

Divine

5 years and 3 months ago Divine, her Mother and brothers and sisters, a mix of collie and malamute, were dumped at the human society shortly after her mother gave birth. Eight weeks later I took her home. She was a happy playful puppy who had a cat and a neighbor's dog to play with. There were a couple of times she seemed to over react to situations which I attributed to insecurity. However, as her confidence grew so did her temper and moodiness. At around three years old I knew this was a serious problem but she stopped growling (grudgingly) when told "NO". Divine was a muscular 65 pounds and looked like the All American family dog.

I went on vacation and boarded her for the first time at an animal hospital that provided a boarding service. I was shocked when the doctor told me they would not board her again and that he would treat her but she couldn't come in the building. She had snapped and snarled at the kennel staff and wouldn't let anyone come near her run. They had to throw the food into the kennel to feed her. So, once a year I took her for her vaccinations and exam, sedated and muzzled. She was treated by the medical staff and doctor in the back of my hatchback vehicle. She was so vicious that the sedatives never really put her out and she still fought. The vet said she was not fully domesticated and had feral traits.

I did begin to watch her closely and noticed that she smelled everything she came in contact with. She smells her food every day before eating and her water bowl before drinking. She walks low with her head down and her face looks like a wild animal not a pet. She digs up moles from underground and hunts mice. I have seen her catch and eat a live mouse; more and more her behavior wasn't that of a family pet. By four and a half years old I had to be very careful of how I approached her because if I touched her back without warning or tried to take something from her, her eyes would go blank and she would go after me. It took persistence in calling her name to get her to realize what she was doing and then she was sorry. It's like she spaces out and when she comes back she is meek and tries to make up for being bad. She would back herself into a corner to sleep with her eyes open like a shark. I became afraid to let her around company and no longer could take her out in public on a leash. Family members, family pets and guests were always at risk of being bitten. When I felt I couldn't control her any more I decided the only responsible thing to do was to put her down, but wasn't ready to actually do it. If I was going to keep Divine, even for a short time, she had to have a rabies booster and I was trying to figure out how to get that done. I remembered a local vet named Margaret Federhart who had some alternative medical programs she was treating animals with. I contacted her and she was all about trying to help Divine with her disposition. After getting some homeopathic medicine made especially for Divine the change in her was amazing. Her face whiskers instead of lying flat stuck out and her face looked relaxed. She quit growling and snapping at the other pets in the house that had been afraid to get near her. Now she lies in the middle of the floor with the cats and dog and is playing again and even sharing toys. Dr. Federhart literally saved Divine from being destroyed by treating her with homeopathic medication. The whole family is very grateful to her and our house is once again a pleasant place for the family and pets to relax and play.

Judith Walker