### **Dobies and Little Paws Rescue Report**

## VOL. 27 NO 1 Spring 2022



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

X e were hoping to start the new year with positive Naturally it's also due to our having so many things to say about the uptick during the last two quarters in the huge numbers of pets saturating animal shelters throughout the state and, probably, the country. Unfortunately, it's worse than ever. One day in mid-January we observed a shocking statistic: there were 47 Dobermans in animal shelters in California that day, with a daily average of about 40, compared with 12 in previous years' daily averages. These numbers will almost certainly become worse for years to come due to the pandemic's toll on the population, including employees staffing vet clinics, meaning difficulty getting spays and neuters as well as getting medical treatment for ailing pets.

In addition, many shelters have been releasing adopted animals unspayed and unneutered, hoping people will make it happen. Probably only 10% of them will, and that means a lot more unwanted (or maybe even intended) litters. Finally, to make the picture even bleaker, some shelters had to close temporarily due to outbreaks of distemper (all through the Central Valley) and canine influenza.

Please revaccinate your dogs for distemper if they're overdue, hopefully including the leptospirosis immunization, and get the canine flu shot also while you're there. These could be lifesavers!

One optimistic, positive note is that there has been an increase in adoptions! We credit this partly to our new on-line application, which is much easier for applicants to understand, complete, and return.

wonderful and deserving dogs for adoption. We hope to continue having enough social, adoptable dogs to satisfy demand, but some of our more challenging dogs are also receiving the notice they deserve.

We receive so many great pictures of our adoptees that we could literally fill each newsletter with only pictures - and nothing else - and still not have enough room for all of them. In this issue I finally gave in to temptation and have included a separate page for exclusively non-Doberman adoptees.

We continue to receive helpful donations (most recently due to the "Betty White Challenge") as well as generous assistance from the folks at Special Needs Dobermans and the Decker-McKee Foundation for our most serious medical cases. We are grateful for all the help provided, of every kind, from every source.

> With heartfelt thanks, Ardis Braun

## **ADOPTION UPDATES**

Interesting updates this quarter:

#### Mack.

a senior Dobie we rescued from an animal shelter on the border with Mexico just prior to a 126-degree day, was adopted by Hilda, Konstantin and Peter Klimenko of Santa Monica. Mack didn't have to spend much time

with us despite his age (9 years), and he's wellloved and happy in his new home. It's such a thrill to know others love old dogs as much as we do!

From Hilda: "When we brought Mack home 6 weeks

ago, it took about 3 hours for him to feel comfortable staying in the house...He is now feeling more confident. He first slept in my bedroom – his idea (he dragged his bed in there), but now is sleeping in the den (also his idea). When he comes to wake me (thankfully it's now 7 instead of 6 a.m.) he usually spends a few minutes admiring himself in the full-length mirror....

He loves head rubs, is very people friendly. We are very happy to have Mack as part of our family."

#### Payton,

our one-eared beauty, was adopted by Anne Ball and her family of Northridge. Her new name is Chloe,



and we received a lovely update: "Chloe is doing amazingly; she just started her one-on-one training classes....She is a really happy and loved dog. She has been introduced to some new toys that have stuffing in them and she has a fun time taking the stuffing

out of them. She loves squeaker toys as well. She is a real love and blessing to our family. She is all we could ever ask for."

#### Sassy,

now called Izzy, the little Chihuahua-Doxie-Terrier girl who got lucky to be rescued the day we visited her animal shelter, was adopted by Sara Fazio and her family of Moorpark. She says: "Meeting Izzy was kismet for the Fazio family. She thrives in the chaos that comes with two adoptive brothers (3 and 8 years old). Izzy loves to join in the



melee! While the boys are at school, Izzy is a dedicated administrative assistant to Mom and has claimed the office couch for her own. When Mom and the boys retire for the evening, Izzy keeps Dad company for some video games and belly rubs. The Fazio family is so thankful to the Dobies and Little Paws Rescue for keeping our furry family member safe until we found her."

We had also included KHYBER and GRIZZ in our Waiting for Homes section, and though they haven't been adopted, they are both enjoying life as free-roamers in our six- fenced-acre compound. Both dogs spend hours every day cruising the grounds, looking for squirrels, and Khyber tries to load up into every vehicle with a door or hatch left open for more than a few seconds.

We also included Two Special Pleas for dogs we hoped to find good homes for, and both have been adopted!

#### Mandy

was a particularly challenging dog because of her inclination to jump or scale a fence any time a family member left the home. Two adoptions failed this way, and Mandy remained here for years, loved by volunteers and



employees, until Lee Tanner of Riverside decided to adopt her and she decided to stay put. He had previously adopted Magic, another dog who was fully willing and able to jump fences, and now he and Mandy stay at Lee's home willingly.

Lee says: "Mandy is an awesome dog and I am glad to have her here. Mandy is very smart and well behaved. She is housebroken, friendly to everyone and not aggressive at all towards Magic. Mandy and Magic run (race) around at the dog park together...while riding in a car, Mandy is happy laying in back while Magic hangs out the window as usual.....Mandy has adjusted to our routine without any issues and I will bring her for a visit..."

#### Ruby

was our other Special Plea because she was so unhappy. Through no fault of her own she lost two homes because of a senior gentleman she lived with in each home that couldn't keep her, and at her own senior age this affected her deeply. Vicki and



Van Erickson of Fresno adopted her and she no longer sings the blues.

A few weeks later Vicki told us: "Ruby's sad

story in 'Dobie Doings' caught our attention. We had lost our 10-yr-old Dobie, Belle, on Halloween from heart failure. We wanted to replace her with a middle-aged female to provide another suitable companion for our two distraught 7-yr-old Dobie males, Ace and Pluto. Thus we traveled from Fresno to Fillmore and adopted Ruby on December 11<sup>th</sup>.

We live on 38 (fenced) acres of cherry trees for exploring, gopher digging, and barking at the occasional passerby. Initially Ruby was a bit unsure about her new environment. However, given about a week she perked up and found her groove. She is happy, happy. We are delighted with Ruby. She is sweet and gentle, playful, yet well-behaved and much adored. She is a keeper."

# WAITING FOR HOMES

#### Ryland

Poor Ryland. Due to his ability to escape by jumping fences when he was younger, he has never been adopted and has been with us about 5 years. He lives with a female Dobie so he's not antisocial, but when we most recently got him his dental appointment, he had



to lose a lot of teeth. His spinal health is also not great, so we're hoping to find a home for Ryland where he can live out his days and won't have gone through all that dental extraction pain just to live out his life in a kennel. He's an active red male on the large side, and he's about 8 1/2 years old.

#### Meadow

has some anxiety that led to her return when she became destructive in an adopter's small duplex with no yard. The shelter placed her again briefly and she was returned for climbing a 6' fence

trying to escape when alone and for eating toys. That adopter said he couldn't stop Meadow from being dogaggressive and reactive to the handler when encountering other dogs, although she's good with kids and adults. We usually question when owners say their dogs aren't good with other dogs, and sure enough, Meadow is kenneled with a large male



and they play. In the right home Meadow will be wellloved due to her loyalty and obedience. That home will probably be one with a tall block wall (everyone needs to be gone sometimes!), homebodies that don't need to involve their dog in a lot of socializing away from home, and one that is mellow and low-stress. She knows some commands, walks well on leash, and plays fetch. She is worthy!

#### Mazlow

is an exceptionally handsome fawn male Dobie who will be a Velcro buddy in the right adult home. He's 3 years old, housebroken, good with other dogs and at dog parks (though he's overbearing and plays roughly), knows a batch of commands, and isn't destructive. He is apparently a



little insecure though, as he may nip if he's on his bed and tired or perhaps if he's protective of a high-value item. Mazlow's owner was devastated having to give him up, but she had to move in with her grandkids after a family tragedy, and Mazlow didn't adapt well to the new home environment. He nipped several kids. We suspect that the sudden stress in his life was overwhelming. Mazlow is a large guy with medium strength, and he has been taking thyroid medication twice daily.

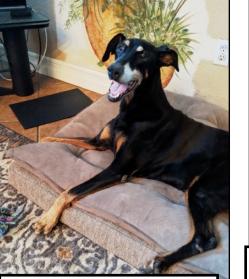
#### Jude

Despite being overall a good dog, Jude has spent almost her entire life at Dobie Rescue. She has been adopted only once, returned due to her dog-reactivity on leash. While with us Jude was kenneled most recently with both a male and a female Doberman, with no incidents. She is



housebroken and fairly easy to manage except when seeing or greeting other dogs on leash. We currently have Jude vacationing in a boarding kennel dedicated exclusively to rescue dogs because they love this dog and she has more fun and attention there than among our 100+ dogs all vying for attention. We hope this worthy dog will "reach" someone who can make her senior years more comfortable. She's a red girl, 8 years old.





"Diva" McCarty of Corona



"Kane-9" Morrison of Spring Valley

#### "Boo" Yang of Los Angeles

"Bruno" Rodriguez of Mission Viejo





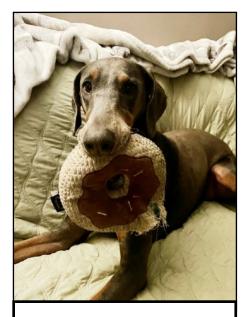
"Nikki" Long of Scotts Valley

"Mowgli" Eisen of Camarillo, with Virginia



"Mustafa" Mohan of San Diego





"Tori" Bain of Lakewood

"Raven" Halican of Redwood City







#### Waiting for Homes Continued...

#### Roger

is our Dobie-Rottweiler mix, loved at his animal shelter and loved by us! He's all natural (long tail) and just under 100 pounds of snuggle bug. Roger is social around other dogs and even did great when introduced to a small female dog, but he can be a



little bossy over food in the kennel environment. Roger loves people and we could see him in a variety of different homes. He's active enough for walks and reasonable hikes but his first love is snuggling and hanging out. He's about 5 years old and ready for his new home!

#### LITTLE SURPRISES By Colleen Anderson

Many of the dogs we rescue are Dobermans and Doberman mixes that have simply run out of time at California animal shelters or labeled unadoptable for different reasons. However, sometimes the dogs we rescue come from some unexpected and surprising places. Tangerine and Mochi were both dogs in need of help when I crossed their paths.

Tangerine is actually one of three siblings that I took in during the summer of 2021. I was at the Ridgecrest Animal Shelter way out in the desert. When Covid restrictions lifted, this tiny shelter went from less than 10 animals to over 60 in the span of a week. While I was there, I walked around with the

shelter manager and came across 3 shut down puppies, all cowering in the corner. They had been abandoned outside of the shelter and didn't trust people. Adoption was not an option and they needed rescue.

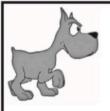
Tangerine was the friendliest of her siblings so she has made the fastest progress



(though we continue to work with the other two). She learned to walk on leash, play with other dogs and she loves following me everywhere I go. She is even brave enough to ask for attention and wags her tail whenever she hears my voice. She is an incredibly sweet girl, just over a year old, less than 40 pounds and ready for a new start in life.

Mochi actually came to me thru one of our veterinarians. I was at the vet with some of our dogs getting medical care when I was approached by one of the doctors. She said they had a little dog that needed surgery after being attacked by other dogs. The owners surrendered him because they couldn't pay for his medical care. Mochi needed his leg amputated and his wounds stitched up. I agreed to take him and Mochi was ours. In the beginning, he was a very angry, frightened mop of fur that didn't move for days. He was in so much pain from his injuries that I aculdn't hendle him

**7** couldn't handle him.



Doberman Pinscher Rescue 2946 Young Road Fillmore, California 93015

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After 2 weeks of gentle handling he came around and quickly became a devoted lap dog. Mochi is still

scared around new people and needs time to get comfortable but once he does, he is your best friend. He gets along with other dogs but his heart beats for human connection. I hope both of these "little paw" sweethearts find the loving homes they truly deserve.



# PLAY TIME!!!

Last fall we made the decision to cut down a couple of acres of old avocado trees and an acre of orange trees here at the ranch instead of spending hundreds of dollars monthly (even though it wasn't the rescue's money) to irrigate them *during a drought*. It



seemed as though the land could be better used for the benefit of the dogs, and the money could be better spent on them as well.

So, thanks to the generosity of Deborah and George Rodriguez of Mission Viejo and the hard labor of Dylan Mealey (seen in most of our videos) and his family and friends, as well as their donations, we purchased new horse corrals and made them secure for dogs to spend supervised time in, with dark green hogwire lining the sides.

What this means is that instead of our dogwalkers taking one - or occasionally two - dog(s) for a walk at a time, multiple social dogs can use these areas that are over 3800 square feet each, to run and play together, chase Frisbees and squirrels, and add another fun dimension to their lives while they live here.

# PARTING SHOT

somewhere... someone is walking a chihuaua

"Threven" and "Kingsleigh" Krivickas of Las Vegas