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## President's Message

2019 is off to a great start for HRI! Our beautiful, new, user-friendly website has launched, thanks to the efforts of so many of our volunteers and Dan Walker at Top Business Webs! Our Jen Jablonski spent hours on many other tasks that baffle the non-techy among us.

The number of dogs being surrendered to HRI is definitely up again! In order to find placement for them, we need an available pool of foster, foster-to-adopt homes, as well as state contacts. Thankfully, we have been processing new volunteers, but certain parts of the country are underserved. Our new ability to fly dogs via the Delta Connection and other rescue flight venues, makes short term fostering, two weeks, an option for some foster homes and is required to meet flight criteria.

Please consider volunteering to foster or recruit your dog friends and family. The rewards of placing a dog whose life was turned upside down are heartwarming! You will be amazed how your own dogs help the "new kid" adapt and feel secure.

We want 2019 to be a celebration of the 15 years HRI has been incorporated, culminating in the birthday bash at the HCA National Specialty in Las Vegas, October 14-19, 2019. Please join us for the fun, especially if you have never attended a specialty in the past. More information will follow.

With gratitude for all you do for HRI and our pups,  
Mary Richling, President  
Havanese Rescue Inc

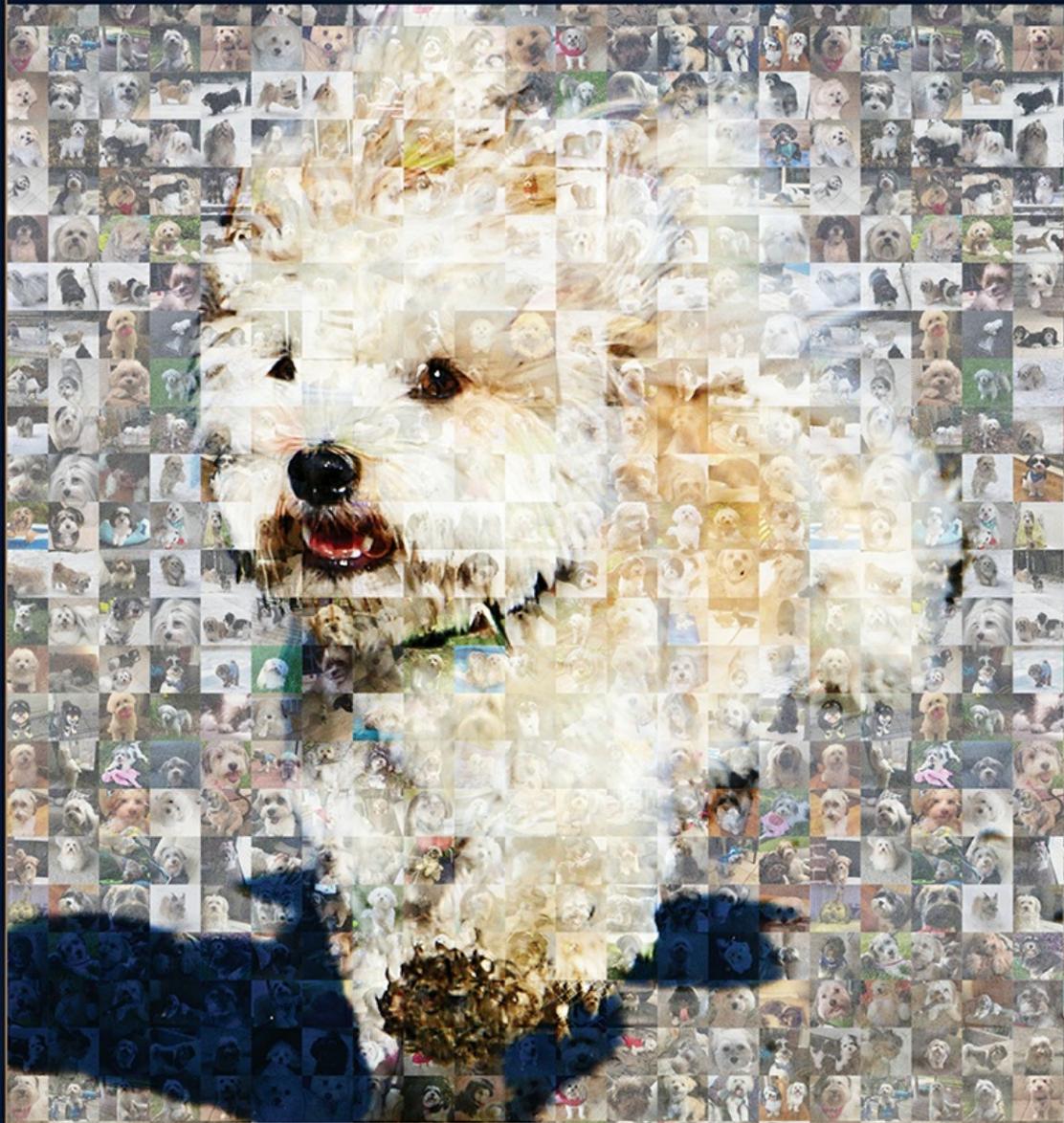
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HAVANESE RESCUE INC.  
IS TURNING 15!



JOIN US FOR A BIRTHDAY BASH AT THE  
HCA SPECIALTY IN LAS VEGAS, OCT 14-19

*Celebrating 15 Years of lucky pups!*



### **The Puppy Mill Conundrum**

You may call them puppy mills, backyard breeders or hoarders, but no matter what we label them, dog breeding facilities that are in the business of pumping out as many puppies as possible, as often as possible, follow a familiar pattern. Whether they have an assortment of breeds in their kennels or "specialize" in just a couple of the newest and most popular breeds and/or "designer breeds" - after a dog has outlived its usefulness as breeding stock, they look for a way to dispose of that stock. Brokers and auction houses facilitate these sales, thereby creating a market and making matters worse!

Many show breeders often rehome their retired show dogs; however, these breeders have done their best to keep their dogs in top condition, had all of the recommended health tests and vaccinations performed by their veterinarians or at kennel club health clinics while on the show circuit. They strive to find the best homes for their dogs and will contractually obligate an adoptive family to return the dog if they are unable to provide for it properly. I applaud these breeders for their diligence in maintaining their breed standards, but there can be some rotten apples in that barrel too.

As we all know, conditions at puppy mills are abhorrent. The dogs are kept in filthy, cramped cages/kennels, they have little human contact and the puppies are marketed to pet stores, online outlets and others who have no interest in anything but financial gain. It is very hard to see pictures and

hear stories about these abused dogs. Our hearts go out to these poor creatures (the dogs, not the breeders!) and we will do anything we can to rescue them from these awful conditions.

However; this is the "conundrum", how can I provide a rescue for these little ones without creating a market for the mills to sell their overstock? These are the hard realities of the rescue business. I want to save these poor animals from their horrid existence. My heart bleeds for them and I cry for those suffering animals. After much deliberation and late-night arguing with my nagging conscience, I finally understand the HRI policy that prohibits the organization from participating in puppy mill auctions or purchasing any Havanese from a breeder or broker. I am in complete agreement with these policies.

I am saddened by how easily one can be drawn into the guilt trip that some organizations use to market their dogs. If we don't support them through donations, we close the market and may drive some unscrupulous breeders out of business.

But what about the pups already out there? This is the question each of us must answer for ourselves. I would like to encourage and challenge each of us to seriously think about ways we can be better stewards of the Havanese breed. Keep the dialog going and we may make the world a better place, "one dog at a time".

Rick McCue - HRI Volunteer

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### ***"I'm good enough, I'm smart enough, and doggone it — I can be alone"*** ***Dealing with Separation Anxiety and Lack of Confidence***

Have you ever watched Stuart Smalley's Daily Affirmations on Saturday Night Live? He would end his segment by saying, "I'm good enough, I'm smart enough, and doggone it people like me." This is definitely an attitude that is inherent to well-bred Havanese. In an ideal world, all of our dogs would have this self-confidence. However, life is not always easy and even a stable Havanese can be thrown for a loop when his life is suddenly changed. Transitions can be hard on dogs. Dogs coming into foster care or going to a new adoptive home are dealing with huge changes in their lives. In addition, they may not have had the benefits of good breeding and early socialization programs. Sometimes this can manifest as separation anxiety, lack of desire to engage in play or even grumpiness. A resilient dog will be able to handle the everyday challenges of life, whether this is going to a new home, welcoming a new family member, traveling, or a change in work schedule. Fortunately, there is a number of things that we can do to build resiliency and self-confidence in dogs.

**Independence** - Helping a dog to develop more independence won't make him less snuggly or loving. However, it will help him handle being alone while you are at work or running errands.

- You can build independence by giving your dog some alone time even when you are home. If your dog has separation anxiety, this may mean having your dog in the room with you, but not on your lap. For example, your dog is in a puppy pen—and can see you, but is not right next to you. Think of alone time as "spa time":
  - Provide a comfortable place for your dog to hang out (eg, puppy pen or crate). Work on making this a fun place for the dog to go. Susan Garrett's "Crate Games" is wonderful for this.
  - Give him special chews that he only gets in his special place. Ask your dog to go to his special place and then give him the chew once he is inside. Bully sticks, Kongs with peanut butter smeared inside and Himalayan chews are a few examples of highly valued chew treats.
  - Play calming music. Studies have shown that heart rate will adjust to the tempo of the music. Slow, calming music can help a dog to relax. You can buy "Through a Dog's Ear" or create your own playlist. I created a Pandora station that has lots of Michael Buble, The Canadian Tenors, Josh Groban.
  - Provide an item of your clothing for your dog to snuggle. While the item does not need to be smelly and covered in sweat, it should be something that you've recently worn and have not washed.

**Self-confidence** – A dog who is comfortable in his own skin is less likely to have separation anxiety. There are many fun ways to increase a dog's self-confidence.

- Training methods
  - Set your dog up for success when training. Focus on what you want your dog to do rather than what you want him to stop doing. Use positive reinforcement when teaching your dog new behaviors. Punishment can increase anxiety in dogs, whereas, having clear rules and rewarding the behavior we want, builds confidence and reliable performance.
  - Teaching your dog to think for himself and improve his problem-solving skills will show him that he has some control over his environment and improve his self-confidence. Clicker training (<https://www.clickertraining.com/whatis>) is ideal for this. A marker (typically a clicker) is used to let the dog know when he is performing the desired behavior. After he hears the marker, he receives a treat. He learns that offering the desired behavior gets him a reward. It is quite fun for the dog to figure out exactly what to

do in order to get you to click and then give him a treat. This method can be used to incrementally teach complicated behaviors (eg, put away your toys) or to capture simple behaviors such as sit or down.

- Enrichment Activities
  - Puzzle toys – start simple and increase the difficulty as your dog solves the puzzle. There are many excellent puzzle toys on the market or you can make your own. My dogs love trying to shake treats out of a plastic bottle that is stuffed with treats and newspaper
  - Nosework – Formal nosework classes are being offered in many cities. The dog learns to use his sense of smell to locate specific odors. In addition, there are many fun ways to incorporate nosework into your daily life. For example, hide treats (or yourself!) and have your dog find them. Most dogs thoroughly enjoy rooting around for treats in a snuffle mat (<https://youtu.be/qqtw1KJHlmc>).
  - Agility or other activities that your dog enjoys.
  - Parkour – don't have agility equipment or looking for some adventure on daily walks? Try Parkour (<https://www.dogparkour.org/parkour-description>), a type of urban agility. Dogs can build confidence by interacting with natural obstacles that they encounter on walks. My dogs think they are hot stuff when they climb onto a large rock or use a parking barrier as a balance beam. As with anything we do with our dogs, safety, positive and put safety first.
  - Positively socializing your dog and conditioning him/her to a variety of environments and types of people will also build confidence
- Structure – add structure and set routines so that your dog knows what to expect and when. Adding predictability to their daily life will help them deal with the transition and decrease their overall stress level.
  - Set times for walks, feeding, play, training
  - Have set rules and consistently enforce them. These can be very easy rules, for example, sit and wait while I open the door for you to leave your crate or go outside, sit before you get your dinner, do something before you get a treat, only come onto the couch when you are invited. Consistency is the key here. The dog will gain confidence if he knows what to expect.

There are many other ways to build confidence and resiliency in your dog. We would love to hear your ideas! If your foster or newly adopted HRI dog needs behavioral assistance, please contact your State Contact and the Dog Management Team.

Gail Czarnecki, KPA CTP, Certified Fear Free Professional, Havanese Rescue volunteer

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Havanese Rescue Inc. has been issued a \$497.65 donation last quarter from the AmazonSmile Foundation as a result of AmazonSmile program activity between October 1 and December 31,

[Click Here For Amazon Smile](#)



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### Letters From Home - Gracie

My name is Gracie, and I think I'm one lucky little gal! After escaping the clutches of coyotes twice and then losing my loving mom, I've ended up in the most fun doggie household in Scottsdale, Arizona.

Of course, my new mom and dad, Susie and Tom Glynn, think they're the lucky ones—and who am I to argue with that? Susie says they "love me to pieces and that I am the best snuggle bug ever!"

We've been a family since July 15, when I joined them and my new Havanese brother, Brinkley. They wanted Brinkley to have an older buddy (I'm 12, and Brinkley is 14) after his brother Gilligan passed away. Susie says it's as if Gilligan has



come home again because I'm so much like him in my smaller size, eating habits, romping, bathing and cuddling.

Gracie's first Christmas

Brinkley showed me how to use the ramp up to the bed and the doggie door when Susie and Tom are at work. When they come home, I love to cuddle with them, and Brinkley and I give Tom lots of face kisses. Susie taught me how to shake and give a high five, and I'm just learning how to give Brinkley a hug too!

I especially like my morning and afternoon walks and am the leader of the pack for those! I love my squeaky toys, and Brinkley is showing me how to open the Bark Box that comes every two months. I know Brinkley is a super present opener because Susie said one year he opened up all the Christmas presents while she and Tom were away from the house.

Susie and Tom take me and Brinkley everywhere, and I really enjoy riding in my car seat and going to see other members of the family and their friends. I was even in a fashion show with Brinkley and Susie last fall. And this coming summer, all four of us are going on a road trip to California. Can't wait!

I am VERY VERY happy in my new home, and Susie and Tom say they are so very thankful and blessed to call me part of their family.



Gracie (right) and brother Brinkley shoe shopping at the mall



Gracie with her new family Susie, Tom and brother Brinkley

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### Stormy and Kizzy Fund



Stormy and Kizzy were two puppies that came into HRI needing life-saving surgeries. HRI was quick to act and set up a Go Fund Me page to help defray the costs for their surgeries. Sadly, Stormy passed away before he could receive his PDA surgery and Kizzy passed away during surgery to help repair a liver shunt. Because of this tragic turn of events, HRI was left with some unused funds. The HRI board voted to create The Stormy & Kizzy Fund. This fund will be used for "Life Changing - Major Medical Intervention" for pups taken in by HRI. We at HRI were tremendously saddened by this series of events, but look forward to be able to help pups that need our assistance.

### Changing Lives

"Jack of all trades!" That describes Donna Rotoloni, our past vice president and president for two terms, current past president, chair of the

Quilt Committee, member of the DMT, F2A Adoption Committee, dog transporter, house checker, mentor, help mate, social media wizard..... the exhausting list goes on!

Those of us who regularly communicate with Donna know of her twisted relationship with Siri and Spell Check. Who else can talk on the phone, be texting and composing an email while grooming a dog or whipping up a fabulous dessert?

Donna is the hu mom of Vera, Rosa, Swiffer and Luna, her harem of Havanese beauties. David, her husband, has to have the patience of Job. Donna is the proud mother of three grown children, Mike, Rebecca and Christina and the delighted grandma of Ellie, 6 yrs old and twins, Owen and Ian, who will be two this spring.

Working with Donna is always upbeat and fun! Her years as a middle school teacher serve her well as she helps navigate the complexities of running a large volunteer rescue organization. A friend you can count on who shares our passion for Havanese in need.

Thank you Donna for all your hard work and for being you!



Donna and foster dog Mimi



Donna's Girls

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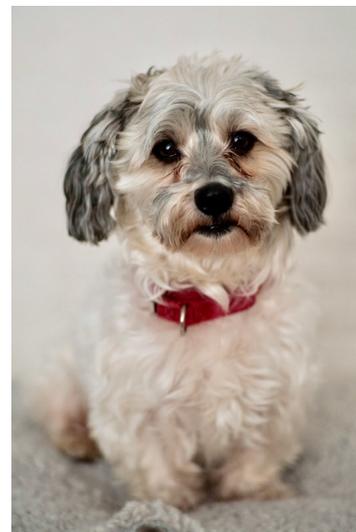
### Adoption Corner - Bentley

Somebody call the talent scout! Bentley is ready for the stage. This darling four-year-old Havanese recently came to his foster home where he's quickly showed his many skills and tricks. He knows the following commands and performs them perfectly: sit, lay down, stay, speak, dance, play dead ("bang, bang"), roll over, shake, high five, and back up. When he's in a playful mood, he loves to be near people and get pets, belly rubs and snuggles. This 14.6 pound boy is also house trained, crate trained and leash trained.

Bentley is very energetic and loves to play fetch endlessly. He's super fast and loves to race around the backyard with his fur siblings and humans. He's very smart and alert and will let you know when people are at the door or if he needs to go out to play or go potty.

Bentley is getting along with his three Havanese foster fur-siblings but would be just fine as an only dog with someone who is home much of the time. He's unsure around some dogs. It's unknown how he is around cats.

A guy as charming and smart as Bentley has a



need for alone time or, as his foster mom refers to it, “me time.” When he’s in this mood, Bentley does not want to be touched or picked up. He will growl and show his teeth when approached and will sit away from everyone enjoying his “me time.” He does not have a history of biting, but his cues should be respected. Bentley never likes his collar touched, which might be an effect of the shock collar his original owners used. Bentley also displays separation anxiety and will “cry” when left alone. He loves to follow his person around the house and is a true velcro dog in his happy mood. During his “me time,” however, he is definitely not a velcro dog and relishes his privacy.



Because of his behavioral quirks, Bentley needs an experienced home with adults or children over 12 who respect his boundaries and learn his cues. He will do best with someone who is home much of the day. He loves working off his energy running in a fenced backyard, getting out his zoomies. He does well in a car and loves to go for a ride. A road trip might be just the way for him to bond with his new family.



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## Reflections on Foster Placement - The Forgotten Heroes

As I reflect on today’s transfer of foster Kiki to her new family, I am reminded, and humbled, by the help my canine family members have given to assist with this successful event. There’s extra work by us humans when we take on an additional pup but the rewards are well worth it. I do wonder what rewards my pups Tim, Mae and Lucy get out of helping a pup in need.

Yes, they are Havanese so their friendliness and acceptance don’t come as a surprise. I’m pretty sure, however, my pups don’t get the same satisfaction I do helping my fosters get to their great homes. I sit here now pondering why my pups are so willing to share their home, their humans, and sometimes their beds with these pups that come and go. Their unconditional acceptance of these fosters is most likely the secret ingredient that helps these foster pups acclimate so quickly to home life regardless of their varied past. I likely will never know the reason my dogs are willing to be part of fostering but I will always be grateful to them for their acceptance of these needy souls.

As we all settle in tonight, without Kiki, there is a sense of calmness. This calmness of just “our pack” shows me there is a dynamic change that happens when we bring a new pup into our pack. This calmness is a beautiful thing. Yes, I’m sad that Kiki is not here on my lap, but this sacred time together, with just my pack, gives us all the time to rest up and re-energize so we are ready to help the next pup that comes our way. Fostering is a team effort here between canines and human family members.

Please consider fostering. There are so many more pups out there that HRI can help. As humans we have many different reasons for our decision to foster. Topping the list of reasons that I foster are the tangible rewards I get seeing the final process. The new friendships I have gained, both human and canine, through this process are priceless.

If you are on the fence about fostering, I can assure you it will be one of the most rewarding and unforgettable experiences you will ever have. Contact me, and I’ll be happy to share my fostering experiences and hopefully encourage you to take the plunge.

Jen Jablonski  
jenniferjablonski@havanerescue.com



### **CONTACT INFORMATION LINKS**

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Click to complete [adoption application](#)

Click to [volunteer](#) with Havanese Rescue.

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