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## President's Message

2020 opened with a bang for our all-volunteer group! We have added more than 25 new volunteers to our team. Welcome!

The job of Volunteer Coordinator has been divided. We have added a new Volunteer Process Coordinator, Helen Norris, who has been very busy processing applicants from start to approval. Ursula Bassolino, who has shouldered the entire burden for so many years, will now have to do only the second part as Volunteer Activation Coordinator. The new system has been working well as the numbers attest.

We do get good applications for our dogs thanks to social media. Our dogs and their information is on HRI's website. We also have 5 Golden Paws dogs. This is a program for older dogs who are not adoptable. They stay with their foster, and we take care of their expenses.

There are not as many dogs coming in as we have had in the past. This is due to several reasons.

Sadly many dogs offered to Intake have aggression issues and we cannot take them. If there were a bite and a resulting lawsuit our insurance would cover us, but then drop us. Without insurance, it would mean the end of HRI. It is very concerning to find this in our normally sweet, not-so-quarrelsome breed.

We asked Debbie Andres to do a sampling January 1, 2018, through October 31, 2018, and 33% of dogs in that time frame could not be accepted because of aggression issues.

Intake also works with owners considering surrendering. We share resources and expertise so they are sometimes able to work through problems and keep their dog.

Local rescues are springing up which offer quick solutions for people looking to place a dog. These are not necessarily experienced with our breed and certainly don't offer the vetting, fostering and 15 years of experience we do. They do take dogs that otherwise might be coming into HRI for assistance. It seems 'rescue' dogs are in demand; both a good and a bad thing. Good if they are matched to the right home, bad if simply placed for



Bronze Statue of Bono to be donated to the Museum of the Dog in New York City



Bono - MBIS MBISS GCHP Oeste's in the Name of Love

profit.

Not HRI business but we all should be very proud to have a Havanese be the #1 dog in the country in 2019. Bono- GCHP CH Oeste's In the Name of Love has won more than 80 Best in Shows! He has won more than any Havanese ever. A bronze statue of Bono will be donated to the Museum of the Dog, in New York City, in February. Do visit the museum if you can.

Please don't forget the next Havanese Specialty!! It will be in Louisville, Kentucky October 26th – 31st at the Crowne Plaza. Plan to join us, we will have a party and need you to help celebrate our 16 years of helping Havanese!

Gratefully,  
Joan Ambrose



Bono and Handler Taffe McFadden  
Bono is owned by Patrina & Bruce Odette,  
Rafe Schindler & Mary King,  
Taffe McFadden and Julie Vogel

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## Microchips Tell A Story

Did you know that every microchip has a story and a history to tell?

When a dog is lost and the microchip is scanned, we always hope that the person who scans checks the universal microchip look-up for the latest information on where the chip is registered. Most microchip companies participate in the database that has been set up by the American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA). AAHA is also responsible for setting accreditation standards for Veterinary hospitals. They support and encourage all microchip companies, shelters, rescues, and Veterinary practices to utilize this convenient database. Some microchip registry companies such as Avid do not participate in this database program. I would encourage everyone to use a registry that does participate in this program, and take that a step further and encourage all to purchase microchips from companies that do participate. Here is a video link to learn more about AAHA: [AAHA Universal Lookup Video](#)  
Here is an example of why it is important to have your chip registered with AAHA database....



Last month, HRI had a former dog show up in a shelter. Thanks to one of our volunteers, Starr Jow, the dog was spotted on the internet as available for adoption. Upon contacting the shelter, it was learned that this dog was a stray, turned in by the county animal control. The shelter took the word of the county, that they tried to contact the former owner. That was not exactly true and we learned that the shelter only went as far as to identify the chip as an AVID chip, contacted AVID, and obtained the information for the breeder who originally purchased the chip. That person no longer had the same contact information after 12 years. Our former dog then landed in a shelter, available for adoption! Had either the county or the shelter looked in the universal look-up, they would have quickly learned that after the breeder, the former owner had registered the chip with Home Again and that HRI last registered the chip with AKCReunite. We had SEVEN contacts phones or emails attached to that chip number, and not a single one was utilized! (The owner of this dog was out of town and all of this happened while in the care of a pet sitting service.) Thanks to our volunteers, the story had a happy ending with a distraught adopter being reunited with her dog.

Havanese Rescue Inc encourages all adopters to leave the chip registered to HRI, and then have personal contact information added to the chip. It is the responsibility of our fosters, as part of the

adoption process, to update the microchip information, using our microchip form. Easily done, and this adds the adopter's contact information to the rest of the information, allowing for even more contacts to be reached. If you have adopted an HRI dog, and ever have that dog go missing, please contact HRI and we will send out a lost dog alert that goes out to all of the area shelters and vet practices. Again, had we known, we would have sooner reunited the runaway dog with the owner.

We recently had another case of HRI taking in a shelter dog who had been a stray. We were told, by the shelter, that the contact information was no longer valid and the owner could not be found. We assumed that the information was correct. Once the dog was transferred to HRI, again that microchip had a story to tell. The original owner was found as well as two vet practices that had cared for the dog. The dog had a history of running, was given away by the original owner, then the second owner also gave away the dog, and the dog ran from yet a third owner. We were able to obtain an accurate age, breed and some medical history. Unfortunately, since the microchip had NEVER been updated, the last owner was never found. We tried our best to reunite the dog and owner.

Please keep your microchip information current. That way, we can only hope that if anything happens your dog will be reunited with you. BUT, should your dog go missing, please set up a lost dog alert so that shelters and vet practices in your area are on alert for your missing dog. We have learned the hard way that many shelters are short-staffed and some do the bare minimum to try and contact former owners. You need to do your part. If your dog is a former HRI dog, all you need to do is contact HRI [microchipregistry@havanese-rescue.com](mailto:microchipregistry@havanese-rescue.com) and provide your dog's name, Microchip number (found on adoption contract or scanned by a vet), and current phone numbers, emails, vet practice, and phone number. HRI can double-check to be sure all information is current. Remember if you get rid of that home phone number, let's get that number off of the registry. It would be very unlucky if that was the only number called.

Here is a link to learn more general information about microchips: [AVMA Microchip Video](#)

Please remember the microchip is only effective if the information is up to date. The microchip does not take the place of a collar with an accurate ID.

Donna Rotoloni

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Havanese Rescue Inc. has been issued a \$317.26 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 Information](#)

You shop. Amazon gives.

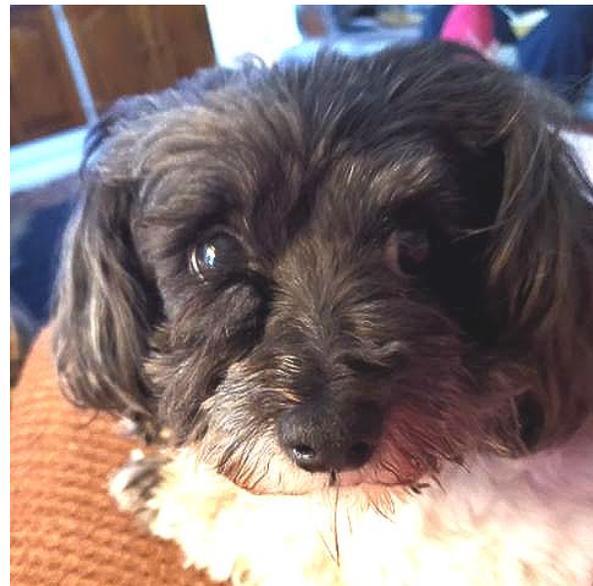
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### Letters From Home HRI's Golden Paws Pups

HRI has 5 Havanese in our Golden Paws program. These are dogs who, either because of serious health problems or age, were not adoptable so they remain in our foster program with the foster families who love and care for them.





Emme

Eight-year-old Emme Lu loves her family. She adores her daddy, Gary and loves to snuggle up close to his chest while gazing into his eyes. Her human brother, Scott, gives the best tickles and tummy massages. She also loves to snuggle with her momma, Linda. She also enjoys when the grandchildren visit as they get to pet her while she sits next to momma Linda. She likes her doggie cousins that visit too, but most of the time she has to watch over the household and keep laps warm as the lone canine.

Emme likes to keep her family on their toes. For example, she'll act as though she wants to go outside, but when someone gets up to let her out, she changes her mind, UNTIL they are sitting once more. With some prodding, she will eventually go outside to take care of business but quickly returns to rejoin the family.

Despite having liver disease, Emme Lu is doing well with a special diet and daily medication.

Maggie

Maggie is a happy ten-year-old Havanese who has megaesophagus. Her mom, Leika, reports that Maggie is doing well now though they had a bit of a scare this last fall. When Maggie started limping, they tested for tick-borne diseases. The test came back negative so they treated her for pain and arthritis. Within a month, Maggie got much worse. Despite the negative test, the vet put her on antibiotics, continued pain meds and Maggie started acupuncture. She slowly turned around and her happy nature has returned and her limp is gone.

Maggie loves the winter. Her daddy went shopping and bought Maggie and her brother Eddie matching sweaters to weather the season. While a sweater with a skull on it wasn't what Leika expected, Maggie and Eddie love their sweaters. She actually grumbles when her mom or dad removes it.



Dudley

Dudley will be 17 years old in September. He's a handsome guy who has arthritis and is totally blind and deaf now but is otherwise healthy. He gets around well inside the house but needs a private lift (by his mom, Brenda) to his dish or to the outdoors.

Dudley is quite a character, as his photo shows. Despite there being plenty of larger beds in the house, many of them big enough for two dogs, his favorite is that of his little sister, Tashie. When he's not stealing his sister's bed, Dudley is happy to snuggle with you.



Kelly

Kelly is 16 years old. This little gal is a trooper. She has no teeth, is blind and is losing her hearing. She also has Cushings Disease, but she

is very happy and enjoys life.

Kelly loves her canine sisters and is comfortable being part of a peaceful home. She moves from bed to bed during the day and loves her x-pen at night. Joyce, Kelly's mom, says she loves having Kelly as part of the family.

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## Changing Lives - Siew Hwee Lee

"While I never had the privilege of meeting her in person, she is a real friend!" Those sentiments are repeated often when talking with HRI volunteers about Siew Hwee Lee, our Foster To Adopt (F2A) Coordinator, State Contact for New York and BOD member.

Siew Hwee gets the job done! She likes her paperwork in order, needs to know as much info as possible about a dog; vet records and past history, so she can pick the right candidate from her F2A applications. Siew Hwee communicates well with the State Contact involved to ensure the best placement for the dog and adopters alike. Siew Hwee keeps everyone in the loop and you can count on sharing a laugh in the process.

Siew Hwee lives in upstate NY not far from Canada with her husband and adopted HRI dog, Ralphie. While often buried in feet of snow, this busy lady still makes time for tennis, volunteering at a food co-op, helping the needy with tax returns and creating yummy Singaporean food for friends and family. Gong xǐ fā cái, or in other words...Happy New Year Siew-Hwee! You are a treasure for HRI!

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## Q&A

HRI is more than just a Havanese Rescue. We like to think that we are a community of Havanese lovers that not only share a passion to help those pups in need but to help one another when questions or concerns might arise with their own pups. HRI has volunteers/supporters that are new to Havanese and also those that have been living with the breed since its AKC inception in 1996. With this vast expanse of experience with the breed, we feel those with years of experience can act as a support system when one of our newer Havanese parents might need some information.

With this in mind, we are going to be starting up a new section in our newsletter that will give those who have questions or concerns about Havanese a chance to address them by sending inquiries [Here](#). We certainly feel when medical questions come about your best first step is to speak to your vet. This platform might help by letting those with similar experiences share their wisdom and better prepare yourself to speaking with your pup's vet. Behavior concerns could also be addressed but once again finding or asking your positive dog trainer for help should also be considered.

This platform is not a place to ask about finding puppies, though it can help educate future puppy buyers as to what to look for in an ethical breeder. Breeder reviews or suggestions will not be accepted. Since our newsletters only comes out four times a year, we will work on posting answers prior to the next newsletter on Facebook, Instagram or sending an email message via our mailing list.

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## CONTACT INFORMATION LINKS

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

Click to request assistance for a [dog needing rescue](#).  
Click to complete [adoption application](#)  
Click to [volunteer](#) with Havanese Rescue.  
Click if you have a [question or suggestion](#) for this newsletter.

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