



HARLEQUIN HAVEN GREAT DANE RESCUE NEWSLETTER

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

Harlequin Haven Great Dane Rescue
Summer 2008 Vol. XI No. 2

LOVE AND DEVOTION By An Abandoned Dane

What is true love and devotion? Few humans will ever know. Few humans are capable of true love and devotion. I had true love and devotion for my human family. Unfortunately they were incapable of this same true love and devotion. I would have jumped off a tall building, swum the deepest sea, and would have done anything for you. But, even though the shelter and Rescue begged you to keep me and let me live out my final days with you, you dumped me.

The Rescue and shelter begged and pleaded with you, but you turned away without looking back! You broke my heart beyond repair—I have never hurt as badly as I did that day. I was dumped into the arms of strangers. Strangers who loved me more than you!

The shelter sent me to Rescue hoping I would find a family capable of true love, but I could no longer trust. I no longer believed in true love. My heart was broken, never to trust again.



The dogs and people at Rescue kept telling me to fight my feelings and that there was a forever home waiting for me, but my heart was broken. I did not want a new family. I wanted you! I prayed for days that you would come back for me, but my prayers went unanswered. I gave you 8 years of true love and devotion and in return you dumped me.

If I had one wish, I would wish you are hurting the way I hurt—the way you hurt me. But I know that is impossible. You were uncaring and heartless!

The tears being shed over my dying body are those of strangers that cared more about me than my family of 8 years. I had no fight left in my old body.

I died today in the arms of a Rescue person, who was a stranger in my eyes, but a stranger loved me like I never have been loved before. I died today of a broken heart. My last thoughts were of the family I loved, the family that did not love me.

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SUMMER RAFFLE—Ends July 15



Yes, it's time for our summer fundraising raffle and once again we have great prizes! Winners will choose from these four: **iPod Nano Basket**, **Kitchen Basket**, **Dog Basket**, or **Handmade Quilt** (66" x 55"). Tickets are just \$1, or \$5 for 6. *Winning tickets drawn on July 15.*

And remember, all proceeds go directly to the care, feeding, and rehabilitation of

abused, neglected, abandoned, and homeless dogs at the Rescue!

A special thanks to those who donated or lovingly created the items to be raffled.

Visit the Rescue Web site for larger images, quilt details, and contents of baskets. Tickets available at awareness events and by mail. See <http://www.hhdane.org/>.

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



WHY SAVE THEM? By Tom Mattingly

It's a tough time, economically, in the United States. Every day we turn on the news to get notice of the latest disaster—an earthquake in China or Myanmar, a tornado in the Plains states. We then hear of the latest foreclosure—Ed McMahon, Evander Holyfield, and on my street, at least three of my neighbors. Then the news turns to oil—how much today, and how much higher can it go? Is \$5 a gallon really that far away? Then there's that other crisis...one that only a few news outlets have really covered in any depth...where pets are becoming homeless because of the combination of factors above.



FRANNIE, an abused and homeless Dane, now living happily ever after.

The Rescue is almost always full, and our Web site shows that last year our veterinary bills were nearly \$20,000. So with plenty of homeless Danes (and other breeds) coming in, why should we save the ones that we think will never be adopted? Why should we spend our precious dollars to provide expensive medical care to extremely ill or injured dogs when we could be using those dollars to simply house and feed otherwise "healthy" dogs?

The answer is simple. It's illustrated on our Web site in "The Starfish Story," but let me put it in a more personal perspective. This is the story of one of our own, the details of which I've heard in bits and pieces over the past several years and will try to tie together here.

The Rescue was contacted about a dog in need of help in Central Ohio. From the details we received, it was a bad one—abuse and neglect had been the story of this dog's life. As is our norm, we set up a transport, and the dog arrived at Rescue within the next day. Even with the levels of neglect that we see all the time, this dog was still a tragedy. Bone thin with ribs showing and hips sticking out. Covered in sores from a lack of bedding or proper housing. Cuts, lesions and a huge mark where the collar had been, none of which had healed. And emotionally a wreck—while all Danes have a high emotional sensitivity, it was clear that this one was especially sensitive, and that she had taken what she had endured very hard.

The Rescue began working with the dog. Slowly the wounds began to heal, and as more meals were provided, the bones stopped showing. Still, the emotional toll was heavy, and it took months to get the dog to a point where she could even be posted for adoption. Once she was, given that she was a big harlequin with cropped ears, the phone started ringing. But, with the issues that remained, the Rescue knew she would be a difficult dog to place. At least one adoption resulted in a return—the dog chased cats, and that just wasn't acceptable to the new family.

One day I came to visit. I had also had a difficult couple of years. I'd just come out of a very difficult relationship and a contentious separation. My emotional bruises were still healing. But, I'd seen a picture of the dog on the Web site two months prior, had printed it, and had been carrying it in my wallet since. As is typical, I went through the home visits (at a home I'd just purchased and, for the first visit, didn't even hold title to) and visited the Rescue to meet potential matches. I knew she was "my dog"—sure, she was a basket case, but I was single and owned a business I ran from my home, and she just needed attention, time and love, and I could give all three. Two weeks later, once the papers were signed on the house, I picked up my dog.

Together, we healed. She walked in to my house and into my heart, and has been there ever since. Sure, there were tough times—within the first month, she caused \$2,000 worth of damage within 20 minutes—but if you looked at the facts, it was as much my fault as hers. Others may have brought her back for such an offense, but I knew when I saw her for the first time that this was forever.

That was nearly seven years ago, and now she's almost 10. I live firmly in denial of her age by telling myself that she's immortal. Her name is Frannie, and she matters to this one.

So, should we save every dog we can? I can't imagine my life without Frannie, and if the Rescue had given up on her when we found out she had health and emotional issues that would be expensive to treat, I wouldn't have my best friend and constant companion of the past seven years. Every day after she arrived at HHGDR, a volunteer would say that she was too far gone, too sick, too damaged, and that we should let her go, but every day she showed a reason that she should be given a chance to live. Because she was given that chance, she was able to show me that I could go on. That, my friends, is why we save them.

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/>



WHY HAYLEY? By Betty Schonebarger

The Holmes County Humane Society called Harlequin Haven with a request for the Rescue to take a nine-month-old brindle Great Dane. She was emaciated and had what they thought was a severely broken leg that had not healed properly. Holmes County had called the Rescue because they knew that it would be more equipped to deal with a Dane with leg problem and because they just didn't have the funds to deal with the issue. Harlequin Haven agreed to accept the female puppy knowing that the leg would at the least require surgery and at the worst, amputation. The Rescue did not accept this female puppy lightly but made the commitment to take her with her problems knowing that there would probably be money concerns.

This pitiful little girl arrived at the Rescue and it was obvious that she had not had an easy life. After only nine months of life, she was emaciated, had calluses on pressure points, and had a front leg that dangled and was pretty much useless. She was named Hayley, given a small meal, a warm place to sleep, and plenty of fresh water. She is, as most puppies are, curious about everything but she appeared to be afraid of people and didn't seem to know what a building was. After just a few days, she settled in and is loving the food, water, and attention.

Hayley was taken to the orthopedic surgeon and there found the problem with her leg is a birth defect called ectrodactyly or lobster claw. Her leg will never develop properly, so should be amputated. Hayley is young and will undoubtedly get used to having only three legs. She hasn't been able to use the fourth so her only adjustment will be to her balance once the leg is removed.

Some have questioned why the Rescue should spend \$1,200 on this dog when there are so many others out there that don't have medical problems that the money could be spent to help.

First, Harlequin Haven is a NO KILL shelter. That means a dog is not killed simply because they have a medical condition. The Rescue



treats dogs with heartworm, broken legs, flea and worm infestations, and many other illnesses and diseases. Why should a loving puppy be killed because she has a birth defect that is treatable through amputation? Is she less worthy than any other dog at the Rescue because her treatment will cost a little more? Would you be willing to come pick her up, take her to a vet, and hold her in your arms to be "put to sleep"?

Secondly, and just as important, is that the Rescue made a COMMITMENT by agreeing to take her in. That commitment was for life—her life. How many of the dogs at the Rescue are there because a human didn't make that commitment? These dogs are living, breathing, loving creatures that look to us for support and commitment throughout their lives, not just when things are going smoothly.

Whomever Hayley's previous owners were, they obviously were not the type to make that commitment. They obviously couldn't even spare the time to find a place that would take her in, but just turned her loose to make her own way in a world that isn't very kind to strays, especially ones with deformed legs.

Can I donate \$1,200 for Hayley's amputation? No, but I can come up with \$100 and it would only take 12 of us to donate \$100 each to have it covered without straining the Rescue's funds. And even if you don't have \$100 to spare, \$5 or \$10 will go a long way to help reach the goal.

Please look deep in your heart and know that whatever you can donate will go to help a little girl that has lived her first nine months without knowing much human kindness.

<http://www.hhdane.org/danes/hayley.htm>

DON'T FORGET THE HEARTWORM PREVENTATIVE!

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



Marsha Wheeler staffed the HHGDR table at Furry Skurry in Dayton.

Look for non-toxic alternatives to lawn care products—your pets and the environment will thank you!



VOLUNTEERS—Our Most Sincere Thanks!



Betty Shonebarger and Tim Goings staff the HHGDR table at the Franklin County Mingle with Our Mutts in Columbus.

Randy & Becky Adams
 Dori Baker
 Bernadette & Bob Ball
 Andy & Wendi Beauseau
 Karin Bergquist, Over the Rhine
 Daniel Blankenship
 Meredith & Karen Callinan
 Janet Carleton
 Jessica Carrick-Dumchus
 Don Corsmeier
 Mame & Craig Corson
 Linford Detweiler, Over the Rhine
 Beth Dotson
 Ken & Kelly Eiker
 Dale Francis
 Mary Beth Gettins
 Timothy Goings
 Autumn & Matt Goldsmith
 Thelma Goris
 Chuck Hegland

Kenny Honaker
 Lisa Huelskamp
 Doug Hull
 Jonathan Jennings
 Jennifer Jones
 Jennifer Kisker
 Kevin Kremer
 Jillian Lenczicki
 Ryan Liersmann
 Nancy Marconett
 Thomas Mattingly
 Christe McGarry
 Susan Meyer
 Brian & Kelly Owens
 Pandy Pridemore
 Polly Pyles
 Jenni Reinhart
 Sandra Seidman
 Betty Shonebarger
 Chris, Sherri & Simms Family
 Charlie Smith

Erin Stiffler
 Candy Stoer
 Jim Tomaszewski
 Whitney Townsend
 Sonja Venzin
 Melinda Villao
 Marsha Wheeler
 John & Melodie Whitacre
 Jeff & Betty Whittington
 Jonathan Williams
 Judy & Tom Yacks

Attorneys
 Mary Beth Gettins
 Greg Ruehlmann
 James Tomaszewski

Veterinarians
 Dan Meakin
 Lee Schrader
 Steve Schrader

VOLUNTEERS At Work!

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

For the eighth year, the students and staff of the Forest Elementary School in Troy Ohio, worked to raise money for the Rescue—nearly \$650. For all their efforts, the students got to spend the day with adopted Danes ALEX, BRODY, GIA, KARLI, NORTON, and SUGAR. (See 2007 summer issue for an in-depth story.)

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

Check the Web site for events in your area! <http://www.hhdane.com/events/events.htm>



Forest Elementary School students get up close and personal with the visiting Great Danes.





RAINBOW BRIDGE—Our Deepest Sympathy

Bob—Craig & Mame Corson
 Bruno—Pam & Terry Kassner
 Bubba—Randy & Becky Adams
 Cass—Twyla Black
 Daphne—Jim & Kathleen Walmsley
 Dave—Kathy & Bill Castellini
 Dudley—Marsha Wheeler
 Duke—Howard & Ryan Harmon
 Gracie—Jean & Chuck Inwood
 Izzy—Howard Stewart

Jack—Melody Brackney
 Josh—Pookie Kostuk
 Kisha—Ted Snyder
 Sara—Dori & Brad Baker
 Molly—Kim, Scott & Ethan Moyer
 Nick and Scotty—Tom & Dale Bath
 Perry—Cheryl Huber
 Rhett—Brian Reigelsperger
 Storm—Craig & Mame Corson
 Sugar—John & Melodie Whitacre

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!

Ace & Caressa—Mame & Craig Corson (*far right*)
 Amber—Kathy & Jim Walmsley
 Braydon—Barbara & Brian Spatz
 Bria—Robert & Susan Kozlowski (*right*)
 Chloe—Alice & John Rummell
 Patsy and Shania—Celesta & Richard Black
 Quincy and Angelina—Steve & Sandy Nichols
 Diana—Shirley Doran & William Traub
 Sarah and Levi—Sandy & Steve Nichols
 Susie, Spencer, and Demi—Tammy Lynne & Ben Cote
 Tyton—Kristine Blazey & Terri Mallery
 Zoe—Ashley & Jonathan Davis
 Zoebell—John & Annie Gonzalez



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT—Nancy Marconett



Bio: Native Ohioan, hometown: Wilmington; Pharmacist (retired 1999).

Owned by: Two Great Danes, Simon and Britney; one Dane mix, Woody; and one Toy Fox Terrier, Billy Bob.

Current HHGDR work: Assisting with organizing and staffing awareness events.

HHGDR History: Adopted first Dane in 1994; newsletter editor 1997-2005; began taking on many other tasks such as transport, awareness events, grooming days, and adoption appointments in 1999.

High point: “Every time I saw one of the dogs I had transported find his/her forever home.”

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



DONORS AND SPONSORS—A Huge Thank You!

Randy & Becky Adams	Ruth Friscoe	Sara & Kevin McDaniel
Christopher Alioto	James Gaube	Christe McGarry
Julia Archer	Mary Beth Gettins	Linda & Jim McGarry
Dori Baker	Timothy & Alex Goings	Robin McKell
Merrilee Bauman	Autumn & Matt Goldsmith	Ronald & Barbara Meese, for Hayley
Jennifer & Tony Bavry	Thelma Goris	Constance Megjison
Andy & Wendi Beauseau	Russell Grigg, in memory of Skippy	Susan Meyer
Karin Bergquist, Over the Rhine	Randall Gross	Amy & Steven Miller
The Big Dog Bunch	Janice Haber	Barbara Morwessel
Celesta Black	Nikki Noo Haimes	Mt Healthy Animal Hospital & Clients
Dan Blankenship	Jeffrey & Barbara Hale	John & Kelly Mulligan
Kristine Blazey	Michele Hengle, birthday gift for Kelly Eiker	Stephen & Sandra Nichols
Nancy Brennan	Samantha & Eric Hill	Cindy Orlasky
Greg Brown	Holly Homan Witte	Brian & Kelly Owens
Tiffany Brown	Kenny Honaker	Erica Pearl
Julie & Kim Buschmeier	Hubbard Valley Alpacas	PETSMART Charities
Teresa & Anastasio Camacho	Lisa Huelskamp	Susan Pettitt
Janet Carleton	Douglas Hull	Patricia Porter, for Hayley
Patti & Blake Carver	The HumaneResourceUSA, LLC	Pandy Pridemore
Ray Chesnick	Melody Hunter-Dallas	David Pucci, birthday gift for Kelly Eiker
Barbara & Mark Cisler	Carol Jones, in honor of Jake	Polly Pyles
JJ Clark	Fredrick & Kathryn Jones	Carolyn & Robert Reis
Joseph & Kimberly Coffey	Jennifer Jones	Rylee-Ann Romero, for Jerret and Carrie
Annette & Robert Condon	Melanie King, for Hayley	Alice & John Rummell
Don Corsmeier	Jennifer Kisker	Brenda Ruth
Mame & Craig Corson	Laura Koch	Sams Club, Eastgate
Summer & Bentley Corson	Pookie Kostuk	Sandra & Gabriel Seidman
Phyllis Dawkins	Robert & Susan Kozlowski	Betsy Shi, for Hayley
Angela Desimone	Theresa & Brent Kraus	Betty Shonebarger, for Hayley
Linford Detweiler, Over the Rhine	Kevin Kremer	Charles Smith
Julie & Anthony DiPietro	Sabrina Lefever	Ted Snyder, in memory of Kisha
Beth Dotson	Jillian Lenczicki	Brian & Barbara Spatz
Debbie Eades	Sharon Lewis	Erin Stiffler
Ken & Kelly Eiker	Judson Linder	Candy Stoer
Donna & Wayne Fanta	Stephanie Linder	Rena Tipton
Erika Fawcett	Courtney Lymber	Jim Tomaszewski
Ben, Mike & Tony Firth, for Hayley	Thomas Magers	Touch of Gratitude LLC
Ed Firth	Karen & Jon Magnusson	Whitney & Brian Townsend
Louisa Fleischmann	Terri Mallery	John & Melodie Whitacre
Forest Elementary School, Troy, Ohio, Students & Staff	Nancy Marconett	Jo & Ken Williams
Amy Freading	Thomas Mattingly	Robert & Dee Dee Wyenandt, for Robby
		Judy & Tom Yacks



HOW HHGDR GIVES BACK

You've heard from the Rescue that it needs help. Again. You scratch your head and think, "I keep giving, and they keep taking. Sure, it helps the dogs. But all I ever hear is 'We need...'"

But there's another side. Surprisingly, the Rescue—who many think is the end of the food chain for donations—is often called on for help as well. Here are a few of the ways we're giving back.

Blood

Just like humans, dogs have accidents and illnesses that can require a blood transfusion. And, just like in the human world, donors are needed to provide this blood. Unfortunately, there isn't a canine "bloodmobile" or a well-funded advertising campaign to collect this blood, so many vets rely on local contacts when they need a donor. Harlequin Haven has answered the call on many occasions when our vets have a need for canine blood.

Basic requirements for a canine donor are good health and a weight of at least 80 pounds—two categories for which we have many potential matches. Our most frequent donor, however, is Monty. A pooch with a heart of gold, Monty is always willing to share some cells, and has saved countless lives by doing so. A quick trip to the vet, a quick "stick" and a little drama (Monty likes to be the center of attention, and has at times feigned a fainting spell to help this along... if he could keep *both* eyes closed when he does it, it might be a little more convincing), and another canine companion's life is saved.

Dog Food

The Rescue often receives much-needed donations of food for the dogs, without which we would not be able to continue our mission. Not every rescue or shelter is so lucky. When a

local county shelter was running low on food for their dogs, and couldn't afford to purchase more, Harlequin Haven stepped in, sharing with the shelter to assure that other homeless dogs continued to have a meal and bridging the gap while the shelter raised more funds.

Creative

Mozart's paintings, while supporting his personal mission, have gone to help other groups and organizations. In December 2007, one of Mo's paintings, "Desert Dane", was auctioned on eBay to provide requested items for a group of our troops stationed in Iraq. The soldiers were thrilled to receive items from home that can't be obtained in the Middle East, making their separation from home and loved ones a little easier.

In May 2008, "Sunshine Dayne" was donated to Art for Life, a fundraising event for the Columbus AIDS Task Force. The event was sponsored by, among many others, the Columbus *Dispatch*, Columbus' daily newspaper; Starbucks Coffee; and Limited Brands (of Victoria's Secret and Bath & Body Works fame) and was attended by such dignitaries as Columbus Mayor Michael Coleman and Ohio Governor Ted Strickland. Mo's work stood side-by-side with those of more than one hundred human artists in the silent auction and helped to generate much needed funding and awareness for the Task Force.

These are just a few of the ways that Harlequin Haven gives back to the community that has been there for us. By helping the community as a whole, we help ourselves; by giving back, we become a part of the community. If you're aware of a cause that may be of interest, please e-mail us at info@hhdane with the details. While we're not always in a position to help, every opportunity will be given consideration.



MONTY donates blood.



Sunshine Dayne by MOZART DANE

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.



HUNTER is a homeless Great Dane, now living at the Rescue and learning about life inside a building, regular meals, and beds.



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 52 Great Danes, 7 Saint Bernards, 2 other breeds, and 7 mixed breed dogs waiting for new homes. To date we have adopted out 1268 Great Danes and other dogs.

ART WITH A MISSION by Mozart Dane



Festival-goers stand in line at Mozart's booth at the Madeira Art Fair in May.

Please join Mozart at the 5th Annual Warren County Festival of the Arts on Saturday, June 28, 10 AM-6 PM, in downtown Lebanon, Ohio.

Mozart paints with his paws to help support the Rescue and provide for the homeless dogs.

Visit the Web site for more info.



Fireflies At Mo-dnight,
Acrylic on canvas, 20 x 24"



A-Mo-re', Acrylic on
canvas, 8 x 10"