

# The Haven Connection

The Yorkie Haven Rescue Newsletter

PO Box 219 • Seabrook • Texas • 77586

YorkieHavenRescue.com



Issue 6

April 2009



## ABOUT YORKIE HAVEN RESCUE (YHR)

Yorkie Haven Rescue is a non-profit organization dedicated to the rescue of yorkies/yorkie mixes regardless of age, sight, hearing, or other handicaps and is run solely by unpaid volunteers. We ensure that all yorkies we rescue from "throwaway land" are safe and can live their lives in a loving, caring, healthy and safe environment until their forever home can be found. Our main goal is not finding the right pup for a home, but finding the right home for each and every pup.

YHR receives no outside government funding and is supported by private donations and our own fundraising efforts. 100% of the monies received goes directly towards the care of the pups in our rescue.

Please visit our website to see our rescues that are available for adoption. We have an online application for adoption and also a form for surrendering a yorkie. We also have a boutique of fabulous items for your pup, a current list of our donors, etc.

[www.yorkiehavenrescue.com](http://www.yorkiehavenrescue.com)

## KIBBLE TALK



### THE TRAGEDY OF "FREE TO GOOD HOME"!

Most people have good intentions when they advertise a cat or dog as "Free To Good Home".

They care what happens to the animal and are not interested in making money. All they want to do is find a nice family that is willing to give the pet a loving, responsible home. This would be great if EVERYONE had good intentions, but in today's world, that is not the case. The plain truth is that most pets obtained for free are less likely to be spayed or neutered by their new owners (why bother with vet bills?), and more likely to be put into a situation where it is neglected, abandoned, abused, discarded or even sold for lab experimentation, because it is proven that "there are plenty more where that came from". A recent study at one animal shelter yielded the startling statistic that 41% of all owner-surrendered dogs had been obtained "Free to good home." "Free" is all too often seen as "worthless" in the eye of the beholder. People tend not to value what they don't pay for. If you charge a nominal fee for an animal, the new owner is more likely to take their commitment to the pet seriously. A free pet is a disposable pet!

Paying a fee for a pet shows **good faith** on the part of the new owner and demonstrates their willingness to properly care for the animal. The



truth is, there is no such thing as a "free" pet anyway. By the time a cat or dog is checked out by a vet, including shots, worming, health testing, and spay/neuter, a "free" pet will easily cost in excess of \$300, and that's just for starters. A responsible person who would properly take care for an animal will understand this and will not be opposed to paying a reasonable fee for a healthy pet, especially if some or all of these health items have already been taken care of.

Still not convinced? Then ask yourself these questions, "If a person cannot afford to pay an adoption fee for a pet, how will they be able to afford the normal expenses of proper pet care? And how will they ever afford vet bills when the pet gets sick?" If you are uncomfortable with asking a fee for the pet, another idea is to include food, toys, supplies, etc. as an added incentive. The idea is not to make a profit, but to ensure the good intentions of the new owner. In any event, the animal should be "fixed" and have its "shots" before it is adopted out and these costs alone can easily equal \$200 or more. Use the adoption fee to recoup your expenses.



**Brutus BEFORE being given away "FREE TO GOOD HOME"**

If you absolutely don't want to take any money yourself, ask the adopter to make the check out to a local animal shelter or rescue instead. These organizations can surely use the help!

Here are some examples (that happens every day) of what can happen to a pet that is given away "Free to Good Home!"

1. Abandoned to the streets. This is the most likely scenario that occurs when an uncommitted owner tires of a pet. Street animals suffer every day of their short lives. The end always comes painfully, either from violent trauma or from lingering disease.
2. Handed over to Animal Control and euthanized. People who do not take

their responsibilities seriously always take the easy way out!

3. Marginally Owned. The pet will not be cared for properly and is often allowed to roam the streets, and not kept up with routine vet care.
4. Abused. The owner will not make the effort to properly train the animal. Often this leads to inappropriate responses from the owner and abuse of the pet when it "misbehaves".



**Brutus at his "GOOD HOME" AFTER being given away "FREE"**

Next, we would like you to be aware that there are dishonest people who routinely obtain animals for profit by fraudulently answering "Free To Good Home" ads. They are usually very persuasive and friendly. They know

all the "right" answers to your questions because they do this sort of thing on a daily basis. Some may even bring their kids along to make you think they are a loving family! The most important thing you can do to discourage this kind of person is to **"CHARGE AN ADOPTION FEE"**! This makes it much more difficult for them to realize a profit so they will usually not bother contacting you.

Here are some examples (that happens every day) of what can happen to an animal if you let one of these con artists have it.

1. Used to "live train" fighting dogs. The animal you expected to be a pet is used to bait a fighting dog and is literally torn to pieces to teach the fighting dog to love to fight and accept the taste of blood.
2. Sold at Flea Markets or Auctions to anybody who happens along. Most of the time these animals are neglected, kept in cramped, unsanitary conditions and often become sick and diseased.
3. Sold to a Class-B Dealer who then resells the animal to a research facility. People who practice the despicable act of rounding up strays to sell them are

referred to as "Bunchers". At the research facility, the animal may suffer abuse and most likely will be euthanized after they are finished with it.

4. If not spayed or neutered, it will can be used for breeding stock in a "Puppy Mill". The living conditions in most of these establishments are **DEPLORABLE**. Females are made to have continuous litters, one right after the other for profit.
5. Used as live food or bait for exotics like snakes or alligators.
6. Sacrificed in cult rituals. Some people find this hard to believe, but the FBI has many files documenting this kind of activity in our country.

How you can help to prevent these tragedies:

1. Never give away a pet or stray that you have found "Free to Good Home". Charge a minimal fee to discourage the dishonest people.
2. Don't assume because someone brings their wife or children with them to look at a pet, that they are honest and will give your pet a good home. There are documented cases in which "brokers" brought their children with them when collecting animals so that they would look "legitimate".
3. Convince your local newspapers to post warnings in their pet classified sections! A lot of papers across the country are already doing this.
4. Call "Free To Good Home" ads and warn them! Check newspapers and internet sites regularly and let people know what could happen to their pet and tell them how to prevent this avoidable situation. Do not feel embarrassed to contact the person who posted the ad. Many people are grateful that you took the time to

inform them of dangers they were unaware of.

5. If the ad you found was on the Internet, contact the site owner to request that they disallow the posting of ads for free animals on their site.
6. Advise people not to adopt out pets at Halloween! Solid black and solid white cats are especially in danger at this time of the year because cult members and vicious pranksters are on the lookout for animal victims. It is a common practice of most shelters and rescue organizations to **NEVER** adopt out black or white cats during the Halloween season.
7. Pass on these tips to persons who are adopting out animals:
8. Be sure to "spay/neuter" any pet before adoption to prevent more "Free To Good Home" ads from a pet's offspring! You can check with local humane organizations, veterinarian offices or search on the internet for low-cost spay and neuter opportunities in your area. Then use the adoption fee to recoup your money.
9. The most important thing you can do to stop animal abuse is to spay or neuter your own pets!

How to find a prospective home for a pet:

1. **Vet Offices:** You will find more good pet owners here than anywhere else! Talk to the staff. They often know of clients whose pets have died and are looking for a new one. Leave a color photo and description of the animal and your phone number on their bulletin board or at their desk.
2. **Bulletin Boards:** Post a color photo of the pet, a description, and your phone number or e-mail address on bulletin boards at pet stores, supermarkets, churches, schools, and other community bulletin boards.

3. **Newspaper Classifieds:** Use this traditional method of advertising, but results are generally not as good as using Vets offices and bulletin boards.
4. **Local Publications:** Also use whatever weekly advertising magazines are available in your area, such as the Penny Saver, Treasure Chest, Bargain Weekly, etc. They are generally more inexpensive than newspapers and allow you to elaborate in your ad.
5. **Pet Rescue Organizations:** Let local organizations know what you have available for adoption. They may help locate potential owners for a brokered adoption fee. If the dog is purebred, you can search on the internet for a rescue group specializing in the breed and contact them. Most breed specific rescue groups have a surrender form on their sites to surrender a pet.

How to evaluate a prospective pet adopter:

1. When someone contacts you about the pet, you need to interview them carefully. A sample telephone screening form can be found at <http://www.petrescue.com/library/dog-phone-screen.pdf>.
2. Use a Pet Adoption Agreement. Please don't let the animal out of your door without a signed adoption agreement. This is a great way to stop dishonest people in their tracks. A sample pet adoption form can be found at <http://www.petrescue.com/library/adoption-form1.pdf>

Checklist when adopting out a pet:

1. Spay or neuter the pet before adoption to avoid attracting backyard breeder and puppy mill operators;
2. Interview the potential adopter (over

the phone, in person or both) and fill out a screening form;

3. Set up a home visit to the home of the prospective new owner. This lets you see where the pet will be and how currently owned pets are taken care of. While there you can see if there is proper shelter for dogs when outside and if the fence/gates are pet proof;
4. If the potential adopter has existing pets, ask for their vet's name and number and call and check if their current pet's are spayed/neutered and up to date on shots and heartworm prevention;
5. When convinced this is the right family for the pet, get a signed Pet Adoption Agreement. Get a copy of the person's driver's license or photo id. If they are uneasy with letting you attach this to the agreement, then let them go home empty handed.

#### PUP-IN-THE SPOTLIGHT:

**BUSTER**



Buster entered his foster home with Yorkie Haven Rescue in November of 2008. With his original family, Buster was kept in a crate in the family basement 24/7 because he "couldn't hold his bladder". Washing his bedding that was in the crate even got to be too much, so that was removed leaving him on the wire bottom with newspaper underneath. It seems when Buster was out of "the cage", he would snap at the family's other dog and didn't care for their cats either. We are thinking he just wasn't that pleased with his "set up", because once he arrived in his foster home, Buster got along fine with his new fur-brother and sister and even initiated the play. He was also later introduced to cats and is just fine around them too. It's amazing



**Buster enjoying a chewy stick in his foster home.**

what a loving environment can do for the mind.

As soon as Buster entered his foster home, his foster mom noticed that there was blood in his urine and his first vet appointment was made. There it was discovered that poor Buster had bladder stones that had built up over a number of years. This would be the reason that he could not hold his little bladder for very long.



**Stones removed from Buster kidneys.**

In 12/08, Buster had his "much needed" surgery to remove the bladder stones and it was a great success. After the sutures were removed, Buster perked up even more and is back to his playful, outgoing self. While under for his bladder surgery, Buster also got his teeth cleaned and we think that he could now do a toothpaste commercial, so anyone out there with cable connections, let them know. The analysis of Buster's kidney stones indicated that they were formed due to his diet and how his body chemically processes the food. He was placed on a U/D canned food by the vet. The strict U/D diet is the optimal diet to prevent any additional kidney stones from forming. He also can have U/D dry food in small amounts. The canned food cost approximately \$25.00 monthly.

Buster loves everyone he meets and will jump in strangers' laps to say hello. He also absolutely loves toys - especially ones that squeak. Buster loves to be outside. He walks well on a leash and loves to run with other pups at the dog park. He is content to lay by or on his human's lap. If you are thinking of adding another four-legged companion to your family, now is the time and Buster is your guy.



## DOGGONE GOOD EATIN



### Hors D'ogs

(found at [healthyrecipesforpets.com](http://healthyrecipesforpets.com))

#### Ingredients:

- 1/4 cup cheddar cheese – grated
- 2 tablespoons safflower oil
- 1/2 cup rice krispies
- 1/4 cup swiss cheese – grated

#### Preparation and Cooking:

Combine cheeses and oil. Using plastic wrap, shape mixture into a log about 1 inch in diameter and 8 inches long. Roll log in Rice Krispies. Refrigerate. Slice into half-inch rounds and serve.

### Your Pup Will Wuf You!

## POETRY CORNER



### Rescued Hearts

*Author: Kathleen parson*

Taking care of rescue dogs  
Is something I do best.  
I know because I've done it,  
And I've surely passed the test.  
The dogs I've bathed, the food I've fed,  
The vacuuming I've done,  
And all to watch a frightened soul  
Sit dreaming in the sun.  
My own dogs I've neglected,  
But I tell them everyday  
That I love and cherish each of them  
Though a new dog's come to stay.  
I know they understand this,  
For in their eyes I see  
The love that I have given them  
Come shining back at me.  
Some people think I'm crazy,  
Some others think I'm great.  
But very few can understand  
What really is at stake.  
If I can love and help a dog  
To find a better way,  
My own life is much richer,

I look forward to each day.  
So now you know my secret,  
It's there for all to see,  
The love I give, the life I save,  
I do it all for me.



**LOOK WHO'S HOME:**

**CALI**

One of the great rewards in doing rescue is the joy of seeing these wonderful pups find their own forever homes with loving families.

In May of 2008, 1 year old Cali came into rescue because her human mom got very sick and passed away. Her human dad could not take care of her at that point so a family member came and got her and took her to their house until they could find a place for her to go. Luckily YHR had an open foster home and immediately took her in. In addition to losing her human mom, Cali had to travel around quite a bit before being able to get settled. She originally lived in Louisiana, went to family in Texas and then came back to Louisiana to her foster home.

As expected, Cali was very scared, overwhelmed and confused upon arrival at her foster home. Since her previous home did not have any other pets, she was not happy to be sharing a home with multiple yapping yorkies. On top of all this, a visit to the vet was in store soon. Seems Cali needed to be spayed, brought up to date on shots and tested for heartworms. Foster mom kept her separated from the other four-leggeds and let her get settled in and calm down and then they went to see the doctor. Lucky for Cali she tested negative for heartworms. Once given a clean bill of health and spayed, Cali could now meet the household one pup at a time.

Four months after entering into her foster home, it would be safe to say that "Cali was out of her shell". She loved having a big backyard to run in and was labeled the "Energizer

Bunny". She was sometimes a bit rough with the other pupsters, but this girl never learned how to play as a young pup. She was proving fine around children and was loving all the love and attention she was getting.

When the application came in for Cali from her "Now" new mom and dad, everything looked exceptional except that there was no fenced in yard for Cali to run around in and she loved being able to run from one end of the yard to the other at her foster home. In speaking with the applicant and explaining this, they quickly agreed to put up a fence that Cali so needed because they definitely wanted her. All of this was around the time of Hurricane Gustav when fencing supplies were scarce. This did not change Cali's parents' minds, and after all the formalities were done, "Adoption Pending" was put on the website for Cali and then we just all patiently (yeah, right) waited until the fencing came in and was able to be put up.

In the mean time, while waiting for the fence to be erected, Cali's new soon to be mom & dad ventured out on a weekend trip to visit with Cali. Since they knew it would be a little later before she would be able to go to her new home.

The week the fence was completed, Cali's mom and dad were ready to get her that weekend. Cali joined her new family and home on November 8, 2008. Now, I would love to tell you that everything was great from day 1, and that Cali loved her new mom and dad and they loved her, but that wasn't the case here. After having to move yet again, Cali was so distraught and confused, she went into a combative fear mode and did not trust anyone. Especially her new daddy. And, had some uncertain reservations with her new mommy. Although Cali's new parents had prepared themselves for there being an adjustment period for them as well as for Cali, they did not expect the nightmare that came next.

Cali's first 4 weeks went something like this; During the daytime she would pace from window to window in every room of her new house, looking for something or someone. She would bark or growl at any and every sound she heard, from ice making in the fridge, the sound of cabinet doors closing, to windchimes and leaves blowing on the

patio. Taking and hiding her food kibbles all over the house. Her new mom and dad could not approach her. It was only on Cali's terms, and only when Cali wanted something. Night time was another horror. Not only did Cali bark at all the different sounds, she wouldn't let her daddy go to bed at night with her and her mommy. Cali would physically attack, show teeth and snap at her daddy when he would try to enter their bedroom. So, Cali had to start spending a few nights in her Pet Taxi, until she would calm down.

After about the 5<sup>th</sup> week Cali began to settle down. Everyday she would get a little better, she showed more improvement of settling in to her new environment, even if it meant going to bed with the night stand light on. What was more concerning to her mommy and daddy, was that Cali was showing and being over protective of her mommy, and was being very aggressive towards anyone or thing who approached her mommy, that included daddy.

Well, Cali's new parents had finally decided that it was time for Cali to come to the realization that her aggressiveness and bad behavior was not acceptable and was not going to be tolerated. So they decided to work on this issue for a couple of weeks. Christmas was around the corner and Cali's parents knew she would have to be around people, and wanted her to be on her best behavior. So, out came the water pistols and being ignored. This got Cali's attention and she didn't like that, infact, it really made her mad and the game was on as to who was going to be IT, Cali or mom & dad. Cali's mom and dad had made up their minds that they were not going to have a year and a half, 14 pound Yorkie be their ruler. And they could see and feel that she wanted and needed special attention, but Cali just didn't know how to go about getting it, and trying to give it to her was even harder. Poor daddy was at his wits end and was thinking of sending her back, afraid that Cali might hurt someone. But mommy was determined that she could win Cali over. So the work began for Cali and mom and dad. Vigorous constant repeating of commands & demands began

and little by little Cali was learning mom and dad's new rules, regulations and routines. Cali had to learn how nothing was free. She had to "learn how to earn", and not take.

The week of Christmas came. Mommy got home from work on Friday evening, and daddy had advised that he and Cali had a bad, very bad day. Cali barked for 12 hours straight, inside and outside. As soon as mommy got home Cali calmed down, however the next day Saturday, Cali was really jittery and uneasy. Daddy tried correcting Cali, and she rebelled and bit him on the forearm and would not back down until her mommy pulled her off. Mommy put Cali in her Pet Taxi for safe keeping at home and away they went to the emergency room for medical attention. Cali's bite tore her daddy's arm, so they were not able to put stitches. He was treated with antibiotics and a tetanus shot.

Immediately after Cali bit her daddy, she knew she had done wrong and was trying to make up to him. Daddy didn't want anything at all to do with Cali. The next 4 days daddy ignored Cali and did not have any contact with her. You could see this was very upsetting for Cali. On Christmas Eve, he initiated contact with her, and her actions towards him was a lot calmer, she was settling back down.

Christmas Day, the plans were to spend it with the whole family at grandma and grandpa's house. Cali's mommy and daddy were a nervous wreck worrying how Cali was going to behave with a house full of people. But, they were prepared. They had brought Cali's toys, her blankie and everything she needed to make her feel at ease, even the Pet Taxi just in case she seemed overwhelmed with all the activities. All was going well, until a family member approached Cali's mommy & daddy with his arm extended. Cali came unglued and attacked and snapped at him, the same way she did with her daddy. Although, she didn't bite the family member. Thank God for that.

Luckily, there was another family member there who trains Labs for hunting and field trials. He immediately picked Cali up, put his hand behind her head and held her down for about 5 minutes, all the while giving her commands and enforcing those commands. As soon as he released Cali

from his commands, she went directly to her daddy seeking refuge, comfort and protection. After that little incident Cali's mom and dad decided to put her in her Pet Taxi for safe keeping to let her relax and calm down for a few minutes. After that cooling down period, Cali came out of her Pet Taxi a completely different dog. Her demeanor and attitude and disposition had turned around totally. Cali's mommy and daddy, and everyone there were in total amazement and disbelief that this was the same dog as 30 minutes ago. It was incredible.

Since that day on and presently, Cali has gotten a new leash on life. She has broken out of her shell and came out from behind her "She Devil", "Chunk of Coal" mask, in feeling and being scared, insecure and fearful to a beautiful precious little diamond. Cali's true colors have emerged. She has a frolicsome personality, has confidence, feels the security and comfort she had been so longing for, cuddles and has her tail continuously wagging, gives the sweetest kisses, and is madly in love with her new home and mommy, but especially more with her daddy. Cali and her new furever family have bonded.

Cali's parents advised that they had no intentions of giving up on her, and understood that her actions were not a fault of her own. And how this "adjustment period" has taught them (especially daddy & Cali) patience, love, & understanding. This experience has been so rewarding, to feel and see, and know that we were a part of Cali's transformation from being an orphan rescue, to being a very happy little family member who knows she belongs.



## DID YOU KNOW . . .

\* \* \* \* \*

The common belief that dogs are color blind is false. Dogs can see color, but it is not as vivid a color scheme as we see. They distinguish between blue, yellow, and gray, but probably do not see red and green. This is much like our vision at twilight.

\* \* \* \* \*

## PAWS UP TO YOU



If you have given Yorkie Haven Rescue a donation, purchased from our boutique, donated craft items to sell on our website, etc., we would like to take this time to say **Thank You** very much. Through your acts of generosity, you, the public, are rescuers too.

### January 1, 2009 - March 31, 2009

Alisa McCall	Keith/Roxanne Banks
Allen Goatcher	Kim Martin
Andy/Jennifer Olson	Kirsten Barrington-Hughes
Angela Brumley	Larry/Michelle Hilton
Angela Walker	Larry/Terri Way
Ann Margaret Mesiak	Leni Millyard
Anne Reggie	Linda Dominick
Barb Woody	Linda Freedman
Barbara Luzynski	Lisa Edwards
Belinda Humphrey	Lisette Rodriguez
Bloomingtails Dog Boutique	
Bonny Sheppard	Lornia Gorny
Catherine Bairhalter	Lynda Whittington
Chana Peacock	Madeline Kiely



Charisa Antigua	Maliah Holifield
Charles Savage	Mandy Selmer
Christine Stutz	Margaret Luther
Cindy Brouillette	Margie Stephens
Claudia Cortez	Mariko Hernandez
Debby Bennett	Marilyn Nauhaus
Debra Cowart	Megan Harty
Donald Price	Michael Davis
Donna Bell	Michelle Belaustegui
Donna Chambers	Nora Suddarth
Elizabeth Voyles	Patti Backman
Elizabeth Webb	Penny Bergeron
Erick Yip	Rachelle Heiner
Fran Stenberg	Rebecca Adams
Frances Foster	Rita Jensen
Gary France	Robin Burke
Gena Koepke	Ruth Ann Broadbent
Hazel Levatino	Ruth Ann Johnston
Jeannie Scott	Sandy Dybdahl
Jennifer Beard	Scott Andrews
Jennifer Belanger	Shannon Rose
Jeremy Chadwick	Shari Kronforst
Jessica Endiso	Sheri Stenberg
Joanne Vogel	Shirley Burke
Jodi Pilles	Stacey Orillion
Joe/Kathy Mills	Stacy Cordray
Joe/Trophie Fields	Stacy Louque
Joseph Mitchell	Susan Arbour
Judith Britt	Suzanne Won
Julie Amador	Terry Brinson
Karis McCutchen	Tiffany Pendola
Kathleen Pool	Tina Norman
Kathryn Davenport	Tom FitzGerald
Kathryn Martinez	Tonia Rachel
	Vicki Dykes

May 1, 2006 - March 31, 2009	
Intake .....	154
Adopted .....	93
Rainbow Bridge .....	16
January 1, 2009 - March 31, 2009	
Intake .....	14
Adopted .....	8
Rainbow Bridge .....	1
YHR currently has 40 pups in foster homes that are available for adoption.	

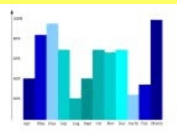
**WAYS TO HELP**  
YHR



**Fostering** – YHR does not have a shelter and our members integrate each pup into their families. This is a very big responsibility and fostering is not for everyone, but if you are interested, please send an e-mail to [yorkiehavenrescue06@yahoo.com](mailto:yorkiehavenrescue06@yahoo.com) to request more information and an application. All foster homes must go through the same process as an adoption applicant.

**Grooming** – Yorkies are a high-maintenance breed when it comes to coat care. Many of us have learned to groom our own dogs and can groom the rescues as well. Unfortunately, some of the rescues come to us as one giant, matted mess, making professional grooming necessary. If you are a groomer and live in a state near where a YHR pup is being fostered and can donate or offer a discount to groom a rescue pup, you will be listed on the donor page of our website and your services will be greatly appreciated. To offer your grooming services, please e-mail us at [yorkiehavenrescue06@yahoo.com](mailto:yorkiehavenrescue06@yahoo.com) and let us know where you are located so we can determine whether we have a foster pup in your area in need of grooming.

**YHR STATS**



Below is a summary of the pups Yorkie Haven Rescue has taken in, adopted out, and those who have crossed over to Rainbow Bridge while in our care.



