



# SPECIAL NEEDS DOBERMANS

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January 28, 2019

## 2018 END OF YEAR NEWS!

Special Needs Dobermans is celebrating our 18th year with SND activities for 2018 now on the books. We hope you are as pleased as we are to bring our yearly noteworthy news report for 2018! Because and ONLY because of your support and donations during 2018, the following summary outlines what all of us, together, were able to accomplish for our Dobermans! We are very proud to renew our commitment to our "Every Penny Rule" which means, 100% of donations you make are used only as designated by *you*! The unavoidable fees needed to support our mission are funded by SND Store Sales and specific donations to the Administrative Fund. There are very few non-profits that can make this claim! There are many charities that spend more than half of every dollar (some spend even *more* than that) you give to finance salaries, real property, advertising and other administrative costs - the balance *may* finally get to fund the mission you intended. The process of fundraising is not cheap to be sure. Recent years has seen a burgeoning of companies acting as "charitable funds" aggregators (for a fee of course) – profitable for them but further eroding donations. SND does not use any third-party services as we are still proudly all-volunteer!!

**Secret Santa's 2018 Ride through Doberman Skies!!** This year, Santa's reindeer wore black armbands and rode In Memory of Misses Lucy and Ethel Harris, both now twinkling stars in the Night Sky in Sirius' Garden. This year was a record run for Dobermans – the campaign inspiring \$30,000 from our generous donors!! Secret Santa matched ALL of your donations in December and sweetened the pot for Seniors too!! This means doubly sweet assistance will be available for SND direct assistance to rescue cases as well as Senior Sponsorships! We are deeply indebted to the Harris Ladies through the Golden Dome Foundation for sharing our passion for assisting Dobermans in need AND for also endowing a new special fund for Seniors, the Seniors Health Fund. A truly amazing Make Santa Pay Campaign in 2018!! THANK YOU, Ladies!!

**Assistance to Rescue Groups.** Rescue Groups will always likely remain the most impacted by whatever economic climate prevails in our country. Donations during 2018 were augmented by two special bequests. SND will continue to support Rescue Groups with dollars and resources we have at our disposal - thanks to YOU our donors!! Many rescues continue to struggle with the ever-increasing problem of saving as many Dobermans as they can with their own declining resources! As we have done since 2013, SND will continue to devote ALL of our financial resources in support of Rescue Groups. For 2018, almost \$66,000 were paid out for extraordinary veterinary expenses for about 75 Dobermans, this includes 8 Seniors with extraordinary medical expenses we could help with almost \$3,400 Senior Medical Assistance Program (SMAP) dollars!! You provided nearly \$29,000 in SDP Funds for Sponsorships. Preliminary stipends of \$5,000 for the new Senior Health Fund were distributed in late December.

**Assistance to Seniors.** Senior Dobermans in Rescue are now the target of three wonderful programs - the Senior Medical Assistance Program (SMAP) and the Senior Doberman Project (SDP) and the new Senior Health Fund (SHF). SMAP finances extraordinary medical needs and the SDP lists Seniors awaiting adoption and/or seeking sponsorship. Only because of the hard work of our SDP Manager (and 1st VP), Debra McMahan, and your generous donations, 52 new Seniors in the program were sponsored - many of them receiving more than one sponsorship during the year. Forty-nine Seniors are presently listed, 19 were adopted because of the effort of their Rescue Angels in 2018. Fifteen Seniors died last year but fortunately they had had much loving care from

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**A 501(c)(3) Organization Dedicated to Helping Dobermans**

their caretakers. This year brought the creation of a new fund for senior Dobermans in honor of Lucy and Ethel Harris. The goal of the new SHF is to provide rescues with extra \$\$ to provide routine care for their Seniors - ideally to keep them in top adoptability condition – a marvelous goal indeed!! Rescues who take in Seniors will be offered stipends from this fund in order to keep the Seniors they take on in the best condition for finding Forever Homes. We wholeheartedly applaud those rescues that do this work to give our Seniors the care they deserve and we applaud YOU, our donors for sharing our passion and making all this possible!

**Assistance to Private Owners.** This part of our mission continues as we respond to private owners with information regarding financial assistance through other organizations, individual fundraising tips, saving money on medications and information about specific diseases or injury-related treatments as well. We will also continue to refer private owners seeking to surrender their Dobermans to the Doberman Rescues in their geographical areas. Once again, over 52 such requests were received and responded to in 2018 - the response from owners was overwhelmingly positive and grateful.

Don't forget to take a moment to visit the SND website at <http://www.doberman911.org> and click through for news and status of the Dobs we are helping with General Funds, the Seniors in the Senior Doberman Project, the SND Store and our intermittent special eBay auctions and raffles.

As always, we THANK YOU for your support and send our wishes for a Happy New DobeYear 2019 to you and yours!! We told you in past newsletters that our first million Dollars for Dobermans was reached in 2014. At the end of 2018, we will be at almost 82% toward our second million for our precious Dobermans!! We certainly hope you will continue to support Dobermans in need in 2019 as the SND team continues efforts to keep these programs in motion! *We CAN'T do it without YOU!!*

For the SND Family,



Mars Martin  
President  
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[www.doberman911.org/seniors](http://www.doberman911.org/seniors)