

# Morfeie Malatoer

GOLD COAST YORKSHIRE TERRIER CLUB OF SOUTH FLORIDA INC.

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Back to school!

## Help, Don't Hinder!

by Tina K VaLant

Not everyone is in a position to adopt, foster or transport. Some of us are good on the computer and may have a sizable audience with the willingness to help animals in need. Awesome!

There are ways to optimally assist rescuers, organizations and animals.

Consider this recent social media post. An adorable purebred puppy was surrendered due to allergies. The post had a very cute pic, minimal info, and the rescuer's phone number. Missing was the name of the rescue group, application process, adoption fee, and MOST importantly, the city where the dog is located. *continued, page 3* 





















### **Save the Date**

Fall Yorkie Club Luncheon Saturday, October 29 @ 1pm

WildFlower Steakhouse fka Flash Dance 1424-1450 N Federal Hwy. Boca Raton, FL 33432

Expansive lunch menu, patio dining and shared moments with yorkie friends!



If the kindest souls were rewarded with the longest lives, dogs would outlive us all.

GoldCoastYorkieClub.org

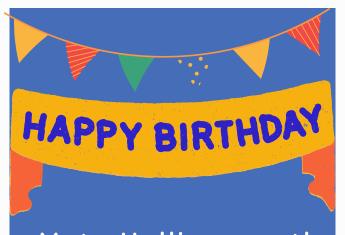
newsletter duo: Pat Caruso pvcqiqi@aol.com Tina VaLant tvalant@aol.com

#### **PAW-LI-DAYS**

September 8: National Dog Walker **Appreciation Day** 

**September 11: National Pet Memorial Day** & National Hug Yor Dog Day

September 18-24: Deaf Dog Awareness Week



Meta Hollingsworth 9/14

Donna Gomez 9/18

Anthony Caruso 9/21

Karen Taylor 9/23























## Help, Don't Hinder!

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Initial post: 44 comments 287 shares six useful comments (suggestions for reputable rescues/fosters), eleven interested prospects and 28 USELESS comments (ie: adorable, I'm at capacity, best wishes)

Second post: 20 comments, 50 shares three useful comments, five interested prospects, and twelve USELESS comments (so cute)

As a prospective adopter, would you:

- Assume the dog is FREE? Most did.
- Want to know the process to be considered? Is there an application, adoption fee, home visit, etc? What is the timeline for adoption? Would s/he be released to the new home under a spay/neuter agreement?
- Want to know where the dog originated from? If s/he is from a pet store, it could be a puppy-milled dog with congenital defects and/or behavioral issues.







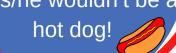






- Openly trust who has the dog? Kehoming scams are common online.
- Want to know more about the dog's personality, health, weight (some communities have restrictions), spayed/neutered, UTD on vax? Good with dogs, cats, kids?
- Be willing to pay hundreds of dollars to adopt this dog? Is it a tax-deductible donation to a reputable organization?
- How far are you willing to drive to meet/adopt the dog? Hours? Out of state?
- Want to know the protocol/your responsibility to return the dog if s/he dog is not fitting into your household, after a month or so? see next page

Why did the yorkie stay out of the sun? So s/he wouldn't be a









Even without having the above crucial information, this dog was shared nearly 350 times. Those possibly interested have to call the rescuer. I called for an update, the voice mail was full—for four days.

Omission of imperative information combined with a dead end voicemail put this precious pup's chances of finding a great home to a single digit percentage. 350 well-meaning people blindly shared the post. The result is the newsfeed gets clogged with useless comments, while rescuers get overwhelmed; all while the pup is stranded on foster island.

#### What can YOU do?

Keep efforts local. Most rescues will not transport or adopt out of the county/state. It's easier to arrange meet and greets (& home visits) locally.

#### Before you share:

Contact the original poster for an update. Include imperative info: name of rescue group, location (city) of dog, health update, status (in danger, needs medical, foster), adoption process (link to application) and adoption fee. If you're not willing to do that, please don't share the post. The dog could already be spoken-for. Turns out this pup had a \$1000 rehoming fee, which wasn't disclosed.

WOW!!!

Instead of blindly sharing, commenting how cute or why YOU can not take the dog, research the area the dog is located in for THAT breed rescue and tag them @ on FaceBook or # the appropriate group. They could have approved applicants waiting.

By following the above guidelines, you decrease clutter on newsfeeds, saving everyone time, energy and money. Best of all, you significantly boosted the chance of that pet getting adopted to an approved, well-vetted home. Thank you in advance!