

# STAR

# NEWS!

## 2008—Year in Review

Another year has come and gone. Seems just like yesterday that Southern Star Minpin Rescue, Inc. was founded and so many caring and dear friends joined our rescue efforts.

**To all our volunteers**, who continue to work day in/day out to save so many minpins needing to be rehomed; minpins that need to be taught boundaries again; minpins that need to be taught what a loving hand is; minpins that need to be taught that they are worth saving, to build their confidence, to become a loving family member, and so on...

**We thank you.**

**To all of our wonderful adoptive homes**, without you opening your heart and home to such a deserving animal, we could not continue to save one more. When one is adopted, that leaves one more spot open. The cycle continues only because of you.

**We thank you.**

**To all of our wonderful supporters**, who continue to give generously so that we can help the minpins that are either seriously injured or going through heartworm treatment, or just needing routine vet care....

**We thank you.**

SSMPR was formed in August 2005. To date, we have helped save an astounding number of minpins.

|                    |     |
|--------------------|-----|
| Adoptions in 2005: | 5   |
| Adoptions in 2006: | 126 |
| Adoptions in 2007: | 109 |
| Adoptions in 2008: | 128 |

**The Board of Directors are honored to be able to work side by side with some of the best, the brightest, and the most caring, professional rescuers in this country.**



Issue 24, December 2008  
Editor: Dawn Russo  
dawn@ssmpr.org



*The STAR of it all!*

*Adopted from SSMPR?*

*We would love to hear from you! Submit your story and pictures to Dawn@ssmpr.org!*

*We couldn't do what we love to do without great homes like yours!*

Inside this issue:

|                     |       |
|---------------------|-------|
| Featured Foster     | 2     |
| Cheyenne's Blog     | 3     |
| Christmas 2008      | 4-5   |
| WA Trip             | 6     |
| Adoptions           | 7-9   |
| Mani and Sara       | 11    |
| Mary and Yuri       | 13    |
| More Adoptions      | 14-15 |
| Playing in the Snow | 16    |
| Updates             | 17-19 |
| Java                | 21    |
| Cabela and Sonny    | 22    |
| Oscar               | 23    |
| New Fosters         | 24    |
| Advertisements      | 25    |

# Featured Foster

Please meet our sweet Boodah!

A very typical minpin, Boodah is as beautiful outside as he is inside. Found as a stray, Boodah has been in foster care for about one year. A bigger minpin than the standard, Boodah is about 14 inches tall, and weighs approximately 15 pounds. A very loving minpin once he gains your trust, we can only imagine that his life before Southern Star was not the greatest. He seeks out love and attention, but is very weary at first. Taking him a little longer to trust children and men, we can only judge that those two humans were not very nice to him at one point. Boodah and his foster dad have a strong bond, but Boodah looks to his foster dad for guidance and security. Boodah is a head strong minpin, and will require his owners to be the leader so that he doesn't feel he needs to take control of everything. A secured fence yard is a must for sweet Boodah, as he loves to run and run in the wind—and if not kept in a secure yard supervised, he will find a way out and continue to run.

Just a fun loving guy, he gets along with the resident minpins and foster dogs. If you are looking for a forever companion, to love and trust you, Boodah is your man!

Boodah is located in Yelm, Washington and for more information about Boodah, please contact his foster mom Gayle at [Gayle@ssmpr.org](mailto:Gayle@ssmpr.org)



Washington's  
Boodah



# Cheyenne's BLOG

December 24, 2008:  
"Visions of squeaky toys are dancing through my head."

## Cheyenne's Snow Day

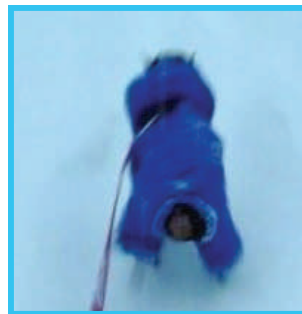
Cheyenne: "Yikes! It's snowing and blowing out there. I'm not going out."



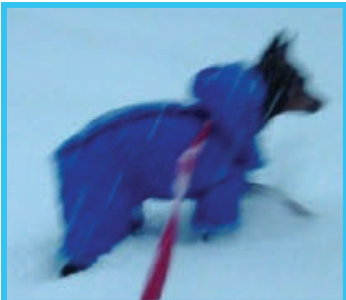
Zip: "Maybe so, but mom said we have to go out to do our business. At least you have a new snowsuit to keep you warm. Follow me, I'll shield you."



Cheyenne: "No way! They can't make me go out there. I'm turning back. The snow is over my head and I could get lost in a snow drift."

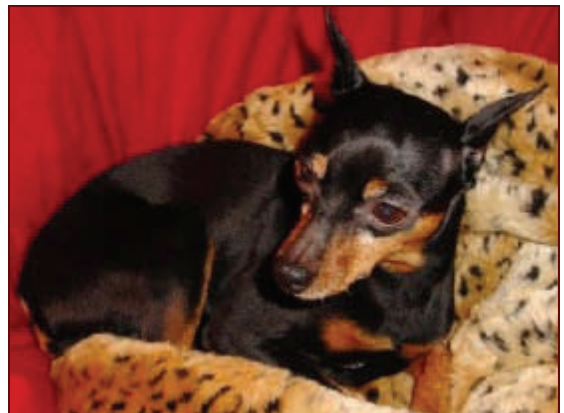


Cheyenne: "Eat my dust! Snowsuit or not, I could freeze out here."



Zip: "Cheyenne, come back."

Cheyenne: "This is more like it!"





# Merry Christmas—2008



Happy Holidays SSMPR!

On the left of Santa is me, Vanessa Taylor, holding Lilo (Toy Fox Terrier) who was adopted from Southern Star. Then there is Santa in the middle. On the right of Santa is my brother-in-law, Ryan Taylor, who lives with us, along with his puppy, Fitch (Chihuahua). Then sitting on the floor is my husband, Mark Taylor, and Snoopy (Manchester Terrier) who was also adopted from Southern Star

What is funny is that we didn't get this picture taken with a pet store Santa, we actually just went ahead and brought all three of our dogs to the local mall, carried them all the way through the mall and got our pictures taken with the real Mall Santa! Everyone seemed to think it was great, and we were glad that we didn't get kicked out of the mall!

Vanessa Taylor—Fife, WA



*Happy Holidays from  
Tim and Lisa  
Spike and Otis  
from Freeport, Texas*

# Merry Christmas—2008



Left—Adoptive mom Holly from Canada, holding SSMPR Julie and her mom's minpin (right) in their Christmas Collars!

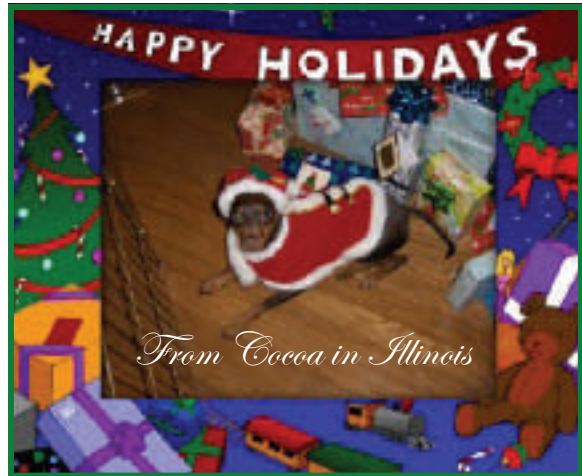


Right—A Christmas photo of SSMPR Debbie, adopted by Mike & Linda Anthony from Washington State!

Ruby, adopted to the Bobiney's in Michigan, wants no part of his Santa photo!

Look at Ruby trying to get away from that man in the beard!

The Bobiney's adopted two SSMPR babies!



*From Cocoa in Allinois*



Jenny and Tim  
Our wonderful  
volunteers from  
Florence,  
Alabama!



## From Texas to New Mexico to Oregon to Washington

In October, 2008, with adoptions continuing to be slow in Texas, volunteers Denise and Peter Brunner, posted the Texas foster dogs on the website in Washington State hoping to generate some interest in locating forever homes. Over a two month period, TX volunteer Laurie started processing WA applications for the TX fosters. Home visits were scheduled by the WA volunteers, and adoptive homes were approved for several lucky minpins! Denise and Peter left Lubbock, Texas on December 11, 2008 with nine foster dogs—final destination, Washington. Along the way, several adoptions took place. While in WA State, several SSMPR volunteers gathered at a local eatery. A good time was had by all. Most importantly, seven lucky foster dogs are in their forever homes and doing extremely well. Thanks to all the SSMPR volunteers who were part of this tremendous effort, and of course, to all the wonderful families that opened their heart and homes to these very deserving miniature pinschers.



SSMPR Volunteers: Left to Right: Lani Vaughn, Denise and Peter Brunner, Deb Cromwell, Howard and Gayle Wellman, and Shelby and Phil Van Buskirk



Gayle, Peter and Howard at Mount Rainier



WA Volunteer Gayle Wellman, TX Volunteer Denise Brunner, and WA Volunteer Deb Cromwell

## First Stop—New Mexico



*Robin and Oscar*

The first adoption was Oscar to Robin Kelly in Aztec, New Mexico!

After being on the road during the night, Denise and Peter were graciously greeted by Robin's generosity. They were greeted with fresh brewed coffee and a pit stop for the other dogs to run and play in their fenced yard.

Oscar was welcomed home by some great canine siblings.



*Crunchie*



*Bella*



*Linda*



And a Pot-Bellied Pig



*Oscar*



## Second Stop—On to Oregon

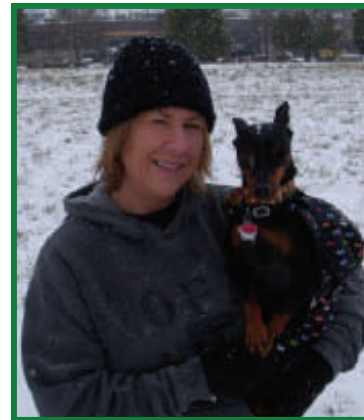


It was Diego's turn!

Diego was adopted to Bob and Johnette Kievit in Portland, Oregon.



And Jose', now named Kubel, adopted by Dave and Darla Campbell of Dallas, Oregon



And Piper, adopted by Wendy Lowles and Daniel Cranfield of Portland, Oregon.



**It's great to see our minpins in such great homes for the holidays!**

**Thanks to all of you!**



## Final Destination—Washington



Next—it was Poppy!

Poppy, now named Kobi, is greeted by adoptive mom Sharell Reintsma of Seattle, Washington.



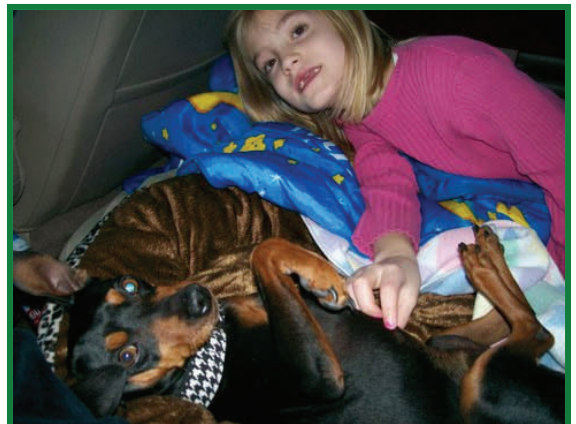
Next, it was Snickers! Puppy Snickers!

Snickers was adopted to Maggie Gravelle of Tenino, Washington



Last, but surely not least, is our sweet Scooter!

Scooter is welcomed by Teresa, Matt and Catherine Huwe of Spokane, Washington!



*Happy Holidays to all!*

## While in Washington

While Denise and Peter were recouping from the three day long drive in snow and ice, Gayle and Howard Wellman contacted two previous adoptive homes to surprise Denise and Peter. These two homes had adopted TX foster dogs a couple of years ago. The surprise was overwhelming and all were happy to see each other again.



Far left, Gayle holding Axel (kissing adoptive mom Lisa), Peter holding Axel and two of Axel's canine siblings.

Peter and Denise also visited Moska, formally another TX foster named after Peter's great uncle in Hungary. Moska was adopted by Mike and Kathy Socall.

From left to right, Mike holding Buddy and Kathy holding Chuch (also adopted from SSMPR) and Moska.

Thanks goes to the Socall's and the Benson's for their hospitality.



Visiting one of many "Espresso Huts" was also a big hit!





## Santa Mani



Mani in Michigan was ready for Santa Paws!

Left, Mani playing in the snow after the snowstorm and enjoying every minute.



Mani watching from his favorite spot on the window all wrapped in a blanket as daddy Greg shovels snow.

Thanks Kelly for the pictures!

## Sara in Alabama



**Sara and the Harrington's**

# Chewie in Alabama

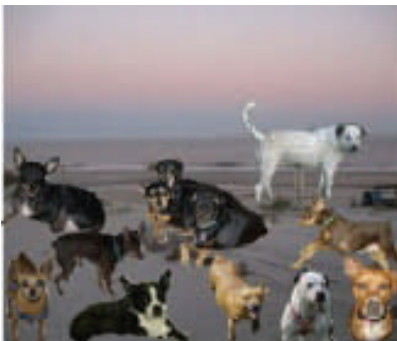


“Humm..I’m not spoiled...I’m loved!”



“Stockings were hung by ....”

Since the Hahn’s in KY have no chimney, they are hung by the bedroom door!



From our family to yours, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.  
David & Nicole Hahn  
Speckles, Angel, Ladybug, Dora, Molly, Scot, Mandford, Wilson, Nikko, Mingo, Charlie, & Kenny.





## Happy Holidays from the North!



Mary and Yuri in Canada, send their holiday wishes to all the SSMPR families.

"Here we are -- getting dressed for Snow Day"



"Don't eat the yellow snow, Mary!"



"Starbucks at last! Get me a hot chocolate with marshmallows!"



"Seriously, is THIS what you had in mind when you sent me to CANADA!!!!!"

**Mary & Yuri**



## Our Sweet Stewie

All of our adoptions are special to us, but the adoption of Stewie is a little extra special! Stewie has been in foster care for almost two years. Found as a stray, totally neglected and heartworm positive, Stewie recovered from treatment in his foster home, but always seemed to be overlooked for adoption. We, in rescue, always say that there is a home for every homeless dog, it just may take awhile to find that perfect forever home. During his stay in foster care, he was fostered by several volunteers and then finally returned back to his original foster home with volunteer Brandy. Brandy, about to leave TX after the 1st of the year to move back home to KY, agreed to take Stewie with her. And then, prayers were answered! The application of Danny and Amy from Round Rock, TX came in! Brandy contacted Amy right away and started processing their application. A home visit was scheduled and Stewie's forever home was found! Seen below, is Danny holding Stewie, Amy holding Troy, and SSMPR volunteer Brandy.

We are thrilled to announce this adoption—Stewie will be spoiled and will enjoy the company of his sibling Troy!



# Stewie and Troy



## Home for the Holidays!



Washington Max, has been adopted to a wonderful Mom, Sarah in Puyallup, Washington!

Max is going to be spoiled rotten! He's Sarah's one and only!

# Max

Little Ellie Bellie is in her forever home tonight in Auburn, Washington and is very happy! Her new name is going to be Jazzy :-)

Congrats to Astrida on her new little girl. Gayle, foster mom says "we miss her but we know she will never want for anything! :-)"

# Jazzy



A huge congratulations to the Williams Family from Lubbock, Texas on their adoption of Rainier, now named Rainy!

Rainy was a shelter dog that Denise and Peter saved while on their trip to Mount Rainier in Washington.

# Rainy

# Having fun in the snow



**Oscar - New Mexico**



**Kobi - Washington**



**Berkley - Washington**



**Turbo - Washington**

Crystal in WA, who adopted Turbo, is at it again with those funny photos!

Right, having fun in the snow with Turbo. "He looks like a space shuttle lifting off straight into the sky. The funny thing is he doesn't even look that concerned? LOL! And yes I caught him!"



Crystal also owns ferrets. Crystal says "I reckon that snow is about "ferret" high!"



## Tiger in Washington (formally Mickle)

I just wanted to give you an update on Tiger and his well-being these days. I brought Tiger home from Yelm, WA. in July of 07 where he was being fostered for a short time.

Actually it was just 2 days. Since then, I have grown very attached to him and his awesome personality. He also has become quite attached which is a big step for him as he came from an abusive family. (tisk,tisk) He enjoys lots of room to run around in the back yard, chasing the birds and squirrels. Apparently those are intruders which must be caught. No luck yet though. He definitely has his feeding times down to a tee. He tends to inhale his food in the afternoon when I come home from work so I decided to buy an auto-feeder. Well that worked for about a day until he discovered how to turn the feeder and eat everything from the 4 feeders. Smart cookie. So now, I just wait awhile when I get home until he calms down. His favorite of all time is pig ears. I buy the real ones from my local butcher so it's a great treat for him.

He's maintained a steady weight of a massive 7.5 lbs which is quite intimidating to squirrels and such. Attached are a few pics of him a couple nights ago chewing down on his favorite treaty.

Thanks again for offering such great animals for adoption and I hope others will have the same experience I have had.

Dave Zaino—Washington



# Tiger

# "Lucky" Days



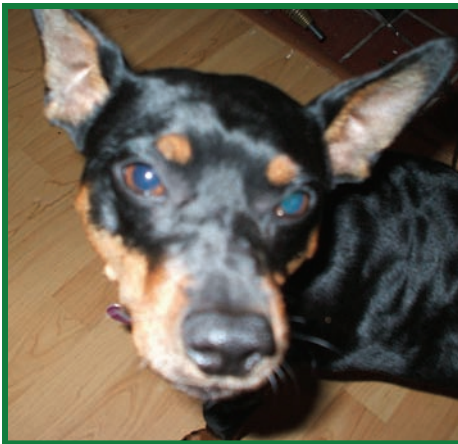
Figaro and Lucky accomplices in mischief



Lucky and the Alpha Human Male playing innocent



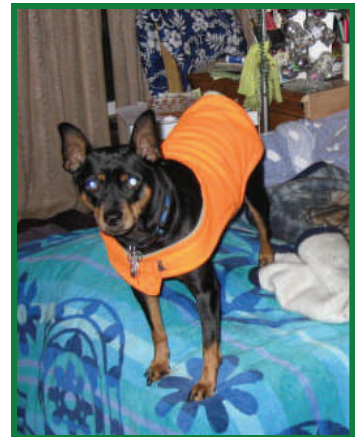
Whatchdoing?



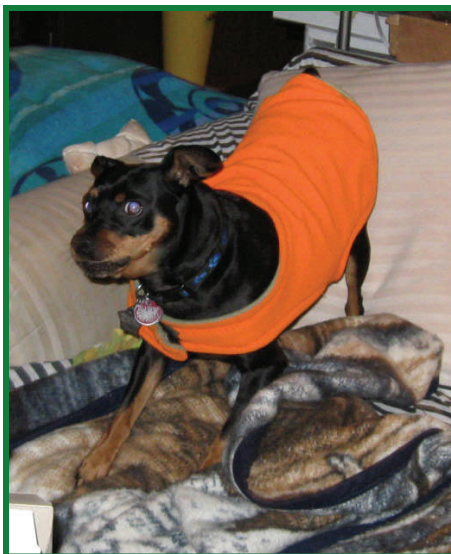
What a face!

We adopted Lucky just before Easter this year and had no idea what was in store. He went through a chewing phase (how many rawhides can a dog eat), a barking stage (thank goodness for spray guns), a life-long diet (he is completely food obsessed), and a shy stage (now he knows that he adopted us). Things have calmed down and become routine. Lucky's typical day is to wake up, pee, eat, sleep, bug Figaro, and repeat whatever order desired. What a great dog!

Heather—Washington



COLD Lucky!



Resistance is futile



PLAYTIME!



FINALLY, the diet is OVER!

# Lucky



## Simon in Illinois

We featured Simon just two months ago as the "Special One" in the Star News. When Simon came into rescue, he was extremely emaciated, had horrible intestinal parasites, and even with the best medical care, his condition was not improving. After two months of pure love and dedication by his foster parents Anne and Bill of Illinois, Simon is doing extremely well and has starting acting like a minpin should! Here are some photos we would like to share of Simon and his update: *"I thought everyone might like to know how Simon is doing. He now weighs in at 8 1/2 pounds, and is looking very handsome. He still has some hair loss on his head and the inside of his thighs, but it is growing in quickly and his fur has become very thick. He eats like a horse and is eating regular food! His little minpin personality has arrived, as he challenges and jumps on the cattle dog all the time. She lets him. He lays in bed and chews on my fingers, and has a definite jealous streak when you pay attention to someone else. My vet anticipates a complete recovery for this little pin. We are overjoyed and in love. I think we are going to be really, really picky with his future home."*



### Simon Before



### Simon Now



Paco is home for the holidays!

Congratulations to Drs. Carolyn & Tom Lovett of Florence, Alabama.

Paco is welcomed home by big Dobie sister, Willow!

# PACO



## Happy Holidays from Alabama



SSMPR volunteer Jenny in Florence, Alabama sends christmas photos. Jenny holding Crimson and foster Lady and Duke with his antlers and Crimson in the Santa Hat.

Thanks Jenny!



SSMPR Berkley, has been adopted to the Labensky family in Tacoma, Washington!

Berkley is welcomed home by two human sisters and one canine sister named Mia.

Berkley's job is to calm Mia down, they are about the same age, so this is going to be fun!

## Berkley



Robert, son of IL volunteer Linda, trying to get comfortable, but the minpins are wanting to take over.

Dobie to your left of the picture, foster Fred on top of the back of the couch, Right side upper level with Blue collar is foster Lou, bottom lower level is Doc my guy that has the metal plates and screws in his jaw.

## Robert & Minpins



## 2 Year Anniversary for Java

Hi there SSMPR!!!

Just a quick note to let you know we're celebrating our 2 year anniversary with Java- and three with her "sister" Chestnut. Both were adopted by us on New Years Day. Rob and I drove out to Akron, OH, from Germantown, MD (6 1/2 hours each way!!!) two years ago to pick up Java from Christine - we had decided to adopt a minpin that needed US, since we certainly didn't "need" another one- we already had three- two seniors and another rescue. But, minpins are like M&M's- can't have just one!!!

Java fit our requirements- a minpin that was not likely to be adopted, for whatever reason. In Java's case, she was in foster care for five months and was a puppy mill rescue. What a sad sack she was!!! Back in those days, she fell through the ice in the pond twice (never had seen water or ice before), was scared of everything, couldn't go up or down stairs, she had health issues (bad skin, pancreatitis, poor muscle tone, dental issues), and had to be taught EVERYTHING- just like a puppy, only she was somewhere in between 6-10 years old. Now, however, that dog is a runnin' fool!!! She is so happy I think she will burst out of her skin most days. I'm sending a photo of her on Christmas morning- the bear is for the baby's room (all the pups will have a baby brother in February), but Java keeps trying to climb under it to go to sleep. Typical minpin.

Thank you all so much-"all" dogs deserve a wonderful home, but some, like Java, are harder to place than others. I'm forever grateful that SSMPR has volunteers that will take dogs like Java that need so much extra special attention, and wait for the right home for them. We love our quirky girl, and are so glad we found her. Happy New Year from the Berkman Pins.

Rob, Sherri, Nutmeg, Peanut, Chestnut and Java



## Cabela in Ohio

Elly and Tim in Ohio, who adopted Cabela from SSMPR a couple of years ago, have adopted another rescue dog to add to their family! Meet Sonny! Sonny and Cabela are getting along great and Sonny is a welcomed addition!

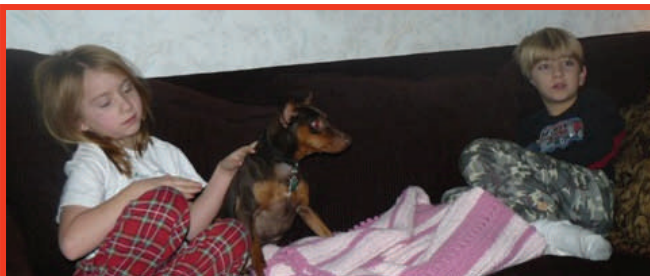


In the picture above, where is Cabela? LOL

With the winter weather in Ohio, Elly and Cabela cannot go running outside as their normal exercise routine. After several weeks of working with him, Elly finally got him walking on the treadmill. He's doing fantastic with his exercise now. He gets a chewie after his exercise! Far below, Cabela and the kids wait to see what Santa brought them!



## Cabela

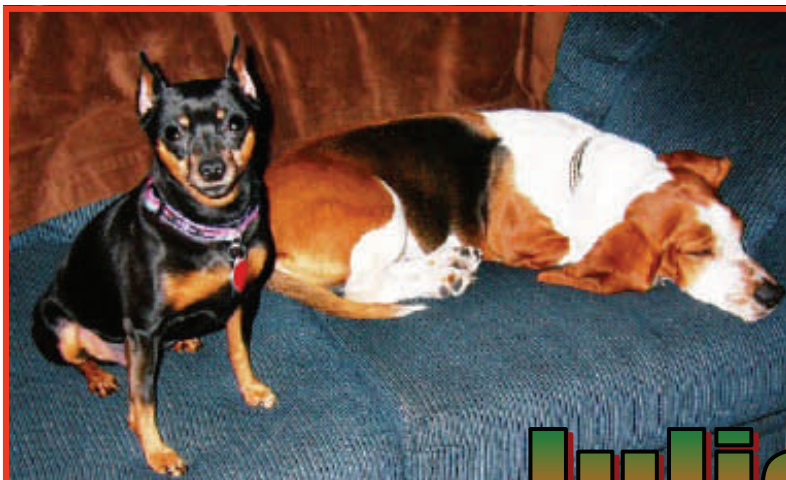




## Oscar now Caesar in Michigan

Last month we featured Oscar in Michigan as the "Special Needs" dog. I'm happy to report that Oscar, now named Caesar, was adopted by his second foster mom, Martha in Michigan. His original foster mom left for a much needed vacation and Martha was "pupsitting" - and when Carrol returned home, Martha had fallen madly in love with the little guy!

He's doing extremely well now, has put on some much needed weight, and is just a little stinker. When I asked Martha about his name change, her response was *"Yes, I thought about naming him Brutus after he bit Harley in the rear. He acts so big, he needed a big name. He is doing really good. He jumps like he's on springs, he is quite a little trouble maker. He is so sweet and cute, I can't even get mad at him. Wendi made it her personal job to keep him warm when he just shook all the time. I knew I needed to keep them together. They still snuggle, actually they are inseparable."*



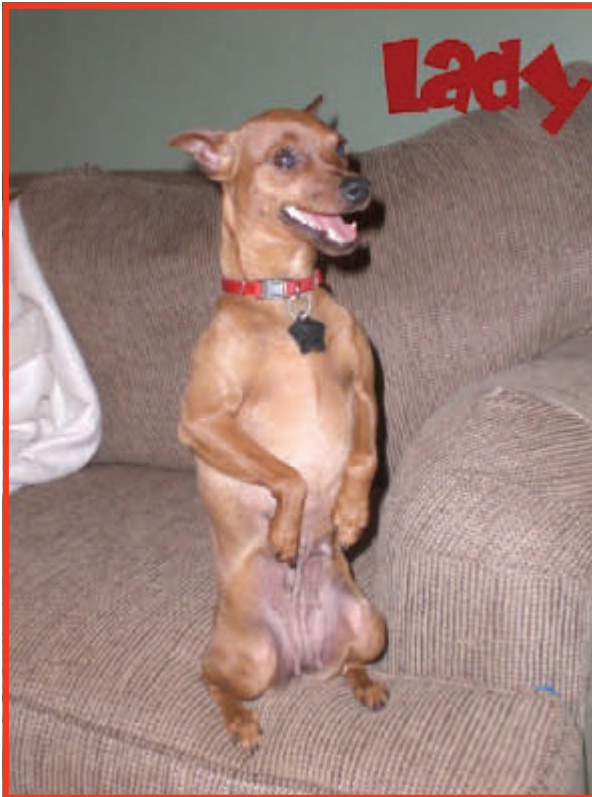
Congratulations to Holly in Canada for the adoption of SSMPR Julie!

Julie is at home resting comfortably with her sister Betty!

Thank you Holly for providing Julie a fantastic home to call her own!

# Julie

## Foster Dog "Lady" in Alabama



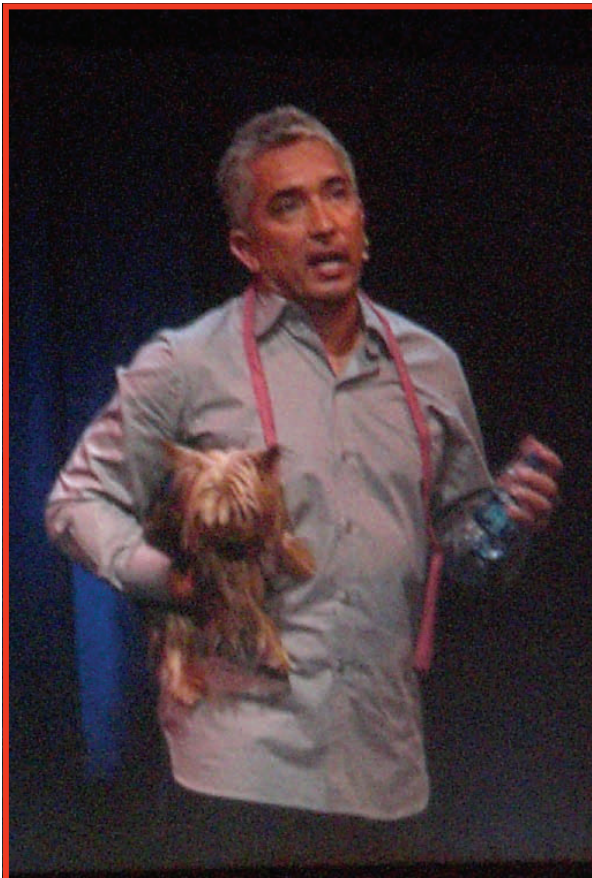
Foster mom Jenny, is wondering if Lady is really a minpin....

Is she possible a "Prairie Dog"?

Jenny says she does this all the time! LOLLOL

Below, is Jenny's Crimson modeling her new collar purchased from "Cocoa's Closet" and her "Alabama" sweater!

ROLL TIDE ROLL!



Jenny, along with a group, went to see Ceasar Milan in Atlanta.

The seminar was very enlightening and she was glad that she went.

"The classic moment was local shelter animals being brought out & none of them had "issues" except this little yorkie. And he was telling Ceasar in doggie body language that he did NOT want Ceasar messing with him. And he did what most Americans do - "awwww.... isn't he so cute?! I want to pet him!!!" (humans thinking of themselves 1st and what THEY want to do, and not what the dog wants) and the yorkie bit him!! "



*Texas Rainier*



*Michigan Tyson*



*Kentucky's Porsche*



*Washington Misty*



For more information on any of our newest foster minpins, please visit our website at [www.ssmpr.org](http://www.ssmpr.org), click on "Our Minpins", then "Adoptable Minpins".

## New Fosters

*Texas Tucker*



*Texas Nina*



*Michigan Peanut*



*Illinois Lou*



*Texas Washington*



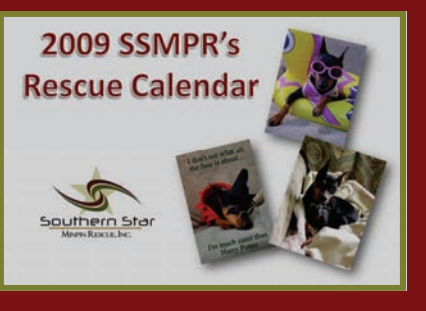


[www.forfurbabies.com](http://www.forfurbabies.com)



Don't forget to visit the SSMPR Cafepress site for all your shopping needs—proceeds directly benefit the minpins in foster care! Just click on Our Favorites—Shopping on the website at [www.ssmpr.org](http://www.ssmpr.org).

Currently, work in progress!  
Stay tuned for ordering information!

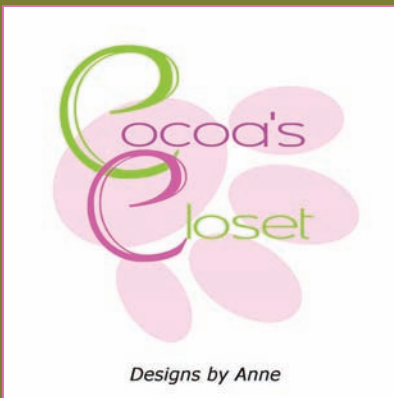


[SSMPR website www.ssmpr.org](http://www.ssmpr.org)

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100% of proceeds benefits Southern Star Minpin Rescue, Inc.—

Cocoa THANKS YOU!

