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# Schnauzer Rescue of the Carolinas Inc Newsletter

[www.schnauzerrescueofthecarolinas.org](http://www.schnauzerrescueofthecarolinas.org)

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## SRC Update

**This summer's tougher economic times have brought an unusually high number of requests for SRC to help with many more rescue dogs. I spoke with a shelter manager of the Catawba County Animal Shelter while making plans to pick up a darling little mini female from them. The mini, who came to them in good condition and obviously not a puppy mill breeder, had been someone's beloved companion but now was abandoned. She was definitely adoptable yet this shelter did not have the time to promote this mini for adoption. The shelter normally holds 75 dogs but it now handling up to 300 dogs! They do not have time to post these dogs and many of them are dying needlessly after being thrown away. Stuffed into crates, discarded and alone while told by their previous owners that "someone" else would adopt them. This may ease the owner's conscience but does not feed the displaced dog or keep it from being just another unwanted one pushed across the Rainbow Bridge without feeling another master's loving touch.**

**Anita – SRC Director**

**The following Letter to the Editor was published in The Lexington Dispatch, Lexington NC on Monday July 13, 2009. D. Melton wrote the letter and was surprised they published it. She was so glad that they did.**

**She has 4 cats in addition to 4 dogs. D. Melton gave permission for her letter to be reprinted in the SRC newsletter and said "Please feel free to reprint it!! If it will help anyone in any way who is about to make a bad decision like that, then please reprint it."**

**Editor:** I walked outside this morning to find another of someone else's pet at our back door. I'm seeing it and hearing about this happening at increasing rates from all over Davidson County. This one had been dumped like so many others have been of late. He had obviously once been loved and cared for as he was as gentle and well-mannered as any of our own. He was scared, very thin and malnourished, dehydrated, covered in spider webs and other debris and had that completely lost and empty look in his eyes.

To whoever dumped him, a domesticated pet who is all but wholly dependent on human care for survival, you are an idiot and a lazy one at that. There are people and agencies to help find domesticated pets new homes. Look in the phone book and call somebody. Call your vet. Call other animal Samaritan groups and get referrals.

Yes, everybody is well aware of how poor the economy is presently. Everybody knows neighbors and friends who are struggling to get by right now. Don't dump your pet far away from home with the hope that someone will take them in. That is usually not what happens to them.

This was no feral animal. Feral animals know how to survive in the woods. Domesticated pets do not. They starve, get sick, they are attacked by other animals both wild and domestic, they get hit by cars, and they don't have a clue how to fend for themselves outside the environment you raised them in. When you dump them, they are lost and defenseless. You are deliberately putting them in a whole new world of suffering. How kind of you. Taking them to the pound would be a kinder alternative to what domesticated pets face in the wild.

If things get tough for you, that's typical in these economic times. You need to grasp the fact that you have a long line of folks going through the same struggles right behind you. If you find you can't care for your pet any longer, do the right thing by them. Take the time to contact the people who are available to help your pet. Don't dump and abandon them.

P.S. This was one of the lucky ones who just happened to show up at the right back door at the right time. We named him Frank.

## **SRC Example of a dumped dog - # 757**



**Hobo # 757**  
**My hair is all orange**  
**And I itch like crazy!**



**Hobo # 757**  
**Skin pink and**  
**Dreadfully**  
**Inflamed**



**Hobo # 757**  
**It's been 2 weeks now –**  
**When does the hair on**  
**my rump grow back?**

## HOBO HARRY'S TALE OF ADVENTURE

**“Where am I? Where are my folks? My house is not here! Nothing smells right. I don’t know why I was dropped off here. What neighborhood is this? Nobody pays any attention to me. I don’t know why these people think I don’t exist. Where is my collar? The kids that talk to me just call me “here doggie.” I know that no one will be able to guess my name. Where am I supposed to get my supper? Where am I supposed to sleep? I don’t want to be out in the rain again tonight. I itch all over. I am so hungry and miserable. Please someone help me.” HOBO**

**A nice lady saw a stray schnauzer around her home and the little dog was scratching at their front door wanting to get into the house badly. She called her daughter to take a look at this dog and try to figure out what was wrong with him. He looked terrible. What little was left of his hair was orange from the shoulder blades down. His rump was hairless and scaly. The nice lady had a dog of her own but had never seen this condition before. She wanted to help but didn’t want this sick stray too close to her pet.**

**There was only one thing to do. Take the car out of the garage and put this dog inside. The weather was miserable...hot and humid and rainy...so the door to the kitchen was opened, a doggie gate put in the door and a fan set up to blow air-conditioning from the house out into the garage. What nice caring people this lady and her daughter were.**

**The neighborhood children said they had seen the dog around for about a week but did not know who he belonged to. So the nice lady and her daughter printed 150 fliers about the lost dog and stuck them in every mailbox in the surrounding neighborhoods. They also reported the stray to the county animal control folks who said they would make a note if anyone called about losing their schnauzer. The daughter found SRC on the web and called to see if someone could help if an owner could not be found.**

**With no response to the fliers, SRC took Hobo Harry into its care. He was a mess!! He was taken straight to the Vet to be checked out. He was already neutered and thankfully he did not have heartworms. That was a big hurdle to jump. He did not have any parasites except fleas and tapeworms. His skin problems came from flea allergies and constant chewing. And his cough was Bronchitis from being out in the weather on his own. Nothing contagious! Hobo got all his shots and went to his foster home with antibiotics and allergy medication.**

**Hobo was a shy little boy. He was exhausted and not sure how to handle being a member of a new pack. But he passed the sniff test and was treated kindly by all.**

## FURTHER ADVENTURES OF HOBO HARRY

Hobo settled in for his first week of SRC foster care. He tried to rest but, as with each new rescue, he was not yet comfortable and found it hard to relax. He was greedy about his food since he was not sure that he would get his share with all the other dogs around. And he couldn't understand why there was such a big fuss about his wanting to drink water out of the toilet. Hobo spent every spare minute searching the kitchen for any crumb or any food item left out that he could steal.

On the evening of the seventh day, Hobo had a bloody nose. Strange. According to research on the web, there is no such thing as a dog having a bloody nose. His nose bleed stopped on its own after a short time and all seemed to be well. By the evening of the next day Hobo felt warm compared to the other dogs yet seemed OK.

The next morning, Hobo had a nose bleed in his bed and had bloodshot eyes. He was extremely warm, had no energy and had to be helped out of his crate. Upon going outside, he had another nose bleed and a severe seizure in the yard. Hobo was rushed to the Vet and had another seizure in the waiting room plus a 105 fever.

Hobo was one sick dog. The Vet said that he had a viral infection and that he would either respond to treatment or die. Hobo spent four days at the veterinary hospital on an IV. Several antibiotics were tried until one helped his condition. Hobo came home with more antibiotics, anti-inflammatory, cream for eyes and IV shaved leg.

One month later and Hobo Harry is a joyful little boy. Hobo is a people dog – totally focused on his people family and happiest lying at your feet, by your side or in your lap. He has a mellow disposition and is so happy to meet new people. He loves to ride and go visit. He rarely barks but does have some Woo Woos up his sleeve. He likes to play gently with soft toys and loves to sleep on a pillow. His crate has a baby pillow to put his head on (but he would prefer to sleep by your side).

Hobo is one smart schnauzer. He can pull the chair out from the dining table just enough to hop up and check everything out and, if need be, pull the placemat over to see if any crumbs are worth gleaning. Now, he waits his turn for cookies and isn't greedy about his feed bowl. All rescues relax and trust with love and basic care.

“I hope SRC can find someone to adopt me and be with me most of the time. I was alone a lot and had to fend for myself in my previous life. Abandoned, I would have never survived the virus infection. At a “pound”, I would not have been adopted because I looked awful and they don't provide for medical needs. Thank goodness, the nice lady and her daughter called SRC to take me. I've discovered that life's pretty good when one gets fed and petted on a regular basis.” **HOBO HARRY**

## HOBO HARRY – THEN AND NOW!



**I've come from being on the road & standing around with no hair on my rump with my back feet crossed to sleeping on a fleece bed with my velvet pillow to a fine figure of a stand-up guy. I'm waiting for my forever home.**



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**Send Any Donations to the above address**

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