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## Adoption Corner

by Lori Brostrom

Bixby



Looking at Bixby now, it's hard to imagine a happier and more loving little dog. He never stops wagging his tail, never tires of tummy rubs and ear scratches, and has learned how to give great Havie kisses just like his foster brothers, Michon and Filou. They have also taught him how to play nice, that bully sticks are great, and that people can be trusted. He thinks kitties are

# Havanese Rescue, Inc. March 2010

## A Few Words From Our Foster Families

by Mary Cane

Do you ever wonder what effect becoming a foster home has on an already busy life?



What do they feel when they take in an unknown little being to nurture, heal and teach, and then send to a forever home to share what they were born for... to give and receive love?

Well a few of our busiest, most loving foster homes have found time to share a thought or two, allowing us a peek into their musing on life as a very active foster home - - inviting us, perhaps, to respond by opening our own

fascinating and is becoming more respectful of them, too. Seeing him walking around with a squeaky toy in his mouth makes everyone smile!

What a contrast with the fearful and withdrawn dog who arrived here after spending his first two and a half years living mainly in a bedroom and bathroom, with little socialization.



When Susan Baxter and her husband, Steve, picked him up, he went right to the vet - he was matted so badly that he needed sedation to be shaved down and have the foxtails removed from his ears. He had painful vasculitis at his ear tips, probably due to stress and a bad diet.

Now, his ears have cleared up and his hair is growing back soft and slightly curly, with the beginning of a Hav's plummy tail. He's made great strides with socialization - a trainer evaluation and socialization classes showed that he had great promise (he was the star of his class!), and he's better at adjusting to strangers after initial

heart and home to an at-risk and in-need Havanese little darlin' looking for a soft landing...

*~"When I first started fostering, I was worried that my own dogs would feel left out. This was especially true when Charlie Brown (aka Oreo) came to us from a puppy mill. At three years old he was socially challenged -- with people as well as other dogs -- and needed a lot of attention. However, when I watched my Baby Bear -- at only 3 months old -- teaching Charlie Brown how to play, I knew that somehow my pack instinctively understood the game plan.*

*Do you suppose these little guys open up in the still of the night, like foster children in a new home? Do they have quietly whispered conversations with our pampered pooches about the horrors of their past lives? Do our fur balls help out because it is in their nature, or because they know they are needed? It's a mystery!"~*

Oreo aka Charlie Brown



Susan Sanders  
HRI Volunteer  
Fort Myers, FL

*~"When you hear from a new adopter that the pup you placed with them is just "a little slice of heaven" you know that it is ALL worth it! "~*

LauRooney

rie Frangione

HRI Volunteer  
Hillsborough, NJ

*~"I always said I would never be in danger of failing Fostering 101, I found excellent homes for each dog that I fostered, which in turn left room for the next one that needed me.*

fearful moments. He's eager to please and very smart (after pottyng on newspaper all of his life, grass and snow were a challenge quickly conquered), and would be completely housetrained with a more regular schedule (he's 90% there and is totally crate/x-pen trained).

Bixby needs a forever home with experienced owners who will not only shower him with the love and cuddles he craves, but also understand and work with his remaining fears through obedience training (which he'll enjoy and excel at) and continued socialization. At least one other dog to play and RLH with would be ideal. He'll reward them with complete love and devotion!



*And then along came CallieBRAT."*~

CallieBRAT

Karen Grant  
HRI Dog Wrangler  
Long Island, NY



So there we have it, a few shared moments with some of our busiest foster homes. Stay tuned for more from our busy Hav-Angels.

### HavToHavIt General Store



"It's All Fun and Games Until

Someone Ends up in a Cone."

So funny, so true. Be the life of the party with this short-sleeve, lightweight 100% cotton tee in indigo blue. These tees are fitted and in women's sizes.

## HCA Reception Donations Needed

So far this year, HRI has taken in 24 dogs, we have had 16 more contacts this past week, and we presently have 23 dogs in foster care. Several of these little guys have needed serious and expensive surgeries. Please donate an item for our HRI Reception at the HCA National Specialty on August 5th. It is one of our biggest fund-raisers for 2010.....we need your help!

## Foster Home Selection

...is decided based on two major considerations:

Geographic location of the dog when it enters HRI custody

Health and/or behavioral issues of the dog.

If you'd like to learn more about how the process of placing a dog in foster care works, you can read the full article [here](#)

Fostering or Adopting a Special Needs Dog...can be very rewarding. We have redesigned our website so that our special needs dogs are easily identified. Watch for this icon:



In the [dog listings](#)

on the HRI website you can also click the icon for more information on adopting or fostering a special needs dog.

There's a reason they're called "special" and it may mean more than you think!

## Newsletter Staff

Editor - Beth Franks  
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Contact HRI's Reception Chair, Charlene Edwards, for more information or donation ideas.  
(cme3320@aol.com)  
Thank you!

## Letter From Home

Bailey



Hi Everyone,

It's me, Bailey in Nebraska. I came to live here in July 2009 after a nice lady named Pat Potter picked me up in Missouri, where I lived for my whole seven years in a puppy mill. I don't want to talk about that. Anyway, Auntie Pat drove me to KC where my foster mom, Louayne, picked me up and took me back to Nebraska.

Wow, what a life style change! It was pretty scary at first and I am still timid about a lot of the new things, but little by little I am becoming a big girl and learning about life in a lucky dog's world.

I have five playmates and I learn a great deal from them. I know my rescue mom was glad to see I caught on to the outside-to-potty-thing really fast. I was not sure about walking on that weird green stuff, but I just followed the others. Then one day the green was gone and everything was all white. Well, that freaked me out, but the others walked in it so eventually, I did too. Days later, I got up on a huge pile of the white stuff and Grandma laughed about me looking like I conquered the world.

We all receive lots of scratches, pats, hugs & kisses from Mom, Grandma & other people who come to the house. I did not know what those things were and gosh, the touching things are pretty nice. I am even wagging my tail now which makes humans really happy for some reason. I have started running up to greet Mom when she comes home and Grandma (she comes in a few times a day to take care of all of us).

My favorite places to hang out are the sofa, a big fluffy

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pillow in the family room and, of course, the bed. We all snuggle in with Mom at night. It is so nice to feel warm and safe now. Mom knows I still have many fears to overcome and it will take time. My Mom says she can not make me go through all the changes and then put me in another new situation. Her heart would not let her do that, so I am officially now one of the Hoback Herd. Yep, I am a lucky dog. :>)

Love,  
Bailey  
(and the Hoback Family)

*Correction- Last month's Newsletter inadvertently left out Jill Brecher's and Rockie's names from the "Letter From Home". We apologize for the omission.*