



The Dober Dispatch

The Newsletter of Illinois Doberman Rescue Plus

Summer 2007
Volume 3, Issue 2

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A note from the IDR+ Board of Directors

As a new Board Member, I would like to welcome everyone to the Summer 2007 issue of The Dober Dispatch!

This has been a very trying year for IDR+. Our "Lost" litter was both emotionally and financially draining. However, like most difficult times, it really showed what a great group of people we have at IDR+. Our foster homes that gave so much of themselves to these puppies were AMAZING!

As always, there is a never-ending list of Dobermans waiting to get into our program. We take in dogs regardless of their age or health status. So this year we have run the whole gamut: heartworm, broken pelvis, broken leg, Wobblers, etc.... the list goes on and on.

Most of these medical needs dogs stay with our President, Pam Abare-Newton, while they are nursed back to health. As you can imagine, their resiliency and willingness to trust again touches us all! There is nothing more rewarding than getting updates about the dogs we have placed.

As a board member, I feel privileged to work with such a great group of people! Thank you to all of our wonderful adopters and all the Doberman/animal lovers who make it possible for us to continue doing what we love.

Lastly, I would like to thank Kat Loftus for her willingness to step up as our new Vice President. She really stepped up when Pam was on vacation.

Sandy Shephard,
IDR+ Board Member, Director at Large

Foster failures find forever families

When some people consider fostering for IDR+, they worry about getting too attached and wanting to keep all of the dogs instead of adopting them into forever homes. That is a completely reasonable concern. Fostering a dog is a wonderful experience, but it can also be hard to say goodbye when a dog that lived in your home as one of your own leaves for its new forever family. Sometimes, foster parents decide that forever home is with them—we affectionately call that a foster failure.

While a foster failure is usually the best situation for the dog, we call it a failure because a foster home is supposed to be temporary, but tell that to some of our dogs who have been in a foster home for months, or even years. Most foster failure parents do not consider their new adoption a failure at all.

"Fostering is about finding that little piece of absolute selflessness inside you and hanging onto it day in and day out," says Lara Trapp, Ollie's foster mom for a year and a half. "If the animal ends up choosing you as its companion, for whatever reason that may be, consider yourself blessed."

While Lara successfully adopted out several fosters into forever homes, she officially adopted two fosters and is still fostering Ollie.

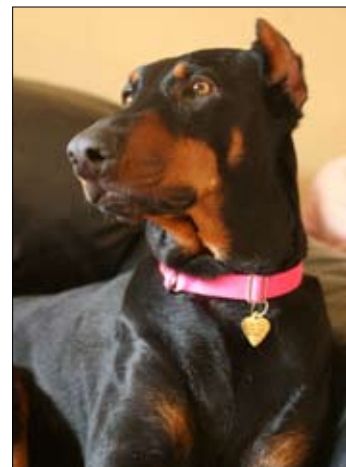
Some fosters end up adopting

a dog because the dog has some challenging quirks and would have difficulty transitioning into another home. Others just give in after fostering the same animal friend for a long time.

Elaine Horwitz experienced both of these with Rumor, a Rottweiler mix Plus dog who needed a strong owner and consistent guidance. As Rumor's foster mom, Elaine had the final say as to who adopted Rumor, and she knew Rumor would not be successful in a home with anyone but an owner who had time to take Rumor to classes and practice obedience with her. Almost a year after fostering her and molding her into a great dog, Elaine and her family realized their home was the best place for Rumor.

Shannon Conley adopted Compton, her first foster from IDR+, after nursing him back to health. He was emaciated and weighed only 58 pounds when she first got him, making his return to health especially touching to her.

"That first night, when he was cleaned up and finally settled down onto one of the dog beds and slept like a rock, I knew he was special," said Shannon. Although Compton was a great dog that would easily work in any family, Shannon kept finding something "wrong" with the adopters asking about her special guy. The family would be great



Sicily loves her pink collar she received when she became another foster failure.

for any of the other dogs in the program, but she knew she couldn't let Compton go anywhere else and made it official after only a few weeks.

Bill and Lynda DuVall also adopted their fosters after investing time, love, and effort into improving the dogs. While they successfully adopted out over half a dozen dogs to other forever families, they adopted a Dobe-Rott mix puppy after three weeks of fostering (and sleepless nights of potty training) and named her Pilgrim. Onyx and Ginger are their two other so-called failures.

"Okay, no one wanted Ginger with all of her medical problems," Lynda admits. "So we became her guardian angels." However, Lynda didn't originally consider adopting her fosters "failures," but now she finds the term is "appropriate and cute."

Sandra Gregornik also gave into a foster after becoming attached to Sicily, a female Dobe featured in the last issue of the Dober Dispatch Pawsonals, but it wasn't her first. Sandra successfully fostered and adopted out three dogs, but she adopted another three herself. She fostered Jasper for only a week and Vinnie for seven months, but don't tell her she failed as a foster. She still considers those to be successful adoptions. After fostering Sicily for continued on page 6



Shannon Conley couldn't let Compton go to another home after watching him recover from his skeletal beginning as a foster.



Keeping pets safe in the warmer months

As the weather has warmed up and snow and ice are now a distant memory, it is important to remain vigilant about keeping our pets safe as we build fun-filled memories with them during the warm months. Developing awareness of some of the potential lurking dangers will hopefully help you keep your pets safe.

BLUE GREEN ALGAE

If you have a dog that loves to swim and you have the opportunity to visit bodies of water with your dog, you should be aware that algal blooms may pose a health risk for your canine family member. Conditions including light, temperature, presence of nutrients and water calmness all affect the ability of algae to multiply and contribute to the creation of algal blooms. The warm summer months are most conducive to creation of algal blooms.

The blue-green algae (cyanobacteria) and the toxins released by them pose health risks to people and pets when ingested, inhaled, aspirated, or contacted through the skin. There are various health effects that may occur depending on the specific cyanobacterium making up the blue-green algae population. Ingestion of the algae and its toxins may result in rapid onset of severe vomiting and diarrhea. Liver toxicity, kidney toxicity or neurotoxicity could develop as well. Inhalation may result in allergy-like symptoms such as sore throat, runny eyes and nose and possibly asthma-like symptoms.

Thankfully, there are some warning signs that may be present to suggest that a body of water may contain an algal bloom. If the water is discolored or foam, scum or mats of algae are visible, it is best to avoid being in the water at that time. This holds true even if you are boating or water skiing and think you won't contact the water itself—remember that inhalation is a risk as well. Don't allow your pets access to the water either. If your pet should contact the water though, be sure to rinse your pet off immediately to avoid your pet

licking and subsequently ingesting the algae and its toxins off its fur. Be sure to contact your veterinarian or a veterinary emergency clinic if your pet appears to be ill after exposure to an algal bloom.

COCOA BEAN MULCH

Cocoa bean mulch has gained popularity in terms of its use as landscaping mulch. It does contain methylxanthines though—so can cause similar signs as those seen in cases of chocolate ingestion. Ingestion of small amounts of methylxanthines can cause vomiting, whereas ingestion of larger amounts can result in increased heart rate, tremors, seizures and possibly death.

As surprising as it may seem, some dogs are very attracted to cocoa bean mulch and will readily eat it when given the opportunity. It is important to be sure to keep cocoa bean mulch stored appropriately out of the reach of pets and to monitor pets to prevent ingestion when they are in areas in which cocoa bean mulch is utilized.

INSECTICIDES

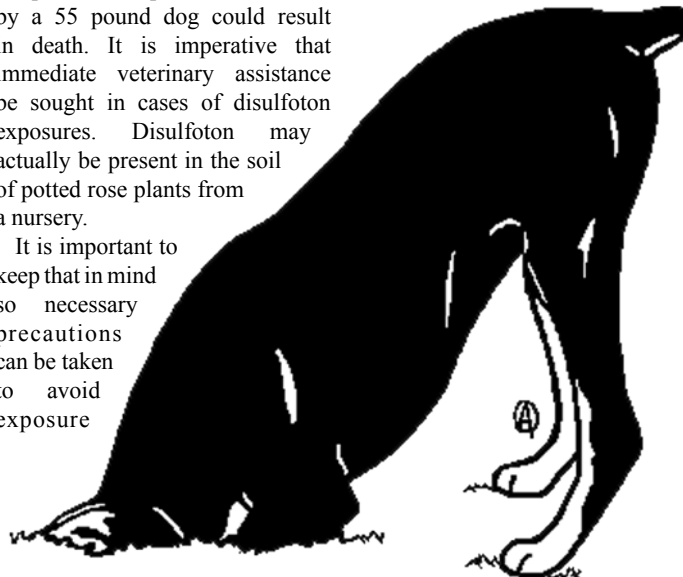
Systemic insecticides, such as disulfoton, which is popular as a systemic insecticide for roses, can pose serious, life-threatening issues for pets. The plant soaks in the poison and becomes toxic itself. Disulfoton is highly toxic to animals and ingestion of about one teaspoon of 1 percent disulfoton by a 55 pound dog could result in death. It is imperative that immediate veterinary assistance be sought in cases of disulfoton exposures. Disulfoton may actually be present in the soil of potted rose plants from a nursery.

It is important to keep that in mind so necessary precautions can be taken to avoid exposure

to disulfoton by pets. Signs must be taken seriously as they can worsen quite rapidly. Signs may include salivation, increased tearing, urination, defecation and diarrhea (which is often bloody) as well as difficulty breathing or rapid breathing and can progress to tremors, loss of muscle coordination, seizures, coma and possibly death.

Some fly killer products are very dangerous to pets. Methomyl is a type of carbamate acid that is often used as a fly killer. Pet exposures to methomyl are emergency situations—even small amounts can be potentially fatal. Signs may develop within 30 minutes of exposure and may include vomiting, seizures and death. If immediate veterinary treatment is sought, the prognosis can be a good one as long as seizures can be controlled.

Metaldehyde is the active ingredient often used in snail and slug killer products. Signs may develop rapidly, within a few minutes, or up to 3 hours post ingestion. Signs may include increased heart rate, panting, hypersalivation, hyperthermia, ataxia and anxiety. Signs may progress to vomiting, diarrhea, tremors, seizures, and potentially depression and coma. Immediate veterinary treatment is required in pet exposures to metaldehyde.



The warmer months should be fun to enjoy with your pets. Continue to stay aware of potential hazards so that you can keep your pets as safe as possible at all times. Be sure to store insecticides, mulches and fertilizers out of the reach of pets and continue to be vigilant about paying attention to your pets and what they are doing while outside.

Staying aware of the conditions around you while recreating may make all the difference in keeping your pet safe and healthy. Be sure to seek assistance from your veterinarian, veterinary emergency clinic or the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center if you suspect your pet may have been exposed to or may be reacting to an exposure to any of the agents mentioned above.

Tamara Foss

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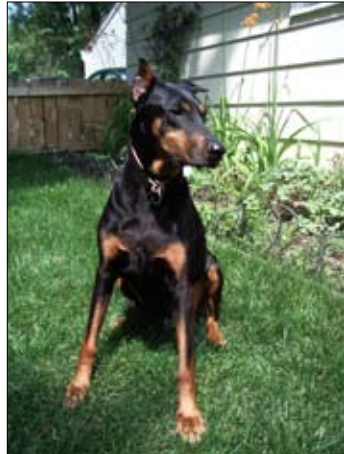
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Naming dogs is one of the fun parts of rescue

When parents are expecting a new baby, choosing a name is typically a thoughtful and exciting activity. When IDR+ volunteers are “expecting” a new dog or cat in the program, we also look forward to naming many of them. Since our group has taken in over 1800 animals to date, we have had many opportunities to choose names. Over time, thinking up original names becomes more difficult, and we’ve had to use our imaginations and think out of the box more often. No worries. That’s all part of the fun.



Judson was named after Judson County, Indiana, where he was rescued from a shelter.

How are names selected for the IDR+ orphans? Let’s start with the easiest scenario. Some animals are directly relinquished to IDR+ by their owners and already come with names. Our group might also take in dogs and cats from shelters that have known prior names. Typically, we will not make any changes unless the name has been used by us so frequently that confusion may result or the name is actually offensive.

Some of the names that animals arrive with are quite unique. Ameras was an adorable fawn puppy whose name, we believe, means “American boy” in Lithuanian. We probably will never come across that name again, but as more animals need rescuing, we can’t be certain.

On occasion, IDR+ places litters of puppies. We generally like to have

a theme for the litter. Our group has placed the “Brady Bunch” litter, the “Eight is Enough” litter and Santa’s “Reindeer” litter. The unfortunate recent litter of puppies stricken with parvo was named after characters from the TV show, “Lost.” Ironically, two of the eight puppies were “lost” to the disease.

We have also placed the “coffee” litter (anybody who knows Pam Abare-Newton understands why a “coffee” litter was inevitable). The “beer” litter, the “shoe” litter and the “Easter candy” litter also came through our program.

Perhaps because a litter came to IDR+ around the start of a new school year, the “school supply” litter became available

for adoption. The four puppies were named Folder, Eraser, Pencil and Notebook. Shockingly, all the puppies received new names when they went to their forever homes. Hmm . . .

Don’t forget litters of kittens. The litter named after the four seasons are enjoying their new homes all year long.

Some IDR+ orphans are named after our own volunteers or staff members of shelters that help to rescue homeless animals. Other times, our new arrivals are named after places related to where the animal was found stray or rescued.

Judson and Anderson are two examples. When a pair of dogs were rescued from Jasper, Indiana, the volunteer involved named them Jasper and Deanna. Very clever!

A few dogs have been named for their physical disabilities. Thus, we have Degas, a Dobe blind in one eye, named for a visually impaired artist. We also have Toe-B, who has a foot deformity. One volunteer who places a great deal of animals chose to go down the alphabet. She began with Allen and ended with Zenos.

On a personal note, I have gone the route of looking up dog names on the Internet. However, the Chihuahua foster dog I have presently was named by our eighteen-year-old daughter. She stated, “His name will be Mango.” It was best not to argue, so we chose to call him Mango.

Choosing animal names can become an inane pastime. While working on this article, another volunteer phoned, and we let our flight of ideas and loose associations take over.

We began to think of naming animals after math terms (our favorite is 3.14159, but we



Mango was named after his orange color and sweet disposition.

would call the animal “Pi” for short), Russian authors (what is an appropriate nickname for Dostoevsky?), and words associated with music (such as treble, soprano and allegro).

In reality, we are naming dogs presently after cleaning products. Our website lists Comet, Brillo and Ajax waiting to be adopted. More cleaning products will be arriving soon!

Finally, our most well-known animal in Illinois Doberman Rescue Plus is our mascot, Melvin B. Several years ago, IDR+ was asked to pull a female Dobe out of animal control. When the volunteer went to get her, she found a little surprise. Sparkle, the adult female, had a single male puppy with her.

On the way home, while the volunteer was explaining to Pam over the phone that there was a “bonus” coming into IDR+, she passed by a bar named “Melvin B’s.” To this day, we are not sure if Melvin likes his name or is distressed over being named after a bar. We do believe he’s happy the volunteer didn’t pass by Old Country Buffet instead.

Elaine Horwitz



The coffee litter included names such as Cream, Latte, Mocha, Cappuccino, Frappuccino, Macchiato, Espresso, and Froth. Mom’s name was Java. Everyone found great forever homes.



**THE IDR+ COOKBOOK
WILL BE
AVAILABLE FOR
HOLIDAY GIFT GIVING.**

**WATCH THE WEBSITE
FOR MORE
DELICIOUS INFO.**



Where are they now: Frankly speaking

In IDR+, our volunteers care about and care for thousands of dogs and cats, and each one is special. Frank is one of our success stories that had an especially memorable journey to his forever home.

In Illinois alone, we are often inundated with requests to rescue Dobes, and it can be difficult to find space for all of them in our program. Yet, when IDR+ President Pam Abare-Newton saw a request for help with a white Doberman in Tennessee, she could not resist.

The request came by general e-mail from the Doberman Pinscher Club of America rescue list. Frank was homeless and had an extremely

severe case of Demodex mange. This type of mange is caused by mites, but is not contagious. It occurs in dogs with poor immune systems.

The pitiful creature looked as if he were burned. His skin was red and raw with much scabbing, and he was missing quite a bit of hair. At the time, no other rescue group could take him, and the shelter was reporting that he was so sweet. Hard to resist!

Long distance transports are difficult to arrange. Each leg has to be carefully scheduled, even taking into account time zone changes. This transport covered four states: Tennessee, Kentucky, Indiana and Illinois.

The volunteers involved gave generously of their time and energy and included some IDR+ volunteers and even a past IDR+ adopter. Fortunately, the transport went smoothly and Frank arrived safely at Pam's house in March of this year. Thanks again to all who assisted!

During this same time, the Sadlon family was missing their white Doberman, Dreamer, a dog they adopted from Illinois Doberman Rescue (still part of A.D.O.P.T. back then). Dreamer had died and left a big hole in their lives and hearts.

Betty Sadlon learned about Frank from a white Doberman list (forum) and was thrilled to find out that IDR+ was taking care of him! Frank reminded Betty so



Frank came into IDR+ scabby, smelly, and bald from a terrible case of mange

much of Dreamer. She thought, "I've got to have this dog." Betty's family winters in Florida, and that is where Betty was that March.

Logistics did not deter Betty. She e-mailed Pam weekly to keep track of Frank's progress and pretty much knew what would happen when she returned home to Illinois in May.

On arrival to Pam's house in March, Frank looked and smelled, well, disgusting. I can personally vouch for the smelly part! He must have been in significant discomfort as his skin was so raw. Initially, he was treated with various oral

medications and a medicated dip. After the dip, his skin appeared even more red, so another medication was substituted.

Slowly but surely, his skin began to improve. His temperament never needed improvement—he was always sweet and tolerant. Betty finally was able to meet Frank in May when she returned and (what a surprise!) it was a match made in heaven! He went home that very same day.

Frank had not completed his course of medical care, but because Betty was willing and able to follow through with his treatments, Frank could still go home with her. Frank's early adoption actually benefitted the next dog coming in to IDR+, since there was now space in Pam's house to take on another Dobe immediately.

We have a wonderful follow-up report from Betty. Frank has gained some much needed weight and is at 90 pounds now. He lives with a female Dobe and a 3-pound Yorkie. Although Frank is still on a medication to boost his immune system (and may be for life), his skin is great and his hair has grown back. He looked quite handsome at the IDR+ reunion in June.

He has also begun obedience classes. Betty states, Frank is the "best dog you ever would want. We love him to death."

Elaine Horwitz

Dober Desires

We try to keep our adoption fee as low as possible to encourage adoptions. Your donations will ensure we can continue to help save lives.

Dober Donations are always accepted for our orphans:

Dober-Dwellings: a forever home for everyone or even a foster home!

Dober-Dens: large or x-large metal or plastic crates (gently used or new)

Dober-Duds: these cool collars and leashes can be donated on our site at www.ildoberescue.com/doberduds.htm and some training collars (medium weight prong collars) and coats for our seniors (Velcro up the back-easier to put on), etc. would be great too

Dober-Dozing: large or x-large dog beds or comforters

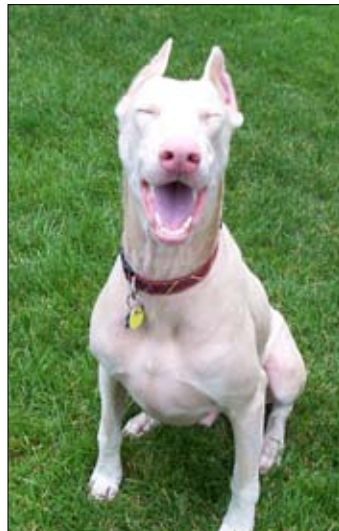
Dober-Doodoo Defenses: laundry detergent, paper towels, cleaning fluids, etc.

Dober-Diversions: rawhides, nylabones, Kong toys, stuffed toys, tennis balls, etc.

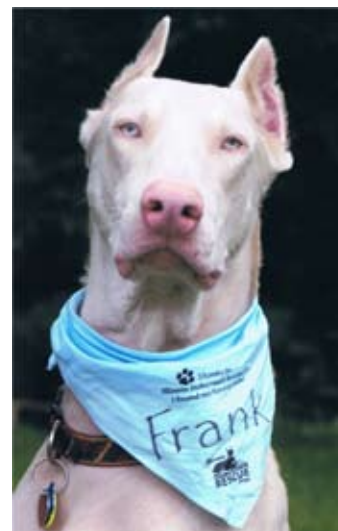
Dober-Desk: postage stamps, manila file folders, copy paper, envelopes, etc.

Dober-Driving: supplies for our rescue mobiles such as gas cards, phone cards, Starbucks cards (hey, bodies need fuel too).

Dober-Dollars: used for the vet bills, phone bills, boarding, microchips.



Today, Frank is a happy and healthy Doberboy in his forever home! We are all so happy about this success story.





Donate to IDR+ without digging deep: part 2

In the last issue of the Dober Dispatch, we let you know about several ways you can help support IDR+ without putting forth much extra effort on your part. Several shopping opportunities will donate a portion the purchase you already intended on making to the rescue. For example, since our last issue, iGive has donated over \$250 to IDR+ simply from us going about our regular online shopping. Here are some new ways to make money for the orphans.

Printer cartridge and cell phone recycling

These days, everyone has a cell phone. And we can't have just any cell phone; we have to have the newest, coolest model. Instead of throwing away your old phone, you can donate it to be recycled or refurbished, and IDR+ gets a donation for every phone kept out of a landfill. If you have a computer, then most likely you have a printer too. Those printers use a cartridge to produce your documents, and when those cartridges are empty, they also fill up landfills.

Instead of throwing those out, we can turn them in for a donation straight to our orphans. The company we work with pays up to \$4 for empty ink cartridges, up to \$15 for toner cartridges, and up to

\$5 for a recent digital cell phone. Most printer brands are accepted, but we cannot recycle Epson, rare, obsolete, or already refilled cartridges.

Please check the list at www.cashforcritters.com before turning in an empty cartridge or digital cell phone. Landline phones are not accepted. We have collection boxes for these items at our events. If you are too far away to reach us in person, email Pam at orphandobe@ameritech.net, and she will direct you to the nearest volunteer. You can also mail the cartridges to us, and we will send them all together.

Cartridges must be empty, and the ink and toner cartridges must be kept separate to avoid contamination and damage. Cell phones should be completely free of any personal info, so be sure to delete all of your contacts before donating your old phone.

HelpingUdders.com

This online store's motto is "cool stuff not found in dog stores," and they aren't kidding. Helping Udders offers durable chew toys made from ballistics-grade material, super tough rubber chews, products with nostalgic advertisements featuring several dog breeds, and items to make car rides and play time more enjoyable for everyone.

The Helping Udders specialty is a toy made from a rubber liner used to milk a cow at a dairy farm. These Udder Tugs are fun, safe, and durable for even persistent chewers, and they come in several styles. The woman who came up with the idea to turn old milking equipment into toys watched dogs on a dairy farm dig through the trash to play with the used rubber liners.

Now she makes them into fantastic toys for your favorite dog. 10-50% of every purchase goes to the rescue of your choice. In the past two years, almost \$100 has been donated to IDR+ through our purchases at HelpingUdders.com

Cozyhorse

Cozyhorse began as a horse blanket supplier, but they have branched out to warm our canine friends too. You can custom order a coat for any size dog, but they feature product specifically made for Dobermans called a Dobercoat. Several colors are available in a few styles, including heavy coats for winter and lighter coats for spring and fall. Prices start at \$30 for the Dobercoats. Mention IDR+ at checkout, and Cozyhorse will make a donation. <http://www.angelfire.com/co4/cozyhorse/index.html>

Bushel Basket Candle Company

Only the highest quality wax and fragrance is used to make the products at the Bushel Basket Candle Company. They don't just offer candles; they also have air fresheners, potpourri, decorative lamps, and melting tarts. What's better than smelling cookies baking without lifting a finger?

Start a scented candle before washing the dogs to avoid that wet dog smell. At checkout, type "Illinois Doberman Rescue Plus" in the comment box, and Bushel Basket Candle Company will donate 25% of your purchase back to IDR+. As an added bonus, they promise to handle any customer service issues with a "real live human being!"

<http://www.bbcandle.com/>

Jewel Shop & Share dates

October 29, 30, 31

Everyone needs to shop for groceries! Just get the coupon for Jewel Shop & Share from our website and take it with you to Jewel during the designated dates. IDR+ will receive 5% of your total purchase as a donation from Jewel. It's no cost to you and another great way to help our orphan animals.

www.ILDobeRescue.com

Lauren Kelliher

Pawsonals: Fawn boy with tough name is big softie



Name: Scar
Age: 4 1/2 years
Waiting for a new home since: June 2006

Dislikes:

- Lawn mowers
- Squirrels in "his" yard
- Other male dogs

Likes:

- Car rides
- Sunning himself
- Playing in the yard
- Grooming
- Kongs
- Playing tug
- A "cookie" for a bedtime snack
- Resting his head on your shoulder
- Cuddle time and relaxing in general



To adopt Scar, apply at www.ILDobeRescue.com





Foster failures: Dogs happy in forever homes



Kilroy the Dobe is in love with his family's latest foster failure, Hannah the Great Dane.

over a year, Sandra brought Sicily to an IDR+ adoptathon in February. Sicily was wearing her Dober Duds and prong collar, but Sandra pulled out a hot pink collar with a brand new ID tag on it with Sicily's name and Sandra's phone number on it.

"If she doesn't get adopted today, I am adopting her myself," said Sandra, crossing her fingers no one would approach Sicily on the adoption floor. Sicily now proudly wears her hot pink collar and is forever happy at the only home she has known since November 2005.

But not all foster failures take a year to happen. In October 2004, Sandra fostered Jasper for a week when she lost her own dog Max to cancer. She just couldn't bear losing Jasper to an adoption, so she signed the contract and kept him until he passed away from complications from Wobblers last month.

Over the years, IDR+ volunteer Pam Burnside fostered 36 children before she started fostering dogs,

and since watching the babies leave her foster home into loving families was "too hard to let them go," she didn't think she could foster dogs. But then Pam met Brinx, a special Dobergirl with separation anxiety who needed a quiet home and extra attention, and she knew she could give Brinx a chance. After Brinx turned around in her foster home, Pam got her ready for an adoptathon, but after everything they had been through together, Pam didn't want Brinx to have to start all over in a new home. Brinx was happy and comfortable in her foster home. Pam still volunteered to help out at the adoptathon that day, but she left Brinx at home—her new forever home.

Some IDR+ volunteers become foster failure regulars. Jenn Edwards successfully found homes for three of her foster dogs and "quite a few kittens," but she has adopted three of her IDR+ fosters, most recently Rose last month. But Jenn doesn't

keep just any foster.

"It has to have some sort of special need of our particular home and lifestyle. While all three of my dogs were probably adoptable (eventually), they each had issues that would have made it difficult for the average person to own them. I felt like moving them to a new home would have been traumatic to them and, possibly, to a new owner," said Jenn.

Rosemary Borzym and her family have also successfully adopted out several dogs, but they ended up adopting Gunther, a three-legged German Shepherd; Eve, one of the KY Dobs rescued from a breeder; Champ, an elderly and incontinent Boston Terrier; and most recently, Hannah, a brindle Great Dane.

Sadly, three of the foster failures have passed away since being adopted, but Hannah is still in love with her best friend, Kilroy, a Dobe Rosemary purchased from a breeder before becoming involved in rescue.

But IDR+ foster homes are not exclusive to dogs. Rosemary is also fostering Feather, a fluffy gray cat.

"She is so easy we hardly notice her. Everyone loves her," said Rosemary. "Sounds like another 'foster failure' in the making."

Although we jokingly call our volunteers who end up keeping their animals foster failures, in our group, this kind of failure is certainly the nicest kind. It's simply a measure of the enormous hearts of the people in this amazing group.

Lauren Kelliher



Eve, Gunther, and Champ have crossed the Rainbow Bridge since becoming Rosemary's foster failures.

DOBERmart



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BABY ONESIES • MUSIC CDS
DOG TAGS • HATS • T-SHIRTS
KIDS' SHIRTS • SWEATSHIRTS
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AND EXTENDED SIZES!



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Melvin's
 best dressed
 list!

DOBERmart

Exclusively available at
www.ILDobeRescue.com



Inside information: Tales of an IDR+ transporter

In order for Illinois Doberman Rescue Plus to operate at top efficiency, we rely on our many volunteers to help in all areas of rescuing. In the transporting step, that can mean going to one of several different animal shelters, veterinarian hospitals, or sometimes a person's home who is giving up a dog.

Shelters are located all over the Midwest, and we often work with Anti Cruelty in Chicago and Animal Welfare locations on Wabash in the city and in Chicago Ridge. We also work throughout Illinois with other county Animal Control centers, as well as Indiana, Iowa, Wisconsin and Michigan.

At shelters, most dogs are either picked up as strays or given up by their owners; occasionally, a dog is

confiscated from its owner. If the dog is a purebred Dobe, IDR+ gets notified, and we start arranging to get the dog into our program. This is where the transport begins.

When we get a call of a Doberman that needs to come into our program, we go to the particular location where they are released to our care. Usually, transporters have a dog crate in their vehicle, along with collars, leashes, blankets and other equipment needed to transport the dogs safely.

We then make sure that our dogs are seen by a veterinarian to make sure they are up to date on shots, checked for heartworm, and spayed or neutered. If there is a foster family that is ready for another one of our orphans, they will be taken there.

If we don't have room in a foster home, then they may be taken to one of a few kennel facilities who work with us to temporarily house the dogs until a foster home opens up. As Dobermans, they do not fare very well in a kennel environment for a long period of time because they are very social, so we try to move them out as quickly as we can into a foster home.

I personally find transporting to



Lori's car is full of supplies to ensure a safe transport for this precious cargo.

be a very rewarding experience, knowing that I am part of a network that is ensuring each dog a safer, more loving and happier future from where they came.

Unfortunately, this isn't the case with a majority of the other dogs and cats that are left in the shelters I go to. Each shelter has their own holding time for these animals, and if they are not adopted, they are euthanized due to lack of space and a constant supply of unwanted animals.

Many of the breed specific groups, such as Doberman, German Shepherd, Labrador, etc., have rescue groups, and they often will work together to help each other out with transporting from place to place and maybe state to state.

This happened to a female Doberman named Chase who was transported from Columbia City, Indiana, along with her 5 puppies. I was part of the last leg of this particular transport and met the people downtown at the Field Museum in Chicago.

Chase and her pups were securely put into my vehicle, and I took them to a volunteer's foster home. Before I picked her up, she had been with another volunteer while she gave birth, and her pups were now ready for homes of their own so needed to be moved north. To date, her pups have all been adopted into loving homes, and Chase is comfortable in her foster home.

This is my most gratifying reward: To see where these dogs have come from and the hard lives many of them have had, to seeing where they end up and hearing the grateful news from their new families just how much they are now loved.

It's an honor and privilege to do what I do for Illinois Doberman Rescue Plus and I'm proud to be a volunteer. The pay isn't great, but the reward is out of this world!

Lori Glueckert



IDR+ transporter Lori Glueckert gets a thank you smooch from a puppy she transported.



WHISTLIN' DIXIE'S EXTRAORDINARY TREAT IDEAS

Easy Chewy Cheesy Bones

- 3 cups Whole Wheat Flour**
- 2 tsp. Garlic Powder**
- ½ cup Vegetable Oil**
- 1 cup Shredded Cheese**
(your choice)
- 1 Egg, beaten**
- 1 cup Milk**

- 1. In a large mixing bowl, combine flour and garlic powder.**
- 2. Make a well in the flour mixture and gradually stir in vegetable oil, cheese, beaten egg and milk until well blended.**
- 3. Knead dough on a floured surface about 3-4 minutes.**
- 4. With rolling pin, roll dough to ½ inch thickness.**
- 5. Cut with biscuit cutter and place on a lightly greased baking sheet.**
- 6. Bake 25 minutes at 400* F.**
- 7. Cool on a rack and store, at room temperature, in a container with a loose fitting lid.**





Our two puppy litters: medical nightmares and miracles

In rescue, we see just about all common and some rare medical conditions. It was our unfortunate luck that we had two litters of very sick puppies this summer to add to our experience with medical situations. What made it more dramatic is the cases occurred within a couple of weeks of each other.

First, a pregnant Dobermom gave birth in a very normal way. However, a week later we noticed the mom was not acting right and there was something “off” about the puppies. Initially, we thought she was just a young mom and unsure of how to handle everything.

Soon after, we noticed a lump on the head of one of the puppies. We rushed it to the vet to see what was wrong. The poor puppy died in front of our eyes on the examination table—how terrible! What could the problem be? A necropsy showed definitively that the puppy had Canine Herpes. Could we have prevented this? How did it happen? Would it spread to the other puppies?

The vet explained that the mother carries the herpes virus and can transmit it to the puppies. Here’s a good explanation from the Mar Vista Animal Medical Center website:

“Most of us are familiar with herpes viruses because of human herpes. Canine herpes is more of a reproductive problem than a respiratory one; in fact, most infected dogs do not appear to get sick at all. Instead the infection manifests in the pregnancy as

resorption of the litter of puppies, abortion, still birth, or death of puppies within a few weeks of life. Transmission occurs via direct contact (sexual contact will do it but the usual route is simply normal nosing, licking, and sniffing) between the infected and uninfected dog....

Puppies can be exposed before, during, or after birth. Just because one member of the litter is infected, this does not mean they all are. The incubation period is 3-7 days following infection. Once symptoms begin (shallow breathing, loss of appetite, vomiting) death follows within 48 hours. Infected puppies uniformly have low platelet counts and may show red spots called “petechiae” which actually represent small bruises.”

After the loss of the first puppy, we were diligent in observing the other puppies to see if they would show similar signs of distress. Unfortunately, the story ends tragically for all but one of the puppies. The lone survivor was a red female we named Red—short for Little Red Riding Hood. The good news is she has found her forever home and is living a life of leisure.

Within weeks of discovering this litter had herpes, another litter came into our program. When one of the puppies started showing signs of illness, she was rushed to the vet. The diagnosis was Parvo! All the other foster parents were informed of the symptoms to



Tasha might have known something was wrong with her puppies. Three died from Canine Herpes.

watch for, and before we knew it all 8 pups were scattered around at various vet clinics fighting for their lives. For those of you who aren’t familiar with this disease, here’s a brief description from Working Dogs Cyberzine:

“Parvovirus (Parvo) is a virus that attacks the lining of the digestive system. It causes dogs and puppies to not be able to absorb nutrients or liquids. Puppies are especially prone to it because they have an immature immune system. When dogs and puppies contract parvo, they often have diarrhea, vomiting and lethargy. Usually they stop eating and develop a bloody, foul-smelling, liquid stool. Symptoms usually begin with a high fever, lethargy, depression, and loss of appetite. Secondary symptoms appear as severe gastrointestinal distress, such as vomiting and bloody diarrhea. In many cases, dehydration, shock, and death follow.”

We lost one puppy, Sawyer, after only a few days. The rest of the litter was touch and go for a few weeks. It was very sad when we lost little Locke after 10 days in ICU. He just couldn’t fight anymore. We finally got the call from one of the vets that a puppy could go home, and one by one the remaining 6 pups went back to their foster homes. They got some extra special TLC that night because they all were such fighters. After a few weeks, they were doing great and ready for



Only one of the pups with Canine Herpes survived. Red is now in her forever home.

new homes. All since have found wonderful and forever homes.

Summer 2007 blessed IDR+ with these two litters of Doberman puppies for us to look after. It is always amazing to see how our volunteers and vets pull together to help in such dramatic times. However, we’re hoping the rest of the year will be a lot less exciting!

Mary Gawienowski & Pam Abare-Newton

Sources:

Mar Vista Animal Medical Center. Canine Herpes. http://www.marvistavet.com/html/body_canine_herpes_infection.html

Working Dogs Cyberzine. Parvo. <http://www.workingdogs.com/parvofaq.htm>



Unfortunately, IDR+ lost two members of the “Lost litter” to Parvo.



2007 IDR+ Reunion was a huge success



Just a few pictures of our great IDR+ Reunion held June 24 at Blackwell Forest Preserve. Check out the Events page on our website for even more photos of the fun! www.ILDobeRescue.com