DACHSHUND Friendship Club
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MERRY CHRISTMAS!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!
The Dachshund Friendship Club (www.dachshundfriendshipclub.com) is a non-competitive club. Our purpose is to promote responsible pet guardianship, to introduce dogs and their guardians to each other, and to encourage a friendly interaction.

Dear Readers:

We’ve been running this newsletter as a labor of love since it’s inception twenty years ago. While it has never made money, for the past two years, the printing costs have run a deficit, totaling several thousand dollars. After some struggle with wanting to maintain the old school printing that the newsletter always represented, we’ve decided to shift to an all digital newsletter.

The advantage to you is that each issue will now be available in full color and can be printed out easily in color to enjoy. It will also be possible to drag photos from the full document if you wish, and print them out separately. We will include a classic vintage Dachshund postcard from our extensive archive with each issue as well. In short, while financial necessity prompted this change, it will allow us to deliver a more vivid, timely and useful document to you, our faithful readers. In addition there will be no subscription fee.

To access our web site please go to: www.dachshundfriendshipclub.com. You may send photographs of your dachsies and text by email: Our email address is: doxieking@nyc.rr.com. If you do not have access to the internet, please contact us and we’ll try to work something out.

We look forward to putting out our next issue in the new format. Until then, to all our Dachshund friends, Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Happy New Year. Wishing you all the best for the holiday season and the year ahead. See you on the Web in 2013!

—Adrian, Patrick and Waldo

Check out our website at www.dachshundfriendshipclub.com!
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Readers:
Feel free to submit articles, jokes, letters, poems, cartoons or anything of general dachshund interest.
If you wish, send an original photo (it is sometimes difficult to reproduce a Xerox) of your dog for reproduction in the newsletter. If you send a photo be sure to label the back of the photo with your name and the dog's name.

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Adele to Expand Dachsie Family

She was rarely seen without her faithful four-legged friend who she named after one of her idols.
But pop singer Adele has said she is concerned that she is neglecting her Dachshund Louie since the birth of her son.

The award-winning singer, who gave birth to hers and partner Simon Konecky’s first child in October, admitted that she is “really worried” about her pooch and thinks he might be feeling a little left out.

A source told heat magazine: “Adele is really worried about her Louie; she doesn’t want him to feel like the baby has taken over.

“Louie has always been the apple of her eye and until she gave birth she would carry him around town as though he were her baby. Adele and Simon still adore him and don’t want him to feel neglected by the arrival of their baby boy.”

So Adele, who shipped Louie across the Atlantic last year to see her in New York, has come up with a solution—get a new pet.

The insider added: “Adele wants to get another dog, so Louie can have a little friend and she’s also hired a trainer to help out.”

“Happiness is a warm puppy.” —Charles M.Schulz
Hi Adrian

I so look forward to the newsletter ... I love the readers’ letters and pictures. I wanted to send along Sasha’s holiday shot for this year. Sasha is such an incredibly sweet girl ... she is a snuggle bunny and loves to constantly be held or sit on our laps (she is a bit on the spoiled side). She is also very smart. She sits pretty and gives high fives, and shakes with both paws. She knows all her toys by name and retrieves them on command. She especially loves her foxy that has no stuffing ... she carries it with her wherever she goes. She really doesn’t beg, but she does do what we call “the stare down,” to get treats. No barking, no blinking, no flinching ... she just sits and stares us dead square in the eye just long enough for us to give in ... it always works. Sasha will be five in March ... the time has flown. She is such a joy. Thank you again for the newsletter!

Paula Grogin
Watervliet, New York

Dear Adrian:

Now that the holidays are near it reminds me of my dear sweet little Penny. I was the youngest child of three and my older brothers had gone away to school.

Shortly, thereafter my mother and father separated (they got back together five years later). I was very lonely and my mother tells me I seemed to droop.

Christmas morning I raced downstairs to see what was under the tree. After opening a few small presents I noticed something covered with a large cloth. My name was on the tag so I pulled the box from behind the tree. As I pulled the box a strange sound came from it and I jumped back. But then I pulled the cloth off and realized that it was a crate. And in the crate was a tiny smooth reddish-brown dachshund puppy. When I opened the crate this little puppy scrambled up and jumped on my lap. I almost cried she was so lovely and so tiny. That was Penny. We became bosom pals. She lived to be sixteen and passed shortly before I went to college. I never had a better friend than Penny. She filled my days and nights with joy and wonder.

After college I decided that a dachshund would fit nicely into my new life. When I met my future husband I was elated to find out that he had grown up with dachshunds. We have had dachshunds all through our married life. Our present resident dachsie is Bella. If possible she is even sweeter than Penny. I remember fondly all of the dachshunds we had had over the years. At one point we had three, one of whom was a rescue.

I feel such a great bond with all the other members of the Dachshund Friendship Club. Dachshunds create a bond that is blissful.

Sincerely,

Antoinette Bejart
Lake Charles, Louisiana
A paralyzed dachshund in England has learned to walk again after cells taken from his nose were used to bridge the breaks in his spinal cord.

Jasper, who has been unable to walk since 2008, has now been described by his owner as “whizzing around the house.”

The study offers new hope for paralyzed human beings and is the first demonstration of effective spinal cord repair in “real life” injury cases.

Professor Robin Franklin, one of the study leaders from Cambridge University, said: “Our findings are extremely exciting because they show for the first time that transplanting these types of cells into a severely damaged spinal cord can bring about significant improvement.”

For more than a decade, experts have known that olfactory ensheathing cells (OECs) might prove useful in treating damaged spinal cords.

The cells support nerve fiber growth that maintains a communication pathway between the nose and the brain.

Previous research suggests that OECs can help form a bridge between damaged and undamaged spinal cord tissue by regenerating nerve fibers.

Although the treatment had been shown to be safe in human patients, its effectiveness was unknown.

In the new trial, scientists studied 34 pet dogs that had all suffered spinal cord injuries as a result of accidents and back problems. None were injured deliberately for the sake of research.

A year or more after their injuries, the animals were unable to use their back legs to walk and incapable of feeling pain in their hindquarters.

Many of the dogs were dachshunds, which are especially prone to this type of injury. Unlike humans, dogs can suffer serious damage to their spinal cord just by having a slipped disc.

One group of dogs had OECs taken from the lining of their own noses and injected into the injury site. Another was only injected with the liquid in which the cells were suspended.

The trial was “double blind,” meaning that until the study ended neither the researchers nor the dog owners knew which animals had received the active treatment.

Significant improvement was seen in the dogs injected with OECs, but not those receiving the placebo treatment, according to the findings reported in the journal Brain.

OEC-treated dogs moved previously paralyzed hind limbs and co-ordinated the movement with that of their front legs.

However, the researchers found that new nerve connections were only generated over short distances within the spinal cord.

Prof. Franklin warned patients and their loved ones not to expect too much from the approach.

“We’re confident that the technique might be able to restore at least a small amount of movement in human patients with spinal cord injuries, but that’s a long way from saying they might be able to regain all lost function,” he said. “It’s more likely that this procedure might one day be used as part of a combination of treatments, alongside drug and physical therapies, for example.”

The scientists stress that many spinal injury patients rate a return to sexual function and continence as a higher prize than improved mobility.

Some of the dogs in the trial did regain bowel and bladder control, but the number was not sta-
California based indie music label Burger Records have come up with a musical way to raise money for animals in need of help. Earlier this year the music collective created a compilation tape featuring 50 unreleased tracks from a group of bands and musicians, the proceeds of which paid the vet bills of a kitty that was hit by a car on the freeway.

Burger Records are at it again, this time with the Wiener Dog Comp—a 71 song compilation created to raise money for Popcorn, a Dachshund in need of an operation to remove a growth from her stomach. The two-tape compilation features songs from 70 artists including The Oh Sees, Redd Kross and King Tuff. The tape costs $10 and after Popcorn’s bills are paid, the remainder of the money raised with go to American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Professor Geoffrey Raisman, chair of neural regeneration at University College, London, said, “This is not a cure for spinal cord injury in humans—that could still be a long way off. But this is the most encouraging advance for some years and is a significant step on the road towards it.

“This innovative process uses olfactory ensheathing cells taken from the dog’s own nasal lining. Their purpose is specialised for the repair of nerve fibres in the nose, and by transplanting them to the spinal cord they can do the same repair work there.

“This shows convincingly that the beneficial effects previously reported in rodents can be produced in other species.

“That is encouraging for application in human injuries. But from a clinical perspective, the benefits are still limited at this stage. This procedure has enabled an injured dog to step with its hind legs, but the much harder range of higher functions lost in spinal cord injury—hand function, bladder function, temperature regulation, for example—are yet more complicated and still a long way away.”
there’s a reason they say dogs are man’s best friend. These pets are hard-working and fiercely loyal. Over the years, we’ve trained and bred dogs to help us hunt, herd sheep, pull sleds, fight crime, guide the unsighted, and protect our homes from invaders. So it’s no wonder that, in the past, when someone wanted to send a message of friendship and devotion, they would choose a postcard featuring the image of a dog.

Luckily, for dachshund lovers, there are literally thousands of these vintage postcards featuring dachshunds still available to collectors. They range from the comic to the sad, the grand to the ignominious and a wide range of situations that depict an anthropomorphic projection of human qualities onto the dachshund. Some are drawn by highly skilled professional artists, such as the ones here by Arthur Thiele and P.O. Engelhard, and others seem to be expressions of folk art. These cards, many of them dating back to the golden age of dachshund postcards, the 1910s and 1920s—captured the same zest for life, stubbornness, humor back then that we recognize in our own dachshunds today. Today’s collectors can find postcards featuring many different breeds, but no other breed inspired the sheer number of cards that the dachshund did.

These postcards are a reminder that the dogs we love so much have been charming people for decades, maybe centuries, inspiring them to pay homage in literature and art. They prove something we all have come to know—that there really is no other dog in the world like a dachshund.
Dachshund Postcards

Dachshunds are hard-working and fiercely loyal. They hunt, herd sheep, pull sleds, and protect their homes from invaders. They're also great to send a message of earnest friendship and devotion. Over the years, we've trained and bred them to help us hunt, herd sheep, pull sleds, fight crime, guide the unsighted, and protect our homes from invaders. They're also great company. So it's no wonder that, in the past, when someone wanted to send a message of earnest friendship and devotion, they would choose a postcard featuring the image of a dog.

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"Dogs have more love than integrity. They've been true to us, yes, but they haven't been true to themselves." —Clarence Day
“It is fatal to let a dog know he is funny, for he immediately loses his head and starts hamming it up.” —P.G. Wodehouse
When True, the Dachshund, woke Katie Crosley early Sunday morning, she thought he just needed to be let out. But according to NBC-News, when Crosley opened the door to her Grady County cabin in Oklahoma, she faced a wall of flames.

Crosley and her baby son, Jace, lost everything in an house fire, but they survived thanks to a heroic and disabled dog, KFOR reports.

Crosley had no idea that an electrical short set her Grady County, Okla., cabin aflame as she slept soundly on Sunday morning, but her disabled dachshund, True, sensed the danger, according to the news outlet. The rescue dog woke his owner, and she was able to get out of the burning house with Jace.

Although Crosley lost everything in her home, she was still thankful for her miracle dog. True is not your ordinary hero pet—he is blind, deaf and only has three legs.

Katie Crosley found True as a rescue dog that nobody wanted, and now she’s glad that True is in their family.

True was able to save his family despite his severe disabilities, and he’s not the only adopted dog out there protecting his owners.

It has been a rough year so far for Katie Crosley. Her son, Jace, was born with a heart defect and spent weeks in NICU. “All of his stuff from NICU, medical records, all gone,” said Crosley. “So that’s the hardest part, having all that stuff from when he was little.”

Still, Crosley is so grateful for so many things, especially the once-unwanted Dachshund. “We’re thankful for him. This could have been a bad deal.”

The community is now pitching to help Katie, True and Jace. They set up a fund and are taking up a collection.

To help, you could mail assistance to: Chickasha Bank & Trust Company, 1924 S. 4th St, Chickasha, OK 73018.

Obie the Obese Dachshund Steadily Shrinking Away

Obie, the former 77-pound dachshund, reached another milestone this week.

According to his Facebook page, “Biggest Loser—Doxie Edition,” Obie tipped the scales at 55 pounds at his weekly weigh-in.

That brings his total weight loss to 22 pounds—an average of 1.5 pounds a week, according to his foster mom for now, Nora Vanatta.

Vanatta, a veterinary technician who volunteered to foster the dog for Oregon Dachshund Rescue, has also started an Obie store, selling, for now, Obie t-shirts.

Obie, formerly known as A.J., was surrendered by his elderly owners, who apparently didn’t know when to stop feeding him.

Vanatta immediately put him on a diet, detailing his progress on a Facebook page and getting some major media attention in the process.

In the Fall issue we wrote about Obie. What we neglected to say was that the rescue was facilitated by the Oregon Dachshund Rescue. This wonderful organization has rescued hundreds of dachshunds and at the moment has forty dogs for adoption. With the economy doing so badly, there have been many, many foreclosures in Oregon and when people lose their house they often have to surrender their dachshund.

Please check out the Oregon Dachshund Rescue Web site: www.odr-inc.org. You will find many lovely dogs pictured—and if you are so moved you can send them a donation to help them with all of their great rescue work.

“Until we stop harming all other living beings, we are still savages.” —Thomas A. Edison
WHAT YOUR DOG WOULD READ (IF HE COULD READ): There’s nothing like cuddling up with a dachshund and a good little book on a cold winter’s day, and now that the weather is getting frightful, here are three entertaining reads to share with your dog or your up and coming dachshund enthusiast. *The Dachshunds That Saved Christmas* ($17.95) by Robert Bruce Ankrom is an entertaining tale about how Santa used his favorite pets to help salvage a Christmas that almost wasn’t. John Himmelman’s *10 Little Hot Dogs* ($9.55) is a great counting and math book for little ones. And H.A. and Margaret Rey’s *Pretzel* ($7) is a doggie classic for the dachshund fan-in-training. All books can be ordered at your local bookstore or are available on Amazon.com.

A CASE FOR YOUR 2ND BEST FRIEND: What’s the next best accessory you can’t live without (after a dachshund)? Why, an iPhone of course! Protect yours in style with this hard plastic chrome back case, with aluminum plating, rhinestones and the popular Keep Calm (and love dachshunds) theme. It fits the iPhone 4S 4G and it’s just the right amount of bling. $20 on Amazon.

BE MINE: Remember those great valentines you used to give in grade school? Vincent Desjardins (Vpauld) is selling the vintage 1960s one at right on etsy.com. It’s a reproduction of the original one in his personal collection and available for $3 a piece. The original was die-cut of course, but the repros are printed on ivory paper and look very charming. There’s also a print-it-yourself version available for $1.50. Just go on etsy.com and search dachshund valentine.

SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PJS: These are the perfect jammies your dachshund needs for cold nights. They are made of a soft, stretch knit and trimmed in fleece. They are custom made for $25—you will need to send your dog’s measurements. So get out the tape measure and dress the little fashion plate. They are available from Gypsy Eyes Clothing on etsy.com—just search dachshund pajamas.

TAKE THESE WITH A GRAIN OF SALT: You’ll want to set this little romantic pair right on the table. These kissing dachshunds—a salt and pepper pair—are available for $11 on Amazon.com. Made by Westland, they’re particularly cute in their cozy little sweaters. Amazon has lots of other styles too—from golfing dachshunds to Mariachi ones to Renaissance dachshunds. Check them out.

HOT DOG ON A ROLL: Have a disabled doxie on wheels? CJ Custom Doxie Sculptures will handcraft a clay piece in the image of your dachshund—matching color, and coat to any photos you send. A percentage of the sale of each piece will go to Dodgerslist, an organization which helps educate the public about dachshunds with disc disease and buys wheelchairs for needy dogs whose owners can’t afford them. Just visit the shop on etsy.com and search “rolling dachshund.” Pieces sell for $79.

THE TRADITION CONTINUES IN KEY WEST: The 8th Annual Key West Dachshund Walk will take place on Monday, December 31, beginning at noon. The meeting place is the corner of Whitehead and Fleming Streets. No registration is required; just come and join the walk with your dachshund. Costumes are not essential but are always appreciated. Questions? Email keywestdachshundwalk@gmail.com.

“If forced to choose between romantic love and my dog, I’d sure choose my dog.” —Solangé