



*"Gigi" Currey of Monrovia*

## "Dobie Doings"



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*"Molly" Leger of Valencia*

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

It seems to be "the new normal" for devastating California wildfires to create paths of destruction too painful to think about. So many of our adopters live or were living in areas we know have been in terrible danger due to these fires, and we sincerely hope that your homes, families and pets are all ok. If you live in one of these areas, we would love to hear from you.

Paula Cwikly will once again be hosting her Deck the Halls with Bones and Balls holiday party for us at her beautiful Toluca Lake home. It's scheduled for December 15, beginning at 3 p.m. It's always a good idea to double-check the date on our website or Facebook page in case of a last-minute change, and Paula appreciates that attendees RSVP her at [pcwikly1@earthlink.net](mailto:pcwikly1@earthlink.net). We're always pleased to see many of our adopters there to catch up with and to meet other dog lovers, as well as to enjoy the beverages and hors-d'oeuvres Paula provides for the occasion. All that is required to attend is a nice gift for our dogs. Our wish list offers a few suggestions, and of course cash goes a long way to helping with our dog food and veterinary expenses. What we do NOT need are dog toys or treats. (We get a lot of these donated.)

Due to popular demand, we are again creating a Dobies & Little Paws calendar for 2020. The calendars will be available in December and we're asking a \$20 donation per calendar, including postage. If a donation is made via PayPal, be sure

to state in the comments section that the donation is for a calendar. The photos, sure to delight everyone, are of our own rescue dogs and can be previewed on our website.

Just a reminder that in order to be able to save your holiday and other pictures for posterity and possible inclusion in Dobie Doings, they need to be sent to our above e-mail address or texted to 818-317-1054. Posting them to Instagram or Facebook doesn't get them delivered to our systems designed to save them. Also remember that we get so many wonderful pictures that we can't hope to ever print them all, but they are treasured just the same. Often when we say goodbye to one of our adoptees, we never see him or her again, though they live forever in our hearts and we hope they have wonderful, fulfilling, long lives.

Another reminder, to all Doberman owners: don't feed "grain free" dog food!

Have a wonderful holiday season and a healthy and prosperous new year!

Sincerely,  
*Ardis Braun*

### ADOPTION UPDATES

Of the eight dogs featured in our last newsletter, two have been adopted and remain adopted.

## **BILLY,**

who we think may be a Doberman-Greyhound mix, was adopted by Katlyn Cox of Las Vegas. His new name is Zambo. From her e-mail: "Zambo has been a wonderful addition to our home!

He is such a lover and an easy keeper! He and Zara (our other Dobies and Little Paws rescue) get along great. Now I don't worry about Zara being lonely while I'm at work. Their senior play speed fits one another – they both run and play together for about 10 minutes, then it's right back to their dog beds!

When I'm home Zambo and Zara both follow me from room to room; they don't let me out of sight. If I'm on the couch or at my desk, Zambo has his head in my lap. His eyes and subtle tail wags speak to my heart, 'just love me!' And I do! I'm so glad that this sweet senior boy made his way to our home! Thanks to everyone at Dobies and Little Paws for doing all that you do!"



**"Zara" and "Zambo"**

## **DURHAM**

was adopted for a short time, but on those occasions when he had to be left outdoors for any period of time, he couldn't resist barking nonstop, partly because of the cats living next door. So he's back with us.



## **WINGS**

had spent eight months with us, so she had waited long enough for her new home with Elizabeth and Hank Baier of Paso Robles! She was adopted just as we were going to press, but early reports are all good. She has 40 fenced acres to run on and no other pets or kids to



to compete with. Her new name is Mindy, and she comes when called. When they turn her loose to get her daily exercise, she cruises the ranch and comes back to lay in the sun on their back porch when she's tired. They "absolutely LOVE her."

## **WAITING FOR HOMES**

### **Adobe**

is a new 1-year-old Dobie girl from an upstate animal shelter. Her owner returned her to the animal shelter a few days after adopting her there because she "snapped" at their 4-year-old child, played too rough with the family's two Chihuahuas, and grabbed



(but did not injure) one of their cats. Adobe's animal shelter had found her social and easy to handle on both occasions. We have thus far found Adobe to be a little strong on leash and very tolerant of large dogs, in fact initially a bit intimidated by the large male Dobie who is her kennelmate. She is quite a beautiful dog, on the small side at about 50 pounds.

### **Clooney**

is a sweet adult blue male that came to us from an animal shelter with an old injury. He needed surgery to relieve the pain in his injured hip. The surgery went well, and he is more comfortable using



that leg, though it's hard to predict if there will be residual lameness in the leg as time goes on.

Meanwhile, he can easily handle normal everyday activity. Clooney has lived with large female dogs that are friendly, though he isn't social with every dog, so correctly matching him with another dog is important.

Clooney is a lover and he's quiet, not destructive, and a worthy boy waiting for his new home. He's about 3 years old.

### **Tonga**

has a sweet face that spoke to us from a recent (August, 2019) "Urgent" list of dogs needing rescue

at her animal shelter, so we brought her in. She had been relinquished by her owners for no apparent reason. Her age was initially given as 2 years old and then upgraded quite a few years, but we estimate her to be 5-6 years old. We found that Tonga isn't necessarily compatible with certain female dogs, but she has done well with large males. She seems to be much more of a "people dog" though and is accustomed to bulling her way through an open door to be with her humans. Tonga is solidly-built, probably German Shepherd and Heeler, weighing at least 60 pounds.



home than they probably would in any animal shelter situation. Ben has been such an easy keeper! He's young - about 4 years old - and he's a large boy, which means he'll need a little work on leash to pull less strongly. Otherwise, he's friendly and lives easily with a female Dobie much smaller than he is. Though Ben hasn't been kenneled with any male Dobbies, he seems more curious than aggressive when they approach him.

### Garnet

is a very sweet, slightly older girl who has captured our hearts. She was clearly used for breeding and our vet agreed when he did her spay that she has had many litters. She has the sweetest big brown eyes and she is very social. Garnet loves her people and she is good with other dogs of both genders. The only issue we have experienced so far with Garnet is that when coming back from her foster home, she didn't handle being kenneled well and did everything she could to escape. She will need a secure yard just in case but we feel she probably won't have a problem once she feels she is home.



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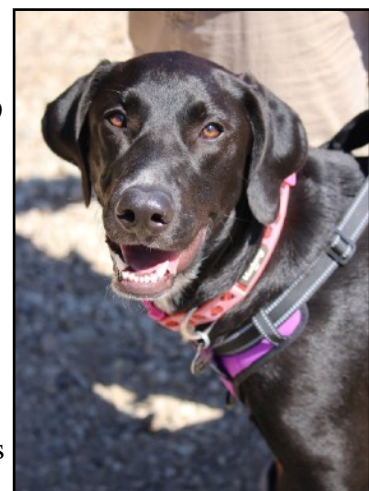
### Ben

is from an upstate animal shelter that felt he would do best in our environment and have a stronger chance to be adopted promptly. While our environment isn't exactly low-stress, we spend time reassuring our guys so they feel more at



### Willow

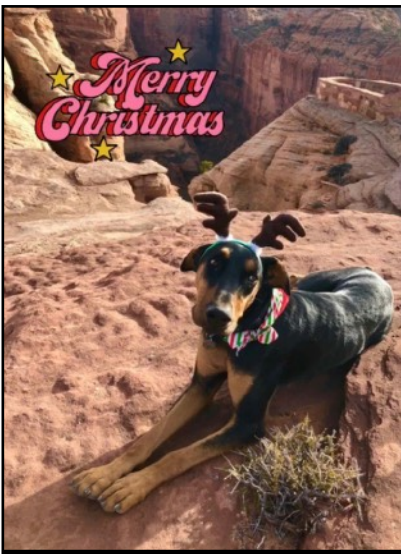
is still a puppy at 9 months, but she's taller than most of our Dobie girls. She is a mix of Doberman and Great Pyrenees, but without the heavy undercoat and high maintenance of the latter breed. She is quite a beautiful dog! Willow was surrendered by owners that had owned her since age 8 weeks. She had grown up with three small dogs, and it was hoped that she would tolerate them well as she grew older and bigger. Unfortunately, Willow doesn't behave well with small dogs or cats, though she's fine with large dogs. She has been a house dog and has pretty good manners, and we think she would be a great pet for an adult person or couple, with or without older kids, either as the only dog or as a companion for another large dog.



### Pippi and Cosmo

are terrier mixes that were adopted together a couple of years ago and are back due to the owner's need to relocate and being unable to find housing where she can live with the dogs. They are a bonded pair and would be lost without each other. They're now about 6 years old and weigh around 15 pounds each. Cosmo is the social one, and Pippi is dependent on him, as she is more timid and anxious. They're housebroken, active, and playful, and they'd do best in a loving, happy, peaceful home.





"Hans" Lee-Makino of Walnut

"Max" Yamamoto of Agoura Hills



"Bailey" Sawelenko of Simi Valley



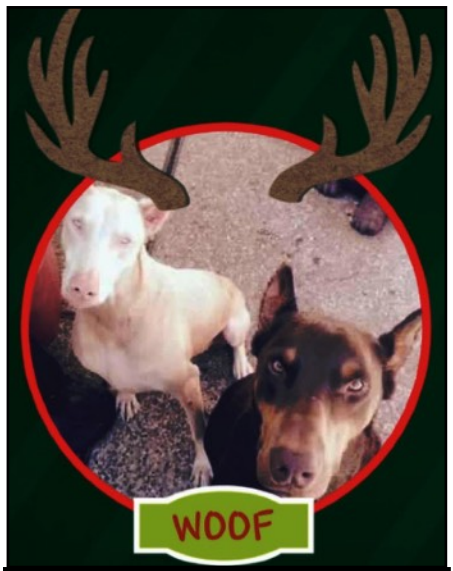
# HAPPY ADOPTERS



"Beau" Zanger of Calabasas



"Snowball" and "Gracie" Leflang of Santa Barbara, with Olivia and Diane



"Brubeck" and "Jazzy" Bermudez of Stockton

"Riley" Saxton of Riverside



"Cooper" Bradley of La Quinta



"Darth" Fajardo of Camarillo





**"Flash," "Windy" and "Thunder"  
Wagner-Laureano of Newbury  
Park, with Dianne Wagner**



**"Amber" DeLong-Orozco of  
Oak View**



**"Lolly" Emery of Hanford**

**WISH LIST**

- Dog food, not grain-free
- Martingale collars
- Leashes, any kind
- Used blankets, comforters
- Used fabric dog beds
- Gift cards to home improvement stores
- Kuranda beds with metal frames
- New or used large dogloos
- Tarps, any size
- Spare change!

We do NOT need dog treats or toys



**"Rosie" Leasure of Moorpark**



**"Larry" and "Molly" Schwed-  
Lieb of Sacramento**

**"Athena" Smith of San Diego,  
with Abigail, Nicholas and Sam**

**"Max" and "Mia" Trim of Las  
Vegas, NV**

**"ScoobyDoo" Heicklen of Tarzana**



## HOLIDAY HAPPINESS

There are so many things to love and hate about the internet and social media in general, but one thing it has definitely done for us is to help getting more dogs into great new homes. Years ago, if we had a dog with a long tail, poor coat, cropped ears that didn't stand, a few lumps, any kind of bite history (human or another dog), or any other negative trait, it became really difficult to get that dog adopted. I recall that around twenty years ago we had two perfectly lovely dogs with natural tails that never got a second look. People either didn't want a dog that could sweep the coffee table with the long tail, or wanted a dog that "looked like a Doberman." After six months (a big part of a dog's life), we finally had the dogs' tails docked, and both were adopted within weeks.

Now that we are splashed all over the internet via website, Instagram, and Facebook, we have tens of thousands of followers all over the place, and dogs with tails or any of the other above baddies are actually finding good homes, many of them quite promptly! It's a joy. Within October alone we placed at least four long-tailed Dobies (including our boy Billy; see page 2) and various others with what breeders would call "imperfections." We like to think of dogs with one lazy cropped ear as "having character," in the words of several of our adopters, though we regret that they had to go through ear-cropping in the first place.

Negative behaviors are probably the most challenging, such as when a dog runs out the door unexpectedly and attacks another dog walking by the property, especially if the escapee doesn't want to stop attacking. Neighbors get upset, and dog owners wake up to the liability issues of owning a dog like that. We are very, very careful about placing these dogs again.

More common are disagreements between companion dogs already living in the home. Females with other females, and males with other males are the most common. One such dog that we had was Sheena. She had previously been adopted by Dr. Laura Lange and her husband in Arizona. Laura is a veterinarian with loads of experience handling dogs, difficult and otherwise, but after a time she realized that Sheena would never get along with one of the other females in the home and she eventually had to be returned. It was hard on Sheena and on her family. This lovely picture is of Laura with Sheena and her award ribbons for her

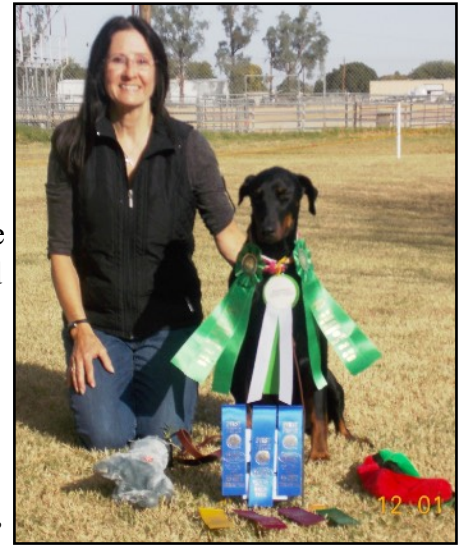
stellar accomplishments.

Sheena then waited here at the rescue ranch for about 2 ½ years. She was middle-aged and had to compete with a lot of other dogs to be noticed, with the caveat of having been aggressive to another dog. Finally, on September 21, Elizabeth Gruttadaurio, a former adopter of ours, came to visit. She wanted a housebroken girl who would be a good, well-behaved, mellow and loyal companion for her. We sang the praises of Sheena, and Elizabeth adopted her that day.

(We worried about these girls during the awful Maria fire that struck during the last week of October, decimating homes and property in Somis, where Elizabeth and Sheena live, but a telephone chat alleviated those fears.) The only bad behavior that Sheena has shown since moving in with Elizabeth is that she doesn't like cats.

A dog named Holland was taken home "to foster" by former adopter Lydia Scott of Huntington Beach. Holland, now called Miss Melley, had been with us for eight years, initially being unadopted because of her tendency to jump tall fences and also at times acting unpredictably with other dogs, but age mellowed her and she ended up with exactly the right owner, who LOVES her. Lydia says: "Miss Melley will stay

with me until the end. It's my mission to make her tail wag. She is settling in nicely; chilling on the couch now watching football with me." A little later: "She's the best dog. Couldn't ask for a better addition. So sweet and polite. I ❤️ her."





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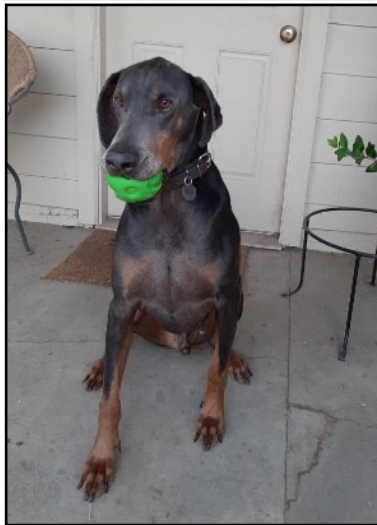
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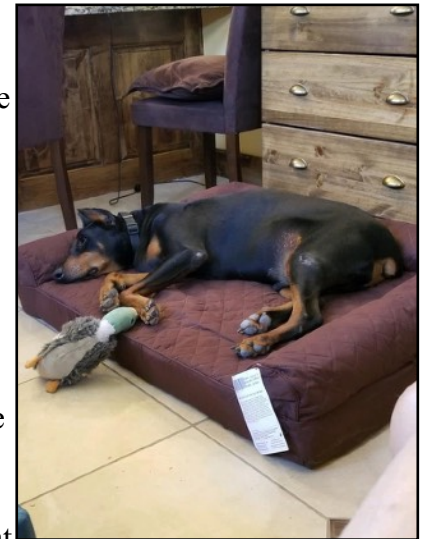


Please return this form with your contribution  
 Your contribution is tax deductible (Federal I.D. #77-0357865)  
 We also have PayPal  
 100% of your contribution goes directly to benefit the animals.

Truman is another dog who spent years with us; five of them. He had one negative in his history: he bit a gardener who came on to his property while he was fairly new at his adoptive home. Judy Correia of Visalia, another former adopter, targeted him as the dog she wanted to share her home with. No complaints from Judy a couple of months later: "I truly don't know why he was overlooked for 5 years. He is such a happy, playful and funny dog. Even after being in a shelter for 5 years, he has not had one single accident in the house. He's also a wonderful protector....you do such a wonderful job with all these deserving animals. I can't thank you enough for this wonderful boy. He has filled a void and brought me a lot of joy. The green ball in his mouth is the 1st toy I gave him when we got home and he never lets it out of his sight! May you be blessed many times over for all you do."



may be expensive medically. He is spending his senior years with Linda Vernon, who has TWO homes for him to enjoy (Arizona and Washington State). Linda drove here all the way from Washington specifically to adopt Juniper and give him the type of home he deserves to spend his senior years in. Judy: "Big dog, Nikki, is doing wonderfully. We found out that he loves toys and balls. We have also found out that he either had some obedience skills that he had forgotten and is remembering, or he is a very very quick study. He is a terrific traveler and we will be seeing the world together...well, at least North and South America. My dear boy has made all kinds of friends. He already has a huge support network. I hope that results in homes for many many Dobermans."



And Juniper, now called Nikki, spent four years with us; a good dog who is dog-social and loving but has deficiency in his rear quarters, exactly the type of thing that worries the average adopter because of concerns that the dog may not have a long life and

There are so many stories like these; the ones above are just a few of the more recent ones. To every adopter who is willing to give a "lesser beauty" or imperfect dog a good home: THANK YOU, happy holidays and a wonderful new year!





Doberman Pinscher Rescue  
 2946 Young Road  
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## ANOTHER KIND OF GIFT

Several years ago someone asked if we take donations of stock. At the time we never had, but we opened an account at TD Ameritrade, a company well-known for stock trading with minimal commissions. Since that initial donation, a few more donors have presented us with gifts of stock.

Some people find it advantageous for tax reasons to donate stock, as opposed to giving cash donations to their favorite charities. We mention this at year-end in case any of our donors would like to consider giving this type of gift. If so, please call us so that we can provide our account number and any other required information.

## A SPECIAL DAY AT THE BEACH By Colleen Anderson

In our previous newsletter, I wrote about the amazing Dobie meet-ups hosted by Doberman Pride. We have enjoyed so many beach days now where the sand is covered in Dobermans and their loving owners. During the last meet-up I brought along a few adoptable dogs, including a very special girl named Hemi.

She has a condition called Vestibular Disease, a congenital disorder that affects her balance. It was her first time at the beach, surrounded by so many people, so she was a bit shy at first. I walked her down to the water and let her slowly walk into the

waves. It didn't take long before she was off leash and exploring the water all on her own...and loving it! I had to keep a close eye on her because I didn't want her losing her balance in the waves, but she ended up having a blast, playing in the water and fearlessly enjoying her freedom. Dogs with her condition often get overlooked because they are different, but Hemi proves that they can still live a happy life.

P.S. Hemi is available for adoption!



## PARTING SHOT



**Is that a sleigh?**

**"Brandi"  
 and "Max"  
 Christensen  
 of Newbury  
 Park**





