

cgmagazine

celebrating greyhounds

Fall 2002

ALSO INSIDE:

Greyhounds and RVs

Guardian Angel Greyhounds

Crouching Greyhound, Hidden Hamster

Greyhounds On Line **How the Internet Has Changed** **Greyhound Adoption**



Smiley, adopted by Pete and Beth Wade from Ohio Greyhound Placement.

cgmagazine

The Magazine for Greyhound Adopters,
Owners, and Friends
Vol. 7; No. 3 Fall 2002

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Front cover: Cinnamon Materializing. Color Print. Photographer William Shumaker uses multiple exposure techniques to produce photographs with a metaphysical, transcendental look. Many of his works are polychromatic prints. He lives in Tampa, Florida with his Greyhound Snip, a frequent subject of his work. Cinnamon, the Greyhound in the photograph, is another one of his models; she belongs to Barbara Celli. Will and Barbara are volunteers for GPA-Largo.

Back cover: Photographer William Shumaker created this image after the death of his Greyhound, Half. The photograph is intended to evoke the insubstantiality of the event.

editorial comments

By Cindy Hanson

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www.adopt-a-greghound.org/cgmagazine

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It's a sweltering summer evening, nearly four weeks after deadline. The fan in the corner of my office fights a losing battle with the heavy, humid air. The light from the monitor illuminates my three Greyhounds, who are stretched out on the floor behind me.

I'm hunched over the keyboard, waiting for the words to come.

People use computers to exchange information, make connections, solve problems, and create community. The world of Greyhound adoption is no different. Use of the Internet by Greyhound adoption supporters and volunteers has been ingenious, as our writers make clear in this issue. Frequent *CG* contributor Lauren Emery and Kristen Nix, webmistress for Greyhounds of Eastern Michigan, explore one way to use the Internet in "Website Basics for Your Adoption Group" and "Adoption Group Websites: A Webmaster's Perspective," respectively. In "Moving High-Speed Hounds Through High-Speed Connections," Cynthia Cash reports on one particular website that played an integral part in the rehoming of hundreds of dogs after the closing of Camptown Greyhound Park. Articles from the folks behind Northcoast Greyhound Support and the ChesCo Greyhounds fundraising quilt illustrate how the Internet can bring creative projects to a wider audience, raising money to support Greyhound adoption. "Who Is My Dog?" provides information about Rosnet and Greyhound-Data, two resources familiar to anyone who has tried to research the history of a retired racer on the Internet. Finally, Lynda Adame shares with us the story of The Greyhound List, the mother of all online resources for Greyhound lovers, in "The History of Greyhound-L."

As I have mentioned previously in this space, this magazine owes its continued existence to the Internet. Our writers, artists, and editors contribute to *Celebrating Greyhounds* from all over the world. In fact, our two most recent additions to the copy editing team join us from Massachusetts and North Carolina: Sue Tanona and Tiffany Whitt, welcome to *CG*.

That the Internet has been a godsend to the Greyhound world is undeniable. Having said that, assembling this issue has been particularly difficult. I am not sure why, but I have some guesses: Writing insightfully about something that we take for granted is not easy. Every one of the uses of technology described in this issue started out as somebody's great idea; because people who have one great idea tend to have more than one, they may be more excited about immersing themselves in a current project than in memorializing a past success. Many people get involved with Greyhound adoption because of their love for the dogs, and they see technology as a handmaiden. The knowledge that one can meet a deadline at the very last minute via e-mail is a yummy chew toy, luring us to gnawing procrastination when we ought to focus on the task at hand.

Or perhaps the answer is more prosaic: We are all volunteers, and we are awfully busy. Computers facilitate the exchange of information, but the exchange would be a meager one without those who make the commitment to explore an idea, put it into words, and share it by putting their fingers to the keyboard. Everyone who has contributed to this issue of *CG* has risen to the challenge. I hope that you enjoy the results.



About Amputation

I read with interest the recent article about care following amputation ("After Amputation," Spring 2002 *CG*). Our 6-year old Greyhound, Lily, was diagnosed with osteosarcoma in May 2000. We chose amputation. All of the veterinarians we consulted told me to think of amputation as a pain management strategy, not a cure, because the cancer would most likely recur. They also advised that it was not possible to manage the pain of bone cancer. A full body bone scan and chest X-rays before surgery confirmed that the cancer had not yet spread. We went into the surgery hoping for a year or so of quality life for our pet.

Everyone told me that Lily would feel really bad for a few days and then I would be amazed at how fast she recovered. Our experience was that she was in incredible pain for a full two weeks. During that time I slept on our family room floor with her because we could not figure out a way to get her upstairs without putting pressure on her incisions.

Once she recovered from the surgery, Lily had a wonderful life. She enjoyed all of the things she had before, and she managed amazingly well as a "tripod." Unfortunately, Lily's cancer came back. Four months after her surgery, I noticed that she was standing funny. Within a week, she could barely stand. A new tumor had developed on her spinal cord, which effectively paralyzed her hind legs. Once the diagnosis was made, we had to put her down.

I celebrate the experience that Ibis has had being cancer free for a year, but after my experience, I'm not sure I would do it again. As the "mother" of two wonderful Greyhounds, I know that I may need to make that decision again, but hope and pray that I don't.

Linda Wardell
Via e-mail



Galgos at the Las Nieves refuge. Amigos de los Galgos

Thank you for including my article on Ibis in the Spring issue. Since its release, I have received encouraging e-mail from a woman in Florida as well as several other people who have let me know that they have used Ibis' story to help other adopters facing similar situations. My intent, when I wrote the article, was to be able to help others. *CG* helped me to do that and Ibis and I want to thank you for it.

Tomorrow will mark 15 months since Ibis' amputation. He is still going strong and I am thankful for every day we have with him.

Thank you again for giving me the opportunity to share Ibis' story.

Gale Hollstein
Via e-mail

Galgos

We appreciate most sincerely your help and understanding of Galgos needs. We enclose some information and photographs of Galgos and rescued dogs in the refuge Las Nieves, Madrid, Spain. At present, there are 250 rescued dogs (90 of them are Galgos left mainly from hunting season).

Amigos de Los Galgos
www.nodo50.org/amigosdelosgalgos
Via e-mail

Airport Advertising

Kudos Greyhound Project! Imagine my surprise while waiting for a plane at Newark Airport in New Jersey, when we came upon two HUGE "Adopt A Greyhound" lighted signs in the terminal. Nice work helping to spread the message. I'm also glad your website was listed to ensure that interested parties could find an adoption group near them. Way to go!

Annette Doerr
Grateful Greyhounds
New York

CG's the Bees Knees

I loved every article in the Spring Issue. The touching moments of the WTC-9/11 displaced family with their Greyhound, the therapy dogs, and the GUR stories were wonderful. You might be interested to know that a survey of the members of the Greyhound "Secret Pals" had a question concerning "favorite magazine." The answer was overwhelmingly *CG*. Good job. We love you.

Irene Ullmann
Via e-mail

Readers Respond to Readers

I was saddened to see the letter from John Hendrickson berating Ann-Janine for returning her Greyhound (“CG Readers Speak Out,” Spring 2002 *CG*). Returning a dog to an adoption group or elsewhere is never an easy decision, but sometimes it is the only decision.

I have one Greyhound and two Galgos. I love to see them coming into their own every day. I feel my heart (and my eyes) filling to think of what their life was and what it is now. I think we all feel that way. Why can't we get past all the issues and focus on the love of dogs? I have had many questions and concerns about my doggies. I even had the struggle of deciding whether or not to return my Greyhound when he bit my son in the head. But I'm almost afraid to ask for help from other Greyhound lovers for fear of being attacked for my beliefs. It should not be this way. We should all be as one for the dogs. United we stand, after all.

Carey Shaw
Waterford, Mich.

Blast from the Past

A friend recently showed me a copy of *Celebrating Greyhounds* because she spied me in it. It contained an article on the Letterman Greyhound protests at the Presidio in San Francisco a number of years ago (“Saving the Presidio Greyhounds, Summer 2001 *CG*). More importantly, it pictured my dear old Greyhound, Ch Windwood Sweet Arriba, FCH, TD, TT, CGC. I nearly cried when I saw her picture. She was the dearest, sweetest little being on earth.

Happily, we were able to get 19 of the 20 dogs away from the Presidio. I photographed and documented each dog; my favorite was a brindle boy named Spock. I often wondered what happened to him and the others. I suppose that they are all gone now as it was over a dozen years ago. My Arriba left us in 1996 at the age of 15+.

I still miss her. But it was wonderful to see her again looking out at me from the pages of your magazine!

Sheila Grant
Fleetfield Sighthounds
Via e-mail



Cee. Mandy Beavers

Boarding Kennel, Grieving Owner

It is with great sadness that I write this letter in hopes that I can save just one Greyhound's life.

I boarded my three senior Greyhound girls (Birdie, Dolly, and Cee) while I was going on vacation. I boarded them together in one run — I thought they would be more comfortable with each other's company.

I came back from vacation too late to pick up my girls from the kennel, so I would have to wait until the next day to get them. I called and checked on them first thing in the morning and was told all three were doing well. I asked the staff to groom them and said I would pick them up later that afternoon.

I got an urgent call at noon from the kennel saying that Cee was found dead in the run. I was horrified. Initially, the vet thought she had died of a clot. She was 11 years old. He later inspected her body again and found swelling on her face. He found a puncture wound in front of her ear and one by her eye. We guessed that one of my other girls had an altercation with her and bit her in just the right — or should I say wrong — place, causing a fatal injury. My only hope is that she died instantly. I can't imagine my sweet, innocent girl suffering how she must have.

My point is this: I thought I had a very stable pack. They got along, with only an occasional warning growl or snap; nothing serious. I thought I was doing the right thing by keeping them together so they could keep each other company. If I had it to do over again, I would not put them in the same run. I have since heard that Greyhounds — and probably many other breeds — can become very possessive of their space, and when they feel threatened or stressed, they can snap. I hope that others who are considering boarding their Greyhounds keep them in separate runs, no matter how well you may think they get along together.

Mandy Beavers
Littleton, Colo.

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 editor@adopt-a-greyhound.org are also appreciated.

We regret that we cannot publish every letter or photo. ■

We Have Ways of Making You Talk

What do dogs want?

To get good stuff to start.

To keep good stuff from ending.

To keep bad stuff from starting.

To get bad stuff to end.

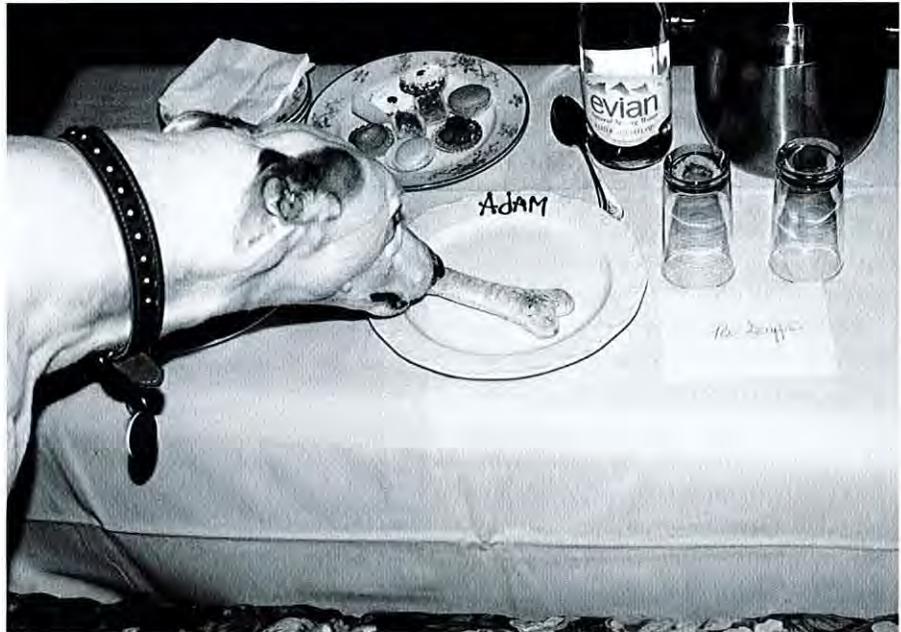
My approach to training draws heavily on the first two items in this list — getting and keeping good stuff. Punishment, as the term is commonly used, is the other half of what dogs work for — to prevent bad things from starting and to get bad things to end.

I avoid using punishment for several reasons. First, punishment affects your relationship with your Greyhound. Punishment the way most people use it is more frequently about revenge than it is about resolving an inappropriate behavior. We do it to vent our anger, not because we are truly trying to teach an appropriate response. Second, punishment frequently doesn't work.

Why doesn't punishment work? Because it is so difficult to do it right and so easy to do it wrong. To be effective, punishment must have *all* of these characteristics:

It has to be immediate. To be effective, punishment must happen as the misbehavior is about to begin or as early into the misbehavior as possible. It must occur within the first seconds. If you come home and find that, while you were gone, your Greyhound urinated on your new living room carpeting, punishing him for that behavior doesn't do any good, because it isn't immediate. Immediate means within a second or two of when the behavior begins.

It has to be something your Greyhound doesn't like, and it has to be strong enough to interrupt and stop the inappropriate behavior. But punishment can't be too strong, or you risk harming your dog. The punishment has to be chosen very carefully



Reward your Greyhound's good behavior. Eileen Neary

so it provides exactly the right level of "bad stuff." If the punishment is effective, after three or four experiences, your Greyhound will not continue doing the behavior.

It has to be associated only with the behavior and nothing else, such as a person, a place, or a thing. If the punishment is associated with anything other than the inappropriate behavior, there is a good chance your Greyhound will simply learn not to do the behavior only in the presence of the punisher — that is to say, he won't do it if you are watching. Or worse, he may become fearful of the thing, person, or place he associates with the punishment.

It has to happen every time the behavior occurs. Dogs, like most predators, are great gamblers. When sometimes he gets punished and sometimes he doesn't, if the behavior is rewarding enough, he'll put his quarters in the slot machine and keep pulling that handle.

You have to provide an alternative behavior for the dog for which he can be rewarded, and it has to be something he can't do if he is doing the behavior you don't want. Sitting instead of jumping up is an example. He can't do both at the same time. Dogs don't operate in a vacuum. If you don't provide an alternative, he is likely to find his own and it may be less suitable than the behavior you punished.

Being certain all those requirements are met every time is a tall order, even for a skilled trainer. It's nearly impossible for the average adopter to do consistently and effectively.

So what should you do? Before you look at ways to change a behavior, you have to figure out all the things that might be rewarding the behavior so you can remove them or remove your Greyhound's access to them. If you're punishing your Greyhound and he's continuing to do the behavior, something is

rewarding him. Sometimes the behavior itself is the reward. Chasing squirrels, barking, jumping up, and leash pulling are common self-rewarding behaviors.

Unless your dog, another animal, or a person is at risk, the safest and easiest approach is to ignore bad behavior and reward good behavior. If your dog weighs 85 pounds and likes to greet your 80-pound grandma by jumping off the ground and springing at her, manage him by using a leash or a crate so he can't do that while you teach him what to do instead.

Reserve punishment for situations where a person, your Greyhound, or another animal is at risk, where the behavior cannot be managed while an alternative behavior is taught, or where the behavior is so self-rewarding and so well-learned that other approaches have not worked. And use punishment only if you can be sure all the "rules" are in place.

If you are communicating with your dog, educating your dog, and managing your dog, you shouldn't have much need for punishments. If your dog is misbehaving, you've probably missed something in one of those key areas.

There is a deeper issue here. Your entire relationship with your Greyhound is based on trust. Every reward is like depositing money in an interest-bearing account. All those small deposits will pay dividends in the future. Every punishment is a breach of trust. It's like spending with a credit card. You may get what you want today, but you're paying exorbitant interest and draining your finances in the long term. ■

Lee Livingood is a CG regular contributor and the author of Retired Racing Greyhounds for Dummies.

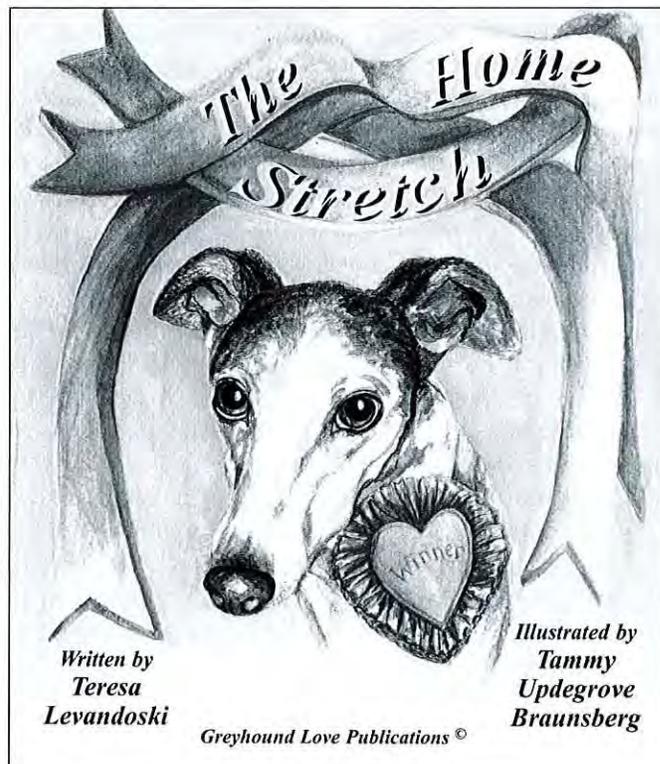
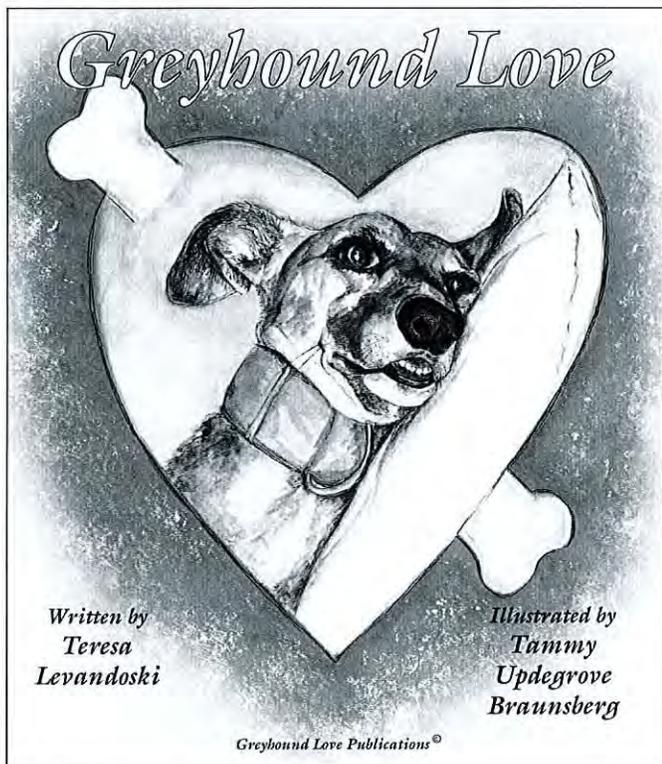


Angel and Arby, adopted by Cathy and Al Dudas from NJ Greyhound Adoption Program.



Zero. Bill Geese and Vanessa Varian-Geese

Greyhound Love



Greyhound Love

Written by Teresa Levandoski
 Illustrated by Tammy Updegrove
 Braunsberg
 Greyhound Love Publications
 Birdsboro, Pa. (2001)
 ISBN 0971300402
 \$14.95

The Home Stretch

Written by Teresa Levandoski
 Illustrated by Tammy Updegrove
 Braunsberg
 Greyhound Love Publications
 Birdsboro, Pa. (2002)
 ISBN 0971300410
 \$14.95

Greyhound love — that’s something we all understand. If you have children, Greyhound love has probably struck them as well. A new series of picture books by Greyhound Love Publications offers young readers a behind-the-scenes glimpse into the world of Greyhound adoption.

The first book, *Greyhound Love*, made its debut in 2001. Here, readers are introduced to the series’ main characters: Allison, who operates the Forever Home Kennel, a place for retired Greyhounds waiting to find homes, and Rebecca, her 13 year-old assistant.

Rebecca has her heart set on a new dress for the Homecoming Dance. Although her mother says she doesn’t need the dress, she offers to give Rebecca half the money if she will earn the other half. Rebecca finds

an after-school job working for Miss Allison at Forever Home Kennels and figures if she saves all her money, in three weeks she will have enough. Rebecca learns about Greyhounds and enjoys being with them. A shy dog, named Bissett, is very special to her. Rebecca remembers when she was once a shy little girl. Two weeks later, the arrival of a truckload of additional dogs threatens to exhaust the kennel’s budget. Allison is unable to continue to pay Rebecca and care for the dogs. Rebecca is faced with a dilemma: should she look for another job so she can get her special dress, or should she stay and help Allison?

Greyhound Love follows a typical plot sequence; problem and obstacle, conflict and struggle, and resolution. The story offers a comforting, happy ending that

younger children need. It also presents a satisfying conclusion that will engage older children who are able to understand Rebecca's internal struggle. Readers learn that sometimes life doesn't turn out the way the hero wants; yet she gets some of what she needs. In the end, Rebecca is doubly rewarded for learning a valuable lesson.

The Home Stretch, the series' second book, was published this past summer. Allison and Rebecca continue to appear in the cast of characters, but the star of the story is the Greyhound, Toby.

Charging towards the finish line, Toby is running for all he's worth. "Finally, it's my turn," he thinks. "After all this time, I'm a winner. I'm a winner..." Toby awakens. It's his big day. He is given one last chance to be the fastest Greyhound on the track. Toby runs harder than ever before, but can't win the race. His racing days over, Toby is delivered to Forever Home Kennels where he meets Allison and Rebecca. Two months, and two failed placements later, Toby is back at the kennel. Allison feels that she has failed in her promise to find Toby a good home. When a young man named Rick comes to visit and shows an interest in Toby, Allison hesitates. Toby needs a special home and Allison must keep her promise. The story concludes with a scene showing Toby curled up on a rug in front of a fireplace. He begins to have the familiar dream: "I'm a winner. I'm a winner..."

The meaning of commitment is the essential truth portrayed in *The Home Stretch*. The writing is serious in mood and voice, but the mature message is delivered without a dumbed-down attitude that children resent. The dream sequence creates a powerful opening to the story and, when used again, it dramatizes an important moment. In the end, things turn out all right for Toby. Perhaps changes are in store for Allison too. Readers are left with the possibility that Rick will be among the characters to appear in future *Greyhound Love* stories.

The *Greyhound Love* books are illustrated in nice detail. Many scenes contain background subtleties that may escape casual notice. Important to any picture book that contains Greyhound illustrations, however, is the way in which the dogs are represented. The Greyhounds in this series are drawn with great attention to the structure and mannerisms of the breed. They are incredibly lifelike in posture. Several scenes are very endearing and many readers will recognize a few heartwarming, Greyhound-only looks.

The two stories are written from the perspective of Greyhound adoption. In fact, the setting, Forever Home Kennels, is where much of the action takes place. In general ways, the reader learns about the business of running an adoption kennel and how it is often a labor of love. Children who are able to read independently should be able to understand the messages portrayed; younger children may need explanations.

Greyhound Love represents more than just children's books. *Greyhound Love* is the realization of Polly Homberger's dream. In 1999, Polly and her husband Gary

adopted their first Greyhound. Polly wanted to give back to the Greyhounds in some way and decided to use her talents as an artist to raise money for Greyhound adoption. Her sketches grew into Greyhound Love Collectibles (www.greyhoundlove.com) and a large portion of the proceeds from the sale of her artwork is donated to Greyhound causes.

Polly enjoys taking her dogs to school and reading to the children. Seeing how much the children love both the dogs and the stories, Polly was inspired to develop a children's book about Greyhounds, and Greyhound Love Publications was off and running. Through collaboration with others who share Polly's passion, Greyhound Love Publications is now publishing its third book and has several more in the works. ■

Mary Bauer is CG adoptions editor.



Hazel and Benson. Alanna Doonan

Focus on Florida Adoption Efforts

In late May of this year, investigators found the remains of as many as two thousand animals, including hundreds of racing Greyhounds, on the Lillian, Alabama property of Robert Rhodes. Florida officials were investigating allegations of improper destruction of Greyhounds from Pensacola Greyhound Park, just across the bay from Lillian. Rhodes, 68, told authorities that he has been shooting and burying Greyhounds at a charge of \$10.00 per animal for more than forty years. He was arrested and charged with three counts of felony animal cruelty. He may face additional charges.

The Rhodes case has sparked outrage from Greyhound lovers of all political persuasions. Moreover, the case has focused national attention on the need to support Greyhound adoption efforts nationwide and particularly in Florida, where more dogs are bred and raced than local adoption volunteers can place.

Greyhound Pets of America Announces New Adoption Initiative

Greyhound Pets of America (GPA), America's largest Greyhound adoption organization, has developed a program aimed at ending unnecessary Greyhound deaths by the year 2007. The program was in development prior to the discovery of the Rhodes situation and has accelerated in response to it. The program includes the following:

1. Designation of a National Greyhound Coordinator to manage distribution of retired Greyhounds on a national level. When the supply of Greyhounds exceeds the placement capacity of local adoption groups, the Coordinator will work with trainers, owners, and tracks to find other resources. The Coordinator will find groups to take the Greyhounds and arrange for

transportation. The first National Greyhound Coordinator is Rory S. Goreé, President of GPA-Arizona and newly elected President of GPA National.

2. Establishment of the GREAT (Greyhound Relocation Effort Assistance Team) line, a resource for persons with Greyhounds in need of placement. This toll-free telephone number will be monitored seven days a week.

3. Identification of Local Regional Coordinators for areas of particular need. In the Pensacola, Florida area, the new regional representatives are Renea Windley and Skip Bollens. Windley is Vice President of GPA-Emerald Coast Greyhound Adoption. Bollens is the Training Director for the same organization. They will work with trainers, owners, tracks, and Greyhound adoption programs in their area, defining needs,

working to meet financial requirements and coordinating Greyhound movement on the local level.

At the GPA National Convention in Las Vegas in July, Gary Guccione, executive director of the National Greyhound Association, presented a check for \$20,000 to GPA on behalf of the American Greyhound Track Operators Association (AGTOA) in support of GPA's new program. Earlier in 2002, AGTOA made a similar grant to GPA of proceeds from their National Greyhound Night of Stars, a charity event to benefit Greyhound adoption.

GPA's program will ensure that every possible effort is made to find a loving, caring home for each and every Greyhound. For more information, please contact GPA President Rory Goreé at (602) 510-6951.



Cody, adopted by Lee and Jan Robinson from The Greyhound Gang.

Helping the Greyhounds of the Florida Panhandle

The sparsely-populated Florida panhandle region is home to a number of breeding farms and racetracks that soon will be closing for the season. In "Twenty-One Dogs, Three Days: A Rescue Haul" (Spring 2002 *CG*), Pam Davis described how she and Melinda Eigenmann quickly organized a movement of dogs from one of the tracks in rural North Florida. In the year since the events that prompted the article, Davis and Eigenmann have become adoption representatives for a new Tallahassee branch of GPA-Atlanta/Southeastern Greyhound Adoption, and shipments of dogs such as the one Davis described in her article have become more frequent. However, much more help is needed. Davis explains:

"Currently, Jefferson County Kennel Club (JCKC) in Monticello, Florida is scheduled to close on October 31 for two months. Ebro Greyhound Park in Ebro, Florida is scheduled to close on November 30 for two months. The seasonal closings at these tracks are very different from seasonal closings elsewhere. Greyhounds at JCKC and Ebro will not relocate to race at other tracks during the break. Some dogs

will be held over, fed, and cared for in the racing kennels until the 2003 season begins. But because the payouts are low at these tracks, kennel operators often struggle to make financial ends meet. They simply cannot afford to hold all the dogs over to the beginning of the next racing season. Trainers must choose which dogs are running well enough to hold over. Many of those not making the cut will be available for adoption. Trainers at both tracks have already begun to decide which dogs to hold over and are looking to move many dogs into adoption. We are making every effort to keep moving dogs out of both tracks every month.

"It is impossible to accurately estimate the number of Greyhounds that will need to go into adoption programs at the closings. Our current plans will not account for all of them, but we would like to help with as many as possible.

"We are in the early stages of planning to transport as many JCKC and Ebro dogs as we can into adoption groups in states in the Midwest and East where there are no tracks. We plan to send hauls of 40-46 dogs Northbound along at least two different routes: Route #1 will run through South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland,

Washington DC, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Ohio. Route #2 will run through Georgia, Tennessee, Kentucky, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, and Missouri.

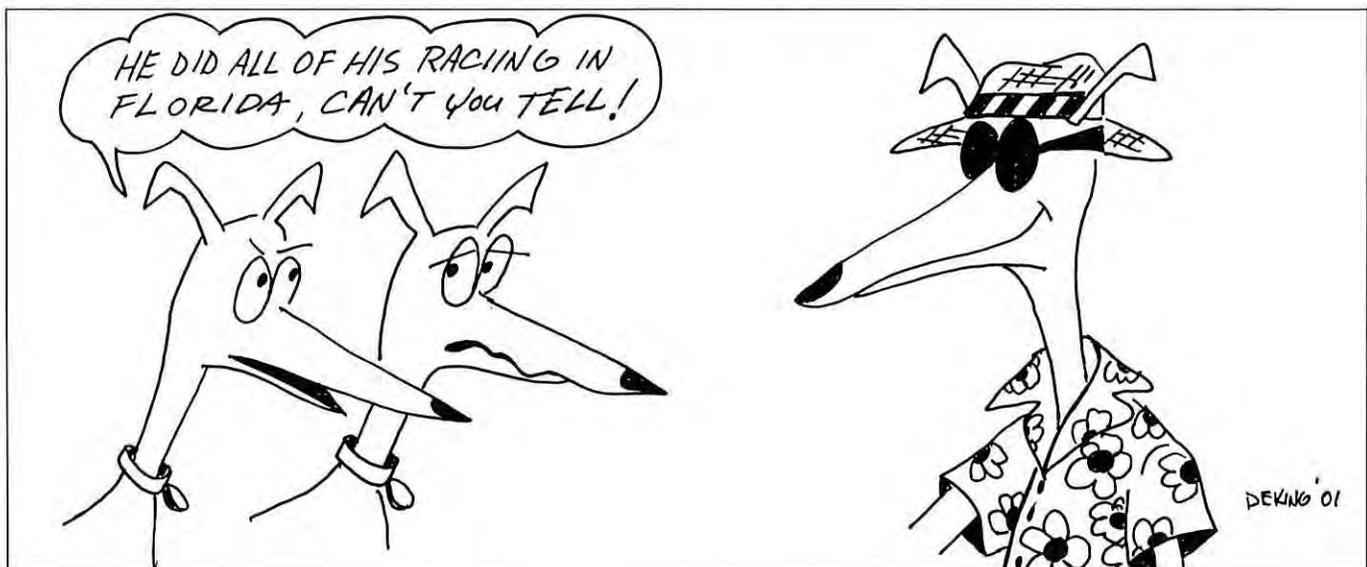
"We need your help to make this happen. Specifically:

1. *We need adoption groups willing to take dogs.* If your adoption group is located in any of the states listed above and can accept dogs in November, December or January, please contact SEGA/Tallahassee at (850) 561-4393 or PanhandleDogs@aol.com

2. *We need money to pay to move the dogs.* A donation of \$60.00 will pay for the haul of one Greyhound from JCKC or Ebro. A donation of \$2,760.00 will pay the entire cost of one full haul." If you wish to contribute to this effort, send your donation to SEGA/Tallahassee, c/o Pam Davis, 1578 Gainey Road, Cairo, GA 31728 or make your donation online via PayPal at www.greyhoundadoption.org

Health Concerns Put Gilley Girls on Hiatus

The Gilley Girls Dancing Greyhounds Drill Team will not be traveling until at least November-December 2002, while Gil Gilley undergoes treatment for cancer.





Sparkle. Marcia Herman

Kathleen Gilley writes: "Here is what you can do that would help us to continue to make a difference, even though we are 'prisoners' of the big 'C' for the time being. Greyhound Pets of America-Central Florida is trying to purchase a Greyhound hauler to deliver Greyhounds all over the country. It will cost \$34,000.00. They have raised almost \$15,000.00. Every year they haul an estimated 700 Greyhounds up the eastern seaboard and through parts of the Midwest. Now they are helping GPA-Daytona so the figures will be even higher. If you would make a donation to their hauler fund in Gil's name, that would be wonderful to us. (Beauty and Mist, two of the Gilley Girls, came from Central Florida.) Do you realize that a single, tax-deductible donation from you could get more than 700 Greyhounds into homes every year? Please send a contribution, marked for their hauler, to: GPA Central Florida, 3525 Manassas Ave., Melbourne, FL 32934."

For more information, contact Dennis Tyler at cfgpa@digital.net or (321) 242-9010.

Dancing Greyhounds Video Available

If you have never seen the Gilley Girls Dancing Greyhounds in action, this is your chance. A high-quality videotape of The Girls, produced by GPA/OC-Greater Los Angeles, is available for purchase. For more information, contact Tammy Brookhart, 14003 Gladeside Drive, La Mirada, California 90637 (562-802-0937; measheba@aol.com).

Whether you use the tape for your own viewing pleasure or as an adjunct to meet-and-greets or other events, you and the general public will see just how smart, funny, and responsive Greyhounds can be.

CG Wants Your Newsletter!

One of the best sources of story ideas for *Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine* is your local Greyhound adoption group's newsletter. If you see a story that you wish to bring to our attention, please send it to *CG Magazine*...or consider putting *CG* on your newsletter mailing list.

Please send your newsletters, articles, and story ideas to Cindy Hanson, Editor-in-Chief, *Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine*, PO Box 120048, Saint Paul, MN 55112 or editor@adopt-a-greyhound.org

For more information about writing an article for *CG*, please visit the FAQ section of our website (www.adopt-a-greyhound.org/cgmagazine).

Free CG to Adopters of Senior or Special Needs Greyhounds

Do you know someone who has adopted a special needs Greyhound? If so, tell this Greyhound lover that he or she is eligible to receive a free copy of *CG Magazine*. All the adopter needs to do is send a note to the Editor (see previous news item). The note should include a description of that special needs Greyhound and a mailing address.

(The special needs Greyhound is one who is at least seven years old or one of any age who has a special medical problem.)

Are You Moving? Need to Renew?

Don't miss an issue of *CG Magazine*! Send your changes of address and subscription renewals well in advance of your move or expiration date to: *CG Magazine*, Attn: Subscriptions, PO Box 358, Marblehead, MA 01945-0358.

New to CG Website — Subscription On Line

CG's new website now accepts subscription orders via PayPal! Go to www.adopt-a-greyhound.org/cgmagazine for answers to your questions about subscriptions, advertising, purchasing back copies, submitting material for publication, and requesting donations of subscriptions and single copies for your next fundraising event.

Correction

Joan Belle Isle's article, "In the Beginning: A History of Greyhound Adoption," was omitted from the Features section of the Table of Contents for Summer 2002 *CG*. ■



Betsy.

hero hound

By Pat Mehaffey and
Barbara Draa

Alice and Juliet, Guardian Angels



Alice, now known as Impala. Steven Martin and Mary Ann Walters

My Friend Alice

By Pat Mehaffey

To say she is fun to be with and amusing is an understatement. We are a team. My every thought of the day ahead is for us: Let's see, a run at the tennis court would be fun for her. I watch and think, "Wish I could do that." Other people and dogs stop to watch this beautiful animal who is like a trained dancer, exhibiting speed, grace, and agility. She must have been something on a track. She is a very beautiful dog whose only thoughts are to make me happy and to make me feel loved.

She also took on the big job of making sure I take care of myself. My health is poor; total renal failure, heart problems and emphysema. I need special care when one of these conditions flares up. Alice sleeps with her head next to my heart and will call someone for help if my heartbeat is irregular. By running downstairs and barking frantically when I was having a major attack, she alerted my housemates so they could call 911. She has saved my life in this manner — twice.

The doctors know what a special dog she is. They have said perhaps because of her caring and the special things she does, my life is better. I can only say that without her, there would be no need for me to plan a party for her dog friends or to get her a new raincoat, scarf, or hat. (She is quite the fashion plate.)

If you ever see a beautiful brindle wearing a maroon collar and leash being walked by a middle-aged woman, it's probably Alice and me. Stop and talk a while. We would love to tell you some of her stories.

Sadly, a time came when even Alice's best efforts were not enough. Pat passed away in February. The day before her owner's death, 4-year old Alice experienced a heart attack herself. She survived, but not without scarring to her heart tissue that will affect her in coming years.

She spent some time in the Greyhound Adoption Service kennel and was adopted in May by Mary Ann Walters and Steven Martin of Woodstock, N.H. Mary Ann and Steven call her Impala, since her racing name was M's Impala. Mary Ann wrote: Impala has been very healing for us and for our ten-and-a-half year old Greyhound, Two Times. We lost our second Greyhound, Tiger, to osteosarcoma on March 8. The house was pretty quiet without Tiger, and Two Times missed his buddy. But Impala has brought happiness to the house again.

Two Times has perked right up and gets along just great with Impala. She is a big sweetie, very loving and fun, and so intelligent. Her health problems are not a problem for us, and she seems to be getting stronger with daily exercise.

Impala needed a new family, and we needed another Greyhound. We are taking care of each other now. Perhaps Pat and Tiger are taking care of each other, too.

Juliet, the Miracle Pet

By Barbara Draa

In the years since my husband and I began fostering for Greyhound Options



Juliet, with Peggy and her granddaughter. Claire Sygiel Photography

(Ware, Mass.), we have seen many foster dogs come and go, but some are more memorable than others.

Like the lovely Juliet. She was so beautiful, and maybe just a little too joyous as

she had only half of her original tail! The mother of a friend of mine adopted her. My friend told me that her mother, Peggy, adopted Juliet because she wanted a dog for herself. Juliet — sweet, spirited, and

with a mind of her own — had another idea. Juliet adopted Peggy's husband. He had serious respiratory problems. Juliet decided that she was his protector. She insisted on always being by his side at night. When his breathing became irregular, she nudged him gently until it returned to normal. She stayed near him on the stairs and, if he began to lose his balance, she leaned against him until he could move safely. The whole family treasured Juliet's careful attention to him.

Juliet couldn't guard him forever. I recently heard of his passing. I am certain he went more gently into that good night because of Juliet. ■

Pat Mehaffey lived in Newburyport, Mass. A portion of her story first appeared in Grey Times News (Spring 2002), the newsletter of Greyhound Adoption Service, Inc. in Salisbury, Mass. Grateful thanks to Marilyn Wolkovits and Mary Ann Walters for their assistance with this article.

Barbara Draa lives in Pittsburgh, Pa. with her husband Mark, twin sons Robert and Brian, and Greyhounds Oscar and Pandora. The Draas foster for Going Home Greyhounds.



Jammin' Jerome.



Kid, Willow, and Cassie. Judith S. Stroup

Making Paper with Greyhound Hair

By following these instructions, you can send a little bit of your Greyhound with every greeting card you post to friends and family. Making your own paper is a messy, but very inexpensive and relatively quick project. In just a few hours you can whip up several dozen cards or sheets of paper.

Materials Needed

- Scrap paper (for example, old computer paper, unused toilet paper, junk mail, or tissue paper)
- Hair from your favorite hound
- Blender
- Large bowl or pitcher (to hold paper pulp)
- Large tub that holds water
- Lots of paper towels or squares of felt or cotton
- Deckle (a wooden contraption with two rectangles, one of which is covered in screen)
- Rolling pin
- Optional: Liquid starch (makes paper easier to write on and less likely to bleed ink from pens)

What's a Deckle?

A deckle will be used to scoop up the paper pulp and let the water drain through. This will shape your paper, giving it the dimension and straight edges you desire. Traditionally, a deckle is made from two rectangles of wood, one covered with window screening, and hinged on one side (as shown). However, you can quickly make an improvised deckle out of two picture frames that are the same size, or even one picture frame and a pair of nylon hose stretched over a bent wire coat hanger.

Step 1: Prepare the Pulp (With Hair)

Tear scrap paper into small squares no larger than one inch. The color of the scrap



Use a deckle to scoop up the pulp and shape your paper.



When you have a layer of pulp on the screen, raise the deckle and let the water drain.

paper will be the color of the final paper. So, to highlight the hairs of a non-white hound, you may opt to use only white paper scraps. That way you will end up with white paper with colored hound hairs.

Soak these in a bowl of water for at least one hour. Fill a blender one-third full with

the wet paper scraps and add water to fill to two-thirds full. You may wish to add two capfuls of liquid starch to the mixture. This will make your paper easier to write on and more resistant to bleeding from felt-tip pens.

Turn on the blender and run it at the highest speed until the mixture develops a pulpy

consistency. Add hair as desired and blend a little more on the lowest speed. Pour this pulp into a bowl. Continue to make pulp until you have used up all your soaking paper scraps.

Step 2: Screen the Paper

Pour some of your paper pulp and hair mixture into a large tub of water. Some of it will sink and some of it will swirl around and float. This is normal.

Swish the water to disperse the paper pulp, then grab your deckle and slide it into the water. Move the deckle gently to the bottom of the tub, continually agitating the water and pulp. Slowly lift the deckle. The pulp will collect on the screen in a thin layer. Agitate the deckle from side to side if the paper pulp is unevenly distributed. If there is not enough pulp on the screen to form a full sheet of paper, add more pulp to your large tub. It may take several tries before you achieve the evenly distributed layer of pulp you want. You can dump the pulp back in as many times as desired and re-screen the paper.

Once you have a layer of pulp on the screen, raise the deckle and let the water drain. Remove the deckle completely from the tub of water.

Step 3: Remove Paper From Deckle

This is the point where the hinge on your deckle comes into play. Carefully open the deckle. Place a paper towel or piece of felt or cotton on top of the paper. Flip the entire deckle over and lay the unit on a table or a flat surface. Gently press the back of the screen with another paper towel or piece of felt or cotton to remove as much water as possible.

You will notice that the word *gently* is used repeatedly in this section. That is no accident. Gently lift the deckle from the paper, being careful not to tear the paper. After you remove the deckle, place another paper towel or piece of felt or cotton on top



Gently remove the paper from the deckle.

of the paper. You will be placing your next piece of paper directly on this stack.

If you would like thin paper with less texture, give the sandwich of paper towels and paper a quick pass with a rolling pin to press the stack and remove even more water. If you would like paper with more texture, skip the rolling pin.

Step 4: Continue Making Sheets

Continue adding pulp and swishing your deckle up through the water to make sheets of paper. Add each new sheet to your stack of paper towels and paper. The stack should not exceed about five to 10 high, so you may need to start a new stack occasionally.

Stop making paper when you no longer have enough pulp to form a thick enough sheet in your deckle.

Step 5: Separate and Dry Your Paper

For paper with more texture, let the stacks of paper towels and paper dry for an hour or so. Then separate the sheets of paper from the paper towels and spread them around on tables to finish drying completely. For flatter paper that takes ink better, separate each sheet of paper, then sandwich it

between two new, dry pieces of fabric and iron until dry.

Use your paper as you would any art paper. Fold it to make cards. Use the sheets as stationery. Cut it for use in collages or other art projects.

Tips

Tip 1: While still in the blender, you can add items other than Greyhound hair to the mixture for interesting effects. Old pot-pourri can add natural texture, flecks of color, and a pleasing scent. Bits of yarn or thread can add color and texture to your paper as well.

Tip 2: You can add a watermark to your paper by gluing a three-dimensional object to your deckle screen or writing with puffy paint on your deckle screen. This will leave a slightly indented section in your paper that is visible when held to the light.

Tip 3: Your paper will take on some of the texture of your paper towels or felt or cotton squares. For a linen look, use old pillowcases or a cut-up sheet. For a smoother texture, use the felt squares. ■

By Nancy Beach

The Pill and the Patch

Narcotic Pain Relievers for Your Greyhound

The old Greyhound hurts — a lot. Normally, it is hard to tell when he is in pain; the classic stoic Greyhound, he does not want to let the world know that he is no longer the strong one. But the pain has become so bad that whenever he moves, he cries. His owners gently carry him to the car for the trip to the vet. During his visit, he receives an injection. His people receive a bottle of pills, with instructions on when and how to give them. When the old one comes home, he lies down on his bed and falls into a deep sleep. His people are glad to see that he is getting a respite from his ordeal. They hope the painkillers will help him relax, perhaps give him a chance to heal. Over the next few days, the pills are given as often as they can be and the old one, while still moving gingerly, is clearly feeling better.

The middle-aged Greyhound has always acted like a pup. Even though his muzzle is going white, he still runs around the yard with joyous abandon — until one day when he pulls up short. He is lame. His trip to the vet results in the worst possible diagnosis — bone cancer. His people decide to treat the cancer; this hound is so full of life, they cannot believe it is time to cut it short. When he returns home from his amputation surgery, he sports a small white patch on his upper back. Medication in the patch will control his pain and keep him comfortable for several days.

In both of these instances, the pain relievers are narcotics. The term *narcotic* comes from an ancient Greek word meaning “to numb.” It refers to opium and opium derivatives or their man-made substitutes. (Opium is a naturally occurring substance, extracted from the seedpod of the poppy flower.) The use of this class of drugs dates back hundreds of years, with the first recorded use being in the 3rd century B.C.



Many Greyhounds are stoic and will not let you know when they are in pain. First Notion, adopted by Jon and Amy Oaks through Dairyland Greyhound Park.

Among the narcotic drugs commonly used by humans for pain relief are morphine, codeine, and meperidine (Demerol®). Since many of these drugs can be addictive, they are generally reserved for use with severe pain and are usually prescribed for short periods of time.

A variety of narcotic medications are used in veterinary medicine. Many of them are injectables, used in a hospital setting to relieve pain, provide sedation prior to anesthesia, induce vomiting, and even to counteract the effects of other narcotics. It is not the intention of this article to discuss every type of narcotic medication available for use in animals, but to describe those that might be prescribed for pain relief in a home setting. Understanding how these medications work, their possible side effects, and

precautions for use can prevent accidental overdose and help the Greyhound owner know what to expect when using these medications.

How Do Narcotic Pain Relievers Work?

Narcotic pain relievers act at specific sites in the brain and spinal cord to block release of pain transmitters and to inhibit pain signals. They can also find receptive sites in the limbic system of the brain, where emotions and memory are regulated. They can stimulate this area, promoting a feeling of well-being or euphoria. Human patients who receive narcotics often describe being able to perceive pain, but not caring about it as much as they did before the drug took effect. Narcotics tend to be more effective against continuous dull pain than sharp, intermittent pain.

At present, there are limited choices when it comes to narcotic medications that can be given at home. Many narcotics that provide strong pain relief also tend to have potential for abuse by humans. Some of them are not well absorbed when given by mouth. Research on methods of delivering these medications in a safe and effective manner is ongoing. (Though focused on human patients, this research does have a trickle-down effect to animals.) We will discuss an "old standby" oral medication and a newer one that holds great promise in the field of pain relief for pets.

The Pill

The pills received by the old Greyhound at the beginning of this article were butorphanol tartrate (Torbutrol®, Fort Dodge). A synthetic compound, it is approved for use in dogs as a cough suppressant due to its ability to quiet the cough reflex. Pain relief is also a very common use. Because of the receptors to which it tends to bind, butorphanol's potential for abuse is lower than that of other narcotic medications. It also has a wider margin of safety in dosing than many other drugs of its type. Due to its short duration of action, however, and the fact that it is not particularly well-absorbed by the body, if given orally it needs to be done fairly frequently in order to attain a satisfactory level of pain relief. Often a pet in pain will receive an injection of butorphanol prior to being sent home from the veterinary clinic, since an injection provides faster and greater relief. The injectable medication tends to make Greyhounds quite groggy, so don't be surprised if your hound sleeps for quite a while after receiving an injection. Butorphanol tablets tend to be much less sedating.

Other possible side effects are wobbly gait, lack of interest in food, and, rarely, diarrhea. Overdose with butorphanol is unlikely in a home setting, but if an accident occurs, possible signs are respiratory and central

nervous system depression. It is possible to reverse the effects of butorphanol using another opiate derivative called naloxone hydrochloride, a fast-acting injectable medication. Butorphanol should be used with great caution in dogs that are old or very ill, or who have liver disease, hypothyroidism, kidney disease, Addison's disease, or head injuries.

The typical dose is .5 to 1 mg per kg of body weight every 6 to 8 hours (a kilogram is 2.2 pounds). The old Greyhound mentioned here received a 10 mg tablet every 6 hours.

The Patch

A newer development in pain relief for pets is the Fentanyl patch (Duragesic®, Janssen). Fentanyl, a synthetic drug, is a very powerful pain reliever, with an analgesic potency 100 times that of morphine. The patch was developed as a way to safely deliver this medication in a setting outside the hospital.

The small square patch contains an adhesive coating that sticks to skin. The drug is embedded in a thin layer of gel inside the patch. As the skin warms the gel, the patch releases a steady stream of medication for up to 104 hours.

The patch is used on humans and pets. On animals, the hair on the site where the patch is to be placed is clipped very close and the area cleaned. It is usually placed on the neck or high up on the side, close to the spine, to ensure that the patch cannot be licked or chewed. A collar cannot be placed over the patch, so most dogs have theirs applied on the upper body.

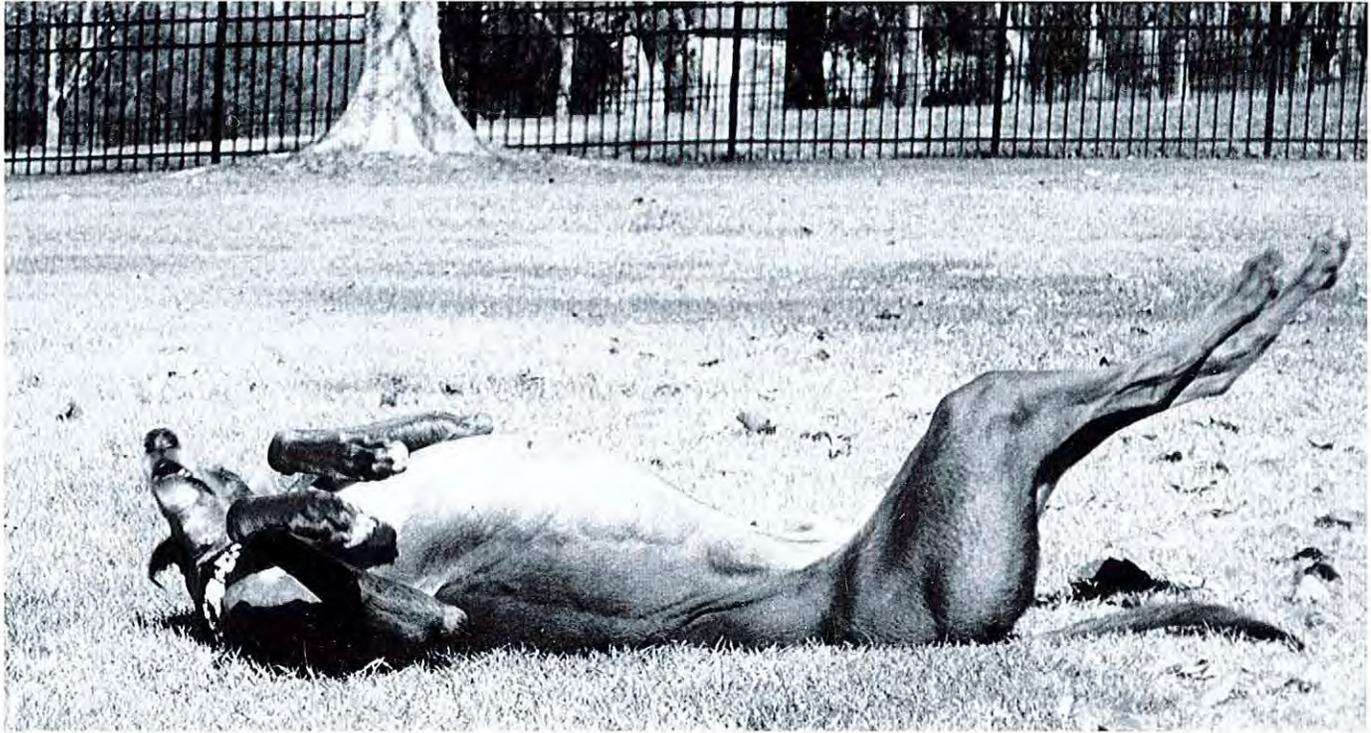
If the patch is to be used for post-surgical pain, it should be applied 12 to 24 hours before the surgery in order to allow the medication to reach effective levels in the bloodstream. It is also possible to provide pain relief through injectable medications first, then apply the patch. The amount of time it takes for this medication to reach effective levels varies by patient.



A pain-free Greyhound is a happy Greyhound. Anna Rule, adopted by Greg, Dee, and Alli Martin.

When the middle-aged hound mentioned in this article received his patch, his owners wrote the date and time of application on the edge of the patch itself, so they could acquire a new patch when the old one ran out. If a new patch is unnecessary, the veterinary clinic should provide instructions for safe disposal of the used patch. The patch should never be cut in half, nor should it be put where animals or children could accidentally come in contact with it. Some veterinarians ask that used patches be returned to them for safe disposal.

Possible side effects of the patch include urine retention, constipation, restlessness and whining, a rash at the site of application, and changes in the color and texture of hair



Oshkosh Vinnie, adopted by Sharron Lane and Susan Drye from Thunderbird Kennel.

regrowth at the site. More serious side effects such as respiratory depression and slow heart rate can also occur, but are not common. Fentanyl patches should be used with extreme caution in old or very ill pets, or those with respiratory problems.

It is important to monitor your Greyhound's temperature and sleeping spots when he is wearing a patch. Sleeping on something warm, such as a heating grate, or having an elevated temperature can cause the medication in the patch to release too quickly, possibly causing an overdose. Care must also be taken to prevent the Greyhound or any other pet from chewing or licking the patch. In overdose cases, symptoms may include profound respiratory and central nervous system depression, heart failure, tremors, neck rigidity, and seizures. A prompt injection of naloxone hydrochloride can reverse the effects of overdose.

The typical dose for a 20 to 30 kg dog (44-66 lbs) is the 7.5 mg patch, which

releases 75 micrograms of medication per hour. Larger dogs would receive a 10 mg patch that releases 100 micrograms per hour. The middle-aged Greyhound in this article weighed 61 lbs after his surgery and received the 7.5 mg patch. He had no side effects, and the hair at the site of the patch grew back normally, though very slowly.

Research on pain in humans shows that recovery from illness and surgery is faster with effective pain management. Furthermore, it is more effective to prevent pain than it is to treat it once it occurs. Several veterinary organizations, including the American College of Veterinary Anesthesiologists and the American Veterinary Medical Association, have issued position papers regarding the importance of the treatment of pain in animals. Significant advances have been made in the last 10 years regarding the recognition and treatment of pain in both humans and animals. Greyhound owners should never hesitate to insist on pain relief

if they believe it necessary for the health and welfare of their hounds. ■

Nancy Beach is a CG regular contributor.

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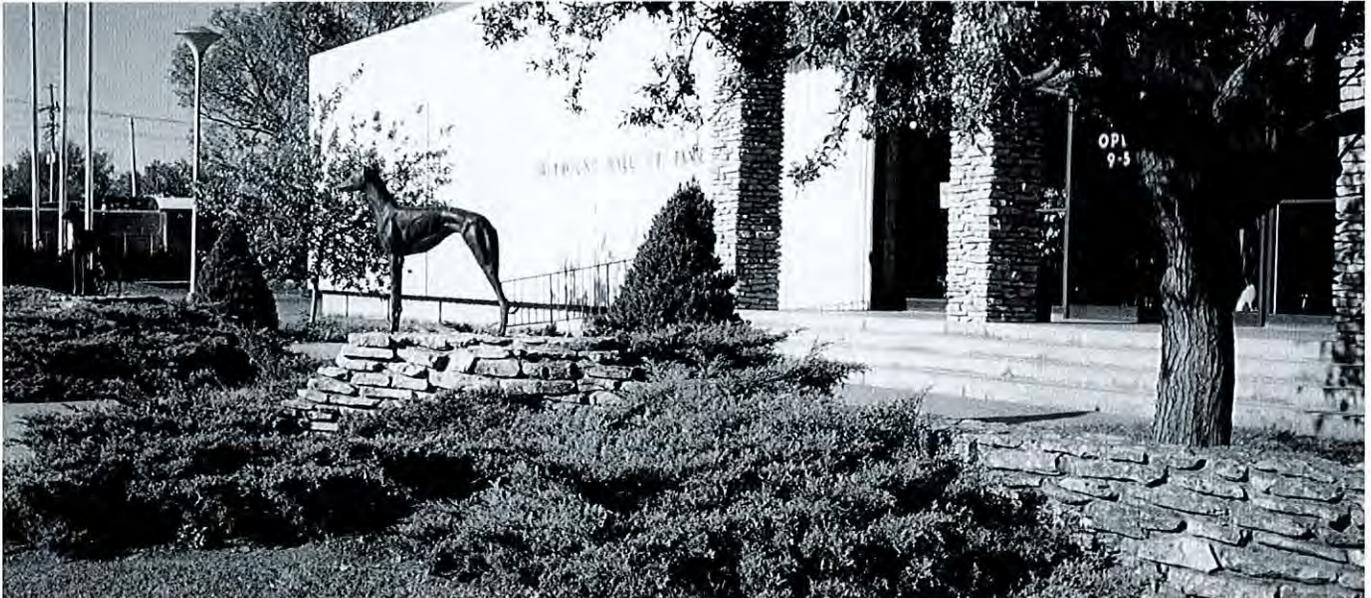
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Road to the Greyhound Hall of Fame



Greyhound Hall of Fame. Cindy Hanson

In each issue of *CG*, the Hall of Fame feature consists of a short biography of a Greyhound who has been inducted into the Greyhound Hall of Fame. Have you ever wondered how these dogs are selected? Have you ever wished that your favorite Greyhound could be inducted into the Hall of Fame? Here are some answers to your questions.

The Greyhounds are chosen on the basis of their contributions and how they may have raised the standards of excellence during their lives. They may have set numerous track records and attained outstanding racing titles. They may have contributed as outstanding stud dogs or brood bitches. They may have contributed both as racers and as sires or dams. In most cases, these are the dogs that you see in a great number of pedigrees, either because they won many titles or they produced the winners of many titles. No Greyhound may be nominated until it is at least 8 years old. This

means that no dog currently racing may be nominated, and a dog nominated for its qualities as a sire or dam will have several pups that have proven their potential. Most of the dogs nominated as producers are long dead before that happens as not only their offspring, but another generation or two has usually proven itself first.

Anyone can nominate a dog — or per-

The Greyhounds are chosen on the basis of their contributions and how they may have raised the standards of excellence during their lives.

son — to the Hall of Fame. (There is a section of the Hall of Fame for people, too.) I had the pleasure of nominating a dog who was elected to the Hall of Fame a couple years ago. I research pedigrees on retired

racing Greyhounds. I continually found the same Irish dog cropping up in pedigrees. In fact, I don't think I've found a single pedigree where he doesn't show up somewhere. The only other dog that I'd found as often was Tell You Why*. Yet my nominee, Hi There, was not in the Hall of Fame. I did some additional research and found that Hi There was a top racing dog who suffered a career-ending injury before reaching the heights that he might have attained. He was retired to stud. Before long, he was producing outstanding pups that had major influences in the U.S. I traced his pedigree and his pups' careers and concluded that he was indeed worthy of membership in the Hall Of Fame.

I spoke to Gary Guccioni and Tim Horan of the National Greyhound Association (NGA) and some of the other racing people when I was in Abilene at the annual Gathering. I came home prepared to nominate Hi There to the Hall of Fame. I traced



Wheatie and Missy, adopted by Lisa Sharpe from Carolina Greyhound Adoptions.

Hi There's career and his influence in the U.S. and sent a letter of nomination to the Hall of Fame. I enclosed a pedigree of Hi There plus a decendency.

At the Hall of Fame, the Board of Directors studied the nomination. The Board must unanimously vote to put the dog on a ballot for selection. They decided that Hi There was worthy of consideration. Next, the Board forwarded my nomination of Hi There to a panel of 32 members of the NGA who sat on the Selections Committee. To become a member of the Hall of Fame, a dog must gain the vote of 24 or more of the 32 members of the committee. Voting occurs during the summer after the Board of Directors completes its examination during the Spring Meet in Abilene. After the Nominations Committee has voted, the dog is inducted into the Hall of Fame during the Fall Meet in October. If a dog is not voted into the Hall of Fame on the first bal-

lot, he receives a second chance the following year. After that, he must be renominated and go through the entire process once more.

I am proud to say that there was no hesitation in electing Hi There to the Hall of Fame. I was vastly disappointed that I could not be there in person to see Hi There inducted. People came from as far as Ireland to honor this great dog, and I would have loved to have met the people who honored him so much.

If you are interested in nominating an outstanding Greyhound to the Hall of Fame, do your homework. Know the background of that dog: the races he won, the titles he achieved (such as nomination to the All-American Team for a certain year), and his accomplishments as a stud dog or brood bitch. Few brood bitches have become members of this prestigious honor by way of their pups; but it does happen,

as Kinto Nebo illustrates ("Kinto Nebo – Poor Racer, Good Mom," Winter 1999 *CG*).

I had fun doing the research and accomplishing the goal of special recognition for Hi There. I hope to do it again for a few dogs that have proven, historically, that they are worthy of this honor. Meanwhile, I enjoy writing about the Hall of Fame dogs and giving *CG* readers a glimpse of the very special dogs who may be the ancestors of the couch potato at your side. Hall of Fame dogs are the elite of racing. Induction into the Hall of Fame is the way in which the racing people honor the athletes that they live with and highly respect.

Be sure to visit the Greyhound Hall of Fame the next time you are in Abilene, Kansas. It is definitely worth your time. ■

Laurel E. Drew is a CG regular contributor.

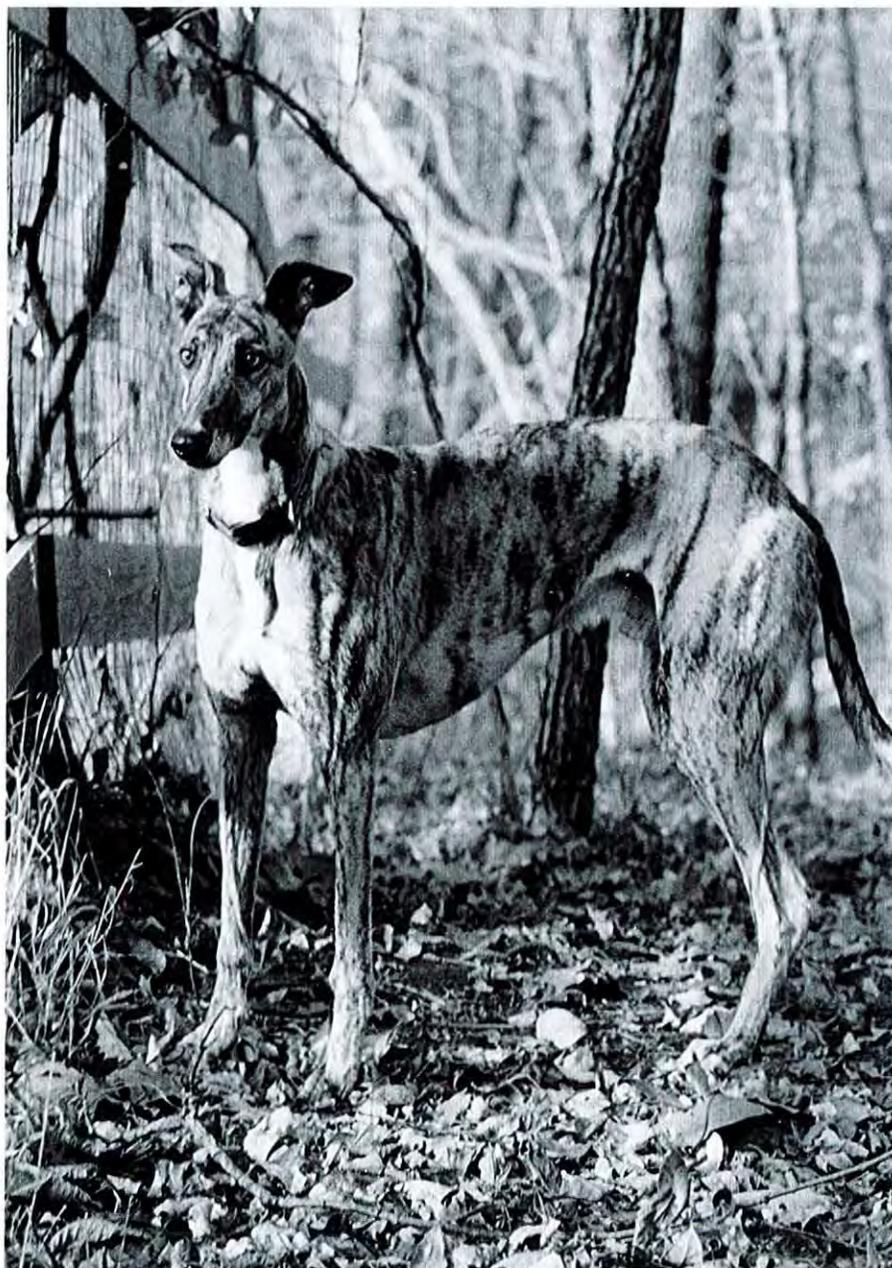
Greyhound-L: The Greyhound List

Where were you during the brisk, cooling days of October, 1994? Did you own a Greyhound? Had you considered adopting a Greyhound? Did you own a personal computer? Those were the heady days of the Internet's infancy. For users, the Internet was a superhighway with no roadmap to follow. In 1994, the newsgroup *rec.pets.dogs* was the center of all things *dog* on the Internet. It required the reader to scroll through a thousand daily posts searching for information relating to a particular breed of interest.

If you hung around *rec.pets.dogs*, and you were interested in Greyhounds, you soon met Sharon Toolan and Bob Brady. They were the official Greyhound ambassadors, answering all of the Greyhound questions and inquiries. As the ranks of Greyhound lovers grew, Steve Mosenson had a brilliant idea. Why not link all of the Greyhound people together? No more scrolling through a thousand postings to get your Greyhound fix. He proposed an e-mail list called "the Greyhound-L."

Steve opened the list for business on October 20, 1994. Within hours, Greyhound fanatics were on board. There was a certain excitement during that first year, when the list was small and every posting was a unique event.

Steve's job as a lawyer pulled him away from running the list. Before long, with 200 people on board, the list was running itself. With no list administrator to monitor and manage the discussions, things got out of control quickly. List members argued about crate use, thyroid testing, puppy adoptions, and separation anxiety. Word trickled back to the newsgroups that the Greyhound-L was a sour place to be. Cindy Moore, a dog list administrator, took on the task of reining in the list. When the



Raizor. Tim Roark

dust settled, Cindy asked me to take over as administrator of the Greyhound-L. I agreed. It was 1995.

One of the tasks involved in managing an e-mail list is deciding why the list should exist in the first place. Is the purpose of the



Penne. Linda McVey

list to provide a forum for chat about a particular topic of interest, or is there a larger purpose to the communication? From day one, my vision for the Greyhound-L has been to provide a safe place to support adopters of retired racing Greyhounds. We are here to help with any Greyhound-related problem an adopter may have. There is no question too silly to ask or be answered.

At its third birthday, the Greyhound-L was 600 members strong. Starting as a rag-tag group of Greyhound owners, it had evolved into a cohesive community. By this time, the Greyhound-L had spawned the first gathering of list members in Minnesota and the first two Dewey Beach gatherings. Pat Tyson, Martha Sherman, and Judy Dillon invited the entire list to join them for a quiet weekend anniversary celebration in Dewey Beach, Delaware. Fifty-

four list members said yes, and the Greyhounds Reach the Beach event was born. Other gatherings followed: The Cassidy Clan put on the Great Lakes Greyhound Gathering, the Abilene gathering became

From day one, my vision for the Greyhound-L has been to provide a safe place to support adopters of retired racing Greyhounds.

a yearly event, and The Greyhound Gathering in Kanab became the official "West Coast Greyhound-L" gathering in Utah.

The Greyhound-L also aided the birth of new adoption groups, non-denominational Greyhound support groups, and the Greyhound Underground Railroad. Two

Greyhounds, Flash and R.C., inspired their owners to World Wide Web greatness when Bruce Skinner developed the E-Zine *A Breed Apart*. Dan Schmidt brought us the Greyhound Adoption Web Page, now the official Greyhound Adoption Web Page of The Greyhound Project (www.adopt-a-greyhound.org).

Against strong opposition, Greyhound-L maintained an open door policy. Over the years, members have been blessed with the intelligence, wisdom, and caring of Greyhound fanciers representing a variety of perspectives, ranging from American Kennel Club and National Greyhound Association members to Greyhound welfare activists.

By 1997, the Greyhound-L had grown to 1000 members. I found myself spending upwards of eight hours a day managing the list. My husband reached his limit: "It's

the list or me," he said. As much as I loved running the list, I loved him more. I faced the daunting task of finding a co-administrator for the list. This person had to be smart, technically competent, and a strong personality. The choice was clear. Ellen Schneiderman agreed to share the load.

Today, eight years later, membership of the Greyhound-L tops 2700. We have four full-time list administrators who share the responsibility of approving posts for dispersal. We also have a subject line topic monitor who ensures that subject lines accurately reflect their posts. Members of the admin team read every post for content, monitor the comings and goings of list members, and help people set up their accounts. They handle behind-the-scenes technical issues for the list server and list member accounts. They provide personal tutorials and help for list members who need it. They monitor the battles that are waged on the list, act as referees, and sometimes play good cop/bad cop. The team is sympathetic but will administer a sharp cyber slap as needed. They do their very best to be fair, though list members who have ever had a post rejected might disagree with that assessment.

Approving posts is a no-brainer. Rejecting posts is a different story. The admin reads a post for content, then shares the problematic post with the other admins. They discuss the merits of the post and decide whether or not to send it to the list. If they decide to reject the posting, an admin will send the originator a personal note explaining why the message was rejected and what can be done to make it more acceptable. The admin team then spends the next three days arguing via e-mail with the person whose post was rejected. While the individual's right to be heard is generally respected, the team has to weigh this against the rules of the list (no flaming) and the truer and larger purpose of the list (to help keep Greyhounds placed in their adoptive homes).



Cleo. Linda Guntert

The members of the admin team do their job voluntarily, above and beyond careers and families and jobs as Greyhound Adoption Representatives. Admins do what they do out of love for the breed and in the belief that more dogs will stay placed in their adoptive homes if new owners have a resource like the Greyhound-L. The Greyhound-L is more than the sum of its parts. Its beauty and power comes from the people who choose to participate, showing us all what one or two individuals can accomplish when they set their minds and hearts to it. When it comes right down to it, the Greyhound-L is a community of individuals willing to go the extra mile to support adoption efforts.

Running the Greyhound-L is a major contribution to Greyhounds, their owners, and the adoption movement worldwide.

I'm proud of what we have accomplished together, and individually, in the last eight years. I'm proud that when the chips are down, the list members pull together to help the dogs no matter what their individual differences may be. I am proud to be a Greyhound-L member.

For more information about the Greyhound-L, how to manage your existing account, or to access adoption information and links, please visit the Greyhound-L website at www.greyhoundlist.org. If you are interested in joining the Greyhound-L, send an e-mail message to: LISTSERV@APPLE.EASE.LSOFT.COM. In the text of the message, type: SUBSCRIBE GREYHOUND-L Your Name (Please substitute your real name for "Your Name"). ■

Lynda Adame is a Greyhound-L administrator.

The Evolution of Northcoast Greyhound Support



Sophie, one of the founding Greyhounds of Northcoast Greyhound Support. Loretta Nicklaus

Support Groups: Helping Mainstream Adoption From Small-Town America!

That was the title of the article we wrote for the Summer 1998 issue of *CG Magazine* about Northcoast Greyhound Support (NCGS). In 2002, NCGS is still here in McKinleyville, California, and we are still helping Greyhounds. But a lot has happened in the last four years, and we're helping in an entirely new way.

NCGS first organized in 1993 with a handful of mostly senior Greyhounds who had been adopted from a variety of groups and shelters and moved to Humboldt County with their families. We were a small group of good friends with excellent intentions.

We promoted Greyhound adoption and referred prospective adopters to Greyhound adoption agencies. When we were asked to write an article about support groups five years after our inception, we were beginning to discover that our original enthusiasm was waning — that the larger NCGS grew (*good*), the smaller the percentage of members who participated in our events (*bad*). Sunday potluck brunches at “Schroeder’s Swamp,” with members circling lawn chairs while unleashed Greyhounds lounged at their feet, were no longer possible. Members missed the intimacy we once enjoyed and were finding other things to do on their weekends.

Begging and cajoling members through mailings and phone calls to show up for promotional events was time consuming. Our four hardcore organizers began to notice their efforts did not pay off. Our minimal mailing charges and event entry fees were handled as personal expenses. NCGS had never charged dues and had just raised \$500 with our very first fundraiser. When a jeweler volunteered to make a pendant out of our logo dog, we agreed, viewing it as an entertaining whim (and one more personal expenditure). At the same time, we began to measure our current successes against our original objectives. The results were not encouraging.

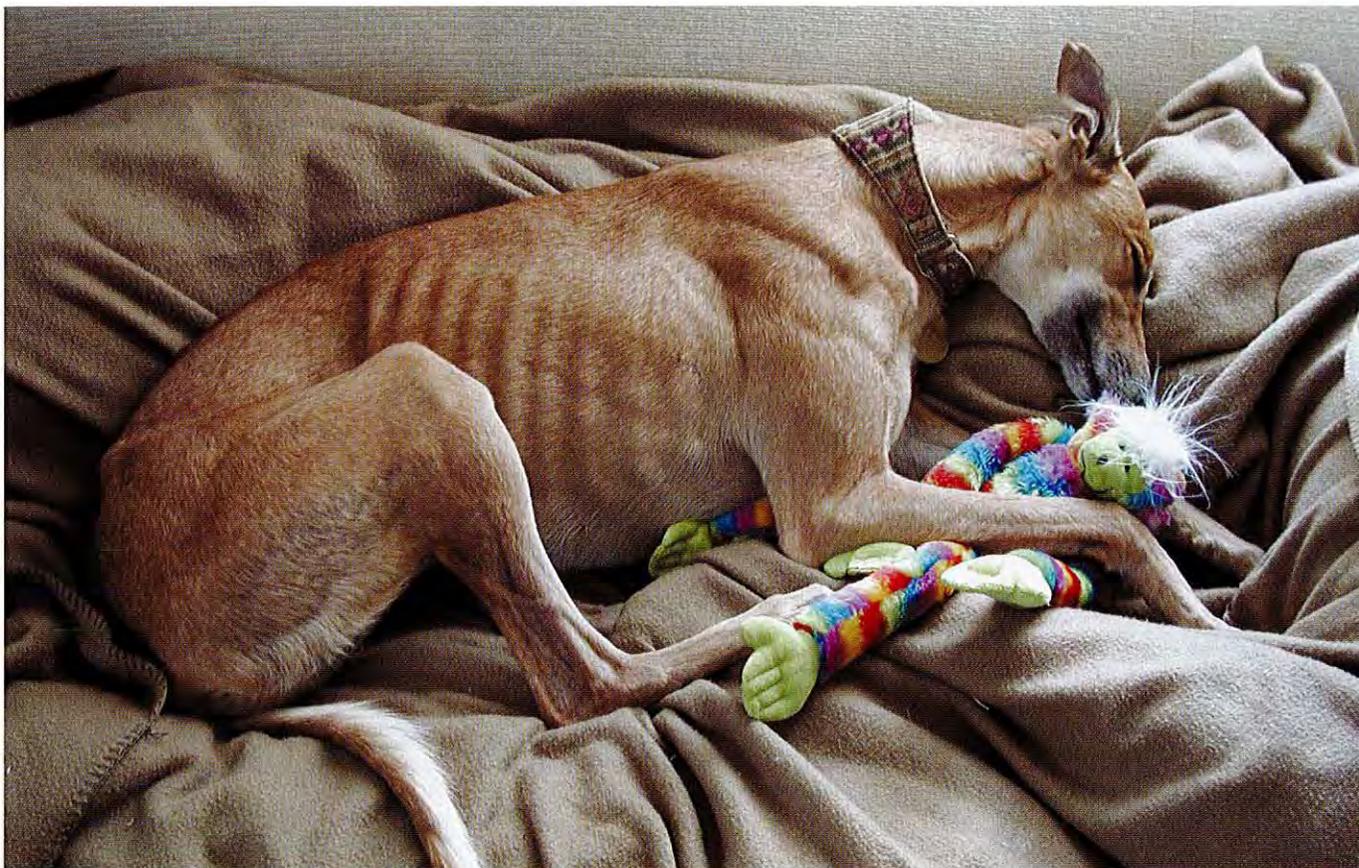
Just when we began to feel dispirited, Karen and Praveen Mutalik offered to make quarterly contributions to NCGS from The Skipper Fund, to do with as we pleased. Their offer raised our spirits and made our limited personal efforts in a remote small town feel worthwhile and appreciated. Their generosity stimulated our creative juices and allowed us to consider other possible directions. We decided to expand upon our small success with the single jewelry piece and become actual vendors.

The transformation of NCGS into a vendor was a very gradual process. Another piece of jewelry or two came first. Then we added other dog designs to our NCGS Designer Dogs line. All of these designs became the basis of garden art, jewelry, embroidered clothing, hand-cut wooden ornaments, and etched glass decorator items. We are adding to our product line all the time, and we use Humboldt County artists whenever possible.

Because the Mutaliks believed in us, we found a whole new way to help Greyhounds from the very edge of the country in a state where no racetracks exist. If we could not get dogs from the tracks or help transport them, we could generate financial support for those who do. We send money to adoption groups on the forefront of rescue, with a focus on those who deal with racetrack closures, dogs with broken legs, and senior Greyhounds. The inspiration provided by The Skipper Fund’s original quarterly investments returned \$8,500 to Greyhound causes in 2000 and \$13,000 in 2001.

We would be remiss if we did not attribute much of our success to two very generous volunteer webmasters. Phil Epler created our website (www.northcoastgreyhounds.net), where we make our goods available for purchase. When Phil announced his retirement last summer, we feared for the demise of NCGS. Since we were committed to contributing 100 percent of our profits to Greyhound adoption groups, we would not consider spending any of these dollars on web design and maintenance.

Lo and behold, another angel appeared to us in the form of a Swedish soccer player, just when we needed him — it is amazing how that seems to happen to NCGS. Charlie Fransson, who was engaged to one of our members, offered his assistance before



Sirocco cuddles a Screaming Monkey, a very popular item for NCGS. Praveen Mutalik

he even arrived in this country. At 25 years of age, Charlie has a master's degree in chemical engineering from Chalmers in Sweden and is halfway through his doctoral program in electrical engineering at Stanford. In our fall newsletter, he wrote: "Last summer I was passing through Northern California with some friends. We stopped in Arcata and I met this smashing woman at Café Tomos. It turned out I couldn't live without her so I decided to move to the States. By March we had found a house in Willow Creek, and by mid-June we were moving in with Carla's Greyhound, Cedy, and my new Greyhound, Cotati." Charlie's offer to assist with our website assured a future for NCGS.

As the public image of NCGS changed, my husband, Jerry, and I wanted to meet

e-mail friends by attending some of the Greyhound events and representing NCGS wares in person. As NCGS moved in the direction of selling Greyhound goods, our CPA helped us decide to incorporate NCGS as a business rather than as a non-profit organization. (The fact that we didn't have enough volunteers for the Board of Directors also influenced our decision.) NCGS contributes 100 percent of its profits to Greyhound groups, we avoid the original and annual cost of corporate taxes and reports, and our "vacation" trips to vend NCGS goods at Greyhound events have become tax-deductible personal expenses.

NCGS did not abandon its original intent to promote Greyhound adoption on the Northcoast. We still function as we did in the 1990s, but we are more realistic about

our expectations. The population of Humboldt County is 120,000. Much of it is rural. Our biggest city is Eureka, with 25,000 residents. A large percentage of the dogs in this area are Pit Bulls or Rottweilers, and they are most often seen in the back of a pickup truck or loose on the streets. In other words, it is not common Humboldt County behavior to allow one's dog in the house, let alone on the couch.

There is a pet store in Arcata and several more shops in Eureka, but nothing resembling a Petco or PetSmart. Instead of doing regular meet-and-greets, we participate in several different "Rescue Expos" sponsored by a feed store, a pet store, and a veterinarian. We no longer register for parades, because past participation has been poor. But the stalwarts among us walk our Greyhounds



Duncan, adopted by Rick and Susan Pinto from NJ Greyhound Adoption Program.

along parade sidelines, pockets stuffed with adoption brochures and Milk Bones for spectator dogs. We have a few members who are willing to attend events; Carol Lawrence and Tom Cockle are the most active. They share time for answering the NCGS 800 number, take over my computer when I'm away, help organize events to which we commit, and even visit with our own Greyhounds if Jerry and I leave town together. Carol is in charge of our contribution database and keeps our webmaster updated with new figures. Without Carol and Tom, NCGS would never be able to accomplish all that it does.

We continue to do whatever we can to bring Greyhounds to the attention of the local public. In March 2002, our local newspaper featured a front-page article on NCGS. (It didn't hurt that the reporter was a prospective Greyhound adopter.) However, our major support efforts have a

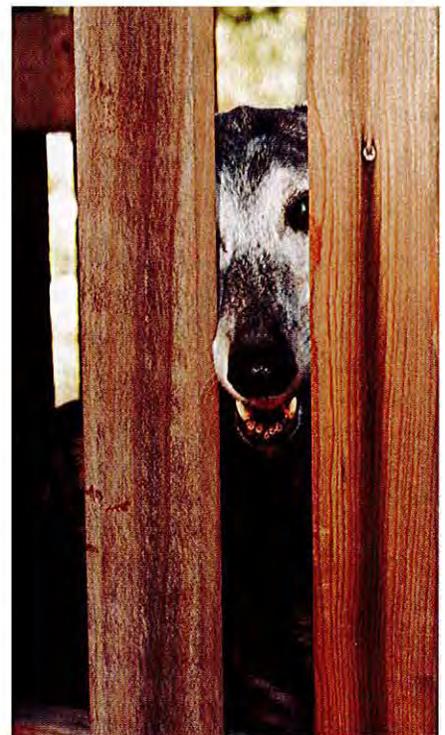
broader reach. We answer the GPA 800 number for Northern California and refer local and long distance adopters to the appropriate agencies. And being at least seven hours from any of those with whom we work, we take in all returned or lost Greyhounds from our area and work with the original adoption group to rehome or return them.

More support groups are appearing all over the country; in addition to NCGS, there are Greyhound Support in Kansas City, The Greyhounds of Fairhaven, The Needle-nose Crew, and others. We are grateful to have one in our own neighborhood: Kris Burkel's Greyhound Friends of Northern California in Red Bluff. GFNC began as a very organized playgroup in an area previously not serviced by any of the Northern California Greyhound adoption groups. Kris and her friends are experienced Greyhound owners who have been tapped by various groups

to do home visits and bring in found dogs. Their playgroup is already evolving into a support group.

We concluded our first article on NCGS as follows: *The biggest benefit of starting your own independent support group is that YOU decide how much time and effort you are willing to spend upon this adventure. Choose carefully the groups to whom you'll refer. Take advantage of experienced advice available and the skills of your volunteers. You can provide a lot or a little help to adoption agencies. Your group can grow as fast or as slowly as you personally decide.* I would offer identical advice today, with one additional suggestion: Keep an open mind. You never know where the road might take you, and the journey is the most rewarding adventure you'll ever experience. I guarantee you'll treasure the friends you'll make along the way. ■

Cara Brockhoff is the owner and administrator of Northcoast Greyhound Support.



Dream. Carol Lawrence and Tom Cockle

Neurologic Disorders Affecting Greyhounds

Neurologic diseases are common in Greyhounds. The presentation may vary, depending on the area that is affected. The following case of neurologic disease in a geriatric Greyhound is presented to illustrate several diseases and how these diseases are diagnosed and treated.

Ditka, an 11-year-old neutered male Greyhound, presented with a sudden onset of falling to the left, vomiting, and a head tilt. He had no history of trauma, as he was normal the day before when he was crated for the night; he was found the next morning with these clinical signs. The possible diseases causing the symptoms include: brain tumor; infection; vascular accident (stroke); metabolic disease; idiopathic (cause not known) inflammatory disease; and idiopathic vestibular disease.

Primary brain tumors are not common in Greyhounds. If a tumor does occur, however, it can arise in any area of the brain, resulting in a variety of clinical signs. Most dogs with primary brain tumors present with seizures and neurologic deficits consistent with the location of the tumor. Treatment usually involves surgery to remove the tumor and/or radiation therapy to kill the tumor cells.

Infections by various organisms can also cause neurologic symptoms. Viruses such as rabies and pseudorabies (a disease of pigs that can also infect dogs) cause behavioral changes, seizures, and death. Tick-borne diseases, such as ehrlichia and Rocky Mountain spotted fever, cause neck pain, circling, and a head tilt. Cryptococcus, a fungal organism, causes depression, circling, and nystagmus (the eyes "flick" from left to right). While the viruses are not treatable, the tick-borne diseases are treated with doxycycline, and the fungal organism is treated with fluconazole. Vascular accident,

or stroke, does occur in Greyhounds. A vascular accident is a small blood clot that occludes a blood vessel in the brain. The blood supply is cut off, causing the cells that rely on the oxygen and nutrition from that blood supply to die. As the cells die, clinical signs are observed, such as seizures, circling, and loss of control of a limb or entire side of the body. Treatment involves administration of anti-inflammatories (corticosteroids) and blood thinners to try to dissolve the clot.

Metabolic disease involves the failure of one or more of the body's systems, allowing waste products to invade the brain and disrupt its function. Kidney or liver dysfunction is a common cause of metabolic brain disease. When functioning normally, the kidney and liver filter the blood to remove waste products; the kidney removes blood urea nitrogen (BUN) from the blood, and the liver filters out ammonia.

BUN is the waste product of protein metabolism. As BUN accumulates in the blood, it disrupts brain function, causing seizures, circling, and vomiting. Ammonia is very toxic to brain function; it is produced by the bacteria in the intestinal tract. When the liver fails to remove ammonia from the blood, seizures, depression, and blindness may occur. Treatment involves identifying the underlying cause of organ dysfunction and correcting it if possible.

Idiopathic inflammatory disease is a poorly understood condition. It involves the thickening (inflammation) of the covering of the brain or spinal cord. As the thickening increases, neurologic function decreases, causing depression, loss of limb function, and sometimes seizures. Treatment involves the administration of anti-inflammatories for several weeks. Some patients relapse after initial therapy, and a second remission may be more difficult to obtain.



The saw-horse stance is one sign of neurologic disease. Merri Van Dyke

Idiopathic vestibular disease (IVD) is another poorly understood condition. IVD involves the sudden dysfunction of the vestibular mechanism of the inner ear. The vestibular mechanism controls balance, so when one side becomes dysfunctional, nystagmus, vomiting, head tilt (the affected ear points down when the head tilts), and loss of balance occur. Anti-inflammatories and rest are the prescribed treatment. This condition usually corrects in 1-3 weeks, but the head tilt may remain. IVD can recur; when



Barker's head tilt is a momentary response to a funny noise. A dysfunctional head tilt, accompanied by other symptoms, could be a sign of IVD. Cindy Hanson

it does, the same ear is usually affected, and the head tilt becomes more severe.

The first step in making a diagnosis when presented with these symptoms is to perform a thorough physical exam. Does the dog have a fever? Where are the neurologic signs occurring? Ditka did have a fever; his neurologic signs included nystagmus, head-tilt to the left, "saw-horse" stance, and vomiting.

The second step is to obtain blood for laboratory analysis. This should include a complete blood count (CBC) to check for infection; chemistry profile to check for liver/kidney dysfunction; a thyroid panel, and a tick-borne disease panel. All of Ditka's laboratory results were normal. The differential diagnosis is IVD, idiopathic

inflammatory disease, brain tumor, or vascular accident. Electing to take a conservative, one-step-at-a-time approach, the owner started Ditka on anti-inflammatories. If there was no improvement within 24 hours, a spinal tap would be performed.

The first step in making a diagnosis when presented with these symptoms is to perform a thorough physical exam.

A spinal tap must be performed while the animal is under anesthesia. A needle is inserted in the space between the skull and the spine, and fluid is withdrawn and ana-

lyzed for tumor cells, inflammatory cells, and protein levels. If tumor cells are found, which is uncommon, then you have a diagnosis. If inflammatory cells are found with elevated protein levels, the diagnosis is idiopathic inflammatory disease. Elevated protein levels alone may indicate vascular accident, but usually with vascular accident and IVD, the results of the spinal tap are normal.

If there is still no definitive diagnosis, two additional tests may be performed: an electroencephalogram (EEG) and a computed tomography (CT)/magnetic resonance imaging (MRI). Both are very useful in establishing a final diagnosis. The EEG measures the electrical activity of the brain. It may help isolate the area of the brain affected. An EEG is difficult to interpret, so it should be performed by a veterinary neurologist. For the CT/MRI, the patient is anesthetized, and images are made of the brain. (It is like having an exploratory surgery without a scalpel.) Brain tumors, vascular accidents, and idiopathic inflammatory disease are easily diagnosed with CT/MRI.

Ditka improved over the first 24 to 36 hours on anti-inflammatories. His saw-horse stance improved, he became surer on his feet, and his nystagmus decreased by 50 percent. Over the next two weeks, all of his neurologic signs were alleviated except for his head tilt, which is about 10 degrees from normal, riding to the left. It has been three months since his episode, and he is doing well with no recurrences.

Neurologic diseases can be very scary. A diagnosis is usually essential for accurate treatment and prognosis. The above list of diseases is far from complete, but it will help you understand what the veterinarian is thinking when examining your Greyhound. ■

Dr. Jim Bader is a CG regular contributor.

Website Basics for Your Adoption Group

Over 10 years ago — before Greyhound adoption was launched into cyberspace — we adopted our two retired racing Greyhounds. We had been interested in adopting a Greyhound, but finding detailed information about retired racing dogs and locating an adoption group required detective work and sheer luck. All that has changed dramatically, now that the majority of independent adoption groups have websites. The organization for which I volunteered put up a website a few years after we adopted our Greyhounds. Suddenly, the opening line on many of our adoption-related phone inquiries became: “I got your phone number from the Internet.”

So your adoption group has a website. Is it being used to its full potential? Adoption groups can use websites in many ways: to promote adoption, educate potential and current adopters, and raise funds for the organization. It is rather amazing that anyone with a PC, any time of day, anywhere, has access to information on your website. The Internet can work magic!

Promoting Adoption

If your group has adoptable dogs in a kennel or foster homes, display photographs of the dogs with written personality profiles on your website. Although many of us already have at least one Greyhound, we may be thinking about adding to our pack. Website information can help the potential adopter guess how the particular dogs might fit in the pack hierarchy. It can also assist first-time adopters in deciding if a particular dog will work with their family’s lifestyle.

The website is also a great place to profile special needs dogs (those with medical or behavioral issues) or seniors who may be passed over. Greyhounds who have languished with the group for too long because they don’t show well can be promoted on the group’s website.



Is Bernie checking out the great photos of adoptable dogs on the Greyhound Adoption Service web site, or is he bidding on the Greyhound Gang’s online auction? Lauren Emery

Posting information about upcoming meet-and-greets on your website can attract potential adopters. This feature is especially helpful for groups that do not have a kennel or other central location where potential adopters can talk to Greyhound owners and meet Greyhounds. An adoption application that can be filled out on-line and a list of the medical services (spay/neuter, inoculations, heartworm testing, etc.) included in the adoption package price can also be helpful to potential adopters.

Education

People use the Internet to research dog breeds to help determine those most suited to their family and lifestyle. Has your group posted any information for potential adopters regarding retired racing dogs as pets? Specif-

ically, does your site contain advice related to adjusting to a home environment, living with children, compatibility with cats and small dogs, use of a crate, and dangers of running off lead?

Greyhound adopters may visit a site periodically to see what’s current. Many are interested in reading educational articles, particularly those that are health-related. Although the adoption representative may have reviewed the Greyhound’s medical needs with the new owner at the time of adoption, you can be sure in the excitement it wasn’t all retained. Adopters need repeat education. It is not hard to find an adopted Greyhound with neglected teeth and toenails that haven’t seen clippers in ages; owner ignorance certainly can impact the Greyhound’s health. Many Greyhound adopters

are first-time dog owners. They should know the importance of heartworm medication, rabies inoculation and, in some areas, medication and inoculation against tick-borne diseases.

Links to other Greyhound sites also help educate adopters and potential adopters. For example, if your group promotes a particular political agenda, links to related organizations can provide additional information about that cause. Greyhounds can make great therapy dogs. Links to the national pet therapy organizations and information on how to get involved in pet therapy enables interested adopters and their dogs to become involved in this gratifying activity. *Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine* contains a wealth of educational material and entertaining reading for adopters. Consider posting a link to the magazine's site (www.adopt-a-Greyhound.org/cgmagazine).

Fundraising

Independent adoption groups cannot make ends meet solely with adoption fees. If your group has the staff to handle Internet sales, consider offering products on your website. An easy way to make a little money is by selling the *Celebrating Greyhounds* calendar. And don't forget fancy collars and coats. Offer these products for sale. Many vendors sell Greyhound products wholesale to adoption groups.

Caring for dogs with medical problems can be a financial drain on adoption groups. A website can be used to solicit donations for this purpose. Greyhound adoption groups often establish a fund to pay for medical expenses for rescue Greyhounds, naming the fund after a Greyhound who was notable in their organization. Promoting this fund on the Internet can generate donations that will allow the group to take in more dogs with medical problems. Profiling certain special needs dogs may also generate donations.

Some groups use their website to promote sponsorship of a particular dog awaiting adoption or sponsorship of a crate-space to generate income. Show photos of the dogs that benefit from the donation to create a personal touch.



Lacey. Jini Foster

If your group has a membership structure, you can entice people to become paying sponsors of the organization by putting the membership form on the website.

Special events such as an open house, festival, or picnic should be featured on your website's home page. Install a link to a page that has additional information about the event, including a schedule of activities, directions, and local accommodations. Some Greyhound devotees travel long distances to attend Greyhound events and love to shop for Greyhound paraphernalia. Include a list of vendors and raffle items so they know what will be available. When your event is in the planning stages and you need volunteers, vendors, raffle items, and so forth, post a call for help on your site.

Does your group have a Wish List? If not, create one and post it on your website. A Wish List can include animal-related items such as a preferred brand of dog food, treats, toys, towels and bedding, and cleaning products. It can also include office supplies, such as stamps, paper, and envelopes. Maybe your group could use gift certificates for heating oil, phone cards, or film. Be brave and creative and ask for the expensive

things that your group needs, too (or ask for cash donations to meet these needs).

Some rescue organizations raise funds by posting, for a fee, pet memorials that include a photo of the departed dog and a brief sentiment from the owner.

Look into accepting credit cards or signing up with a service, such as PayPal, that allows receipt of payments online. This will allow anyone who surfs your site to shop or donate in an instant.

Last, but not least: Update information on your site regularly! Websites that show no sign of life for a few months and maintain outdated information give the impression that no one is home. It is not an effective way to attract customers and repeat visitors.

As the Beach Boys sang, "Let's go surfin' now, everybody's learning how, come on and safari with me." Use your adoption group's website to promote the goals and objectives of your organization — first and foremost, Greyhound adoption. ■

Lauren Emery is a frequent contributor to CG Magazine. She has been involved with Greyhound adoption for 8 years and is a volunteer and Board member with the Animal Refuge League of Greater Portland in Maine.

Adoption Group Websites

A Webmaster's Perspective

Designing a website for a large, multi-cultural, international, and very opinionated audience is difficult. Add to all that the “bosses” looking over your shoulder, and the tasks required of a Greyhound adoption program webmaster can seem insurmountable. Maintaining a website is hard work. Dedication and long hours are required to keep everything running smoothly. The nicest compliment I ever received was second-hand: One of our volunteers recently told me they had to explain to someone that I actually do have a *job* and no, I don't sit home all day and work on the website. I designed and maintain the website for Greyhounds of Eastern Michigan (GEM). The GEM website (www.gemgreyhounds.org) is a labor of love, and I am glad that it shows.

A common pitfall for the website designer is to lose sight of the customer. The GEM website is *not* mine. It belongs to the 150+ volunteers who work hard every day to help find homes for the Greyhounds in GEM's adoption program. The website belongs to our adopters and to the dogs themselves; they are the reason GEM exists.

To bring people back to your site again and again, you need to develop a site that is fresh, easy to navigate, interesting, accurate, and fun. Do not confuse your audience by using inconsistent design elements, merrily changing font sizes and styles, or worse — having a different background on every page accompanied by its own theme music and gigantic graphic. Music and graphics take up bandwidth. Bandwidth costs money and slows down the user on the receiving end. A site that takes forever to load is difficult to navigate. Missing links or graphics will drive away potential adopters due to sheer frustration. Give visitors the content they expect to find, fulfill the purpose of



Tucker, adopted by Ann Bradley of Bethlehem, Pa. Mark Lineberger

the site, and do it in a way that requires minimal thought on the part of the user.

I highly recommend the books *Don't Make Me Think* by Steve Krug (ISBN: 0789723107) and *Web by Design* by Molly E. Holzschlag (ISBN: 0782122019). Both are never far from my computer when I am working. You should also browse around. Look at sites you admire and ones you don't. Make a list of likes and dislikes. Use the list when you begin to design your site. Try to incorporate elements you found that made sites interesting, appealing, and easy to navigate. Omit those that confuse or frustrate the user.

Plan your website before you begin. Keep in mind this key to simple, easy browsing: No area on your site should be more than three clicks away from any other. Your website may be a potential adopter's first contact with your organization. If he becomes frustrated or confused, it may also be the last contact. Put the big picture on your main page by providing answers to the following questions: What is this site about? What is here for me? What

can I do here? And most important: Why should I be here and not somewhere else?

Volunteers are an important resource for material and information. They can also test and critique your work. Steve Krug writes, “Testing one user is 100 percent better than testing none. Testing always works. Even the worst test with the wrong user will show you things that you can do that will improve your site.” I cannot even begin to tell you how true this statement is. Because you are the site's author, you *know* where everything is. You are not the best person to decide if the placement and function of a particular link or design element is obvious to the user; you need a *user* to determine that.

When I started work on the GEM site, my primary focus was to design a website that presented our organization's mission, provided information about Greyhounds as a breed, listed the available Greyhounds, and described the adoption process. Since then, GEM's website has expanded to encompass more than 430 pages. It is the product of 20

months of late nights and long weekends, trial and error, and the help and suggestions of fantastic (and patient) volunteers.

The Adoptable Greyhounds portion of any site poses its own unique challenge. This area changes often — and sometimes even daily — as dogs are adopted and new dogs enter the adoption program. Since I am the Greyhound Coordinator for GEM, managing that part of our site is a lot easier for me than it would be for others. I have first-hand knowledge of which dogs we will be receiving and when. When I was designing this section, I wanted an approach that would allow for easy transition of photographs and descriptions from *available* to *adopted* (and the ability to physically move each dog's page from the Available Dogs section to the Cyber Sofa). By giving each Greyhound his or her own page, linked together by one main preview page (Available Greyhounds first, then the Cyber Sofa), I created the flexibility I needed to handle both areas of the site with minimal effort. I also use templates often to keep things consistent and to maintain the overall look and feel of the website.

Good communication is critical to keep your volunteers and prospective adopters informed of which dogs are available, which are spoken for, and who is expected in the future. Hurt feelings or confusion can result when a family has their heart set on a particular dog that is no longer available. To guard against this, the Webmaster and the Adoption Coordinator should be in close contact. GEM's Adoption Coordinator ensures that information about the adoptable dogs is accurate and current. She tracks applications, adoptions, and requests for specific dogs, and reports this information to our board and the rest of the group on a weekly basis.

The final piece of the puzzle — and the cornerstone of our organization — is the foster home. GEM's Foster Home Coordinator has the difficult task of finding qualified, loving foster homes, and coordinating the movement of Greyhounds within that sys-



Maya, adopted by Peter and Lisa Moran from Homes for Greyhounds, Richmond, Ky.

tem. We rely on the foster family to provide insight into the personality of the dog in their care. Foster families also provide information that can be posted on each dog's web page. GEM foster families are available to answer questions about their foster dog. We encourage prospective adopters to contact the foster family with questions about dogs that they see on the website.

You can't possibly do everything yourself. Choose people for their talents and let them do their jobs. I rely heavily on several key people to keep our information current and accurate. These people work with the group to coordinate its activities and feed me the information I need to update our site. The Adoption Coordinator, Foster Home Coordinator, and Event Coordinator are my primary sources of information. I also welcome input from our volunteers, adopters, and even some outside sources. Each coordinator is responsible for providing me with correct information for the website. Poor communication and inaccurate information are difficult obstacles to overcome. When you provide a service to hundreds of people (such as directions to an event), you want the information to be accurate and easy to understand.

A website does not have to be aimed only at prospective adopters. Individuals who

assist Greyhounds by locating adoption groups to place them also use the Internet. Kate Bressler of Greyhound Support in Kansas City maintains a website for adoption groups that displays photos and short biographies of waiting Greyhounds. This website, which focuses primarily on dogs at farms and kennels in Kansas, inspired me to start a similar site for Greyhounds in the state of Wisconsin. Through Greys Looking for Groups (www.angelhound.com/WI_Greys/wi_greys.htm), I hope to help the kennels at the Dairyland and Geneva Lakes tracks find adoption groups to place their retiring racers.

The website is an effective tool for adoption groups who seek prospective homes for Greyhounds. A photograph and a short biography can go a long way towards getting a dog to an adopter, or at least an adoption group. Sites like these are another way that web designers can help retired racers find their way to forever homes. ■

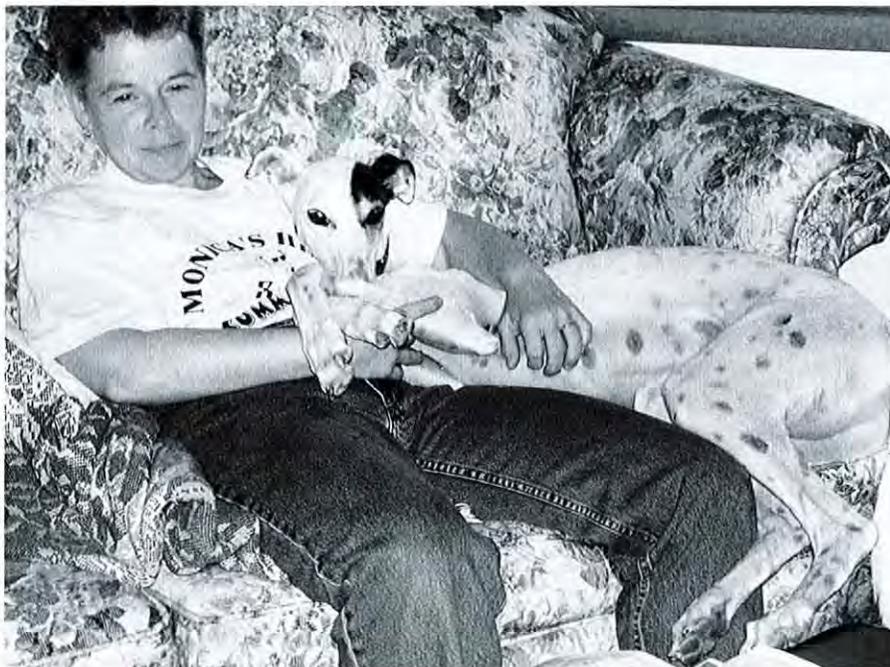
Kristen Nix is President, Greyhound Coordinator, and Webmaster for GreyHounds of Eastern Michigan (GEM). A wife and mother, she lives near Flint, Mich. with two retired racers, Tappix and Stat US Zane. In her "real" job, she works for one of the "Big Three" automotive manufacturers as an ISO Compliance Coordinator, Web Designer and Technical Writer.

Moving High-Speed Hounds Through High-Speed Connections

On November 14, 2000, Camptown Greyhound Park in Frontenac, Kansas announced that it was abruptly closing its doors. Members of the adoption community who had participated in track closures were aghast. The timing — two weeks before the winter holidays — could not have been worse. Both kennel space and foster homes dry up over the holidays. Some adoption groups shut down completely to give their volunteers a much-needed rest. Thanksgiving was only two weeks away. How in the world could the adoption community handle a track closing in the middle of the holidays?

Located in a rural corner of Kansas, Camptown was miles from the closest adoption group or metropolitan area. To make matters worse, it was a low-end track with young dogs and slower competition. With any track closing — seasonal or permanent — the better racers go on to run at other tracks. Closure of a “puppy track” like Camptown always leaves many dogs needing homes. At closure, there were 12 racing kennels with a combined total of over 700 dogs. Early estimates were that 150 dogs would need adoption. The final number was 189. Could the Greyhound adoption community rise to the challenge?

Upon receipt of track closure notification, the Kansas Racing Commission took charge. It assigned Dr. Bryce Peckham, the Commission’s Chief Veterinarian, the responsibility for overseeing the closure process as well as ensuring the dogs’ health. The Commission immediately issued final orders, a five-page document outlining requirements that the track’s owners provide food, water, bedding, and kennel space for all Greyhounds designated for adoption.



DooDah, formerly Dead Dog, found a home with Tracy Tredennick and Dede Miller in Pennsylvania. Here, DooDah and Dede share a little quality time. Tracy Tredennick

Compound security would remain in place until all dogs were moved. Camptown’s management also agreed to retain manager Mike Holton on-site and to pay expenses associated with hauling the dogs to the adoption groups. Transportation generally costs \$60 to \$70 per dog and the complete bill for a track closing can easily reach \$30,000 to \$40,000. For a financially failing business this can be quite a burden. Under the oversight of the Commission, Camptown’s closing would place no Greyhounds in jeopardy.

Nevertheless, controlled chaos immediately followed the track’s closure. The first few weeks saw the scramble of departing kennel operators and trainers. During this time, several folks in the Greyhound adoption community stepped up to help coordi-

nate the movement of the Camptown ex-racers. I volunteered, as did Kate Bressler and Ann Peterson of Greyhound Support in Kansas City, and Alane Shultz of Greyhound Pets of America-Springfield, Missouri.

We learned a few things along the way. Because of the sheer numbers and the remote location, it was clear the Camptown dogs needed to be dispersed to adoption groups nationwide. The Internet got us there.

Kate proposed to use her digital camera to photograph each dog and then display the pictures on a website. Completing an inventory of all adoption dogs is always a necessity. A written list including color, sex, tattoo numbers, and a brief description is usually all that is done, and what a Herculean effort it is. Concerned that adoption groups would

snap up all the pretty little parti-color females with the dishy faces and mascara eyes, I was completely opposed to displaying pictures online. Kate insisted. Begrudgingly, I agreed and began calling the adoption groups across the country to see who could help take dogs into their program. Kate and Ann went to the track to begin profiling and photographing the dogs.

Of all the track closings in which I have participated, the Camptown closing was the most cohesive, well-organized, and pleasant. We had complete support from the Kansas Racing Commission, and whenever there was a decision to be made, Dr. Peckham put the dog's welfare first. Together, we agreed upon five criteria to be met by groups receiving dogs from Camptown. Each group would have to (1) be a legitimate 501(c)(3) organization; (2) have been operating for at least one year; (3) neuter/spay dogs prior to placement; (4) conduct home visits and check veterinarian references as a part of the placement process; and (5) take back their returned dogs, thus providing a lifetime safety net for the dog. Each group was also asked to provide a new adopter information packet for Dr. Peckham's review. He was quite impressed with what he saw.

After lining up the receiving groups and determining a realistic route for a haul out of Camptown, the next task was to share information about the available dogs with the receiving groups. Kate and Ann spent every weekend at the track, taking pictures and profiling the dogs. Kate posted the results to the website she created specifically for the closing, www.k8nkc.com/CamptownRacers/index.html. The site featured each dog's picture, tattoo number, and a brief description of its personality. The finished product looked just great.

As we began the process of determining which dogs each group was to receive, an interesting dynamic occurred. When I spoke with each adoption group represen-

tative on the telephone, we reviewed the list on Kate's website. I looked at my computer screen, the adoption group representative looked at his or her computer screen, and the dogs came *alive*. We became enamoured with the faces, the eyes, the floppy ears, the many colors, and the body posture; the dogs became real. Our conversations ran to "look at this one" and "look at that one." Once an adoption representative visited the website and saw the faces, the number of dogs that the group committed to take often increased. If the group initially agreed to take six, by the time we finished scrolling through the list, the number was up to eight.

There were plenty of "Look at me, I'm gorgeous" types pictured, but the website helped the less photogenic dogs, too. There was a litter of four Camptown dogs that

Even the most challenging dogs found homes with the assistance of the website.

were incredibly shy. Their body language was nothing short of pitiful: heads down, eyes focused to the side, backs hunched, tails tucked as far as they could tuck. Those four were among the first to be chosen.

Adoption groups, in turn, used our website photos to help place the dogs. Sheeny Bee was an example. Leann Zalasky of Rescued Racers in St. Louis had an approved application from a family who wanted to adopt a fawn female. Leann and I got online, scrolled through Kate's website, and found three fawn females. Leann downloaded the pictures and forwarded them to the family. Sheeny Bee's face was beginning to whiten, her coat looked a little rough, and she had one ear up and the other off to the side. But Sheeny Bee captured this family's heart. They called a family meeting; Sheeny Bee was the one they

wanted. They put her picture on the refrigerator. Sheeny Bee is now living with the family in Carmel, Indiana.

Even the most challenging dogs found homes with the assistance of the website. The kennel help told us Mean was aggressive to other dogs. According to the website profile, Mean was: "outgoing and likes people, but does not like other dogs, is turned out alone at the adoption kennel, frets, slobbers, has broken off his canines chewing crate bars when other dogs are being turned out." The group that took him and found him a home says he is now a pussycat. Cudja Movit's website profile read, in part: "call name Dead Dog . . . super spook, growls when you walk by his crate." His photograph on the website showed the whites of his eyes. The group that took him in, Monica's Heart Greyhound Adoption of Altoona, Pa., didn't flinch at the description. They knew he was probably just frightened. They found the perfect home for him. Dead Dog, now DooDah, lives in Pennsylvania with two other Greyhounds, and participates in meet-and-greets for Monica's Heart.

The last group of adoption dogs left Camptown on January 20, 2001. I can say with certainty that the Camptown closure went a great deal more quickly and smoothly because of the Internet. My initial concern about the adoption community "cherry-picking" the pretty dogs was unfounded. The photographs and profiles on Kate's website helped all of the dogs find groups and homes. The Camptown dogs came alive via the Internet. ■

Cynthia Cash is a landscape architect and an adjunct professor in the same area at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana where she lives with her adopted Greyhound Peaches; her adopted Doberman Keno; and Thumpurr, retired Somali show cat. For several years, Cynthia has coordinated a large number of the rescue hauls that have resulted from track closings around the country.

Who is My Dog?

Researching Your Greyhound's History on the Internet

Greyhound owners often seek information about the pre-adoption lives of their pets. Genealogy and racing history, in particular, are the subject of great curiosity. Two online sources of this information are Rosnet and The Greyhound Breed and Race Database, or Greyhound-Data. A description of each of these resources follows.

Rosnet

By Cindy Hanson

If your Greyhound raced at a Rosnet member track, you can retrieve extensive information about your dog's racing career and bloodlines from Rosnet's website, Greyhound Racing International (GRI) (www.rosnet2000.com). At the GRI main page, select the Greyhound Data link. Type in your Greyhound's racing name, and choose one of the six report options: Performance Lines, Race Charts, Genesis (family tree), Littermates, Siblings x Sire, or Siblings x Dam. These reports provide a thorough and fascinating glimpse into your pet's history as a professional athlete.

Many adoption groups include Rosnet reports in the information packets they send home with new adopters. Because of this, most Greyhound owners know that Rosnet is one of the best sources of information for the history of retired racers. That Rosnet has its own history is not nearly as well known.

Before Greyhound racing entered the computer age, the typical racetrack kept all the records on paper. The Racing Office Department Secretary maintained a file of index cards containing information about each Greyhound racing at that track. To prepare for an evening of racing, the secretary would decide the format of the races (number of races, grade, and distance) and put it to paper. He would stack the index cards together by race and shake a pill bottle to



Expo Cummings.

determine the random post-position draw for each race. After drawing the races, he would give this information to the track's chart writer. Using the index card file, the chart writer would type the list of races and dogs. Everyone from the trainers to the printers of the racing program used this list in preparation for the event. Following each official race, the chartwriter typed the results and sent a copy to the printer for inclusion in the next event's program. He also provided a copy to the Racing Secretary for records update and inclusion in the track's galley book (compilation of racing results).

As cumbersome as this process was, it was further complicated by the frequent tendency of owners to move their Greyhounds between seasonal racetracks every three to six months. Kennels moving from one track to another had to hand-carry each Grey-

hound's records in order to provide information to the Racing Secretary at the next track. Often the results would be no more than a stack of clippings from old racing programs. At the start of each new season, the Racing Secretary and printer would begin the arduous task of ongoing data management for literally thousands of Greyhounds racing at their track.

Many people involved in Greyhound racing were frustrated by this piecemeal approach to record keeping. Raymond J. Barber was one of them. A passionate fan of Greyhound racing, Barber had been around Greyhounds all his life. His grandparents raised and raced Greyhounds as a hobby in his native England. He came to the United States to work as an industrial engineer. In 1973, he purchased a Greyhound racing kennel in Florida. Over the next

decade, he obtained bookings at multiple tracks and developed a successful breeding operation. As owner, breeder, and kennel operator, he soon realized the large nationwide stock of Greyhounds would generate a mountain of paperwork.

In addition to being an engineer, Barber is a mathematician who enjoys the mental exercise of handicapping. Seeking new tools for data management, he entered the world of personal computers and became a self-taught programmer. In 1976, he designed a software package that racing offices could use to track the distribution of purse money. His next project had a much broader scope: A computer application for the complete Racing Office Administration System, to include database management, development of printer-ready racing programs, race chart

If your Greyhound is a recent retiree from a Rosnet member track, you might be able to watch some of his races on your home computer.

data entry systems, purse payment, and complete racing department accounting. The system provided a server that enabled race-tracks to network with one another over the Internet. Barber's system was first installed in 1984 at Dubuque Greyhound Park. Today, the majority of Greyhound tracks in the United States are using the R.J. Barber System, now known as "Rosnet" (Racing Office System Network).

Of what significance is Rosnet to owners of retired racers? Before Rosnet, adopters curious about the history of their Greyhounds had to determine where their dogs raced, write or call the racing secretaries at those tracks, and request copies of pages from their galley books. Now, the adopter of a retired racer from a Rosnet member track can obtain the information online.



Korbel and Malibu. Lucinda Gersbach

Though tracks close and dogs retire, the information remains available. Currently, Rosnet has over 300,000 Greyhounds and nearly ten years of history in its database. In addition, video replays of webcast races have recently become available on the website. If your Greyhound is a recent retiree from a Rosnet member track, you might be able to watch some of his races on your home computer.

Raymond Barber is still deeply involved with Rosnet. He gave up the last of his racing ownership in 1994 and splits his time between South Florida and England, where he continues his programming. His son Andrew, Rosnet's Computer Systems Network Administrator, is in charge of Web-Broadcasting and Titling for Simulcast Television. Daughter Lesley is Rosnet's Business Manager and Project Coordinator. She reports that Rosnet receives a great deal of correspondence from adoption agencies.

The folks at Rosnet are pleased that their website has become a resource for adopters. An adopter herself, Lesley took home the

last of her father's racers, Left Foot Fred. He lived to be 12 years old.

Greyhound-Data

By Holger von Boehn

With Greyhound-Data, our dream has come true. Through the Internet and with the help of the Greyhound community, our Greyhound-Data website (<http://www.Greyhound-data.com>) has established itself as the International Greyhound Database. It provides data about Greyhounds from four continents and four centuries and is totally free.

If you would like to know the genesis of your dog, Greyhound-Data is the right place to go. With more than 400,000 Greyhounds in the database, there is a good chance that you will find what you seek. If you cannot find your Greyhound in our database, our FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) site provides contact information for the organizations that keep Greyhound data in various countries. When you obtain this information, feel free to add your dog to our database.

You can do this online and can send us a photograph of your dog as well.

Greyhound-Data consists of two databases, the breeding database and the racing database. The breeding database of Greyhound-Data presents a five-generation pedigree. By clicking on the offspring or parents of your dog, you can move dynamically through the generations. Most of the data is from Australia, America, Ireland, Great Britain, and Europe, with the oldest pedigrees going back to 1790. Therefore, you will see how your Greyhound is related to the great Greyhounds in history. In fact, in most sire lines you can travel back to a common ancestor, King Cob, whelped in 1839.

If some of the ancestry of your Greyhound is unknown, you may use our GD Puzzle section to ask for help. Every day many Greyhound-Data users consult this section and try to solve the puzzle of unknown ancestry.

We are adding new features to Greyhound-Data. There will be space in the database for Greyhound owners to post e-mail addresses with the data about their dogs. These e-mail addresses will be hidden from view with only a link visible on screen. If you look at the pedigree of your Greyhound, see the siblings and half-siblings of your dog, and would like to contact an owner, you may click on the link and send that person an e-mail. We are establishing the first online Greyhound studbook, the European Greyhound Studbook. In cooperation with adoption groups, we are developing a new database for Greyhounds looking for new homes. The adoption community has provided massive support for Greyhound-Data, and we hope to give back to the kind people who work very hard to find adoptive homes for Greyhounds.

The website is maintained by my son, Gunnar and myself. Our family coat of arms includes three Greyhounds and is posted on the Greyhound-Data main page. According to the von Boehm family saga, our family



Shelby. Todd and Pam Stacy

received the title for rescuing a duke with the help of three Greyhounds in 1194. More than 30 years ago, my family bred Greyhounds, but because of my work and living in the city, we were without dogs for a long time. About seven years ago, when I was looking again for a new dog, I didn't know any of the names in the pedigrees. Because of my strong interest in pedigrees, I decided to make my own Greyhound database. My son Gunnar is a computer freak; he had the know-how to put our first version of Greyhound-Data on the Internet in 1999. People mailed dog data and races to us and I entered them into the database. Gunnar is an excellent programmer and developed the second edition of Greyhound-Data as an "open source" version — everybody can enter dogs and races into the database. My main task is quality assurance — to check the data at a high level. Gunnar developed powerful checking tools with fuzzy logic to help with this task.

We hope that you like the database and visit us on the Internet. At the moment, we

have 800 to 1,000 daily users. Greyhound enthusiasts around the globe are helping to develop this database. Although we initiated it, it has become a project of the Greyhound community. We thank all of you, but especially Elaine, Jim, and Mike; Werner Scholz, who supervises the European races, and Anja Gülk, who helps answer our e-mail. We use most of our spare time to keep the database running. If you would like to join our team, please contact us through the site. ■

Cindy Hanson is Editor-in-Chief of CG Magazine. Grateful thanks to Vera Filipelli and Lesley O'Connell for providing invaluable assistance with this article.

Holger von Boehm is one of the designers of Greyhound-Data. He lives in Germany with his family. Of his three Greyhounds, Dita, Sandy, and Buddy, he writes: "They are living in our home like children and they will be with us until they die by nature. We hope that you have the same admiration and love for your dogs as we do for ours."

adoption

By Ellen Zadoff,
Gabrielle Woodward,
and Adrienne Menn
Photos by
Gabrielle Woodward

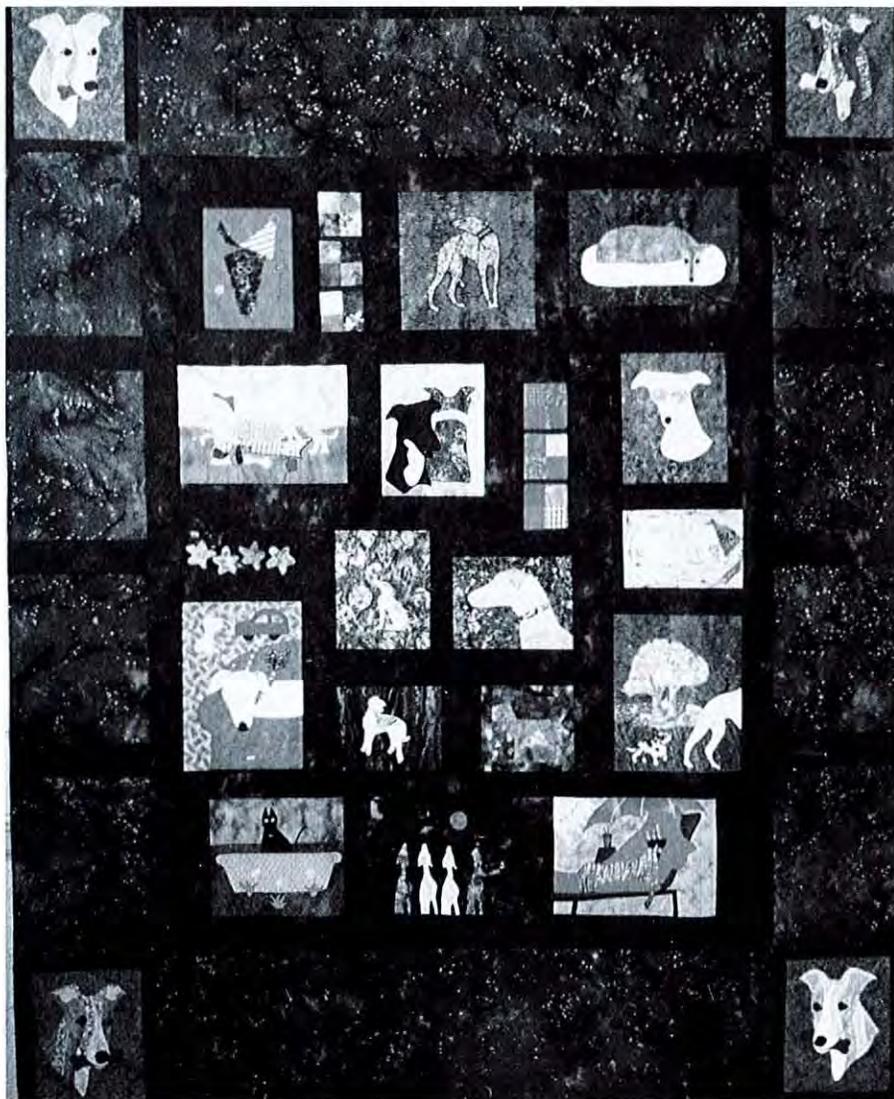
The ChesCo Greyhounds Quilt Fundraiser

"Girls! I think we may be missing out on a great opportunity to raise money for Greyhound adoption," said Gaye at one of our meet-and-greets last October. She explained that at a recent flyball demonstration, her team captain casually mentioned that her Airedale rescue group raised \$13,000 with their annual quilt raffle. Needless to say, we were intrigued by the idea of raising so much money from a seemingly simple project. In other words: That's a lot of yard sales, honey!

A few weeks later, we saw the Airedale quilt on display. It truly was a work of art. We could see why it raised so much money. After talking with the people involved with the project, we thought: If they could do it, why couldn't we?

We began our quilting project with a planning meeting in early November 2001. The ChesCo Ladies Brunch Club, as we like to call ourselves, met to discuss what tasks would be involved in the project and who would do what. We quickly realized that the project would consist of five parts. First, we needed a quilt design. Next, we would publicize the project to solicit quilt blocks. Then we would print and sell raffle tickets. The fourth step, assembling the quilt, would be the domain of our experienced quilters. Finally, we would market and raffle the finished quilt at the December 2002 Greyhound Friends of New Jersey annual fundraising event.

Completing the first step was easy. This would have been a big project if we had to start from scratch. However, the Airedale group generously allowed us to use the detailed design guidelines they developed for their quilt. Having just admired the beautiful Airedale quilt and the high standard of workmanship that went into the creation of each block, we eagerly adopted



"The Racing Greyhound in Retirement."

their guidelines word for word. We even decided to stick with their color scheme: jewel-tone batiks that would result in a rich, elegant finished product. Coming up with a quilt theme was easy. What else would a group of people involved in Greyhound rescue choose but *Greyhounds in Retirement*?

Having decided on a design, our next step was to disseminate information. We used the Internet by creating a Yahoo! Group. As the Yahoo! website explains, "Yahoo! Groups is a free service that allows you to bring together family, friends, and associates through a website and e-mail group."

Starting a Yahoo! Group for the project was the key to our success. Initially, it allowed us to post the quilt guidelines, theme, and fabric samples, as well as resources for purchasing fabrics, materials, and sewing manuals. Once the project was underway, it became a forum for addressing questions related to the theme and design. It allowed our experienced quilters to share knowledge with those just beginning. As time went on, our moderator periodically posted progress reports and uploaded pictures of finished blocks to the site. This served to build camaraderie, pride, and a sense of purpose, which helped to keep the project moving forward.

In addition to the Yahoo! Group, we posted the same information to the ChesCo Greyhounds website (www.geocities.com/chesco_Greyhounds), announced the project on Greyhound-L and to our own private e-mail list, and cross-linked with as many websites as possible. We also solicited quilt block contributions from private quilt guilds. We think a few of those non-Greyhound owners may have a Greyhound in their future as a result of this project.

With quilt blocks in the making, we turned our attention to the raffle. We decided to sell tickets at meet-and-greets and other events, and via the ChesCo Greyhounds website. We posted a form on our website that contributors could print, complete, and mail with their check. To boost sales, we offered a bonus ticket for every five sold.

We also decided to accept sales by credit card as well as cash and check. Everyone we consulted told us that credit card sales were a must if we wanted to raise a lot of money. The group for which we were raising money, Greyhound Friends of New Jersey, was not equipped to accept credit card payments. We conducted an extensive search on the Internet

for companies that would facilitate our credit payments. Those that dealt strictly with non-profit donations, and therefore attached no fees to transactions, were not set up for raffle-type fundraising. Therefore, we realized we would have to work with a company that charges transaction fees. We settled on PayPal. Because of its business history and association with eBay, we felt that PayPal would be less risky than some of the newer and smaller companies. Setting up a PayPal account and uploading the necessary forms and buttons to our website proved very easy, thanks to the well-written instructions provided by PayPal on their website (www.paypal.com/).

The person who set up the project, managed our Yahoo! Group, and inspired us to complete our work had never sewed an appliqué or assembled a quilt.

Other logistics associated with sales of raffle tickets included shipping and handling. Obviously, we would have to pay for envelopes and stamps to mail raffle tickets to contributors. We were also hoping to defray some of PayPal's finance charges. Since charging additional fees for credit purchases is illegal, we had to estimate our total finance charges over the life of the project and attach a surcharge to all purchases, cash and credit alike. We analyzed our projected finance costs and decided to charge \$0.65 per transaction, an amount that would partially defray our shipping and handling expenses. (The Airedale group did not charge a shipping and handling fee, so we felt that this surcharge would put us ahead of the game.)

Our next step was to print the raffle tickets. Several of us thought we could

print tickets at work for little or no cost. We were unable to do this, however. Instead, we designed a ticket using MSWord, inserted a number field so that each ticket would be sequentially numbered, and then copied that ticket thousands of times. We received a generous donation of heavy card stock on which we printed the tickets. The company that donated the card stock also volunteered to perforate the tickets to make them easy to separate and sell.

In retrospect, the Ides of March may not have been the best choice for a deadline. Since this was our first quilt project, things got off to a slow start. It took some time for everyone to feel comfortable with the quilt guidelines, colors, and theme. Clearly, they could not start their blocks until all their questions were answered. Although quilt blocks started to come in before March 15, submissions were painfully slow. By the deadline, we had only a few blocks. Nevertheless, spirits were high and lots of people were talking about the blocks, so we were convinced the project would be a success. We extended the deadline to May 21 and hoped for the best. We were not willing to extend the deadline beyond that date because we intended to finish the quilt in time to display it at Dewey Beach, where we hoped it would generate lots of raffle ticket sales.

Our optimism was rewarded. By May 21, we had 22 blocks — more than enough to make a good-sized quilt and a smaller piece.

Up to this point, it was not necessary for anyone working on the project to have quilting experience. The person who set up the project, managed our Yahoo! Group, and inspired us to complete our work had never sewed an appliqué or assembled a quilt. The person in charge of raffle tickets and sales hardly knew how to turn on a sewing machine. Even the people who submitted blocks did not always have quilting experience. They needed creativity and

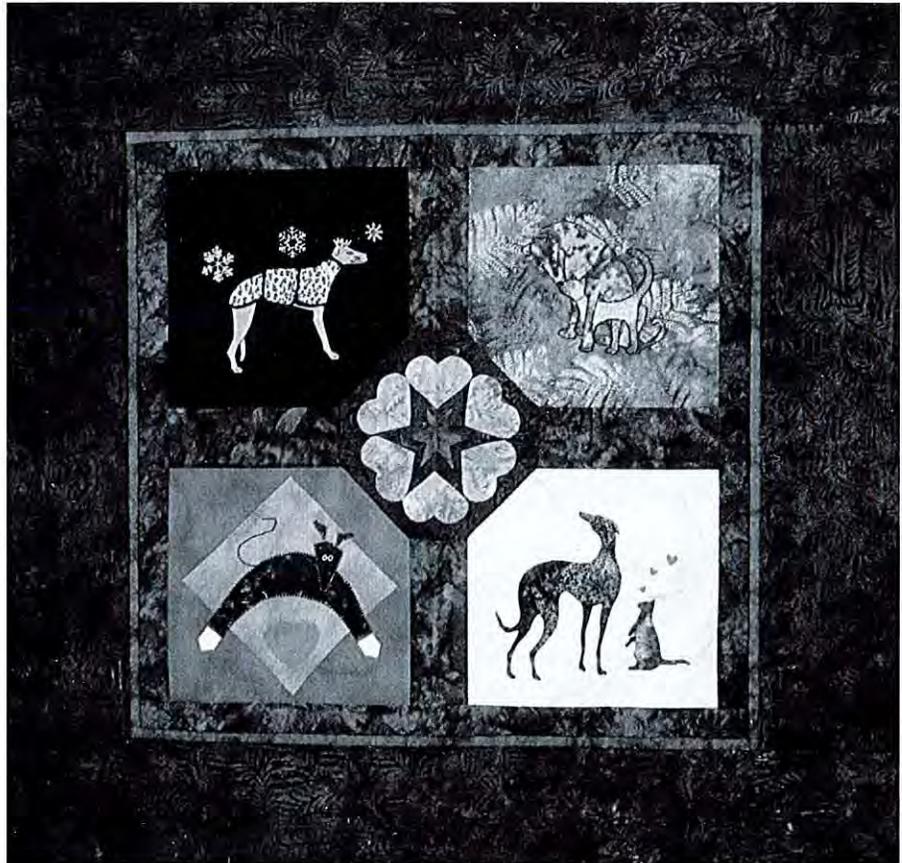
knowledge of appliqué technique, but not quilting experience. There did come a point in the project where we needed people who knew their way around a quilt, though. Luckily, several people in our group were experienced quilters.

Quilt assembly is a four-step process. First, quilters arrange the blocks and pin everything together. Non-sewers with an artistic eye can participate at this stage. Second, quilters sew the quilt top together.

*We intend to display pictures
of the quilts at meet-and-greets
and on every website
we can manage.*

For the third step, we turned the quilt over to a machine quilter who sewed the quilt-top, batting, and quilt-back together. Our group paid only \$50.00 for this service. When we received the result, the quilt was handed over to our experienced quilters for binding.

Although we had been selling raffle tickets from the inception of the project, the initial amounts collected were small; we were trying to market a quilt that did not yet exist. Now, we have not one, but two spectacular quilts with which to promote raffle ticket sales. We intend to display pictures of the quilts at meet-and-greets and on every website we can manage. We believe, however, that the showing at Dewey Beach will be crucial to the success of this project. To that end, we have arranged a table in the vendor tent where we will display the quilts and sell raffle tickets. After Dewey Beach, the quilts will make a final appearance at the Greyhound Friends of New Jersey fundraiser in December 2002, where we will conduct the raffle.



"One By One."

Based on our experience with this project, we offer the following advice to groups who are interested in starting their own quilt projects:

1. Develop and communicate specific quilt guidelines and themes. Check out our website to see what should be included (www.geocities.com/chesco_Greyhounds).
2. Post fabric samples and pictures of similar projects if available. Describing colors is difficult; people really need to see a picture.
3. Start early so you can extend your deadline if need be.
4. Choose a project coordinator with a positive, "can do" personality and the ability to keep the project moving forward.

5. If your group already sells items via the Internet, you're a step ahead of us. If not, be prepared to spend a good amount of time setting this up — it's well worth the effort.

6. Have at least two experienced quilters involved in the project.

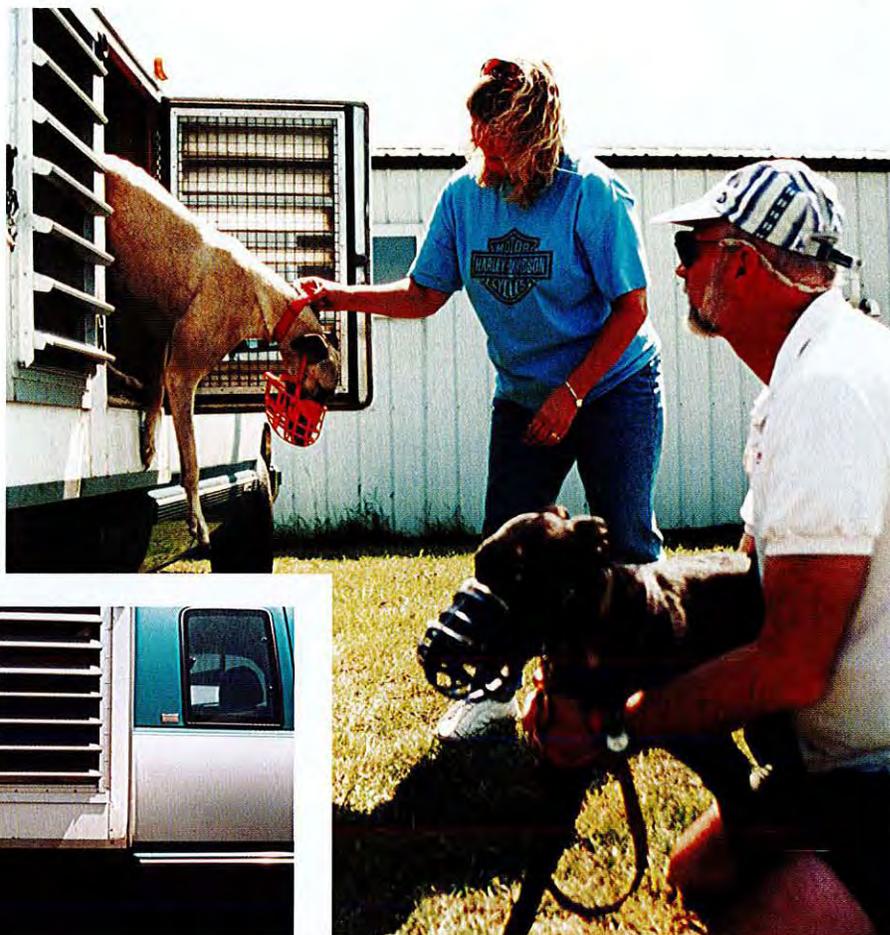
We hope you will stop by the Greyhound Friends of New Jersey table at Dewey Beach and feast your eyes on our beautiful quilts. If you are lucky, one can be yours! ■

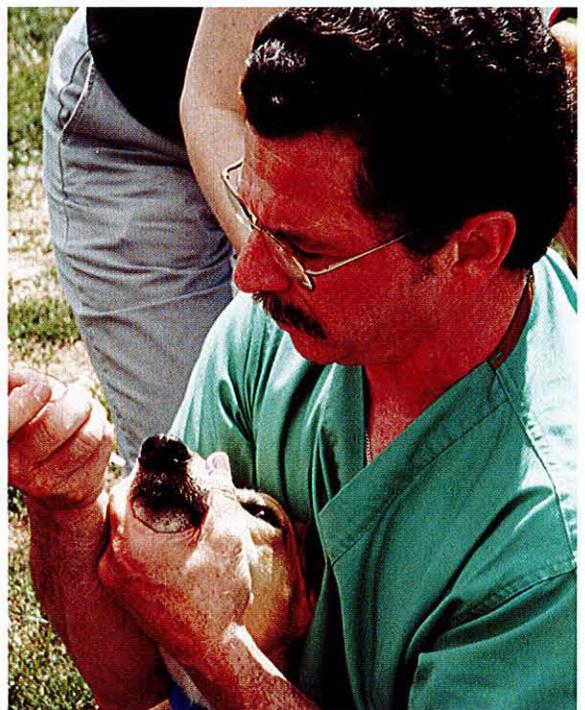
Ellen Zadoff, Gabrielle Woodward, and Adrienne Menn are members of ChesCo Greyhounds, a group of Greyhound owners in Chester County, Penn. dedicated to the promotion of Greyhound adoption through meet-and-greets and other fundraising events.

Spa Day for Newly Retired Racers

On a beautiful August day in 2001, 24 dogs from the recently closed St. Croix Meadows Greyhound Park arrived at Emerald Kennels in Burlington, Wisconsin. Forty-six volunteers from Greyhounds Only (GO) were there to greet them.

Brushing, washing, trimming, medicating, and lots of petting and wagging ensued.





Spa Day was documented by Rob Perisho of bedlam photography. Rob is a Chicago-based freelance photographer whose personal work seeks to share the untold stories of daily life. The goal of his work with GO is to enrich the lives of people and Greyhounds by pairing them up. ■



activities

By Cyn Mobley
Photos by Holly and
Bill Priestley

Traveling with Greyhounds in an RV

Forget the fancy collars, raincoats, and cute little fleecy warm-up suits. What your Greyhound really wants is a vehicle with fewer doors and more windows, couches, beds, a refrigerator, and you within reach at all times. Get your Greyhounds what they really need — a recreational vehicle (RV).

If you've traveled with your Greyhounds, you know the routine: Midnight check-ins with the car carefully parked around the corner (the Greyhounds want to stick their noses out and smell the night clerk). Faking a limp so the clerk will take pity on you and give you a first-floor room (the Greyhounds don't do open steps). "Do Not Disturb" signs left on the door until noon (the Greyhounds don't do mornings).

I bought my first RV three months ago and just completed a ten-day cross-country trip from San Diego to Tennessee with Abe, Tweeter, Pilot the Bravo Pup, Amelia Spawn, and the Poopster riding shotgun. Based on this experience, the following are my suggestions for traveling with Greyhounds in an RV.

Selecting an RV

There are several things to consider before you begin your RV search. First, think about what sort of trips you want to take. Long weekends? A few weeks at a time? Do you want lots of luxury, or do you want to be able to fit just about anywhere? How much room will you need? How much money do you want to spend? What is your large vehicle driving experience? How familiar are you with RVs in general?

In my case, I was moving to Tennessee from San Diego and I knew I would be on the road doing book tours and Greyhound events. I was tired of kennels and dog sitters and of donning Kevlar™ to survive the joyous dog routine when I got home.



A good RV will have room for multiple dogs and a quality library.

I wanted to travel in an RV to provide comfort for the dogs. I knew I probably would be traveling without other people most of the time, so dependability and ease of service were big pluses. Privacy wasn't, and I had no need for a separate bedroom.

I eliminated separate RV and truck combinations because I wanted immediate access to my dogs. You can travel with people in a separate trailer if you have a means of communicating with them (some state laws require this). As talented as my Greyhounds are, a few of them have problems operating complex electronic equipment.

Size is another important consideration, but you will be surprised at how easy an RV is to handle. I had never driven an RV before, but my hound mobile is a Chevy Astro with the back two sets of passenger seats removed. Measure your hound mobile.

I was surprised to find that the Astro was eighteen feet long. (I love the Astro — plenty of glass all around, so even those of us with lousy depth perception can park it.)

Even with my Astro experience, the prospect of maneuvering a really large RV was daunting. Some of the smaller RV parks cannot accommodate the behemoths. While the additional living space was attractive, larger RVs often require 50 amp power, something not available at smaller campgrounds.

The layout was another major consideration. Most RVs have a bedroom in back, a kitchen and living area (perhaps with sofas that pull out into additional beds), and then the driver's area. Some RVs have slide-outs, sections that pull out when you're stopped to increase the living area. My major concern was living space, not sleeping space — at least not for people. The slide-out is

something I'll probably consider if I ever get a new RV, but it seemed to me at the time to be just one more thing to break on the road.

Price was also a consideration. It is not difficult to spend more than \$200,000 on an RV. Conversely, you can find excellent used vehicles for a tenth of that or less. If you are looking at a used vehicle, ask if an extended warranty is available. Also check to see if the RV has a generator, which is a necessity if you like the idea of simply pulling off the road anywhere and having all of the conveniences of home.

Since I wasn't entirely sure how my grand plan would work, I decided to buy a starter RV covered by an extended warranty. According to my RV dealer, most people who use RVs regularly trade up every three years or so. The average new RV owner who gets hooked on them trades after about eighteen months. For that reason, I decided on a model that was slightly used, well maintained, and whose value would not depreciate significantly over the first year. Like a car, your new RV will lose a large chunk of its value the moment you drive it off the lot.

I spent several weeks looking at RVs and finally settled on a 1998 Safari Trek. The Trek is an amazing vehicle, built on a Chevy 454 engine and chassis. The engine takes standard Chevy parts, so finding belts and other parts would not be a problem.

Rational decision-making aside, I'll admit the truth. I bought it because it had two couches and no bedroom. Both couches fold out into double beds that together will hold five dogs. A queen-sized bed lowers down from the ceiling for the person responsible for ensuring the Greyhounds' comfort.

Planning the Trip

The first two questions I had were "How far can I go in one day?" and "How often will the Greyhounds want to stop?" Not surprisingly, I overestimated both.



An RV with a queen-sized bed will have room for humans and dogs, just like at home.

Driving an RV can be more demanding than driving a car, given its size and handling characteristics. At 55 to 60 miles per hour, three hundred miles made for a fairly long day (remember, the Greyhounds don't do mornings). In addition, as a new RV driver, I was reluctant to brave any sort of inclement weather. My Trek has a magic Dish Network Satellite system that allows me to watch the Weather Channel while on the road. Based on one of their weather reports, we decided to stay over one day in New Mexico to allow some weather to move ahead of us. Later in the trip while crossing Texas, we popped between Interstate 10 and Interstate 20 to avoid several lines of thunderstorms crossing the state.

What about the Greyhounds? I thought they would need to stop every two hours or so at least, and I was prepared for hourly stops if necessary. Not so. Engine on, Greyhounds fall asleep. Engine off, Greyhounds wake up. Every four hours was more than enough, and they probably could have gone eight hours without complaining. Even 17-month old Spawn, who tends to be more active than most Greyhounds, was quite comfortable with this routine. When we were in heavy traffic or otherwise paused to figure something out, she chose that moment to bark. I believe that I would not have traveled with her at any younger age.

If you've got a destination in mind, perhaps a state park or specific attraction, call ahead and make sure that they allow dogs. Most RV parks that allow dogs have rules against leaving them unattended in the RV. I had my doubts about this as well. Little Spawn has had bouts of separation anxiety when accidentally locked in a room apart from the rest of the pack and I had a vivid mental image of what my Trek would look like if Spawn had a separation anxiety episode. I tried leaving them in the RV for a few minutes at a time while walking out of immediate sight, but within earshot. By the end of the trip, I felt comfortable leaving them alone for a bit to go to the camp store or visit a neighbor. Little Spawn and the rest were fine as long as they were together. However, *never* try this in a hot climate unless you're sure the air conditioning is on. An RV can heat up as quickly as a car.

Our first trip was a get-from-here-to-there affair, with plans for sightseeing and recreation. We normally got on the road around 10:00 a.m. While stopped for a break around 2:00 p.m., I'd open *Woodall's Guide to Campgrounds*, check on campgrounds near where I thought we'd stop for the evening, and call to make a reservation. Woodall's entries will tell you whether or not pets are allowed. At check-in, I was never asked how many or how large the pets were.

Woodall's also indicates whether a campground has an enclosed dog run. Note that "enclosed dog run" can mean anything from a ten-by-ten pen to a luxurious fenced area big enough to stretch those long legs. At one fabulous stop, a Hilton among RV parks, the enclosed dog run ran along two sides of the large campground. It was approximately 15 to 20 feet wide and covered in gravel. It was perfect, except one end was open and not visible from the entrance. Fortunately, I always walk a run before I turn the dogs out, and I spotted the problem. An ex-pen stretched across the opening quickly solved the problem. At the Midland Oil Patch, the owners provided a wonderful grassy area big enough for the Greyhounds to stretch their legs. Most of the dog runs we saw had only a 4 ft. fence so be careful if your Greyhound is a known jumper. Always walk the fence to check for gaps and holes before you let them loose.

You will want some sort of Greyhound containment system for the outside of your RV. I used two ex-pens linked together with the ends folded back along the RV. For five dogs, that provided enough room for milling about or an emergency poop, but not much else. Ex-pens are easy to use, but they are not terribly stable if a dog bumps into them. They can also scratch the RV. I am currently making a couple of panels out of PVC pipe and chicken wire that will have braces and disassemble easily.

The little space under the steps is another problem. It provides an escape route. I either covered the area with the baby gate from the RV or sat on the steps while the Greyhounds were outdoors. Neither solution was entirely satisfactory. On my next trip, I will have a panel to close off the area under the steps.

The possibility of an escape was my worst nightmare. I had new dog tags printed at the pet store that said, "Abe. If I'm loose, I'm lost," followed by my cell phone and home phone numbers. A cell phone is an essential bit of emergency gear and I would not travel with my dogs without it.



Feedings will occur in small spaces, so plan accordingly.

Before the trip, teach your dogs the command *back* or *stay*. In our house, we observe a strict departure protocol when leaving the house. After leashes are on, the Greyhounds line up in front of the door. I stand in front of the door, holding leashes, and open the door behind me. *Back* means back up. Following a *back*, the Greyhound has to wait for his or her name to be called to walk slowly out the door. This is probably more appropriately taught as *stay*, but if you've ever been besieged by leashed Greyhounds who know a walk is forthcoming, you'll know how *back* became a household command. *Back* keeps the dogs from trying to push past you when you first open the door. Also useful in the RV is the command *share*, which means "You may stay where you are, but scoot over so I can sit down."

In some states, health certificates are a requirement. A health certificate is a memo from your veterinarian that indicates that your dog is healthy and current on his vaccinations. It often falls into the category of *If you have it, you won't need it*. I was never asked for health certificates, but my veterinarian told me about one of his clients who

was stopped at a state line and asked to produce them. The client had vaccination records, but no health certificate. She had to stay in a hotel overnight and then locate a veterinarian who would do the simple exam — on a Sunday.

I also brought *Merck's Veterinary Manual* and complete medical records on each dog, including their last x-rays. My medical records include copies of articles on anesthesia protocols and normal blood values for Greyhounds.

Take along common over-the-counter first aid medications. Have all vaccinations updated well before the trip. Some states require rabies vaccines every three years and others want to see them yearly. Abe was due for a rabies shot about the time we were planning to leave and it slipped too far down on the list of things to do. He received it the day before we left. Three days into the trip, a huge knot swelled up on his back. Suspecting that it was a reaction to the vaccine, I took his temperature and called our veterinarian, who concurred with my diagnosis. On my next trip, I'll plan to get vaccines at least a month before we leave.



Having special dog tags made for your trip will give you peace of mind.

Of course, with all of my careful planning for medical emergencies, we had absolutely no problems. This proves my theory of trip planning — that for which you plan will not occur.

Suggestions for Life on the Road

1. There are plenty of good books on how to travel in an RV. Get one of those and take it with you.
2. Pack poop bags and a pooper-scooper.
3. Your ex-pen or other Greyhound containment system should always be the *first* thing up and the *last* thing down when stopping for a break. I learned this the hard way. Unhooking the utilities is a quick process, and I had already taken down the ex-pen to make it easier for me to run in and out of the Trek. Pilot learned to work the screen door latch and decided to join me outside so that he could supervise my work. He ran straight to me and was just *thrilled* to find me, since I had been outside without him for almost five minutes.

4. Do not go straight back to the RV after the Greyhound finally locates a suitable place to take care of business. If you do this, the Greyhound will learn to delay the necessary business because he would really like a longer walk.
5. Wherever you go, you will find dirt and mud. Use washable throw rugs over your carpet and fitted sheets on the couches to protect them.
6. The dogs really didn't like to take care of business in their ex-pen enclosure. They preferred somewhere more suitable (say, the bush directly in front of the manager's office) on the way to the dog walk area. A tug on the leash will normally interrupt any operation before it starts.
7. Keep the dogs out of the driver's area of the vehicle. The dashboard is broad and flat; it makes an excellent place to stand and watch the road go by. They only attempt this maneuver when there's something really interesting to see, like lots of traffic.
8. Sleep in something presentable, just in case someone needs a late night walk.
9. My Trek came with a thick sheet of plastic wrap over the carpet. It held up well for ten days with five dogs.
10. As always, be cautious. Small dogs think they aren't, and some owners seem to think that leash rules do not apply at night. I learned this with 350 lbs of Greyhound pulling on the leashes and the owner of a particularly suicidal Yorkshire Terrier saying, "Oh, don't worry. He's friendly."
11. If you are traveling way out of your area, be aware of the fact that you may not be familiar with all of nature's doggie hazards. In the West, cactus spines along the side of the road can be a serious danger, as can be rattlesnakes and scorpions. If you have nibblers, be particularly careful. Do not let them taste plants you do not recognize.
12. Planning for feedings took some thought, since my dogs are raw fed. Unfortunately,

RV refrigeration is not necessarily the same as what you have at home. The air circulation within the refrigerator compartment can be quite inefficient, leading to warmer temperatures than you might expect. A small fan inside the refrigerator compartment keeps the temperature more uniform. The freezer worked fine, but it is designed to freeze already chilled items (not large chunks of raw meat), and it took a while to get everything frozen. On our next trip, we will pack a portable refrigerated ice chest that plugs into the cigarette lighter. We did not lose any food to spoilage, but it stayed warmer than I would have liked.

13. A month or so before our trip, I started training my dogs to be hand-fed. Once we set up for the night, we went out into the ex-pen and I simply hand-fed them their dinner.
14. At home, they eat once a day in the evening. I wanted a little something in their tummies in the morning to cut down on sloshing gastric juices and any possibility of motion sickness. Since I can barely face sunlight in the morning, much less raw meat, Dick Van Patton's Natural Balance® rolls became their breakfast snack. It's a high quality product and the supplements made up for the light veggie content of their evening meals.
15. Greyhounds are among the best travelers in the world. The two retired racers, Tweeter and Abe, seemed to take it all in stride; even more so than Pilot the Bravo Pup and Spawn, who were rescued as pups. They were wonderful ambassadors everywhere we went. A little preparation and realistic expectations will make traveling with your Greyhounds one of the most rewarding vacations you've ever had. ■

Cyn Mobley lives in East Tennessee with her pack and her Safari Trek. She has retired from the Naval Reserve, the practice of law and getting up in the morning and now writes full time as CA Mobley and CW Morton.

Runner and Farrah's Two-Month Meet-and-Greet



Runner and Farrah "working" in Key West. This photograph was taken by a young woman from Virginia who talked with us for over an hour about adopting a Greyhound. She offered to take our picture so we could include it on our web site.

When Jim and I retired, we purchased a motor home to live our dream of seeing the United States at a leisurely pace and with our Greyhounds, Runner and Farrah. No way were we going to travel and leave our Greyhounds at home. Traveling meant we would be on the road several months a year. It also meant not being able to fulfill some of our responsibilities as adoption representatives for Nittany Greyhounds in Port Matilda, Pennsylvania. We do work with Greyhound adoption, including as many meet-and greets

as possible. Fortunately, our responsibilities were taken over by other Nittany people, who graciously agreed to help out in our absence. But the inability to do meet-and-greets concerned us.

We needn't have worried. On our first motor home trip to Canada we discovered that merely walking Runner and Farrah several times every day inevitably attracted attention. It didn't take us long to realize that we had an opportunity to continue our work promoting Greyhound adoption while on the road.

In preparing for our two-month trip to Florida and the south this year, we decided to become traveling Greyhound ambassadors. We placed Greyhound decals on the motor home and the tow car. We packed our "adopt a Greyhound" clothing to wear while walking the dogs, an adoption manual, Internet information, and a list of all the adoption groups in the United States. We brought with us Nittany Greyhound brochures, our Nittany Greyhounds banner to hang on the ex-pen, and lots of business cards with our email



Dianne Shadle explains the virtues of adopting a Greyhound to an interested Georgia couple. Jim Shadle

address. The result: Impromptu meet-and-greets in campgrounds, parking lots, nature trails, city streets, and more beaches than the dogs or we can remember.

The dogs were a big hit in Savannah on the river walk, and also in old St. Augustine. Our visit to Key West exemplified the work the Greyhounds themselves did in promoting the breed. While there, we met and talked to over twenty people only because of the attention the dogs attracted. As with every meet-and-greet, not everyone you meet is a potential adopter, but that day we gave information to eight people from four states. (Amazingly, three of them were from our home state, Pennsylvania.)

The informal meet-and-greet continued when we were relaxing outside our motor home, as we had an ex-pen for the Greyhounds. The area inside the pen was filled with two plush beds and the Greyhounds' favorite stuffies. Many campers stopped to talk about the dogs when they saw Runner and Farrah luxuriating in the sunshine in the ex-pen.

Our two-month meet-and-greet was successful in accomplishing the goal of all meet-and-greets. We gave people an "up close and personal" introduction to Greyhounds. We

provided information to potential adopters, even though most of them would probably be contacting groups other than our own. An unexpected benefit was the opportunity to meet and share information with people from other breed rescue groups. We met an equine vet from New York whose wife headed a Jack Russell rescue group, and an elderly woman from Wisconsin who worked for a Golden Retriever rescue group. There were also those folks who just had to tell us about the Greyhounds in their neighborhood, or the one their friend or relative had adopted.

Traveling with two well-mannered, beautiful Greyhounds is surely a good way to meet people who would otherwise pass you by. During two months on the road, we talked to hundreds of people who otherwise we never would have met. Our two-month meet-and-greet was successful because of our eagerness to talk to people about the breed, the information we could readily provide, and the magic of our two special Greyhounds, Runner and Farrah.

Dianne Shadle is a retired math teacher who lives in Harrisburg, Pa. For the past two years, she and her husband Jim have been the Harrisburg adoption representatives for Nittany Greyhounds in Port Matilda, Pa.

The Dog on His Bed

By Yvonne Zipter

*In his sleep, Nacho dreams
he can talk, his jaw moving,
moving as if at the hands of a
ventriloquist.
But the words are his own.
He wants to tell you about his
mother Nells,
his brother Nashville, but they are
too far removed. He tells you,
instead, about the starting gate
and its thrill,
the familiar bump of hard bodies,
the metronome of eight dogs
breathing at a gallop, and the
voice of the announcer like some
bookie god.
Other times, he dreams about
chasing rabbits,
but can't remember why.
His legs remember, though, and
twitch and jump and tear up some
ancient field of memory,
the rabbit zigzagging away
like a perfect complement
or just the right words.*

Yvonne Zipter is a much-published poet and the editor of The Skinny: Newsletter of Greyhounds Only, Inc. She and partner Kathy Forde adopted ex-racers Nacho and Yoko about three years ago and their lives haven't been the same since.

By Holly and Bill Priestley

Greyhounds Reach Another Beach

Our RV Vacation

With “Greycations” in mind, we purchased a 30 ft. travel trailer with many Greyhound amenities. The trailer has more than enough room for our three Greyhounds, their toys, bowls, and us. A sofa opens out into a big, comfortable Greyhound bed. Windows are conveniently located so that the dogs can look outside from their perch on the kitchen benches or the living room chair. Hiding areas at the foot of the bed and along the side of the bed accommodate our precious spook. The pantry has plenty of room for our food and dog treats, and the full-sized closet holds a large bag of kibble.

We purchased grates for the screen doors so that the Greyhounds would be able to look out the door, but not exit. We added outdoor carpeting to the front and back steps to help keep excess dirt and sand out of the trailer from 12 paws.

Once our new trailer was Greyhound-ready, we began to plan our trip. We had always wanted to visit the Outer Banks in North Carolina. Armed with information from family and friends familiar with the

All of the camping dog owners were most courteous and responsible with both keeping their dogs on a leash and cleaning up after their dogs.

area around Cape Hatteras, we searched the Internet for an RV park that would allow dogs. I also consulted several campground guides. One campground caught my attention: the Cape Hatteras KOA Kampgrounds in Rodanthe, North Carolina. It was right on the ocean, had vacancies,



Bill Priestley takes Moonbeam, Pandi, and Ahidi for a stroll on the dunes. Holly Priestley

and allowed dogs. We made reservations for a campsite against the dunes and close to the ocean.

The Cape Hatteras KOA is 25 miles south of Nag’s Head, North Carolina, on Highway 12. Within a short distance of the high dune that separates the beach from the campgrounds, there are over 300 RV and tent sites and 37 Kamping Kabins®. On the other side of the dunes is a beautiful beach on which dogs are allowed any time with no limitations. We could run in the surf, chase waves, and not feel guilty about leaving our Greyhounds at home. This would be the perfect family vacation.

We spent a lot of time on the beach and in the ocean with our Greyhounds, usually before noon and after dinner when the sand was not as hot on the paws. Besides the beach and dunes, there was ample area to walk dogs around the campgrounds as well

as a specified “Dog Area.” All of the camping dog owners were most courteous and responsible with both keeping their dogs on a leash and cleaning up after their dogs.

The Cape Hatteras KOA manager, Leonard Thompson, welcomes Greyhounds and their owners, “As manager, I would welcome the Greyhound people here individually or as a group. We presently have a group that meets here in September or October that ... has Irish Setters and Retrievers and usually occupy around 15 sites or Kabins.”

Vacation without our Greyhounds? Never again! ■

Holly Priestley is an Associate Researcher in the Biology Department at the Pennsylvania State University in State College, Pa. Bill Priestley is Assistant Professor of Chemistry and Director of Secondary Science Education at Lock Haven, University of Pennsylvania, Lock Haven, Pa.

Cappuccino's Run

The Great Escape



I am blessed with Leia, the omega Greyhound. She's been whacked on the snout by the neighbor's cat. Twice. She play-bows to soap bubbles. She leaves the room when there are balloons present. She has raised the "deer in the headlights" look to an art form.

I also share my home with Cappuccino, my daughter's kamikaze hamster. His adventures have included a trip down the steps in his hamster ball. He was none the worse for wear, but the inside of the ball did need to be cleaned.

I do most of my work out of my home office. Leia spends most of her time beside me, while Cappuccino is supposed to spend all of his time in the hamster habitat in my daughter's room, down the hall from my office.

Leia's major recreational activity (besides sleeping, eating, and napping between meals) is to pounce on one of her squeakie toys, carry it from room to room, pause to squat and squeak it, then jump up and trot with it into another room. Eventu-

ally, she abandons the toy, usually in the middle of the floor somewhere, when she tires of the game. She does this all the time, so I'm used to it.

The other day, however, as I was sitting at my desk, I saw Leia dart up the hall toward my daughter's room and pounce. This was unusual, because Leia isn't allowed in that room and her toys generally don't get scattered in that direction. I glanced up to see what toy she had when she trotted into my office with it.

Imagine my surprise when the squeakie toy looked back at me.

I yelled, Leia dropped her new toy, and the hamster hit the ground running.

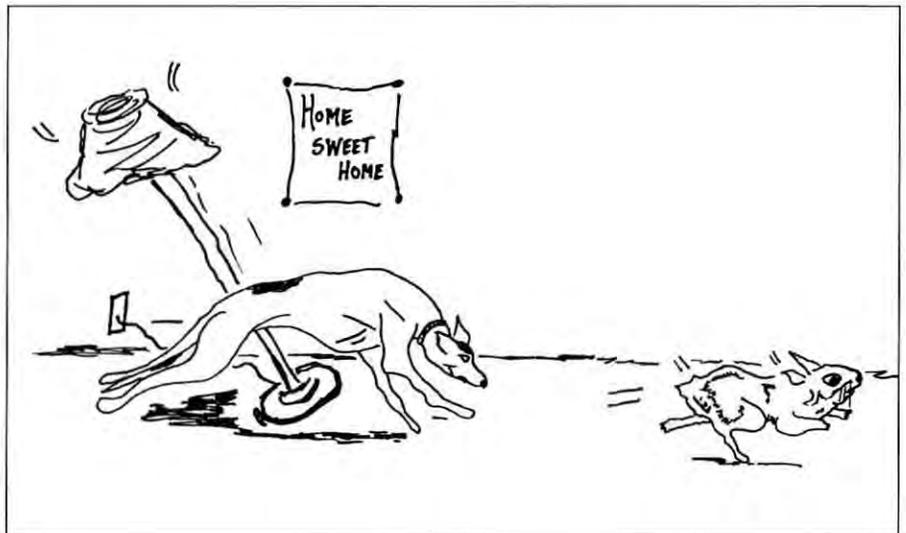
For the next five minutes or so, Cappuccino runs around my office trying not to be a snack, Leia runs around my office trying to catch the most exciting toy she's ever seen, and I run around the office trying to keep Leia from catching the hamster, trying to catch the hamster myself, and trying to keep any of the three of us from knocking over lamps, getting tangled in cords, and pulling computers off of desks.

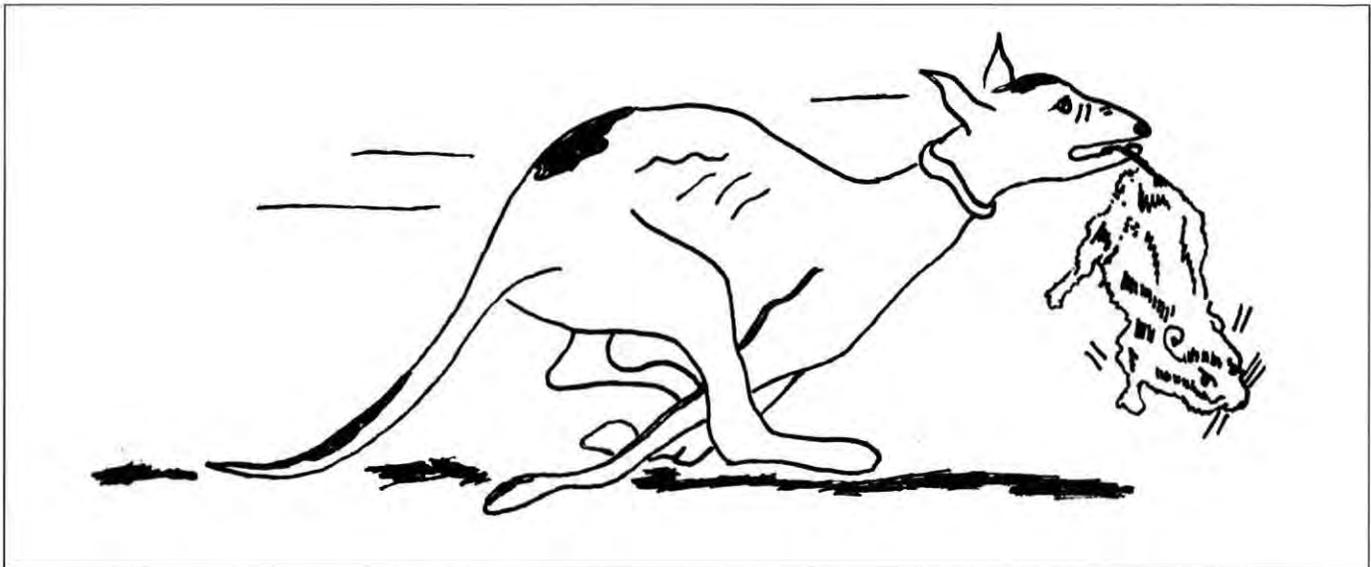
Eventually, Cappuccino darts out of my office into the guest bedroom across the hall. I now have an agitated hamster in one room and a very agitated Greyhound in another. Leia is in full "attack" mode: Ears perked, teeth bared, whimpering, bouncing up and down. For the first time in my experience, I have a high-prey Greyhound on my hands.

I block Leia into my office with a child gate, which allows me to keep an eye on her. I enter the guest bedroom and begin to

I now have an agitated hamster in one room and a very agitated Greyhound in another. Leia is in full "attack" mode: Ears perked, teeth bared, whimpering, bouncing up and down.

dig through the abandoned games, empty wrapping paper rolls, and other flotsam of everyday life that have collected under the bed. After several minutes of excavation, I





find the hamster watching me from the other side of the bed. I tiptoe around the bed and kneel to the floor to discover that he has, once again, run to the other side of the bed.

After playing this game with the hamster for a while, I close the door to the guest bedroom and go to my daughter's room to get the hamster ball in the hope that I can coax or herd him into it. I can't find it. (Do you know how big a hamster ball is? How can you lose a hamster ball?) Her room looks like Cappuccino and several hundred of his hamster friends ransacked it before he left.

Eventually I give up and go back down the hall.

Leia is still standing at the fence, ears up, making short little whimpers, but otherwise absolutely motionless. I open the door to the guest bedroom. Cappuccino scampers off between my legs and back down the hall into my daughter's room. Leia goes berserk: no barks, just roos, whimpers, front leg hops, happy circles, and all the Greyhound excitement display you can imagine.

Ignoring the dog for now, I run down the hall and get to my daughter's bedroom in time to see the hamster dive into a tall pile of debris near the computer. I take one

look at the room and close the door. I go back to my office and try to calm the Greyhound, who is by now shaking with excitement.

She does eventually calm down, but for the rest of the day she alternates between thoroughly sniffing everywhere the hamster's been and squatting in the hall, staring at my daughter's door. I spend the afternoon wondering how you go about getting a dead hamster out of the walls, and trying to figure out how to break the news to my daughter.

Be Vewwwy Quiet! We've Hunting Hamstuw!

A long afternoon ended when my daughter got home. She took the news better than I had feared, probably because I didn't include the part about the dog carrying the hamster around. We had a discussion wherein she explained how it wasn't her fault and Cappuccino must have learned how to open the habitat door. I noted that this might be a good opportunity to clean her room.

Daughter walks into her room, with me behind her. I only go in a foot or two.

A teenaged girl's room is not someplace I want to be. I admit I can occasionally be slightly compulsive about being organized.

Our spice rack is alphabetized. So are the lawn care products in my garage. But I try very hard not to get into unnecessary fights with my daughter. "Clean your room" is unnecessary, as well as fruitless. I've reached an accommodation with her about the state of her room. Any laundry she wants done, she sets out in the hall (which means I don't have to figure out which piles are "clean" and which piles are "dirty"). Any computer maintenance — she's on her own. As for cleaning, that's between her and her mother. I'll carry the bags out to the curb.

So I am not looking forward to this experience.

The first thing she does is grab a bag of hamster food and throw some on the floor in the middle of the room.

"Uh, why did you do that?"

"Cappuccino loves to eat. He'll come out when he smells the food."

Okay. While we're waiting, I climb over some clothes and examine the hamster habitat. No holes gnawed in the side, no little cakes with files inside, no sheets tied together down the outside. I lift the door. Its latch mechanism is not accessible from the inside. I gently point this out.

"Well, sometimes it's hard to close." I close it. The latch audibly clicks.

It's time to move on to other things. "I don't think he's going to come out. We should probably try to look for him."

I suggest that I sit by the door to make sure Cappuccino doesn't escape down the hall again. This is good for me, because then I don't have to get involved in the actual cleanup effort. It's also good for the hamster. Escaping down the hall would probably not be a good long-term career move, because Leia is lying motionless about five feet down the hall, her ears standing straight up, watching everything closely.

Daughter starts rummaging through one of the piles beside her bed, picking up the clothes and dropping them again.

I shine a flashlight under the dresser by the door. I see aggressive looking socks, dust bunnies the size of actual bunnies, but nothing that looks back at me.

For the next fifteen or twenty minutes Daughter throws piles of clothes, papers, books, and other treasures on her bed, with the occasional "Oh! I wondered where that went" and "I bet Francesca wants that back." I sit by the door, wishing I had attended one of those biofeedback seminars back in college so I could keep my blood pressure down. Leia waits patiently down the hall.

I decide I've had enough. "I'm going back into my office. I've got work to do." Like taking deep breaths into a paper bag to stop hyperventilating. "Let me know when you find him."

I close the door, step over Leia, and go to my office. The dog doesn't move.

The Trap is Sprung . . . er, The Trap is Sprung Again!

Forty-five minutes after I left her, Daughter runs into my office to tell me she's found Cappuccino. She steps over Leia, who is still lying in the hall waiting for her new squeakie toy to come out and play.

We return to her room, stepping over the dog, who still doesn't move.

Cappuccino is hiding beneath one of two nightstands that Daughter uses as computer peripheral tables. The stands are closed at the bottom in the front and sides, but open in the back. She hears him scratching. Or maybe laughing hysterically, I'm not sure.

Daughter wants me to lift the table so she can grab him. I look at the pile of books on top of the scanner, and the shelves full of CDs, note cards, books, school projects, and other delicately balanced small objects. I envision the hamster crushed under a pile of CDs, with the last thing he sees being N'Sync and Celine Dion rushing at his head.

No matter how passive and omega your Greyhound is, there is a predator instinct buried within . . .

"If I do that, he can just run away. Why don't we block the back, and I'll tip it back so you can reach in and get him?"

She hands me clothes from her bed. I pile them behind the nightstand, trapping Cappuccino in his makeshift cave.

"Are you ready?"

"Ready."

I tip the nightstand back.

The hamster runs out the side, around a pile of books in the middle of the floor, under the computer, and under the other nightstand.

We try again. This time, in addition to piling clothes behind the nightstand, we pile them along the sides and across most of the front, leaving only enough room for my daughter to stick her hands in.

"Wait. Where are you going to put him after you catch him?"

She reaches beside the dresser, moves a pile of clothes, and unearths the hamster ball.

We're ready for our second try. I tip the table back, daughter reaches in, and the hamster runs up her arm. She lunges twice, grabs him at her shoulder, and stuffs him in the hamster ball.

We examine him. No blood or broken skin, but there are two distinctive patches of matted fur that look like, well, dog mouth prints. I 'fess up to the rest of the story, but she's so happy that Cappuccino has been captured unharmed that she doesn't make a big deal about my dog trying to eat her hamster.

Epilogue: Where Are They Now?

Life returned to normal soon after.

Eventually, Leia abandoned her ambush point. But to this day, when she comes into my office, she stops and stares up the hall at Daughter's bedroom.

As far as I know, the socks and dust bunnies are still there.

And sometimes, late at night, if you're real quiet, you can hear Cappuccino running in his hamster wheel. Legend around these parts has it he's training for his next Run.

There are lessons to be learned with all good stories, and I've learned three.

Lesson 1: No matter how long you have them, or how well you treat them, hamsters will try to escape.

Lesson 2: No matter how passive and omega your Greyhound is, there is a predator instinct buried within that will show you a side of your gentle, loving Greyhound that you really don't want to see.

Lesson 3: If the four of us were suddenly stranded in the wilderness and forced to live by our wits, I suspect both the hamster and the Greyhound would outlive my daughter and me. ■

Joe Adamczyk lives in Harrisburg, Pa., consults on technology management issues, and generally tries to stay out of the way.

Greyhound: What's in a Name?



Fuji gleams. Arthur C. de Goede

How do we express our admiration for the beauty of the Greyhound?

Some memorialize the magnificence of their canine companions through photography and other visual arts. Others adorn their hounds with splendid collars and coats. Still others extol the grandeur of the Greyhound in poetry and prose.

Some choose other means entirely.

On its website, the Oxford English Dictionary describes itself as "the accepted authority on the evolution of the English language over the last millennium." It "traces the usage of words through 2.5 million quotations from a wide range of international English language sources, from classic literature and specialist periodicals to film scripts and cookery books." Begun in 1879, the ten-volume compendium of over 400,000 words and phrases was initially completed in 1928. Since 1993, OED's scholars and readers have been engaged in a painstaking review and revision of the Dictionary. The goal of the revision is to create a document "that gives a more accurate representation

of each word's history and development, as well as a fuller chronological and geographical coverage of the English language" (www.oed.com). Critical in the revision process are the millions of examples of documentation of a word's usage, submitted to OED by scholars and readers around the world.

The following letter is one such example.

Oxford English Dictionary
Oxford University Press
Walton Street
Oxford OX2 6DP, England
RE: Greyhound, its etymology
Dear Sir,

The *Oxford English Dictionary* (2d ed. 1989) states at page 831 of volume VI, regarding *Greyhound*, as follows: "The etymology of the first element is unknown, it has no connexion with *grey* a. or with *grew* a. Greek, nor with *gray* = badger (*Grey* sb.)." *OED* further states with respect to *grey* and *gray* at page 826 of volume VI, as follows: "As the word is both etymologically and phonetically

one, it is undesirable to treat its graphic forms as differing in signification."

It is the thesis of this letter that *gray* (and *Greyhound*) is derived from the Indo-European *gher* (see enclosure 1); that *gher* has the meaning of "shine," or "gleam" (see enclosure 2); and that the Greyhounds' very smooth, short-haired coats of fur shine well in reflected sunlight, which accounts for the derivation of their name from the Indo-European *gher*.

I enclose the following items:

Page 448 of the *Barnhart Dictionary of Etymology* (1988; The H. Wilson Company) making reference to the *Indogermanisches Etymologisches Wörterbuch* (Pokorny) 441 for its derivation of *gray* from Indo-European root *gher*:

Pages 611 and 614 of *Webster's New World Dictionary* (2nd Coll. Ed. 1974) indicating that *gray* and the first element of *Greyhound* are derived from the Indo-European *gher*, which has the meaning "to shine, gleam."

Greyhound-type dogs have existed since about 6,000 B.C. (see Cynthia A. Branigan, *Adopting the Racing Greyhound*, Howell Book House, New York, NY, 1992, pp. 6-10) and the origins of the closely-related Indo-European languages spoken from the Atlantic to India by the first century A.D. can be traced back to a common ancestor that was spoken in Eurasia some 6,000 years ago (J.P. Mallory, *In Search of the Indo-European*, Thames and Hudson, 1989, p. 7).

The shininess of a Greyhound's coat in reflected sunlight may depend somewhat on the color of the coat but ample evidence of it is found in various treatises. See Branigan, cited above, e.g., pp. 24, 56, 108.

See also the enclosed picture.

Very truly yours,
Arthur C. de Goede



The writer received the following response:

Dear Mr. de Goede,

Thank for your letter to the *Oxford English Dictionary*.

The main substance of the *OED*'s etymologies has not been revised since they were originally published, which in the case of *grey* and *Greyhound* was in 1900, so they do not necessarily reflect the current state of scholarship.

The adjective *grey* is of Germanic origin, with cognates in Dutch, German, and Scandinavian languages. Modern Germanic scholars seem to accept a derivation from the Indo-European root *gher- shining, gleaming (Pokorny 441). A number of

Indo-European colour adjectives appear to have had an original sense of shining or gleaming rather than denoting a specific colour, suggesting that the Indo-Europeans considered the degree of brightness or dullness as more significant than the actual shade or tone.

English *Greyhound* is cognate with Old Icelandic *grey* 'Greyhound.' Jan de Vries in his etymological dictionary of Old Norse suggests that this word may be related to Old Icelandic *grár* 'grey,' one of the Germanic cognates of English *grey*, which would tally with the etymology of *Greyhound* given in Webster, but I fear this must remain speculative in the absence of further evidence.

You may be interested in the following:
C.P. Biggam *Grey in Old English: an interdisciplinary semantic study* 1998

Thank you again for drawing our attention to this.

Yours sincerely,
Dr. Samantha Schad
Senior Assistant Editor
Oxford English Dictionary ■

Arthur C. de Goede and his wife share their home in California with their retired racing Greyhound, Fuji. His correspondence to the OED was prompted by a question posed by a youngster encountered on one of their walks: "If she is a Greyhound, why isn't she gray?"

In Praise of Senior Dogs



Twelve-year old Willard found his forever home at age 10 and-a-half with Wendy and Steve Hamel in Saint Paul, Minn.

We as humans seem compelled to want *more*. I believe this is particularly true for Americans, who are truly blessed. So, it stands to reason that when we look for a companion animal to share our lives, we look for the ones we think will give us more time. Time to love, time to play, time to share quiet moments, and time to spend happy moments. Often, we begin to take our many gifts for granted.

Senior Greyhounds don't always give us *more* in the way of time. You take the chance of sharing only a couple of months. And if you are lucky, you get a couple of years. However, when you adopt a senior Greyhound something inside you changes. A switch is turned on and suddenly you notice all of those things you took for granted with a younger dog. You appreciate your senior Greyhound *more*. Moments of intense play with your senior Greyhound will strike a chord deep inside your soul, releasing a

powerful joy hormone. When a senior Greyhound runs, the real beauty shines through. You notice every sprint, every jog, every wobble, and every stumble and you hold your breath the whole time. When those moments are over, you sigh with contentment.

When seniors sleep, you watch them with the wonder normally reserved for a newborn baby. You relish every new day with them. Seniors bring out the best in us. We want them to be so happy, content, and comfortable that we strive to make their every moment the best that it can be. We don't take for granted that they will be here tomorrow for sadly, tomorrow may not come. Because of this realization, we live in the here and now. We don't have their pasts, and we may not have an extended future. What we do have is today.

Today my senior Greyhound and I will play in the yard with her ball. I will hold tightly in my mind every toss, every tail wag,

every bark, and every prance. My senior Greyhound and I will sit side by side on the sofa, her head resting in my lap, my hand stroking her head and trying to convey just how much I love her. I will watch my senior Greyhound as she rises and as she lies down, as she sniffs the cat, and as she eats her food. I will notice the light that shines in her eyes when she sees me walk to the treat jar. And I will laugh at the little digging thing she does with her bed. I will fret over her as she comes in out of the rain and make sure she isn't cold as I dry her off and kiss her head. And I will not take her for granted one moment of the day.

As owners of seniors know, *more* isn't necessarily better. Senior Greyhounds teach us how precious life is every day. ■

Sue Burkhard lives in Benton Harbor, Mich. with her 12-year old Greyhound Brittany, four other dogs, and four cats. She is an active member of Friends of Greyhound Support Kansas City, and a member of the Great Lakes Greyhound Gathering Planning Committee.

Saturday, September 7

Annual Picnic

11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Northern Lights Greyhound Adoption
Jaycees Shelter, Central Park
Roseville, Minn.

Raffles, auctions, and tons of fun. Bigger and better than last year!

Contact: Donna, 763-755-3595 or
guber2nac@aol.com

Saturday, September 7

2002 Reunion

Greyhound Pets of America/Central
New Hampshire

11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Rollins Park
Concord, N.H.

This is a low-key, family-type affair featuring a cookout with hamburgers, hot dogs, and lots of homemade goodies. Fun games for the hounds, costume class, silent auction, and Blue Hound Traders. Shade available, but please bring water.

Contact: 1-888-366-1472 or
ken.wright@gpa-cnhc.org

Saturday, September 7

Woody's Walk & Run Fest

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Friends of Greyhound Support of Kansas City
The Woodlands Racetrack
Kansas City, Kan.

One mile walk (Woody's Walk) followed by games, vendors, obedience session, and a lot of good friends and fun. Proceeds benefit the Pups Without Partners Greyhound Adoption Kennel and Greyhound Support of Kansas City.

Contact: Shannon Henson, (816) 252-8056 or
Greyhoundgirl252@aol.com

Saturday and Sunday, September 7 and 8

Ninth Annual Canine Fun Days and Greyhound Reunion

11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Greyhound Adoption of Ohio, Inc.
Cleveland Metroparks Polo Field
Moreland Hills, Ohio

Two-day outdoor (tented) family festival for all dogs and their people. Try the agility and lure courses, watch canine freestyle, visit with over twenty breed rescue groups, enter fun dog shows, play in the kids' area, eat and shop.

Contact: Linda Perko, 1-800-269-1148 or
RJRJLP@aol.com

Saturday, September 14

GreyFest

11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Greyhound Pets, Inc.
Hern Iron Works (kennel location)
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

This is our yearly picnic. See where the dogs live before they're adopted. Share food, participate in live and silent auctions and raffles, and buy from a variety of vendors.

Contact: Kate Hilmer, (509) 533-0760 or
greymom@cet.com

Saturday, September 14

Annual Picnic and Reunion

11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Greyhound Rescue, Inc. of Elkridge, Md.
Waterloo State Park
Columbia, Md.

Annual picnic and reunion of all retired ex-racers adopted through our organization. We provide hamburgers, hot dogs, drinks, and basics. Each attendee brings a dish to share. Fun, games, silent auction, vendors.

Contact: Darlene Riden, 410-721-1154 or
driden@erols.com

Saturday, September 14 (rain date September 15)

GRNE Greyhound Reunion and Walk-a-thon

11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Greyhound Rescue of New England, Inc.
River Bend Farm
Uxbridge, Mass.

Bring your Greyhounds for fun, games, and shopping. Participate in a fundraiser walk-a-thon.

Contact: Michelle Chiasson, 508-478-1617 or
Greyhounds@gnci.net;
www.Greyhoundrescue.org

Sunday, September 15

Greyhound Appreciation Picnic

11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

First State Greyhound Rescue, Inc.
Brandywine Creek State Park
Wilmington, Del.

Games and contests for you and your dog, vendors, CGC testing, pet photographer, animal communicator, silent auction, 50/50 raffle, and food.

Contact: Valerie DeLisle, (302) 992-0566 or
furryfriends4u@comcast.net

Saturday, September 21 (rain date September 22)

WAG Games & Gathering

11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

WAG - We Adopt Greyhounds, Inc.
Wharton Brook State Park
Wallingford/North Haven, Conn. Line

Games, vendors galore, good eats, silent auction, lots to learn, chat with other Greyhound owners.

Contact: Ellie Goldstein, 203-288-7024 or
877-595-0991 or audice@aol.com

Sunday, September 22

Greyhound Walking Club of Central New York Benefit for Canine Cancer Research

11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The Greyhound Walking Club of Central New York
Willow Bay Picnic Area, Onondaga Lake Park
Liverpool, N.Y. (Syracuse area)

Greyhound walk and picnic to benefit The Greyhound Cancer Research Fund of the Morris Animal Foundation. Our guest speaker is Cynthia Branigan, President of Make Peace with Animals and author of *Adopting the Racing Greyhound*, *Living with a Greyhound* and *The Reign of the Greyhound*.

Contact: Mary Mills, (315) 478-8549;
brindle123@hotmail.com or
webslave@Greyhoundwalkingclub.com

Sunday, September 22

Third Annual Picnic

10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Greyheart Greyhound Rescue & Adoption of
Michigan, Inc.

Merriman Hollow Shelter, Hines Park
Westland, Mich.

Games, raffle, silent auction, blessing of the hounds, vendors, and lots of Greyhound merchandise.

Contact: 1-866-GET-GREY (toll free) or
www.greyheart.org

Sunday, September 22

Inaugural Picnic

12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Greyhound Pets of America/Indianapolis
The Greyhound Resort
7201 East 100 South
Whitestown, Ind.

Join us for an afternoon of fun for people and dogs alike. Lee Livingood will be on hand for discussion and book signings. Silent auction, picnic king and queen photo contest, professional pet photographer and great merchandise. Hamburgers and hot dogs provided. Bring a dish to share.

Contact: Vicki Knorr at (317) 255-4824 or
vknorr@gpaindy.org

you're invited

Thursday, September 26 through Sunday
September 29

Beach Bound Hounds 2002

Greyhound Crossroads
Myrtle Beach, S.C.

For the third year, Greyhounds from all over the Southeast gather for a weekend of fun, beach walking, games, and just plain relaxing.
Contact: Kim Owens, 864-995-3112 or GreyCrazy@aol.com

Friday, September 27 through Sunday,
September 29

Prairie Beach – A Gathering of Champions

Heartland Greyhound Adoption
Altoona, Iowa

Greyhound supporters from the Midwest and beyond are invited to join us for a weekend celebration of Greyhounds. We'll have a host of fun events for Greyhounds and their families and informative speakers covering topics such as Greyhound health care and training.

Contact: Mary Neubauer, 515-226-0958, maryandrhett@msn.com;
Joe Gilbert, 515-967-9317 or jmgbm@mindspring.com;
Jorene King, 515-967-6564, jorenecross@aol.com;
www.heartlandgreyhoundadoption.org

Saturday, September 28

Second Chance for Greyhounds Twelfth Annual Reunion and Fundraiser

11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Second Chance for Greyhounds
Kalamazoo Kennel Club
Kalamazoo, Mich.

Join us for games, silent auction, new contests, vendors, and more. Event held rain or shine at our indoor facility.

Contact: 616-349-5104; www.scfg.org

Saturday, September 28

Fourth Annual Reunion

11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Lake Erie Greyhound Rescue, Inc.
Lagrange Lions Park
240 Glendale
Lagrange, Ohio

Contests for hounds and humans, silent auction, Chinese auction, nail trimming, microchipping, Greyhound merchandise for sale, food and beverages.
Contact: Sally Hennessey, (440) 466-1347 or Greyhound@ncweb.com

Sunday, September 29

RROC Benefit

11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Retired Racers Ohio Connection
Huron County Fairgrounds
Norwalk, Ohio
Raffles, auction, vendors, food.
Contact: Becky Winkelman, 419-663-6262 or 4winks@accnorwalk.com

Saturday, October 5

GPA-OK Annual Picnic

11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Greyhound Pets of America/Oklahoma
Hunter Park
6000 East 91st Street
Tulsa, Okla.

Annual gathering of adopters and hounds, with food, games and silent auction.

Contact: Cheryl Holmberg, President,
(918) 712-1775 or greyhnds@gbonline.com

Sunday, October 6

Sixth Annual Reunion

12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Peoria Greyhound Adoption, Inc.
St. Bernard's Catholic School Gym
509 E. Kansas
Peoria, Ill.

Blessing of the hounds, silent auction, Greyhound vendors, photography, nail trims, refreshments, and lots of fun for everyone.

Contact: Theresa Klein, (309) 923-8941 or kleins@bwsys.net;
www.Greyhound-adoption.org or peoriaGreyhound@hotmail.com

Saturday, October 19

Greyhounds, Glamour & Glitz

11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
USA DOG (Defenders Of Greyhounds)
Sweet Charity Party Pavilion
Indianapolis, Ind.

Luncheon, entertainment, silent auction.
Fifty dollars per ticket.

Contact: Velda Boenitz, (317) 244-0113 or vjnboenitz@earthlink.net

Saturday, October 19

Greyhound Jamboree

11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Greyhound Pets of America/Central Texas
San Gabriel Park
Georgetown, Texas
Enjoy a day among the hounds in a wonderful outdoor setting under shaded trees by the river. Greyhound games and contests with prizes, Speed Alley, vendors, raffle, and lots of fun.
Contact: Bobbie Wier, 512-255-1163 or racersaver@prodigy.net;
Diane Schiesser, 512-345-0481 or gpago@austin.tx.com;
Bob Trapp, 512-267-7063 or rfrtrapp@aol.com;
www.gpacentraltexas.org

Saturday, October 19

Fall Reunion

1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Arizona Greyhound Rescue
Christopher Columbus Park
Silverbell Road (just north of Grant)
Tucson, Ariz.
Greyhounds and their two-legged friends are invited to a fun afternoon of games, shopping, discussions, and food.
Contact: Dawn Melichar, (520) 299-1496 or snowythegreyt@yahoo.com

Saturday, October 19

Howl-O-Ween Bash 2002

11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Greyhound Pets of America/Greater Orlando
Longwood, Fl.
Reunion, fundraising, and adoption event with games, music, vendors, and more. Admission \$5.00/person.
Contact: Debbie Utz or Judy Shamp at (407) 332-4754 or www.Greyhoundpetsorlando.org

Sunday, October 27

Greyhound PetFest 2002

11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Greyhound Pets, Inc.
Evergreen State Fairgrounds Pavilion Building
Monroe, Wash.
Greyhound Pets North Seattle area's ninth annual reunion, social, and Greyhound get-together complete with a live auction, silent auction, raffle, vendors, pet photography, live entertainment, and more.
Contact: Cathy Munro, (425) 742-1388 or cathy@eskimo.com; http://macca-1.org/petfest2002



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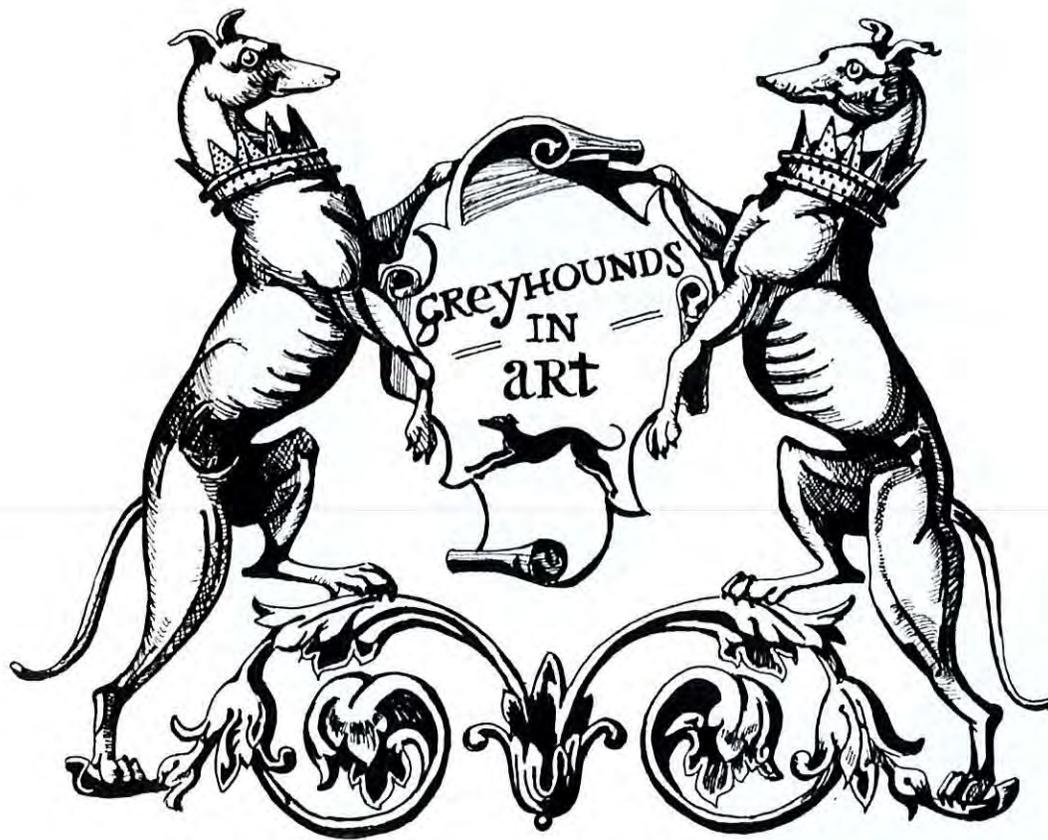
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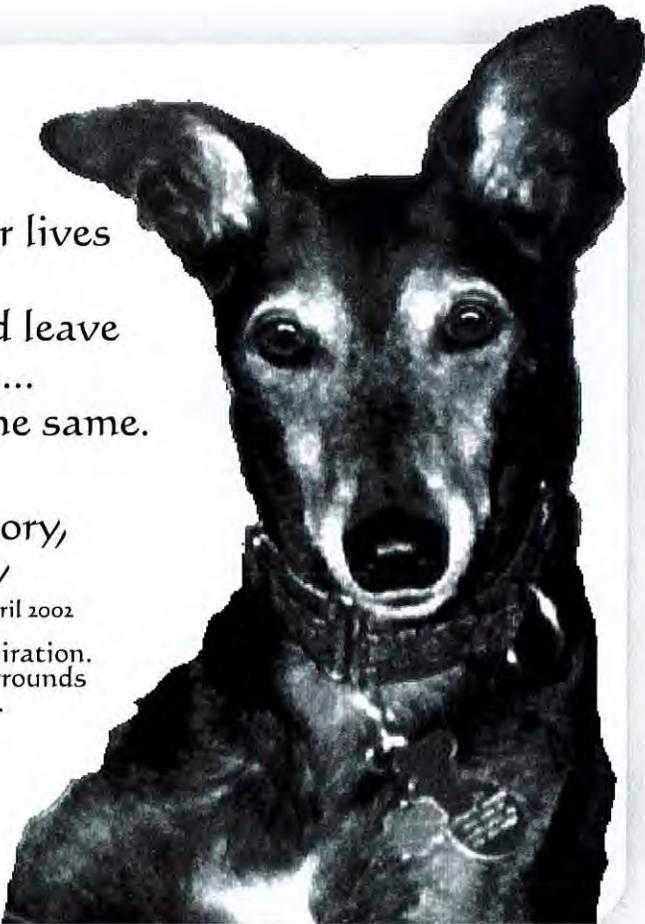
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Berry

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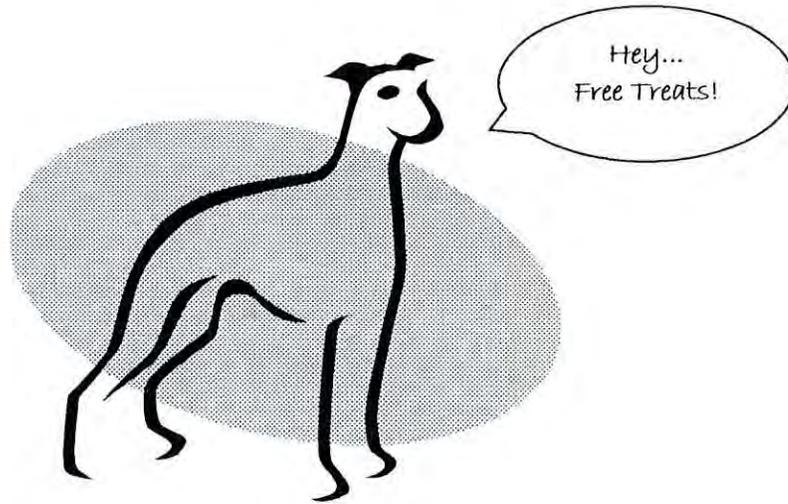
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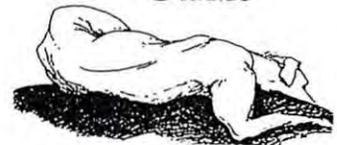
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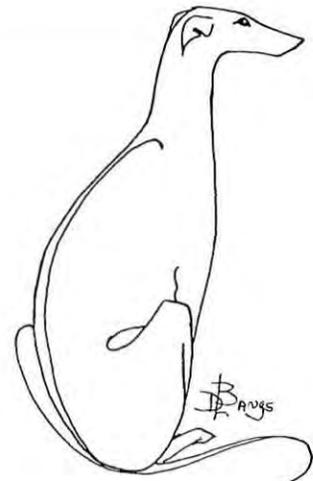
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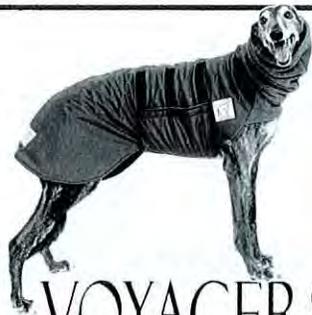
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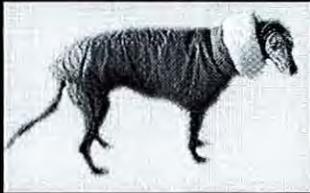


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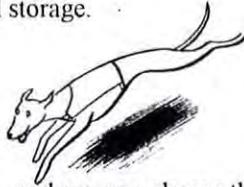
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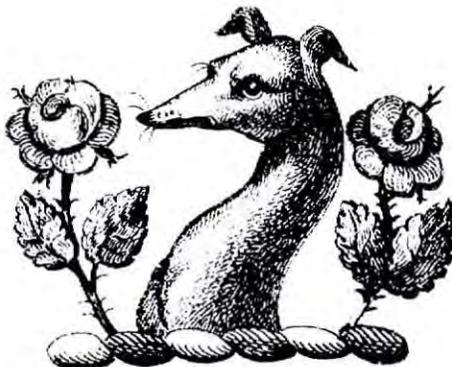
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Pasta Ann 1994-2002

Pasta joined the Gilley Girls Dancing Greyhounds in 1998. Jodi Dotson presented Pasta to Kathleen and Gil Gilley during their performance at a Greyhound Pets of America National Convention. Pasta was quick to teach all members of the family that Girls just want to have fun, and all family members were to live by this motto. Pasta traveled over 70,464 miles promoting Greyhound adoption with the Gilley Girls Dancing Greyhounds Drill Team. She was also a designated "Celebrity Dog" for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. She was on loan, as all angels are, but her spirit will be with everyone she met through eternity.



Lanky Lance 1990-2002

Maggie McCurry and Mark Pettijohn adopted Lance from the Tucson track at age five, and he changed their lives. Maggie McCurry is the pilot for Wings for Greyhounds, an organization that flies retired racing Greyhounds from Arizona race tracks to adoption groups throughout California. Maggie and Lance have been profiled in numerous television programs and newspaper and magazine articles, including "Lance's Big Night Out" (Fall 2001 CG). Lance is also featured in a new public service announcement in which Ed Asner refers to him as the Mission Commander for Wings for Greyhounds. Because the PSA is still being played on radio stations in the southwestern United States, Lance continues to spread the word about Greyhound adoption, as he did in life.

Sharon (Bets On Sharon) 1995-2002

If you've driven through Kansas on I-70, you've seen Sharon's face on billboards. If you visited the Greyhound Hall of Fame in Abilene, you probably met her. For four years, this white and brindle girl served as greeter for the Hall of Fame with her red fawn sister, Chig. Sharon began her career as Greyhound ambassador after her racing career ended at Bluffs Run Greyhound Park in 1998. Outgoing and playful, she was much loved by her friends at the Hall of Fame, and she is keenly missed.

This section bids farewell to the Greyhounds who were the focal point of previous articles, were pictured in Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine, or who had a profound impact on the world of Greyhounds. We regret that because of space limitations we cannot picture other deceased Greyhounds in this section nor can we publish written tributes and poems about them. May they all race with the angels.



Celebrating Greyhounds: The Magazine

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