



A PLEA FOR SUPPORT—from the Directors

We all are having hard times making ends meet nowadays, and non-profits are one of the first to feel the effects of tough times. Non-profits, who rely on the donations of their wonderful supporters, are one of the first downstream expenses that are eliminated from the budget. Our Rescue is no different. Our donations are down more than 50% this year and we have struggled all year to make ends meet.

As many of you have noticed, we are housing fewer new dogs. This is due primarily to the poor economy. We are being forced to turn away many Danes and taking only those that no one else will take, the ones that need us most, such as HAYLEY, ROBERT, and OLIVIA, all of which are a great financial burden. Some say we should instead take the ones that are less of a financial burden, but that is not what this Rescue is about. We are about saving the dogs that need us most—the ones no one else wants! Look at WENDY—she was almost dead the night we took her in, but now she is living the life she so deserves with a wonderful family.

HHGDR began with a mission to save those that needed us most, not just those where

the owners decided the dog got too big, or it sheds and leaves hair on the furniture, or because the dog does not potty where they want it to!

As much as we hate to beg, we are now being forced to, in order to survive. This year we have paid more than \$2,000 just to keep our air conditioning running (and this is with a significant discount from our repair service). Our HVAC unit is on its last leg. We have been forced to purchase dog food for the second year in a row at a cost of more than \$8,000. Our utilities are continually rising—this year alone—to more than \$15,000. Both minivans are once more in need of major repairs. These are just a few of our rising expenses.

Unlike many large non-profits with paid employees and directors receiving hundreds of thousands of dollars yearly, such as HSUS, ASPCA, and Red Cross, HHGDR has **no** paid employees! Not one person receives any financial compensation for the work they do for the Rescue. The only pay anyone receives is the gratification of helping the homeless dogs as well as dog kisses and hugs!

(Continued on page 2)

“DEAR SANTA”—A Letter from the Homeless Rescue Dogs

Dear Santa,
We want you to know that we have been very good dogs this year and we are hoping that you will be kind enough to give us a few Christmas presents. Grandma and the directors are hoping for money or building supplies to repair our building but remember Santa we are just dogs and dogs are like children—we want toys!

We have tried very, very hard to be good dogs this year and most of the time Grandma agrees. Of



ANTHONY is a Masti-Dane. He would love a forever home for Christmas!

course we do have our days. So while Grandma was out scooping our poop we decided to send you our Christmas list. Please do not tell Grandma I drooled on the keyboard—that really upsets her!

As you know our first wish is, as always, forever homes. We especially wish it for the senior dogs that are seldom even looked at. But we aren't stupid—we hear the calls Grandma has been getting. For those of us that were here last year we

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The Rescue will be closed for adoptions and viewing dogs from December 14 to January 3.

Donations, purchases of Mozart's work, and sponsorships will not be affected.

**HHGDR is a non-profit
501(c)(3) all-volunteer-
run organization.
Donations are tax-
deductible!**



PLEA FOR SUPPORT Continued

(Continued from page 1)

HHGDR is a true no-kill non-profit shelter. We do not euthanize a dog just because it is not adoptable for health or temperament reasons. Only dogs with severe human or dog aggression, or with such severe health issues that the dog is suffering, do we consider euthanizing. Our Sanctuary Dogs, those not adoptable, are allowed to live their lives out in a safe and loving family environment.

We are aware of the tough economic times all are facing. We know we are not alone, but please consider helping us as you have in

the past, or for your first time. The dogs and the volunteers of HHGDR would appreciate your help. No matter how large or small, every penny helps us to continue our mission of saving the Danes!

If you cannot afford to make a cash donation, please consider collecting used ink jet and laser cartridges, cell phones, or even Purina weight circles. Instead of buying gifts for friends, family, and coworkers, consider giving a Sponsorship or purchasing a Mozart Dane original paw painting.

Please visit [How to Help on the Rescue Web site](#) to find the best fit for your help.

Happy Holidays
from all the
Rescue dogs!



Please remember to keep a close eye on your fur kids during the festivities, watching consumption of fatty and rich foods, and keeping decorations out of reach!

IT HURTS EVERY TIME By Tom Mattingly

I was volunteering at the Rescue earlier this year, and a new dog had come in. I'd heard about him and seen the pictures, but nothing could have prepared me for what walked out of isolation that day. He was bone thin, his ribs looked like a birdcage, and every bump on his spine was sticking up. He moved slowly, as if it hurt to take a step. And with all of this, he trusted the Rescue to provide for him. I couldn't even finish my sentence. "Who... How... What kind of...?" It was deplorable that a human could do this to an animal—or let it be done, which is just as bad.

Again this summer, I was at the Rescue, and a new dog had come in. Gorgeous fawn, 1 1/2 years old, and in the same (if not worse) condition as the previous one. She looked like her skin was stretched too tight, and was causing her back to arch. She'd obviously not eaten for a very long time before arriving at Rescue, and had a completely miserable look on her face. Still, when I walked in the room, she looked up and wagged her tail. I again couldn't ask the question. "Who... What kind of person... How could they...?"

It hurt the first time I saw a dog in this kind of shape. The pictures on the Web are able to show condition to a point, but until you've seen it in person, you don't fully appreciate just how bad things can be. It hurts the soul to look at a dog that wants nothing but love, but was given nothing. It hurts every time you see them like this. When you see the next neglected dog, the wound is just as fresh as the first time. Another life that was affected

by cruelty beyond its control, because its capacity for love is far greater than its desire for self-preservation. These animals patiently waited, believing that every time they saw their human they would receive a meal. When they were disappointed, they waited again, sure that the next time they'd get something to eat. They are unable to believe that someone would, intentionally or not, cause them pain. It hurts to see their disappointment when they arrive at the rescue, because they think they're at fault, and that the Rescue is punishment for not being loyal enough. Each and every time, even though I know that they'll recover and be the happy, loving dogs we all want to see, it hurts to know they're going through this. You want to be able to tell them it's all going to be OK, that they're in a good place now, that Grandma and Grandpa are going to take care of them. You want to give them hope that the human they thought they had in their life before really does exist—someone to love them and provide for them and ask nothing but their love in return.

Eventually they'll figure it out, when the meals and love keep coming, when they're inside and warm rather than chained to a tether, when people are genuinely glad to see them instead of seeing them as a burden. And then we'll see the Dane-smile we've come to know, the bounce in their step and the special bond that comes from a dog that was on the brink of disaster. The hurt will dissipate with each meeting, and I'll hope that next time I volunteer, there won't be another new dog that's in that bad a shape. Because it hurts every time.



The Harlequin Haven Great Dane Rescue Newsletter is published four times a year by the Rescue.

Submit items of interest to Newsletter Editor Janet Carleton at janet.carleton@gmail.com.

Current and back issues are available from the Web site and by request. <http://www.hhdane.org/>



“DEAR SANTA” Continued

(Continued from page 1)

know the economy is much worst.

Everyone is dumping and not adopting once again this year! So we decided to be realistic. We would like toys that would last us a few weeks and not cause Grandma to worry about blockage surgery because we ate the toys again!

Of course we will be appreciative of anything we get, Santa, as Grandma tells us it is not polite to beg.

Thank you Santa for reading our letter and we sure hope you can give us each a toy for Christmas. Of course 2 would be great, but 1 each would give us all some joy this holiday season. Also Santa, please don't bother wrapping our gifts—that is more work for Grandma and after all we also care about our planet and being green!

Have a Happy Holiday

Hugs & Slobbers

All the Dogs at HHGR



GRACIE, a Sanctuary Dog, is picking her favorites from the Wish List!!



OLIVIA is a sweet fawn Great Dane looking for a home like yours!



OUR TOY WISH LIST

- * Bite A Bones (Bowser 8 ½”) any flavor, we aren't too picky
- * Bones: Mammoth or Dinosaur (BIG beef bones)
- * Bones: Natural Beef (XL)
- * Bones: Sterilized (large or giant)
- * Jolly Balls
- * Kongs
- * Nylabone: Knots (large or giant)
- * Nylabone: Bones (giant or souper)
- * Rope Toys (XL)
- * Tough By Nature Good Cuz/Bad Cuz (large only, please)
- * Tough By Nature Ruffians Octopus or Chicken.

MOZART DANE'S Crafts and Apparel now available on Rescue Web Site



Mozart's pawtographed items are now available for purchase directly from the Rescue Web site! Mo has discovered his real love is painting in acrylic on canvas, rather than creating craft items. He currently has a back stock of craft items—and he's decided to

sell them to make room for his paintings. Mo has no plans to make crafts in the future, and each item is one of a kind—no two will be exactly alike. As we sort through the craft items more may become available.

Once these unique items are gone, they're gone!

Apparel items feature Mo's paw print and name, and include T-shirts, tank tops, sweats, ball caps, visors, aprons, and bandanas. Note cards



and hand towels also feature paw prints. Magnets, frames, and hot pads feature Mo's free-form paw painting technique. Ornament shapes include trees, round, snowflakes, bones, and dogs.

PayPal, checks, or money orders accepted. Shipping not included—please contact us for your shipping

charges. Items will be shipped as soon as payment clears. Shipping deadlines for Christmas are December 19 for express mail and December 15 for standard shipping.

Show the world your support for Mo and the Rescue, and remember, all proceeds go to care for the homeless dogs at the Rescue!

For more information see: <http://www.hhdane.org/mozart/crafts.htm>





VOLUNTEERS—Our Most Sincere Thanks!

HHGDR is an all-volunteer-run non-profit 501(c)(3). Donations are tax-deductible!



CHECK THE WEB SITE FOR UPCOMING AWARENESS EVENTS IN YOUR AREA!

- | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Randy & Becky Adams | Lauren Herman | Barbara & Brian Spatz |
| Dori Baker | Kenny Honaker | Mark & Denise Stickles |
| Bernadette & Bob Ball | Lisa Huelskamp | Erin & Carlos Stiffler |
| Brenda Batyske | Doug Hull | Candy Stoer |
| Jennifer Bavry | Jonathan Jennings | Jim Tomaszewski |
| Andy & Wendi Beauseau | Jennifer Kisker | Whitney Townsend |
| Celesta Black | Jillian Lenczicki | Diane & Barry Tucker |
| Twyla & Alex Black | Ryan Liersmann | Sonja Venzin |
| Daniel Blankenship | Nancy Marconett | Melinda Villao |
| Zach Boll | Thomas Mattingly | Marsha Wheeler |
| Janet Carleton | Christe McGarry | Jeff & Betty Whittington |
| Jessica Carrick-Dumchus | Linda McGarry | Jonathan Williams |
| Joe & Julie Corbin | Susan Meyer | Ken & Jo Williams |
| Don Corsmeier | Steve Moenter | Judy & Tom Yacks |
| Mame & Craig Corson | Brian & Kelly Owens | <i>Attorneys</i> |
| Beth Dotson | Polly Pyles | Mary Beth Gettins |
| Ken & Kelly Eiker | Jenni Reinhart | Greg Ruehlmann |
| Dale Francis | Daina Rice | James Tomaszewski |
| Mary Beth Gettins | Mike & Beth Sedlock | <i>Veterinarians</i> |
| Timothy Goings | Sandra Seidman | Dan Meakin |
| Autumn & Matt Goldsmith | Betty Shonebarger | Lee Schrader |
| Dan & Annie Gonzalez | Chris, Sherri & Simms Family | Steve Schrader |
| Thelma Goris | Charlie Smith | |
| Chuck Hegland | Ted Snyder | |

VOLUNTEERS At Work!



The Tuckers and MAGGIE MAE at the Waco Wag-In in Troy, Ohio

Volunteers worked awareness and fundraising events all around our region of Ohio, Northern Kentucky, Southern Michigan, and Eastern Indiana. They also traveled to the Rescue for Grooming Day, and performed many other much needed tasks.

HHGDR would love to put you to work helping the homeless dogs too!

Check the Rescue Web site for events in your area!



Mame Corson (L) and Melinda Villao (R) work an awareness event in Columbus.



RAINBOW BRIDGE—Our Deepest Sympathy

Abby—Betty & Steve Lane	Dorie—Andrea Kiesling & Jeff Orschell
Abby—Kathy & Michael Ramirez	Drifter—Jim Westendorf
Amy—Twyla Black	Jack—Beth & Kevin Shaw
Amy—Cara & Rob Robitaille	Jake—Daina Rice
Bailey—Brian & Kelly Owens	Jasmine—Don and Peggy Ranck
Barbie—Dick, Jeanna, & Tessa Burrell	Louie aka Bucky—Mark & Denise Stickles
Bebe, Bud, Harvey, Kyra, Melony, Odie, Oliver, Sammy, and Stevie—Tom & Dale Bath	Simba—Amy Matracia
Boca—Janet Carleton & Dale Francis	Suzie—Darin Cyphers
Conrad AKA Connie—Mary Beth Gettins & Sidney Sauerbrunn	Tiddles—Sandra & Gabriel Seidman
Daphne—Frank & Toby Victory	Trevor—Karen, Meredith, & Mike Callinan

See "How to Help" on the HHGDR site to contribute to the care and welfare of the homeless dogs. <http://www.hhdane.org/>

RECENT ADOPTIONS—Congratulations!

Aiden—Steve Moenter & Brenda Batyske

Bella—Julie & Joe Corbin

Betty—Twyla Black

Callie—Katie Pfierman

Ciara—Richard & Kimberley Largo

Colt—Diane Roth

Faith—Jennifer & Michael Dayhuff

Gunner—Daina Rice & Jay Flynn

Hayley—Janet Carleton & Dale Francis

Hillary—Daniel & Samantha Barnett

Hunter—Julie & Joe Corbin

Jody—Mary Beth Gettins & Sydney Sauerbrunn

Leila—Margo Hilbig

Lonny—Chris & Sherri Sims

Marlie—Jo & Ken Williams

Paco—Tim Goings & Melinda Villao

Petey—Elizabeth & Ralph Sedlock

Robert—Marsha Wheeler

Stacey—Beau & Michelle Chinn

Wendy—Chad & Elizabeth Bowman

Xena—John & Marilouise Roth

Zara and Colby—Sue Cummins & Arlene Horton



Just a few of recent happy endings. Clockwise: LEILA, HILLARY, GUNNAR; PETEY, and in the center, BETTY.





DONORS AND SPONSORS—A Huge Thank You!

Christopher Alioto
Christy & Todd Bahner
Amanda Baker
Dori Baker
Daniel & Samantha Barnett
Jennifer & Tony Bavry
Andy & Wendi Beauseau
Yvette Bell
Daniel Berry
Big Dog Bunch, The
Twyla Black, in memory of Cass
Dan & Katie Blankenship,
in memory of Lucia
Donald & Patricia Blum
Kimberly Borchardt-Hammer
Doug Brand
Tiffany Brown
William Burton, for Hayley
Michele Campbell, for Colt
Janet Carleton
Patti & Blake Carver
Ray Chesnick
Beau & Michelle Chinn
Penny Clevenger
Joseph & Kimberly Coffey
Annette & Robert Condon
Don Corsmeier
Mame & Craig Corson
Jane & Ken Dickinson
Betsy Dolan, in memory of Conrad
Beth Dotson
Debbie Eades,
in memory of Opal and Pearl
Margo Ehrenfield
Ken & Kelly Eiker, for Hayley
Donna & Wayne Fanta, for Robert
Erika Fawcett, for Joe
Ed Firth
Mike, Ben, & Tony Firth
Amy Freadling
Lacy Garcia
Mary Beth Gettins
Timothy & Alex Goings
Autumn & Matt Goldsmith
Thelma Goris
Great Dane Enterprises, Inc

Randall Gross
John & Camilla Hall
Cynthia Hearing
Chuck Hegland
Scott & Glenda Hegland, for Hayley
Kelly & Dane Heuchemer
Lisa Huelskamp
Douglas & Mary Hull, for Hector
Jean & Chuck Inwood
Myreda Johnson
Carol Jones, in memory of Jake
Kathleen Kish
Jennifer Kisker
Robert & Susan Kozlowski
Theresa & Brent Kraus
Steve & Betty Lane
Jillian Lenczicki
Ryan Liersemann
Stephanie & Judson Linder, for Harvey,
Hayley, Robert, Scarlett, and Sneak
Barbara Lutes
Courtney Lymber
Beth Mack
Karen & Jon Magnusson
Kelly Maqsud, for Hayley
Nancy Marconett
Melissa Marshall, Rabbit, & Kasha,
in memory of Dakota Dane
Thomas Mattingly
Sara & Kevin McDaniel, for Sanctuary Dogs
Christe McGarry
Linda & Jim McGarry
Constance Megison
Ann Meyer
Susan Meyer
Amy & Steven Miller
Rebecca Miller
Susan Moning
Jamie & Ryan Morris
Mt Healthy Animal Hospital & Clients
Toni & Keith Mulford
John & Kelly Mulligan
Katie Murphy
Nickerson's Office Supplies
Doug & Susan Oilar
Cindy Orlasky

Nick Ortman, in memory of Dakota Dane
Brian & Kelly Owens
PETSMART Charities
William & Margaret Ports
Polly Pyles
Brian Reigelsperger
Carolyn & Robert Reis
Daina Rice,
in honor of Mr. Jake Esmerelda Rice
Barbara Roach
Rylee-Ann Romero, for Chase
John & Marilouise Roth
Brenda Ruth, for Hayley
Christine Sabick
Sams Club, Eastgate
Amy Sanders
Sandra & Gabriel Seidman, for Hayley
Betty Shonebarger, for Hayley
Chris, Sherrie, Bailey, Abbi, & Catie Sims
Charles Smith
Laura Jane Smith
Brian & Barbara Spatz
Erin Stiffler, for Hayley
Candy Stoer
Tuja Stuard, for Kyra
Arlene Swanson
Three Dog Bakery, Columbus, Ohio
Jim Tomaszewski
Whitney & Brian Townsend
Monica & Thomas Treta,
in memory of Jackson
Margie Varesko
Sonja & Gabriel Venzin
Melinda Villao
Cullen Waincott, for Robert
Darlene Welch
Marsha Wheeler
Sandra Wikstrom, for Robert
Jo & Ken Williams
Jonathan Williams
Jaymie Wilson
Katherine Wilson, for Hayley
Chuck Wiseman
Audra & Chris Yacks,
in memory of Bob Thomas
Judy & Tom Yacks, for Barney



VACATION PET CARE, OR, AN OUNCE OF PREVENTION By Tom Mattingly

Vacations and weekend trips are something we all look forward to; the fun, the adventure, seeing old friends and meeting new ones. On some of these trips, however, we must leave our *best* friends at home. Preparing them for their stay is just as important as the preparations we make for the rest of the trip and can make their vacation more enjoyable, too. In my household, we've taken to having a pet sitter stay with the kids, but many of the preparations apply to those boarding their dogs as well.

First, make sure that the sitter or staff are familiar with your dog, and that your dog is familiar with them. Given that most of us reading this have adopted a rescue dog, they know the feeling of abandonment when they're suddenly placed in the care of strangers. Take your dog to meet the boarding staff, or have the sitter over to meet the dogs in their environment.

When using a sitter, this can also alleviate the potential of first-entry aggression when your sitter is on her own in your dog's house; it also gives you a chance to see—in real time—how the sitter is going to treat your dogs (or other pets). Use this opportunity to give the sitter a tour of the house, lay down any ground rules for the house (no smoking inside, your preference for visitors, etc.) and to go through the dogs' routine. Include trigger words ("outside," "bed") that are familiar to the dog. Have a written list of procedures for everything involving the dogs—usual schedule, how and when they're fed, any medications (dosages, how to administer), as well as information about the house—who the neighbors are, where the food is kept, if they can use dishes/cookware, and where located, etc. In our case, we like for our sitters to make themselves at home—the less stressed the sitter is by the new environment, the less stressed the dogs will be to have him in the house. Go over any crating rules (if you crate your dogs), as well as where bedding and toys are kept. And make

sure there is plenty of food available!

Be sure to notify your neighbors that the sitter will be there, and introduce them if possible (on our last trip, our sitter was actually fixed up on a blind date by the neighbors). This could be a great resource if there are any issues, and adds a sense of security for both the sitter and the neighbor.

Put together a contact list, including the Rescue, your veterinarian, the emergency vet clinic, and friends, family or neighbors that they can contact in the case of an emergency. Provide the sitter or boarding staff with contact information for you while you're gone, and update it as necessary (on the last trip, we learned that Verizon really doesn't have coverage in Europe, and went to an alternate phone and E-mail). Also assemble an emergency kit, including first aid supplies (for both the dogs and humans), bedding, etc., that the sitter can get to quickly if needed.

One of the best, and most overlooked, things that can and should be done is a **Power of Attorney for Veterinary Services**. This document gives the sitter or the boarding staff the ability to authorize veterinary services in your absence. For the Rescue dogs, the Rescue can perform this, but it's an important safeguard and covers liability for all parties; the authorization most recently came into play on our last trip when one of the dogs decided that opossum might be a tasty treat. As it turns out, it wasn't, and vet services were needed.

For my dogs, I provide a set dollar amount up to which services can be authorized by the sitter, and provide unlimited authorization for the Rescue. I also include the vet's name, address, and phone, as well as contacts that have the same authorization, should the sitter be uncomfortable signing off on any service.

You should make sure that any contact listed is aware that you're providing this authorization, and that they're aware of your wishes and are comfortable making decisions on your behalf. The POA should be signed by you and ideally witnessed by an independent party; a copy should be kept for your records, with the original left for the sitter, and a secondary copy provided to the vet. This one document can provide great peace of mind—the last thing any of us would want is our beloved pet put in a situation where care can't be given.

By providing these few items, you can ensure a much more enjoyable trip for yourself and your pets.

If you would like a template of the POA and instructions that I use, please E-mail me at redsharkcinti@yahoo.com.

THANK YOU!

Your financial support is what keeps us going.

Without you, we would not be able to save them.

Thank you one and all, and if we have omitted anyone from our lists of donors and volunteers, we sincerely apologize.



ROBERT recently got his wish—a forever home!



Visit our Web site often—your next best friend may be waiting there for you!

Harlequin Haven Great Dane Rescue
11567 State Route 774
Bethel, Ohio 45106-8634

937-379-2231
info@hhdane.org
<http://www.hhdane.org/>



LOOKING FOR FOREVER HOMES LIKE YOURS...

We have 43 Great Danes, 6 Saint Bernards, 6 other breeds, and 4 mixed breed dogs waiting for new homes. This year HHGDR has adopted out 60 dogs, for a total of 1293.

ART WITH A MISSION by Mozart Dane



MOZART visits with a young fan at a festival next to one of his paintings.

Mozart had a fabulous season traveling to art shows and festivals. Thanks to all that came out to help and bought paintings.

To celebrate, Mo invites you to his **Special Holiday Sale!** From November 17 to December 31 get **10% off** on paintings priced at \$150 and higher! Layaway available.

Mo paints with his paws to help support the Rescue and provide for the homeless dogs. Please visit the Web site for more info.



Visit Mo on facebook!



<http://www.new.facebook.com/pages/Mozart-Dane/26783929797>