



## Havanese Rescue Inc Newsletter

### Greetings!

Welcome to the December issue of our Newsletter. As we enter the holiday season we all get so busy, yet our little dogs continue to need our help and support regardless of the time of year. Last year we took in 69 dogs, and this year we've already taken in 105, so you can see that the need for HRI is increasing significantly. Recently we have taken in some dogs with major medical issues including cataracts, liver shunts, bladder stones and sebaceous adenitis. Fortunately, we have not had to limit medical care to any of our foster dogs due to a lack of funds, and we're very grateful to everyone who has donated so we can offer these dogs relief.

On behalf of the board of HRI, I would like to thank all of you - our extended HRI family of newsletter recipients - for all of your support, whether you are just a fan of HRI, donate to HRI, support our annual auction, shop at the HavtoHavit General Store or volunteer for HRI. We treasure all of you and I want to wish you and your friends and family a joyous holiday season and extend best wishes from HRI to you. The dogs who have been a part of HRI also give you an enthusiastic four paw salute for all you've done to help them find new families and new beginnings.

*Jenny French*  
President

### Changing Lives - Char Renslow

### In This Issue

Changing Lives - Char Renslow

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### Adoption Corner - Poochie



Smiling and handsome Poochie is five years old and is enjoying life in his foster home. Laps are his favorite pastime but he also enjoys a romp with the other doggies in the household.

Poochie is a bright guy and has quickly learned to use the doggie door and is reliably house trained.



Business owner, breeder of healthy, happy Havanese, spouse, mother to two busy teenagers, five dogs and two cats, avid reader, knitter, founding member of the North Star Havanese Club, and HRI volunteer extraordinaire (state representative, member of the technology and newsletter committees, intake) - these are some, by no means all, of the roles Charlene Renslow balances every day.

If you think that Charlene already leads a busy and crazy life, juggling the demands of family, career and volunteer activities, then think again. To her already full plate, she recently added yet another huge commitment -- becoming an HRI foster mom. Since 2008, she has fostered nine Havs. Incredible...!!!!

Why did she choose to foster? Charlene was moved by reading all the wonderful stories from HRI foster moms, especially about the heart-breaking, terrible lives that mill dogs lead and the joy that comes from seeing the enormous strides they make in their foster homes. The care HRI gives their rescues, and the support and dedication of the HRI community inspired her to give neglected or abused dogs a second chance at life.

Most of Charlene's fosters have been mill dogs, scared and fearful of humans. Mill dogs, with their special problems, and needs require love and patience. Never having been treated like pets, they need to learn basic skills (like eating out of a bowl, walking on a leash, going up and down stairs, getting on and off furniture, being house-trained, etc.) and, above all, they need to be socialized. So they go everywhere Charlene can take them.

How does she manage to wear so many hats and keep her head on straight? For one, taking care of the resident and foster dogs is a family affair. Charlene's husband, Chris, and their two children are all involved. They give treats, walk the dogs, and play with them.

Foster families are the heart of HRI. Without their time and dedication, big hearts and selfless, hard work we simply cannot exist! Thank you, Charlene, for opening your loving home to Havanese in need. You give them a chance for a new start in life.

### Letters from Home - Macanudo

Going for walks is also high on Poochie's list of fun things to do. At bedtime, though, he's happy to go into his crate for the night.

His wonderful foster Mom is working with Poochie on his social skills and basic obedience, and Poochie is happy to learn new ways to earn his belly rubs and ear scratches.

Poochie's list for Santa includes a forever home with a quiet, relaxed atmosphere and maybe another pupster or two to play a game of "chase me." The rest of his list is all about liver treats and bully sticks!

Complete an [adoption application](#) if you are interested in adopting Poochie.

### Contact Info

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

- Do not "reply" to this newsletter. Choose an appropriate contact below.

[Request assistance](#) for a dog needing rescue.

Complete an [adoption application](#).

[Volunteer](#) with Havanese Rescue Inc.

Ask a question, or make a [suggestion](#) for this newsletter.

Click below to check the



We saw our Mac (short for Macanudo, a Cuban cigar), AKA Julio, on the Havanese Rescue site and we were so happy when Karen Grant e-mailed us to ask if we were interested. We had been in touch with Karen for about two years. We were thrilled. We wanted a playmate for our J. C. Bear, who was almost 2 years old.

We all went to pick up Mac on a lovely fall day in Connecticut. We met his wonderful foster Mom and Dad, Florine and Dick. Everyone got along so well.

Mac was a little nervous when we took him from his foster parents. I held him all the way home, kissed him and talked soothingly to him, and he fell asleep in my lap. When we arrived home, J. C. and Mac played all day in our backyard. They had a ball. Mac is a wonderful eater and now J. C. finishes all of his food too. Mac needed some basic instructions on manners, but he is very smart and we know he will grow into a wonderful boy.

Even when he does something wrong, he looks at you with those beautiful, soulful eyes and melts your heart. He's doing great with his potty training too. They both love their daily walks and Mac positions himself right next to J. C. and once in a while will lean over to kiss J.C. Mac is the most affectionate, loving dog. Everyone who sees Mac and J.C. love them and they love everyone. In the morning after Mac goes potty he runs up to bed and kisses me. What a wonderful way to start the day!

We tell him all the time he will be with us always. To watch Mac run around and play with J. C. really warms our hearts. They are growing very attached to each other and to see them lie next to each other and look out the window is wonderful. Mac truly completes our family and we are so blessed to have him.

status of your previously submitted:

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### **Last Minute Stocking Stuffer!**

Knock their plain Jane and Joe socks off with these Havanese-themed socks from the [HavToHavIt General Store](#). \$5 and \$10.