

Revisiting Oliver

Some readers may recall my adoption of the chocolate and tan mini-Dachshund named Oliver from Dachshund Rescue of Houston. last spring (May 23, 2010 to be precise). I drove to Houston to pick up Oliver (actually Oliver Hershey Gambler Olivier) on a beautiful spring Sunday.

I had already fallen in love with the little dog after seeing his photo and reading his story on the Rescue site. Meeting the eight and a half pound dog in person was another story. I fell even more deeply in love with him. His eyes were large and wide – he looked unlike any doxie I had ever seen before.

Stopping several times on our trip home to Dallas from Houston, it seemed that Oliver was unfamiliar with and tentative about walking on grass, gravel, concrete and other surfaces. He had been a puppy mill “studding” dog who had been apparently kept in a small wire crate for virtually his entire life – never having experienced the privilege of walking or running in the grass and certainly not being driven anywhere in a Suburban. When the breeders were “done” using Oliver, they tried to sell him at a garage sale. He landed at the SPCA of Houston and ultimately was taken in as a foster by DROH.

Oliver is truly a beloved member of our family and has adjusted beautifully to his new life with us. Not only that, but he is a celebrity in his own right – appearing on television programs, videos and at book signings. He actually made his television debut on June 2, 2010 on KDFW Fox 4 here in Dallas. He was an instant “star”. He is modest and quite humble – not really taking his celebrity status too seriously. He prefers to play, run and eat. And, yes, he has put on one and a half pounds since he’s come to live with Norm and me. He adores his siblings – especially his friend, a Tweenie sable doxie, named Oscar Willie Wilde. The two are best buds and inseparable.

Oliver truly lives up to his name (s). They represent all the “homes” he has had during his very young life. He’s only two years old. He is a highly energetic and athletic dog who loves to run, run, run in our large, park-like back yard. He is friendly, inquisitive and highly intelligent. He is also very affectionate and loving. Oliver is truly our little “man“. We are so proud of his progress!