

**DEAR SANTA—A Letter from the Homeless Dogs**

**D**ear Santa, We have tried to be good dogs this year! But we know that we may not have been good all year long, so we hope you will forgive us for our bad days. We have our paws crossed that you will find it in your heart to give us a few presents. Yes, we know that the economy is still struggling, but hey we are homeless, and are just dogs that need and want new toys to play with!



NAKESHA came from the Franklin County Animal Shelter.

Our first gift as always, we would love to have forever homes, especially for the senior dogs that seldom are even looked at. But we aren't dumb like some people think, we know that there is no chance for all of us to get a home, and heck with the economy, we will be lucky if anyone at all gets adopted. So we are thinking realistically. We would like toys that would last us a few weeks and not cause Grandma to worry about a blockage surgery because we ate the toy, plus toys are cheaper than surgery!

With today's economy we would also ask that you buy American-made dog toys and maybe we can help out a few people back to work and then more homeless dogs would be adopted!

Here are a few links to find American-made dog toys. Of course not all on our list are made in the USA, but we tried!

Of course Santa, we will be appreciative of anything we get, as Grandma tells us it is not polite to beg. Also if it is easier just give us money, we love to shop on the Internet!



TREY required surgery to help his leg.

Thank you Santa for reading our letter again this year 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!

Santa, just so you don't have to work too hard looking for our toys & stuff we have included some links where we found them. Of course please feel free to shop anywhere you prefer!

**Have a Happy Holiday!**

**Hugs & Slobbers**

**All the dogs at HHGDR**

*Please see page 2 for our toy wish list!*



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**The Rescue will be closed for adoption appointments December 18 to January 6.**

**CALENDARS AND CARDS, OH MY!**

**Holiday Greeting Cards**

This season purchase holiday cards and support the Rescue! These 5x7" cards feature the Rescue dogs in 36 different designs and come with white envelope. Cards are .50 each, plus shipping, mix and match allowed, but must buy in increments of 5 (total cards). To order, email specifying design, and number of each.



**2012 Wall Calendars**

These beautiful calendars come in two designs—MOZART and his art, or portraits of the Rescue dogs. \$15 each; free shipping within the contiguous US. Bulk discounts available.



Both are available for a limited time only—buy them while they last! See them all at <http://hhdane.org>.



Like us at <http://facebook.com/HHGDR>

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

**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.

**OUR 2011 HOLIDAY WISH LIST****SITES FOR SANTAS**

- \* <http://www.dog.com>
- \* <http://www.kvvet.com>
- \* <http://www.petedge.com>
- \* <http://www.helpingudders.com/BigDogToys.htm> (Helping Udders has toys just for big dogs! Plus if you buy there, **10% goes back to our Rescue.**)

**Toys**

- \* BiteABones (Bowser 8 ½") any flavor, we aren't picky
- \* Bones: Natural Beef (XL)
- \* Bones: Sterilized (large or giant)
- \* Nylabone: Knots (large or giant)
- \* Nylabone: Bones (giant or souper)
- \* Rope Toys (XL)
- \* Stuffing-free soft toys (Mingo\*\*, Grriggles, Loffa, Fleece Flatties, etc.)
- \* Tough By Nature: Good Cuz/Bad Cuz (large only)

- \* Tough By Nature: JW Bowling Pins (large only)
- \* Tough By Nature: Ruffians Octopus or Chicken (large only)
- \* Wubbas (large or XL)
- \* Zogotlex: Būmi, Hurley, or Huck\*\* (large only please)

**AMERICAN-MADE TOYS\*\***

- \* <http://www.toysmadeinamerica.com/dogs.html>
- \* <http://www.akersacrespets.com/page/1266692>
- \* <http://www.katiesbumpers.com/>
- \* <http://www.kongcompany.com/>
- \* <http://www.mickeypetsupplies.com/Made-in-USA-pet-supplies-s/118.htm>
- \* <http://www.purrfectplay.com/>
- \* <http://www.westpawdesign.com/articles/-west-paw-story/who-made-it>

\*\*made in USA

**EBAY SALES**

Volunteer Becky Adams regularly sells items for the Rescue under the name **adoptfrom-rescue**. All proceeds benefit the Rescue dogs.

For the holidays, she will be listing a variety of Great Dane Christmas ornaments, a nativity set, dog toys, and a Longaberger basket. You can start your Christmas shopping on Ebay and support the Rescue at the same time.

**POISON CONTROL HOT LINES**

**Keep these Numbers by your Phone!**

**Kansas State University College of Veterinary Medicine's [Pet Poison Control Hotline](#)** (free) is available M-F, 8-5 at 785-532-5679.

**ASPCA's [Animal Poison Control Center](#)** emergency hotline (fee-based) is available 24-hours at 888-426-4435.

**[Pet Poison Helpline](#)** emergency hotline (fee-based) is available 24-hours at 800-213-6680.

**ABOUT THE RESCUE**

HHGDR has operated as a Rescue since 1992. It became a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit in 1998, and to date has placed 1,427 dogs in carefully screened "forever" homes. HHGDR serves Ohio, extreme northern Kentucky, and eastern Indiana. Currently 26 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 condi-

tions). In 2010 HHGDR spent nearly \$20,000 on vet bills alone. Contributions are always welcome and are tax-deductible.

Unlike some large nonprofits, HHGDR has no paid employees. Not one person receives financial compensation for the work done for the Rescue—the only pay is the gratification of helping the homeless dogs, as well as dog kisses and hugs!

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/>



## HARD DECISIONS By Betty Smith

Our 12-year-old Great Dane Katie wouldn't respond to us. She just stood with her head down and her sides heaving. We managed to get her into the car and take her to MedVet (the emergency veterinary service in Columbus). When we finally arrived, they had to bring out a gurney to get her as she was unable to walk. They took her straight back and told us it would just be a few minutes until the vet could check her out. After x-rays, urine samples, and an ultrasound, she was diagnosed with polycystic disease. Cysts develop inside the kidneys and cause massive infection. The disease, while not fatal, is extremely painful and must be treated with antibiotics and pain medication. After a month on antibiotics, Katie was back to her usual self.

Unfortunately, the x-rays and ultrasound showed a tumor between her heart and lung. The vet said this tumor could have been there for years; with no prior x-rays for comparison, they couldn't judge if it was growing. We were told to wait 60 days; the follow-up x-ray revealed the tumor was growing. Treatment was surgery to remove the tumor and lung, then chemo.

Katie was my first Dane and my baby, but she was 12, and there was a very real possibility that the anesthetic would kill her. The surgery itself requires the ribs to be broken and pushed aside so the lung can be removed which would make recovery very painful. Once she had recovered, the chemo would make her very sick and weak. None of the vets who saw her could give me the least assurance that the cancer hadn't already spread, that she would survive the surgery and the chemotherapy, or how much time it would give her.

This is an emotional pit. You don't want to lose them but you don't want them to suffer. For those of you who have never been faced with a decision like this, it looks easy—the dog is elderly and not in the greatest of health due to the polycystic disease so you think there is no decision. But without the cancer, Katie might well live to be 14 as she was small even for a female. After much soul-searching, I made the decision. There would be no surgery. She

would live whatever time she had left in peace. I became educated on the signs to watch for that would indicate she was in trouble. And, if possible, I spoiled her even more than before.

Five months later, Katie ate her dinner as usual, went outside for a while, came back in and stretched out on the couch. Later, she asked to be let out and, after doing her business, started throwing up. When she came back in, her abdomen was very swollen and she was gagging. We managed to get her into the car and make it to MedVet. We had to wait for a while but in what seemed like a very few minutes, we had the news. The cancer had spread to her spleen and pancreas—one had ruptured and filled her belly with so much fluid they couldn't tell which. The only treatment was surgery to repair the damage. Thanks to pain medication and draining some of the fluid from her abdomen, Katie was not suffering.

We held her as the vet eased her passage from this life.

Ultimately, all any of us can do is make decisions with the welfare of our beloved friends foremost in our heart and mind. Sometimes, the decisions are easy and there are no gray areas. Other times, the decisions must be made based on our experiences and beliefs, but an element of doubt that we are doing the right thing generally creeps in. Did I make the right decision two months earlier? I would like to believe it wouldn't have made any difference if she had had the surgery and chemo but I don't know that for certain. I do know it would have made her life miserable for many weeks or months and I don't believe she would have wanted that any more than I would have wanted to see her have to go through it.

*Run free, my princess, run free.*



## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT—Tom Mattingly

**Bio:** Hometown: Cincinnati; Current: Columbus Occupation: Senior network manager for Aetna Better Health

**Owned by:** 3 Great Danes: Baba, Flash, and Molly, all from HHGDR; 2 cats: Kara and Pepper.

**Current HHGDR work:** Board of directors, home visits, volunteering at the Rescue facility, grooming days, fundraising, other duties as assigned.

**HHGDR History:** Adopted FRANNIE in 2001 and started one of the proudest endeavors of my life. Have done everything from plumbing to driving trucks of donated food, patching the roof to cleaning crates. Every job was necessary and I believe that every minute and dollar I've given has directly helped save a life. Also managed to do an MBA program from start to finish while still volunteering weekly.

**High point:** Realizing that what I do can never match the love the dogs give back; seeing some of the worst cruelty cases become loving, trusting pets; and knowing that the folks at the Rescue have joined my extended family.





### VOLUNTEERS—Our Most Sincere Thanks!

Becky Adams  
 Kathy Amrein  
 Dori Baker  
 Jonathan & Eline Brandt  
 Karen Callinan  
 Melissa Cannon  
 Janet Carleton  
 Michelle & Beau Chinn  
 Annette & Lacy Condon  
 Don Corsmeier  
 Mame, Craig, Summer, & Bentley Corson  
 Monika Dail  
 Jane & Ken Dickinson  
 Victory Dorrian  
 Riley Doss  
 Ken & Kelly Eiker  
 Ed Firth  
 Dale Francis  
 Cory Freadling  
 Kristy Gallogly

Mary Beth Gettins  
 Tara Gifford  
 Timothy & Melinda Goings  
 Thelma Goris  
 Doug Hull  
 Jim Keiser  
 Jillian Lenczicki  
 Ryan Liersmann  
 Ed Luksic  
 Beth Mack  
 Nancy Marconett  
 Thomas Mattingly  
 Moira McCarthy  
 Christe McGarry  
 Linda McGarry  
 Amy & Steve Miller  
 Margaret Mills  
 Dan Nusbaum  
 Jenni Reinhart  
 Greg Ruehlmann  
 Mike & Beth Sedlock

Sandra Seidman  
 Charlie & Betty Smith  
 Barbara & Brian Spatz  
 Marty Valentine  
 Marsha Wheeler  
 Dawn Williams  
 Jo Williams  
 Jonathan Williams  
 Judy & Tom Yacks  
 Amy Young

*Attorney*  
 Mary Beth Gettins

*Veterinarians*  
 Mark Burroughs  
 Mark Hayes  
 Frank Norvell  
 Lee Schrader  
 Steve Schrader

**CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR UPCOMING AWARENESS EVENTS IN YOUR AREA!**

#### CHARLES SMITH IN MEMORIAM

We lost a great friend and dedicated volunteer on November 17.

Charlie Smith began volunteering in 2005 and quickly became a friend and volunteer to count on. Charlie took great pride in doing whatever was needed and he was always there for the Danes and the Rescue. He will be greatly missed.

Our thoughts and prayers remain with his wife Betty and their dogs Moose, Ainsley, and Cooper.

**Charles Smith, 1941-2011.**



*Clockwise L to R: Volunteers Kristy Gallogly, Charlie Smith, and Beth Sedlock give the dogs some extra attention during Grooming Day at the Rescue. Doug Hull and granddaughter Moira McCarthy talk to shoppers while doing HHGDR awareness at Pet Supply Plus in Westlake, Ohio.*



## RAINBOW BRIDGE— Our Deepest Sympathy

JENNA—Shirley Doran & Bill Traub  
KRYSTAL and SEYMOUR—Dale & Tom Bath  
RUFUS—Shawn Meade  
SISSY—Sandra and Gabriel Seidman  
TYTUS—Stephen & Sandra Nichols



## RECENT ADOPTIONS—Congratulations!

GIANNA and AVA—Daniel & Samantha Barnett  
MANNY—Connie Newton  
KEVIN—Tjay Spencer & Lomar Watkins  
LETA—Jennifer & Robert Kipker

Don't forget  
to renew  
your Ohio  
dog license!





# DONORS AND SPONSORS—A Huge Thank You!



- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| Randy & Becky Adams                         | Debbie Eades, in memory of Opal and Pearl | Thomas Mattingly  |
| Barbara Andrews                             | Ken & Kelly Eiker                         | Sara & Kevin McDaniel, for Sanctuary Dogs                                       |
| Dori Baker                                  | Donna & Wayne Fanta                       | Christe McGarry   |
| Samantha & Daniel Barnett                   | Ed Firth                                  | Linda & Jim McGarry   |
| Merrilee Bauman                             | Kristy Gallogly                           | Amy & Steve Miller  |
| Jennifer & Tony Bavry                       | Mary Beth Gettins                         | Mt Healthy Animal Hospital & Clients  |
| Lisa Berg                                   | Gettins & Nelson, LLC                     | John Mulligan   |
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| The Big Dog Bunch                           | Justin Goff                               | Petsmart Charities  |
| Megan & John Board, for Trey, Jax, and Kita | Tim & Melinda Goings                      | Pro Plan Rally to Rescue  |
| Zach Boll                                   | Goodall family                            | Jenni Reinhart  |
| Michelle Botts                              | Anne Goodwin, for Trey                    | Rylee-Ann Romero  |
| Eline & Jonathan Brandt                     | Thelma Goris                              | Sam's Club Eastgate   |
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| Janet Carleton                              | Christa Hupp                              | Zen Trevino   |
| Beau & Michelle Chinn                       | Myreda Johnson                            | Marty Valentine   |
| Joseph & Kimberly Coffey                    | Jim Keiser                                | Marsha Wheeler  |
| Annette Condon                              | Kevin Lackey                              | Jo & Ken Williams, in memory of Krystal   |
| Julie & Joe Corbin                          | Chip Leader                               | Jonathan Williams   |
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| Mame & Craig Corson                         | Ryan Liersemann                           | Judy & Tom Yacks  |
| Summer & Bentley Corson                     | Anne Marie & Peter Lymber                 | Carl Young  |
| Monika & James Dail                         | Beth Mack                                 |   |
|   | Nancy Marconett, for Sanctuary Dogs       |   |

### 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.*



### Mozart Dane's Crafts & Apparel

Mo has a back stock of craft items—these pawto-graphed and paw-painted items are available for purchase, but just a few are left.

Each item is one of a kind—no two are exactly alike! Apparel items come in assorted colors and feature Mo's paw print and name, and include T-shirts, tank tops, aprons, and ball caps. Flower pots also feature paw prints. Magnets and hot pads feature Mo's free-form paw painting technique.

Show the world your support for Mo and the Rescue, and remember, all proceeds go to care for the homeless dogs at the Rescue! <http://hhdane.org/mozart/>





## THE CHRISTMAS PUP by Nancy Marconett

**W**hen I was about 8 weeks old a lady picked me to be a Christmas present for her grandson. She tied a big, red ribbon around my neck, put me in a wicker basket and took me to my new home. The little boy was delighted to find me under the Christmas tree. He squealed with delight, grabbed me and held me tightly. A little too tightly, but I'm not one to complain about getting attention. We had a wonderful time playing with the toys that grandma had brought with me.

The boy's mother told him that he would have to take care of me, because she sure wasn't going to do it. The boy promised that he would feed me, walk me and clean up after me.

For the first month or so the boy kept his promise and we had good times playing together in spite of the fact that I had to sleep in the garage. After a while, though, he found other things to do and spent less time with me. His mother had to remind him to feed me and take me outside for exercise and nature calls. By the time I was 6 months old I knew something was wrong. There were constant arguments between the boy and his mother. Sometimes the father would join the battle and send the boy to his room. Everyone was angry!

One day we all got into the car and drove a long way out into the country. When we stopped, we all got out. I thought we were going to play or at least take a walk. I heard the father say that I needed room to run, and someone would pick me up and give me a home. Then they all got back in the car and drove away. I tried to follow, but I couldn't run fast enough to catch up with them.

I was heartbroken and scared. I didn't know what I was going to do. I walked and walked until I was so tired that I had to lie down. I must have fallen asleep, because when I woke up it was getting dark. I was getting really hungry and scared. Then a

car turned into the lane and stopped. A man got out and came over to me. He looked me over and said "Either you're lost or someone dumped you. I already have five dogs so I can't take you with me, but I'll bring you food." A little while later he did bring me some food. There was a small creek across the road where I could get water to drink.

I stayed there and the man brought more food and petted me some, but he wouldn't take me with him. Late in the second day a woman drove up and stopped. The man was there as if he were expecting her. She got out and talked with the man for a while, then she opened the back door of her station wagon. She gave me some treats and put a collar and lead on me. At first I didn't want to get into the car because I remembered what happened the last time I got into a car. She talked to me in a kind voice and petted me. Finally I decided I could trust her so I went with her.

I don't know how long we drove because I fell asleep. It felt so good to be warm and comfortable again. I woke up when I heard a lot of dogs barking. We had stopped and the woman was getting out of the car. Another woman was coming toward us and I heard her say "He's just a baby! Let's get him inside." There were a lot of other dogs in the house and at first it was kind of scary. Then I realized that everyone was welcoming me and I felt much better. Now I am at the Great Dane Rescue, and I know that there are people who care about me. Grandma says she will make sure that I get a home with people who will love me and take care of me

*Puppies, kittens, dogs and cats are living creatures. No animal should be used as a gift.*

### THESE DANES WOULD LOVE TO GO HOME WITH YOU!



**KORINNA:** Me, my mom, and my 3 littermates, came to the Rescue from a backyard breeder. One of my brothers was adopted, but the rest of us are still here. We would love to love you!



**LAYNE:** I was found roaming the rural roads of Brown County (Ohio). I am a very sweet and loving Dane and I love to play. Wouldn't you like to play with me?



**HERSHEY:** My first owners took me to the Franklin County Animal Shelter when they were moving and could not take me. I am very big and very playful and need an active family so I do not get bored.





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

Harlequin Haven Great Dane Rescue  
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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 shelter.

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

*We have 24 Great Danes, 2 other breed, and 1 mixed breed dog waiting for new homes. To date, HHGDR has adopted out 1426 dogs.*

Happy Holidays  
from all the Rescue  
dogs!



Paw-litical\_Animal by MOZART. 24 x 36", acrylic on canvas, \$400.

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

Mozart's paintings make wonderful and unique holiday gifts for the animal-lover on your list!

Mo paints with his paws to help support the Rescue and provide for the homeless dogs. He is the Rescue Spokesdog against puppy mills, pet stores, and for spay/neuter.

In October Mo was invited to participate in an art event at the Village Artisans gallery in Yellow Springs, called Dare 2B Square.

Mo's paintings can be viewed and purchased from the HHGDR site. He even has lay-away and gift certificates! Read Mo's story and get details on his upcoming events at <http://hhdane.org/mozart>.



<http://facebook.com/MozartDane>



<http://twitter.com/mozartdane>



<http://flickr.com/hhgdr>