



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

"Dobie Doings"



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Fillmore, Ca 93015
Phone(805)524-5102
www.dobierescue.org

www.DobiesandLittlePawsRescue.org

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**"Nacho" Murray of Ventura,
with Carly, Zac and "Lil Al"**

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

Another winter is upon us, that time of year when we all feel sorry for the dogs that are still waiting for their warm homes and comfy beds. Even in Southern California, there are many nights in the 30's. Please remember us when you have old blankets, sheets and comforters to throw away; we stuff these in dog-houses and dogloos to keep our critters warm.

Paula Cwikly, a dear friend and adopter who lives in Toluca Lake, will be having her Deck the Halls With Bones and Balls annual holiday party and fundraiser to benefit us on Sunday, December 18, beginning at 4 p.m. Please RSVP to confirm your attendance as the date approaches, as well as to confirm the date in the event of last-minute changes. Her phone number is (818) 985-5698. As always, this party offers great food, drinks, and company, and all that's required is to bring a nice gift for our dogs. We have plenty of treats and toys, but we always need the stuff mentioned in our Wish List (see p. 8).

Speaking of which, we want to express our gratitude to all of you who have helped us during this time of financial crisis due to the huge costs of getting our kennel license renewed for another ten years. Your extra generosity was noticed and sincerely appreciated. Our "virtual adoption" program also yielded a half dozen virtual homes for less-adoptable pets, which help us care for them. If you aren't yet familiar with this program, please check it out on our web site.

Have a great holiday season, send us pictures, and please remember to do something special for your dogs!

Sincerely,

Ardis Braun

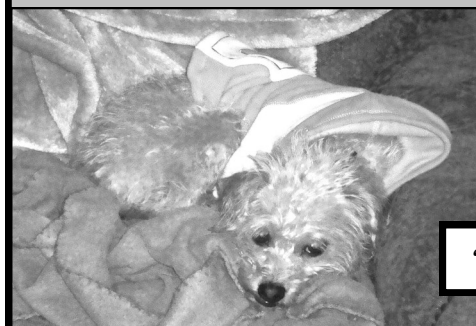


Adoption Updates

This is one of our favorite sections to write because it means some of our favorite characters are now enjoying the good life! This time, three of the dogs featured in our last newsletter have been adopted, and one other has scored a foster home, where it seems he may be able to stay until he finds a suitable permanent home.

TAFFY,

the scruffy Terrier mix who was never going to win a beauty contest, won a great home instead with Pat and Scott Burton of Simi Valley, who have adopted from us before. Pat says that, like all girls, she can be a pain in the butt, but she plays well with Honey Girl, one of their other dogs, and she joins the chorus when Harry barks at visitors. Her new name is Emmy Lou. Pat says "We fell in love with her 'cause she was sooo ugly, but now she's 'our girl!'...Even after a trip to the groomer her hair is unmanageable, so I add a bit of gel to it, and it helps....Her favorite things are toys to shake, playing tug of war, and curling up at



night under all the covers. Our plan is to take her everywhere we go!"

"Emmy Lou"

MICHELLE,

the sweet older Dobie mix who spent several years in our facility, was adopted by Carol, Mary and Richard Long of Scotts Valley. Her new name is Nell, and they say she has fit beautifully into their lives. From a recent e-mail: "Nell is doing very well!...She's great on walks and ignores all the noisy dogs in our neighborhood... She's terrific with my nephews (ages almost 6 and almost 9); the

pic is with my younger nephew, Phillip... We took her to my brother's house for a BBQ, and she was very well-behaved around all the people and the food!... Thanks again for keeping her around so we could find her. Bless all of you and the good work you do!"

SAMMY,

our big Beagle boy from Taiwan, really lucked out joining the pack living with Frank Sovich of Carpinteria. Frank has three Dobie mixes from us, and his dogs get to go with him to the beach, desert, hiking trails...and even if they don't go anywhere, he has a great ranch for them to enjoy and explore. Sammy is being fostered there until he finds the perfect home, which Frank thinks would be with a doting older gentleman.

OTIS,

our Dobie boy who, with his elderly companion, Jazzy, lost their "dad" when he passed away in June of a sudden stroke, is now living in Foresthill with former adopters Erin and Don Hunt, and their four kids: Nathan, 7; Gracie, 5; Will, 3; and Silas, 6 mo. From Erin's recent e-mail: "Thank you for all that you did to get Otis up to us...He is sweet and responds to all of us so well. He loves running around in our yard, and he is so good about sitting where we ask him to when we ask him to... We stopped and got him food and soft beds (one for outside, one for inside)...while there he helped himself to some of the dog biscuits in the bin by the cash register. Funny. Anyway, we are so very thankful."

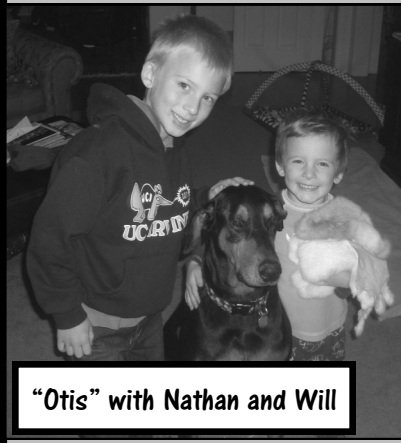
Then another e-mail: "He has been getting constant love from all of us, and he likes it. He took one of the baby's squeak toys, and now it is his. Very cute... He tried to take the baby's blanket from the couch and I was so happy because he loves his blankie like my other dobie did... Our 3-year-old loves to carry around bunny furs. He does have to hide them from Otis if he wants to keep

them for long. Also, when Otis goes to the bathroom, he doesn't go on the grass; he goes in the dirt areas around the perimeter. Then he wipes his feet off in the grass before he comes in... Fabulous!... We all love him!"

(And WE have tears in our eyes.)



"Nell"

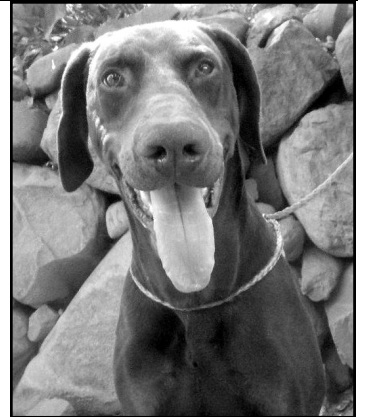


"Otis" with Nathan and Will

WAITING FOR HOMES

SCOUT

is a 4-year-old red Dobie who was turned in to an animal shelter because he can't live with livestock and chickens. To be on the safe side, we would recommend that he not live with small dogs, cats, or any other small animals. Scout is a big boy with a docked tail, good with children, with a friendly, happy personality.



ELLE

is 8 years old and weighs about 25 pounds. She has soft fur, probably a mix of American Eskimo and something of similar size. Elle was adopted by a family that liked to go away on weekends, leaving her in the yard, where she did not prefer to spend her whole weekends alone; so she escaped, repeatedly. She likes kids, is housebroken, but does not like cats.



WAITING FOR HOMES CONTINUED

SOFIE

Is a 2-year-old Papillon mix who has been here far longer than someone so cute should have to be (3



1/2 months)! She's 12 pounds of love, good with other dogs and cats, and very affectionate to her loved one(s). We thing Sofie is much more comfortable with women, though she is insecure with any and all strangers

at first. At this time, her behavior with children isn't known.

GOOBER

is 6-7 years old and has been with us for years.

This is a dog who deserves a good home. He is friendly, playful (loves playing ball), mellow, quiet, and undemanding.

Though Goober lived briefly around other dogs at the home that relinquished him to us, we have not been able to kennel him with other dogs. He's a red male with docked tail, average size, and he would be a good candidate for a foster home.



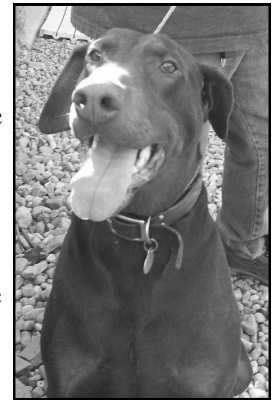
LORNA

is a black and tan Dobie with a natural tail, about 5 years old. She loves attention and is respectful of and submissive to people, which should make her very easy to train. We think Lorna would probably work well with adults and older kids, but we haven't found her to be social with other dogs.



NEIKO

is red, almost 6 years old, and he's had three homes, two of which were our adoptions. One of them had him a very short time; he wasn't a good fit for them. The second home was much longer-term and a good fit, but he apparently damaged some plants in their yard and was returned. To his credit, he's not destructive, doesn't dig, is good off leash, likes kids, knows his commands, and is housebroken. While Neiko may accept some large female dog companions, he doesn't require another dog and probably would be quite content to be the only dog,



Amazing Dobermans

The article below is from an Australian newspaper, praising a Doberman named Khan for saving a child from a potentially life-threatening snakebite.

One of our own adoptees, "Cannon," who was adopted by Andrew Andreasen of Adelanto Airpark, did the same, killing a Mojave green rattlesnake nestled on the family's porch, before it could attack Andrew or his kids. He spent over \$1,500 saving the dog's life, but he considers his family extremely lucky!

Please feel free to share these stories with those you know who think Dobies are scary attack dogs!

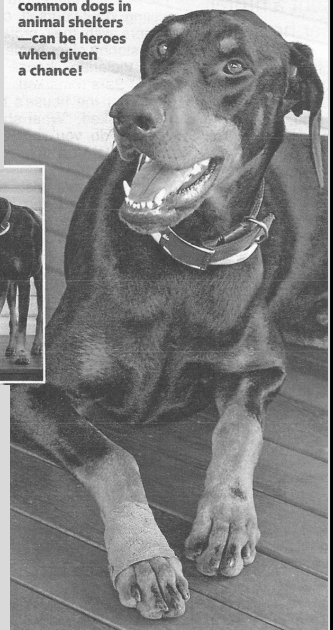
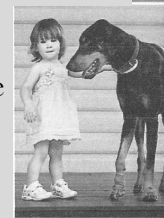
The Doberman that saved a toddler from a snake!

Khan was a starving and neglected Doberman who had just been removed from an abusive home in Australia when the Sivillic family decided to rescue him.

Little did they know that just four days later, he'd return the favor! Khan was outside in the backyard with his new family's 17-month-old daughter, Charlotte, when he spotted something underneath the house, just a few feet away: it was a deadly King Brown snake about to strike! Khan tried to alert the girl to get out of the snake's path by nudging her, but she didn't budge.

Khan's selfless act proves Dobermans—one of the most common dogs in animal shelters—can be heroes when given a chance!

Pat



Continued on page 8.



“Romeo” Stephens of Houston, TX, with Sondria



“Panzer”
and
“Poppy”
Terrell of Escondido

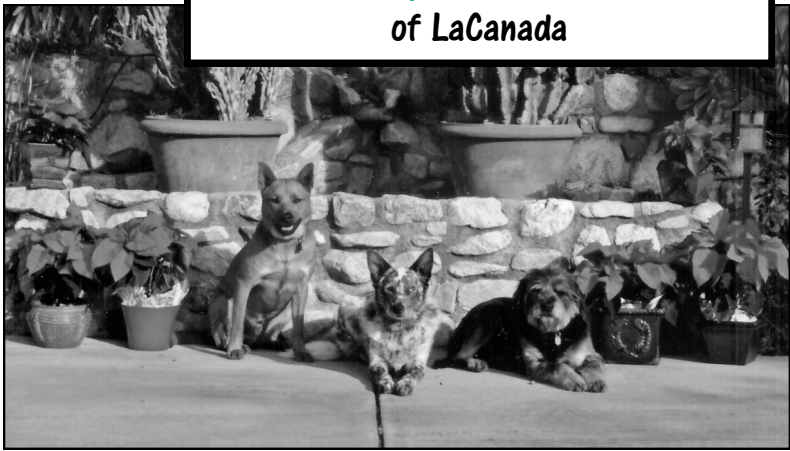


**HAPPY
HOWLIDAYS!**



“Red”
Thiel of Thousand Oaks

“Fred,” “Kylie” and “Jack” Ball of LaCanada



“Chico”
Goodhouse of Santa Barbara



“Jenny”
Sessa of Lexington, KY



“Tori” Berkhout of Simi Valley



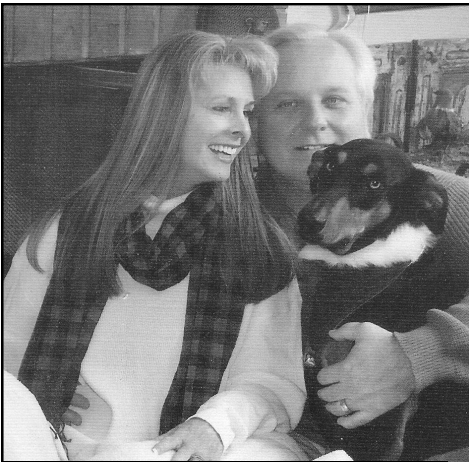
“Mister” Magdaleno of Santa Paula, with Cali



“Bailey” Saxton of Riverside, with Liz



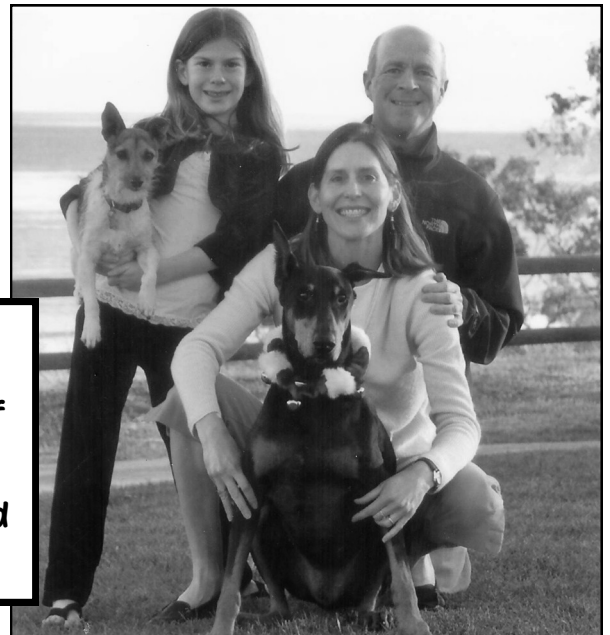
“Ziggy” Murphy of Sparks, NV



“Quigley” Greene of San Diego, with Cass and Marty



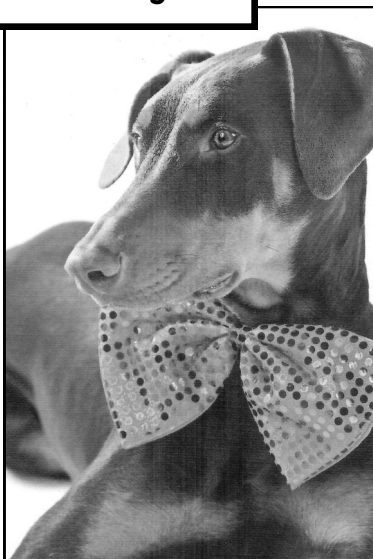
“Willow” and **“Eleke”** Blamire of Santa Barbara with Lindsay, Kathleen and Bob



“Raleigh” Greene of San Diego



“Stella” Betournay of Thousand Oaks



“Annika” and **“Franklin”** Forester of Shadow Hills, with Katherine

DOGS AND FREEDOM

In the old days, many people, maybe even most people, didn't fence their yards. If they had pet dogs, they were allowed to roam unless they got into trouble. Most of the time they came home, sometimes with a few bite marks from other dogs, often with burrs, but they experienced freedom.

Now, in most areas – certainly urban areas – free-roaming dogs are not permitted. Animal control officers, formerly called dog-catchers, receive numerous calls per week and round up strays, where they are held in shelters for owners who may or may not show up to reclaim their animals.

We currently have a dog named Kaan (viewable on our web site) who was a stray, free-roaming dog for three months before he was captured and kept by the



people who eventually turned him over to us because they had to move in to an apartment. Kaan is an anxious dog, which may have more to do with his losing his home than being confined, but he most definitely has a few issues that he alone understands.

There is a delightful book called *Merle's Door*, by Ted Kerasote, about a dog that was found and kept by the author. He had a long and happy life as an unfenced pooch who made the rounds of a small town in northwestern Wyoming, accepting handouts from a variety of people in the town, always returning to sleep at Ted's house at night. The thing that probably bothered us more than his free-roaming was that Ted did not even keep a collar and tag on the dog. (We in the rescue community always worry about dogs without tags.)

Another delightful little book called *It Takes a Dog to Raise a Village*, by Ruth Gordon, is a collection of stories about dogs that were owned by an entire town, or, in the case of Owney, the famous terrier mix who was "adopted" by the entire postal community, his home was the whole world.

As this is written, we have an adoptee named Jupiter who got away from his new adoptive owner, Leslie Woolford, MONTHS AGO; four days after she and her son adopted him on September 3rd. At first we all worried. It was the beginning of September, and there were several days with heat over 100 degrees in Rancho

in Rancho Cucamonga, where Leslie lives. Leslie became a regular at the Inland Valley Humane Society in Pomona, the Rancho Cucamonga animal shelter, and the San Bernardino animal shelter. She visited shelters twice a day, printed and distributed hundreds of "Lost Dog" fliers, and drove hours every day looking for him.

Finally she located Jupiter but could not catch him. He allowed her to approach within eight feet and would then take off again. He spent his time at a recreational park called Guasti Park, which is studded with ponds, where Jupiter found all the water he needed, and...part of his diet apparently consisted of crayfish from the ponds! Leslie surprised him one morning as he finished devouring one; the other crayfish was still alive.

She tried leaving a trail of tempting things that led from the park to her back yard, leaving the gate open and staying up all night, hoping to see or hear him and close the gate before he could escape. She enlisted the help of volunteers, animal control officers, the park ranger, a veterinarian, and even a helicopter. They surrounded his hideout, fed him food baited with benadryl in a dosage recommended by the veterinarian, and waited.

It has been very frustrating. To date he has not been captured, though he does not look undernourished. Often when dragnets were set up that were nearly failsafe, he failed to show up. At least one night that we know of, a team of animal control volunteers came at 4 a.m. with fencing they could unroll to prevent Jupiter from escaping into the ravine and back into freedom. That night he didn't appear.

We all pray for the safe capture and return of this great dog to Leslie's home. He seemed to be very happy there for the short time he spent, but something in his nature may have been accustomed to utter freedom and wildness, and that must have a stronger pull on him than being someone's house pet.

Included here is our file photo of Jupiter from before his adoption. We are hoping to substitute a picture of his capture before this newsletter goes to press.

Otherwise, watch our web site and/or Facebook page for what we hope will be an eventual conclusion to this





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 I am enclosing the best gift I can: \$ _____

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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.

TOUGH DECISIONS

by Colleen Anderson

Those of us in animal rescue have a lot of power, though in a very limited area. We get to decide, almost on a daily basis, which animals get to live and which have to perish, because there will never be enough rescuers, adopters, and fosters to accommodate all of the deserving animals needing and deserving that opportunity. Our decisions don't always make the most sense to the outside observer, but if we are persuaded by a particular dog's situation, history, appearance, any combination of these, or something else entirely, we are rarely ever disappointed that we made that decision.

I discovered that I have a special vulnerability to dogs with severe handicaps. I have to be careful when choosing one of these to rescue because the odds are strong that that dog won't be adoptable and that I'll end up keeping him or her, which means the dog will have to be one whose handicap I can accommodate, and that the dog will blend with the others in my care. Within the past month I rescued two severely handicapped dogs, whom I've named Hero and Petunia.



"Hero"

Hero appeared on postings from the rescue organization in Taiwan that we've accepted over a dozen dogs from previously. His special handicap is that he has only two legs, the two front ones, the result of having been in an accident that required amputation of both rear legs. He quickly learned

to balance on his two remaining legs and with only 25 pounds to carry around, he can walk with ease. Unfortunately the paralysis that occurred because of the accident has left him unable to control his bathroom habits but otherwise, he can walk, run, and play like any normal dog.

The other dog, Petunia, I happened to see in a central California animal shelter when I went there to pick up a Doberman. Petunia is a nearly all-white Australian Shepherd (or mix) puppy who is deaf and nearly blind. She has the double merle gene that often causes blindness and deafness. Her sweet, gentle nature really reached me and there was something that told me this innocent soul just didn't deserve to die. She gets along surprisingly well and because she cannot rely on body language or sound, it all seems to be scent driven. Many times she can find me from across the yard. The other dogs were a bit confused by her at first but she has quickly won them over with her sweet, submissive puppy love.



"Petunia"

The "payoff" for me in rescuing dogs like Hero and Petunia is not only that it feels good to help disadvantaged critters, but doing so also is inspirational to me. We are so tempted to feel sorry for ourselves because we don't have enough time, enough money, regret some of our life decisions, etc., and then to see a dog so handicapped still experience joy, love, and life, is a constant reminder that we should always try to view the glass as half full rather than half empty. We typically think we need to be the ones to teach stuff to our dogs, but very often they can be the teachers, and we can be the students.



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Amazing Dobermans Continued

Finally, Khan grabbed the back of Charlotte's diaper and flung her over his shoulder, moving her several feet out of the way! The venomous snake lunged, biting Khan in the paw instead of Charlotte. "Charlotte looked pretty shocked and Khan screamed like he'd been stabbed," recalls mom Catherine.

Luckily, the vet was able to give Khan a shot of anti-venom medicine in time, and the hero dog made a full recovery. "If I had not seen it with my own eyes I would not have believed it. He saved her life by risking his own," says Catherine, who adds she'll give the once-beaten dog a life of luxury to repay him. "If Khan wants a gold dog bowl, Khan gets it. We owe him for the rest of his life."

WISH LIST

- Dogloos and plastic dog houses, new or used
- 8- to 12-quart rustproof metal buckets
- 18" nylon or leather collars
- Kuranda beds with metal frames, any size
- Advantix flea-tick top spot medication
- Used blankets and comforters
- Leaf blower, new or used
- Office Supplies (pens, paper, scissors, etc.)
- Grooming Supplies (brushes, trimmers, clippers)
- Financial help (no gift is too small)

PARTING SHOT

"Sprocket" Rivera of Moorpark



"The eye is the lamp of the soul" in human beings, so to a certain extent can the same be said of the dog.

-I & Dog, by the Monks of New Skete