



# HHGDR Newsletter

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- 12 Great Danes in need of forever homes
- 6 Sanctuary Dogs
- HHGDR has adopted out 1,570 dogs
- FAQ at [hhdane.org/faq/faqmain.htm](http://hhdane.org/faq/faqmain.htm)

-  [facebook.com/HHGDR](https://facebook.com/HHGDR)
-  [facebook.com/HHGDR.fundraising](https://facebook.com/HHGDR.fundraising)
-  [facebook.com/MozartDane](https://facebook.com/MozartDane)
-  [@mozartdane](https://twitter.com/mozartdane)
-  [pinterest.com/HHGDR/](https://pinterest.com/HHGDR/)

**Should You Put Your Anxious/Aggressive Dog on Medication?** by Kristina Lotz

If you have a fearful and/or aggressive dog, you may be wondering about putting her on medication. But you may also be wondering if it really works, will she have to be on it for life, and whether or not you can actually change your dog to say, enjoy having strangers come into her home. I watched a poor dog change drastically from medication, without seeing any real benefits. In fact, the dog was on so many meds it had a hard time in training because his energy level was so low.

There are a lot of differing opinions on this topic and no way we can discuss them all in one article. However, we are going to touch on some of the big questions answered by a veterinarian and a dog trainer. Just remember the best thing you can do for your individual dog is to seek professional help (both from a veterinarian and a dog trainer), ask a lot of questions, and make sure they are working together to do what's best for your dog.

*If your dog is fearful due to the human interaction he's had in this past, just drugging him is not going to change*

*that. He is going to need training and time.*

**The Veterinarian**

Dr. Cathy Alinovi, DVM, is a vet at Healthy PAWsibilities where she works with a trainer on tough dog behavior cases.

Q. When should dogs be put on medication?

Alinovi: Before prescribing medication, the reason for the anxiety should be explored. For some dogs, it's as easy as diet change to real food. For other dogs, neurotransmitter testing reveals a brain imbalance that can be treated with supplements. Some dogs do need anxiolytics but they don't always have to be Prozac; some herbal formulas can work well too. I use Shen Calmer or Heart Fire Flare-up for many of my patients.

Q. For the dogs with the brain imbalance, is that genetic then? Will training/behavior modification help or is there "no hope" expect some sort of drug or herbal remedy?

Alinovi: Brain imbalance is a lot like humans with ADHD or bipolar disorder—partly genet-

ic and partly due to environment. For some dogs, behavior training can help, but for others it takes neurotransmitter testing and medication to balance the brain (a lot like humans, but rather than Ritalin, getting to the reason for the imbalance). It's treatable but people should be patient and be consistent.

Q. Are the drugs a permanent "fix" or are they just so you can train the dog, with the goal to wean them off? I realize it will vary from dog to dog. But let's say for a nervous dog vs an aggressive dog, is there a difference in what the point of the medication is?

Alinovi: If you change nothing but give medication (be it herbs or Prozac) then nothing will change. If you also upgrade to real food and start behavior training then there is a possibility of weaning off the medicine.

Q. Can drugs really help a true aggressive dog (which is probably not seen as much) or do they work better for fear aggression and other nervous behaviors?

*(Continued on page 2)*



## HHGDR Mission Statement

To educate people about spay/neuter and the need for sterilization of all pets, proper health care of a pet, and nutritional requirements.

To promote humane principles, to protect homeless, abandoned, and mistreated Great Danes, and other animals as space allows.

To work with animal shelters and humane societies to protect Great Danes.

To locate life-long homes for the homeless Great Danes and any other animal in our care.

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](mailto:janet.carleton@gmail.com).

Current and back issues are available from the website and by request.

## Should You Put Your Dog on Medication? *continued*

*(Continued from page 1)*

Alinovi: The big thing with truly aggressive dogs is to do everything. I work with a great dog trainer at my clinic who is awesome with dogs with behavior issues. We work together—and find most of the issues are diet and owner mistakes. The owner mistakes are usually inadvertent miscommunications with their dog. If a dog is truly aggressive, medication won't help the issue—these dogs need dedicated owners who know how to handle their dog and prevent problem situations

### The Dog Trainer

Karen Scoggins is the Founder of My Perfect Pet Food and a dog trainer.

Q. Do you think there is a time/place for owners to put their anxious/fearful/aggressive dog on drugs? Do you think they help or hinder?

Scoggins: Drugs or medications are prescribed in order to produce a desired effect in the dog's temperament or behavior. As with people, there may be situations where the use of drugs or medications may be beneficial to chemically alter the dog's state. However, before making the decision to administer drugs or medications, pet owners should consider natural alternatives that may exist to achieve those same results with greater long term health benefits and fewer health risks.

Q. What are the alternatives you recommended your clients try?

Scoggins: 1. Exercise. Exercise is often an effective tool in lessening anxiety and stress. A good hard workout may produce the same "altered state" in the dog's system as a light sedative, leaving the dog feeling more calm, relaxed, and ideally even ready for a nap. A dog with pent up energy may seem agitated or stressed, when in fact what they really need is a good run and a little fun before being asked to calm down and rest for the afternoon/evening.

2. Diet. A healthy, natural diet that is nutritionally balanced and contains foods that are easily digested can also promote a calming effect throughout the dog's system. Experts agree that a child who has had a healthy breakfast before going to school is more alert, has a great learning capacity, and generally behaves better than a child who is hungry or not feeling well. The same applies to the dog. Natural foods are easier for the dog to digest, and a balanced system producing less tension internally will manifest fewer symptoms of stress externally.

3. Training. While exercise and diet are important elements, they are not substitutes for a consistent training program. Consistency is the key. A dog that is encouraged to demonstrate a certain behavior by one member of the family, but then

punished for that same behavior by another, is likely over time to become confused, frustrated, stressed, and may demonstrate these in the form of anxiety, fear, or aggression. Inconsistency in training and setting of clear parameters for the dog often leads to stress and frustration in the dog owner, which is often expressed verbally (and often loudly) to the dog, further increasing tension that could be avoided through consistency and discipline.

Q. When do you make that judgment to try a medication?

Scoggins: Bottom line, there are situations in which drugs and medications can be beneficial to the dog's health and family harmony, but they should never be used in lieu of natural means to achieve the same results. Maintaining a healthy exercise, diet and training regimen requires discipline and commitment, but the benefits will be enjoyed by the family for the life of the dog. When an issue exists that is beyond what can be addressed through proper exercise, diet or training, then it is time to call on the health care experts to determine the proper diagnosis and medical treatment plan.

*Article excerpt reprinted with permission of I Heart Dogs.*

See entire article at <https://iheartdogs.com/should-you-put-your-anxiousaggressive-dog-on-medication/>.

## About the Rescue

HHGDR has operated as a volunteer-run Rescue since 1992. It became a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit in 1998, and to date has placed 1,570 dogs in carefully screened forever homes. HHGDR serves Ohio, extreme northern Kentucky, and parts of

eastern Indiana. Currently 12 dogs are available for adoption. In addition, the Rescue houses Sanctuary Dogs living out their lives in the safe environment of the Rescue (the latter unadoptable for health, age, or other conditions). In 2017,

HHGDR spent more than \$20,700 on vet bills alone. Contributions are always welcome and are tax-deductible.

Contact the Rescue at [info@hhdane.org](mailto:info@hhdane.org).

### “Piggest Raffle Ever” 2nd Place Winner!



Congratulations to HHGDR volunteer and adopter Kelly Merino for winning the 2nd prize of a 2-year lease of the Toyota Prius!

This is the 2nd time one of our adopters has won the Toyota Prius!

And thank you so much to all that supported the Rescue and purchased Piggest Raffle tickets this year.



IAN



ELDON



FARAH



GAVI

### Recent Adoptions!

- ELDEN—Dustin & Amy Young
- FARAH—Donna & Greg Phillips
- GAVI—Bethany Gongwer
- IAN—Ed Luksic

See “How to Help” on the HHGDR site to contribute to the care and welfare of the homeless dogs.

## Volunteer Roll—It wouldn't happen without you!

### Attention Volunteers:

We would love photos of your activities! Please send them to the Rescue.

- Attorney
  - Mary Beth Gettins
- Veterinarians
  - David Fox
  - Mark Hayes
  - Dan Meakin
  - Frank Norvell
- Dori Baker
- Wendi, Brenna & Aubrey Beauseau
- John & Meghan Board
- Jason Brown
- Janet Carleton
- Don Corsmeier
- Mame, Craig, Summer & Bentley Corson
- Monika Dail
- Ken & Kelly Eiker
- Dale Francis
- William Gentry
- Mary Beth Gettins
- Melinda & Tim Goings
- Autumn Goldsmith
- Thelma Goris
- Steve & Kim Grubich
- Doug & Mary Hull
- Alison & Zeb Logan
- Ed Luksic
- Beth Mack
- Nancy Marconett
- Kathy Marsh
- Brad Mathews
- Thomas Mattingly
- Moira McCarthy
- Christe McGarry
- Heather McManes
- Kelly, Mark, Jackson, Naomi & Bella Merino
- Amy & Steve Miller
- Amanda Owen
- Daina Rice
- David Scott
- Mike & Beth Sedlock
- Sandra Seidman
- Erin, Stephen, Noah & Cole Smith
- Barbara & Brian Spatz
- Randy & Becky Ware
- Marsha Wheeler
- Jo & Ken Williams
- Mike Winters
- Judy & Tom Yacks

**Volunteers** perform all tasks for the Rescue—there are no paid staff. Almost any task a business needs to operate, the Rescue needs too.

Volunteers transport supplies and dogs, clean the Rescue facility, groom dogs, raise funds, write grants, work awareness events, write newsletters, and manage social media, to state a few. Some tasks require actually visiting the Rescue, many others do not.

Awareness events are held at festivals and pet supply stores. Volunteers set up with educational material provided by the Rescue and bring their dogs along. Passersby meet the successfully adopted dogs and hear about those that still need forever homes. Volunteers also educate on the pet store/puppy mill connection and the need for spay/neuter of all pets.

HHGDR would love to put **you** to work helping the homeless dogs! Send email to [info@hhdane.org](mailto:info@hhdane.org) for a volunteer application today!



(Left) FELISA with young admirers at Mt. Adams Reindog Parade in December. She and her adopter Ed Luksic also table at the Western Hills PetSmart in the Cincinnati area monthly. (Right) ROSALEE greets shoppers during an awareness at PetSmart Easton in the Columbus area, along with her adopters Tim & Melinda Goings.

## Awareness Events

### Mingle with Our Mutts

- Dayton (Montgomery Co. Animal Resource Center)

### Moochie & Co

- Columbus (Polaris Mall)

### Petco

- Cleveland, Fairview Park (Westgate Mall)

### Petsmart

- Cincinnati (Western Hills)
- Columbus (Easton)

### Pet Valu **NEW!**

- Westerville

### Recent Adoptions— Happy Tails

GRIFFIN—Stacey & Tom Kampsen  
KIMBERLY—Daina Rice  
SIRI—Tedd & Sandy Wilcox



SIRI



GRIFFIN



KIMBERLY

HHGDR  
advocates for  
the SPAY and  
NEUTER of all  
pets. There  
aren't enough  
homes for them

### Mozart's Mission @ HHGDR

MOZART DANE (2004–2016) painted with his paws to help support the Rescue and provide for the homeless dogs. He was the Rescue spokesdog against puppy mills, pet stores, and for spay/neuter.

HHGDR continues to honor Mo by taking up his quest to end the abuse and neglect of dogs and puppies in puppy mills. The [Mozart Dane Facebook](#) page and [Twitter](#) ac-

count are rebranded as **Mozart's Mission @ HHGDR**,

Just a few of his life's work of unique paintings are still available. See them on the Rescue website—all of the funds go to supporting the homeless dogs at the Rescue.

Visit and support Mo's Mission at [facebook.com/MozartDane](https://www.facebook.com/MozartDane) and [hhdane.org/mozart/](http://hhdane.org/mozart/).



Paw-bursts by MOZART DANE. 11" x 14" acrylic on canvas, \$140.

### Memorials—Our Deepest Sympathy

AMBER—Kathleen & James  
Walmsley  
GRACIE aka DIANA—Shirley  
Doran & William Traub  
JETHRO, JOSSLYN, and TORI—  
Tom & Dale Bath

LUKE—Amy & Dustin Young  
RUBY—Holly Witte

### Help Save the Earth and the Homeless Danes!

Upcycled feed bag tote bags handcrafted with love by a dedicated volunteer. Sizes vary, your choice, supplies are limited. Email [in-fo@hhdane.org](mailto:info@hhdane.org) prior to paying to be sure of availability. \$10 large/\$5 small.

Find them at <http://hhdane.com/howtohelp/howtohelp.htm>



## Donors and Sponsors—Thank You!

Alisandro in honor of JOSSLYN	Penny Dunne-Muzi	Margaret Havinga, in honor of Erika Marsillac	Sara & Kevin McDaniel
Crystina Aller	Margo Ehrenfield	Eddy Hickock	Christe McGarry, for LYNN
Anonymous, for IAN	Ken & Kelly Eiker	Leah, Eric & Kramer Holtzapple	Heather McManes
Anonymous, for HARRISON	Marjorie Eileen, Tony's Birthday Fundraiser for HHGDR	Holly Homan Witte	Kelly & Mark Merino, for LYNN
Vic Arvizu, Jayni's Fundraiser for HHGDR	Shelly Everett, Tony's Birthday Fundraiser for HHGDR	Hailey Householder	Amy & Steve Miller
Dori Baker	Arianna Falasca	Householder family	Alice Minic
Robert Barger	Donna & Wayne Fanta	Lisa Huelskamp	Doug & Susan Moehring
Gail Baumoele	Dale Francis	Doug & Mary Hull	Steve Moenter
Jennifer & Tony Bavry	James & Karalyn Frenelle, in loving memory of MICAH	Humble Bundle	Rebecca Mueller, in honor of Karin Bergquist
Brenda Bayse	Frese/Goebel & McColgan families, in memory of HILLARY the loving companion of the Gettins/Sauerbrunn family	Michelle Jessop	Kathy Mullins
Wendi & Andy Beauseau	Andrew Galusha	Myreda Johnson	Michele & Graham Myatt
Vince Beauseau, in memory of ULYSSES	Mary Beth Gettins	Courtney Jones	Nate Neri, Tony's Birthday Fundraiser for HHGDR
Karin Bergquist, in memory of ELROY	Gettins Law, in honor of Thelma Goris	Kathy & Fred Jones	Layne Ogden, Tony's Birthday Fundraiser for HHGDR
Sarah & Edward Blouch, for LYNN in memory of JAKE and DIESEL	Anne Gillespie	Pamella Kassner, in memory of RICA, SABLE, and BRUNO	Claire Osborne
Tate Blouch, in memory of JAKE and DIESEL	Justin Goff	Deborah King	Margaret Ports
Donald & Patricia Blum	Brian & Pam Goff, in honor of Justin Goff	Norma Kirkpatrick	Greg & Laura Prisco
Megan & John Board	Tim & Melinda Goings	Rebecca Klabusich, in loving memory of PHOENIX, CINDY, DIVITA, and LILLYMAE	Hannah Rastopsoff
Kimberly Borchardt	Autumn Goldsmith, for LYNN, in memory of HARMONY and PAULA, and in honor of POPPY	Kramer & Angela, in honor of TORI	Rylee-Ann Romero
Lynn Burke	Kristin Goodrich, for SIRI	Kuranda	John Ross, Tony's Birthday Fundraiser for HHGDR
Janet Carleton	Kristen Goodrich, in honor of SIRI	Kevin Lackey	Alice & John Rummell, in memory of CHLOE
Joseph & Kimberly Coffey	Annette Goodwin-Till	Alyssa Lane	Sam's Club Eastgate
Annette Condon	Thelma Goris	Mike Lang ,Tony's Birthday Fundraiser for HHGDR	Amanda Sanchez
Donald Corsmeier,	Bryan Griffin, in honor of GRIFFIN	Jim & Susan Leboda, in memory of Dale Leboda	Sidney Sauerbrunn
Mame & Craig Corson	Randall Gross	Alison & Zeb Logan	April Schwarz, in honor of ISAAC
Linda Cottle	Stephen & Kimberly Grubich	Joseph & Laura Luard	Elizabeth & Michael Sedlock
Linda Cottle, in honor of JADEN	Mike Harding	Ed Luksic	Sandra & Gabriel Seidman
Joel Cox, in honor of Karin Bergquist	Harry Whiting Brown Community House	Courtney Lymber	Mary Simon
James & Monika Dail		Beth Mack, for LYNN	Julie Sirianni
Phyllis Dawkins, in honor of Christy McGarry and all the times she brought the Danes to Van Cleve and Forest Elementary, Troy, Ohio		Matthew Mack , in memory of Bill Hutchinson	Sarah Sliman, Furr's Fundraiser for HHGDR
Jane Dickinson		Nancy Marconett	David Slone In Honor Of Karin Bergquist
		Bella Martini	Erin & Stephen Smith
		Tom Mattingly, for LYNN	

## Donors and Sponsors—continued

Cheryl Smith, in loving memory of my beautiful KITA ROSE	day Fundraiser for HHGDR	Marsha Wheeler
Sharon Smith	Erin Till	Dianne Wheeler
Christopher Smith, in memory of Bill Hutchinson	Chris Tonti, Tony's Birthday Fundraiser for HHGDR	James & Sandy Wikstrom
Marlene Snyder, in memory of Bill Hutchinson	Kathy Toomey, Sandee's Birthday Fundraiser for HHGDR	Jo & Ken Williams, for Lynn
Brian & Barbara Spatz	Chelsea Trujillo	Gloria Williams, in memory of Bill Hutchinson
Morgan Spiro, in honor of GAVI	Diana & Barry Tucker	Denise & Todd Williams, in memory of Bill Hutchinson
Judy & Walter Stein	Lynn Valentine	Alexander Williams, for Ivy
Howard Stewart	Gabriel & Sonja Venzin	Keith Wing, in memory of Bill Hutchinson
Erin & Carlos Stiffler	Chris Vince, Tony's Birthday Fundraiser for HHGDR	Marie Wolf, Tony's Birthday Fundraiser for HHGDR
Linda Sutphin, in honor of GRIFFIN	Jessica Wallace	Judy & Tom Yacks
Ashley Tarleton, in honor of HARRISON	Lynn Wallich	Jean Zilliox
Lindsey Thompson	Walmart Evandale	Sara Zimmerman, Sandee's Birthday Fundraiser for HHGDR
Stacy Thompson, Tony's Birth-	Andrea Weaver	

**Thank you for supporting the dogs!**

**We couldn't do it without you!**

## Young Boy Presents His Donation



George (center) and his mother Angie Hofelich (not pictured) traveled to this awareness event to present donations he collected to help the Danes. HHGDR volunteers Doug Hull (left) and Randy Ware (right) accept the donation on HHGDR's behalf at the event in Petco, Fairview Park, in the Cleveland area.

**WARM WEATHER WARNINGS**

Please see the Rescue website for these important articles and more!

**Heatstroke:** <http://bit.ly/hhgdr-heatstroke>

**Fireworks:** <http://bit.ly/hhgdr-fireworks>

**First Aid:** <http://bit.ly/hhgdr-firstaid>

## Harlequin Haven Great Dane Rescue

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Bethel, Ohio 45106-8634

Phone: 937-379-2231  
Email: [info@hhdane.org](mailto:info@hhdane.org)



A no-kill 501(c)3 all-volunteer  
-run non-profit shelter

[www.hhdane.org](http://www.hhdane.org)

### LYNN & LOUIS Playdate

Louis came in as a small puppy. He is blind, and will require a seeing dog to guide him at his forever home, but look at him playing with his friend LYNN!

LYNN is now available for adoption after months of HHGDR TLC. She came in with severe coat loss—no one could tell what color she might be—today we know she is a merle!

See them both at <http://hhdane.org/danes/1danelist.htm>

