



# cg magazine

celebrating greyhounds

Spring 2013

\$6.50

**ALSO INSIDE:**

**Enrich Your Dog's Life**

**Greyhounds in Art in Italy**

**Emergency Preparedness  
and Your Greyhound**



Isis, adopted by Jeani and Jim Gray of Raleigh, N.C.

## cgmagazine

The Magazine for Greyhound Adopters,  
Owners, and Friends  
Vol. 18; No. 1 Spring 2013

### Front Cover Credit:

Fanta (Lonesome Linda), adopted by  
Heather Bell and Robin Jans of Lethbridge,  
Alberta. Photograph by Heather Bell

### Back Cover Credit:

Quebec (Flying Quebec), Mama Cressy  
(Flying Crestline), Vaz (Flying Vasquez),  
Puck (GetInMyBelly), Ratatouille (Zambezi  
Zinger), Mully (Pikes Mulligan), Peoria  
(Flying Peoria), and Carrie (Scary Girl),  
adopted by Jeff and Shelley Lake of  
Paola, Kan.

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# Adoptions

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Angel, adopted by Dan and Debbie Merrell of Franklin, Tenn.

While putting this issue of CG together, I kept thinking of a television commercial that airs a lot this time of year, during the Valentine's Day — Mother's Day shopping season. I haven't seen it yet, but I expect to soon.

You've probably seen it. It starts with an exterior shot of a cabin in the woods during a fierce storm. Then we move to the candlelit interior of the cabin, where a man and a woman stand next to each other, looking out the window.

"In all the years we've been coming here," he says, "I've never seen a storm like this."

A sudden clap of thunder startles the woman. She gasps and turns to the man, who takes her into his arms.

"I'm right here," he says. "And I always will be."

He presents her with a diamond necklace from a chain store, and they embrace as the storm rages on.

I imagine how this scene would play if it were about me or any of the other women I know. She would be standing at the window, wearing sweatpants and an oversized t-shirt, watching the storm, eating something messy out of the pan in which she cooked it, surrounded by large dogs who are waiting for her to drop something. The television would be on, with storm coverage pre-empting regular programming. If the power was out, she'd be listening to the battery-operated weather radio. And if the weather got really bad, she and her dogs would take cover.

There's a lot not to like about this commercial. It has taken a fair amount of flak from online observers, who criticize everything from its slavish recreation of gender stereotypes to its resemblance to a scene from a horror film. I don't know about that last part — I don't watch a lot of scary movies — but I can say that almost nothing about this commercial speaks to me.

Except one thing. Every time I see that commercial, I think to myself: *If the storm is that scary, why don't they go to the basement?* I realize the storm is merely a narrative device to drive the woman into the man's arms. Still, every time I see this commercial, I think about whether the dogs and I are ready for the next big storm. How much dog food do I have in the house? Can everybody descend the basement steps? Will the dogs flip out? Where is my cell phone? If we have to leave, are we ready?

If those are questions you've asked yourself, I think you will find the articles in this issue of CG engrossing. We asked Greyhound owners who weathered natural disasters with their dogs to share their experiences — of evacuation, hunkering down, or dealing with the aftermath. We can learn a lot from their stories.



## Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine

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For writing and photography guidelines, visit [www.adopt-a-greyhound.org/cgmagazine/guidelines.html](http://www.adopt-a-greyhound.org/cgmagazine/guidelines.html) or send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to CG Magazine Guidelines, PO Box 120048, Saint Paul, MN 55112. Initial queries preferred.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR AND QUESTIONS

CG Magazine/Editorial Office, PO Box 120048, Saint Paul, MN 55112; [editor@adopt-a-greyhound.org](mailto:editor@adopt-a-greyhound.org).

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The magazine's purpose is to provide information about Greyhounds as a breed. Recognizing that there are differing points of view on issues such as racing, breeding, and adoption policies, to mention a few, the magazine does not advocate a position on these issues. It will publish articles and reader letters regarding these issues if deemed appropriate. Unless otherwise stated, The Greyhound Project, Inc. does not necessarily agree with materials published herein. Ideas and opinions are those of the writers. No authentication or approval is implied by the editors or publishers, who assume no liability for information contained herein. *Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine* reserves the right to refuse publication, to edit or modify any material, and hold such material for an indeterminate period. If your Greyhound is ill, please see a veterinarian.

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## Trey's Ray

We were excited to see the story about Kiowa Sweet Trey's induction into the Greyhound Hall of Fame ("Kiowa Sweet Trey, the Hall of Fame's Newest Inductee," Fall 2012 CG). We are fortunate to have adopted one of Trey's offspring, Kiowa Reimer "Ray." While Ray did not inherit his father's racing prowess, he definitely got his handsome good looks, and he's a winner to us. Wherever we go, he definitely steals the show!

**Dan and Suzanne Thompson**  
Whittier, Calif.

## A Poet is Silent

I was so pleased to see Nikkie on your In Memoriam page, along with Arthur Winfield Knight's poem ("A Greyhound and Two Funerals," Fall 2012 CG). Arthur was a stubborn man, and one of the things he vehemently chose not to do was to go to doctors. So when cancer caught up with him it was already in its final stages, and Arthur passed away on September 9. I was Arthur and Kit's adoption representative when they adopted Nikkie in December 2003, through Greyhound Adoption Center in San Diego, Calif. They were a late middle-aged couple who had never had a dog. I did feel some trepidation, but something told me it would be OK. And it was; Nikkie changed their lives completely. She brought meaning to their lives. I've never known a Greyhound more cared for, more loved, and more a part of the family. She made them a "family." I was delighted every time I saw one of Arthur's poems in CG — always bare-bones in style, but always letting the reader know exactly what was on Nikkie's mind. If you read any poem about Nikkie, you knew her. Thank you so much for publishing the poems over the years, and for your final tribute to Nikkie.

**Barbara Willcox**  
Via E-Mail

*Barbara, thank you for letting us know of Arthur's passing. Since 2007, I've received a letter from Arthur every year, enclosing several poems about Nikkie that we published in upcoming issues. "A Greyhound and Two Funerals" was the last of the poems he sent to CG. We will miss Arthur's work; we express our condolences to his widow, Kit. —Ed.*



Isabella, adopted by Karen Shea and Bruce Wood of Manakin-Sabot, Va.

## Help for HUG

I was very impressed by the HUG program in Ireland ("The Second Leg of the Journey: Homes for Unwanted Greyhounds (HUG), Fall 2012 CG). Such hard work by all involved. I am humbled. I would like to contribute to their Challenge One Hundred program, but could not figure out how to do this. Also, the photos by Isabelle Stoff were absolutely gorgeous! If she ever visits Alaska, I want her to come to my home and photograph my Greyhounds!

**Kathy Madej**  
Anchorage, Ak.

To donate to HUG's Challenge One Hundred program, visit [homesforunwanted-greyhounds.wordpress.com/hug-building-fund/](http://homesforunwanted-greyhounds.wordpress.com/hug-building-fund/) and click on the Donate button. The photos of Isabelle Stoff's Greyhounds were taken by Paul Croes. —Ed.

## Another Art Lover

Thank you very much for the informative articles and photos by Mr. Henry Townsend regarding the grace and nobility of Greyhounds in art history.

**Marilyn Wong**  
Via E-Mail

*Marilyn, we hope you'll enjoy the first of Henry's two-part series, "Greyhounds in Art in Italy," in this issue. —Ed*

*Thank you for your letters (up to 300 words) and photographs. Please send letters and photos by mail to Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine, Attn: Editor, PO Box 120048, Saint Paul, MN 55112. Letters sent via e-mail to [editor@adopt-a-greyhound.org](mailto:editor@adopt-a-greyhound.org) are also welcome. Please include your home telephone number if you would like your letter to be considered for publication. Letters may be edited for brevity and/or clarity.*

*We regret that we cannot publish every letter and photo.*

# News for Greyhound Owners and Friends



Indy, adopted by Gene Wallace of Johnson City, Tenn.

## LESLEY EZKOVICH NAMED 2012 GREYHOUND ADOPTION PERSON OF THE YEAR BY AGC

The 2012 Greyhound Adoption Person of the Year is Lesley Tierney Ezkovich, co-founder of It's a Grey Area Greyhound Adoption in Pearl River, Louisiana. Ezkovich was selected from 16 nominees for the prestigious award, which was presented at the February meeting of the American Greyhound Council (AGC) and the American Greyhound Track Operators Association (AGTOA) in Las Vegas.

Ezkovich founded It's a Grey Area in 2010, but her involvement with Greyhounds and racing goes back more than 20 years. An owner of active racers herself, Lesley is known as a dedicated advocate who has built strong relationships with other Greyhound owners, trainers, adoption groups, and prospective adopters.

"This award isn't about me," said Ezkovich when notified of her selection. "It's really for my entire organization. We have an amazing group of volunteers, and they are the ones who make it possible for us to do what we do for Greyhounds."

Those who nominated Ezkovich for the honor described her as a "hero," a "wonderful motivator and organizer," and a tireless advocate for Greyhounds at every stage of their lives. One nominator who has adopted three Greyhounds from It's a Grey Area wrote: "Lesley has an uncanny ability to match the right hound with the right family. She is totally deserving of the honor of 2012 Greyhound Adoption Person of the Year."

It's a Grey Area is known for its commitment to ensuring that every Greyhound transitions successfully to retired life in its adoptive home. In addition to placing Greyhounds, the organization provides help and support to adoptive owners whose Greyhounds are having difficulty adjusting to home life, or dealing with health or behavioral issues. The group also assists in finding lost Greyhounds and reuniting them with their owners.

AGC spokesman Gary Guccione said: "We had 16 outstanding nominees this year, and it was a challenge to single out one individual. But Lesley's record of dedication, commitment, and service made her an obvious choice."

Ezkovich and her husband were scheduled to be the guests of AGC at the February award presentation, where she also was to receive a \$500 check for her organization.

Nominations for the 2013 Greyhound Adoption Person of the Year will be accepted beginning March 1, 2013. For more information, visit [www.agcouncil.com](http://www.agcouncil.com).  
—*American Greyhound Council*

## DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING PHOTOS FOR 2014 CELEBRATING GREYHOUNDS CALENDAR IS APRIL 5

The deadline for next year's calendar is fast approaching. To submit a photo, please include your name and address, your dog's name, and your adoption group's name and location **on each photo**. To avoid damaging the photo, print the information on tape or a label before affixing it to the back of the photo.

If you got your dogs directly from the racing owner or trainer, from a shelter or any other source, that's great; all are just as eligible for the calendar as dogs placed by an adoption group.

Prints of any size are acceptable. Generally, it is better not to try to enlarge a smaller print yourself. The original is usually clearer and easier to work with. The calendar staff will have greater success at producing enlargements than you will.

Digital photos are welcome. Submit them on a CD, accompanied by individual prints clearly marked with the photo name/number. Be sure your full name, address, your dog's name, and your adoption group's name and location are listed **on each print as well as the CD**.

If you submit photos that were taken by someone else, please obtain their written permission for us to use the photos. An e-mail from the photographer is acceptable for this purpose. If the photo was taken at a nursing home, school, or therapy program of some sort, please obtain permission from the facility and program. Include a copy of that permission with your submission.

Photo selection is done by a group of Greyhound adopters who volunteer for the task. The calendar crew receives hundreds of photos, so please limit your submissions to your very best shots.

**Please, please, please label everything.** Nothing is more frustrating than sorting through all the photos that we want to use only to find that one of them is anonymous. It's usually one of the really great pictures that we want.

Send your submissions to:  
The Greyhound Project, Inc.  
Attn: Calendar Photos  
PO Box 5239  
Framingham, MA 01701

Photo selection will occur in mid-April. The members of the volunteer group selecting photos change from year to year, depending on who is around and wants to participate on the weekend that we gather around a big table and go through the photos. People looking at the photos generally won't know the people or the dogs in the pictures. They are looking for the images that "speak" to them and fit the applicable theme and design of the calendar.

Photos that are not selected for the calendar are eventually routed to *Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine*, where they may appear in future issues. Sorry, but we are not able to return photos. —*The Greyhound Project*



Moses, adopted by Jim and Carolyn Johnston of Bakersfield, Calif.



Jaime and Stanley, adopted by Kristen and Gyeong Park of Spotsylvania, Va.

## AKC HUMANE FUND GRANTS HELP WOMEN AND THEIR PETS ESCAPE FROM DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

In an effort to end domestic violence and keep pets safe, the AKC Humane Fund awarded grants to eleven different “pets allowed” women’s shelters across the country in honor of October’s National Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

The recipient shelters in Safford, Ariz.; Cabot, Ark.; Crescent City and Susanville, Calif.; Fort Collins, Colo.; Alpharetta, Ga.; Aurora, Ind.; Spruce Pine and Whiteville, N.C.; Spearfish, S.D.; and Spokane, Wash. allow women and their pets a safe place to escape domestic violence.

“Women entering shelters already face many challenges, and with these grants, leaving a pet doesn’t have to be one of them,” said Dennis B. Sprung, President and CEO of the American Kennel Club. “In these difficult times, having a canine or feline member of the family close by can promote healing and assist women and their families through a big life change.”

### Did you know?

- Between 25-40% of domestic violence victims are unable to escape abusive sit-

uations because they worry about what will happen to their pets or livestock should they leave.

- Nearly half of battered women with pets report they delayed entering a shelter because of concerns for an animal left behind, according to the University of Denver’s Institute for Human-Animal Connection.
- A recent study found that more than 85 percent of women entering domestic violence shelters talked about pet abuse in their family, and as many as 71 percent of battered women say their pets have been killed, harmed, or threatened by their abusers.
- According to Purdue University’s Center for the Human-Animal Bond, contact with animals decreases blood pressure, reduces anxiety, and provides a general sense of well-being.

To donate to make more of these grants possible, visit [www.akchumanefund.org](http://www.akchumanefund.org), e-mail [akchumanefund@kac.org](mailto:akchumanefund@kac.org) or call (919) 233-9767. Shelters interested in funds for operational support or capital improvements related to the housing of pets can download an application at [www.akchumanefund.org](http://www.akchumanefund.org).  
—American Kennel Club

## VISIT CELEBRATING GREYHOUNDS MAGAZINE ON FACEBOOK!

*Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine* now has over 3,600 Facebook fans from at least 20 countries. The purpose of the site is to connect Greyhound-admiring subscribers (and non-subscribers) to each other and with some of our content, including magazine covers. Fans have been sharing their thoughts on the magazine and photos of their Greyhounds. Some of the comments we receive on the site will be selected for publication in CG. To join or check it out, go to [www.facebook.com/cgmagazine](http://www.facebook.com/cgmagazine). To those who have joined — please invite others, and keep the feedback and fan pictures coming!

## Oops!

The Winter 2012 issue of *Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine* misidentified the author of “Hailey’s Wish,” one of the essays that received Honorable Mention in our 2012 Writing Contest. The author’s name is Christine Jelcic.

## NEW ARCHIVE OF GREYHOUND ARTICLES AVAILABLE

Greyhound Articles Online ([www.grey-tarticles.wordpress.com/](http://www.grey-tarticles.wordpress.com/)), an online article anthology for Greyhound lovers, invites you to come have a look. The website currently houses a library of more than 400 articles written between 1899 to the present. Articles are always being added; many are especially helpful to new adopters.

The material is primarily from early issues of *Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine* that are no longer available for purchase and from WAG Tales, an award-winning magazine-formatted Greyhound adoption group newsletter published from 1993 through 2002. Some articles from *Greyhounds Today*, a Greyhound adoption-oriented magazine published 1992-1998 by creator and publisher Jeannette Steiner, have also been scanned and added. GAP is looking for GT issues from 1997 and 1998. If anyone has these, please contact Marcia Herman at [Greyhoundarticles@gmail.com](mailto:Greyhoundarticles@gmail.com) or at [www.facebook.com/GreyhoundAO](http://www.facebook.com/GreyhoundAO). Also online are older and current original articles from a variety of other sources. Despite the

age of some of the articles, most are relevant today and worth a read. We welcome articles from group newsletters.

Our goal is to create a reference library of non-fiction, fiction, and historically significant articles related to Greyhounds. As such, it is a repository of articles and ideas that may or may not reflect current thinking or methodology. Original publication dates are listed wherever possible to give the reader a historical perspective about how a subject was perceived in any particular timeframe. We do not advocate one way of thinking over another as that is not the purpose of a library.

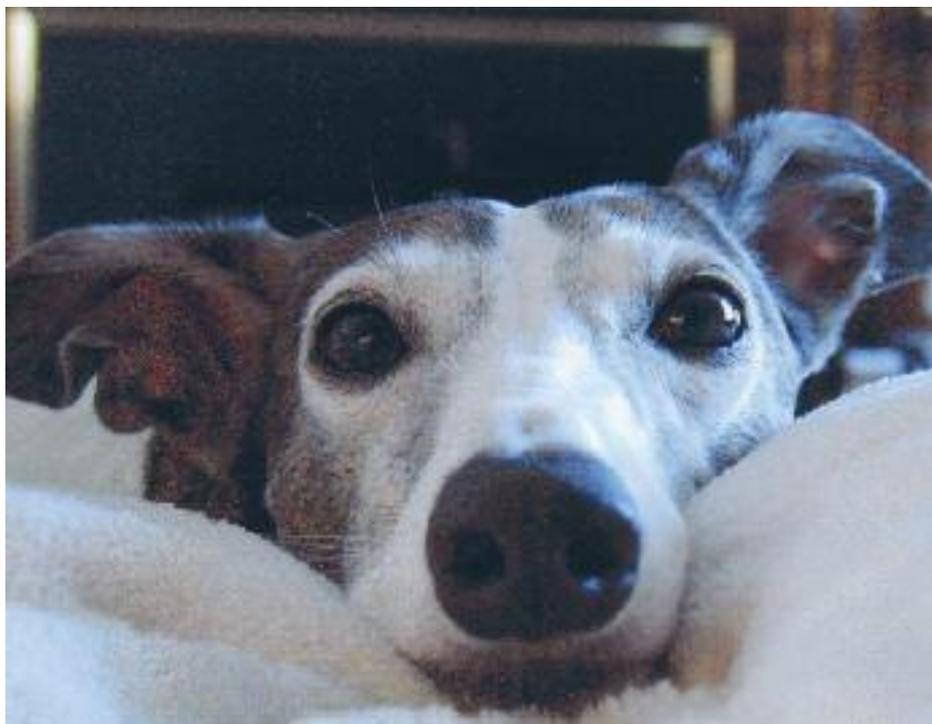
Topics covered include activities, adopters' basic info, adoption/rescue history, behavior and training, care and comfort, crafts, feeding, nutrition and weight, fiction and poems, first aid/injuries, fund raisers, inspiring and sweet Greyhound stories, grooming, Hall of Fame/racing, hero hounds, history/biography, humor, the Kira series, medical and physiology, medical-website links, puppies, special needs and seniors, book and product reviews, safety, think pieces, and other articles that are unclassifiable and unique.  
—*Marcia Herman*

## FREE ISSUE OF CELEBRATING GREYHOUNDS MAGAZINE TO ADOPTERS OF SENIORS, 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 one free issue of *Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine*. All the adopter needs to do is send a note to the Editor at [editor@adopt-a-greyhound.org](mailto:editor@adopt-a-greyhound.org) or *CG Magazine*, PO Box 120048, Saint Paul, MN 55112. The note must include a description of the dog's special need, the name of the adoption group or other source of the dog, and the adopter's name and mailing address. (The special needs Greyhound is either at least 7 years old at the time of adoption or one of any age who has a special medical problem at the time of adoption.) There is no time limit on this special offer.

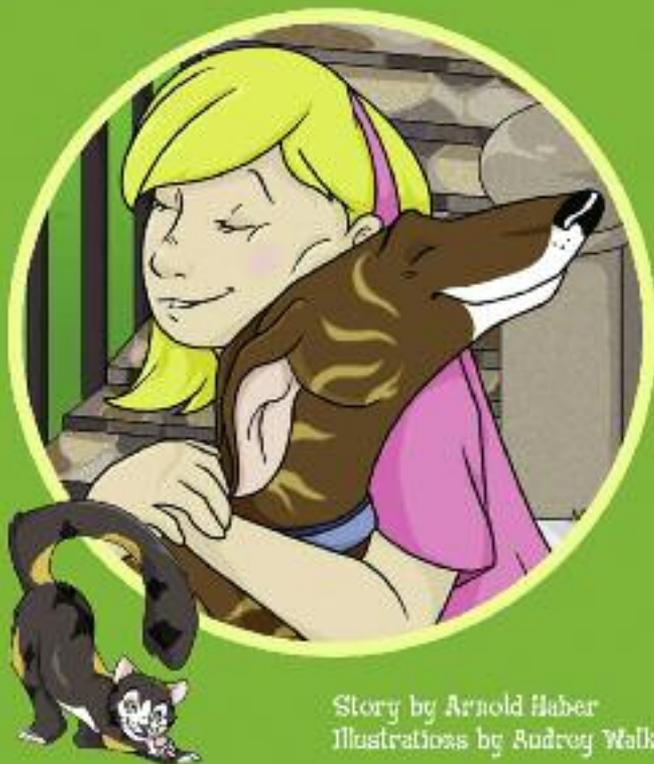
## MOVING? NEED TO RENEW?

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Lulu, adopted by Belinda Brzeszinski of Java Center, N.Y.

**FAST DOG - COOL CAT - HOT DOG**  
**AND**  
**A TIME FOR ACTION**



# Greyhound Fiction for Young Readers

By Bill Leenerts

*Fast Dog — Cool Cat — Hot Dog and A Time for Action*

By Arnold Haber

Playa del Rey, Calif.: Dyllie Productions (2011)

ISBN 978-0983969303

\$15.95

I recently finished reading a book for young people called *Fast Dog – Cool Cat – Hot Dog and A Time for Action*. That’s quite a mouthful, so I’ll just call it *A Time for Action*. It’s the story of a Greyhound named Comet who leaves the racetrack and comes to live with 8-year-old Patty and her parents, Rob and Jesse Brooks. Comet’s whole world is turned upside down when he arrives at his new home.

As with any Greyhound fresh from the track, he’s scared and confused. Comet discovers many strange new objects, and different and situations. At his first run-in with stairs, he thinks, “What kind of place is this? Do these things grow here?” His comical encounter with a mirror is similar to an incident with one of my own Greyhounds. Comet’s new family patiently helps him adapt to his new home, with hugs, belly rubs, and his favorite treat — peanut butter.

This confused ex-racer is soon befriended by a cool cat named Rodrigo de Santana and an Alaskan Malamute named Igloo, who always seems to be too hot. Rodrigo and Igloo decide to teach Comet about city life in order to make him streetwise and not end up like Tripod, the three-legged dog living down the block.

Comet isn’t the only one facing new challenges. Patty tells her parents about an upsetting encounter with a bully at school. Though they want to help, they wisely suggest she try to find a solution on her own. However, her three determined furry friends decide they must help Patty with her bully problem, and of course, several obstacles stand in their way. Their solutions are as funny as they are unique.

*A Time for Action* was written by Arnold “Arne” Haber, who hails from Brooklyn, New York and lives in Queens, which is the location of the story. Arne is obviously familiar with Greyhounds and humorously shows

what they might be thinking. Just try not to laugh as Rodrigo tells Comet about “the great secret peanut butter mine...Where all the peanut butter in the world comes from.” The illustrations by Audrey Walker are wonderful — very detailed and colorful. I only wish they were larger so they could be better enjoyed by all.

This book appeals to children of several age groups. While too long for a single bedtime story, reading two or three chapters a night should be manageable. And this book would be perfect for the child who’s been reading for some time and is ready for something a little more challenging than Dick and Jane. *A Time for Action* should fit the bill, although the mini Spanish lessons sprinkled throughout might require some help from a grown-up.

I quite enjoyed *A Time for Action* and hope to join fast dog Comet, cool cat Rodrigo, and hot dog Igloo in future adventures. ■

---

*Bill Leenerts lives in Louisville, Ky. with his wife Pat and adopted Greyhounds Susie and Jack. They all volunteer with Shamrock Greyhound Placement ([www.greyhoundsofshamrock.org](http://www.greyhoundsofshamrock.org)). Bill and Pat have been involved with Greyhound adoption since 1982.*

## Ode to a Couch

This is my couch.  
This is my favorite place.  
Unless you count the futon  
In the den, or their bed  
Or the fast bed on wheels.

Or the wool rug  
In the sun  
By the big window  
Where I glare at chipmunks  
And dream of furry snacks.

Then there’s my bed  
Fluffy. Comfy. Smelly.  
On the floor in a corner  
Of his office. Where he is.  
And I am. Always.

—Mardy Fones



Bobbie, adopted by Lisa Richards of Great Mills, Md.



A relaxed Poppy reclines at a meet-and-greet. *David Williams*

# Excitable Boy No More

By Barbara Williams

**W**e were warned from the outset: Most Popular was NOT small-animal safe. But what the heck; we were experienced Greyhound owners now, not the newbies we were only six months earlier when Lancelot (Cagin Cabalero) took up residence as our first dog ever, not just as our first Greyhound.

Then there was the pity factor. Most Popular was not living up to his name. In fact, he was decidedly Un-Popular since he had been waiting for adoption for nearly a year. Simple math shows he was an option when Lance made the big ride home with us in June 2008, shortly after entering the Mid-South Greyhound Adoption Option (MSGAO) program.

Not long after making Lance part of the household, we contemplated becoming a two-dog family. By the end of January 2009, we were back at the MSGAO kennel checking out Lance-companion candidates. While my husband and son were the driving forces in Lance's selection, Dog 2 was mine to choose.

"Who's been here the longest?" I asked and Most Popular was brought forth, with disclosures that he was not small-animal safe. For the sake of fairness we test-drove Lance with a couple other dogs, but it was obvious he and Poppy were a fine fit. Shortly later we were crossing the river with my 225-pound son and two large male Greyhounds tightly packed into the back seat of a Honda Accord, with Poppy's hair flying off him in a fur storm.



Poppy represents MidSouth Greyhound Adoption Option at a meet-and-greet, while brother Lance (brindle) relaxes at right. *David Williams*

A fitting tune for Poppy's introduction to our household was Warren Zevon's *Excitable Boy*. We quickly learned what "not small-animal safe" meant. At a meet-and-greet event where we were promoting the affability of Greyhounds, Poppy, crazed look on his face, constantly strained against the leash held firmly in my husband's hand. The ferrets scampering in a nearby display cage looked pretty darn enticing. We thought we had Poppy under control until it happened: A customer's small dog got too close to Poppy's face, to which he took exception. A snap (not vicious) from Poppy and a mini-dog peeing in fright abruptly ended the former's meet-and-greet career as he was quickly ushered home. We felt bad for Poppy, who actually is a much sweeter boy than brother Lance. My husband routinely found some alternative activity for the pariah when Lance and I headed off to subsequent meet-and-greet events.

We also had a few misadventures with Poppy on walks in our neighborhood. He was never the instigator, but whenever an off-

leash small dog tried to get in his face, Poppy ensured the offending animal made a sacrificial offering. Luckily the only blood spilled in one of these incidents was mine — a superficial scrape against a canine of the dental persuasion — and the owner of an aggressive Yorkie learned a valuable lesson about keeping his gate closed, reinforced by a visit from a Shelby County sheriff's deputy.

We had no regrets about making Poppy one of the family and his otherwise perfect (and truly endearing) behavior did not send us over the river to return him. He was our dog. We would deal with him, just like we would with our son if he had turned out to be a juvenile delinquent. We adapted to Poppy's needs, such as placing a red bandana around his neck at doggy events to warn others he was high-prey. Was it a red badge of courage or a scarlet letter, I wondered.

As time went on, we noticed Poppy reacting less to small dogs on our daily walks. He also quit barking at flowers (our excitable boy took issue with hyacinths growing in a neighbor's yard as spring came to the south

after his winter adoption). Animated Halloween yard decorations still elicited a reaction his second year with us, but a far more subdued one than the previous year.

None of this mellowing was due to the introduction of doggie downers into his system, we swear. Whatever the cause, the signs of mellowing were strong enough to encourage my husband and I to give him a second chance at a meet and greet. As befitting a glorious spring day, we were stationed outside the pet store, off to the side, so the mainstream traffic was not flowing immediately past Poppy. This former excitable boy acquitted himself admirably, although he stayed on his feet the entire two hours, unlike Lance who flops on the floor five minutes into a meet and greet. (Lance is famous for his Greyhound-skin-rug imitations.)

We gave Poppy another shot at meeting and greeting the next month. This time the sudden and early onset of summer heat drove us into the air-conditioned interior of the pet store. Poppy joined us for the latter portion of the event and again was as calm and affa-

ble as all his Greyhound brethren in attendance.

When the next event rolled around, my husband broached the thought of allowing Poppy to do a full-bore meet and greet. If Poppy got too excited, Dave would just take him home — no harm, no foul. Well, Poppy proved himself to be as meet-and-greet-worthy as any other Greyhound. No straining, no tension, no harm and no fouls at all. Lo and behold, he even decided to repose on one of the dog beds, doing a fair imitation of Laid-Back Lance. More than a year later, he is a staple at our meet and greets, even lounging on the floor for a considerable part of each event.

Not only has he been redeemed in the meet-and-greet world but also in the dog-shaving arena. For those who don't live in the heat and humidity of the south, allow me to explain that MSGAO conducts an annual dog wash as a fund-raiser. One of the options on the spa-day menu is getting your Greyhound shaved. It's a must for the dog's comfort in an area with 100% humidity and

100+ degree temperatures, even after night-fall.

A previous attempt at a summer shave ended up with a divot-covered Poppy. He took vigorous objection to the sound and the fury of the clippers wielded by Paul Cohen, an MSGAO volunteer who is a 30-year veteran of shaving Greyhounds. After Poppy's conniptions, he declared that the poor pup was on the "no-shave list." It was a singular dishonor for our pooch until another similarly squeamish Greyhound came along.

After two years with no summer haircut, Poppy began to resemble an alpaca. His hair filled the cup of the Dyson Pet-model vacuum, even after a good Furminating. You could stuff a throw pillow after just a few swipes along his back.

When the next year's summer dog-wash/shave fund-raiser arrived, we knew we had to subject Poppy to the clippers despite his views to the contrary. It took three of us to hold him when the shaving began, but midway through he resigned himself to it and the result was a cooler summer look, sans divots.

Even with these great strides for Poppy, we remain vigilant since he is a dog, not a reasoning human (not to say all humans are reasonable either). It is comforting that we no longer need to pirouette constantly on dog walks, watching warily for a free-range, furry scofflaw to wreak havoc.

So how did this miracle happen? There's no one particular thing we can put our fingers on that would explain the turnabout. Perhaps a lot of little things contributed to the change. Foremost, we took care to avoid situations that were stressful to him. Dog parks where small breeds are not segregated were avoided like the plague.

Now when any small dog hovers into sight on our walks, we merely tighten our hands on the leash rather than doing a 180-degree turn followed by a 100-yard dash. We allow brother Lance, Greyhound ambassador supreme, to greet the small animal with Poppy in the background, watching and learning. Then Poppy is allowed to approach and make similarly nice. We stay attuned to his reactions to ensure there will be no relapses, hanging on tight, standing close by and patting him to show our approval of this better behavior.

Maturity may be a factor. When Poppy joined our family he was four-and-a-half years old. By the time he turned six, the mellowing was evident.

Just as humans can grow and change, Poppy proved the same goes for high-prey dogs.

The proof is in the pudding, as the old saying goes. For Poppy, the proof was at a recent meet-and-greet, when a woman who looked somehow familiar stopped at our adoption table. "We love visiting the Greyhounds. These dogs are always so calm, except for that one time..." the woman reminisced. Then I knew why she looked familiar. It was the owner whose small dog Poppy attacked at that very first meet-and-greet.

"Yes, there's no calmer breed," I hurriedly agreed.

My husband and I glanced at each other, then at Poppy and smiled as he complacently reposed on the pet store floor. ■

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*Barbara Williams is a CG Copy Editor.*



Lady K, adopted by Thyra Zambuto of Long Beach, N.Y.



New dogs and new situations can be stressful or stimulating for your Greyhound. *Will Shumaker*

# Enriching Our Dog's Lives

By Deb Levasseur, CTB

**H**ave you ever wondered how you could enhance your dog's daily life with a few simple activities? The essentials to sustain a dog's life are food, water, shelter, urination and defecation, basic health care, and approximately 16 hours of sleep per day. However, most of us aspire to do more for our dogs than meet their basic needs. After all, they are our best friends and members of our families. In this article, I will detail the activities dogs generally prefer and dislike as well as share a list of activities to engage your dog.

Dogs are very curious animals. They are natural scavengers, hunters, protectors, and diggers. Dogs love to explore with their noses. This is by far their superlative sense, much like vision is to humans. Dogs also love to chew. I would go as far as to say that it is a basic need for dogs to chew sturdy bones and toys on a regular basis. Dogs love to relax with their humans as well. They are very content to curl up by our feet while we are reading or watching television. They need human affection and quality time with us. A box of boundless toys can be meaningless if we do not engage our dogs and have fun with them. This is also a very healthy activity for humans as well. We often do not take enough time out of our busy day to play and spend quality time with our dogs. Dogs really enjoy going for walks with us without being pressured to meet strangers of both the two- and four-legged variety. Simply stopping to chat with someone can cause some dogs to feel stress. Letting strangers pet your dog can put him over his tolerance

threshold. Tolerance of a situation is not the same as enjoyment. Digging is another activity dogs enjoy. Dogs dig to bury and find treasures and to create a cool place to lie. Dogs enjoy learning new things and having a simple job to do. Finally, they enjoy playing with their dog friends that they know and get along with well.

On the other hand, dogs do not enjoy getting revved up with excitement. It is important to note that excitement does not necessarily mean happiness. Think about this in human terms. If you are really excited to give a speech or get onto a plane, does this mean you are happy? When a dog gets overly excited to go for a walk, this is actually very stressful for him. When your dog barks and jumps up, his body is going through chemical changes that will take him hours or even days to recover from. Adrenaline (epinephrine) will release cortisol, a hormone that causes stress, which puts him in a fight-or-flight response mode. Adrenaline is cleared from the body fairly quickly, but cortisol can stay in the body anywhere from a few hours to a few days. If another stressor is added while the dog still has heightened levels of cortisol in his system, this can cause the animal to be edgy and never able to truly relax. Essentially, he is constantly in flight-or-fight mode. This stress can lead to many health and behavior problems. It would be much kinder to our dogs to teach them to relax and stay calm instead of encouraging them to become excited. Stress is one of the main causes for behavioral problems, so when addressing these problems it is important to explore the cause and not only the symptoms.

Other things dogs do not like include:

- Being forced to chase balls, sticks, or Frisbees
- Being forced to hang out with dogs they do not like
- Being over-trained or forced to compete
- Experiencing a sudden change in environment
- Experiencing boredom and loneliness
- Going new places when they have not been properly socialized
- Not having positive leadership in their environment
- Not knowing a clear and fair set of

boundaries and guidelines within which to live

- Not being able to acquire enough quality sleep
- Not being treated for any health issues

You notice I have used the word “forced” in regards to playing fetch. While some dogs truly enjoy playing fetch, most become stressed from frustrating games like chasing a ball.

Even if your dog seems to enjoy high-stress games, it is best to keep these to one to two times per week. Replace this activity with nose work and relaxing walks on most days. Your dog’s adrenaline runs very high when chasing balls and therefore so does his cortisol levels. Balance, as with everything, must be considered. Also, not all dogs are not social butterflies. Some dogs do not enjoy playing with other dogs and that is perfectly normal. We should accept and embrace our dogs’ qualities and not try to make them into something they are not naturally. What is fun for one dog may be a nightmare for another.

Finally, and most important, mental stimulation is more important than physical exercise for dogs. This is the also the same for humans. If you were locked in a small room for two weeks and could only bring one item, would you pick a treadmill or a television? Most would choose the activity that provides more mental stimulation. When people exercise their dogs they get tired dogs, not relaxed dogs. They also end up with very well-conditioned dogs who need more exercise to achieve the same level of exhaustion. They rely on that exhaustion so that the dog will not get into trouble.

Here are some excellent and simple ways to add important mental stimulation into your dog’s life:

### 1. Enrichment areas

Set up enrichment areas in your home and your yard once per week. This can be done with old boxes, shoes, garbage cans, and other items in your home. Sprinkle food treats over these items and let your dog enjoy rooting for rewards. After just 10 minutes of this, you will have a very content and relaxed dog. Researchers have found in shelter situations dogs that were offered nose work were

much less stressed and were adopted quicker than dogs that were not able to participate in this activity.

### 2. Enrichment Walks

These are walks where you go to new places that have a lot of smells and you let your dog sniff and explore. This is not a walk for exercise. Your dog should be allowed to guide you around the area and take in all the wonderful new and exciting aromas. Some examples of places you could go are: wooded areas, parks, new streets, gas stations, stores, train or bus stations, garbage storage bins etc.

### 3. Digging Pits

Build a sand box type of area and bury bones, food treats, and chew toys in the sand. Bring your dog to the area and have him search. This activity has the added bonus that it will stop your dog from digging in your garden and flower beds. He will soon learn that this is best spot in the yard to dig and will enjoy many hours of pleasure. If your yard is not fenced in, perhaps you can consider fencing a small area or an inexpensive pre-fabricated dog run.



Your Greyhound will love the opportunity to dig, if you let her. Josie, adopted by Bill and Amy Reynard of Charlotte, N.C.



Dogs love to explore with their noses. Bailey, adopted by Joanne and Mike Bast of Edgewater, Md.

#### 4. Nose Work

You can start by simply hiding some smelly treats around your house and asking him to go find. Another example of this is box searches. Hide food treats in various boxes or cups and then get your dog to find the treat. Let your dog smell everything before you start. Your dog will enjoy using his brain to figure this game out and will get better with practice. You can also bring a few old shoe boxes and treats to a nearby fenced area and have him hunt there. This also serves as a natural and safe outlet for his natural hunting instincts and prey drive. Your dog will be less stressed and more content and happier if he does regular nose work.

Conflict between dogs and humans often occurs when people think dogs should come knowing how we want them to live inside our (human) home environment. Most issues people have with dogs would not be a problem for the dog if he were living in the wild. If we keep in mind what dogs were born to do

and what they truly enjoy, our dogs will be happier and less stressed. As dog owners, it is our job to teach our dogs everything we want them to know. This sets them up for success by reducing stress and giving them a fulfilling life. You have the power to help your dog live his life to the fullest. To dogs, life is an adventure, let's give them that adventure. ■

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*Find out more information about the subject of this article by e-mailing Deb at [deblevasseur@rogers.com](mailto:deblevasseur@rogers.com) and asking for the sign-in information for her free online course titled "Enriching Our Dog's Lives."*

# Top Greyhound Awards

By Laurel E. Drew



Rural Rube raced from 1938 to 1940. In 1963, the NGA introduced the Rural Rube Award, given to the top runner and most respected sprint dog of the year. *Greyhound Hall of Fame*

Three major designations are available to racing Greyhounds. Dogs that receive these special awards are often well on their way to induction into the Greyhound Hall of Fame. Flashy Sir and Rural Rube award winners who were later elected to the Hall of Fame include EJ's Douglas, P's Rambling, Dutch Bahama, Marathon Hound, Unruly, JW Rocket One, K's Flak, and Oshkosh Racey.

Of course, racing Greyhounds are not eligible for Hall of Fame consideration until after their racing careers have ended. The three awards that we are considering today — the Flashy Sir Award, The Rural Rube Award, and the All-American Team — are bestowed upon active racing Greyhounds, with the Flashy Sir commencing eight years later.

The Rural Rube award, introduced in 1963, designates the top runner and most respected sprint dog of the year. Sprint dogs run the shorter distances in races. The Flashy Sir award, introduced in 1971, goes to the best distance runner of the year; that is, the dog most capable of running races of 3/8 or 5/16 of a mile. The awards are named after two Greyhounds who were in the first class of Hall of Fame inductees, in 1963: Rural Rube, who raced in Massachusetts from 1938 to 1940, and Flashy Sir, who raced at 13 different tracks from 1944 to 1947, winning 60 of his 80 races. Rural Rube and Flashy Sir award recipients are chosen each year by vote of the members of the National Greyhound Association.

To be nominated, a Greyhound must have accomplished one or more of the following:

- Finished third or better in a major stakes race. (Stakes usually consist of a series of races from which the top one or two dogs run again in the finals.)
- Won a lesser stake that staged elimination races or ran third or better in two or more such races.
- Finished third or better in a national or regional invitational race that involved dogs from other tracks
- Captured a track win title, with the major wins at a distance commensurate with the award for which the nominee is considered.
- Finished in the top three in the national win championship, with the majority of wins at a distance commensurate with the award for which the nominee is being considered
- Set or tied a track record for a distance commensurate with the award for which the nominee is being considered.

Other feats with bearing on the nomination include: Win streaks of eight or more at the appropriate distance; going through the elimination rounds of a major stake undefeated; and significant money-earning milestones or win-place-show records during the year. The nominated Greyhounds are listed



The Flashy Sir Award goes to the best distance runner of the year. Here, Flashy Sir (middle) is flanked by fellow future Hall of Famers Real Huntsman (left) and Beachcomber (right). *Greyhound Hall of Fame*

in *The Greyhound Review* with a brief listing of their accomplishments, and voting occurs during January and February.

Criteria for determining the All-American Team are similar. The All-American Team Award goes to the top eight American racing Greyhounds selected each year by the American Greyhound Track Operators Association (AGTOA). The AGTOA also selects an All-American Second Team each year. The All-American

Team and Second Team are usually announced at the AGTOA annual meeting.

Plaques for all three awards — Rural Rube, Flashy Sir, and All-American Team — are awarded at an event at the Greyhound Hall of Fame during the NGA's Spring Meet in Abilene, Kansas. ■

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*Laurel E. Drew is a CG regular contributor. She extends grateful thanks to Gary Guccione of the National Greyhound Association for his assistance with this article.*



Rudy (LM's Rubicon), adopted by Susan Rockwell of Sugarland, Texas.



Sara wasn't so relaxed when Hurricane Sandy came calling.

# Surviving Sandy

By Christine Jelcic

**W**e knew she was coming. I remember the initial warning I heard probably ten days ahead of time. It was a storm that could possibly be the “perfect storm” — three weather conditions combining into one. I also remember reading it was still a ways off and anything could happen. It was the worst natural disaster to hit our area in almost 100 years.

We had plenty of warning because all the weather people told us over and over that this was going to be a big one. We — Long Island, the Jersey shore, Manhattan, and the five boroughs — were in the northeast corner of this storm, which was supposedly the worst place to be. We listened, but who would believe them? How many times in the past did they tell us and it ended up being nothing? Hurricane Irene is just one example. The “big storm that wasn't” just happened the year before. During Irene we had some wind, a couple of trees down: nothing to worry about. Granted, they also told us this wasn't going to be like Irene. They claimed they were for real this time and mentioned something about the tides and a full moon. I had the same thoughts so many others had: that this was going to be a big nothing again. I didn't really start to worry until I got word that my employer was closing on Monday. It had never done that before, and a part of me thought that maybe this *was* for real.

Still, we didn't go crazy like we had with Irene. We didn't stock up on batteries and flashlights and a week's worth of food. I made sure we had the essentials and, of course, dog and cat food. We put all of our outdoor stuff away and took down our outside Halloween decorations. We found the couple of flashlights we had bought for Irene and made sure they worked. We bought a case of water, although I didn't really understand why. What I was, in fact, adamant about for some strange reason was making sure that all the cars were full of gas. I actually fought with my husband over it because he forgot to put gas in my car. I filled his; he was supposed to take care of mine. He finally gave in and at about 11 p.m. on Sunday he filled my gas tank.

Monday morning came and we were ready. The wind had started and we were watching the weather constantly. Even my 6-year-old was watching because he wanted to see big waves. We heard there were 30 foot waves in the ocean, but we thought they would never reach Long Island. We had lunch around 12:30 p.m. and I cooked everything that had been defrosted. I didn't want to lose anything in the refrigerator. I wasn't concerned with the freezer because, if you don't open it, you have at least a day before the food goes bad. So we feasted on meatball heroes and chicken cutlets. The dogs were in heaven because I made so much we had tons to share. The wind was starting to howl now and at exactly 1:00 p.m. we lost power. It was strange because there were no flickering lights or anything. They just went off suddenly.

We weren't too worried because we had eaten and it was time for our twins to take a nap. They went upstairs to sleep and then we noticed all our neighbors were outside. My husband went to see what was wrong and told me to come look. Not just one but two trees had gone down at the entrance to our block taking all the wires with them and landing on our neighbor's car. We live on a dead-end street, so maybe that's when my panic officially set in. We were trapped. We couldn't get off our block.

The dogs, Sara and Sonny, started to notice things were not right. Everywhere I went, they were behind me. Granted this was normal for Sonny, but not Sara. She had her routine, which meant being on her bed in the living room during the day. Sometimes she'd move to the living-room couch. At night, she'd be downstairs with me, but now she was not more than a step behind me at all times. My husband went to help the neighbors who were trying to clear a path in an emergency. He was outside for about an hour before the police came and made them stop because of the live wires. While he was outside, my son and I sat and watched out the front window. We watched the shingles come off our roof, one after another, after another. We watched the trees bending in front of our house; huge, 20-foot trees just bending almost like an elbowed straw. My poor son was hysterically crying at this point. The wind was getting stronger and stronger.

but apparently this was just the beginning.

The weather people explained — we were going to have 40 mile-per-hour sustained winds throughout the storm. That means a constant wind. Normally such a wind gust is nothing, but sustained winds of that strength would cause problems. We had a few 90 mile-per-hour wind gusts, and more was in store for us.

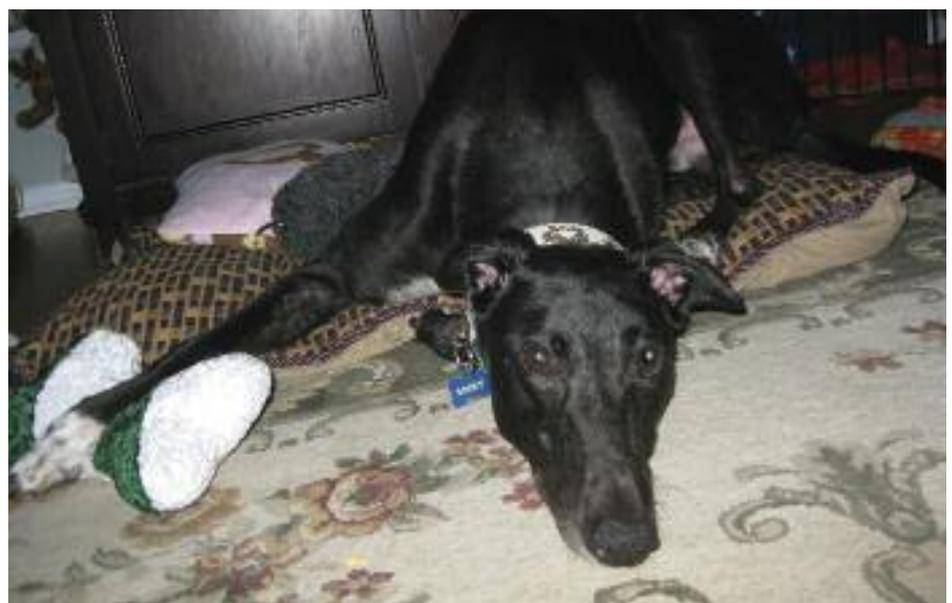
We weren't going to get a lot of rain with this storm, but when they talked about the full moon and the tides, I listened more carefully. I live on Long Island and nearly everyone in my family has a boat. I know how the tides work. A high tide and a full moon mean high water. Add a huge storm on top of that and I couldn't even imagine what would happen. At this point we decided to tape our windows and get everyone away from the front of the house and the trees. Maybe this was going to be a big deal.

We spent most of the afternoon and early evening downstairs listening to the radio. The kids played, Sara was on the couch next to me, and Sonny lay by the kids. Then I heard a huge crash in the backyard. I looked outside to see a big section of our new PVC fence laying on the ground in pieces. It was still light out so my husband went out to try to put it back together. At first it was comical watching him trying to rejoin the pieces. When debris started flying around, it wasn't funny anymore. Our neighbors came out to

help him but the wind was just too much. One neighbor took the pieces and put them under his deck and everyone went back inside. Slowly we watched as section by section our new fence fell apart. Sixty feet of fence lay in pieces in the backyard.

We had dinner by flashlight and the twins went to bed early. My older son was so scared he cried himself to sleep on the couch. He knew a tree could fall, that something could fly through the window, and that we were close to the water. I just couldn't console him no matter how hard I tried. The news warned us the worst would come overnight. All the bridges and tunnels were closed. It's a scary and strange feeling to know that you are trapped on an island with no way to leave. Granted, it's a big island, but it still made me realize the severity of it all.

Before my husband and I went to bed, we tried to get the dogs to go out and relieve themselves. We figured, with worse yet to come, if they go now, we should be good for the night. Of course, without a fence anymore, one of us had to go with them on leash. My husband took them one at a time. Poor Sara with her three legs was no match for the wind. When she squatted to pee she almost fell over. My husband had to hold her up while she went. Then he tried to take Sonny, who is a bit of a . . . well, to put it nicely, "fraidy" cat. You know the type — 75 pounds of mush who would run from a flea.



Sonny held it as long as he could, then finally took a potty break surrounded by flying debris and exploding transformers.

He was terrified outside and wouldn't pee.

My husband tried him several times for about an hour to no avail; Sonny wouldn't pee. We put towels all over our downstairs and told him it was OK to have an accident. We went to bed, and a few hours later Sonny started whimpering. I felt so bad because I knew he had to go and I also knew that being such a good boy he wouldn't just pee on the floor. About midnight, during the worst of it, I took him out. I walked around the backyard with Sonny, begging him to go, but meanwhile thinking I should go back inside and get my son's football helmet. Branches and debris were flying everywhere. Then I started seeing flashes of green light all over the place and I could hear popping noises all around. All the transformers were blowing. Sonny finally peed for a good five minutes, and we ran back inside.

We really didn't sleep much that night. The howling winds were unbelievable. At some point during the night, all of the kids came into bed with us. I woke the next morning to the sound of my youngest, one of the twins, wheezing. This happens now and then with all of my kids, but without power I couldn't use his nebulizer. I gave him my older son's inhaler and that helped, but I couldn't do that all day. I knew I could go to our local fire department to use the station's power but we were still trapped on our dead end. Luckily, my in-laws, who live 40 minutes away, had power. They came right away and picked up the kids and took them to their house.

My husband and I spent the day assessing the damage. He pieced the fence together and patched a hole in the roof as best he could. We picked up tons of shingles, branches, and tree limbs from our property and put the gutters back. Down the block, we found some siding from our house. We were lucky. We didn't really know the extent of the storm damage at that time. Hearing things on the radio is not the same as actually seeing them on TV. When our town's public works cleared the trees in our street so we could get out, my husband and I took a drive. We couldn't get down a single street. Trees were down everywhere and many had landed on top of cars and houses.

Then, that night, when I thought nothing

else could happen, it did. My son's wheezing worsened throughout the day and my in-laws had to take him to the emergency room. He is fine now, but I spent seven days in the pediatric intensive care unit with him. The hospital was 30 minutes from my house and my other children were ten minutes in another direction. My husband had to go back to work, so I sat in the hospital with him.

I was glued to the TV, not believing what I was seeing. It almost wasn't real. I was safe and warm inside the hospital. I had my home, my son was getting better, and my family was safe. So many people lost so much. No one expected those 30 foot waves to come ashore, but they did. Houses were torn from their foundations, washed away to sea. Our beaches are just about gone and the boardwalks need to be rebuilt.

As the days went by, the nights got colder and colder. My sister had been going to the house during the day to let Sara and Sonny out, but they couldn't be left alone all night. I made my husband go back to our house each night to sleep there and take care of them. I was stuck in the hospital worrying about my son and panicking about my dogs. The cats would be fine. They're survivors. They'll go under the covers and keep warm, but not my precious Greyhounds. I could put sweaters on them, but would that be enough? At night the temperatures were forecasted to drop into the 30s. Even with my husband there, it was too cold and it also wasn't fair to him.

To make matters even worse, now there was a gas shortage. I didn't know what to do. My sister had no more gas, so she couldn't go to my house again. We were lucky about gas because my car had been sitting with a full tank since I got to the hospital. My husband was getting gas at work but the trips back and forth to the hospital, his job, and his parents' home were eating up all the gas.

My mind kept returning to Sara and Sonny, cold in the dark house. I had been texting with several people, including Melissa, a Greyhound person.

We had just gone to Melissa and Mike's house the weekend before for a play date. Everyone got along very nicely. Sara can be feisty so it's always a concern that her alpha tendencies will not be welcome, but she did well there. Sonny got along well, too, and

Fred and Ginger are actually Sonny's cousins (along with about a thousand others but still, they're cousins). We were texting about the holiday fair that weekend that sadly, we wouldn't be able to attend. Then I started texting my dog worries. Almost instantly Melissa offered to take in Sara and Sonny and I started to cry. I was so relieved that finally everyone would be safe.

Sara and Sonny had a wonderful time at their sleepover; a little too wonderful a time if you ask me. They were spoiled beyond belief. Mike and Melissa texted me constantly and sent me pictures. It was nice to know they were doing well; seeing pictures of them helped me get my mind off things at the hospital, if even for a moment.

My son got out of the hospital on Tuesday and that was the first day I was outdoors in more than a week. Being back in the real world was strange. Seeing things on TV is one thing but being there is quite another. The gas lines, in one word, were crazy. We still had no power at our house and we would be staying with my in-laws, but it was November 6, Sara's tenth "Gotcha Day". I had to go see her! We drove all the way home to see Sara and to vote. I hadn't seen my Greyhounds in more than a week and I missed them terribly. I haven't been away from Sara for that long since my honeymoon in 2004 and I've never been away from Sonny. They were happy to see us.

Slowly everyone is getting their lives back together. It's much harder for some than others and as I've said, my family was very lucky. We're getting our new roof soon and like the rest of the area, we are strong.

While I was watching the news the days after the storm, the media seemed to focus on New Jersey and Staten Island, without much reported about Long Island. I just read in today's local newspaper that 2,000 homes on Long Island were destroyed in the storm. Everything will be rebuilt. While some of the past is gone, the future will be better and we will be stronger because of it. ■

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*Christine Jelcic was born and raised on Long Island, New York. She currently lives in Massapequa Park, New York with her husband, children, two cats, and Greyhounds Sara and Sonny.*



Jason's Greyhounds, Cody and Pretty, hunker down in the condo during Hurricane Sandy.

# Weathering the Storm

Story and photos by Jason Eberhard

**H**aving grown up in the Northeast, I have noticed a phenomenon that occurs whenever there is a severe storm forecast: people flock to grocery stores just days before to stock up on bread and milk.

The confirmation that Hurricane Sandy was going to hit the eastern seaboard did not disappoint. Everything from supermarkets to home-improvement stores was filled with last-minute shoppers; that is, in areas where people were lucky enough to get to the store. Some states put travel restrictions in place before the storm arrived.

Thankfully, the Boy Scout in me allows me to avoid all that chaos and confusion. I am by no means a professional “prepper” and you won’t see me on the National Geographic Channel’s *Doomsday Preppers* show, but I like to have preparations for myself and my pets in place ahead of time, long before any storm is forecast. So, while other people were clearing out the local supermarkets of bread and milk (which, by the way, I never understood unless they plan on making a lot of French toast) I was home going over my preparations and making sure the hounds and I were ready for whatever Sandy had to throw at us.

My first, most important, and obvious preparation was food and water. I always keep at least four to six weeks’ worth of dog food on hand in an easily-movable container should we need to evacuate quickly. I still have water pressure during a power outage, so I tend to only keep one to two weeks’ worth of water on hand for the dogs in



Loss of power and low overnight temperatures require extra blankets.

addition to what I might consume. This is one thing I think people generally underestimate, but it's very important to have an ample water supply. If you aren't sure what your Greyhound consumes, I think having one gallon of water per dog per day should be adequate even in the warmest weather.

A trick I learned when I lived in homes that didn't have water pressure during a power outage was to fill the bathtub up with water before the storm. I know you are probably cringing at the thought of drinking bath water and I don't blame you, especially if you are thinking about bygone days. People used to have to boil bathwater prior to drinking it. Now there are alternative devices such as tub liners that act as a clean storage basin for water inside your tub. Even if you have a bottled-water supply, there's an advantage to filling the tub: you can use that water to flush toilets.

Besides food and water prep, I make sure I have a "go bag" together with veterinary records, medications, first-aid kit (important if you don't already have one in your car), along with other miscellaneous items if we need to evacuate for any reason. While I don't live in a hurricane evacuation zone, I still prepare for a number of other reasons, such as a tree falling on the house, a transformer explosion starting a fire, or a ruptured

gas line.

Should you ever need to evacuate, you don't want to be deciding where you will go at that instant, so plan ahead. Do you have family or friends who can house you? Will you go to a hotel/motel? How far can you drive on a full tank of gas? Can you go to a local shelter that accepts pets? Does that shelter require certain paperwork for pets? What about crates?

It's better to form a plan and a backup plan now while enjoying a cup of coffee in a warm house, rather than waiting until there are three feet of water in your basement, rain is pouring, and you only have a quarter-tank of gas in your car.

With coats, collars, and leashes staged by the door, an ample food and water supply for both Greyhounds and human, a "go bag" ready, and a full tank of gas in the truck, we went to sleep on Sunday night wondering what Sandy would bring us on Monday.

There wasn't a lot of rain but the wind started early and gradually picked up throughout the day, causing us to lose power around 1:30 p.m. The worst of the storm came through around 10 p.m. The dogs and I huddled around a lantern, emergency radio, and a small fire in the fireplace. We listened to the wind gusting and trees breaking in the night.

We slept through the night and are thankful we didn't have anything crash on the house. However, the dawn of Tuesday showed Sandy's full destruction. While we experienced none of the destruction that New York City and New Jersey suffered, we did have our fair share of downed trees, telephone poles, and power lines. I knew we would be roughing it for a while.

After our morning walk surveying the damage Sandy left us, it was time to break out the camping stove and make some instant coffee. The dogs weren't affected too much yet as their food and potty breaks came right on schedule and we were just hanging out in a quiet house catching up on sleep and reading. Nightfall on Tuesday brought some colder temperatures. The house temperature dropped into the low 60s — not frigid by any means, but it still warranted a fire and some extra blankets on the floor for the dogs. Wednesday brought even colder weather, sending the house temperature into the low-to-mid 50s. Since the roads were now open, I had to return to work. The dogs wore sweaters during the day to keep them comfortable. When I got home at night I ran my emergency indoor heater to bring the house temperatures back up into the high 60s before we went to bed. This would remain the norm for us for the remainder of the power outage, which ended up lasting seven days.

All in all, we were very lucky not to suffer too much damage and to get power back as soon as we did. Other people in town were without electricity for an additional week. Because we were prepared with food, water, and other provisions, we weren't scrambling around in a panic on Day 2 looking for firewood, places to eat, or an open gas station. The dogs and I made the best of it and kept life as normal as possible, although by candlelight. ■

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*Jason and his Greyhounds live in South Salem, N.Y.*



The Joplin tornado destroyed homes in the Cunningham Park neighborhood, where the Grotheers used to walk their dogs. *John Riediger*

# “Six Miles of Terror” — The Effects of the Joplin Tornado

By Debbie Grotheer

On May 22, 2011 at 5:41 p.m. the unexpected hit my Missouri hometown. Joplin lies in an area between the Rockies and the Appalachian Mountains called “Tornado Alley.” Most tornadoes coming our way have done little damage, but on that Sunday evening in May, six miles of terror ripped through the middle of Joplin for 32 minutes. The tornado impacted about 8,000 structures, 400 businesses, and 4,500 jobs. More than 1,150 were injured and 162 lives were lost. The tornado ripped through the middle of Joplin destroying a third of the city.

We lived just three blocks from where the storm started. We were watching a movie and never heard the sirens. We noticed our porch furniture landing in the yard and heard wind. Then everything in the house was silent. We did not realize that a tornado had just missed us. (If we had taken cover, since we do not have a basement, we would have had to squeeze three Greyhounds and ourselves into an interior room such as a bathroom or closet.) Our Greyhounds were not upset during the storm, probably because we were very calm at the time.

We looked outside and saw one of our trees split in half. A piece of siding dangled from the house. Small limbs



These homes are some of the more than 8,000 structures lost during the Joplin tornado. *John Riediger*

and leaves littered the ground. We knew then that this was a serious storm, but we did not know how bad it was. We tried to telephone our daughter, who lives within a mile of our home. She was closer to the storm than us. She was hysterical and told us a tornado had just gone over her house. My husband immediately left in the car to see if she was all right.

I waited and waited to hear something. After about an hour they both came back to our house. She was not hurt, but they had a hard time getting back home. Roads were blocked by fallen trees, debris, and downed electrical lines. This is when we realized just how very serious this storm was.

While we were without electricity for a week, we considered ourselves to be some of the lucky ones who survived with minor damage. We used our battery-powered radio 24/7 to hear the updates of this tragedy. We lost all frozen and refrigerated food, which was significant because our Greyhounds are on a raw diet. We turned to grain-free dry dog food and some canned food until the electricity was restored and we could find well-priced meat for them. Our local feed store was safe, so we had no problem getting dry or canned dog food.

Traffic was congested. We lost two grocery stores, Wal-Mart, and Dillons. The remaining stores were crowded, with fewer selections. I remember a woman in a store the day after the storm, crying and very upset by the storm. The search for survivors quickly commenced.

We did not take the Greyhounds into the backyard until we picked up limbs and the porch furniture, and fixed the siding. We could not walk on the street for two days until cleanup was done. This meant we had to find a place to walk the dogs. Our favorite park, Cunningham, was destroyed. We did not even try to walk the dogs for about a week since travel through the town was difficult and security was tight in the tornado zone. For a month we had to circumnavigate the town to get from one side to another.

Our veterinarian's office was destroyed in the tornado. During this time one of our Greyhounds started limping. We had to take her to a veterinarian we did not know and who did not know our Greyhounds. He took X-rays and spoke with our regular veterinarian. What we feared was reality: our girl had osteosarcoma. She crossed the bridge within six months.

The home of another Greyhound family

in town was destroyed. When the sirens went off, John looked outside and saw debris flying. He then heard the signature, train-like sound of a tornado and knew it was close. They did not have time to go to a neighbor's basement. John, his wife Mary, and their Greyhound took shelter in a closet where Mary threw herself over the Greyhound. They all survived but had to find a temporary home until they finished rebuilding, which took about a year.

Another Greyhound person from Joplin shares her story: "I was at my house (right by the tornado zone) with my Greyhound and Dachshund. I was in my yard watching the hail when the first siren went off. I ignored it because where I come from in Arkansas, tornado sirens are a regular occurrence. When the second siren sounded and the freight train sound began, I took off running because I knew that this time it was different. My top priority was securing my 'furry children' and getting us all to safety. I had every confidence the Dachshund would follow me to safety in the cellar, but my Greyhound had always had trouble with stairs and I didn't know how I would get him down into the cellar. I managed to get him outside and to the cellar door, but he would not climb down. I had to



Debbie and Chuck Grotheer and their Greyhounds visit the tornado memorial at Cunningham Park, which was rebuilt after the storm.

bear-hug him down the stairs. Where I went wrong, though, was with my Dachshund; she was nowhere to be found. My Greyhound panted like his heart would give out and circled the cellar in complete blackness until the noise stopped. Thankfully, the Dachshund was fine and came running when we emerged

One thousand two hundred pets were either reunited with their families or put up for adoption when they were surrendered because of temporary housing issues or other tornado effects. Today, some of the animals lost in the Joplin tornado are still missing, with families continuing to look for them nationwide.

It's amazing how quickly volunteers and organizations came to help. They, along with the city, have brought Joplin back to life. At this writing, a lot of building remains to be done and many trees and shrubs still need to be replaced. I see many tornado shelters being built inside new homes and outside as existing homes are remodeled. The tornado left an everlasting mark on Joplin. ■

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*Debbie Grotheer is the Joplin area representative for GPA/Springfield, Mo. Her household includes Greyhounds Ford, Edie, Abby, and a foster.*



Custer, adopted by Shelley and Mike Melchior of Bowie, Md. Joanne Bast



Residents of the Lower Mountain Shadows subdivision northwest of Colorado Springs, Colo. experienced a mandatory evacuation in the face of last summer's Waldo Canyon wildfire. *Karl Gehring/Denver Post*

# Fleeing the Flames

By Rachel Jervis

**O**n Saturday, June 23, 2012, a fire broke out in Waldo Canyon in south-central Colorado. Waldo Canyon, one of my favorite trails to hike with my Greyhounds, is nestled in the Ute Pass between the towns of Colorado Springs and Woodland Park. Firefighters from across the United States battled tough terrain, record temperatures, and drought conditions. Before the fire was declared contained on July 10, almost 2,929 square miles burned, two residents lost their lives, and 346 houses were lost. To date, the fire is the most destructive and costly in Colorado history. More than 32,000 people were required to evacuate from their homes, and many more — myself included — evacuated voluntarily.

By sharing my experience weathering a wildfire and evacuation with my pets, I hope CG readers can become better prepared if they face a natural disaster or evacuation.

My “family” is made up of my 8-year-old Greyhound, Evie Petunia, and my 5-year-old cat, Clover. I volunteer with Colorado Greyhound Adoption, and at the time of the fire was fostering a dog named Kasba. Of course, when fostering, all pets in your care need to be part of your emergency plan, and I am now painfully aware that it would



Evacuees heading north on Highway 25 created a traffic jam as more than 10,000 residents were forced to leave their homes. *Helen Richardson/Denver Post*

be a tight squeeze to fit more than two Greyhounds, my cat, and all our necessities into my Subaru Impreza wagon.

Mandatory evacuations were ordered for a hillside community in western Colorado Springs on the afternoon the fire started. Soon after, the town of Manitou Springs (just west of Colorado Springs) was put on pre-evacuation notice; they were evacuated in the early hours of Sunday morning. Living only a few miles from Manitou Springs, I was concerned the evacuation area might be expanded to include my home. At that point, I began to pack essentials for myself and the animals. As it turned out, I would not evacuate for another four days, but I would appreciate this advance notice.

Fellow Greyhound owners and friends, Pam and Richard, also packed up their supplies on Saturday. On Tuesday afternoon, when high winds caused the fire to jump Queen's Canyon and enter town, my friends Pam and Richard received word that they needed to evacuate their home. A carefully orchestrated evacuation plan in three cars suddenly became a mad rush in two cars, since Pam was at work at the time of the evacuation notice and was not permitted to

enter her neighborhood even to retrieve her pets. Richard and their son were able to load the prepacked supplies and dogs, and evacuate quickly. Even though their evacuation didn't go as planned, they were fortunate to be packed up and ready to go.

### Be Prepared

Consider the following items when packing for your Greyhounds:

- Tags. Make sure each pet has a tag with your current contact information. Evie always wears a tag collar that has my cell phone number. Fosters wear a tag with Colorado Greyhound Adoption's pager number. My cat won't keep a collar on, so I attach a tag to her carrier.
- Collars, martingales, harnesses, leashes. Have whatever devices you normally use to walk your pets. For cats and smaller pets, this may be a carrying case.
- Muzzles. In cramped quarters under stressful conditions during an evacuation, having a muzzle for each Greyhound is a good idea.
- Medications (prescription or over-the-counter) that your pets take.
- Food. The news media recommended

packing 72 hours of supplies for humans and pets. But after the initial evacuees had been out of their homes for more than 72 hours, I doubled the amount of pet food I had packed.

- Dogs beds or blankets.
- Pet first aid kit. I keep a pet first aid kit, purchased from the Colorado Greyhound Adoption online store, in my car at all times.
- Your dog's favorite toy.
- Health records. Particularly if your pet will be in a shelter, vaccination records are helpful.
- Baby gate. Richard threw a baby gate in the car as an afterthought, but it proved to be an important item. While evacuated, the gate was used to separate their Greyhounds from the resident dog during mealtimes and at night.

What to pack for your pets will vary based on how much time you have to pack and where you will be going. If I had to leave with little notice, I would take my animals, their leashes/carriers, and muzzles. Everything else (including food and medication) could be obtained after we were safe. It doesn't hurt to be familiar with dog-friendly



Evie Petunia and foster Kasha are ready to go; Clover the cat occupies the front seat, in her carrier.  
*Rachel Jervis*

hotels in your area.

Emergency shelters have varying policies on pets. In Colorado Springs, pets were not allowed at the shelter opened at a high school, but the Humane Society ran a shelter on their property for small animals and an equestrian center opened a shelter for large animals. As the number of homes evacuated grew, additional animal shelters were opened.

Because the fire did not threaten all of Colorado Springs, many residents were able to stay with friends or family in other parts of town. The Colorado Greyhound Adoption e-Group was abuzz with offers of places to stay — pets welcome. Families offered to keep their cats locked in rooms so that Greyhounds who weren't cat-safe could stay with them. If you are staying with people who are not familiar with Greyhounds, be mindful of open doors and unlocked gates. I was lucky to stay with friends with whom I trade dog-sitting. Not only was I staying in a Greyhound-friendly home already equipped with raised feeders, dog beds, and a kennel that my foster could use, but Evie Petunia feels right at home there. In fact, she even acted as if my presence cramped her style. Clover (who was separated from the resident cats) and I slept in one of the daughter's bedrooms. At bedtime our first night there, Evie looked at me, turned around, and trotted into the master bedroom where she usually sleeps when she stays there.

Many dogs are stressed by the smell of smoke. Even before we evacuated, Evie Petunia and Kasba seemed unfazed. I tried to

get them out for a decent walk each day to burn off energy, but between the poor air quality and the record-setting, triple-digit temperatures, this was not always feasible. Pam and Richard's Greyhounds were nervous with the smoke and stressed by the car ride to their evacuation location. What normally would be a 20-minute drive took more than three hours due to evacuation traffic. When they arrived at their friends' home, the dogs were worried about being in a new place. Pam and Richard put out their familiar dog beds, muzzled them as a precaution, and made sure one of them was home with the dogs at all times.

Communication is important during an emergency or evacuation. Because I had a Colorado Greyhound Adoption foster dog in my care, I kept my foster coordinator informed about our evacuation. Additionally, our Greyhound community was eager to hear updates. My family kept in close touch throughout the fire. When we talked, they sometimes asked about the welfare of Evie, Clover, and Kasba before asking how I was. Pam reports that she'll never be without a car charger for her cell phone again. After four hours of calls with family members while in transit, her phone was almost dead by the time they met at their evacuation location.

Some might wonder why I would voluntarily evacuate; it was quite the ordeal to pack up myself, two Greyhounds, and one feisty cat. My office was in the mandatory evacuation area and was closed for three days. I was on call for work and was told I

may be asked to report to another work site. With my house less than a mile from the evacuation line, I didn't want to risk being at a distant work location, learning my house was under evacuation, and not be able to get home to the animals.

In the event that you cannot get home to evacuate your pets, have a plan in place with your neighbors to evacuate one another's pets. My neighbors have a key to my house and could get to my pets in an emergency. However, during an evacuation, I am not sure if any of my neighbors would have room for my animals in addition to their own. In the worst case, notify your local humane society, animal control, and/or police. During the Waldo Canyon fire, police entered homes to retrieve pets that people were unable to evacuate.

I am fortunate that my house was untouched by the fire, but 346 families were not so lucky. The first time I drove up Highway 24 after the fire, incidentally to a Greyhound event, I cried when I saw the Waldo Canyon trailhead barricaded. I see the burn scar on my drive to work every morning and I know memories of the fire will be slow to fade. I like to think if I had lost my home, I'd have the perspective to realize that I saved the most important things from my house, my four-legged family. ■

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*Rachel Jervis lives in Colorado Springs, Colo. with Evie Petunia the Greyhound and Clover the grey cat. Rachel and Evie volunteer with Colorado Greyhound Adoption. When this article was written, Rachel had fostered 24 Greyhounds; 23 of whom were adopted by living families, and one who is stuck with Rachel. In addition to volunteering for CGA, Rachel enjoys hiking, running, cooking, knitting, and spoiling her pets.*



Car ride or evacuation? Doolie, adopted by Lee Ann Jaffee and Bill Mandell, New York, N.Y.

# Safe Harbor After the Storm

By Lisa Newbold

**W**e spent the days before Hurricane Sandy getting the Greyhound Angels Adoption (GAA) kennel ready for the storm. Our adoption and boarding kennel is in Pennsauken, New Jersey, and the storm was headed our way. A lot of rain and very high winds were in the forecast.

We were not worried about structural damage. The GAA kennel is in a 4,800-square-foot cinder block building with a metal roof. Instead, we worried about losing electricity, damage to our fencing, and flooding.

Typically we get small amounts of flooding during a regular rainstorm but we didn't know what would happen during a hurricane. To prepare, we purchased extra flashlights, candles, and food. We also made sure that our medical supplies were well-stocked. We were going to weather the storm with the Greyhounds. We had no other choice.

In case the fencing outside was compromised by wind, we set up one of the indoor playrooms for the dogs to relieve themselves indoors instead of outside. We purchased plenty of chewies to turn the dogs' focus away from the storm and to keep them busy. During the storm, quite a few Greyhounds did not want to eat or use the makeshift inside bathroom facilities. Extra rooing, barking, and whining ensued during the active part of the storm. We checked on the dogs hourly to ensure that no one was stressed. When the storm was over, they were exhausted. We went back to our normal routine and so did they.

Then came all the television reports of the devastation in our state as well as New York, Pennsylvania, Delaware, and Maryland — states where we do a lot of adoptions. Our focus shifted to those Greyhounds who are already with their forever families. Television news reported a story about a woman who had to stay in her home because she had nowhere for her dogs to go. Friends and family were hit just as hard as she was; her veterinarian's office was also hit. The shelters were offering safe harbor for people, but were not accepting animals.

It made me remember all those animals I saw on the news running the streets or stuck in houses after Hurricane Katrina. What would happen to all those dogs? What would happen to the loyal families who could not leave them behind?

It also reminded me of a call we received from an adoption representative at Mobile Greyhound Park, several weeks earlier. We were expecting a haul from the track. She wanted to know if we could take a Pit Bull. It was late August, the day that Hurricane Isaac was supposed to hit the northern Gulf Coast. She told us that on her way to the adoption kennel in Mobile, she noticed an abandoned, loose Pit Bull. She took the dog to her adoption kennel to keep him safe but needed a group to place him. We agreed to take him. We were expecting him on the November 3 haul.

That is when the idea came to life. GAA would not only offer safe harbor for Greyhounds, but or any dog affected by the storm. There was really no discussion regarding this decision. The idea popped into my head and my father agreed immediately. We had 20 open boarding crates at the time and there were dogs and families in need. GAA would do this at no charge to the owners.

So how do you spread the word? I posted the offer on our website and then hit the

social media. First I posted it on the Greyhound Angels Facebook page, and then on my personal Facebook page. I asked people to please share this offer on their own pages to get the word out. Due to the dedication and hard work of our volunteer network, the word quickly spread.

People were calling the kennel not only for safe-harbor inquiries, but with practical questions regarding their dogs' behavior and safety due to the storm. They wanted to know how long before their dogs would start eating again or resume going outside to go to relieve themselves. One caller wanted to know when her little terrier would stop whining every time she left the room. These were all typical behaviors for dogs who are stressed. We offered the best advice we could. We told them to resume a normal routine as soon as possible and that it would take time for their dog to recover from anxiety.

We also got questions regarding our facility and how their dogs would be cared for. They wanted to know if we had experience with certain breeds and asked about our normal routine. A lot of people couldn't get their dogs to us because roads were closed or their cars were underwater, but they called just to thank us for offering a safe place for dogs.

Some families were able to get their dogs — both Greyhounds and other breeds — to

the kennel. We heard all kinds of stories. We heard from people who lost their fencing and had downed trees, and people who evacuated and lost everything. One lady who brought her Greyhound to us lives by the Delaware River; she had no heat or electricity. A set of Greyhounds were sheltered at GAA while their family dealt with a home on the Jersey shore that suffered water damage throughout the first floor. A Labrador Retriever mix stayed here because the family's house was hit by a tree. The longest stay at the GAA kennel for a dog displaced by the storm was 13 days. We gave all dogs refreshing baths and clipped their nails before sending them home to their families.

We wished we could do more for those who could not get their animals to the kennel. However, I think just talking to them on the phone gave them some comfort, as well as the knowledge that someone was thinking about their fur kids.

We pray there is never another emergency like Hurricane Sandy, but if it happens again, GAA will be here to offer safe harbor to any dog. ■

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*Lisa Newbold is the Director and Founder of Greyhound Angels Adoption in Pennsauken, N.J.*



Emmy and Foxy, adopted by Melanie Donovan of N. Weymouth, Mass.

# In Case of Emergency: Setting Up a Plan

By Monica Davis

**S**edona is a small town in north central Arizona. When the La Berranca and Brins wildfires broke out in 2006, we made national news. That is how one of our Greyhound gals, Michelle Wendell, found out that her home and her six dogs — three of them Greyhounds, were being evacuated while she was visiting family in New Jersey. What could she do? Whom could she call?

Closer to home, Carolee and Bill Bruder have a “Noah’s Ark” of animals. As they watched the fire climb the mountain toward their home, Carolee wondered how and where she would move two horses, two Jack Russell Terriers, two cats, and a Greyhound.



The Bruns fire in June 2006 threatened the town of Sedona, Ariz. *Nick Hunseder*

I sat watching the news with my neighbor, Ann Fink, asking the same questions. Only 25 miles away, my Greyhound friends’ telephone lines had melted in the fire, and I had no cell phone numbers with which to contact them.

As Ann and I sat and stewed and talked, we came up with an idea for a small safety net for our Verde Valley Greyhound owners. We knew we could not take care of the entire Valley, so we decided to focus on our Greyhound group. Thus was born the Verde Valley Greyt Emergency Response Team.

First, we wrote down the name of every Greyhound owner we knew in the valley. We divided the list according to the larger towns in the area. This produced five different areas, each of which has some Greyhound families in residence. Then we called people we thought would be suited to serve as area captains. Liz Lindsey took the Rimrock, Camp Verde area; she retired there after working as a veterinary technician for 20 years. Sheila and Bill Harding took uptown Sedona and West Sedona. As a retired Los Angeles police officer, Bill really knows how to get to the right people for information. We asked Kris McInnes to be Sheila and Bill’s co-captain. I took the Cottonwood area; I know all of the Greyhounds around here, as I placed most of them. Cyndi Blackberg and Donna Morray are my co-captains.

(Because the three of us work full time, we thought it would be best to share the responsibility.) Michelle Wendell and Carolee Bruder, who narrowly escaped having their homes burned and animals killed, became co-captains for the Village of Oak Creek. Finally Nick and Deb Hunseder took the Clarkdale area.

Next, we identified each Greyhound owner in each area and the number of pets they have. We discovered almost all of our Greyhound owners have multiple pets, which can make for a challenging evacuation. Linda Nichols, our newsletter chairman, wrote a letter that was sent to the whole gang by e-mail or snail mail. It included a tear-off response card so anyone who cared to participate could respond. We got calls or mailed responses from just about everyone.

We contacted the participants to identify medical problems or age-related handicaps in both humans and dogs. Who is the most vulnerable in each area? My team and I visited the homes we knew would be at risk if a fire struck. Among other things, we wanted to know where they keep their spare house keys, as well as the dogs' leashes and muzzles. We decided we needed to know anything that is different about the dogs: Are they

spooks? Shy? Do they nip if excited? Are they susceptible to heat stroke?

We asked about anything at all that might pose a challenge. For example, one 82-year-old woman has a heart condition, and her dog cannot take the heat. If exposed to heat too long, the dog goes down; this makes her a poor candidate for a Red Cross Emergency Animal Shelter in the middle of a high-school football field in Arizona. Smokie, the Greyhound of Frank and Pat Stegall, is blind. Clifford, Marie and Bill Hufford's dog, is very old. All of these dogs have special needs.

We then identified where the dogs could be kept. People can usually rely on shelters or hotels for themselves, but the animals need some place to go. First, we asked which people could take pets. If one side of the valley was burning, where could we move the animals?

Then we looked at where the animals could go *immediately*. When pet owners are told to evacuate, they might have three to five minutes to get themselves together and then find themselves away from home for days. Could the animals be moved to a central location (i.e., someone's home) out of the immediate danger area while we called volunteers in safe locations to take them?

Captains and co-captains volunteered their homes as "temporary safe houses" for the animals until they could be relocated to more permanent (though still temporary) homes.

We recommended that owners keep first-aid kits in their cars and essential equipment near an exit for an easy "get out of Dodge." This equipment includes leashes, muzzles, cages/carriers, food/water bowls, bedding, litter and/or scoop, bags, and medications with dosage instructions. It's easier and safer if you don't have to think and can just go.

We also gave each person a complete list of our rescue team contacts to put near their phones and in their cars. We decided that each animal would have a name tag attached to either his or her collar or crate, and each captain would photograph each dog upon arrival. (Have you ever tried to identify a brindle female Greyhound based on a phone call?)

We asked each captain and co-captain to have a first-aid kit well-stocked with medical supplies — elastic bandages, splints, gauze pads, and a large old blanket. Elastic bandages can double as an emergency muzzle. They can also be used to blindfold a horse that smells smoke. The blanket can be used as a net to catch small dogs; with one person holding each end, it can function as a stretcher. (It helps to have a couple of emergency-room nurses on the team to offer ideas about what could be needed in these situations.)

How did we plan to cover the expenses associated with this effort? So far, we've only spent about \$40 on copies and postage. We can call the entire valley without incurring long-distance charges, which is a big help. We are having raffles as a start; maybe later we'll hold a garage sale or dog-wash and nail-trim event. We will use the funds to keep restocking the first-aid kits of the captains and co-captains.

Since we started organizing this emergency response team, there have been two more wildfires in the Verde Valley. The teams have been on alert for almost a month now; and fire season has only started. ■

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Monica Davis lives in Cottonwood, Ariz. and volunteers for Greyhounds of the Verde Valley.



Volunteers of Greyhounds of the Verde Valley pose for the camera. From left: Monica Davis, holding Abilene; Jamie Van Horst with Dock and Coppertone; Janice and Steve Pontious with Kia and Britany.



Do you have an emergency plan for your pets? Nigel, Ellie, and Leah, adopted by Pete Sevenhuysen and Debbie Daly of Fisherville, Ont.

# Prepare for Emergencies Now! Information for Pet Owners

**T**he Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) consulted with the American Kennel Club (AKC), American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, American Veterinary Medical Association, and the Humane Society of the United States in development of the following guidelines for pet owners.

For more information about preparing for emergencies with your pets, consult [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov).

## 1. Get a kit of pet emergency supplies.

Just as you do with your family's emergency kit, think first about the basics for survival, particularly food and water.

**Food.** Keep at least three days of food in an airtight, waterproof container.

**Water.** Store at least three days of water specifically for your pets, in addition to water you need for yourself and your family.

**Medicines and medical records.** Keep an extra supply of medicines your pet takes on a regular basis in a waterproof container.



If you and your pets need to evacuate, where will you go? Rosie and Nora, adopted by Barry Heath and Jennifer Laurent of Burlington, Vt.; Doe, adopted by Michael and Angela Ricci of Burlington, Vt. *Mike Ricci*

**First aid kit.** Talk to your veterinarian about what is most appropriate for your pet's emergency medical needs. Most kits should include cotton bandage rolls, bandage tape and scissors; antibiotic ointment; flea and tick prevention; latex gloves, isopropyl alcohol and saline solution. Include a pet first aid reference book.

**Collar with ID tag, harness or leash.** Your pet should wear a collar with its rabies tag and identification at all times. Include a backup leash, collar and ID tag in your pet's emergency supply kit.

**Important documents.** Place copies of your pet's registration information, adoption papers, vaccination documents, and medical records in a clean plastic bag or waterproof container and also add them to your kit.

**Crate or other pet carrier.** If you need to evacuate in an emergency situation take your pets and animals with you, provided that it is practical to do so.

**Sanitation.** Include pet litter and litter box if appropriate, newspapers, paper

towels, plastic trash bags and household chlorine bleach to provide for your pet's sanitation needs. You can use bleach as a disinfectant (dilute nine parts water to one part bleach), or in an emergency you can also use it to purify water. Use eight drops of regular household liquid bleach per gallon of water, stir well, and let it stand 30 minutes before use. Do not use scented or color safe bleaches or those with added cleaners.

**A picture of you and your pet together.** If you become separated from your pet during an emergency, a picture of you and your pet together will help you document ownership and allow others to assist you in identifying your pet. Include detailed information about species, breed, age, sex, color and distinguishing characteristics.

**Familiar items.** Put favorite toys, treats, or bedding in your kit. Familiar items can help reduce stress for your pet.

Consider two kits. In one, put everything your pets will need to stay where you are and make it on your own. The other should be a

lightweight, smaller version you can take with you if you and your pets have to get away.

## 2. Make a plan for what you will do in an emergency.

Plan in advance what you will do in an emergency. Be prepared to assess the situation. Use common sense and whatever you have on hand to take care of yourself and ensure your pet's safety during an emergency.

**Evacuate.** Plan how you will assemble your pets and anticipate where you will go. If you must evacuate, take your pets with you, if practical. If you go to a public shelter, keep in mind your pets may not be allowed inside. Secure appropriate lodging in advance depending on the number and type of animals in your care. Consider family or friends outside your immediate area who would be willing to take in you and your pets in an emergency. Other options may include: a hotel or motel that takes pets or some sort of boarding facility, such as a kennel or veterinary hospital that is near an

evacuation facility or your family's meeting place. Find out before an emergency happens if any of these facilities in your area might be viable options for you and your pets.

**Develop a buddy system.** Plan with neighbors, friends or relatives to make sure that someone is available to car for or evacuate your pets if you are unable to do so. Talk with your pet care buddy about your evacuation plans and show them where you keep your pet's emergency supply kit. Also designate specific locations, one in your immediate neighborhood and another farther away, where you will meet in an emergency.

**Talk to your pet's veterinarian about emergency planning.** Discuss the types of things you should include in your pet's emergency first aid kit. Get the names of veterinarians or veterinary hospitals in other cities where you might need to seek temporary shelter. Also talk with your veterinarian about microchipping. If you and your pet are separated, this permanent implant for your pet and correspon-

ding enrollment in an recovery database can help a veterinarian or shelter identify your animal. If your pet is microchipped, keeping your emergency contact information up to date and listed with a reliable recovery database is essential to you and your pet being reunited.

**Gather contact information for emergency animal treatment.** Make a list of contact information and addresses of area animal control agencies including the Humane Society or ASPCA and emergency veterinary hospitals. Keep one copy of these phone numbers with you, and one in your pet's emergency supply kit. Obtain "Pets Inside" stickers and place them on your doors or windows, including information on the number and types of pets in your home to alert firefighters and rescue workers. Consider putting a phone number on the sticker where you could be reached in an emergency. And, if time permits, remember to write the words "Evacuated with Pets" across the stickers, should you evacuate your home with your pets.

### 3. Be prepared for what might happen.

Some of the things you can do to prepare for the unexpected, such as assembling an emergency supply kit for yourself, your family and your pets, are the same regardless of the type of emergency. However, it's important to stay informed about what might happen and know what types of emergencies are likely to affect your region.

Be prepared to adapt this information to your personal circumstances and make every effort to follow instructions received from authorities on the scene. With these simple preparations, you can be ready for the unexpected. Those who take the time to prepare themselves and their pets will likely encounter less difficulty, stress and worry. Take the time now to get yourself and your pet ready. ■



Sienna, adopted by Gary and Karen Kidwell of Oakley, Calif.

# Greyhounds in Art in Italy

## Part I

By Henry Townsend



Fig. 1 Funerary Monument with Adonis Dying, Vatican Museums

Many of the most beautiful and interesting images of Greyhounds in art are in Italy. Greyhounds are prominently portrayed in Italian art as animals of beauty, as companions to the gods and nobility, and in scenes of daily life. Some are the earliest depictions of Greyhounds, or at least dogs that strongly resemble Greyhounds; some are important in the history of art; and some are simply stunningly beautiful. We describe these images more or less in the chronological order of their creation. This article, the first of two parts, begins in Roman times with some of the earliest Greyhounds in art and ends in mid-15th century Florence.

### GREYHOUNDS IN ROMAN ART

The Greyhounds found in Roman art are not the most beautiful Greyhounds, but their age makes them interesting. While the head and legs of these dogs are like those of modern Greyhounds, their chest-to-loin ratio is not as large as today or even as they were depicted 700 years ago. Nevertheless, in the judgment of modern English, German, and Italian art historians, the dogs are Greyhounds, for these experts identify them in museum guides as Greyhounds — *Windhunden* and *leverieri*, respectively.

A visitor to Rome will certainly want to go to the Vatican Museums. Room XI of the Gregorian Etruscan Museum contains a terracotta sculpture, originally brightly colored, that dates from the third century B.C.E. It was made by the Etruscans, a pre-Roman people who lived in northern Italy whose art was influenced by Greek traders and settlers in southern Italy and Sicily. *Funerary Monument with Adonis Dying*, roughly four feet long and three feet high, was probably made to decorate a casket. The myth of Adonis is varied and complicated, but he died while hunting, and therefore to the Greeks and the Etruscans, the Greyhound was his logical companion. (Fig. 1)



Fig. 2 Greyhound Sitting, Vatican Museums



Fig. 3 Greyhound Sitting with Leg Lifted. Vatican Museums



Fig. 4 Greyhound Running, Vatican Museums

The Pio-Clementine Museum, another of the Vatican Museums, has one of the world's greatest collections of Roman sculpture. The Sala degli Animali (Hall of Animals) is home of the charming *Two Greyhounds Playing*, shown in "Greyhounds in Art" (Winter 2009 CG). Nearby are three other statues of Greyhounds. We do not know when these statues were made, though we estimate it might have been in the second century. (Figs. 2, 3, 4)



Fig. 5 Diana with Greyhound, Vatican Museums

The Galleria dei Candelabri (Candelabras) contains a statue of Diana, the Roman goddess of the hunt, who has a Greyhound at her side. The history of the statue is interesting. Although her body appears to be female, it is a fifth century B.C. Greek statue of the god Apollo with the head of a second century Roman Diana. She is identified as the goddess of the moon because of the lunar crescent on her forehead, and of the hunt as shown by the Greyhound and the quiver at her side, which were carved and attached in the late 18th century by a local sculptor. The Galleria dei Candelabri leads into the Galleria degli Arazzi (Tapestries) where hangs the lovely *Adoration of the Shepherds* seen in “More Greyhounds in Tapestry” (Winter 2011 CG). (Fig. 5)



Fig. 6 Endymion and Selene, National Archaeological Museum of Naples

Most Roman paintings still in existence come from Pompeii and Herculaneum, the cities covered in the eruption of Vesuvius in the year 79. The best of these are in the National Archaeological Museum of Naples. All are frescoes, painted directly on the plaster interior walls of houses. One of the most attractive portrays the myth of Selene and Endymion. Selene, the Greek goddess of the moon, again identified by the crescent on her forehead, is shown descending toward the hunter Endymion, who is accompanied by his Greyhound. Two other figures hold one another, frightened by the sight of the goddess. The painter is known as the Master of Color, but little is known about the painting other than the obvious fact that it was created before August 24, 79, and was found in the House of the Dioscuri at Pompeii. (Fig. 6)



Fig. 7 Traveler with Greyhound, National Archaeological Museum of Naples



Fig. 8 Traveler with Greyhound detail

Another fresco, found in a villa in Portici near Herculaneum, shows a Greyhound running with a traveler, while another, from the House of Meleagro in Pompeii, shows a Greyhound chasing a deer. (Figs. 7, 8) (Figs. 9, 10)



Fig. 9 Greyhound Chasing Deer, National Archaeological Museum of Naples



Fig. 10 Greyhound Chasing Deer, detail

Were these Roman dogs Greyhounds? The evidence seems mixed: From their heads and legs, yes; from the proportions of their bodies, no; from their short fur, yes; from their size next to a human (though they are small); yes. Modern art historians believe they are Greyhounds, but do you agree? You can easily boast to your friends that Greyhounds have been around for more than 700 years. Do you want to say 2,000 years?



Fig. 11 Mosaic, Palazzo dei Normanni, Palermo



Fig. 12 Mosaic, detail

## GREYHOUNDS IN MEDIEVAL ART

We now move into the future more than 1,000 years, to medieval times. Normans from the north of what is now France conquered Sicily from its Arab rulers in the late 11th century. Their governing palace in Palermo, the Palazzo dei Normanni, was built around 1170 in a mixture of Arab, Norman, and Byzantine architectural styles. It contains a room named after an early king, Roger II, the Sala di Ruggero II, which is decorated with mosaics by Byzantine artists that show Greyhounds in a hunting scene (Figs. 11, 12).

San Gimignano in western Tuscany is one of the best preserved medieval towns of Italy, famous because of the 14 towers that remain of the 72 that once stood over the houses of city nobles. The Palazzo del Popolo (Palace of the People), in the middle of the city, was the center of civic government. Its largest room, the Sala del Consiglio (Council Chamber), is richly decorated with frescoes, one of which is the *Scene di torneo e caccia* (Scene of tournaments and hunting), by Azzo di Masetto, from around 1290. The lower panel shows a hunt with three dogs, two of which, although painted in a rather stylized manner, are unmistakably Greyhounds (the third is too worn with age to know). (Fig. 13)



Fig. 13 Scene of tournaments and hunting, Azzo di Masetto, Sala del Consiglio, San Gimignano

## GREYHOUNDS IN EARLY RENAISSANCE ART

The Renaissance began in Florence in the 14th century, so it should be no surprise that the Uffizi in Florence is the world's greatest gallery of Renaissance art. It has at least six paintings that depict Greyhounds. The earliest of these was painted by Bernardo Daddi in 1338-1340, who was the leading painter of the city in his day. His *San Pancrazio Polyptych* (a painting divided into panels) has a main painting, a number of side and upper panels, and a predella (the smaller panels below the main painting). One of the panels in the predella shows a nativity scene with shepherds, sheep, and two Greyhounds. They are realistically painted, their shape and size just like the modern breed, and we may consider this to be the first painting that accurately depicts Greyhounds as we know them today. A hint to visitors to the Uffizi: Two of its most famous paintings, *The Birth of Venus* and *Primavera*, are in the room of paintings by Botticelli (ca. 1445-1510). In the same room is his lovely if not as famous *Cestello Annunciation*. Look at the lower-left corner of its frame, which is original, and you will see a small black Greyhound. (Fig. 14)



Fig. 14 Nativity, San Pancrazio Polyptych, Bernardo Daddi, Uffizi



Fig. 15 The Church Militant and Triumphant, Andrea di Bonaiuto, Santa Maria Novella



Fig. 16 The Church Militant and Triumphant, detail

The Cappella Spagnuolo, or Spanish Chapel, in the church of Santa Maria Novella in Florence was formerly the provincial council chamber for the Dominicans, a religious organization of lay persons, nuns, and friars (similar to monks but working in a community). Its members were often called by the Latin pun *Domini canes*, or hounds of the Lord. Dominican monks and nuns, then and now, wear a black cape over a white habit. From 1365 to 1367, Andrea di Bonaiuto, also called Andrea di Firenze, decorated the walls of the chapel, with one wall showing *The Church Militant and Triumphant*. The clergy are shown on the left, with the pope in their center over the lambs of the faithful, guarded by *Domini canes* — dogs with black and white coats — including one Greyhound. At the right, below the lay people, five more Greyhound *Domini canes* attack the wolves of heresy. (Figs. 15, 16)



Fig. 17 Adoration of the Magi, Gentile da Fabriano, Uffizi

The *Adoration of the Magi* in the Uffizi is by Gentile da Fabriano and dates from 1423. The white hound with a muzzle on his large snout is not a Greyhound, but in the procession of the Magi, at the top, there is a Greyhound, with his attention fixed on a deer running to the right. The elaborately carved and gilded frame, the beautiful clothing, even the luxurious harnesses on the horses, made this a showpiece of wealth and taste for the man who commissioned it, the Florentine banker, Palla Strozzi. (He is the man with the falcon on his hand just behind the Magi.) This is considered to be da Fabriano's masterpiece, and it is one of the most treasured works of the Uffizi. Another *Adoration of the Magi*, painted by Benvenuto di Giovanni in the early 1470s, is shown in "Greyhounds in Art: Baltimore, Richmond, and Washington" (Summer 2012 CG). It, too, has a large muzzled dog, and at the top of the painting a procession of Magi with a Greyhound.



Fig. 18 Adoration of the Magi, detail



Fig. 19 Isaac Sends Esau to Hunt, Lorenzo Ghiberti, The Gates of Paradise, Baptistery, Florence cathedral

Lorenzo Ghiberti became famous in 1401 when he won a competition to create a set of bronze doors for the baptistery of the cathedral in Florence. Ghiberti took 21 years to complete the 28 panels, which show scenes from the New Testament. The doors were immediately recognized as enormously significant works of art. In 1425 Ghiberti was asked to create a second set of doors for the baptistery on a theme from the Old Testament. One panel shows *Isaac Sends Esau to Hunt*, completed about 1438. The illusion of depth in the low relief is due both to the use of the recently invented principles of perspective, and in the way the two Greyhounds of Esau are shown almost as free-standing figures. Michelangelo called them “The Gates of Paradise,” the name by which they are still often known. They are regarded as some of the most important and beautiful pieces of sculpture ever created. (Fig. 19)



Fig. 20 *The Battle of San Romano*, Paolo Uccello, Uffizi.



Fig. 21 Sigismondo Pandolfo Malatesta before St. Sigismund, Piero della Francesca, Tempio Malatestiano, Rimini

One of the artists who may have assisted Ghiberti was Paolo Uccello (1397-1475); he was apprenticed as a novice to Ghiberti's workshop at the age of 10. During the time when the Gates of Paradise were being made, ca. 1438-1440, Uccello painted three canvases to commemorate the Battle of San Romano, recently won by Florence against its arch-enemy Siena. The center and largest painting is in the Uffizi. (Fig. 20) In a field in the background, men with crossbows and a Greyhound hunt rabbits. Uccello is regarded as the first great master of perspective, so painting the hunt in the field behind the battle may be as much a show of impressive realism and perspective as anything relevant to the story. Another explanation might simply be that Uccello liked to paint Greyhounds hunting; his *Hunt in the Forest* at the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford prominently shows more than a dozen Greyhounds with men on horseback hunting deer in a forest.

A list of the greatest works of art with Greyhounds must include *Sigismondo Pandolfo Malatesta before St. Sigismund*, painted in 1451 by Piero della Francesca, one of the greatest artists of his time. Malatesta was a powerful mercenary general and the ruler of Rimini, a city on the coast east of Florence. Malatesta renovated a church in Rimini and named it after himself, the Tempio Malatestiano. He commemorated the saint after whom he was named by adding a chapel dedicated to the 6th century St. Sigismund. The painting on the rear wall of this chapel depicts life-size portraits of St. Sigismund at the rear on the left, Malatesta in the middle, and two Greyhounds prominently shown on the right. While it was common in a painting of a saint to include an image of the donor in prayer, with dogs as distinctly accessory figures, the inclusion here of dogs as coequals in the formal composition is unique. There is no convincing explanation of the meaning of the presence or the prominence of these Greyhounds, partly because the Malatesta archives and most other documentation have been lost. Neither St. Sigismund nor Malatesta had dogs in their heraldic symbols. These Greyhounds were evidently treasured by Malatesta: The white dog in front has a blue collar painted in expensive lapis lazuli; the collar of the black dog is studded with gold. At Malatesta's death, his estate included several elaborate dog collars studded with silver. (Fig. 21)



Fig. 22 Procession of the Oldest King, Benozzo Gozzoli, Chapel of the Magi, Palazzo Medici, Florence



Fig. 23 Procession of the Oldest King, detail

The Palazzo Medici, built from 1445 to 1460, is one of the most important buildings in Florence, and was inhabited by immensely rich bankers and the de facto rulers of the city. In its core is the small Chapel of the Magi, whose interior walls were covered with fresco by Benozzo Gozzoli around 1460, using precious materials such as lapis lazuli and silver and gold leaf. The images reproduced here offer only a hint of the splendor and beauty of the actual chapel, whose obvious great expense served to one-up the Medici's rival, the Strozzi, whose luxurious *Adoration of the Magi* was already famous.

It formally depicts the journey of the three Magi to Bethlehem, but the figures in the procession portray many of the dignitaries who came to Florence for an important religious council. One panel shows the procession of Melchior, the oldest Magus, on the far left riding a white mule, a sign of humility. Three Greyhounds are in the distance, two in the procession while another chases a small deer. By comparison, look at the similar procession in *The Triumph of Camillus* in "Greyhounds in Art: Baltimore, Richmond, and Washington" (Summer 2012 CG), painted around 1470-1475, for another Florentine family. (Figs. 22, 23)

A much more prominent Greyhound, neatly framed by two spears, is on the wall that shows the procession of the youngest Magus, Caspar. To the rear of Caspar it is easy to see a fawn Greyhound and a hunter with a spear pursuing a stag, the most regal prey. To the left of Caspar is a row of figures, many of whom have been identified. Riding the brown mule is Cosimo de'Medici, the head of the family, who, with his son Piero, shown on the white horse next to his father, chose Gozzoli to decorate the chapel. (Figs. 24, 25)

## GREYHOUNDS AS GIFTS IN THE RENAISSANCE

To the far left of Caspar are two men riding toward the viewer. The rider on the brown horse is Sigismondo Malatesta, whose two Greyhounds had been given to him by a nephew of Cosimo. Next to him on the white horse is Galeazzo Maria Sforza, the lord of Pavia. Ten years later, the ambassador to Pavia from Florence said of Sforza in a letter, "A wild passion for greyhounds has come over the duke and he thinks of nothing else. . . . If you have a chance to send him a couple I know he would be very pleased, but they must be good and attractive."

The leader of Florence by that time was the grandson of Cosimo de' Medici, Lorenzo, later known as Lorenzo the Magnificent, the de facto lord of Florence and the greatest patron of the arts and scholarship of his day. He is seen in the procession as one of the young men behind Malatesta and Sforza. His grandson was also named Lorenzo. One day, Nicolai Machiavelli appeared at the Palazzo Medici to present the second Lorenzo with his latest book, *The Prince*. That book was one of the first and most significant books of political philosophy. It proposed the pragmatic, perhaps cynical, philosophy famously known today as Machiavellianism, which states that the ends of rulers can justify even immoral means. However, on the same day 500 years ago that Lorenzo was given his moment in history (*The Prince* was dedicated to him in 1513), he shrugged it off, for he received another present that he found far more intriguing and interesting — some Greyhounds.



Fig. 24 Procession of the Youngest King, Benozzo Gozzoli, Chapel of the Magi, Palazzo Medici, Florence



Fig. 25 Procession of the Youngest King, detail

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Henry Townsend travels to Italy and other destinations as often as possible, and as a side benefit takes photographs of Greyhounds in Art (or maybe it is the other way around). The photograph of Adonis Dying by Jean-Pol Grandmont and the photographs from the Uffizi and the Chapel of the Magi may be found by searching on the Internet at Wikimedia Commons for Adonis Dying, or by the name of the artist, Daddi, da Fabriano, Uccello, or Gozzoli. The other images in this article were taken by him on trips in 2008, 2009, 2010, and 2011. All of the images mentioned in this article may be seen at [picasaweb.google.com/greyhounds.in.art/Italy](http://picasaweb.google.com/greyhounds.in.art/Italy). All are in the public domain. Anyone who would like to know more may write [greyhounds.in.art@gmail.com](mailto:greyhounds.in.art@gmail.com).

## **Saturday, April 6**

GFNJ Spring Tricky Tray  
Greyhound Friends of New Jersey  
6:00 p.m. start  
Somerville Elks Lodge  
Bridgewater, N.J.

Guests enjoy buffet dinner and the chance to bid on 150 or more donated raffle prizes and silent auction. Contact: Maria Lutz, flutz11331@aol.com; www.gfnj.org

## **Thursday through Sunday, April 11-14**

Hound Dog Howliday/GPA National Business Meeting  
GPA/Emerald Coast  
Bay Beach Inn  
Gulf Breeze, Fla.

Hound Dog Howliday is not a gathering . . . it's a party! (This year's theme: Hooray for Howlywood.) Celebrate the Greyhounds that have touched our hearts. Join us for a howling good time with four days of Greyhounds, fashions, food, and meeting with friends. Greyhound Pets of America will hold their National Business Meeting on Friday, April 12. Don't miss the fun in the sun in Florida. Contact: Connie McMillan, (850) 476-2522 or constancemcmillan@hotmail.com

## **Saturday, April 13**

Spring Banquet  
GPA/Central New Hampshire  
6:00 to 10:00 p.m.  
Grappone Conference Center/Courtyard Marriott  
Commercial Street  
Concord, N.H.

Annual spring banquet features guest speaker Dr. Guillermo Couto from The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine/Greyhound Health and Wellness Program. This will be a wonderful opportunity to spend an evening with Dr. Couto and learn more about our Greyhounds. Seating is limited to 120 so buy your tickets early! Menu for the buffet and ticket

purchase info will be posted at GPA-CNHC.org in January. Contact: Stephen Shepard, Director/Treasurer, (603) 225-7274 or shshepard@myfairpoint.net or director@gpa-cnhc.org.

## **Saturday, April 23**

Greyhound Health & Wellness Conference  
OSU Greyhound Health & Wellness Program  
8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The Ohio State University Medical Center  
601 Vernon Tharp Street  
Columbus, Ohio

The third Greyhound Health & Wellness Conference at Ohio State will present valuable medical information for Greyhound owners, adopters, trainers, and for veterinarians involved in the care of Greyhounds. Topics will include common diseases in Greyhounds, new advances in cancer treatment, a day in the life of a racing Greyhound, clinical pathology of Greyhounds, and special considerations in the cardiology and orthopedics of Greyhounds. A Greyhound orthopedic examination wet lab is offered to veterinarians (separate enrollment required). All sessions except for the wet lab will be offered to all attendees, and will be presented at the level of the general veterinary practitioner. Contact: Office of Veterinary Continuing Education, (614) 292-8727; www.greyhound.osu.edu

## **Saturday, May 4**

Open House and 20th Anniversary Celebration  
Greyhound Friends of North Carolina  
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
2908 Oak Ridge Road  
Oak Ridge, N.C.  
Contact: Amy Reynard, (704) 341-3264; AR\_GFNC\_Board@yahoo.com

## **Friday through Sunday, May 10-12**

Grapehounds — Virginia  
The Grapehound Wine Tour® — Virginia  
Friday, 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Saturday and Sunday, 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Lost Creek Winery  
Leesburg, Va.

Wine tasting, Greyhound vendors, food, and music at six country wineries throughout a three-day weekend benefits ten regional adoption groups. Contact: Larry Bowersox, (717) 669-8723 or grapehound@gmail.com; www.grapehounds.com

## **Saturday, May 11**

Roofest  
GPA/Greater Northwest  
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Frontier Park  
21800 Meridian St.  
Graham, Wash.  
This FREE event features raffles, vendors, live and silent auctions, food, doggy games, and available Greyhounds for pre-approved adopters. Come and spend a day in the park with your dog(s). Camping is available for a nominal fee. Contact: Julie Van Sickle, (253) 927-5043 or julies\_kids@yahoo.com

## **Friday through Sunday, May 17-19**

Greyhound Event of Michigan  
GreyHounds of Eastern Michigan  
Friday 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.  
Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.  
Sunday 9:00 a.m. to Noon  
Holiday Inn and Conference Center  
Livonia, Mich.  
Live auction, raffles, silent auction, speakers, seminars, and lots of shopping! Contact: Merrie West, (734) 464-0479 or mwest89698@aol.com

**Saturday and Sunday, May 18-19**

Annual Spring Open House  
 Greyhound Friends, Inc.  
 Noon to 4:00 p.m. both days  
 167 Saddle Hill Road  
 Hopkinton, Mass.

Join us for our annual spring open house. Good food, great company (lots of visiting adopted Greyhounds), shopping for humans and hounds, silent auction and raffle, and the Not Quite Westminster Dog Show. Let your Greyhound run in the fenced field. The Greyhounds in the kennel waiting for homes always love visitors, so please stop by. Everyone is welcome with their hounds. Contact: Louise Coleman, [ghfriend@greyhound.org](mailto:ghfriend@greyhound.org)

**Saturday, May 18**

Greyhound Gathering  
 GREYlong  
 12:30-4:30 p.m.  
 Kill Creek Beach Park  
 DeSoto, Kan.

A wonderfully fun time for dogs and owners. Enjoy your Greyhounds' antics as they run in the sand and dive in the lake. Bring your favorite finger food. The money raised is used to fund canine cancer studies. Contact: Lori Haberman-Wilson, (913) 851-4382 or [greylong3@yahoo.com](mailto:greylong3@yahoo.com)

**Thursday through Sunday, May 30-June 2**

Mountain Hounds 2013 — The Best Little Event You Will Ever Attend  
 Greyhound Friends of North Carolina  
 Gatlinburg, Tenn.  
 Weekend retreat for humans and Greyhounds includes fun and games, vending, catered picnic, seminars, and more. Enjoy the Smoky Mountains and the company of fellow Greyhound owners. Non-Greyhounds welcome. Contacts: Lynda Montgomery, general information, [gfnccgreyhound@bellsouth.net](mailto:gfnccgreyhound@bellsouth.net); Laurie Certo, vending, [lcerto5696@aol.com](mailto:lcerto5696@aol.com); [www.gfnccmountainhounds.com](http://www.gfnccmountainhounds.com)

**Sunday, June 2**

GFNJ Annual Spring Picnic  
 Greyhound Friends of New Jersey  
 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
 Duke Island Park  
 Old York Road  
 Bridgewater, N.J.

A special day to celebrate Greyhounds. Greyhounds owners can bring their dogs to spend the day, enjoy each other, buy something new from the many vendors, and have something to eat . . . all to benefit GFNJ in their quest to place more Greyhounds. Games and adoptable Greyhounds available to pre-approved applicants. Contact: Patty Comerford, [patty.comerford@yahoo.com](mailto:patty.comerford@yahoo.com); [www.greyhoundfriendsnj.org](http://www.greyhoundfriendsnj.org)

**Saturday, June 8**

Greyhound Picnic  
 GPA/Greater Northwest  
 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
 Kootenai County Fairgrounds  
 4056 N. Government Way  
 Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

This Greyhound-only event includes raffles, vendors, live and silent auctions, free food, and the opportunity to run your dog against a radar gun . . . win our travelling trophy for fastest dog! Camping available on site for a small fee. Contact: Nancy Slaughter, (509) 448-5188 or (509) 990-5033, [nancyslaughter01@comcast.net](mailto:nancyslaughter01@comcast.net)

**Saturday, June 22**

4th Annual Dogs in the Park  
 Friends of Retired Greyhounds  
 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Mountain Time  
 E.B. Rains, Jr. Memorial Park  
 11801 Community Center Drive  
 Northglenn, Colo.

A 3K walk/run around Webster Lake with dogs of all breeds. Stay after and visit our vendor booths, see the Colorado Disc Dogs, and participate in hourly raffles and demonstrations. Suggested \$25.00 donation to walk. All proceeds benefit Friends of Retired Greyhounds. Contact: Kathy Dawson, (303) 906-2519, [kdawson@friendsofretiredgreyhounds.org](mailto:kdawson@friendsofretiredgreyhounds.org)

**Thursday through Sunday, July 25-28**

Grapehounds — New York  
 The Grapehound Wine Tour® in the Finger Lakes of New York  
 Atwater Estate Vineyards, Burdett, N.Y. (and numerous other locations)  
 Wine tasting, Greyhound vendors, food, and music at over 20 country wineries throughout a four-day weekend to benefit numerous regional Greyhound adoption groups in New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. Contact: Larry Bowersox, (717) 669-8723 or [grapehound@gmail.com](mailto:grapehound@gmail.com); [www.grapehounds.com](http://www.grapehounds.com)



Bentley, adopted by Caleb and Amy Elhers of Lee's Summit, Mo.; Madison, adopted by Susan Reeker of Hamilton, Mo.

# Greyhounds In Gettysburg 2013

CELEBRATING 15 YEARS!

April 25-28, 2013

**Indoors for the first time ever!**

Allstar Events Complex/Eisenhower Hotel  
2638 Emmitsburg Road, Gettysburg

*Join us for three days of shopping, educational sessions, fun activities, raffles, socials, and The Gettysburg Experience.*

**Registration is \$19/person** (includes most events). Admission to the Events Complex for shopping and seminars is free, but registration is strongly encouraged if you want to attend socials and parties. There will be no late walk-in registration but limited tickets to events will be available for a la carte purchase the day of the event (see the web site for more details). Registration closes April 10, 2013.



## TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

*(dogs welcome at most venues)*

### THURSDAY

- Afternoon In-Towne, Gettysburg
- Evening Welcome Reception, Adams Co. Winery

### FRIDAY

- Guided Battlefield Walk 1
- Shop 70 Vendors, Allstar
- Educational Seminars, Allstar
- Battlefield Harley Shop Hot Dog Roast
- Civil War Wax Museum Social

### SATURDAY

- Guided Battlefield Walk 2
- Art Workshop (hosted by Linda Evans)
- Shop 70 Vendors, Allstar
- Costume Contest/Ice Cream & Cake, Allstar
- Educational Seminars, Allstar
- Evening Buffet with Keynote Speaker, Hotel
- After Party with DJ and Photo Contest, Hotel

### SUNDAY

- Blur of Fur Speed Competition/Closing Ceremonies, Hotel



For more information, or to register for GIG visit [www.greyhoundsingetysburg.org](http://www.greyhoundsingetysburg.org), or call 814-933-6981.



Greyhounds in Gettysburg is sponsored by Nittany Greyhounds, 30 TLD Circle, Port Matilda, PA 16870 [www.nittanygreys.org](http://www.nittanygreys.org).

*A registered 501c(3) charity. All proceeds benefit greyhound adoption.*



## ADVERTISE

in *Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine*

Sell your products,  
service,  
website, etc.

**HERE!**

**Contact:** *Celebrating Greyhounds*

Advertising  
P.O. Box 5239  
Framingham, MA 01701

### **Deadlines:**

Spring issue: December 1st

Summer issue: March 1st

Fall issue: June 1st

Winter issue: September 1st

## Kent Roberts *The Greyhound Artist*

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# APRIL IS NATIONAL GREYHOUND ADOPTION MONTH

For the fourth year, The Greyhound Project will celebrate April's National Greyhound Adoption Month with a national public relations campaign promoting Greyhound adoption public service announcements. Since 2010, the PSA "Cal the Greyhound and His Search for Long-Term Commitment" has been viewed by almost 137,000 people on YouTube, and Cal now has more than 1,300 friends on Facebook.

## What can you do?

**Tell the world.** Visit Cal and His Search for Long-Term Commitment on YouTube. Add Cal to your "favorites," and "share" the video with your friends via Facebook and other social media sites.

**Display your dogs.** Contact your adoption group and offer to do meet-and-greets for them. If you are not near a group, call busy local businesses and ask if you can set up an exercise pen and do your own meet-and-greets at their facility. The National Greyhound Adoption Month Resources area at [adopt-a-greyhound.org](http://adopt-a-greyhound.org) has an informative brochure for potential adopters that you can print and distribute.

**Dogs on parade.** The best way to build awareness for Greyhounds is getting the dogs out in public. Whether you walk alone or with a group, you are sure to turn some heads. Consider joining a walk for another cause; a group of Greyhounds is sure to get the media's attention.

**Teach the children.** Approach your local schools, libraries, or scouting organizations to set up opportunities for teaching and distributing brochures.

## What can adoption groups do?

**Distribute PSAs to local media outlets.** Do you know someone who works at a local television station? If so, mention to them that April is National Adopt-a-Greyhound Month and ask if they will air one of the PSAs. To obtain information about ordering copies of a PSA, visit the National Greyhound Adoption Month Resources area at [adopt-a-greyhound.org](http://adopt-a-greyhound.org).

**Distribute press releases to local media outlets.** Newspapers and radio stations are always looking for local interest stories. By sending a press release with a high-quality photograph of your dogs, you increase chances of the story making the publication because they now have a local interest angle. Visit the National Greyhound Adoption Month Resources area at [adopt-a-greyhound.org](http://adopt-a-greyhound.org) for a sample press release and tips on talking to the media.

## Resources at The Greyhound Project web site

Visit the National Greyhound Adoption Month Resources area at [adopt-a-greyhound.org](http://adopt-a-greyhound.org) for:

- A printable brochure for distribution to potential adopters
- The link to Cal's and other PSAs
- Information on ordering copies of a PSA
- A sample press release
- Tips for talking to the media



Fanny, adopted by Tinka Perry of Westford, Mass.



Nakita, adopted by Stephanie and Dave Russell, Erie, Colo.



Sophie, adopted by Donna and Brett Weeks of Gambrills, Md.  
Joanne Bast



Kiwi, adopted by Michael and Maria DeLellis of Bridgewater, Mass.

*Celebrating Greyhounds: The Magazine*  
The Greyhound Project  
P.O. Box 5239  
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