Dobie Tails

A LEGEND NAMED

ZEUS APOLLO III

A tribute to one so great

by Holli Sampson and Lisa Taylor

I will never forget the first time I ever met Zeus for he was larger than life! I had only seen one other Doberman his size and like a magnet, he drew me in. Zeus had that way about him: charisma! It was hard to believe he had ever been a tiny puppy that Lisa had brought home many years before but the pictures are proof.

A tiny boy....with a bright future...

I think Lisa must have sensed the greatness in him when she picked him up. She had decided a Doberman was the dog for her. Lisa doesn't take or make decisions lightly. A lot of thought and research went into it and she came home with Zeus.

The name implied strength and greatness and grandeur, but Lisa saw something beyond that in that little boy. I think she must have sensed that he was destined for a very special duty although she may not have known what it was. She just brought the little boy home and began to train him and work with him.

Zeus grew and grew and then grew some more but he never threw his size around for his confidence came from the inside, what he was made of , not how he was built. People would do well to learn that same lesson! Zeus had a purpose in life and he knew what it was. Maybe somehow he communicated this to Lisa that fateful day when she selected him and named him so appropriately.

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The years went by quickly, they always do and the purpose and plan became evident when one day Lisa stumbled into the world of working with rescue dogs. I don't think she knew for sure what Zeus' role would be as she took Susie, her first foster dog home.

With Susie, his first charge, and Tara, his sister.

Susie was a breeder female and extremely frightened of everyone and everything. Zeus sensed this immediately and over the weeks Lisa watched as Zeus talked to Susie in a language that she could not and worked to help Lisa calm the young female's fears. Just his presence had a calming effect. Susie went on to her forever home but Zeus' work had really just begun.

Lisa watched in awe as Zeus welcomed foster after foster and worked with every one of them. He knew how to keep order in the pack and would only tolerate so much of the shenanigans of the puppies that came in and out of foster. He innately understood each dog that came in and how to handle them and helped Lisa to understand them too.

Watching over Juiliette, who became very illl

Lisa and Zeus were a team, they could read each other perfectly. One thing was clear, each foster dog left for its forever home a better dog and an educated dog ready to move on in life. We all like to tell Lisa it's because of her loving care but she would be the first to give a lot of the credit to Zeus. He was the coach, the teacher, the encourager and the protector. When one of the puppies became very ill Zeus would not leave her side and did his best to save her even when a serious disease ended up taking her life.

When Zeus made public appearances he got a lot of attention. People would have to come over and greet him and look at him. People were generall

not afraid of him, they gravitated to him like he

Watching over Ginger and Gizmo

was in command of a crowd. People had to touch him and remark at what a handsome gentle dog he was. Zeus took it all in stride. It never went to his head. He knew his purpose and he did not waiver.

Zeus and Jonah,(whose leg had to be amputated due to a fracture)" what's up with duct tape?. Hey it worked!! My mom is so smart!"

We have lost count of the number of foster dogs that he worked with but one unique case was Jonah, a dog that had to have a front leg amputated. Zeus and Lisa worked with Jonah to give him the confidence to get going and before anyone could even wonder about it Jonah was running around and happy. He really looked up to Zeus.

The night before Zeus passed away he still worked with Jonah and his new charge, Dakota. Very little seemed amiss that night but the next morning Lisa awoke to find that during the night Zeus had been called home. He left this world peacefully and without warning.

Lisa is working to heal from such a great loss and she finds great comfort in watching Jonah, who is still with her. You see, Jonah is showing signs that Zeus lives on and that the lessons he taught are eternal.

The loss is so great and so painful, not just to Lisa but to all who knew Zeus, and yet, what a legacy! How many humans can go from this world with such a story as Zeus?

Do dogs go to heaven? I believe with all of my heart that they do! I believe Zeus has passed the mantle on to Jonah and is running the meadows of heaven and teaching the dogs there even greater things. He was destined for such.

Thank you Lisa, for allowing all of us to be a part of his extraordinary life!

Join the DRON Facebook page!

http://www.facebook.com/pages/Doberman-Rescue-of-Nebraska/197014616979205

AMAZING GRACIE!

By Holli Sampson

The request came in December from Doberman Assistance Network. They were trying to help a very sweet 5 year old female who had not had the easiest life. The little female was very underweight and heartworm positive. We all took one look at that face and said we would help her.

We were not totally sure of Gracie's history. She was found running loose, very thin and a family tried to accommodate her but their resident dog would not accept her. When we got the request she had been taken in by some very kind people at a shelter in Arkansas. The shelter workers adored her and wanted her to have a good life.

Gracie, however, had another secret that she kept carefully hidden until it was discovered by one of our veterinarians on her journey to Omaha. She had a hole in the roof of her mouth. Actually, it was more than a hole; it was a gash, at least a couple of inches long and fairly wide. Everyone had thought Gracie was thin because of being heartworm positive but the truth was that every time she ate or drank part of

the food or water went up into her sinus cavity and out her nose!

It was obvious that she had lived like this for some time and had learned to accommodate her injury until the vet was checking her over and opened her mouth wide and saw the hole. The doctors were certain that it was an injury and guessed that she had possibly fallen on something with such force that it broke bone in her hard palate and pushed it up into the sinus cavity.

After the discovery, Gracie was put on a soft diet and into her foster home while we waited for the orthopedic surgeon to take a look at her. We discovered that the hole could be repaired but it would take a specialist to do the surgery. Dr. Merkley made two skin grafts and patched the hole.

It has now been nearly two months since her surgery. Gracie has been adopted by her foster family and has a Dobie sister Cleo to play with. She is still learning what it is like to truly have a forever home but her parents say she learns new things every day. She recently discovered that she can cuddle on the sofa with her foster mom and that was really a big moment. Gracie can now eat and drink without food and water squirting out of her nose and just be a regular dog and no longer has heartworm.

"Let's see, couch dog or stray dog.... Couch!"

It took an incredible journey of love to get her here. A lot of people cared about her on the way from the moment she was found all of the way through the surgery and her subsequent adoption. People gave of their time and money and their hearts to save this amazing girl, many had never even met her in person. On behalf of Gracie we thank all of you who were the angels that helped along the way for our amazing Gracie.

The continuing story of...

Magnus!

by Sue

ahhh, I did well and I'm home with my toys on my sofa!

leg 2 of 3 toward my CD degree!

Hi everyone...

They did it! Magnus and Larry qualified and got a second "leg" of 3 necessary for an AKC CD obedience degree. It wasn't pretty... some "crooked sits" and other minor infractions, but they got 184 of 200 (anything above 170 is a qualifying score). Magnus really loves doing the obedience thing. He gets so excited, he is whining and wiggling all over in the car as we near the competition site! Larry has decided to go on for the "open" title and "rally" next... they do fetch and jumps and the dogs love it. As one Dobe owner said these Dobes are intelligent and love to "do something" to amuse themselves... a fun game for them! Sue

Enjoy these pictures of Magnus at his obedience trial and with some of his buddies. ed

A Magnus Pictorial ...

Practicing Figure-8's The Day Before the Show

Lindy's SO cute!

Ready for the test, Dad!

Magnus loves Renee the Harpers Ferry, Iowa, librarian:-)

friends Donna (pottery teacher at the Edina Art Center) and her (Champion) Lindy at a practice run for her "open" (CDX) degree on the night before the show.

The Adventures of ...

...Super Walker !

...Our hero watches anxiously as his two cohorts, Sheebs and Carlie work at a game of Tiddlywinks while they wait for the next call for help. He wonders which of the two will become a sore loser at the game first and is ready to bang heads together if necessary....

....Our hero watches anxiously as his two cohorts, Sheebs and Carlie work at a game of Tiddlywinks while they wait for the next call for help. He wonders which of the two will become a sore loser at the game first and is ready to bang heads together if necessary....

..The call comes. Carlie answers and puts it on speaker....

....“Is this Crash and Smash Roofing? Please call us back. We need an estimate.”....

...Our hero is appalled “I can’t believe it! A wrong number in this age of technology!”....

....“Delete! That’s the 2nd *wrong number today. The last one was asking for a government bailout. I can’t* ***believe*** *it!”...*

...So it’s back to the drawing board for our guy who rescues others as he was once rescued himself. Isn’t it nice to know that even superheroes have their frustrations?...

Tune in next time to see how he does in his search for a new answering service…..

Zeus and Skooter: Skooter was once the bigger dog!

Zeus:

How It All Began

(and advice on how to have a Zeus of your own)

By Lisa Taylor

It all began 9 ½ yrs ago when I decided that I wanted a bigger dog that would be a good companion, smart, easy to train, and could help look after me and my home since I was on my own. So the fun began as I looked at various breeds. I did a lot of research and finally decided the Doberman was exactly what I was looking for but I studied it even more because I knew it was going to be a lifelong commitment and that is not to be taken lightly.

The search for the perfect Doberman began and after about six months I finally came across Zeus. When I first met him it was love at first sight and I thought "Oh my god! Look at the size of those paws and that body structure!" Something told me he was going to be huge and solid as a rock. Well, dynamite always comes in small packages. We came home and he fell in love with his little brother Skooter. The two of them became inseparable.

Now I was no fool. I knew training had to start immediately. And I knew if I wanted a Doberman to be what I wanted him to turn out to be it had to start with a lot of socializing. So for the first year of his life he went everywhere with me and he slept with me cause I had no choice if I wanted to get a good night's sleep. We went to Petsmart and went visiting other friends and those who also had dogs. Socialization is so very important, that cannot be stressed enough! We grew a very tight bond together.

When he hit two years of age it became evident that he needed another playmate other than his little buddy. So off I went in search of a female Doberman. That's when I discovered that there was actually a Doberman rescue. We went and met Tara and of course it was love at first sight, or at least it was for me, but Zeus didn't think so! So the fun of establishing pack order began and it took awhile to sort out but over a period of several months they became glued to each other and gained a respect for each other.

As Zeus matured into a young man I started to see signs of just how close we were to each other. He could sense when I was sick and just not feeling up to par and started noticing how he would flip the pack around to a very quiet and gentle mood. One day I became very ill and was having problems walking. He was there for me to lean on him and help me walk and get out of the chair. I ended up having to have surgery and was gone for week. The day I got home I called my sister and told her to pick up my dogs because I missed them. She insisted that it was not a good idea and that I couldn't handle Zeus and he would hurt me by accident. Of course me not being able to handle my pack I think NOT. I told her that he was special and that he would know and everything would be ok. So after a lot of arguing she brought home my babies. When Zeus saw me he came running towards me. Of course my sister was in the back ground saying "I told you so." In a split second he stopped in front of me sniffed the air and me and walked on his tiptoes, turned to my side and looked up at me as if to say "I will help you walk and take care of you." No more "I told you so's" out of my sister – he told her, that's what! He helped me walk and get out of the chair. All I had to do was look at him and he knew I needed help. That was when I knew I had something special in the making.

And guess what we did. We became a foster family! Susie was his first foster sister. From then on he knew what his purpose was and it was great!

For anyone who is thinking of adopting and owning a beautiful Doberman, **please do the research on the breed**. They require a lot of socialization and it's a must right along with obedience training. These dogs are very loyal to family and will be there when needed. They are smart but they don't come to earth fully trained and just knowing what to do any more than humans do. They have to grow and learn and have good teachers willing to work with them! Please don't take it lightly or you will fail the dog and that would just be wrong. Rescue is full of dogs whose owners didn't go the extra mile and put in the work. Owning a dog is a great responsibility, it takes time and effort.

The pack waits for Santa(L-R): Tara, Lisa, Skooter and Zeus

There will only be one Zeus in my life and heart and one day another will come along and catch my eye and will become great just like there older brother. And they will be loved and cherished.

How We're Doing ....

Here are our adoptions statistics for 2010, congratulations and many thanks to the officers, board and especially the adoption families and foster families!

Statistical Information for 2010	
Intake (live animals – see description below)	75
Adoptions (dogs/cats – see description below)	63
Returned to Guardians (see description below)	0 Type to enter text
Transfer to Other Organizations (see description below)	0
Total Euthanasia (see description below)	0

Dog Day Afternoon - Elmwood Park !

June 4 11:00am - 3:00pm

Join Doberman Rescue and our friends in the other rescue groups at Elmwood park on June 4!

Contact Us:

Doberman Rescue of Nebraska
POB 390684
OMAHA NE 68139-0684
(402) 614-4495

dron95@yahoo.com

http://www.doberescue-ne.org

Credits

DRON is

President: Holli Sampson
Vice President: Mark Morello
Treasurer: Jerry Sorbel
Secretary: Stephanie Auschwitz

Board Members:
Jay Wise
Kevin Jespersen
Kirk Sampson
Cory Porter

Trainers: Stephanie Auschwitz and Patrick Ryan
Newsletter: Holli Sampson and Jay Wise
Adoption Coordinator: Susan Williams
Assistant Adoption Coordinator: Lisa Taylor
Correspondence Secretary: Kristi Jones

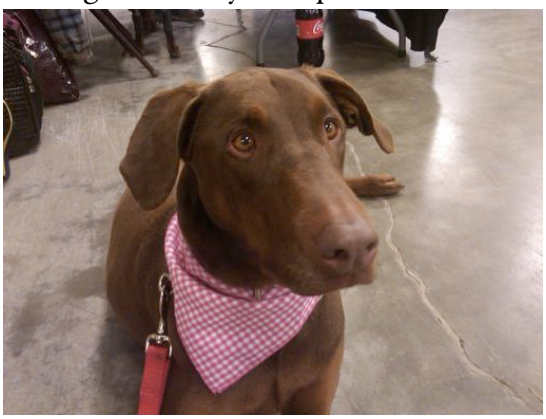
And many many other wonderful volunteers who work tirelessly to save lives!

President's Message

by Holli Sampson

Greetings and a very happy spring to all of you! This issue features a very special story on a very special dog. Zeus was our training dog. He trained many fosters over the past several years and his loss is greatly felt not just by Lisa but by all of us. He made such a difference in the lives of so many and we wanted to honor him and Lisa.

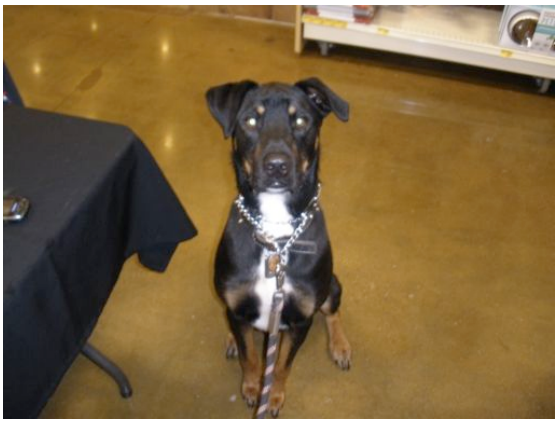
It has been an extremely busy Spring at Doberman Rescue. We currently have 14 dogs and have had 21 adoptions this year. We would like to please ask all of you to put the word out about several of our dogs that really need placement:



Ginger is the most wonderful dog and has been in rescue the longest. She is in foster care so she is in a home. Her pictures do not do her justice - she is one you have to meet. Ginger shines on obedience skills and is a lady.

Celeste is a mix that came to us from a shelter. She was heartworm positive and half starved but she is all well now and what a lively and fun dog she is! She loves people and loves to play and is just the right size!

Last, but not least, there is **Harley.** All of us think Harley is the perfect dog. He handsome and has the most wonderful personality.



We thank you all for doing what you can to help us find homes for these great dogs and all of the others. They are all so deserving of forever homes.

Please join us now on Face book. Yes, we have finally come into the modern world. Search Doberman Rescue of Nebraska and "like" us. Help spread the word.

I hope you enjoy the read and it inspires you to look at your own dog in a new way. While we all believe our dogs are good, like people, they aren't born that way. They need guidance and training to meet life head on.

Thank you again for all of your kind support. We couldn't do what we do without you!

Holli

We need your help!

Doberman Rescue welcomes your donations and help of any kind!

____ Yes, I would like to help you to care for the animals.
Enclosed is my gift of $_____.

____ I would like to make a monthly pledge to support
Doberman Rescue of Nebraska. I will pledge a monthly amount of $_____.

____ I know of a business that would do a corporate sponsorship.
Here is their contact information:

_____

DRON is a 501 (c) (3) organization, so all donations are tax deductible!

PLEASE MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO DRON,
ATTN: HOLLI SAMPSON
POB 390684
Omaha, NE 68139-0684

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING EVEN IF YOU ARE NOT DONATING:

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

_____

EMAIL ADDRESS (WE WILL NOT SELL THIS TO ANYONE!)_____

PHONE NUMBER: (_____) - _____-_____

____I AM INTERESTED IN BEING A VOLUNTEER. PLEASE CONTACT ME!

TELL US ABOUT YOUR DOG:

THANK YOU AGAIN!

DRON 2011 ADOPTION SITE DATES
All times 12PM-3PM unless otherwise noted

5/28– Petsmart – Oakview

6/6/4 – Petco – 125th & L
6/11 – Petsmart – Jones
6/18 – Petco – 125th & L
Bookworm –
Countryside Village 11A-3P
6/25 – Petsmart- Oakview

7/2 – Petco – 125th & L
7/9 – Petsmart – Jones
7/16 - Petco – 125th & L
Bookworm –
Countryside Village 11A-3P
7/23 – Petsmart- Oakview
7/30 – Petsmart – Jones

8/6 – Petco – 125th & L
8/13 – Petsmart – Jones
8/20 - Petco – 125th & L
Bookworm –
Countryside Village 11A-3P
8/27 – Petsmart – Oakview

9/3 – Petco – 125th & L
9/10 – Petsmart – Jones
9/17 - Petco – 125th & L
Bookworm –
Countryside Village 11A-3P
9/24 – Petsmart – Oakview

Lincoln

11:00am - 2:00pm

6-12 Petsmart N 27th
6-26 Petsmart N 27th
7-10 Petsmart N 27th
7-24 Petsmart N 27th
8-7 Petsmart N 27th
8-21 Petsmart N 27th
9-4 Petsmart N 27th
9-18 Petsmart N 27th

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