



Special Needs Dobermans

A 501(C)(3) Nonprofit Organization

www.doberman911.org

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In This Issue:

<i>Justice for Hope</i>	2
<i>In Memory of Candy Sangster</i>	2
<i>Member Spotlight</i>	3
<i>SND Directory</i>	3
<i>Senior Dobe Project</i>	4
<i>Remembering Pixie</i>	4
<i>How Could You?</i>	5
<i>The State of the Doberman in the UK</i>	5
<i>Meet Bowie</i>	6
<i>Attending Veterinarians</i>	6
<i>Dobes Helped</i>	7
<i>SND Contributors</i>	10
<i>Gone But Not Forgotten</i>	11
<i>Please Donate!</i>	12

SND Acquires New Logo!

We are positively thrilled to present our new Special Needs Dobermans logo (top left of this page)! This graphic perfectly captures what we feel about the Dobes we are trying to help. It promotes the kindness and love they all deserve, especially those in need as well as our senior friends. The artist of this marvelous design is Nicholas DiGiuseppe. Together with his wife, Carol, they own Growling Dogs Inc. Canine Designs (www.growlingdogsinc.com). Nicholas and Carol are Dobe people too, and already knew of SND's work. Now here's one of the best parts - when we contacted them about this logo, they decided to donate it to SND! Thanks to the generosity of the DiGiusespes, we now have a beautiful and professional looking logo to put on merchandise for fund raising. All of this helps our Dobes in need, which is exactly why they donated this artwork. SND extends our heartfelt thanks to these wonderful people, and we welcome them with open arms to our SND family!

What Is Special Needs Dobermans ?

Special Needs Dobermans is an organization dedicated to providing medical assistance to Dobermans with extraordinary medical needs. In the year and a half that SND has been in existence over 50 Dobermans have been helped! Some of the dogs helped were in rescue, some were already in a loving home where the medical costs were out of reach for the owner.

Since its inception, SND has raised over \$30,000 for Dobermans in need. Initially SND had 13 donors. The list has now climbed to well over 200 people! The organization focuses on fund-raising, and provides assistance to Dobermans on a national level. To date, more than 50 Dobes have been helped. SND is a nationally recognized 501(c)(3) non profit organization. Members maintain a website, www.doberman911.org, that details cases, disbursements, and fundraising efforts. It is here that you can learn about all of the Dobes that have been helped through this organization. The group has gained a great deal of recognition through fund-raising auctions on E-Bay, and with the added recognition comes more Dobes to help. We hope that you will be a part of the happy endings that SND helps to create for these wonderful creatures in need.

If you have questions or suggestions, please email us at info@doberman911.org. Know that your time, efforts, and donations are saving DOBERMANS!

Show Prospect Shot - SND, Breeder to the Rescue



Rudy at 7 months

Rudy was bought as a show prospect puppy by Karen Klobuchar in Montana. It is likely that he would have gone far in the ring, as he is Marienberg on both sides. Repo Man is his grandsire. Last February, when he was near the beginning of his show career, he was shot by a neighbor with a .270 caliber high-power rifle. The shooter then fled the state. The bullet blew off Rudy's right hock. Treatment at that time required reconstruction of the hock, including attachment of a steel plate to the remaining bone. The vet bills for the emergency treatment of the gunshot wound and the first reconstructive surgery totaled approximately \$6000; the cost of the original

emergency reconstructive surgery, about \$4500, was required in advance. Karen did not have the money for Rudy's surgery, so his breeder, Mary Rogers, kindly loaned Karen the money. Karen is now working three jobs to repay the loan.

Unfortunately, the original steel plate cracked. Rudy cannot bear weight on his leg and it has begun to atrophy. The sole alternative to replacement of the cracked steel plate is amputation of the leg, which both Karen and the vet feel should be considered only as a last resort. The orthopedic surgeon wishes to replace the original plate with a thinner yet stronger one, and states that Rudy's post-surgical prognosis is excellent although he will likely always have a limp. The vet also states that this surgery normally costs approximately \$3000, but has agreed to reduce the fee to between \$1000 and \$1500. Karen, already in debt for Rudy's first surgery has come to SND for help. SND is now working to raise money for Rudy's surgery. Mary Rogers has stated that she will donate Marienburg items to the SND auctions. She has also given SND authorization to use her name and kennel name in our efforts to help raise funds for Rudy. SND commends Mary Rogers for her efforts on Rudy's behalf and her dedication to the Dobes that she has produced. We're now asking for your help, to make sure this fine young Doberman makes a full recovery. You can use the donation form on the back of this newsletter when mailing your donation, or you can make a tax-deductible donation online at www.doberman911.org. Current auction listings can also be found on the website. Please consider helping Rudy or one of our many other Special Needs Dobermans.

In Memory of Candy Sangster

1935 - 2003

by Grace Joffe

When I read the call for help on one of the Doberman Lists I was on, I immediately called the man to make sure he was on the up and up about the job he had and the awful story about his girl having diabetes and his vet wanting \$1400 to put her on an insulin program. I then called a few people listed in the DPCA membership directory. The only one who cared enough to help was Candy Sangster. She called the vet before I did to lead the way to a smooth relationship between the vet and me. She called the dog's owner several times to guide him in giving the shots.

Candy was a diabetic with two senior female Dobermans and one rambunctious male. It was in Nov.2001, that Candy fell in her kitchen and broke both legs. She was in the hospital eight months. Judy Bingham, a Doberman breeder in California, picked up the dogs and took them to handler Moe Miyagawa, who housed them for the duration of Candy's hospitalization. Knowing her situation, this was all gratis.

After Candy came home, I called each Sunday. She was ecstatic to be home with the dogs. Most of you do not know Candy. The book of Doberpeople's prose and poetry, "We've Been Blessed," is dedicated to her. She helped our poster girl, Dutchess, come back to life and was one of the original 13, long before we were SND, who donated to her vet bill. Both she and her husband contributed to the breed. George Sangster was a well respected judge.

When he was on an assignment many years ago, Candy was alone and was going into diabetic coma. Their dog, Jet, knew that Candy was not sleeping and was able to get the attention of a neighbor who called 911. Jet won the 35th Ken-I Ration Dog Hero of the year (1989). The whole story of the dog, the way it appeared in Dog News, will be in the beginning of our SND book.

No more pain sweet lady. Enjoy being with all your doberangels.

Because of her love for Dobermans and what she has done for SND, I am asking that if you can, to please contribute in Candy's memory.

If you would like to be a part of ongoing discussion about our SND Dobes, please consider joining our list group at

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/specialneedsdobermans>.

You'll also have a chance to meet other members, and keep abreast of issues concerning our favorite breed!

Justice for Hope!



Hope, the day she was found by animal control

With him, was "Hope." She was seen drinking her own urine and eating her own fecal matter. She was confiscated by animal control. She was released to me today, 10 days after pick up. "Hope" is approximately 2-3 years old, blue, with cropped ears and has obviously been bred. I gave her the name "Hope" because it is all she has left, and she never gave up on HOPE."

Ms. Gowland worked diligently in gathering police reports and following up on the case. She also consulted the Animal Legal Defense Fund for legal assistance in the case. Shortly before the case went to trial, she was subpoenaed as an expert witness and could no longer speak out.

Late in the afternoon of Thursday, January 9, 2003 the Rescue organization learned that Hope's case would be tried the following Monday. At that time, the prosecution was only seeking a \$500 fine for one count out of a possible 8 counts that could have been charged in the case. Things were not looking good. Looming in the back of everyone's mind was the chance that Hope would be returned to her original owner, Tremena Miskel, a seventh grade special education teacher. It was at this time that the Louisiana Assistant Director of Gulf Coast Doberman Rescue, Lindsay Grissom made a widespread plea.

She informed SND and other groups that the case was going to trial and that the situation appeared bleak. Upon the news, the community of animal lovers rallied to action. News of the upcoming trial was posted to numerous list groups and message boards and countless emails went out. As a result, the prosecutor, judge, mayor, and city manager of Gautier were bombarded with faxes and phone calls demanding justice. After the trial, Ms. Gowland proclaimed success, "On January 13, 2003, the Gautier City Court Judge found Tremena Miskel guilty of the offense of animal cruelty, including the Mississippi law that prohibits depriving a dog of necessary food or drink. Judge Gary Roberts ordered her to pay the maximum fine of \$1000, serve 10 days in jail, and pay restitution to the Gulf Coast Doberman Rescue in the amount of actual expenses (which Gulf Coast Doberman Rescue estimates to be about \$1350); ordered her to forfeit ownership of the surviving dog [Hope] to Gulf Coast Doberman Rescue; and permanently enjoined her from owning or having custody of any animals in the City of Gautier in the future. The 10 days of jail time and \$500 of the \$1000 fine were suspended, conditional upon Ms. Miskel paying the fine in accordance with a payment schedule to be set up with the court and upon her committing no crimes of any sort during a probationary period of one year." The case received a great deal of media coverage, with articles published in *The Mississippi Press*, *The Sun-Herald*, and *The Picayune Newspaper*. As of this writing, these articles can be accessed from the Gulf Coast Doberman Rescue web site at www.gulfcoastdobermanrescue.com. Excerpts from the original police report and numerous pictures of Hope are also on the site. Hope has fully recovered from the neglect and abuse that she suffered. As a result of all of the media attention, Gulf Coast Doberman Rescue was bombarded with people wanting to adopt Hope. She has now been adopted by a wonderful family, and is living a life of leisure as a much loved Dobie!



Hope after ten days at the shelter and one week in rescue

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Meet the Vice President Grace Joffe Florida

Grace Joffe's mother was an animal lover and never missed an opportunity to shower a stuffed animal on Grace when they were unable to get her the real thing. Thus her home is filled with elephants, chimps, bears, etc. She was, however, eventually owned by Minnie, a beautiful Pekinese; Pam a mixed breed; Tiger (what else could she be) a cat; and Mikey, a hamster.

In college, Grace was president of a national sorority. When she left her initial teaching position in Physical Education to move to Florida, her students gave her a good bye gift, Mohammed, a beautiful black cat, who grew to be 18 pounds.

Teaching was her profession and animals, her avocation. Language Arts was the subject of her Masters Degree which led her to be a Department Chair. She wed Jeff Joffe and they have been married for 42 years. Each dog she owned with Jeff had an obedience title and/or a championship title. She never completed her Doctorate because DOBERMANS became her passion. They were trained in tracking and some in Schutzhund. The most famous of her dogs was BIS winner AM/CAN/DOM/MEX/ INT. (FCI) CH. Liquorish the Ron Rico AM/CAN/MEX. CD, ROM, whose trophies have brought much money on E-Bay for SND dogs. Grace has served as President of the Miami Obedience Club and DPCF, and won an award from the COPE committee in 1976.

Retirement came after 35 years of teaching and law school was waiting in the wings, but a triple by-pass messed up those plans. Breeding one more litter was put on hold, never to happen. Her current dogs are Woody and Willow. Both have their CGC and TDI. Woody is now Grace's service dog. The Joffes felt that they were so blessed with the dogs they bred and owned, that it was pay back time. They adopted Tia, a rescue girl with great medical problems. Talk about running the gamut of various phases of dogdom!



Grace Joffe with Rescue, Tia, and Willow

Mariah ODonnell Anaheim, CA

Mariah is a Forensic Specialist working in Anaheim, California. As a child she was scared to death of dogs because of a bite at age 10. After Mariah reached adulthood, things changes after she learned that 3 of her friends have Dobes, and she got to know them. She says, "They broke my fear. Plus, I am not allergic to them." After adopting 9 + year old Cinderellie, she says that she will continue adopting older Dobes, "I love my 4 year old GusGus, but he is SO hyper! Cinderellie has plenty of energy and stamina. I just don't have to worry about an arthritic dog jumping a fence. Pulling me down the street, yes. I am getting to be a pro at old dog ailments. Cinderellie has them all. Hope she sticks around for a while." Mariah plans to get a travel trailer so that she, Gus-Gus, and Cinderellie can go on family vacations together. She had 2 sunroofs put in her Jeep Cherokee. Mariah said, "The guys at the body shop said 'why 2?', and of course she replied, "for the fur kids!!!! Ventilation. 2 door SUV - Can't very well leave the driver's window open." Mariah takes them everywhere. She rigged up a 2 crate deal in the back of the truck. They get along normally, but in a confined space, Gus sits on Ellie's head & then they fight. Both Dobes have wardrobes, and sofa beds next to hers. She says they are not spoiled, just very happy & warm. Nothing like seeing someone's cast off dog blossom into your most faithful pals. Mariah now wonders how she survived 29 years without dogs. Her career is very stressful, and she very much enjoys coming home to her love muffins. Mariah also does volunteer transports and fostering for Doberman Rescue in Fillmore, CA.

Jean Stewart Scotland

Originally hailing from the Yorkshire Dales, Jean has had a lifelong association with dogs, as her family bred Boxers. The first ten years of working life centred on nursing of the human variety and with voluntary work also being undertaken for RSPCA (Royal Society for The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals). The lure of the commercial world led to relocating to Scotland and a career change into Medical specialties visiting hospitals and general practitioners in Glasgow and Western Scotland. A concern for animal welfare was always a priority and after visiting a drug testing laboratory this concern became a mini crusade on behalf of our four legged friends. She joined the Political Animal Lobby as an advocate for animals at a time when public education and awareness of animal cruelty was to the forefront. During this time she met and married Andrew and

was fortunate to move from the city into the countryside. It goes without saying that Andrew was also an animal lover and whose childhood canine friends were all Pyrenean Mountain dogs. The first rescue came along in 1976, Zarak, a cream Alsatian who had been beaten and shot. Once rehabilitated he was found a new home with a family of his own. Until 1987 a steady procession of cats and kittens came and went until the day finally arrived when permanent pets were possible. Dobermanns had long been the breed of choice and so along came Juno, as wild as heather and full of fun. Max arrived 4 months later and together they bounced through ten wonderful years.

Presently the household consists of two aging cats and 'Kilo' a handsome five year old Dobie boy - grandson of the Int Ch Alpha Adelente del Citone and son of Belgian Ch Victor van Roveline. Activities currently centre on SPCA, Dobermann Rescue UK and SND, a very special organization for very special Dobermanns.

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Senior Dobs Seeking Forever Homes

By Connie Martin

When Toby's owner passed away, no one in the family could take her in or provide love for her for the rest of her days. Her age of 10 years made her chances slim for finding a new home. "Most people want to adopt younger pets, if they are considering adoption at all," said Nina Armstrong, National Coordinator of the Senior Doberman Project. "At the Senior Doberman Project, we want to help these precious seniors find homes. We strive to educate people to the fact that senior Dobermans make excellent pets and have so much to offer as gentle, loving companions. They are already house and obedience trained, they've passed the puppy phase so they won't chew, they have been spayed or neutered, and they have generally mellowed into mature friends well-suited for almost any home."

The Senior Doberman Project (or SDP, as it is becoming known) is a joint effort of Special Needs Dobermans, the Doberman Pinscher Club of America's COPE rescue committee, and The Doberman Digest – a bi-monthly magazine for Doberman enthusiasts. Armstrong continued, "The Doberman community is truly coming together to address the plight of seniors. There are far too many seniors who need loving homes. We all want to help seniors like Toby and all the others who were abandoned, neglected, or abused and found themselves in rescue."

The SDP lists purebred Dobs ages 7 and older, and adheres to DPCA/COPE's Code of Ethics. It acts only as a facilitator to promote the availability of senior Dobs and to help put potential adopters in contact with the appropriate rescue personnel. Interested parties contact the senior's sponsoring rescue group(s) directly, and requirements of the rescue group(s) must be met. The Doberman Digest donates space in their magazine to feature senior Dobs listed with the Project, thereby giving these seniors national and international exposure. "Our focus is to help the Doberman rescue community by providing greater exposure for their seniors. Rescue volunteers work so hard and give all they have to save Dobermans; we are working to help them as much as possible," Armstrong said.

The Senior Doberman Project averages four new listings per week, with three to four adoptions occurring per month. These Dobs find themselves in rescue for

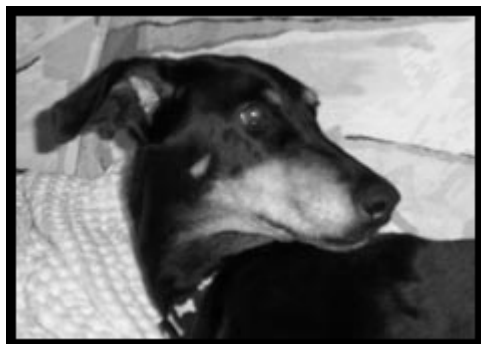
reasons ranging from owners getting divorced and neither party wants to keep the poor Dobe, to truly sad situations when the owner passes away. Still more are found as strays or worse: the innocent victims of neglect or abuse. Whatever the reason for coming into rescue, these seniors all deserve second chances. They are the hand-me-downs and discards from humans with busy schedules and little loyalty to the precious Dobs. They are the same Dobs who give the unconditional love that fills empty spaces in the hearts of people.

Toby was living in a foster home in Vacaville, California, when a Doberman enthusiast named Valerie Crowell one night browsed the Senior Doberman Project's website listing of Dobs needing homes. "I had tears in my eyes," said Valerie, who also lives in California. "I was reading about the poor souls that had been discarded at a time in their lives when they should be sleeping by the fireplace, or in a sunny spot, keeping their old bones warm." When Valerie read Toby's story and noticed that Toby was only 20 miles from her home, she immediately contacted Jolene Ladyman of DogWorks Canine Rescue, Toby's sponsor and caretaker. Toby's Happy Tail had begun.

DogWorks Canine Rescue had a lump removed from Toby's leg; then both Valerie and Jolene breathed sighs of relief that Toby did not have cancer. Valerie has two other dogs and Toby fit right in. "The little stinker had stolen my heart. All three [dogs] get along great and I'm so pleased that I saw the Senior Dobe page that led me to Toby," said Valerie.

"We live for the day when all Dobs find their forever homes, just like Toby did," Armstrong concluded. "Until then, we continue to dedicate our efforts of public education and publicity for Dobs needing another chance to fill human lives with the special warmth and love given by a precious senior Dobe."

If you are interested learning more about adopting a senior, the Senior Doberman Project website is located at www.doberman911.org/seniors.



I've written this article a thousand times in my mind. Each time, words fail to convey the beauty of Pixie, and the magic that she brought to my life. But Pixie's story is worth telling,

her life worth remembering, so I will attempt to introduce you to a very, very special Doberman.

One fateful day in December I read, on the Senior Doberman Project Site, about a Dobe, abandoned at a vet's office and living on borrowed time in a Missouri shelter. I could not get her out of my mind, no matter how hard I tried to convince myself that it was impractical for me to drive from Georgia to Missouri. It was as if I could hear her calling out to me across the miles. Enroute to Missouri, I received a call on my cell phone. The animal control officer informed me that they had taken Pixie to the vet for her spay. The vet, concerned about her cough took an x-ray that revealed a mass in her right lung. The officer asked if I still wanted her. As I told her I did, I think I knew that this angel would one day break my heart.

The next morning I arrived at the shelter and met Pixie. She was a lovely black and tan Dobe, with a gentle demeanor and the most beautiful brown eyes that I'd ever seen. She laid her head on my lap, and I was smitten.

When we got home, I took her to the vet, searching for the cause of and hopefully a cure for her terrible cough. We were referred to a specialist, who finally diagnosed her problem as lung cancer. Surgery was scheduled, and SND was with us every step of the way. Pixie fought a valiant fight, and battled back from the invasive surgery. Eventually she lost the war with cancer, but it is the battles that we won together that I will fondly remember forever.

Remembering Pixie

A Loving Remembrance by her "mom", Sheilla Dingus

When I first met Pixie, she was incredibly sweet, but her spirit was broken after experiencing the abandonment that she endured. She soon became my constant companion, accompanying me to work and every other place that I could take her along. I began training her, and her confidence began to soar! She was a remarkable pupil, and within a few short weeks knew all her basic obedience commands, as well as a few tricks. She had the temperament of an angel, and I could take her anywhere with confidence that she would charm everyone she met. Pixie even helped with her own SND fundraising, greeting animals, adults, and children alike at a local pet store fundraiser!

After Pixie's surgery, her cough was eliminated and she started gaining weight and strength. She became watchful and protective of her home. She learned to play again! She danced for joy when I picked up her leash, or asked her if she wanted to go for a ride. She loved to bury her chewies in unusual places like the cat box! Pixie loved to cuddle on the couch, and we often slept there, snuggled together, along with my Pomeranian-mix, Champ, and cat, Prissy. It never seemed crowded, however, just wonderfully warm and cozy. Pixie was once again a proud Doberman!

On March 7, Pixie's breathing suddenly became labored. I took her to the vet, but there was nothing more that he could do. The cancer had suddenly spread, and I had to say goodbye to my beloved girl. I will never forget the trust that she showed to me, or her boundless and unconditional love. I learned so much from this precious Doberman. She taught me about love, about not giving up, and perhaps most importantly, that life should be measured in the quality of the journey, and not the quantity of days.

I miss Pixie terribly, and long for the comfort of her company. But I know that I must honor her spirit by forging on, and not wallowing in self pity. Shortly after her passing, two special needs puppies came into my care. In seeing these youngsters, it seems the cycle of life is beginning again. I think Pixie would be pleased.

How Could You?

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When I was a puppy I entertained you with my antics and made you laugh. You called me your child and despite a number of chewed shoes and a couple of murdered throw pillows, I became your best friend. Whenever I was "bad," you'd shake your finger at me and ask "How could you?" - but then you'd relent and roll me over for a bellyrub.

My housetraining took a little longer than expected, because you were terribly busy, but we worked on that together. I remember those nights of nuzzling you in bed, listening to your confidences and secret dreams, and I believed that life could not be any more perfect. We went for long walks and runs in the park, car rides, stops for ice cream (I only got the cone because "ice cream is bad for dogs," you said), and I took long naps in the sun waiting for you to come home at the end of the day.

Gradually, you began spending more time at work and on your career, and more time searching for a human mate. I waited for you patiently, comforted you through heartbreaks and disappointments, never chided you about bad decisions, and romped with glee at your homecomings, and when you fell in love.

She, now your wife, is not a "dog person" - still I welcomed her into our home, tried to show her affection, and obeyed her. I was happy because you were happy. Then the human babies came along and I shared your excitement. I was fascinated by their pinkness, how they smelled, and I wanted to mother them, too. Only she and you worried that I might hurt them, and I spent most of my time banished to another room, or to a dog crate. Oh, how I wanted to love them, but I became a "prisoner of love."

As they began to grow, I became their friend. They clung to my fur and pulled themselves up on wobbly legs, poked fingers in my eyes, investigated my ears and gave me kisses on my nose. I loved everything about them, especially their touch - because your touch was now so infrequent - and I would have defended them with my life if need be.

I would sneak into their beds and listen to their worries and secret dreams. Together we waited for the sound of your car in the driveway. There had been a time, when others asked you if you had a dog, that you produced a photo of me from your wallet and told them stories about me. These past few years, you just answered "yes" and changed the subject. I had gone from being your dog to "just a dog," and you resented every expenditure on my behalf.

Now you have a new career opportunity in another city and you and they will be moving to an apartment that does not allow pets. You've made the right decision for your "family," but there was a time when I was your only family.

I was excited about the car ride until we arrived at the animal shelter. It smelled of dogs and cats, of fear, of hopelessness. You filled out the paperwork and said "I know you will find a good home for her." They shrugged and gave you a pained look. They understand the realities facing a middle-aged dog or cat, even one with "papers." You had to pry your son's fingers loose from my collar as he screamed "No, Daddy! Please don't let them take my dog!" And I worried for him and what lessons you had just taught him about friendship and loyalty, about love and responsibility, and about respect for all life. You gave me a goodbye pat on the head, avoided my eyes, and politely refused to take my collar and leash with you. You had a deadline to meet and now I have one, too.

After you left, the two nice ladies said you probably knew about your upcoming move months ago and made no attempt to find me another good home. They shook their heads and asked "How could you?"

They are as attentive to us here in the shelter as their busy schedules allow. They feed us, of course, but I lost my appetite days ago. At first, whenever anyone passed my pen, I rushed to the front, hoping it was you - that you had changed your mind - that this was all a bad dream...or I hoped it would at least be someone who cared, anyone who might save me. When I realized I could not compete with

the frolicking for attention of happy puppies, oblivious to their own fate, I retreated to a far corner and waited.

I heard her footsteps as she came for me at the end of the day and I padded along the aisle after her to a separate room. A blissfully quiet room. She placed me on the table, rubbed my ears and told me not to worry. My heart pounded in anticipation of what was to come, but there was also a sense of relief. The prisoner of love had run out of days. As is my nature, I was more concerned about her. The burden which she bears weighs heavily on her and I know that, the same way I knew your every mood. She gently placed a tourniquet around my foreleg as a tear ran down her cheek. I licked her hand in the same way I used to comfort you so many years ago. She expertly slid the hypodermic needle into my vein. As I felt the sting and the cool liquid coursing through my body, I lay down sleepily, looked into her kind eyes and murmured "How could you?"

Perhaps because she understood my dogspeak, she said "I'm so sorry." She hugged me and hurriedly explained it was her job to make sure I went to a better place, where I wouldn't be ignored or abused or abandoned, or have to fend for myself - a place of love and light so very different from this earthly place. With my last bit of energy, I tried to convey to her with a thump of my tail that my "How could you?" was not meant for her. It was you, My Beloved Master, I was thinking of. I will think of you and wait for you forever.

May everyone in your life continue to show you so much loyalty.

In memory of Holly, the Bassett Hound who inspired Jim Willis to write this piece after she was adopted at 10 years of age. Holly found her final rest at the age of 14 on Valentine's Day, 2003. Good bye Holly, and thank you for bringing the plight of seniors to the attention of so many. You can download HCY from the sample writings at the author's web site, <http://www.crean.com/jimwillis>

Won't you consider adopting a senior today?

The State of the Doberman in the UK

By Jean Stewart

Most will be familiar with the general history of the Dobermann and the breed being officially given the name Dobermannpinscher (one word) in 1889. In the United Kingdom the breed is known as the Dobermann and is, in the main kept for show or pet with the first registrations being made as early as 1909. Serious breeding began in 1947 though the breed didn't become generally popular until the 1960's. Colours most often seen are black/rust, red/rust. Tails are docked, ears are natural and cropping of any breed is not permitted in the UK having been abolished by the Kennel Club in 1903. Much discussion now rumbles regarding tail docking, a practise which some believe to be both barbaric and unnecessary; veterinarians continue to dock because in the hands of amateurs it could be disastrous for the dog.

Along with other powerful breeds the Dobermann has sadly acquired a fearful reputation as a 'killer' dog

who will attack at whim. He suffered an unfortunate period in his status by being the must have accessory among the criminal classes leading to the inevitable back street breeding and many sad and poor examples of the breed were much in evidence. This period is largely at an end and genuine breeders have done well in re-establishing the breed. Abolition of quarantine between UK and the rest of Europe has enabled breeders to import dogs from top winning lines and we now have stronger and healthier examples of the Dobermann. It is to the credit of these breeders that a national register has now been compiled to identify carriers of Von Willebrand's disease along with eye and hip scores.

While UK citizens are regarded as a nation of dog lovers, statistics show that during 2002 in Scotland alone there were 9,513 cases of cruelty towards animals. All welfare organisations and shelters are

supported by public donation and receive no government funding to assist in rehoming the unfortunates who enter their gates. Breed rescue organisations retrieve as many of their breed as possible but kennel space remains in short supply.

Dobermann Rescue UK came into being in 1967 taking in mostly dogs who have been neglected, sold to the wrong owners or have served their time, dogs with problems both health and behavioural, strays and dogs rescued from shelters. Fortunately little is seen of straightforward abuse or bait dogs, not that these cases don't exist they don't find their way onto 'rescue.' Male does seem to have the biggest problem having had owners who know nothing of the nature of the breed and who are frankly unable to adequately train a dominant male. While most rescue cases are

Continued on page 9

Meet Bowie - A Very Special SND Dobe!

by Kim Somjen

I never thought I would be the type of girl that would fall in love in a few seconds. In my defense, I am sure love doesn't often come at the end of a rabies pole in a body almost 40 pounds underweight, shivering and barely recognizable as a Doberman. While it may not have been love at first sight, I can recall the exact moment I realized this stray dog was mine. It was days before anyone could get near him, but one day as I leaned over to water him he sniffed my hand and wagged his stump of a tail, then leaned on me. Despite being a college student with nowhere to keep a dog, with a family with neither the space nor the desire for another dog, I knew Bowie would come home with me.

It was a few days before I even realized that there was something drastically wrong with Bowie; his large perineal hernia would require invasive surgery. Three surgeries later, it was clear that Bowie would need surgical implants if we hoped to offer any lasting success with the next surgery. Bowie was examined and scheduled for surgery at the Tufts Vet School, where through the help of Special Needs Dobermans, Bowie would receive two mesh implants in hopes to recreate the disintegrated muscles. The surgery itself was much more complicated than expected, and only one implant was possible due to the complicated nature of placement. Bowie's hernias were much worse than originally thought, and he would need a second surgery to complete the reconstruction. A few days post-surgery Bowie was allowed to come home, as in typical Dober-fashion he was unhappy away from home and was not eating unless Mommy was there. Home only a day or two, I began to notice that Bowie was unable to urinate normally when outside,

and was dribbling urine all over the house. After a weeks worth of emergency room visits that involved catheterizing Bowie to drain his overextended bladder he was diagnosed with an atonic bladder; he would need to be readmitted for placement of a permanent catheter in hopes that keeping his bladder empty would allow it to regain muscle tone. While in the hospital, Bowie was placed on a variety of medications to help him fully empty his bladder, and after a week he was allowed to come home. For the next month, we visited the vet school every few days for checkups. At home I would catheterize him each night to drain his bladder and monitor how much urine remained after he attempted to urinate. Slowly but surely, Bowie began to regain normal control of his bladder, and his sense of humor returned.

Things were going well, until one day Bowie collapsed and was unable to regain control of his limbs. After being rushed to the vet school and seen by the neurologist, Bowie was scheduled for a MRI to determine what was causing his neurological problems. His neck pain was continuous and hind end weakness apparent, and his MRI soon showed why. The diagnosis was not Wobblers as we had suspected but instead a bulging intervertebral disc compressing his spinal cord. He was put on high doses of antioxidants, confined to his crate, and put on anti-inflammatory drugs to bring down the swelling. As long as no further injury occurred, surgery was not necessary at this point to repair the damage.

Three months after the surgery, many sleepless nights, a few frantic phone calls to Steve, a handful of sobbing fits, and a rather large bill later, Bowie



Handsome Bowie owns SND member Kim Somjen!

is lying on the ground as I write this, gnawing on his bone. While he is not 100%, he is a fighter and is getting better every single day. Thanks to the help of so many people and most of all SND, we have been able to work through this and still maintain his quality of life. His acupuncture treatments are working well, and while he is still afraid of slippery surfaces and loses his balance occasionally, he is getting stronger each day. His attitude through all of this still remained true to the breed – no matter how much I can imagine he hurt, he was always wiggling his rear, sprawled out on the bed and begging for a tummy rub. The truth is, no matter how much I love him, my dog owes his life to the kindness of others. It has been a long hard road that is not finished yet, but we will take it in stride. Wherever this takes us, rest assured there will be a second-hand Doberman leaning on me every step of the way.

Attending Veterinarians - "A Special Breed"

The following veterinarians contributed time, effort, and patience for the welfare of the dogs listed below.

Amber

Sherwood South Animal Hospital
3803 South Sherwood Forest Boulevard
Baton Rouge, LA 70816

BG

Tatum Point Animal Hospital
4601 E. Bell Rd #5
Phoenix, AZ 85032

Bowie

Tufts University Foster Hospital for Small Animals
200 Westboro Road
North Grafton, MA 01536

Brady

West Ashley Veterinary Clinic
648 St. Andrews Bl.
Charleston, SC 29407

Chance

Panhandle Veterinary Services
1430 Brickyard Road
Chipley, FL 32428

Cheyenne

Mesa Animal Medical Clinics
1901 E. Southern Ave #102
Mesa, AZ 85204

Chiquita

Petroglyph Animal Hospital
6633 Caminito Coors NM
Albuquerque, NM 87120

Cleo

Parkway Animal Hospital
1610 Old Apex Road
Cary, NC 27513

Dion

Aldie Veterinary Hospital
43083 Peacock Market Plaza, Unit 140
South Riding, VA 20152

Emma

Garden State Veterinary Specialists
1 Pine Street
Tinton Falls, NJ 07753

Gunner

Middletown Animal Hospital
21503 Highway 29
Middletown, CA 95461

Hope

All Creatures Veterinary Clinic
1567 McMinnville Hwy
Manchester, TN 37355

Jasmine

Limerick Veterinary Hospital
ATTN: Sharon Helms
345 W. Ridge Pike
Limerick, PA 19468

Leo

Parkway Animal Hospital
205 McDonough Parkway
McDonough, GA 30253

and

Sherwood South Animal Hospital
3803 South Sherwood Forest Boulevard
Baton Rouge, LA 70816

Luke

Sherwood South Animal Hospital
3803 South Sherwood Forest Boulevard
Baton Rouge, LA 70816

(continued on page 9)

Dobes Helped; the Continuing Story

I wrestled with this article for a while. Happily, SND has helped A LOT of DOBES since the last newsletter was published. I considered doing a story highlighting some of the Dobies, but couldn't bring myself to eliminate anyone. Each dog is special and has a very special story. After all, they are why we are here. Please allow me to introduce you to our very special Dobes. ~ed.



Amber and her puppies

Amber
Amber was found in a field in Louisiana with her 12 newborn puppies. She was brought to SND's attention by Kimberly Capella-Gowland of Gulf Coast Doberman Rescue.

The lovely 4-5 year old fawn mother went to Kim's house on December 23, 2002. Amber and pups were immediately taken to the vet for the usual exam and heartworm test. Amber tested positive for heartworms. Dr. Teresa Gernon commented on the fact that Amber's discharge was still bright red, and instructed Kim to keep an eye on her after prescribing an antibiotic. Kim continued to monitor her, and on Christmas Day in the midst of all the family festivities, Kim noticed that Amber was not being herself. She wouldn't eat and her gums were as white as a sheet. Her bedding was soaked with blood. After a desperate search to find a vet on Christmas Day, Dr. Scott Gernon agreed to meet Kim at SSAH. After the four hour trip to Baton Rouge Amber's cell volume was only 10% and she was continuing to hemorrhage. She was given a whole blood transfusion, which raised her cell volume to 20%, but by the next morning, Amber was hemorrhaging again. After numerous transfusions, she was diagnosed with Von Willebrand's Disease, a disease similar to hemophilia in humans.

Throughout her ordeal, Amber continued to be an excellent mom to her puppies. Amber continued to improve, and her puppies were weaned and placed in foster homes, and have since, been adopted. Amber has recovered and is now available for adoption.

Brady

Gayle Hall of CARA Dobe Doberman Rescue in Charleston, SC brought Brady to SND's attention. Four year old Brady was diagnosed with Right Aorta Arch. A cord



Brady, 4 weeks old

from the aorta that drops off at birth was still attached and wrapped around her esophagus preventing her from eating; she would regurgitate her food and was losing weight fast. The vet recommended immediate open-heart surgery. Brady's chances of pulling through were questionable, and she spent several days at the hospital and even went home with the vet a few nights, but this little Dobergirl is a fighter and managed to recover from her surgery.

She still requires a special diet and elevated feeding,

but after being adopted by a vet tech who aided in her care, she is living the life of a spoiled doberbrat!

Tiffany expressed her gratitude, "I am so happy that Gayle Hall with Caradobe Rescue and the people at Doberman911 gave her a chance for life. Most people would have let her go at 4 weeks of age. We are so lucky to have her; she has brought much joy to our lives." Brady was 5 months old in December, and happily celebrated her first Christmas as a happy, healthy pup in a loving home.



Bowie

Bowie is a 4 year old black and tan male, who owns SND member, Kim Somjen. He is also distinguished by having the most expensive rear-end in Dobe history! See his pictures and read more about this special boy, his human, and all of the many surgeries to correct his hernias in the article, Meet Bowie, A Very Special SND Dobe, on page 6.



Chance

Kim had him examined by her vet and it was suspected that he had prostate problems. SND authorized payment for the vet to do a full blood work-up and hip x-ray. It turns out that his most serious problem was a BB lodged in his hip! This was removed and he made a full recovery. Kim said, "I have seen my share of problem dogs. This one is not, he may have some medical problems but his spirit has been broken and I would like to help him get it back." After surgery and lots of TLC, Chance gained 25 pounds and found his forever home!

Chiquita

Poor little Chiquita was thrown out the window of a moving car, at 6 weeks of age! She was rescued and turned over to CARMA (Companion Animal Rescue and Medical Assistance) in Corrales, NM, where she was immediately taken to a vet.

While the X-rays initially showed nothing broken, the exam did show a large inguinal hernia in her abdomen. The Vet said it would eventually need surgery to repair. However, the hernia grew substantially larger within a 36 hour period so Chiquita went back to the vet. The vet then found a fracture in the left front paw (requiring a soft cast) and a fracture in the left back paw (hard cast) and scheduled surgery for the hernia. She came out of surgery without any complications and has recovered nicely. We are also happy to report that Chiquita has been adopted!



Chiquita



Cleo

Cleo

Cyndi Swanson, a Dobe rescue person in Chapel Hill, NC brought Cleo to the attention of SND. She is a 6-7 year old fawn female, docked and cropped, with one floppy ear, a decent coat for a

fawn and a great temperament. She had been displaced due to a divorce.

Upon being brought to rescue, Cleo was taken to the vet for an exam. She tested positive for heartworm and had mammary tumors, which needed to come off immediately. SND members assisted with the cost of the surgery. The tumors were removed and found to be benign, and now Cleo now has a new shapely figure. Cyndi said that you couldn't tell she'd ever been bred! Cleo has been on Ivermectin since being taken into rescue, and no longer shows symptoms of heartworm infection.

Cyndi says, "She is very much the Velcro Dobe, always underfoot with her head in someone's lap if they are caught sitting down!" "Cleo is a wonderful house dog. She has not had any accidents in the house and is very quiet. She is great with our children and other dogs and will make a loving companion for someone who has time to spend with her," Cyndi added, noting that Cleo is now available for adoption.



Dion

Dion

Dion is a wonderful boy rescued by our friends at Doberman Assistance Rescue and Education and is now under the the loving care of his foster mom, Jeannie.

Dion has come a long way from when he was first found starved and abandoned, but he has yet more hurdles in front of him.

Dion has several issues: he's been diagnosed with Dancing Doberman Disease. This causes his hind legs to dance about, seemingly uncontrollably, when he stands still. There is typically supposed to be no pain associated with DDD, just a problem with the neurological communication to the hind legs. Dion, unfortunately, also has a problem with his front end. He can't stretch out and run like other dogs. His front legs, particularly his front right leg, will only go so far forward, causing Dion to lurch when he tries to run and play. The worse part is that whatever is causing this problem is also causing Dion pain. You can see it in his eyes as he longs to go play with the other dogs but instead lies down, trying to get comfortable. DAR&E has done many tests on Dion trying to discover the source of this sweet boy's pain, but they have been inconclusive. Dion still does enjoy life. His pain is managed through medication. He gets sad/frustrated at his physical limitations, but, in true Dobe fashion, pushes on. DARE and SND continue to search for the diagnosis of Dion's problems so that one day he can live a normal, lively life.

(Continued on page 8)

SND - Dobes Helped

(Continued from page 7)



Emma

Emma

Emma Lou is a beautiful 10-month-old white ("albino") Dobe in Pennsylvania. SND learned about her in August 2002 from our friends at Delaware Valley

Doberman Pinscher Assistance. Emma broke her leg in May 2002 and had it fixed. She wasn't confined and as all Dobes will do, she romped around and broke the leg again and it had to be reset. By the time the leg was broken a third time, DVDPA stepped in and had orthopedic surgery performed. This time Emma is got the supervision she needed and made a nice recovery. She is now doing well and living in foster care.

Gunner

The owner of a one-year-old male Dobe named Gunner contacted SND on August 23rd, 2002 about her very sick pup. He had eaten a towel three days prior and his condition was getting worse with every passing hour. After several phone conversations with the owner and the vets at Middletown Animal Hospital in Middletown, CA, it became very apparent that Gunner's life was in immediate danger. SND authorized an emergency operation for Gunner. He was in surgery an hour later. He went home on August, 28, and we're glad to report that the surgery went very well. It was close though, any further delay might have been disastrous.



Gunner

Toka, Gunner's owner expressed her thanks, "He is now just beginning to come of age and I am seeing such a great personality bloom from him. He is so sweet and kind with my grand kids or any other animals. He tries so hard to please, and even will try to guess what will make me happy and do things before he is even asked. I am so grateful that SND has given me the chance to watch Gunner bloom from a big hyper chew everything up puppy to a very sensitive loyal and intelligent Doberman that I love very much."



Hope

Hope

SND member Mary Lynn Bushong brought Hope, who was found along the roadside in Manchester, TN, to our attention. Hope was abandoned and at some point shortly before she was found,

her hind leg was broken. A woman found her and had her leg splinted at her vets and then she contacted Teri Dugan. Teri took Hope home and started caring for her. Through SND fundraising, Teri was able to provide the surgery that 8 - 10 year old Hope needed to regain her mobility. Hope has now recovered from her surgery, had the pins removed, and has full use of her leg. Hope was featured on the Senior Dobe Project website, but Teri, decided to adopt Hope, so our sweet senior found her happy forever home. Sadly, Hope passed away in May, as the result of sudden renal failure.

Jasmine

Jasmine is an 11 year old living in Pottstown, PA, who was in a horrific fight. She got into a fight with another family dog, and a large wound was opened on her neck. Despite immediate care, the wound eventually became severely infected and required follow-up surgery. This included the insertion of drains, blood transfusions, and antibiotics. It was touch and go for a while, but Jasmine managed to hold her own, and eventually recover. She is now as good as new, except for a hoarse bark caused by the scar tissue. Since Jasmine has returned home, the dogs have gotten along fine, thanks to "mom," Jean Clark's precautions at feeding time. Jean expressed her gratitude to SND, "Thank you very much Special Needs Dobermans, for all the help and compassion you showed towards Jasmine when she and I so desperately needed it".



Jasmine and Kitty Friend



Leo

Leo

Leo is a young Dobe born on Sept. 11, 2001. He was attacked by a Pit Bull. The same person who owned Leo owned the Pit Bull. Poor Leo laid with open wounds that had exposed tendons and bone. Thankfully his owner finally got around to taking Leo to Dr. Ware in Atlanta.

She has a small clinic and could not easily tend to Leo's needs. Dr. Ware dressed Leo's wounds and saved his arm from being amputated (and probably saved his life as well). She put out a plea for help. Unfortunately, there was no local response to her plea. Two out of state Dobe Rescue organizations came forward and the little guy transported to Baton Rouge, Louisiana. We would like to thank Kimberly Capella-Gowland from Gulf Coast Doberman Rescue for taking this beautiful boy as well as the Doberman Rescue Group of Oklahoma for their assistance!

Leo met his new friends in Louisiana as well as his new vet, Dr. Teresa Gernon of the Sherwood South Animal Hospital in Baton Rouge, LA. SND put out the call for help, raising funds for Leo's care as well as even collecting medical supplies to help keep costs down. Dr. Gernon did the skin grafts needed to repair Leo's severe wounds.

Leo has since recovered from his injuries.

Luke

Luke and Leah were a pair. Gulf Coast Doberman Rescue had found a home for them together and had taken them to the vet for their spay and neuter operations. That is when problems began for Luke. Kim, of GCDR reported to SND, "We had a dog neutered yesterday and he is in trouble. Evidently, he lacks clotting factors". The attending vet wanted to



Luke

perform more surgery, but this sent up a red flag for Kim. She decided to get a second opinion. By the time Lindsey, of GCDR, got Luke to Sherwood South Animal Hospital, his scrotal sack was as big as an orange with deep purple, hematomas all the way to the shaft, swelling throughout the entire area, free blood in his inner thigh, and frank blood coming out of the incision. His attitude took a dive. The decision to take another treatment path turned out to be the right one. The ablation procedure would have done nothing for him, and further jeopardized his life! He was hospitalized at Sherwood South Animal Hospital, where he received plasma transfusions. Luke recovered and on December 17, 2002, Kim provided an update, "Luke is doing great! He and Leah had a few territorial issues at first, but have pretty much worked everything out. Luke's vWD titre came back a 54. 70 and above are normal. So, he is affected, but his titre could be worse". Luke's new mom will have to be watchful since he is a "bleeder," but in the meantime, he is living the life of a loved Dobe."



Parker

Parker

Parker is a 1 to 2 year old male Dobe found as a stray by animal control in North Carolina. He had been hit by a car and his rear leg shattered. When no one claimed him at the shelter,

Doberman Rescue of the Triad (DRT) was contacted. The beautiful, red with rust Doberkid was only 53 lbs. Unfortunately he had to stay at the shelter for almost a week before he was released. The staff kept him as "comfortable" as possible with pain killers, until he could be released, but the injury to his leg remained unattended. Afterward, Parker underwent extensive surgery to have his leg set and braced. Parker came through the 4 hour surgery like the hero he is. Due the length of time between the injury and surgery the muscle had contracted and therefore had to be stretched 4 inches to put everything back in place. X-rays had revealed some loose bone fragments and during surgery an additional large segment was found "floating" behind the femur. The vet installed an external device that was attached to the bone and had pressure points to keep everything in place and in the proper position. Unfortunately, the surgery was unable to save Parker's leg. The bone broke again and after extensive consults with specialists it was determined that it was best to amputate. Parker did well after the amputation, and was adopted by some wonderful people. He shares his home with 2 other red Dobermans, Lena and Oscar, and is now known as "Rudy." He lives with his family on a 40 acre tree farm with a 3.5 acre pond. He out runs the 4 legged Dobies, and is having a blast with his new family.

NOTE:

The Dobes featured on these pages were helped by SND as of March, 2003.

Please visit our website, www.doberman911.org, to meet the special Dobermans that are currently in need.



Pixie

Dingus, but she was not yet out of danger. When Sheilla adopted her, Pixie had a very bad cough. Through extensive tests, it was determined that Pixie had lung cancer. She underwent massive surgery and then was scheduled for chemo in attempts to beat her cancer. On March 7, 2003, Pixie succumbed to the cancer, but hers is a beautiful tale of love and devotion. Please read her story on page 4 and learn why Pixie was so special and so loved.

Ryder

SND Member and rescuer, Dale Maddox-Geddis brought 1-year old Ryder to our attention in December, 2002. Ryder had been struck by a car and abandoned for 4 days before the landlord found him! His right front leg had been broken. He was treated at Cabarrus Animal Hospital, and very closely attended by Dale. Ryder had a few behavior problems when he was rescued, but thanks to Dale's devotion to him, she has worked through his food and object guarding issues, and he has become a wonderful companion. The "little man" is a high energy Dobe, and doesn't like to be slowed down. While playing in the yard, he re-injured his leg in February, requiring it to be splinted and his activity slowed for another 4 weeks. Ryder has now recovered from his injuries and is living happily.



Ryder



Scarlet

lymph nodes were swollen and she had no appetite. Surgery was scheduled for her spaying, but then it was discovered that she was about four weeks pregnant, and the fetuses had died inside of her. The dead tissue had caused extreme toxicity in her blood. The infections from the mange and the dead tissue also caused clotting problems. This turned what was supposed to be a routine spaying surgery into a very complicated lifesaving procedure. Gayle visited her after the surgery and this poor girl was chilled, lying on a heating pad and wrapped in blankets, an IV in her arm. Scarlet got to go home with Gayle four days later. Her appetite returned and her energy level increased. She was still a medical mess though and had a long recovery ahead of her. Her lymph nodes were still swollen and her skin was bleeding in places. Her feet and eyes were swollen and bleeding.

Pixie

SND first learned of Pixie when Gladstone Animal Shelter near Kansas City Missouri posted her to the Senior Dobe Project web site. She was adopted by SND member, Sheilla

Scarlet has recovered, except for some tenderness in her feet. She is living very happily in her foster home with Gayle.



Scooter

received a call from an animal control officer in West Virginia. Several months earlier, she had caught a stray Doberman that she estimated to be 6-7 months old. He limped and had a bowed front leg, possibly a break that had never set properly. Scooter had corrective orthopedic surgery on June 19th.

Jeannie, Scooter's foster mom made sure that he received the supervision and therapy that he needed. He still has some medical issues related to his leg, but happily, he found his forever home! Jeannie told us, "His new mom has a wonderful life in store for the little guy's future. Scooter's already settling in with her and I'm positive he's showing her all the love he has in that big ol' heart of his. His new family includes a canine sister as well as three new kitty friends, so he has tons of fun and good times coming to him to make up for his sad start in life."

Scooter

Scooter was abandoned in West Virginia. Our friends at Doberman Assistance, Rescue & Education alerted us to his story. In June of 2002, DAR&E

Attending Vets

(continued from page 9)

Parker

Northeast Veterinary Hospital
4601 Hicone Road
Greensboro, NC 27405

Pixie

Cobb Veterinary Internal Med
630 Cobb Parkway North
Marietta, GA 30062

and

Cobb Emergency Vet Clinic & Surgical Referral
630 Cobb Parkway North
Marietta, GA 30062

Ryder

Cabarrus Animal Hospital
3030 S. Cannon Blvd
Kannapolis, NC 28083

Scarlett,

Northwoods Veterinary Clinic
8320 Rivers Ave
North Charleston, SC 29406

Scooter

Aldie Veterinary Hospital
43083 Peacock Market Plaza, Unit 140
South Riding, VA 20152

The State of the Doberman in the UK

continued from page 5

found new homes there are some who, for no fault of their own, cannot be rehomed and no dog is euthanized except for health reasons. This is why the Sponsadobe scheme was introduced in 1988, the idea being that those who were devoted to Dobermanns but were unable to own one could be directly involved by sponsoring one of the kennel dogs. Sponsors are encouraged to visit and walk the dog which has caught their eye and contribute towards the general upkeep. Contributions also help substantially towards medical costs of the Sponsadobes. All of the long term dogs appear happy in the kennels and bond well with their carers. Another scheme is ROAD for the Rehoming Of Ageing Dobermanns. Rescue relies heavily on the kind generosity of kennel owners who have been willing to allot a certain amount of space in their kennels in return for a token payment. The Rescue magazine is published twice yearly and carries news of the Sponsadobes and reports from rescue officers from the different regions. Owners of rescue babes are encouraged to send in progress reports and members contribute poems, medical information, etc. Funds are raised by means of the sale of dobermann related merchandise by mail order or from the rescue stand at dog shows around the country. Members of the group organise fetes, barbecues, fun runs, dobermann days out and in fact anything which might draw people together and allow tickets to be sold!

In more recent years the threat of BREED SPECIFIC LEGISLATION is causing a great deal of concern among the owners of certain breeds (including the Dobermann). This has been brought about by a spate of sensational media reporting on dog attacks particularly in Germany. Discrimination has already led to the eradication in 1997 of the American Pit Bull Terrier from UK. Import was banned, all animals had to be neutered in order that no further breeding would occur, dogs had to be kept muzzled while out in public, breaches of the new law led to confiscation and usually the dog was euthanized.

The European Parliament have put the act on back burner - for now, but were the UK to be outvoted at European level we could be forced to accept the new laws that will penalise dogs and dog ownership far, far more than existing UK legislation.

It is more important to educate the public on responsible dog ownership than to target certain breeds. There are over 10 million dogs in the UK and it is vital that we address the route of the problem it is not the fault of the dog.

Life's Blood - SND Contributors

A heartfelt THANKS to ALL Contributors. Without you none of this is possible...

The following people have made donations between June 2002 and June 2003

Phillip Allen
Jo Ann Allgood
Kristin Anderson
Nina Armstrong
Roger & Eve Auch
Frances & Carole Baikow
Denise Ball
Malea Barber
Virginia Barmetler
Melissa Bates
Kacy Beach
Shelia Berkowitz
Margaret Berry
Peter Beukers
Barbara Bilder
Kathy Bishop
Toby Bloom
Madeline Boehm
William Both
Rita Bourdage
Janine Brown
Paul Brown
Jeanna Brushwood
Michelle Burkey
Mary Lynn Bushong
Karen Byrd
Ceilidh Campbell
Brandi Canfield
Wendy Cantrell
Kimberly Capella-Gowland
Michelle Carlson
Sharon Casey
Maggie Cecil
Chris Chasse
Cindy Chiellini
Martha Clark
Martha Clausen
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Michelle Rudd
Deedra Ryan-Shaw
Estelle Sandhaus
Nora Saunders
Laura Scarduzio
Olyn Schnibben
Lori Schoeneman
Helen Schwartzmann
Michael Schuk
Helen Schwartzman
Linda Scott

Lois Semple
Kathy Sharp-Jordan
Kathy Shearn
Jana Sheeder
Anita Shirlock
Nona Short
Cindy Sidell
Lynette Sizemore
Eileen Slater
Patricia Smith
Kim Somjen
Marcial Sorrel
Wayne Spaulding
Marilon Speed
Steven Spinner
Missy Steed
Gary Stevens
Jean Stewart
Janet Strohecker
Terri Studer
Melissa Sumner
Beth Szczygiel
Marianne Tameris
Jille Terrill
Pamela Thompson
Martha Thorusen
Ann Toth
Jean Townsend
Linda Tuttle
Sandra & Chuck Vaile
Nedda Vorzimer
Thelma Walker
Penelope Wallin
Melissa Walukones
Joseph Wathke
Georgia Welch
Sharon White
Diane Williams
Terra Williams
Toka Wilson
Kelly Wise
Margie Woodson
Noelle Worm
Karen Wrey
Jessica Zielinski
Leah Zimmerman

GROUPS

Cyberdobes!

DAR&E

Doberman Pinsher Club of Charlotte

Doberman Rescue of Colorado

Doberman Rescue of the Triad

Gulf Coast Doberman Rescue

Maumee Valley Doberman Pinscher Club

MBDPC Rescue Committee

Senior Canine Rescue Society

The Veerkamp Family Fund

In Memory Of

Jean Townsend for Zeus

Pat Neller for Eddie

Denise Holt for Amber

Robert Passmore for Riggins

Dennis Gomez for Candy Sangster

Grace Joffe for Candy Sangster

Grace Joffe for Chiquita Semple

Grace Joffe for Andres Lechuga

Grace Joffe for Jean Field

Grace Joffe for Maya Walker

Grace Joffe for Betty Guarino

Grace Joffe for Helen Brand

Grace Joffe for Moet

Grace Joffe for BG

Grace Joffe for Stoney

Grace Joffe for Lily

Grace Joffe for Pixie

Laurie Penala for Pixie

Kathleen Robnolt for Pixie

Mary Dracus for Pixie

Nancy Phillips for Pixie

Sheilla Dingus for Pixie

Kathy Albee for Sweet Molly Malone

In Honor Of

Grace Joffe for Erin

Anonymous for Grace Joffe

Ann Marie Ivanhoff for Grace Joffe

Gone But Not Forgotten...



Aditi

November, 2002

Aditi was a 10 year old Senior found wandering the streets of Houston. SND Member, Rhiannon, rescued her from the streets and took her to the vet because of a leg injury. It was discovered that Aditi had advanced osteosarcoma, and was given little time. Euthanasia was the only choice, but at least her last 2 days were filled with dignity and love.



Cheyanne

November, 2002

Cheyanne was adopted by SND member, Sharon, from Arizona Doberman Rescue. She had been getting sicker and sicker. The vets had been testing her for everything trying to locate the problem but Cheyanne continued to waste away. They finally discovered that she had diabetes and severe pancreatitis. Before treatment could be rendered, Cheyanne passed away.



B.G.

December, 2002

B.G. was an 8 year old blue Doberman, owned and loved by Scott Berman. She died of cancer of the liver and spleen on Christmas Eve, 2002, in the arms of Scott. Scott says that she was "his Guardian Angel," getting him through many of life's difficulties. He said that her favorite place was on his lap in their recliner. Although she could not be saved, happily, she was loved her whole life.



Buddy

December, 2002

Buddy was a senior Doberman who was rescued by DAR&E. He had a graying muzzle, stiff joints and that "wisdom of the ages look in his eyes." He was suffering from a severe gunshot wound to his neck. Buddy fought a valiant fight backed with the love of his foster mom, but it was not enough. He crossed the Bridge in December, 2002



Fancie

February, 2003

Fancie was a 12-year old Dobe in foster care with DAR&E. She loved her human caretakers and enjoyed playing with her foster's female Dobe and flirted with her male! She got along with children and had no bad habits. Sadly, she passed away in February, 2003, but she did not spend her last days alone and without love, thanks to the great people at DAR&E.



Miss Di

February, 2002

Miss Di was diagnosed with lymphoma and began chemotherapy treatments in May, 2001. After the first treatment she was acting her totally normal and bossy self. Miss Di continued treatments for a year, but finally lost her battle with cancer. The extra year of life the treatments gave her were filled with love and caring as this is how she lived her entire life.



Pixie

March, 2003

Pixie was the first senior adopted from the Senior Doberman Project, in December, 2002. Shortly after her adoption, she was diagnosed with lung cancer. SND helped to provide her the best medical care possible, but it was too late, and Pixie lost her battle in March, 2003. She lived happily and comfortably for the last three months of her life, and brought much joy to her mom and "siblings," Champ and Prissy Cat. Please read her full story on page 4.



Kristi

March, 2003

Kristi was a 9 year old Doberman, turned into a Chicago shelter because her family no longer wanted her. Her foster mom said that she was a sweet, easy girl who got along with all people and dogs. She passed away shortly after being diagnosed with glaucoma. She did not find her forever home, but will be missed by the Illinois Doberman Rescue, and by SDP.



Show Khan

March, 2003

Show Khan was returned to the shelter from where he was adopted, when his owners discovered he needed hip replacement surgery. This handsome 11 year old guy had an adorable smile. He was very playful and liked other dogs and children. He was also very vocal - and would talk to you! Show Khan was also diagnosed with liver problems, and died in the care of Plano Animal Shelter before he found his forever home.



Baby

April, 2003

Baby was a 12 year old girl, with a docked tail and natural ears. Ten years ago, she was adopted from a shelter by her prior owners; they recently moved into housing where dogs were not permitted and sadly had to relinquish her. Baby was a very easy going and quiet girl, but she enjoyed playing tug-of-war with her leash and rope tuggie toy. She was cared for until the end of her days by Dobie-Heaven Doberman Rescue.

The Dobs lovingly remembered above were either assisted by SND or a part of the Senior Doberman Project.

