



"Cecil" Dunlap of Fullerton

"Dobie Doings"



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"Shorty" Guido of Oxnard

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Greetings from Dobies and Little Paws (and miscellaneous Other Paws) as we step into another summer, thankfully one that finds us all healthier and freer to go on about our lives as they return to normal. Many people have remarked about how the pandemic has brought us more insight about the things and beings in our lives that are important, and I hope that awareness continues as we resume our previous routines.

Our adoptions have continued to soar and are presently at 496 adoptions during the past 14 months as this newsletter goes to press mid-May. We're continuing to allow visits from people with approved applications that are ready to take a dog home the same day they visit if there is a good match. The much-feared (by many) failure of adoptions as the result of people returning to work has not materialized, though we have taken in many new dogs from owners faced with having to move to small apartments or in with other family members where they couldn't include their dogs in the move. We've helped as many of these owners as we could, and we've continued to take additional German Shepherds, Cattle Dogs, and an assortment of mixed-breed dogs of various sizes and descriptions, thanks to having room to be open to other than just our usual Dobermans and smalls.

Some of the dogs, especially small dogs and non-Dobermans that we would normally feature in our Waiting for Homes section, are so adoptable that we hesitate to put them in our newsletter. Often they're

adopted before Dobie Doings is even mailed, so by all means keep an eye on our website for new dogs like these.

Partly as a result of so many adoptions, we're flooded with beautiful pictures from adopters and unfortunately that means we can print only a few of them in each newsletter. Texted and e-mailed pictures are all saved for us to savor and to share some of in future newsletters though, so keep sending them, please!

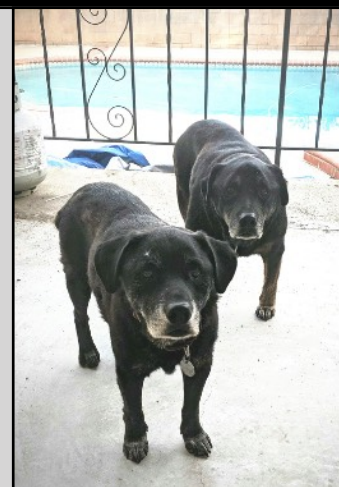
Have a wonderful summer, stay safe, protect your pets on the 4th of July, and give your dogs a big hug from us...



All the best,
Ardis Braun

ADOPTION UPDATES

ROCKY AND SPIKE,
two very senior medium-sized brothers we placed a long time ago, were returned by family when their owner died. They were outdoor dogs all those years, but now, living with Carrie and Lester Forsythe of La Habra Heights, they also have run



of the house!

From Carrie: "When Rocky and Spike aren't chillin' in the shade poolside, they can be found hanging out together at the feet of Lester Forsythe under his desk or settling in for bed at the foot of the (human) bed. At first the brothers were extremely shy, preferring to spend the night outside. They are so quiet no one would know they were here. Still calm and quiet most of the time. 'Da Boys' will bark if treats are involved."

VELVET,

who spent two years of her life with us waiting for her "forever" home, now enjoys it with Nancy DeWaard and her son Aidan of Simi Valley. Velvet is a deserving dog who couldn't be faulted in any way other than not being social with other dogs.

Nancy recently e-mailed: "On April 21st we set out to adopt our new best friend. This would be our second adoption from Dobies and Little Paws Rescue. Five years ago we adopted Abbie, one of the greatest dogs we ever had. Her passing broke our hearts to pieces....we specifically set our hearts on adopting an older or forgotten dog.

Ardis and Colleen were wonderful about introducing us to several dogs that would be a good match for myself and my 10-year-old son. We chose Velvet because my son instantly had a very strong connection with her!

Velvet has been a wonderful addition to our home. She is loving and protective, and her presence has helped us to heal from our pain of losing Abbie.

Velvet enjoys sleeping on the couch and hunting critters in the yard.

We also pray that someone out there will open their hearts and home to Kendra and Eden, two other wonderful deserving dogs."



HAPPY,

our chubby little Min Pin who lived up to his name, was adopted by Gia Desplas of Oak View. His new name is Pretzelito, and he is a hero!

Gia texted us the story: "A vicious German



Shepherd escaped and I picked up Pretzelito as the German Shepherd was charging after me, and Pretzelito took the bite by blocking him. I kicked the big dog in the groin and opened his mouth. Pretzelito was fine but he bit the big dog's face; he showed no fear.

It could have been worse if it wasn't for being rescued by this playful, loving, affectionate, sweet, caring lil' guy. I would have no left side of my face, no eye, no facial bone, no nose. God brought a four-pawed child by the new name Pretzelito."

ZUMA,

our wild child who never met a dog she liked, is now named Genevieve and lives with Sarah Harvey of



Oakland. Unfortunately, a few weeks after she was adopted, she had a terrible accident that caused her to have to lose a rear leg.

Sarah's recent e-mail was bittersweet: "I am ferociously devoted to this dog, and feel just awful about what has happened. She is everything I wanted (with the possible exception of her desire to get out of my yard). I adore her, and am determined to do everything I can to give her the best possible life on three legs.

Before (her accident), her playing style was pretty wild... With three legs, I am told that she won't be able to play with such wild abandon.... Ten days out from her surgery she is feeling better day by day. The people on the surgery team made a point of telling me what an exceptionally wonderful dog she is. I feel like I hit the jackpot."

FIDDLE,

the little Terrier mix taken in by Renee and Brian Katayama of Riverside, spent a number of weeks with them because they wanted to get him neutered and learn more about him to make him very

adoptable before bringing him to us for adoption. Being former adopters of ours with a big girl Dobie, they had found that their Dobie was not going to allow Fiddle to stay and soak up any of her attention. Eventually, though, things were going better about the same time Renee decided she couldn't possibly part with the little guy. He's a keeper!



WAITING FOR HOMES

Gucci

came to us from his caretaker. They mentioned what a good little guy he is, and we knew that a 15-year-old Miniature Pinscher wouldn't stand much of a chance at an animal shelter. A list of his good qualities includes being housebroken, good with dogs, good off leash, command-trained, not destructive, and he has never bitten anyone. They did say Gucci doesn't enjoy cats or kids, which is understandable given his very senior age. We had his teeth cleaned and one was extracted. This little dude just needs a nice calm environment where he can spend his old age without a lot of demands.



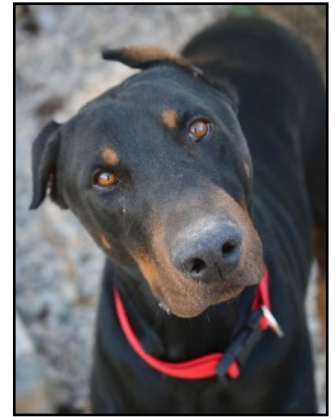
Mkali

came to us as an owner surrender. She is 16 months old, and a very tall, beautiful girl. She was relinquished because of her high prey drive with cats and a smaller dog, though she has been good with larger dogs. (We have kenneled her with a large male, whom she ignores.) Mkali is housebroken, knows obedience commands, and isn't destructive, but she has a history of resource-guarding which caused her previous owner to be bitten. This behavior isn't uncommon in alpha dogs and will repeat itself unless corrected by an alpha owner, so we're requiring Mkali to be placed in an experienced adult home.



Jack

was surrendered to an animal shelter when he grazed the owner's 14-year-old daughter near her eyebrow. It was not a bite and he was not quarantined. The shelter employees became well acquainted with and fond of Jack during his stay there, and they found him to be a good dog who appears to prefer women. He's 5 years old and has the solid build typical of European breeding lines. We're fond of Jack because he's an easy keeper here and isn't overly reactive to other dogs unless they share space. We're offering him for adoption only to an adult adopter, preferably a woman, due to his earlier history.



Foxy

is a new arrival from a central valley shelter where she was impounded after she was suspected of having an injury. Her lower jaw is slightly lopsided, but x-rays at our vet reveal no fracture, so it's just a birth defect which doesn't hinder her ability to eat or drink. Foxy is a vulnerable and sweet soul who may not have had an easy life, all 12 months of it. She is terrified of and uncomfortable with men, so we're preferring a female household for her. She has silky, soft fur, and she is a snuggler as soon as she feels a woman's gentle energy; it took us about 15 minutes to gain her trust and enjoy being close. Foxy is possibly a small Border Collie mix, she weighs 29 pounds, and she's dog-social.



Bandit

was a handsome boy before his body condition was allowed to deteriorate with some muscle atrophy from lack of exercise and good medical care. His ex-owner thought he was not dog-social, but we've partnered him with a large female dog and he's perfectly content after



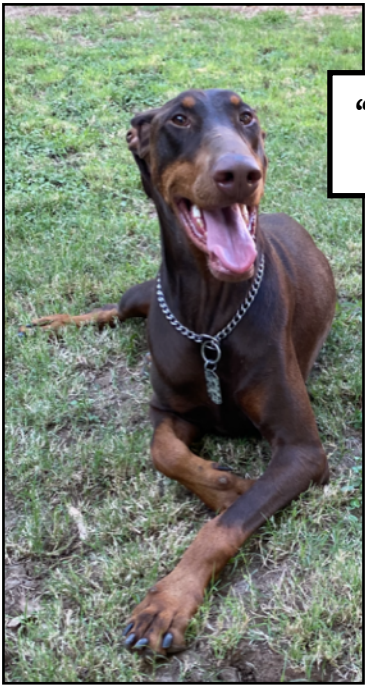


“Phoenix” Johnson of Yorba Linda



“Ralph” Serrano of Phoenix, AZ, with Rafael and Javier

“Cooper” Kraves of Santa Monica, with Renee and Steve



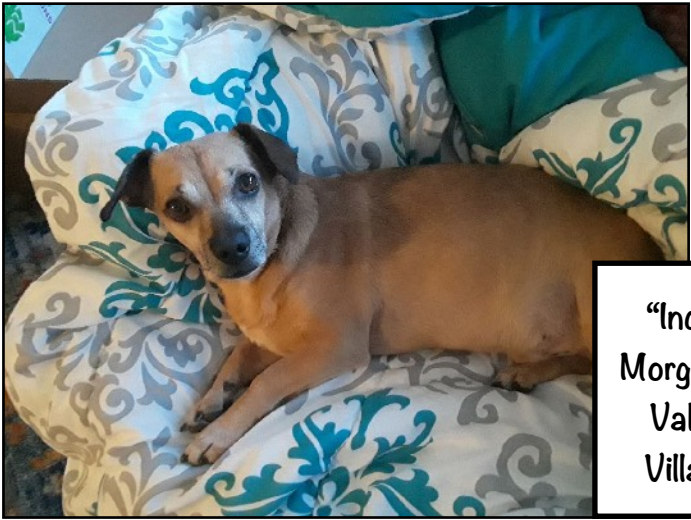
“Dino” Butler of Mesa, AZ



“Kara” Mazzenga of El Cajon



“Posty” Milwee of Rialto, with Fay



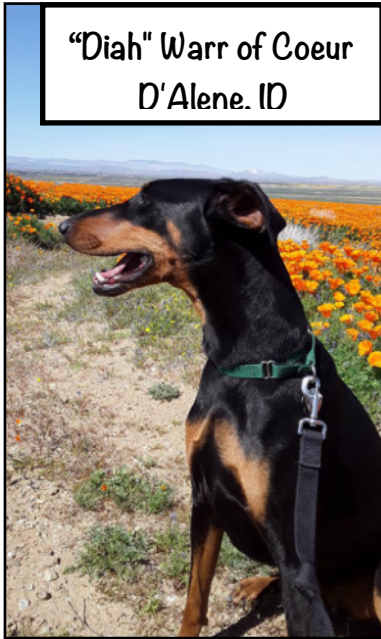
“Indie” Morgan of Valley Village

“Daisy” Adams of Cupertino, with Marilee





"Ajax," "Hunter," and "Bambino" Walker of Leesburg, VA, with Mike



"Diah" Warr of Coeur D'Alene, ID

"Jensen" and "Lulee" Weissman of Simi Valley

Happy Adoptees

"Ruby" DeAmicis of Sun Valley, NV



"Boo" and "Ozzie" Vitucci-Osinski of Moorpark, with Amy Vitucci and Chris Osinski



"Boone" Graves of Wildomar, with Josh and poodle friend Prudie

"Vic" and "Clover" Loiko-Kim of Los Angeles



"Koda" Maloney of Camarillo



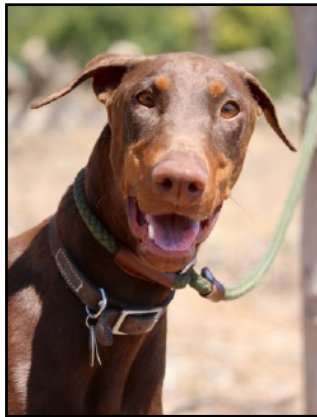
"Matilda" and "Archie" Ingman of Glendale

Waiting for Homes Continued...

bracing for a confrontation when initially introduced. It's possible that he'll be somewhat reactive to unknown dogs encountered when being walked on leash, but he appears easy to correct. Bandit was surrendered to the shelter for reasons not stated. He was well-liked at his animal shelter and he was pictured in a video they sent where he was playing ball with the staff. We like him too. He's always present and ready to greet with a happy face and butt wag. Bandit is 5 years old.

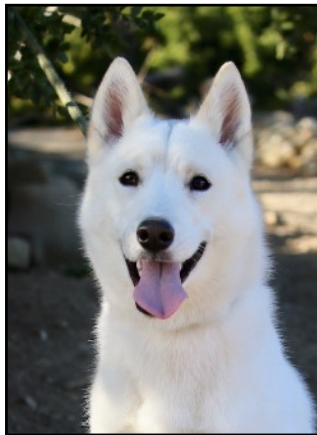
Harley

is a young red female who came to us originally as an owner surrender. She is a young, active girl who needs an equally active home. She is under 2 years old and weighs about 60 pounds. Harley has been good with people but she is guardy and sometimes takes a few minutes to warm up to strangers. We feel she would be better for an adult home that can handle her energy level and advocate for her in new situations. She can be good with some dogs but has attitude with others so we are recommending she partner only with large, playful and confident male dogs.



Angel

is a beautiful young Husky or Husky mix who isn't much more than a puppy; she's probably about one year old, with a friendly, energetic disposition. She seems dog-social initially, but she doesn't share a home very well with a companion dog. Angel is on the small side at 35-40 pounds and she walks well on leash, seeming to enjoy all of her new life adventures. We're recommending her for an adult home or one with older kids, as she can be mouthy and play rough.



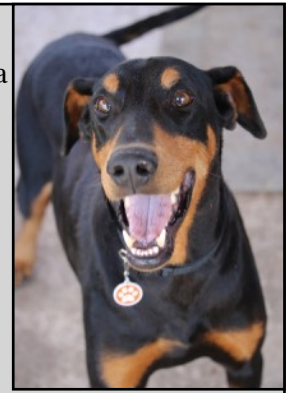
housebroken, not destructive, and he loves kids. We got him almost a year ago from his owners because they had lost their house. The family's kids were devastated.

Lasso was not neutered, so the night before his neuter surgery I went into his kennel to remove his food in order to fast him. I was horrified to see that his ears were covered with blood! Not knowing what happened, his surgery was deferred while we washed off the blood to view the injuries. There weren't any!

The next step was bloodwork, and Lasso was found to have something so unusual going on that our vets had no idea what to call it. Looking at his blood platelet count, the vets said if they weren't looking at an active, healthy-appearing dog, they would believe that he was a feeble, lethargic, barely-alive dog.

We have repeated Lasso's bloodwork, and it always comes back the same; like that of a dog who is barely alive, yet we're looking at an active dog that eats well and other than one blind eye, seems perfectly normal; no blood on his ears or anywhere else.

With us Lasso has virtually no life. He's protected from fly bites in a sheltered area, but that means he doesn't have a view, doesn't get noticed, and my heart is breaking for him. Can *one person* take in this special dog and give him a real life, maybe with a kid or two since he loves them so?



SURPRISES

It seems that nowadays almost any dog is adoptable if you can just reach the right audience. We have had so many surprises, probably due partly to the pandemic too, but still...

We finally updated our Google listing. Robo calls had been telling us to do this for years, but we figured that since nothing has changed very much in decades, there wasn't really a need. Apparently there was, because now so many of our adopters and friends have been posting about their experiences, and last time we looked, we got 4.4 stars out of 5. And we're comfortable with that since those that gave us 1 star are people we hoped would drop off the face of the earth because we hoped never to hear from them again.

A SPECIAL PLEA

This is a special plea from me (Ardis) for a dog that is special in a number of ways; some good, some not. His name is Lasso, and he's a good dog. He's



I want to support Doberman Pinscher and Little Paws Rescue!
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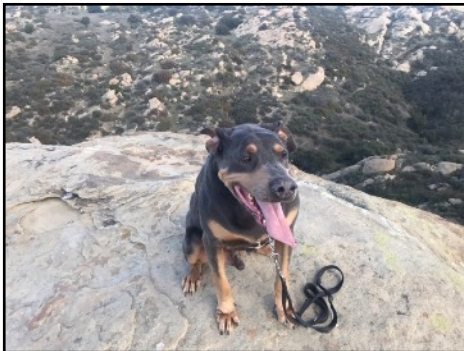
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 We also have PayPal and Venmo
 100% of your contribution goes directly to benefit the animals.

One dog we thought would never be adopted is Cyrus, also called Blue Cyrus. He had been with us 4 ½ years, having been taken from an upstate shelter that represented him as 100% blue Doberman. When he arrived, he not only wasn't a Doberman (though we allowed that he might have some Doberman in him), but he is also kind of an ugly duckling that wasn't dog-social. Hence, a much longer stay. Eventually, as he aged, he presented as dog-social with large female dogs that didn't challenge him, and finally, in April 2021 at

age 12, he came on the radar of one of our dog-walker volunteers, Karl Kraves of Woodland Hills. We almost didn't let Karl foster Cyrus because Karl



has a male Doberman and a female 3-legged Pit Bull. We relented because Karl is big and strong, and lo and behold, his three-dog family is working out fine!

Another example is Zack, a Doberman mix we had placed several times, who had escaping issues and dog-aggression (and sometimes even people-aggression) issues. He spent years with us in a covered, escape-proof kennel until Del Pinho of Santa Barbara, who has been mentioned in these pages before, decided to show him what Santa Barbara life could be like. Del also has Hoss, the big blue Dobie featured in a previous newsletter, and Lobo, a senior Husky from us. (That's

Zack in the middle and Hoss being the couch hog.) All three of our adoptees are boys, and they all get along!

The list is endless, but one more: We took in an almost-11 year old male Dobie named Scout from his owner on March 13th. He was such a good dog, and a handsome one, but with some minor medical issues at his advanced age we didn't want him to have to live in a kennel. Unfortunately, he also wasn't dog-social enough to enjoy more freedom with some of the other dogs here at the ranch. Then Katie and Rob Carreiro of North Hollywood showed up a couple of hours later, hoping to adopt a senior dog. They had recently lost their old dog and loved the serenity of the seniors. Scout went home with them that day, initially as a foster, but a follow-up was what we hoped for. He's a keeper, and very well-loved.

It can be hypnotic to think that virtually any dog is adoptable if we can reach the right someone, and if that's overly optimistic, we're going with the optimism!





Doberman Pinscher Rescue
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TAKING TIME

By Colleen Anderson

I have always felt a passion for helping dogs but one thing that was unexpected when I got into rescue was how much of the work involves helping people. Most people come to the rescue searching for their new furry family member with big expectations and the best of intentions. Unfortunately, many people struggle though and sometimes dogs are returned for reasons that could have been avoided. I do have a theory of why.

Many adopters are looking to replace a previous dog that has since passed away. Sometimes they wait awhile and sometimes they begin the search right away because they don't want to live without a dog. Either way, whether they mean to or not, any new dog is compared to the previous one. They ultimately want a new dog that will not just fit in to their home but also fulfill the role the dog before them had. I completely understand that desire but I think the challenge comes when they try to rush that process.

Giving a brand new dog the same freedoms and privileges but also having the same expectations as the prior dog can be a recipe for disaster. Every new dog needs time to decompress, learn a new routine, and especially learn new boundaries. That can take weeks or months to accomplish. With every new dog that comes into my home, it starts with crate training. They have a safe space that can't be invaded while at the same time, they get to learn rules, boundaries and what daily life looks like in the house. They can calmly eat

there, chew on a bone and rest without being pressured by anyone. This is especially important in a home with kids, lots of visitors or just multiple people. That can be a lot for a new dog to adjust to and if they feel pressure that isn't understood they may act defensively.

When I approach the idea of crate training with people, many of them don't like the concept because they don't want a dog "living" in a crate. That aversion is understandable. I certainly wouldn't want that either. However, I believe it is merely a tool to help slowly introduce a new dog to a new environment in the safest way possible. Getting into a comfort zone with a new dog is just like getting comfortable in a new relationship. It takes time.



PARTING SHOT



"Tilly" and "Stark"
 Holz of Huntington
 Beach



"If Friday was a
 dog it would be a
 Doberman"

@Dobermanpride