



"Ariel" Self of Lompoc

"Dobie Doings"



2946 Young Road

Fillmore, CA 93015

Phone (805) 524-5102

www.DobiesandLittlePawsRescue.org

E-mail: dobierescue@earthlink.net



"Shiloh" Yerem of Santa Clarita

Ardis Braun - Director Colleen Anderson - Webmaster & Graphic Designer Dennis Bolton - Printer

The new year 2018 is here, and so are we, despite the huge, terrible fire that came too close and the threat of burial in mud a lesser threat but still a concern. We know that some of you were affected by one or both of these horrors. Please let us know if your home was lost and where you and – hopefully – your adopted dog(s) live now. Our evacuation story follows on pages 6 and 7 in this newsletter.

There is still a supply of 2018 calendars featuring the famous (or infamous) Pippi, the beloved Dobie calendar girl, so contact us if you missed the previous announcement.

Our master computer finally gave up the ghost promptly after our evacuation ended. The computer itself was elderly and well past its prime, but thanks to our genius computer wizard, its hard drive was undamaged and was able to be reconfigured to work with a replacement computer. All of this took about a month, as our wizard contracted a bout of the nasty flu so prevalent during December and early January. We sincerely hope that none of your dear adoption updates and pictures were lost during this difficult period! It's truly amazing how significant our computers are in our lives until they're unavailable to us. We love getting your happy news and wish we could print every beautiful picture in these pages, and we try to include as many as possible in every issue.

Volunteers Dylan Mealey and his mother, Debbie Pitts, of the family that repaired our Kuranda beds, have begun making videos of our dogs. We then post them on Facebook and our website in order to

"humanize" the dogs better, which has already led to adoptions for a few of them!

Our holiday donations surpassed every past season's, as our volunteers and friends came to our aid by donating assistance of every kind, helping us to sustain the health and wellbeing of all of the animals during their evacuation period and their return back to the rescue ranch. All of your help was, and is, most sincerely appreciated!

SPRING

Blessings,

Ardis Braun

ADOPTION UPDATES

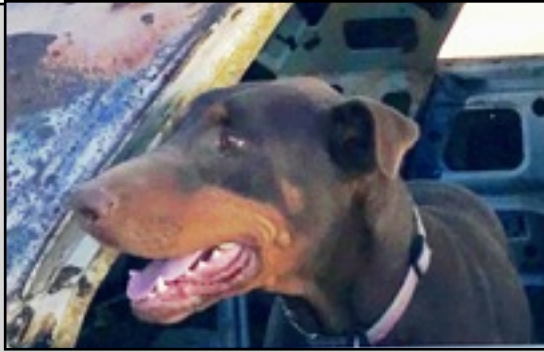
Of the dogs featured in our last newsletter, four of the seven have been adopted! Such a good feeling, knowing they were all warm and snuggly for the colder months!

TEDDY,

our big gentle giant, was adopted by the Hazlewood family of Ridgecrest. From a text message, just as we were going to press:

"Teddy is happy in the desert learning to be a good ranch dog! We changed his name to Clifford (the big red dog) and he likes patrolling the fence line of our 10 acres, and occasionally he even barks

at someone. He is so kind and gentle and wins over everyone that meets him, once they get



over the fear of his size and silent stare-down of strangers. He looks intimidating, which is perfect for us. One of his favorite things is to climb in the demolition derby cars when my husband is working on them. He likes to go for car rides!!

We have many funny Clifford stories! He was thinking he was so big and bad that he was going to chase one of our cats, but he picked the wrong cat! Tiger Lilly jumped on him and gave him quite a fright! He was unhurt, but...he had tears in his eyes and was shaking from the experience!”

ZENITH,

the sad 12-year-old Beagle mix that we placed long ago and for whom no one was left at the adoptive home to care for him, was adopted by the Pollack family of Ventura. Ginger Pollack said that

they always adopt small senior dogs and love the houndy types, so he fit the bill!

She says: “Zenith has been re-christened ‘Linus.’ He’s a sweet soul, and his new name suits him...”

He says to tell you he’s settling in to his new home – enjoying lots of walks, especially on the beach! And getting to know his fellow pet, Bully the Cat. (It’s been a rocky start, but

we’re sure with time they’ll get used to each other.) This weekend for Super Bowl, he got to meet more of the family when our grown kids were here, and everybody just loved him. What a mellow little love he is....

Thanks for bringing him into our lives.”

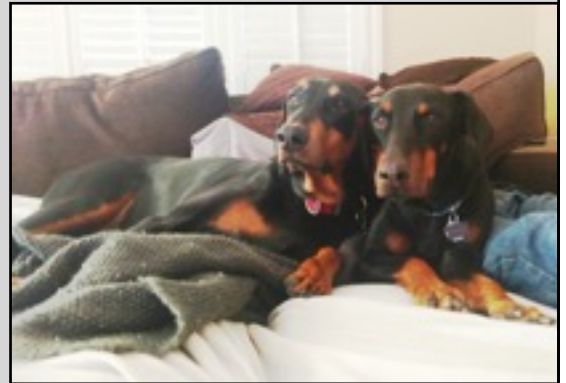


SATIN,

who is such a good dog that we didn’t even know was such a good dog during her long stay with us, was adopted by Janet Richardson and Mike Robinson of Palos Verdes Peninsula. From their recent update:

“Satin (now Paxton) is doing great! She loves to chase the ball, and the flashlight beam – for a while we thought she might be a cat in disguise. And she’s getting along great with her new brother Calvin (formerly Barkley) that we got from you five years ago.

We think she might be a swimmer when it gets warmer, but until then she divides

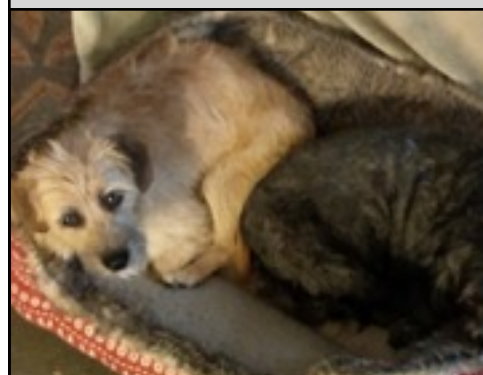


her time between snoozing on the couch and racing around the half-acre property. Can’t thank you enough for putting us together with her!”

MAXINE,

our shy little Terrier mix who was adopted from an animal shelter and then unwanted two weeks later by her adopter, has a great new home with Carol Child and her family of Rancho Cucamonga. She says:

“Maxine, now called Lucy, blossomed surprisingly quickly, and is now a happy girl. She loves going for walks. She has a little separation anxiety, but who doesn’t? Lucy adores our nine-year-old maltipoo, and the two are never far apart. Lucy adjusted to the routine here and became a



different animal once she felt loved and protected. Thanks, Ardis, for bringing Lucy into our home.”

WAITING FOR HOMES

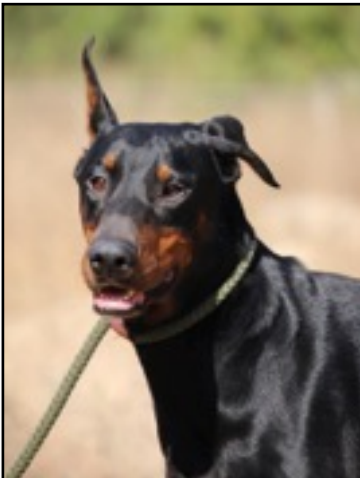
NICKY

came to us after being seized in a cruelty case. He had injuries that were healed physically, but emotionally he still needed gentle rehabilitation he couldn't easily receive in his animal shelter. Nicky is basically a gentle dog who hasn't learned to cuddle but will attempt to initiate play once comfortable with a kind person. We're not recommending Nicky for children because kids enjoy having a dog that returns their affection, and we don't believe Nicky will do that yet. He's about 6 years old and has some healing to do with a gentle and caring adult or couple.



LADY

came to us with another dog when a Doberman breeding operation in California's central valley downsized. The good news about that is that because there were a lot of dogs, those that were dumped are all very social with other dogs. The bad news is that, because they were never actually pets, they are insecure when treated as pets and aren't sure what humans expect of them. Lady almost certainly should share a home with another, more confident, dog (preferably a large male). Her adopter should also be a patient person or family because she probably won't assimilate promptly, but hopefully in time will follow the example of the other dog in the home. Lady's age was given as 2 years, and she's a solidly-built, sturdy girl.



PORKY

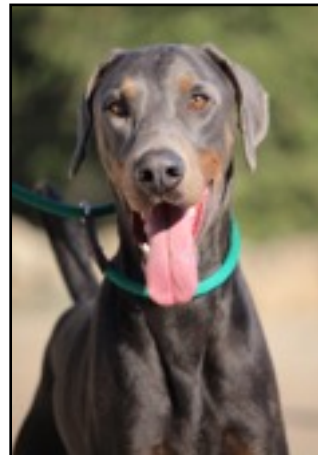
was one of a pack of four little dogs owned by a local resident who decided they had "too many dogs." They decided to keep one and surrendered three of them to us, so Porky is a very social little

dude. He is housebroken, 5 years old, and weighs 13 pounds. There is Chihuahua in his lineage, but also one or more other breeds; no one is sure exactly what they are. He is sure to bring a smile to the face of whoever becomes his new owner!



HERCULES

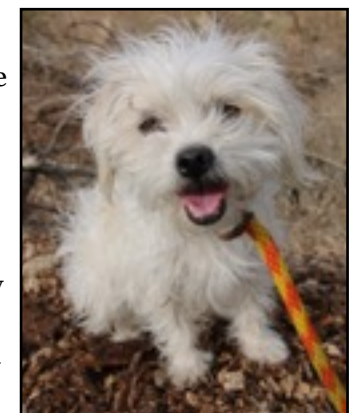
is an "all natural" (long tail and natural ears) blue Dobie who is 3 years old. He doesn't appear to be aggressive to other dogs and in fact is kenneled with a female Dobie, but he was involved in biting someone who was trying to break up a dog-to-dog altercation. It isn't known which dog began the altercation, but Hercules' family decided to give him up as a result. He's a happy, snoopy dog who is too lean at 65



pounds. (His ideal weight should be about 10 pounds more.) There may have been food issues between Hercules and the dog he argued with, as his animal shelter intake form listed him at only 50 pounds, far too little for his height. We love this super goofy guy and can't wait to see him in a loving home that can satisfy his energetic spirit and affectionate nature.

ROSIE

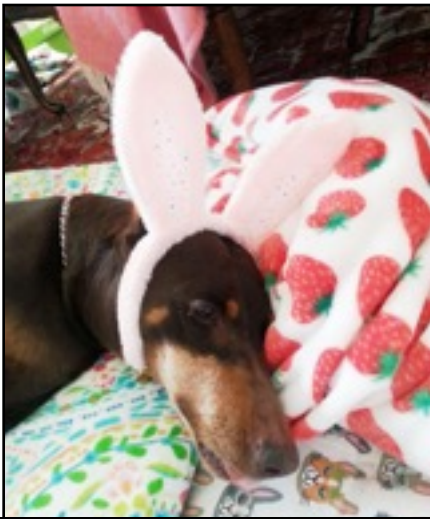
came from the same home that Porky did, and we were told she was his daughter. She has fur very similar to a Maltese: long and non-shedding, which will require regular grooming. Rosie bonds very closely with those she knows, loves to snuggle, and gives kisses. She is 2 years old, very dog- social and weighs under 10 pounds.



KAISER

is a new dog with us, though he spent a few weeks in a foster home initially until he made

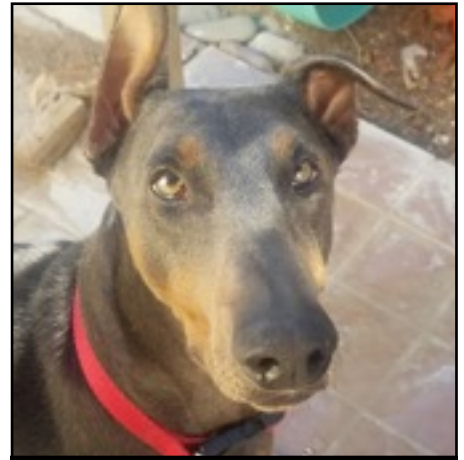
Continued on page 6



"Sierra" Playfair of Goldendale, WA



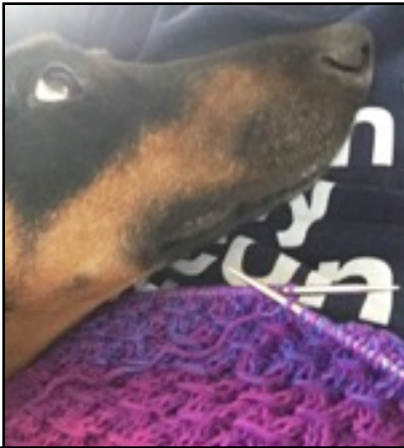
"Louigi" Rainbolt of Escondido



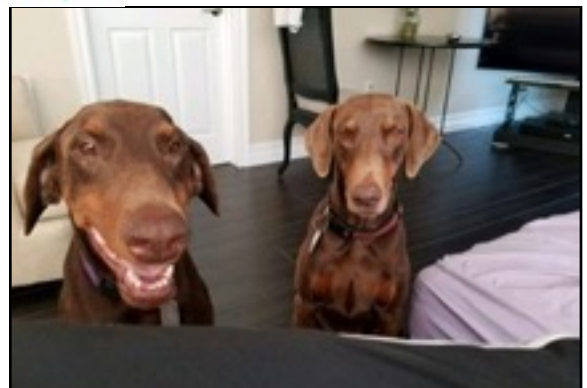
"Rani Blue" Smith of Las Vegas, NV



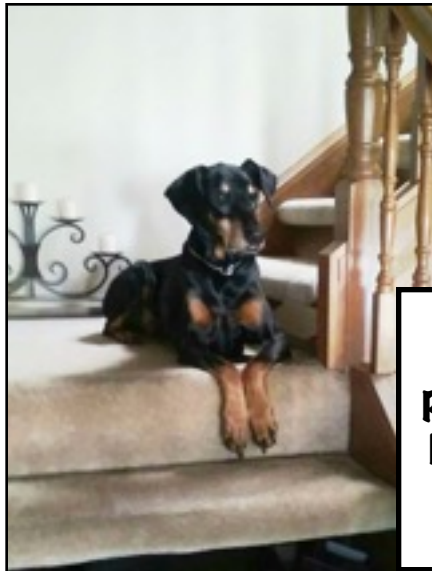
HAPPY ADOPTEES



"Gina" Gehlfuss of Torrance



"Chaos" and "Cherry" Franz of Long Beach



"Bella" Pollak of Moreno Valley



"Rocky" Martin of Simi Valley



"Maddie" Lorek of San Marcos



"Bill" Butler of Meniffee



**"Bonnie" and "Arwen"
Morrison of Canyon Country**

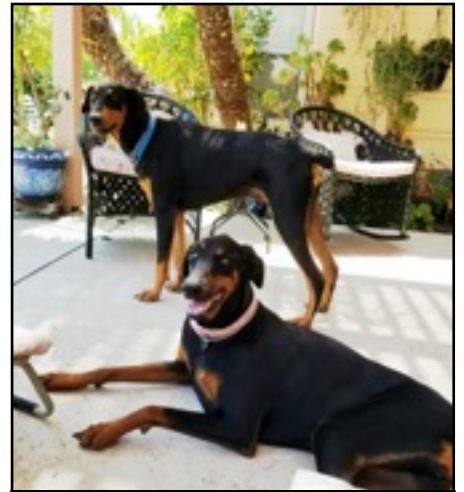
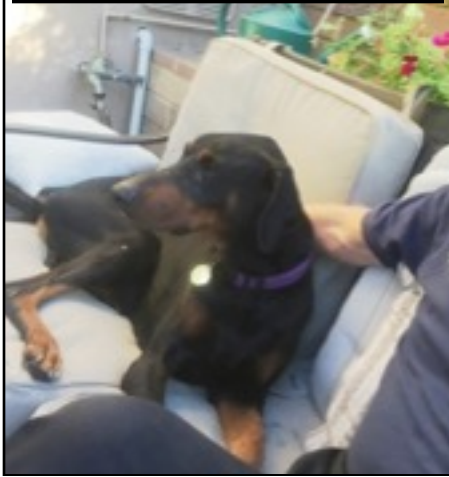


**"Pepper" Manigold of
Ventura, with Michelle**



**"Daisy Mae" Pitts-Mealey
of La Canada, with Dylan
Mealey**

**"Shanti" Campbell of
San Diego**

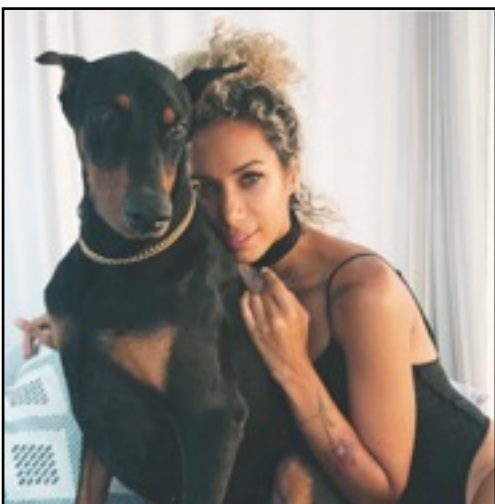


**"Ripley" and "Riley"
Saxton of Riverside**

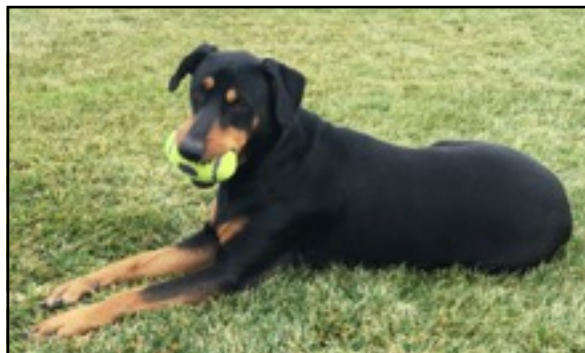


**"Guy" Lucci of Agoura, with
Armando and Patti**

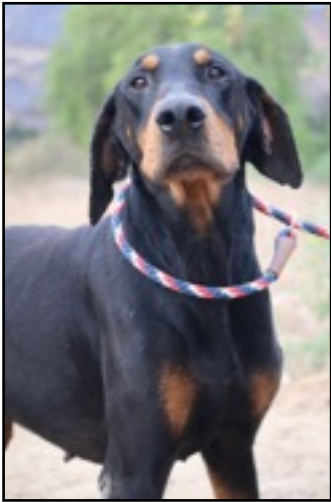
**"Indy"
Douglas-
Hughes of
Woodland
Hills, with
Ryan Hughes**



**"Zion" Lewis-Jauch of
Glendale, with Leona Lewis**



**"Winston"
O'Hearn-
Adams of
Patterson**



himself unwelcome by trying to exterminate the the resident cats at the home. We also learned that he is not housebroken, though he is reasonably tolerant of other dogs and could probably live with a large female. He may be territorial toward other dogs when on leash or in his yard, though. Kaiser is very handsome and lovable, and he is 5-6 years old.

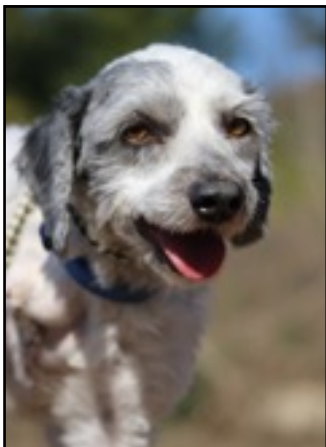
CHRISSY

is an active 3 to 5-year-old red girl with energy to spare but calms down when focused properly. She can actually be quite demure and even a little insecure so she needs an owner to give her guidance and leadership. Unfortunately, Chrissy is not comfortable around other dogs so she will have to be the one and only pet in the home. Under the right guidance, it is possible to walk her around other dogs but her discomfort should be respected and her handler should advocate for her by not putting her in situations she can't handle. She is a charming gem and will be a wonderful addition to the right Dobie-savvy home.



LIONEL

is a new cutie pie who came to us thru our vet. He was running stray and it took animal control two days to catch him but thankfully, they finally did. He had been hit by a car at some point and suffered a badly broken leg. There was no saving it so amputation was the only answer, but he healed well and adjusted quickly. Lionel is fairly young (around 3 years old) and weighs about 20 pounds. He loves people and gets very attached to those he knows, following them wherever they go and snuggling every



chance he gets. He is also dog-social. Even though he is shaved right now, he will have long, non-shedding fur naturally.

OUR DECEMBER NIGHTMARE

For the third time in 30 years, we evacuated all of our rescue dogs because of the fire danger from the horrific Ventura County “Thomas fire.” Presumably the fire was named for the St. Thomas Aquinas school on the far eastern edge of Santa Paula, just a few miles to the west of us.

At first it appeared there was no real danger because there was a powerful wind from the east, which blew the fire at an unbelievable rate toward Ventura and the coast. So much devastation occurred, including incinerating the home of favorite volunteers of ours and, we imagine, some of our other adopters as well.

By the following day, there was tremendous pressure for us to evacuate because all that was needed to possibly decimate the rescue facility was a change in the wind’s direction. The fire was so close!

It’s amazing what Facebook and Twitter posts can accomplish in this heyday of social media! We asked for help from volunteers to evacuate the dogs, and within hours we had stock trailers, pickup trucks, vans, and SUV’s loading up dogs into the crates we had on site, and other volunteers bought and rounded up additional crates and wire cages, whisking our dogs away to safety in a parking lot in downtown Fillmore.

Then the real work began. All 90-plus of the dogs had to be walked three times a day, fed, watered, and cleaned up after. Some dogs were stressed and were being fed unfamiliar brands of donated dog food, so they messed in their crates. The volunteer effort of caring for the dogs lasted eight days, at which point, despite still being under mandatory evacuation, we repatriated the dogs back home anyway. Our reasoning was that everything around us that could burn had already burned, so there would be no way for the fire to reach us.

Though we would like to thank each and every volunteer in print, the list would be long



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, Discover, American Express or MasterCard!

Card # _____ Expiration Date _____ Security Code _____

Billing Zip Code _____ 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.

AN UNEXPECTED GIFT by Colleen Anderson

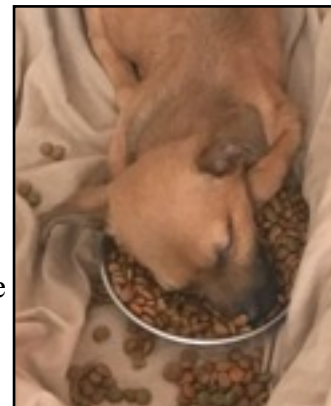
(dozens of folks showed up to walk and care for the dogs!), and we would almost certainly neglect to mention some of them; we would hate to leave anyone out. So, suffice to say that we are over-the-moon grateful to every dear soul who helped us during this trying time.

Thanks go to the Rescue Oasis boarding kennel in Palmdale, which housed seven of our dogs for several days at no charge, and thanks also go to Shauna Lidikay, owner of the Fillmore Animal Hospital, who generously allowed us to set up our refugee camp in the fenced backyard of her vet clinic so that the dogs were safely enclosed.

All of our dogs were present and accounted for at the end of our evacuation, and amazingly, even the dogs we deemed fairly dog-aggressive here at the rescue ranch were well-behaved during their walks and handling by the volunteers.

Every day in the “rescue world” can bring a new and unexpected surprise and that was exactly what happened the day I met little Misfit. I was at our vet clinic with one of our Dobermans recovering from surgery when a good samaritan brought in a puppy that had been hit by a car. The tiny, brown puppy wasn’t moving and barely breathing so I wasn’t expecting him to survive. I was back at the vet a week later with another rescue dog when the staff pointed out the pup, still alive and doing well. I couldn’t believe my eyes! He was hanging in there and continued to get stronger over the next few weeks.

After a few weeks had passed the vet brought me into a room with the little brown puppy and gave me a bit of bad news. She said she was at a loss because he needed to get out of the hospital. He was blind and deaf because of the head trauma he suffered and he needed more specialized help. Everyone knows I am a sucker for special needs dogs so I offered to give him a try. Our concern for him was quality of life because he was having a hard time with normal activities like eating,





Doberman Pinscher Rescue
 2946 Young Road
 Fillmore, California 93015

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

walking and relating to other dogs. He had fought so hard to survive though, so he deserved a chance.

The first couple of weeks were long, and caring for him was as close as I have ever come to raising a baby. He needed special feedings and he was only quiet when he was held so we would cuddle until he fell asleep. It took some time but he was getting stronger and I was seeing improvement. He would never be completely “normal” because of the head trauma but he was genuinely happy and that was all I could ask of him. It became clear that parting with Misfit would be impossible so he became part of the family and he still cuddles every night as he falls asleep.

We discovered that Misfit has a way of comforting those around him, especially when he’s held. He has joined us at the rescue, during our OkDoberFest fundraiser and most recently at our holiday party. His story is inspiring and he gets passed from person to person, mostly enjoying a nap in everyone’s arms. He has become such a hit at our parties that we think he will be a permanent addition to every Dobies and Little Paws event from here on out.

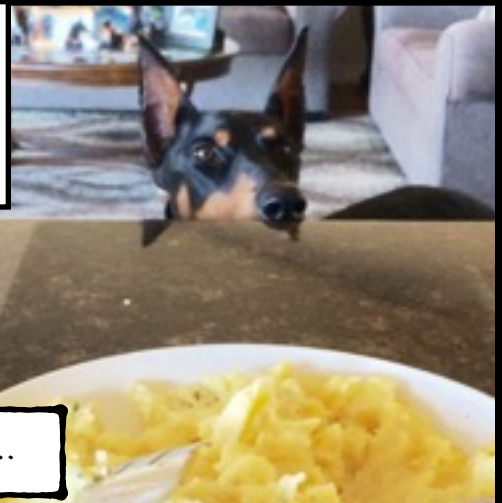


DREAMING BIG

We're often asked if we need help for any large projects here at the rescue ranch. Actually, we do. Our large lower group of kennels has concrete flooring that has broken and in some areas has essentially disintegrated. It should be replaced, as it's increasingly difficult for us to clean and sanitize. In case anyone knows a contractor who specializes in concrete work that might donate the labor, or at least do the work very reasonably, or a donor who could help finance the project, we would be thrilled!

PARTING SHOT

**“Patrick”
 O’Corrigan
 of Westlake
 Village**



Let's see...

if it takes 3 seconds to get to the gate....

