



# DAWG TAILS

MARCH 2011



## DAWG IN YOUR WORLD

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@sb\_DAWG

DAWG Dog Adoption & Welfare Group

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Little Kids, Big Hearts 2
- Where Are They Now? 2-3
- Camp Canine 4
- Happiness Is... 5
- Adopted Dogs 5-7
- Meet Shannon 8

In 2010 DAWG placed more than 350 dogs into loving, forever homes. This was the most we had ever placed in prior years, and we could not have done it without the generosity of our community. DAWG strives to continue its mission to find loving, forever homes for the dogs of Santa Barbara County, and to save lives in our no-kill shelter. We are as efficient as possible, and ensure all our generous donations received go towards the best possible care for our dogs while they await their forever homes.

You can help us continue our life-saving work by making a secure online donation at [www.sbdawg.org](http://www.sbdawg.org), or by stopping by the shelter with a donation during our public hours, Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 12-5pm. Or, consider donating items from our wish list which is published on our website.

You can also contribute by helping lessen our operating costs by signing up to receive our eNewsletter. Sign up online or use the form below. You'll receive our newsletter directly in your email inbox, instead of your postal

mailbox. The online version is also in amazing full color! Sending fewer printed newsletters helps us save much needed funds by lowering our printing and postage costs. These savings will enable us to save more lives, provide more medical care, and feed more mouths. Of course, it's great for the environment too.

Thank you for your past support of DAWG, whether by donating funds, goods, or adopting and welcoming a DAWG dog into your family.



Tear Off This Form & Mail it in With Your Donation to DAWG or sign up online at [www.sbdawg.org](http://www.sbdawg.org)

Yes! Please sign me up for DAWG's new online newsletter. I understand it will mean no longer receiving a printed copy of the newsletter in my mailbox, but in doing so I am helping to save the environment, and lower operating costs for DAWG. I understand that I can opt-out of this emailed version at any time. I understand that my email and personal information will not be sold or shared for any purposes outside of DAWG.

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Have you adopted a DAWG dog? YES  NO

If so, what is his/her name? When did you adopt? Dog's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Month/Year \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a DAWG volunteer (check one)? YES  NO



# Little Kids, Big Hearts

Here at DAWG, we feel inspired by children who learn the importance of selflessness, compassion and community service at an early age. A great example is Kate. For her 10th birthday, Kate decided to forgo the traditional birthday party where she was sure to receive oodles of great "birthday loot". Instead, she asked her parents to bring her, her little sister Samantha, and friends Elle, Aleshani, Soyogi and Melia, to DAWG so they could all bring gifts for the dogs. They came loaded with wonderful, thoughtful things, including dog treats, leashes, collars, squeaky toys, and the most beautiful bedazzled dog dishes we'd ever seen, lovingly decorated with crystals and flower appliqués. They also made dog kerchiefs with Velcro closures. They spent the afternoon on a special tour of the DAWG facilities, getting to know several of our sweet pooches up close and personal. The kids and canines alike truly enjoyed the time playing fetch and the long belly rubs. It was such a delight to spend time with these special girls. We really appreciated Kate, and her family and friends sharing her special day with us at DAWG. What a lovely gesture of generosity!



Kate and her friends visit with one of the wonderful dogs in DAWG's Little Dog Land.

Photos by: Bonnie Baker

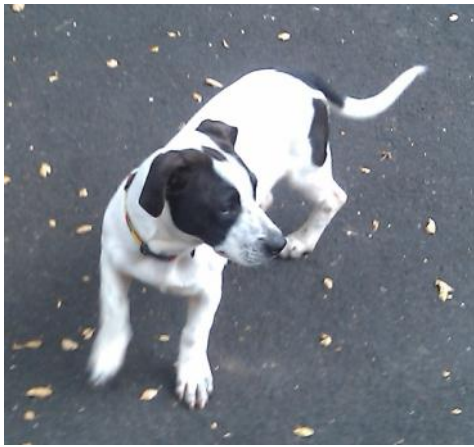
## Shannon's Puppies: Where Are They Now?

*It's hard to believe that it's been almost a year since 'Mama' Shannon, our featured dog on the back cover, arrived at DAWG. We all opened our hearts to this very pregnant pittie who gave birth in early April 2010 to a beautiful litter of thirteen puppies. The story of Shannon and her puppies quickly captured the attention and love of our staff and volunteers. As always, DAWG made the commitment to care for these wonderful puppies, and find them the best homes. We are proud to announce that we succeeded with all of them. They will all certainly be great ambassadors for the amazing pit bull breed.*

*Several of the families who adopted wanted to share how their new family members are doing and what they are up to now.*



**Argentina** (now Nova) still loves to make visits to DAWG. She is very well behaved and loving towards everyone (and every dog) she meets. Nova loves to make trips to the park or anywhere her dad will take her.



**Domenico** (now Guanto) started out as a timid little guy, but after a few trips to puppy day care has grown to love running with other dogs. His mom reports, "Everything to him was an adventure, exciting, and new! A leaf falling, the shower, telephone ringing, t.v. and oh my gosh... the beach!"



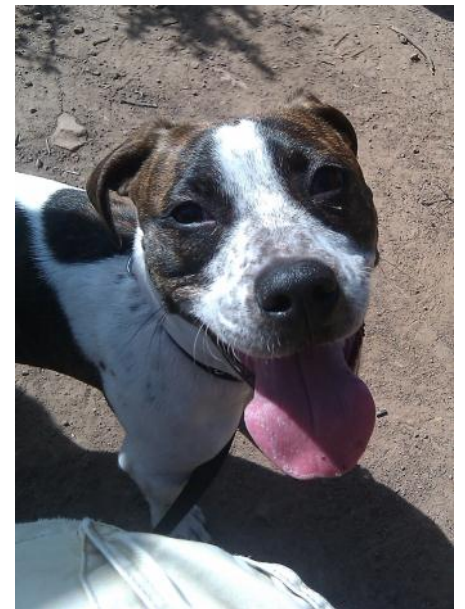
**Brazil** (now Khloe) reports that she enjoys her daily trips to the beach with her family and has finally learned to play fetch! Khloe wrote, "My parents always tell me I've changed their life and made them so much happier. I've adjusted very well to being an indoor pet and my favorite spot is buried between ALL the blankets. My two new best friends are Krunchie (6 lb Chihuahua) and Kilowatt (95 lb Pit Bull)."



Despite **Manitoba** (now Wyatt) receiving last place in puppy school, he was recognized as the fastest. Wyatt is a regular at Brewhouse and Hendry's, where he loves playing with other dogs and spending time with his parents.



**Belize** (now Marly) loves everyone and everything! She keeps her mom in shape with their daily runs to Hendry's beach. Marly especially enjoys running in the sun and the waves.



**Columbia** (now Ginger) "is an absolute darling. She loves snuggling at any hour of the day and spending as much time as possible with her owners... She looks more and more like Mama Shannon every day!" Ginger excels at learning new tricks and is reportedly a very smart puppy.



**Alberta** (now Bree) played a major role in rehabilitating a new addition to her family - a pit bull mix that was rescued after three years of living at the shelter. Despite Bree's small size (most of the puppies are still very miniature), she playfully bosses around everyone in the house.

# Camp Canine

Camp Canine sits at the corner of Montecito and Nopal streets, the site of the original Santa Barbara Humane Society. Purchased in 1984 by John and Mary Sorosky, Camp Canine is a playful place for dogs, offering boarding services, doggie day care, grooming, training and a camp store for mankind's best friend. Its growth over the past twenty-five years has been closely interwoven with the history of DAWG.

Both John and Mary grew up caring about animals. As a teen, John became a falconer. A natural-born animal trainer, he has trained horses, chickens, cats, birds and dogs. Finding his dog training efforts rewarded by numerous awards, he became a professional trainer and animal behaviorist. Mary recalls working at the Humane Society in the early years, rescuing all the animals she could.

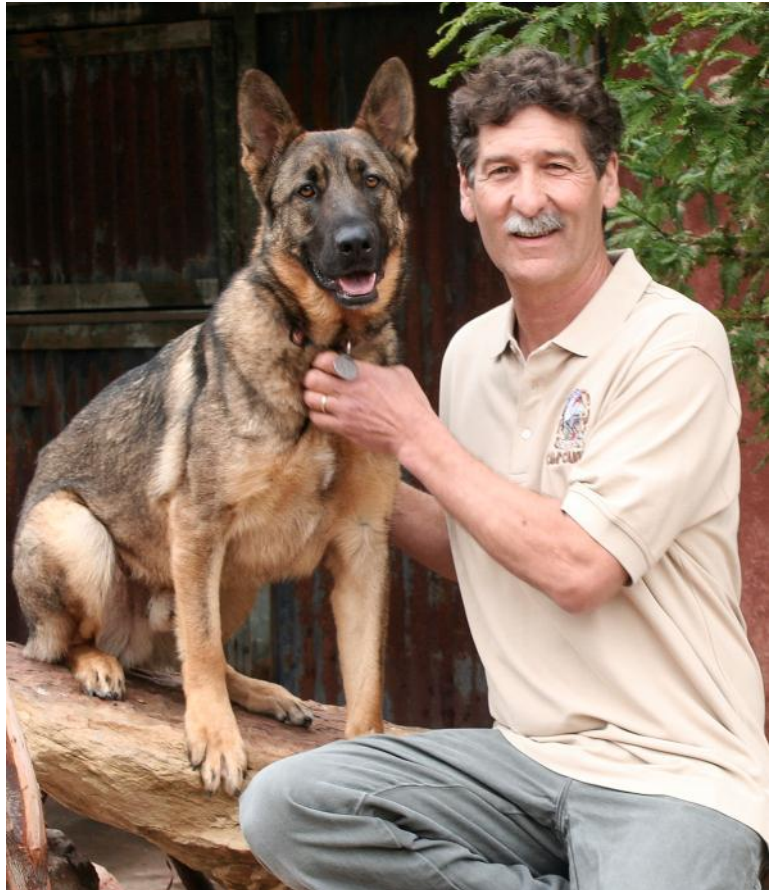
John and Mary were pioneers in the dog boarding business, keeping the dogs out of isolated runs and allowing them to interact and play freely together. In the 1980s, this was very rare in the dog boarding business. Today, canine group play is becoming increasingly popular and is becoming a standard in the industry. Originally called The Animal Inn, Camp Canine continues to be a resource for owners seeking socialization, exercise and fitness, nutritional health, and training help for their canine friends of all shapes and sizes.

In 1990, Shirley and Bob Jansen, the driving force in the establishment of DAWG, approached the Soroskys to ask if they could help house dogs saved from the county shelter. The Jansens were instrumental in the timely expansion of Camp Canine, which made it possible for the Soroskys to take up to twenty overflow dogs from DAWG. Eventually, DAWG became an established entity with its own facilities for large and small dogs, as well as adding a strong foster program. The Soroskys are still called upon to help with dogs – especially those with training needs.

John's expert training focuses on teaching dogs to be well mannered in public. He calls well-trained dogs CoffeeShop Dogs™. One recent success is Bart, a gorgeous young German Shepherd. At DAWG, Bart was becoming increasingly rambunctious and was considered "difficult" by the volunteers. John has been working with Bart for

about five months, and Bart's behavior has turned completely around. He is well on his way to becoming a true CoffeeShop Dog™. He's now so well behaved and gentle, that when he recently returned to DAWG for a demonstration, jaws dropped in disbelief. Mary says, "I'm so proud of my husband for his work in making good canine citizens."

Camp Canine continues to grow as more Santa Barbarans discover its summer-camp like feel with swimming ponds, climbing rocks, rambling stone walkways, and whimsical concrete structures. When visitors come to the corner of Montecito and Nopal streets, they see a busy, bustling place where happy dogs play together, get lots of exercise and enjoy having a fun day at Camp. The ominous chimney from the Human Society days still stands as a remnant of days thankfully gone by. Bart, Barron, Freckles and others represent just a few of the many victories that speak to the power of co-operation and teamwork between Camp Canine, DAWG, and Santa Barbara's dog loving community.



*John and Bart at Camp Canine*

*Photo by: Bonnie Baker*

# Happiness Is...

- ... chewing my favorite dog toys
- ... a warm and fuzzy blanket
- ... the smiling face of someone who's come to play with me
- ... fetching the best stick or ball I can find and playing in the yard with my friends
- ... a gentle scratch behind the ears to remind me that I am safe at DAWG
- ... a donated leash so that I can go for a walk
- ... walking or running with someone who can keep up!
- ... donations that help to keep my kennel clean, and my belly full of healthy food
- ... a warm and sudsy bath to keep me clean and beautiful
- ... volunteers who participate in fundraisers to keep us ALL healthy
- ... someone who drives us from place to place



- ... volunteers who talk about me and my friends at DAWG and remind people that we're all looking for our new families and homes
- ... a foster family who cares for us, and allows us to live in a family environment while we recover, or wait for our forever homes
- ... a trainer and other patient people who take the time to help me become the best dog I can be
- ... the car ride to my forever home
- ... curling up on the couch with my new family
- ... a family who commits to loving me, caring for me, and calling me their own

*Thank you for helping us fill the lives of DAWG's dogs with happiness. Help us continue to keep them safe and happy while we find their forever homes.*

*Visit our website [www.sbdawg.org](http://www.sbdawg.org) for information on donating, volunteering, and other ways you can help DAWG fulfill its mission.*



## Adopted Dogs

Nov. 15, 2010 - Jan. 31, 2011

The dogs on the following pages were adopted from DAWG during the period from November 15, 2010 - January 31, 2011.

We are SO happy they have all found loving, forever homes. Charlie (two of them), Chiquita, Lucy and Suri were also adopted during this time.

We could not do this life saving work and give these wonderful dogs a family without the support of our community. Please consider donating today.

Visit us online at [www.sbdawg.org/donate](http://www.sbdawg.org/donate) to give.

If you have adopted one of these dogs and have not yet sent us your 'happy tail' please email [stories@sbdawg.org](mailto:stories@sbdawg.org). We love to hear how our DAWG alumni are doing! Thank you so much.



Alexander



Annabelle



Bandit



Banjo



Benji



Bianca



Black Jack



Boomer

*Photos by: Bonnie Baker*

# Adopted Dogs Cont...: Nov. 15, 2010 - Jan. 31, 2011



Boot



Brazil



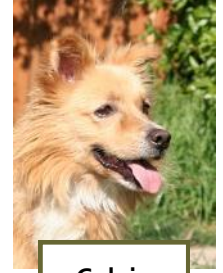
Breezy



Brownie



Brownie



Calvin



Chilango



Clancy



Corky



Cowboy



Curly



Duke



Dusty



Egypt



Ella



Elvis



Emmie



Faith



Finnegan



Fleming



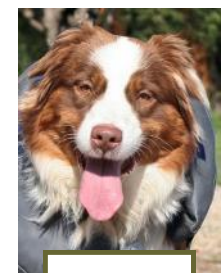
Frankie



Freeway



Fuji



Goode



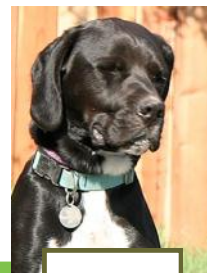
Hershey



Holly



Kate



King



Kona



Laurent



Lisa Marie



Lizzy



Lola



Lucas



Marilyn



Mariposa



Mindy



Mistletoe



Monkey



Obi



Opie



Oscar



Pepper



Pierre



Pippin



Porter



Pumpkin



Reese



Rocky



Rosie



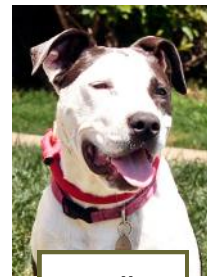
Sara



Scooter



Scruffy



Stella



Sundance



Sydney



Tilly



Tuffy



Willy



Wonton



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We Save Lives... One DAWG at a Time



## Our Featured Adoptable Dog: Shannon

**Shannon** is a 3 year old spayed female pit bull mix. She is eager to please, loves to be with people, and also enjoys playing with other dogs.

A typical pit, she needs some activity, but will tire quickly and be a couch potato for the rest of the day. She was a wonderful mother to a litter of thirteen, born last spring. She is housebroken and well behaved. Her puppies have all been adopted (see inside for stories about their happy endings) and now Shannon is anxiously awaiting her forever home. Could you be that special person who loves Shannon just as much as she loves you?