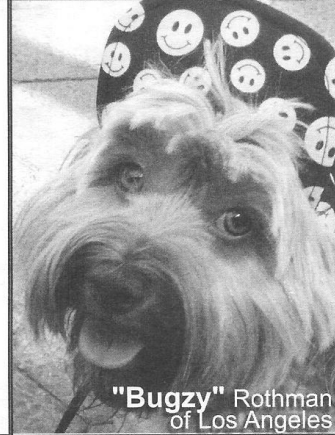


"Teddy" Katsoulas
(formerly "Tyler," from the streets of Taiwan to the lap of luxury) now of Lake Arrowhead, with Tony

"Dobie Doings"



2946 Young Road
Fillmore, California 93015
Phone (805) 524-5102
www.dobierescue.org
e-mail:
dobierescue@earthlink.net



"Bugzy" Rothman
of Los Angeles

Ardis Braun Director Suzette Smith Graphic Designer Michael Forester Webmaster Dennis Bolton Printer

As I write this during the second week of February, we are all marveling at how wonderful our adoptions have been since the first of the year! It is, frankly, hard to understand; that in a terrible economic downturn during which so many people are losing their homes, others are comfortably planning for their future at home with a new dog. We have even placed a few dogs in these past few weeks that have been with us for YEARS!

We want to thank all of you who donated gifts, blankets, money, and time to help our critters. During the very cold nights in December, no dog was without a nice warm blanket to snuggle in. January's weather was so amazingly warm that flies and fleas decided it must be time to emerge, so that was a different type of challenge.

Our more-or-less-constant plea for pictures of your adopted dogs yielded great results also. So many great pictures arrived with cards, letters, and e-mail, that we can't begin to print them all in a single issue. Please be patient! We love and value each and every picture of our old canine friends, but we can print only a limited number in every issue.

Have a wonderful spring!

Sincerely,
Ardis Braun

ADOPTION UPDATES

SASHA,

one of our long-term residents featured in December's *Dobie Doings*, was adopted just as we finished preparing this issue. Her new owner is Cindy Hollister of Moorpark, who may be returning in a few weeks to take home a little friend for Sasha. Cindy pretty well knew before even coming here that she would be taking Sasha home, and we were delighted because she is such a worthy little dog who had at least three previous homes. The update two days after Sasha's adop-



"Sasha" with Cindy

tion is that she is "just darling," she "smiles," and she is learning her routine well, which includes sleeping on Cindy's bed.



"Lulu" with Don

TERRIE,

another little girl Terrier mix featured in our last issue, was adopted by Barb and Don Saunders of Thousand Oaks. Here's a paragraph from Barb's recent e-mail:

"Terrie (now named Lulu...full name: LuLu LaRue...haha) is doing GREAT!!! She is such a cutie!! She adjusted to her new home perfectly. She has two brothers now: Bud (whom we adopted from you) and Griffy. She LOVES to go to the park for runs. LOVES LOVES LOVES to cuddle up, and she keeps us laughing on a daily basis! She's been a great addition to our family and we couldn't be happier!"

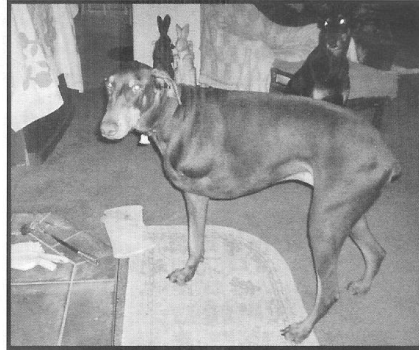
THREE LEGS AND A SPARE

It's a saying we attribute to one of our favorite veterinarian friends, Dr. Rick Wattle: "Dogs are born with three legs and a spare." We have even received pictures via e-mail of a few dogs who have only two legs, though they cope with somewhat more difficulty.

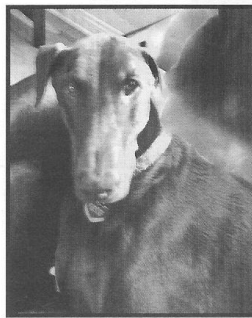
We have placed several dogs over the years who already were or soon became three-legged, and they carry on just fine. Here are a few of them.



"Leo" Gapen of Los Osos (the first Doberman we got from Taiwan)



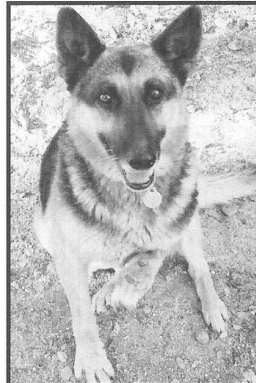
"Daisy Dawg" Pesselt of Grass Valley



"Mason" Kingston of Calabasas



"Phoenix" Fain of Oakland



"Trinity" (free-roaming dog at the rescue ranch)

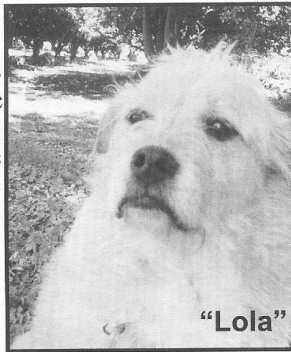
WAITING FOR HOMES

LOLA

Does this dog look sad to you? She certainly seems sad to us! Lola was

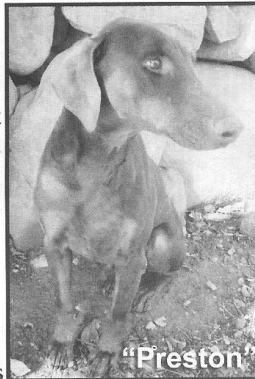
dropped off by her owner quite a few months ago. She is always happy to see us, but she retreats behind her sad face every time we leave her play area. Lola is "pretty housebroken," according to her ex-owner (which probably means she needs

to be let out when she has to go), and she's good with most other dogs – though she clearly would be just as happy to be the only dog. Lola is probably a Boxer-Terrier mix who weighs about 60 pounds, and she's about 8 years old.



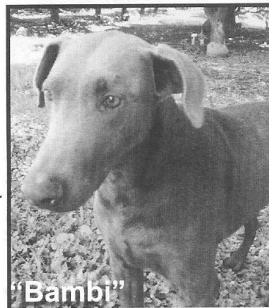
PRESTON

is a sweet red boy Doberman who has proven to be tolerant of most other dogs, even the "alpha" female he is kenneled with. He just stays out of the way and doesn't start arguments. Preston is on the small side, and he's middle-aged. We have the impression that he's never relied on humans for affection and attention; it seems to be sort of a surprise to him when we notice, pet, massage, and otherwise reward him. We would like to see this be his daily routine!



BAMBI

has been with us over a year, and she's still a young dog. It seems unfair to us that she is wasting her youth in our kennel. Unfortunately, Bambi



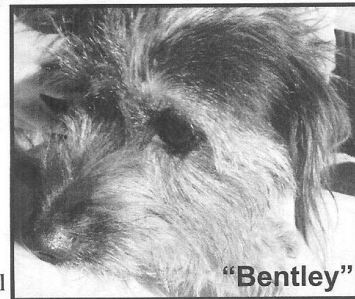
hasn't proven to be dog-social in close confinement. She is a mellow fawn female Doberman with natural ears and long tail, and she's about 3 years old.

BENTLEY

is another nice dog who has spent far too long in our kennel for a young guy. He's probably a Dachshund-Wire Haired Terrier mix (or possibly a Wirehaired

Dachshund), and he's social with most

other dogs. Bentley is fairly high-energy, and his most negative trait is that he may "mark" inside the house, which was the reason for being returned by someone we placed him with. She was unwilling to try Belly Bands (like doggie diapers), though she claimed to love the dog. Bentley weighs about 20 pounds.

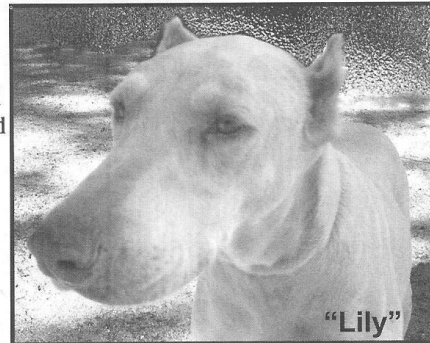


LILY

has an unusual story, which is too lengthy to describe here. People have commented on her beauty. To us, the white Dobermans have always looked a bit alien, with their pale blue eyes and pink noses.

Lily has very short-cropped ears and quite a number of old-age bumps to boot, but she is very

lovable and highly dog-social. Her one negative trait is that she can scale any 6-foot fence that has a foothold.

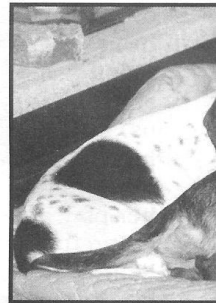




"Biscuit" and "Schutzer" Price of Simi Valley

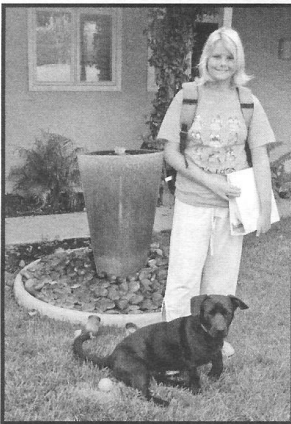


"Lexi" Barndollar of California City

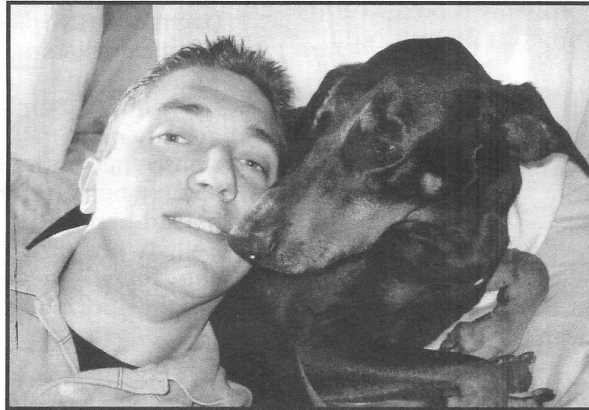


"Cinni" of \

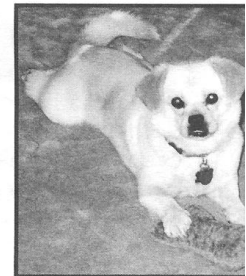
Happy



"Percy" Ladner of Santa Barbara, with Helen



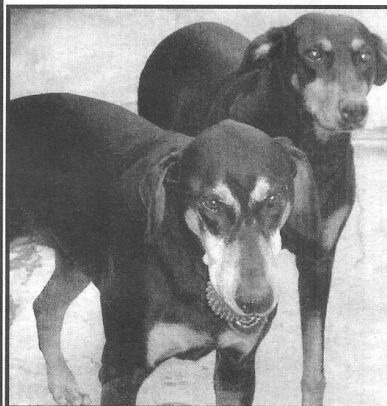
"Max" Wilson of Moorpark, with Chris



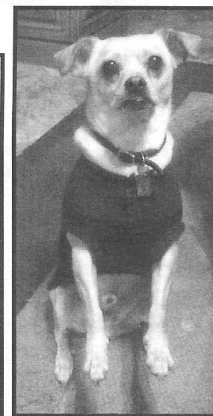
"Woofie" Miller of Santa Barbara



"Henry" Martino (right) of San Jose, with friend



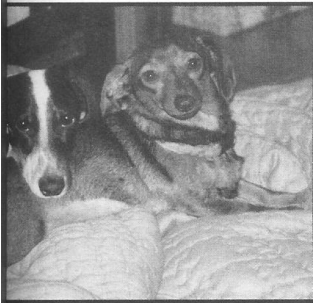
"Misty" and "Cindy" Ouellette of Moorpark



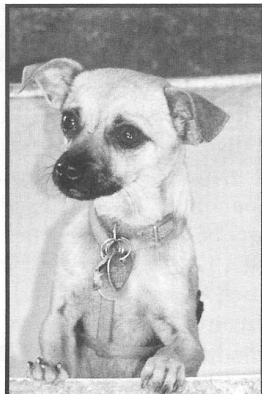
"Chico" Gundzik of Bakersfield



"Son"



nd **"Spots"** Broze
est Hollywood



"Chipper" ("Mr.
Chips") Kramer
of Camarillo



"Fritz" and **"Buzz"** Moser
of San Juan Capistrano

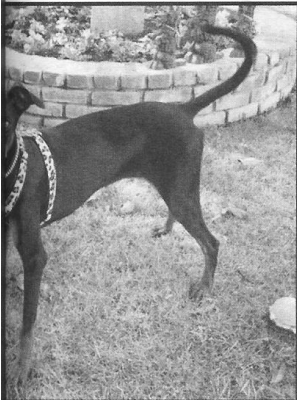
adoptees!!!



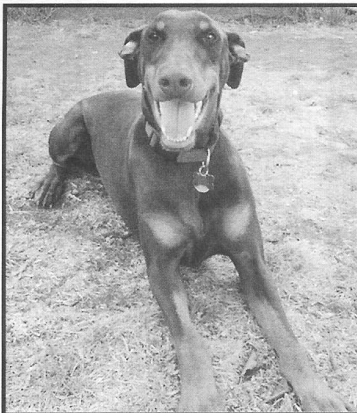
"Blue," "Frankie," and **"Moose"** Scheiringer
of Los Angeles



"Grace" Sterling of Somis, with Amber



"Leo" Summers of Northridge



"Leo" Alderete
of Los Angeles



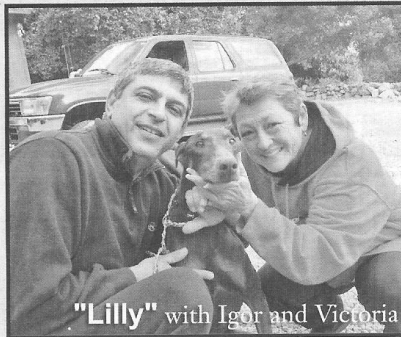
"Chloe" and **"Parker"** Randall
of Los Angeles

ANOTHER MICROCHIP STORY

We always shudder to think how these stories would end if it weren't for microchips. The only "down side" to microchips is lack of public awareness that stray dogs often have them.

One cold Saturday night in December we got a call from a man named Eric Darling, who said he works at a top-secret Boeing facility in Simi Valley, and that a stray Doberman had just walked in to the facility. He explained how nearly impossible this was, as the facility is walled on three sides like Fort Knox, and the other side, while not fenced or walled, would require someone to approach through 4 ½ miles of thick brush and steep canyon to get to that approach. In this canyon, two deer had recently been felled by packs of coyotes, and mountain lion sightings were common. The Doberman had to have traveled through this canyon to get to the Boeing facility.

Eric Darling said she was emaciated but very sweet. He had tried to call Animal Regulation, but it was a Saturday night, so no one was available. Somehow he located our number and asked if we could help.



"Lilly" with Igor and Victoria

Volunteer Colleen Anderson groaned a little, but she went to meet Eric Darling at a pre-arranged location which required Mr. Darling to travel twenty minutes down a mountain to reach. Colleen overnighted the dog at her house, and the next morning we scanned her for a microchip. The Avid microchip scanned bright and clear! We checked our computer list for a match, and found out the dog was one of our own!

We had placed Lilly years earlier with

Victoria and Igor Grekin of Calabasas. Hoping they had not moved and failed to let us know, we called them early Sunday morning. As soon as Igor answered the phone, he said "Did you find Lilly?"

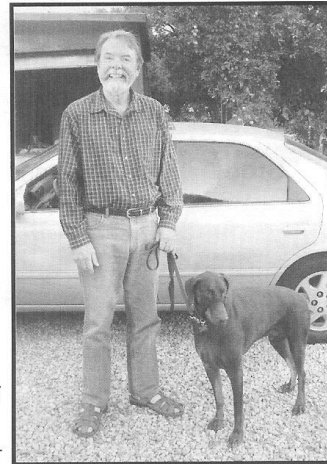
After we explained where she had been found, Igor said she had been gone for two weeks, and that she would have had to travel SEVEN MILES over a mountain and through canyons and heavy brush to get to the Boeing facility. How she survived, presumably without food, and with packs of predators roaming the area, is just short of a miracle. The picture alongside was taken that Sunday, as Victoria and Igor happily arrived to pick Lilly up.

AN INDISPENSIBLE CANINE

We've placed a number of dogs over the years that had special talents, well above the usual canine talents of making us feel good about ourselves, keeping us company, and making us laugh. We've had dogs that excelled in agility, dogs that became gifted therapy dogs, and even one who could sense when her owner was about to have a seizure. In the same vein, we recently met Patrick Curry of Pasadena and his dog, Rudy.

Mr. Curry is diabetic. Though he is quite capable of monitoring his blood sugar during his waking hours, he could be at serious risk of a blood sugar imbalance while he is asleep.

Or at least, there would be a serious risk without Rudy. This beautiful and well-mannered Doberman senses changes in Mr. Curry's blood sugar, possibly through his sense of smell, and wakes his master when necessary.



Patrick and "Rudy"



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() \$100. () \$50. () \$20. () \$10.

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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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We also have PayPal!

RECOMMENDED READING

For the readers among us, I highly recommend a new book by Temple Grandin, the famous autistic author who has written the widely-acclaimed books *Thinking In Pictures* and *Animals In Translation*. Her newest book, *Animals Make Us Human*, on sale in all of the major bookstores now, devotes 42 pages to her observations about dogs. She offers another view of Cesar Millan's "pack leader" concepts, suggesting instead that many dogs benefit more from having "parental" role models than they do from having an "alpha" pack leader. There is also a section on cats, for the cat-lovers among us. Ms. Grandin believes that her autism enables her to view the world more from the point of view of the animals than of people who are not autistic. She is highly educated and has spearheaded reform of the quality of life and humane issues related to farm animals. Her books are fascinating reading.

JUST A DOG

Years ago, I was sitting next to a man on an airplane, and he asked what I do for a living. I said "I'm a volunteer for a dog res-

cue foundation. We rescue, rehabilitate, and find new homes for dogs."

"Oh," he said, "that must cost a lot of money."

"Yes, it takes everything I have, and it still isn't enough," I responded.

He was quiet for a moment, then he said "wouldn't it be better spent on poor people, especially children?"

His comment was a big surprise to me. I didn't quite know how to respond, but finally I said "well, we all have our calling, and that's not mine." Very little was said between us for the rest of the flight.

I've thought about him and his sentiment many times since then, and I always know with complete certainty that rescuing dogs is a worthy calling and leaves the world a better place. In that vein, I'd like to share the following article, which was written by an unknown veterinarian and appeared in *The Therapy Dog, Inc. News Magazine*:

From time to time, people tell me "lighten up, it's just a dog," or, "that's a lot of money for just a dog."

They don't understand the distance traveled, the time spent, or the costs involved for "just a dog."

Some of my proudest moments have



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come about with "just a dog."

Many hours have passed and my only company was "just a dog," but I did not once feel slighted.

Some of my saddest moments have been brought about by "just a dog," and in those days of darkness, the gentle touch of "just a dog" gave me comfort and reason to overcome the day.

If you, too, think it's "just a dog," then you will probably understand phrases like "just a friend," "just a sunrise," or "just a promise."

"Just a dog" brings into my life the very essence of friendship, trust, and pure unbridled joy.

"Just a dog" brings out the compassion and patience that make me a better person.

Because of "just a dog," I will rise early, take long walks and look longingly to the future.

So for me and folks like me, it's not "just a dog," but an embodiment of all the hopes and dreams of the future, the fond memories of the past, and the pure joy of the moment.

"Just a dog" brings out what's good in me and diverts my thoughts away from myself and the worries of the day.

I hope that someday they can understand that it's not "just a dog," but the thing

that gives me humanity and keeps me from being "just a man or woman."

So the next time you hear the phrase "just a dog," just smile...because they "just don't understand."

PARTING SHOTS



"Bella" Quick of Santa Barbara,
with feline friends

*I give new meaning to
the word "adorable."*