



Havanese Rescue Inc <hri.nl.archives@gmail.com>

March 2013 Newsletter

1 message

Havanese Rescue Inc <newsletter@havanerescue.com>

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Havanese Rescue Inc Newsletter



March 2013

In This Issue
HavToHavIt
Matching Donations
Adoption Corner
A Sneak Peek
Letter from Home
Teach Your Children Well

HavToHavIt

Adoption Corner

Niko in IL



Niko is a very active two-year-old Havanese with a terrier-type personality. This little guy is curious, amusing, active and has lots of mental energy. He packs a lot of personality into his 11 pounds. Niko is very playful and loves, loves, loves toys! He pounces on them and even plays fetch with himself, throwing a toy in the air and racing off to catch it.



Your purchase of our new and improved **antlers** benefits two dog rescue organizations (as well as your dog's teeth).

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Many companies have programs through which they will "match" the charitable contributions made by their employees. Through corporate gift matching, your employer can double your gift to HRI, making it go twice as far.

Check with your company's Human Resources office to see if they offer gift matching. (If they don't, you may want to ask your company to start one.) If your employer does offer

Niko is extremely smart and learns very quickly when positive training methods are used, but tends to become over excited and can lose his patience when over aroused. However, he is learning to calm himself and will need to continue to work on this. Niko's new family will need to continue to work with a private trainer with experience using positive reinforcement methods, counter-conditioning, and/or BAT for dog reactivity or a group class in the above. His family should be actively involved with their dog and enjoy teaching him dog tricks and positive behaviors. He's not a couch potato!

Visit these websites for a partial list of trainers who are skilled in these methods.

[Clicker Training](#)
[Karen Pryor Academy](#)
[Functional Rewards](#)

Niko is clicker-trained which has helped him learn things and stay calm and focused. He really wants to do the right thing and needs positive and firm leadership. Niko gets along well with small, calm, well-balanced dogs and loves to play with them. He is sometimes fearful of larger dogs and does not play well with dogs that are too wild or with cats! Because he gets easily agitated he should not be placed in a home with small children. House-training is a work in progress, but he has learned to use a doggy litter box.



Niko loves to learn and will be a great dog for someone who enjoys spending time training him.

Niko is being fostered in IL.

this program, your Human Resources department should provide you with a matching gift form to send to HRI along with your donation.

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 Click [here](#) to request assistance for a [dog needing rescue](#)
 Click [here](#) to complete an adoption application.
 Click [here](#) to volunteer with Havanese Rescue Inc.
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Niko and and his food puzzle

A Sneak Peek ...

... at just one of the cool items that will be available for the Silent Auction at Nationals in August.



Letter from Home

Margie Lou and Tula

It was a grand day in September when an HRI Volunteer delivered Margie Lou to us. Her first six years were spent producing puppies in a puppy mill in the Midwest. For the first few weeks, she was shy and fearful. Slowly she began to warm up to us. Yet, she seemed unhappy at times, and in consultation with our new HRI Volunteer friend, we decided to adopt another Havanese as a companion for Margie.

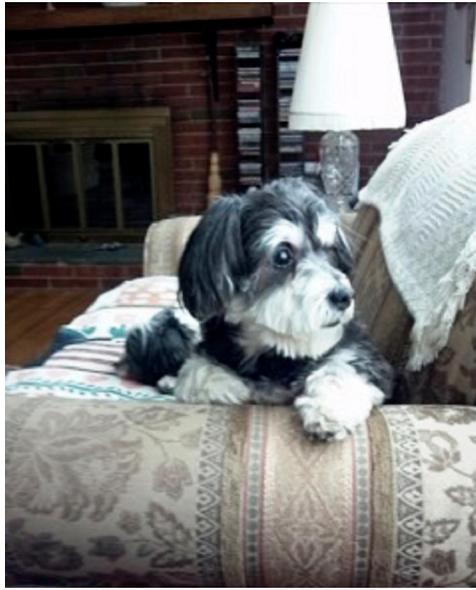


Margie Lou and Tula

It took several months before we were able to find our new family member. Unlike Margie, who is small, weighing just ten pounds, Tula was a big girl at 18 pounds. She is now a healthier 16 pounds, but still loves her treats!

These two girls could not be more different, with Margie full of character and fast as a bullet and Tula trotting along after her. However, they have had a wonderful effect on each other. Margie is less wary and more trustful and loving, and Tula has kicked up her activity level. Margie's potty habits, while still imperfect, have improved with Tula's influence.

Overall, the experience of adopting our dogs has been wonderful. The pups have a warm, cozy and loving home that they can call their own, and we get the joy



Tula

of their presence. It's a great trade.

Teach Your Children Well

How many puppies or young Havanese have been surrendered by families who say that they "bit" the children or were not good with their children?

If a family with small children were searching for a dog, this is where a Google search might send them: [Dog Breed Info](#).

While it is true that many Havanese do get along with children and other pets, the adult public has to be educated on just what this really means. And the wording must be changed ... most Havanese get along very well with well-behaved children (and adults as well). The challenge is that Havanese are toy dogs, but they are not toys. Children need to understand this from the moment a puppy comes home. Parents need to ensure that the children are not left alone with the puppy until they are at least 10 or 12 years old, and only then when parental guidance has taught them proper puppy and dog etiquette.

Here are some very important guidelines for children with Havanese (and any other dog).

The children will be very excited that a new puppy is coming home. Please prepare and educate them before

this arrival.

TREAT THE PUPPY THE WAY YOU WISH TO BE TREATED: When meeting your puppy or playing with them, have the children sit on the ground. Have the children call the puppy to them. Do not allow the children to grab or pick up the puppy. Allow the puppy the safety of sniffing them, and seeing if it wishes to be held. If you are sitting on the ground and the puppy slips off, it is just a bit down to the floor from your lap. Do not allow the children or visitors to squeeze the puppy, carry it around, or chase the puppy. Puppies need to stay four-paws on the floor. Do not allow the children to pick up the front paws and dance with it. Again, it is a toy dog. It is not a toy.

BE CALM AROUND THE PUPPY OR DOG: Try to be calm around the puppy. Don't make loud noises or scream and then run. The puppy will think this is a game and then chase you, and might even nip at you thinking you are another puppy to play with. When visitors first come over, have them ignore the puppy. If they squeal with delight and get too excited, the puppy will learn to jump up and down and not remain calm when visitors come over.

THE PUPPY IS AN ADULT RESPONSIBILITY: Never let small children take the puppy for a walk. They will not be able to protect the puppy from other dogs or other challenges they could encounter on their walks. I know of a recent attack on a Havanese puppy where a small child had him on a leash and allowed it to jump on a larger dog.

NO TEASING; Do not allow the children to pull toys out of the dog's mouth or pretend to take away the food. The puppy doesn't always see small children as alpha. This is an adult responsibility to train the puppy and also train the children. Teasing puppies can lead to an adult dog with fear-based aggression. Don't try to pick the puppy up when it is sleeping. Try to have a crate for the sleeping puppy around small children so it will have a safe haven to rest and also to go when it needs down-time away from activity.

ONLY DOG FOOD FOR PUPPY: Allowing children to give human food to a puppy not only causes potential harm

physically with certain foods being toxic or causing stool problems, but it also decreases their view of alpha in the eye of the puppy. The puppy will think he or she is the boss, and this is not a good thing.

Havanese who are socialized at a young age with responsible children and adults will get along with their human families. These same dogs must also be socialized around other dogs, cats and other pets with proper adult supervision.

Children may beg us to get them a puppy and that they will take care of it. A puppy is like another child, it is an adult responsibility. You might even find you have to set more rules around your adult friends than your children. Adults just love to say ... oh I just want to spoil this puppy. Don't let them. A well-trained puppy will turn into a well-trained dog and will have much more freedom because of good manners. The puppy will view life very much the way it is treated while young. Your children can be a big part of ensuring that the puppy grows up to be a loved and respectable family-member. Please teach your children these very important rules.

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