

Thank You!



10 Puppies rescued in Fall 2005

To those of you who have contributed to Small Dog Rescue, we thank you.

Whether you assisted by volunteering your time, fostering dogs, or making a donation, we couldn't have done it without you. The dogs and I are eternally grateful.

It is a luxury every companion animal deserves: to be known, to be respected, to be loved. Animals have no voice in what kind of life and death they are given. They are the truly innocent of this world. Entirely dependent on our kindness, we hold their lives and their well-being in our hands.



Today, five out of ten sheltered dogs are destroyed because there is no one to adopt them. The dogs who reached Small Dog Rescue were the lucky ones. And so we do our part, helping as many as we can, and only with your assistance.

2005 was a dynamic year for Small Dog Rescue. First, a move to Chico, California, our new home, where we were welcomed with open arms by volunteers, foster homes, existing rescue groups, and adopters. Our new vet, Dr. Suzanne Hanson, has been amazingly generous and flexible, learning new health issues with our Mexico rescues, and assisting with early spay/neuter with our pups.

Fall, 2005 saw us with 21 dogs rescued at one time. We were already full with dogs from Mexico and local shelters, when we received a call to rescue a litter of 10 puppies from Mariposa. Agreeing to take half, we ended up with them all, so that the local shelter could save more lives. At that time, they were two pounds each, and we had them for many weeks till they were big enough to spay and send to new homes. They rotated foster homes so that they were beautifully socialized. They lived with small dogs, big dogs, cats, little kids, teenagers; they went to "show and tell" at schools, soccer games, and puppy play dates. The socialization worked its magic, as they are now friendly, unflappable pets, making ten families very happy.



Bernie

We picked up Max and Bernie in the Central Valley when their owner could no longer care for them. Two purebred dachshunds, they were sweet and loving, and completely untrained. The first thing they did was walk across my dining table! Eager to please, and when they were over the trauma of losing the one family they had ever known, they were so trainable, and we saw their fun side come out. They were a riot together. We were so lucky to find an angel who

adopted them both, so that they can live out their lives together.

Of the Fall Mexico group, the miracle was Zoey. The "Compassion Without Borders" van was leaving for the U.S., stopped and picked up a dog dying on the side of the road. They provided medical assistance, and Animal Place Farm Sanctuary in Vacaville gave Zoey a foster home, nursing her to health over the months.



Zoey

It's a rule of thumb in animal rescue that the absolutely sweetest, nicest dogs have the worst medical problems. She was one of the lucky dogs who was given the treatment and time for a full recovery. And she is, indeed, the sweetest little peach of a companion pet. She's obedient, grateful for every kindness, and warms the hearts of all those she meets. And this is so true for the Mexico dogs who find a new home in the United States: they have a gratitude for being given care, love, and comfort.



Yoli

Yoli was skin and bones, and covered in mange when she left Mexico. Given the time and medicine to heal, first in the Animal Place Quarantine Center, and then in a generous foster home in Chico, she recovered fully. She is obedient, fun-loving, full of life, and a great companion. Her foster family couldn't bear to let her go, and are her forever home.

And so we start a new year, 2006, looking forward to the lives we will change. Not only for the lucky dogs, who find safety and comfort while they are in transition, but also for the human lives that will be changed by the addition of that doggie family member they enjoy each day.

We couldn't do it without your help.

Thanking you in advance for your support in 2006.

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