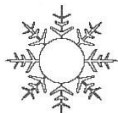
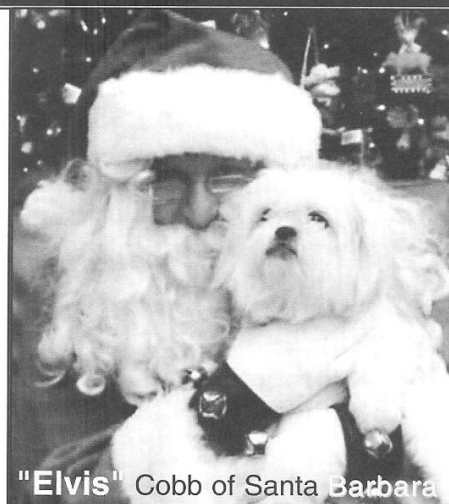


"Sammi" Ray  
of Apple Valley

## "Dobie Doings"



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



"Elvis" Cobb of Santa Barbara

Ardis Munck Director Suzette Smith Graphic Designer Dennis Bolton Printer Susan Schionning Webmaster

The holiday season is upon us again, and once again we hope all of you and your precious pets are well and enjoying the season. We are beginning our 20th year of rescuing and adopting out dogs here at the rescue ranch, and it's something we never tire of.

In September we had another too-close-for-comfort visit from a large brush fire called the Day Fire, which began on Labor Day and took nearly a month to extinguish. It hovered a few miles north of us for almost two weeks. We had our crates cleaned and ready to evacuate for the third time in our twenty years, but this time we didn't have to.

Husband Eric had a freak accident on his dirt bike in October and broke a vertebra in his back, so he has required almost as much care lately as the dogs have! He should have an almost complete recovery in a matter of months.

Dear friend and adopter Paula Cwikly of Toluca Lake is hosting her annual holiday party for us. The food, drinks and company are always exceptional, and you must only bring a gift for our dogs. The date is Friday, December 15, from 6 p.m. on. If you can attend, please call Paula at (818) 985-5698.

Our centerfold, as always for our holiday issue, is of your holiday pictures from previous years. Please always share your holiday pet photos with us; 'tis the season for sharing!

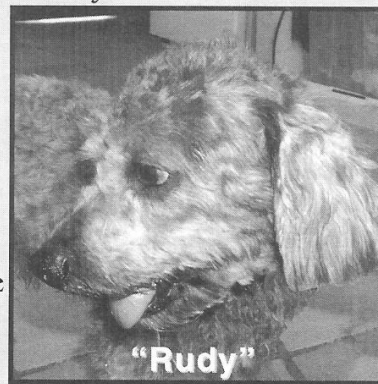
Peace and joy,  
*Ardis Munck*

## Adoption Updates

Four of the dogs featured in our last newsletter have been adopted into great homes. They are very happy dogs this holiday season!

### RUDO,

one of the little street strays flown here from Mexico by Alison Current and her wonderful rescue group based in Isla Mujeres, Mexico, has a fabulous new home with Eve and Dale Smythe of Santa Barbara. He has a 6,000-square foot home on a bluff overlooking the ocean, four inside beds, two lounge chairs, one on each of their two large decks, and two humans that absolutely dote on him. Eve says that Rudy (his new name) follows her everywhere, poking his nose into whatever she's doing. At first he got lost in the big house and seemed relieved when



"Rudy"

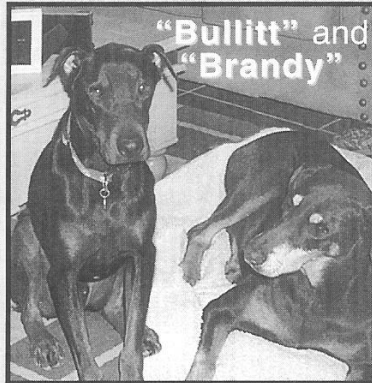
he located Eve again, but now he ventures out more independently to lay on the deck or bark at squirrels. Oh, and he also gets to sleep in their bed at night.

## TONTO,

our very social Doberman Pinscher boy who spent a year waiting for his forever home, has been adopted by Brian, Heike, and James Mayfield of

Lancaster. His new name is Bullitt. In a recent conversation with Heike, she said that Bullitt has completely bonded with her. She is delighted to have a dog that

prefers her, as the other dogs have always attached themselves to Brian. Heike says that Bullitt gets to sleep next to their bed at night, and one morning when she was helping son James tie his shoelaces, Bullitt approached her, stuck his big face under her hair, and nuzzled her. We think that was a "defining moment," and it's a love affair all the way around.



## PEARL and OPAL,

our sweet senior American Eskimo girls who spent three hours in surgery upon their arrival because of their rotten teeth and hundreds of imbedded foxtails, found a home – together!!! – just as we were going to press. Linda Marlowe of Simi Valley was touched by their sad story, and she couldn't think of splitting them up after all they've been through together.



## WAITING FOR HOMES

### LEILU

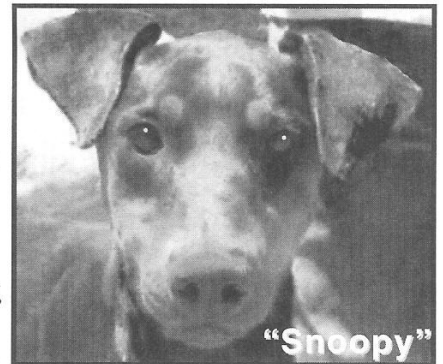
is a dog we placed as a small puppy. She and her mother and siblings were essentially feral, living in the orchards near the rescue ranch.

We ultimately caught all of the puppies except one, and they were very easy to socialize at about 10 weeks of age. Leilu was ultimately returned by her owner as a young adult because she argued with the family's other dog. She's just under two years old, housebroken, and a pretty easy pet to own. She is a medium-sized Chow Chow mix.



### SNOOPY

has been with us for over a year, and we think he's such a good dog. Whether he can get along with other dogs is questionable, but he's a handsome, good-natured 3-year-old boy who minds well and is a good watchdog. He's playful when he's asked to be and affectionate without being demanding.



### GERBIL

is a very small dog (under 10 pounds) who strongly resembles a toy Welsh Corgi. He has upright



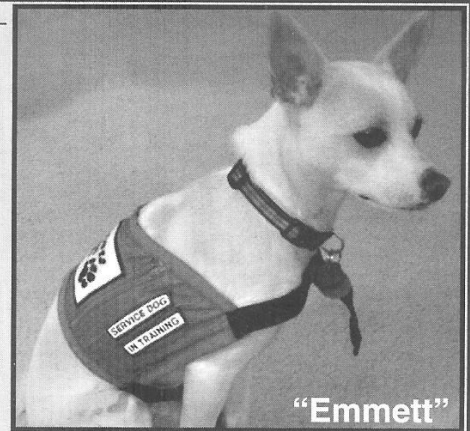
ears and no tail, and he has the coloring and markings of a Corgi, but in a Chihuahua-sized body. Gerbil is good with other dogs and kids, but he is happiest sitting in the lap of an adult. He's about 7 years old.

## KEESHA

has been waiting a year for her own home. We think this is probably okay with her, as she was confiscated from a neglectful home, but she is a "very housebroken" dog and should be enjoying an even more wonderful life! We estimate Keesha's age to be about 7 years. She lives agreeably with a large male dog, she's quiet, good on leash, and a wonderful mouser (which probably means no cats).



been to hospitals, restaurants, and other public places, and he is learning to pick up things requested by name. After he has become adequately trained, he'll be able to assist Ann at home and wherever she goes outside the home.



Ann and Dean are so proud of little Emmett. He has taken to all the training so well, and he impresses everyone with his calmness and patience while in public. Actually, we're ALL very proud of little Emmett!

## MEDICAL MATTERS

The beautiful Dobie named "Gatsby" Gammie, shown in our centerfold, had been adopted from us in 2004 by Brenda Gammie. He was great for about two years and then became unpredictably mean-spirited. A trip to the vet disclosed that Gatsby had become seriously hypothyroid and also had emerging Cushing's Disease. His hypothyroidism accounted for his crabbiness, and on medication he's back to his pleasant self, where he's now residing at Brenda's sister Shannon's home, which has a large yard.

We're thinking perhaps the old myth that Dobies "turn on their masters" could be related to low thyroid function. Something to think about!

## SMALL DOG, LARGE HEART

Last year, on Christmas Eve day, Dean Martin of Lomita chose a wonderful gift: a little Chihuahua mix boy that he adopted from us whom he and his wife, Ann McGavin, named Emmett. Their new dog did very well in obedience training, and they recognized that he had certain qualities that would be helpful to Ann, who is physically challenged after a massive stroke last year left much of the left side of her body paralyzed.

Emmett received his PWP (Partners With Paws) smock on September 10th, identifying him as a service dog in training when he is performing in a public situation. The smock was designed for a "normal" service dog puppy, so even after adjustments to make it as small as possible, it still was too big for Emmett's Whippet/Chihuahua-sized body. Luckily, the smock has zippered side pouches that could bulk him out enough for it to fit. He now carries his own poopie bags, clean-up wipes, a small cloth to lie on, and a copy of the state law that enables him to go just about anywhere with his trainer.

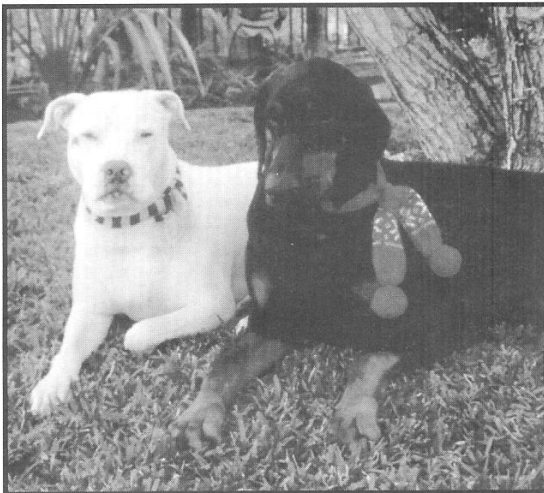
Dean Martin began bringing Emmett to work with him so that he could continue his PAT (Public Access Training). He has already

## ANOTHER POISON

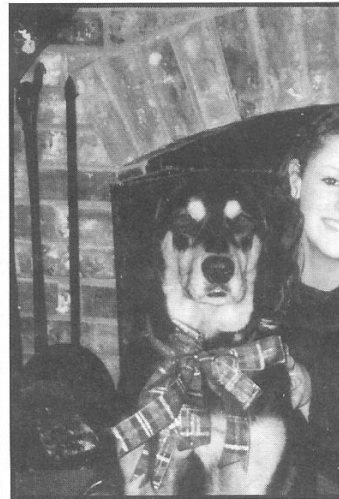
Here's another poison to add to your list of things that are toxic and often fatal to dogs: Xylitol. It's a sweetener used in candies and many other presweetened foods. Don't forget that Cocoa Mulch, the garden fertilizer, is also on that list, as are oleander plants, grapes, raisins, salmon, guacamole, and holiday favorites holly, mistletoe, and poinsettia (the red-leaved omnipresent holiday plant).



**"Duke"** Litwin of Oxnard



**"Bailey"** and **"Brinkley"** Cohn  
of Villa Park



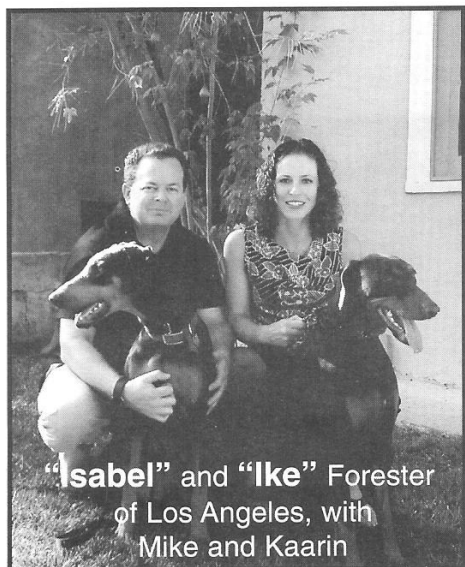
**"K.C."** Sarris of Thousand Oaks  
with Nicole



**"Eddie"** and **"Marlene"** Muus of Montecito



**"Rika," "Gillis,"** and **"Madison"** Cwikly  
of Toluca Lake



**"Isabel"** and **"Ike"** Forester  
of Los Angeles, with  
Mike and Kaarin



**"Friday"** and **"Max"** Miller  
of Quartz Hill



**"Paulette"** Roberts of  
Gorda, FL, with Mike



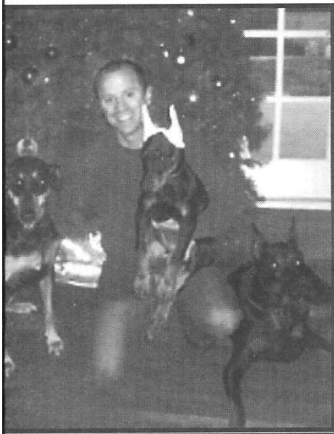
d Oaks,



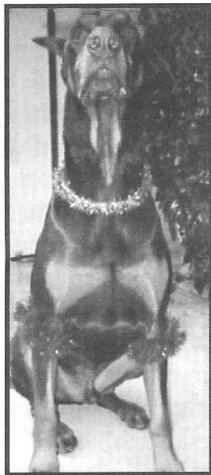
**"Charlie"** Cohen of Carpinteria with Chris, Janey, Katie, and Tim



**"Souzi Q"** Conord of Fresno



**"abeaux," "Rommel,"** and **"True"** Price of Encino, with Juan



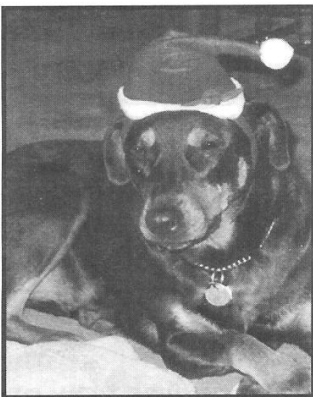
**"Jethro Bodine"** Williams of Chatsworth



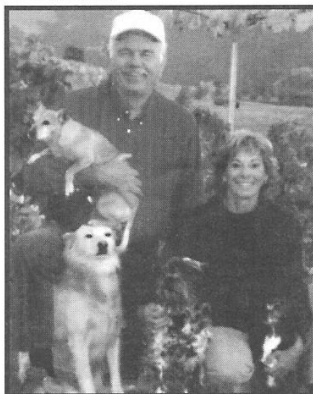
**"Gatsby"** Gammie of Moorpark with Shannon (second from right) and friends



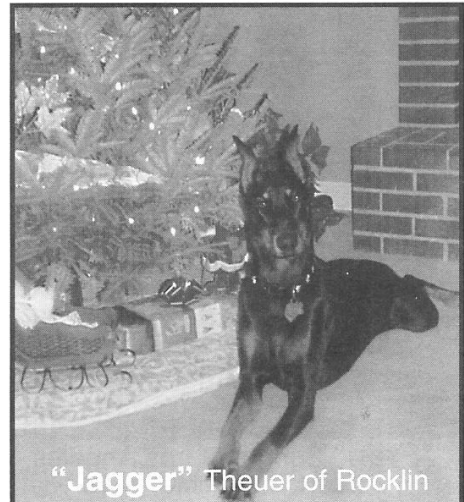
Punta



**"Bell"** Scholar of Sherman Oaks



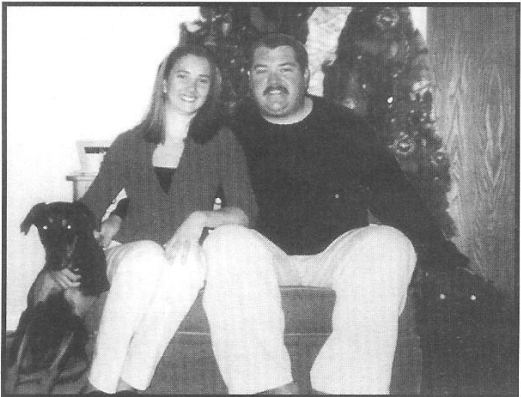
**"Tucker," "Lollie," "Callé,"** and **"Chica"** Caldwell of Santa Ynez, with Eric and Carleen



**"Jagger"** Theuer of Rocklin



**"Sasha" and "Teddy"** Patz of Lancaster with Rachel, Brendan, Joshua and Elizabeth



**"Scooter" and "Buster"**  
Russell  
of Simi Valley with Christine and Ned

**"Annie"** Denzel  
of Ventura



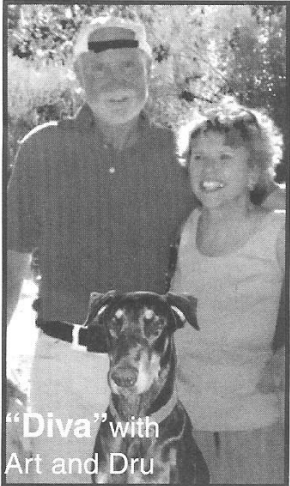
**"Fran"** Schore of Los Angeles, with friends (Fran, the Dobie, is 18 years old!)



**"Chert" and "Taffy"** Hurd of San Diego with Eric, Priscilla and Tommy

## ABUSED DOGS

We are so often asked the question by callers wanting to adopt a dog: "Are they dogs that have been abused?" Fortunately, we can reply that very few of our dogs waiting for adoption are abuse cases, but it's remarkable that people want so studiously to avoid adopting an abused dog. Naturally, dogs handle abuse in various ways, depending on the extent of the abuse and the dog's ability to tolerate it. A few dogs become vicious and distrustful of anything in a human body. The majority become timid and skittish, dropping to the ground, urinating on themselves, or diving into the nearest sheltered spot. Sometimes dogs will appear relatively normal until a person tries to do something that reminds the dog of the abuse, such as grabbing the dog's collar, and will then react aggressively or submissively.



**"Diva"** with Art and Dru

A truly wonderful thing about dogs is how forgiving they are. We often tell people that most dogs who have known abuse become some of the best pets you could ever have. Probably this is because they know what it's like to NOT have a loving home. One of our adopters, Drusilla Campbell of San Diego, said in a very poignant e-mail: "I'd like other people to know that the dog that is difficult and maybe unsatisfactory at first can ultimately be the most satisfying." She and



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 credit card.

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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

her husband, Art, adopted a Dobie girl from us last year, a recent arrival, about whom Drusilla said “we found a little female, horribly emaciated and obviously terrified as she huddled in the farthest corner, peering at us.... From the instant I saw her fear, I knew we had to have her – if only so she could learn to live without trembling and cowering.”

For the first few weeks with “Diva,” Drusilla kept asking her husband why they had adopted a dog who obviously didn’t want anything to do with them. But, “watching her slowly turn toward me with love and trust in her eyes has been the most rewarding experience I’ve ever had with a dog.... I’m a novelist and my books always include dogs or horses, often both.... In *The Edge of the Sky*, I wrote about a male Dobie with a bullish head and butchered ears who was rescued from a life working nights behind a chain link fence. I knew I got him right because I wept as I wrote it and every time I read it. I would never have known about such animals were it not for you and Dobie Rescue.”

Today Diva loves to go to the ranch to see the horses and show them who’s boss, lolls on the bed all day, and rides in the back seat with her dripping tongue hanging somewhere near Drusilla’s right ear. Every day there is progress, and, according to Drusilla, “watching it happen is one of the joys of having a rescue animal.... She’s her own unique self.”

## Keepers by Eric Munck

None of us is getting any younger. Ardis has been suffering from lupus for many years and I suddenly have a broken back. Eventually, in the not-too-distant future, we will have to pass the responsibilities of our mission to the next generation. All of our assets, including the ranch itself, have been placed in a trust to benefit our fur-babies, as it is Ardis’ lifelong passion, and we have no children. It is our wish that the dog rescue be perpetuated for as long as there are dogs in need of rescue. However, leaving a valuable property and a smallish investment portfolio will not produce enough income to pay the bills. Future generations will need an income (Ardis and I have never taken a salary); no one else would ever do what Ardis has done all these years for free! There will be rising maintenance and operating costs as well. Thus, my task from now on will be to ensure the survival of Dobie Rescue after Ardis and I are gone.

The first thing I have done is discuss the issue with professional financial advisers who have provided some interesting information: In 2005 and 2006 a loophole was created, specifically allowing donors to withdraw funds from IRA’s and 401K’s (and possibly other tax-sheltered retirement plans) to donate to their favorite charities without penalties! Come 2007, this opportunity will disappear forever.

Second, funds specifically donated to the



## Doberman Pinscher Rescue

2946 Young Road  
Fillmore, California 93015

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Santa Clarita, Ca  
Permit #172

### RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Dobie Rescue Trust Fund will forever remain in solid investments. It is our hope that the Dobie Rescue Trust Fund will grow adequately, so that interest income and dividends will be sufficient to ensure the perpetuity of our commitment.

Third, a few of our fans have already considered Dobie Rescue in their wills. Please keep this option in mind. (Don't forget that, if anything should happen to you, your dogs that have been adopted from us are always to be returned to us, so make note of this in your important papers. We are a no-kill sanctuary, and we will take responsible care of your pets until a new loving home can be found.)

Finally, the vehicle donation program has never been better. Thanks to many generous donors, we have had a fantastic last quarter. I, of course, can no longer do much of the physical work on cars, so I've hired a professional mechanic who now works part-time for us. We have to keep him busy though, so keep them coming! Remember, we will take virtually anything that has wheels and a motor. Don't hesitate to call us.

### WISH LIST

#### WHAT YOUR DONATION CAN BUY

- \$10 will buy a package of Advantage or Frontline, one rabies shot, one microchip, or one metal water bucket
- \$15 will buy a 40-pound bag of our lamb and rice kibble (we use 50 per week)
- \$20 will buy one Ventura Co. license (we have to license every dog every year)

- \$25 will buy one 15-pound automatic dog feeder\*
- \$30 will buy one 25-pound automatic dog feeder\*
- \$50 will pay one average animal-shelter bailout for a rescue dog, or a spay or neuter for a small dog
- \$75 will pay for one spay or neuter for a large dog
- \$100 will pay for one average vet visit with treatment or medication
- \$150 will buy one new welded wire end piece with gate for our kennel
- \$250 will buy one 24' welded wire side for our kennel

\*Here's how to order new feeders for our kennels: go to [www.gundogsupply.com](http://www.gundogsupply.com), click on Gun Dog Supply (right-hand side of listing page), and click again on Automatic Dog Feeders under the heading Dog Supplies.  
Or call 1-800-624-6378.

### PARTING SHOTS

*Walking in a Winter Wonderland:*  
"Zeus" and "Beau Gent" Groom  
of Wolfeboro, NH with Robert