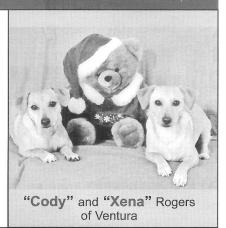




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It's that time of year again, a little bit magical because of the holiday season, but also with a feeling like hibernation, where we all wait for the days to become longer again. Your dogs are probably a lot like mine; when it's early morning and not quite light outside, they tend to open one eye as if to say "Whyever are you disturbing my sleep? ME go out? While it's still dark outside?"

We have a couple of upcoming events happening in December: the annual Deck the Halls With Bones & Balls dinner party/fundraiser in Toluca Lake, and a holiday tamale party/fundraiser in Old Oxnard's historical district. Click on Upcoming Events on our new additional web site, www.dobiesandlittlepawsrescue.org, for dates and times of upcoming events as they become known.

Marcia Watkins held another garage sale for us on October 16th, which was again a resounding success. Many thanks to all who donated items for the sale.

Fall adoptions were slow but steady. Interestingly, where we used to be able to place one small dog for every two Dobermans, we are now placing about 90% Dobermans. We aren't sure why.

Once again, we appreciate all of your donations: financial, gifts for the dogs, blankets and comforters for the cold weather, and every kind of help you have been so generous to give. We hope you all have a wonderful holiday season, and be

sure to share pictures of your pets' happy holiday!

Blessings,

Ardis Braun

#### **ADOPTION UPDATES**

It's such a pleasure to report that three of the four dogs we featured in the last newsletter have been adopted. These four, unlike the vast majority of our residents, truly appeared to be sad here, so we and they are absolutely thrilled.

# MAURICE,

the little Rat Terrier mix who never greeted visitors at his kennel gate, was adopted by Anjanette Mensa of Ventura, who had previously adopted Corky from us a few years ago. This is from her recent email:

"His name is Artie now. We are absolutely in love with him. In fact, it makes my heart hurt to know that he waited for five months....He has blended right into our home life and is very comfortable with all of his new siblings, both child and



animal....Corky established himself as the pack leader...They play together from sunup to sun-down...The best part about Artie? He's a hugger! If I pick him up, he puts his front legs on either side of my neck and snuggles his head down. I am in love! Thanks for taking him in and 'saving' him for us for all this time. We couldn't ask for a better little guy to join our family."

# PETEY,

our elderly Pit Bull mix that we despaired over ever finding a home for, was adopted by Toni Destro of Nipomo. Petey had been abandoned with another old dog years before at a neighboring ranch with a bag of food and some water. After we met them, of course, we couldn't take them to the animal shelter, knowing they were abandoned and that no owner would be coming for them.

Toni's appearance felt like nothing short of a miracle to us. A few words from her recent e-mail:

"Things are going well with Petey – he's such a sweet old guy!...He and the other two are getting along well and he's becoming very attached to me – if I take him outside he just wants to stand next to me....He wants to be my shadow....He LOVES his dog bed and spends quite a bit of time snoozing on it....I'm very glad that I adopted him."

Petey was a favorite of several of our

volunteers, who always made sure he got his walks. After he



was adopted, one volunteer, Kelley Taddeo of Hollywood (yes, she drives all the way up here on weekends to walk and treat our dogs!), drove up to Toni's home



with her husband for a final hug and kiss from Petey. These pictures show Petey with his new housemates, and with Kelley, saying goodbye.

#### ELECTRA.

our fragile Dobie girl who (despite frequent walks) lost muscle tone while in our kennel for many months, has a wonderful new home with Marguerite Garth of Wrightwood. Her new name is Kira. This is from Marguerite's recent e-mail: "Kira is doing well and she's definitely a keeper. She's getting stronger and she is able to jump in the back of my car now. She loves going on the hikes! Only two of our cats are still afraid of her and one real-



ly likes her and gives her kisses....We have renamed her 'Kira,' which means dark one. We do love her."

# WAITING FOR HOMES UGLY DUCKLINGS

In our last issue, we were successful getting adopters interested in our "Sad Dogs," probably because none of us like to think about dogs living sad lives. This time we are featuring:

# RAZBERRY

is a cute young red Dobie girl with home-cropped ears, probably done with scissors. She is on the small side at 55 pounds, and she can live tolerably with certain large male dog companions, though she may do best as the only dog. We think Razberry has a reliable temperament for a family pet.



#### CHIPPENDALE

has been with us for two years. He's a

big bruiser of a guy, almost 4 years old now, a red Dobie who lives with a large female dog companion. His legs are bowed due to a birth defect, but he's quite able to go for walks, run and



play, and he'll make a good companion for someone willing to overlook his imperfection.

# MICKEY

is a Chihuahua mix we took in as a young puppy with demodectic mange, an

immune system deficiency, which made him a medical case for years. He's healthy now, almost 3 years old, weighs about 8 pounds, heckles and plays with his small male dog companions, and has spent too much of his young life in a kennel.



#### LORELEI

came in with her mother, father, and sister, and she got along well with all of them. She's quite a playful dog and probably should be adopted by someone with another playful dog companion. During the



time she has been with us, Lorelei has gained a few pounds, so in addition to her unfortunate ear crop, she is quite plump now. She's 3 years old.

#### **OUR HOLIDAY WISH**

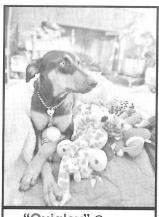
e used to print a Wish List in our holiday newsletter each year, but most of you already know or can easily guess what we need (everything!). Hardly anything goes to waste, from high-end items like Kuranda dog beds with metal frames, to castoff blankets and bedding.

Our highest priority wish for this holiday season is that you do something special for your dog. If your dog already has a high-quality life, maybe encourage a friend or neighbor whose dog doesn't, to go on an outing with you. We would hate to know how many dogs spend their lives in someone's back yard with nothing to do, every day, for the rest of their lives. Dogs are such intelligent beings; they need mental and physical stimulation, and not just once in a while. (There is an old saying: "If your dog is too fat, YOU aren't getting enough exercise!") Whenever we are approached for a dog "to watch the yard," we usually ask that an alarm system be considered instead.

Please, make it a special holiday for your dog, or someone's. Please?



"Woody" and "Lucy" Lemon of Thousand Oaks, with Karlie and Jenna



"Quigley" Greene of San Diego



"Bailey" Saxton of Riverside

# HAPPY HOLIDAYS



**"Molly"** Hartunian of Huntington Beach, with Ursula



"Larry" and "Osa" Booth of Oak View



"Charlie" Foglesong of Santa Barbara



"Cami" Wennes of San Diego, with John and Eva



"Rudy" and "Kiley" Mandigo of Bonita, with Cindy



"Willow" and "Eleke" Blamire of Santa Barbara, with Bob, Kathleen and Lindsay



"Rufus" Verga of Simi Valley



"Rocky" and "Gypsy" Galsworthy of Tarzana, with Diana



"Chili" and "Tigger" Ylizaliturri of Newbury Park, with Corey and Emma



"Dodie" Verga of Simi Valley



"Sam" and "Dani" Hughes of Ventura, with Brad and Josh



"Barkley" and "Bailey" Cohn of Villa Park



"Aegis" Nichols of Los Angeles, with Mary



"Sprocket" Rivera of Moorpark



"Sir Baxter" Lewis of Ventura, with Kienna, Bryce, Jane, and Dennis



"Tammy" Badger of Pomona



"Gunner" Allen of Castaic



"Buzz" Moser of San Juan Capistrano



"Dinka" Thompson of Thousand Oaks

### LONG ROADS TO HAPPY ENDINGS

One of the animal shelters we enjoy working with is the one in Shafter, California, about ½ hour past Bakersfield. They've recently moved into a new shelter facility, a very nice one, but we had already worked with them for several years while they were still at the old shelter.

Because Shafter isn't a large town, its animal shelter isn't large, either. Being a small shelter, when all of its kennel runs are full, they have to make tough decisions about how to accommodate new arrivals. They have enjoyed working with us because, when the need is great for space at their shelter, we have often been able to rescue a few dogs from there (about 60 thus far), opening those spaces for newcomers. Likewise, we have enjoyed working with them because we have NEVER got-

ten a sick dog from their shelter! The shelter manager, Shyanne Schull, is a caring woman who doesn't take the easy way out by just disposing of the harder cases, like those who arrive with injuries. Here are a couple of examples.

#### CECE

is a little dog of such lineage that we weren't even sure what breed to call her for our web site posting. She was found in Shafter, crumpled by the side of the road after being hit by a car. Shyanne fully expected the little girl to die, but over the next few days, Cece expressed her interest in living by eating well and making herself appealing to the shelter staff. She was sent to a vet hospital to have her broken leg pinned, and then she spent the next couple of months rehabilitating in the Shafter animal shelter office.

When Cece's leg was healed, Shyanne had the pins removed, and Cece began learning how to use the leg again, first favoring the leg a lot, then using it with more and more confidence. She was still cage-resting when we brought her in to our rescue, but it didn't take long for Paula Lasiter of Oak View to fall for her sweet, winning ways. Below are the before and after pictures of Cece.





DALI

has a similar

story. She was also hit by a car and had breakage of bones requiring significant rehab and cage rest.



I want to support Doberman Pinscher and Little Paws Rescue!
I am making the following contribution:
( ) \$100. ( ) \$50. ( ) \$10.

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

Please charge my Visa or MasterCard!

Card #\_\_\_\_\_ Expiration date

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.

Once again, Shyanne went the mile for this sweet little being, and once again she didn't have to spend long at our rescue before being chosen by former adopters of ours, Joan and Ed Bonge of Simi Valley. (Their previous adoptee, Jessy, is a photo contest winner shown in our fall issue.) Jessy wasn't entirely sure he wanted to share the attention with a new "sister," but he later decided he did. Enjoy the comic strip below that they created, chronicling this new relationship.







Doberman Pinscher Rescue 2946 Young Road Fillmore, California 93015

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## MEDICAL MATTERS

As most of you know, this is an occasional forum for sharing ideas and experiences you and we have had dealing with our dogs' medical problems. Not all dogs will respond the same way to the same medications and procedures, but if even one dog is helped by this information, the effort is well spent.

Our veterinarian for most complicated, difficult surgeries is Dr. Christopher Frier at Camino Animal Hospital in Thousand Oaks. He recently diagnosed early stage cardiomyopathy in one of our favorite dogs, and he very highly recommends Vetmedin to actually strengthen the heart muscle. Nothing can "cure" the disease, but Vetmedin can delay ultimate heart failure, even by YEARS. Unfortunately, Vetmedin is not approved for manufacture in the United States as yet, so it has to be ordered through European manufacturers. It is a prescription product, and it's fairly expensive.

An adopter of ours, Gail Young of Santa Barbara, told us about a pain medication for dogs, non-prescription ("over the counter"), that really works. It may not be able to replace Tramadol and Rimadyl for pain control in ALL dogs, but it is certainly far less expensive and in many dogs may work just as well. It's called DGP (for Dog Gone Pain), and she says it is widely available.

# PARTING SHOTS



"Zoe" Gaskins of Upland

"...but I thought I was supposed to BARK at strange men!"