

cg magazine

celebrating greyhounds
summer 2001

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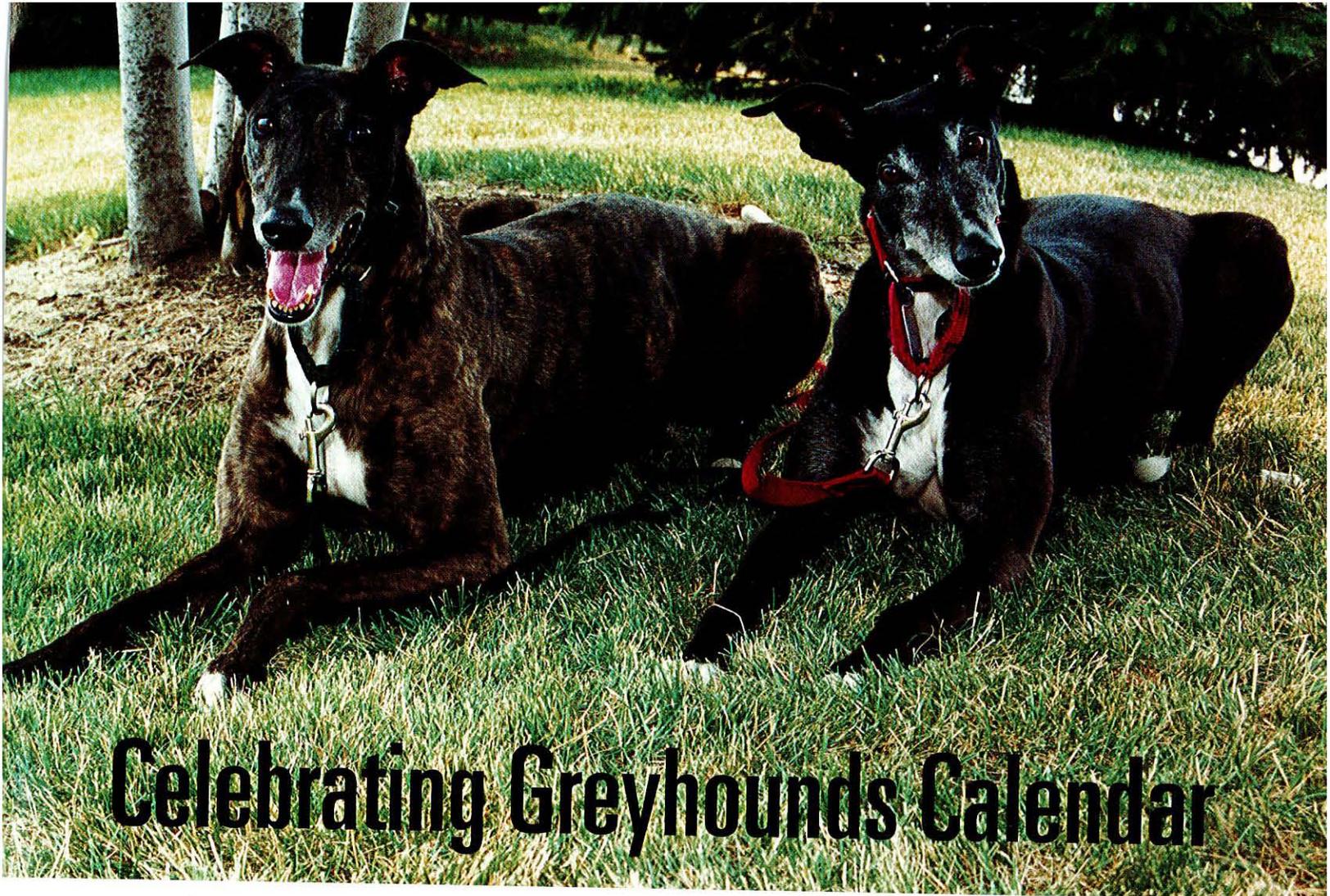
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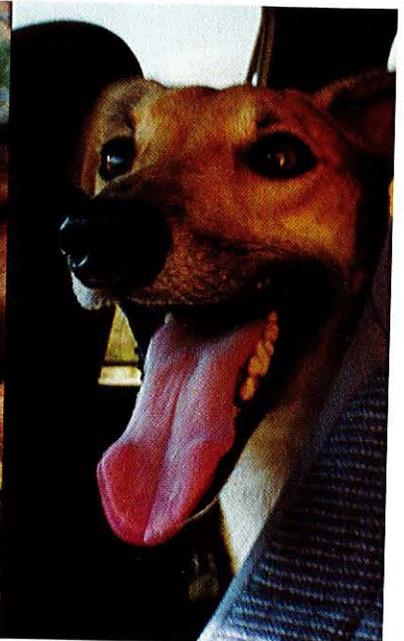
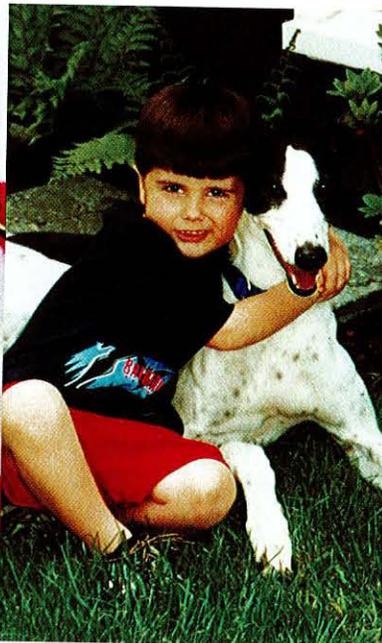
**Summer,
Greyhounds, & Fun**

Camping, Vacation Safety, & Children's Literature



Celebrating Greyhounds Calendar

Coming to an adoption group near you starting in August



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Dear Readers,

Drum roll, please! I am delighted to announce as we begin our sixth year of publication, that The Dog Writers Association of America (DWAA) has named *Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine* best single breed magazine for the year 2000. I want to thank all the writers, photographers, and artists who have submitted materials over the last five years as well as the editors and regular contributors who have worked so hard to make it all happen. During year 2000, we published 139 articles and 228 photos submitted by 145 contributors. Between Summer 1996, when *CG* published its first issue, and Winter 2000, we published 519 articles and 869 photos, from a total of 432 contributors. I know this thanks to Ellen McCracken, who has painstakingly entered virtually everything we have ever published into a relational database so this information is at our fingertips. We have evolved from a 26-page publication containing primarily article reprints to a magazine of mainly original works. We hope you like our updated look, too.

We introduce a new column, "Tales from the Couch,"

and welcome its author and CG's newest regular contributor, Lee Livingood.

"Tales from the Couch" will use easy, commonsense approaches to enjoying life with our favorite couch potato. Lee will use her no-nonsense style and irreverent humor to discuss tips, tools, techniques, and topics related to training and behavior. For those unfamiliar with her, Lee is a writer as well as a companion animal trainer and behavior consultant. Her books include *Retired Racing Greyhounds for Dummies* (Hungry Minds, 2000) and *Running with the Big Dogs: The Gentle Art of Turning Your Retired Racing Greyhound into Your Best Friend* (now out of print). She has written on behavior topics for *Forward*, the publication of the National Association of Dog Obedience Instructors, and is a professional member of the Association of Pet Dog Trainers.

In addition to her writing and her behavioral business, Lee teaches basic manners and companion dog classes, runs workshops on dog behavior and training, and does occasional radio call-in shows on pet behavior topics. She shares her life with her very tolerant husband, Ben, as well as two retired racers, a Galgo, a mixed breed dog, and a Bengal cat.

Speaking of regular columns, please let us know if there is any particular subject you'd like to read about that might be helpful to us all. Don't forget to tell us about your Hero Hounds, either.

This issue contains articles ranging from activities for you and your hounds, to important health and safety issues, to adoption history, to fiction. Remember when reading medical articles that they are intended to provide general information and may not apply to your dog. Please see your veterinarian if your dog has a medical problem, as every situation is different. Enjoy!

Marcia

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Front cover: Nanihoa (Hawaiian for "Most Beautiful") was adopted by Kathie and Paul Matsuyama of Los Alamitos, California. This happy, smiling fellow is unusual in that he was an only child; he was the whole litter!

Back cover: Red Sterling and George were adopted by Judith Adair of Centerville, Virginia. Photo by Paws Prints.

speakout

Dear Readers,

So many interesting letters came in this quarter that the longer ones are shortened in order to get in as many as possible. Please remember to keep letters to 300 words or less. Thanks for writing.—Ed.

Tessa and Walker



Middleboro's Tessa is Back

Imagine my surprise when I saw "The Middleboro Nine: How to Run a Rescue" and a picture of my Tessa! Here is an update on Tessa.

After the rescue, she was given back to Greyhound Friends when the home she was in was not working out. On Nov. 11, 1999, Tessa came to live with me as a foster dog with my other Greyhound, Walker, and all 11 of my cats. Everyone said I would end up keeping her. After having Tessa for two months I just could not give her up. I formally adopted her in January 2000.

I want to personally thank everyone who cared enough for the wonderful Middleboro Nine dogs to want to help them and Greyhound Friends who have given Tessa something wonderful - a home where she will be loved and cared for the rest of her life.

Eileen M. Battavio
West Chester, Penn.

Hypothyroidism

Thank you for your comments regarding the use of thyroid medications for low/normal thyroid levels. Low thyroid readings are very common in Greyhounds. As an owner of an AKC Champion Greyhound, our wishes were to breed her at some point in her lifetime. Unfortunately, her heat seasons were almost non-existent (the first coming well after 3 years of age). Everyone suggested putting her on thyroid meds to stimulate the hormones (her readings were low/normal range). We did so for a short period of time with no marked improvement (and thankfully, no medical problems). She is now 10 years old, in good health, and still showing low/normal thyroid readings.

As the owner of Dobermans, too, underactive thyroids are commonplace in our household. After reading your article, you can bet that I will never use thyroid medication again unless the physical signs and tests warrant it as absolutely necessary.

Thank you providing such an informative magazine. It's not only great for Greyhound owners, but for owners of all breeds. Keep up the good work.

Anita S. Dengler
Via the Internet

The Veterinarian Approves

Bob is 8 years old, has lived with us six years and is doing very well. Ambassador Bob is a very friendly, well-behaved representative of his breed. He is a giant fellow, standing 31 inches tall and weighing a trim 98 pounds. He can be intimidating but is very gentle and makes monthly pet visits to our local nursing home.

Bob is also a cancer survivor. He was diagnosed with a sarcoma of his left front paw 17 months ago. After radiation therapy to the area at Angell Memorial Animal Hospital, he is walking, hiking, and doing some running with only a minor limp. We were happy to have this alternative to amputation for him with his type of cancer.

Thank you for your wonderful publication. It has just the right mix of information and fun! As a veterinarian, I am always trying to keep my eye out for important tidbits about this wonderful breed. Keep up the good work!

Julie A. Kopsler, DVM
Countryside Veterinary Hospital
Chelmsford, Mass.

Home Loans For Hounds

We were in a have-to-move situation, and saw an article on "Home Loans for Hounds" in the GPA Northwest newsletter. We contacted Drew [Nichol] and were very pleased. The loan rates were competitive, we were treated well, our loan paperwork was completed in a very timely fashion, and we were able to move within our deadline. Drew made a nice contribution to the Greyhound rescue group of our choice.

Thanks for publishing the article on "Home Loans for Hounds." If you need a

How many Greyhounds can you fit on a couch? Midnight, Simon, and Mona Lisa demonstrate.

MARIE HERSHKOWITZ



mortgage loan and you have Greyhounds, we would strongly recommend contacting Drew. You'll be doing yourself and the Greyhounds a favor.

Todd and Ann Ross
The Dalles, Ore.

Greyhound Golf Classic

Our Bonnie and Bandit came from Plainfield Pets. Clyde came from REGAP of Connecticut. We have been searching for a way to help the Greyhounds. In last summer's *Celebrating Greyhounds*, there it was, in black and white, the idea we needed; a golf tournament. We live between two fairways

Darlin' Marlin

I cannot express how delighted my husband and I were to see a picture of our Darlin' Marlin in the winter issue of *Celebrating Greyhounds* (page 13). Marlin came to us six years ago as a "special needs dog" through Midwest Greyhound Adoption. When he came to them from the track he was so afraid of people that he refused to come out of his cage and had to be approached by people on their hands and knees. A year after adoption, Marlin won the "Most Improved Greyhound" award at their reunion as he proudly strutted his stuff.

Marge Newbourn
Hot Springs Village, Ark.

or sometimes she'll flop across my lap and fall asleep with that big tongue hanging out the side of her mouth. (For fun, try peeling a dried out Greyhound tongue off your leg.) The pictures of the laser surgery were fascinating! Janey covered her eyes and winced when I showed them to her.

Mona L. Headen
Merrimack, N.H.

A Heads-up About Blood Clots

According to our veterinarian, this life-threatening medical condition is more common in Greyhounds than other breeds.

For several months, Grammy, aged 8, limped on her hind right leg. She had tests and x-rays, but the cause could not be determined. It was thought that she had a soft tissue injury. They gave us some anti-inflammatory medication. The severity of her limping seemed to vary. One day I came home from work and her back hind legs were completely paralyzed. She was panicking and flailing around trying to stand up.

During the night at the hospital, the veterinarian on duty thought that it must be a circulatory problem, most likely a blood clot that had grown large enough to cut off the blood supply to Grammy's hind legs. The next morning a veterinary cardiologist confirmed this diagnosis. After two days of intensive treatment, during which she was between life and death, we brought Grammy home.

If your Greyhound is experiencing limping and a cause cannot be pinpointed, ask your veterinarian whether blood clots might be a possibility. The condition cannot be cured, but early treatment may make a difference.

Monica Kearns
Denver, Col.

Although Grammy was put on blood thinners and gradually recovered, she passed away after a few weeks. The Kearnses are thankful for the extra time they had with their beloved Grammy.—Ed.



Janey Headen. Well, a girl can't be silly all the time!

of a golf course and we don't know why we didn't think of it sooner. We have completed our plans to hold the first annual Greyhound Golf Classic.

Thank you for your time and providing us with this great magazine and all the info it brings us about these remarkable dogs.

Miles and Roxanne Neutts
Greenfield Twp., Penn.

Please see event information in "You're Invited."—Ed.

Life with the Class Clown

My husband and I have two Greyhounds (Janey and Kira) and a 14-year-old mutt (Sheba), as well as two cats and yes, seven ferrets.

We identified with the article "Life with the Class Clown." Eileen Saks described our brindle Greyhound, Janey, perfectly. When she's bored, she'll let you know she wants attention and wants it now! She's always the first to lead the welcoming serenade for me when we get home. When it's Janey's turn to cuddle on the couch, she tucks herself up into her daddy's armpit and cuddles with him,

MORRIS FOUNDATION

Cancer Study

The Greyhound Project will continue its matching funds program on behalf of the Morris Animal Foundation Cancer Study. The amount to be matched will be increased to \$4,500.

Continue to support this research by sending donations to Morris Animal Foundation, Canine Cancer—The Greyhound Project Account, 45 Inverness Drive East, Englewood, CO 80112.

CG NEWS

Moving? Need to Renew?

In order to not miss any issues of CG Magazine, please remember to send us your changes of address and your subscription renewals well in advance of your move or expiration date to The Greyhound Project, Attn: Change of Address (or Renewal), PO Box 358, Marblehead, MA 01945-0358. As a quarterly publication timeliness is of the essence in order to not miss issues.

Correction to Spring Issue:

Golden Years Senior Referral Program is in northeastern Ohio, not in Illinois as stated on page 8 in "Nawty's Legacy."

CG NEWS

CG Wins DWAA Award



Cynthia Branigan, Sue LeMieux, Marcia Herman

The Dog Writers Association of America has named *Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine* as the best single breed magazine for the year 2000. Accompanying the honor is the Maxwell Award and a certificate of achievement. Winning the Maxwell Award is to a dog writer what winning an Oscar is to an actor.

This year, 1,114 entries were received in 52 categories. Cynthia Branigan's article, "On Death, Dying, and Dogs" from the summer 2000 issue of *CG*, won in the Editorial/Opinion Piece/Essay category. Also winning a Maxwell Award in the single-breed pet guide category was Sue LeMieux's book, *The Book of the Greyhound*, THF Publications.

CG NEWS

Drill Team Video

If you have yet to see the Gilley's Dancing Greyhounds Drill Team in action, this is your chance. A high-quality videotape of "The Girls," produced by GPA/OC-Greater Los Angeles, is now available. You may purchase the tape from Nancy Madigan,

5727 Pickering Ave., Whittier, CA 90601 for \$10.

Whether you use the tape for your own viewing pleasure or as an adjunct to "Meet and Greets" or other public awareness events, you and the general public will see for yourselves just how smart, funny, and responsive Greyhounds can be. The editor gives this terrific tape a "thumbs up."

FUNDING

ASPCA Grant

For the fourth consecutive year the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals is offering grants of up to \$2,500 to assist adoption/rescue groups in placing retired Greyhounds. The total annual amount distributed is \$25,000. If your adoption group is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that has been in existence more than one year and places more than 12 Greyhounds annually, you may be eligible for an emergency or capital improvement grant from the ASPCA Greyhound Rescue Fund.



For more information or to obtain an application, contact Jacque Schultz at 212-876-7700 x4421 or jacques@aspc.org. Please remember to leave your address and daytime phone number.

DEDICATION

Pet Cemetery

On September 10, 2000 (National Pet Memorial Day), Buffalo (New York) Greyhound Adoption, Inc., in cooperation with a local pet cemetery, held a dedication ceremony where the memories and lives of the retired racing Greyhound can be cherished and honored. A special section in Pine Rest Pet Cemetery, 757 Seneca Creek Road, West Seneca, NY, was dedicated to the lives of retired racing Greyhounds and their families.

During the ceremony, a crowd gathered for the unveiling of a life-size bronze statue that stands guard over the area of plots for Greyhounds and their fellow pet "siblings." Many people, with tears in their eyes, laid roses at the base of the statue in remembrance of a special Greyhound who touched their lives. A gazebo, small creek, and beautiful flowers compliment the area. There are two



plot sizes available with room to expand.

Once news of the special Greyhound section spread, the cemetery fielded numerous telephone calls.

"There has been a very big response from the Greyhound people," said Thomas Jordan, vice president and general manager of the pet cemetery, which has been owned by his family since 1960.

The cemetery dates back to 1915 originally and was moved to its present location in 1919. The cemetery holds the distinct honor of being the only one of its kind in the immediate Western New York area. Among the pets buried at the cemetery are a World War I mascot and a gorilla who traveled with a circus and got sick on the way to Buffalo.

Buffalo Greyhound Adoption Inc. is a non-profit organization, comprised of volunteers who, for the past ten years, have dedicated their time and energy to finding loving homes for the retired racing Greyhound.

THE GALGOS

Need Your Help

Donate Your Leftover Medicine and Supplies

Suzanne Stack, DVM, is organizing an ongoing collection of medicine and medical supplies to be donated to the Spanish Greyhounds. She will send your donations to European Greyhound refuges such as Scooby, GIN (Greyhounds In Need), Alicante, and Ireland. These places are all operating on shoestrings and will use anything you donate. Please save this notice because the time will likely come when you have something to donate. As Dr. Stack says, "It beats watching that \$25 bottle of pills rot on your shelf."

Please mail medications and medical supplies to Suzanne Stack, DVM, 16790 S. Ave A, Somerton, AZ 85350.

Collar and Muzzle Drive

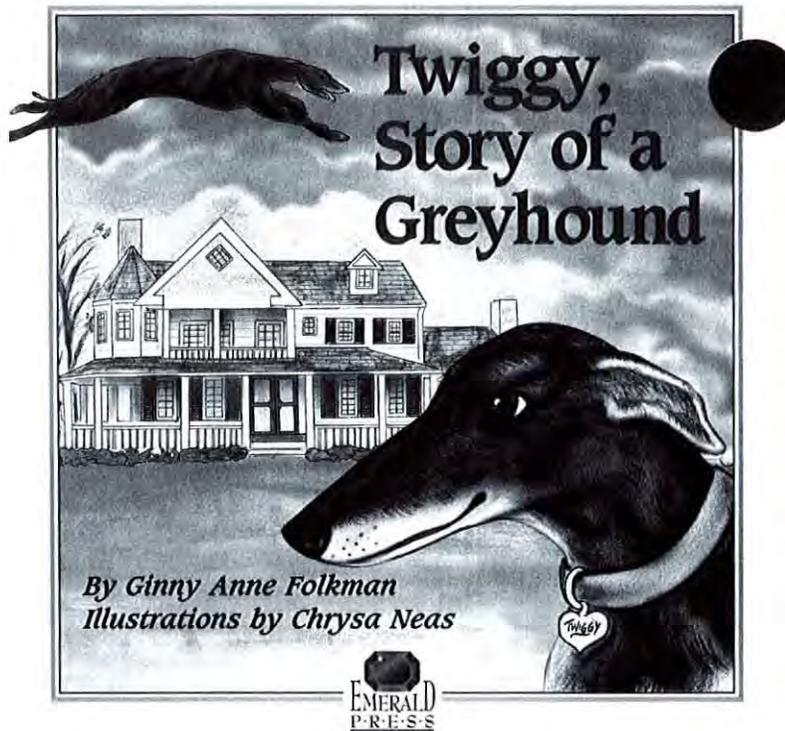
Calling all adoption groups! The Spanish Greyhounds need your extra muzzles regardless of condition, as well as any extra safety-slip and martingale-style collars and raincoats your group or adopters can spare. If your adopters can supply you with their extra equipment, please gather and box it for shipment.

Send to: Greyhound Friends of North Carolina, 2908 Oak Ridge Road, Oak Ridge, NC 27310.

GFNC plans to ship supplies to its affiliate in Barcelona on an ongoing basis. There is no time limit on this drive. For more information, call GFNC at 366-643-0233. Please visit the Greyhounds In Need website at www.greyhoundrescue.co.uk. Their e-mail is jill@greyhoundrescue.co.uk. Thank you in advance for your time and effort on this project.

Greyhound Books for Young Readers

The selection of Greyhound-specific books is increasing and it's nice to see that children's literature has not been left behind. The books reviewed here are intended for young audiences but make enjoyable reading for people of all ages. All four have a similar theme - the main character is a Greyhound who has run its last race and is adopted into a loving family. The books are written from the Greyhound's point of view and despite similarities, each author draws upon her own experiences and creates a unique story. No age range is indicated for the first three books. However, the fourth is recommended for readers ages 4 to 8.



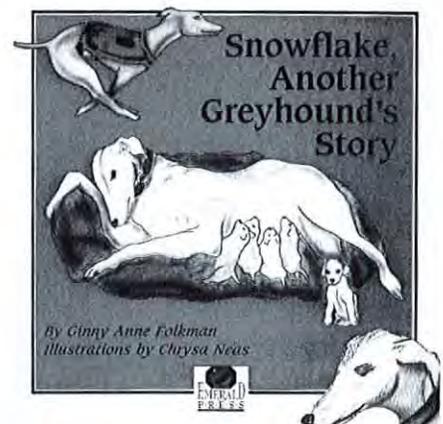
Twiggy, Story of a Greyhound

By Ginny Anne Folkman; illustrated by Chrysa Neas
Emerald Press (1994); ISBN 0-9644470-0-2

As the story unfolds, Twiggy loses her last race and is worried about the future. A family adopts her, although Mikie, the son, thinks she is skinny and ugly. The plot includes moments of drama and tension, but the story ends happily for Twiggy, who wins the hearts of everyone in her family, including Mikie.

This is one of the first-published contemporary children's books about Greyhound adoption. It's a story with action that moves right along. The illustrations are appealingly bright and colorful and enhance the sense of activity.

Folkman gives Twiggy human qualities and uses the dog to ask readers to understand how it feels to be different. She successfully uses the animal's point of view without being condescending.



Snowflake, Another Greyhound's Story

By Ginny Anne Folkman; illustrated by Chrysa Neas
Emerald Press (1997); ISBN 0-9644470-1-0

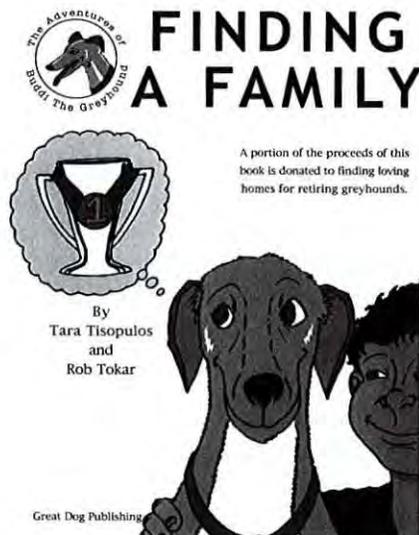
The story of Snowflake, the author's second Greyhound, is a case study about the life of a racing Greyhound. It begins at Snowflake's birth and continues through her training, a brief racing career, and finally adoption.

Folkman's word choice and sentence construction make the book clear and easy for children to understand. Layout and design are pleasing, with Neas's soft-toned illustrations appropriately placed to complement the text.

Folkman devotes two-thirds of this book to the business of Greyhound racing using personable, likeable characters. She explains the experience of Greyhound adoption and identifies true-life individuals. Graciously, Folkman establishes her credibility by acknowl-

edging the help of several experts in the Greyhound community.

The information Folkman provides about Greyhound racing and adoption is woven into a sweet story. While the reader is not shielded from the upsetting reality about the future of some Greyhounds, Folkman is not explicit on this issue. The author's purpose is clear; she is trying to educate her readers. For some, the information may be old. For those families new to Greyhounds, this book is a valuable teaching tool.



Finding a Family

By Tara Tisopulos; illustrated by Rob Tokar

Great Dog Publishing; Claremont, CA (1999); ISBN 0-9678057-0-8

Much to his dismay, Buddi's racing career is over. Rather than risk losing the next race, Buddi grudgingly chooses a family instead so he can retire as undefeated champion. Although Buddi adjusts to his new life, he decides to return for another race. Of course, there is a happy ending and Buddi does go home again.

Finding a Family is nicely illustrated with large drawings that have realistic character representations. The story is entertaining and creatively written with a little suspense thrown in. Buddi thinks and plans using everyday language that will appeal to young readers. The vernacular is not offen-

sive and gives Buddi personality.

The author, who self-published the book, hopes it will be the first in a series about the adventures of Buddi the Greyhound. Her goal is to promote awareness of Greyhounds and raise money to benefit adoption efforts. A portion of the proceeds from each sale is donated to Greyhound adoption.

Dasher Gets Adopted: A Story of Love, Trust, and Family

By Julie Hatley; illustrated by Shay Jones

Shine Publications; Issaquah, WA (2001); ISBN 0-9705188-0-3

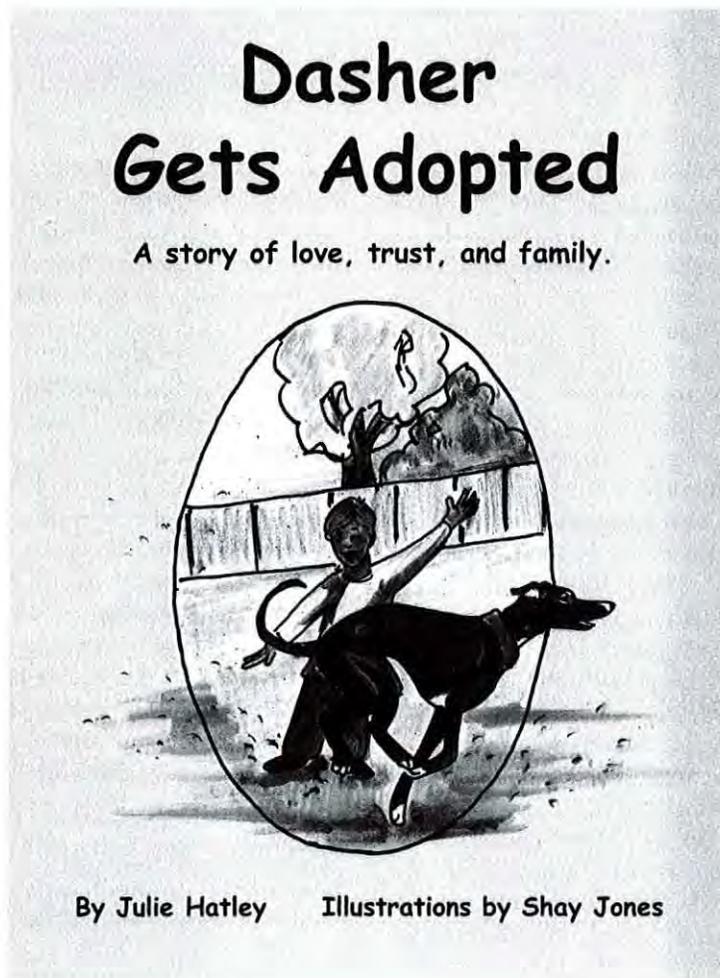
In this charming story, Hatley helps her young audience understand the difficulties Greyhounds face as they adjust to home life. She uses many examples of the unfamiliar objects, such as stairs, windows, and lamps that retired racers may encounter. Without preaching, the author places

Dasher in situations where many of the "dos and don'ts" of Greyhound adoption can be applied. Through trial and error, Dasher overcomes her fears and learns to love and trust her new family.

Dasher is a very clean and simply illustrated book. The text, in large type with lots of white space, is not daunting to beginning readers but may seem babyish to older children. The illustrations employ cheerful colors and sharp contrasts appearing on pages opposite the text so that a young child, sitting next to the reader, can easily look at the pictures while listening to the story.

Hatley has a message for her audience: show compassion and patience with others as they adapt to new situations. Set in the context of Greyhound adoption, the broader message is a way of teaching children respect for all living things. ■

Mary Bauer is a CG Magazine adoptions editor



Tales of Two Heros



Willy the Speaking Greyhound

It was Christmas Day, 2000. Early in the morning, my daughter and I took Willy (AM Wilbert) and our foster hound for their morning walk. We hadn't fed them yet because we planned to let them romp for a while in our condo's basketball court. As we rounded the fence corner at the top of the hill, the dogs alerted and stared intently into the woods behind the court, pacing excitedly back and forth. Suspecting a neighborhood cat was about, we also looked. To our surprise, we saw four men, dressed in camouflage gear, sneaking around in the woods. They were silently motioning to each other, pointing to the ground, and shifting their positions so furtively that I became uneasy. Then I noticed their weapons. I couldn't tell if they were rifles or bows. Regardless, they were on heavily posted land, and within shooting distance of us!

Marena whispered, "I'm scared. C'mon, Mom, let's go home." I considered the options. If I went home and called the authorities, by the time they'd get there the men would be gone, our Christmas play session would be ruined, and I'd feel afraid

every time we went up there. Confronting four armed men was out of the question. I decided that I really just wanted them to leave. They hadn't seen us yet, and I thought Willy's big-dog bark could make them nervous about being discovered and chase away any game they might be pursuing.

I whispered, "Willy, speak!" He barked. "Yes! Speak!" He barked again with each command. He seemed happy to obey and yet he had big question marks in his eyes as if to say, "Gee, Mom, what's the big deal?" The next time I looked down the hill, the men were moving away, into the woods, out of range.

We had a wonderful romp on the snowy basketball court after that, and when we got home Willy ate a special breakfast and extra treats. I made it a point of telling this story to everyone who had ever told me I was crazy for teaching Willy to speak. Our big guy came through for us that day, and we're grateful.

Linda Hestianna lives in Merrimack, N.H., with her daughter Marena, Willy, Hal (a current foster) and assorted tropical fish. She is also the new editor of Greyhound Tails, the quarterly newsletter of GPA-CNH (Central New Hampshire Chapter).

Tall's Tale

Our 9-year-old-Greyhound, Tall, joined the family last September. He'd never shown a lot of interest in going into our son Tony's room, but several weeks ago he became obsessed with entering. Once inside, he'd look and sniff behind Tony's couch, which doubles as his bed. This was amusing at first, but since Tony works nights and sleeps days, Tall's whining at his door quickly became annoying. It didn't take long for us to discover what the problem was.

One day my husband, Michael, came home and heard Tall's whining and barking all the way down in the carport. He went upstairs to find Tall with his nose almost shoved under Tony's closed door. He'd been scratching at the door trying to open it or to wake up Tony. Tall knew something was very wrong.

Michael opened the door and discovered the room with filled with smoke. He woke Tony, ushered him out of the room, and began to search for the cause—a baseboard heater located behind the couch. Although the controls were set at "off" and the heater hadn't been used for a year or so, apparently enough heat was being generated to start melting the faux-leather cover of a beanbag chair shoved up against the heater. We couldn't smell it, but our smart, beautiful Tall could!

Tall received lots of hugs that evening and was served a hero's meal of fresh ground turkey and chicken mixed with fresh veggies, yogurt and kibble. I also baked him special peanut butter dog cookies, and he got an extra one that night!

Colleen Gonzales is the office manager/receptionist for a property management company and lives in Seattle with her husband, son, and Tall, who she describes as being "a real couch potato, with bouts of puppy-like energy."

Mutton Cutlet, Father of the Track Greyhound

Born in 1921, Mutton Cutlet was not considered one of the best coursing Greyhounds in England, although he was the runner up for the Waterloo Plate in 1925. Shortly after that he was purchased by Tom Morris and put to stud. Surprisingly, he is best known for his successful Irish offspring rather than his English ones. He was retired from coursing shortly after his success in 1925, and began a long and even more successful career as a sire. He produced pups, many with the “Cutlet” name, from 1928 to 1935.

Mutton Cutlet first made his name in Ireland by siring coursing stock such as Keen Girlie and Porthos, who in 1928 took first and second places in Ireland’s most important puppy event, the National Breeders’ Stakes. You should know that in coursing and racing, “puppies” are usually 18 months of age or older, not what most of us usually consider as puppies.

For the seven years Mutton Cutlet was an active sire, his progeny dominated Irish coursing. Of the 24 winners and runners-up (second place) for the Irish Derby and the Oaks coursing events, no less than 13 were sired by Mutton Cutlet, and he also sired several of the semi-finalists.

Was that enough for this vaunted sire? Nope! His excellent daughter, Monologue, not only won several prestigious coursing events in Ireland, she also won the Irish Derby and the Easter Cup at Shelbourne Park racetracks in 1932. Monologue was only one of his pups to serve as a link between coursing and racing. For example, his son, Stylish Cutlet, won the Fourth Grand National in 1930, and his daughter, Faithful Kitty, won the Oaks, proving herself the best bitch of that year. These successes aren’t too surprising as Mutton Cutlet’s sire, Jamie, was also siring track winners at the time.

More winning descendants would soon accrue to the Mutton Cutlet name, particularly Future Cutlet, a brilliant son (out of dam Wary Guide) who won the Laurels in 1931 as a puppy. Soon afterward, Future Cutlet secured a place in the public’s heart recently vacated by Mick The Miller. In 1933, Future Cutlet beat another Cutlet son, Beef Cutlet, by just a head for the Derby. Beef Cutlet at the time was the newest Irish star and winner of the Laurels and Welsh Derby of 1932. Like his sire, Future Cutlet left some very large paw prints to fill. He was the winner of four classic races—a record number—and only once failed to place in his career. Physically, Future Cutlet was a handsome brindle of beautiful proportions. H. Edwards Clarke, a

spring with his color—brindle. Tumble Bug was a black dog, and all of his pups but one were also black. Mutton Cutlet also was impressive in another way. He sired his last litter at age 13, and in that litter was the 1937 Cup winner, Ocean Monarch.

How does Mutton Cutlet tie into our American Greyhounds? He is forefather to most of the major track racing lineages in the U.S. through such imports as Upside-down*, another Hall of Fame dog and one of the greatest producers of bitch lines in the U.S. Mutton Cutlet also produced Mordaunt*, another import, and G.R. Angela who is behind the President Day line. He also appears in the pedigrees of Bella’s Prince, Glenbawn Lass*, Lucky Roll, and



noted Greyhound man and author of several books on the breed states that he could have easily won in the show ring had his owner been so inclined.

It’s also interesting that Mutton Cutlet, like the famed Tumble Bug*, another Hall of Fame dog, stamped all his winning off-

many others whose influence on American breeding has been tremendous. For all these successes and more, Mutton Cutlet was inducted into the International section of the Greyhound Hall of Fame in 1974. ■

* denotes dogs imported to the United States.

Onyx: Eggplant to Blossom

Agility as a bonding tool

Onyx came into my life January 7, 2000, but the story really began four months earlier. Onyx had the misfortune of not working out in her former home and was returned to the Nittany Greyhound Kennels in September 1999. A petite, young female who had mastered House Manners 101, she really shouldn't have had a problem being readopted. But maybe there is something to this theory about black dogs and people not liking them. Miz Black Onyx was not yet readopted. The people at the kennel loved her, especially for her smile.

At the same time, a gentleman who is deeply involved with Greyhounds told me about a cute little black girl with the great big smile in the Nittany kennels. I wondered why he even told me about her because I was involved with another adoption group. I already had two fairly young, healthy girls of my own. I was not looking for a third Greyhound.

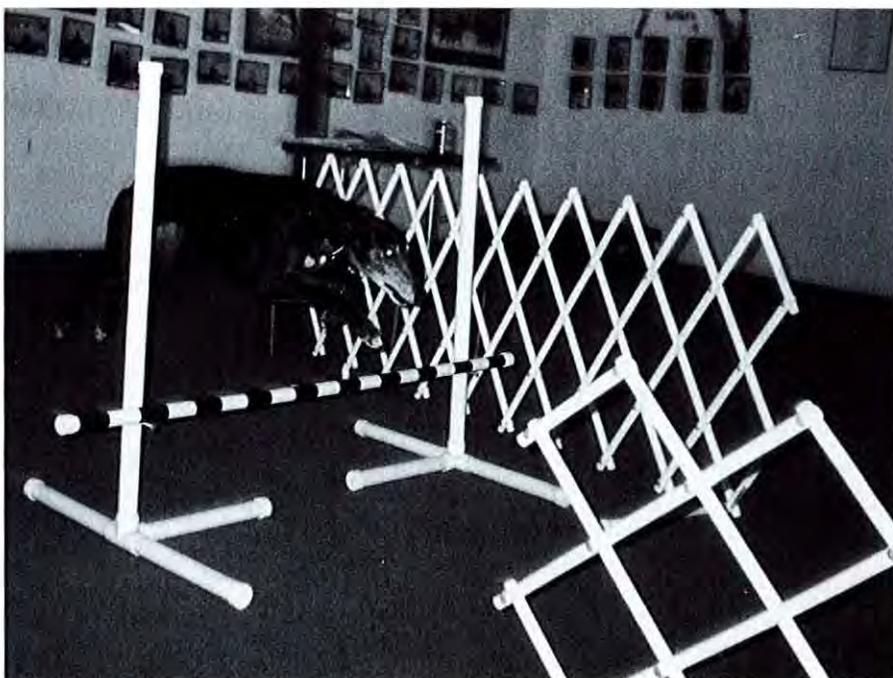
Tragedy struck in December 1999 when I lost unexpectedly my beloved 5-year-old girl, Topaz, to liver disease. I was devastated. Within weeks, I began asking around for available dogs. My brain told me I was looking for a second dog, but my heart was looking for my departed heart Greyhound. On one of these quests, I asked this gentleman if he knew of any girl that had a smile. I was in need of a characteristic that Topaz had: her smile. He immediately reminded me about Onyx. She smiled and had been waiting in the kennel since September, even though she should have been an easy adoption. Her name was that of a gem, just like Topaz. Karma, I said to myself; she was meant to be mine.

So, I picked up Onyx in January, although I really wasn't ready yet. She may have smiled like Topaz, have a gem name like Topaz, but my heart was still broken.

You can't open up the door to the heart if the hinges are broken, so Onyx started her new life in a home that was nice and warm, with a big backyard, doggie door, great food, a companion Greyhound, and a kind human, but there was no love. Bonding was non-existent. I likened her personality to that of an eggplant, as she dealt with this loveless environment by just existing.

the obedience commands. The trainer does not push for Greyhounds to sit, but I told her I had seen Onyx sit naturally. So we tried a method to make her sit on command. She screamed so loud the rest of the class looked at us as if we had just broken her leg. Since she was afraid, we nixed the sit command.

As each week progressed she began to enjoy the classes. Nothing was mastered,



By March, I decided that I needed to do something to force myself to bond with her, so we enrolled in an obedience class even though she was obedient in every way. We needed to do something that she and I could do together without my other Greyhound, Brindle. When we first entered the training room, her tail was tucked under her belly. She shook so hard the floor vibrated, but she still smiled. We started working on

but most everything got accomplished. She would down on command, but not instantly. She heeled very nicely, but was still too afraid to sit. After the six-week course, she was starting to listen to me and to enjoy the outings we were having. She would not sleep in the bedroom with Brindle and me and would not play with toys; she was still the household eggplant.

By April, I enrolled Brindle in the inter-



mediate agility class. During one class, I asked if I could try Onyx on some basic agility to see if she might be interested. The simplest obstacle to master is the tunnel which when fully collapsed, is only about two feet long. She shook so hard from fear that I thought she was going to shake the pictures off the wall. Having no reason to be so afraid, we coaxed and pushed her through the itty-bitty tunnel. She got a treat. Oh, the joy of mastering that obstacle. She was ecstatic; she just bounced, she smiled and twirled that Greyhound twirl. We decided to repeat that exercise. Her tail was still between her legs, she still trembled a bit, but no pictures fell off the wall. It didn't take as long this time around, and she was just as happy as when she first con-

quered it. We repeated it and she went right through like a pro. The instructor and I looked at each other and we said, "Mmm-maybe."

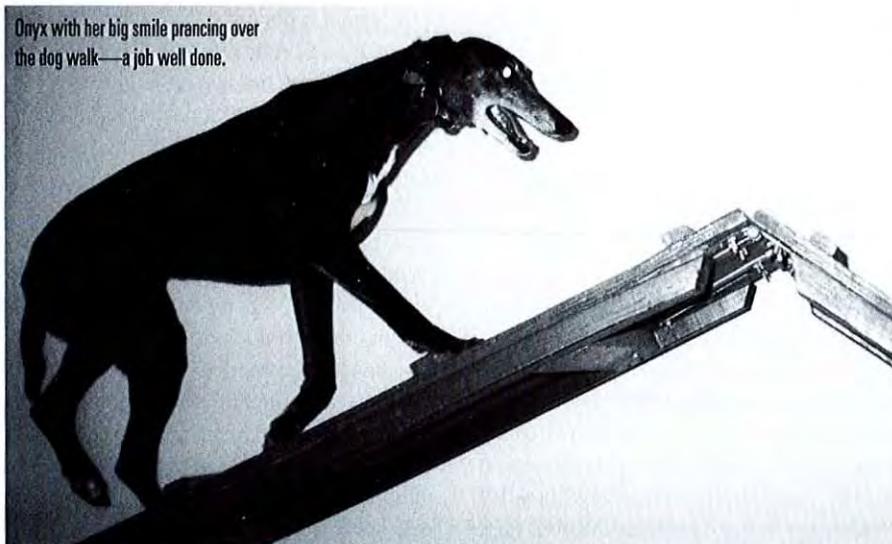
Brindle was hospitalized for almost three weeks during the summer and Onyx got some very needed one-on-one time with me. For the first time she got to be on the couch where Brindle usually was. Onyx had always been invited onto the couch, but she chose not to join us. For the first time, Onyx slept on the bed with me. It was during this period of time that she started to realize that she had the whole acre backyard to herself to run around in. She started daily runs all by herself. I watched her from a window or the front yard, and I enjoyed her delight, but she still didn't

play with me, nor did she come into the bedroom once Brindle returned. My little eggplant was aloof, but starting to blossom.

August came and it was agility time—this time with Onyx. As we entered the same room where we learned obedience she instantly recognized her instructor. Onyx gave her the biggest smile she could muster. With each obstacle she was introduced to, she showed less apprehension. A big obstacle was the sit, which we never mastered in obedience. She needed to be able to sit on a table to the count of five. So at home, we diligently worked on getting Onyx to learn how to sit. During one particular agility session, while the instructor was working with another dog having problems, I took Onyx aside and asked her to sit on the rug while I



Onyx carefully going over the dog walk.



Onyx with her big smile prancing over the dog walk—a job well done.

held a treat in my hand. It took a while, but she got the message. After several repetitions, we went to the hard table and worked on it there. By the end of the night we were getting instant sits on the hard table.

Now came the biggest obstacle for large dogs, the “dog walk.” Although Onyx was doing well, she was still very timid. The rest of the class consisted of very large dogs, except for a Jack Russell. The Jack Russell, being a small dog, did the “dog walk” with no difficulties. For larger dogs such as the German Shepherd, Bernese Mountain Dog, and Akita, the 6-inch wide dog walk is to them, a scary tightrope. The instructor worked closely and carefully with each dog. Expecting Onyx to have a lot of trouble, we



Onyx and Mary Pat having some one-on-one time in a flower garden.

were last. When our turn finally came, I got up confidently, told Onyx “dog walk,” and proceeded to introduce her to the long narrow walk. She went up, over, and down without a blink, hesitation, or quiver. Ta da! She has mastered all the obstacles and the instant sit and down.

In intermediate agility, we work on distance obedience, where I command her from far away which obstacle she is to perform. She needs to work on her stays and her enthusiasm. Right now she gets so excited that she just starts running around, smiling, and trying to figure out where to go. She hits the table with such speed she slides off, but that should improve with time. Our plan is to do competitive agility.

With successful agility classes behind us now, she has finally blossomed. She sleeps in the bedroom at night, taking turns with Brindle sleeping on the bed with me. She has started doing a version of “Timmy’s in the well,” a routine copied from the old Lassie series where she grabs my hand and leads me around the back yard. She also instigates play sessions with me by grabbing one of my old garden gloves, whose partner I mowed to ribbons, and running around enticing me to chase her. Onyx also discovered the joys of lure coursing and is excelling at it.

Onyx met the ocean at the last Dewey Beach Greyhound Gathering. She was fas-

cinated by it and started to chase the waves. At one time, she got too close to the water and was overwhelmed by a wave. Nonplussed and soaking wet, she continued to chase the waves. Of course, I got wet trying to keep up with her.

It took a year of work from both of us for Onyx to come out of her shell and for my broken heart to begin mending. She is blossoming into a very playful Greyhound. She is no longer my eggplant. She has turned into my little blossom. ■

Mary Pat Parkhill is a new regular contributor to CG Magazine. She lives in New Jersey with two Greyhounds, Brindle and Onyx. She is a freelance volunteer, helping whichever local group in need of her help at the time. Her volunteer activities include fostering, meet and greets, and fundraising.



An inattentive group of owners and an unwatched dog pack can lead to a dog fight. No lost tempers today.

All About the Canine Good Citizen Test

For a number of years in the 1980's a dog writer, Dr. Herm David, used his bully pulpit in DOG World magazine to urge the development of a test to evaluate the basic manners level of training and, to a lesser degree, the temperament of the average American dog. He wanted very much for the American Kennel Club (AKC) to be the organization to bring this about.

Why was David so ardent a campaigner for such a test? During that decade the first efforts to enact breed specific laws limiting ownership of or banning certain breeds of dogs at the community level, emerged. David knew that very few dogs of a given breed are inherently dangerous. Animal rights activists were beginning to demand local laws to limit or prohibit all breeding of dogs and cats. David recog-

nized that something had to be promptly done. He wanted to allow everyday dog owners to demonstrate clearly that they were responsible dog owners whose dogs were safe and polite members of the community.

For several years, the AKC, then a somewhat less than activist organization, resisted this program because it would need to recognize dogs who were not just purebreds. Encouraged by members of the dog fancy who agreed with David and assisted by notable trainers, James Dearing put the development of such a program into action. Dearing, a popular member of the AKC's senior staff, was in charge of all things related to the sport of canine obedience. His position and personal popularity were exactly what were needed to implement this program.

In 1988 the first version of the Canine Good Citizen (CGC) test was field tested by local dog clubs. The word quickly circulated that this was a great final examination for obedience classes, and that the operation of the test was feasible for the average local dog club. It became an official AKC program in September 1989 and has become the framework for a number of entry-level dog obedience classes.

Until the advent of the CGC, the majority of basic obedience classes in the United States were based on the formal commands of the obedience trial ring: come, sit, down, stay, and finish (a command to return the dog to the owner's left side with the dog and owner) and performing a figure eight pattern around two people. Rarely was attention given to teaching

canine behavior, responsible care and management of dog nutrition, or how to apply the class' lessons to real life, such as how to stop Rover from jumping up on everyone and cure other problem behaviors.

Today a scarce twelve years later, that entry-level obedience class is most often structured to prepare a dog and owner for real life. Trainers have discovered that dropouts are fewer, dogs master the material they need to know, and owners are much more aware of the needs of both the pet dog and their neighbors. They value the CGC, probably the only honor Rover will ever earn, because it brought them from a dog who was a nuisance and rascal to a great partner.

All dogs, whether they are pure breeds like Greyhounds, or mixed breeds who may or may not be registered with various organizations, are eligible to earn a Canine Good Citizen certificate. A dog who has earned a CGC is more a statement about the dog's human companion than about the dog himself.

Dr. Mary Burch, AKC Director for the CGC program, stated that she was excited about the way our dog club administered testing during her observation at the Peach Blossom Cluster of dog shows held yearly each April in Georgia. A description of the CGC test and the parameters in which the testing is done within the AKC's guidelines follows.

The CGC test does not resemble a formal obedience test. It simply shows that the handler and dog may go out in public and not be a nuisance to other people or dogs. In most cases, a CGC certificate is required to get dogs into different facilities such as nursing homes, schools, and a few other places that would require some kind of certification or training.

Treats, toys, and clickers are not permitted during testing. The dog is not to be

"lured" into a behavior; the dog needs to cooperate completely with the handler. All tests are performed on a leash for the safety of the dog. Special training collars are not permitted during testing. Using such training devices gives an edge to the handler and fails to display the good manners of the dog and its human companion. If the dog fails an exercise he must pass the retest during the specific testing time. Should the dog need to have more training and need to come



Dan Drake and Murphy demonstrate test one with Ryan Greene's help.



Jim Fulton's Gracey successfully demonstrates test three as Jo Wolf grooms her.



A well-behaved, well-watched group. Marlene Stachowiak with Sage and Spice, Sam Fulton with Starman, Virginia and Rebecca Colflesh with Pay Day, Susan Colflesh with Bonsai, Jim Fulton with Gracey, Dan and Brenda Drake with Murphy, and young Ryan Greene under the A-frame.

PHOTOS BY TERRI GRAY

back on another day, the entire CGC test must be repeated.

Owners with disabilities are encouraged to participate. Minor adjustments may be made as needed to accommodate such individuals.

When registering to take the CGC test, you must be prepared to show the dog's rabies tag, immunizations, and dog licenses, when applicable, in said County or State of testing.

Test 1. Accepting A Friendly Stranger

The evaluator will not interact with the dog but will shake hands and speak with the handler. The dog will be expected not to show more than normal curiosity. This means keeping demanding paws and pushy noses off the tester. A slight touch with the nose would be acceptable.

You could give your dog an advantage by warning him ahead of time by saying "easy" or "sit" and "slow down" as you approach the tester. The dog must not be on a tight leash, but a slight tap on the collar would be acceptable.

A tight collar would show only that you are strong enough to hold onto your dog. Should you accidentally drop the leash, your companion Greyhound will take off and endanger his life. Greyhounds have marvelous brains. Let them take some responsibility. Love your dog enough to teach this lifesaving skill of loose-leash control.

Test 2. Sitting Politely for Petting

The stranger will pet the dog and move on. This takes about 15 seconds. The handler may gently touch the dog to encourage a sit. Greyhounds will sit if taught correctly and gently.

Test 3. Appearance and Grooming

The evaluator will comb or brush softly and examine the ears lightly. The handler may pick up the front feet so the evaluator may touch the pads and foot briefly. The dog may be in a stand, sit, or a down when this test is administered. The dog is expected not to show resentment or shyness to the extent that he will not allow the examination. This is considered a difficult test, but for most Greyhounds it's a breeze.

Test 4. Out for a Walk (Walking on a Loose Leash)

The dog may be on whatever side the handler prefers. The evaluator will have the human-dog team make at least a right turn, left turn, and about turn, with a stop in between and one at the end of the "walk." The handler is encouraged to talk to the dog and give vocal praise. The command to sit may also be given, but the dog does not have to sit when the team comes to a stop. The dog is expected not to pull but to come to a stop. The dog does not have to be perfectly aligned as in competition, but there should be no doubt that the dog is walking with and responding to the handler.

Test 5. Walking Through a Crowd

This shows that the dog may move politely and under control in public places. The dog and handler will walk around and pass through a crowd of at least three people. Part of the crowd may be standing still.

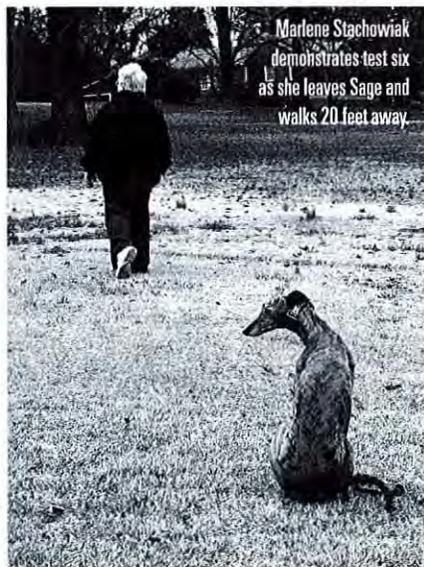
Test 6. Sit and Down on Command/Staying in Place

The handler may repeat commands numerous times and use hand signals. A slight touch to encourage the dog or to give gentle guidance may be used; however, no force by pushing or harsh collar correction will be used. For example, pulling the dog's front legs out from a sit position is unacceptable.

The staying in place portion may be tested



Susan Colfesh and Bonsai demonstrate test five as they move through a crowd.



Marlene Stachowiak demonstrates test six as she leaves Sage and walks 20 feet away.



Jo Wolf and her Border Terrier meet Sam Fulton and his Greyhound, demonstrating test eight—that Starman can get along with a non-Greyhound.

in one of two ways. The tester may hold on to the leash while the handler walks 20 feet away, turns and returns to the dog. This shows that the dog may be left with someone else to hold the leash without trying to leave the spot where he was left. With the second method, the tester replaces the leash with a 20-foot line. The handler walks away while holding onto the line and returns. The dog is expected to remain in place only as long as it takes the handler to go 20 feet away and return immediately. If the dog changes position, such as stands when the handler told it to "down" but does not "travel" or go to the handler, it will meet the requirement to successfully complete this test.

Test 7. Coming When Called

The handler may leave the dog in any position. If a dog attempts to follow when the handler leaves, the evaluator may distract the dog (e.g., petting) until the handler is 10 feet away. The handler then turns to face the dog and calls his dog. The handler may bend down to call the dog, and use other motions and encouraging sounds, but the dog may not be reeled in with the leash.

Test 8. Reaction to Another Dog

The dog should behave politely around other dogs. This does not mean that the dogs may bound up and shove their nose into another dog's body. Two people with their

ging. A sound distraction could be the clatter of dropping a clipboard or a pan at least five feet from the dog.

Test 10. Supervised Separation

The handler hands the leash to the tester. The handler then leaves and goes out of sight for three minutes. The dog should maintain his good manners. This means he should not keep trying to pull away nor continually bark, whine, or howl.

It is important that the tester does not take the dog from his owner and leave for the out-of-sight area. This may put too much stress on the dog and would introduce a different set of dynamics.

Most Greyhounds are accustomed to different people holding their leashes. Occasionally, a dog will overreact to a separation. Once the dog has learned to trust you and his confidence is built up, the separation in this context is usually eliminated.

Copies of the AKC Canine Good Citizen Program Participants Handbook are available from local dog clubs and private training schools. For extra assistance, contact the American Kennel Club, Attention: CGC, 5580 Centerview Drive, Suite 200, Raleigh, North Carolina, 27606, phone (919) 233-9780. ■



Thad Gray does test nine as he waves a yellow scarf as a distraction. The group is not distracted.



Greyhounds like Sage who are bonded with their owners will jump through hoops for them.

dogs approach each other, stop, shake hands and speak to each other, and continue on.

Many Greyhound handlers have unintentionally taught their dogs to be rude. To be honest, it does not take a lot of encouragement for most Greyhounds to be rude in their enthusiasm for social encounters. It simply is not polite to rush up and shove one's face into another's without some introduction or invitation to do so.

Test 9. Reaction to Distractions

Some dogs are more sensitive to sound, and others are more sensitive to visual distractions. For this reason one of each type of common distraction should be used. A visual distraction could be a person using crutches or a wheelchair or a person jog-

Marlene Keay Stachowiak has been teaching obedience since 1962 and serves on the Board of Directors of the National Association of Dog Obedience Instructors (NADOI) and also serves as a Board Member of Therapy Dogs Inc. Marlene was an obedience instructor for Club Canino de Panama and the Panama Canal Chapter. She has been a member of the Dancing Greyhounds Drill Team and is an American Kennel Club Obedience trial judge. She has trained more than 10,000 dogs and handlers and is the owner and director of Jae-Mar-S Academy of Dog Obedience (website: www.jaemars.com).

Jo Ellen Wolf took her first dog to an obedience class in 1976 and has been active in the sport of dogs since 1983. She is a staff instructor for Jae-Mar-S Academy of Dog Obedience and a tester/observer for Therapy Dogs Incorporated. She is also an instructor as well as Training Director and Public Education Coordinator for the Aiken (SC) Dog Training Club. Her breed of choice is Border Terriers.



A multitude of sighthound fanciers become demonstrators.

PHOTOS BY PATRICIA GAIL BURNHAM

Saving The Presidio Greyhounds

In the summer of 1989 I received a phone call from Susan Netboy. She had learned that the Letterman Army Research Facility in the Presidio of San Francisco had obtained 20 Greyhounds and were about to do medical experiments on them. She wanted public demonstrations against the use of the Greyhounds. At that time, however, Greyhound adoption was not common and she needed Greyhounds for the demonstrations. Since she showed Salukis and I showed Greyhounds at dog shows, she thought of my dogs and me when she needed Greyhounds.

The first demonstration was on short notice and fairly small, just a few dogs and a dozen people. But, as word got out, the demonstrations got larger. The Presidio looked more like a park than an Army base. There were no guard stations at the gates. On weekends it was full of San Franciscans searching for a little open space with trees and grass. You could spend hours there with-

out seeing an Army uniform but you could hardly fail to be impressed by the quaint Victorian homes built to house officers of an earlier century. (The Presidio has since been abandoned by the Army and become part of the Golden Gate Recreation Area). The two modern features on the base are a new fast food hamburger restaurant disguised as native architecture and the Letterman Army Medical Center, which looked like any hospital. But it wasn't. Letterman did offer normal hospital care, yes, but it also had a more sinister side: The Letterman Army Institute of Research.

What the Institute researched was combat casualty care. That sounded fairly innocent. Nobody could object to caring for combat casualties. The problem was that without an active war there was a shortage of combat casualties to care for. So if you wanted to know if a new method or treatment works, what could be done? Personally I like the

idea of sending a team to the Middle East to help with casualties that really need care, but that was not happening. What was happening was retired racing Greyhounds were about to be made the subject of military trauma research.

The researchers' aim was to find a faster way to heal broken bones and return soldiers to active duty in a shorter period of time. The means, in this case, was a study that planned to take 100 Greyhounds and operate on them to saw through about a half-inch of their femurs (thigh bones) and inject a "bio-synthetic compound" developed by a private company with the hopes healing would accelerate. The dogs would then be destroyed at various times so the femurs could be removed and broken in a standard testing machine and the researchers could measure how strong they were.

This information was pieced together since the researchers had not released the protocols and were a little uncomfortable at the attention they had attracted. What we did know was they were starting with a pilot group of 19 dogs. When that information reached the sighthound and animal rights people, the result

was a call to picket Letterman. Our second demonstration was on Sunday, August 13th. This time I took along my camera.

I arrived to find a heartwarming group of people with a lot of varied backgrounds. There were sighthound fanciers complete with everything from a retired racing Greyhound and a pound rescue Greyhound to a Whippet and an Azawakh. With my three dogs and Sheila Grant's Arriba, there were four show champion Greyhounds. Along with the dog fanciers were animal rights people, some of who were probably seeing Greyhounds for the first time. It made me feel rather good about people. Here were dozens of people spending their Sunday in defense of one of the least defended of dogs, ex-racers.

There were people from Sighthound Rescue, Vigil for Animals, In Defense of Animals, Animal Rights Connection, NARF, and DIAAR, which I was told, meant "Dying Individuals Against Animal Research." These people provided the ultimate rebuttal of the argument that animals

should die in research labs so people could live longer. Actually what people generally object to about lab research is rarely the death involved, but the amount of pain inflicted prior to death. Nobody was saying the Greyhounds they were sacrificing would save lives. Even if the compound was a success, the goal was to get wounded soldiers back into battle sooner than would be possible if they healed naturally.

The picket signs ranged from, "Your tax dollars were being used to mutilate animals here" through "SAVE THE GREYHOUNDS," to "No experimentation without representation." The signs looked rather incongruous draped over the cannons that face outward from the Presidio entrance. The dogs, however, were easily the hit of the demonstration, patiently putting up with endless city dwellers' hugs and television interviews. After picketing the Presidio entrance for a while we moved the demonstration down the street to Lombard Avenue, which is the main highway through the Pre-

sidio to the Golden Gate Bridge.

The Presidio was actually a nice place to picket because after a couple of hours of demonstrating and talking to the media, we would walk our dogs to Chrissy Field on the San Francisco Bay and let them run on the beach. Then we would walk back through the Presidio to our cars. The funny thing was that while we had to demonstrate outside the main gate, the Presidio is open to the public so, once we stopped demonstrating, we would walk through it. On one of these walks back I took pictures of the people and dogs in front of the Letterman Research Facility. Another advantage of picketing the Presidio was the easy access to wonderful San Francisco restaurants for an after-picket lunch. By the time I crossed the Bay Bridge to head home in the evening after the second demonstration, the radio stations were already broadcasting news items about the demonstration.

Apparently that sign about tax dollars made the news, because the next week it was announced that the pilot program was



Demonstrators begin to gather in front of the Letterman Army Research Facility in San Francisco.

The Faces of Medical Research

The good news came on a Thursday: Letterman Army Research Center had decided to release the 19 racing Greyhounds they had been holding for medical experiments (not that they were proposing to abandon their project). Generals on the East Coast had made it clear they did not intend to let mere public outcry deter them from purchasing an additional 19 Greyhounds at a later date to perform their experiment. But the current dogs were going to be released for adoption. Eleven days earlier, the third and largest public demonstration had taken place, and the release of the dogs gave me faith in the power of the press and the general public to have an effect on the government's actions. Later I learned that, while all of those methods may have helped, what triggered the release was the lawsuit filed by an In Defense of Animal's attorney with authorization from the dogs' registered owners.

The day of their release I was obligated to stay at work for a meeting so I couldn't attend. After that meeting, I sat down and wrote the story "The Christmas Rescue Greyhound" which combined what I had learned about the Presidio dogs with the story of the adoption of my first Greyhound from the Sacramento Humane Society in 1969. It is a story that has been quite popular with adoption readers through the years.

Two days after their release I went to the Marin Humane Society to photograph the dogs and take them each a synthetic fleece and stuffed dog toy. I make the toys, which are a foot long version of a catnip mouse. For two months we had been picketing outside the Presidio's walls, trying to save dogs we had never seen and, if the Army had its way, might never see. Now that they were out, I was eager to see just what we had been fighting for.

It was a lovely and rewarding day. Sheila Grant went with me to help walk and pose dogs for photos. When we got to the Marin Humane Society Shelter, Doug Brooks, another show Greyhound fancier, was helping walk the dogs. The dogs were all males. (The Army has always preferred boys; racing bitches are loaded with artificial hormones to keep them out of season.) The dogs were generally about 2 years old, although the youngest was only 1 year, and the two oldest were gray-faced 4-year-olds. They were charming. Each of them was different in personality, but each well worth the fight to save them. My heart particularly went out to the 4-year-olds. To get to that age in the racing business a dog has to have raced successfully for at least three years. These two dogs had won their owners lots of money and they deserved better than to be sold into research. I have a soft spot for aging Greyhounds anyway. They mature into a calm and level headed middle age with grace and charm. The dogs' names were culled from incomplete registration information and collars that may or may not have been on the right dogs. A lot of the dogs may have swapped names along with their collars during their lab stay.

Cutter: My favorite was Cutter who raced as Medora Cutter. Once a black-masked sable red, now his black mask had grayed out. He walked on lead as professionally as if he was being paraded to the post, and he posed for my pictures as if he had been doing it all his life. A gentleman of the old school, I asked if I could



adopt him, but Susan had another home in mind for him.



Jupiter: The other old-timer was Jupiter who was equally calm and patient, the hallmark of Greyhounds over 3. Jupiter proved successful

racers can come in all sizes. While Cutter was a small dog, Jupiter was bigger and more heavily boned. He sported the black stripes of a red brindle.

Stripes: The youngest-acting dog was Stripes who raced briefly as Green Grocer. Both names fit him. He had a lot of stripes and he evidently ate very well indeed. He was easily the shortest dog, but he was also decidedly plump. He acted so much like a puppy that



it was hard to believe he was really 2-years-old. He was the only dog who successfully outwitted my photography attempts, getting in a puppy wiggle each time I tripped the shutter. That was a pity because he had my vote as having the loveliest face. Of course, the fact I have a dog at home

with the identical face may have biased my judgment. When we walked the dogs in pairs, Doug took Stripes while I had Tiger, but Stripes kept shying away from Doug and trying to reach me. I suggested we change dogs and Stripes molded his shoulder to my leg and leaned. I later advised Susan that Stripes should go to a lady owner since he had such a strong preference for women.

Tiger: The youngest dog was Tiger, a gold colored brindle. The incoming identification on him noted his pretty face, and indeed he was pretty, although he seemed more serious than a Greyhound that young should be. I would have estimated his age at 2 or 3 based on the absence of puppy enthusiasm. I found out later he was one of three that had come from a kennel with a reputation for harshness.



Stroke: A second dog from the same kennel was Stroke, an odd name for a dog unless it was based on the movie *Stroker Ace*. That may well be, because this dog was a darling. He was a rawboned, masculine, silver brindle, and probably would be most peoples' choice for the least handsome dog in the group. In addition, he was sporting a plush winter coat that was beginning to shed out (in October) while everybody else was sleek and smooth. I looked at Stroke and sized him up as a strong and probably strong-minded dog and was surprised to find him a bit of a wimp. For a big dog he was a little apprehensive about being outside with me at first. Later, when I heard about his former kennel's harshness, his caution made sense. As he warmed up to me he turned out to be a comedian, a dog with an unlikely sense of elfin fun and a winning personality. I could only hope some prospective owner could see past his exterior to the gentle and amusing inner dog.

Winston and Domino: On the whole the dogs were an attractive group. Winston and Domino, nearly identical blacks, looked like Erte design subjects. They were classically beautiful dogs that should be standing around with fashion models instead of ending up in a laboratory.



Buster: Similarly, there was also a matched pair of fawn dogs. The smaller one was adopted while I was taking photos. He went home with a couple that raised Whip-



pets. I was a little sad not to get his picture because he had a lovely face. But the remaining fawn, Buster turned out to be a model that would warm any photographer's heart. The mix of creams and grays and pale gold colors in his coat, combined with his alertness and talent for posing, made him a photo natural.

Bea: Bea raced as No Regrets and was one of two flashy particolored in the group. He could pass for a show dog in any company. A good-sized, levelheaded dog, he posed readily, he even stacked for a show type photo. His color alone was attractive but his calmness appealed to me. I keep his photos to confound people who say that show Greyhounds and racing Greyhounds are separate breeds. Most show folks readily identify Bea as a show dog and I am sure if he had gone to a show home, he could have finished his Championship with ease.



Mr.T: The other particular was equally flashy, a white dog with bright red body color, but there the similarity ended. Mr.T, who raced as Here Comes Trouble, was a dog with a very distinct and forceful personality. He wasn't mean, just very self-assured, amused at the world, and on top of it. Sometimes this point of view can be misunderstood as aggressive, but it isn't. I once owned a bitch like this, one who was firmly convinced the world revolved around her. She was one of the easiest dogs to train because she would accept a lot of discipline without it putting a dent in her self-esteem. Usually in training Greyhounds you have to be very careful not to discourage or damage their self-confidence and that means you can't correct them very often. Similar in their sensitivity is the Irish Setter. One of my early obedience teachers was a man who met up with an Irish that had gone through three homes and was considered an untrainable runaway until he met the right man. They started obedience class together and it turned out the dog had the determination to stand up under a lot of corrections. He became a top obedience dog with dozens of perfect 200 point scores to his name and the pair had a long and successful obedience career. The owner had to remodel



his living room to hold all the trophies. There are places for dogs with strong personalities. The trick is to match them up with the right owner.

Mars: Another dog with a lot of energy but with not quite such a high opinion of himself was a very heavily striped red brindle called Mars. He raced as Shmohawk. He looked like a younger version of Jupiter and they might have been brothers, sharing a sire back at a breeding farm, as well as similar names. Mars was 1-and-a-half years younger than Jupiter and was a dog with the energy to do well in open field or lure coursing. He was so dark as to almost be what is sometimes called a black-brindle where there are so many black stripes that the illusion is one of a black dog with thin red stripes.



Sox: The complete reverse of this was Sox, a small golden dog with about six black faint stripes on his body. He was the lightest marked brindle dog I have ever seen, with more stripes on his face than on all the rest

of him. Basically, it made him a golden dog with a stray stripe scattered here and there on his body. His was another of the pretty faces.

Catcher: Sox's kennel mate was another small boy, and yet another dog with an advanced sense of humor. Catcher raced as Catcher in the Rye. As a comedian, his one upturned ear with the missing tip suited him by giving him a whimsical, engaging expression that matched his playful personality.



Spock: The last dog was another with distinctive ears. He raced as Slow Bid and was called Beau, but the workers at the Presidio gave him the name that stuck. With his lean, intelligent face and his one vertical ear, they renamed him Spock. In photographing him, we found when curious, he tilts his head to the side, the Greyhound equivalent of the Vulcan Mr. Spock's famous raised eyebrow.

By the time I arrived, four of the dogs had been moved to less crowded animal shelters. I did not get to see Chester, Bobby, Ollie, and the brindle with the collar shaped neck scar (evidence of a collar having been left on too long while he was a growing puppy). What I did see were 15 charming dogs that were well worth the two-month fight to save them. That made me worry about the chance the Army would fulfill its threat to continue the experiment using other, equally charming retired Greyhounds. Did these dogs deserve to have their thighbone sawed through, and to be killed two months later so the healing of the bone could be tested? I don't think so.

I will give the Army credit where it is due. The dogs they released were in splendid condition. There are two main difficulties in kenneling Greyhounds for long periods. They have to have soft bedding and exercise. If they lie on hard surfaces they develop ugly pressure sores like bedsores. If they are not exercised, their body muscles atrophy and they degenerate into fur-covered skeletons. I had talked to the public relations officer at the Presidio about those two peculiarities of Greyhounds and he had assured me that they were being walked daily within the building. And, as part of a hospital facility, they would have access to the synthetic fleeces that are used to prevent bedsores on hospital patients and that are the best Greyhound bedding, soft and unchewable. I was still surprised and grateful at finding the dogs in such good shape, because it is easier to find adoptive homes for dogs in good condition than for skinny, ulcerated ones. In fact, far from being thin, most of the dogs were good weight and three of them were positively plump. It was due to all that good Army chow.

Lastly, someone in the Army deserves a word of thanks and congratulations. Someone at the rank of Colonel or General had to take responsibility for the decision to release the Greyhounds. Contrary to their advertising, the Army is not an organization that rewards personal initiative. You have to get quite high in the hierarchy to find individuals with the initiative or confidence to make tough decisions. I have usually found that if you can get far enough up the ladder you can find that person. I only hope there was somebody even further up who canceled the whole program, or at least banned the use of pet animals like dogs and cats for their experiments.

Sheila and Glen Grant with their AKC Greyhound Arriba support the release of the research Greyhounds.



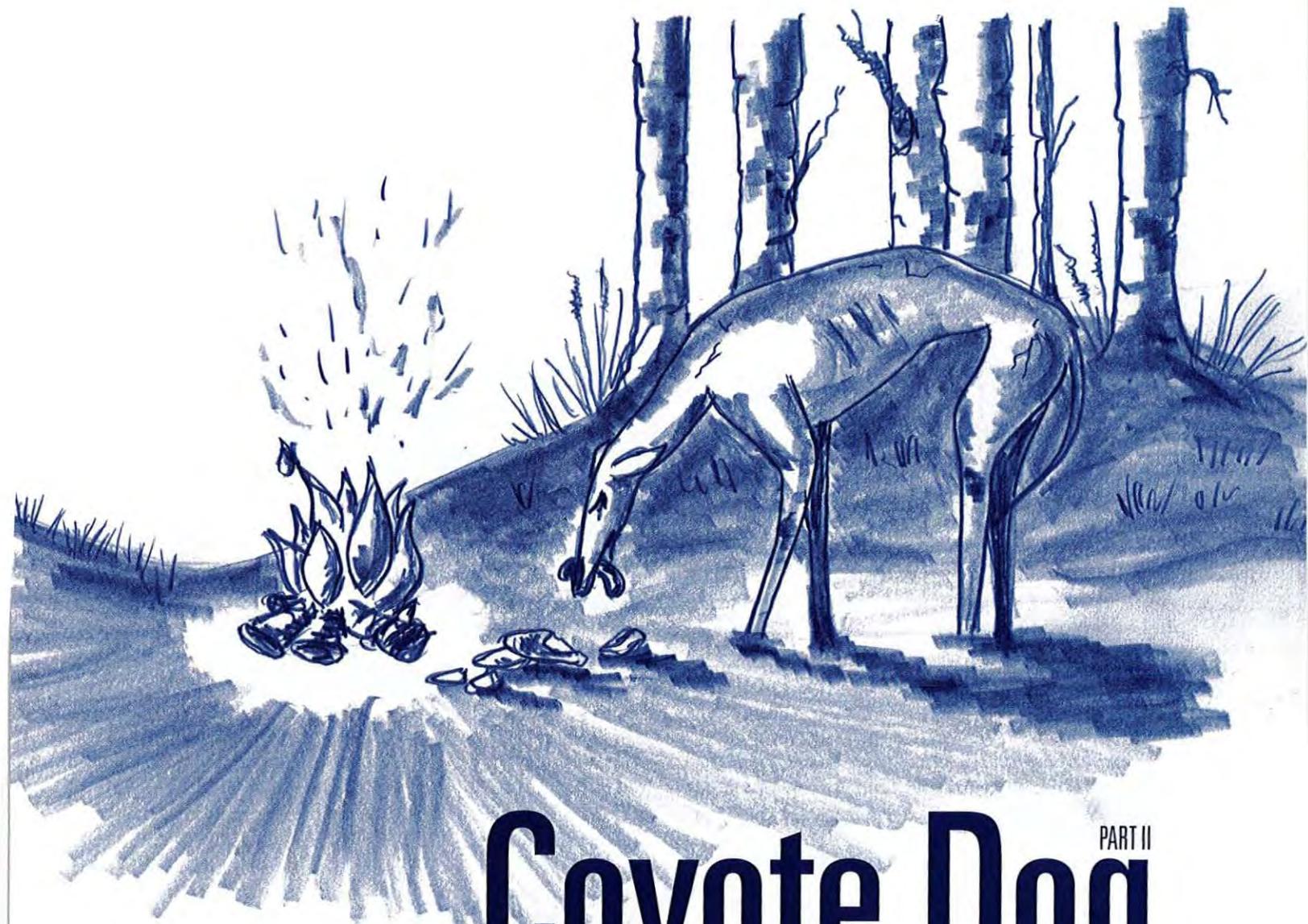
being started with only six dogs instead of 19. (The 20th dog was a 2-year-old who had died of *erlichia canis*, a tick-borne parasite, while at the Presidio.) Now the Army said they had private funding for the six dogs

they were planning to use. That raised an interesting question. Who sponsored the private funding? The logical guess would be 3-M, the company that was trying to develop a market for their biosynthetic compound.

This was not the first time bone-healing compounds had been tested. While the cost estimates for this study had not been released, a study in 1986 estimated a cost of \$15,000 per specimen for the surgery and research. If those figures were still true, then the full study of 100 dogs would have cost \$1.5 million, of which the chemical company would have paid only the first \$75,000.

One ally was Annette Lantos, wife of Congressman Tom Lantos. She was concerned not only about this experiment but about the other lab animals there, including primates. However, the Presidio wasn't in her husband's district. The Congresswoman from San Francisco was Barbara Boxer. Because funding for the Army comes from Congress, Army officials are very sensitive to congressional requests. Congresswoman Boxer wrote a letter to the Army officially requesting a list of the Greyhounds' ear tattoo numbers. The list was received in September.

Susan Netboy used the ear tattoos to trace the legal owners and started calling them. Some of those owners were very surprised to discover their dogs were at the Army Research Center. There were owners who thought their dogs were still running on the track. Other owners had given the dogs into supposed pet homes, or to be used as long-term blood donors. One owner had shipped dogs from one track to another only to have them not arrive. Instead, one of the missing dogs had turned up at the Presidio research lab. Most of the owners were sufficiently irritated to sign affidavits allowing In Defense of Animals to sue in their behalf. The lawyer filed a lawsuit in Federal Court and obtained a restraining order to keep the experiment from proceeding. The fact that the Army didn't own the dogs was news to the Army, which had bought them from a USDA dealer. With ownership of the dogs in question, the Army released them for adoption in October. (When the Army left the Presidio, the Letterman Army Institute of Research (LAIR) was moved to Ft. Detrick on the east coast where they planned to continue the experiment with new dogs.) ■



Coyote Dog PART II

By Maureen Nelms; Drawings by Bruce DeKing

Hungry, thirsty, tired, and all alone. The Greyhound's eyes opened and he gazed around wearily. Something had woken him, but he wasn't sure what. Then he realized he smelled something. Smoke. Cooking smoke, like the smell from the fires his master would ignite. Standing, the Greyhound raised his head, sniffing delicately at the air, trying to decide where the odor originated. He began moving towards the smell, mainly traveling on the paths, sometimes pushing his way through the brush to keep on a more direct line with the scent. Occasionally he would stand still, head up, nose twitching as he moved his muzzle back and forth trying to capture the aroma. Then he

would start again, following his nose. His mouth started to water as the smell grew stronger. There was meat cooking somewhere ahead and it was close. The Greyhound increased his speed as he loped toward the smell. The edge of the forest came up suddenly, and the dog paused to allow his eyes to adjust to the light. He saw tents, small trailers, and buses, and a campfire surrounded by people with sticks held over the flames. That wonderful aroma was coming from that fire. Cautiously, the Greyhound approached the group. Standing back slightly he watched them. Soon one of the children spotted him.

"Hey dad, look at that dog. Hey, he's

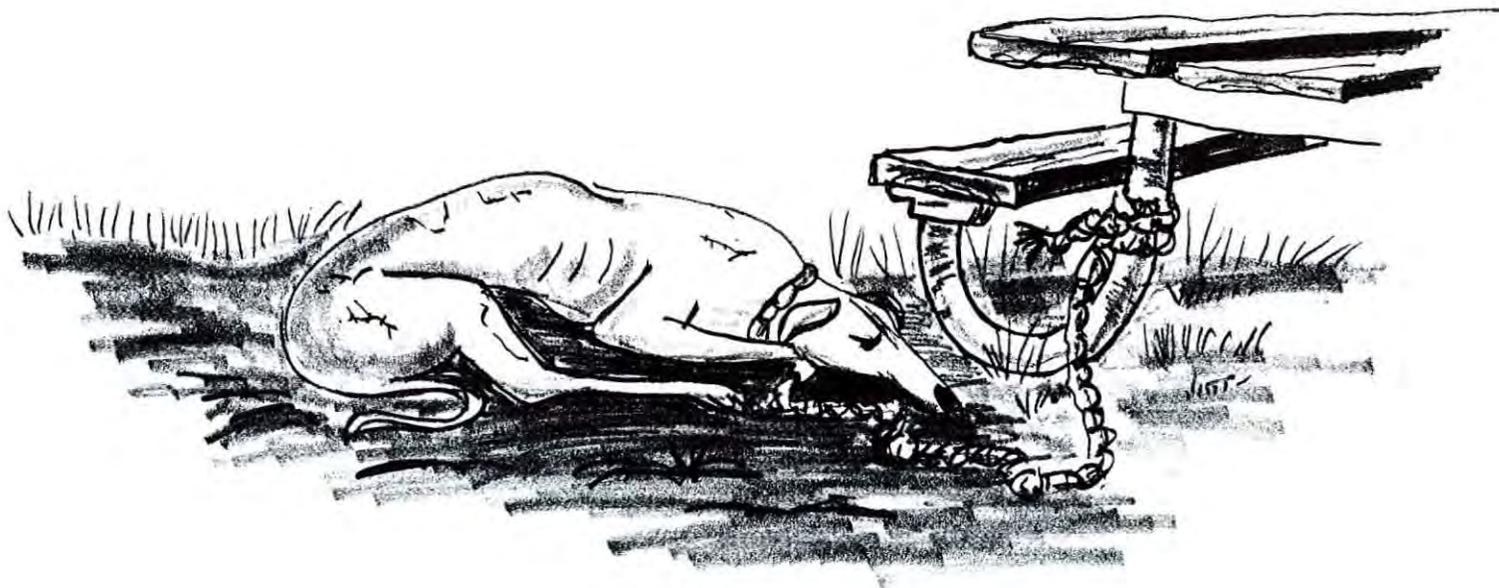
starving. His ribs are all sticking out."

"Don't go near him now, you don't know him. Maybe he belongs to someone camping here though he should be on a lead. And he does look mighty thin."

The man slid a hot dog out of a package on the picnic table and tossed it to the dog who snatched it expertly from the air and gobbled it down.

"Geez, he is hungry. Okay pooch, here's some more."

The man tossed the dog several wieners and a couple of buns, all of which the hound gratefully gulped down. The man set a pot of water in front of the dog and while the hound lapped it up, slipped a piece of rope



around the dog's neck. Telling the children to stay where they were, the man led the dog across a field, between the campers and entered a small building. A sign over the door read Humpback Valley Camp Store.

"Any idea where this dog belongs?" he asked the woman behind the counter.

Peering over the Formica, the woman examined the dog. "Looks like a Whippet.

One of those racing dogs. Never seen it around here before. Where'd you get it?"

"He just walked up to the campfire. Sure is thin and he was really hungry. I fed him already. Guess maybe I better phone the SPCA. Can I borrow your phone?"

"No problem," replied the woman as she reached under the counter and lifted out a telephone. "I'll look the number up for you.

You going to turn him over to them?"

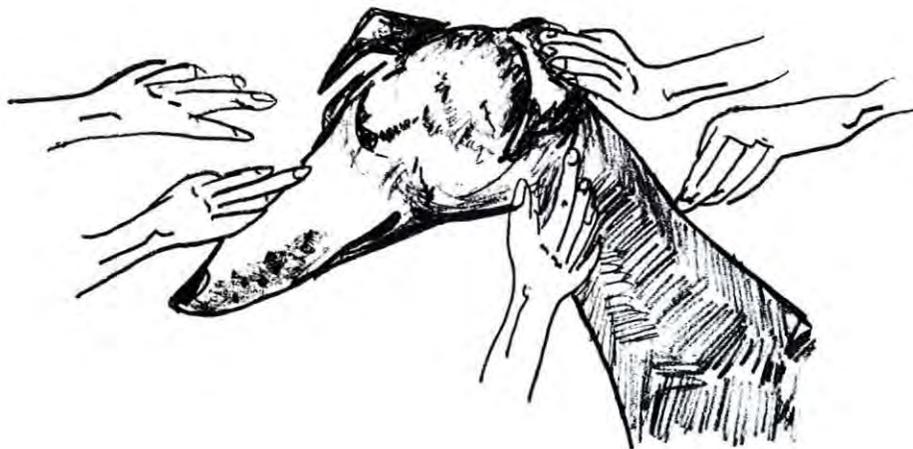
"I don't know. Maybe I'll just report that I've found him. Someone must be looking for him. He's probably a really expensive dog, a purebred, at least I think he is."

The man telephoned the local SPCA, but found no reports of a missing dog matching the Greyhound's description. They suggested the man place a free ad under "Pets Found" in the local paper which he did leaving the phone number of the camp store for any replies.

The man took the dog back to his campsite and tied him to the picnic table with a longer rope. One by one, all the children in the area made their way to meet the visitor. The Greyhound was in heaven. People surrounded him; small hands stroked his head and his ears and his feet. In his excitement, his teeth began to chatter. Taking this as a sign of nervousness, the children pressed closer to reassure him. Small arms slid around his neck and his chest, small bodies pressed against him. High-pitched voices crooned comforting words. The Greyhound closed his eyes in bliss.

"Dad, hey Dad, can we keep him? Please?" begged a young voice.

"We have to find out where his owners are. Someone must have lost him. We can't just



keep a dog without trying to find his family.”

“But Dad, what if no one wants him? If we can’t find his owners? Can we keep him then? Please?”

“We’ll see about that. He seems like a friendly dog. If no one claims him, we’ll talk about it then, okay?”

“Thanks, Dad. I just know that no one owns him. If they did, they wouldn’t have lost him. They’d have been more careful. I’ll be real careful when he’s mine.”

The Greyhound didn’t understand the words but he understood the tone. He edged up to the young boy and slid his nose under the boy’s hand, giving it a slight toss so it landed lightly just over his ears.

“See Dad, he likes me, he wants to stay with us. I’m gonna call him Pal.”

The boy and dog spent every moment together. Mornings saw them hiking through the forest, the Greyhound’s rope lead attached to the boy’s belt loop. Afternoons

they would race together, the boy on his bike, the Greyhound running alongside, still attached to the belt loop. Evenings they would spend beside the campfire, followed by nights snuggled together inside a sleeping bag. After a week passed with no response to his advertisement, the man decided to speak to his son about him.

“You’ve taken such good care of Pal since we found him that I think you deserve to keep him. So long as you understand that we might still find his owners. If that happens, we have to give him back. Right?”

“Right Dad. But that won’t happen. I know it won’t. Me and Pal will be together always,” replied the boy. “Right, Pal?” he asked looking down at the dog.

The hound jumped on the boy, his tongue flashing across the boy’s cheeks.

“See Dad? Told ya. Pal knows.” With his hand on the rope, the boy and his Greyhound raced off across the meadow. ■

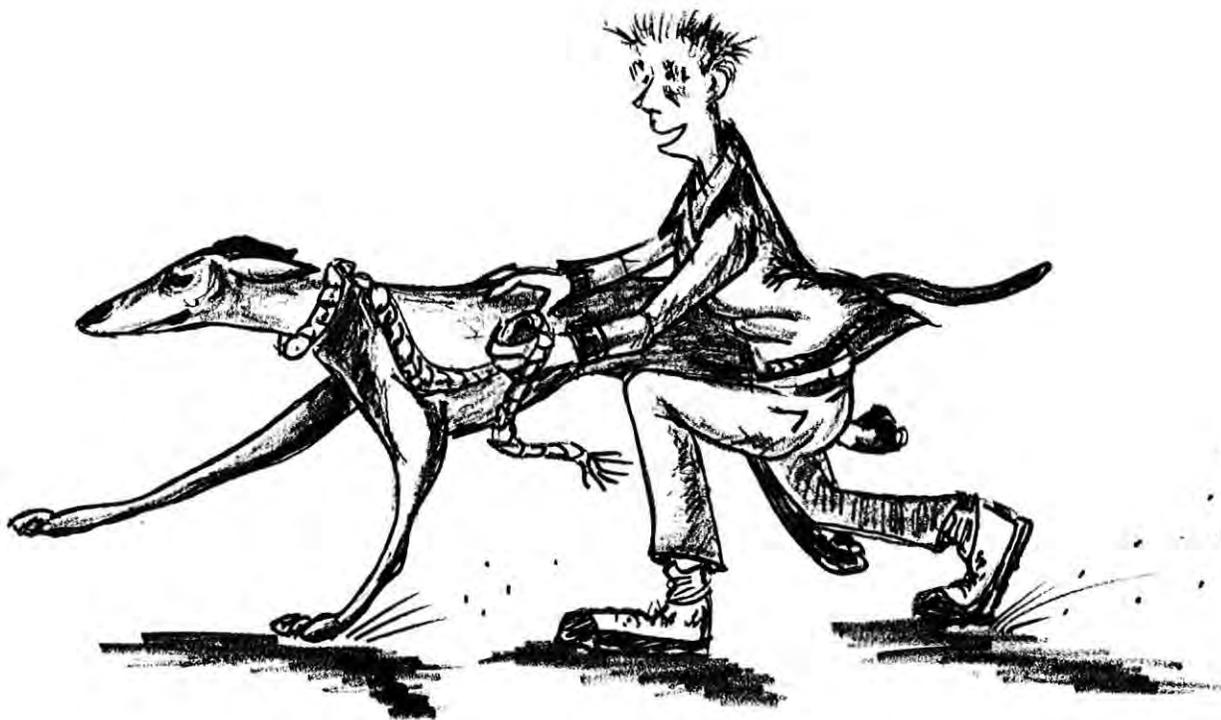
Notes: The author explains how this story came to be.

This story is a fictional account of what I think happened to my Greyhound, Cajun, who turned 14 last October. I began doing research on the Canadian racetracks after finding a starving, unneutered, tattooed Greyhound on Vancouver Island. The NGA did not have him registered and I wondered how he could have gotten to an island since he surely did not swim here himself.

I discovered that Greyhounds that race in Canada must be registered but that there was no way for an unsanctioned racetrack to check registrations other than with tattoo numbers. So why not just tattoo the dogs and not register them? Dogs at Canadian tracks are routinely destroyed or given away to anyone who wanted them, without virtue of an adoption group to provide education on how to care for a Greyhound.

A new Canadian adoption group (see information below) has recently been formed to find responsible, caring homes for these Canadian racers. They could use your support.

For more information on adopting these prairie racers/coyote dogs, contact: Cindy Brooks, Bryan Koenen, or Shannon Cross of Northwest Canadian Greyhound League, Box 23365, Grande Prairie, Alberta, Canada, T8V 7G7. Phone: (780) 402-1997, fax: (780) 568-3423 (please phone first to connect), email: koenenb@telusplanet.net.





COURTESY, ENEM

Caution: You're Now Entering The Danger Zone

Woodland Warnings

Travelers in the northern and eastern states enjoy woodland areas with plentiful wildlife. That wildlife may be a problem if your dog is running loose. Strangely enough, the deer is one of the greatest dangers many dogs will encounter. Perhaps it is their wolf heritage, but even the tamest of domestic dogs seem irresistibly drawn to chase deer and their kin. A fast dog can chase a deer for miles, across roads, over ravines, and into unknown lands. Don't forget, too, that in many parts of the country it is illegal for dogs to chase deer and it is legal to shoot a dog doing so.

A more familiar danger to your nose is the skunk, dubbed *enfant du diable*—child of the devil by French Canadian trappers. The skunk ranges over most of the United States, inhabiting woodlands and surrounding fields. It ambles along the ground secure in the knowledge that it is backed up by the ultimate defense; the most gagging scent imaginable.

Equally dreaded is the porcupine. These walking pincushions can't "shoot" their quills, so most dogs oblige them by getting close enough for them to embed a muzzle full of quills with a slap of the tail. Aside from being quite painful and potentially blinding, the barbed quills continue to work their way ever deeper into the flesh with every movement. The best way to remove them is with a quick jerk of a pair of pliers, an essential tool in porcupine country.

Porcupines are most active at night. In winter they stay in wooded areas but they tend to roam into meadows in warmer months. Their range extends over the forested regions of North America south to Mexico.

The nocturnal masked raccoon is another mammal that avoids dogs when it can. It can more than hold its own when pushed. They may also be carriers of leptospirosis (a disease they transmit through their urine) which can lead to kidney failure. Although they prefer wooded areas raccoons are so adaptable they can be found virtually anywhere.

They are located throughout the United States with the exception of the northern Rockies and Great Basin.

The wolverine, too, would rather avoid a dog than fight one, but it can take on a dog twice its size (which is from 20 to 50 lbs) and win. The wolverine's range has greatly decreased, and is now found mostly in Alaska, the Pacific Northwest, and occasionally the Sierra Nevada, and is not commonly encountered by casual hikers.

The fisher, on the other hand, has been known to seek out trouble. This brazen member of the weasel family has been known to attack and kill dogs in the northern woods of New England, the Adirondacks, Alaska, and even down to Yosemite. Agile and fleet both in the treetops and on the ground, nocturnal fishers weigh only about 10 pounds but can take on animals many times their weight—they've been known to kill a bobcat or coyote in a fight.

Black bears prefer forested areas from sea level to altitudes of up to 6,500 feet.

They range in patches throughout the United States, but are found mostly in the Appalachians, the Rockies, and the Gulf Coast states. They will usually leave your dog alone if your dog leaves them alone.

This rich assortment of mammal life makes the woodlands a popular area for trapping and hunting. In northern woodlands, baits set to entice fur species can tempt dogs. Favorite sites for traps are in ditches. Always keep your dog within view when in trapping country. Mammals also attract hunters. If a trigger-happy hunter can mistake a person for a deer, just imagine what they could mistake your dog for. Know your hunting seasons and know your hunting areas. Even when you're running your dog off-season in a "No Hunting" area, don't forget poachers. It never hurts to have your dog wear a bright orange vest that hunting dogs wear, or a brightly colored coursing jacket that sighthounds wear in competition. Not only will these help identify your dog as non-game, they can help you locate it at a distance.

Cougars, bobcats, rattlesnakes, copperheads, and ticks are also found in woodlands.

And one more warning: Although dogs don't get reactions to poison ivy or poison oak, they can carry the irritants on their fur and transmit them to you when you rub it. Keep your dog away from these plants for your own good!

Prairie Perils

America's great grasslands are a favorite running area for dogs. The wide-open spaces are beautiful, inviting, and mostly safe. A few precautions can make them even safer. The prairies share many of the animals of the woodlands and mountains, including deer, jackrabbits, and skunk, while adding bison, wild horses, pronghorn, and badgers. Most dogs aren't dumb enough to attack a bison or wild horse, but they can chase pronghorn far away. Pronghorn are found in grasslands of the western United States from Mexico to Canada.

The badger won't go looking for a fight (but it could). If cornered it can take down a dog far larger than itself, and it can weigh

up to 24 lbs. Badgers live in plains country, preferring dry, open habitats ranging from Canada to Mexico. They are active by both day and night.

Perhaps the most commonly encountered grassland danger is the innocuous looking foxtail. The foxtail is a perennial weedy grass of fields and roadsides, particularly of the western grasslands. Those of the genus *setaria* are the most problematic. It is slender stemmed with long, bushy flower spikes containing seeds (awns) that embed themselves in dog flesh. The most common entry site is the webbing between the toes. Each seed head bears small barbs that point backwards, enabling them to travel ever deeper into the body, causing local irritation, infection, and even organ failure.

Your dog should always be current in its rabies vaccinations before embarking on vacation. Not only do some state parks and all United States borders require proof of immunization, but you can't take the chance of reveling in an area in which rabies might be endemic. If you plan to camp or hike, you risk coming across a rabid raccoon, fox, or other animal that could infect your pet. Because rabid animals can act fearlessly and be present in unusual areas, your dog has a greater chance of confronting one. If you do see a wild animal acting strangely, get yourself and your dog away from it and report it to authorities if possible.

Another widespread microscopic danger is heartworm, carried by mosquitoes. Mosquitoes range over most of the United



America's great grasslands are a favorite running area for dogs. Lily and Marcie think it's fine here.

KATHY AND DAVID FRENCH

Here, There, and Everywhere

Many dangers don't fit neatly into habitat zones. Regional fungi are not limited to the valley fever of the Southwest. Blastomycosis comes from fungus in soil and rotting organic debris along the mid-Atlantic seaboard, the north central states, and the Ohio/Mississippi river valley regions. Histoplasmosis fungus is found in the mid-western and eastern states and, especially, the Mississippi, Missouri, and Ohio River valley regions. It proliferates in bird and bat droppings in moist areas. Both are fatal unless treated aggressively.

States, especially favoring warm and wet areas. Your dog needs to be on heartworm preventive if you plan to travel in almost any part of the United States in summer months, and southern Georgia, Florida, and the Gulf states in the winter months as well.

Ticks carry several potentially fatal diseases, including Lyme disease, Rocky Mountain spotted fever ("RMSF"), ehrlichiosis, and babesiosis. Lyme disease is endemic in the northeastern states but has also been reported in most of the United States. Despite its name, RMSF has been found in almost every state and is most

prevalent in the mid-Atlantic seaboard states, especially from April to October. Ehrlichiosis has been reported in almost every state, but most cases come from the southeast and southwest. Babesia is also found mostly in the southeast.

Poisonous spiders, such as the black widow and brown recluse, are probably no more likely to be encountered on vacation than at home. The black widow inhabits very sheltered areas, such as temperate forests, grasslands, and deserts. The brown recluse ranges from eastern Texas to western Georgia and north to southern Illinois.

If you're in the south and see abnormally large anthills, keep away! Fire ants are a species of the southeast and Gulf states, ranging from coastal South Carolina to Texas. Fire ants are aggressive and actually inject a tiny amount of venom into any animal that encroaches upon their nests. Their stings hurt, and a small dog with lots of stings can die. Other stinging insects such as hornets, wasps, bees, and yellow jackets are a concern over most of the United States in the summer months. The Africanized bee, or "killer" bee, has spread across much of southern Texas, and has been spotted in southern parts of New Mexico, Arizona, and California.

Poisonous snakes and especially rattlesnakes are high on most people's list of dreaded animals encountered in the wild. With at least 15 separate species, these infamous snakes range over most of the United States. The preferred habitats vary widely between species. Most prefer drier areas, often retreating in burrows, dense vegetation, hollow logs, or rock outcroppings. Most are primarily nocturnal but may also be active in the daylight during colder months. Rattlesnakes make a characteristic rattling sound as a warning, but unfortunately few dogs are warned off by it. Their venom has proven fatal to many dogs.

The copperhead's bite is the least toxic of the North American pit vipers, but perhaps the most freely given. Although painful, they seldom are life threatening in a good-sized dog. Copperheads prefer rocky outcrops, rotting logs, or debris piles. They



range over most of the eastern states except the extreme northern New England states and Florida, west to south central and west Texas and the southern tip of Nebraska.

Although their bite is extremely poisonous, coral snakes have little mouths and are less likely to bite. They are found from central Arizona to southwest New Mexico, and from South Carolina to Florida to central Texas. Those in the west are found mostly in rocky upland desert habitats while those in the east are also found in moist, densely vegetated hammocks.

The giant marine toad of south Florida (as well as extreme south Texas) is typically 4" to 10" long and is primarily nocturnal. It secretes a toxic substance from the large paratoid glands behind its eyes that can burn eyes and sicken dogs, even proving fatal to small dogs and puppies.

A few larger animals of widespread United States distribution can look upon your dog as food. The largest North American cat, the cougar, has been known to attack dogs. They range in scattered pockets, mostly in the western United States, preferring areas with mountain caves, rocky terrain and underbrush, but also found in deserts, plains, mountains, and coniferous

forests. The smaller bobcat generally avoids dogs but may prey on smaller ones. It ranges throughout the United States to southern California and Florida, living in a wide range of habitats. Even large birds of prey can pick up a toy dog or puppy. Keep your tiny dogs undercover in wilderness areas.

Know Your Greyhound and Its Surroundings

Despite this long list of potential dangers, your dog is probably just as dangerous to wildlife as they are to it. Don't let your dog destroy nature, wildlife, or any vacation spot. Don't take stupid chances. Even if your dog is street-smart and obedient at home, you never know what could happen when your dog is in unfamiliar territory. Dogs have run away in fright from pounding surf, strange sights, overwhelming tourists, or other loose dogs. They can become intoxicated with the excitement of the woods or beach. Once on the run, they can become easily lost. They can give chase to wild animals that can lead them into the path of traffic. They can wander into agricultural country and be shot by suspicious farmers or ranchers, or into the wilds and be shot by trigger-happy hunters. Before you unhook the leash, be absolutely certain you know where every road is, every cliff is, where every conceivable danger to your dog is.

Final Precautions to Take

Finally, remember your dog can be in greatest danger while in your car. Use a cage or a doggie seatbelt to restrain and protect your dog when traveling. Don't leave your dog in the car in hot weather. Don't leave your dog unattended anywhere, even in the car, where dognappers could break in and snatch it. Remember the most dangerous animal is the human.

Oh, and what happened to Baha, my dog that was last seen swimming in a gator-infested lake? After 20 minutes of calling, I hiked back to my car to get a flashlight. There he stood, dry as a bone, not bothering to answer my frantic calls. At that point, I was probably the biggest danger he could ever face! ■

Celebrate Anything with a Greyhound Birthday Cake



I made this cake in honor of one of my Greyhound's birthdays and it was a hit with all his human well-wishers. Easy and

fun to make, it can be decorated to suit a variety of events and occasions.

What you'll need:

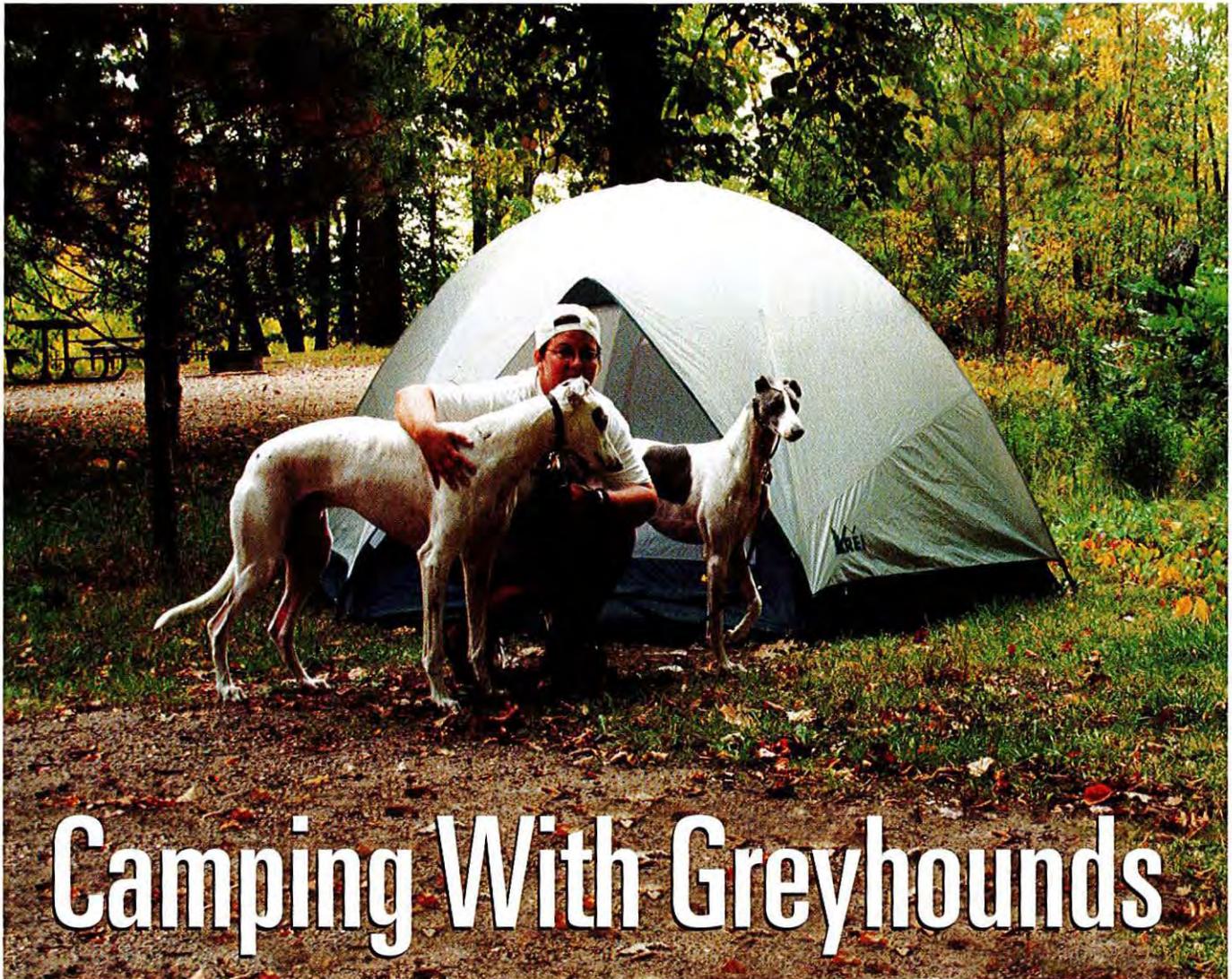
- Doll cake mold with accompanying recipe
- 2 boxes cake mix
- 4 cups icing
- Doll
- Small Greyhound statue
- Props
- Cake board

Purchase a doll cake kit at a craft store or party store that carries cake-decorating supplies. Alternatively, you can use what I did — a Pampered Chef classic 2-quart batter bowl. I followed the recipe on the insert card that came with the bowl. I chose a pre-made icing that did not require refrigeration so I wouldn't have to make room for the cake in my refrigerator.

I purchased the doll at my local craft store, inserted it into the cooled cake, and then iced the cake and the bodice of the doll. I sprinkled the "dress" with silver cake decorating balls although any kind of sprinkles will do. The plastic balloon bouquet in the hand of the doll also came from my local craft store. I used a pretty iridescent ribbon for the leash and ran one end of it to the doll's hand and the other to a Danny Quest statue that I had in my collection. Be sure to use a solid wood cake board covered in heavy duty aluminum foil to give this edible work of art a solid platform.

By changing props and icing color, the cake will be suitable for a Christmas party, Halloween party, Greyhound Adoption Reunion, bake sale, or anything your heart desires. Enjoy! ■

Cynthia Klopfer resides in Albany, New York with her two ex-racing Greyhounds and rescued Italian Greyhound.



Camping With Greyhounds

Story and photos by Cindy Hanson

Which of the following scenarios describes your dream vacation?

#1: Draped across beach chair, basting in tanning lotion. Reach down to pat hound's head, feel only sand and the remains of an overpriced fruity drink with soggy paper umbrella. Wonder-again-how hounds are doing in boarding kennel. Ride wave of guilt. Glance down at pasty thighs. Think of calling kennel staff again. Ponder whether staff's immediate recognition of voice is bad or good thing. Consider whether additional cost of scheduling earlier return flight would be offset by savings in boarding fees.

#2: Awakened from deep sleep by cold pointy nose. Rearrange hounds and sleeping bags for extra warmth. Receive contented grunts in response. Doze. Stretch. Crawl from under layers of down and pull on clothes, ducking head to avoid happy whipping tails. Leash hounds and walk down to lakeshore to greet day. Inhale scent of pine trees, watch hounds watching squirrels skitter across forest floor. Return to campsite, fire up stove, and enjoy steaming mug of cocoa while hounds eat morning kibble. Spend one more hour lolling about in tent, then hike with hounds up trail to waterfall.

If you are reading this magazine, chances are good that your ideal getaway is closer to #2. If you are skeptical about whether you and your hounds would enjoy a vacation in the great outdoors, my goal is to convince you otherwise. Take your Greyhounds camping! Camping with your hounds is an adventure, a bonding experience, and a blast-not to mention an ultra-cheap vacation. Over the past five years, my two hounds and I have tent-camped in 13 states, out to both coasts, to southern Utah and within sight of Canada. Though we frequent state parks in our home state of Minnesota, we have also stayed in private and municipal campgrounds, county parks, and even in a couple of backyards. What follows are some suggestions and answers to common questions about camping with the hounds.

Two explanatory notes before we begin: First, the following is based on my experience camping solo with my two Greyhounds. Many tasks associated with outdoor living are two-handed. While the presence of another person in your camping party who can “hold the leashes for a few minutes” will expand your capabilities, you certainly can do this alone. Second, the following assumes that you have determined that you and your hounds are sufficiently fit to embark on a camping trip. If camping would represent a significant increase in your physical activity, check with your doctor and your veterinarian before you hit the road.

following information:

- Exact location of the campground (directions from main highways)
- Camping fees (including off-season discounts)
- Months of operation (especially if you are not traveling during peak tourist season)
- Availability of tent sites
- Pet policies
- Need for a reservation

If you are planning a road trip, map your route first, locate the campgrounds along the route, and tentatively plan your stops. Leave your options open; while traveling with dogs, a day of driving may not get you as far as you

tions; for example, Pennsylvania state parks do not allow dogs in the campground area. On the other hand, some national parks do not allow dogs outside of the campground area. So if you have your heart set on a photo of Speedy next to Old Faithful, call Yellowstone National Park and inquire about the pet policy before you go.

Assembling Your Gear

What you bring with you depends on the level of comfort to which you and your hounds are accustomed. If you have never camped before, borrow or rent your equipment. Determine whether you enjoy the activity before investing in the gear. If you decide to buy, you don’t need to spend a fortune to acquire serviceable equipment. For example, my camping cookware consists of a small cast-iron skillet, an enamel saucepan, a tin plate that doubles as a pot lid, a plastic mug, and eating utensils. I assembled this “kit” at the local Salvation Army store for a total of less than two bucks. The costly two-piece travel dishes that I purchased at the pet store went into my basement after our first cross-country trip, replaced by two all-purpose plastic bowls.

I have included my packing list at the end of this article as an example of what to bring on a camping trip. Always bring dog beds, dog food and treats, bowls, poop bags, collars with tags, leashes, and a first aid kit (including your hounds’ medications). Carry coats for the hounds; they may sleep in them on cool nights. Bring a daypack to carry supplies if you plan on being away from the campsite for any length of time. A couple of towels (one for the car, one for the tent) will come in handy for wiping muddy paws.

In addition, we never go camping without the following:

- Collapsible 5-gallon water jug, filled with water from home
- Collapsible water bowl and sport bottles (for time away from the campsite)
- Bandanas (many possible uses, including as an emergency muzzle)
- Anti-diarrheal capsules (in case of Big D)
- Whisk broom and dustpan to keep the



Hattie and Herman ready for sleep.

Planning Your Trip

What is the purpose of your camping trip? Do you need a cheap place to stay as you drive across the country? Or is camp the destination? Do you want to explore hiking trails with the hounds? Do some fishing? Lie on a blanket on a sandy beach and read trashy magazines? Take a shower and do a load of laundry? Decide what you want, and do your research. Travel guides, state and national park publications, and the Internet are excellent sources of information about campgrounds and their features.

At a minimum, you should collect the

think. Unless you are willing to detour well off the main highway, you will probably end up staying at a private or municipal campground. Some of these campgrounds are resort-like; some are just a place to park an RV for a day or two. Plan on getting to the campground before dusk so that you and the hounds can check the place out and you can set up camp before dark.

If the campground is your destination, more than likely you will be headed for a state or national park. Most campgrounds at public parks welcome pets, as long as they are attended and on leash. There are excep-



Hattie and Herman eating off their impromptu dish elevator.

tent clean (Coleman makes a nice little set that snaps together)

- Six-pack of low-sodium vegetable juice to mix with kibble
- Gear loft (a handy little net that hangs in the top of the tent for keeping collars and leashes off the floor so they don't get kicked in the middle of the night, jingling and raising unreasonable expectations about going for a walk)
- Travel journal and camera to record our experiences.

Setting Up Camp

If you are not already assigned to a campsite, drive through the campground and choose one. I always select a site that is a respectful distance away from other campers, shaded, and within sight of a toilet. I let the hounds out of the car for a quick sniff and potty break, then set up the tent and unload our gear. I can put up my four-person dome tent in about fifteen minutes. The hounds aren't much help with this, so they wait in the car.

If you decide to use your car as a short-term crate, be sensible. Keep the crate time to a minimum, park in the shade, and open a window or two. If the sun is shining and you are comfortable in a T-shirt without a jacket, it's too hot to leave the hounds in a car. If you are camping in warmer weather, consider bringing an ex-pen or some portable fencing to create a safe place for your hounds to wait while you set up the tent.

Your hounds will do just fine in a tent. Think of it as a big, soft-sided crate. Put the

dog beds, some treats, and You in there, and they're in. (That is, of course, unless your tent is too small; when I set up a two-person dome in my dining room and the hounds refused to join me inside, I took that as a sign that I needed a bigger tent.) If you want to be sure before your big trip, pitch the tent in your backyard and spend some time in there with the hounds or do a one-night "trial run" at a local campground.

When I've finished setting up camp, I usually take the hounds out for a walk around the campground to give all of us an opportunity to check the place out.

Cooking Can Be a Challenge.

I love the smell of a campfire, but I find that cooking over a wood fire with hounds in tow is quite a challenge for a solo camper. Setting and tending a fire is time-consuming and requires two hands. Furthermore, the unpredictable direction of smoke and sparks can be dangerous for the hounds. I will only cook over a wood fire if the hounds are safely stowed in the tent. As an alternative, I recently bought a small, efficient backpacking stove that does the job quickly. However, I usually bring food that doesn't require cooking: energy bars, trail mix, dried fruits/meats, and so forth.

Your hounds may be a little finicky about their food, due to the change of scenery and the unfamiliar smells. If they are, try feeding them inside the tent. If not, a picnic table bench makes a nice tall stand for the food dishes. I always bring a six-pack of small

cans of vegetable juice to make their camp chow extra-yummy; I split one six-ounce can between two hounds for each meal, eliminating the need to refrigerate an open jug of juice.

Be sure to wash the dishes and pick up stray kibble so you don't attract other animals to your campsite. For the same reason, promptly dispose of food waste in the designated dumpsters and store your food in the car rather than in your tent.

Bedtime

Being creatures of habit, your hounds will want the sleeping arrangements in the tent to be similar to whatever they have at home. In my house, my hounds sleep on my bed; Herman curls up against the headboard with his head on my shoulder, and Hattie snuggles in against my legs. On my first camping trip with the hounds, I brought a one-person camping pad and a mummy sack for me and an orthopedic dog bed for each of the hounds. I laid out the three beds next to one another. The hounds were up all night jockeying for position. By morning, I had a twisted sleeping bag and a sore back, and Herman had the camp mattress.

Since then, I've learned how to arrange the sleeping area to accommodate the three of us. I lay out the mattresses and cover mine with a sheet. I put my duffel bag at the "head" of the mattress so that Herman has something solid to lean against (like the headboard at home). Instead of crawling inside my sleeping bag, I unzip it and use it as a blanket. I bring several fleece blankets from home so Hattie can nest in them. On cold nights, the hounds sleep in their coats and I throw the blankets over all of us. This works really well. We can share warmth and the hounds don't argue over who gets to be closest to the human.

Assume that somebody will need a potty break during the night; keep leashes, poop bags, your pants, and a flashlight handy (the gear loft is a good place for this).

Your hounds might be initially intrigued by the activity of nocturnal animals, but they will probably take your cue and ignore them if you do.

Having Fun

You've arrived, set up camp, eaten supper, and spent your first night in a tent with the hounds. It's morning . . . now what? If you're on a road trip and you've got somewhere to be by nightfall, feed and walk the hounds, break camp and get going. If you're settling in for a day or two, relax and consider the possibilities before you. You did some research before you selected this campground, so you know what the surrounding park has to offer. If you haven't already done so, stop by the office and pick up a park map. Ask the ranger if there are any must-see features of the park, and whether they recommend walking or driving to get to them.

Our activities on camping trips have been varied. While trail hiking is our primary activity, we've also explored ghost towns and old battle sites, joined a guided walking tour, lain on a blanket and fallen asleep in the sun, played in the surf, watched a movie in an outdoor amphitheater, and just sat around camp, reading, and relaxing.

If you've brought a travel journal and/or a camera, set aside some time to record your experiences. Writing in your journal by lantern light just before bedtime is a nice way to reflect upon your day's adventures. If you bring a camera, be sure to take some pictures of your camping party as well as the beauty around you (a self-timer is handy if it's just you and the hounds).

I enjoy camping with the hounds for a lot of reasons. It's fun to watch them experience outdoor living, whether they're sniffing wildflowers or flicking their ears at a critter rustling in the bushes. It's an opportunity to spend a largely uninterrupted stretch of time with them. I also find camp relaxing because it is simultaneously simpler and more complicated than life at home. The absence of many modern distractions focuses my attention on the essentials: food, water, sleep, shelter. However, the logistics of each of these is more challenging than they are at home. A typical evening might unfold as follows: prepare and eat a meal, read and relax in the tent while the hounds digest, walk the hounds to the dumpster near the park office to unload the dinner trash, stop at the

toilet, walk down to the lake to watch the sunset, detour back to the dumpster to toss poop bags, and return to the campsite to hunker down for the night. No computer, television, or telephone—just the hounds and me in a tent.

Being Neighborly

Most campers are very friendly. They're relaxed; they're on vacation. I have found that walking through the campground can be very like an impromptu meet-and-greet, with campers (particularly very young ones) coming out to see and pet the hounds.

As a solo traveler, I find that the hounds can act as either invitation or barrier to social contact. Many people are interested in the hounds, and they assume that dog-owners are friendly. If I make eye contact, usually people will stop and talk and pet the hounds. If I am not in the mood for conversation, I keep my focus on the hounds and generally people leave me alone.

I have never had any trouble with "unwelcome attention" at a campground, and I've never felt unsafe as a solo camper. Part of that is because I camp safely: I plan ahead, arrive before dark, and choose a campsite within sight of other occupied sites. All of this is just common sense and knowing not to put oneself at risk. However, I also believe that my hounds do add a sense of security. Would they come to my rescue if I were in danger? I don't know, but on our very first overnight trip at a local county park, I was awakened by both hounds standing at attention and growling. I put on my glasses and saw a light bobbing away from the tent—probably a fellow camper who had inadvertently stumbled through our campsite on the way to the toilet. I had never observed my hounds exhibiting protective behavior before. I was impressed! Sure, traveling alone with two dogs can be a challenge. But would I have visited all of the places I have without them? Not likely—traveling with them feels safer and is much more fun.

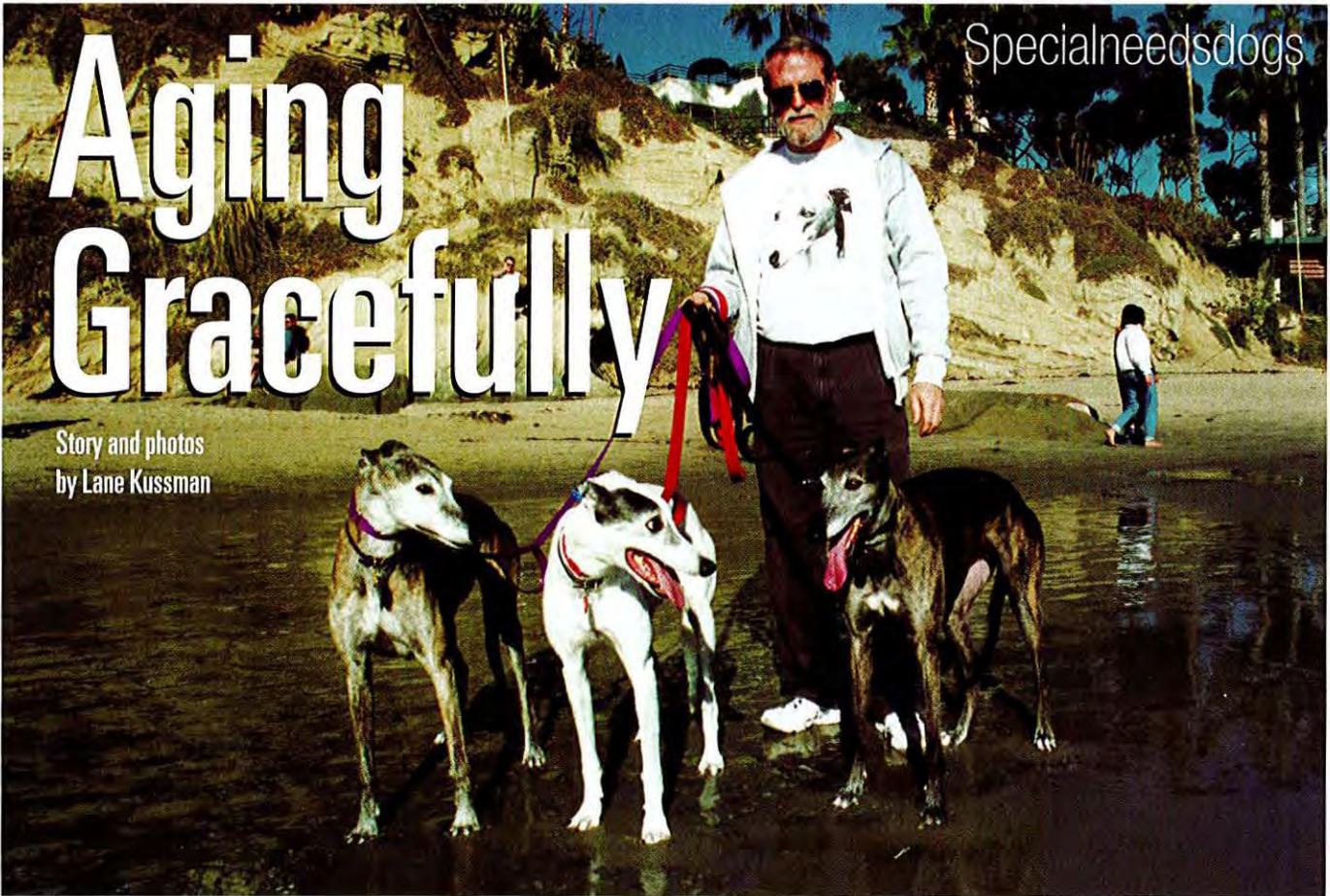
Vacations are more enjoyable when you're with the ones you love. Take your Greyhounds camping. They will have a good time, and so will you. ■

Packing List

First aid kit	5-gallon jug of water
Flashlight	Polar fleece coat
Matches	Hiking boots
Camp stove/fuel	Rain coat
Cookware/utensils	Hat
Liquid soap	Day pack
Food	Underwear, wool socks (1 pair each per day of trip)
Gear loft	T-shirts (1 per day of trip)
Whisk broom/dustpan	Shorts (1 per 2 days of trip)
Tent	Flannel shirt
Ground cloth	Long pants
Sleeping pad	Toiletries bag
Sleeping bag	Allergy medication
Sheet	Bandanas
Blankets	Unbreakable glasses case (and/or second pair of glasses)
Lantern	Chapstick
Towels	Sun block
Pillow	Insect repellent
Camp chair	Camera and film
Collars/leashes	Reading material
Dog coats	Wallet/money/credit card
Dog beds	Campground information
Dog dishes	
Collapsible water bowl	
Dog food	
Poop bags	
Dog medications (prescriptions, Pepto Bismol)	
Sport bottles filled with water	

Aging Gracefully

Story and photos
by Lane Kussman



I share my home with two lovely, golden-age, Greyhound girls. Carrera is 12-and-a-half years old, and Patches turned 12 last August. Another wonderful Greyhound, Amber, shared a special part of her life with us a few years ago, before losing her battle with osteosarcoma when she was just shy of 13 years. Our youngest Greyhound, Joy, is the kid of the house. Joy is 7 years old going on 18 months, carrying on the true spirit of Peter Pan. Two cats and a cockatoo balance the Greyhound contingent. Dan, my husband, tries his best to balance me.

Having accumulated time and experience with older Greyhounds and learning much in the process, I'd like to pass on some of what I've learned to other Greyhound owners. As more of the rescued Greyhound population ages, Greyhounds approaching their senior years will benefit from their owners' advance knowledge of some of these changes.

First, never hesitate to call your veterinarian for a health issue. That minor stomach trouble that your Greyhound breezed

through at 8 may have a more serious impact when he or she is 12. Ditto with those passing aches, pains, and muscle pulls. They take on a different importance as our pets get older, and a good veterinarian with geriatric sensitivity is a necessity!

Having said that, the following are some observations and what I've learned from my experiences with our Golden Girls.

Changing Dynamics

A younger Greyhound may dethrone an aging Greyhound. Be sensitive, not just to the shift in power, but also to possible depression in your former top dog. Provide an extra measure of love and affection. Your Greyhound may experience this change gracefully, but with a great deal of sadness. Other recommendations for dealing with depression from Warren Eckstein, nationally recognized pet psychologist, include a bit of variation from established routines and extra attention in the form of brushing and grooming. Be aware of changing dynamics if an older Greyhound weakens

due to age. Younger Greyhounds, both in the family and those you meet, may react by growling at your older Greyhound. It's not unnatural for a healthy Greyhound to want to distance itself from an older, weaker dog. Make sure there's an area where your senior can retreat to without having to deal with a "young whippersnapper."

Changing Activity Level

Stay in tune with your older Greyhound's walking needs. That two-mile jaunt up hill and down dale may be more than he can handle in later years. Continued exercise is important, but be ready to make a shift to slightly shorter walks or cover level territory rather than tackling hills. Let your Greyhound show you his limits.

Changing Diet

Weight loss may develop. An aging body no longer uses food as efficiently, which is sometimes coupled with diminished interest in food. If there is no medical reason for weight loss, try different things to re-spark

some interest in daily meals. Our regular veterinarian, Dr. Scott Weldy, of Lake Forest, California, recommends a sprinkle of garlic powder, Parmesan cheese or butter-flavored granules on kibble. It may make old, dull, kibble taste like a new treat. Other dogs require a little more coaxing: try adding some tuna fish, yogurt, or cottage cheese to their standard food. Older dogs may prefer eating alone to the distraction and challenge of eating with other dogs.

Changing Senses

Noticing a diminished sparkle in your Greyhound's eyes? Failing vision can be a normal part of aging. Your Greyhound might seem insecure or hesitate in formerly familiar places. You may notice your Greyhound "hugging the wall" as it travels up and down stairs, or through the house. Carrera's eye care specialist, Dr. Paul Jackson of Santa Ana Heights, California, told us night vision might fade first. Provide night-lights, or leave on a dimmed hall light in pathways your Greyhound may travel at night. If you move furniture, dog beds, or other "fixed" objects, give your Greyhound a guided tour of the new layout during bright daylight. If you have more than one dog, spread your dog beds out a bit (this helps avoid the chance of an older dog not realizing another dog already occupies a particular bed, saving a few growls and hurt feelings. Hearing may fade too, but sometimes hearing loss might be a bit selective. Consider testing a dog that stops coming when called (open the cupboard and lightly rattle the box of dog biscuits! If your dog misses this cue, make positive eye contact whenever possible before talking to or calling him or her.

Changing Mobility

Those stairs or the dog door, once so easy to negotiate, may provide a new challenge to an older Greyhound. Getting into and out of the car may require a gentle but helpful assist from you. Minor change may be required to make things easier for your older Greyhound. In our home, the walkway outside the dog

door was lower than the floor inside the house. To fix it, we built a small redwood deck-style step to occupy the full area outside the door. The dogs step out onto the deck, and then step down from the deck to the concrete. Be sensitive to the effects of cold on mobility, and to your Greyhound's changing definition of cold. Temperatures your Greyhound considered comfortable at 7 can feel pretty cold to the same Greyhound at 11.

Changing Level of Understanding

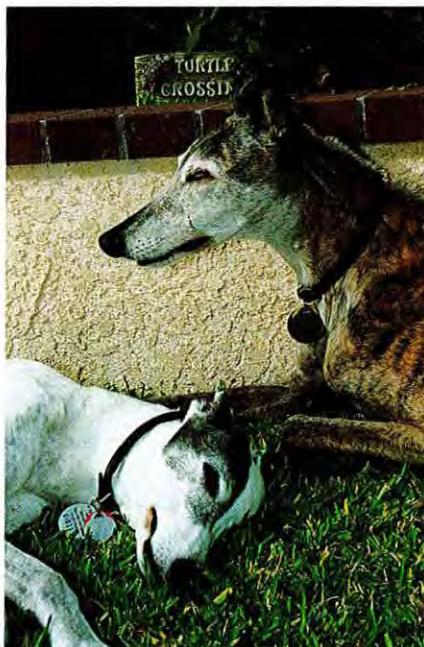
As your Greyhound ages, stay alert for

signs of confusion, increased anxiety, and even forgetfulness. Just as some humans experience these changes, while others remain as sharp as ever, some Greyhounds will go through age-related mental changes. Others will not. The Greyhound experiencing a change in mental function will need your patience and extra reassurance. Be alert to situations confusing or distressing to your Greyhound, and take the extra moment to reaffirm you have things under control.

One thing that won't change is your Greyhound's need for your attention. That nose poking into your lap as you watched television, read, or worked, may not show up as often. Your Greyhound may be worn out from basic activities and be too tired to get up and say hello as time goes on. If that comes to pass, remember it now becomes your turn to regularly take the time to walk over, kneel down to your Greyhound's level, and give your dog a big hug and kiss!

Lane Kussman lives in Southern California with three Greyhounds, two cats, and a cockatoo. She and her husband, Dan, adopted their first Greyhound, Carrera, in 1994. Lane works from home as an electronic technical consultant and has been training in BioSync—massage therapy with companion animals.

Carrera, Patches, and Joy, the 8-year-old youngster, catch their breath after a nice stroll with Danny Kussman.

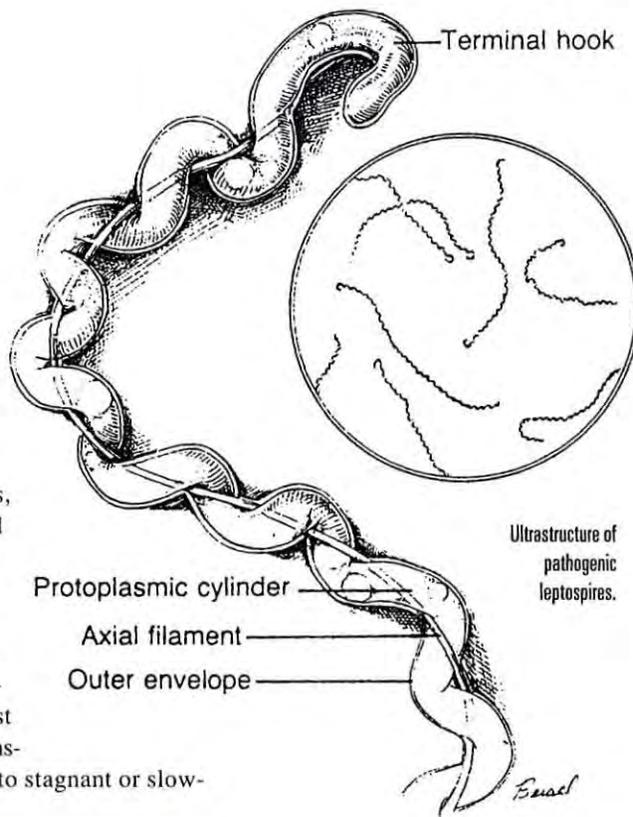


Leptospirosis

A silent, deadly disease

Leptospirosis (lep-toe-spir-o-sis): You may have never heard this word, or you may have heard the name but don't really know what the disease is. Leptospirosis is an underdiagnosed, silent disease that has been around for possibly 100 years and can be found all over the world. It is caused by a thin, flexible, corkscrew or spiral-shaped bacteria called a spirochete. I hope that by sharing the story of our 8-year-old Greyhound's experience with leptospirosis, you will walk away better informed about a serious bacterial disease that can sneak up on your Greyhound, do a lot of severe internal damage, and possibly be fatal.

well. Urine contamination can be from any number of mammals, such as raccoons, squirrels, opossum, skunks, deer, foxes, cows, pigs, horses, and sheep. The most common culprits are rodents, such as mice, rats, and voles. Dog to dog transmission is rare.¹ The most prevalent mode of transmission is exposure to stagnant or slow-



Cause

Leptospirosis comes from several different animal or human sources. The main source of these spiral-shaped bacteria is contaminated urine. It may be possible to spread the bacteria through contaminated saliva as

moving water that has been contaminated by an infected animal. The organism may survive up to six months in water. That is why the disease is more prevalent in spring, autumn, and in times of flooding. Exposure is also more common in tropical areas of the

world. The infected urine or contaminated water can enter the body through mucous membranes (eyes, mouth, or nose) or skin abrasions. It can be transmitted through contact with infected soil and grass as well as contaminated food or bedding. It is even possible to contract the disease from infected meat or the carcass of an infected animal. Affected canines can be any age, sex, or breed, but mainly those from suburban or rural environments seem to be at higher risk. The presence of raccoons and squirrels in urban areas pose a threat as well. We were never able to find out how Classie was exposed, but we do have several acres fenced in for our dogs to run and raccoons, skunks, and deer frequent our yard. Additionally, we had much flooding in our part of Wisconsin last spring.

Worldwide there are over 200 different strains or serovars of leptospirosis, thereby making it difficult to diagnose. At least eight are of most importance for dogs.² The strains

most important to us in the United States are *L. icterohaemorrhagiae*, *L. canicola*, *L. grippityphosa*, *L. hardjo*, *L. pomona*, *L. autumnalis*, and *L. bratislavia*. According to a scientific report, "The incidence of disease attributed to serovars *canicola* and *icterohaemorrhagiae* has decreased, whereas the number of reports of canine leptospirosis associated with serologic evidence of infection with other serovars, particularly *grippityphosa*, *pomona*, and *bratislavia*, has increased." Humans can also get the disease, which makes it one of many zoonotic (contagious to humans) diseases. They can then give it to animals. According to *CG* "House Calls" author and veterinarian Jim Bader, "The human has to actively have leptospirosis and be excreting it in the urine."

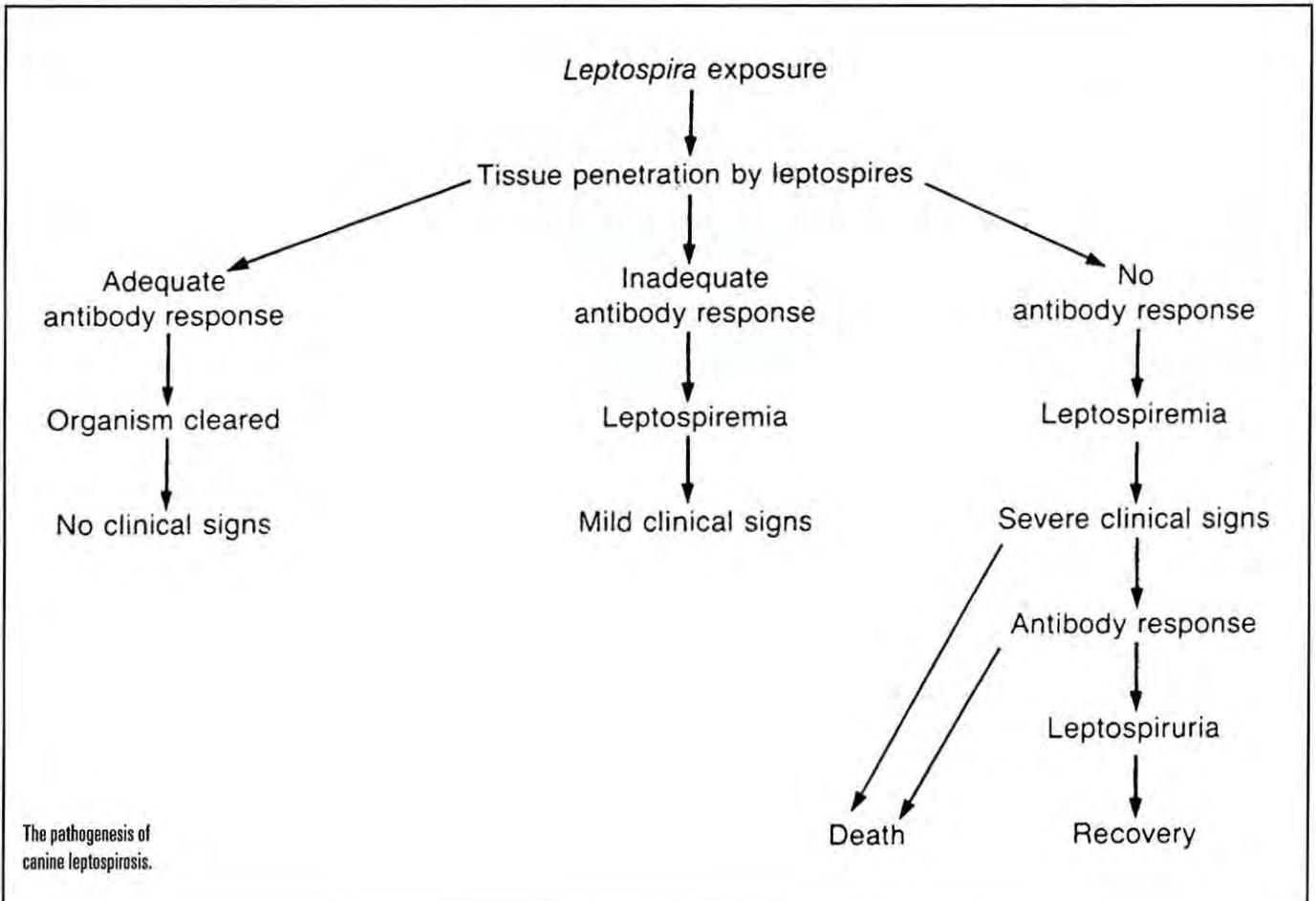
This contaminated human urine must then be deposited where animals would have access to it. In humans, leptospirosis is called Weil's disease and usually results from living in a tropical climate, avid swimming, or from an occupational exposure such as farming. In 1995, the Center for Disease Control removed leptospirosis from the list of nationally notifiable diseases.

Signs/Symptoms

The incubation period is approximately five to 14 days. Animal and human signs or symptoms are very similar. The leptospires circulate in the blood and then enter many tissues where they replicate. The spectrum of animal symptoms may include fever, weakness, stiffness, loss of appetite,

increased thirst, and muscle pain in the beginning stages. You may notice a change in the color of your dog's urine along with frequent urination. More severe manifestations include vomiting, diarrhea, jaundice, red eyes, bright red or bleeding gums, and mouth ulcers, which may lead to dehydration, progressing to kidney (renal) or liver failure. You may notice blood in the urine or feces in the later stages of the infection. If left untreated, leptospirosis may cause death. This is by no means a complete list of signs, but will hopefully give you enough information to seek veterinary help quickly if you see any of these symptoms.

Classic presented with the following signs that I did not pick up on immediately, even though I have my degree as a veteri-





Omaha and Classie.

nary technician: lethargy, loss of appetite, bright red gums, and vomiting. She is one of those Greyhounds that stresses easily with change and her signs began on the first day of a camping trip in June of 1999. A change in your dog's personality may be a sign as well. Classie normally has a very energetic personality. That day she was acting quite the opposite. It wasn't until the third day, and her second time vomiting, that I sought veterinary help. Her temperature was not elevated, but blood work revealed that she was going into kidney failure. She also had

bright red gums, which I did not know was a sign until after the diagnosis weeks later and subsequently researching this disease. Clinical signs, which your veterinarian will see from a blood sample, are abnormal kidney values and possibly abnormal liver values (see, diagnosis section). The kidney failure, along with the outward signals mentioned above, should be enough evidence to begin treatment immediately. Immediate treatment is absolutely essential for a favorable outcome.

Treatment

One of the most important things to remember about leptospirosis is that treatment must be started immediately, even without a diagnosis, because lab results can take several weeks! As acute renal failure is the most common clinical syndrome observed in dogs with leptospirosis, standard therapy for acute renal failure is essential.⁴ It is crucial that intravenous antibiotics, such as amoxicillin, ampicillin, or penicillin be administered immediately to eliminate circulating leptospire. Use of penicillins early in the course of disease decreases the extent of organ damage and hastens recovery.⁵ Antibiotic administration can shorten the duration of the illness and urine shedding of the organism.

Intravenous fluids must also be started to counteract dehydration and loss of appetite while monitoring urine output. Aggressive fluid therapy in combination with ampicillin or amoxicillin resulted in a good survival rate, and hospitalization times ranged from three to nine days.⁶ Classie was in the hospital on IV fluids along with ampicillin and another antibiotic (Baytril®) for five days. She didn't even begin eating until the fourth day at the hospital, which was actually her seventh day without food. For nutritional support, she was given a prescription canned food diet that was very low in protein specifically for an animal with acute kidney failure (K/D or U/D). Then after her release from the hospital, she was put on a similar dry food diet for about two months. She lost about seven pounds over the one-week period. An oral antibiotic called doxycycline is recommended once the dog can keep food down, because this drug may induce nausea and vomiting when initiating therapy. It should be continued for at least two weeks and some veterinarians recommend up to eight weeks to clear the bacteria from the kidneys. The usual dosage is 5mg/kg of body weight twice a day. She was started on the oral doxycycline (100mg four times a day) the first day of her release and continued that treatment for eight weeks on recommendations previously used at the University of Wisconsin-

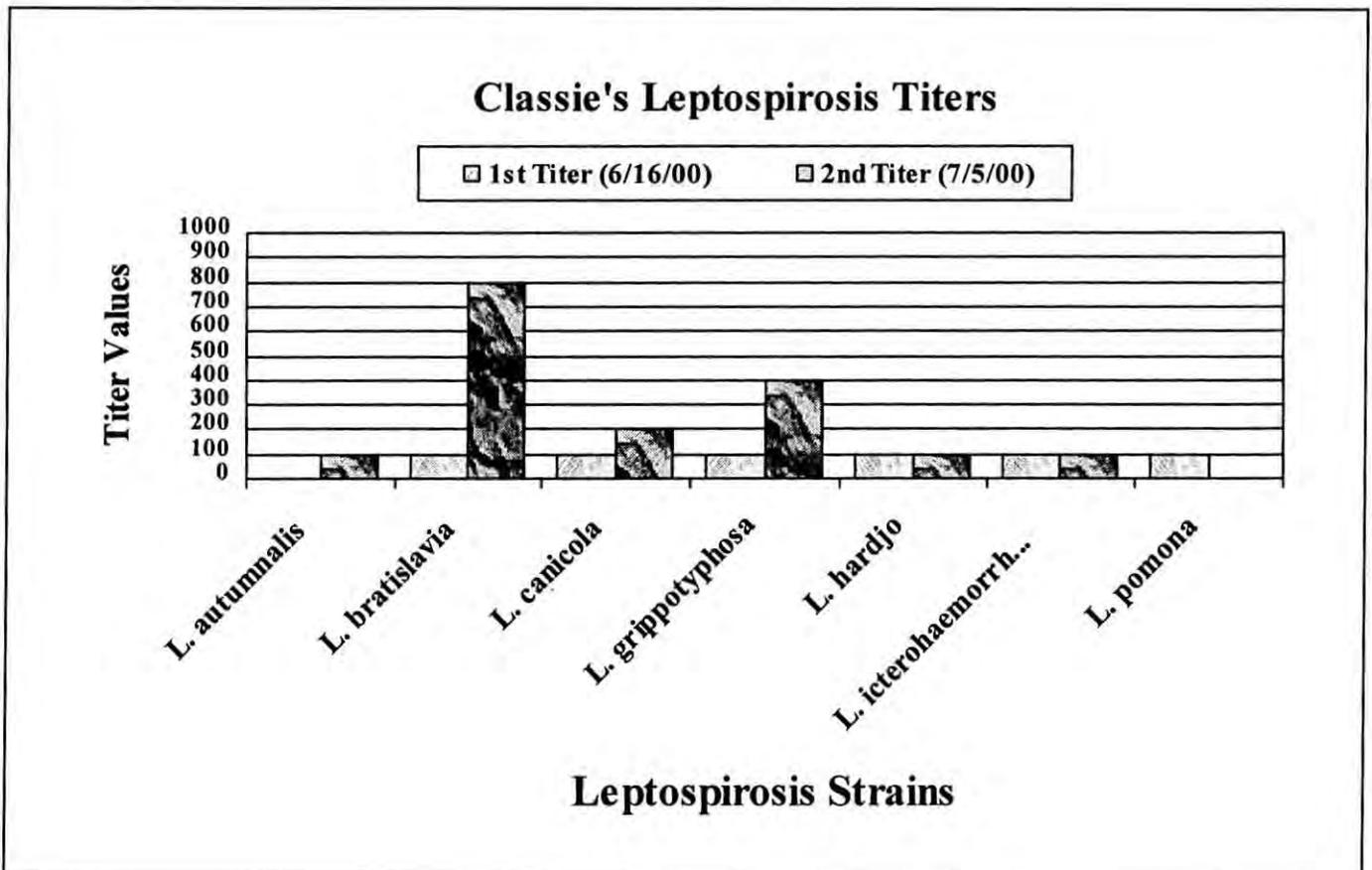
sin Veterinary Teaching Hospital. Dr. Rance K. Sellon states, "Early suspicion of leptospirosis and implementation of therapy is critical to successful treatment of these patients. The prognosis, for patients with renal failure, is guarded and patients may either recover completely, recover with diminished renal function, or may die of the infection."⁴ It is my understanding that if not treated properly initially, animals may have a reoccurrence of symptoms at a later time. Without Dr. Melissa Greenwood's excellent veterinary care and treatment, the disease could have killed Classie.

Diagnosis

The diagnosis is difficult and involves a combination of procedures and tests. To begin, a complete blood panel was done. This may show white blood cell counts to

be elevated and platelet counts to be decreased. The initial blood values for kidney and liver function will give your veterinarian indications of leptospirosis if your pet was in otherwise good health. When the liver is affected, there will be an increase in the liver enzymes. The bilirubin and/or urobilinogen may be elevated if there is liver damage. Classie's blood urea nitrogen (BUN) level was high. From an earlier article in *Celebrating Greyhounds*, Fall 2000, Patricia Gail Burnham states, "...an animal has to have already lost 75 percent of its kidney function before the BUN will rise on a blood test. This means that a good BUN level does not mean that a dog has good kidney function. It just means that he is not down to his last 25 percent of kidney function yet." Classie's initial BUN level was 62.8, and the normal range is 6.0 - 27.0. Her

creatinine level was also elevated again indicating kidney failure. Classie's level was 6.26, and the normal range is 0.50 - 1.80. A creatinine value greater than 4.0 mg/dl and BUN value greater than 100 mg/dl are associated with death.⁷ Creatinine and blood urea nitrogen are both waste products excreted by the kidneys so their levels go up in the presence of kidney diseases. Phosphorus levels will also rise when there is kidney damage. Classie's level was 10.84 and the normal range is 2.50 - 6.80. Two days later, her phosphorus level was in the normal range, but her BUN and creatinine were still quite elevated. By the sixth day of hospitalization, her BUN was normal and her creatinine was almost in the normal range. Approximately, two weeks later her BUN was down to 9.0. Her creatinine was 1.40 and her phosphorus was 3.10. All were



within the normal ranges. It is possible, however, for these kidney levels to take several months to improve.

Kidney failure is indicative of other diseases as well. Classie was initially tested for Lyme and ehrlichia also. The results from the Lyme and ehrlichia tests took six days. The Lyme results suggested previous vaccination against the disease, but no evidence of natural exposure. The ehrlichia result was negative. It took more than a week to get her first leptospirosis titers (six titers), and they were all reported at a very low 1:100 level, or not indicative of exposure. It is suggested to repeat the titers anywhere from 10 to 20 days to four weeks after possible exposure. The negative antibody titers can be explained due to a seven to nine day period required before antibodies are produced against the leptospires.⁶

The second blood sample for titers was taken approximately three weeks after Classie's illness began. The results were not reported back for another week. So you can see why it is important to start treatment immediately if there is any suspicion of this disease.

Seven strains were tested for, and two strains showed high enough titers to be suggestive of exposure to the bacteria. However, a low titer does not necessarily rule out a diagnosis. Classie showed a low titer for *L. canicola* for which she was vaccinated. Her other, higher titers were *L. grippityphosa* (1:400), which is now included in the new Fort Dodge vaccine, and *L. bratislavia*, which has no vaccine at present. The *L. bratislavia* strain was her highest titer at a value of 1:800. A titer value of 1:800 or higher is supportive of a positive diagnosis, especially if it is against a serovar for which there is no vaccine. According to Carole A. Bolin's article, "...the infecting serovar is assumed to be the serovar to which the animal develops the highest titer."¹¹ The titer during acute illness should increase four-fold when repeated during convalescence. Although single titers are never diagnostic of current infection, titers 1:300 or

greater are suggestive and titers 1:1,000 or greater are highly indicative of leptospirosis.⁸ It has been suggested that previous infection or vaccination should produce a titer less than 1:300 but that titers from vaccinations can reach 1:1,250.⁶

Serum leptospiral antibody titers are determined using specialized diagnostic testing, such as the microscopic agglutination test (MAT), or the ELISA test. Urine can also be examined via darkfield microscopy and fluorescent antibody staining for leptospires that are usually present approximately four to ten days after the onset of clinical signs. An outside laboratory must perform the MAT, ELISA, darkfield microscopy, and fluorescent antibody staining. These tests are labor intensive, thereby increasing the time and cost of finding a diagnosis. The antibody titers are somewhat expensive to run, and negative titers initially may cause a veterinarian to dismiss the possible diagnosis and neglect to send in second titers two to four weeks later. Some dog owners may elect not to have the tests run once their dog has returned to a healthy state, however, the JAAHA article states, "Establishing a diagnosis is important, since dogs can serve as disease reservoirs and pose potential zoonotic risks."¹⁶ This has significance in the fact that there may be many dogs out there which have been infected with leptospirosis, but have never been diagnosed. New diagnostic tests are continually being researched. Your veterinarian can contact the National Animal Disease Center in Ames, Iowa for more information on diagnostic testing.

Recovery

Classie's recovery was speedy. She regained her weight over the two months following her hospital stay. We continued to check her blood and urine values to make sure there was no permanent kidney damage. Urinalysis may show a low specific gravity initially (normal range is 1.007 - 1.022). This is the most important urine test value to make sure the dog is still able to concentrate its urine. All her blood and urine values were still completely normal two

months later. Some are not so lucky and may end up with permanent damage to the kidney or liver. Some may contract the disease, but be asymptomatic; others may not survive their encounter with leptospirosis at all. Recovery is associated with improvement in the patient's attitude, appetite, and clinical blood and urine values. Thankfully, Classie recovered completely and is very healthy to this day.

Factors which lean toward a favorable outcome include:

- Short time from symptoms to administration of ampicillin
- Administration of doxycycline
- Absence of acute renal failure
- Absence of jaundice
- Young age of the dog
- Production of urine on presentation
- Infection by the serovars *L. canicola* or *L. pomona* (*L. icterohaemorrhagiae* and *L. grippityphosa* infections are usually more severe)
- Return of appetite⁹

Carrier/Shedder States

After recovery there is still the question of the carrier/shedder states to consider. Some dogs go on to a chronic or progressive type of kidney failure long after the illness has passed. They become "carriers" and shed bacteria in their urine for as long as a year.¹⁰ There are several different suggestions for the length of doxycycline use (the second phase of treatment) and its effectiveness in reducing or eradicating the carrier/shedder state. It is generally recommended to continue doxycycline use for a minimum of two weeks up to a maximum of eight weeks to completely eliminate the organisms from the kidneys. This is one of the few antibiotics that kill leptospira in the kidney thereby preventing shedding of the organisms in the urine. Again, Dr. Bolin states, "Appearance of circulating antibodies coincides with the clearance of leptospires from blood and most organs. Leptospires can remain in the kidney and may be shed in the urine for a few weeks to many

months after infection.”¹ Shedding of the organisms in the urine can be intermittent. Recovered dogs excrete organisms in urine intermittently for months after infection and in surviving reservoir hosts, renal colonization will be long term, with shedding in urine for months to years.²

This shedding may pose an infectious risk to humans and other animals. Wildlife, domestic animals, and livestock can continue to harbor and shed organisms without clinical signs. These hosts maintain serovars as a potential source of infection and illness. Prolonged shedding of leptospires from the host is responsible for the persistence of leptospires in the environment.¹¹ It has been estimated that 30 percent of the canine population develops some form of leptospirosis.¹² In a 2000 investigation of antibody titers in 30 healthy normal dogs, 16 had a positive titer and nine had titers greater than or equal to 1:800. All of the titers but one were against serovars that are not included in vaccines available. You may wish to consider testing your dogs for antibody titers even if they are healthy because other dogs in the household may serve as asymptomatic carriers. According to Christy Shoup, a veterinary student at Cornell University, “If a dog is properly treated with antibiotics, he or she is no longer at risk for spreading disease to your family or to other dogs.” The carrier/shedder state seems to be the hardest part to understand about leptospirosis and may be one of the reasons why there is still not enough known about the disease.

Disinfection/Prevention

Suspected or infected animals should be isolated. Special precautions should be used if you think you or your dog has been exposed to the leptospirosis bacteria. It is recommended to wear gloves and/or wash your hands thoroughly after giving oral medications or cleaning up urine. Try not to allow an infected pet to lick people on the face or hands. Dry urine is not contagious since the leptospirosis bacteria die in a desiccated state.⁹ Freezing, heat, and disinfection



Classie, Omaha, and Peaches the Pixie-Bob cat.

tants will also destroy the bacteria. Antibacterial agents, bleach, and iodine-based solutions work well to kill the leptospire. Separating toys and water bowls may be a good idea if you have multiple dogs in your household. On that note, however, Classie was not diagnosed until several weeks later. Therefore, I never separated water bowls or toys and our other Greyhound, Omaha, never showed any signs of infection. Being sanitary and controlling the rodent population will also help. Other suggestions for preventing exposure include keeping your dog on a leash, avoiding wet, flooded areas, and getting your pet vaccinated.

Vaccination

Paraphrasing the JAVMA article, "Because of the current vaccinations available, this disease may not be routinely considered in veterinary practice as a cause of acute kidney failure in dogs."¹³ Most recent outbreaks involve serovars for which vaccination does not exist. Until just recently only two strains, *L. canicola* and *L. icterohaemorrhagiae*, which are included in the common distemper, hepatitis, leptospirosis, parainfluenza, and parvovirus (DHLPP) shot have been available for more than 30 years. In 1999, Fort Dodge released a new vaccine that includes two more strains, *L. pomona* and *L. grippityphosa*. That is still only four strains of many that can infect our canine friends. In addition, according to several sources, it is possible that coverage will only last for a six-month period. This means that if you are only vaccinating your dogs annually, they may still become infected. In endemic areas, more frequent vaccinations might be beneficial to prevent the renal carrier state and the disease.¹³ Another concern seems to be allergic reactions and/or side effects associated with the leptospirosis portion of the vaccine. These can range from hives and swelling to life-threatening anaphylactic shock. The vaccine can be made to omit the leptospirosis portion. Mr. Serby also states that Fort Dodge claims this new vaccine reduces the problem of anaphylactic (allergic) reactions.⁹ Vaccination will reduce the severity of

disease but will not prevent infected dogs from becoming carriers and does not provide immunity against any other strains. Some veterinarians have stopped using the leptospirosis vaccine because they have never seen any cases in their area and because of the risk of adverse reactions. There is also evidence that dogs vaccinated for leptospirosis can become infected and shed the organism in their urine while remaining asymptomatic.¹² Any dog may show antibody titers to vaccination, which decrease after a few months.

Both our Greyhounds had been vaccinated with the original DHLPP vaccine, and they have now had the updated Fort Dodge leptospirosis vaccine with no side effects. After what Classie has been through, I feel the risk of reaction outweighs the possible consequences. I would highly recommend having your dogs vaccinated with the new Fort Dodge "7 in 1" vaccine. A flyer sent out by our veterinarian states that canine leptospirosis is a dangerous threat to dogs, and they are now recommending this new vaccine for their canine patients.

Conclusion

Please remember that leptospirosis is a life-threatening disease, so be wary of the signs and symptoms and advise your veterinarian on this information should the need arise. Leptospirosis is a very serious disease which unfortunately many licensed veterinarians are ill equipped to timely diagnose and treat. It is therefore incumbent on the dog owner to educate the treating professional to ensure that (s)he is aware of the possibility that the dog has leptospirosis and to monitor the treatment accordingly, or to use this knowledge to find a vet who knows what (s)he is doing.⁹ For all you feline owners, please take note that cats are rarely infected because they are considered to have a kind of immunity from their long-time association with rodents. As we continue to encroach on areas that were inhabited by wildlife, we may see an increase in diseases like leptospirosis that have reservoirs of infection in many species of animal. ■

Cheryl Giebel lives in beautiful Wisconsin with her husband, daughter Danielle, and two retired racing Greyhounds, Omaha, 11, and Classie, 8. They are both therapy dogs certified with the Delta Society. They also have a registered Pixie-Bob cat who thinks she's a Greyhound. Cheryl works for the Wisconsin Division of Gaming and has been involved in the Greyhound industry for about 11 years.

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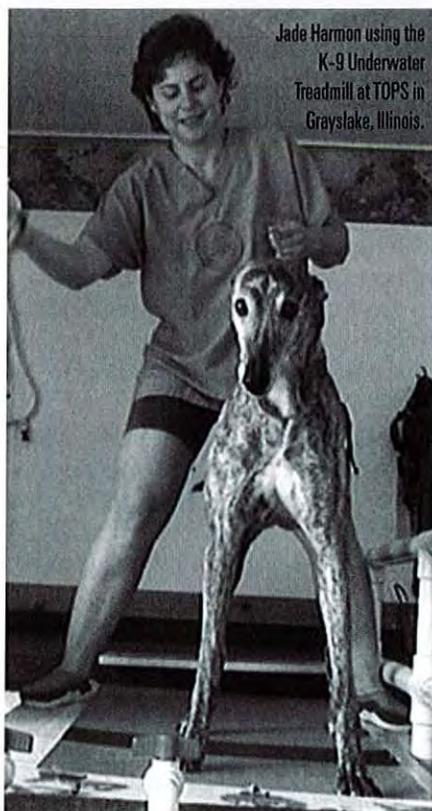
Walk This Way

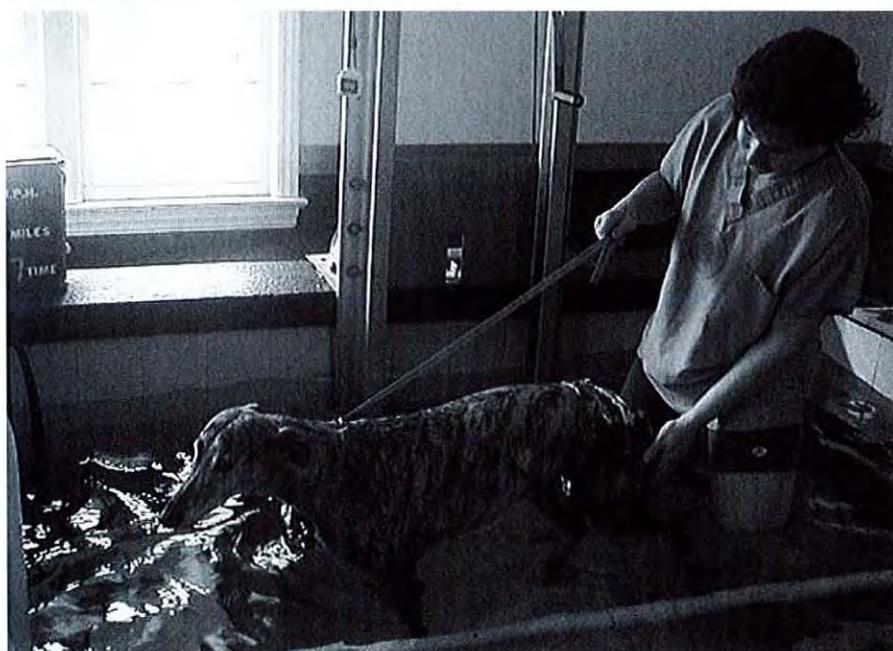
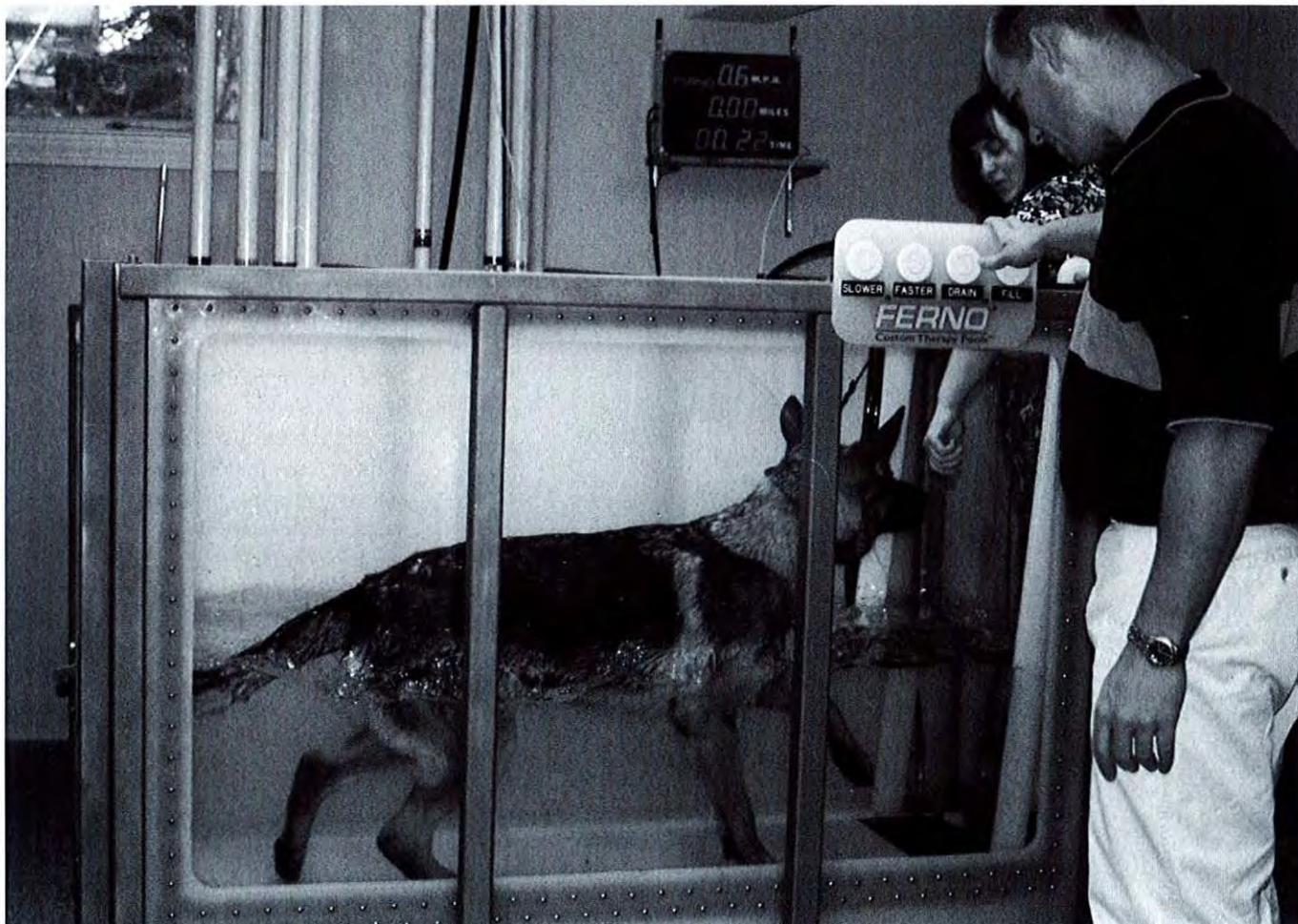
When humans injure an arm, leg, back, or other body part, they are hospitalized and treated for that injury and subsequently nursed back into full swing with the aid of physical therapists. These physical therapists devise exercise programs according to the extent of the injuries and assist the injured to regain as much use as possible in the area of the injury. But, what if the patient stands on four legs and sports a tail? What happens when a dog sustains this type of injury? Not a great deal of information is available regarding physical therapy for canines. That may change in the very near future.

At Dover Veterinary Hospital in Dover, New Hampshire, Aaron Tompkins, a licensed physical therapist for humans,



Jade Harmon using the K-9 Underwater Treadmill at TOPS in Grayslake, Illinois.





works with dogs. He has learned to apply his education in rehabilitating people to animals; he feels certain that this is a field that will emerge soon.

"As I've learned more and more about dogs, I've kind of figured it out. I apply the same ideas I would use on humans to the dogs," he says.

For the past six months or so, this veterinary hospital has undergone a major expansion and modernization which has included the purchase of an underwater treadmill designed for animals. Using water to provide buoyancy eliminates pressure on the injured leg, shoulder, or back, and allows the animal to exercise moderately to induce healing and retain flexibility. "The buoyancy actually takes the pressure off their joints. Some dogs who go on this can't walk without a lot of help, yet being underwater we can get their legs going



and see them walking,” Tompkins explains, while enduring a mild soaking from a canine patient. Tompkins states that there are less than a dozen machines in use in the United States. “I think the expense is what prevents many veterinarians from having one. They cost upwards of \$25,000,” he says. Ferno Custom Therapy Pools designed and manufactured the underwater treadmill used at Dover Veterinary Hospital.

The pool was quickly and easily filled to chest level to accommodate Reilly, a German Shepherd owned by veterinary technician Margaret Mathson. After Reilly volunteered to demonstrate the use of the treadmill, it became easy to see how this machine’s benefits were apparent. Although nearly floating, Reilly’s feet still touched the treadmill, and he walked continuously without any problem.



The flow of the water may be increased or decreased to add or lessen resistance. This particular model can operate at speeds of up to five miles per hour. Tompkins said they have not had it running at nearly that rate of speed. "Even though it can go five miles per hour, the fastest we've used it is one mile per hour."

Some dogs begin the treadmill therapy after having had surgery on a leg or shoulder. Other dogs are brought in solely for the purpose of participating in a physical therapy program. "Depending on where they are in their rehab, we can strengthen them up quickly," Tompkins says.

The question of just how much a machine such as this one would be used must play into evaluating the need versus the cost. There are currently five or six dogs using the treadmill.

The technological advances in improving and sustaining the quality of life for all animals has made incredible strides in the last few years. The Ferno Custom Therapy Pool has and will undoubtedly contribute significantly to the field of canine physical rehabilitation and the dedication of rehab specialists like Aaron Tompkins will most certainly play a vital role. Uncertain if another one existed within the New England states, Tompkins said he knew the University of Tennessee had used one in their teaching hospital for quite some time.

Dover Veterinary Hospital is located at 96 Durham Road in Dover, New Hampshire, and may be reached at (603) 742-6438 or dovervet@aol.com. ■

Kimberly Ripley is a free-lance writer and mother of five children.



About Ferno

According to Ferno, the manufacturer of the K-9 Underwater Treadmill System, underwater treadmill therapy is now a key tool for many physical therapists (for humans and four-legged patients). In the veterinary profession, physical therapy, particularly on canines, is a rapidly growing practice.

With the assistance of Dr. Darrell Millis at the Veterinary School of Medicine at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, Ferno has developed an underwater treadmill system specifically for canines. The system allows for the dog to enter a dry exercise chamber. Filtered, treated, and heated water is then transferred from a holding tank into the exercise chamber. The water height is regulated, depending on the degree of weight bearing required and the size of the dog. The water buoyancy reduces gravity, diminishing concussive forces, which in turn allows for earlier intervention and quicker recovery times for the animals after surgery or an injury.

The treadmill is built into the bottom of the exercise chamber and the speed can be adjusted up to five miles per hour. The system provides clear doors and windows for excellent viewing and observation. The water is automatically heated, treated, and filtered and required to be changed only once a week. Because the water is reused, it allows for minimal down time and maintenance.

Dr. Millis has already reported outstanding results using the K-9 Underwater Treadmill System and is treating a variety of ailments. The underwater treadmill unit sells for \$26,395. This is an installed price but does not include freight. The two key sites where the units are installed are at Alameda East Veterinary Hospital in Colorado, where it is used mainly by Dr. Robert Taylor and Carrie Adamson, PT, and at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. Ferno has also installed units at smaller, lower profile sites around the country.

For more information, please visit the Ferno-Washington, Inc. web site at www.ferno.com.—*Marcia Herman*

Facilitator™: An Alternative to Traditional Bandages

No more gauze bandages

Most Greyhound owners have experienced the frustration of treating what appears to be a small cut that just will not stop bleeding. It seems that whenever Allie, our 5-year-old Greyhound, gets a cut the wound takes months to heal. In fact, Greyhounds are more susceptible to breaks in the skin than many other breeds due to their thin skin and coat. Injuries that might produce a minor laceration in a German Shepherd can result in a large, open wound in a Greyhound. Additionally, the thin skin and sparse coat of a Greyhound makes it a prime candidate for pressure ulcers and bedsores. Open wounds, hot spots, and lacerations all allow the entry of bacteria, often resulting in slow healing or even infection.

To prevent complications, open wounds should be treated with clean, dry frequently changed bandages. This, however, is not as easy as it sounds. When Allie has a cut, I apply the above kind of dressing and may spend an hour getting the bandage just right. As soon as I finish, she shakes or nibbles off the bandage and deposits it on the floor.

The Blue Ridge Pharmaceutical Company has developed a product that it hopes will eliminate some of this frustration. Facilitator Liquid Bandage™ removes the need for gauze bandages to treat small cuts and abrasions. It is an odorless, non-irritating gel that dries quickly over a wound, keeping

it clean and preventing bacteria from entering, thus reducing the potential of infection.

Facilitator Liquid Bandage is a gel made from polymers, which are found in many types of plastics, including epoxy, nylon, and silicon. A thin film of the gel spread over the wound forms an adhesive barrier as it dries. For the best results, the wound should be clean and dry before application. Other salves and ointments may interfere with the Facilitator bandage and therefore should not be used. Facilitator Liquid Bandage should be reapplied every three days at minimum, but it may be used as needed (even daily). Water easily removes the dried gel. The packaging states it can be used for treatment of a variety of wounds, including lacerations, abrasions, cat declaws, cuts, tail docking, and acral lick dermatitis. The latter, also known as lick granuloma, or “hot spots,” results from repeated licking or biting at a sore due to stress or an underlying medical condition, such as arthritis. The constant licking and chewing often prevent the wounds from healing properly, resulting in a vicious cycle.

Blue Ridge Pharmaceuticals evaluated the effectiveness of Facilitator(tm) in 53 dogs with chronic wounds involving the trunk, feet, and legs as well as other locations. Initially, the wounds were debrided and cleaned. The wounds were then treated with a thin coat of

the gel. The dogs' owners reapplied the gel every four days. A veterinarian reexamined the wounds every two weeks.

At the end of the evaluation, the researchers determined there was a slight difference in response depending on the size of the injury. Wounds that were smaller than 3 cm² showed improvement in over 87 percent of the dogs treated, with some dogs responding in only a few days. Wounds that ranged in size from 3 to 8 cm² improved 57 percent of the time. It is interesting to note that before treatment with Facilitator(tm), many of these wounds had persisted for more than 12 months.

Dr. Lori Kirst, DVM, a veterinarian at Harrison Animal Hospital in Ohio, has had positive experiences with Facilitator Liquid Bandage(tm) when used for smaller lacerations and wounds that do not require stitches. After using the samples the hospital received, she ordered more of the product because it has been so effective. Jody McMackin, a veterinary technician at Harrison, agrees that it “is awesome (there was only one case where [Facilitator] did not work, because of the dog's constant licking.”

Currently, Facilitator is only available to veterinarians, but you can visit the Blue Ridge Pharmaceuticals website at www.brpharma.com for more information regarding the product. ■



Sadie Giampa



Dealing with Inflammatory Bowel Disease

Inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) is a common cause of vomiting and/or diarrhea in Greyhounds. Usually observed in dogs aged 4 through 7, it can develop at ages ranging from as early as six months to as late as 10 years.

So just what is IBD? What causes it and how do we diagnose and treat it?

IBD is a syndrome. This means our understanding of the disease is very limited. More specifically, IBD is a thickening of the walls of the gastrointestinal tract. It can affect the stomach, small intestine, or colon, leading to vomiting, diarrhea, weight loss, loss of appetite, and bloody/mucousy stools. Inflammatory cells—the cells the body usually uses to fight infections—infiltrate the bowel, thickening the walls and inducing the clinical signs of malabsorption by disturbing the normal absorption and digestion of nutrients. A normal bowel palpates soft and pliable; a bowel affected with IBD palpates like a garden hose. As you can imagine, a garden hose texture is not conducive to nutrient absorption.

Causes of IBD

Adding to our frustration, no one knows the exact cause of IBD, though speculation centers on food allergy, hypersensitivity, and immune-mediated status. Food allergy may induce IBD by stimulating the immune cells to infiltrate the bowel wall, causing a disruption of normal function. Any foodstuff or additive, including beef, chicken, pork, wheat, soybeans, and beets, may be a cause. No one particular agent has been implicated; it tends to be an individual allergy. For example, corn may cause problems in one littermate, and wheat in another.

Hypersensitivity is an allergic reaction to environmental allergens stimulating the immune cells to thicken the bowel. The same environmental allergens (such as molds, pollens, and dust) that you and I might be allergic to are suspect in these cases.

Finally, immune-mediated status is the least understood category. Immune-mediated status involves the immune cells' thickening the bowel wall because the cells don't recognize the bowel as "self." Self means the body recognizes everything

developed in its embryonic stage. Anything introduced after that stage is not recognized as part of the self. This is the reason you are able to fight off cold viruses, but special drugs are needed to keep the body from rejecting transplanted organs. The immune system's sudden inability to recognize self is not understood, but it is the cause of diseases such as Lupus and Hemolytic Anemia, which will be topics of future articles. The immune system becomes disoriented, inflaming the bowel and inducing IBD's clinical signs.

Diagnosis

Diagnosing IBD may be difficult, depending on the owner's level of economic and personal restraints. When IBD is suspected, the veterinarian should perform a thorough physical exam and obtain a complete patient history. Are the gums pink? Is abdominal palpation uncomfortable? Does the bowel feel thickened? Is there fluid in the bowel? Has the Greyhound been eating normally? How often are the bowel movements and what is their character? Have there been any changes in diet?

If the examining doctor finds nothing remarkable after the history and physical exam, the doctor then orders blood work, including a complete blood count and serum chemistries, and x-rays. The blood chemistries should include a digestive profile to rule out other causes of vomiting and diarrhea, such as poor digestion or bacterial overgrowth.

The lab data in most cases of IBD are unremarkable, but normal lab data help to rule out other diseases. X-rays may indicate some thickening of the bowel, but this is a judgment call and sometimes is more imagination than fact.

The only true way to diagnose IBD is with a biopsy. This involves taking a small piece of tissue, preserving it, and sending it to a veterinary pathologist for analysis. This is the toughest step for owners because it involves anesthesia and possible surgery. Biopsies may be obtained by performing an endoscopy. This procedure involves general anesthesia and insertion of a long instrument, an endoscope, down through the mouth into the stomach and upper small intestine.

The surgeon observes these areas for obvious lesions. Then a small instrument is introduced through the endoscope to remove a very small area of tissue. This tissue sample is submitted to the pathologist. Several areas can be biopsied in one procedure through the endoscope. No sutures are involved and recovery time is minimal. The downside is that the biopsy is small and a risk of missing the lesion exists. If the biopsy sample is not thick enough, a lesion in the wall of the bowel could be overlooked.

The second way to obtain a biopsy is through an exploratory surgery. After the pet is anesthetized, an incision is made on the belly. The surgeon observes the stomach, small intestine, and colon and obtains full-thickness biopsies of the entire wall. All biopsy and incision sites are sutured closed. The pet is normally sore for one to three days post-surgery, and biopsy results are ready in five to ten days.

Treatment and Monitoring

Once the pathologist confirms the diagnosis of IBD, treatment begins. Usually, the first step is to administer cortisone, preferably prednisone, in high doses, tapering down as clinical signs improve. Standard procedure includes a change in diet, usually switching to an easily digestible kibble, such as Hill's I/D™ or Eukanuba's Low Residue(tm). If the prednisone and diet change do not alleviate the clinical signs, azathioprine (AZT) is added to the treatment regime. AZT modulates the immune system by trying to alleviate the bowel inflammation.

Finally, if an abnormal amount of bacteria is suspected in the bowel, the veterinarian prescribes two to four weeks of antibiotics to remove the bacteria. IBD is a very frustrating syndrome for both the owner and veterinarian. The costs involved in obtaining a final diagnosis can be extravagant but rewarding when the syndrome is finally diagnosed.

Treatments are usually effective in about 90% of the patients, but some dogs never respond, despite all efforts. The pet is never cured of this disease, but hopefully IBD may be controlled, and the affected Greyhound will live a long life. ■



Doc, It Hurts When I Do This

So don't do that.

What does this very old joke have to do with dog training? More than you'd imagine.

I rarely get a call from a prospective student or client telling me what a perfect angel his dog is. Almost everyone has some problem or problems they want to fix. And often the most commonsense fix, at least for the short term, is, "If it hurts when you do that, don't do that."

We have no trouble being creative about this approach when we deal with our young children or grandchildren, but we rarely even consider it when we have a similar issue with our hounds. If a toddler continually gets into the trash, we simply put the trash out of reach or put the toddler where he no longer has access to it. In other words, we manage the child's environment until the child is old enough to understand that he shouldn't get into the trash, or until we've taught him what to play with instead. And we routinely use management tools like play pens and baby gates and car seats as part of our repertoire.

In dog training, the key to preventing or fixing a problem is often as simple as keeping your hound out of trouble while you teach him what he needs to know. It's about understanding what makes our hounds tick and why a certain behavior is so rewarding. Sometimes it's learning to give a little so your hound has the opportunity simply to be a dog and do what dogs do. But it all comes down to managing his environment so he doesn't get the opportunity to do it incorrectly. Just as important, it's about paying attention to him so you can catch him and reward him for doing it correctly.

Management Is Everything

Every time your hound successfully raids the trash, steals food from the counter, pulls on the leash, or mugs Auntie Gracie when she arrives, he gets rewarded. Every time he's rewarded the behavior gets stronger. In other words, practice makes perfect.

Dogs are hunters; that makes them gamblers by nature. No predator wins every time he goes hunting, but he continues to hunt.

Your hound may not get paid with a juicy steak each time he surfs the counter, but if he got paid even once you can bet he'll look there again. If the slot machine pays off, he'll keep throwing quarters in. Unlike some other breeds, Greyhounds don't tend to be compulsive gamblers so they often respond quickly when rewards are removed and new behaviors are trained.

Stop him from practicing while you train what you can reinforce. Manage him so he can't practice stuff you don't like. If you don't want him to get really good at a bad behavior, don't let him keep practicing. If he's jumping on Auntie Gracie, use a leash or other management tools like confinement to keep him from getting to her. If he pulls on the leash, use a head halter on walks where you can't work on training. Remove the reward or remove his access to it. Whatever the problem, think about how you can manage his environment to keep him from getting any more practice (rewards).

Make sure you have truly identified what is rewarding the behavior. This isn't always as obvious as it seems.

Pay attention to him so you can catch him doing good things as well as bad. Find or train behaviors that can be rewarded and aren't compatible with the behavior you are trying to stop.

Use leashes, crates, tethers, gates, head collars such as the Premier Gentle Leader, or other management tools. Be creative, but be gentle. Think management not punishment. But don't let either management or punishment become a substitute for training.

Be realistic in your expectations. Don't expect perfection and give a little where you can. Dogs function at about the same level as a young child. If you wouldn't expect something of a toddler, don't expect it from your dog. The reverse is also true: If a behavior is unacceptable from even a young child, why tolerate it from your dog?

So if it hurts when you do that, *Don't do that!* ■

The Ins and Outs of Dog Doors — The Patio Variety

To doggie door or not to doggie door invariably raises a multitude of valid questions, opinions, and debates. Those against their use will cite decreasing the resale value of one's home by: 1) intentionally putting large holes in walls or door panels; 2) increasing the possibility of invasion through said door by wildlife; 3) adding further insult to already outrageous heating/cooling bills; and 4) visions of unattended Greyhounds leaping the fence to meet a frightful fate.

Those who favor dog doors cannot imagine life without them. You have the ease of mind knowing your dog can eliminate outside even if you can't be home at lunch. Your dog receives the benefits of the great outdoors at any given time.

I don't want to be a principal in this debate, but I am going to tell you what works for me. You see, we didn't have to put holes into our home. Even though we live in a heavily wooded area, we've had no invasions from unwelcome visitors, have noticed no difference whatsoever in the utility bills, and our dogs are either too advanced in years or too lazy to even think about jumping the fence. Seasonally, we use one of two types of dog doors that require no demolition of any kind, come with security panels to negate unwanted ingress or egress, and seal more tightly than windows in newer homes.

These are patio door dog doors. They are removable, so you can change them with the season and take them with you if you move. These doors fit into the track of your sliding glass door or sliding screen, are suitable for use in cold weather (the sliding door track) and in hot weather (the screen track) and in most cases are simple and quick to install.

The winter dog door we use has a tempered thermal glass rectangular "window" above the dog door itself. The installation kit

comes with a high-quality insulation strip (the door manufacturer calls it a "glass sweep") that adheres to the dog door panel and forms a weather-tight seal when met by the sliding glass door. The heavy-duty vinyl two-way door flap is secured along its sides and bottom by magnets. In our case the door is an XLarge, which measures 10.5" wide by 15" high with a four-inch rise from the floor.

When the weather warms, we remove the glass-paneled dog door from the inside track and insert the screen-paneled dog door into the outside or screen track. Again the door

to use this type of doggie door. The first is, obviously, a sliding glass door and screen. The second is peace of mind regarding the use of any type of dog door. Read on if you've got these two things.

Installation is simple. The tools required amount to a screwdriver and, worst case a power drill. An "800" number for installation assistance was included with the illustrated instructions for both of the doors we use. We called the 800 number when installing the winter door because our sliding glass door is not standard size. The com-



comes with an insulating material that, when met by the sliding screen door, makes an airtight seal (I love this because I've never really developed an appreciation of flying or crawling insects in my home, and this effectively keeps them out.). The flap is a lighter weight ABS vinyl, again secured by magnets.

There are really only two things you need

pany gave us a step-by-step explanation of what needed to be done to make the door fit. The screen door with its self-adjusting tension springs didn't require any customization to fit into place.

Today, there are several manufacturers of these types of doggie doors. The doors

are advertised in pet supply catalogs and can often be seen at dog shows. They all appear to share a similar design; differences are mostly in the door-opening sizes and manufactured materials. From experience, I recommend buying one with the largest opening available and that the "rise" (the solid part from the floor up to the door) is no lower than four inches and no higher than six inches regardless of the manufacturer's recommendation. Comparison shop because these doors are an investment.

If you've got Internet access, check out the following web sites for further information and price ranges on traditional dog doors. www.petdoors.com, www.petdoor-susa.com, www.dogdoors.com/patio, www.das-mall.com/petsonthenet/store/dog-houses, www.pet-expo.com/petdoors.



Recently, we had the need to allow the dogs into the garage from the house. We have a complicated arrangement of steps Visualize an interior set of short steps from the house that lead into the garage. This posed a dilemma as the steps end at the door and grant no more than seven inches between the bottom step and the garage door.

There is a three-inch step down to the garage floor, further compounding the problem. There didn't appear a way we could use any existing dog doors.

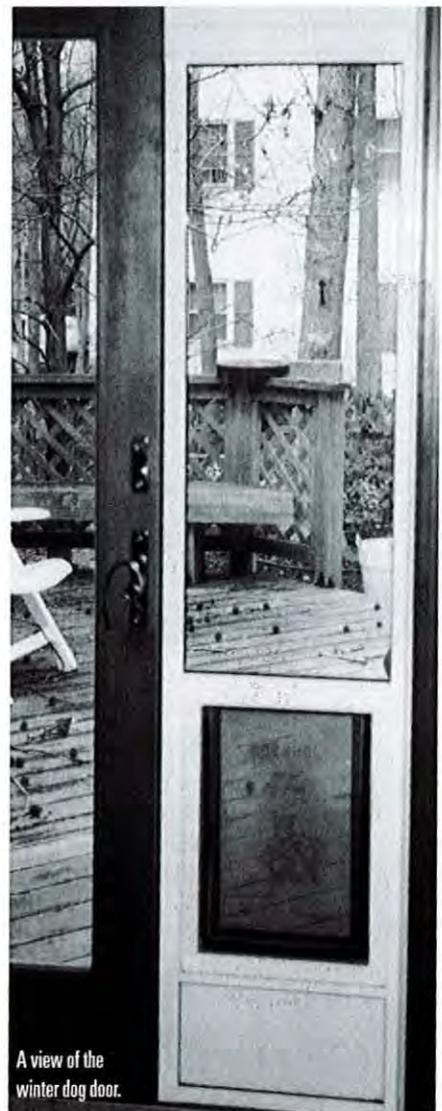
An item in a household supply catalog solved the problem handily. The item is the flexible nylon screen that adheres to the top and sides of the door frame via industrial strength hook and loop closures that stays in place through the magic of several marbles sewn into the bottom seam. Installation is simple; you just mount the several strips of adhesive backed loops provided to the door frame. Just make sure their position coincides with the hooked strips sewn to the screening,

At the time we installed this screen, the type most readily available was one that could be drawn aside on one side or the

other. Since then, other types of hanging screens have come on the market, most notably one that separates in the center. The two halves of this screen overlap and as such, this type is more effective at keeping out flying insects. Two of our dogs learned to nose aside the screen. The other two take great joy in barreling through and bringing

it down. In my opinion, the type that separates would work better for dogs and be more convenient for humans as well. The cost is not prohibitive and the entire screen is easily removed when no longer needed.

All our Greyhounds and each of our fosters learned to use the traditional dog doors in anywhere from three minutes to two days. Our senior, Suzi, is the only one who refuses to go through the dog door from either side. She could if she wanted, but when she barks for me to let her out or in, I do it. At 17, she's entitled. ■



A view of the winter dog door.



MATERIALS NEEDED

- 6 8-foot pieces of 1x6x3/4" tongue-and-groove beadboard
- 40 board feet of 1x4x3/4" lumber for braces and shelf
- 2 barrel bolt latches
- 4 door hinges
- Carpenters glue
- 3-4 dozen 1-1/4" wood screws

Double Dutch Dogproofing

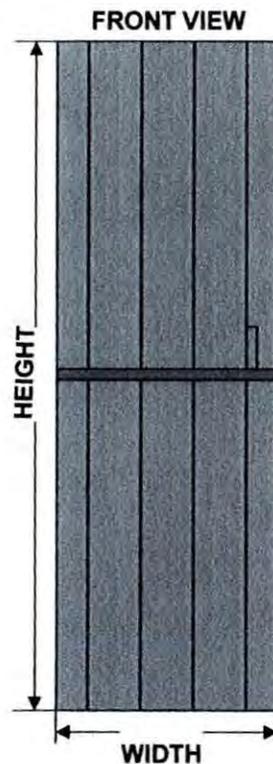
Make your own Dutch door

Do you own a curious hound? Are baby gates a key component of your decorating scheme? Do some doors in your house stay permanently closed to keep out prying needle noses? If so, perhaps you should consider a Dutch door. Inspired by the barns and mills of eastern Pennsylvania, our rendition is fairly inexpensive (under \$50 if you stick with very basic hardware) and evokes a great country feel.

the top and bottom doors. Also allow space for the shelf to be attached to the bottom door in the overall height measurement. (We found that six 8' pieces of beadboard were just enough for a standard door. Larger doors may require more.)

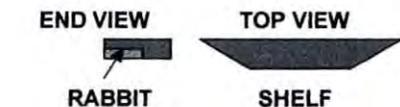
Clamp the boards for the bottom door snugly. Measure the needed width and take half of this measurement off each end board. Rip the end boards to necessary width. In addition, rip two top boards.

Glue and clamp the top and bottom assemblies. After the glue has dried, remove from clamps and sand the door assemblies.



2. The Shelf

Measure and cut a piece of 1x4" stock to the door width. Depending on the location of the door such as wide door jams or wall location the ends may need to be cut at an angle. In our case it was between 45-50 degrees.

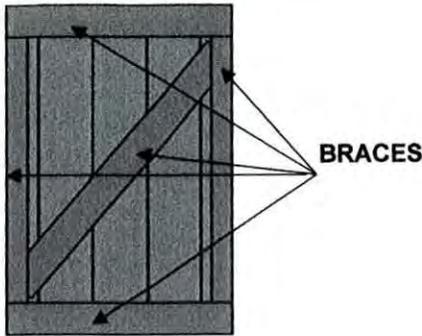


Next, mill out a rabbit along the underside back edge of the shelf. This creates a notch for mounting the shelf to the top of the bottom door. The width of the lip of the rabbit is the additional space that is added into the overall door height.

Screw the shelf to the bottom door. After final fit (check angles after installation) you can remove the shelf, add glue, and reattach with screws.

1. The Top and Bottom Door

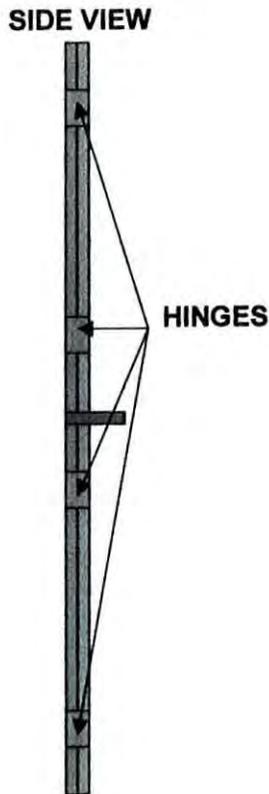
Measure the length and width of the door opening. If possible remove the old door, lay it on the workbench and use it as a pattern. Make the bottom door slightly more than half the door height. Cut beadboard for



3. The Braces

Cut four pieces of the 1x4" stock to the door width. Using glue and screws attach these braces along the top and bottom of the plain (not beadboard) side of the doors.

Cut two pieces of the 1x4" stock for the diagonal braces. Glue and screw the diagonal braces in place.



Cut four pieces of the 1x4" stock for the remaining side braces. Glue and screw in place.

4. The Hinges

Transfer the hinge locations from the old door or door jamb to the top of the top door and the bottom of the bottom door. Use the same distance from the edge for the layout, the hinge location for the bottom of the top door, and the top of the bottom door.

Mortise out the door edges for the hinges. Remember to mortise out the door jamb for the two added hinges by attaching the hinges to the Dutch doors and using the old hinge locations as reference points. This step can wait until after final finishing.

5. The Stain and Finish

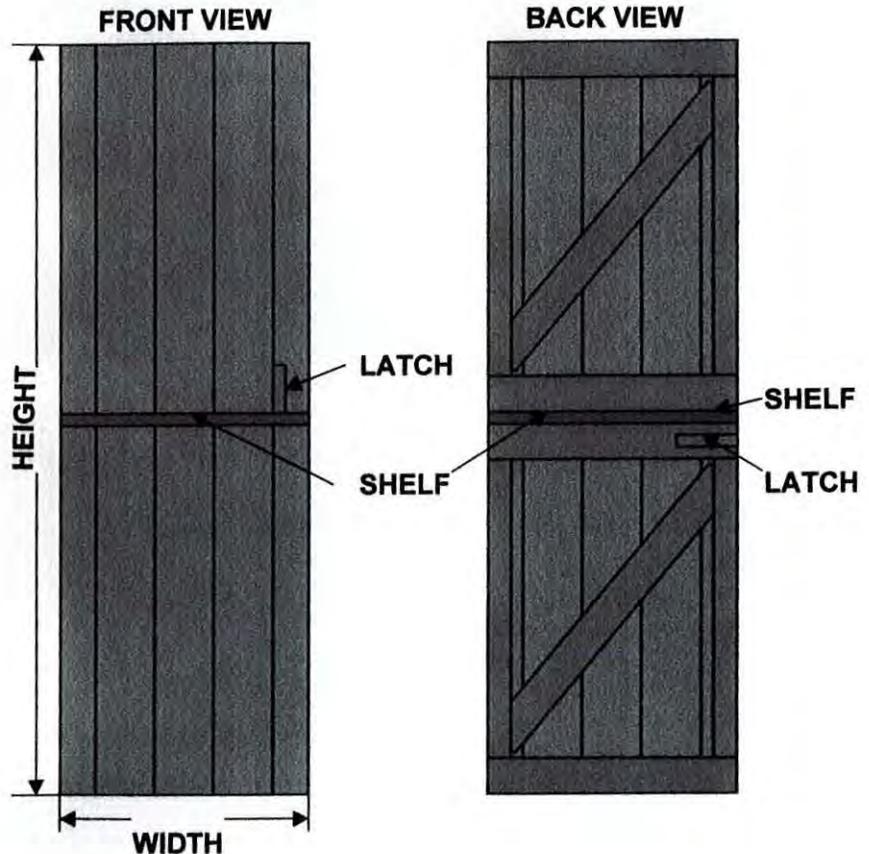
Give all surfaces a final sanding. Apply the desired stain. Apply three coats of polyurethane with a light sanding in between each coat.

6. Hang Door

Hang the door and adjust the hinges as necessary to ensure easy opening and closing. You've already tested the angle on the shelf, so you should not have any trouble with that now.

7. Add the Hardware

Once the door is hung in place, attach the desired latch hardware and handles. We used a barrel bolt latch for the bottom door to keep the door closed and a barrel bolt latch to connect the top door to the bottom door. ■



Saturday, June 2, 2001

Doggone Walkathon 7

We Adopt Greyhounds, Inc.; 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Cheshire Canal Bike Path (Lock 12 Park), Cheshire, Conn.
A sponsored walk along the scenic canal line and a potluck picnic at the pavilion.
Terry Smith: 203-577-2048 or tws0815@aol.com

Saturday and Sunday, June 2 and 3, 2001

3rd Annual Kennel & Greyhound Goodies Store Open House and Yard Sale

8 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days
Greyhound Placement Services of New Hampshire
265 Mast Road, Goffstown, N.H.
Fundraiser with lots of yard sale items, food, items from our catalog store, plus dog baths and nail clipping for a small donation. Pat Hewitt: 603-625-4717 or ahewitt@mediaone.net

Sunday, June 3, 2001 (rain or shine)

Greyhound Reunion and Festival

11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Greyhound Friends West, Inc.
French Park, North Egremont, Mass.
The group's annual fundraiser, reunion, and barbecue. Nancy Korman: 845-868-1348 or Yvonne LaChapelle: Racing4Hom@aol.com

Sunday, June 10, 2001

First Annual GreysLand Gathering

11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
GreysLand Greyhound Adoption, Inc.
Hopkinton State Park, Hopkinton, Mass.
Pack a picnic lunch and enjoy raffles, Greyhound games, Reiki talk, obedience demonstration, animal communicator, blessing of the hounds, and more.
Robin Norton: 508-435-6023 or greys5@aol.com

DATE CHANGE

June 16, 2001

Monica's Heart Summer Blast 4

10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Monica's Heart Greyhound Adoption
Fun for hounds and humans with games, food, and grey things to buy. Rich Stoehr: 814-695-3607 or rrs110@aol.com

Friday, June 22 - Sunday, June 24, 2001

Annual Greyhound America Gathering

Race the Wind Greyhound Adoption, Inc.
Steryi Hall at the Fairgrounds, Abilene, Kan.
Games, Greyhound farm tour, live auction, raffle, Greyhound contests, vendors, and catered meals on Friday and Saturday evenings. Judy Sparks: greydogs@swbell.net or Bob Mowery: ghound@swbell.net

Saturday, July 28, 2001

9th Annual Greyhound Reunion/Picnic

Rainbow's End/Plainfield Pets
The Whitney's House, Harvey's Lake, Penn.
A day of fun, food, games, shopping, and Greyhounds
Ann or Gary: 570-639-2612 or Diana at dakc@ptd-prolog.net

Sunday, August 19th, 2001

CGA Annual Picnic and Fundraiser

Colorado Greyhound Adoption; 12 to 3 p.m.
Adams County Fairgrounds
CGA's Annual Picnic is a great time for the whole family. Food, music, vendors, and much more. Contact Ann Appel at aappel@regis.edu (303) 451-6877 or www.greyhoundadoption.

Saturday, August 25, 2001

First Annual Greyhound Golf Classic

Skyline Golf Course, Greenfield Twp., Penn.
Captain and Crew format with assigned tee times, sale, buffet dinner, and golf prizes. Miles or Roxanne Neuts: 570-282-1326 or skylinegolf@aol.com

Saturday, September 8, 2001

Woofstock West Pet Walk; 9 a.m. to noon

Greyhound Friends of North Carolina, Inc.
Washington Park, Winston Salem, N.C.
Non-competitive pet walk with corporate sponsors, prizes for those with pledge sheets of \$25 or more, dog contest, games, vendors, demonstrations, and exhibitors. Terry Carr: 336-922-1691 or Tcarr5049@aol.com or Linda Landry: 336-854-2411 or Itarbaby@earthlink.net

Sunday, September 9, 2001

11th Annual Second Chance for Greyhounds Reunion

11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Kalamazoo Kennel Club, Kalamazoo, Mich.
Games, contest, silent auction, vendors, and fundraising events in an indoor/outdoor facility. 616-349-5104 or www.scfg.org

Saturday, September 15, 2001

13th Annual Picnic and Reunion

11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Greyhound Rescue, Inc., of Elkridge, Md.
Waterloo State Park, Columbia, Md.
All Greyhounds adopted through the organization and their families are invited for a cookout and games.
Darlene Riden: 410-721-1154 or driden@erols.com

Saturday, September 15, 2001

2001 WAG Games & Gathering

We Adopt Greyhounds, Inc.; 11 to 4 p.m.
Wharton Brook State Park, Wallingford, Conn. (Route 5 just off Exit 13 from I-91)
A fun day to spend with Greyhound owners and their dogs with games and vendors. Ellie Goldstein: 203-288-7024 or 877-595-0991 or Audice@aol.com

Saturday, September 15, 2001

5th Annual Great Greyhound Festival 2001

9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Greyhound Placement Service of N.H.
Hillsboro County Fairgrounds, New Boston, N.H.
Vendors, food concession, Greyhound Goodies Catalog, contests, and events for all ages. Anne Buckley: 603-679-2851 or abuckley@ultranet.com

Saturday & Sunday, September 15-16, 2001

Maine Greyhound Festival Days

Maine Greyhound Placement Service
Bridgton, Me.
Informational sessions and demonstrations, games, contests, nail clipping and micro chipping clinics, raffles, Chinese auction, food, kennel tours, and the Tally Ho Shop for Greyhounds and their owners.
Andrea Martel, 207-783-7440 or greys@megalink.net; Mary Towle, 207-846-4707 or ziller@juno.com

Sat., September 22 or Sun., September 23

Greyhound Walk

Register 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.; finish by 5 p.m.
Personalized Greyhounds, Inc., Camp Hill, PA and York White Rose Wanderers, York, PA
Animal Activity Area in the Spring Valley County Park (near York, Penna.) Take I-83 North or South to Glen Rock Exit 2 and follow the signs.
A Volksmarch featuring Greyhounds as a theme.
Elaine Greenwood: 717-757-3393; orrieg@webtv.net; or www.pgreys.org

Sunday, September 23, 2001

5th Annual Greyhound Walk for Life

Michigan REGAP; 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Edsel and Eleanor Ford House,
Grosse Pointe Shores, Mich.
1-800-Go Hound or www.retiredgreyhounds.com

Sunday, September 23, 2001

5th Annual Greyhound Companions Reunion

Noon to 4 p.m.
Greyhound Companions of Missouri
Memorial Park in Brentwood, Mo. (just south of highway 40 and Brentwood Blvd., next to the YMCA)
Vendors, raffles, silent auction, goodie bags, and contests. Sue Oelzen: 314-521-0867 or sue_oelzen@yahoo.com

Saturday and Sunday, October 6 and 7, 2001

Greyhound Friends 7th Annual Fall Open House Reunion

Noon to 5 p.m.
Greyhound Friends of North Carolina, Inc.
2908 Oak Ridge Road, Oak Ridge, N.C.
Kennel tours, vendors, exhibitors, food, and live entertainment. Linda Landry: 336-854-2411 or Itarbaby@earthlink.net



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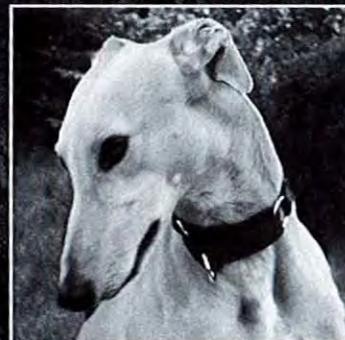
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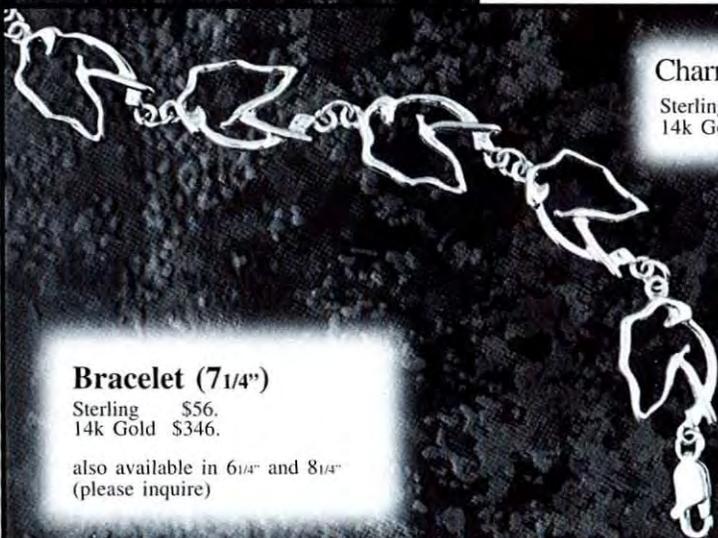


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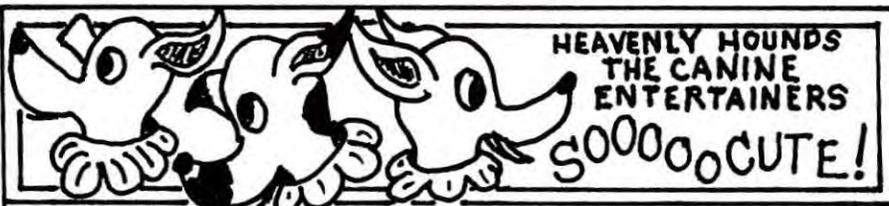
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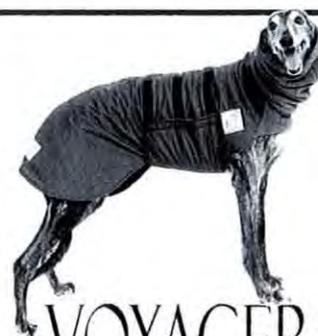
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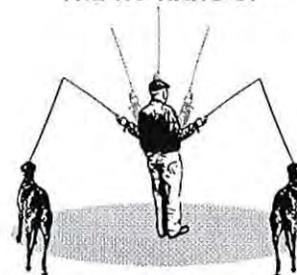
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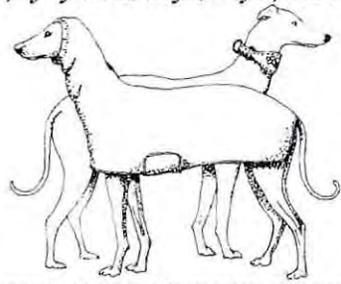
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Kody (VJ's Honeybunch) 1988 - 2001



Owned and loved by *CG Magazine* regular contributor Jordan H. Graustark, Kody died from a large tumor on the right atrium of his heart. He left peacefully and with dignity. Kody enjoyed a brief career as

a therapy dog, was gentle and loving with all children, and never met a stranger. He lived with seven other Greyhounds and Italian Greyhounds, including his litter sister VJ's Geisha.

Kody became famous because of his severe, life-threatening bouts of thunderphobia. These episodes led to much research and a visit with Dr. Nicholas Dodman at the Tufts Veterinary School's Behavior Clinic in North Grafton, Mass. As a result of the groundbreaking information gained via trials of various Greyhound-friendly doses of pharmacological agents and behavior modification, Greyhound owners now have definitive solutions that may assist their hounds who suffer the same phobia. Kody's treatment was the subject of a popular, frequently-reprinted article from the first issue of *Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine* (Summer 1996). That article led Graustark to give a lecture on thunderphobia at the Dewey Beach Gathering in 1997. Kody, dressed up as a Prozac(r) pill, assisted. Through this widely disseminated article, Kody's experiences have and will continue to help Greyhounds with similar phobias.

Marshall (Jim Cruz CDX CGC TDI.) 1989 - 2001

Owned and loved by Cindy and Paul Sisson of Louisiana, Marshall, a fabulous fun-loving obedience dog, was featured twice in *CG Magazine*. GPA/Louisiana wasn't originally able to read his tattoos, so they named him after the Texas town and humane society where he was impounded. He stayed in foster care longer than most dogs from that group. As an older dog (age 6) and a big, dark brindle, he was passed over a number of times. We later discovered he won his maiden on his first time out as a puppy and quickly climbed to grade A as a racer. Just before he graded off he was a solid B (and occasionally A) dog at Southland, one of the top tracks in the country.

Marshall was Cindy's first dog, and they learned the obedience game together just for fun. He didn't particularly enjoy learning things, but absolutely loved showing off what he had learned. The first time he went into the ring he got a 188, and every time after that he was in the 190s (out of 200, where 170 is qualifying.) He was a top-five



Jazz

obedience Greyhound in 1998, 1999, and in the top one or two in 2000. He finished up his CDX just last January, took high in trial at the Southern Greyhound Specialty in March, and retired from regular competition the day after with his all time high score of 196.5/200.

Marshall was diagnosed with bladder cancer and osteosarcoma a week later. Marshall will be missed.

Jazz 1988 - 2001

Owned and loved by Barbara Folkin of Sacramento, Calif., Jazz, the adorable, smiling Greyhound shown in Jody Fredericks' "How to Move with Greyhounds" article, was felled by osteosarcoma. She loved to do laps in the yard to the very end. She will be missed by many.

Jackie (Sunscreen Jackie) 1994 - 2001

Owned and loved by Suzanne Cottreux and her family of Dallas, Tex., Jackie, featured in the Fall 2000 issue as "Gabrielle's Nanny," succumbed to kidney disease. Her sire and dam were Smuggler's Den and Panama Jackie. Her grand sires were Joe Dump (an Alabama legend) and Hi Speed Critter; grand dams were Major Mischief and May Sales. She was adopted from the track in Birmingham, Ala., in May of 1995.

Fiona (JA's Ally) 1989 - 2001



Owned and loved by Cynthia Branigan and Charles Rissel and the inspiration behind Cynthia's article "On, Death, Dying, and Dogs," Fiona died of kidney failure. She was one of a truckload of Greyhounds delivered to

Make Peace With Animals in the fall of 1991. They had been collected at random from several New England tracks and were identifiable only by their ear tattoos. At the time, Fiona was known simply as "brindle, female, number seven." She was thin, depressed, and seemed at the time never to have known love.

After a few false starts, Fiona went to live with Cynthia and Charles on Christmas Eve. Cynthia did not realize immediately that Fiona was her dog, but Ajax (Special Police) did. He insisted on keeping her, and, of course, Cynthia agreed. Only later was it discovered that Ajax was Fiona's uncle. Together they graced the cover of the second edition of *Adopting the Racing Greyhound*. Fiona went on to model for Pre-

vention Magazine and the Animal Magnetism mail order catalogue.

Cynthia writes, "She surpassed, by 15 months, the prediction of several veterinarians about when she would succumb to her kidney disease. She faced her illness with courage and dignity. In the end, she did not 'lose her battle' but, rather, took in full what life had to offer, and then let it go."



Matt 1986 - 2000

Andi 1986 - 2000

Aimee 1997 - 2001

All owned and loved by *CG* artist Michele Carnevale, and all died within two months of each other.

Matt was found living behind a gas station in Florida. After finding his way to New Jersey, Matt adopted Michele and her other Greyhound, Matisse, two years ago after Michelle first fostered him on weekends. Matt, pictured in *CG* last year, decided to spend all his remaining time with them.

Matt brought smiles to everyone he met. Although he had several medical problems, Matt had a strong will and never complained. He loved to walk on the beach and visit nursing homes. When his back legs became too weak to walk, he enjoyed rides in the mini van.

Andi the cat, who was featured in the summer *CG* two years ago in "Raising Aimee," died one day after Matt's passing. Andi, who was also 14, brought Aimee home when she was a baby skunk. Andi and Matisse personally raised Aimee, who also passed away recently.

Aimee died in February at age 6. She had lived freely in the neighborhood (where she was well-known and loved), wore a collar, had rabies shots, and came into the house once in a while. Although she was never de-scented, she never sprayed her family or her neighborhood friends. She loved to carry around cat toys and leave them at neighbors' houses. Aimee also enjoyed staying in the Carnevale back yard and going on walks around the neighborhood with Matisse and, later, with Matt. On the night she died, she came into the house to be with her family.

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



Celebrating Greyhounds: The Magazine

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