Dobies and Little Paws Rescue Report



"Baskerville" and "Koda" Medalen of Petersburg, AK

"Dobie Doings"



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"Scraps" Estrada of Carpinteria, with Nicholas

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

A miserably hot summer is almost over as this is written. Never have the dogs been so quiet during the middle part of the day; just too hot for them to expend the energy!

Overall adoptions have been fairly mediocre, while it appears that the popularity of Dobermans has been increasing. Not a happy trend for us, because many people who don't know the breed well want them because of their intelligence and beauty, but they may not be at all the kinds of owners that Dobermans require. We are devoting more information on this topic in the coming pages of this newsletter, as well as a new section devoted to them on our website. Remember that we're always willing to share knowledge based on decades of experience.

We have fallen behind on thanking many of you and responding to your questions and requests. I had a traumatic accident, which followed on the heels of Colleen's first real vacation in many years, and it now appears we'll never catch up. Please know that your support and concerns are very important to us, and we thank you for everything you do, for us and for your own dogs.

Don't forget to send us your 2016 holiday photos of your adopted dogs so we can print them in our next (winter) newsletter. During the

upcoming holidays, as always, remember that chocolate and turkey skin are toxic to dogs. Have a wonderful autumn, Halloween, and Thanksgiving!

Sincerely,

Ardis Braun

ADOPTION UPDATES

Of the eight dogs featured in our last newsletter, four have been adopted!

GINA.

our fun-loving, playful Dobie who displayed dog-aggression while with us, was adopted by Gloria and Steve Bowker of San Marcos. She has not given them any trouble with other dogs, which shows that she totally respects their leadership.

They had recently lost their 13-year-old Dobie girl and the house was just too empty. They drove up and viewed all the dogs, narrowing their finalists to two.

Gloria says "Then Ardis mentioned Gina. Well, that was a match made in heaven. She was just what we were looking for....The next day I took Gina for a walk and she was great on a leash. She knew sit, down, stay and wait. She loves toys and going for walks. She especially loves our bed.



When we have to leave her at home for various reasons, she greets us at the door with

a smile. She is a wonderful addition to our now-complete home. We love her dearly."

COSMO and PIPPI,

the bonded sibling Terrier mixes whom we did not want to separate, were adopted by Sonya Lincoln of Long Beach. Through a mutual acquaintance we learned that Sonya had recently lost her Terrier mix and was grieving. We suggested



the twins but specified that they needed to be placed together.
When the family came to meet them, all the stars aligned for them.

From Sonya's email: "I just lost my beloved Santana last month after 13 years. We were all so very sad, the kids and I. I

did not think I would ever want another dog (let alone two), but the house was so quiet and dull, my daughter was insistent that we do something. Cosmo and Pippi bring the liveliness and fun back into our home. They are playful, funny, and very smart. They have made themselves right at home and we are beyond happy to have these new additions to our family!"

KIRA

was chosen by Lamont Harris of Stockton after seeing her picture in our summer newsletter. He has been a several-time



adopter who enjoys an easy keeper who will bond to him, and Kira has done that. Lamont likes to putter at home with his hobbies in a nice workspace at his home, and Kira is always there to keep him company and, if necessary (we hope), protect him. They are very happy together.

WAITING FOR HOMES

CLAY

is a handsome and very dog-social young male who was picked up as a stray and was thoroughly terrified during his animal shelter stay. When leashed, he laid down and pretended he wasn't present, so we've had to work with him on leash to



boost his confidence.
Clay is a red male about
2 years old, and he does
seem happiest in the
company of another dog.
He's currently kenneled
with a bossy female,
appearing to enjoy her
leadership and
confidence. We think
pairing him with another

dog will help to give Clay the confidence he needs to really blossom in a new home environment. He also has a natural tail, for those adopters who like the allnatural appearance of their dogs.

TREVOR

is a 12-14 pound Terrier mix who was in the right place at the right time, though for the wrong reason. During a trip to one of the animal shelters

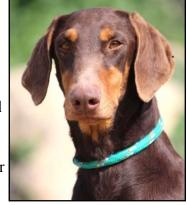
we work with to rescue a different dog, we noticed Travor in an area where he wasn't on display. It turned out that he was in the medical section of the shelter due to a broken pelvis. So often pelvic fractures require nothing more than cage



rest for month or two, and the dog will recover well enough to have a normal life. This appears to be the case with little Travor, who is about 2 years old. He still has a strange gait, but we think he'll be pain free going forward.

GINGER

had a great home where she was adored, but though she's wonderful in most ways, she has a "fatal flaw:" major separation anxiety. Ginger is housebroken, ok with other dogs, knows her commands, and is a very



devoted companion. Her behavior when left alone, though, is seriously destructive. Her ex-owner tried a number of deterrents, none of which worked. We think Ginger's behavior may be partly the result of being completely alone and may perhaps be less of a problem with a companion dog present. Otherwise, she'll be great in a home with an adult or couple that work from home and have a dog run or other sturdy housing where she can be kept when it's essential for them to be away. Ginger is about 3 years old and quite tiny for a female Dobie, weighing only 52 pounds.

COOPER

is a sweet little dog who was going to be left behind when his owner moved. He is probably Corgi



and Chihuahua, and he's about a year old. Unlike many small dogs, he likes to be picked up and is good with strangers. Cooper is fine with other dogs but is a food hog. He weighs about 15 pounds. All he needs is a little training so he'll be well-mannered in the house. We can only take

in a handful of little dogs at a time but this cutie was so worthy.

AMELIA

has a bit of a heartbreaking story, which is

lengthy and can be read about on our website. She is incredibly sweet with people, and larger male dogs are tolerated well, though not cats or small dogs. We think Amelia would bond tightly with a very loving owner able to keep her secure when it's necessary to be absent.



She's a red girl about 5 years old.

DAX

seems to us a very good Dobie with a fun

disposition. He has the energy to be active but he has his mellow moments too where he can be calm and affectionate. He has been patient with his female canine companions, and he always greets everyone with a happy face and a tail wag. Dax is black and tan, probably about 6 years old.



GG

has had a few homes because none of her previous owners knew how to deal with her energy level and lack of training, so the last time she was returned to her animal shelter they asked us to rescue and place her. GG is compatible with large mellow males, it seems, as there have been no problems between her and her kennelmates. We doubt she could live with small animals or small kids. Ideally, GG



should be placed with adults interested in agility or jogging who are willing to put in the training to make her enjoyable to live with in the home environment as well. She's a youngster about 1 1/2 years old with black and tan markings.



"Fozzie" Beckham of Fresno



"Katie" Lynch of Encinitas





"Gracie" Seward of Auburn



"Amy" Barnes of Fremont





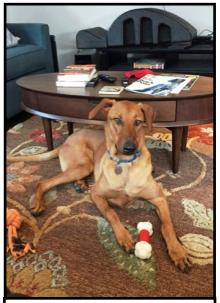
"Siggy" Roeper of Tustin, with Ava

"Dritter" Herbert-Skinner of Burbank



"Abby" Hendrickson of Moorpark with Margie, and "Buddy Boy" Burson of Fillmore with Sharyn, Hayden and Jessica

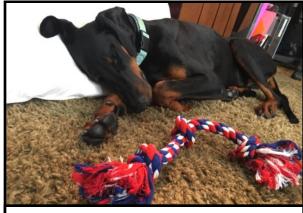




"Calliope" Thomas of Culver City



"Cody" Falahati of Granada Hills, with Maryam



"Luka" Moss of Bakersfield



"Loki" and "Dodger" Levin of Canoga Park

"Diego" Ray of Sedona, AZ



"Spencer" Roberts of San Pedro



Happy Adoptees



"Rocco" Darling and friends, of Los Angeles

"Nicky" and "Sandy" Cannon of Santa Barbara



THE RIGHT OWNER

There are so many special stories about our amazing rescue dogs and their new owners; great new warm-and-fuzzy-feeling ones every week. People have so often said that these should all be combined in a book. Right. In our spare time!

We do absolutely love to share these dogs' life experiences that we and our adopters experience, and they're especially moving when the dog has been here a long time, or when the dog's new home situation is such a perfect fit that it seems to have been made in heaven. Naturally it's hard to choose which to share in our newsletter because it's never that some are more worthy than others; they are all worthy! Likewise the pictures of your dogs that we print are not more worthy than the ones that don't get printed; we just can't print all of them. Maybe we should create a book of just your wonderful pictures!

One recent story that is sure to delight is that of Megan Sullivan and her dog, Katana. We had placed Katana with Megan some years ago. Katana is an extra-large, very pretty cropped Dobie girl who turns heads wherever she goes. She and Megan were absolutely compatible and very devoted to each other.

Then, last year Megan had an amazing career opportunity, but it required that she move to New York, and having Katana in an apartment with Megan gone many hours a day with no yard...it just wouldn't work. In addition, Katana is not fond of other dogs, and she's big and strong, so several walks a day where she would have encountered other dogs...it would have been a very difficult situation to manage.

Katana was returned, tearfully, and was adopted briefly into what appeared to be an excellent home, but behaviorally she wasn't suited for that new home, and she was returned here again.

Imagine our surprise when, one recent Saturday during our open house hours, a woman in a baseball cap was seen walking Katana, both of them showing complete confidence in the other! Megan had come back to California to visit, with high hopes of being able to relocate back to the area. Katana remembered her, and it was a beautiful thing to watch. She was leashed, taken out of her kennel, and taken for a nice little outing that afternoon as though it was the most natural thing in the world.

Katana
then went back to
her kennel, but she
appeared
somewhat more
validated during
the few months
between that day
and the day Megan
returned for good
to the area, having
secured a great
new job and home



environment where she could live with her dog, who had by this time turned 8 years old. This is truly a happy-ending story about a woman and her dog. Her dog and no one else's.

There is a second reason this story has been shared. We have many good dogs like Katana, both here at the rescue ranch and also at our sanctuary in the high desert. The majority of dogs that are like her need a special kind of owner, one who is an experienced, confident leader that a more aggressive dog – or even a timid, insecure one – can succeed with. It's the reason some dogs fail in specific homes, though those same dogs can shine brilliantly in others. We want so much to attract these latter kinds of owners, those with the "attitude" to manage more difficult or challenging dogs, that we've added a third page of adoptable dogs on our website. We're calling it TRO (The Right Owner) Dogs, and we're removing these dogs from our Males and Females listings, displaying them only under the TRO link. We think the rewards are worthy! Once a TRO person establishes that special relationship with the adopted dog, that dog belongs to them in every sense of the word. So if you're a person like that or know someone who is, direct them to our TRO link. You know who you are, and we want to hear from you.

NEW RULES FOR MISBEHAVIOR 2

In our summer issue we mentioned the frightening new rules that can apply to any dog that injures another animal or a person. If you didn't receive that issue or weren't on our mailing list then,



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please go to our website, click on "Newsletters," open the Summer 2017 issue, and read the article.

Since that article was written, one of our adopted dogs, who had lived with his family for three years, nearly lost his life due to the new law. Last year, he accidentally snagged an old woman's arm with a tooth or claw when he was excited, requiring sutures to close the flap. The injury was reported as a bite, and the owner DID NOTHING WHEN ADVISED THAT SHE COULD ATTEND A HEARING to explain the circumstances to a hearing judge. Since she did nothing, the default decision was "Potentially Dangerous Dog."

Then, more recently, a deliveryman entered her home through an open door to hand her a delivery, startling her and the dog, who nipped the man. Because it was a second bite from a "Potentially Dangerous Dog," the dog now received the designation "Vicious Dog."

Fortunately, with many of us intervening on the dog's behalf and an attorney getting the shelter's attention and the owner agreeing to move out of the county it occurred in, the woman was able to save the dog.

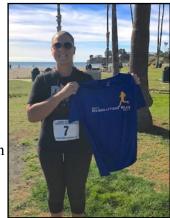
Please, please be very careful to ensure that your dogs aren't involved in bites! If one somehow occurs anyway, please attend the hearing if one is offered in order to influence the decision of whomever holds your dog's fate in his or her hands. It could be a lifesaver!

RUNNING FOR THE DOGS by Colleen Anderson

This article is going to be a little bit different than the ones I've written in the past because instead of writing about the dogs in my life, I am writing about something even more difficult for me...myself. I have always shunned the spotlight and I would rather take endless photos of dogs at the rescue than ever snap a selfie, but I decided to take this year and embark on a challenge that would force me out of my shell and hopefully, help out the dogs in the process.

Throughout 2017 I have committed to running races all over California (and one in the deserts of Las Vegas) to raise money for the dogs and awareness for the rescue. This required me to not only take on the challenge of bringing more attention to myself but it also gave me the challenge of running, something I have never been particularly strong at. I haven't made

my health a priority over the past few years because like many rescuers, life is all about the dogs. It definitely took time to really make changes and like most people, I encountered many roadblocks along the way. In January, I started out with a simple 10k in Santa Barbara and even though I was one





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of the last to finish, I finished strong and pretty exhilarated. In March, I took on not one but two races back to back within 24 hours. The first race started Saturday morning with Tough Mudder LA. Along with my brother, Sean, we tackled a 10-mile course with over 20 obstacles including wall climbs, barbed wire crawls, and muddy ditches. After that we got a little rest because at midnight that night we tackled the course for 8 hours during the new Toughest Mudder race. I was a little battered and bruised by the end but the experience is something that gave me a new appreciation for life and the human spirit.

The spring and summer hit me with a lot of challenges both health- and time-wise so my running schedule took a backseat but I never forgot about my commitment, and the rest of the year is jam-packed with races. I even managed to squeeze in a 5k race

TOWART STATE TOWAR

while on vacation at Disney's Bahamian island, Castaway Cay! By the end of 2017 I will have at least 14 races completed including a few half marathons, another Tough Mudder and the granddaddy of them all, World's Toughest Mudder

in November. I will be out there at Lake Las Vegas doing a 5-mile obstacle course loop for 24 hours!

The end of this year won't be easy but life in dog rescue isn't easy so I've been well prepared for the challenge. There will be more information on the website and our Facebook page as I continue on my journey, also helping to raise some much-needed funds and awareness for all of the doggies at the rescue.

