

#### Havanese Rescue Inc <hri.nl.archives@gmail.com>

### March 2011 Newsletter

Havanese Rescue Inc <newsletter@havaneserescue.com> Reply-To: newsletter@havaneserescue.com To: hri.nl.archives@gmail.com Wed, Mar 16, 2011 at 7:41 PM

March 2011

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# Havanese Rescue Inc Newsletter



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#### **Adoption Corner**



Brandon in IL

Got toys?? I'm your boy! Why the question about toys? Well, to put it frankly, I love, love, love my toys. I greet my foster mom with a toy in my mouth after she's been gone (doing who knows what), and I also like to take my toys outside with me to go potty. Foster momsays I have to leave my toys inside when I go outside, but I really would just rather take them with me so I

### **Sneak Peek**

It's that time again! We have two beautiful quilts for you to win in a free drawing. We've featured one square to give you a taste of what's in store. Support rescue with a donation and you could win one of these incredible quilts. Entry details to follow next month.

Textile artist, Pat Casson is a retired elementary school teacher of 35 years and the fortunate parent of a Havanese, "Lilly-Rose," and a havachon "Blossom." Pat joined the quilt project this year and actually made a total of four blocks for our quilts and donates many lovely handmade treasures to the <a href="HavToHavIt General Store">HavToHavIt General Store</a>.

Pat volunteers at her local animal shelter in chilly Maine. She is an avid gardener. When not in the garden, she spends her days in her studio, involved in all kinds of crafts and art projects with the "girls" close at hand. Pat has won three GOLDEN TEDDY awards for her artistic mohair teddy bears.



don't miss any playtime.

Oh wait! See, I got so excited about my toys I forgot to introduce myself. My name is Brandon, I weigh 12 lbs, I'm five years old and I have the most beautiful brown eyes ask foster mom - I hear her tell people that all the time. When I stand on my hind legs to look for something, I look a little like a meerkat, but I really am a Havanese. Like most Havs. I love playing with my foster brother and getting belly rubs. We start each morning with a belly rub, I recommend the entire world start their day this way.

When I first came into foster care, I had to have something called cataract surgery. All I know is they had to do something to one of my eyes, not sure exactly what cats have to do with it. I don't even bug the cats. Anyway, because of that, I just need drops in my eye every single day. If you would like to be my family, you have to have a few things; the most important of those would be ... toys! I also need someone who can put the drops in my eye, give belly rubs and have a few toys. I mentioned toys already, huh?

Ok, toys, and maybe some older kids who can play with me and help me play with my ... toys.

### **HRI Silent Auction**

This year's annual Havanese Rescue Inc. Reception is July 21st!

The evening is 100% underwritten so 100% of the funds raised during this event go to the care of the dogs in HRI.

We are asking for items to be donated to this year's event.

We welcome ALL items: electronics, gift certificates,



Mommy's Arms

Home is in "Mommy's Arms" is a quilt block that epitomizes the sentiments of Lilly-Rose, who doesn't care where she is or what she does as long as Mommy is nearby and willing to cuddle her. We look forward to seeing this block in the HAVANESE AT HOME quilt. Blossom is just happy and eager to "go with the flow." Pat included three dogs in the block because she seems to always be puppy-sitting the neighborhood dogs and handing out homemade treats to their furry friends.

## Vivi Was Home by Bonnie Davis



Vivi Gotcha Day

With Vivi, it was immediate, she was home in my heart on April 19, 2010. A precious little four-month-old, five-pound bundle of fur, virtually immobile and with an unknown future, was placed into my arms and she leaned into me and sighed. I didn't know how much time she had left of her little life and I wanted to fill every moment with more than she'd witnessed in her first four months. Her birth defects didn't scare me -- she'd fit right into my family because we've dealt with irritable bowel disease, brain damage, seizure disorder and making difficult decisions.

As soon as she was pulled into the HRI program she required very expensive tests and specialist veterinary care. There were many difficult decisions in the beginning because statistically Vivi might not be a "good investment" for hard-earned HRI funds. Within a few days her little personality began to emerge and I could share her progress via video with HRI volunteers which gave us hope. The setbacks caused

electronics, gift certificates, jewelry (both doggie and human), dog beds, paintings, collars/leash sets, gift baskets, books, toys, to give you a few ideas.

During last year's silent auction we had over 200 donated items that raised \$10,000 in 3 1/2 hours!

Won't you please donate items for our auction and make our 2011 HRI Reception the best one yet?

Email <u>Charlene Edwards</u> for more details.

### <u>HavToHavIt General</u> <u>Store</u>



Havanese Medallion Wallet on a String

They call this a black leather wallet, but once you read its description, we think you will agree it's more of a combination of purse and wallet and so, so convenient.

Pertinent features include exterior slip-in pockets on the front and back; a nylon lined zip around double-gusset compartment with zippered divider, elastic pocket, pen loops, a detachable key fob, and a pull out mirror; another nylon-lined zip-around compartment with two double-gusset pockets, a

some sleepless nights and tears.

Vivi is so special and she has special needs. She is hydrocephalic and will require a lifetime of daily medications for brain fluid accumulation, she has several gastrointestinal disorders, her vision, at best, is only shadows in her right eye and sight in her left eye is also compromised. She won't ever have the maturity or confidence one expects from an adult Havanese. She is vulnerable and trusts that I will always be mindful of her. She adds meaning to my life and my almost six-year-old Hav, Morgan, adores her. My rewards are many, but that wagging tail is the best! At 15 months her neurosurgeon believes she'll now live a close-to-normal lifespan, managed on medication, and hopefully will not require surgical shunt insertion.

The costs of Vivi's care were considerable and I remain grateful to those who have generously made donations to HRI for the Havanese that have special needs. If you missed our February Annual Appeal, please consider making your contribution now.



Vivi now

Vivi, my little superviviente (survivor), hopes to see all of you at Nationals in July!

Photos were taken on Vivi's first Gotcha day, April 19, 2010 (then and now).

#### **Letter From Home**



pads.

This is Holly sending warm greetings from my new furever home. My brother Ozzie and I walk our dad every day. My job is to make sure there are no rabbits anywhere near the vicinity of our happy home. I keep my nose to the ground, sniffing those pesky rabbits out, making sure they know I'm on the watch for them. I'm very proud of myself for protecting my family from those evil bunnies. Usually when we get home, we go cool our paws in the pool. I'm not much of a swimmer - it messes up my hair - but I do like to get in to cool my

double-gusset pockets, a zippered divider, a slip-in pocket, eight card slots, a pen loop, two clear identification card holders and a removable checkbook holder with a clear identification slot.

Dimensions: 8 1/2" wide by 5" high by 1 1/2" deep. Detachable 57" nylon strap with brass hardware.

Medallion size: 2 1/4" wide by 1 3/8" high.



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Once in awhile I go to the hair cuttin' place. The lady who does my hair says I'm her best small dog client because I'm so patient. My crate is still around if I want to go hang out in there, but usually I just jump in bed with my new family and sleep with them at night.

I love to ride in the car and get to go with my mom or dad often. There are lots and lots of toys for me, and if I didn't get to go with them in the car, I greet Mom or Dad with a toy in my mouth because I know they've missed me and can't wait to play. They enjoy giving me carrot chips for treats, and I take them willingly (another reason to keep away the evil bunnies - I hear they might steal my carrots).

Thank you HRI for rescuing me and for finding my perfect furever home. I am truly a happy, loyal, playful little girl now.

Kisses from Home, Holly

### "Georgia Four" Update



Pasha -- Overweight

Weight. Big sigh. Many of us struggle with weight in one way or another. We all know the health related issues that come from being overweight, but do we consider this when it comes to the feeding and care of our dogs? Remember the "Georgia Four"? They were dearly loved by their owner who made the painful decision to relinquish them to HRI after realizing she could not care for them. When Latte, Scarlett Tara, Pasha and Suri went to their foster homes, at the top of the "to do" list was providing a healthy diet. Of the four, Latte was the only one who wasn't overweight, while the other three definitely needed to shed some pounds and they all needed a healthier diet.

Obesity in dogs can lead to many of the same illnesses humans face. The most prevalent risk factors include diabetes mellitus, hip and joint diseases such as dysplasia and arthritis along with torn ligaments in knees. Add to that list heart disease and increased blood pressure, difficulty breathing, decreased stamina, heat intolerance, decreased liver function, increased risk of cancer, digestive concerns, and ultimately a decreased quality and length of life.

The trick to decreasing obesity in dogs is a healthy diet and exercise. Sound familiar? Fortunately, we can easily regulate what and how much our dogs eat. In their original home, the "Georgia Four" ate from one

Make A Donation



big bowl and their kibble was supplemented with hot dogs. Without a doubt, they were in hog heaven, but their diet needed to be a bit healthier if they were going to get to a more appropriate weight.

Scarlett Tara's regimen included walks, up to two miles a day on some days. She was put on a quality food that was measured out daily. If she didn't seem interested in what was offered that day, there wasn't anything added to increase the likelihood that she would eat all of her meal. Thus far, she has lost three pounds, with one pound to go. With Suri, it was tough to find something she would eat. The first time she was given a grain-free treat from her foster mom, she took it and then promptly spit it out. After a few dry runs, she finally seemed to like a grain-free non-beef, kibble with a teaspoon of canned beef to give her that familiar hot dog taste. She also ran with the other pups in the home and walked two miles a day. Her coat began to shine and she became more playful. She lost a total of three and a half pounds. The "biggest loser" of them all was Pasha. Her weight loss plan included a change to a prescription diet, as recommended by her vet. That diet was supplemented with peas, green beans and baby carrots were her special treat. She loved her new diet. She lost five to six pounds while in foster care.



Pasha -- Fit and Trim with Daddy

All of the "Georgia Four" are happier and healthier as a result of the revised diet and exercise plans that they received in foster care. Their furever homes are continuing to provide excellent care to prevent a return to an unhealthy lifestyle.

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