close to all of the valley cities. This restaurant chain offers a huge variety of fresh food, all you can eat, for \$7.25, plus beverage. They also offer non-profit foundations such as Dobie Rescue a rebate based on how many attendees we have. The rebates kick in after 100 people, so please come and bring guests! (Unfortunately, your pets are not welcome in the restaurant.)

This event is where the raffle will be held, and we have several wonderful prizes you could win, though you don't need to be present to win. Prizes include

a beautiful watch (retail value \$275), a designer clock, and an original framed art print. Please mark your calendar now and plan to attend. We would love to see you!

Incidentally, if any of you who have not already bought raffle tickets from us would like any, please call us. They are \$1 each, and they'll also be on sale at the raffle itself.

We have been badly neglecting your dear photos and letters for several issues now because we had so much to say and not enough room in these pages to do it all. Our centerfold this issue, therefore, is devoted to photos of your precious pets. In time we'll try to share more and more of them.....

Sincerely,
Ardis Braun
Director

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Director
Suzette Smith
Graphic Designer
Dennis Bolton
Aaron Lucas
Printer

- ☛ Waiting for homes
- ☛ Adoption Updates
- ☛ Training Tips
- ☛ Laugh Time

P.S. - The adorable Dobie who graced the cover of our last issue and is also the "smiling dog" on page 7 of this issue is "Angel," owned by Randy and Christine Haws of Ventura.

P.P.S.- We'll be taping for the Pet Place T.V. show on Saturday night, March 21, at 6 p.m. Tune us in!

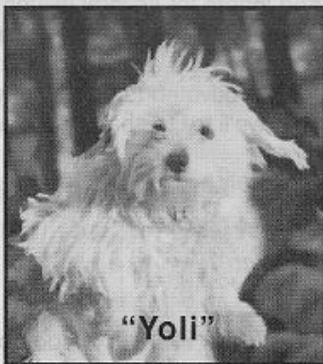
Adoption Updates



Duchess, young center, with friends "Rodo" and "Wonder" and owner, Christine.

"**DUCHESS**", the sweet old Dober girl featured in our last two issues, was adopted Christmas Day by Ralph and Christine Young of Monarch Beach. Though her age is not actually known, we estimate her to be at least nine years young, and Ralph says she runs and plays like a puppy. She wears a happy face now that she is genuinely enjoyed by this marvelous couple.

"**YOLI**", the little older terrier mix pictured in our holiday issue, also went to her new home Christmas Day with Kathy and Pat Fratrack of San Diego. To quote from Kathy's recent note: "I've never before had a dog greet me at the front door by jumping onto her hind legs and throwing her front paws around my knees. She always does this. Great hugs. Oh, the other morning I played with her a bit before going back to sleep. I stopped, she didn't. She lunged forward and sucked my nose!! P. S. Last night, Yoli stopped a burglary here. She sure earned her kibble at that point!" Yoli gets steak bones and cashews for treats and gets to sleep on a jumbo water bed. We don't think she misses us at all.



"Yoli"



And "**JUNO**", the wonderful 7-year-plus Dober also pictured in our holiday issue, moved in with new owner Zena Alderton of San Diego in time for the holidays. (That's her in the middle at this little Christmas get-together.) From Zena's letter of February 4th:

" 'Juno May' found her way into my heart in late November. After seeing her picture and story in a local rescue paper, I had to meet her. She proved to be the happy, bouncy Doberman I had anticipated. My other two dogs, both Labradors, approved of her instantly and they are now inseparable. Life with Juno has been fun and challenging. Apparently, house training had not been in her repertoire, so it was first on my list. Now she is 'potty trained' and has mastered the doggy door, she has the run of the house. She is very eager to please, which definitely makes training easier.

Shortly after adopting her, I took her to the veterinary hospital for a thorough physical. Her blood tests showed her to be healthy, so they cleaned her teeth and removed some tumors she had. Several of the lumps were early cancers, so it was a good thing they were removed. The veterinarian said that most likely these types of cancer will not return. Good for me and Juno!

We celebrated Christmas together and Juno seemed to really appreciate all her presents. I think she was most impressed to have her own stocking. She kept sticking her nose in it to see if she had missed anything.

We spend our recreation time playing fetch. Though Juno is often first to the ball, I can give the Labs a chance by throwing it in the kiddie pool. Juno doesn't seem too impressed by the idea of swimming for her ball. We'll see how she fares at the beach this summer. Thank you Dober Rescue for letting me adopt Juno May. She's a joyful addition to my household. I would recommend adopting a senior Doberman to anyone that wants a dog that's mellow but still knows how to have fun. By the way, you sure CAN teach an old dog new tricks!"

Still Waiting for Homes

"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.)



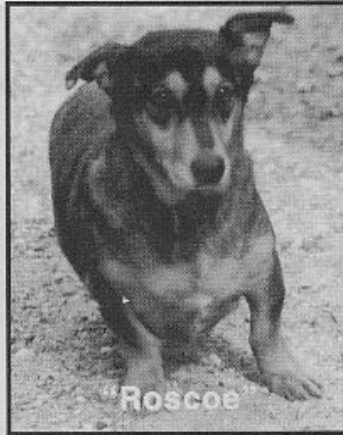
"Mondo" - Red male, 8-9 years old. Has waited for a home for four years. Active, loves children, good off leash. Needs to be an only dog, though.

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



"Red" - is a very social large doe-eyed red Dobie, about nine years old. Though we are trying not to rescue many dogs his age for reasons mentioned in these pages before, his story touched us. He had been a commercial guard dog

his whole life, finally ending up at the pound when the business installed a security system and no longer needed him. This pound called us, as they, too, were touched by his plight. He is a quiet, well-mannered dog who gets along with every dog he meets. Can any of you give him a few of the comforts he has missed all these years?



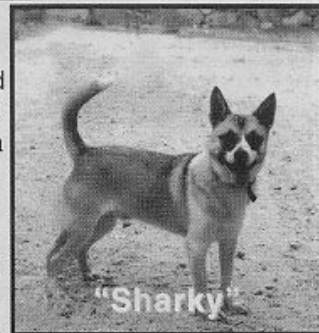
"ROSCHOE" is a mellow, middle-aged Corgi mix. He's a short-haired, serious dog who loves his comforts and is quite undemanding. He gets along with other dogs and can fit in just about anywhere. At 30 pounds plus, he would still like to be a lap dog!

This is **"FLETCHER"**. Though he isn't among the oldest of our rescue dogs, he has been here the longest, at 7 years. He is now 8 years old and has never been adopted. He is a red Dobie mix (probably mixed with Pointer), about 55 pounds, and he gets along with all other dogs and kids. (No cats or other small animals, though.) Fletch is good off leash but needs an 8-foot fence or block wall to keep him in.



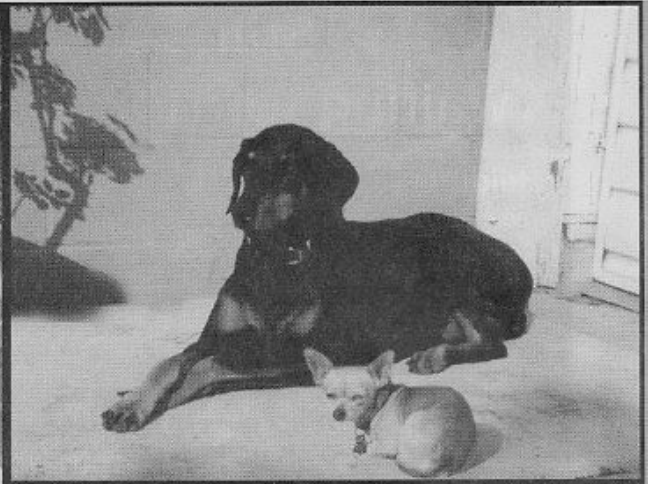
"MARCIE" is a darling Rottweiler mix, about 60 pounds who, like Fletch, needs a high fence. She gets along with most other dogs, she's happy and loveable, and she's only about three years old. Doesn't she have a kind face?

Finally, meet **"SHARKY"**. He's only about a year old, a good dog for kids. He got his name because he has a huge overbite, which gives his profile the appearance of a shark. He likes other dogs and is playful and happy; he weighs about 15 pounds.

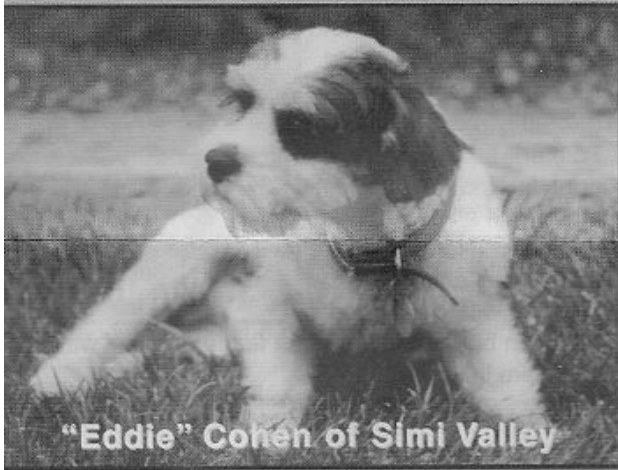




**"Frankie" Schuchert of Big Horn,
Wyoming**



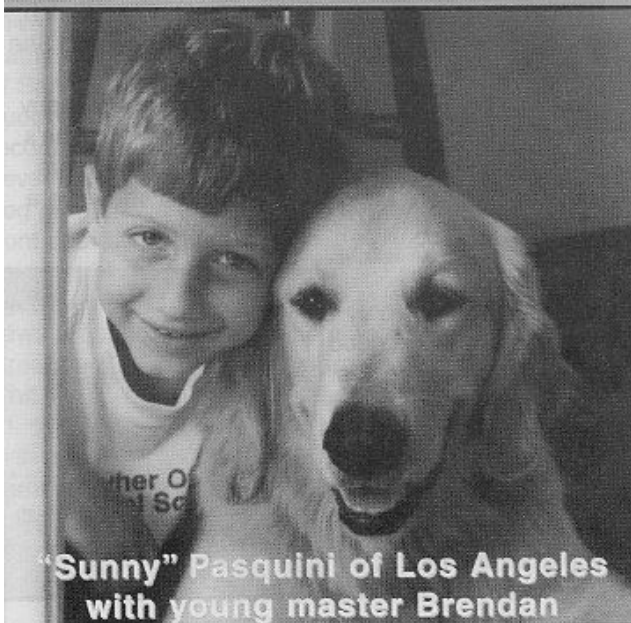
**"Nico" Kaplan with tiny friend
"Chip" of Los Angeles**



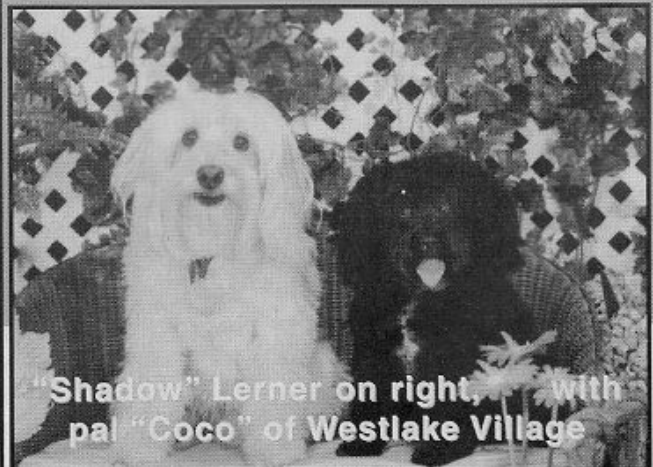
"Eddie" Cohen of Simi Valley



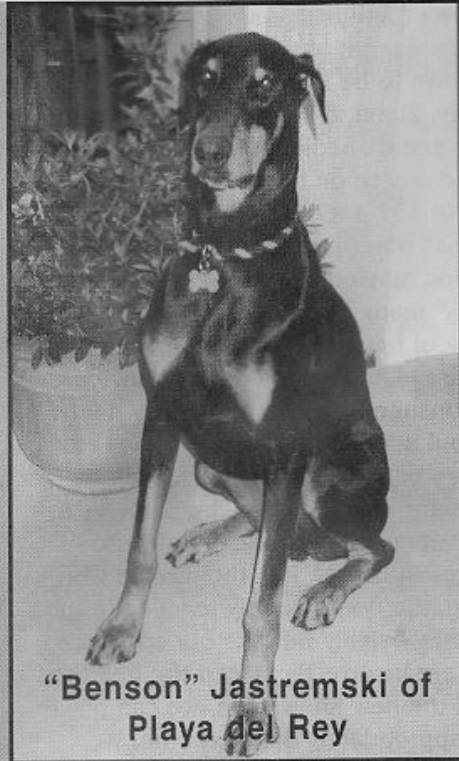
"Elsa" Doerr



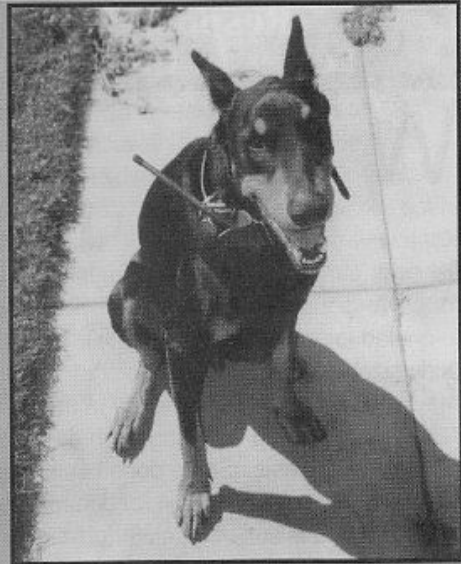
**"Sunny" Pasquini of Los Angeles
with young master Brendan**



**"Shadow" Lerner on right, with
pal "Coco" of Westlake Village**



**"Benson" Jastremski of
Playa del Rey**



**"Zeus"
Hornberger of
Atascadero**



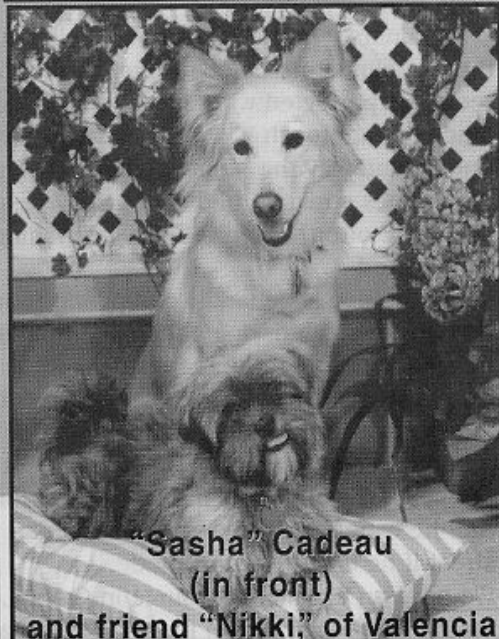
**"Cleo" Yocom of
Balboa Island**



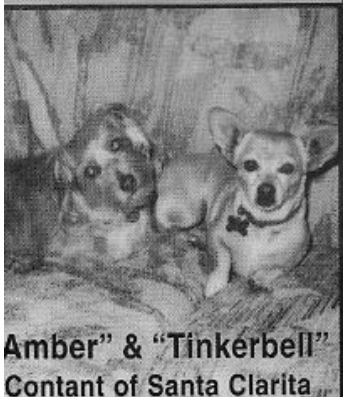
**"Coco" Begley of Garden
Grove, smiling**



**"Dandy Lion" Bradford
of Verdugo City**



**"Sasha" Cadeau
(in front)
and friend "Nikki," of Valencia**



**"Amber" & "Tinkerbelle"
Contant of Santa Clarita**

Response to Letter to the Editor

We have a few last words on a subject discussed in our last few issues concerning older rescue dogs: why it is difficult to place them and also to euthanize them. Nancy Koprowski's Letter to the Editor, which was published in our last issue, recommended euthanasia for all dogs eight years and older who have been kenneled for more than six months. There was a fairly sizable reaction to this point of view. While many people agreed with Nancy in theory, most responders favored weighing each dog's fate on a case by case basis. Some dogs kennel well and are reasonably content, they felt, and some are miserable. If a dog is suffering, either physically or emotionally, they felt these dogs' suffering should be ended. For the others, though, they felt we should aggressively seek homes for them until there was no light at the end of the tunnel. Many of these responses came from the people who adopted older dogs from us; they pointed out that they would never have had the chance to adopt and love the dogs they got here had they been executed on their one hundred eighty-first day in the rescue program.

TRAINING TIPS

Everyone loves a well-trained dog. The reality, though, is that most of us are pretty lax about teaching and enforcing commands, so we end up with dogs that jump on us, don't come when called, bolt out the door, etc.

Dog trainers and behaviorists will tell you that there is almost no behavior that cannot be corrected or perfected with the right approach. Since the approach is so key, we must first understand why the behavior is occurring. Sometimes straight obedience training is sufficient, but often, outright behavior modification is indicated.

When the dog is generally compliant, though perhaps distracted, dog obedience training may be sufficient to get the results desired. Commands such as "heel," "sit," "stay," and "down" are learned easily and should then be reinforced continuously. The dog cannot be jumping on you if he is in his "sit" position. And he cannot be chasing a cat across a busy street if he is in the "stay" mode.

We have an excellent resource in Gwen Lucoff, the national chairperson for the Doberman

Pinscher Club of America. Gwen does free obedience training for any of our adoptees (they don't have to be Dobermans!) at her Malibu facility, Zuma K-9. If you wish to sign up for her evening obedience classes or would just like good advice on the telephone, call Gwen at (310) 457-4460.

If your dog has other problems, however, obedience training may not, by itself, be sufficient. Unfortunately, many dogs are put to sleep each year because of behaviors that are misinterpreted. In cases like these, a good behaviorist should be consulted. They are usually fairly expensive, but a "quick and dirty" interpretation of a dog's behavior is often available by phone, so that a judgment may be made as to whether you want to invest the energy and money. In most cases, it is the owners who need training; the dog is simply reacting to the owner's signals. Usually we take our adoptees back if they are incorrectly placed the first time so that, with the new knowledge, we can place them more appropriately the next time. We pride ourselves on being able to do this. If you wish to have a referral on a good behaviorist, call us.

We're acquainted with several who have helped us decide how to handle a few of our new rescue dogs. The results have been great! It's all in the approach.



In loving memory of "Smoky" Schwartz, who was in the rescue program for 4 years prior to his adoption in 1996. "Smoky" (rear) with his pal "Petra", on the day he died, January 19, 1998

Laugh Time

Following is a little bit of dog humor that a friend picked up on the Internet. We thought you might enjoy it. (Slight editing was necessary to keep it in good taste for readers of every age group.)

CROSSBRED DOGS:

Pointer + Setter = Poinsetter, a traditional Christmas pet

Kerry Blue Terrier + Skye Terrier = Blue Skye, a dog for visionaries

Great Pyrenees + Dachshund = Pyradachs, a puzzling breed

Pekingese + Lhasa Apso = Peekasso, an abstract dog

Irish Water Spaniel + English Springer Spaniel = Irish Springer, a dog fresh and clean as a whistle

Labrador Retriever + Curly Coated Retriever = Lab Coat Retriever, the choice of research scientists

Newfoundland + Basset Hound = Newfoundland Asset Hound, a dog for financial advisors

Terrier + Bulldog = Terribull, a dog that makes awful mistakes

Bloodhound + Labrador = Blabador, a dog that barks incessantly

Malamute + Pointer = Moot Point, owned by... oh, well, it doesn't matter anyway

Collie + Malamute = Commute, a dog that travels to work

Deerhound + Terrier = Derriere, a dog that's true to the end

Bull Terrier + Shih Tzu = Bullshit, a gregarious but unreliable breed



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...



"Easter"



"Easter" with friend "Sofia"

Many of you will recall the story of **"Easter"**, the wonderful young Doberman who nearly succumbed to distemper, then turned the corner on Easter Sunday morning last year and started his slow recovery to health.

Easter was placed last fall with Nova and Ron Wiestling of Bonsall, and now lives on a ranch where he has continued to regain his stamina and rebuild his muscles with lots of room to run and two people who adore him. Here are current photos of Easter at his new digs.

Doberman Pinscher Rescue



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