

## COMMITMENT By A Homeless Dog

**W**e dogs found the definition in the dictionary, now if only humans could learn what it means!

**Commitment:** *The act of committing, pledging, or engaging oneself. A pledge or promise; an obligation.*

Do you know why there are so many homeless dogs in the United States? Do you know why there are so many dogs dying at shelters everyday? It is because humans do not take their commitments seriously. Humans think everything is disposable—their marriages, their children, and yes, especially their pets. Humans do not know what commitment really is!



BUBBA

We dogs here at the Rescue are homeless because our humans did not keep the commitment they made to us and neither did the breeders! All of us were considered disposable and we were dumped! We ask each other everyday what did we do wrong, why were we disposable! What happened to the commitment our humans made to us? We were willing to keep our commitment to you, even when you were not feeding and caring for us the way you should have!

The excuses you humans make when trying to get out of your commitments are pitiful!



KIARA

“He got too big.” Duh! I’m a Great Dane, not a Chihuahua!

“He is dumb.” Well gee, what did you ever teach me?

“He is dirty and sheds.” I *am* a dog after all.

“He eats too much.” Hey, take a look at your plate at dinner sometime.

“He chewed my shoes up.” You thought it was cute when it was someone else’s shoe. Of course you could have purchased me a toy or two to chew on!

Now humans, face some facts, you did not keep your commitment to us! You dumped us just like you dump the trash—you treated us like trash! How many of us came to this Rescue as skin and bones because you did not keep your commitment to us? How many of you claim to love us but never look back when you dumped us out on the street to fend for ourselves?



RYLEE

(Continued on page 2)

## ARE YOU READY FOR A DISASTER? by Susan Meyer

**D**isaster season is fast approaching in some parts of the country, and it is imperative to have a pet evacuation plan in place for your pets’ safety.

But you need not live on the Gulf Coast to fear a disaster. Disasters occur any time of the year and anywhere—fires, chemical spills, stream and river flooding, and more happen all too frequently. Many lessons were learned about the importance of evacuating with one’s pets in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. Do not let the animals that perished to have died in vain—learn from what happened.

Keep your pets’ identification information up to date



Photo courtesy KAT 5 Animal Rescue.

(Continued on page 2)

### Inside this issue:

Commitment	1
Are You Ready for a Disaster?	1
Spring has Sprung!	2
How To Help	3
Volunteering at Awareness Events	3
Volunteer News	3-4
Rainbow Bridge & New Adoptions	5
Donor & Sponsor News	6-7
Top 10 Reasons to Volunteer	7
Mozart’s Art	8



Forget-Mo-nots by MOZART. 16 x 8”, acrylic on canvas.

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



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

**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.

**COMMITMENT continued from page 1**

Why is the Rescue the only one committed to us dogs? The Rescue is cleaning up after our owners and breeders? Breeders need to realize that there are already too many homeless dogs. Just because humans want puppies you did not need to breed more! In the end there are more to die when the rescues are full!

What is this world coming too? When will humans learn the meaning of commitment?

*BUBBA, KIARA, and RYLEE are Great Danes looking for homes.*

See <http://hhdane.org/danes/1danelist.htm> for complete list of homeless Danes.

**ARE YOU READY FOR A DISASTER? continued from page 1**

with the correct phone numbers and address. It is ideal to have both a physical tag on collars and a microchip. Having a secondary number such as the rescue where you adopted your pet, or a trusted friend or family member, is helpful in case you become indisposed.

area as local places may be shut down due to the disaster.

Have a vehicle ready to transport your pet. Communicate with your neighbors prior to a disaster to plan for helping each other, especially with livestock and larger animals. If you

do not have a vehicle, have a plan in place to go with friends, family, or neighbors. Leaving your pets to fend for themselves is not an option.

During or after a disaster your pets may act differently due to fear and trauma from the weather changes, picking up your fear, or the change in surroundings. Keep this in mind and monitor your pet carefully.

Our pets depend on us for their safety. Having a pet evacuation plan in place is a must for

you and your pet. When the storm or other disaster clears, you will be glad that your beloved pets are safe.

*Susan Meyer is executive director of KAT 5 Animal Rescue, and a volunteer for HHGDR.*



*Hurricane Gustav in Louisiana These owners not only did not evacuate their dog, but left him tied up where he could have drowned. Photo courtesy KAT 5 Animal Rescue.*

Have a disaster kit ready for your pet: bottled water, food (wet food will enable your pet to need less water than dried food), metal food and water dishes, can opener, pet wipes, flashlight, blanket, vet records indicating ownership and up to date vaccinations, medications, pet first aid kit, extra leashes and collars, kennel, toy that your pet is familiar with, and photo of you and your pet (sealed in a plastic bag) for identification.

Include a list of emergency phone numbers. List all of your numbers—veterinarians, pet friendly hotels, local boarding kennels, and animal shelter and control facilities.

Be sure to research boarding facilities and pet friendly hotels far enough away from your

**SPRING HAS SPRUNG—Time to Volunteer! by Amy Miller**

The Danes at Harlequin Haven slowly emerge from their wintry slumbers. They bask in the sun warming their coats. Anxious feet start to prance; several feel frisky—breaking into dance. The temp is rising and with it their hopes that Spring brings volunteers.

The Danes know they thrive thanks to a core bunch; but in their eyes, these special people are like biscuits, and they can never have too much!

The Danes are rooting for more volunteers to help nurture the Rescue. They have done some digging and unearthed these areas of need:

⚙ Awareness events—Planting their stories into the hearts of potential adopters

- ⚙ Writing for the newsletter—Nutrient rich information
- ⚙ Fundraising—Cultivating a little green
- ⚙ Cleaning days—Deweeding the lawn (a.k.a. de-pooping the yard)—Spring cleaning Rescue-style
- ⚙ Grooming days—Showering Danes with affection

Please consider becoming a special person to the dogs. Give a little time, plant a little love (on their adorable snouts), and enjoy the Danes blossoming around you!

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 Web site and by request. <http://www.hhdane.org/>



## WISH LIST (Highest Need)

- Clorox Outdoor Bleach
- Crocheted/knitted afghans & throws
- Dog toys
- Dog treats
- Gravel for grounds
- Minivan to transport dogs
- Simple Green cleaner

For the complete Wish List, see "[How To Help](#)" on the Web site.



**Mozart's Lilacs** by MOZART.  
11 x 14", acrylic on canvas.

## VOLUNTEERING AT AWARENESS EVENTS by Melinda Villao

*"He must take up a lot of room."*

*"They must eat a lot."*

*"Where's his saddle?"*

Those are just a few comments heard over and over again from strangers who see our dear Alex or Paco at an awareness event. I'm sure you've probably seen us, and one of the dogs, at the PetSmart at Easton Mall or Mingle With the Mutts at the Franklin County Animal Shelter. If you're lucky, you might see anywhere from four to six Danes in one place.

When we adopted Alex, which was almost three years ago, we were so excited to have him in our family. Then I suggested we volunteer at Mingle with the Mutts. Twice a month, the Franklin County Animal Shelter allows rescue groups to bring some of their available adoptees for potential adopters to meet. Just like any new situation, it was a little intimidating. Thankfully, Tim and I volunteered with some seasoned veterans who could easily step in for the difficult questions.

We enjoyed volunteering so much, Tim started an awareness event at the PetSmart at Easton Mall. It's wonderful when a child's eyes light up when they see one of our boys. Or, when someone who is afraid of large dogs gets up the courage to pet one of them.

Even ALEX and PACO get excited. They know exactly what they're doing and love a couple hours when they are the center of attention.

What I love the most is seeing a new adoption success story added to the Rescue's Web site. Since we've adopted PACO, I am unable to volunteer as much—seeing these stories makes me hope my little contribution makes a difference. This is the first time I have volunteered for anything this close to my heart.

Just be cautious if you ever come to one of our events. Our boys know how to turn on the charm and just might trick you into adopting one...or more!

## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT—Tim Goings

**Bio:** Hometown: Columbus, Ohio, born and raised. Occupation: Insurance and construction sales. Partner Melinda Villao is also a volunteer (see her article in this issue).

**Owned by:** Two Great Danes, Alex (7) and Paco (10); and a Boxer-Lab-Rotty, Jade (5).

**Current HHGDR work:** Awareness events at Franklin County Mingle With the Mutts and PetSmart Easton Town Centre, Columbus.

**HHGDR History:** Started working Mingle With the Mutts after Alex's adoption in 2007; inaugurated the PetSmart event in 2008.

**High points:** Doing an awareness event talking with people, seeing those people go through the adoption process adopting a Dane, and then helping out on awareness events next to us. Makes me feel as if I'm a part of something important and that all of us in our own way make a difference little by little. Thanks HHGDR for letting me be a part of GREAT cause.

*Right: Tim Goings and Paco work the 2009 Friends for Life event.*





## VOLUNTEERS—Our Most Sincere Thanks!

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

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

- |                         |                     |                        |
|-------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Kathy Amrein            | Kenny Honaker       | Charlie Smith          |
| Dori Baker              | Doug Hull           | Barbara & Brian Spatz  |
| Brenda Batyske          | Jennifer Kisker     | Erin & Carlos Stiffler |
| Andy & Wendi Beauseau   | Chip Leader         | Melinda Villao         |
| Zach Boll               | Jillian Lenczicki   | Marsha Wheeler         |
| Jonathan & Eline Brandt | Ed Luksic           | Jonathan Williams      |
| Janet Carleton          | Beth Mack           | Ken & Jo Williams      |
| Don Corsmeier           | Nancy Marconett     | Julie Wiltse           |
| Mame & Craig Corson     | Thomas Mattingly    | Judy & Tom Yacks       |
| Ken & Kelly Eiker       | Christe McGarry     |                        |
| Ed Firth                | Susan Meyer         | <i>Attorneys</i>       |
| Dale Francis            | Amy Miller          | Mary Beth Gettins      |
| Cory Freading           | Steve Moenter       | Greg Ruehlmann         |
| Mary Beth Gettins       | Cindy Orlasky       | James Tomaszewski      |
| Timothy Goings          | Katie Pfierman      |                        |
| Dan & Annie Gonzalez    | James Predovich     | <i>Veterinarians</i>   |
| Thelma Goris            | Jenni Reinhart      | Wendy Lim              |
| Emily Ohirich           | Daina Rice          | Dan Meakin             |
| Yomaris Wiswell         | Mike & Beth Sedlock | Kristine Raab          |
| Lauren Herman           | Sandra Seidman      | Lee Schrader           |
| Stacy Hollinger         | Betty Shonebarger   | Steve Schrader         |
|                         |                     | Santiago Yerovi        |

## VOLUNTEERS—We couldn't do it without you!



Erin Stiffler works with SONNY, a shepherd mix, during Grooming Day at the Rescue.

Volunteers perform all tasks for the Rescue—there are no paid staff. Some travel to the Rescue for Grooming Day to lavish attention on the dogs and to give the dogs an opportunity to make friends with new people.

Some work at awareness and fundraising events all around our adoption region. Others help with cleaning and upkeep of the Rescue facility and transporting dogs & supplies. Still others help with activities such as writing for the newsletter, collecting proofs of purchase, and PR.

HHGDR would love to put **you** to work helping the homeless dogs! Please check the Rescue site for events in your area. <http://hhdane.org/events/events.htm>



Lauren Herman hands out treats to BOBBIE and BEKKA, both Great Danes, during a recent Grooming Day.



## RAINBOW BRIDGE—Our Deepest Sympathy

Alfred Milnes—Theresa & Chuck McShane  
Barney, Gracie, Ashton, Amy—Dale & Tom Bath

Ben—Ed Firth & Cindy Orlasky

Casper—Edward & Rose Emrick

Cheyenne—Marianne & John Moots

Elvis—Ken Kline

Gunner—Erin & Carlos Stiffler

Heidi—Dan & Annie Gonzalez

Keno—Lori Rader

Max—Sandra and Steve Nichols

Nikki—Janet Carleton & Dale Francis

Frannie—Tom Mattingly & Jonathan Williams

Rudy—Holly Witte

Sammy—Deena & Mark Snedegar

Sampson—Chad & Debbie Berges

Sarah—Sue Smith

Sasha—Eunice & John Ravenna

Savannah—Amy Askren

Shiloh—Kathy & Greg King

Teddy Ginn Jr.—Sabrina Lefever

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

## RECENT ADOPTIONS—Congratulations!

Alina—Jonathan & Eline Brandt

Bekka—Barb & Peter D’Onofrio

Brian—Susan & Dean Hertert

Bruce—Margaret & Hurbert Mills

Caleb and Lincoln—Mary Simon

Dion—Holly Witte

Kingston—Marianne & John Moots

Myla—Zach & Lisa Hemphill

Skylar—Erin & Carlos Stiffler

Troy—Keith Merriman & Kristy Galloway



*Just a few of recent happy endings.*

*Clockwise from top left: BRUCE, LINCOLN AND CALEB, KINGSTON, MYLA, and ALINA.*





## DONORS & SPONSORS—A Huge Thank You!

Zandra Abatsis, for Rylee  
Lenard & Melissa Adams  
Randy & Becky Adams  
Kandace Affa, for Rylee  
Christine Albert  
Jeanne Anderson, for Rylee  
Anonymous, donation of stock  
Thomas Arnold  
Todd Bahner  
Dori Baker  
Bernie & Bob Ball  
Jennifer & Tony Bavry  
Andy & Wendi Beauseau  
Karin Bergquist, Over the Rhine  
Best Friends Boarding Kennel  
Mary Bickel, for Rylee  
The Big Dog Bunch  
Alexandra Black  
Celesta Black  
Twyla Black  
John Blakely, for Rylee  
Donald & Patricia Blum  
Megan Board  
Zach Boll  
Michelle Botts  
Nancy Brennan  
Tiffany Brown  
Michael & Marian Burlingham, for Rylee  
Danette Bush  
Teresa & Anastasio Camacho  
Janet Carleton  
William Carleton  
Kathryn Carr, for Dion, Skylar, Hayden  
Beau & Michelle Chinn  
Pellegrino Ciccarello  
Joseph & Kimberly Coffey  
John & Margaret Conacher  
Annette Condon  
Julie & Joe Corbin  
Mame & Craig Corson  
Michelle Cox, for Rylee  
Laura Crispin, for Rylee  
Kathleen Crosby, in honor of Tom Yacks  
Jeannette Davenport, in loving memory of Halle  
Jenessa Davis, for Rylee  
Laura & Bliss Davis  
Robert & Sonia Derge  
Linford Detweiler, Over the Rhine  
Jane & Ken Dickinson  
Michael & Sharon DiMario  
John & Mary Donovan  
Karen & Christopher Dorn  
Victory & Frank Dorrian  
Debbie Eades, in memory of Opal and Pearl, and for Rylee  
Margo Ehrenfield-Hilbig  
Ken & Kelly Eiker  
Robin Ellsworth  
Vicki Emery  
Edward & Rose Emrick, in memory of Casper Emrick  
Donna & Wayne Fanta  
Cheryl Fetterman, for Rylee  
Ed Firth, in memory of Ben  
Mike, Tony, Rosey, & Emma Firth, for Rylee  
Dale Francis  
Amy Freadling, for Rylee  
Ruth Friscoe  
Patricia Gall  
Mary Beth Gettins  
Gina Giallombardo  
Justin Goff  
Tim Goings  
Heather Gordon, for Skylar  
Thelma Goris  
Karen Graham, for Rylee  
Great Dane Enterprises, Inc  
Randall Gross  
Polly Grunfeld Sack  
Alexine & John Hasselbeck, for Bubba  
Margaret Havinga, in honor of Sylvain & Erika Marsillac  
Katie Herington, in honor of Lisa Huelskamp & Ben Herington  
Lauren Herman  
Elizabeth Hoker, for Rylee  
Homan Foundation, in honor of Holly Witte  
Holly Homan Witte, in honor of Rudy's 10th Birthday and the New Year, in memory of Rudy  
Kenny Honaker  
Stacy Hott  
N.L. Hotten, in memory of William Ports  
W.B. Hotten, in memory of William Ports  
Patricia Hoyer, in memory of Vinnie  
Hubbard Valley Alpacas  
Douglas & Mary Hull  
Tamara Hurst  
Myreda Johnson, for Rylee  
Carol Jones, for Rylee  
Jim & Pam Keiser  
Pamela Keller  
Gregory & Kathy King  
Heather King, for Rylee  
Jennifer Kisker  
Jim & Becky Klabusich  
Mary Klei, in memory of Duke and Amy  
Karen Klein, for Rylee  
Kenneth Kline, for Skylar  
Theresa & Brent Kraus  
LA Online Marketing  
Diane Lancia  
Steve & Betty Lane  
Andrea Langworthy  
Patricia Lawye, for Ashton  
Sabrina Lefever, in memory of Teddy Ginn Jr.  
Jillian Lenczicki  
Jackie Lipton  
Raymond Lyle  
Courtney Lymber  
Beth Mack  
Karen & Jon Magnusson, for Rylee  
Donna Maibaum  
Nancy Marconett, in memory of Barney  
Erika & Sylvain Marsillac, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from Sally  
Sally & Rowan Marsillac

(Continued on page 7)



## DONORS AND SPONSORS

*(Continued from page 6)*

Thomas Mattingly  
 Sara & Kevin McDaniel, for Sanctuary Dogs  
 Christe McGarry  
 Linda & Jim McGarry  
 Theresa & Chuck McShane, in memory of Alfred Milnes  
 Ronald & Barbara Meese  
 Peggy Messer, in memory of Justin Messer  
 Susan Meyer  
 Amy & Steven Miller  
 Rebecca Miller  
 Marianne & John Moots  
 Rudolph Moreira, MD  
 John Mulligan  
 Heidi Neltner  
 Lea Ann Niedbalski, for Rylee  
 Yvonne Ochse, for Rylee  
 Jeff & Kaneesha Ogle  
 OhioHealth, in honor of Robert Wardrip  
 Doug & Susan Oilar  
 Cindy Orlasky, in memory of Ben  
 Over the Rhine (Band)  
 Hilary Park  
 Carissa Passarelli, for Rylee  
 Danette Patrick  
 Karen Penichter  
 PETS<sup>M</sup>ART Charities  
 Katie Pfierman  
 Margaret Ports  
 Timothy & Elizabeth Ports, in memory of William Ports  
 Jessica Potts  
 Gregory & Laura Prisco  
 Charlie Rainbow Wolf, for Rylee  
 John & Eunice Ravenna, in memory of Sasha  
 Daina Rice  
 Gunner & Juno Rice, for Romeo, Juliet, Skylar, Dion  
 Patricia Riffle  
 Rylee-Ann Romero, for Atlas and Bruce  
 Jared & Nikki Roy, for Rylee

Greg & Jean Ruehlmann  
 Alice & John Rummell, in honor of Chloe Rummell  
 Julia Sampson  
 Sam's Club Eastgate  
 Cynthia Schuler  
 Elizabeth & Michael Sedlock  
 Sandra & Gabriel Seidman, for Dawn  
 Katharine Shackley, for Rylee  
 Betty Shonebarger  
 Antje Simunac  
 Charles Smith  
 Sandia Sommer  
 Brian & Barbara Spatz  
 Terry Stanley, for Rylee  
 Judith & Walter Stein  
 Josalynn Stephens, for Rylee  
 Howard Stewart  
 Erin & Carlos Stiffler, in memory of Gunner  
 Strictly Dogs Daycare  
 John Stuck  
 Three Dog Bakery, Columbus  
 Thomas Toterhi  
 Underhill Studios & Productions, for Rylee  
 Magdalena Veigl  
 Melinda Villao  
 Christine Vrooman, in memory of Muldoon, Luke, Kenny  
 Cullen Wainscott  
 Cheri Walter, for Rylee  
 Lisa Warner, for Rylee  
 Jason Weier  
 Darlene & Scott Welch  
 Robin Wertheimer  
 Marsha Wheeler  
 Sandra Wikstrom  
 Jo & Ken Williams  
 Jonathan Williams  
 Don, Pam, & Einstein Wolf  
 Kathy Wolfe, for Rylee  
 Lisa Wood, for Rylee  
 Judy & Tom Yacks  
 Kevin Zemanek, for Rylee

## TOP 10 REASONS TO VOLUNTEER by Amy Miller

10. "We make a living by what we get, we make a life by what we give." —Winston Churchill.
9. "Every dog must have his day." —Jonathan Swift
8. "The gift of time is priceless." —Author unknown
7. "Animals are such agreeable friends—they ask no questions, they pass no criticisms." —George Eliot
6. "Nobody can do everything, but everyone can do something." —Author unknown
5. "The average dog is a nicer person than the average person." —Andy Rooney
4. "The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others." —Mahatma Gandhi
3. "Even giants need love!." —Dirk Miller
2. Danes like DENVER, KENDAL, HER-SHEY, RYLEE, LANDON, and ZIVA need you.
1. You decide. Just volunteer and share your experiences in the next newsletter!

### **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.*



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](mailto:info@hhdane.org)  
<http://www.hhdane.org/>



HHGDR is a no-kill 501(c)3 all-volunteer-run nonprofit shelter.

**LOOKING FOR FOREVER HOMES LIKE YOURS...**

*We have 29 Great Danes, 4 other breeds, and 2 mixed breed dogs waiting for new homes. To date, HHGDR has adopted out 1366 dogs.*

## ART WITH A MISSION—Mozart Dane's Art



**Ca-Mo-uflage** by MOZART. 8 x 10", acrylic on canvas.

Mo paints with his paws to bring awareness to the plight of homeless dogs.

Keep an eye out for MOZART's event schedule. He plans to build on his previous successful festival seasons, with the aid of his sidekick Gracie. Mo also need volunteers to both help him at his shows and work at the Rescue on the days that he is traveling.

Sales of his art help support the Rescue. If you know of a space that works with local artists, that would be a good match for

Mo's work, please e-mail MOZART at [mozart@hhdane.org](mailto:mozart@hhdane.org).

To view and purchase Mo's paintings and crafts, and find out about upcoming events, see <http://hhdane.org/mozart>.

To interact with Mo online, visit [Twitter](#), [Flickr](#), or [Facebook](#).

facebook

flickr®



FOLLOW ME ON TWITTER