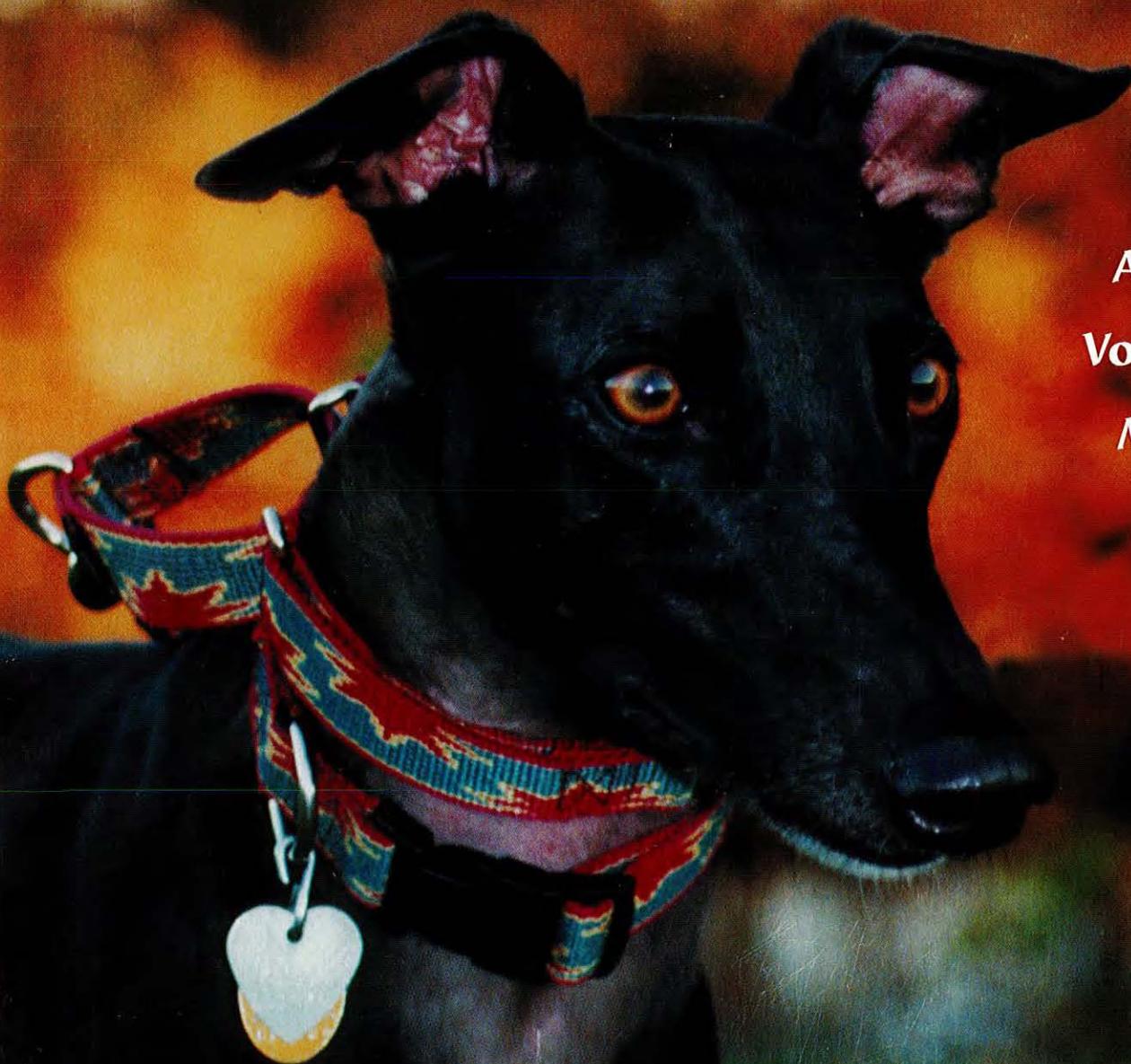


CELEBRATING GREYHOUNDS

THE MAGAZINE

FALL 1999



**Adoption
Volunteers
Meet the
Hauler**

**Inside:
No Fear/No Pain
Methods of Discipline**

The Annual Greyhounds Reach The Beach Gathering at Dewey Beach

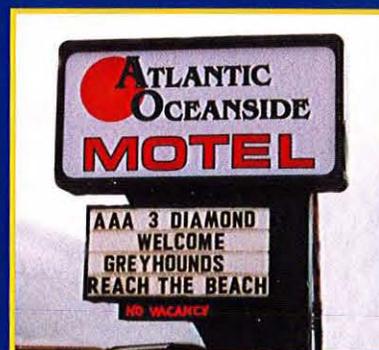
October 8 - 10, 1999
Dewey Beach, Delaware

For registration information call
(508) 636-3756. Look at the
Dewey Beach information at
<http://adopt-a-greyhound.org/dewey/index.html>.

Join the fun. Bring the dogs.
See you and your Greyhounds
in October!

Imagine a balmy morning in the early fall. The air is crisp and clean with the tangy smell of salt, and the sound of the surf and the seagulls fill the air. Then suddenly, there is the sound of a dog rooing—that uniquely Greyhound sound—then there is another, and another. A few hundred Greyhounds are greeting the day at Dewey Beach.

Few sights are as impressive as watching an endless parade of people and dogs coming over the dunes onto the beach. Then gazing along the shore to see Greyhounds and their owners as far as the eye can see in all directions. Greyhounds greeting other Greyhounds; people chatting and comparing stories.



It's The Annual Greyhounds Reach the Beach Gathering at Dewey Beach.

The '99 gathering will feature seminars, discussions, and workshops on Greyhounds and obedience, creative ideas for promoting Greyhound adoption, veterinary and health conditions unique to Greyhounds, and more. There will be a Blessing of the Hounds and a Memorial Service for departed friends, the first Greyhounds Reach the Beach poster, dinner at the Grotto or the Café Italiano, and brunch at the Bay Center at the Ruddertown Complex. Vendors with all sorts of wonderful Greyhound goodies and a few other surprises are still being developed.



The purpose of the magazine is to provide information about Greyhounds as a breed. Recognizing that there are differing points of view on issues such as racing, breeding, and adoption policies, to mention a few, the magazine does not advocate a position on these issues. It will publish articles and reader letters regarding these issues if deemed appropriate.

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Sally in the Park. Sally is five-and-a-half years old and originally raced in Daytona, Florida. She was adopted from Hav-a-Heart Rescue in St. Louis, Missouri. Sally currently resides in Midland, Michigan with her folks, Sheila and John McCoy.

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CG READERS SPEAK OUT

ABOUT CUSTER

Your article in *CG* about Custer's Greyhounds was interesting, informative, well written, and very well researched indeed! I was glad to see/read it and also to pore over the entire magazine. There were some wonderful photos as well as articles in this issue. It is always nice to receive this magazine! I love everything about it—especially the staff of people you have writing and contributing to it.

CHLOE HACK
VIA THE INTERNET

Just got my Spring *CG*. I just had to write and tell you what a delightful article Joan Dillon wrote on General Custer. I've never read any of his or his wife's writing; however, now I am tempted because they both described our hounds so wonderfully! It's obvious Greyhound behavior and personality haven't changed much since Custer's day. It's also obvious that Custer loved his dogs very much AND that his wife loved HIM very much (since her love for Byron was not nearly as emphatic as her husband's).

PAMELA TALTON
MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA

ABOUT COLORS

I loved the "Rainbow Colors" article (*CG*, Spring 99, Patricia Gail Burnham). Ever think about putting together and selling a color chart showing photos and descriptions of all the various colors?

My husband and I adopted our first Greyhound last July from GPA/Central New Hampshire. Notice that I said "first" since I'm sure we'll be adding more Greyhounds to our family in the future. Our Janey accompanies me on my weekly visits to see my father in a nursing home, and the staff and residents love to see her coming. My father ADORES his "granddaughter" and introduces her to all his friends. She loves all the attention she gets while we're there. Janey has been such a welcome addition to our furry family (a mixed-breed dog, two cats, and seven ferrets).

Thanks for putting together a great magazine.

MONA L. HEADEN
MERRIMACK, NEW HAMPSHIRE

You're welcome. We know that the Greyhound Pets of America/California Adoption Center sells an 8 1/2" x 11" laminated Color Chart. It shows the eighteen "official" colors of racing Greyhounds. The price is \$4. The address is P.O. Box 2433, La Mesa, CA 91943-2433. The phone number is (619) 443-0940. Other groups probably sell this color chart too.—Ed.

ABOUT COPROPHAGIA

In Vol. 4 No. 1, Spring, 1999 "Speak Out" of *CG*, you printed a letter on Coprophagia. I was at first elated and then disappointed when reading the letter. I have

an adopted Greyhound named Brittany who is preoccupied with her own stools and those of my two Italian Greyhounds. One of my IGs has also picked up the habit. Brittany is compulsive in the behavior to the point of generating a gaseous state that sometimes leads her to vomit and often produces odors that cause my wife and me to leave the affected area. Like your previous writer, we too have tried Forbid without success.

So when I heard of another possible remedy in the form of Blue Green Algae, I was elated. My elation turned to disappointment when no further information was forthcoming. Is it a commercially available product? Are there instructions for use? Please don't leave us with bated breath and Brittany with something much worse.

Thanks. We greatly appreciate the spirit and content of your periodical.

DARYL AND PAM RICHEY
STILWELL, KANSAS

First, thanks for the last comment. Blue Green Algae is available as a supplement in many vitamin sections in drug and health food stores and even in some supermarkets and wholesale clubs. It is also available through a variety of mail order catalogs. Some of it may be good and some of it may not be. It is not regulated by any agency, as far as I know, but many people think it is a miracle product. Others think it is dangerous because they know that "raw" blue green algae can be poisonous if it is in drinking water. We tried it a few years ago on a couple of my dogs; it didn't work for them. We find that the best thing to do when one lives with incorrigible feces eaters is to immediately pick up the feces the minute it hits the ground.—Ed.

ABOUT CG IN LIBRARIES

I wanted to let you know that we (Grey-Save of NW PA) not only distribute the applications for *CG* with our adoption packets, we donate subscriptions to several local libraries. We designated them to be circulated, not "in library" only. That gives adopters the chance to read them. This sort of circulation puts the magazine in front of the public, where people see it and may possibly be encouraged to adopt.

PEGGY JORDANO
VIA THE INTERNET

ABOUT OVERSEAS SUBSCRIPTIONS

I would like to take out a one-year subscription to *Celebrating Greyhounds: The Magazine*. A friend of mine already



Chance and Cisco. Chance came to us in 1994 from We Adopt Greyhounds (WAG) in Connecticut and Cisco in 1996 from Mexico via Make Peace with Animals in Pennsylvania. They love to run on the beach in Seaside Park, New Jersey.

PHOTO BY JULIE AND ROBBY GREGER

subscribes to *CG* and lets me have a read of some of her copies. The magazine is great with some brilliant features and articles and, of course, the best part is that it's all about Greyhounds! I have two rescue Greyhounds of my own and love reading all about the breed so your magazine will be a most valuable asset.

My friend sends the \$25 to you in the post, as a money order for this amount is very expensive. I have also enclosed the \$25 subscription and can only hope it finds its way to you okay. I really am not able to afford the cost of a money order, which would be more than double the cost of the magazines. I would like to thank you for all your help and will look forward to the magazine arriving in the future.

With kind regards and best wishes,

CAROL TERRY
FELTHAM, MIDDLESEX, U.K.

Thank you for sending the cash in the mail. It arrived safely. We understand the problem with conversion rates but have found that the cash actually does reach us safely if it is well wrapped.—Ed.

ABOUT EDUCATING PEOPLE

My husband and I recently adopted a Greyhound from our local racetrack, The Shoreline Star. We love her. Her racing name was Pat C Wisecrack, but we call her Cracker. She raced as a Grade A and TA (mixed grades) dog until she broke her hock on the backstretch.

People love her, and always ask us how we adopted her. More people need Greyhounds. They are the best pets. My husband has horrible allergies, and she does not bother him at all. Thank you for your time and consideration, and we look forward to the future issues of the magazine. On a final note, we truly enjoy the Greyhound magazine, and think this is a wonderful way to educate people about the Greyhound.

GABRIELLE AND CHRIS MORRIS
NORWALK, CONNECTICUT

ABOUT EMOTIONS AND INFORMATION

I love *CG* Magazine! I subscribed only about six months ago but already it has come in very handy. I have saved my issues and will continue to do so. You just never know when you might need some of that information. Thanks for warning us about the box of Kleenex. I know that there has been at least one article in every issue I have

ABOUT A CORRIGAN CRAFT INSPIRATION?



When it became evident that we needed a new sofa, our first concern was with what Genny, our couch potato, would do? She could not get on the new sofa so my husband literally took the old sofa apart and made a couch for her out of the old couch cushions. Along with her security blanket, her days are peaceful.

MRS. GEORGE LOSO
PROCTOR, VERMONT

received so far that has gotten to me. Maybe I ought to just make sure I've got tissue handy whenever I read my newest edition.

MISSIE HARHOLD
VIA THE INTERNET

ABOUT HERMAPHRODITES

I got my Spring 1999 *Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine* three weeks ago and happily read it cover to cover. Thank you for a great resource! I am delighted and impressed with the overall quality of this publication.

However, I have to say that I was dismayed by the tone of Julia Carter's article on hermaphrodites. That short column contained some opinions that I found very insensitive and even inaccurate.

Science tells us that gender in mammals is a continuum, not an either/or proposition. There are several genetic possibilities for gender expression. For some reason, our culture mostly pretends that there are

only two: male and female. It's just a convenient way to group people and animals. But, it's not at all true.

In reality, in terms of gender, people as well as animals are rather diverse lots. Yet, Dr. Carter is willing to label some presentations as normal and some not. Why?

I cringed as I was reading to think that a friend of mine who has XXY genotype might have read the article. Dr. Carter's category of the (non-sweet) "it" would refer to my friend. This friend has had quite a difficult time in life, precisely because of the kind of polarized thought this article espoused.

DR. CAROL JILLIAN
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

Thank you for your letters (up to 300 words) and photographs. Letters may be edited for brevity or clarity. Please send letters and photos by mail to the editorial office. Letters sent via e-mail to greyhound@aol.com are also appreciated.

Q: What are the signs of Lyme Disease?

BY HELANE GRAUSTARK, P.A.

A: Lyme disease, also known as *Borrelia burgdorferi*, is primarily transmitted by deer ticks. There is minimal risk of transmission during the first 12 to 24 hours that a tick feeds upon a dog. The longer the tick feeds and becomes engorged, the greater the chance of developing Lyme disease. In addition, if a *B. burgdorferi*-infected tick has bitten him in the fall or early spring, your dog has a greater chance of becoming infected than at other times of the year.

There is a relatively long latent period between exposure (i.e., tick bite) and symptoms—approximately two to five months. Lyme disease presents in dogs primarily as arthritis; this arthritis may be short-lived and may even recur. It may

involve one or several joints, and may have a sudden onset. An infected dog may appear depressed, feverish, unwilling to eat, or lethargic. The dog may also be unwilling to move. Joints may appear swollen or hot and may be painful when examined.

Unlike humans, dogs generally do not show signs of the red, round, target-like skin rash that many people develop (erythema migrans), nor do they develop the unrelenting chronic arthritis or involvement of the nervous system that may appear in severe, untreated Lyme disease in humans. Rarely, dogs may present with kidney disease, seizures, and/or behavioral changes.

Lyme disease may be diagnosed as early as four to six weeks after the tick bite, when

the dog develops antibodies to Lyme. Tests can confirm the presence of an acute infection in vaccinated dogs in whom active disease is suspected.

Lyme disease is generally treated with tetracycline, doxycycline, or amoxicillin for 21 to 28 days. An infected dog will usually show clinical recovery within one to two days. Dogs respond well to treatment with these antibiotics and complete recovery is usually expected.

References available upon request.

Helane Graustark is a regular contributor to CG Magazine. She is a physician's assistant and makes her home with five Greyhounds and two Italian Greyhounds.

Additional Questions Answered

Q: GREYHOUND RIDGEBACKS?

One of our Greyhounds has a ridge (similar to that found on Ridgebacks) along the back of her neck running for about eight inches. Someone told me they thought it had to do with Irish breeding, which is borne out by her Irish name. However, I never found anything authoritative to confirm this. I've never seen another Greyhound with this feature. Can anyone shed any light on this?

This has been a curiosity to me since we got Hannah three years ago. I am constantly asked about it and would love to be able to explain it. Thanks for any help you can give.

JEAN GOLIGHTLY
FAIRFAX, VIRGINIA

A: Several CG contributors had something to say about this question. Patricia Gail Burnham says that Dual Ch. Suintiger the Ridge Runner CD had a ridge down her neck for about six inches even though she had no Irish breeding. Terrill Schukraft says she's seen this kind of cowlick on many shorthaired dogs, including some Doberman pinschers. One Doberman she knew personally had a ridge of hair growing the wrong way on the top of her skull. It looked like a Mohawk, and that's what her breeders named her. Maureen Nehms offers that it happens in Whippets and other AKC dogs and that some owners trim them up before

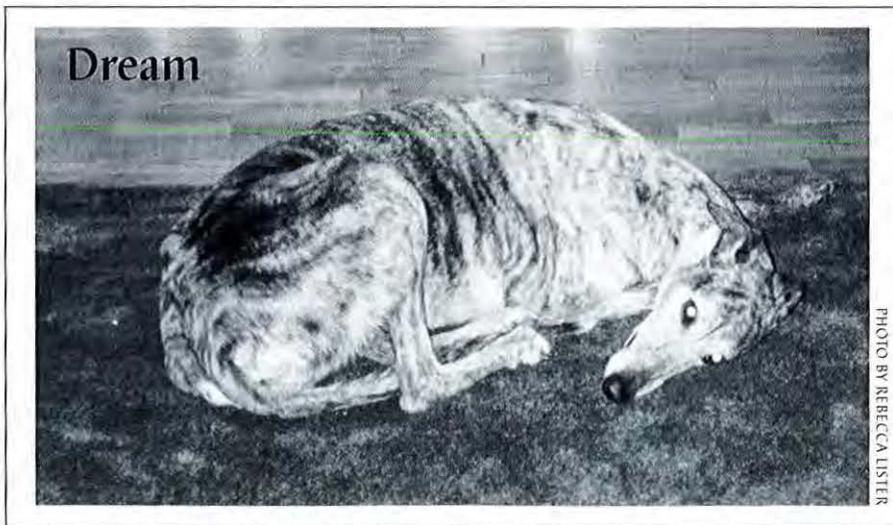
showing. Joan Dillon mentions that in New Hampshire they also call it a "Mohawk" and suggests it may be hereditary in that it shows up in certain lines but not others. Marcia Herman adds that in some circles, the ridge is called a "Hunter's Crest" and it signifies "Good Luck."

Q. WHAT IS HAPPENING WITH THE EPIDEMIC AND DO GREYHOUNDS WHEEZE?

Has there been any more information on the kennel cough epidemic that wreaked such havoc earlier this year? Did anyone

discover if it truly was kennel cough, or some other serious illness? It would be helpful to have information about the illness, especially for those folks who might be considering adopting from tracks.

I would also like to know if any other subscribers have dogs that suffer from wheezing. I've been reassured that it is only a "backwards sneeze," but it sounds like it is uncomfortable for him. Dream frequently wakes up at night wheezing, and I'm wondering if I should take it more seriously. I gently stroke under his chin while it is happening, which helps somewhat. Any



information you or other Greyhound owners could provide would be appreciated.

REBECCA LISTER
DECORAH, IOWA

A. Depending on whom one talks to, a combination of kennel cough and streptococcal toxic shock syndrome (TSS), has hit tracks across the country starting in January in Florida. Unfortunately, the infection takes hold swiftly and unless one recognizes it and treats it immediately, the dog gets very ill or dies within the day. The TSS takes hold so quickly that antibiotics don't have time to work and the afflicted dogs die in spite of treatment. They can be fine in the morning and dead by evening.

Backwards sneezing is in the nose and throat area while wheezing is in the lungs. We recommend taking Dream to a veterinarian to determine what is going on.

Q. ARE THERE GREYHOUND BOOKS FOR CHILDREN?

I work in the public school system in Texas and have noticed a tremendous increase in the interest that children have in reading about animals, especially dogs. Our librarians state that they can't get enough books on dogs.

Is there a list of children's books about Greyhounds that I could give to our librarians so that they might include the books in their year-end orders? I would also like to stock them in our GPA store. What a great idea for holiday and birthday gifts!

I look forward to any comments your readers may have. It takes me forever to read my *CG* because I read every word in every article. By the time I finish, the next edition is arriving. They sit in a stack next to my bed. Thanks for all your help.

E. DIANE BLACKWELDER
VIA THE INTERNET

A. So far, I've been able to find the following children and youth books. (Readers, can you add to this list of books?) Twiggy, Story of a Greyhound; Ginny Anne Folkman and Chrysa Neas, Emerald Press, P.O. Box 7, Sunneytown, PA 18084. Windsong; Lynn Hall, Charles Scribner through Lisa Dolin in the Special Sales Dept. of Simon and Schuster, 15th Floor, 15 Columbia Circle, NY, NY 10023. And, My Greyhound Friend, Nora Star. Buy from Nora Star, Greyhound Friends for Life, 9728 Tenaya Way, Kelseyville, CA 95451; (707) 277-9167. Also available for older students are Ratzos by Marty Crisp, Swiftly by Michael Maguire, and Syndee's Story, by Doris Thompson. Some of the subject matter may be delightful; some may be disturbing. Some may not be available and others may be in the used or out-of-print book market. Happy hunting and happy reading! —Ed.

EDITORIAL COMMENTS

A New Look, New People, New Material

You may notice that the last two issues of *Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine* looked a bit different from previous issues. We have changed over from an in-house desktopping operation—my house, mostly—to outside professional desktop help (Suzin Koehler of Zin Designs in Boston, Mass. who assembled this issue). Although we are experimenting with our looks and material a bit in each issue, we hope you like our general appearance and content. Please tell us what you like and what you don't. (Please be gentle. This is a labor of love for all of us, and we are learning and growing as we move from issue to issue.)

New People: When we asked for help in the spring issue, you responded in an overwhelming fashion. So many of you offered to help, in fact, that I haven't gotten back to you all more than once. I will. I promise. My job now is to figure out a way to allocate the work, especially for those of you who offered to proofread. Thanks to all who answered our call for help.

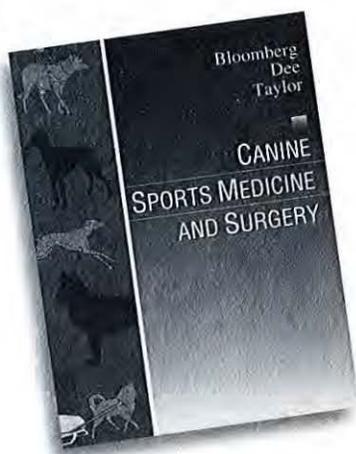
We now have additional high caliber editorial and writing help. Welcome to Caroline Coile, Ph.D., best known to Greyhound adopters for her book *The Greyhound*, published by Barron's. She has written numerous articles on canine sensory behavior and canine subjects in general and has champion Salukis. Welcome also to Nancy Beach, Maria Borowski (writer and Internet researcher), and our copy editors—Kate Bressler, Joan Dillon, Ann Penfield, and Terrill Schukraft. Every one of our copy editors has had previous editing experience. Editorial assistant Ellen McCracken will assist with keeping track of our articles (you know you've published a lot of articles when you realize you need someone to keep track of them). Editorial assistant Steve Uyehara will take on the task of transforming articles that come in over the Internet to those which resemble articles.

Last but not least, is our new Associate Editor, Kelly Graham, who is even pickier than I am; this is a good thing, and I appreciate her award-winning talent, her eagle eye, and her time.

New Material: Starting with the next issue, we will be adding more adoption-oriented material—the kind of material that was published in *Speaking of Greyhounds*. See the *CG/SOG* merger announcement in the Greyhound Project news section. Please write to tell us what you would like to read about in this new section or if you have information or an article to offer that might be of help to adoption volunteers.

Often heart wrenching, your letters, photos, and articles bring me to tears when you talk about how noble, heroic, loving, life altering, and enriching your Greyhounds are. And your knowledge educates us all, too—even someone like me who has had Greyhounds for the past two decades and has been involved in Greyhound adoption for almost as many years. It is hard to pick and choose which of the above to publish. But that's all right. Please continue to send in your letters, photos, and article suggestions. This magazine is for you, after all, and you never know where or when your story or your Greyhound might appear between—or on—the covers of *Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine*.

Marcia Herman



Reviewed by Nancy Beach

Price: \$95

Published by W.B. Saunders Company (a division of Harcourt Brace & Company), Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 1998.

Edited by Mark S. Bloomberg (deceased), DVM, MS, diplomate ACVS, late Chairman of the Department of Small Animal Clinical Services, College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Florida in Gainesville.

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Robert A. Taylor, DVM, MS, diplomate ACVS, staff surgeon at Alameda East Veterinary Hospital in Denver, Colorado, co-director of the Bel-Rea Institute of Animal Technology in Denver, and clinical affiliate at the Teaching Hospital of Colorado State University at Fort Collins.

Associate Editor is James R. Gannon, BVSc, FAVSc, MRCVS, of Sandown Veterinary Clinic, Springvale, Victoria, Australia.

Canine Sports Medicine and Surgery

This book is an ambitious work. Its 55 chapters cover 11 major subjects pertaining to sporting and working dogs of all kinds, with many chapters covering Greyhounds specifically: their history and origins, body systems, injuries and illnesses and their treatments, breeding, nutrition, kennel management, and even chapters covering racetrack design and Greyhound adoption. Information can be gleaned from this book if you are a race or pet dog owner, a trainer, a veterinarian, or a breeder. Contributing writers include veterinarians, trainers, racing officials, breeders, and even a civil engineer in the racetrack design section. This review is from the perspective of a pet owner.

Many chapters in this book provide an excellent understanding of the life your hound led during its training and racing career. The first chapter of the book, written by executive director of the National Greyhound Association, Gary Guccione, covers the history of the breed and can help a pet owner understand more about the origins of this unique hound. A fascinating chapter by the famous kennel owner and breeder Herb "Dutch" Koerner, owner of Dutch Bahama, offers insights about how a racing pup is raised and conditioned for track life. In addition, if your dog has an old racing injury, the medical chapters about injuries may offer more insight into how such injuries occur and how they are repaired. A chapter of collected data from a number of Florida racetracks outlines the injuries that occur most often, gives the reasons why they happen, and suggests some possible solutions.

Some readers might be delighted by the discovery of fun facts, i.e., that American racing Greyhounds make up 20 percent of all racing hounds worldwide, and that Greyhounds have hearts similar in size to human hearts. Others may be interested in the international flavor of this book, which covers

Greyhound racing, training, nutrition, and physical therapy methods from other countries, most notably Australia. Experts from Australia, the United States, and Ireland all have had a hand in writing this book.

In some respects, however, the book is perhaps too ambitious. Some subjects are given short shrift. While many of the chapters that cover medical and physiological aspects of Greyhounds give extensive bibliographies, some chapters have no additional reading suggested at all. In some cases, it may be because there is very little additional reading available. Unfortunately, all of the pictures are black and white, and not all of them are of good quality. Particularly disappointing were the pictures in the sections on dermatology and foot and footpad injuries. It was hard to discern from the pictures what some conditions and injuries were supposed to look like. Also, since the book was written by a number of contributors, the writing is uneven. Some chapters are very easy to read and understand, and some less so. In the Greyhound adoption section, some of the web site addresses (URLs) are outdated, due to the fluidity of the Internet. This type of problem is hard to avoid, and credit must be given in the attempt to provide adoption information. Addresses, phone numbers, and a brief list of adoption organizations and publications are also provided.

Since this book will have a limited audience, it is rather expensive to purchase. The retail price is \$95. However, your typical lending library can probably obtain the book through interlibrary loan, usually for the price of shipping the book to the requesting library.

All in all, this book is educational reading for anyone interested in knowing more about the racing Greyhound. ❖



Nancy Beach is a regular contributor to CG Magazine. She has been a Greyhound owner for six years and has a particular interest in medical issues that affect retired racers.



Pet Emergency First Aid: Dogs

Imagine that your beloved Greyhound is quietly working on a chew toy and starts choking. Something has obstructed his airway and immediate intervention is critical. He is now unconscious. Would you know how to manage this medical emergency? The video *Pet Emergency First Aid: Dogs* could potentially be an important investment in your dog's well being as it will instruct you in how to deal with many canine medical crises, perform life saving techniques and will familiarize you with how to do basic assessments. This well-produced, extremely comprehensive 41-minute video endorsed by the ASPCA (American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals) demonstrates treatment on live dogs and life-like dog models leaving little to the imagination. Although books on pet first aid are available, observing actual demonstrations is an optimal way to learn techniques. Watching this video several times and reviewing it annually will help assure that in a time of crisis and stress your visual and auditory memory will be ingrained with some basic emergency medical skills allowing you to give timely and appropriate care to your dog.

The video outlines what we should have in a pet first aid kit and discusses what is normal canine body temperature, pulse, respiration and hydra-

tion plus how to assess each. You will learn rescue breathing, CPR and management of airway obstruction. Prior to transporting an injured dog to the veterinarian you will learn what to do when initially faced with various types of wounds; how to start management of a dog with hypothermia or heat stroke; and methods of moving a dog with suspected spinal injuries. Throughout, the video encourages safety and using a makeshift muzzle to avoid getting bitten while assisting an injured dog. It discusses poisoning by various agents and the use of the ASPCA National Poison Control Center phone service.

As a health care practitioner and long time dog owner who has been through some minor canine medical emergencies, I found this tape extremely informative. Although no Greyhound owner expects his or her dog to get hit by a car, break a leg while out playing, or get into the garbage and choke, these things happen. For your dog's sake, be prepared for the unexpected and learn about pet first aid through this video. (A cat version is also available.) ❖

Lauren Emery is a frequent contributor to CG Magazine and volunteers for Greyhound Placement Service of Maine.

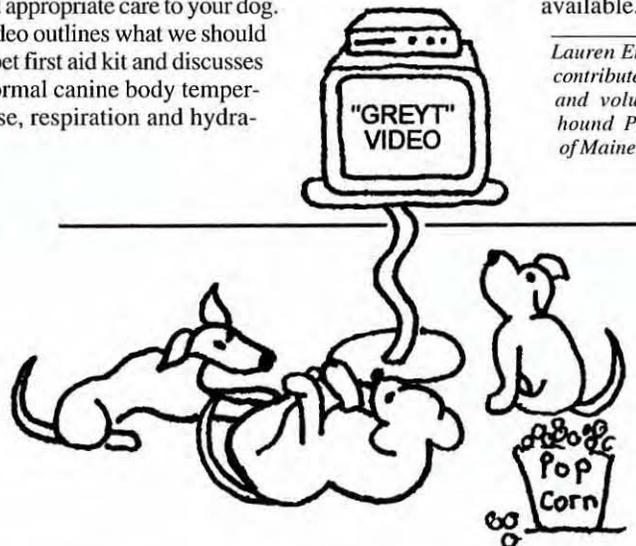
Reviewed by Lauren Emery

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CALLING ALL WRITERS

If you're a writer and have a story or even an idea, Celebrating Greyhounds would be glad to hear from you.

To Submit an Article: Please send articles, slides/photos, artwork, questions for columnists, and all other materials to the editor at the address below. Writer's Guidelines are available on request. Please enclose SASE if you want materials returned, although we prefer to keep submissions long-term for future issues. While we will take great care with your materials, we take no responsibility for loss or damage. **Article Deadlines:** Summer issue - March 1; Fall issue - June 1; Winter issue - September 1; Spring issue - December 1.

Editorial: Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine, P.O. Box 185751, Hamden, CT 06518-0751; greyhound@aol.com.

Santana and Tristan: Greyhound Watchdogs Extraordinaire!

Two years ago when we adopted Santana, we were told that Greyhounds make poor watchdogs and seldom bark. We had no reason to believe this was not the case, as she was usually a quiet and reserved little dog. Six months

ago we added Tristan to the family, and Santana started to become more protective and more outgoing.

One Sunday morning at 3:45 Santana woke us up with frenzied barking. She and Tristan ran downstairs, through the doggie

door and out into the yard, all the while barking urgently. Santana is a small dog with a high-pitched bark that we call the "soprano-bark," while Tristan has a deep scary-sounding woof to match his big frame. Grumbling, we got up, thinking some kind of animal was in the yard. We live on the edge of the desert and visits from coyotes are common.

The dogs were running around the yard, barking, and frantically sniffing in the dark corners. Not fully awake, Knut pulled them by the collars from the yard back into the house and closed the flap to the doggie door to prevent trouble with whatever animal must be roaming in the yard. As soon as we were inside the house, both Santana and Tristan ran to the front room, still barking. We followed them, and from the window saw two men jumping our six-foot fence and running to a waiting pickup truck. Even then it took a minute to realize that burglars had visited us.

Knut went out to the garage and noticed that the side door to the yard was ajar and the trunk of the Honda Accord was open. We do have an alarm system for the house, but it does not include the garage doors. The burglars had been at the back porch when the dogs came charging out the doggy door, and the burglars fled, ducking into the garage before deciding to give up on our house as a target.

This morning, the police called and told us that the burglars had been apprehended in Flagstaff, Arizona in a stolen Lexus with a trunk full of stolen goods. Apparently their strategy was to enter a home through the garage, walk through the house picking up purses, wallets, computers, and keys. They would then load the valuables in the trunk of the victim's car, then simply open the garage door and drive away.

Santana and Tristan saved the day by detecting the burglars before they were able to enter our home. From now on, our Greyhounds will be our primary alarm system while the "First Alert" alarm system is demoted to a backup! Extra treats for everybody! ❖

Knut Torvik and Michele Larsen reside with their Greyhounds in Scottsdale, Arizona. Santana is a four-year-old white and brindle female (racing name Maricopa Lolipop), and Tristan is a two-and-a-half-year-old black male (racing name Doc's Dentyne). Both dogs were adopted through Arizona Adopt-a-Greyhound, Inc. in Phoenix, Arizona.



Santana and Tristan



Santana seems to be camera shy and likes to hide behind Tristan and stays close to Michele Larsen, but she isn't shy when it comes to being a watchdog.

PHOTOS BY KNUT TORVIK

P's Rambling—World's Fastest Dog?

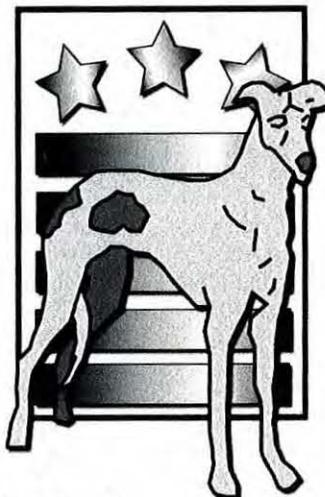
This son of Profits Andy, who was a Flashy Sir Award winner himself, was noted as the world's fastest Greyhound in his day, and possibly still is. He was an Oklahoma product, born in October, 1984 to the nice bitch, P's Skelly at the David Petzold farm. P's Rambling got off to a good start at the Dubuque track as a youngster, but when taken to the Wonderland racetrack, put in a poor record, racing in the D grade. After that he was sold to James W. Paul who somehow lit the spark that the brindle flash needed. Maybe it was those vanilla wafers! More about those later.

P's Rambling left Wonderland and found his stride again, finishing first 16 out of 19 races. He finished the 1986 season by winning eight consecutive races, six at Dubuque and two at Hollywood. At Dubuque, he was one of the fastest 3/8-mile dogs ever seen and consistently broke his own records. In his last start of 1986, he set a new world record of 36.69 seconds over the 3/8-mile course. He promptly broke it again two races later running against the great Prince Proper, while

beating the Prince by nine-and-a-half lengths.

In the Hollywoodian semifinals, he set a world record of 36.42, and he went into the finals looking unbeatable. However, in the final race of that premier event, P's Rambling ran into trouble on the track, being bumped early on and then meeting heavy traffic in the first turn. For close to 37 seconds, he chased the leaders until nearly the end. He even bumped Prince Proper in the final turn and should have fallen back then. Despite this, he hung on, caught up to his rival, Prince Proper, and beat him to the finish line by a neck! It was one of the greatest races of all time.

His winning streak stopped at 17, of which 11 were at Hollywood and set a new all-time consecutive win record there. He earned the Flashy Sir Award in 1987 and was named to the All-American team as



well. In his spare time, the Ramblin' Man appeared on the nationally televised *Today* show.

A short time later, he was injured in a race. Despite the injury, a broken stopper bone in his foot that forced his retirement, he won! When he formally retired, thousands of fans came

to watch him arrive by limousine for the special ceremony. "Ram," as he was known, had a sweet tooth, and he thoroughly enjoyed eating his entire retirement cake and then followed it up with yet another vanilla wafer from his owner, James W. Paul. By the way, he was still wearing the cast on his right front leg while attending the ceremony.

After that he was retired to stud and sired a goodly number of successful stakes racers. He and J. W. Paul flew back home to Abilene, Kansas on a chartered private jet. He was a good traveler and curled up on a sofa seat, ate a few vanilla wafers, and took a long nap during the three-and-a-half hour flight home. His leg took quite a while to heal because he loved to run about in his pen, over-stressing the injury. Eventually, however, he settled down, and enjoyed his duties as a stud.

The Pauls always treasured him, even celebrating his birthday with champagne and asparagus sandwiches. While on the Florida circuit, he slept as often on a sofa or bed as he did in a crate or pen. And don't forget the vanilla wafers. Mrs. Paul continued to send a case of them every month, and he got them as a topping on his dinner every night. His handler, Lynda Baldwin, was known to slip the occasional wafer to Ram's dad, Profits Andy, every so often also. Profits Andy had the kennel next door to Ram.

P's Rambling was elected to the Hall of Fame in 1994. ❖

Laurel E. Drew is a regular contributor to CG Magazine. Laurel is a busy lady. In addition to her pedigree researching business, she raises and shows her El-Aur AKC Greyhounds and is an officer of A Place For Us, a New Mexico adoption group serving NGA Greyhounds. Special thanks to Paula Scott of Abilene, Kansas for her help in researching this article in the archives at the Greyhound Hall of Fame. Paula volunteers for GPA—Kansas/TLC Adoptions and has two Greyhounds in addition to her other pets.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE GREYHOUND HALL OF FAME



P's Rambling with his trainer, Dolores Connick.

The Dog That Saved A Town: Greyhounds and Lurchers in The Great War

The barrage from the big German guns continues for yet another day. Trapped in the town of Verdun, ammunition nearly gone, the small French garrison knows that surrender is merely a matter of time.

When all seems lost, a flicker of movement appears in the distance.

Duval recognizes the sleek long-limbed form of Satan, his only surviving messenger dog and hope stirs in his breast. Satan and the message he carries may be their only chance. Yet, although Satan has traversed this route many times in the past, it was never under such adverse conditions.

Satan hesitates, the smell of cordite plucking at his nostrils. He loves Duval and wants to go to him but the noise is deafening and the air thick with flying shells. Then, loyalty wins and the black Greyhound-like dog hurls himself into the no man's land that lies between them.

Immediately the enemy troops spot Satan.

The German commander brings up his best sharpshooters. The dog must not be allowed to reach Verdun....

CRAACK! Satan staggers and goes down. A German bullet has found its target.

All thought of his own safety forgotten, Duval surges to his feet. He cries, "Satan!

Satan! Come mon ami! For France! For..." His words are cut off as another German sharpshooter finds the range.

A bullet strikes Duval but Satan has heard the beloved voice.

The dog staggers to his feet, one leg hanging useless, pierced by a German bullet. The blood of his Greyhound father surges through his veins and Satan, now on three legs, continues his dangerous race against death...and wins.

Reaching Verdun, exhausted, he totters into the eager arms of the French soldiers. Someone removes a note from the messenger cylinder. It is from a well-known commander and reads, "For God's sake hold on, will send troops to relieve you tomorrow." But, how can they? Their ammunition is almost gone and the German guns have their range.

Turning to Satan's precious cargo, they remove two carrier pigeons from the baskets strapped to his back. Someone gives the coordinates for the German guns. A message is written out in duplicate and attached to the legs of both pigeons. Then, tossed in the air, the pigeons begin their journey back to the French lines. The German lookouts spot them and a barrage of bullets follows. One winged messenger plummets

slowly to the ground in a swirl of feathers but the other flies on uninjured.

At the loft, the message is read and the coordinates called out to the French gunners. Boooooom! The French cannons roar and the German guns are silenced. Verdun is saved.

The above is a true story and is based on information contained in Ernest Harold Baynes' 1925 book, *Animal Heroes of The Great War*. Satan was a French messenger dog. The progeny of a Greyhound father and a Collie mother, he was what is known in England and parts of Europe as a Lurcher (crossbred Greyhound). Classified by the French army as an "estafette," Satan had been trained to run from various locations carrying messages to his handler.

Only a few Greyhounds were used as messenger dogs. Lt. Col. E. H. Richardson, Commandant of the British War Dog School, discovered that Greyhounds tended to be unreliable at distances of more than a mile as they lost interest if something crossed their path. Lurchers did surprisingly well however. Along with Collies and Airedales, they outnumbered all other breeds in the messenger service. Many, including Satan, served with distinction. Greyhounds also served as mascots and helped lift the morale of the troops with whom they served. The accompanying photo appeared in the March 1919 issue of *National Geographic Magazine* and shows a Lurcher in action as a French messenger dog.

Mr. Baynes sums up the value of war dogs to the armed forces very well in the following quote. "The guard dog was incorruptible; the police dog dependable; the messenger dog reliable. The human watchman might be bought; not so the dog. The soldier sentinel might fall asleep; never the dog. The battlefield runner might fail for many reasons and yet live; but the dog, to his last breath, would follow the line of duty. The dog is the only animal to take over man's duties, and he does them in a better-than-man way." ❖

Joan Dillon is a member of the Dog Writers Association of America and is a staff writer for CG Magazine as well as Subscription Manager.



FRENCH WAR DOG: A COURSER WHOSE WINGED FEET SPURN THE EARTH. A remarkable "flight" picture of one of the liaison couriers trained and used by the French for emergencies when the telephone system in the front-line trenches was put out of commission by enemy artillery.

PHOTO COURTESY OF NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC, MARCH, 1919



PART TWO

Cheering the hare. We hope the hare made it.

Waterloo—A Coursing Pilgrimage

by Pam Davis and John Parker

Part One of this historical event on the annual Waterloo Cup was published in the previous issue of CG.

The second day was at a field called The Lydiate. It's a shorter, wider field than The Withins and tested the stamina of some of the Greyhounds. While most of the first day's courses ended in 45 seconds or less, courses at The Lydiate seemed to go on and on. We estimated some of the dogs ran more than half a mile. One of the early favorites, Morning Blush, was extremely fast out of the slips. "The buzz" said he was a quitter and wouldn't stand up to a long course at The Lydiate. He got lucky. Both his courses that day were short—one ended in a quick kill and the other hare leaped the ditch and escaped quickly into the crowd of onlookers.

On the evening of the first day, a few of us were lucky to meet Mr. W. Gaskins, who bred both Morning Blush and his half-brother, Morning Classic. He sold Morning Blush to a syndicate and retained ownership of Morning Classic, who was trained by Michael O'Donovan, a multi-cup-winning Irish trainer. If Morning

Classic won his third course, he would be paired against Cushie Toledo, one of the favorites (pronounced Cooshy Toe-lay-doe). Mr. Gaskins predicted if his dog got past Cushie Toledo, he would advance to the finals.

At The Lydiate, Classic's third course opponent withdrew, leaving him with a bye. A bye can be a problem on that field because one dog running alone is likely to run a long course, unless the hare makes a quick escape. Not realizing this, one of our group placed a 10-pound wager on Morning Classic to win The Cup. (We liked Mr. Gaskins and wanted to root for his dog.) Classic did not have an impressive bye course, which was rather long. However, he came back to defeat Cushie Toledo in the quarter-finals. We had a dog in the semi-finals!

One especially exciting moment of the second day came when the dogs chased the hare into the parking area, nearly across our feet. The onlookers thought the Americans might do something foolish and yelled for us to let the hare go. Needless to say, we had no intention of impeding the progress of either hare or dogs and got out of the way as quickly as possible.

Famous Paintings

Coursing enthusiasts may be familiar with the famous Richard Ansdell painting of The Waterloo Coursing Meeting of 1840. The original of this painting hangs in The Walker Art Gallery in Liverpool. A restrike of the lithograph hangs over the mantle at the Parker residence, and several of us very much wanted to see the original.

At The Withins, we had visited with a Mr. John Marks, who has some connection with the Walker Gallery (we never understood exactly what). He told us that the painting hangs in a section of the gallery that is currently closed for renovation. At The Lydiate, he told us he had spoken to the curators at the gallery, and they would be happy to show us the painting. So, after the second day's coursing, we madly drove off to Liverpool, arriving just minutes before the gallery was to close. We were ushered in like royalty and swept up the staircase of the very grand museum to the closed gallery section. The original Ansdell painting is enormous, and quite beautiful. (The lithograph made from the painting was published in newspapers of the day. The hand-colored restrikes of it are quite



Greyhound and Courser.

subdued compared to the vivid colors of the original painting.) We all identified dogs in the painting that looked like our own, or ones we know. They even allowed us to take photos and video of it (usually a no-no in the gallery) and photocopied information from the gallery's catalog for us.

That night we topped off a great day with a great dinner at Master McGrath's, a restaurant dedicated to the memory of the first Irish dog to win the Cup. (He's still considered a national hero in Ireland.) The dining room and bar are filled with coursing prints, and Master McGrath's obituary hangs in a prominent place near the front door.

The Last Day: Back at The Withins

The last day, we were back at The Withins, and the field had been narrowed to 16 dogs: four in semi-finals for The Cup, four semi-finals for The Plate, and eight in quarter-finals for The Purse. It was a miserable day, with a slushy rain falling off and on. As on the other two days, we arrived early to insure a front row parking space. Shortly after we arrived, Sir Mark Prescott pulled in next to us and introduced himself. He co-authored the book, *The Waterloo Cup—The First 150 Years* with Sir Charles Blanning. We enjoyed chatting with him about coursing and showing him our little video of lure coursing. The video was of Lucy, the Number one ASFA Greyhound. He felt she turned impressively but would be outpaced by the English dogs. Of course, it's hard to tell on a tiny screen. (We were using one of those little screens the new video cameras have on them.)

The Quarter and the Semi-Finals

The first two courses were the quarter-finals for The Purse. All eight dogs looked strong. Next came the semi-finals for The Cup. Blue Jet Lass, a favorite from the beginning and a very fast dog, was defeated by Drill the Lads, who had been a favorite in 1997, but had not achieved an impressive record in 1998. Our dog, Morning Classic, defeated his half-brother, Morning Blush, to move into the finals. Blush won the run-up, but quit before the end of a fairly long course. Classic held on to the end, chasing the hare into the rushes at the end of the field. Next was the semi-finals for The Purse, with Apostle II (a beautiful brindle parti-colored dog) and one of the Irish dogs, Crafty Mystique, going through to the finals. Then, they ran the semi-finals for The Plate. This was the most heart-breaking course of the three days. The wonderful dog, Strong As Silk, badly broke his hock at the end of the course, which he won. Therefore, his opponent for the finals, Crafty Woody, would win The Plate by default.

After a 20-minute break the two final courses would be run. The finalists for The Purse were led in a big circle around the field as the announcer described each dog's history and told who bred, owned, and trained it. We waited a long, tense time for a hare to appear. When one finally did, it was one of the closest courses of the three days. None of us had any idea which dog would be declared the winner. In the end, it was Crafty Mystique, which thrilled the Irish in the crowd.

The Final

At last, it was time for the final of the Cup, pitting Morning Classic against Drill The Lads (an English bred and trained dog, son of the famous sire Glatton General). The dogs were escorted onto the field by British "bobbies" while the announcer told about them. When the two dogs were in the shy, we waited and waited for a hare to appear. The first hare on the scene was very small and the slipper rejected it. After another long wait, two hares appeared simultaneously, so there was no slip. Then, another hare, but the dogs weren't sighted or the hare wasn't clearly in the coursing lane, so it was again a no-slip. It was obvious the slipper wanted everything just right for this final run. Finally, he got what he wanted and slipped the dogs. Someone had told us Morning Classic was quite sore after his long bye run the day before. It showed. There was never any question which dog would win. Drill The Lads won the run-up by at least two lengths and did most of the work throughout a fairly long course. No one could argue that the English dog had clearly won.

The Awards Presentation

The awards presentation that followed was stirring. A special presentation was made to the Altcar Estate gamekeeper, who is retiring after more than thirty years of service. Next, they presented the trophies to the runners-up and winners of The Plate and The Purse. (It was so sad not to see the injured Strong As Silk appear to claim his trophy.) Then, the runner up for The Cup was presented, followed by Drill The Lads and his entourage.

Perhaps most interesting amongst the trophies is "The Chain"—a chain of silver links, each bearing the name of a previous Cup winner. It was draped around the neck of Drill The Lads' ecstatic owner. Drill The Lads was ceremoniously dressed in a beautiful navy blue wool coat, with gold trim and tassels, bearing the words "Waterloo Cup 1998." He is an impressive-looking brindle dog, and quite dashing in his new "duds." He posed patiently for many pictures.

The Protests

We were warned by Mr. Burdon and others at The Call Over to expect protestors on the first day at The Withins. That first morning, there were several mounted police on hand, along with police patrolling the grounds on foot. The protestors arrived with several news crews, just in time for the lunch break. They came in a "coach" (bus) and were allowed to march to the end of the public road, just behind the Nominators' car park. One woman had a bullhorn, and many of the protestors carried signs proclaiming the cruelty of hare coursing. They shouted at the crowd. "You're Evil!" seemed to be their favorite

phrase. They also called us perverts and child pornographers. They stayed for about an hour, then they and the news crews left.

When some of our group returned to the hotel after the first day's coursing, the police had a group of protestors gathered up on the sidewalk. We learned later they were being arrested for damaging cars parked outside the hotel. The police moved the protestors aside so we could pull in, and one of our group said "Thank You." When the protestors heard his voice, they started yelling "Yankee Scum!" Another group of the anti-courers attacked a woman outside the trial headquarters hotel. Those were also arrested. We saw no sign of protestors after the first day.

Cheering the Hares

Throughout the week we heard the coursing participants explain that the best coursing day is the one in which every hare lives to be coursed again. Onlookers cheered when the hare escaped.

Each night, the British newscasts featured footage from the coursing and debates amongst the pro and anti-coursing factions. This was all leading up to the Countryside March, which was held in London on the Sunday following The Waterloo Cup. The pro-hunting folks joined forces with those supporting other "countryside issues" and formed an organization called The Countryside Alliance. More than 280,000 people marched in support of the alliance. However, most of the coursing folks seem to think their sport is existing on borrowed time, and that it will eventually be outlawed.

Sir Mark Prescott, who is a leader in The Countryside Alliance, told us that they're considering requiring coursing dogs and fox hunting dogs to wear muzzles. Many who own and train the dogs oppose this because they fear the dogs will literally run themselves to death on long courses where the hare does not escape. Given the length of some of the courses this year, that appears to be a definite danger.

What the anti-courers seem not to understand is that without coursing that one week a year is that there will be considerably fewer hares in England. On the estates where coursing meets are held, the hare is protected, and no one is allowed to shoot one. Even as close as a half mile from Altcar, you will find almost no hares. The farmers have shot them all because they damage crops. We wondered why the coursing season in England is in winter when the weather is miserable. It is because coursing folk won't run their dogs during the hares' breeding season.

Final Notes

Our trip to the Waterloo Cup was made easier and more pleasant by Jane Strunin, a wonderful British lady who breeds, owns,

courses, and shows Greyhounds and Whippets. Three of our group made the long drive across the north of England to Jane's home in Lincolnshire.

We went out to visit the dogs in her kennel. Jane said she rotates her dogs so they all stay in the house part of the time. There are just too many to have them all in at once. In the kennel, we met two young bitches from Jane's most recent Greyhound litter.

Jane drove with us over to the home of her partner in dogs, Sue Vallance. She and Jane have bred several litters of Greyhounds together, including the current youngsters. There, we met Brassy and Posie, the dam and aunt of the latest Greyhound pups, plus two more of the three-year-olds (littermates to Jane's Waterloo dog this year). All of these dogs have had quite successful coursing careers.

As a result of this visit, Amy and Merlin, from Jane and Sue's latest litter, came to live in the U.S. Merlin has begun his coursing career and recently won a Best In Field. Amy is still deciding whether to be a coursing dog or if she would rather do obedience and agility. Their mother, Brassy, will soon be bred to Drill The Lads.

Back to Altcar

On Saturday, our last day in Southport, we drove again to the Altcar estate. We wanted to see what it looks like without all the crowds, concession tents, and vehicles. The grounds were amazingly clean. The cleanup crews had obviously worked hard on Friday. We scooped a jar full of dirt from the coursing lane at The Withins. A bit of the "hallowed" soil of Altcar is now sprinkled across the start of each Southeastern Greyhound Club trial to remind us all of the great history behind our sport. ❖

Pam Davis and husband Glen live in Cairo, Georgia with four Greyhounds and a Cocker Spaniel. Their spare time is filled with dog activities of all sorts, including obedience, coursing, conformation, tracking, and agility.

John Parker is president of the Southeastern Greyhound Club and is on the Advisory Board of GPA-Atlanta/Southeastern Greyhound Adoption. He and his wife Debbie live in Atlanta, Georgia with their three Greyhounds, Brandy, Susie, and Golden Girl.

Todd O. Williams, CPF, is a photographer in Easley, South Carolina.

Kaibob and Sabrina (the rabbit) taking their positions on the couch.



Kaibob and Sabrina decide to settle into a cuddle.



PHOTOS BY WAYNE AND STACY GROSS



To Pee or Not to Pee: Where Is the Question?

by Lynda Adame

A Primer on Houstraining a Greyhound

Houstraining is one of the cornerstone behaviors that can make or break the placement of any dog, especially an indoor dog like a Greyhound. As a placement representative for an adoption group, I stress the importance of houstraining on each home visit and again at the time of adoption. As a foster home provider, I have quite a bit of experience in houstraining Greyhounds. Luckily for us, Greyhounds are relatively easy to houstrain and it is rare that one will have extensive or chronic problems.

Kenneltrained vs. Houstrained

Ex-racing Greyhounds are what is referred to as kenneltrained. This means they are accustomed to regularly scheduled turnouts at the track or adoption facility and generally do not urinate or defecate in their kennel or cage. Unfortunately, kenneltrained does not always translate to being houstrained, so new owners have their work cut

out for them. If you purchased your Greyhound from a breeder or adopted from a group that uses foster homes, the same tenet applies as well; a Greyhound that is houstrained in its foster or breeder's home may not continue to be houstrained in its new home. Again, new owners have their work cut out for them. Ex-racers are used to being told when to potty and are not in the habit of communicating their need to go out. New owners need to watch for signs of a dog moving into position to mark territory (boys are easy to catch since they typically lift their leg) or intently sniffing the floor (females are harder to catch in time).

In the New Home

Once the new dog is home, the first 48 hours are crucial and owners should expect them to be the most stressful. During this time frame you should commit yourself to houstraining the dog. Like most other behavior problems, this is much easier to correct and

fix when caught and dealt with early.

Step-by-Step Advice

The first job as owner is to immediately take the dog to the spot where you expect it to go to the bathroom. Give it a chance to go potty, and begin to praise it as it goes to the bathroom. I use a high pitched voice, telling the dog "Good Potty" over and over again. My neighbors can always tell when we have a new dog in the house as I'm out in the backyard cheering, clapping, and squealing in delight. The more drama you can muster up, the better. From day one, I use the same keyword—potty—whenever I praise the dogs for eliminating in the appropriate place. In time they begin to associate the word with the act and this proves helpful when asking them to potty in a new or strange situation. It's important that the Greyhound learns right away where it is appropriate to potty.

If the dog does not go at this time, continue taking it outside every 20 minutes until

Rosie (left) knows exactly where she is supposed to potty. She prefers high places. Rosie lives with fellow Greyhound Spencer and owner Wilma Nathanson.

Some crates (right) are extra roomy and quite comfortable to be in.

An exercise pen (below)—also called an ex-pen—is useful for containing Greyhounds in public or at home.

the dog does go. At the very least, I recommend keeping the dog on a leash until it potties outside the first time. In my house we typically keep fosters on a 10-foot leash the entire first day. The leash is attached to the dog's collar on one end and to a human's wrist or waist on the other end. This is referred to as umbilical cord training. There are many good reasons to do this besides aiding housetraining and bonding. An umbilical cord keeps the dog out of trouble; there can be no counter surfing, no furniture chewing, or no cat chasing without you being right there to correct it. If the dog begins to pace and sniff the floor, or is caught in the act, the owner can quickly respond by rushing the dog outside.

Whether you use the umbilical cord technique or not, do not give the new dog free run of the house. Close off access to rooms other than the one you are in and keep the dog near you. Follow the dog around and give it verbal corrections as needed. I'm not saying hound the dog, but follow it, watch it, and keep an eye on it. Your best bet is to stop unacceptable behaviors immediately and set the tone of what is acceptable for the dog. Watch for prolonged sniffing, squatting, or leg lifting, and immediately take the dog out to potty if you see this behavior.

Remedies and Retraining for the Suddenly Unhousetrained

If your dog has been housetrained for some time and suddenly begins to eliminate in the house, I suggest you take the dog to your veterinarian and have it checked for (among other things) urinary tract infections, spay incontinence (females), and ballinitis (males). There's no point to using behavior modification on a dog that has a medical condition.

If the veterinary exam shows no medical causes for the inappropriate elimination, then move on to the remedies described below.

An obvious solution to housetraining problems is the use of a dog door, which gives the dog free access to the backyard. This solution works well for many people and many dogs. However, it is not a guarantee of success. If a dog door does not work for your situation, try some of the suggestions that follow.



PHOTOS BY STEVE LVE.





This is the obviously the place to potty. Knight, Slush, Oakie, and Hal.

Greyhounds seem to thrive on a schedule, so set up a potty schedule again and stick to it. I typically let my dogs out first thing in the morning, again after breakfast, upon getting home, again after dinner, and once again at bedtime.

Again, restrict access to the entire house. A simple way to accomplish this is to shut all of the doors in the house so the dog does not have the chance to slip into another room and potty. During the first few days of retraining this restriction is often not enough. You should keep the dog within eyesight when you are home until you are sure that it understands the appropriate place to potty. Put bells on the dogs collar, if need be, so you are alerted to its movements. The umbilical cord technique can also be used to keep an eye on the dog, and I highly recommend you give it a try. If you see the dog start to get in position, you give a very loud, very definite "No!" Grab the collar and take it outside (remember: you've been following it, so you're there to do this, right?). Go outside with the dog and stay until it potties. When it does, praise it in a high pitched happy voice, saying "Good potty, good potty."

What should you do when you have to leave the dog alone? Again, restrict the dog's access to the house. With newly adopted or foster dogs, I typically use a baby gate stretched across the master bedroom doorway to keep the dogs in this room. Since the master bedroom is where we all sleep,

confining them to this room taps into the dogs natural instinct not to mess where they sleep. For dogs that need a little more confinement, you can use a crate or an exercise pen. Crates often are a controversial topic. However, when you are working with a dog that is having a problem with housetraining, a crate can be a necessary tool. Exercise pens are often set up to form a small fence around the dog, confining it safely.

If the dog seems to go in the same spot over and over, clean the area well, and then feed the dog on that spot. This will help inhibit the dog from going there again.

Some people resort to using a doggie diaper, especially on older dogs with incontinence.

If you've been following this advice and the dog is still having a chronic problem, consider that the dog might be suffering from separation anxiety. There are quite a few good articles on this subject in past issues of *Celebrating Greyhounds*.

More than anything, cleaning up after accidents *thoroughly* is an important part of the behavior modification process. Although a bit expensive, a carpet-cleaning machine is an excellent investment for any dog owner and makes clean-ups a snap. ❖

Lynda Adame is a CG regular contributor. She is an officer for GPA/Orange Country, California and co-owns the Greyhound-L, a very active Internet mailing list. She and her husband, Matt, have two Greyhounds, Cody and Taragon.

Cleaning Protocols:

- Soak the wet area up into a thick towel or paper towel. When no more moisture soaks through, dilute the area with some plain water and soak this up. Douse the area with Nature's Miracle, place a white towel over the area, and let that dry. It takes a week or two for the enzymes to fully clean the area. If there is still a smell after a week, douse the area with more Nature's Miracle.

- Vacuum the wet area with a carpet-cleaning machine. When no more moisture sucks up, spray the area with plain water and then suck the liquid up again. Douse the area with Nature's Miracle, place a white towel over the area, and let that dry. It takes a week or two for the enzymes to fully clean the area. If there is still a smell after a week, douse the area with more Nature's Miracle.

- Combine 1/2 cup of 3% household hydrogen peroxide mixed with one-teaspoon cloudy ammonia. Saturate spot with this mixture. Cover spot with a good thickness of white (and I stress white) paper toweling. Place something heavy (a gallon jug of water works great) on spot and let sit three to four hours. After the three to four hours remove paper toweling and neutralize with white vinegar or Nature's Miracle. According to Lee Lavery of Greyhound Guardians, Inc., this will not bleach your carpet and it works wonders. This works on blood, bile, potty accidents, ink, and even red liquid potpourri. Sometimes if the stain is very bad you may have to let the carpet dry out for a day or two and repeat the process but I have never tried anything that works as well on all kinds of stains.

Recommended Reading

Housebreak Any Dog, the Permanent Three-Step Method; Audrey Carr and Lou Ellen Davis.

Pet Clean-Up Made Easy; Don Aslett, Robert Betty (Illustrator).

No Fear/No Pain Methods of Discipline

by Kathleen Gilley; photos by Marcia Herman

In the summer issue of *CG Magazine*, Kathleen Gilley discussed the mind and *modus operandi* of the racing Greyhound. She explained how the adoptive owner must understand the thought processes and then shift those patterns to styles that are more suitable to those of a pet in a home.

Now, here are some very useful tools and techniques to help with training and behavior modification.

The Squirt Bottle

The squirt bottle is just a good old plant-misting, trigger-operated, inexpensive plastic bottle. Purchase several in the garden section of a discount store. Have them abundantly sprinkled about your abode. *They must only contain pure, fresh, potable water.* Adjust it for a nice piercing stream. The strength of this tool is that it is perfectly silent and can be used around sleeping babies, husbands who work shifts, and while you are on the phone. It is your duty to find which anatomical location he despises being squirted in the most. May I suggest the back of the neck, between the toes or in the tail? Usually it takes three squirts the first time; after that, either one squirt, or a threat of one will suffice.

The bottle in your car insures that their Long Tail will stay out of your lap while you are driving. If you put him in the back seat, he will stay there. (Learn to use the rear view mirror to point and shoot by.)

He will learn not to stick his head out the window, not to bark at other dogs on the street, not to lick or put his feet on the windows, and to stop "nesting" before you need a new upholstery job.

In the kitchen, he will learn not to put his nose where it does not belong and, if he does succeed, not to wipe it off on the woodwork. At the front door, he will learn not to jump on you when you enter and he will learn to keep his feet on the ground should anyone else be invited in.

In the dining room, this is the quiet, no nonsense way to insist that he keep his tongue out of the veggie dip and his nose away from

everyone's dinner plate. Unless somebody laughs, you won't even disturb the dinner conversation. Since the squirt takes the place of "NO!" you do not have to say a word.

In the bedroom, TV room, den, or wherever he sleeps, this is a great method by which to teach that whining and barking are not acceptable. (Newbies to my family think we should

a highly suitable substitute. When he chose to give a lesson on how paws do not belong on white fences, it only took three times.

The best story came from a lady who borrowed her son's super-soaker (a huge water gun) to keep by the kitchen window overlooking the back yard. Guess who only got caught digging holes once?



Kathleen Gilley shows the squirt bottle and discusses its many uses as a behavior modification tool.

breakfast at 5 a.m. sharp, but not for long.)

One of the most unusual and effective uses I witnessed was in an adoption kennel. The House Mouth got the bottle hung on the front of his crate. He promptly quieted himself, went to the back, and lay down.

If you have to use housesitters, arm them with this innocuous, harmless weapons. Do not leave it up to them to know how to discipline your hound when he pulls his "the cat is away" stuff.

If you are out-of-doors, you have two additional alternatives for the Greyhound Gardener. One is a larger, squeeze-type bottle with a longer range and more volume. One man who reported his dog immune to the squirt bottle found a plastic ketchup squeezer

Shake Can/Popcorn Shaker

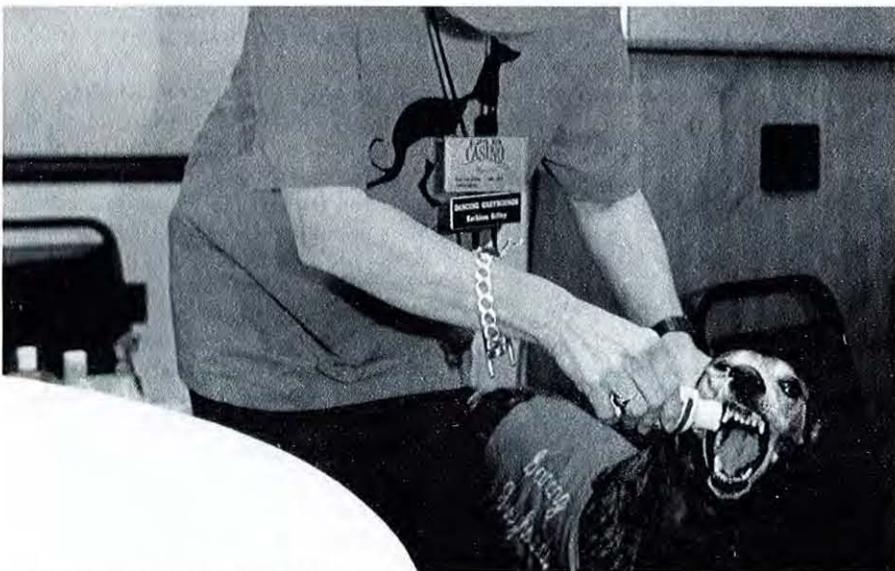
To make an average shake can, dig a soda or beer container out of the garbage without the neighbors seeing you. Put a couple of stones in it and tape it shut. To make a super shaker, find an old-fashioned tin can, like the ones soups or fruit juices come in. Wait until your husband or son is working on his (not your) car, snowmobile, motorbike or lawn mower. Quietly help yourself to five or so nuts, bolts, or washers. If you get caught, use ten pennies. The can is to be shaken at or behind a miscreant three times in rapid succession. The best timing is two seconds before he mugs your mother-in-law.

If he intends to give you a big wet or muddy hug, start shaking your weapon when he is no closer than six feet and do not stop until he does. If he decides the next person in sight will become the object of his affection, shake the can behind him before he gets his front feet airborne. He will turn and look at you and you will praise him. Should he decide to continue where he left off, repeat your performance. The can says, "Quiddit" so you don't have to. He will get the picture in a maximum of three episodes. If not, you will need to change your choice of tools.

One whack of the can on the top of his crate usually insures instant silence. Two whacks on the cutting board mean your Greyhound won't need rhinoplasty. Three shakes in the direction of he who thinks you are the one that should sleep or sit on the floor will end the discussion immediately, and without a growl or hiss. *The shake can is truly the method of choice in a situation where there is any chance of an aggressive reaction.*



This can is the super shaker. It makes a lot more noise than the regular can made out of a beer or soda pop container.



Gilley demonstrates the juice bottle.

The drawback of the shake can is that it may be too loud for a sound-sensitive dog. Fear not. A softer sound can be arranged. Dig through the garbage again for that small, plastic container that held margarine, cream cheese or chip dip. Please wash it before proceeding. Add one hand full of popcorn kernels and some tape to keep the lid in place.

Shake cans should be liberally placed around the house to defend guests, peanut butter sandwiches, potted plants, or your laundry from being sorted in an unauthorized manner.

Again, this is an excellent choice for teaching car manners. He will stay out of your lap, in the back seat, or off the dashboard. Don't yell; there is enough noise already. He may also cease yelping, whining, and pacing in the car.

Both the shake can and a flat-shaped squirt

bottle (i.e., a clean sun tan lotion container of water) can be tucked in your hip pack and used as a defensive weapon to protect your prized possession from the neighborhood bully.

The Juice Bottle

The best juice bottle is made from one of those little demo bottles, with a flip-top lid. They contain samples of cream rinse, hand lotion, or other gunk that are sold in grocery stores. Wash thoroughly before proceeding.

You may only use harmless, edible liquids. *You may not use anything that would cause pain, e.g., hot sauce.* You may use things that do not taste good without sugar. Unsweetened citrus fruit juice of any kind might do the job. (Just the thought of unsweetened grapefruit juice makes puckering sensations.) Any you-mix-'em powdered drinks will do; however, Kool-Aid

will make his mouth a funny color. Gatorade is already mixed and to me, a great choice of liquids to put in your juice bottle.

Then there are things that don't taste good even though they make the food they are packed in flavorful. Sauerkraut juice or dill pickle juice fall into this category. Vinegar (white or brown) has more uses than just a health remedy. Coffee or tea is not recommended unless it is decaf.

Do not underestimate the power of booze: rum, vermouth, gin, vodka, or any after dinner liqueur. It is not recommended to use red wine, crème de menthe, or sloe gin with a white dog. Red wine might encourage rumors of his having partaken of your mail carrier; crème de menthe may have the health department thinking he has contracted some ghastly jungle fever. It is probably wise to forget beer; I have never met a Greyhound who didn't lust after that beverage.

Although no more than a quarter of a teaspoon will go in his mouth, if you have ethical or religious objections to booze, you may brew your own concoction from your spice rack. Take a small amount of water and add a teaspoon of one of the following extracts: Vanilla, almond, maple, or anise. Taste it. If it tastes bad, then it is good. Fill your bottle.

The drawback of "juicing" is that you must be close enough, when the crime is being committed, to stick the bottle beside his lips and pointed toward the front of his mouth. The advantage is that one little squeeze will bring instantaneous, near-miraculous results. If your mixture is the correct one, you will only have to actually use the juice bottle about four times. After that, faking it, threatening to use it, or just showing him the bottle will be just as effective.

Carried on the street, this is one of the finest methods to control dog aggression or unseemly interest in your neighbor's cat. (Of course the dog is on a leash, silly.) Just pull him to you and administer the appropriate dosage.) It is great for whining, barking, stool eating, nipping, or refusing to let go of the dishtowel.

Advisements: If you juice him and he licks the droplets off his toes, you do not have the correct formula. A juice bottle can fit unobtrusively in your shirt pocket or handbag, when you are out in public, or go to the vet. Never carry it in your back pocket! ❖

Coming in the next issue: When to use the neck scruff; "mean talking;" aromatherapy; and five useful tools to help you with training your Greyhound. Kathleen Gilley travels across North America with her Dancing Greyhounds and her husband Waldo. Because they live in a motor home, they are able to perform at Greyhound meetings and adoption events to showcase the incredible abilities and personalities of retired racing Greyhounds.



The problem of managing multiple dogs on long leashes is demonstrated by William Wegman at an event, as Weimaraners Batty and Chip head in one direction and their new Greyhound friends Boomer and Bernie head elsewhere.

The Leash:

The Canine-Human Connection

story and photos by Lauren Emery

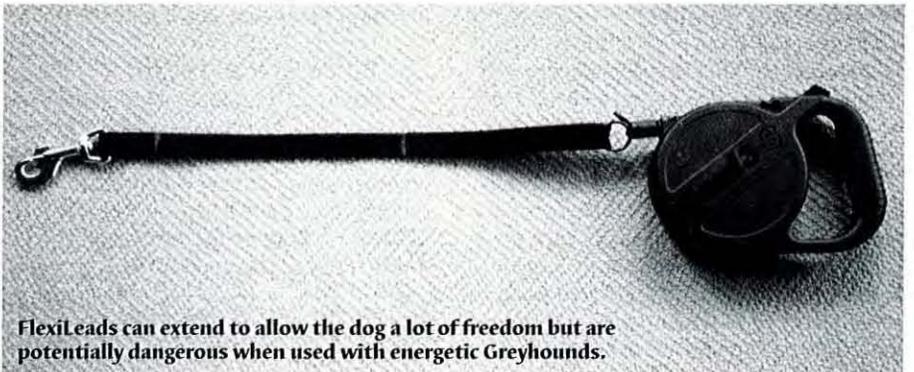
On your walks, the main thing that separates your warm, soft Greyhound from the cold, hard steel of a Greyhound bus (among other vehicles) is a leash. Here are a few important things to consider about leashes.

Short Means Control

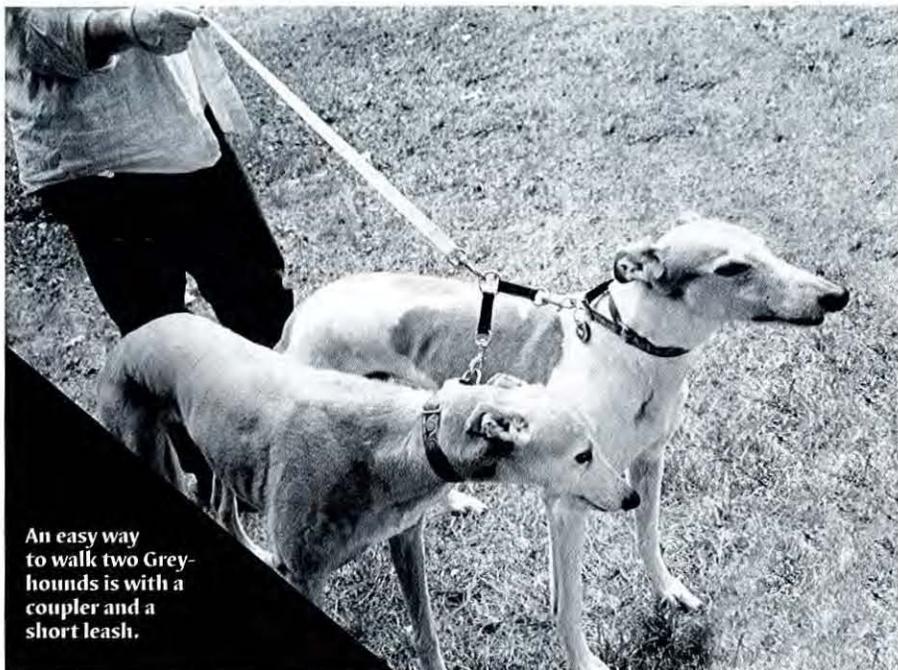
The longer the leash, the less control you have. Standard five-six foot leashes are fine for walking one dog in an area with little congestion, allowing the dog to explore the surroundings a little bit. Leash laws are common now and our state parks in Maine require leashes no more than four feet in length. A three-foot traffic leash is preferable for a trip to the veterinarian or a pet supply store, when taking a walk by a busy street, or going to an adoption demo or crowded

event. Your dog is close to you and is easier to control. The regulations of the therapy organization through which my Greyhound is certified require the use of a traffic leash on his therapy visits, but I prefer a two-foot

leash for this big boy. If you haven't tried a short leash, do consider buying one or even making one. You'll be pleasantly surprised at how easy it is to manage your dog. To make one, buy 3/4-inch or one-inch webbing at a



FlexiLeads can extend to allow the dog a lot of freedom but are potentially dangerous when used with energetic Greyhounds.



An easy way to walk two Greyhounds is with a coupler and a short leash.

sewing store and a clip from a hardware store. Sew a wrist loop at one end, the clip at the other, and at each end of the webbing, sew a box pattern with an X inside to make it secure.

FlexiLeads Aren't for Every Greyhound

FlexiLeads are retractable leashes with large plastic handles. They can extend up to 26 feet, giving a dog a lot of freedom and can be locked at any length. FlexiLeads are not a good choice for a very energetic Greyhound, especially one with a high prey drive. Greyhounds excel at racing because they have the power to attain high speeds very quickly. With this type of leash unlocked, a very active powerful Greyhound can take off and pull a person to the pavement. If the FlexiLead slips out of the hand, Greyhounds often become spooked by the handle clattering behind them on the ground and may run off in fright. Especially if the dog has never been on a FlexiLead, the sudden stop at the end of the leash after a quick acceleration can cause a dog to sustain a neck injury resulting in pain, weakness, or paralysis. Most dogs learn fairly quickly where the end of the lead is.

Double Your Pleasure

Many of us have two (or more) Greyhounds and walking them on two six-foot leashes is not twice as much fun when they go in opposite directions. Consider getting a coupler, available at many pet supply stores. It holds two dogs together so they can be put on one leash. There are two clips to connect to their collars, each with a short piece of webbing that attaches to an O-ring for the leash clip. This enforced doggie togetherness can make your walk more enjoyable and you are more in control.

The Hand-leash Connection

Many a Greyhound has pulled a leash out of a hand especially if the leash loop is held in the fingers. Your dog may be walking along perfectly at ease when something catches his eye or he may get spooked and then take off. It happened to my husband on Christmas Eve when our Greyhound caught sight of a running deer in the woods and instinct kicked in. Place the leash loop around your wrist and grasp the leash with your fingers for a more secure hold. Never loop a leash over your thumb or around one or two fingers, or you may end up with a dislocated or fractured digit. I'm not keen on children walking Greyhounds, as most don't have the strength to control Greyhounds who will pull suddenly.

The Leash as a Communication Device

You're at an adoption demo, trying to show the public what great dogs Greyhounds are, and your dog starts barking, showing no sign of stopping. Modify his behavior by a quick snap of the leash so it pulls on the collar and gets the dog's attention. Even worse—you notice your dog has started to pee in the store. A leash correction most likely will stop it mid-stream.

Last But Not Least: Use It!

I'm sure every adoption group has gotten the call—a Greyhound has been hit and killed by a car. Given all we do to help these dogs get the retirement they deserve, it's a tragedy to let them be endangered for lack of a leash or because the owner didn't know how to use a leash properly. ❖

Lauren Emery is a frequent contributor to CG Magazine and volunteers for Greyhound Placement Service of Maine.

Using a Retractable Lead

by Terrill Schukraft

The FlexiLead is a marvelous tool when used properly. Follow these simple tips:

- Always use a well-made brand like a FlexiLead. The cost may be higher than some bargain brands, but the quality of manufacture ensures that the lead will function properly. Well-made leads like Flexis have been in regular use for about 20 years without ever malfunctioning.

- Learn to operate the lead without the dog at first. Learn where the brake is, how to lock it, how to slip it (like slipping a clutch, for those of you who remember manual shifts), and how to take it up without putting your hands on the cord. Don't catch the cord with your hands; you'll get a bad rope burn or cut if you do.

- Never use a slip, prong, or choke collar with a retractable lead. Use a semi-choke, a martingale or good fitting buckle collar that cannot slip over the dog's head.

- Never let a Greyhound hit the end of the lead. With practice while walking, he will quickly learn what the limits of the lead are and will stop his forward motion just before he reaches that limit.

- When walking with the dog in a crowded or dangerous location, take up all the slack by locking the brake at the shortest possible point (usually about two feet) and using it as a traffic lead.

- Do not attempt to let dogs play with each other on long leads. If they become tangled, they can hurt themselves badly. Usually the cord wraps tightly around some part of the dog and cuts the skin. In the worst case they could twist a limb to the breaking point.

- Hang onto the handle with your whole hand. Some people like to use a wrist strap attached to the handle in case they accidentally drop the handle. Most people do not find that to be a necessity.

Once you and the dog have learned to use the good features of the retractable lead, relax and enjoy the additional freedom. One of the great benefits of this sort of lead is that you can shorten or lengthen the cord with a touch of your thumb and avoid getting tangles. There is little danger of having the lead twist around you once you learn to use the brake properly.

Terrill Schukraft owns and operates Northcountry Kennels near Hershey, Pennsylvania and is a regular contributor and a copy editor for CG Magazine. She may be reached at terrills@ezonline.com.

Is cat food an acquired taste? Dallas wonders about CeCe's cat food.

PHOTO BY CAROL AND WAYNE SIMPSON



Dogs Take the Bitter with the Sweet

by D. Caroline Coile, Ph.D.

If you've ever had a finicky Greyhound you are well familiar with the game of musical dog bowls. As soon as your dog inhales a new food, you run out to the store and get a big supply of it, only to find out it was just a passing fancy. Meanwhile your neighbors look at you accusingly—sure you say Greyhounds are supposed to be thin, and sure, you say your dog won't eat... but who ever heard of a dog that wouldn't eat? After all, their Lab would eat sawdust!

Perhaps your Greyhound simply has a more refined sense of taste. But how could that be, especially after being raised on that 4D stuff? Of course, most dogs love the 4D (diseased, downed, dying, and dead on the way to the slaughterhouse) meat; it's just we people who decline 4D burgers. At least

they seem to love it—how do we tell?

Of all the dog's senses, that of taste is of greatest economic importance. The most nutritious dog food on the market will have low sales if dogs won't eat it. Dog food companies perform extensive research on canine flavor preferences, though understandably, the results are often trade secrets. Flavor refers to the combinations of taste receptor responses, as well as odor, color, texture, temperature, and other food qualities.

From Plate to Palate

Deciding what a dog likes to eat may seem like an easy task. Place a bowl of food in front of the dog and see if the dog eats it. But what if the dog is ravenous and would eat anything? What if it is sick and won't

eat anything? Repeating the test the next day may yield just the opposite results, because the dog could be unusually satiated from the previous day's gluttony or unusually hungry from the previous day's hunger strike. Differences in a food's nutritional and calorie content may influence how much an animal eats before feeling satiated due to physiological feedback mechanisms. For example, dogs tend to eat slightly more of a low calorie food in order to obtain close to the same total caloric intake per meal, despite generally preferring high calorie foods.¹ These "one-pan" consummatory tests have some serious shortcomings.

An alternative is the "two-pan" preference test. Place a bowl of food A and a bowl of food B in front of the dog and see which



Although Ray has a passion for beef, he also loves cookies, ice cream, and cereal. Ray resides with John and Shirley Bigham of Bartlett, Tennessee.

one the dog eats. The problem is that some dogs will continue eating out of whichever bowl they start in, so recording which they empty first is of little use. Other dogs will switch from bowl to bowl, but will eat every speck out of both bowls, so recording which one they eat more of is of little use.

Odor plays an important role in food selection. When dogs trained as taste validators were temporarily made anosmic (“odor-blind”) they could no longer select the correct flavor, indicating that they were making their choices by odor rather than taste.² In another study dogs were given the choice of two bland foods with either the odor of meat or plain air blown through them. Although the dogs showed an initial preference for the food with meat smell, after a couple of weeks they no longer preferred it.³ Apparently odor must be paired with taste in order for the preference to be maintained.

An Acquired Taste

Young canids must learn which foods in their environment are safe to eat. Puppies

have functional taste buds at or before birth, and probably swallow amniotic fluid, exposing them to tastes while still in utero. Similar results might occur from exposure through the dam’s milk during the suckling phase; young of several species prefer the foods that their dams have been eating during the period in which they were nursing.⁴

Early exposure to food post weaning has been shown to influence taste preferences later in life in several species. In wild canids, initial exposure is typically through food regurgitated by adults. Some domestic dogs still exhibit this behavior, but most domesticated dogs have their first non-milk meals given to them—in bowls—by their breeders. These meals usually are some form of commercial puppy food.

How might the food fed to a young puppy influence its later food preferences? The results of studies have been ambiguous.

Studies in which puppies were reared on a single type of canned or semi-moist food from weaning until about five months of age showed that, when adults, they preferred

a novel diet. If the novel diet was not more palatable than the rearing diet, they nonetheless showed a transient preference for it before switching back to their rearing diet.^{6,7}

Typical early feeding experiences incorporating a variety of tastes and textures generally result in dogs that prefer both a novel and palatable food. Thus, a domestic dog that has been reared on a varied diet will tend to initially prefer any new food its owner presents to it.

It is evolutionarily advantageous to prefer novel foods in order to increase the probability of expanding the range of available food sources and of nutrient distribution. At times, though, it is equally advantageous to refrain from eating a novel food, or to at least only sample it. Avoiding toxins is an important role of taste and can involve a learned component.

Gut Reactions

Even as adults, animals continue to make associations with taste and modify their choice of food as a result. Taste stimuli can induce salivation, gastric, and pancreatic secretions as well as increase gastric contractions and decrease intestinal motility, thus directly affecting the digestive process. Feedback mechanisms can influence an animal’s preference the next time it is presented with the same food. You can probably think of a particular food that you “will never eat again” as a result of having become nauseous subsequent to eating that food. This phenomenon, coined conditioned taste aversion, is an unusual form of learning because unlike traditional learning paradigms in which a stimulus and result must be paired closely in time, in this case the stimulus (taste of a food) can occur hours before the result (nausea) and still form a powerful association. The association is formed to a greater extent if the taste or food is a comparatively novel one. From an evolutionary viewpoint this makes perfect sense; an animal trying a new food for the first time that subsequently becomes sick needs to be able to form an association between that food and illness so that it can avoid the food in the future.

Tongues Are Wagging

Most of the taste receptors are located on the tongue, with a few also located on the soft palate and in the back of the throat. The tongue’s surface is covered with many small bumps and protuberances called papillae; each papilla contains clusters of taste buds. The taste bud is a flask like structure with a pore that opens onto the tongue’s surface. The taste receptor cells—about 50 per taste bud—are near the center of the flask. At the tip of each receptor cell are long, slender microvilli that extend through the pore opening to the tongue surface.

Almost 1,500 taste buds are contained

on the rear two-thirds of the dog's tongue,⁹ Taste receptor cells live about ten days, and are constantly being replaced by new receptors generated by the division of supporting cells.

The papillae have different shapes and sizes and are distributed unevenly over the surface of the tongue. The different types of papillae are called fungiform, foliate, and circumvallate. The fungiform papillae are distributed nearer the tip of the tongue. Foliate papillae are located mostly along the sides of the tongue. The circumvallate papillae are comparatively large and are distributed in a V-shape near the rear of the tongue.

Different regions of your tongue are slightly more sensitive to different tastes. In dogs, the rear of the tongue is more sensitive to sweet. The dog's tongue tip is more sensitive to salt, but that sensitivity is extremely low in comparison to human salt sensitivity.^{10,11}

Nerve impulses from the receptor cells travel to the brainstem by way of three large nerves: the facial, glossopharyngeal, and vagus nerves. The fungiform taste buds of the anterior two-thirds of the tongue are innervated by the chorda tympani branch of the facial nerve; the vallate papillae of the

posterior one third of the tongue by the lingual branch of the glossopharyngeal nerve; and those of the pharynx and larynx by the cranial laryngeal branch of the vagus nerve. From the brainstem most of the impulses travel to the brain in the thalamus and from there to the sensory cortex of the brain, where the conscious perception of taste takes place. Some of the impulses travel to structures in another part of the brain (the limbic system) that are involved in feeding behavior, physiological responses to food, and even emotional responses. Perhaps this accounts for the fact that different tastes are so intimately involved with emotional responses and pleasure.

Sugar and Spice

Aristotle proposed that all tastes were a combination of seven basic tastes (sweet, bitter, sour, salty, astringent, pungent, and harsh). Since that time other taste primaries have been proposed, but the basic qualities of sweet, sour, bitter, and salty have met with widest acceptance. More recently, a fifth basic taste, umami, has also met with considerable acceptance. The best known example of this taste category is monosodium glutamate (MSG). Whether these basic tastes hold true

for the dog is even more controversial.

When a taste bud is chemically stimulated it causes a change in the electrical activity of the nerve that leads from that taste bud to the brain. The nerve fibers leading from each taste bud have a base level of nerve impulses even in the absence of chemical stimulation. With some types of chemical stimulation, the firing rate increases, and with other chemicals, the firing rate decreases. A chemical that increases firing rates is perceived as a different chemical than one that decreases firing rates; in addition, a chemical that maximally affects the firing rate of one group of taste buds is perceived as a different taste than those that maximally affect those of other groups. Four groups of taste buds (A, B, C, and D) with different sensitivities to different tastes have been identified in the dog. Since each taste can cause either an increase or decrease of the base firing rate, this supplies the neurological basis for eight possible basic taste groups, though no group responds exclusively to any one taste category. It is the combination of the firing patterns of all these different groups acting together that provides for the infinite variety of perceived tastes.¹²

PHOTO BY CAROL WEINHOLD



Sophie seems to be enjoying this Frosty Paws treat.

Group A and Group B Taste Buds

Group A taste buds are most numerous in the dog. They respond to different sugars, with the strongest responses to fructose and sucrose. Amino acids (which taste mildly sweet to humans) elicit weaker responses. In taste preference studies dogs avoided saccharin flavored biscuits or water but preferred naturally sweetened biscuits or water.^{13,14} The combination of these findings suggests that dogs taste and enjoy most natural sugars, but may taste only the bitter "aftertaste" of which some people complain about saccharin, without a substantial sweet taste to make it worth while.

It might seem initially strange that dogs have a sweet tooth. Despite their categorization in the group Carnivore, dogs are actually omnivores, and wild canids often resort to eating fruit and other sweet energy rich foods. Thus, perception and appreciation of sweet taste is evolutionarily important to the dog.

The B group of taste buds is the next most common in the dog; these respond mostly to acids, but also to some amino acids and sulphur compounds. Group C taste buds are the nucleotide receptors and are sensitive to "meaty" (perhaps umami) tastes. In fact, the dog's response to umami substances closely resembles that in humans.¹⁵ Group D "furanol" receptors are sensitive to "fruity-sweet" compounds, but don't share other characteristics with the Group A sweet receptors.

Pass the Salt, Please

Compared to humans (and for that matter, most other mammals) the greatest difference in the dog's taste system is the dog's lack of strong salt-specific taste buds. Since ingestion of sodium is essential in animals for normal body function, most mammals have taste buds with strongly developed responses to salt and an appreciation for saltiness. In animals that eat a good deal of meat, including not only carnivorous but also many omnivorous animals, sufficient salt is ensured in the diet because of the sodium content naturally found in meat. Thus, these animals, including dogs, need not seek out salt.

For Goodness' Sake

In general, most breeds exhibit similar preferences. Dogs prefer meat to vegetables and prefer beef and pork to lamb, to chicken, to horsemeat.¹⁶ They also generally prefer foods with greater moisture content, preferring canned to semi-moist to dry food.¹⁷ Perhaps surprisingly, they even prefer canned meat to freshly cooked meat, and cooked meat to raw meat.¹⁸ Foods containing higher energy content are more appealing than those having lower energy

content. Sweet taste is often associated with high carbohydrate concentration, and bitter taste is often associated with toxins.

Besides trying to find out what flavors dogs want to eat, other research has focussed on finding flavors dogs don't want to eat. By adding these flavorings to poisonous substances that normally attract dogs, dog deaths due to poisoning can be decreased. The most effective taste repellents are substances perceived by humans as "hot" such as capsaicin and vanillamide, which probably stimulate pain, rather than taste, pathways. Although electrophysiologic recordings showed strong responses to quinine (an intensely bitter taste to humans), quinine-containing substances that are extremely bitter to humans are not effective taste repellants for dogs.

Food For Thought

Many mysteries of taste, feeding, and dog senses remain as yet unexplained. How is it that dogs can turn up their noses at their bowl of nutritionally perfect \$1 per pound fancy food, then scour the yard for animal droppings? ❖

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CG welcomes Caroline Coile, PhD., as a regular contributor. This article was modified from an article originally published in DOGWORLD magazine, August 1998. Coile has a doctorate in neuroscience and behavior and is especially interested in canine sensory systems. Although Dr. Coile has champion Salukis, she has a keen interest in Greyhounds. She also is the author of *The Greyhound*, published by Barron's.

NJ Gap volunteers greet the Greyhounds, leash them, make sure their muzzles are on securely, and walk them to the holding pen where they stretch their legs and wait for a bath.



Sunday morning, 8:30 a.m. The hauler arrives at Kathy and Al's with newly retired Greyhounds.

Adoption Volunteers Meet the Hauler

story and photos by Michele Carnevale

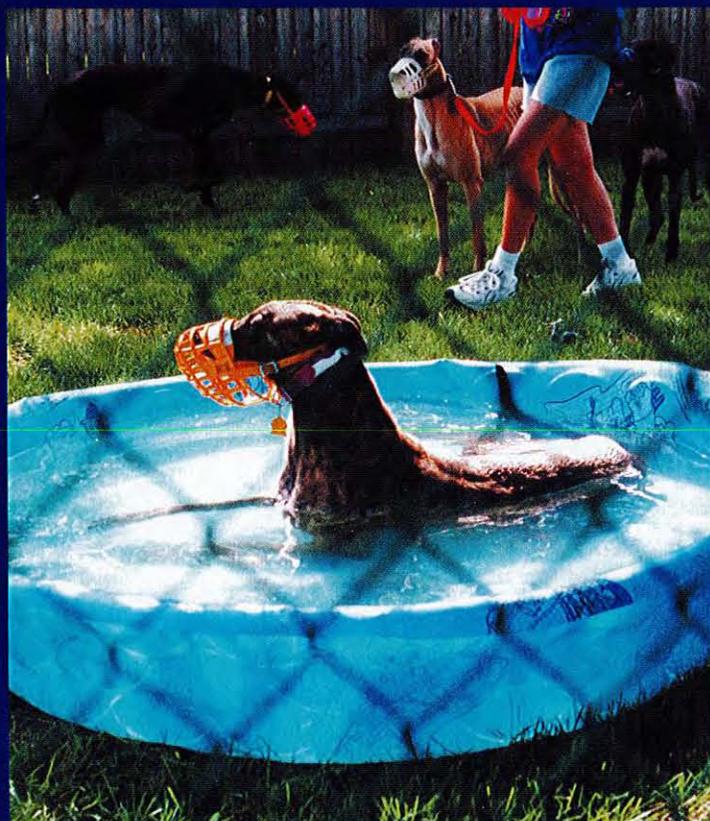


In warm weather the Greyhounds stay outside in the holding pen until it is their turn to be groomed.

An e-mail arrives from Kathy Dudas. The Greyhounds are coming in!

Kathy and Al Dudas are volunteers for the NJ Greyhound Adoption Program Inc. and they open their home to newly retired Greyhounds. Kathy and Al converted their backyard and pool house into a great place to groom and prepare Greyhounds for their new homes.

The Greyhounds that arrive already have homes. NJ GAP volunteers spend

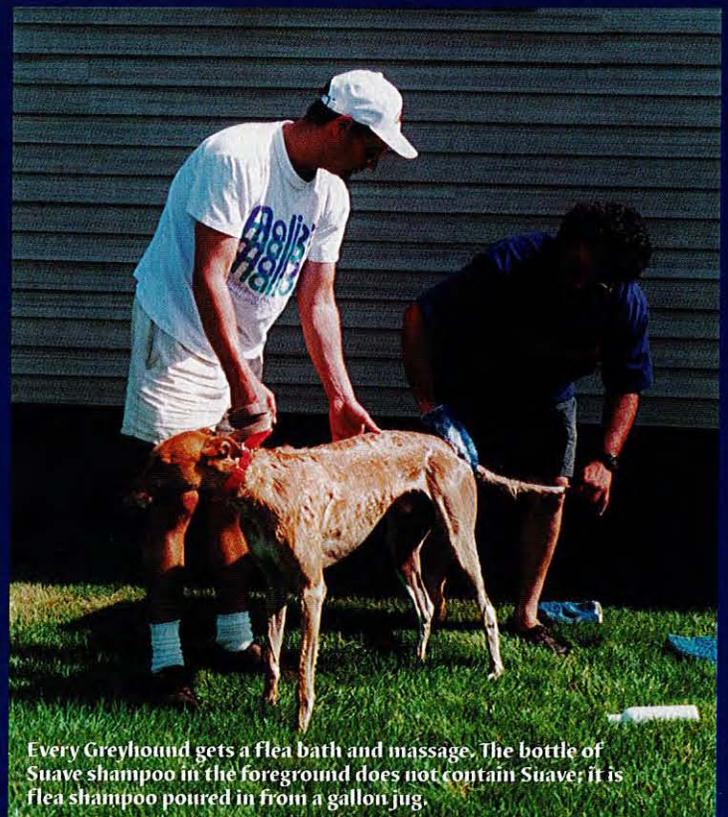


In cold weather the Greyhounds stay in the heated pool house while waiting to be groomed.



weekends handing out applications and information. Potential adopters fill out an application and are carefully screened before we place a Greyhound.

The day before the Greyhounds arrive is a busy day for Kathy. She puts together the leashes and collars, assembles the crates, and makes sure the crates and blankets are clean. Then she fluffs the crate pads, fills the shampoo and flea spray bottles, and puts out plenty of clean, fresh towels. The coffeepot is set up and the counter is

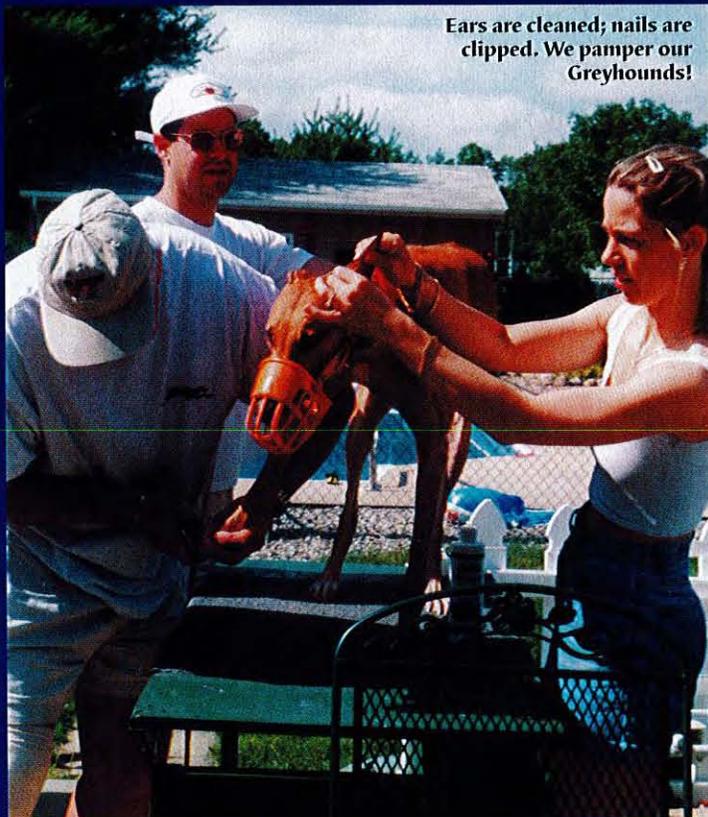


Every Greyhound gets a flea bath and massage. The bottle of Suave shampoo in the foreground does not contain Suave; it is flea shampoo poured in from a gallon jug.

Open up and take your worm medication.



Ears are cleaned; nails are clipped. We pamper our Greyhounds!

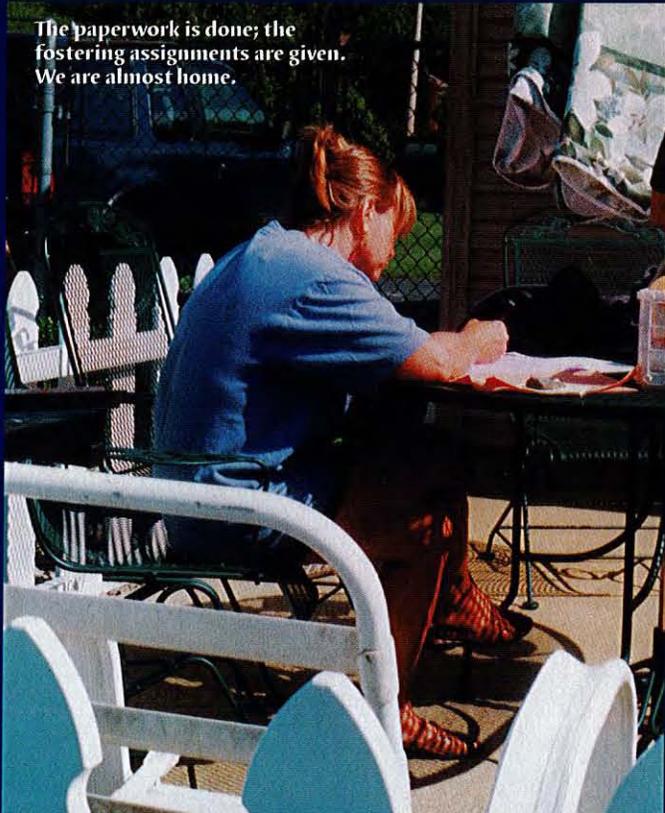


cleared for breakfast goodies. Oh yes, and Kathy cleans her house just in time for us to mess it up again!

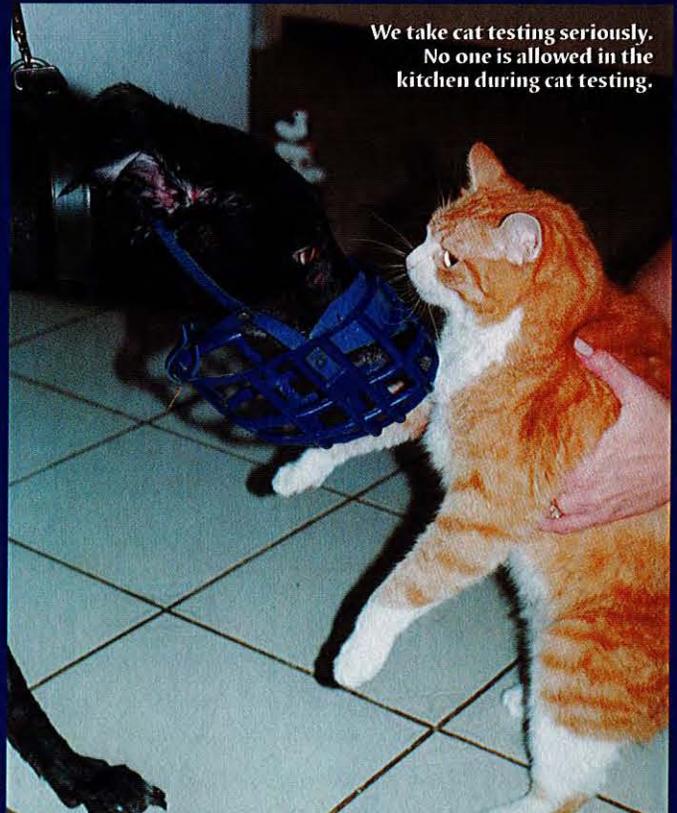
Volunteers begin arriving around 8 a.m., sometimes earlier, depending on what time the Greyhound hauler is expected. Everyone indulges in a cup of coffee and breakfast while socializing with Kathy and Al's Greyhounds, Angel and Arbi. The cats all run when they see us because they sense it is a "Greyhounds Are Coming Day" and they know they will be used as cat testers



Waiting to be cat tested. Will I pass?



The paperwork is done; the fostering assignments are given. We are almost home.



We take cat testing seriously. No one is allowed in the kitchen during cat testing.

Off to foster care to be loved and socialized. Caretakers are responsible for bringing in their foster Greyhound to be spayed or neutered and checked by the veterinarian. After that, the volunteer fosterer will call the new owner and arrange the adoption. Bring on the love!



Resting after an exciting day.



soon. The new volunteers are briefed and everyone decides who will be working which stations.

“The Greyhounds are here!” someone yells. Socializing immediately stops and volunteers take a leash and collar to meet the Greyhound hauler. Take a look at what happens next. If you have never experienced meeting the Greyhound hauler, try volunteering for this event. You may find this to be the most gratifying experience of your life.



Phoebe, Starfleet, Kira, Braveheart, Ringo, and stick.

Adventures with Ringo

by Patricia Gail Burnham

One of the drawbacks to white dogs is that a small percentage of them are deaf. Modified hair cells located deep in the ear are what you hear with. And when there is no pigment in the hair around and inside the ear, those vital hair cells can atrophy and the result is deafness. Breeders of white dogs like English Setters and Dalmatians routinely test their puppies for hearing ability. It is easy to tell if a puppy is deaf in both ears because they don't respond to sound. But the only way to tell if a puppy is deaf in one ear is to do an electronic hearing test. So I took Ringo to have his hearing checked. I knew he could hear in at least one ear. I wanted to be sure that he could hear in both ears.

Ringo Arrives at the Veterinarian's Office

This was not one of our best days. First Ringo didn't want to go into the strange vet office. Once inside he got an injection of

ace promazine, which made him collapse on the floor, conscious but not able to walk. Then tiny electrodes were injected in the skin of his head and an earphone was placed in his ear. The earphone clicked and the electrodes recorded his brain activity. His brain activity showed peaks that were in time with the clicks. He could hear—in both ears. I was delighted.

Then the vet suggested cutting his toenails while he was tranquilized and I agreed. But he was tranquilized, not anesthetized. He still had his ability to feel pain. So when the vet cut the first nail and hurt him, Ringo came up off the floor teeth first and reached for her cheek. I was astonished and unprepared. I pride myself on never having gotten a vet bitten in decades of holding dogs for vet work, and that includes sewing up wounds under local anesthesia. The vet's eyes were wide. I asked if he had made contact and she said, "Yes." But it had just been a graze, a toothy warning not to hurt him

again. She was undamaged but we had both been amazed at the speed of his reaction.

I suggested that we end the nail cutting effort and I would teach him to allow me to cut his nails when he was not under the influence of the drugs. I wasn't about to discipline a puppy for his drugged reactions. When he was back in full possession of his reflexes, I would teach him to let me file his nails in exchange for treats. It is easier to teach a dog to like having his nails cut than it is to teach him to fight with you for a lifetime of nail care. Ringo's grandmother had exceptionally sensitive paws so I wasn't surprised to see that trait turn up in her descendants.

But I was very impressed with the speed and accuracy of his warning strike. When we live with dogs we grow to think of them as buddies and near human friends. What we forget is that they are 80-pound predators with thousands of years of hunting and killing ability tucked away in their genes.

Ringo, Starfleet, and Jirel keep an eye on the front yard.



They rarely show us the wolf behind the dog's devotion.

Ringo was none too steady on his feet when I helped him out of the office and back to the car. He slept all the way home.

The Twig's Revenge

The nail incident had reinforced his dislike of veterinarians. That posed a problem two weeks later when I woke up one morning to find Ringo making strange faces and gagging. I had never seen anything like it. I looked in his mouth but could see nothing to cause the trouble. I fed the other dogs and called for a vet appointment. The morning was complicated by my having an early doctor's appointment of my own, so I took Ringo with me to the clinic. It was cool enough for him to wait in the car while I saw my doctor and when I got back to the car Ringo seemed better.

He was no longer making faces and rolling his tongue out of his mouth. So I decided to take him home. I had not been looking forward to having a vet examine his mouth. That would mean putting the vet's nose next to Ringo's nose, which is the most threatening thing you can do to a dog. Poor Ringo would have an anxiety attack. I was completely baffled at what could have caused his strange symptoms but as long as he was better we could pass on the vet visit.

Just as I pulled off the freeway near home he began rolling his tongue again and grimacing. When I pulled up in front of the house, I decided to have one more look in his mouth before keeping that vet appointment. This time I opened his mouth wide and looked under the tongue and then at the roof of his mouth. There, oddly out of place, was a two-inch twig bridging the roof of his mouth. The ends of the twig were wedged against his rear molars. It was a moment's work to hook a fingernail behind it and flip it out. Ringo sighed gratefully and closed his mouth. All the twigs that he chewed in his puppyhood had their revenge, but at least he had been spared a trip to the vet.

Ringo Was Winning Me Over

He developed the habit of coming up behind me in the yard and gently taking my hand in his mouth. He had the softest lips I have ever encountered on a dog. He wouldn't use his teeth to hold the hands, just his super soft lips. It was like getting the hand kissed.

He also found a way to get more pets than his brother and sister. He learned to stand on his hind feet and gently put his front paws on my shoulders for a hug. Jirel thought hugs looked like a good idea but because she was a lot shorter than Ringo she would hook her front paws on my body and try to pull herself up to get face to face. That made her toenails dig into my arm as she tried to chin herself. I tried to discourage

Ringo is "it" in the tag game.





Starfleet pulling Sheila's hair.

her body climbs. When Ringo stood tall he was already nose to nose with me. He didn't have to climb and his hugs were very gentle. The rule of hugging is that I will pet the dog as long as they continue to stand tall. Ringo could stand tall for a long time.

And then he learned how to stand with his front feet on the top of the washer so I could hug him without having his feet on me at all. Whenever I say hello to him after being at work, he and Starfleet and Jirel would come racing out of their room and Ringo would put his front feet on the washer to be ready for hugs. It is hard to ignore a big white dog that is looking at you eye to eye. He always got the first hugs, and the most hugs, and he was happy.

Spay Day

I always spay my bitches before they reach old age, when the operation risk increases. I don't want to have to do an emergency spay on a 13 year old bitch. So I made appointments for Sheena and Sunny and, since Kira was never going to be bred, I made her appointment at the same time. Dr. Schenck, who had delivered Sheena by C-section as a puppy, was doing the operations and I had a lot of faith in him.

Still, I was tense until the vet's office receptionist said that Sheena and Kira were both recovered from the anesthesia and were looking at each other from their adjoining cages. Dr. Schenck said that it was much

easier to spay young bitches like Kira, and a lot more work to spay the old timers like Sheena and Sunny. The night after the operation they had to stay in the hospital and the bed was very lonely without them. I kept doing housework and putting off going to bed.

But the next day they were thrilled to see me. Kira and Sunny recovered quickly. Sheena had a tougher time of it. Blood pooled under her skin along the incision and bruises spread across her abdomen. She didn't bleed externally, but she obviously was bleeding internally—not enough to make it necessary to reopen her incision, but enough to look bad. Gradually the pooled blood was reabsorbed and the bruises faded as Sheena healed.

Putting on the Dog at the Mall

We followed our usual postoperative exercise plan of short walks at the mall. Kira was thrilled to accompany us on drives to the mall for our nightly walk. The routine was simple. I would start the laundry in the laundromat on the way home. When I got home I would greet Kira and Sheena, put dinner in the oven, let the puppy back out to run in the yard, put the dog kibble out to soak, and then take Kira and Sheena back to the mall. By that time the laundry was ready to go into the dryer and we would walk while it dried.

It never hurts to have lots of people tell you that your dogs are beautiful. Sheena

would pace along imperturbably, while Kira danced beside her, eyes sparkling, entranced by everyone who passed. And the mall provided a lot of entertainment and great smells. First was the smell of hot peanut oil from the Silver Dragon Chinese restaurant. Then on to the Thrifty drug store, which dispensed people carrying ice cream cones. One couple stopped to admire the dogs, and Kira, with no shame at all, went right up the lady's front, reaching for her ice cream cone. I managed to pull her away just short of her target, but after that I watched Kira carefully if folks were carrying ice cream.

Next was a Fresh Choice restaurant, a popular smorgasbord with a lot of people waiting in line and then a Home Express where they would stack sale items on the sidewalk. It was here that Kira saw her first mirror. It was conveniently placed at dog level and she was mesmerized with the image of herself and her mother.

Next was Java City with its outside tables and customers who were usually good for some dog compliments. Then at the end of the block the Benihana Grill where knife-wielding chefs cook on steel tables surrounded by the customers. Tantalizing odors of grilling meat waft outdoors and the windows allow us to watch the fancy cooking process which was invented by medieval Japanese soldiers grilling food on their shields before battle.

Ringo is fond of twigs.
Playing twig keep-a-way
with Jirel.



We went to the mall's photo shop to get a photo of Kira. When she proved too wiggly to hold still on the posing table, I sat on the table and took her in my arms. She obediently looked into the camera for a couple of shots and then she put her chin on my shoulder in her usual hugging position.

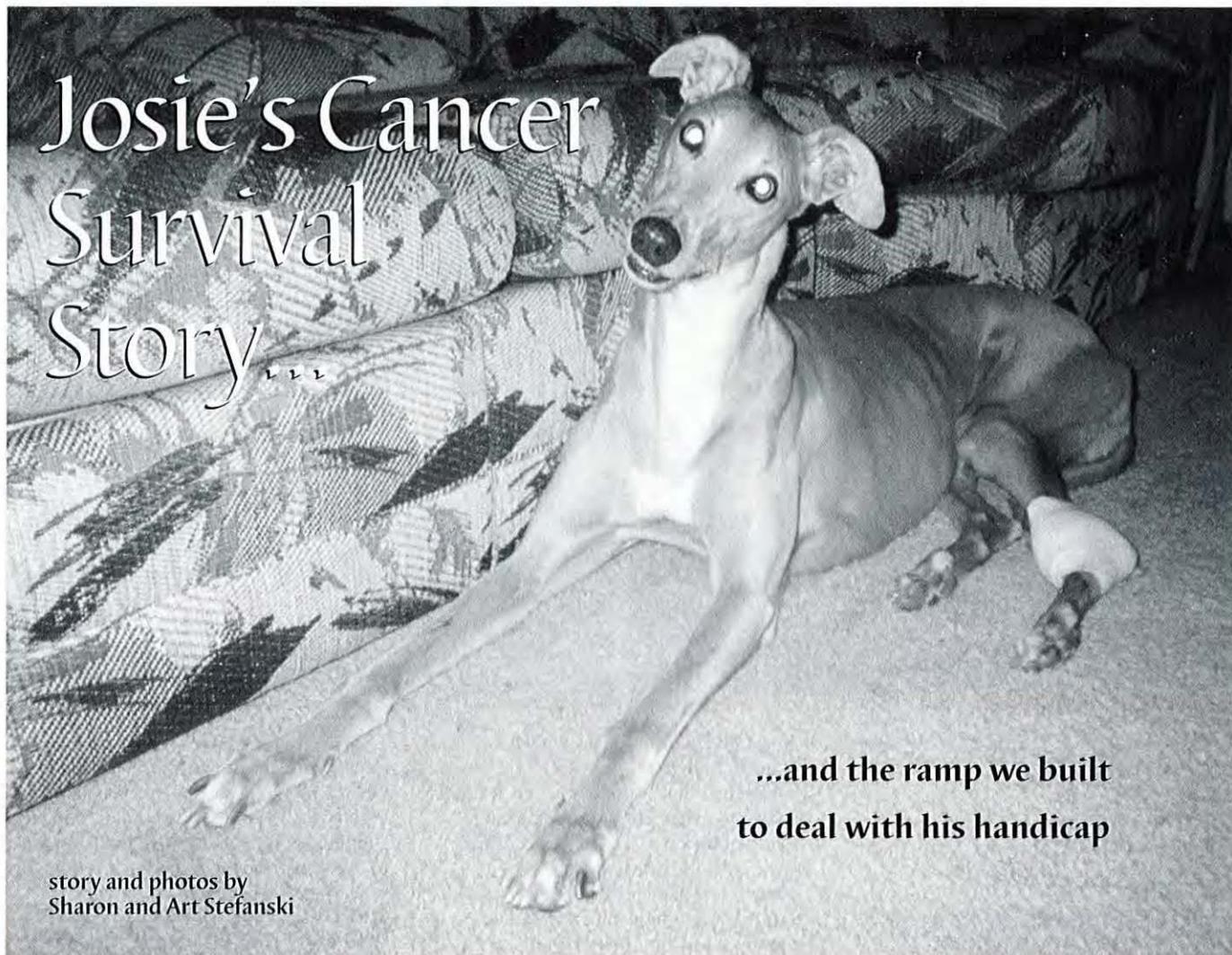
She had been snuggling her head onto my shoulder for her entire life. The photographer waited for me to raise her head again but I told him to keep shooting with her head where it was. And we got everyone's favorite picture of me wearing seven month old Kira on my shoulder. I was so taken with the pose that we repeated it several times over the next six months. Each time the pictures were slightly different as she grew up and modified her position and expression, but they are my favorite sequence of dog pictures.

Kira was happy and Sheena was happy but at the back of my mind was the blood test that had been taken the day the puppies were born. It showed slightly elevated liver values. And elevated liver values had been the first sign of Star Traveler's liver cancer. ❖

The Kira series continues in the next issue. Patricia Gail Burnham is a regular contributor to CG Magazine and is the author of Playtraining Your Dog and of much prose and poetry. She lives with most of the subjects of the series, some of whom are active in the show ring, in coursing, and sometimes even in tracking.



Ringo practicing lit show pose at a very early age.



Josie's Cancer Survival Story...

...and the ramp we built to deal with his handicap

story and photos by Sharon and Art Stefanski

Josie just before his leg amputation. Cancer took the leg in the summer of 1998 but he's still alive and happy.

In late November of 1996 our five-year-old Greyhound, Josie, was diagnosed with osteosarcoma. The outlook was not good according to three veterinarians, including a specialist. The recommended treatment was amputation and chemotherapy, and we were told to expect death in six to eight months. The cost would have been \$5,000 to \$6,000. These odds are great if you're a bookie in Vegas—but not good enough for us. We began a regimen of Pycnogenol (an anti-oxidant new to the United States but used in Europe since the 17th century), a multivitamin, vitamins C and E, and a drug known as Feldene.

Josie went into remission by New Years Day, 1997. Encouraged, we sought help from a holistic veterinarian who prescribed Chinese and American Indian herbal remedies. Josie was cancer-free until the unfortunate leg breaks in March and May of 1998. The breaks were through the lytic area of the left rear tibia. The cancer regenerated faster than the healing process. Josie's

leg was amputated in late August 1998.

As he nears eight, he weighs almost as much as he did when he had four legs. A \$5,000 fur coat would not look or feel as good as his natural coat does. He is alert, bright eyed, happy, pain-free, and at times a brat.

If your dog contracts a terminal disease, investigate all courses of treatment. What matters is the quality of life, cost vs. comfort and cure, selfish reasons, faith, and being a true and trusted friend to your dog. Swallow hard. Make the best choices for the friend who has given you so much.

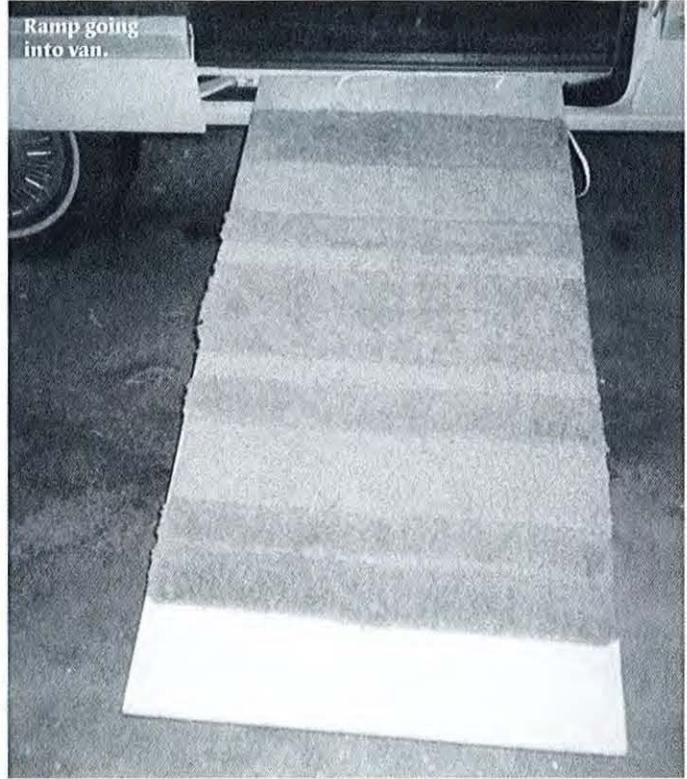
Don't be forced into making a decision while under stress; educate yourself now. Open your mind. Research, listen, and learn as much as you can, and don't think it can't happen to your dog. Time is of the essence, no matter what course of treatment you choose. You can't afford to waste it investigating and then anguishing over "What should we do?" Ask yourself, "What does our good friend want us to do?"

A Ramp to deal with his Handicap

As Josie was learning to live with his handicap, we recognized a need to get him in and out of our van without always having to pick him up. We constructed a ramp for approximately \$10 to \$15. It took about 15 minutes to put together. It has been a great aid for Josie and for us. He uses the ramp to get in and out of the van for trips to the doctor and for errands with mom that he really enjoys. This ramp can also be used with most regular cars too.

Materials needed

- 4 to 6 feet of nylon rope
- 4 L-angle brackets (2") (they come with screws)
- 4 casters: 2 stationary and 2 swivel (they also come with screws)
- 1 medium pile throw rug, 2 feet wide by 3 feet long
- 1 piece of plywood, 2' x 4' x 1/4" or 3/8" thick



Tools needed

- Tape measure
- Drill
- Screwdrivers
- Staple gun

Directions

- Smooth/sand all edges of the plywood.
- Drill two holes in the top center.
- Thread your rope through these holes. These create your handle or pull. Adjust to your preferred length. Make sure the knots are on the underside.
- Attach the casters after you pre-drill all the holes.
- Attach the two swivel casters at the top of the board.

- Attach the two stationary wheels at the bottom.
- Attach the four L-angle brackets, spacing them evenly to support the width of the board.
- Center the throw rug on the board's top side and staple into place. Use enough staples to secure the rug safely but not too many so that you can remove it to launder when necessary.
- Insert the finished ramp into the door track area of your car.

Note: Be sure to hold the ramp in place as your dog goes up or comes down. That will also reassure your pet that it is safe to use.

We have found the ramp is also good for transporting the dog in and out of the house when walking is a problem. You can carry your pet's bedding, travel crate, food, and supplies on it too. Josie still looks forward to every car ride these days and is doing as well as can be expected. ❖

Josie shares his home in Tinley Park, Illinois with his human mom and dad and newly adopted five-year-old ex-foster Greyhound brother, Pilot (J.D. Stone Pilot). Pilot is a shy white and blue AKC Greyhound. He has sparked Josie's attitude, and Josie has been showing him that there's nothing to be afraid of. Josie and Pilot regularly visit a nursing home where even the Alzheimer patients recognize them. We hope to get another brother or sister when we move to our next house that sits on one acre of land in Chesterton, Indiana.



BY BRUCE DEKING, MIDWEST GREYHOUND ADOPTIONS OF ILLINOIS

Take a Pet First Aid Course

story and photos by Maria Borowski

Two weeks ago, a friend of mine came home from a vacation to hear the news that every pet owner dreads, her dog had been hit by a car. The housesitter was not familiar with the local veterinarians and it was over two hours before the animal received any medical attention. As you might have guessed, by that time, it was too late.

As my friend related this story to me, my stomach sank. This could have happened to me or to anyone, really. I could only think to myself "what would I have done if I was that housesitter?" To achieve some peace of mind, I signed up for the Red Cross Pet First Aid class. The class, which lasts three hours, is designed to prepare pet owners for animal emergencies by teaching basic first aid and emergency techniques. The fee for this class was \$25, which included the text *Pet First Aid*, by Bobbie Mammato, DVM. The text consists of five parts: an introduction, a guide to emergency protocols, an alphabetized guide to common emergencies and appropriate first aid, components every first aid kit should have and lastly, a section on how to have a healthy, happy dog or cat. The text itself is a wonderful resource, with concise explanations and clear, simple drawings to illustrate important points. The textbook was published in conjunction with the American Red Cross and the Humane Society of the United States. The text can also be purchased through the Red Cross separately from the class for around \$10.

Our instructors for the class were Valerie and her dog, Clipper. Clipper is a one-year-old Schipperke, and a registered therapy dog who was there to help demonstrate some of the first aid techniques (as well as entertain the class). The class began with Valerie relaying a very important piece of information: 911 will not respond to animal emergencies. Although this may seem basic, I did not know that 911 is for human

emergencies only. I had always assumed that in a real emergency, (human or animal) I could call 911 for help. This means that if your dog has fallen through the ice in a pond, or if your cat is caught in electrical wires, you are essentially on your own. One option you have in an emergency is to call the National Animal Poison Control center (1-800-548-2423). Although they cannot send help, they can tell

The class is structured around the "emergency protocols" section of the textbook. It is important to note that the techniques taught in this class are in no way a replacement for medical attention, but instead are meant to help stabilize the animal until you can get professional veterinary help. The class begins with the correct way to approach an injured animal. Any potentially sick or injured animal, even your own, should be

approached cautiously. Animals (and humans) can be unpredictable when they are injured, and it is always better to be safe than sorry. When you approach the injured dog, let it sniff the top of your hand. Palms should never be presented, because, as Valerie explained, animals who have been abused are very familiar with the palm-side of the human hand. This applies particularly well to rescued Greyhounds, whose past is often a mystery.

With Clipper's help, Valerie then demonstrated techniques for leashing or muzzling an injured dog. Again, because sick or injured animals have the potential to bite, they should be muzzled before any emergency care is attempted. She explained that if a muzzle is not available, you can create a makeshift muzzle out of a piece of material like gauze or stockings. The material is looped over the nose and behind the ears so that the dog cannot bite but can still breathe easily. Fortunately, Greyhounds are often easy to muzzle quickly due to their long, skinny noses. Dogs with "pushed-in" faces, like pugs or bulldogs, may be more difficult to muzzle (more detailed descriptions of muzzling techniques can be found in the text).

This class also covers the best way to administer medications. Again, those long skinny noses sure come in handy. Valerie suggested that the easiest way to administer pills or capsules is to hold the front part of the upper jaw of the dog (the dog's mouth will open automatically), and to place the pill as



Instructor Valerie Laurence and Clipper demonstrate another way to take a pulse.

you the best course of action, even if it's not poison-related. This hotline is staffed 24 hours a day. (There is a \$45 charge for this call. However, if certain products poisoned your animal, the manufacturer of it may pay the cost of the call.) In addition, it is helpful to talk to your veterinarian about potential emergencies before they occur.



Bill Borowski checks Allie's heart rate.



Bill takes Allie's pulse.



Bill finishes putting a necktie muzzle on Diana.

far back in the mouth as you safely can. Hold the mouth closed until your dog swallows.

Finally, the last part of the class focuses on the basics of emergency first aid. First aid techniques for dogs and cats are actually quite similar to the first aid techniques used on humans. CPR, rescue breathing, and the Heimlich maneuver can all be used on dogs, with some modifications. For example, during rescue breathing, your mouth should be placed over both the nose and mouth of the dog. However, the underlying principle, which is to get oxygen into the lungs, is the same for animals and humans.

Valerie also explained how to take a pulse. The easiest way to find a pulse on a dog is to lay the animal down on its right side, and slowly bend the left-front leg at the elbow. Gently, bring the elbow back to where it touches the chest. You can place your hand over the area where the elbow touches the chest to feel or hear the heartbeat. Other places to find a pulse include the "ankle" on the back of the leg, right above the pad, or high up on the inside of the back leg, near where the leg meets the dog's underside. The normal pulse rates for small dogs (30 pounds or less) is 100-160 beats per minute, for medium to large dogs (over 30 pounds) is 60-100 beats per minute, and for puppies under a year old 120-160 beats per minute.

One of the points that Valerie stresses throughout the class is the importance of knowing your pet's normal behavior. This includes knowing its pulse rate, temperature, and breathing rate, as well as how it acts on a day-to-day basis. Knowing what is different will help you establish if the situation is an emergency and help the veterinarian determine what exactly is wrong if you seek medical attention.

I found this class to be rewarding in many ways. Not only does this class prepare you to administer first aid techniques, but it also forces you to consider how you would act in an emergency. Personally, I realized that I was severely under-prepared. Now the National Animal Poison control number hangs on my refrigerator as well as the number of the nearest 24-hour emergency animal hospital. However, the best aspect of the class is the piece of mind it leaves you with, knowing that you will be more prepared to protect your beloved pets. ❖

Maria Borowski is a medical writer who lives in Worcester, Massachusetts with her husband and two beautiful Greyhounds, Diana and Allie, and is a regular contributor and Internet researcher for CG Magazine.

Resources

Mammato, Bobbie, DVM, MPH
Pet First Aid-Dogs and Cats. Mosby; St. Louis, Missouri, 1997.

The American Red Cross
 Check for local Chapters; www.redcross.org

The Humane Society of the United States
 (202) 452-1100; www.hsus.org



Keeping Your Greyhound in Stitches

Wound coverings are as important as the stitches

by Maureen Nelms; photos by Daphne Daniel

If you own a Greyhound, at one time or another it will likely need stitches. Greyhounds have very thin skin that tears easily. How do you keep your Greyhound from pulling out the stitches that your vet put in so carefully?

Your vet will likely suggest an Elizabethan collar (see photo # 1). This collar is worn around the dog's neck and looks like a giant megaphone. It is meant to prevent the dog from getting its teeth on any part of its body. It does prevent this quite well with most breeds. However, I have yet to meet a dog that enjoyed wearing this collar. Further, Greyhound heads and necks are so close in size that often the collar slides down allowing those Greyhounds with prehensile lips and tongues, to attack the very area the collar should have kept them from reaching.

A better solution if the wound is somewhere on the dog's torso is to use a T-shirt to keep teeth away from sutures (see photo # 2). Slipping the dog's front legs through the arms of a short-sleeved shirt, pull the material up around the dog's waist and tie it in a knot. You can also use a diaper pin (not a regular safety pin) to pin up the excess material.

What Wound Covering Works Where

If the wound is on the dog's thigh or around the base of its tail, boxer shorts work well. Put the dog's hind legs through the boxers with the opening at the top/back so the dog's tail can go through it. Then gather the extra material and secure it with a diaper pin (see photo # 3).

If the wound is on the dog's foot, this can create difficulties. Feet should be bandaged with non-stick gauze and covered with vet wrap (available from your vet or dog supply catalog). This brightly colored material sticks to itself so pins are not necessary). When you take the dog outside, you will need to cover the bandage with plastic to avoid getting it wet or dirty. Your vet can provide you with I.V. bags that work really

well and last a long time because they are very thick. Freezer bags work for short periods but because they're thinner they wear through quickly. Another possibility for wounds on feet is to cover the foot with a woman's or a toddler's sock, wrapping some tape around the top of the sock onto the dog's leg. Unfortunately this sometimes pulls the dog's fur off when you are removing the sock if you're not really careful what type of tape you use. This also needs to be covered with plastic before the dog goes outside.

Make a Front Leg Legging

Friends of mine have six sighthounds and constant vet bills for sutures. Since they prefer to pay only once for stitches, they have developed the following method of ensuring that their dogs do not remove stitches from their legs. Don has developed a legging for front legs (see photo # 4) and



1: Dusk models an Elizabethan collar.



2: Reesa shows off in her sweatshirt.



3: Reesa wears her new boxers.



4: Dusk modeling a front legging.



5a



5b



5c



5d

a slightly different one for hind legs (see photos # 5a-d). He makes them to fit each dog individually out of scrap material. Here's what they look like, and below are instructions on how to make them and how to ensure they stay on. They really work and cost almost nothing to make. The dogs do not appear to resent wearing them.

Choose a material that breathes. Cotton works well. If you want to purchase material to keep on hand, cotton terrycloth for sweat suits would be good because it's slightly stretchy. The material should be of double thickness when the legging is completed. Each legging should be custom fitted to the leg of the dog that needs covering. (Don't just cut a piece of material, folds it in half, fits it around the dog's leg, and pins it together to fit.) Once you fit it to the dog's leg, you slide it off over the dog's foot and sew up the seam (removing the pins). Now you need to add elastic to keep that legging on the dog. The front legging requires one long piece of elastic (measure your dog so you know how long a piece of elastic you require.) The elastic should be sewn onto the legging as in photo # 4 so that it goes over the dog's shoulder on the injured side, around its neck and across to the legging. Try to have the stitching on the outside if possible although it does not appear to irritate their skin. If you aren't worried about irritation from the stitching, then the legging can be turned right side out and it's ready to go on the dog.

Make a Rear Leg Legging

The legging for a rear leg is a bit more complicated. You make the legging itself in the same way as the front, but this one requires two pieces of elastic. The long piece is numbered 1 and 3 as in photo #5, while the shorter piece is #2. Sewing the elastic on is easy; it's remembering how to put the legging on that's difficult. The elastic should be sewn from one side to the other (again you will need to measure your dog to ensure the elastic is long enough). This piece will go from the rear of the dog's thigh, up over its back, under its tummy and attached to the other side of the legging. The second piece (numbered 2) is shorter. It goes from the front of the thigh and attaches near the middle of the long piece on top of the dog's back.

To put the legging onto the dog you need to put the injured leg into the legging between the #2 and #3 pieces of elastic (see photos and diagram). The uninjured leg and the tail go in between the elastic pieces numbered 2 and 3 and out again through numbers 3 and 1. Pull the legging up adjusting the elastic so that it fits snugly but is not cutting into the dog. Once the legging is on, the elastic will safely keep it from coming off again. ♦

Maureen Nelms is a regular contributor to CG Magazine and lives in British Columbia.

On Pain Management

Lately several Greyhound owners have consulted with me about palliative treatment for osteosarcoma. This appears to be a cancer that is, anecdotally at least, overrepresented in Greyhounds. The primary tumor is most often found at one end of a long bone, frequently the bones of the upper front limb (the humerus), or the upper hind limb (the femur).

Affected dogs start with lameness and/or swelling of the affected limb that does not usually respond to non-steroidal anti-inflammatories such as Rimadyl. Radiographs of the affected limb reveal a star-burst-like change to the periosteum (outer layer) of the affected bone and lytic changes (lighter areas that look like they have been eaten away) to the bone.

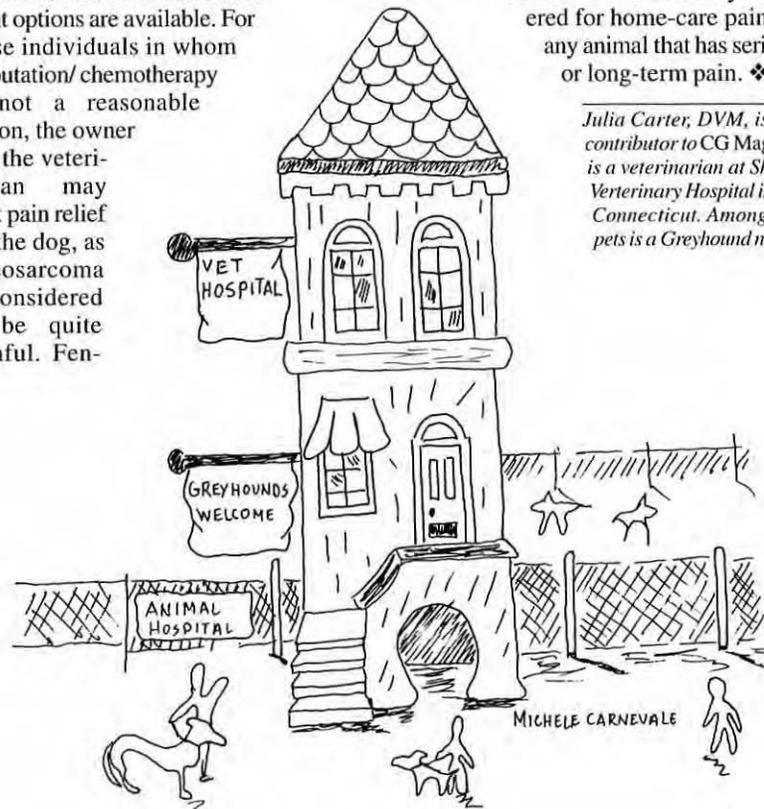
Veterinarians will often take chest radiographs of dogs that they suspect may have osteosarcoma in order to look for metastasis of the cancer to the lung, a frequent occurrence.

Treatment for osteosarcoma of a limb usually involves amputation of the limb and chemotherapy, although the treatment for each individual is specific to his condition and other treatment options are available. For those individuals in whom amputation/ chemotherapy is not a reasonable option, the owner and the veterinarian may seek pain relief for the dog, as osteosarcoma is considered to be quite painful. Fen-

tanyl transdermal patches are often used to provide pain relief for animals at home because they can provide long-term (three to five days) pain relief without the need for frequent injections or oral medication. Fentanyl citrate is a narcotic, so transdermal patches will need to be provided by a veterinarian and returned to the veterinarian or pharmacist for disposal. Patches applied to shaved or non-haired skin release a controlled amount of fentanyl over roughly a 72-hour period. However, it takes 12 to 24 hours to attain therapeutic levels of pain relief, so initially other pain management may be necessary.

Additionally, fentanyl patches must be applied to areas where the dog is unlikely to remove them and must be monitored closely. Inflammation, overheating, elevated body temperature, and bandages placed over the fentanyl patch (in short, anything that increases the temperature at the site of the patch) will increase the rate of absorption of fentanyl and can lead to overdose, so careful monitoring is necessary. However, these transdermal patches can provide excellent pain relief for Greyhounds with osteosarcoma and may be considered for home-care pain relief in any animal that has serious short or long-term pain. ♦

Julia Carter, DVM, is a regular contributor to CG Magazine. She is a veterinarian at Shakespeare Veterinary Hospital in Stratford, Connecticut. Among her many pets is a Greyhound named Abel.



PVC Exercise Pen

Dog show and agility people have been using metal exercise pens for years. The problem is that the commercial ones are expensive. For about one half of the price of a commercial, metal exercise pen, you can construct this PVC exercise pen, which ends up being slightly bigger.

Each exercise pen consists of six panels. We give instructions for two basic panels: the fishnet panel and the barred panel. The fishnet panels are lighter, cheaper to make and give more complete coverage from prying hands that may want to pet the hounds. The barred panels are sturdier, heavier, and easier to keep clean.

Materials Needed for Six Fishnet Panels

- 24 – 1/2" PVC Ts (not threaded)
- 24 – 1/2" PVC elbows (not threaded)
- 11 – 10-foot sections of 1/2" PVC
- 24 – 36" pieces PVC
- 36 – 12" inch pieces PVC
- 6 – 3' x 3' sections of fishnet or mesh (or, thin rope to weave into a net)
- Thin rope or cord to attach net to frame
- 25 plastic cable ties (wire or garbage ties)
- PVC cleaner and glue

Materials Needed for Six Barred Panels

- 84 – 1/2" PVC Ts (not threaded)
- 24 – 1/2" PVC elbows (not threaded)
- 19 – 10-foot sections of 1/2" PVC
- 54 – 36" pieces PVC
- 96 – 3.5" pieces PVC
- 25 plastic cable ties (wire or garbage ties)
- PVC cleaner and glue

STEP 1: SHOP FOR PARTS

We found the necessary parts at a home store (like Home Depot or Hec-hingers), but a plumbing supply place may be less expensive. The 10-foot sections of PVC cost around \$1.30 each. The Ts and elbows were \$.15 to \$.40 each. We found the contractor packs of ten to be one half the price of buying the pieces individually.



For the fishnet panels, we found a 10-foot by 10-foot decorative fishnet at an army surplus store. Alternatively, any mesh will work. Heck, you could even macramé or weave your own netting on the frame with thin rope or cord.

STEP 2: CUT THE PVC

Your job will be much easier if all your pieces are exactly the same size. A radial arm saw or power miter saw works great for cutting PVC, especially with a stop-block to ensure all the pieces are the same size. The hand-held PVC cutters also work well, but will be considerably more work.

STEP 3: DRY FIT THE PIECES

Construct the PVC panels as shown in

the diagrams below to ensure you have all the necessary parts for the six panels. We found that attaching the fittings to all of the 36" sections first was best. Then attach the 36" sections into panels using the shorter pieces. Cut extra pieces as necessary.

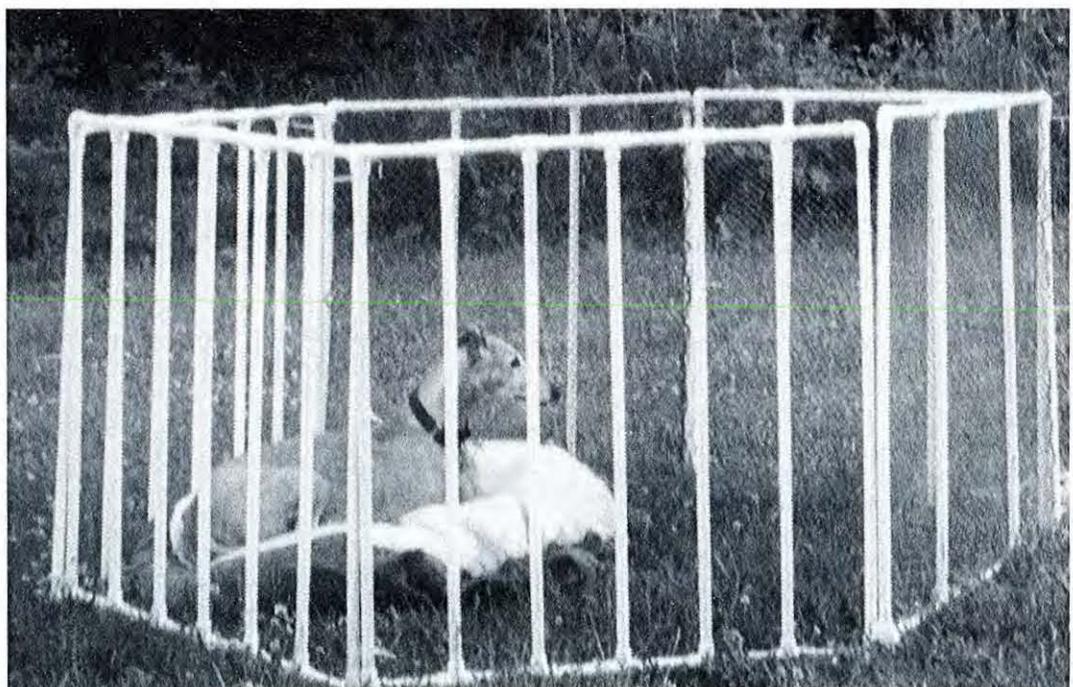
When you're sure you have all the necessary parts, take everything apart again.

STEP 4: PREPARE PVC FOR GLUING

You cannot skip this step. You must use the special PVC cleaner to prepare the PVC to take the glue. It comes in a metal can with a brush attached to the lid. In a well-ventilated area, clean about 1" of each end of each piece of PVC. Also clean the inside of each elbow and T.

STEP 5: GLUE PVC

PVC glue dries very quickly. You have less than 20 seconds to position the fitting on the pipe. You won't be able to twist after that, so be certain that your fittings are properly aligned. The safest way we found to proceed was to glue the fittings to the ends of all the 36" sections first, being careful to make sure the fittings on each end are pointed the same way. Then go back and glue in the smaller pieces to make each panel.



STEP 6: FISHNET PANELS ONLY

Lay the completed panel over the fishnet and cut to the proper size. Tie a cord to the frame and weave through the edges of the fishnet and over the frame to stretch and attach the net. This can take some time. Be patient with it. Alternatively, tie rope or cord to frame and macramé the netting yourself.

STEP 7: CONNECT THE PANELS

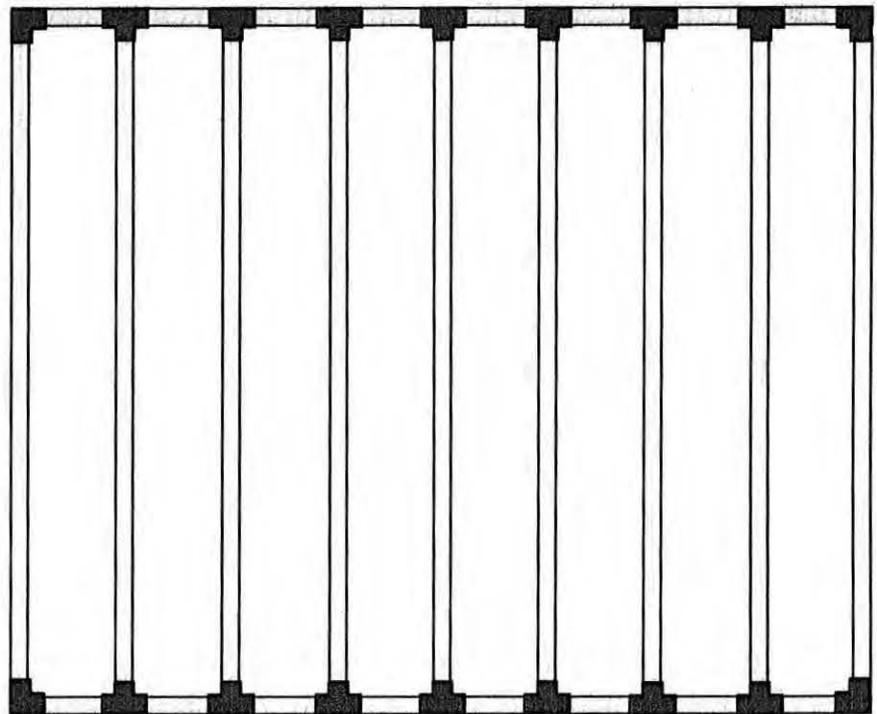
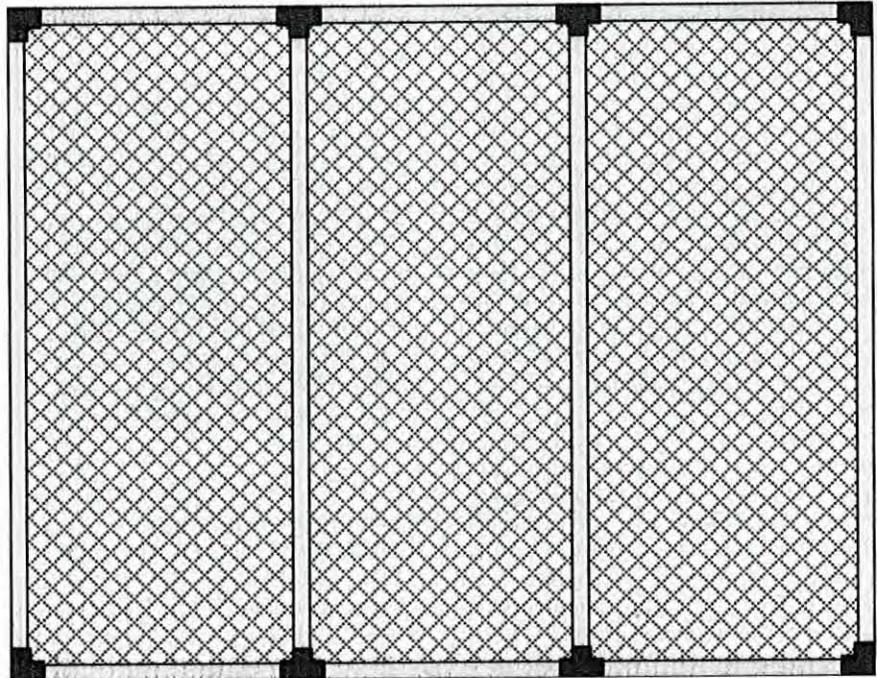
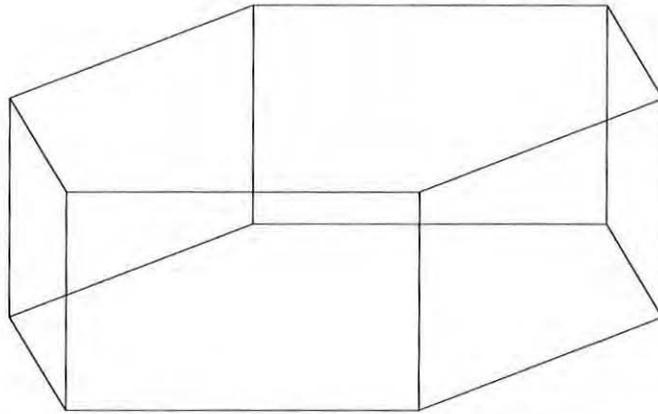
Use three plastic cable ties (or wire) to connect each of the panels to the next. Do not make the last connect to complete the circle. This will be your door. Attach a few cords or extra pieces of wire where this last connection would be made so that you will be able to secure the door in the field.

STEP 8: SET UP YOUR EXERCISE PEN

Position the connected panels into a circle. Optionally, use tent stakes to secure the pen into the ground. Or, use sandbags to secure the pen on a hard surface. Add blankets or pillows as you'd like. Another good idea is to use one of those outdoor canopies or market umbrellas to provide shade for your hounds.

Why not make an extra exercise pen and donate it to your local Greyhound adoption group? You'll feel great about it and they will make good use of it. ❖

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Morris Animal Foundation Canine Cancer Studies: Fundraiser Update

Have you grown weary of hearing and seeing the number 2,000? Want a new number to obsess about? Here's one. It's 3,500. Why? Well, here at The Greyhound Project, \$3,500 is the amount we have set aside as a matching fund for donations to Morris Animal Foundation sponsored canine cancer studies for this year. And, it just so happens, 3,500 is approximately the number of subscribers we have to this magazine. Coincidence? Maybe, but it sure does suggest an easy way for all of us to reach the goal of at least \$7,000 donated: One dollar from each subscriber matched by our \$3,500 pledge. The bad news is that in the first three months of this year's fund-raising campaign, there were only ten donations. The good news is that those donations, ranging from \$5 to \$200, totaled \$655!

Enough about numbers. The problem is that various forms of cancer are killing Greyhounds. In fact, cancer is the leading cause of disease related death in dogs in the United States. It makes all of us sad to think about so many hounds, fortunate enough to have been adopted by caring people, who nevertheless suffer premature death due to a disease that most of us feel helpless to combat. It is appropriate to feel sad, and even to feel angry, but reject the feelings of helplessness! Make a donation to Morris Animal Foundation's canine cancer studies and join us in our resolve to do something in the battle against cancer.

Morris Animal Foundation sponsors humane animal health studies, including studies of melanoma, leukemia, lymphoma, oral melanoma, osteosarcoma, genetics,

chemotherapy, and other drug therapies, all of which may lead to earlier diagnosis, more effective treatment, and maybe even cancer cures and prevention. The Foundation's sponsorship of these studies is dependent on donations. And that is where all of us can do our part.

Your job is to mail a donation to Morris Animal Foundation and specify that your donation is to go to "Canine cancer—The Greyhound Project Account." The foundation will notify us. Our job, our pledge, our commitment is to match the donations up to a total of \$3,500. Please send your donation to: The Morris Animal Foundation, Canine Cancer—The Greyhound Project Account, 45 Inverness Drive East, Englewood CO 80112.

So, don't let numbers get you down. Stop worrying about Y2K! Get on the 3,500 bandwagon and smile; your donation is tax deductible!

Speaking of Greyhounds Will Merge With CG Magazine

Speaking of Greyhounds, the newsletter for adoption volunteers that has been on hiatus since June of 1998, will return by popular demand. Rather than being a separate publication, *SOG* will be merged with *CG Magazine*, effective with the Winter 1999 issue.

Adoption organizations will receive two free subscriptions to *CG Magazine* in lieu of *Speaking of Greyhounds*.

As before, articles from the *Speaking of Greyhounds* section in *CG Magazine* will be reproducible in adoption organization newsletters. ❖

In Memoriam

**Power Enticement (Tice):
May 1, 1990–April 17, 1999**



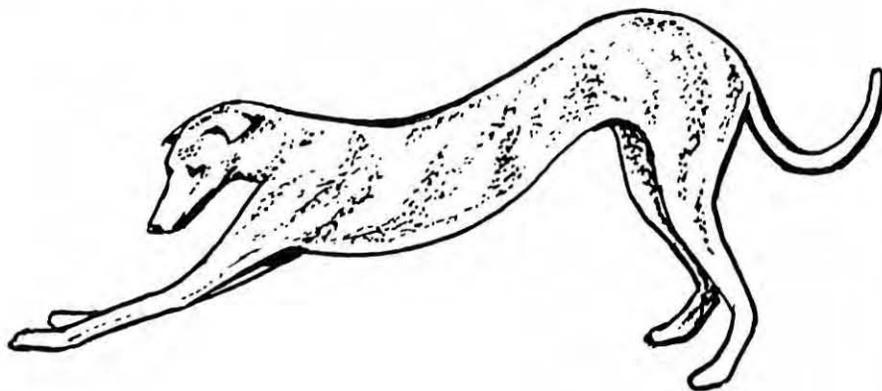
Tice, Greyhound of Matt and Lynda Adame, died of osteosarcoma. Tice's hip had been bothering her for a few weeks but the pain finally became more than the medication could control. The x-rays showed a huge tumor just below her left hip socket.

Tice was more human than dog, and the Adames expected her to speak one day in perfect English. She had a long racing career in Arizona and was adopted through Retired Racers in Acton, California. Tice didn't take to retirement as well as most Greyhounds. She didn't appreciate the change in her lifestyle and became anxious and spooky. Over the years Tice adjusted to pet life, although she never needed a lot of friends. She was exceptionally selective to whom she gave her heart but she most definitely gave her heart to lure coursing. Tice was the Adames' first Greyhound and was the reason and muse for Lynda's articles for *Celebrating Greyhounds*. Thank you, Tice.

Jimbo's Fluffy (Peaches) 1993–1999

Peaches, Greyhound of Judy and Mike Sulkis of Bethany, Connecticut, died of kidney failure at the age of six. One day, the Sulkises went to Plainfield Park to pick up three Greyhounds for REGAP of CT, Inc. (Retired Greyhounds As Pets of CT, Inc.). Peaches was one of them.

Peaches managed to get into the front seat of the Sulkises car on the way back to Bethany. In the hour plus trip back to Bethany, she also managed to convince the Sulkises that she should stay with them forever. Peaches was the lovely yellow fawn girl shown in the "Rainbow Greyhounds" article in Spring 1999.



Cee Cee and her fellow Greyhounds Eva and Mo were adopted by drawing artist Wendie Cowie through Nittany Greyhounds, State College, Pennsylvania.



The Greyhound Guide to Sleep

by Lori Lazetera

Greyhounds call themselves “lean, super-efficient sleep machines.” Sleeping Greyhounds spend many years perfecting their techniques. Here is a sampling of some of their better-known positions.

The Bed Hog. This position is fun when you share the bed with one or both of your owners. Maneuver yourself between them. Lie down on your side and slowly begin to stretch out. If this is done correctly, you should have at least half of the bed space to yourself. Give yourself extra points for the following: if you can insert a paw into your owner’s mouth; if you can prevent your owner from getting out of bed quickly; or if your owner wakes up with a stiff back.

The Dead Cockroach. Find the softest spot in the house, (the family couch or a bed is the best.) fall asleep, and eventually maneuver yourself on your back with all four legs in a bent position.

The Flagpole. Assume the dead cockroach position. Extend your legs stiffly into the air. Your owner may feel compelled to hang a small flag on one or more of your legs.

The Flamingo. Assume the dead cockroach position. Extend only one leg in the air. If you are doing this position correctly, the front half of your body will resemble the tacky plastic ornament in your owner’s garden.

The Donut. This position must be assumed only when there is no other available position. It usually means there is nowhere in the house to lie down with the exception of a small club chair. Place your front feet on the chair. Bring your back legs up carefully. Drop your nose. Your body should be in a u-shape. Now fold yourself into the chair. Lay down. You can either tuck your nose into your folded legs or extend your front feet and use them as a headrest. This position will get your owner’s attention

especially when you unfold yourself and get up from the chair. It is so amazing that such a “big dog” could get himself in such a tiny spot.

The Classic Fall asleep on your side. You can add variety by dreaming. Wag your tail, run in place, and vocalize. This will really get your owner’s attention. ❖



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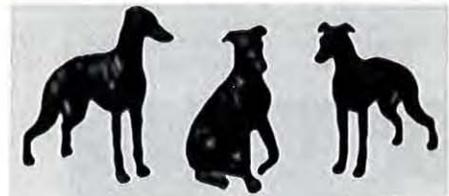
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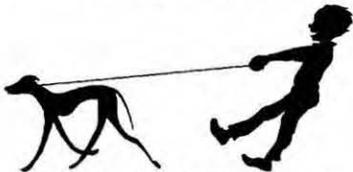
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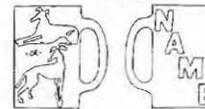
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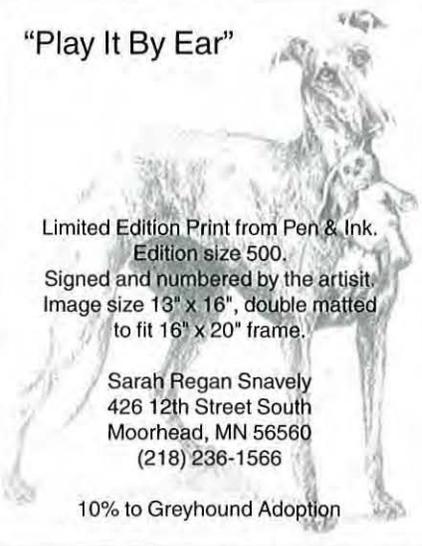
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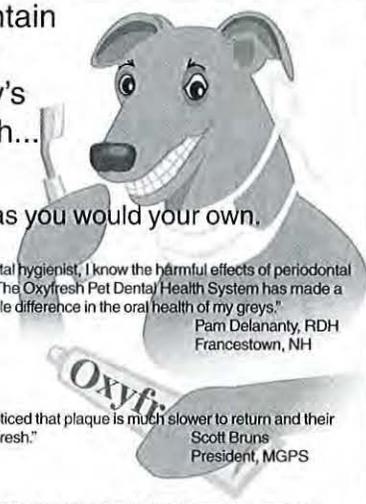
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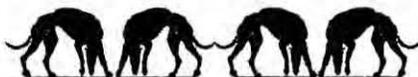
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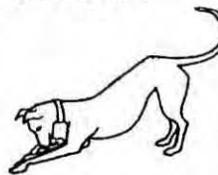
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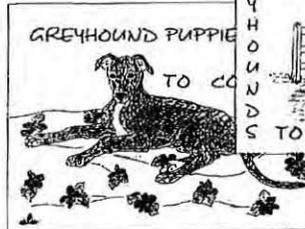
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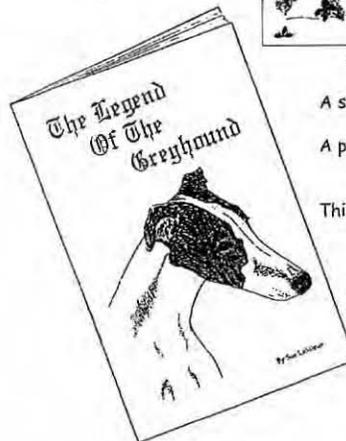
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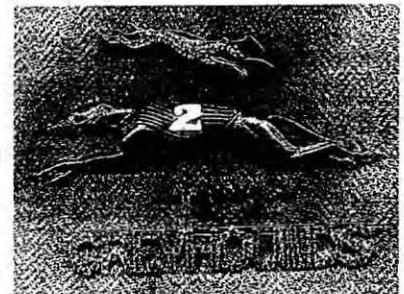


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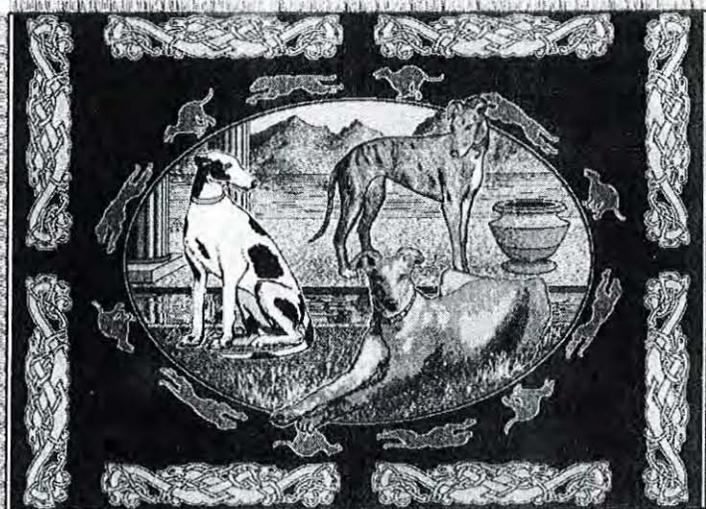


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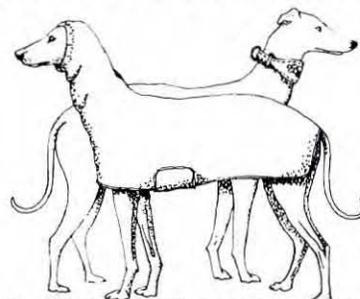
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- Sept. 18-19: Host unknown at press time
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- Oct. 2-3: National Greyhound Adoption Program
- Oct. 9-10: Host unknown at press time
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Saturdays and Sundays through October 16-17 and Monday Sept. 6 10 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.

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(419) 626-4551; or ohiogreys@aol.com.

October 7 and 8
Greyhound Specialty (Saturday) Specialty Lure Coursing (Sunday)
Greyhound Club of America (GCA)
Jennersville, Pennsylvania
DASH will have ASFA and AKC Lure Coursing at the same site on Oct. 9th and 10th. For info, contact Terry Fletcher at (717) 993-9391.

The 2000 Celebrating Greyhounds Calendar

Available in August

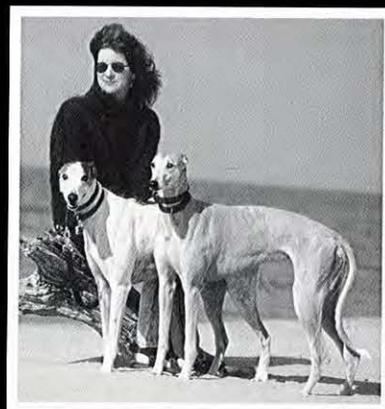
\$12 plus \$2 shipping

**The Greyhound Project, Inc.
295 Tremont Street
Newton, MA 02458**

Get your 2000 Celebrating Greyhounds Calendars early. Make sure you and your friends have them for the beginning of the new millennium.

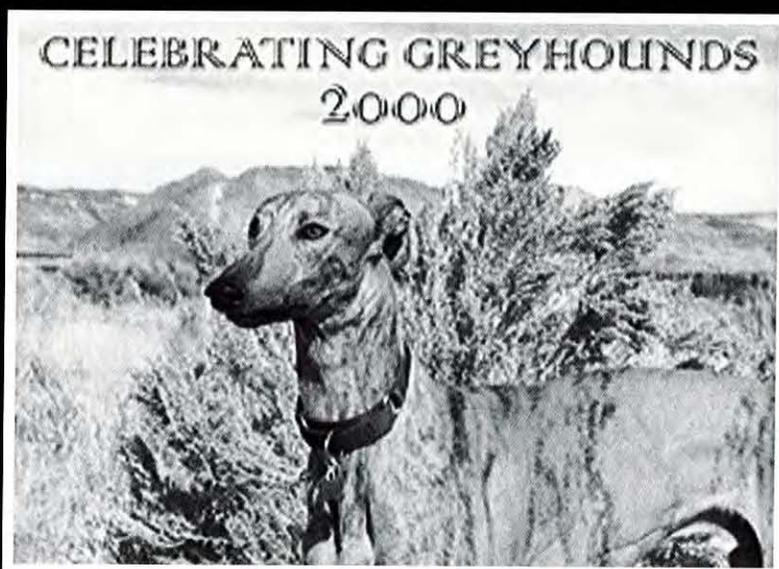
It's a party—a BIG party.

Celebrate a new year, a new decade, a new century with 130 of your favorite Greyhounds. The 2000 Celebrating Greyhounds Calendar has 14 full months, starting in December 1999 through January 2001. It features 99 gorgeous, full-color photographs of former racing Greyhounds from around the world enjoying a second chance as pets and members of the family. In addition to national 800 referral numbers for information on adopting a former racing Greyhound, the calendar also lists more than 200 adoption organizations throughout the U.S., Canada, the U.K., Europe, and Australia.



This calendar is dedicated to all of the volunteers and Greyhound owners who are committed to finding homes for surplus racing Greyhounds—Greyhounds who cannot compete on the race track.

The 2000 Celebrating Greyhounds Calendar will be available in August. Look for it at your local Greyhound adoption group's fall and winter events. If you cannot find the calendars through your local group, they can be ordered for \$12 plus \$2 shipping from The Greyhound Project, Inc., 295 Tremont Street, Newton, MA 02458.





HAPPY HALLOWEEN

Celebrating Greyhounds: The Magazine

The Greyhound Project, Inc.

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