

**The Prez Sez**

Greetings from the New Prez!!!

The year is 2015 and Chihuahuas are still the second most euthanized breed in our overcrowded shelters today. I think about this fact EVERY day and wonder why we still have this problem. I have more questions than solutions. I keep praying that one day, my questions will lead to "The Answer". Clearly spaying and neutering is an answer, but how do we reach ALL the Chihuahuas. How do we best solve this problem? Almost all rescue organizations today do not adopt without spaying and neutering first. Most mid to large size city shelters have a veterinarian on staff to spay and neuter. HSUS has this statistic on their website:

- Of the 3 million cats and dogs euthanized in shelters each year, approximately 2.4 million (80%) are healthy and treatable and could have been adopted into new homes

So what are we missing? It has to be in our education system; how we are educating and who we are educating must be addressed. Which begs the question, "How can we reach the most people, most efficiently?" One of my goals as the new President is to establish an education program.

**SEE PREZ, PAGE 2**

*The official newsletter for friends, volunteers, and supporters.*



chihuahua-rescue.org

Lucy Lou & Her New Set of Wheels

BY: KAREN HALES

One of the greatest things about Chihuahua Rescue & Transport is our practice of always being here for our fosters when needed most. Every dog has a story as to how they became one of our fosters, but not many people realize that we do our darndest to always be there if the home a Chihuahua is placed in just doesn't work out. That goes for dogs that are newly placed or that have been adopted for several years. Let's face it, life happens and much of it is out of our control. And so it was with Lucy's story.

Lucy Lou was recently reunited with our CRT DFW chapter after being adopted out over 10 years ago. Her family could no longer care for her.



**SEE LUCY LOU, PAGE 3**

**Prez** (cont. Page 1)

This means marketing materials, advertising funds, outreach programs, spay/neuter programs. Not only will volunteers be needed, but so will the extra funds. This holiday when you are looking for the charity of your choice, please consider Chihuahua Rescue & Transport. Please consider the contacts you know that could possibly help us. This is a national problem. Everyone, no matter where they live has something they can contribute. It would be nice if I could retire knowing the solution to this problem is NOT mass euthanasia. Life is a gift and is meant to be respected and cherished. Chihuahuas are my life, my gift, and I intend to do something about it.

*Karen Hales, President  
DFW/OK Coordinator*



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**Board of Directors**

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- Roxanne Schwartz, Director
- Scott Frye, Director
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**A Last Farewell - CRT's Former President...**

It was a pleasure to have served as president of Chihuahua Rescue & Transport for the last three years. Time flies by when you aren't looking that's for sure!

We had many changes within the organization, some expected and some not, but all changes have been for the best and we have become a better group because of them. We have many wonderful volunteers keeping the fires burning within CRT and we are so happy and thankful for every one of them.

We are expecting great things in all of our regions in the next year and would love to have new volunteers to join us! Please contact any of the board members for more information if you are interested in becoming a CRT volunteer in any capacity.

Blessings to all!  
*Chris Mesker*

**Lucy Lou** (cont. Page 1)



The beauty of this story, though, is that we stepped up again **for Lucy** in her time of need. We realized that as a senior now, she really needed more help. Her remaining front leg was weakening and it would only be a matter of time before it was unable to continue. So we went to work on securing a cart for Lucy. We began a Facebook fundraiser with donated items. Then we contacted Eddie's Wheels.

The pictures included are of Lucy's first time in her new wheels. There is still a lot of training to take place in teaching her how to use the wheel chair. But she is picking it up quickly and soon should be comfortably mobile again.



Once again, Lucy is looking for a new home. But this time, she's sporting wheels!

# Kudzu: A Special Little Guy

BY: CARLA JOHNSON

Kudzu came into CRT as a puppy with an injured neck. The owner was a blind woman, and she wasn't sure if Kudzu had been injured by one of her horses or exactly what had happened to his neck. She had taken him to her vet, and they wanted to euthanize him. She got a second opinion from another vet and they put some type of plastic collar on his neck for about a month. When she finally decided that he needed more care than her family could give him, she surrendered him to CRT.

When he arrived, he could hardly stand up and if he tried to shake himself, he would fall over. We immediately took him to our vet and he suggested that we put him in a life jacket and try swimming him in a bath tub to build up his muscles. The swimming in the bath tub along with playing with the other fosters soon had him running around and shaking himself with no problem.

Kudzu or "ZuZu" as we nicknamed him attended many adoption events, was featured in many pet adoption magazines and although everyone thought he was very cute, he never received any adoption applications. He has now been examined by a neurology specialist at NC State University Vet School and was diagnosed to have a severe atlantoaxial subluxation between the first and second vertebrae in his neck. They also informed us that this condition was congenital and that it was probably exacerbated by his previous trauma.

**SEE KUDZU, PAGE 4**

**Kudzu** (cont. Page 3)



They recommended that great care be taken to ensure that his neck isn't flexed so as not to cause further impingement of his spinal cord which could cause paralysis or even death.

This special little dog now has a permanent foster home that understands his medical needs. He has a special harness that does not pull on his neck, there are ramps in the home so he doesn't have to navigate steps and he is spoiled rotten as he should be.

# A Breeder Dog's Tale / Tail

BY: JOAN MITCHELL

Almost four years ago, we got a frantic call from a lady who had saved a pregnant, female Chihuahua from a backyard breeder in Virginia. The details were sketchy but we rushed several miles to go check out the situation. This was a nice, well-meaning lady but not up to the task of helping and keeping this snapping, feral Chihuahua. Sure enough, huddled in this lady's bathroom was a terrified, female Chihuahua not only pregnant but in labor. This momma dog had spent her whole life in the rusty cage pictured here, producing litter after litter of pups.



SEE BREEDER DOG, PAGE 5

## CRT Fundraising

In September, CRT launched its monthly fundraising auctions on Facebook, and it has been a big hit! This is a super FUN way to raise money to help support our rescue mission. Each month we accept items as donations from individuals & businesses - everything from baked goods to pet items to electronics, decor, you name it! Businesses enjoy the exposure that the listing gives them as well. The bidding all takes place on Facebook over the course of one week, it's very simple and easy to follow.

As of now we have just under 800 members on our auction page, and growing. If you would like to take part, please JOIN and ADD your friends to the auction page. You can find it at [www.facebook.com/groups/CRTauctions](http://www.facebook.com/groups/CRTauctions) Our third auction is focused on raising funds for our newest CRT foster doggie. Titled "This Auction... It's All About Lyla", it will be underway the week of Thanksgiving, and will wrap up at 8pm CST on Sunday November 29. The auctions will continue throughout the year, but this will be our last one for 2015. If you have any questions or would like to donate any items or support, please reach out to Cindy by calling or texting [214-535-4367](tel:214-535-4367) or email [CRTauctions@gmail.com](mailto:CRTauctions@gmail.com).



**Breeder Dog** (cont. Page 4)

She had probably never been to a Veterinarian in her life. Momma dog delivered six puppies....only three lived. Bless her heart, Momma was a very, very good mother to her puppies. After all, she had years of experience. Of course Momma dog and her puppies were given much needed veterinary care right away. Their health improved and the puppies got forever homes. Unfortunately, the years of neglect and abuse left Momma mentally damaged with trust issues and resulting behavior problems. It has been a long journey for Momma but she slowly improves. This Momma dog has been in an experienced/patient, loving CRT foster home for some time. Momma is now interacting more and becoming quite a tail wagger! We cannot thank her fosters, Scott and Gina enough. They have changed the world for this Chihuahua!



However.....Momma is one of the lucky ones. She was saved. Backyard Breeding and Puppy Mills are still very common and the animal neglect/abuse continues. Awareness and legislation are our best hope to end these horrible practices. Everyone can help! Educate and tell others. Opt to Adopt. Never buy a dog from a store or online. Spay and Neuter. Write your congressmen or senators. We believe most people are *good* people. We believe we can *change* things and make them *better*. Thank you for helping however you can.

## A House, Without A Rescue Dog, Is Not A Home

BY: JENNIFER WILSON

A few Christmas' ago, I asked my fiancé for a dog. I have always lived in a house with a dog and our house was too quiet. I knew a friend of mine took care of rescues. We agreed to foster one dog and see how it went, maybe it would work until we found a dog. Little did I know what would happen next. We signed up to foster "Jack", a 5-year-old Chihuahua who was prone to having seizures. He was literally thrown away. We have suspicions due to his extreme fear of the garbage truck. He is not afraid of loud trucks, or every truck, just the garbage truck. Even though Jack had seizures and we were unsure of the cause, we took him in. He needed a quiet home where there were not a lot of other dogs or a lot of noise. Our quiet house was perfect for him.

**SEE RESCUE DOG , PAGE 6**

**In Honor Of...**

**Donor**

**In Honor Of...**

- Katherine Miller ..... *In honor of Susan Leeper, who is a devoted Chihuahua rescuer.*
- Gail Woicekowski..... *In honor of Chi Chi.*
- Birdie & John & Deb Zihlman... *In honor of Karen Hales & Birdie's Angels at SW Airlines.*
- Melody Enscore..... *In honor of Mavi, Yoder, and Myrtle.*
- Maria Capozziello..... *In honor of Roz & Tracie (an honorary Chi).*
- Maurine Atkinson..... *In honor of my Chihuahua Best Friend, Guichon's Bazl.*
- Nancy Lee Myers..... *In honor of Chase.*
- Michael & Melanie Duffy..... *In honor of Chase, my Chihuahua and Freddie my granddog.*
- Michael & Melanie Duffy..... *In honor of Scooby and Petey.*
- Lisa DeRitis..... *In honor of Joe, Joanna and Baci.*

**Rescue Dog** (cont. Page 5)

We thought the stress of being on the streets or in the rescue house with the other rescue puppies was causing the seizures, and hoped they would stop once Jack transitioned to us. They did not, in fact, they may have gotten worse. Paul and I decided to have him run through some testing with the hope that maybe we could find new meds or different treatments for him. Nothing worked. We would just love him and give him the best care we could hoping he had a long time with us and that there would never be a seizure that would cause "permanent damage".

It took a long time for Jack to want to be on a lap or snuggle. He would let me pick him up and love on him for a few minutes, but he would let you know when he had enough. Jack would give you a few minutes, then he would run off to be alone on his pillow or in his crate by himself. It was OK with Paul and I, because the few minutes you had with him, you could tell we were making a difference for him. Over the first 6 months, the time periods got longer and Jack eventually let Paul hold him. Then came the day that he sat at my feet asking to be picked up. I knew then that we would have to adopt him.

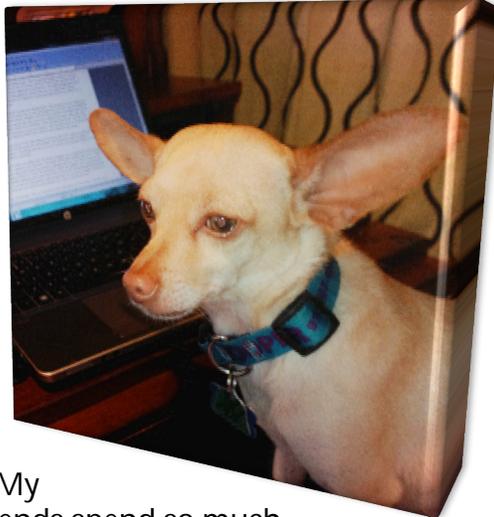


SEE RESCUE DOG , PAGE 7

# A Dog's Point of View

BY: COOPER SCHWARTZ

I normally don't start thinking about my New Year's resolutions until the end of December, but this year is a bit different. My mother just brought in another foster, yes, there are now four dogs in the house, and I was thinking how lucky I am. It made me realize that there are so many ways to help CRT. My mother and her rescue friends spend so much time, money, and energy to make sure dogs and puppies are rescued and find forever homes. They could really use some help. In the spirit of Letterman, I thought I would give you my Top 10 list.



1. Monetary Donations- CRT does not receive any money from the government. It is very expensive to vet, spay, neuter and microchip all the dogs. CRT also takes dogs that have health issues and gets them healthy. Specialists are expensive, and none of our dogs have insurance.
2. Fostering- There are more dogs than homes. If you don't want another dog on a permanent basis, please consider fostering.
3. Event Set Up- Donating 3-4 hours on a weekend helps our volunteers maximize the events. Spreading the word about adopting instead of buying saves lives.
4. Social Media- Facebook is the primary vehicle CRT uses to get the word out on our events, needs and successes. Please "Like Us" and share with your friends.
5. Transport- Sometimes one of our dogs needs a ride to a new foster home. We also have dogs coming from undesirable locations that need their Freedom Ride.

**SEE POINT OF VIEW, PAGE 8**

## Rescue Dog *(cont. Page 6)*

He felt safe and secure and I believe he knew that we would care for him and through his seizures, we were right there for him. We were finally a family.

We were a happy home of two and a furbaby at this point. J Both Paul and I were happy with Jack and were officially his adopted parents. We had noticed that there were a few times Jack had a seizure when we returned home- both of us assuming it was due to Jack being happy to see us at the end of our work day, and maybe he was lonely by himself or had slight separation anxiety. We thought, maybe he needs a pack mate. We had our friend reach out to us again that there was a need to temporarily foster a dog who was found on the street. The rescue house was full. We agreed to take in the "lost dog". The dog had been sitting in a park for days before a neighbor called the shelter. Since the dog was half Chihuahua, the rescue was called to take him in, and we agreed to foster him. Paul and I knew that Jack needed a buddy; so if this worked out, we might be parents to another furbaby. When the lost dog was found, he needed to go through some medical procedures: testing and neutering. Once he was ready to come home, we went to get him. We were lucky enough to get to name him as well. Since the name of the park he was found in was called, "Thomas Cloud Park", we decided to call him, "Tommy".

**SEE RESCUE DOG , PAGE 8**

## Rescue Dog *(cont. Page 7)*

Tommy's transition to our home was seamless. Tommy and Jack got along immediately. We could not have picked a better mate for either of them. They never fight, they don't struggle over dominance, and they share toys and pillows. It took months, but Tommy was able to teach Jack how to play. This was something that Paul and I had tried many times, but were unsuccessful to do for Jack. We were thankful that Tommy could do this for Jack; watching them play together is so joyful! They are two very happy inseparable brothers. They have different personalities; Jack prefers me and Tommy prefers Paul, but together they make our house a home full of love!

If you would have asked me three years ago what would have made the house happy, full or complete, I never could have imagined that two thrown away and broken dogs would be the answer. I get sad when I imagine someone had literally thrown away Jack or left Tommy in a park in the middle of February. These two dogs are beautiful, sweet, well-behaved and loving dogs. I cannot picture who would do this to these gentle creatures. They are members of our family and have made our house a home. They made me a strong supporter and advocate for all rescues, but the Chihuahua rescue is so close to my heart. I have told all my co-workers, friends & family to get involved and open their hearts and homes to rescue dogs. You will not be disappointed.

I see bumper stickers on people's cars "Who rescued who?" I would have to agree; these two dogs completed our lives as much as we saved theirs!



## Point of View *(cont. Page 7)*

6. Pull a Dog from the Shelter- Everyone needs a friend that bails them out of jail. Most of our volunteers work full time and the shelters call us with dogs in need. If you can go to the shelter and pick up the dog, we will be grateful.
7. Supplies- When we have our events, it is great to get gifts. Food, potty pads, toys, crates and sweaters are appreciated.
8. Special Skills- Are you a web designer or graphic artist that wants to donate a few hours? We can use the help.
9. Fundraising- Having a birthday and you don't need any gifts? Have children that need a charity idea? We are here to take those donations.
10. Adopt- Even if you have adopted from us before, can you open your heart and home to an additional dog? You have seen the joy for yourself and the dog. We have plenty more with lots of love to go around.

My family and I wish you the happiest of holiday wishes and a wonderful new year. My wish is that all the Chihuahuas get adopted so my Mom will stop bringing in dogs that disrupt my nap time and lap time.

All my best, Cooper

## In Memory Of...

### Donor

<p>Fara Haschke.....</p> <p>Teresa Anderson.....</p> <p>Deborah Copeland.....</p> <p>Jerrie Champlin.....</p> <p>James and Jane Tanner.....</p> <p>Luella and Bobbie Hulme.....</p> <p>Mary Mercier.....</p> <p>Elizabeth Chatham.....</p> <p>Clintzman Financial Planning Group.....</p> <p>Serena and Cece.....</p> <p>James &amp; Jane Tanner.....</p> <p>Ann Benson.....</p> <p>Mary Pitcairn.....</p> <p>Carla Gonzalez.....</p> <p>Carol Buchanan.....</p> <p>Bonnie Harne &amp; Angela Culp.....</p> <p>Sharon Clark &amp; Denise Opel.....</p> <p>Maria E. Cruz.....</p> <p>Tamara Stankunus.....</p> <p>Alyson Sanders.....</p> <p>Maureen and Logan Trogdon.....</p>	<p><b>In Memory Of...</b></p> <p><i>In memory of Jake and Jaycie forever loved and always in my heart.</i></p> <p><i>In memory of Cooper Anderson.</i></p> <p><i>In memory of Chester Bass.</i></p> <p><i>In memory of Bruce Shirky, dogs' best friend.</i></p> <p><i>In memory of Charro, who gave us much joy.</i></p> <p><i>In memory of Mary Louise Yarborough Walsh September 3, 1910 - March 24, 2015.</i></p> <p><i>In memory of Kissy Bear.</i></p> <p><i>In memory of Pat Chatham.</i></p> <p><i>In memory of Loftin Sproles.</i></p> <p><i>In memory of Wimby Yow.</i></p> <p><i>In memory of Charro, who gave us much joy.</i></p> <p><i>In memory of Cassie Cosgrove.</i></p> <p><i>In memory of Daphne.</i></p> <p><i>In memory of Nacho 1988-2006.</i></p> <p><i>In loving memory of Alice Beinlich.</i></p> <p><i>In memory of Bubby Lynn &amp; Bambi Harne.</i></p> <p><i>In memory of Harry &amp; Clancey.</i></p> <p><i>In memory of Blondie &amp; Belle.</i></p> <p><i>In memory of Spike.</i></p> <p><i>In memory of Luisa Rodrigues Pacheco.</i></p> <p><i>In memory of Fate Trogdon, a gentle man who will be missed by those who loved him and by Smoke.</i></p>
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## Midwest Report

BY: CHRIS MESKER

The Midwest region was proud to represent CRT at the Annual Dayton, Ohio Humane Society Furry Scurry this past summer. We had a great turnout of volunteers and foster dogs. We hope to be able to participate again next year so come out and see us!!

We are always anxious to see the seasons change here in the Midwest. As fall is here and winter approaches we anticipate more homeless Chihuahuas turning up in shelters. This along with the increased number of owner surrenders makes it more crucial for us to find more foster homes. If you are one of those people that would love to foster but cannot do it because you fall in love and can't let them go, please consider being a foster parent for senior dogs or dogs that sometimes end up being "permanent" fosters. We can use the help and they are still able to give a whole lot of love! We hope you all have a happy and warm winter!



## Southeast Report

BY: CARLA JOHNSON

The Southeastern region has been very busy this year! In April, we attended a Spring Fling in Raleigh NC, had a huge yard sale in Winston-Salem, NC in May, held several adoption events in Roanoke, VA, attended the Richmond VA Pet Expo in July, assisted with some of the dogs from the closing of the Guilford County NC Animal Shelter, due to severe neglect, in August, attended the Virginia Beach, VA Pet Expo in September and held an adoption event at Phydeaux Pet Store in Cary, NC in October.

Our Facebook posts are getting a tremendous amount of likes and shares which have helped boost adoptions greatly so thanks to all of our FB friends who follow us and help promote our dogs! We couldn't do the work that we do in the southeast without your help.

All of the above could not have been done without our wonderful group of volunteers who step up to the challenge whenever they are called on. Our volunteer base has also grown this year to the point that we now have a volunteer coordinator and a volunteer who checks all of our adoption/ volunteer applications when they come in. Thank you both! I couldn't keep everything straight without you. To the volunteers that step up and help get dogs out of shelters at a moment's notice or who foster the many dogs that come into CRT's southeastern region and help them get ready for their forever homes, thank you! Because of you, the dogs that you help get a second chance at a forever home.



Carla Johnson, Hannah Rhoades, Joan Mitchell & Scott Frye

**SEE SOUTHEAST REPORT, PAGE 11**

## DFW Report

BY: KAREN HALES

This year has been a rewarding one in terms of successful placements for our foster dogs. This was a full year as the Coordinator and I am pleased to announce that we had over 45 successful adoptions and the year isn't over! We currently have 33 dogs in our region waiting to be adopted.

I want to thank everyone who has ever shared our FB posts to your friends and family. It has made a huge difference in our success. Please continue to help us in our efforts. We realize not everyone can foster, but sharing and reaching a new set of potential adopters is working!!

We've gained several new foster homes and it seems we are growing again. I am so thankful for all of our volunteers. I want to personally thank my Adoption Event Coordinators for all their hard work. Especially, Wendy Golman, in the Dallas area. I have lost count on how many events she set up for us to attend. She has been instrumental in developing a more coordinated and professional appearance at each event. We are also very appreciative of Stacy Howard, our Arlington Event Coordinator, who has demonstrated great leadership in keeping that area active and involved with CRT. Diana Hightower, has done another great job of keeping our FB page fresh and active. And we now have a Fundraiser Coordinator, Cindy Gordon, who has created our CRT Fundraiser Auction FB page for our Texas/Oklahoma area. Cindy is also our professional photographer for our fosters. I really want to give a special thanks to my die-hard volunteers that have always been there when needed: The Austin family,

**SEE DFW REPORT, PAGE 11**

**Southeast Report** (cont. Page 10)

I'd also like to thank the two volunteers who write all of CRT's thank-you notes to CRT contributors. These volunteers hand craft the thank-you notes from pictures of foster dogs and then hand write the thank-you notes. I think we have a great team of volunteers here in the southeast that are dedicated to helping as many Chihuahuas as possible find their forever homes, and I'm proud to be a part of this team. If you think you'd like to join our wonderful team, please go to our website ([Chihuahua-rescue.com](http://www.chihuahua-rescue.com)) and then click on the volunteering tab. This will bring up our online volunteer application. Once you submit this, someone will be right back in touch with you. As you see above, you don't have to foster in order to be one of our volunteers. We need help with transport, data entry, and many aspects of our CRT rescue operations.

**DFW Report** (cont. Page 10)

Tammy & Richard Cantrell, Sheila Carter, Melanie and Andrew Covington, Charlene Cullen, Christine Holleyman, and Roxanne Schwartz. There are more of course, but these guys are the glue. These are the cogs in the wheel of rescue. Thank you again to everyone for a very successful and enjoyable year. Here's to 2016 and our continued success!!!

Happy Holidays!!

Check out our website, <http://www.chihuahua-rescue.org>, to read our success stories, find out how to volunteer and meet dogs who are looking for a forever home. You can also join us on Facebook for updates about dogs, updates about fundraisers, and other events.



# Spotlight on Adoption: Daphne & Petunia

Meet the perfect little girls looking for a forever home. Daphne and Petunia are 1 year old Chihuahua sisters who are looking for love. Daphne and Petunia were surrendered to our DFW chapter when they were 8 weeks old. Daphne and Petunia are from the same litter and very bonded. We would like to find both of them a home together so they can grow up in the same forever home! They are about 8.5 pounds each and are fully grown.

Both of these girls are super playful. They love to play with each other. They will go outside and run like the wind, racing each other back and forth across the yard. If they were humans, they would be track stars - LOL. They also like to roll and tumble on the floor. Both enjoy toys and they like to chew on nylabones. They have super personalities and every moment with them brings unbridled joy! Daphne is the quieter sister, and warms up to people immediately. She definitely loves her people. Her favorite thing in the world is to cuddle with you and give you kisses. Her kisses are unlimited. So if you have had a bad day, it's Daphne to the rescue! You'll be feeling happy and loved in no time at all! She also loves to play with other Chihuahuas and loves to play with toys!

Petunia is very outgoing and loves everyone and everything. She loves to play with her foster siblings and loves to play with her toys. She has a lot of energy and is super excited about exploring her world! She often takes the lead in encouraging Daphne to play with her!

If you know someone in the North Texas or Oklahoma area that is looking for love and life, can you please recommend these two adorable sisters to them? An adoption application can be found at: [www.chihuahua-rescue.org](http://www.chihuahua-rescue.org)

ADOPT DAPHNE & PETUNIA!! [www.chihuahua-rescue.com](http://www.chihuahua-rescue.com) (photo: cindygordon.com)



# Training Tips for Your Chihuahua

BY: SARAH GILL

After successfully working with clients, this list is the go to when working with your dog at home. This is taught in all of my obedience lessons and classes. Teaching your dog new things or even working with your dog on the things he already knows really improves your bond.

1. Consistency: Remember to use the same command words and rules every time.
2. Short and sweet: Always remember to use the word only once. When you repeat the word and your dog ignores it, the dog thinks it's ok to ignore the word.
3. Working on the come command: in the beginning, always work with the leash on your dog. Say the dog's name with the word "Come". If your dog hesitates, you can reel him in and treat him when he arrives.
4. Rewards: Always be generous with treats and verbal praise. Rewards let your dog know that what they are doing is what you want.
5. Timing: You want to reward your dog immediately when they do what you ask them to do. The same goes for correcting them. A delayed reaction from you will confuse the dog.
6. Commands: only use commands that your dog knows 100% unless you are in a position to help the dog to get it right.
7. Remember that dogs pick up on your tone of voice and your body language! If you don't sound happy, you may confuse your dog!
8. Positivity: If your dog starts to lose interest, end the lesson on a positive note. Try and get one last positive exercise in then stop it right there. You can always start another session later.



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