



DAWG TALES

MAY 2011



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- info@sbdawg.org
- **www.sbdawg.org**

@sb_DAWG

DAWG Dog Adoption & Welfare Group

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Calling all DAWG Dog Moms & Dads!

Could you imagine your life now without your newest furry family member? Your love and generosity has allowed your DAWG dog to realize their dream of their very own forever home. Now, think about the growing number of other DAWG residents that are waiting for the day when they too can have a home and companion to call their own.



up with necessary healthcare and food to keep up with the fast-growing population at our no-kill shelter. We remain the only no-kill shelter on the central coast, and our success is of the utmost importance for local dogs.

DAWG is in urgent need of your help today. Please consider donating any amount you are able, and help us continue our life

WE NEED YOUR HELP. Many of us would adopt a group of DAWG dogs if we could. The reality is many of us live with small yards, rental restrictions, or we just simply cannot add to our current brood. There are more ways to help. DAWG urgently needs financial support to maintain our life-saving mission of finding every DAWG dog a forever home. While DAWG is making every effort to cut costs and apply your donations where they are needed most, we are struggling to keep

saving work. For example, a \$10.00 monthly donation will help with on-going medical treatments and keep our DAWG dogs in tip-top shape for the day when they will be welcomed to their new forever home.

Every dollar makes a difference. Every dog deserves a chance.

Thank you.

Your friends at DAWG.



How To Donate To DAWG

There are a number of ways that you can make a donation to DAWG and help us continue our mission to care for the dogs of Santa Barbara County. All donations are tax-deductible. Our Tax-ID # is 77-0318881

Online

Visit <http://www.sbdawg.org/donate> to make a one-time donation on our website. You can also sign up to make a monthly recurring donation, in amounts ranging from as little as \$8.33 / month, up to \$83.33 / month.

Mail

Mail a check, addressed and payable to DAWG to: P.O. Box 92210, Santa Barbara, CA 93190-2210

You can use the pre-addressed envelope, included in this newsletter, which also allows for donations via credit card.

In Person

Stop by the shelter with cash or check. 5480 Overpass Road, Santa Barbara, CA 93111

Thank you for your generosity!

A Letter From Trevor

Hello DAWG volunteers and friends! I'd like to introduce myself, I'm Trevor. I came to DAWG when I was one year old and have been at the shelter for about three years – that puts me around four years old. It was a bit challenging for me at first, you know, to get the lay of the land, but now I've figured things out and everyone around here gives me lots of love.

In my foster home, I've been living with some HOT ladies, both canines and felines, during the week. On public adoption days (Fridays through Sundays, 12-5pm) you'll find me hangin' at the DAWG shelter with some other wonderful DAWG dudes and ladies.

I think the kind of forever home I need would have a girlfriend or two for me to wrestle and play with. You know, a chick about my size, 60-70 lbs. Yeah, that's it. Oh, and a dad. I'm still working on my public behaviour, so I need a strong dad to get me through the process. A family would

be nice 'cause I love kids, and I think cats are cool too. I am a pretty strong guy though, and wouldn't want to knock over your small child by accident. I might lick him frequently or steal his snacks, though.

I need some space. Something kind of big and private is preferable, so I don't have to be walked away from home all the time. I definitely like fenced yards so I can get in my daily workout. It would also be ideal if there weren't another 4-legged dude living right next door.

I'm house trained and have even taught myself to lay down and wait for the ladies to be served their meals first. What a gentleman I am, and a good watchdog.

So, please consider me for your permanent pal, because I have love to give all year long. Stop by the shelter or call and make an appointment to meet me. I'll even come to your home for multiple

visits, just to make sure we all like each other. I'll bring the snacks.

Keep me in your thoughts and talk to your friends.

Best Regards,
Trevor



Don't Forget About The Web

Sign up online today at www.sbdawg.org to begin receiving our Newsletter via email. You can also fill out the below form and mail in the included envelope. By receiving the Newsletter by email you are helping DAWG go green, but more importantly you are helping DAWG save money.

Additionally, our website is a great resource as it contains valuable information, so we encourage you to visit us often. We've created lists of local resources in categories such as training, grooming, boarding and other local rescues and organizations. This extensive list is not directly endorsed by DAWG, but a valuable collection of great services for your canine friends.

Tear Off This Form & Mail it in With Your Donation to DAWG or sign up online at 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



What To Do If You Lose or Find a Dog

The procedure to follow, if you lose or find a dog, varies depending on the situation. In all cases time is of the essence, to ensure the dog is happily reunited with his or her family as soon as possible.

Here is a helpful guide we've compiled.

HAVE YOU LOST A DOG?

DAWG is NOT the first place you will want to check if you have lost a dog. We do not take in stray or lost dogs at the shelter UNLESS they are dogs that were adopted from us.

Please call Santa Barbara County Animal Services first at (805) 681-5285, located at 5473 Overpass Road. Report your dog missing, and find out if anyone has brought your dog to them. There are also County Animal Services located in Lompoc, and Santa Maria.

Have you lost a DAWG dog? Contact DAWG to see if someone has brought the dog to us.

All DAWG dogs have microchips. Visit www.homeagain.com for valuable resources, and to learn more about how microchips help lost pets find their families.

We strongly recommend visiting the shelter in person as often as possible to look for your dog. People's descriptions of dogs can vary widely, and you might not recognize your own dog as described through the eyes of a shelter worker.

HAVE YOU FOUND A DOG?

First, be careful if you approach the dog. Use caution and common sense to determine if you should keep your distance, for the safety of both you and the dog.

If you can't safely read the dog's tags:

Call Santa Barbara County Animal Services. Give them as clear a description as possible with the breed, size and location of the dog. County Animal Services is the best place for lost dogs to be found. They will scan the dog's microchip and try to contact the owner.

If you are able to approach the dog and read its tags, proceed accordingly:

A Dog With Personal Tags: Call the phone number on the personal tag first. If you are unable to contact them, check for other tags, or call SB Animal Control.

A DAWG Tag: If you see that the dog is also wearing a DAWG tag (or ONLY a DAWG tag), please call us immediately at (805) 681-0561. We will take in a lost DAWG dog at our facility and attempt to contact the adopter ourselves using our database.

NO tags: Contact SB County Animal Services. DAWG is unable to help lost dogs, unless they are former DAWG dogs.

We hope you will never face the heartache and anguish of losing your dog. However, resources are available to help you reunite with your canine friend.



Little Kids, Big Hearts

DAWG receives donations of all sizes from donors of all sizes. We'd like to extend a special thank you to just a few of the wonderful local children who have helped DAWG continue its mission.

- On Friday, April 22nd, 47 third graders from Washington Elementary School in Santa Barbara visited DAWG, accompanied by their teachers Ms. Dalton and Mrs. Yarnell. The field trip was the finale of a project they had organized to help animals in local shelters. The students had received grant money for their Santa Barbara County Education Service Learning Project. In March, they also held a 'Student Store' to raise additional funds. They presented DAWG with a generous donation from these combined funds. Their donation will go towards the care, shelter and medical needs of our dogs at DAWG. We are honoured to have been chosen as the recipient of their generosity, and are delighted to have been able to give them a tour of our facilities. Thank you, Washington Elementary Third Graders for your planning, hard work, and kindness to our dogs.

Big hearts also come from individuals.

- On Thursday, April 21st, a young man named Ben brought in a jar of money that he had saved and wanted to donate to DAWG. We were touched by his thoughtfulness, and appreciate every dollar. Ben was also treated to a tour around the facility so that he could see the shelter and some of the dogs that his donation would help. Thank you Ben!

We cannot continue our services without the support of our community. When young people become involved in supporting our cause we hope that we are helping to build respect for the lives of dogs, and are engaging lifelong relationships with future volunteers, donors, adopters and friends of DAWG.

Thank you, to each and every one of the little kids with big hearts.

A Puppy In a Box

About four months ago, I was walking the bluffs in Carpinteria with my almost-thirteen-year-old border collie mix, Quan, and my parents' Labrador/Pitbull mix, Bessie. A fellow dog lover asked if I'd be interested in a purebred Rhodesian ridgeback puppy. Up to that moment, I had not given any thought to getting a second dog. It didn't seem sensible, given that I relied on my eighty-year-old parents to care for Quan when I'm traveling for work, and the dogs were too big for my mom to handle by herself. I declined the offer.

The word "puppy" however, had peaked my interest. A puppy would be nice – but not one that would grow into a large dog. "Find a little dog," a voice in my head suggested.

"A little dog? I'm not a little dog person," I thought. After more reflection, I realized a little dog might be a perfect solution. I began looking, but was unable to find the perfect fit until one day I decided to visit Dr. Otto to see if they knew of a little dog."

I went to Carpinteria Veterinary Clinic and asked Dr. Otto's sister, Jean, if she knew of anyone with a small dog for adoption. She responded with a big, enthusiastic "yes!". Jean knew a dog foster family caring for Wonton, a DAWG-rescued puppy. I called the foster family and visited Wonton that afternoon. It was love at first sight and even though he came with a mended broken leg, I was elated to submit an adoption application that was soon approved.

While I could see why he was given his original name, Wonton just seemed more like a Charlie to me. Charlie has adapted quickly to his new home and canine BIG sisters. He especially loves Bessie, and spends lots of time nuzzling her and chewing on her ears while she sits like a patient momma. With his boundless energy and infectious playfulness, he's even inspired my old lady Quan to join in the fun. More important, my mom and dad absolutely love Charlie. Mom is in charge of him on our twice-daily walks at the bluffs, parading him around proudly and introducing him to everyone we pass. Because he

weighs less than ten pounds, she can easily handle him. He spends time with her out in the garden, and I often hear her talking to him.

Charlie has filled a special place in my heart. After he came home, I found out Quan has a large mass in her lung. She's still acting like a vibrant and healthy dog, but I can't predict how much longer my beloved Quan will be here. Knowing that Charlie will be with me for a long time is comforting, and will definitely ease the loss I must face. Having Charlie curled up beside me when I sleep gives me peace, and the sweet nuzzles in the morning warm my heart. How could I have lived another day without him? Thank you DAWG for rescuing him when he was just a puppy in a box.

Mia Girard



Charlie (in arms) with some of his new canine and human family members.

A Win For Blackjack

I have hundreds of dogs. When you spend time at DAWG, you can't help but assume ownership or at least concern for every dog that comes through our doors. Every one of them has made an impact on my heart, but only one was able to capture it.

Blackjack's past is mostly unknown, as with most DAWG dogs. Shortly after beginning my job at DAWG last year, I was contacted by his adoptive family and informed that he was going to be returned to the shelter for aggression and fear. I soon found out exactly what they meant. At our first meeting Blackjack ferociously growled and wouldn't let me go anywhere near him. No one would have guessed that nine months later we would be attached at the paws.

Over the next couple of months, I decided to commit the limited free time I had between law school examinations and multiple jobs to take Blackjack on excursions to the park, beach, and around DAWG. I was determined to socialize him, however possible. After a few months, and much improvement, it was clear that I wasn't letting Blackjack go anytime soon.

The day that I became involved with DAWG as an adoption attendant in 2010, my dad warned me that I was not to get emotionally attached to any of the residents. By Thanksgiving, "Gramps," as Blackjack calls him, refused to allow Blackjack stay the night at the shelter because Gramps didn't want him sleeping alone.

On December 12th, 2010 Blackjack officially became part of my family, and he hasn't left my side. We take daily trips to the beach (he starts whining the moment he can see the ocean whether we're stopping or not), park (he loves playing lacrosse), and downtown (he's the first in line at every water bowl).

Blackjack still has a long way to go. He still is hesitant of strangers, has some food aggression issues, and is still learning to be polite around other dogs. Nonetheless, Blackjack has come so far and learned so much, and unexpectedly taught me more than I ever thought an animal could. He teaches me to cherish the town we live in and the people that surround us. Blackjack lives in a dog's paradise with the ocean to swim in and the mountains to run up. I'm so happy I get to share every experience with him.

We have his whole life to enjoy our favorite places. I can't wait to see how Blackjack improves over the next months and years. You better believe we will be throwing an amazing party for his second birthday at the end of May; to celebrate not only his existence, but DAWG's part in saving him and his siblings, and giving him a second chance when many others wouldn't. It's DAWG's commitment to giving second, third and fourth chances that makes the hundreds of adopters like me so fortunate each year.



Emily G.

Join DAWG June 4th at Off Leash - Where Pets Meet Style

We're very excited to announce an upcoming DAWG fundraiser hosted by **OffLeash - where pets meet style**. Mark your calendars for **Saturday, June 4th** and join us between **12:00-5:00pm** at **1103 State Street** in downtown Santa Barbara.

A very talented nature photographer, Julie Cromer, has donated a canvas print of one of her photographs to be raffled off for one lucky winner. The photo, of paw prints in the sand, will be approximately 40" x 19", on canvas and beautifully framed. Tickets for the raffle will be available mid-May, as well as during



the event. 100% of the proceeds from the raffle will be donated to DAWG to help us find forever homes for even more wonderful dogs.

At the June 4th event, there will also be free gifts, coupons and doggie treats available. Local DAWG alumni, Tex and Ozzy, will be greeting guests. You'll also have an opportunity to meet some of the dogs currently available for adoption through DAWG.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Your friends at DAWG & OffLeash - where pets meet style.



Adopted Dogs: February 1st - April 15th, 2011

The dogs on these pages were adopted from DAWG during the period from February 1 - April 15, 2011.

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

An explanation of ways to donate can be found on the front page of this newsletter.

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

Photos by: Bonnie Baker



Barry



Betty



Blue



Buddy



Charlie



Cher



Chile



Fox



Gabe



Geronimo



Grampy



Guapo



Giuseppe



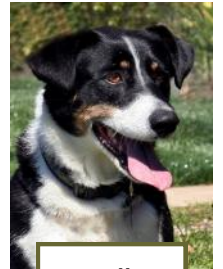
Hanna



Hoshi



Jerry



Kaeding



Klondike



Koda



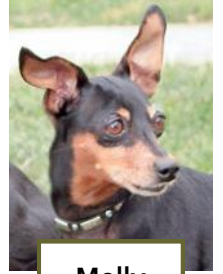
Lady



Lilly



Lincoln



Molly



Niche



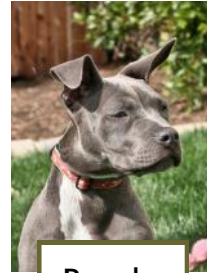
Noah



Opal



Phoebe



Porsche



Raffles



Rainbow



Rocky



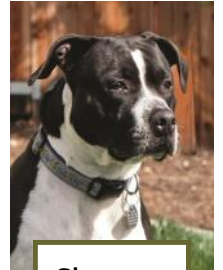
Romeo



Roxy



Salt



Shannon



Shelley



Snoopy



Sonny



Star



Sugar



Vinny



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We Save Lives... One DAWG at a Time



Billie Jean: In Search of a Simple Life

Billie Jean was found walking along the highway in Buellton. Her microchip was registered to Las Vegas, Nevada! Unfortunately, the contact information was no longer valid. Try as they might, no one was able to locate her original family.

Billie Jean is an incredibly intelligent 9 year old spayed female Border Collie. Over her three years at DAWG, she has proven to be extremely loyal and affectionate once you have established a relationship with her. In late 2008 and again in early 2010, she experienced a slipped disk in her lumbar spine. Each time, she responded well to periods of strict exercise restriction and steroid therapy. Both incidents seemed to have been brought on by very high impact exercise after long periods of sedentary behaviour. For this reason, it is imperative that Billie Jean receive consistent low impact exercise; such as a leisurely, 30 minute, leash-controlled daily walk. Please do not challenge her with high impact off-leash activity... or with

the temptations of the dog park or beach.

Outside of her daily walking routine, she would love to settle in to a restful lifestyle. She would love to hang out with her owner in the home or at the office, in peaceful and restful surroundings. She would be happy as the only pet in the household, absolutely focused upon her owners. She does enjoy the company of small dogs, but usually not cats or with dogs her size or larger.



Billie Jean has had a life filled with challenges, but she has overcome them because she is tough, resourceful, and intelligent. We think that now she yearns for the simple life: a home to call her own, and a human to love.