

Doberman Pinscher Rescue Report

VOL 1, NO 2



"Rocky"
Docherty
and his
little pal
"Sooty" of
Simi Valley

"Dobie Doings"



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We were expecting that you would enjoy our newsletter, but the tremendous show of support we received was really exciting. A big thanks to all of you who wrote, called, sent pictures, and, of course, your wonderful donations, both monetary and items for our upcoming garage sale. Rather than thank each of you individually for your support, we would like to use these pages to show our gratitude, and apply the mailing costs to our rescue funds to be put to work.

Many of the items donated for our garage sale were winter- and Christmas-oriented, so we've decided to have two sales: one this spring, and the other in November, when such items will be more in demand. The spring sale has been scheduled for Friday, April 26, from 12:00 - 6:00, and Saturday, April 27, from 10:00 - 6:00, at 27681 Estepona, Mission Viejo (Orange County), California. In case of rain, it will be postponed one week. Please call if you have any items you wish to donate for either sale.

Recently I was invited by friend Ellen Landy, a Special Ed teacher for L.A. Unified School District, to come to one of her classes of developmentally disabled kids and talk to them about pet care. I welcomed the opportunity, but expected that many of the kids would be surly, with bad attitudes.

What a surprise! There were about 40 kids of all ages and



Billy, a student at
Victory Blvd. School, with
"PRINCESS"

colors, and all of them were there because they wanted to be, not because someone made them come. I brought two dogs with me, a small one and a large one (not a Doberman - I was concerned that some would be afraid of a Doberman); they loved the dogs and had so many questions that I could barely keep up with them all. It was a pleasure to begin to plant the seeds of responsible pet ownership with a new generation of people, many from cultures where animals are scavengers and not highly prized.

I've been invited back, and next time I'm going to bring a Doberman!

You've probably already noticed that we selected the name "Dobie Doings" for our newsletter. It was a tough choice; over a dozen really clever names were suggested, but the winning idea came from Gail Matz of Ojai.

Thanks to all who contributed.

Now sit back and enjoy this, our second newsletter. All "Letters to the Editor" are welcome.

Sincerely,

Ardis Braun

Ardis Braun
Director

Ardis Braun
Director
Suzette Smith
Graphic Designer
Dennis Bolton
Aaron Lucas
Printer

☐ Waiting for homes
☐ Seizure Alert
☐ Photo Contest
☐ Medical Matters

P.S. We inadvertently omitted the names of volunteers Ellen Landy and Katy Sandell in our last issue, and now we have new volunteer Toni Conrad to thank as well.

Adoption Updates



"Rags"

If you received our last newsletter, we'd like to update you on some of the animals for adoption. "RAGS", the Doberman whose ears were cut off with a scissors, was adopted by the Minkel family of Thousand Oaks. He lives on a wonderful large property and has another dog to play with. At last report, he was one happy fellow, and the Minkels say he's a great dog.

"GENTRY," the beautiful red male Doberman who was nearly dismembered in a pit bull attack, was adopted, by the Ginsberg family of Palm Springs. We are told that he is very timid, perhaps from abuse, but his new owners are patient and are giving him every reason to learn to trust them. As the only dog in his new home, Gentry has all the love and attention to himself.



"Mabel"

Other dogs we told you about that are still available are (clockwise from top):

"MABEL," a tiny older Sheltie mix,

"HANS," a delightful young purebred German Shepherd with a misshapen head;

"DOOLEY," now an 8-month Doberman puppy, also with a misshapen jaw; "SMOKY," a long-term resident blue male Doberman.



"Smoky"



"Hans"



"Dooley"

GOOD NEWS!

Just as we were going to press, Hans was adopted, by the Christa Family of Cypress.

In addition to these extremely deserving pets, we'd like to tell you about a few new dogs that require special homes:



"JACK" and **"JILL"** are approximately 8-month old Dobies with natural ears and tails. They are beautiful and good-natured, but were apparently abused by their previous owner and are still frightened of all people, even the one that feeds them. They should probably be placed separately, but each with at least one other, more confident, dog.



"TRUFFLE" is a male Shih Tzu, about two years old, who arrived at our facility with a broken pelvis. He has now had over a month of cage rest and is using all four legs, but he shuffles considerably in his hind quarters due to temporary or permanent nerve damage. He's affectionate and quite social with other dogs.

More
happy
adoption
stories



From Kristine Pearson of Fountain Valley:

I received your newsletter and was thrilled to see how much you are doing for Doberman Rescue. I rescued my dog **"TASHA"** from your ranch 5 years ago...She is one of the smartest dogs anyone in my family has ever had. She knows about 50 words and the names of all her toys. She is a true joy and everyone that meets her falls in love with her. I wish your organization continued success and I am enclosing a donation to help.



From Trudy Jarratt of Arroyo Grande:

Frank and I enjoyed the Rescue Report very much. A little over a year ago we adopted **"BREE"** from you...We brought our young puppy, Thor, along to help us choose the right dog. Bree was the perfect choice...In the evenings, Thor pushes a rubber ring into Bree's mouth when she is resting on the living room floor. He then pulls her around the room with the ring. She plays "dead dog" and lets Thor drag her around. It's become a ritual game for them. (Bree is much larger than Thor - she weighs around 70 lbs., while Thor weighs only 58 lbs.) It's very funny to watch. They chase each other all around our 3 acres...until they both drop from exhaustion. I hope you are able to find homes for more Dobermans. They make such loving family pets. I wish we could have a dozen.



From Karen Aronson of Simi Valley:

"BAILEY'S" doing wonderful! At first, Riley was a little ticked off, but now they're the best buddies. They "wrestle" together first thing in the morning, right before bedtime and many hours in between. Riley hasn't been this active in a couple of years. I can tell they're both so happy!
As I watch Riley and Bailey together, I wonder how I ever survived without him. Thank you so much for caring about dogs and helping me save Bailey's life.
I'll keep in touch and you and your dogs will be in my prayers.



From Linda and Greta Burnhardt of Temple City:

"MANFRED" has become 100% integrated into the household. He is probably one of the most delightful dogs to join our family. He has personality and energy that won't quit. He's a great trail companion. He's a fantastic watchdog.
Manfred is a lot like Simon the Velcro dog - but we nicknamed him "Pesto" - one of our favorite dishes. He bumps our arms and grins from ear-to-dumbo ear.

From Pat Barry of Oxnard:

We adopted **"MARKO"** in September '92 - and went through our shakedown period and he bonded very tightly with my husband. In September '93 my husband passed away suddenly. Marko, Sabrina (our cat) and I were all devastated. For two years now Marko and Sabrina have taken care of me and helped me through this tough time. God helps us in wonderful, magical ways.



From Sandy Dannenbaum of Venice:

Here is **"BOBBY"** enjoying one of his many Christmas gifts...in "his" bed. Isn't he beautiful? He loves little children and thinks every dog God put on earth was just to play with him.



From Cindy Lee of Summerland:

I have often wondered if you were still involved with the rescue of dogs, especially Dobermans. I'm glad

to see that you are, and that you are able to enhance your rescue efforts. That is super!

I have thought of you often since I adopted "DANA" several years ago. I want to tell you, she is the most intelligent and loyal dog I have ever had; and both myself and my husband have had other Dobermans and of course other breeds as well...Everyone who visits our home falls in love with her. Many have told me how they dislike this breed, but for some reason after being around Dana their hearts melt and they then tell me how much they like her...She loves kids, made friends with my cat, and ignored our African Grey parrot.

I would like to say thank you for the wonderful job you are doing.



"Breaker" Conrad

From Barbara Conrad of Leggett:

Hope all is well! I have to say "BREAKER" is the most wonderful Dobie in the world. We are buds. I can't imagine not having her around! Her personality has blossomed to be a sweet natured dog. She is wonderful with children (all ages!) and other dogs. She's very smart and passed obedience about 11/2 years ago or so...I hope all the dogs are doing well, and someday I will get another Dobie, this time for Breaker! Take care.

From Astrid and Bruce Jastremski of Playa del Rey:

We adopted "DUKE", a beautiful red Doberman, from your facility 3 1/2 years ago. Duke immediately won our hearts and continues to be the pride and joy of our household. Thank you so much for caring so much for these needy animals.

From Mike Gregorczyk of Simi Valley:

I received your newsletter several months ago, and it reminded me how long it's been since I adopted "LIBBY." When I first got her home, she was the wildest, most playful and inquisitive dog I had ever seen, but she was smart. She house-broke herself! Over the past few years she's settled down considerably, and has become one of the family. She's probably the most spoiled dog in Simi Valley! I just wanted to let you know that one of your former charges is living the good life in Simi, and will never do without again! I thank you for saving her for us; she's a true gift!

Sorry we could not include all of your wonderful photos...yet. Keep them coming, and we'll print as many as we can.



"Pancake" Toffel of Flintridge

SEIZURE ALERT

A very exciting opportunity came our way last year. We were asked to choose a candidate to be trained for seizure response work. In much the same way that Retrievers are often used for seeing-eye dogs and Beagles for drug-sniffing work, it was determined that Dobermans, because of their enormous sensitivity and loyalty to their owners, would be a good choice for seizure alert work; namely, to detect and warn the owner of an imminent epileptic or other type of seizure and thus avoid the dangers of a surprise episode. We chose a large female Dobie named Dawn to be trained using \$3,000. in grant money obtained for that purpose. Dawn had all of the right attributes: she was secure and well-adjusted, intelligent, calm, loyal, obedient, sensitive, and social with people and other animals. Plus, she was gorgeous -- a fine representative of her breed. Good P.R. for Dobies!

From Fillmore, Dawn was sent to Dobie Heaven rescue in Clovis, where Betty Cochran did some basic training with her before sending her to North Dakota for several months of intensive training.

Today Dawn is the constant companion of a 16-year-old girl named Cissy who operates on a 12-year-old level. She has had multiple disabilities from birth, ranging from epilepsy, asthma, migraines, and low immune system, to borderline mild mental retardation, severe learning disabilities, auditory memory and processing dysfunction, to arthritis, ankylosing spondylitis and fibromialgia. Everywhere she went, someone had to accompany her in case of a seizure, memory lapse, etc. There were times Cissy was a block from home and became completely lost.

After Dawn was trained, Cissy was taken to meet her new companion. The following is a portion of a letter written by Cissy's mother to the Great Plains Assistance Dogs Foundation, reprinted with permission from "The Foundation Chronicles," their newsletter:

"Dawn and Cissy bonded together almost immediately, and Cissy was able to control this 90 lb. animal with a quick snap of the leash and a steady command...Progress was made at such a rapid rate that even (the trainer) was surprised.

However, the ultimate joy came on a Wednesday night. Although having seizures can certainly not be called 'a joy,' Dawn's response surely could be. She began to respond to Cissy's 'different' state almost an hour before the seizure became apparent either to Cissy or myself. I will not go into detail, but suffice it to say Dawn alerted, on her own, not only Cissy, but me. Then she took it upon herself to keep Cissy on the floor in a sitting position until Dawn sensed the seizure was coming to an end. Before it was over, I found myself watching the dog for signals, not my daughter. Once the seizure was at an end, Dawn became her regular, relaxed self and I became one of the happiest people in the world."

Because of the marvelous sensitivity of her special Doberman, this young woman will be able to lead a much freer, more normal, life. And it all started with saving a good dog from the pound. Are we proud? You bet!

MEDICAL MATTERS

In our 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 precious Dobie pictured here, "BRANDY," with her new owner,

Erin (and husband Steve) Yates of Cypress.

Brandy had been turned in to the South Central L.A. pound by her previous owner, and Dobie Rescue purchased her there a few days later. According to shelter policy, she had to be left for spaying by a veterinarian of their choice. When we arrived to pick her up at the vet's office, he said that when he opened her for her spay surgery, he found that she had previously been spayed, but before sewing her back up he noticed a rather large growth in her abdomen.

Because an appointment had already been made to show Brandy to the Yates family that afternoon, we kept the appointment and told the potential new owners about Brandy's tumor. They sincerely wanted to adopt her immediately and take care of her medical condition. We committed to paying half of her additional vet costs for whatever was involved.

It turned out that Brandy's whole abdomen was full of contusions, major masses which probably would have killed her if left unattended. The surgery to repair her left her very sick and weak for many weeks, but she survived it, thanks to the Yates' emotional and financial commitment to their pet, and thanks to your donations. Brandy's surgery was expensive, but we all agree that Brandy is well worth it.



Photo Contest

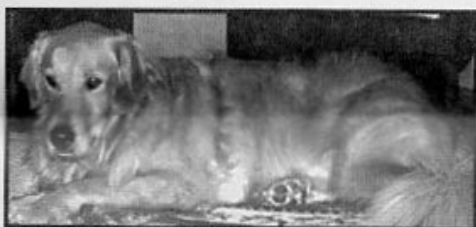
So many adorable photos have been shared with us; too many to print! But, we've decided to launch a photo contest to recognize some of the best in a special way. Over the next several months, four to six photos will be selected for reproduction on note cards. The winners will receive free boxes of note cards; others will be able to order the cards for a nominal charge.

The only rule of this contest is that winning photos must feature at least one dog of any breed obtained from Dobie Rescue. If you have a photo you can't bear to part with, just write your name and address on the back and we'll mail it back to you. The deadline for the photo contest will be announced in our next newsletter. Get that camera out and have some fun!



"COOKIE" Lykke of Los Angeles, with friends

Here are more of the happy dogs who have found new homes!



"Buster" Waxman of Moorpark



"SIERRA" Ellis of Oxnard, babysitting



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I want to support Doberman Pinscher Rescue!

I am making the following contribution to Doberman Pinscher Rescue

() \$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



**"Thor" Atchison of
La Mirada**



"Sonny" Catlow of Fullerton



**"TIFFANY" Chin of
Granada Hills**

IN OUR NEXT ISSUES:

- Rescue Dobies in movies and modeling
- A special Doberman named **"ROMEO"**
- The delightful story of three Dobies who tracked their owner down to a hospital room.

Doberman Pinscher Rescue



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