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President's Message

A Thanksgiving Tribute to our HRI Supporters and Volunteers

"Strong lives are motivated by dynamic purposes; lesser ones exist on wishes and inclinations."

--Kenneth Hildebrand

I swear Kenneth Hildebrand was thinking of all of you when he wrote that quotation!

Whether you support HRI through donating to our Annual Appeal, shopping at our new HRI store, bidding on our fabulous quilts at the Quilt Auction in August, or letting us know you care by participating in any of our special fund-raisers, we appreciate you all SO much. HRI has been able to help an ever-increasing number of dogs because you've been there to help us pay for health testing, surgeries, medications, and hospital stays for foster dogs before they're ready to go "home."

To our volunteers—I am convinced there are no bigger hearts or more caring people than those who share their time, talents, and love with HRI. From our many committee members and chairs, to our "play date" hosts, dog transporters, belly-band creators, dog-IDers, quilters, public educators, home visitors, reference checkers, behavior and medical specialists, Board of Directors members, and foster families, YOU are the reason for the hope in each new HRI foster's eyes.

If I could, there would be a special flower at each of your places at the Thanksgiving table this year. That flower would come to you from the many, many families you have helped to keep their dogs and the 65 foster dogs, so far, you have loved and supported through HRI this year. We are blessed to have you all!

Through your thoughtfulness and generosity, I have learned much of life's philosophy. Thank you sincerely.

~ Jane Hohne
President, HRI

[DATE]

Adoption Corner

CeCe Loving Life in Illinois



Nine years can seem like a lifetime to you and I. For CeCe that lifetime was spent in a puppy mill where she produced one litter of puppies after another before being discarded. Now, at 9 years of age, she is learning what it's like to be a beloved family pet while living in her foster home in Illinois. She thinks it's great!

Little CeCe loves being picked up and held. It's like she's soaking up human attention that she didn't get the first 9 years of her life. She's doing well on her house training and is learning about great chew treats like bully sticks, walking on a leash (she's very good at this!) and ear rubs. She loves having other dogs around her and would do best in a family with at least one other dog.

Like many dogs from a mill, CeCe is startled by quick movements. She is increasing her trust of people though and will now take a treat out of her foster mom's hand. She likes to run

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Get [Tyler Turkey](#)
to Gobble at your pets!

Don't forget to add
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so you may continue to receive
The HRI Newsletter

with it back to her very own dog bed where she eats the delicacy. It's the best of all worlds, in CeCe's view -- a delicious treat from someone she trusts and the ability to eat it in clean and comfortable place that is just for her, her very own dog bed.

CeCe goes up to visitors and sniffs them. She also accepts pets from them as long as they don't lean over her. This is frightening to CeCe. She is going to be a wonderful addition to the lucky family that is chosen to adopt her. This little girl is sure to steal your heart but have no fear...she'll share hers with you and it's a beauty.

Isabella



Adorable Isabella, listed in the October Newsletter, is still looking for her forever home.

To learn more about adopting these wonderful Havanese, please click on [adoptions](#)



"The Hipsters" —Skeeter and Henry

By Lu Wyland

HRI gets calls for help with special needs Havanese at an increasing rate. The economy is having a negative impact on families' abilities to care for the dogs they purchased.

Skeeter was returned to the pet store after he was found to have bilateral hip dysplasia. Unfortunately, he was left untreated for so long that his muscles atrophied significantly and both femoral heads became necrotic. He needed a femoral head osteotomy on both legs to have any chance at a normal life. This puppy's pain was so great before surgery that he was on narcotic pain relief throughout the day. He was totally unable to use his rear legs. An enterprising pup, Skeeter learned to walk on his front legs. He so wants to be a part of life!

Days after Skeeter had his surgery, HRI was contacted about a Havanese left in a shelter with Legg Calve Perthes. Henry, too, needs a femoral head osteotomy, though his need is related to one leg only.

Skeeter and Henry's paths crossed not only medically, but quite literally! Both are in the same foster home in WA state. Henry is an affectionate lap sitter who LOVES his walks on a leash. He thinks the backyard is just a space between him and an outside adventure. He lived on his own, judging from the info shared with the shelter and his totally matted condition. (Even his eyes were matted.) Henry is a chewer extraordinaire! Toys, leashes, harnesses, bully sticks, and the ears and appendages of his foster siblings are all fair game to Henry!

Skeeter went into surgery very compromised, so his road to recovery will be longer. He still has a fair amount of pain, which is managed with medication. He has undergone water therapy and exercises to help him regain use of his hind legs. Skeeter loves having his ears and neck rubbed. His foster mom, HRI president Jane Hohne, says that it's clear that Skeeter wants to join in play with the other Havanese in his foster family. His foster dad built him a ramp so he can move more easily from inside the house to outdoors. When he's allowed on the ramp with close supervision, Skeeter takes joy in being able to get himself in and out of the house. Both he and Henry will make wonderful pets for the right family very soon. We're glad that HRI is able to help them take steps toward that life.



Please Consider Being a Foster!

By Lori Brostrom

Pop quiz—what qualifications do you need to foster dogs for HRI?

- A. Skills to rival Cesar Millan
- B. A huge fenced-in yard and nothing but time on your hands
- C. A big heart, some patience, some free time, and a basic knowledge about dogs

If you answered "C" you may be just who we're looking for! If you read this newsletter, you know that HRI has never been in greater need of fosters for the increasing number of dogs we hear about daily. You also probably know—and care—enough about dogs to be a good foster, or know people who would be.

Contrary to what many potential fosters may fear, the HRI intake committee excels at placing dogs in the right foster homes. Some dogs have special needs, and require more experienced fosters. However, most dogs just need a good, stable home where they can work through minor issues, be assessed so they can find the right forever home, and re-establish the confidence that they're valued and well taken care of. Many need to be around other dogs, while a few need to be the only dog. Some need socialization, and others will fit right into your pack. Some need to be taught manners or housetrained, and others are or will quickly become model canine citizens. The committee makes sure there's a good fit between the dog's needs and your skills and home situation.

As a foster, you're never left on your own, and there's a lot of support—emotionally, monetarily, and in practical terms. HRI and its network of volunteers are there to help and advise, if needed, at every step along the way. Your commitment is to be flexible and sensitive to the needs of the foster dog, and to be willing to devote enough time for play, exercise,

snuggling, and basic guidance and training as long as the dog is in your home.

The big heart comes in handy all along, but especially at the end, when you've done your job well enough to know it's time to turn your foster dog over to its perfect forever home, and be grateful and happy that you've been able to make such a difference in one little life. In turn, you'll be part of a growing community of Hav lovers and former foster dogs who will be forever grateful to you!

Please consider fostering a rescue dog. For some, it may not be the right time in your life due to a demanding job, issues with other pets or family caregiving obligations, or unwilling family members. Even if your family situation is right, you're under no obligation to foster at any time, but it's important for HRI to have as many approved fosters as possible across the country in case the right dog comes up at the right time. To learn more about fostering, please visit the [HRI website](#) and click

on "Volunteering" in the left-hand column, and then on "About Fostering Dogs." Thank you for considering this—from every rescue Hav past, present, and future!



The HRI Volunteer Committee...An Interview With Ursula Bassolino

By Suzy McQuown

Who comprises the HRI Volunteer Committee? It is a group of three people: Pat Potter, Peggy Baird, and Ursula Bassolino, plus a group of dedicated "processors"—the astute people who assess applicants to determine how they will fit in as members of the winning team of HRI volunteers. There are other temporary members from the Board and also some State Contacts, who work on a part-time basis. Listing the entire group would take up too much room, but each and every member is greatly appreciated.

What do they do? They make many phone calls to applicants and their references and, along the way, create a profile of the new volunteer. Once that information is completed, members of the committee team up with a board member to evaluate the data and discuss approval. Following the okay by the committee, the new volunteer receives a welcome with details about membership, an invitation to the volunteer e-mail list, and in the case of a foster home, a home evaluation. Their contact information is posted to the interactive HRI Roster, one of the most important tools we have in our rescue.

Does the committee's involvement with new members end at approval? No. Although the committee's primary task is to "vet" new volunteers, they continue to remain available to the new members should they need help navigating within our rescue, since we are the first "faces" of HRI.

What has the committee been up to of late? We have processed 32 wonderful new volunteers for HRI since early summer, and are working on sixteen more. In closing, I would like to add the following: "We are so fortunate to have such exceptional people who want to work together to save our special dogs that are in need."

Thank you so much to Urs, as well as to all of the Volunteer Committee members, for your incredible commitment to the volunteers and the dogs of HRI!



Changing Lives — Suzy McQuown

By Stacy DeJoseph



Angels are among us. They are everywhere, doing wonderful, creative work. Some are well-known and familiar, others quiet and reserved. They bless our dogs, enrich our organization, and make us better. One of these cherished angels is Suzy McQuown.

Suzy is a woman with a beautiful soul, impossible not to love. She possesses a grace, warmth, intellect, and kindness that seems to radiate from within. Expecting nothing in return, she simply goes about her business, working hard and sharing her many abilities and talents. She is a writer extraordinaire and a favored wordsmith to many. (I was quaking in my shoes to think that I would be writing an article about Suzy). Aside from being a regular contributor to our newsletter, she also helps with editing and proofing of other newsletter pieces. Those of you who contributed to the Annual Appeal got to see, firsthand, another of Suzy's fine works. She created, printed, and personally wrote a thank you card to every Annual Appeal donor. Since then, she has taken on the additional responsibility of handwriting notes of appreciation to donors who contribute to our organization throughout the year. When asked to be of help with HRI's new online store, she readily agreed and went right to work. Suzy is a doer.

Ben, Suzy's son, is following very closely in his mother's footsteps in being of service to others. This young man was bar mitzvahed this past spring and, as a part of that process, was asked to perform a number of good deeds. One of Ben's chosen deeds was to produce a new video, dedicated to our many volunteers. "The Special Needs Dogs of HRI" is a beautiful tribute. We are very grateful to Ben for honoring these dogs.

Suzy is one of our treasures. She gives of her time and always shows us about gifts of the heart. We are very thankful that she is one of us.



Havanese Forum Donations are Welcomed by HRI

By Laurie Frangione

As a new member of HRI, I decided that I wanted to help. Besides waiting for a foster pup to come my way, I had hoped to help in another way. After several discussions with Jane Hohne, we agreed that I would take the position of East Coast Supply person. My first challenge was to find a way to stock my cabinet. You certainly cannot be a supply person without supplies!

Two years ago I came across the Havanese Forum. I was getting my third Havanese and decided to join, to talk to people who enjoy this wonderful breed as much as I do. I got much more than conversation! I made fast friends who I can rely on for information, emotional support and, most recently, their kindness.

I put out a request to these wonderful people to consider donating harnesses, leads, toys, blankets, and anything they felt would help the pups who come through our rescue program. Well, the response was incredible! Within weeks I was receiving packages delivered on a daily basis, filled with tons of goodies for HRI from my Forum friends.



I received 56 homemade belly bands, homemade blankets, and packages full of new harnesses and toys, beds, clothing

—everything to help our foster families make their pups' new lives better. That was only in the first few weeks. Although my closet is full now, it will not be long before the supplies will dwindle as we get more and more rescues in. I know for sure that the next time I put out a plea to help our rescues, the Havanese Forum members will rise to the occasion!

I don't quite know how to properly thank my Forum friends who have helped me fill my closet. But, I certainly wanted all to know how wonderfully generous they are!



Letters from Home—Belle



This story definitely sounds like another one of those “meant to be” tales, but somehow I do believe in miracles now that I’ve found my forever home... God just stays anonymous.

My name is Belle and I’m just about 11 lbs. of white fluff with the “face of a baby seal,” so I’m told. I’m six, and have finally found the nicest, most comfortable place to grow old! I was staying in Florida with the Perlmutter (also a most wonderful place to be, by the way!) when they took me for a ride to meet my potential forever parents. It was love at first sight. Pat and Frank were vacationing in Florida and drove to meet us. They talked quietly and gently to me and whispered that I would have a fur-sister named Caliente (Cali). They told me they had two children of their own (older boys, Frank and Adam). It would be the perfect home! I agreed! Yes!

I needed some surgery on my left knee before all the final arrangements could be made. I kissed and hugged Jody and Paula and stayed with a nice family, the Donners, in Virginia. My second surgery went very well and I was ready to travel to New Jersey. Pat and her friend, Marcie, made the trip to pick me up. That was also a sad day, saying good-bye to such nice people again, even though I was looking forward to meeting Cali and seeing my new home.

I traveled well and after some hours was greeted by so many new people. The best part was meeting my sister, Cali. She’s so nice to me, but wants to “play”—something I’m not sure about. Well, I knew I’d learn. My new backyard is just fabulous! I love being outside and exploring—there’s a bird feeder, a pool, and a deck. Wow! I chase squirrels, lie in the sunshine, and just have fun sniffing and prowling among the flowers. Pat and Frank (I call them Mom and Dad now) made this great doggie door for Cali and me to go in and out. I like it a lot more than she does. I’m much more independent! Mom always watches, though, and lots of times calls me in if she sees me rolling in something or hanging out under the bird feeder! (Somehow the birds don’t come when I do that...)

I’ve enclosed several photos so you can see my new sister and me! I’m very lucky—I sleep on the bed (no more crate) with Mom, Dad, and Cali, and they say they are lucky, too! Thank you Havanese Rescue, I love you!

Belle



"Wouldn't You Like to be a Pepper too?"

Pepper (featured in the newsletter header wearing the headdress 😊) answers a definite yes to being a "Pepper." He loves his new life and the "Dr. Pepper," song his foster mom sings to him.



Little more than a year old, this adorable Havanese came to HRI after being donated by someone who got him out of an auction. He came to rescue unfamiliar with living inside a home or having regular human contact. He was known by an ID number, not a name. All that changed when Pepper got to his foster home in Minnesota. Having his own theme song helped this happy guy learn his name. (He stands on his back legs and bats the air with his front paws when he hears his foster mom sing the Dr. Pepper jingle!)

Pepper is still shy until he is familiar with new people. That can take a few weeks. Once comfortable he's loving and affectionate. He just loves being pet and sitting on someone's lap. He's learned a lot in foster care and is now house trained. (You should expect him to have an adjustment period when adopted.) Pepper even knows a few tricks! He can give a high five, will "shake" and knows "sit."

Pepper would like a family with another dog and a person who has time to spend with him at home every day or who can take him to work. He is going to be a wonderful family member for the family lucky enough to adopt him. Pepper is now living with his foster family in Minnesota. Update! As we go to press, Pepper has found his home but he wants you to know there are many [other Havanese in rescue](#) still looking for their forever home.



CONTACT INFORMATION - Do not "reply" to this newsletter.

Choose an appropriate contact below.

Click [here](#) to request assistance for a [dog needing rescue](#).

Click [here](#) to complete an adoption application.

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

Click [here](#) if you have a question, or a suggestion for this newsletter.

Click below to **check the status** of your **previously submitted**:

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