

“Jax” Marlborough of Valley Center

“Dobie Doings”



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“Oliver” Lawrence of Santa Monica

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

Another winter is upon us, and we’re still here, starting our 37th year rescuing dogs. In the early days we were rescuing and placing as many non-Dobermans as we were full Dobies, but that was before animal shelters reached the capacity crisis they have post-Covid, where shelters can’t even receive dogs that owners need to surrender. So we need to focus primarily on the breed that most folks come to us to adopt, our lovely Dobermans.

Though the number of Doberman rescuers in California has declined, a several-time adopter of ours, Stephen Parks, is now a designated moderator of a Facebook group called Doberman Rescue Network – California & Nevada, that is keeping up-to-date listings of Dobermans available in animal shelters so that many of the dogs that rescuers would normally have to take (when possible, before their time runs out) can be adopted directly into homes, thus enabling rescue to provide available space to other endangered dogs. Everything helps, and we encourage everyone to spread the word.

Now that Covid has declined, the Deck the Halls with Bones and Balls holiday party has been restored to its previous presence in the December calendar. (See page 8.) The party is in Toluca Lake, near Burbank, and is held at the home of Paula Cwikly. It has always been an enjoyable event with food, beverages, and reconnecting with adopters and friends often not seen for years.

Unfortunately, we’re not able to offer our usual Dobie Rescue calendars for 2024. The time we are spending driving all over the state to rescue dogs, the time needed to drive them all over to get increasingly rare spay and neuter appointments and other surgical appointments, plus all of our usual duties, has made it difficult to devote the time this year to producing the calendar. We are sorry to disappoint!

Thank you once again to everyone who has helped us this year. Remember that your donations are tax-deductible, and we even take donations of stocks and bonds. We appreciate and depend on you to hopefully keep us going for another 37 years!

Holiday blessings,

Ardis Braun



ADOPTION UPDATES

BULLET

was left behind when the founder of Dog Mountain Doberman Rescue passed away, so along with a number of Dobermans, we made room for this charming little guy. Even at 9 years old, he was adopted immediately by Teri Engelberg of Woodland Hills as a companion for her other small male.

Two months later: “I wasn’t sure if Oliver was ready for another sibling – but Bullet is the best thing

that could have happened to us! He is so affectionate – loves to kiss everyone, including his new brother, Oliver – and



loves to cuddle under the blankets, go for long walks, and just hang out. Everyone who meets Bullet comments on what a sweetie he is, and how we hit the jackpot when we adopted him. And Oliver, who is 15, has perked right up – he and Bullet are now little furry buddies. We feel so lucky to have Bullet in our family. Thank you so much.”

GIBLET

hasn't been “officially” adopted, but after about a year with us he landed in the perfect foster home with a several-time adopter, and there is virtually no chance he'll ever have to leave. On the day we wrote this, she said “He curls up under my armpit and starts snoring in less than 5.” That doesn't sound to us like a dog that will be coming back!



CLEOPATRA,

who became one of our favorites, was adopted by Jairo Garcia of San Jose. She is now called Caia, and Jairo sent us this update:

“Caia is a very smart girl that got used to her new name right away, along with picking up on training



and learning her manners. She fits in like a glove. She's very friendly, loving, playful, curious and adventurous. She's learning not to run out the door and not to chase squirrels, birds, cats, or any other moving critter. She's also been a great hiking buddy for Dakota and I, and loves being in the car.”

We often wish we could print the videos we receive of these dogs enjoying the pleasure of just being themselves.

MIXED BLESSINGS

Naturally, being a Doberman Pinscher Rescue organization, most people come to us to adopt Dobies. The fact that we love all breeds and mixed breeds often makes it hard to turn our backs on some of these other worthy dogs though. As mentioned earlier, years ago we typically rescued as many terriers, spaniels, Chihuahuas, Eskimos, Border Collies, Heelers, shepherds, and more, as we did Dobermans.

Several things happened. First, a lot more rescue groups set up shop and got their non-profit credentials and began rescuing many of these dogs, especially small dogs. They are easier to house and cheaper to feed.

Also, breed rescues became much better known, easier to find, and more “politically correct.”

And finally, many animal shelters began to designate employees to maintain contact with rescue organizations so that more animals could be saved. From numerous shelters we receive lists every day listing the animals that are most at risk. We have go-to people at shelters that we can request additional information from, make known our commitment to specific dogs, and help to arrange timing and transport.

Often we hear from these “rescue liaison” people when they have an urgent Doberman that is a staff favorite or one that is obviously very pregnant. Few shelters are able to provide the care needed for a mother with newborn puppies, so they promptly ask for help. Even trying to keep young puppies with no immunity healthy in the animal shelter environment is a difficult, and maybe impossible, task. So, whenever we can, we take in a Dobie like this, and some of the time the puppies are actually Dobermans!

The difficulty is with the half-Doberman puppies; they are harder to place. We have had enough of these to honestly say that, in general, they are

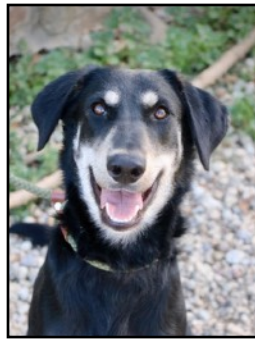
healthier than purebred pups in the long term. This tends to be true with most mixed-breed dogs because the unfavorable genes present in the purebred dogs of any breed are considerably diluted when another breed or breeds are present. That means that there will be a lower genetic predisposition in Doberman mixes for heart disease, Wobbler's Syndrome (spinal disease) and Von Willebrand's Disease (blood clotting disorder) than for purebred Dobbies.

Also, according to Colleen (who has raised many litters from birth to adoption), many of the mixes are psychologically healthier too; less neurotic.

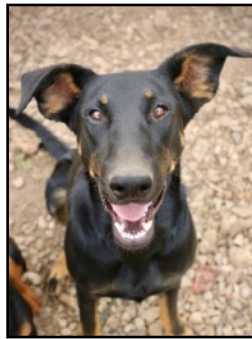
We're hoping that some of our readers will consider adopting a mixed-breed Doberman or non-Doberman. Some of our puppies have grown up here, spending many months waiting for the homes they should have had as young pups. Maybe one of the faces below will reach that special home and live happily ever after.



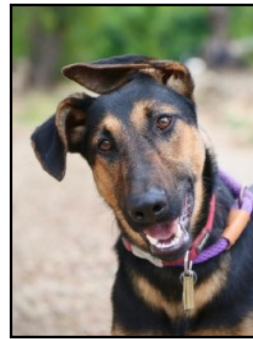
WILLOW
5 month F



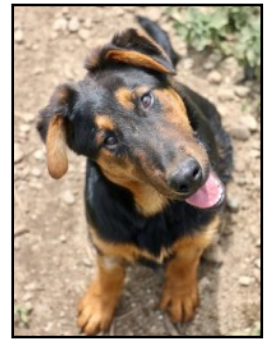
ELMER
1 - 2 year M



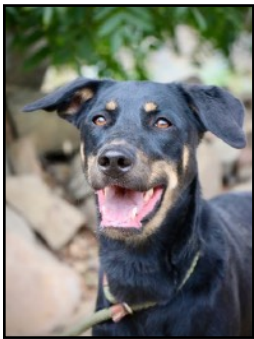
FREYA
2 year F



LULU
6 month F



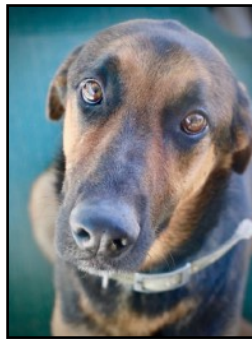
WILEY
1 year M



LOLA II
2 year F



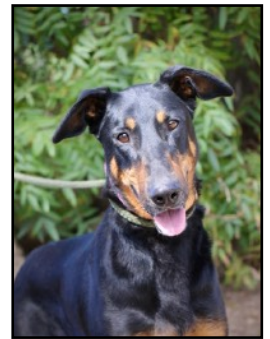
REXIE
5 month M



BEAU
3 year M



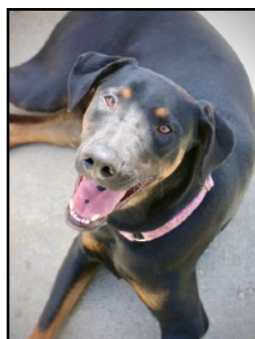
TINA
1 year F



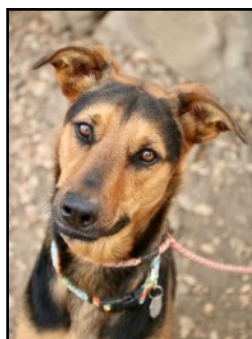
MIMI
3 year F



EMILY
1 year F



CLARENCE
1 year M



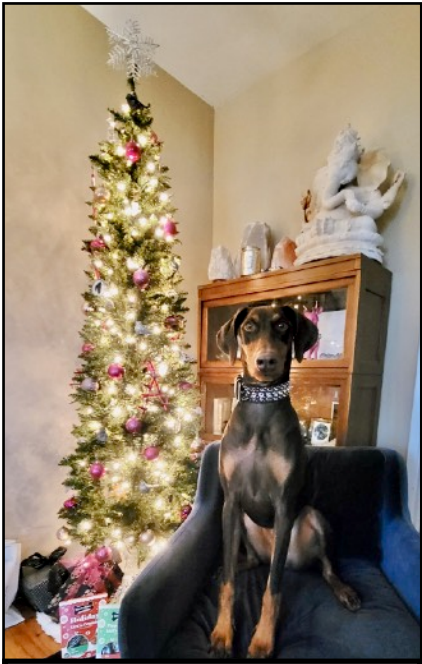
OSO
4 year M



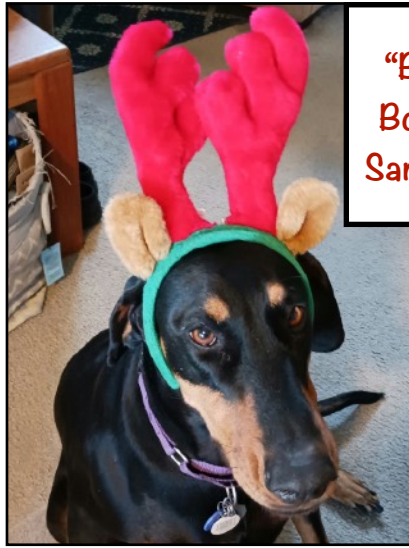
SHAGGY
9 month M



MERCI
1 year F



"Poppy" Warren of Encino



"Brynna" Bowker of San Marcos



"JoJo" Rogers of Lancaster



"Tilly" Carpenter of Valencia

"Jack Benny" Miller-Paolino of Pollock Pines



"Finn" Sim of Ventura



HAPPY Holidays!

"Ripley" Saxton of Riverside



"Tink" Schindler of Van Nuys



"Tess" Charez of Temple City





"Luke" Murphy of Sparks, NV



"Josie" Jameson of Los Angeles, with family



"Lana" Schwartz of Orange

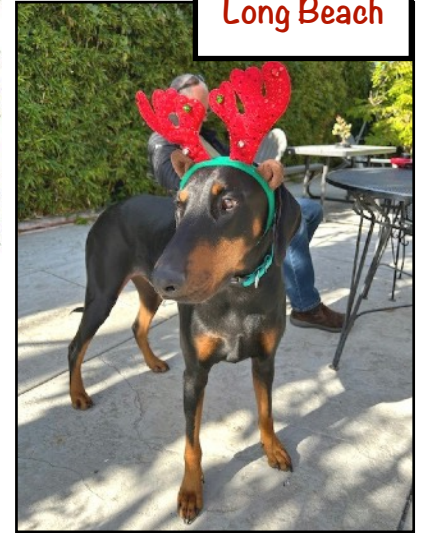
"Monty" Stewart of Long Beach



"Diablo" Rifkin of Agoura Hills



"Joey" and "Tommy" Shirley of Madera



"Ziggy" Jhita of Lake Forest



"Ava" Gabar of Simi Valley



"Athena" and "Darcy" Brown-Stickels of Phelan

WAITING FOR HOMES

BAMBI

We are looking for a special home for Bambi, who was traumatized at the tender young age of 15 weeks (as of Mid-August, 2023) when his owner



dropped him off at an animal shelter. It was obvious he had never been away from home before and probably hadn't known many strangers, because his shelter labeled him "rescue only" due to his freezing up when touched and trying to escape when he could. To his credit, Bambi never displayed aggression; he allowed stroking, handling, being picked up, with no attempts to bite. We are seeking a calm, stable home for him with patient adults who can continue to keep him secure and make him feel secure while he adjusts to his life post-abandonment. He is mostly Eskimo and Shepherd, and he will be a medium-sized dog when grown.

SMOKEY

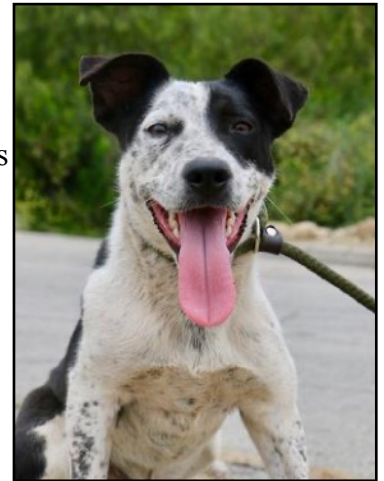
was one of three dozen dogs left behind by a Doberman rescuer in upstate California when she passed away. We took on a number of those Dobermans, and though Smokey is not a Doberman, he is such a social and beautiful dog that we couldn't let him end up unadopted in an animal shelter. The rescuer was calling him a Belgian Shepherd, though we're not sure he is a purebred dog. He's about 3 years old as of August, 2023, very friendly, loves to run and would make a great jogging or hiking partner, and is good with other dogs. We think anyone who loves the shepherds (Dutch, Belgian, German) will be drawn to this exceptional dog.



REMO

is an adorable mix we took in from an animal shelter with x-rays showing bullet fragments where

he had been shot in his front left leg, shattering his elbow. After some time to decompress and heal he gained confidence. Now Remo loves to go for walks, play with other dogs and he snuggles, but all of this requires trust between him and his person. He's about 2 years old, 35 pounds, and probably a cattle dog mix.



MEDICAL MATTERS

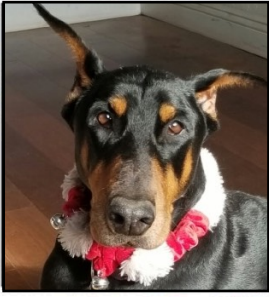
A few words about a disease common in Dobermans these days.....

VonWillebrand's Disease had barely been heard of until fairly recently, though it was identified in the early 1900's as a blood clotting disorder present in humans. It is now common in various dog breeds as well, but – important! – it's rarely in the danger zone.

Simply stated: the lower the factor = the higher the risk of blood not clotting during surgeries and injuries = the more likely that many veterinarians will not perform surgeries (including spaying and neutering!) on dogs with a factor that concerns them. Even if they do, they may charge exorbitant fees for the VwD test beforehand, plasma, sometimes even blood available for transfusion.

Now for the reality: hardly any Dobermans are at high risk of complications from surgery, even though at this point most of them are in the so-called "carrier range." What this means is that the huge middle ground between "safe" and "high risk" includes the majority of Dobies, but it isn't significant unless the dog is bred to another "carrier," in which case the resulting puppies will likely fall in the "high risk" category. But the point of spaying and neutering is to prevent offspring from occurring anyway!

We can authoritatively speak from experience on this issue because we have spayed and neutered thousands of Dobermans, and very rarely have experienced dangerous complications. We recently spayed a Dobie with a factor of 8, which is definitely in the high danger zone, and she did receive plasma as



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a precaution but needed no transfusion and was up bouncing around the next day.

Our advice, when seeking a vet to perform a spay, neuter, or other surgery on your dog, is to shop around for one that won't charge unreasonable fees to do so. Also keep in mind that Yunnan Baiyao (available without a prescription) has done wonders to stop or slow active bleeding that doesn't involve an artery.

OKDOBERFEST IS BACK
 by Colleen Anderson

I am so happy to announce the return of our annual fall fundraising event, Oktoberfest! The first one was in 2016, and I can't believe how it has grown since then. Covid restrictions and time constraints caused a hiatus during the past few years, but this year Oktoberfest was back, with the most incredible turnout to date!

Dobie and other breed adopters, other breed rescuers, friends, friends of friends, and just dog lovers took over Poseidon Brewing Company in Ventura on October 8th to have a fun afternoon and raise money for our rescue. Many-time adopter, volunteer and friend, Gail Means, led a team of volunteers who put everything together. Honestly, this event wouldn't have been the same if not for her hard work and dedication.

Gail identified the perfect location for our event, outside the space- and parking-limited venues of previous years. A catering truck also offered yummy



food including tasty empanadas, pretzels, soft drinks and more. Posters announcing our event were widely circulated beforehand, raffle tickets purchased, flags and decorations put up; the list is endless.

The raffle prizes were incredible this year including two new cruiser bikes, top-of-the-line wine, donations from Patagonia and Lush cosmetics, gift cards from local restaurants, a beautiful leather dog collar from Crazy Rebels, and many more. Gail worked tirelessly along with volunteers Dianne Seno, Jennifer Cribbs and Dwylyne Zapparelli to gather as many raffle items as possible so that everyone could find something they hoped to win. I spent most of the afternoon at the raffle ticket table and it remained busy the entire time. Thanks to the unexpectedly large crowd and everyone's generosity, we raised an impressive chunk of change to help the dogs.

In addition to the raffle, everyone there seemed to have a great time. There were approximately 175 people in attendance and dozens of dogs happily joined



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in on the fun. It was wonderful to see so many Dobies and Little Paws adoptees come out to say hi and show off how well they're



doing in their adoptive homes. It was also pretty amazing to see that many dogs behave so well with all the people, noise and other dogs around.

So heartwarming!!! We expect to reprise the event next year!

DECK THE HALLS WITH BONES AND BALLS PARTY



Sunday, December 17
 Toluca Lake 3:00 pm



As in previous years, the party will feature appetizers, beverages, and great company. There is no admission other than to bring a nice gift for our dogs.

Please confirm with her that you're coming by e-mail: pcwikly1@earthlink.net

See you there!

PARTING SHOT

"Look out Santa, here I come!"



"Jack"
 Allen of
 Castaic

