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Roxy came into HRI as an 11-year-old. She was adopted by our HRI Treasurers: John and Beverly Vics. They fell in love with her after one look into her eyes! They were asked to keep her for a few days until a foster returned from vacation. No foster care needed, Roxy was 'home'. They adopted her. Beverly is a participant in various dog competitions: Conformation, Agility, and Rally. Roxy became a competitor with joy. In just three months she finished her Rally Novice title, then her Obedience Beginner Novice.

Beverly says "She is a smarty! She is a blessing in our lives. Sleeps on the bed at our feet. Just a bundle of love...I've promised her for the rest of her life she will be cared for and loved". Roxy came in at age 11 as a 'Senior' dog and Beverly says " Adopting a senior is such a blessing. Roxy is so easy. She came to us housebroken and at her age asks for nothing but some food in her bowl, a walk a couple of times a day, and a soft spot to lay her head." Like Roxy, seniors are still able to learn new things and participate in what you do.

From March 1, 2020 to June 6, 2021
35 dogs were brought into HRI
13 of those dogs were over age seven

What Do All Those Letters Mean?

You see dogs with CH and GCH in front of their name and you know it means Champion and Grand Champion, but what are the initials after a Dog's name?

Answer: It depends on the area of AKC competition. For Roxy, in Rally, AKC offers 4 Titles, the RN (Rally Novice), the RA (Rally Advanced), the RE (Rally Excellent)

and finally the RAE (Rally Advanced Excellent). For the RN, RA, and RE titles, an exhibitor and his dog must earn 3 qualifying scores from two different judges at the appropriate level (Novice, Advanced, or Excellent). [Learn more about Rally](#)

There are other initials for Agility, Obedience, and other events....more later stay tuned.

Celebrating the cancellation of 4th of July fireworks? 😊



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Fireworks... Are Not A Celebration For Some Dogs

While the fireworks, picnics, and family gatherings are fun for us, they can be uncomfortable or even terrorizing for our dogs.

- The 4th of July is the most common time for dogs to run away. Make sure your dog is in a secure place in case they get scared by fireworks or someone leaves a door or gate open. Having your dog wear a GPS tracker can help you find them if they do runoff. Havanese Rescue uses Fi trackers on some of our dogs (<https://tryfi.com/>).
- You can help your dog get accustomed to the sound of fireworks by playing fireworks sound recordings at low levels. If your dog appears anxious or scared during these sessions, consult with a behavior specialist.
- Muffling the sound of fireworks by hanging out in an interior room or basement and having the TV or radio on can help many dogs feel more comfortable. You can also try having your dog wear dog ear muffs <https://doctear.com/best-dog-hearing-protection>.

By Gail Czarnecki

Cornell Univ, former faculty Univ Illinois, Ph.D. in Animal Nutrition, 30 years with Purina, Karen Pryor Academy Certified Training Partner, Family Paws Parent Education Consultant, Association of Dog Trainers APDT, Pet Professional Guild



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