

A photograph of two greyhounds running through tall, dry grass. The greyhound in the foreground is white and is running towards the camera with its mouth wide open, showing its teeth. The greyhound in the background is dark-colored and is also running towards the camera, slightly out of focus.

cgmagazine

celebrating greyhounds

Fall 2006

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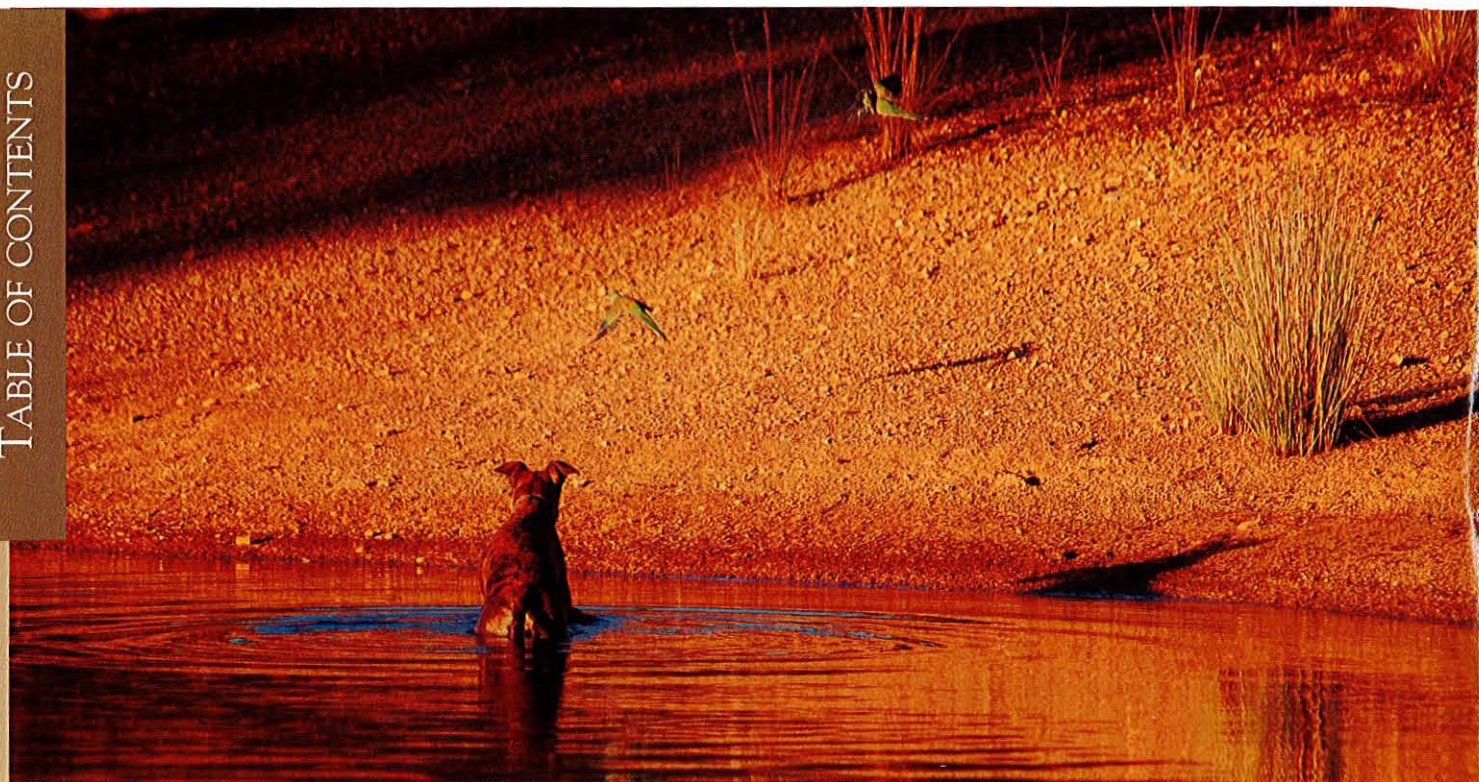
Greyhounds Down Under!

Adopted Greyhounds in Australia

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Pads and Nails

Greyhounds Go to College



11-year-old Lucy stalks the parrots that share her pond. *Bea Anderson*

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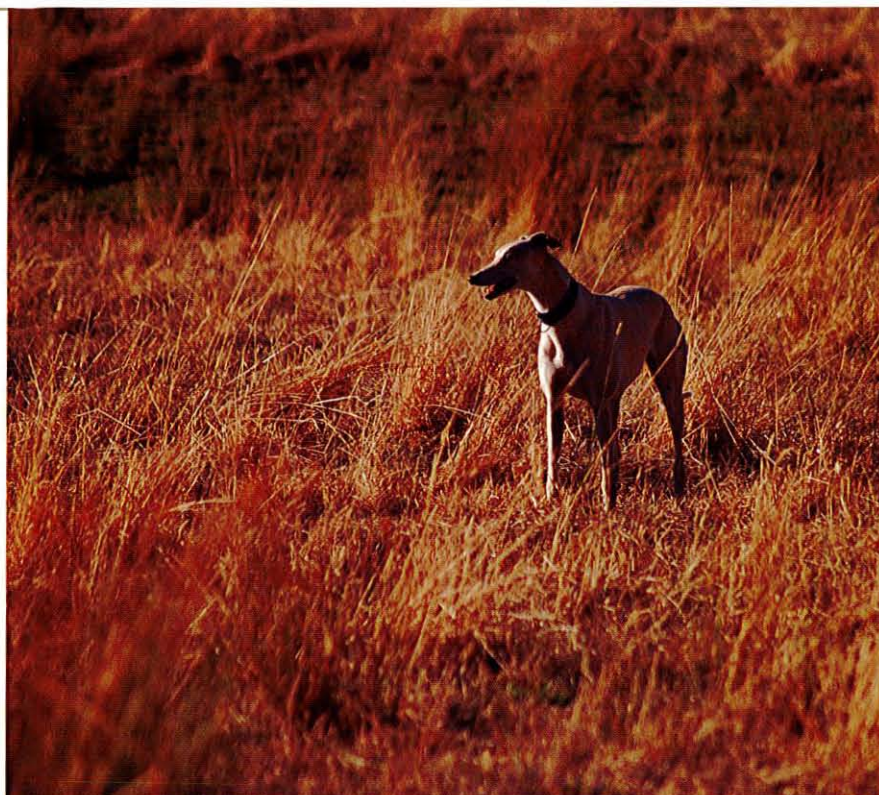
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cgmagazine

The Magazine for Greyhound Adopters,
Owners, and Friends
Vol. 11; No. 3 Fall 2006

Front Cover Credit: Eight-year-old Honey and 11-year-old Lucy live with Bea Anderson on 100 acres in rural Northeastern Victoria, Australia. Bea walks with her Greyhounds most mornings, keeping them leashed until they reach the back gate. Provided there are no cattle or kangaroos in the fenced paddock, she lets them run off lead. Bea's lovely photos of Honey, Lucy, and their 7-year-old housemate Nero are featured throughout this issue of CG. Photo by Bea Anderson

Back Cover Credit: What kind of squeaky toys are these? Pheobe contemplates the Koala bears on the back patio of her home in Victoria, Australia, where she lives with Annie and Spiros Karamoutzos. Photo by Annie Karamoutzos



Exploring the paddock. *Bea Anderson*

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EDITORIAL COMMENTS

I'm really excited about this issue of *Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine*, which focuses on Greyhound adoption in Australia.

I felt that way about the last issue of *Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine*, too. I wish all of our subscribers got to see it. Yesterday I learned that Betsy, our subscriptions manager, received two giant tubs of the Summer 2006 issue, returned by the U.S. Postal Service as undeliverable. The returns represent nearly 5% of our total subscription base.

The magazines were returned to us because the subscribers' addresses had changed.

Now, let's take a short walk through the economics of magazine distribution: We paid a little less than \$2.00 in postage to send you this issue of the magazine (more if you live outside of North America). When the post office determines that your address has changed, it attaches a corrected address label to the magazine and mails it back to us, charging us postage at almost two-and-a-half times the original mailing rate.

When Betsy receives that return mail, she updates the mailing list. But because we don't want you to miss a single issue, Betsy has also been putting your returned magazines in envelopes that she addresses by hand and resends to you at your new addresses. And we pay postage a *third* time — at a First Class Mail rate — to send your magazine to you again.

The upshot of all of this is that when your magazine comes back to us with an outdated and undeliverable address, we can end up spending \$10.00 an issue or more trying to get it into your hands.

Needless to say, this has to stop. We just can't afford it.

In between answering e-mails and processing registrations for Dewey, and well before the time comes to mail the next issue, Betsy will go through the bins and update our mailing list — as she always does — based on the corrected address labels the postal service has attached to the magazines it has returned to us. However, in a departure from previous issues, we have asked her to stop resending undeliverable magazines to subscribers at their new addresses. And with this issue, we've changed our return mail service so that undeliverable magazines will no longer be returned to us. Instead, the post office will just throw them away.

If you are one of the readers whose Summer issue ended up in the tub, I apologize. I hope the foregoing explanation will make clear why we are no longer chasing you down to make sure that you get your *Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine*. As a non-profit organization, The Greyhound Project is committed to keeping the cost of producing and distributing CG as low as possible. We don't want our costs to eat into the other important things the Project does (like Dewey, or the *Celebrating Greyhounds Calendar*). We don't want to raise our subscription prices again; we increased them in 2005 for the first time since 1998. We'd like to wait at least another seven years before the next price hike. And we'd also like to continue to afford to supply every adoption group with two free copies of each issue, and to provide promotional copies and subscription gift certificates to adoption groups for their fundraising events.

You can help us be successful in this effort — and ensure that you don't miss a single issue of CG — by promptly sending your address changes to Betsy at *Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine* Subscription Services, PO Box 5239, Framingham, MA 01701 or subscriptions@adopt-a-greyhound.org.

We are boxing up the undeliverable Summer issues and sending them to Greyhounds in Need for distribution to groups in Spain that work with Galgos and Greyhounds; we hope the magazines will help spread the word about these wonderful dogs.



Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine

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Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine is published quarterly by The Greyhound Project, Inc., a nonprofit Massachusetts corporation.

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

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Rocky, Windsong, Belle, and Brigitte, owned by Sarah P. Jones of Cocoa, Fla.

On Spooks

I was really disappointed by Lee Lavery's article ("What Do I Do With This Spooky Dog?" Spring 2006 CG). Lee has good intentions, but as she said, she is "not an animal behaviorist." Lee showed her lack of understanding of dog behavior when she defined spooks as being from three different categories: shy/timid dogs, the true spook and the fear biter. She's just dead wrong. Any dog can bite out of fear, whether the dog is shy, spooky or otherwise. The advice that really concerned me, though, was her advice about what to do when a fear biter snaps or attempts to bite you. She recommends you correct the dog by pulling up on its collar, looking it in the face and saying "no, no bite." Her next line should have been "... and then get into your car and drive to the nearest emergency room." My criticisms of her advice is that you should never look an aggressive dog in the eyes unless you are trying to provoke an aggressive response. Also

correcting a dog by yanking it and saying "no" is not effective unless your timing is 100% accurate. My biggest concern is that fear biters bite out of fear. Correcting a behavior caused by fear simply confirms to the dog that the fearful thing was truly something to be scared of. My advise to CG: If you want to continue the good reputation you have in the Greyhound community, do not publish any further articles on behavior unless they are written by someone who is qualified to be giving advise on the subject. I am a Greyhound owner and certified pet dog trainer and have been working in the field for over 15 years.

**Lilian A. Akin, CPDT
Pittsburgh, Pa.**

Lee Lavery responds: *I wrote the article on spooks from an adoption person's perspective, and based on my experience in working with these dogs. I intended to give some basic infor-*

mation that might be helpful to people who have adopted those special dogs that require a little more help. My article was never intended to be the definitive work on Greyhound behavior.

I agree that any dog can bite out of fear, but I do not believe that every dog that has bitten because of a fear response should be labeled a fear biter. Also, I don't believe I ever encouraged anyone to "yank" on the dog's collar — that's simply counterproductive.

Finally, it has been my experience that looking a Greyhound in the eyes is not generally seen as an aggressive move by the Greyhound; this may be because Greyhounds are not, by nature, an aggressive breed, and I do not believe it's fair to label a fear biter as aggressive. There are triggers that cause a fear biter to bite; it is not the result of simple aggression.

Most of the owners of shy Greyhounds I meet are perfectly content to practice pernicious neglect by doing absolutely nothing. It



Liz, adopted by Suzy and David Denniston of Gahanna, Ohio.

is much easier for them to live with a Greyhound who only comes out from under the stairs or bed to eat than to have one meet them at the door, demanding attention. I truly hope the term "spook" will not become diluted and blanketly applied to any Greyhound less outgoing than a Golden Retriever. That would be like calling any form of eccentricity "psychopathic." A spook is a very different animal, totally atypical of a normal or shy Greyhound. If the term becomes a matter of degree, it will become a common label describing a Greyhound exercising common sense in an unfamiliar situation. Way too often I find being labeled a "spook" is a sealed fate, a life sentence. I would like to recommend that no shy dog be adopted without a copy of *Help for Your Shy Dog: Turning Your Terrified Dog into a Terrific Pet*, by Deborah Wood (1999, Howell Book House). It deals with all causes of shyness: genetics, lack of socialization, health issues, and abuse. This book clearly explains the pain and damage done to any shy dog who does not receive remedial attention, and Ms. Woods gives explicit, step-by-step instructions. Any Greyhound with psychological pain or stress has as much right and need to receive therapy as one with a physical injury. This small book is essential to a shy Greyhound's relief and rehabilitation.

Kathleen Gilley
Via E-Mail

I recently subscribed to CG and when my first issue arrived, I was delighted to see an article on spooks. Although we had two previous Greyhounds, I had no experience with Greyhounds who barked, urinated on the floor, didn't come when called and ran from human contact. Bug changed all that. We met and fell in love with a 2-year-old bounceback that we adopted as a companion to our 8-year-old Mojo. We named her Bug. When we met her, she seemed terrified. We felt that her fright might be due to mishandling; we were sure that a few hours after we took her home, she would recognize that she had nothing to fear from us. It took several days for her to stop running from me. After several weeks, we bonded. But it took her three months to stop barking at my husband and only in the last two weeks has she allowed him to pet her. She still barks and runs from our 21-year-old grandson, who lives with us. And when the family arrives for Sunday dinner, we have learned to expect to find a puddle somewhere in the house when they leave. My grandson now realizes after reading your article that patience is the key; there is hope. Bug is getting better. I doubt she will ever be as friendly and outgoing as our first two Greyhounds, but at least now

she doesn't exist in a constant state of fear, and she usually comes when I call her. When she looks at me with those soft, trusting eyes, I realize I can put up with a little barking and if I wear out the rug scrubber, we can always buy another one. Thanks for a great article and a great magazine!

Jan Kinney
Altoona, Pa.

It was with tears in our eyes that my husband and I read your wonderful article on spooks. Our first Greyhound, Precious Pi, was somewhere in between a timid dog and a spook. She shook uncontrollably when meeting new people and was terrified by men in baseball hats. It took her a very long time to approach us to be petted, but it was well worth the wait. After three years, she started to come out of her shell and began to play and interact more with others. However, her severe shaking in new places never got better. I was home all day with her and our children were grown so we had a perfect environment for her to feel safe in. We were blessed to have her six years. We now have two new bundles of energy, Chancey and Mattie, who fear nothing and have never met a person they didn't want to go home



Samson, adopted by Bob and Carole Hillwig of Greensburg, Pa.

with. So this is a whole new experience for us. But we would never trade the rewarding times we had with our Shy Pi. The spooks have a way of instantly capturing your heart and never letting go. Thank you again for the informative article and recognition of these special dogs.

Keith and Mary Johnson
Via E-Mail

Similarly Frustrated

This is regarding Ellen Schneiderman's article ("Immense Frustration and Immense Pride": GPA/Wisconsin and the Geneva Lakes Closing," Summer 2006 CG). Ellen and the rest of the Board of GPA/Wisconsin posed the following questions: Where was the support from the outside? Why won't more groups take dogs? Why have we heard No so often? Here are the answers: We were all drowning in our own sea of dogs. We had no room, and if we agreed to take dogs from one area, dogs in another area would be left twisting in the wind. It's not a case of saving more than usual. It's a case of choosing which ones to save this time. You heard No because we were already at the end of our ropes. We didn't create the problem, we are doing all we can to solve the problem, but it's not enough. It's never enough. When things like this happen, there's a tendency to blame the volunteer organizations that work their hearts out trying to help as many dogs as possible. Why is that? Why does it fall on the heads of a group of people who are already giving up every moment of spare time, money, and their very souls to fix a problem

that they didn't cause? Instead of asking why more groups won't (can't) take dogs, ask why the industry continues to churn out more than it can support, care for and place on its own. Now there's an answer I'll be waiting to hear.

Kelly R. Faircloth
Greyhound Rescue & Adoptions of
Tampa Bay, Inc.
Tampa, Fla.

I would like to comment on the article written by Ellen Schneiderman. Perhaps I can offer some insight. I started Greyhaven Greyhound Rescue in 1987, one of the first groups in Michigan. I was overtaken by a passion so strong, nothing could stop me. I was tireless in my work to help the dogs. Promoting the breed, public education, screening homes, traveling to get dogs. Sick, hookworm infested, filthy, dirty dogs. Picking ticks for hours, fleas, dealing with the inevitable diarrhea, tick-borne diseases, delivering dogs, behavioral issues, returned dogs, rescuing dogs in shelters because some groups wouldn't take returns, recruiting foster homes and volunteers, support for adoptive families, sleepless nights, lurchers (yes, I took in lurchers) . . . and on and on. Frankly, I'm tired. Tired of the endless flood of dogs coming off the tracks. Tired of the calls from yet another track with dogs in a crisis. Tired of the rude comments when I had to say no. "You call yourself a rescue group?!" (Yes, someone actually said that to me.) Some of the groups such as myself can only handle small numbers of dogs at one time. Maybe there have been some positive changes in the

industry. Personally, I've seen no evidence of any. There are still too many dogs with nowhere to go, and no end in sight, period. There came a time for me to stop and look at the big picture. Yes, I am helping these particular dogs in this situation, but where does it stop? I refuse to enable the racing industry any longer. I applaud your "Herculean efforts" but I refuse to feel guilty for saying no. Please, keep up the great work. And now, I am going to go take a nap. I have done my share.

Kelly MacConnel
Greyhaven Greyhound Rescue
Mount Pleasant, Mich.

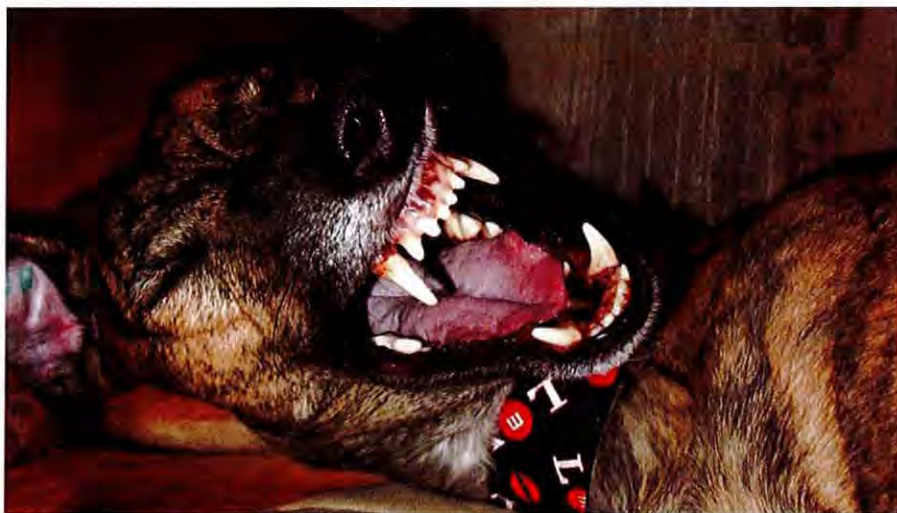
Congratulations to the team at *Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine* for a very interesting and informative (Spring) issue. Certainly all issues bear that distinction, but I thought the stories on track closings provided great information and an excellent perspective on what adoption groups go through to place these wonderful pets. Everyone should be commended for such great work, both on the articles and on their volunteer efforts.

Peggy Mackinnon, President
Peggy Mackinnon Inc.

Peggy Mackinnon Inc. is a public relations firm whose clients include the American Greyhound Track Operators Association and the American Greyhound Council. —Ed.

Here's Your Letter

Please cancel our subscription to CG Magazine. It is our understanding that your publication actively supports the Greyhound racing industry. While we love the ex-racers, we are also working to close down Greyhound racing. We have been active in the adoption of, fostering, transporting and caring for ex-racing Greyhounds for over eight years. We've often volunteer to help Greyhounds and work hard (in two states) to become well versed about the huge difference between groups who really care for ex-racers, and those who claim to care but would rather simply "look the other way." Many in the later group claim to have no political opinion regarding the questionable (documented) racing industry practices. As a



Gus, adopted by Kathy Lazenby of Livonia, Mich.

member of Greyhound Connection of New Mexico we cooperate with a select number of individuals within the racing industry who agree that most industry leaders care about one thing . . . making money. Therefore, we chose to work hard to stop racing altogether. After all, any lucky Greyhound who somehow survives indiscriminant breeding, an uncaring selection process that tags only a few racers out of hundreds, and survives the physical rigors of racing itself deserves a better fate than to be disposed of after they've been "used up." Where else are gentle, beautiful and loving creatures shoved into cages for 23 hours every day of their racing lives? Where else are mostly young, always docile and healthy animals disposed of simply because they failed to line the pockets of owner and breeders? You know and we know there are gross and flagrant abuses every day in Greyhound racing, and yet your magazine never documents these facts. For these reasons we can no longer contribute to your

publication. P.S. We encourage you to publish this.

Nancy and Tom DeFeo
Rio Rancho, N.M.

The funny thing is that our publication of this letter will no doubt generate similarly misguided correspondence from those who would characterize our willingness to let the DeFeos have their say as "evidence" of CG's opposition to Greyhound racing. As is stated in the masthead of every issue of this magazine, CG does not advocate a position on Greyhound racing. —Ed.

I am canceling my subscription to CG Magazine. On page 3 of the Winter 2005 issue you printed a photo I had mailed in with a letter identifying the Greyhound's name, the owner, and the organization he had been adopted through. My address label was placed on the back of the photo as instructed by your website, so you obviously

knew how to contact me if you had any questions about the Greyhound. The photo appeared with the caption: "What is this dog's name? Only David Campbell of Grand Blanc, Mich. knows." Again, you obviously knew how to contact me to get the dog's name. On December 16, 2005 I wrote a letter requesting that you acknowledge the Greyhound's name and owner as the Greyhound, Pico, had died in June 2005. I see in the Spring issue you have not done so. Judging by the careless and callous way you handled the photo I submitted, and your failure to bother to acknowledge the identity of Pico and his owner, I do not wish to have your magazine delivered to my home any longer.

David Campbell
Grand Blanc, Mich.

We received Mr. Campbell's December 16 letter in late December 2005, well after the December 1 submission deadline for our Spring 2006 issue. We published it at the next opportunity, in our Summer 2006 issue. Although he has cancelled his subscription, we have sent him the Summer and Fall issues so that he can see his concerns addressed.

We extend our condolences to Robin Gedye on his loss of Pico. —Ed.

I have been a subscriber since the first issue and will always remain on your list. I just had to write to compliment you on the Spring issue. It is just beautiful! The pictures and the layout of the articles are perfect. Keep up the great work!

Renee M. Antaya
Via E-Mail

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

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



Harry, adopted by Nancy and Andy Smith of Hoover, Ala.

Jack

By Ann Hiorns-Neale

Cooper Books

Felbrigg, Norwich, England (2005)

ISBN 0955012503

£15.00 GBP (approximately \$26.00 USD)



Jack:

The True Story of a Retired Greyhound Who Was Different

By Tiffany Pany

Jack's story begins as many of our own stories begin — on the day his new family sets out to adopt a Greyhound. Jack's general lack of interest in his new family (Ann Hiorns-Neale, the author, and her husband, Mark) is apparent as he pulls them along for their first walk together and shies away from their attempts to pet him. Over the next few days, Jack quickly learns how to jump in the car, how to avoid jumping in the car (why bother when someone is willing to lift him?), how to ascend stairs (but he is not quite ready to descend them on his own), and how to shadow Ann all around the house. The bond between Jack and Ann has been established (even if Ann is not yet ready to admit it).

In fact, Ann has already become extremely attuned to Jack as she realizes that he does not feel comfortable with his bedding lying directly on the floor and yearns for a bed with sides that will give him a sense of enclosure. Mark locates a temporary structure fashioned from a cardboard box until the custom bed—a whopping 41 inches in diameter—can be built.

Since Mark and Ann live and work on a large country estate in England with more than 1,700 acres (including a fenced park), Jack enjoys a lifestyle that is not available to many Greyhounds: He has the freedom to explore off the leash in a large forested area. This liberty is granted gradually only as Jack learns to trust and obey Ann and Mark's commands. What makes this story so enjoyable is that we, as readers, can follow along on these expeditions in the woods and expe-

rience what it might be like to live in a rural area where it is safe for our dogs to walk off the leash and meet new animals in their natural environment.

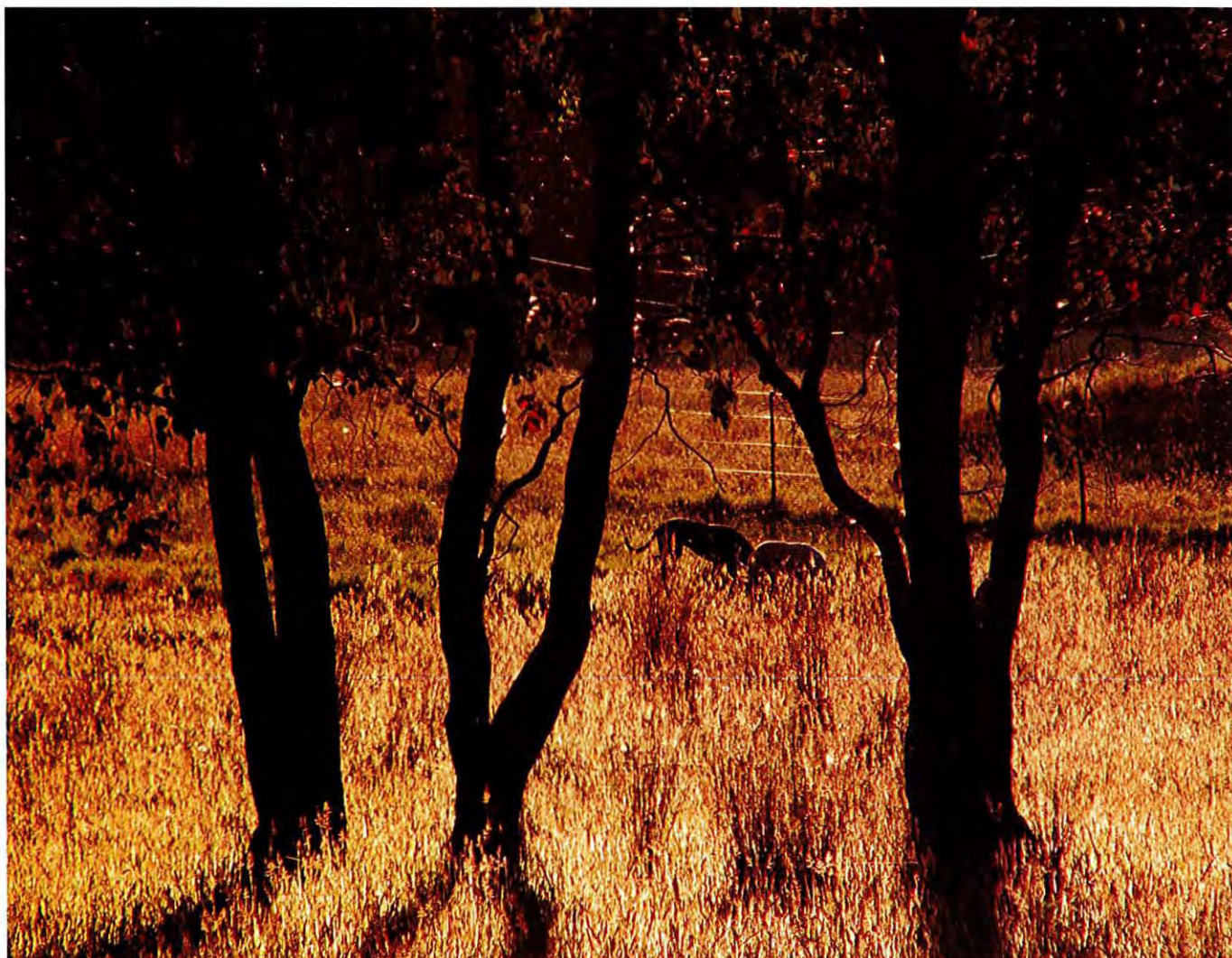
Jack thrives on his thrice-daily walks. He is an explorer. He meets cows, lambs, sheep, squirrels, rabbits, donkeys, deer, horses, and many breeds of dogs his adventures in the park. In the beginning, Jack is tentative with many of the new animals he meets and the environment he explores. Braying donkeys and leaping deer are foreign to him, as are fallen logs across the walking path. It is Ann who is able to encourage him and build his confidence to the level at which the only things that scare him are deer (they are so big!) and fireworks (they are so loud!).

There are many marvelous stories that Ann relays in this book chronicling Jack's retirement years. While reading, I began to

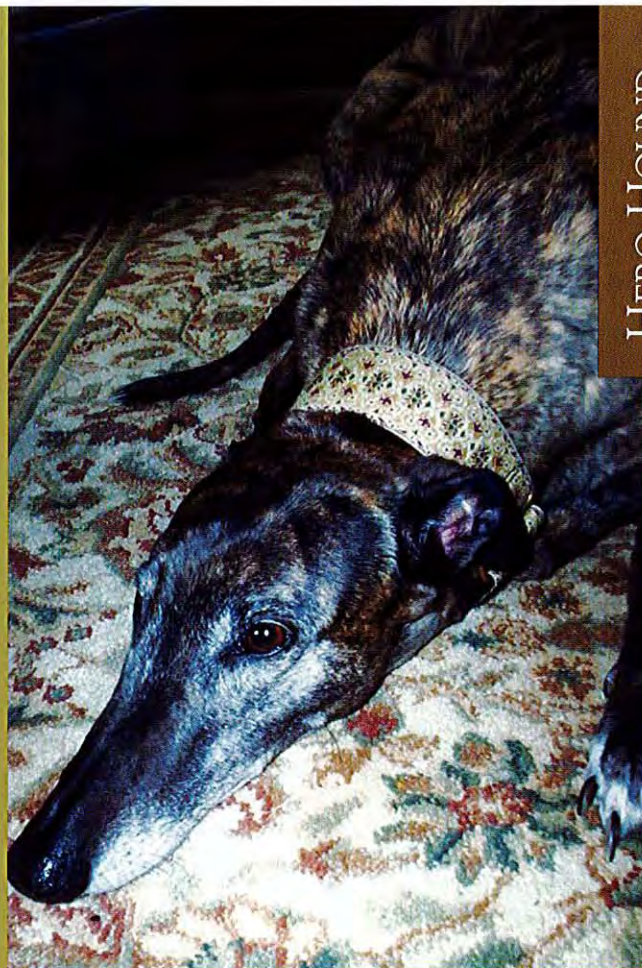
fall in love with Jack, along with all of his antics and idiosyncrasies. This is a book that welcomes the reader into the present to experience the story as if she is there. *Jack* is an entertaining read that inspires, gives a laugh, reminds us why the breed is so special, and allows us to reminisce about our own unique Greyhounds.

Jack is available for purchase at www.greyhoundsinneed.com/ginmerchandise/index.htm or www.amazon.co.uk. ■

Tiffany Pany is a CG copy editor.



A late afternoon stroll. Bea Anderson



Chloe's presence helped Jenny conquer her nightmares. *Barbara Hudson*

Sweet Dreams for Jenny

By Barbara Hudson

My husband and I are just about ready for REM sleep when we hear her. Jenny's bare feet make a lot of noise as she runs down the hall. "I had a bad dream!"

"Come on in," I sigh as I let her into our bed. Chloe, our 6-year-old Greyhound, sleeps through it all.

We don't know why our daughter Jennifer is having bad dreams. They seem to come and go with no rational explanation. Jenny can't articulate what the dreams are about, only that they frighten her. This latest round has left us exhausted in a way that we haven't been since our children were babies.

I notice Chloe sleeping soundly on the floor. *At least someone's asleep*, I think. Suddenly an idea comes to me. "Jeff, what if we put the dog in Jenny's room?" And to my daughter, "Jenny will you feel safer at night if Chloe sleeps in your room?"

Jenny sits up in bed to think about this. "Yes, Mom, I think it will help me. I won't be scared any more."

"Chloe. Chloe. Wake up!" I say, rousing the poor dog from a deep sleep. Chloe is a lot nicer about this than I would be. She doesn't complain and slowly gets up. I drag her bed, a huge, expensive thing covered in faux sheepskin, into Jennifer's room. Chloe is not exactly thrilled with this new situation. She is Jeff's dog, a true daddy's girl.

All Chloe wants is to go back into the master bedroom.

"I'm so sorry, Chloe. Please be a good girl," I tell her. I point to her bed and Chloe reluctantly complies. I go back to my bed and say a silent prayer that this will work. I try very hard to ignore the voice in my head that is telling me what a bad move I've made. I can hear our allergist, Dr. G, admonishing me, "Whatever you do Mrs. Hudson, do not let the dogs into the children's rooms." I know what the leader of our adoption group would say. I am beyond caring about what is the right thing to do. I am just too tired.

Several hours later we are awakened again, this time by a loud bark. Chloe rarely makes a sound, so hearing her basso profundo *woof* immediately alerts us. We go to Jenny's room to find Jenny asleep on the floor with Chloe. Worse yet, Jenny has rolled over on top of Chloe. Chloe's legs are pinned

underneath Jenny's body. "Oh my God, Jenny, get up! Honey, you have to stay in your bed! You cannot sleep with Chloe!"

"Mom, I didn't mean to sleep with her. I wanted to sleep next to her."

"I know you didn't mean to, Jenny, but it was very uncomfortable for the dog. She can't sleep with you on top of her," I tell her. We escort Jenny back to bed. Chloe has already fallen asleep.

We are concerned by this turn of events. Like Jerry Seinfeld, Chloe doesn't like close talkers. She is our "personal space" dog. When we first adopted her, we couldn't get close to Chloe. If she wants attention, Chloe comes to us. She has never sat on the sofa with us. None of us has ever slept next to her, much less on top of her.

We are unable to fall back to sleep that night. We give Jenny a stern lecture the next day about why she should stay in her bed.

"You've got to give Chloe her space," I say. Jenny assures us that she understands and makes her best 8-year-old promise to stay in her bed. "Mom, it really helped me to have Chloe in my room." We reluctantly agree to try again.

A month later — a month during which Jennifer slept in her own bed and not on the floor with Chloe — Jennifer informs us that Chloe's services are no longer required. Her nightmares are gone, thanks to our very patient Chloe. And Chloe, for her part, is quite happy to move back to the master bedroom. We never dreamed when we adopted Chloe what a true gift she would be to our family. ■

Barbara Hudson, husband Jeff, son Kyle and Jenny share their Maryland home with their terrier and two Greyhounds. The entire family enjoys volunteering for GPA/Maryland.



Rex, adopted by Jan Pike of Victoria, Australia.



Administered by injection, vaccines stimulate the dog's immune response.

Take Your Best Shot

By Jim Bader, DVM
Photos by Merri Van Dyke

In the last several years, there has been much debate about the vaccinations our Greyhounds receive. Vaccinations have been blamed for immune-mediated disease, allergies, and a host of other ailments. A discussion of vaccinations — how they work, what's available, how to choose the right vaccinations for your pet, and how often to vaccinate — will help you develop a practical approach to a vaccination program for your Greyhound.

Vaccines are a modified form of the wild virus or bacterium that causes disease. The organism is modified in the laboratory so it is not pathogenic. It may cause a mild transient form of the disease, such as sometimes happens with the intranasal form of the Bordetella (kennel cough) vaccination, but usually the dog recovers without treatment.

In addition to the virus or bacterium, vaccines contain an adjuvant — introduced by the manufacturer — that stimulates the immune system to mount a greater response to the bacterium or virus.

Vaccines are usually administered as an injection; the Bordetella vaccine is an exception, as it can also be given intranasally. Either route attempts to stimulate an immune response. How the Greyhound's immune system responds is a factor in the success of the vaccination.

The immune response is normally very efficient. When the dog's immune system encounters an antigen (any object that can stimulate an immune response) that it identifies as being foreign, it mounts an attack on the antigen. This response stimulates cells to produce antibodies to kill the antigen.

The first time the immune system responds to an antigen in a vaccine, it usually results in weak immunity to the disease. The second time it encounters the same antigen, the immune system responds more quickly and efficiently; the immune system produces a different class of antibody and helper cells to destroy the invader. This is why

many vaccine protocols call for two vaccines a number of weeks apart; the immune response to the second vaccine is more effective, and any further response is slightly greater than the first response.

If the second response is stronger than the first, why do we vaccinate puppies so often? When puppies are born, their immune system is not able to mount an immune response. In the first 24 hours of life, the puppy's intestine absorbs colostrum from the mother's milk. The colostrum contains antibodies from the mother that protect the puppy for the first few weeks of life. Depending on the amount of colostrum ingested, the puppy may be protected for the first several weeks or months of life. However, in addition to protecting the puppy from disease, the antibodies in colostrum interfere with vaccinations. The mother's antibodies attack the vaccine antigen before the puppy's own immune system can respond. The puppy's immune system does not recognize the antigen.

There is a critical time in a puppy's life when the colostrum antibodies have decreased to a non-protective level, and the puppy has not yet received a vaccination. This happens between 6 and 12 weeks of age, and this is when the first vaccines are given. Vaccines are administered every three to four weeks until 16 to 20 weeks of age, when the puppy's immune system is mature enough to develop more lasting immunity.

What diseases do we vaccinate against? The standard combined vaccination (called DA2LPP) protects against canine distemper virus, canine hepatitis, leptospirosis, parainfluenza, and parvovirus; the rabies vaccine is usually given in a separate injection. For puppies, you may consider protecting against corona virus; this is a transient form of parvovirus, not usually fatal on its own but potentially deadly if the puppy is simultaneously infected with both parvovirus and corona.

For areas with endemic Lyme disease, there is a vaccination against this disease. For Greyhounds who are frequently exposed to other dogs, such as at a dog park or at meet-and-greets, there is the Bordetella vaccine, which contains many strains of the disease but only about 20 percent of the wild strains of Bordetella.



The Bordetella vaccine can be administered intranasally.

In addition, there are vaccines used on a case-by-case basis that may provide protection but require further research. These include a Giardia vaccine, which protects against the protozoal organism that causes diarrhea in dogs (and humans). If you live in an area where rattlesnakes are common, there is a vaccine that protects against that snake's venom. And finally, there is a vaccine that protects against the organism responsible for periodontal disease (*porphyromonas*). Since there is only limited evidence these three vaccines are effective, their potential benefits and risks should be seriously considered before being administered.

Making the Call

How do you determine the best vaccination protocol for your Greyhound? How do you protect without causing harm? These are questions that should be discussed with your veterinarian.

Consider your dog's lifestyle, and share this information with your veterinarian. Do you and your Greyhound attend meet-and-greets every week? Do you take your Greyhound to a dog park several times per week? Do you walk with your Greyhound where other dogs also walk? If the answer to these questions is yes, he could be exposed to disease and should be vaccinated (DA2LPP, rabies, and bordetella). The other vaccinations, until proven effective, are discretionary.

What diseases are endemic in your area?

If you live in an area with raccoons, be aware that they can carry canine distemper and rabies. If ticks are common where you live, keep in mind that they may carry Lyme disease. If you have neighbors whose dogs are not vaccinated but who frequent dog parks, they may bring home kennel cough.

The senior Greyhound (one who is more than 8 or 9 years old) who perhaps spends most of his time in the backyard and on the couch likely requires a different vaccination schedule. This Greyhound's exposure to disease is limited; he may need certain vaccinations only every two or three years.

Of course, regardless of whether or not your dog will be vaccinated in a given year, he should visit the veterinarian for a thorough examination. Although the extent of the examination is at the discretion of the veterinarian and the owner, a weight check with lab work provides a good baseline. This yearly visit is critical to maintaining the health of your Greyhound.

How often should you vaccinate your Greyhound? The answer may vary by location and by veterinarian. In most states, the rabies vaccination is given every three years, but may be given yearly. All other vaccinations are administered at a frequency determined by the veterinarian and the owner ranging from annual to as infrequent as every three years. There is no definitive answer to the question of frequency of vaccinations other than rabies.

Rather than doing vaccinations annually (or none at all), some owners request titers. Blood tests that measure the amount of disease-specific antibodies present in the bloodstream, titers are becoming more common in place of automatically vaccinating an animal. The downside of this test is that it is expensive. In addition, there is no conclusive data on what titer results indicate satisfactory protection against disease. Therefore, there is some risk in relying on titers to determine whether or not to vaccinate against a disease.

The vaccines, for the most part, are safe and effective, and they are the reason our Greyhounds do not contract these diseases. Failure to vaccinate properly may allow a preventable disease to become commonplace again. In 18 years of practice, I have observed two cases of canine distemper in dogs, but numer-

ous cases in raccoons (who are, obviously, not vaccinated). The canine distemper vaccine is very effective in protecting the Greyhound. As a point of comparison, in Guatemala, if you do not vaccinate your puppy in his first year of life, he will likely die of either canine distemper or parvovirus. This is because many dogs in Guatemala are never vaccinated. Our vaccinations prevent situations such as the one in Guatemala; if we do not follow responsible vaccination programs, preventable diseases can become commonplace again.

So what is the best approach? Consider the risks in your area. What are the diseases to which your Greyhound will likely be exposed? Consider the effectiveness of the available vaccines. Do they protect against the diseases your dog may encounter? Consider the age and

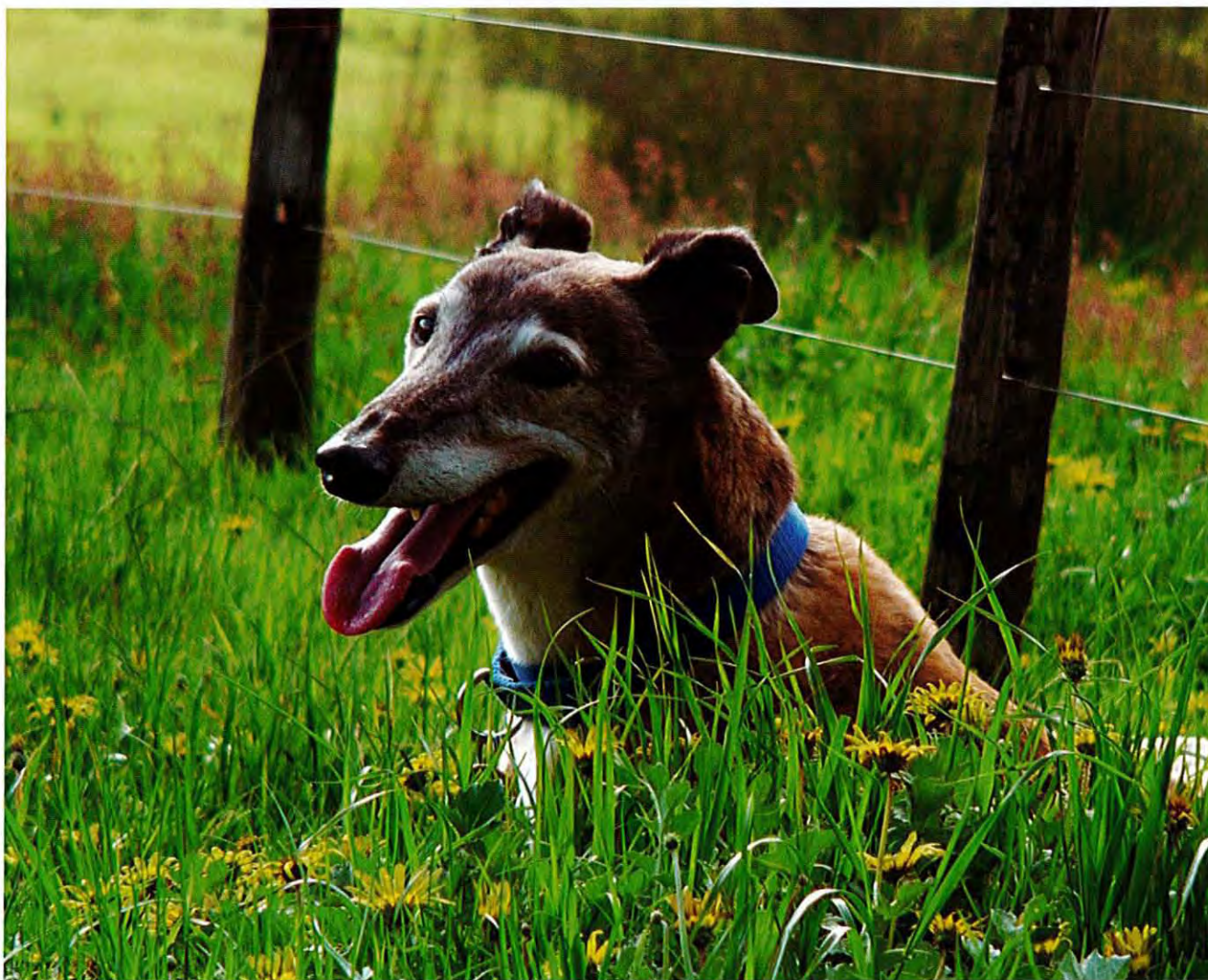
health of each of your dogs. Discuss this information with your veterinarian, who will help you determine the best vaccination protocol for your Greyhound. ■

References:

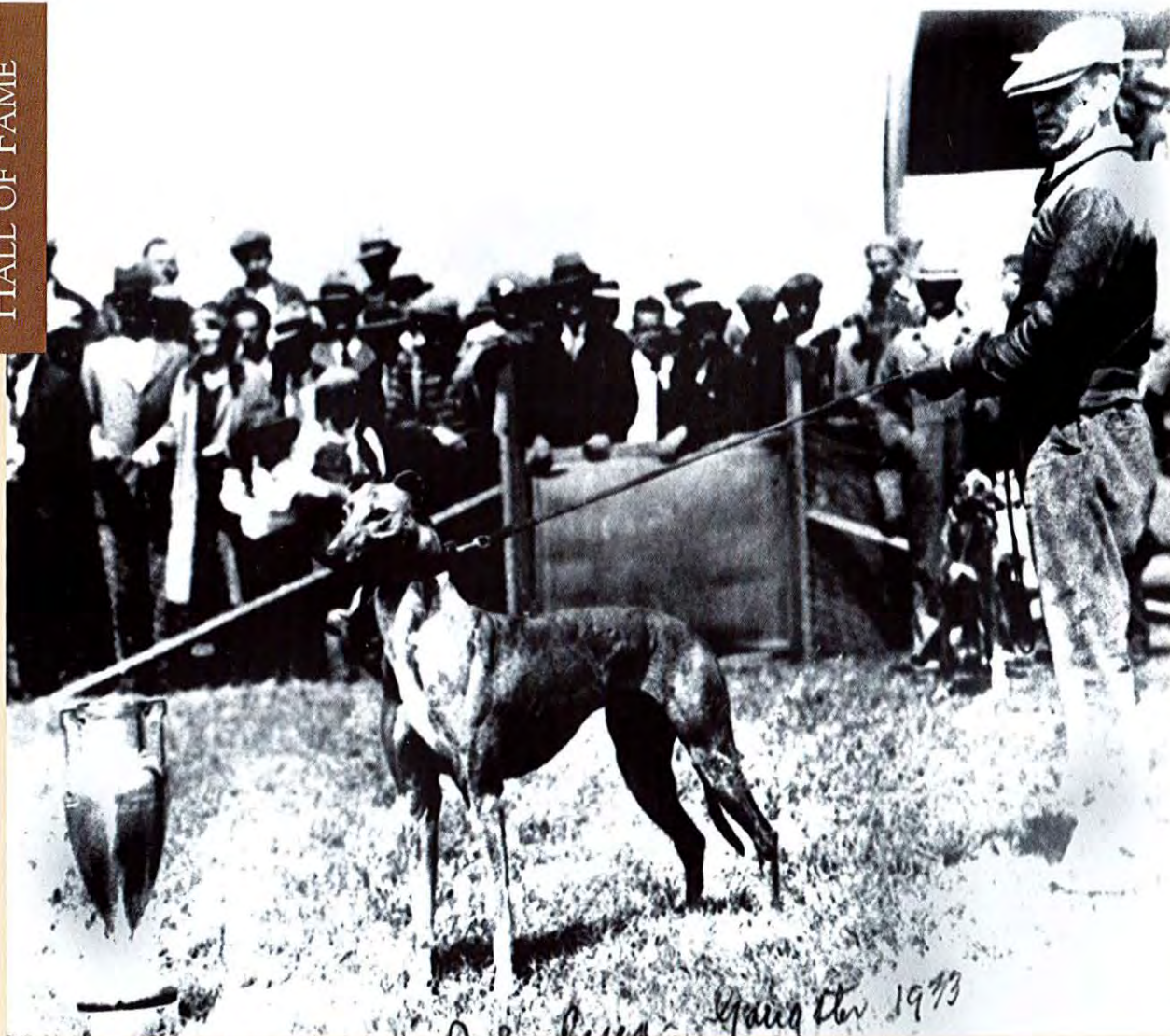
American Animal Hospital Association
(www.aaha.org)

American Veterinary Medical Association
(www.avma.org)

Dr. Jim Bader is a CG regular contributor.



Afternoon in the sun. Bea Anderson



John Pesek with Gangster* at a coursing meet. *Greyhound Hall of Fame*

The Wrestler's Greyhounds

By Laurel E. Drew

John Pesek was an internationally known wrestler who was also a major lover of Greyhounds. He imported some top Australian dogs who were to have an impact on the racing breed over the years.

Born in Nebraska in 1894, Pesek became a coursing fan early in his life. He went to Australia on several wrestling tours and came home with two Greyhounds who became members of the Hall of Fame: Gangster*, inducted in 1964, and Just Andrew*, inducted in 1975.

Just Andrew* was Pesek's first import, and probably the most important. While Pesek was in Australia, the coursing fan attended some of Australia's biggest coursing events (there was no racing in those days). The tale is told that he wanted to buy the pup, who was unbeaten in the coursing field, but the pup's owner, J. McDonald, wouldn't sell for any price. The story has it that Pesek only obtained the dog by beating Australia's champion wrestler. Pesek discounted that tale but said he paid \$8,500 for Just Andrew* at a time when even \$2,000 was an unheard-of price for a Greyhound.

Just Andrew* was the first Australian Greyhound imported to the U.S. and a top class coursing dog, never beaten to the jack in the first run-up. When he was tried on the racetrack in the very early days of Greyhound racing, he was one of the best. He was also tops as a sire. His best litter was one out of Mustard Roll that produced Ben Andrews, Perfect Roll, Just Roll, and the Hall of Famer, Lucky Roll. By 1975, most of the racing Greyhounds carried two or three crosses of Just Andrew* in their bloodlines. At least ten Hall of Fame inductees trace back to Just Andrew*.

Pesek's second import to become a Hall of Famer was Gangster*. Gangster* was a star on the coursing field. His outstanding record occurred between 1933 and 1935. He was born in Australia in 1930 in the kennel of Les Greentree of Wilberforce and imported shortly thereafter.

Before he left Australia, he won the New South Wales Derby of 52 Greyhounds, a major coursing event. He won the American Waterloo Cup in 1933. In addition, in 1933, 1934, and 1935 he won the American Derby Cup — and these were just a few of his major victories.

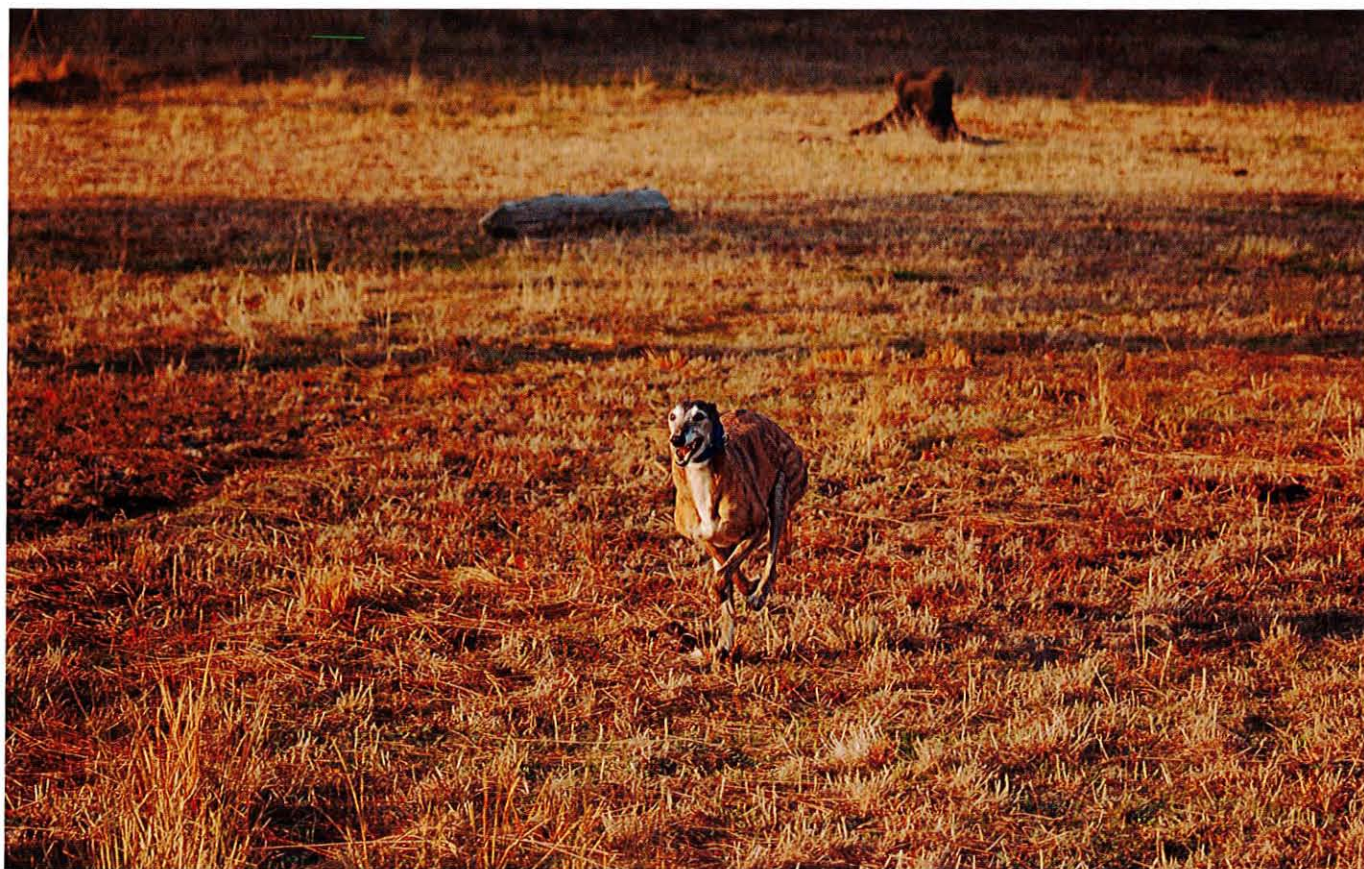
John Pesek and his much loved



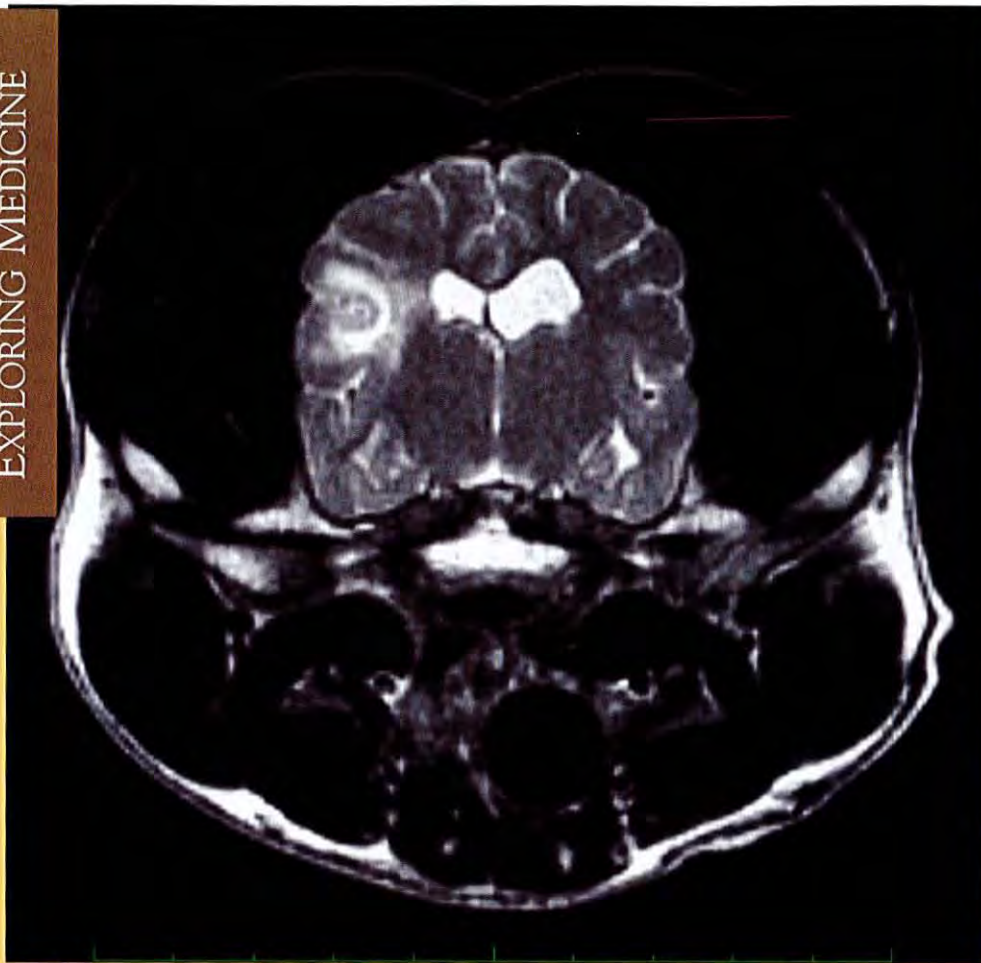
Rosie and Debbie, adopted by Julie Hands of Wantirna South, Victoria, Australia.

Gangster* were a familiar sight at coursing meets. They were always together, and when Pesek checked into hotels, Gangster* was right there with him, probably sleeping on the bed just as ours do today. ■

Laurel E. Drew is a CG regular contributor.



On the way home. Bea Anderson



This MRI is from a Greyhound that suffered a stroke. The image shows a lesion in the left cerebrum (part of the brain) that is most compatible with an infarction (an area of tissue death).

The MRI — Cutting Edge Medicine

By William E. Feeman III, DVM and Leyla Guenther, DVM

Some pet owners and many sports fans have heard of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI). This non-invasive imaging technique was first used in human medicine in 1977 and is commonplace today. Radiographs (x-rays) are very good at providing clear, detailed pictures of bone but provide limited information about adjacent soft tissue structures (for example, ligaments, tendons, and the brain). MRI allows for excellent evaluation of soft tissue structures and even more detailed information about bone. The use of MRIs in pets has increased in frequency over the past ten years. Many MRIs are performed on pets after hours at human hospitals; however, pet-only MRI facilities are growing in number nationwide. In addition, more large animal hospitals have them on site.

Why MRI?

An MRI has many uses in veterinary medicine. It is the best test to visualize the brain for animals with a history of seizures, decreased mentation, or neurologic dysfunction. It is the best test to visualize the spinal column and spinal cord for animals with a history of back pain, weakness, or paralysis. It is very good at evaluating the sinuses for animals with a history of chronic (long-term) nasal discharge. In addition, it is the best test to visualize the orbit (the soft tissue and bony structures supporting the eye ball) for animals with a history of a bulging eye, and it provides a clear view of soft tissue structures around and within joints for animals with a history of lameness, joint

swelling, pain, and instability. MRIs are not as good at evaluating bone or lung tissue as are computed tomography (CT) scans (another imaging modality). MRIs have been used to diagnose cancer, encephalitis (inflammation of the brain), encephalomalacia (softening of the brain), trauma and hemorrhage (bleeding), abscess formation, edema (fluid build up), intervertebral disc disease, thromboembolism (a blood clot that blocks a blood vessel), ligament and tendon injuries, joint inflammation, and many other diseases and conditions.

An MRI machine is shaped like a giant cube with a tube in the middle. The largest and most important part of an MRI machine is the magnet. The magnet is so strong that no metal objects of any kind are allowed in the room during an exam. Seemingly harmless objects such as loose change, paperclips, or keys can become dangerous projectiles if they are in the same room as an MRI unit. Various medical implants (for example,

orthopedic implants and pacemakers) may also determine whether or not a patient can safely have an MRI performed.

The MRI machine applies a pulse of radio frequency to the part of the body that is to be examined. This radio frequency is specific only to hydrogen atoms in the body and causes them to spin, move, and shake (this is why the term "resonance" is used). During this time, three gradient magnets inside the main magnet are rapidly turned on and off. These magnets are aligned in such a way that they allow for very thin slices (millimeters in diameter) to be visualized (think of slices of bread in a loaf that are only millimeters thick). The radio frequency pulse is then stopped and the hydrogen atoms release their excess energy. This excess energy is read by the computer and is used to form an image.

It is critical when doing an MRI that the patient remain completely still. Significant amounts of motion will affect the quality of the image and will not permit an accurate

diagnosis to be made. MRI examinations on average take approximately 45 to 75 minutes to be completed. Due to the prolonged examination time and the need for the patient to remain motionless, general anesthesia is necessary to perform an MRI on an animal.

MRIs although becoming more frequent in veterinary medicine are still not commonplace largely because of expense. MRI scans will commonly cost approximately \$1500. This fee includes preanesthetic examination, anesthesia, intravenous fluids, patient monitoring under anesthesia, the scan itself and interpretation of the results by a board certified radiologist.

An MRI is a tool that can provide vital information pertaining to a diagnosis or prognosis. We hope that reading this article may help explain some of the science and reasoning behind the MRI so that if one is recommended for your pet, you will understand why and be more comfortable with the procedure.

A list of commonly asked questions regarding MRI scans can be found at:

<http://www.petsdx.com/owner.html> ■



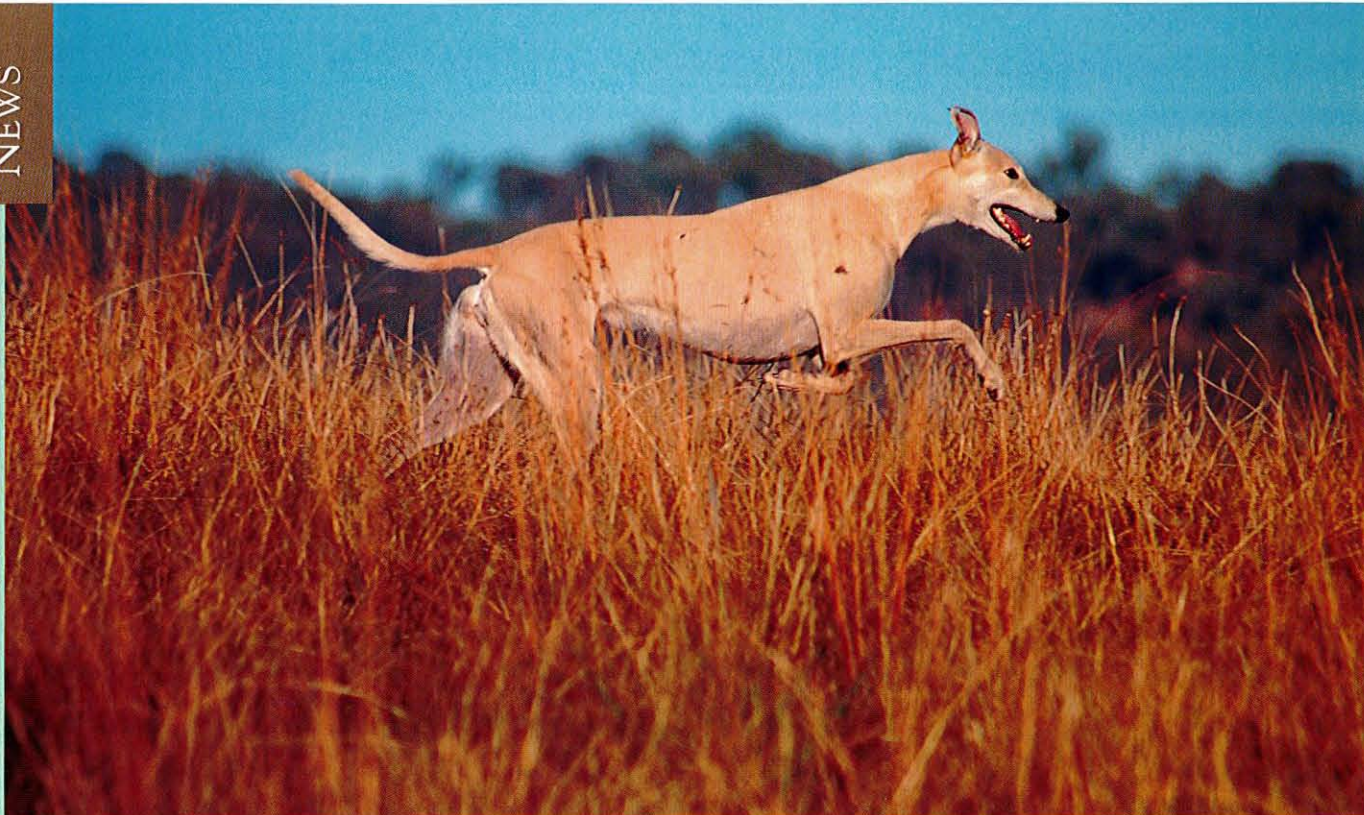
This MRI is from a Greyhound that is suffering from spondylitis (inflammation of the vertebrae).



This MRI is from a Greyhound that has suffered from an intervertebral disc protrusion or spinal cord infarction.

Dr. Feeman is a 2002 graduate of The Ohio State University of Veterinary Medicine and currently practices in Ohio. He is an active volunteer for Greyhound Adoption of Ohio and a member of Veterinarians for Retired Racing Greyhounds. Dr. Leyla Guenther, Medical Director for PetsDx Veterinary Imaging, is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of veterinary medicine. She has worked in a wide range of clinical settings, from mixed animal practice to emergency veterinary medicine. Driven by a dedication to advancing veterinary medicine and a love for her patients, Dr. Guenther currently runs an imaging center exclusively for pets. In her free time, she enjoys flying, hiking, and playing the viola.

All images provided by PetsDx Veterinary Imaging, 15423 Neo Parkway, Cleveland, Ohio, 44128.



A romp in the field. *Bea Anderson*

The Greyhound Project Supports Greyhound Health: The Ohio State University Greyhound Health and Wellness Program

If you are a member of the various Greyhound related email lists and boards you have no doubt seen messages from Greyhound owners announcing that their beloved hound was just diagnosed with cancer. Cancer comes in many forms but the final result is always the same, the life of a beautiful hound cut short. For several years many groups have raised funds to help researchers fight cancer; they have donated blood, tissue samples, and more in the hope that one day there will be a cure. Dr. Guillermo Couto of The Ohio State University, one of the leading cancer researchers, has started a Greyhound Health and Wellness program. Dr. Couto is not a dispassionate researcher; he frequently travels to Spain to help with the Galgos, and has two of his own.

Several years ago, The Greyhound Project instituted a matching grants program. The donations that people make to the Morris Animal Foundation are matched by the Project. The Greyhound Project is glad to announce that we have established a similar matching funds program to support Dr. Couto and his research. I urge you as Greyhound owners concerned about the health and well being of your dogs to donate generously to this worthy cause. Your donations will be matched by the Greyhound Project. With your help and the dedication of fine scientists like Dr. Couto we will find a way to erase this disease that affects the most innocent of victims, our hounds.

Donations can be made either using PayPal or personal checks. To make a donation using PayPal please visit www.adopt-a-Greyhound.org/wellness.html

To send your payments using a personal check, please make the check payable to "The Greyhound Project." In the memo field of the check please write "Greyhound Wellness. Mail the check to The Greyhound Project PO Box 5239, Framingham, Ma 01701" This will allow us to forward your donations to Dr. Couto's research. You will be able to claim it as a tax-deductible contribution. Together we can make a difference. We will defeat this horrible disease that takes so many of our beloved pets from us.—Praveen Mutalik

The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine has launched the Greyhound Health and Wellness Program (OSUGHWP), a project aimed at improving the well being of retired racing Greyhounds. A National Greyhound Health Database (NGHDB) is also in the works.

Dr. Guillermo Couto, faculty member of the College of Veterinary Medicine of The Ohio State University, has been involved in Greyhound rescue and health-related issues for the last 15 years. In the last five years, and with

the assistance from Dr. Cristina Iazbik, Nicole Westendorf, and numerous students and staff members at OSU, the OSUGHWP has grown to evaluate two to 10 Greyhounds a day. The OSUGHWP has continued to expand and is involved in numerous outreach and research projects. The program is now broadening to provide assistance to Greyhound owners, adoption groups, veterinarians, and of course, former racers.

The OSU Animal Blood Bank

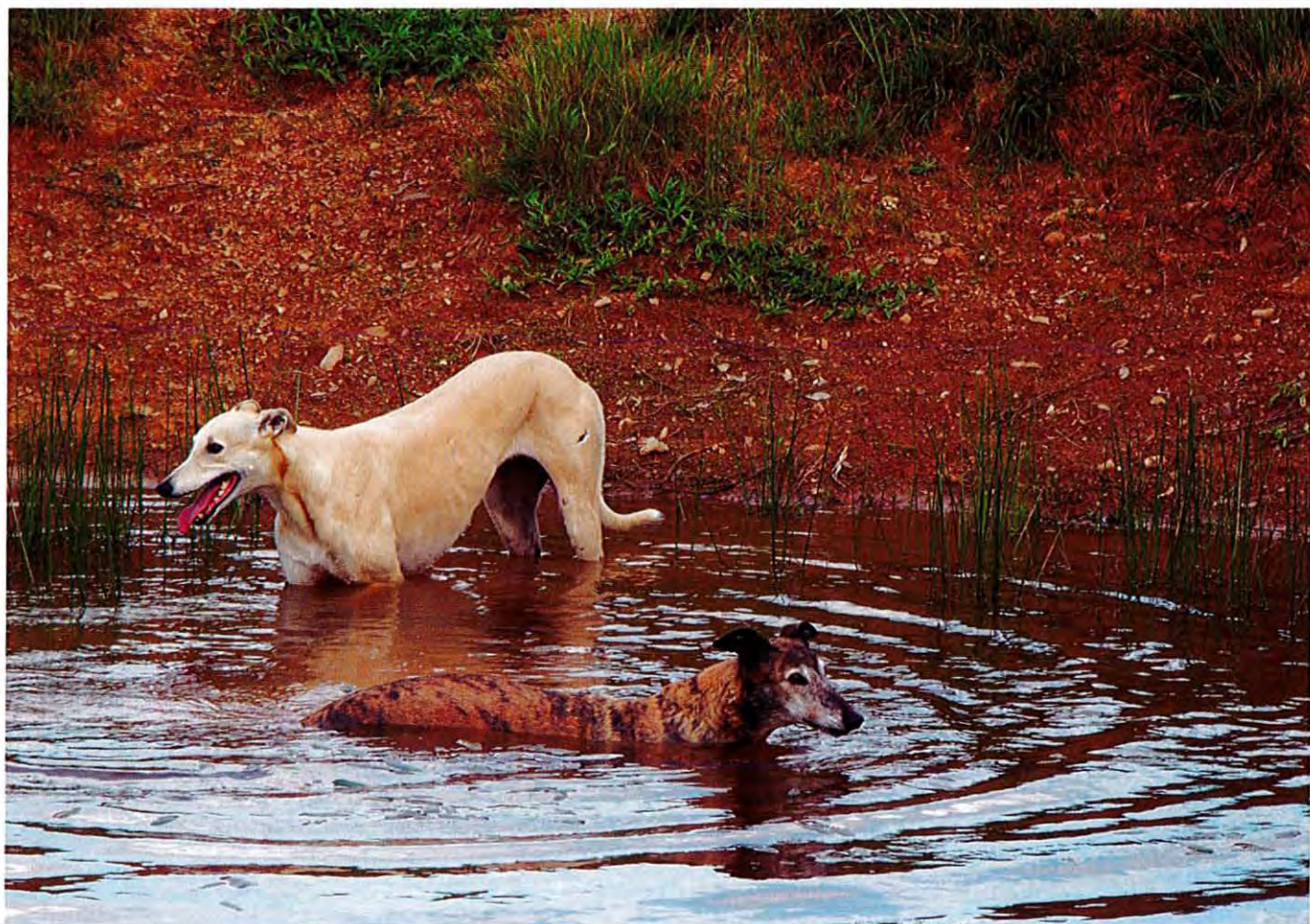
In 1997, Dr. Couto established The OSU Animal Blood Bank (OSUABB). Prior to that, 18-20 retired racing Greyhounds from the Wheeling racetrack were kept in cages for three to four years as in-house blood donors, and bled on demand (with occasional production of blood components). Under the new OSUABB, retired racers are adopted by students, faculty, or staff and donate blood four to six times per year. The blood is fractionated into components (red blood cells, fresh-frozen plasma, cryoprecipitate, and cryopoor plasma). Blood donation by Greyhounds is quick and painless, as it is in humans. In return, donors

receive free health care, free food and medication, and free vaccinations for the time they are enrolled as blood donors (typically three to four years); in addition, they receive free blood products for life, if they ever need them. Most of the Greyhounds in the blood donor program were placed by Greyhound Adoption of Ohio (GAO) in Chagrin Falls, Ohio.

There is a subset of former racer donors who have been adopted and live in homes as pets. These dogs donate blood for the same period of time, and enjoy similar benefits. Due to the success of the blood donor program, the OSUABB began making blood components available to local and regional veterinarians in 2003, and to veterinarians throughout the US in 2005. The OSUABB has saved thousands of lives thanks to former racers. Their motto: "Save a Greyhound so that he/she can save others."

Clinic for retired racers

In collaboration with GAO, the OSU College of Veterinary Medicine established a spay, neuter, and dental clinic for retired rac-



Two old gals take a quick dip to cool off. *Bea Anderson*



Honey and Nero, adopted by Bea Anderson of Victoria, Australia.

ers in 2004. In this program, third-year veterinary students, under the direct supervision of Small Animal Surgery faculty and residents, perform routine spays, neuters, and dental prophylaxis in 50-75 Greyhounds per year. In addition to directly improving the health of the dogs involved in the clinic, it gives researchers an opportunity to evaluate other health issues in the breed (see below).

Support for and by veterinarians

In January of 2004 Dr. Couto founded Veterinarians for Retired Racing Greyhounds. The group currently has approximately 75 members. It has established a listserv to discuss health-related issues in the breed. The group meets in January during the North American Veterinary Conference in Orlando, Florida, where they also present a scientific session on Greyhound-related topics.

Dr. Couto provides a free consultation service for owners of retired racers and their

veterinarians; he spends one or two hours a day responding to e-mails and phone calls on Greyhound problems.

The OSUGHWP even has some funds to provide free chemotherapeutic agents for former racers with osteosarcoma.

Recently, with the invaluable assistance of a Greyhound adoption volunteer (Diane Jackson), the OSUGHWP designed a questionnaire for owners of Greyhounds with cancer. The information derived from this questionnaire will be inputted into the database.

Research on Greyhound health

The OSUGHWP is currently involved in several clinical research projects that will eventually improve the quality of life (and hopefully longevity) of former racers. The following projects have been completed, and the results have either been published in peer-reviewed veterinary journals or are currently in press (i.e.; they will be published within the next 3 months):

Serum creatinine concentration in retired racing Greyhounds.

Greyhounds have a higher serum creatinine (a marker of kidney function) concentration than non-Greyhound dogs, so this should be taken into account when evaluating healthy Greyhounds and those with suspected kidney disease.

Abnormal eosinophil granulation in retired racing Greyhounds.

Greyhounds have a high prevalence of vacuolated eosinophils (a type of white blood cell). This should be recognized when evaluating blood smears because they may be inaccurately identified as toxic neutrophils, white cells commonly seen in severe infections.

Serum protein electrophoresis in retired racing Greyhounds.

Greyhounds have lower concentration of serum (blood) proteins than non-Greyhounds due to low alpha and beta globulins (a fraction where inflammatory media-

tors are found). These should be kept in mind when evaluating both healthy and sick Greyhounds.

Effects of blood donation on systolic blood pressure in retired racing Greyhounds.

The collection of one unit of blood (450 ml) results in a short but significant decrease in the systolic arterial blood pressure, although adverse events were rarely seen.

Left-sided systolic murmur in retired racing Greyhounds.

Greyhounds with a soft (1-2/6) heart murmur have significantly higher peak aortic velocity than Greyhounds without murmurs; this does not appear to be associated with an obvious congenital anatomical defect, and is very common in the breed.

Platelet function using a point-of-care platelet function analyzer (PFA-100®) in retired racing Greyhounds.

Laboratory evaluation of bleeding Greyhounds frequently includes platelet function studies. Greyhounds have significantly shorter closure times than non-Greyhounds when using both Collagen/ADP and Collagen/EPI cartridges, so the PFA-

100® seems especially suited as a point-of-care instrument to evaluate primary hemostasis in Greyhounds with bleeding diathesis.

Glomerular filtration rate in Greyhounds and non-Greyhound dogs.

Healthy Greyhounds have higher glomerular filtration rate (better kidney function) than non-Greyhounds, so high serum creatinine in healthy Greyhounds may be due to the high muscle mass in this breed.

In addition, the following projects are currently underway:

Postamputation suramin/doxorubicin in dogs with osteosarcoma of the appendicular skeleton.

Funded by Morris Animal Foundation in 2004, this project is evaluating the results of a novel chemotherapeutic approach in dogs (primarily Greyhounds) with osteosarcoma. Preliminary results are very encouraging.

Mechanisms of postoperative bleeding in retired racing Greyhounds.

Funded by the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine Foundation in 2004, this study is investigating the tendency of a variable percentage of Greyhounds to

bleed profusely after routine surgery (spay, neuter, or amputation). In most dogs, the results of routine coagulation tests are normal. Researchers are examining alternative mechanisms that may lead to this bleeding diathesis.

Acute phase proteins in retired racing Greyhounds.

Greyhounds have lower serum protein concentration than non-Greyhound dogs. In collaboration with Dr. José Cerón (University of Murcia, Spain), researchers are currently investigating which of the proteins are in low concentrations and which ones are normal.

Changes in acute phase protein concentrations after routine surgery (spay or neuter) in retired racing Greyhounds.

Non-Greyhound dogs respond to surgical trauma by producing acute phase proteins (APPs). Because Greyhounds have lower concentrations of APPs than other dogs, this study is evaluating changes in serum APPs after spay/neuter surgery in normal Greyhounds.

Renal lesions associated with protein-losing nephropathy in retired racing Greyhounds.



Honey and Lucy, adopted by Bea Anderson of Victoria, Australia.



A lazy afternoon. Bea Anderson

Greyhounds have large amounts of protein in the urine. Because Greyhounds frequently have high blood pressure, the protein content in the urine may reflect renal (kidney) damage from hypertension. This study is evaluating urine protein concentration, presence and severity of microalbuminuria, and microscopic (and ultramicroscopic) kidney changes in Greyhounds undergoing routine surgery.

Establishment of a Greyhound osteosarcoma cell line.

Researchers are currently developing Greyhound osteosarcoma cell lines to facilitate study of the behavior and response to treatment in this common tumor type.

In vitro evaluation of artemisinin in canine osteosarcoma cell lines.

Researchers have demonstrated antitumor activity for artemisinin in canine osteosarcoma cell lines. Establishment of a Greyhound cell line will enable the evaluation of this herbal product in the breed.

The OSUGHWP has also submitted dozens of blood samples from both healthy and affected dogs for Dr. Kenine Comstock's study on genetics of OSA in Greyhounds.

The National Greyhound Health Database (NGHDB)

The OSUGHWP recently received funding to establish a database that will allow for identification of common problems and causes of death in the breed, evaluation of environmental and genetic effects, and characterization of mechanisms of disease in the breed. Their ability to evaluate the racing history and pedigree of retired racers provides an invaluable opportunity to easily collect that information on "sick" (affected) Greyhounds. The OSUGHWP will be in charge of the database at all times; data will be made available to other parties in the future.

Phase 1: The computerized relational database will initially include information on the following fields (but will be expanded as needed in the future):

- Dog's name
- Date of birth
- Right ear tattoo
- Left ear tattoo
- Owner's name and information (address, phone number, e-mail address)
- Diagnosis (if tumor, a copy of the pathology report will be scanned in and stored electronically)

- Treatment
- Outcome
- Family veterinarian's information (name, address, phone number, e-mail address)

A serum bank will also be established during Phase 1. The bank will store serum (the liquid component of clotted blood) from both healthy and affected Greyhounds at -80°C ; this will allow researchers to perform tests with the serum of both groups of dogs as needed. For example, if a new infectious agent is discovered in the future (as recently happened with the influenza virus), they can go back in time and test old samples for the presence of antibodies against that organism.

Phase 2: During the second year of the project, electronic images (radiographs or X-rays, biopsy slides, photographs of the lesion, etc) will be incorporated into the database. OSUGHWP will also set up a Greyhound Tumor Registry to store biopsy or autopsy specimens from specific diseases and DNA from healthy and sick Greyhounds.

Data for the database will be collected through the website (below) and statistically analyzed twice a year.

The OSU Greyhound Health and Wellness Website

This site (www.vet.ohiostate.edu/1872.htm), currently under construction, will be a valuable tool for Greyhound owners, adoption groups, and veterinarians involved in Greyhound medicine and surgery. It will contain information on normal Greyhound lab work and diagnostics, common health disorders, ongoing projects at OSU and elsewhere, and Greyhound outreach activities. It will include downloadable .pdf files with Greyhound health handouts and scientific papers, a section on FAQs, and downloadable video clips of specific "Greyhound conditions." It will also contain guidelines on how to submit information for the NGHDB.—*Dr. Guillermo Couto* ■



Goldie (Powder and Paint), adopted by Craig Myers, enjoys a day on Surfers Paradise Beach, Queensland, Australia. *Craig Myers*



Last one there's a rotten egg! *Bea Anderson*



Five years later, the scar from Piper's de-gloving accident is barely visible.

How's Piper Doing?

Story and Photos by Anne Pirie

Second Look is an occasional feature in which we revisit the subjects of previous articles. In this issue, we check in with Piper, a big, rambunctious boy whose dramatic recovery from a "de-gloving" incident in his backyard was chronicled in the Summer 2003 issue of Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine. Has Piper managed to stay out of trouble since then?

Piper graced the cover of the Summer 2003 issue of *Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine*. Inside the issue was his tale of woe: a high-speed encounter with the handle of the backyard clothesline ripped a large section of skin from his left side. With time (about 20 weeks), care, and the diligent application of Manuka Honey to the wound, Piper made a complete recovery.

Since Piper's accident, I have been approached several times by others whose dogs had suffered similar accidents. They have all asked about the honey. All I could do was tell them how the honey worked for Piper and give them permission to take Piper's story and pictures to their own veterinarian. Manuka Honey helped those dogs to heal as well; that in itself makes our nightmare nearly worthwhile.

Piper's accident was in November 2001. Although he was finally healed in April 2002, it was not his last brush with death. In August 2002, Piper was poisoned. We never discovered the source of the poisoning. Piper's life hung in the balance for days. If he recovered, we expected he would be brain damaged. After Piper had lain comatose for 24 hours, my 14-year-old daughter Rebecca did what I could not do; she told Piper it was all right to leave if he had to.

The next morning, we got the call. Piper was awake and up on his feet. We rushed to the clinic to be greeted by a wonderful sight. The veterinarian was walking Piper out behind the clinic. He informed us that Piper would make a full recovery.

After a month, Piper was back to normal. But we wondered — what else did Piper have in store for us?

Fortunately, Piper's life has been trouble-free since then. He has had no medical issues, other than the occasional need to visit the chiropractor to work on his scar and maintain his range of motion.

Initially we rubbed oils and lotions into Piper's scar to keep it supple, but he no longer seems to need this. Since he is a house dog, sunburn is not really a concern. We do have sunscreen for him and use it when he is out on sunny days (after all that Piper has been through, we are not about to risk skin cancer).

In between Piper's accident and poisoning, I decided to see how Piper would do at agility. I had trained two previous dogs to agility titles, but never a Greyhound. I started to teach Piper the basics. He was very

good. His weave pole action was to die for and his vertical leap — well, tall buildings were not beyond him.

Piper was eager to learn all but one obstacle — the tire jump.

The rules in Australia at the time required a minimum tire diameter that was less than 1 inch more than the depth of Piper's chest. Most of the tires were the minimum size, so there was not a lot of room for mistakes.

For 12 months Piper tried his hardest for me. I asked on local and overseas e-mail lists for tips on how to overcome this problem. I tried several different solutions but inevitably, once the tire was at the right height and the minimum diameter, Piper would hit his back on the rim as he jumped through. Piper's scar ran across his back. It was not worth it to me to see my boy hurt himself. I retired him from agility. We had

both had a lot of fun, but Piper was ready for the couch.

Piper reached 6 years of age in May 2006. There were times I thought he would never get to 2. He lives with Beagle mix Emma, four cats, and his new "sister" Molly, a petite 6-year-old Greyhound who arrived in February of this year. Piper is not sure about Molly; he has to share his couch with her and he's not happy about that.

Piper is still a crazy dog. Age has done little to slow him down. He can drive my daughter and me nearly to drink with his nutty behavior, but he has loads of character. I wouldn't have him any other way. ■

Anne Pirie lives in Victoria, Australia with Piper and her family.



Piper surveys the scene of his encounter with the clothesline pole.



Goldie (Powder and Paint), adopted by Craig Myers of Queensland, Australia. *Craig Myers*

Finding Loving Homes Down Under: Greyhound Adoption in Australia

Story by Matt Thrower

As readers of *CG Magazine* know, America has an extensive range of Greyhound adoption programs. But these veterans of the track are also being placed in loving homes throughout Australia.

In recent years, more and more Australians have been adopting Greyhounds. Their gentle nature makes them ideal pets and companions.

Kirsty O'Brien is the Coordinator of the Greyhound Adoption Program (GAP) for the eastern state of Queensland. She says the main focus of Australia's adoption programs is to promote Greyhounds as affectionate, low-maintenance pets and to debunk myths that still circulate throughout the country. "Greyhounds are only just starting to become popular as family pets in Australia," Kirsty says. "This is because many people still see the breed as high-maintenance, highly-strung, snappy, and aggressive animal that needs a lot of exercise. One of the main aims of our promotional activities is to steer people away from these misconceptions."

According to Kirsty, a substantial obstacle facing Greyhound pet promotion is the issue of muzzling. "One of the biggest challenges we face in changing peoples' opinions about Greyhounds is an archaic law that still exists in many parts of Australia, requiring Greyhounds to be muzzled in public," she says. "A few years ago, in the state of Victoria, an exemption from muzzling was allowed for dogs approved by that state's Greyhound Adoption Program. These dogs were identified as GAP dogs by their highly visible green collars. As a result of this exemption, adoptions in Victoria have increased markedly. A similar amendment has recently been handed down in

the state of South Australia. Adoption programs throughout the country are working to convince lawmakers to allow GAP dogs in public without muzzles.

Australian adoption programs work closely with the Greyhound racing industry to find homes for retired dogs. Unlike the usual practice in America, the majority of owner/trainers in Australia keep a small number of dogs, usually less than ten, kenneled at their own homes. They take the dogs to race at different tracks, depending on which style of track suits a particular Greyhound's running style.

Additionally, a smaller number of public trainers with larger kennels accommodate between ten and 200 dogs. Many of the dogs at these kennels have been placed by owners who do not wish to train the Greyhounds themselves. Each track in Australia usually has one or two days of racing per week. The dogs are brought to the track for the race and taken back home at the end of the event.

The tracks are not privately owned; rather they are owned and operated by local racing clubs. Dogs are raced over various distances between 280 and 1,000 meters with the sprints around 500 meters the most popular. The tracks are usually oval, but vary in length, tightness of the turns, and camber. There are a few straight tracks and some are shaped like a horseshoe. Almost all the tracks now have a sandy loam surface, although a few are still turf. Generally the wider turns in Australian racing allow the dogs to run at a faster speed than the dogs at American tracks.

All racing in Australia is overseen by the Greyhound Racing Authority in each state and territory. The Greyhound Racing Authorities distribute prize money, and market and regulate the industry as a whole. A national body, Greyhounds Australasia, comprised of representatives from each racing authority, is responsible for registrations and setting the national standard of racing rules in Australia and New Zealand.

Racing dogs, which are all privately owned in Australia, have not always had the support of adoption programs. Prior to the establishment of programs around ten years ago, many owners kept their dogs after racing or tried to find homes for them. But many



Sam (You Idiot), adopted by Kirsty O'Brien, plays in the sand at Tooradin Beach, Victoria, Australia. *Craig Myers*

dogs missed out, and the breed for the most part, did not have an existence outside of the racing industry.

Greyhound adoption in Australia started when veterinarians and their staff made an effort to re-home some of the dogs that were left to be euthanized. "These people know the breed well and had to face the unpleasant task of putting these beautiful animals to sleep," says Kirsty. "But the subsequent existence of official adoption programs has increased awareness and compassion towards Greyhounds. People in the racing industry are now realizing that there are more options for Greyhounds when they finish their racing careers. In addition, the racing authorities have taken responsibility for supporting people both inside and outside the industry who are dedicated to finding homes for ex-racing dogs."

In Queensland, Victoria, and Western Australia, the Greyhound Racing Authorities employ paid staff and provide a budget to professionally run the adoption

programs. Other states have official adoption programs that are funded by the racing authorities. In the wake of these programs, smaller individual groups have emerged to find homes for some of the Greyhounds who end up at shelters and pounds. In New South Wales, Queensland, Victoria, South Australia, and Tasmania, the official programs are all known as the Greyhound Adoption Program (GAP). In Western Australia and the nation of New Zealand, the programs are known as Greyhounds as Pets (handily enough, also abbreviated to GAP). The bulk of the work at these programs is done by volunteers.

"For a racing dog owner, Greyhounds can be placed on a waiting list for the program to re-home. The time the dogs spend on these waiting lists varies from three to about 15 months," Kirsty explains. "Volunteers assess their safety around cats and small dogs, then place the dogs into foster homes to get used to the domestic environment. Only healthy

dogs that are safe around small dogs and people are allowed into the program. Dogs who are not cat safe are allowed to stay in the program, but obviously will be homed with families that don't have cats."

"All dogs are matched with the most suitable home. For example, we have placed playful, energetic dogs into family homes with children and quieter dogs into homes with elderly residents. There really is a Greyhound for everyone! New Greyhound owners are given information, support, and

advice by GAP. In addition, all adopted dogs are de-sexed and vaccinated." If at any time a Greyhound has to be returned to the program, GAP will always take the dog back to be re-homed.

To spread the word about Greyhounds as loving pets, all of the adoption programs in Australia and New Zealand spend most weekends at expos, fairs, and meet-and-greets, tirelessly getting the dogs into the public eye in order to dispel myths about the breed and to demonstrate what wonderful,

easy-care family pets they are. "Many of the people who visit GAP stalls at these events are seeing Greyhounds for the first time and are often surprised at how friendly, laid-back, and placid these dogs are," says Kirsty.

Greyhound adoption is growing at a remarkable rate in Australia, but there is still a long way to go before all dogs needing homes can be placed with suitable families.

"We're about 10 years off reaching the sort of adoption figures being achieved in the USA and the UK," says Kirsty. "But we have been able to learn from the success of these overseas groups and adapt their techniques to suit the Australian environment. As a result, more and more racing dog owners are placing their Greyhounds with adoption programs, knowing that their dogs are going to good, loving homes."

"The popularity of Greyhound adoption in Australia is increasing rapidly. The more people that get to experience these dogs up close, the more people are excited about spreading the word about Greyhounds as pets." ■



Lois (Tearless Ivy), adopted by the Sands family of Queensland, Australia. Craig Myers

Matt Throuwer is an Australian-based journalist, who has written for a wide variety of national newspapers and magazines. He is a regular contributor of music and cinema-related articles for a Brisbane entertainment magazine and writes a range of material for a local marketing firm. He was introduced to the wonderful world of Greyhound adoption by his wife Brooke six years ago, when they opened their home to beloved blue boy Sam, who sadly passed away in April 2006 at the age of 11. Brooke and Matt have since fostered and adopted many Greyhounds and have a particularly soft spot for older dogs. In the past, they have adopted Teddy (age 10) and Molly (age 14). Their Brisbane home is currently occupied by Iris, a blue 4-year-old diva and Poncho, a brindle and extremely emotional 9-year-old. Brooke and Matt are active volunteers of the Greyhound Adoption Program Queensland.



Rosie, adopted by Julie Hands of Wantirna South, Victoria, Australia.

A Brief History of Greyhound Adoption in Australia

By Larissa Darragh

On April 28, 1770, James Cook landed at Botany Bay. For the first time in history, a Greyhound stood on Australian soil. Two Greyhounds accompanied Cook and Sir Joseph Banks on this historic voyage. The male Greyhound was later given to the King of Savu Island in the East Indies, while the female, Lady, unfortunately died on the return voyage to England.

When the Greyhound next appeared in Australia, it was as the companion of settlers and convicts. Greyhounds were required as hunting dogs, and soon each ship of immigrants brought its quota of Greyhounds. Over time, as the struggle for survival became less intense, the settlers began to look to their Greyhounds for sport. Coursing soon took firm root. The first major coursing stake was held in 1873 with 32 Greyhounds entered in the Australian Waterloo Cup. This was the birth of organized Greyhound racing in Australia.

For over 100 years, Greyhounds have been the best-kept secret in the Australian dog world. Very few people are aware that the same dogs who pursue the lure with such determination are also quiet, well-mannered, affectionate animals with all the qualities required to make them an outstanding companion and pet.

In 1996, a team of veterinary nurses at the Sandown Veterinary Clinic in Victoria decided it was time to alert the public about the wonderful nature of the Greyhound; thus started the Greyhound Adoption Program (Victoria). They initially received a small amount of funding from Greyhound Racing Victoria, the governing body for Greyhound racing in this state. Twelve months later, Greyhound Racing Victoria placed their full support behind

GAP and employed a part-time coordinator. Within a year, the coordinator's position was made full-time due to the ever-increasing growth of the program. In late 1996 and early 1997, similar groups began in South Australia, Queensland, and New South Wales. A group also began re-homing Greyhounds in Western Australia in late 1997.

Some of the biggest challenges the various groups face include a lack of funding, negative public perception of the breed, and the large geographical areas needing coverage — a particular problem for Western Australia and Queensland.

The groups all receive some level of funding from the relevant Greyhound racing authority for their state. However, only Greyhound Racing Victoria and the Queensland Greyhound Racing Authority currently have fully-funded welfare arms devoted to finding homes for their retired athletes. There are also several privately run Greyhound rescue groups now in operation in Australia.

In 2003, Greyhound adoption took a huge step forward when Greyhound Racing Victoria purchased a property in rural Victoria to run their adoption program. On 40 acres, the property has a permit for 100 dogs and is also run as a boarding kennel to help offset the costs of running the welfare group.

In the past, Greyhounds in Australia have been viewed with distrust and dislike due to the various state laws that require all Greyhounds to be muzzled in public. Naturally, this created the incorrect impression that the dogs were vicious and dangerous. In 1999, the legislation in Victoria was amended so that Greyhounds adopted by GAP in that state no longer had to be muzzled in public. More recently, South Australia also amended their legislation. Sadly, in all other states Greyhounds, racing or pet, are required to wear muzzles.

All the Greyhound adoption groups in Australia utilize foster care to help ready the dogs for adoption. Generally the dogs spend around four weeks in foster care before they are adopted. During this time they are house trained and exposed to all the things they may never have experienced before such as children, small dogs, cats, stairs, polished

floorboards, and so forth.

One of the key elements of the various programs is to match the characteristics of the Greyhound with the personality of the adopter. A profile of the adopter is completed to ensure that as soon as the staff believes the Greyhound has adjusted to life off the track, it is matched with a suitable family to form a lifelong bond.

Here in Australia, Greyhounds are not housed at the tracks like their American cousins. This means that the adoption groups are never faced with large numbers of Greyhounds suddenly requiring adoption should a track close (as sometimes happens in the United States). Most groups operate using a waiting list system where the owners or trainers place dogs onto a waiting list and

the group will bring the dog into their program as soon as they have room. The waiting time varies from group to group but currently averages around six months. Fortunately, the majority of trainers or owners are willing to care for their dogs for this time.

During the last ten years it is estimated that around 5,000 Greyhounds have been placed into adoptive homes. This gentle dog is slowly gaining in popularity due to the hard work of volunteers and staff who promote the breed at every opportunity. It is hoped that one day, Greyhounds will be as popular in Australia as they are in Europe and America. ■

Larissa Darragh is coordinator of GAP Victoria.



Molly, adopted by Anne Pirie of Victoria, Australia.



Queen of all she surveys. *Bea Anderson*

The Greyhound Brigade: Independent Adoption Groups in Australia

By Paula Zylstra

The popularity of Greyhounds as pets in Australia is increasing, with more and more families wanting to adopt a hound. "Track-based" Greyhound adoption programs work with the racing authorities to rehome retired racers, taking many Greyhounds into care and finding them new families. However, there is a large number of dogs needing homes and — for the Greyhounds that don't go into a track-based adoption program — there are groups of volunteers around the country who do what they can to help the hounds in need.

Australia has a number of independent Greyhound adoption groups: Greyhound Angels of Western Australia on the West Coast, Canberra Greyhound Adoption Service, Friends of the Hound, and Greyhound Safety Net in the Southeast. They have developed in various ways: some groups started in all-breed rescue and decided to focus on Greyhounds, some people are involved in racing and want to help the dogs find a couch, and others began as owners of pet Greyhounds. All share the goal of helping the dogs that are not sent to the track-based adoption groups.

Independent groups are run by volunteers who take Greyhounds into their own homes to foster them until new homes are found. Due to lack of space, some dogs are kenneled until foster homes become available, or they may be adopted directly from kennels. All dogs are spayed or neutered, vaccinated, microchipped, and wormed before adoption. Funds for veterinary care, kennel fees, food, coats, collars, leads, and muzzles (required by law in most states of Australia) are provided by the carers themselves. Volunteers hold fundraisers at the local markets or sell merchandise on line to raise money to take care of more dogs. Donations from adopting families help cover some costs, and

local veterinarians provide support with discounted care.

Independent Greyhound groups will generally take in any dog that can be rehomed, if they have the space and the funds (and they will always do their best to squeeze another one in). Some carers will also take in dogs whose serious health issues or advanced age may make them poor candidates for adoption; these dogs will have somewhere to spend the rest of their lives in comfort. Greyhounds have no "time limit" on adoption; they stay with their foster families until the right home is found.

Accidental litters of 8-week-old pups, who cannot be raced, make their way to these groups. Pups who have been injured and cannot run, yet who will make great pets, also come looking for homes. Racing dogs surrendered by their owners due to injury or retirement are welcome, as are older dogs that have been kept by their owners and now need new homes. Stray Greyhounds and those who end up at the local pound (where

they often have 7 days or less to find a home) are also taken in by these groups.

Independent adoption groups often work with track-based groups, referring inquiries and sharing "waiting lists" so that Greyhounds with either group are matched to new homes sooner. By providing advice and working together, more Greyhounds receive help.

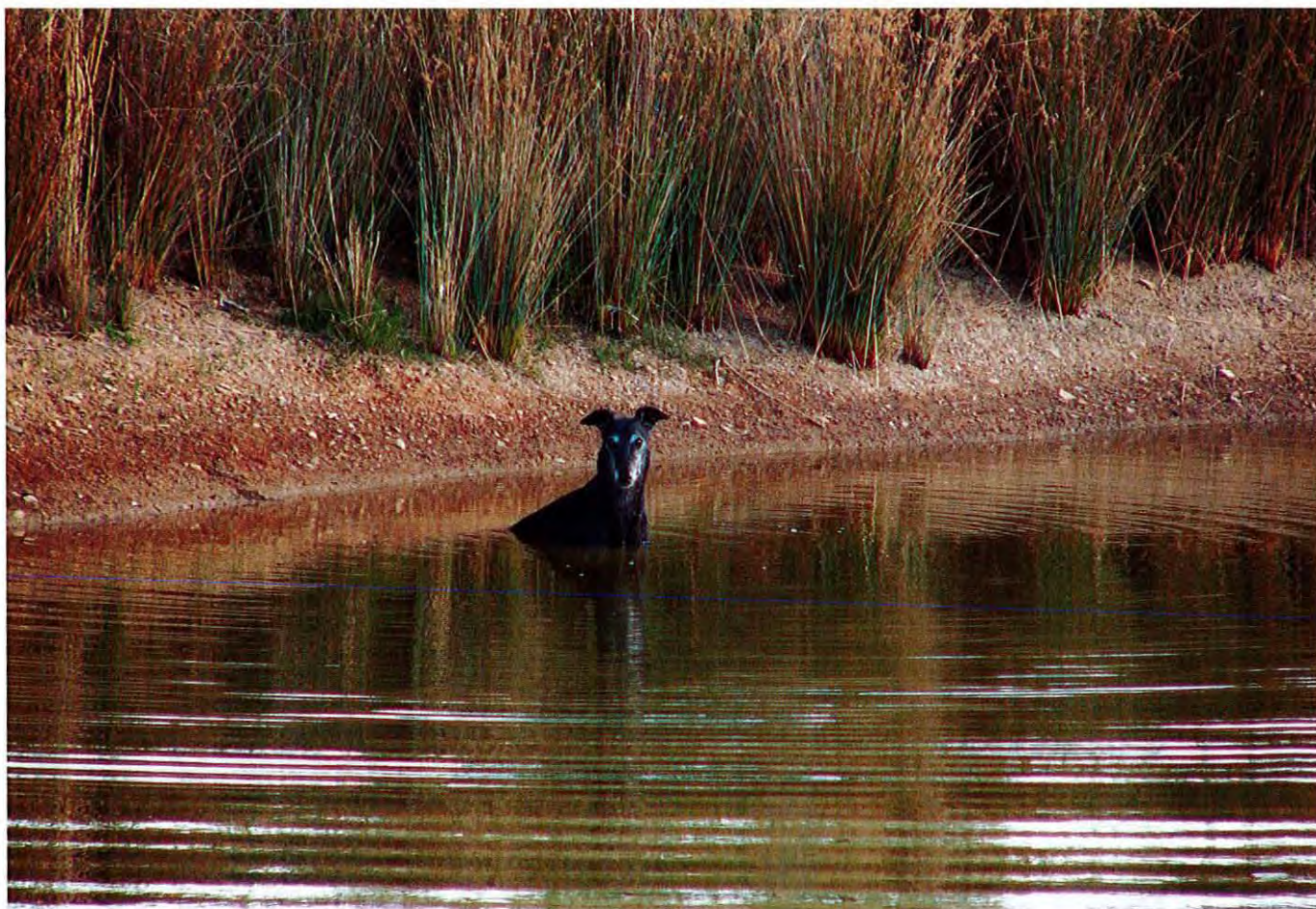
With the "rescue" background of many of the independent Greyhound adoption volunteers, there is a close relationship between these groups and the all-breed and other breed-specific rescue groups around the country. Australia is home to a large network of dedicated dog lovers who support the rescue and rehoming of all breeds of dog, and the "Greyhound brigade" is part of this network. Everyone works tirelessly, doing what they can to make a difference.

Greyhounds in foster care with one group may need to be transported to the other side of the country to reach their new home. They may travel with a transport company or

via the network of dog lovers who drive long distances by relay to deliver a hound. In addition to helping with transport, these volunteers help identify Greyhounds that have been surrendered to small local pounds that may not otherwise be discovered in time to help; assist with assessing Greyhounds before they come into adoption programs; provide additional foster care; conduct home visits as part of the adoption process; donate funds or sew coats for the dogs; and spread the word about Greyhounds as pets.

As more people become involved in the rescue and rehoming of these gorgeous dogs, the number of Greyhound "converts" is rising. More Greyhounds are making their way into adoption, and more are finding forever homes. We hope the trend will continue and that the number of Greyhound adoptions in Australia, via any of the available adoption options, will continue to increase. ■

Paula Zylstra volunteers with Canberra Greyhound Adoption Service.



Bath interrupted. *Bea Anderson*



Lady, Minnie, and Babe accompany Jacqui Eyley to Paekakariki Beach, New Zealand.

Greyhound Adoption Comes to New Zealand

Story and Photos by Andrew Bonallack

Jacqui Eyley pulls up at the Paekakariki beach front on Kapiti's sunshine coast to meet me for photographs. In the back of her station wagon three Greyhounds, Lady, Minnie, and Babe, poke their noses out of the half-open window to say hi and smell the sea air. The Greyhounds are on their way to New Zealand's capital city, Wellington. Two will be placed in permanent homes and one in a foster home.

Jacqui is the manager of New Zealand's only Greyhound adoption program, Greyhounds as Pets (GAP). She is a loving owner of two Greyhounds, Lucy and Lucky. It was her own search for an ex-racing Greyhound that began her involvement in Greyhound adoption for New Zealanders.

In 1996, she emigrated with her husband from England where she lived with her Greyhounds on a canal boat. Seven years and two children later, she decided to adopt a Greyhound again. She called Greyhound racing owners, who told her that Greyhound Racing New Zealand was working on a tentative adoption program. She succeeded in finding and adopting two retired racers, but also found that the proposed program had not launched yet.

"They hadn't actually gotten around to doing anything about it," said Jacqui. So, to make a long story short, they needed someone to set up a business plan to work out the details and asked her to write it. Jacqui said yes straightaway. "I thought, 'Oh my goodness, I've never written a business strategy before, but it can't be too hard!'"

The program is modeled after the GAP plan in Victoria, Australia. Included in the strategy was a job description for a full-time manager and Jacqui had her heart set on the position. "I absolutely wanted that job," she says. "I'd always wanted to get up in the morning and really look forward to my work. Bounce out of bed and think, *Wow, what a day ahead.*"

The interviews were nerve-racking but she got the job. GAP is now effectively five months old and had its official

launch at the end of March 2006 with a ceremony in a bar called The Dog and Bone. The five months have not been idle as GAP has taken in 37 dogs and homed 30. This is on track for their first year's target of 50 dogs homed. The second year's target is 150, then 250 for the third year, and after that, GAP intends to home 300 dogs a year.

These numbers might seem small in comparison to England where the Retired Greyhound Trust has homed over 30,000 Greyhounds in 30 years. But England has a long history of having sighthounds as pets. Jacqui's organization did market research throughout New Zealand to gauge people's perceptions of the breed. Jacqui learned the country was unfamiliar with the idea of Greyhounds as pets. People just haven't seen Greyhounds and have no idea what they are like. The research found that people think they are highly-strung and aggressive. Other perceptions included that Greyhounds need a lot of exercise, were difficult to care for, and expensive to keep.

Jacqui feels New Zealanders need to see Greyhounds for themselves. She travels to events with two or three dogs and sets up a stand. People comment about their softness and gentleness and how cute and adorable they are. People frequently say, "We never realized Greyhounds were like this."

Why are pet Greyhounds so unusual here? With New Zealand's strong English heritage, you would think that Greyhounds would be a familiar sight. But New Zealanders have an equally strong farming and pioneering heritage that started over 200 years ago when European settlers made a life in the mountains and rainforest. Greyhounds, as a breed, never fit into that way of living.

Mammals are also completely unnatural to New Zealand's ecosystem. New Zealanders can feel resentment towards animals that might threaten our endangered bird species. It's true, dogs cannot fly. But then, neither can some of our rarest birds. This is disproportionately unfair to dogs, of course. Domesticated cats gone wild and vermin such as rats cause far more problems.

In addition, our farming heritage makes us less sentimental towards pets. This is the country that holds a national rabbit-shooting

competition at Easter.

New Zealanders think of dogs more as a working animal, whereas the British are far more pet-oriented. Certainly, in a country of 40 million sheep, the rural population would be wary of an animal that can run so fast.

New Zealanders enjoy their pets. Owning a dog is as normal in New Zealand as anywhere else, but there are restrictions. When Jacqui lived in England, she was used to travelling with dogs on public transport and carrying a large Greyhound down the escalators of the London Underground was considered perfectly normal. However, to suggest that a dog comes on the train in New Zealand is like suggesting something terrible.

Another difference between England and New Zealand is fostering. In England, dogs usually go straight to the home because the

English believe fostering is unkind to the dog. But New Zealanders rely on foster homes to add that extra flexibility to the program especially if a Greyhound needs socialization with other dog breeds. Similarly, if GAP gets dogs that are going to live with cats, they go into a foster home with cats. Time in a foster home also provides insight into the personality of the Greyhound and helps when matching them to a new family.

Basic logistics is the other key reason why GAP prefers fostering. The organization serves all of New Zealand, a mountainous country with four million people spread across two major islands. If you were able to divide Colorado, a state with the same land mass and population, into two equal islands in the Pacific Ocean, you would have much the same thing. So fostering gives a small



Fonz the Greyhound takes time out as Racing Minister Winston Peters officially opens Greyhounds as Pets at the Dog and Bone Tavern in Wellington, New Zealand.

organization like GAP time to work out the logistics of getting a dog transported from one end of the country to the other, and frees space in the kennels for new arrivals.

But fostering, which runs for four to six weeks, is not a rigid rule for GAP. If GAP thinks the owners are capable of retraining the dogs, and the dogs are going to be easy to retrain, Greyhounds can go straight into a home. They encourage that because they think if adopters want a dog they should be responsible for working with him and during that early stage of training, a lot of bonding occurs.

While fostering is underway, Jacqui visits prospective dog owners to see if they are suitable. She looks for the usual things — commitment, a good idea of what it means to be a dog owner, and an understanding of what it

means to be a Greyhound owner. A lot of people don't know what it means to own a sighthound.

Sometimes the logistics are not in Jacqui's favor and she will rely on home check questions over the phone and photographs of the new home.

Cat-friendly dogs are in particular demand in New Zealand. "It's probably over half the applications," says Jacqui. "It's one of our biggest difficulties with the program. We categorize our dogs into cat-friendly, cat trainable, and not with cats, and only one in eight would be cat-friendly. Perhaps three in eight would be cat-trainable."

The job of testing the dogs falls to Bailey, the GAP cat. She has been introduced to 37 dogs, who are always muzzled for the meeting. Bailey knows the drill and you can tell

what the dog will be like based on the cat's reaction. With some dogs, the cat will lie on the floor and just stretch out and let the dog sniff her all over, but with other dogs she will be hiding under the table.

Jacqui's typical day involves responding to many e-mails from people wanting to know more about getting a Greyhound, visiting the kennels, and working to get her organization better known with the Greyhound trainers in New Zealand. It costs the trainers \$100 (US\$75) to retire a dog with her organization. Some can be a bit cynical, some don't care. Some care almost too much, and want to know about the homes that will be receiving the dogs.

GAP relies a great deal on volunteer support for the organization, particularly with fostering, promotions, and assisting in home checks in remote locations. It's amazing how many people have come forward to help already. The managing director of New Zealand's largest wine company, Montana NZ, has adopted a Greyhound and sends wine to foster volunteers. A chat group has been set up amongst the new owners so that they can share comments and advice about their new dogs. An Australian company, CopRice, donates dog biscuits to the organization, while another company, Virbac, provides free flea and worming products.

Jacqui is about to start a new concept for New Zealand — Greyhounds in rest homes. She has just received an application from a rest home in Cambridge. Greyhounds are ideal for this undertaking because they are so gentle, don't bark, and are not under-your-feet sort of dogs. And with their height, residents don't have to reach down too much.

"The interest is growing," she says. "My goodness, the day after the launch, my e-mail inbox was enormous. It's just getting the logistics in place, and getting everything else to grow at the same speed." ■

Andrew Bonallack is a journalism student living in Wellington, New Zealand, with his English wife and stepson. He is a previous owner of a Greyhound/Deerhound cross in England, but does not have a dog in New Zealand. However, he is very useful at erecting the GAP sign on race days.



James and Catherine meet their potential new dog at GAP's kennels in Sanson, New Zealand.



This pet Greyhound wears a standard wire muzzle. Pet Greyhounds in several Australian states are required to wear muzzles in public. *Alexis Mulhearn*

On the Wrong End of the Muzzle

By Jaki Wallbank

Antiquated laws for the muzzling of Greyhounds in Australia remain a major stumbling block to the advancement of Greyhound adoption programs. All states have laws requiring Greyhounds, be they pets or racing dogs, to be muzzled in public places. The laws vary significantly from state to state. In Queensland, there are no statewide controls. Instead, it is left to individual local government authorities (councils) to establish regulations regarding Greyhounds. These local laws can vary from the extreme of declaring them "dangerous," to requiring the Greyhound owner to obtain the written permission of adjoining residents in order to legally keep their pet, to having no restrictions at all.¹

In Victoria and South Australia, the laws have been amended to exempt Greyhounds that have passed a temperament test and meet certain other criteria, such as being desexed and having a dog license from the local council. (All dogs in Australia have to be licensed, or registered with their local council.) Greyhounds exempt from the requirement to wear muzzles in public places must wear a special, numbered green collar. These collars are issued exclusively by the Greyhound Adoption Program (GAP) in these states. All dogs adopted through the two Greyhound Adoption Programs are assessed prior to adoption and go to their forever home with their green collar. Greyhound owners who have obtained their dogs from non-GAP organizations can have their dogs assessed by GAP. If these dogs pass, they are also awarded a green collar. Owners are still liable to be fined if their Greyhound is not wearing his green collar when in a public place.

In New South Wales (NSW), no such exemption exists. Greyhound racing is traditionally a working class sport in Australia. It is well within the reach of an average person to own one or two racing hounds. It is therefore not unusual to see Greyhounds being exercised on suburban streets. These racing dogs have always been muzzled, as a long-standing condition of membership of racing bodies.² When the NSW Dog Act was ratified in 1966, it included Greyhound muzzling provisions for all Greyhound owners, whether registered with a racing body or not. This pro-

vision was carried through, without any submissions made, into the current NSW Companion Animals Act of 1998 (Section 15):

A Greyhound and any other dog to which this section applies must at all times have a muzzle securely fixed on its mouth in such a manner as will prevent it from biting any person or animal, except when the dog is:

(a) in or on any property or vehicle of which the owner of the dog is an occupier or where the dog is ordinarily kept, or

(b) under the effective control of some competent person and being exhibited for show purposes or participating in an obedience trial.

It should be noted that this section of the current Act is quite separate from those sections dealing with dangerous dogs, or restricted breeds, and that Greyhounds have never been listed as a dangerous or a restricted breed. In the case of dogs that have been declared dangerous (because they have attacked people or other animals) muzzles and special, locked kennelling arrangements are required. Owners of these dogs do, however, have a right of appeal, which includes the option of having the dog assessed by an independent animal behaviorist and/or undertaking remedial training in order to have the declaration overturned. This option is not avail-

able to the owner of a pet Greyhound.

Currently in NSW, the only restricted breeds are the American Pit Bull, Japanese Toza, Dogo Argentino, and the Fila Brasileiro. These dogs were placed on the restricted list after much public debate and statistical evidence of attacks. No such evidence exists in the case of Greyhounds, as they do not appear in any of the published dog bite statistics compiled by the Department of Local Government.ⁱⁱⁱ

There is widespread community acceptance that Greyhounds should be muzzled simply because it's the only way that most people have ever seen them. Every time a pet Greyhound owner obeys the law and walks his dog wearing a muzzle, he is reinforcing the image of the muzzled Greyhound in the public consciousness. It is hardly surprising that many Australians believe Greyhounds to be vicious dogs. Nor is it surprising that many don't even consider the Greyhound when choosing a pet dog. They are perceived as simply being unsuitable for a home environment.

This negative public perception of the nature of Greyhounds is a huge problem for all state GAPs in Australia, but particularly so for NSW. More Greyhounds are bred in NSW alone than any other single breed

Australia wide.^{iv} Furthermore, NSW produces more Greyhound puppies than any other state; approximately 10,000 pups from 1,540 registered litters in the 2003-2004 financial year.^v Of these, about 25 percent will never make it to the track, being just too slow or not keen enough to chase. Even the most successful racer will see his track career end by the age of five.

One of the key objectives of GAP is to educate the public on the true nature of the breed. Each year GAP attends many public events including institutional open days, fairs, council-run responsible dog ownership events, trade shows, and the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals' Million Paws Walk. The biggest event is the Sydney Royal Easter Agricultural Show, where a million visitors pass through the gates in two weeks. Our aim in attending these events is to have as many people as possible interact closely with the dogs. Visitors, ranging from infants to the aged — able-bodied to wheelchair bound — are actively encouraged to pat and touch the dogs. These events are usually held in noisy, cavernous exhibition halls and crowded environments, which would cause distress and anxiety in many dog breeds, but our laid-



By participating in events such as the RSPCA's Million Paws Walk, GAP New South Wales hopes to show the public that Greyhounds are gentle, friendly pets. Colin Brigstock

back Greyhounds take it all in stride and enjoy meeting the public. The reaction from visitors is always very positive. For many, it is a genuine surprise to see how calm and friendly the Greyhounds are in such a stressful environment.

Dogs are not muzzled at many of these events because they are being "exhibited for show purposes," which is an exemption under the Act. At all the events GAP NSW has attended with unmuzzled Greyhounds since 1999, there has not been a single incident. Nonetheless, many people are still aware that Greyhounds usually wear muzzles and questions about the muzzle are among the most frequently asked. Of course, we must always ensure that prospective adopters are aware of their legal obligations regarding muzzling and all GAP dogs are supplied with a muzzle when they go to their new home.

We gladly seize any other opportunities for positive publicity that come our way. The most unusual, perhaps, was to provide some "large" Greyhounds to welcome the audience arriving for a performance of Saint-Saëns' *Carnival of the Animals* at the NSW State Conservatorium of Music. We have also provided dogs for photographic shoots and television programs. One very popular home and lifestyle program (*Burke's Backyard*) has a segment "road testing" different types of pets. GAP NSW managed to break the record for the highest number of dogs supplied for any single road test segment — 40 Greyhounds. Unfortunately, they all had to be muzzled.

The muzzle remains the biggest stumbling block to placing more Greyhounds in pet

homes. Some people just don't want to be bothered with the muzzle every time they leave the house. Others don't want to own a dog that is perceived as dangerous. People have very real concerns about walking a dog who can't defend himself if attacked by another dog.

When the green collar system came into operation in Victoria in 1999, adoptions in that state increased four-fold in one year. The response to the introduction of green collars in South Australia in 2004 has been similarly positive. There is little question that the muzzles do have a significant impact on the number of Greyhounds adopted.

The relaxing of the laws in these two states has given hope to the remaining muzzle states to bring about a change in their laws. GAP NSW has unsuccessfully lobbied government for relaxing the muzzling provisions for several years and will continue to do so. Our most recent campaign, which targeted the 2004 review of the Companion Animals Act, was brushed off with the response that many of the changes requested by various groups were not practical. For example, the NSW government will not consider changing the rules for muzzling of Greyhounds.^{vi}

In an attempt to counter this, GAP NSW, following GAP Queensland's lead, has implemented the green collar system for all new adoptions and will be running special assessment days for previously adopted GAP dogs, as well as Greyhounds from non-GAP sources. Although the collars will have no legal standing for the moment, we expect that having a system in place whereby tem-

perament-tested Greyhounds can be readily identified by council authorities will go a long way to removing any "practical" objections to changing the law.

We continue to lobby politicians for change. Even at this level, we find that there is so very little awareness of the issues surrounding Greyhounds that our main task is education. In fact, we have to put more effort into educating the lawmakers than we do into educating the public. One high-level politician, with whom we recently spoke, suggested that replacing the traditional wire muzzle with a cloth one would be a solution to our problem. We organized a letter-writing campaign through our displays and our website (www.gapnsw.org.au/), which features a sample letter and contact addresses.

Australian Greyhounds are the same as those found anywhere else in the world and yet, along with the Greyhounds of Northern Ireland (the only other country with muzzling laws for Greyhounds away from the track), they are seen as somehow different by our legislators. Until this view changes and the muzzling laws are amended, no amount of work by Greyhound lovers will bring about a sufficient change in public perception to see a significant increase in the numbers of Greyhounds adopted and their general acceptance in the community as a suitable family pet. ■

Jaki Wallbank is Secretary of the Greyhound Adoption Program of New South Wales (NSW), Inc.

i Queensland Government website — www.lgp.qld.gov.au/applications/localLawSearch/quickSearch

ii Greyhound and Harness Racing Regulatory Authority, Regulation 145 "A registered person must not permit a greyhound, which is under the person's care or custody to be in or on a public place unless that Greyhound: (1) has a securely fixed muzzle . . ."

iii NSW Department of Local Government website www.dlg.nsw.gov.au.

iv Australian National Kennel Control National Registration Statistics.

v Greyhound and Harness Racing Regulatory Authority Annual Report (2005)

vi Press release, Minister for Local Government, June 29, 2004



Jasper (Atomic Bear), adopted by Paul Archibald and Desiree Pettit of Victoria, Australia, models the special green collar issued by GAP. This collar exempts Jasper from the requirement to wear a muzzle in public places.



Collaboration with your local college or university can be a great opportunity to educate your community about retired racing Greyhounds. Boomer, adopted by Brooks and Janet Liddiard of Horseheads, N.Y.

Take Your Greyhound to College — Educate Future Professionals about Retired Racers

By Mary Reuck Jalowoy, Ph.D.

If there is a college or university located near your Greyhound adoption group's headquarters and you have not yet collaborated with them, you may be missing a wonderful opportunity to educate the public about Greyhounds. College instructors often are seeking ways to link the material in their courses with organizations in the local community and the goals of your adoption group can fit right in. Our local university, for example, offers seminar-type courses that require graduating seniors to pull together their understandings from more than one field of study. A class called "Regarding Animals" has the following course description:

Do you love your cat? Dog? Horse? Hedgehog? All animals? Do you know someone who doesn't share your feelings? Is even afraid of animals? Ever wonder why? Utilizing the disciplines of psychology, rhetoric and sociology, we'll consider the role of animals in human society as well as focus on the representations of animals in symbols, stories, and material culture of humans past and present. We'll also ponder the differences that animals have made in human societies and the differences humans have made on the lives of animals — and we'll discuss what each of us believes these differences to be.

I thought — and the instructor enthusiastically agreed — that the topic of retired racing Greyhounds was a good match. My presentation to the class, with registered therapy dog DP Cuddle Bear at my side, looked at the extensive history of Greyhounds in human society, shared statistics on recent track closings, and described adoption groups' advances in transforming track dogs into companion animals. What follows are additional ideas about the

types of college classes you might visit with your retired racer(s) and suggestions for convincing the instructors to collaborate with you.

Art

What's in it for them? Students can learn about art history as well as add to their professional portfolios.

Their status as one of the oldest breeds of dogs makes Greyhounds particularly suitable for a discussion of art history. Make arrangements to visit an art class and share the images of Greyhounds throughout history posted at <http://www.clipart.com/en/search/split?a=c&q=greyhound>. Capturing the elegance and motion of this breed is an artistic challenge, so you might bring in a group of Greyhounds to move around and lounge about while an art class sketches them. The art produced in this way can serve a dual purpose. First, it can be used to illustrate the adoption group's brochure or other advertising. Second, it gives the student artists a credit to include in their professional portfolios. Invite other art students who work with paints, textiles, sculpture, or jewelry to make a one-of-a-kind item that can be auctioned off as a fundraiser.

Education and Teacher Preparation

What's in it for them? Future teachers can achieve the goals of humane education and learn



Joe adopted by Nick Rivers of Victoria, Australia.

about new ways to motivate children to read.

Education courses are a natural fit for a visit from retired Greyhounds. Teaching of science courses for teachers emphasize compassion for living things. A retired racer is a powerful, living example of humane education. If any of your Greyhounds are involved in a read/dog program such as Reading Education Assistance Dogs® (see "Retired Racers Support Children's Reading," Spring 2006 CG), a visit to a reading or language arts methods class would be very appropriate. Speaking with a graduate class offers the

additional advantage of addressing a group of experienced teachers; a single, memorable presentation will get the word out to all of the schools and districts represented by the group, paving the way for presentations to children out in the schools (see www.monicaheart.com for a presentation for children).

Journalism

What's in it for them? College students can look at examples of articles on a controversial topic, discuss the need for a fair and balanced perspective, and perhaps publish their work.

Work with a journalism class to chronicle some of the articles and documentaries that were influential in accomplishing changes in attitudes toward racing Greyhounds over the past 20 years. Collaborate with some of your contacts from the racing industry to talk about the business of dog racing and how it is changing. Critique the print materials from the Greyhound Protection League (<http://www.greyhounds.org/gpl/contents/nighday.html>). Many universities have a child care facility on campus; have journalism students "cover" a story about retired racers visiting young children and publish an article about your adoption group in the university newspaper, newsletter, or local media.

Health Care and Social Work

What's in it for them? Health and social service professionals can learn more about attending to the social and emotional needs of patients and clients.



Nero, adopted by Bea Anderson of Victoria, Australia.

While visiting a personal care home, I passed by a classroom where a group of student nurses were meeting with their instructor. All eyes were on my Greyhound so I said, "Pardon us for disturbing you. We come here every Wednesday to visit the residents. We'll visit you too, if you don't mind the interruption." "Please do," the professor said with a smile. I first asked if anyone was allergic to or afraid of dogs and, after all said no, we made our rounds with 16 future nurses. The next semester I was asked to make a presentation on the role of therapy dogs in the health and well-being of patients. With this audience of future nurses, it was particularly important to explain how therapy dogs are trained and describe all of the precautions that are taken to ensure that the dogs are clean, healthy, and parasite-free.

Another opportunity to reach large numbers of faculty and students is through a university-sponsored health fair that is open to

all students and faculty. Handlers and Greyhounds can be stationed at one of the booths on campus and serve as ambassadors for the breed.

Advanced Photography

What's in it for them? Photographers can meet the challenge of photographing live animals, capture the bond between adopters and their Greyhounds on film, and publish their work.

Share back issues and calendars of CG and then ask a group of photography students to get equally good shots of various Greyhounds. Invite one or more photography students to go on a photo shoot with you, perhaps to a meet-and-greet or your adoption group's annual picnic. Obtain photo releases of any people who appear in the photographs so that your adoption group can incorporate these images into its advertising or website. Don't forget the photo credits.

With a store of high-quality photographs

in hand, you might create a calendar or work with students in a communications media or technology course to redesign your adoption group's web site.

As these examples of collaboration with college faculty illustrate, taking your retired racing Greyhound to college can be beneficial to you and to the students. The college students get to apply what they are learning and produce works that document their competence, while you are able to create unique opportunities to promote the breed to the next generation of professionals. ■

Dr. Mary Renck Jalongo is a professor of education at Indiana University of Pennsylvania and the handler of a registered therapy dog and retired racer, Cuddles (DP Cuddle Bear). She works with Monica's Heart Greyhound Adoptions in Altoona, Pennsylvania.



Who's the other dog? *Bea Anderson*

Beauty and the Beast

By Diane Anderson

Tim and Diane live with Trixie the Greyhound. A few months ago, they were joined by Rufus, a 7-week-old English Mastiff puppy. Trixie and Rufus adore each other now, but it was definitely not love at first sight. ■

Tim and Diane Anderson live with Trixie and Rufus in Blaine, Minn.



Don't even!



A little close, don't you think?



Are you begging?



No way!



Well, maybe . . .



This isn't so bad.





Christopher Comes Home

By Susan Haile

Chris came into my life in April. I'd made the phone calls and filled in the adoption papers, with advice and encouragement — and some of my friends a bit negative, but I'd made my decision.

Adoption day at Sandown was dismal, raining and cold. After papers were signed, I walk out with the largest dog there. We get to the car — well, what does one do with a totally strange dog? I open the door and say "Hop in." This wasn't in his language. He gets his front legs on the back seat, but that's it. I try and give him a lift. We are both a bit wary, but he does hop in, eventually.

Luckily, Chris is allowed to relieve himself in public. Not so me. We finally arrive home, in Rye. I'm busting for a wee, but I've yet to introduce the dogs. First things first. Chris and I enter my small, fenced-off yard, and we both have a much needed wee. By now Tessa, my Border Collie cross, is poking her head through the fence, watching this unusual scene. What is the old girl up to? Who is this over-large dog? They both have a sniff. I have to bite the bullet sooner than later, so I open the gate for more sniffing and weeing.

Next, the house. We all pile into my small abode. Chris checks out each room, then promptly settles down on the new lounge mat I'd bought him. Tessa just lies there and watches this big blue dog.

For the next two weeks, I'm sure Chris just thought he was in another foster home. He never wagged his tail. I would get the occasional kiss, so I get complacent and think this will be a breeze.

Something clicks in his brain and he realizes he is here forever. The fun starts.

Tessa becomes Chris's playmate, and for a few short weeks the object of his sexual desire. Thankfully, this passes quickly.

I lead a reasonably quiet life, but do go out, visit neighbors, and do a few hours' work. As Chris has had a couple of wees in the house, I start to leave the back wire door propped open for the obvious.

One day I decide to pop down to Gwen's for a glass of wine or two. I leave the dogs inside with access to the yard. An hour later I walk in the front door to Chris dashing around the lounge with the elastic on a mattress protector around his neck. He prances around like a bride with this long, flowing white object on his head. So pleased with himself.

His best effort: A girlfriend had come to lunch and as she was renovating her swish house, she brought me a heap of pillows, a doona (duvet), and lots of linen and cushions. I visited Gwen for an hour or so, then returned home and opened the front door to two dogs belting about in a complete snowstorm. My first reaction was to yell, so then I had two dogs doing wheelies around the kitchen to get out the back door, which was still propped open. I open a bottle of red, sit down, have a glass, and then start collecting all the "snow." By the time I'm on the second bottle of red, I'm laughing my head off. The naughty ones are still outside in disgrace. At least they don't see me laughing.

By now I figure Chris has a personality of his own. Big blue Chris with those melting amber eyes, butter wouldn't melt in his mouth . . . not true. "Couch potato," I was told. Well, this is true 90% of the day. The other 10% is Chris's time.

We seem to have a respite for a while. Chris is the near perfect dog. He has a couple of wees in the hall, but it's raining, and he doesn't fancy going out the still-open door for a wee.

My good mate Gail phones me. She and her bride-to-be daughter are popping in. Everyone wants to meet Chris. We girls are borrowing stuff for the coming flash wedding. Jokingly, I bring out my fur jacket. The next morning, my mind is on making coffee, feeding the dogs, and heading off to work. Not thinking, I leave the jacket on the stool in the dining room.

I arrive home a bit over an hour later. Chris has kindly killed the fur for me. I did-

n't thank him for the kill. As I bought the fur for my eccentric old age, I'll be riding a three-wheeled bike, wearing a fur with the pelts hanging off. A red beret will set off the outfit. Perhaps an orange feather.

Months later, the back door is still propped open. I now have mice; a first for me. I go through the selective safe poisoning to dispose of the little buggars. Next thing I know, I think I see a ring-tailed possum coming in the back door. Wrong — it's a rat. Now we're into serious stuff. I figure they've come in through the toilet outlet. Evidence there, so I have the bloke plaster everything, and get rid of the rats. I can tell you Greyhounds aren't ratters.

The back door is now firmly closed.

God forbid, I'm approaching 60 next year. Chris has given me more joy in the short time he's been with Tessa and I, more expense with his clumsy accidents, more house alterations, and more laughs than I could have imagined. I've met some really nice people both personally and on the Internet. He's enhanced my life and kept both Tessa and I fit with our daily walks. Not to mention those amber eyes . . . heater-hogging, big lug.

I'm glad I was mad enough to adopt a Greyhound named Christopher. Laughs, great people, and fitness. Everyone should try it. ■

Susan Haile and Christopher live in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia.



Ever vigilant. *Bea Anderson*



Traumatized beyond repair, the surface of this paw pad is growing skin tissue.

Paw Pads and Nails

A Review of Common Problems and Associated Care

By John P. Bonpharo, MS, DVM, OTR/L

Though generally low maintenance, the Greyhound appears to be more susceptible to paw pad and nail problems than many other dog breeds. A wide variety of conditions can affect paw pads and nails. Some of the most common problems affecting Greyhounds are outlined below. There are other conditions that can affect Greyhound paws, so consult your veterinarian for proper diagnosis and treatment.

Paw Pad Conditions

Acute Trauma

Paw pads are generally softer in Greyhounds than in other dog breeds, and are prone to cuts, scrapes, and burns. Paw pads should be checked regularly, especially if you walk your dog on gravel, pavement, sand, or other harsh surfaces.

Once cut or damaged, paw pads heal slowly. Even a small cut or scrape on the pad can take weeks to fully heal. When the dog bears weight on the paw, the newly forming pad skin stretches and tears easily, reopening the wound. Therefore, it is important to reduce the pressure on the new pad skin when the dog is bearing weight on the paw. One way to do this is by placing a donut-shaped pad over the wound and then bandaging the paw. This bandaging technique transfers weight onto the rest of the paw and away from the wounded area. It reduces stress and allows new tissue to form without further trauma. See Dr. Steve Swaim's article listed in the references at the end of this article for more information on this type of bandaging technique.

Because new pad skin is so fragile and vulnerable to re-injury, my recommendation is to pad and protect the paw for an additional 12 to 14 days after you or your veterinarian feel the wound has healed. After removing the bandage, start by walking the dog only on softer surfaces only and keeping the paw protected when the dog is outdoors. Once the new pad skin starts to toughen up, slowly re-introduce the dog to harder surfaces. In addition, paw pad toughening agents are available and can speed up the healing process.

When treating a pad wound, try to stay away from ointment-based, topical antibiotics. Paw pads naturally shed moisture, and ointments tend to lock in that moisture. This can slow pad skin growth and break down newly forming skin (remember that pad skin should be tough). You will have more success treating pad wounds by keeping the

area clean and dry. Chlorhexiderm (Chlorhexidine Gluconate®) is a drying flush rinse with antimicrobial properties that is effective for treating these types of wounds. Please contact your veterinarian before treating any wound.

Finally, keep in mind that paw pad tissue is highly specialized and can become traumatized beyond repair. As a result, skin tissue, instead of pad tissue, may grow over the pad. Skin tissue is not made to withstand the same type of pressure as pad skin, and it will require continuous protection if not surgically treated. Surgical options for this type of condition include amputation of the digit or pad grafting, where healthy pad tissue is taken from an unaffected paw pad and grafted onto the pad that has failed to grow. Most paw pad problems can be avoided altogether by taking a more proactive role, such as regular paw maintenance or having the dog wear protective boots when in an unfamiliar or potentially hazardous walking environment.

Dry and Cracked Paw Pads

Dry, cracked pads are a common problem, especially in older dogs. Causes of dry, cracked pads may include zinc deficiency, distemper, chronic licking, and repeated exposure to chemicals such as rug and floor cleaners, lawn fertilizer and pesticides, and road salt. If you suspect that environmental exposure to toxic chemicals is responsible, switch to all-natural floor cleaners, avoid chemically treated areas, clean the paws with

warm water after exposure, or protect them with boots.

Zinc deficiency (Syndromes I and II) can also cause dry, cracked pads as well as hyperkeratosis of the pad skin (also known as corns). Zinc levels are not routinely tested in blood work, so you need to ask your veterinarian to specifically test zinc levels if you suspect that cracked pads or corns are related to a zinc deficiency. Fortunately, both Syndromes I and II are easily treated with zinc supplements and diet modification. Corns can also benefit by zinc supplementation, but further treatments may be needed depending on the severity of the condition. For more information on corns, please see "Corns and warts: definitions, causes, and treatments" (Fall 2003 CG).

Overgrown, crusty, and crumbly paw pads can be a sign of canine distemper. These crusty pads can occur even years after distemper has been treated. This paw pad condition is not cured but is instead managed with gentle filing of the overgrowth using a pumice stone, and by moisturizing the paw pads with an ointment-based topical such as petroleum jelly. Ointments are more easily absorbed if the paws are first soaked in warm water. Once the ointment is applied, cover the paws with clean, light, breathable socks or boots to prevent the dog from licking off the ointment.

Chronic Licking

Chronic licking can also cause paw pad and nail erosion. Licking can be allergy-relat-

ed. Of these, food allergies or those caused by exposure to toxic chemicals such as lawn pesticides are the most common. In addition, licking can be caused by the overgrowth of an organism, such as a yeast infection. Licking can be due to parasites like mites or fleas. Also, licking can be behavioral. It decreases anxiety and stress, and acts as a form of displaced behavior much like humans who tend to bite their nails when nervous. Licking can also help to reduce boredom and, since Greyhounds are social animals, licking behavior is more common with a Greyhound who is left alone for long periods.

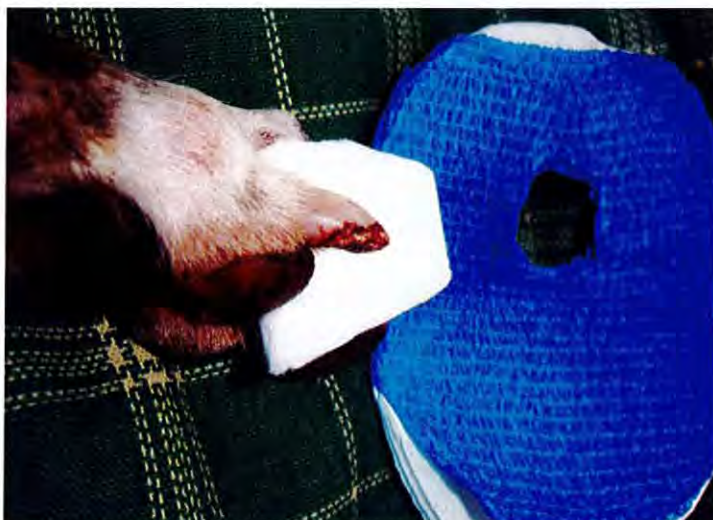
Since licking has been shown to temporarily reduce anxiety and pain, it can be a sign of a more serious medical illness. Watch for other symptoms such as change in behavior, panting, vomiting, loss of appetite, or lameness/limping. Since Greyhounds are prone to arthritis, especially in the wrists, ankles, and digits, watch for licking of these areas and consult your veterinarian.

Licking can easily become a habit (canine compulsive disorder) and should be taken very seriously since it can result in dermatitis, granulomas/ulcerations, and infection. In rare cases, if licking behavior is left unchecked, infection can spread, and can end in limb amputation.

Often, Bitter® Apple and other unappealing sprays are not successful, and an Elizabethan collar is only a temporary fix. *The most important step toward successfully treating chronic licking is to determine the underlying cause.* A holistic veterinarian may be



The tissue on this injured paw pad is tender.



A padded bandage protects the paw pad.



Long nails can make worse a pre-existing deformity. *Morgan Francis, RVRC-Rehab, Va.*

best suited to help treat this chronic problem, whether it is allergy-related, a sign of another underlying condition, or behavioral. Acupuncture has been shown to be one of the more successful complementary treatments (Deneen, 2002). In severe anxiety cases, medications such as fluoxetine (Prozac®) or clomipramine hydrochloride (Clomicalm®) may be warranted. You can also do a lot to reduce anxiety, nervousness, or boredom in your dog. Regular exercise and treat-filled chew toys can help. Some people leave the television or radio on during their absence, or schedule dog walkers or other visiting companions.

Keep in mind that, regardless of the paw problem, licking will generally worsen a condition. Beyond medical care and changing the dog's environment, you can help reduce licking by covering the affected paw using a breathable, protective sock or boot. Also, sprinkling the inside of the boot with Dr. Scholl's Original Foot Powder® (unscented),

a product called Anti-Monkey Butt® (a calamine powder; www.antimonkeybutt.com), or cornstarch will help to absorb excess moisture, lubricate the paw, and reduce itching.

Corns and Warts

When corns and warts appear at the bottom of the paw pad, they can be quite painful and cause the dog to limp. For more information on corns and warts, see "Corns and warts: definitions, causes, and treatments" *CG Magazine* (Fall, 2003). There are some more recent findings on possible causes for corns. As discussed above, zinc deficiency can cause corns or exacerbate the condition. Also, it is now believed that corns can develop or the condition can be exacerbated in dogs with excessively long nails (see Long Nails and Associated Risks, below).

Nail Conditions

As with paw pad problems, there are

many conditions that affect the Greyhound nail. Some of the more common disorders are immune-mediated, such as symmetrical lupoid onychodystrophy (SLO) and pemphigus, both of which cause the nails to fall off. Much has been written regarding these immune-related problems (e.g., Bader, 2004; Blythe, Gannon, and Craig, 1994). Both conditions are ongoing, but not life-threatening, and can be effectively controlled with combinations of antibiotics, steroids, and essential fatty acids. Diet changes have also shown promise in keeping these diseases in remission. Keep in mind that the nail is an extension of the skin. Therefore, anything affecting the dog's skin, such as poor diet or immune problems, will also affect the dog's nails.

More frequently, problems arise when Greyhound nails are not routinely trimmed. Long nails have a greater tendency to get snagged on carpet and, as the dog pulls away, to tear. Long nails can also perpetuate, exacerbate, or even cause more serious problems.

Long Nails and Associated Risks

In general, nails grow at a rate of about 2 mm per week. Many Greyhounds prefer walking on softer surfaces like grass. Their nails tend to be longer than other breeds since they do not have the opportunity to naturally wear them down on harder surfaces like pavement. But nail length is a maintenance issue, and not a breed characteristic, and there are risks associated with having nails that are too long.

Long nails cause twisting of the digits, which can tear ligaments, dislocate joints, and cause arthritis. This is especially true in the Greyhound since this breed has longer, more vulnerable digits. Long nails can displace the digits, changing the angle at which the paw pads touch the ground. This places excess pressure on discreet portions of the paw pads, causing the formation of calluses/corns. Several veterinary surgeons who routinely treat Greyhounds with corns believe that there is a cause-and-effect relationship between long nails and corns. Excessively long nails will also cause the dog to rock his weight backward, which adds stress to the wrists and ankles. Long-term, this can lead to joint and soft tissue problems such as arthritis, degenerative joint disease,

and overstretched tendons (e.g., hyperextension of the flexor tendons of the carpus/wrist). Long nails can also exacerbate a pre-existing deformity.

As is evident, long nails can lead to potentially long-term problems. Most of the problems listed above can be helped or avoided altogether by establishing a regular nail-trimming schedule. The importance of proper nail maintenance in the Greyhound has been previously highlighted in several articles (e.g., Fredrick, 1997).

Trimming Nails

Many owners cringe at the thought of trimming their dog's nails. If so, then regular nail trimming (every four to six weeks) by a veterinarian, groomer, or a knowledgeable

friend should be sought. Nail trimming does not have to be a daunting task for the owner, nor a painful one for the dog.

Though most veterinarians and groomers use nail clippers, clippers are less desirable for dogs with dark nails, since the quick is not visible. The quick is the living center of the nail, and cutting it is painful for the dog and causes bleeding. A battery-operated sanding tool is the method of choice because it reduces the risk of cutting the quick and allows you to shorten, shape, and smooth the nails much better than a standard clipper. Also, sanding the nail up to and around the quick will cause it to recede. Therefore, the next filing session will allow me to sand the nail even shorter. This procedure can be continued until the nails are short, with blunted

ends. Nails that are too long hit the ground and cause the dog to rock backward, putting excess pressure on the back of his paw pads and wrist. As mentioned above, the long-term effects of this can include the development of corns, arthritis, and/or overstretched tendons. With good nail length, the dog's nails do not touch the ground, and the dog has even weight distribution throughout the limb and paw.

Though there are many types of sanding tools available, use a hand-held Dremel™ with a drum sander attachment. Do not use the stone grinder attachments since they become too hot and can burn the dog. If you have not used a Dremel™ tool to trim your dog's nails before, it is easiest to learn by watching someone with experience.

My protocol is as follows: Sand one nail for just three to five seconds, and then rotate to another nail. Keeping the sander on one nail for longer periods will cause it to heat up and can burn the dog. Lightly place the sander on the dog's nail and allow the rotating head to file the dog's nail. Do not push down on the nail since this too will produce excess heat. If your dog has excessively long nails, repeat this procedure every seven to ten days. This will give the nail quick a chance to recede, and you can continue every week or so until the nails are short with blunted ends. The dog's nails should not be heard when he walks across a hard floor. Once the nails are short, then sanding should be done every four to six weeks, depending on how quickly the nails grow.

With dogs that are fearful of having their nails trimmed, use a systematic desensitization approach accompanied by lots of praise. Start by holding the sander or nail clipper next to your dog and rewarding him with pats or treats. Keep the sander or clipper out for the dog to see and sniff (e.g., place it next to the feeding station, take it with you on leash walks). The more non-threatening exposure your dog has to the tool, the more comfortable he will be with it. When he seems comfortable, repeat the above while turning the sander on, or by cutting match sticks with the clipper (to mimic the sound of cutting nails). Continue to reward the dog with every positive, non-fearful step he takes toward the tool.



Chuckie, adopted by the Morris family of New South Wales, Australia, and Georgie, adopted by the Meiers family of Queensland, Australia. Craig Myers



These nails are too long.



These nails are at a proper length.

During this time, it is also important to handle your dog's paws as often as possible. Start with patting his paws or incorporate paw-handling during normal, daily routines (e.g., pat or rub the paws before feeding or going out for a walk). Then, re-introduce the tool to the dog by simply touching one or two nails briefly (keeping the sander turned off). Repeat the procedure with the sander turned on or by clipping just a tiny end of one nail. Each step should be repeated and done one day at a time so as to not overwhelm the dog, always ending on a positive note. Praise should accompany every new, positive step. With slow, systematic desensitization, you will be able to handle your dog's paws and trim his nails without protest. If, at some point, your dog becomes fearful again, then take a few steps backward and slowly reintroduce the procedure.

Final Notes – A Holistic Approach

If you have ever worn uncomfortable

shoes, you know that more than your feet hurt at the end of the day; your whole body aches. Likewise, when a dog has painful paws it can affect his entire body. Just like humans with painful feet, dogs with painful paws tend to shift their weight to reduce the pressure and pain. As a result, there is added stress on the neck and spine, as well as on the legs bearing the extra weight. When a dog has a chronic issue affecting the paws, a holistic approach to treatment may be most effective.

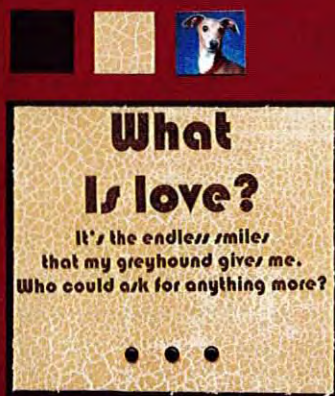
A holistic approach means treating the whole dog, not just the part that is painful. Beyond specific, traditional veterinary care for the affected paw (e.g., prescriptions, surgery, bandaging), various treatment options are considered. This may include possible changes in diet (supportive) and supplements (for immune system and joint health), as well as the addition of complementary therapies such as acupuncture (for pain), chiropractic (for spinal realignment), modalities (such as therapeutic laser for healing), and

manual therapies such as stretching, joint mobilization, and massage (for maintaining or re-establishing optimal soft tissue and joint balance). To find a holistic practitioner in your area, search the American Holistic Veterinary Medical Association website (www.ahvma.org). Additionally, certified canine rehabilitation practitioners are skilled in treating dogs using therapeutic modalities and manual therapies. As with all care for your dog, please consult your veterinarian. ■

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Ilaria F. Borghese is the president of Thera-Paw, Inc., a company that manufactures and distributes Thera-Paw Boots, Carpo-Flex Sports Wraps, and other assistive products for animals with special needs. Using her experience in human-based therapy and medicine, she works closely with veterinarians to develop rehabilitative and assistive products for animals with special needs. She publishes and distributes AblePet, a resource catalog for veterinary rehabilitation practitioners. She is also involved in Greyhound rescue, and has lectured and written several articles on paw-related issues in retired racing Greyhounds.



Start Those Seasonal Projects Now!

By Lisann Porter and Becky Taggart-Redmond

The third in a series, this article continues the exploration of creative approaches for your Greyhound-themed greeting cards and scrapbooking projects.

Scrapbook pages and holiday greeting cards are a great way to display and share your Greyhound photographs and keepsakes.

Gather the items you need for your photo pages and greeting cards:

- Photographs.
- Card and paper stock. Choose two to three papers for each set of photo pages. Coordinate the paper with some of the colors in the photographs.
- Rubber stamping and scrapbooking supplies: ink pads (several colors), scissors and/or paper trimmer, ruler, adhesive (mono adhesive is our favorite, both removable and permanent), brushes, cotton swabs, markers, colored pencils, and chalk.
- A VersaMark™ stamp pad is great for many projects, both stamping and scrapbooking.
- Extras for interesting finishing touches: ribbons, fabric, spirals, buttons, brads, wire curls, copper wire and beads (you can go wild with lots of choices at your local stamping store or on-line supplier).

Hints and Tips

- If you are having trouble deciding on papers, try laying out your photos on an assortment of colored paper stock.
- Lots of layers make a more attractive, interesting card.
- Paper and card stock can be cut in any sizes or shapes; just make sure the end result will easily slide into your standard card size envelope or fit in your album.
- Remember to stamp the outside of your envelopes. This is a nice addition to the presentation.

The following projects can easily be adjusted to whatever size card, scrapbook or photo album pages you would like to create.

Although we left the inside of the greeting cards blank for your personal note or holiday message, a Happy Holidays Greyhound rubber stamp could be used with a deep red or black ink to coordinate with the outside of the card.

"Greyhound Love" Scrapbooking (two pages shown 8-1/2" H x 11" W each)

First, cut and trim your photos. If you are working with digital photos, resize and crop the images into approximately 3/4" squares.

Choose two sheets of heavyweight paper for main pages, plus three other contrasting papers (two lighter for stamping, and a darker paper for framing photos and for accents).

We used burgundy paper for the basic pages, accented along the outside edges with strips of black, textured tan, and burgundy ribbon. (Use adhesive to attach: 3/4" wide black strip; overlapped with 1/2" wide textured tan paper, topped with 3/8" wide ribbon.)

Mount the larger photos on the black paper, leaving a small edge showing for a framing effect.

Text in the Title Box can be hand lettered, rubber stamped, or computer generated. This Title Box is approximately 3-1/2" H x 4" W x 4" W x 3-1/2" H and framed/mounted on black paper.

Stamp the Greyhound images on a lighter color, smooth finish paper. Since these pages are focusing on square shapes, we chose two square stamps. Then cut out around the stamped images leaving a small border of paper for frame.

Cut a half dozen 3/4" squares of your other accent papers. These, plus the paper and ribbon strips along the sides of the pages will tie all of your colors and images together.

Before attaching everything to the pages, lay all of the mounted photos and squares on the pages. Rearrange as needed, based on the sizes and shapes of the larger photos. Place the small 3/4" photos and colored squares in several different places for balance.

Groups of three small black brads are attached on each page for dimension and interesting accent. The last step is to attach everything with adhesive.

Stamps used for this piece:

#61V Three Greyhounds Box

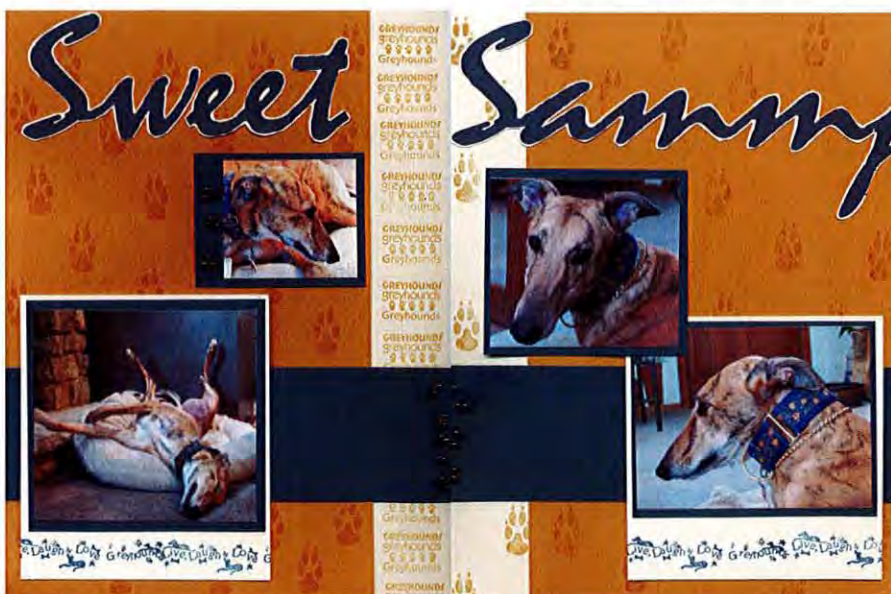
#27V Stars, Bones, Hearts, Hounds

ored paper (cream). Then use the Large Paw stamp with gold ink to accent the cream colored section on the facing page. Use adhesive to attach the cream and gold papers to make a total of 8-1/2" H x 11" W size.

Tie the two pages together by using a coordinating cardstock and stamp pad ink. Cut paper slightly larger than each photo for matting/framing of each. Then cut two strips of the same colored paper (our teal blue strips are 2-1/2" H x 8-1/2" W each).

The cream paper was also used to create larger, double-matted frames for two of the larger photographs. The Live Laugh Hounds stamp was used at the bottom, wider border of the cream frames with the teal blue ink, which adds to the color theme of the pages.

The Title for this page was computer gener-



"Sweet Sammy" Scrapbooking (Two pages shown 8-1/2" H x 11" W each)

It was easy to choose the colors for this layout, based on Sam's beautiful collar. We used gold, cream, and teal blue with coordinating gold and teal blue stamp pad ink.

Cut the paper for the basic pages: Two pieces of the darker color (gold) at 11" H x 7" W x 7" H x 11" W and two pieces of the lighter color (cream) 11" H x 4" W x 4" W x 11" H.

Create an all-over background page design. Use the Large Paw stamp with a VersaMark™ pad on the darker paper for a subtle, tone-on-tone effect. Use the small rectangular Greyhounds & Paws stamp with a gold ink pad to stamp a repeated pattern down the side of the page on the light col-

ored paper. Then use the Large Paw stamp with gold ink to accent the cream colored section on the facing page. Use adhesive to attach the cream and gold papers to make a total of 8-1/2" H x 11" W size.

Use 26 gauge copper wire with small, multi-colored beads for a fancy, metallic statement (here it matches Sammy's fancy dress-up collar). Then use your adhesive to attach the rest of the photos and cutout pieces to the pages.

Stamps used for this piece:

#12V Large Greyhound Paw

#54V Greyhounds & Paws

#96V Live Laugh Hounds

Last step for your scrapbooking projects: Sit back with all of your memories and enjoy look-

ing through your photo album or scrapbook!

"Greyhounds Best Friends" Holiday Card (5-1/2" H x 4-1/4" W)

Share a photo of your favorite hound (or family and hound) by featuring it in a small photo frame on your greeting card.

Start with one piece 8-1/2" H x 5-1/2" W card stock (we used cream). Fold in half.

Cut three pieces colored card stock. We used black 5-1/2" H x 4-1/4" W, textured red 5-1/4" H x 4" W, and tan 5" H x 1-1/4" W).

Use Greyhound rubber stamp with black ink (or other coordinating ink) on the lighter colored bottom border paper. Use adhesive to attach tan paper to red paper.

Once you have found or resized the perfect picture to fit in a small photo frame, add a special decorative touch by sliding a piece of black ribbon (5/8" W x 7" to 8" H)



through the back of the frame. Wrap the ribbon around the red card stock. Use adhesive or tape to attach the ribbon to the backside of the red paper.

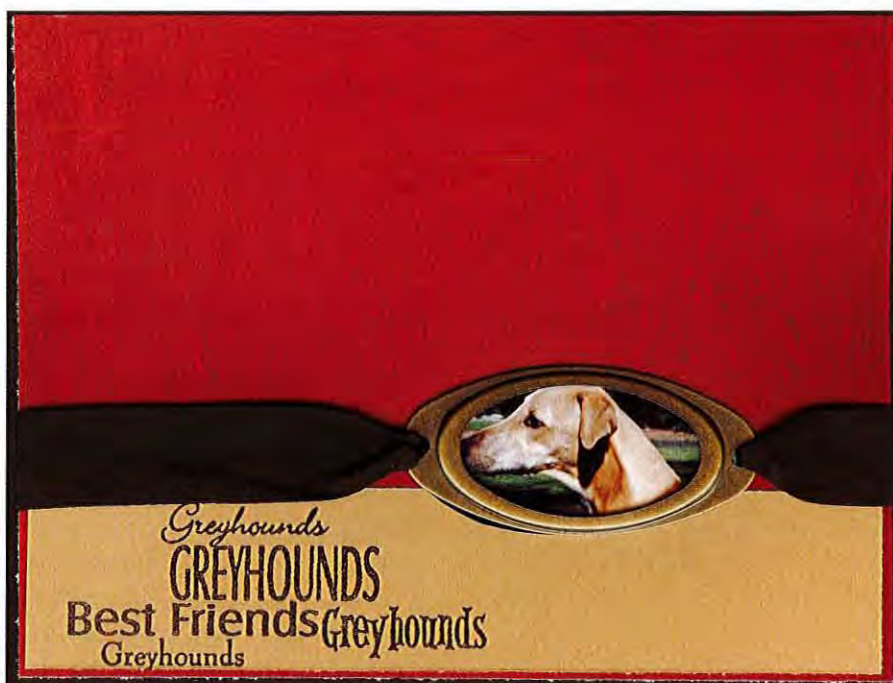
Finally, using adhesive, attach the top section (frame, ribbon, tan and red paper) to the black paper. Then glue all to the top half of the basic cream card stock.

Stamp the envelope with the same Greyhounds Best Friends rubber stamp. For a border effect, use two stamped images across the bottom front and two across the bottom back.

Stamp used for this card:

#99V, Greyhounds Best Friends

"Hound with Dog Bones" Holiday



Card (5-1/2" H x 4-1/4" W)

Again, start with one piece 8-1/2" H x 5-1/2" W card stock (cream shown), folded.

Cut three pieces colored card stock. We used dark green 5-1/2" H x 4-1/4" W, black 4-3/4" H x 3-5/8" W, and then textured red card stock cut slightly smaller at 4-5/8" H x 3-1/2" W.

Stamp an extra-large Greyhound stamp on cream or beige paper with black ink. Use watercolor pencils to shade in areas on bones and hound for shape and dimension. Blend with a blender pen or use water and a small paint brush (a cotton swab could work, too). Cut around the edges, leaving a small border of the cream paper.

Use adhesive to attach the stamped Greyhound form to the red paper. Handwrite your holiday greeting on the front and/or on the inside of card. (you can also print it on the computer or use rubber stamps if preferred).

Use adhesive to attach red and black paper. Then for a decorative touch, use four small black brads near the corner of the red and black paper. Then attach red, black, and green paper to the top half of the original cream card stock with adhesive (hiding the back of the brads).

Stamp envelope with Bone & Bow Stamp in a partial border: from top left corner down left side, then across the bottom to right side of card, approximately 7 or 8 times, in differ-

ent directions.

Stamps used for this card:

#LG66V Hound & Bones (extra-large stamp 4-3/8" H x 2-1/4" W)

#93V Dog bone with bow (used on envelope)

Refer to Greyhound rubber stamping and scrapbooking articles in previous issues of *Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine* for other projects as well as basic stamping instructions and specialty techniques. Copies of these articles are also available in the Greyhound section at the website www.voyagersjewelry.com.

Scrapbook and rubber stamping supplies are available at most craft stores. Also recommended is the website www.stampinup.com.

In the next issue of *Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine*, our final scrapbooking feature will provide instructions for scrapbook pages based on using your Christmas and holiday photographs. ■

Lisann Porter and Becky Taggart-Redmond (and their Greyhounds) work together and promote Greyhound adoption every day at The Voyagers Jewelry Design in Cambridge, Wisconsin. The Redmonds have been adopting Greyhounds for over 15 years. The Greyhounds continue to be their inspiration for Greyhound jewelry and rubber stamp creations. Over 100 original design Greyhound rubber stamps are available at The Voyagers (<http://www.voyagersjewelrydesign.com>)

Saturday, September 9

Greyhound Reunion and Walk-a-thon

Greyhound Rescue of N.E.

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

Riverbend Farm State Park

Oak Street

Uxbridge, Mass.

Fun day for the whole family and your Greyhound. Silent auction, raffles, lunch, Greyhound items for sale, information booths, and a walk-a-thon fundraiser. Contact: Diane Henning, (508) 478-1617 or adopt@greyhoundrescue.org; www.greyhoundrescue.org

Saturday, September 9

Ninth Annual Picnic

Northern Lights Greyhound Adoption

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

Battle Creek Regional Park

2300 Upper Afton Road

Maplewood, Minn.

Join us for our ninth picnic celebrating Greyhound adoption. The Gilley Girls Dancing Greyhounds Drill Team will once again grace us with their presence. Shopping, food, games, raffles, auctions, blessing of the hounds and more. Contact: Donna Barr, (763) 754-9754 or guber2nac@aol.com

Sunday, September 10

Fourth Annual Picnic

Greyhound Welfare, Inc.

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

Circle D Farm

15335 Carrs Mill Road

Woodbine, Md.

Support Greyhound Welfare's ongoing rescue and placement efforts while enjoying a family-style picnic, Greyhound contests, a silent auction, shopping with vendors, and all things Greyhounds with fellow Greyhound enthusiasts and their retired racers. Contact: Jenny Glenn, (301) 779-3376 or events@greyhoundwelfare.org

Friday, September 15

Eastern Specialty

Greyhound Club of America

8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

West End Fairgrounds

Route 209

Gilbert, Pa.

Obedience and conformation show for AKC-registered Greyhounds. Contact: June Matarazzo, Show Chairman, wilomor@optonline.net

Saturday, September 16

Fall Ball

Grateful Greyhounds

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

Belmont Lake State Park

Southern State Parkway, Exit 38

Long Island, N.Y.

Join us for a fun day with old and new friends. \$8/person charge includes picnic lunch, games, and lots of Greyhound stuff. Greyhounds only, please. RSVP to Lisa Sallie at (516) 735-5070; www.gratefulgreys.org.

Saturday, September 16

Ninth Annual Reunion

Quad Cities Greyhound Adoption

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

Community Center and Park

Maysville, Iowa

This year's event will be held near our new kennel. Contact: Nancy Jones, greys@qcgreyhoundadoption.org

Saturday, September 16

Greyt Greyhound Gathering

GPA/MoKan

8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Camp Shawnee

Parkville, Mo.

Join us for a day of games, agility and obedience training, an animal communicator, and more. Ask anyone who has ever attended; our speakers never disappoint! This year will also feature the return of the Fun Run. \$20/person; dogs are free (all breeds welcome). Contact: Shannon Henson, (816) 252-8056 or shannon@gpamokan.org; www.gpamokan.org

Sunday, September 17

Annual Picnic

GPA/Northern Virginia

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

Still Pond Park

Franklin Farm, Va.

Food, silent auction, raffles, games, and more. Contact: Kathy Keefer, (703) 590-8080 or jkkairkyle@aol.com; Gay LaNasa, (703) 533-1310 or gayfer@msn.com

Sunday, September 17

Annual Picnic/Reunion

Greyhound Rescue, Inc.

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

Carderock Park

Carderock, Md.

Annual reunion celebrating Greyhound adoption. Bring a dish to share. Fun and games! Contact: Darlene Riden, (410) 721-1154, d.riden@comcast.net; www.greyrescue.org

Sunday, September 17

Annual Picnic

GPA/Nashville

1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Centennial Park Events Shelter

Nashville, Tenn.

Pot luck lunch, games, prizes, and silent auction. Contact: Mardy Fones, (615) 297-2033, mafones@comcast.net; www.gpanashville.org

Thursday through Sunday,

September 21-24

Beach Bound Hounds

Greyhound Crossroads

6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. daily

Myrtle Beach, S.C.

Greyhound owners and adoption groups welcome to our seventh annual reunion. We raise money for all rescue groups through our Saturday sales event and promote Greyhound adoption/awareness all week. This event is also a fundraiser for Greyhound Crossroads. Contact: Cyndi, (843) 602-7367 or wilkinssquirrel@yahoo.com

Saturday and Sunday, September 23 & 24

It's a Greyhound Life!

Greyhound Lovers of Hamilton
Wentworth

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Binbrook Fairgrounds

Highway 56

Binbrook, Ontario, Canada

A celebration of life, Greyhound style! Shopping, information sharing, fun and games. Proceeds support GLOHW's ongoing work with retired racers. Contact: Heather Geres, (905) 692-5790, glohw@glohw.ca; www.glohw.ca

Saturday, September 23

First Greyt Stomp & Romp

Wine Country Greyhound Adoption

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Rincon Valley Community Park

5108 Badger Road

Santa Rosa, Calif.

Join our Winedogs for a picnic in the park! Food, games, raffles, silent auction. Please call to reserve a spot for you and your hound. Contact: Carrie Caldewey, 800-WC-GREYS or info@winecountrygreyhounds.com

Saturday, September 23

Annual Reunion and Tenth Anniversary
Celebration

Lake Erie Greyhound Rescue, Inc.

12 noon to 4:00 p.m.

Lions Park

LaGrange, Ohio

Annual reunion and picnic featuring silent and Chinese auctions, door prizes, contests, and vendors. Contact: Sally Hennessey, greyhound@ncweb.com or Diane Mews, kdmews@ameritech.net

Sunday, September 24

Second Gathering of the Greys

GPA/Keystone Greyhounds

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

City Island

Harrisburg, Pa.

Great food, exciting hound games, fabulous live and silent auction, blessing of the hounds, memorial walk, all in a beautiful covered pavilion. Meet the famous Keystone Kids. Contact: Dianne Shadle, (717) 234-1860; twogreyhounds@earthlink.net

Saturday, September 30

Greyhound Gathering 2006

Connecticut Greyhound Adoption/GPA

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

Annual Greyhound gathering hosted by CGA/GPA. Picnic lunch with games, contests, microchipping clinic, and vendors selling collars, coats, treats, CGA merchandise, and more. Contact: Emma Palmacci, (860) 335-6165, emma@ctgreyhounds.org

Saturday and Sunday, September 30 & October 1

Annual Fall Open House

Greyhound Friends, Inc.

Noon to 5:00 p.m.

167 Saddle Hill Road

Hopkinton, Mass.

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

Thursday through Sunday, October 5-8

Greyhounds Reach the Beach
Dewey Beach and Rehoboth Beach, Del.

Always held Columbus Day weekend, Greyhounds Reach the Beach (aka "Dewey") is the Woodstock of Greyhound gatherings. Thousands of hounds and humans attend from near and far, and 2006 will mark the event's 12th anniversary. For the 2006 schedule and information on late registration, visit www.adopt-a-greyhound.org/dewey

Sunday, October 8

Roofest
GPA/Greater Northwest
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Paws-Ability
1007 Industry Drive
Tukwila, Wash.

Fundraiser to help find more homes for retired racing Greyhounds. Live and silent auction, dog contests, vendors, and a general good time. This is a Greyhounds only event. Contact: Lori Bigler, (206) 439-6714 or (206) 909-7196, lorib206@comcast.net

Saturday, October 14

Twelfth Annual Gala Greyhound Gathering
GPA/Wisconsin
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Waukesha County Expo Center Arena
Waukesha, Wisc.

Once again, GPA/Wisconsin is planning a fun-filled event to get Greyhounds and their families together and raise money at the same time. Enormous bag raffle, spectacular vendors, silent and live auction, nail trimming, behavior seminars, costume contest, and lots of socializing. Contact: Ellen Schneiderman, ejks@execpc.com; www.gpawisconsin.org

Sunday, October 15

Houndraiser 2006
Greyhound Pets, Inc.
11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Pavilion Building
Evergreen State Fairgrounds
Monroe, Wash.

Fundraising event and social with live music, auctions, raffles, vendors, costume contest, and more. Contact: Cathy Munro, (425) 742-1388 or adopt.greyhounds@verizon.net

Saturday, October 21

Year of the Dog Reunion
Arizona Greyhound Rescue
Noon to 3:00 p.m.
Reid Park
Country Club Blvd. Between 22nd and Broadway
Tucson, Ariz.

Mingle and meet, clicker training demonstration, holistic veterinarian speaker, micro-chipping, goodie bags, vendors, and awesome raffle prizes including memorabilia from the former Greyhound Bus Depot. Contact: AGR, (520) 886-7411 or karynzoldan@gmail.com

Saturday, October 28

Greyt Greyhounds and Friends Fair
Heart of Texas Greyhound Adoption
Starts 10:00 a.m.
Graff Pavilion
O.P. Schnabel Park
9606 Bandera Road
San Antonio, Texas

Silent auction, raffle, dog contests, vendors and more await you at the Fifth Annual Greyt Greyhounds and Friends Fair, where there is never a lack of fellowship, food, and fun! Contact: Elizabeth Cygan, (210) 481-0780 or Elizabeth@cygan.com; Cheryl King, (210) 621-0123, hotgreyhounds@ev1.net

Saturday, November 4

Fourth Annual Picnic and Fundraiser
Greyhound Lifesavers Inc.
11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Saluda Shoals Park
Columbia, S.C.

Have you ever seen 200 Greyhounds in one place? Join us along the banks of the beautiful Saluda River and enjoy food, fellowship, games, and Greyhounds! Greyhounds only, please. Silent auction, raffle, games for Greyhounds and humans, shopping, photographs, doggie treats, and the Gilley Girls Dancing Greyhounds Drill Team. Microchipping and nail clipping available on a limited basis. Hamburgers/hot dogs provided; water and soft drinks available for purchase. Please bring a covered dish to share as follows: Last name A-M, side dish for a cook-out; Last name N-Z, dessert. Contact: Sheila Newton, (803) 359-2409, ssnewton59@aol.com; Joyce Jackson, (803) 429-4209, jjacwcola@bellsouth.net; Judy Horton, (803) 360-3766, jhorton8@sc.rr.com



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www.longneckdeco.com

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9:00 am to 5:00 pm Wednesday - Sunday

Look for all of us in the Vendor tents Friday through Sunday

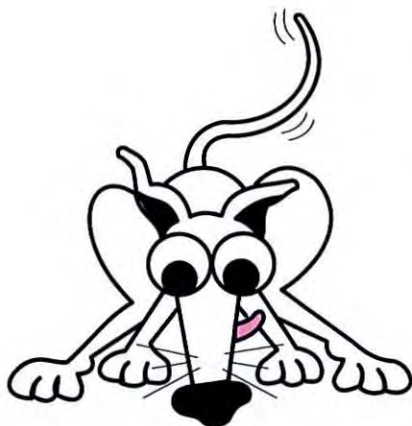
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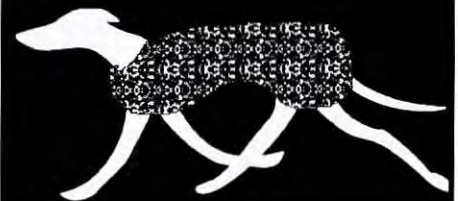
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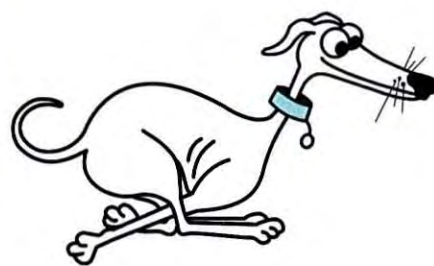
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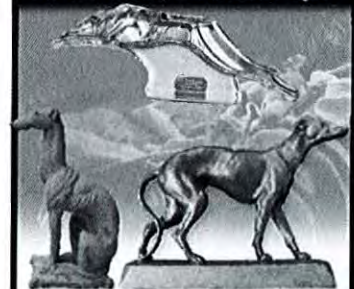
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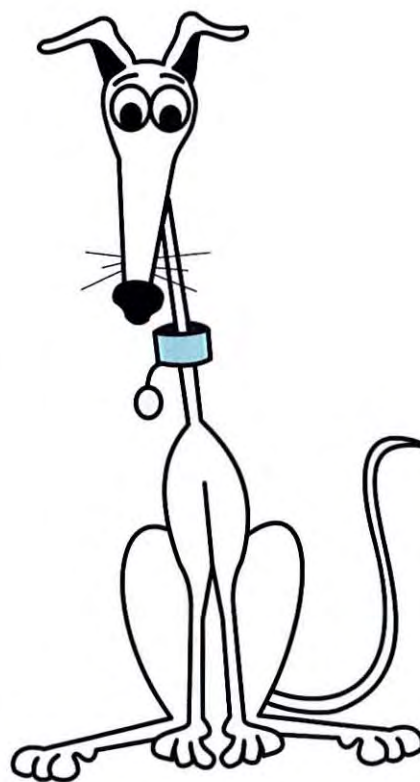
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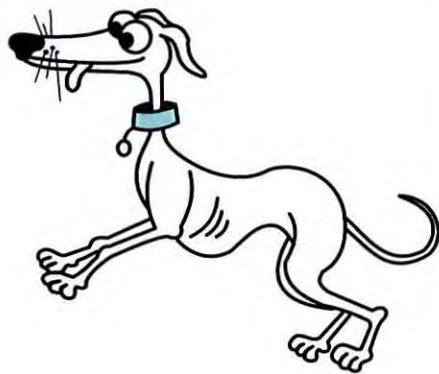
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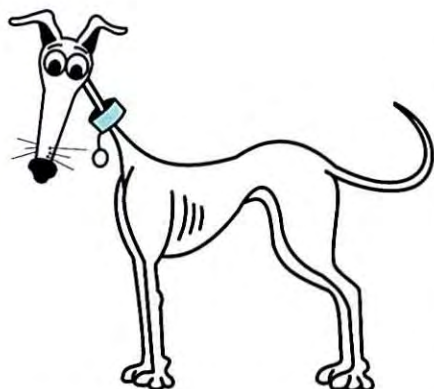
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Adam (Cates Adam) 1993-2006

Adam was the embodiment of the Greyhound spirit. His physical resilience after a devastating injury was remarkable, but the endurance of his spirit was truly amazing. Adam was featured in "Spinal Injury: Take It Seriously" (Summer 1997 CG), which detailed his head-on collision with another Greyhound in a playgroup. Adam endured over 9 years of rehab, chiropractic, acupuncture, herbs, and pills that gave him relief, and from the minute of the accident he never complained. He exuded an unparalleled positive spirit and an obsessive love of his humans (especially his daddy, Craig Cerreta). At nearly 13 years old, Adam was pictured on page 1 of the Fall 2005 issue of CG, which was devoted to seniors. He passed a few months later. No one ever imagined that a dog who had been through so much could live so happily to a ripe old age. But more important than age is how his phenomenal Greyhound spirit taught his humans so much about life and love.



Jacqueline 1993-2005

Adopted and cherished by Marge Bazsika, Jacqueline (pronounced "Jacqueleen") appeared on the back cover of the Fall 2005 issue as the runner up in CG's senior dog photo contest. She was beautiful, regal, sweet, and gentle, yet she was a "Jersey Greyhound" and the alpha dog. She accompanied Marge through moves in New

Jersey, Connecticut, and the final cross-country trip to Las Vegas. She touched many hearts along the way. Over the years, she survived a mauling by a mastiff and bouts of spindle cell sarcoma on her paw. She crossed the Bridge on her bed, cradled in Marge's adoring arms. No words can express all the precious memories, but the image of Jacqueline sleeping with her front paw over her ear will remain in Marge's heart forever.



Lulu (Evans Run Luanne) 1992-2006

Adopted and loved by Robin and Leslie Peters, Lulu was the subject of "Lulu — The Home-Trained Service Greyhound" (Spring 1999 CG). Robin and Leslie doted on Lulu like a child. She passed away after developing grand mal seizures, then viciously attacking her owners. Her veterinarian thought she might have a brain tumor. Robin stood vigil and comforted Lulu as she was assisted over the Bridge. Lulu will be remembered not as she died but as she lived — full of life, love for her family, and undying devotion to Robin and Leslie. She kept Leslie young and vigorous with twice daily four-mile walks, and she served as Robin's service dog for many years. Lulu is now free to chase as many cats as she wants and, hopefully, she will find the bunny that she could never catch as she ran on the track.



Tukan 1992-2006

Loved by Julie Lawrence, Tukan was one of Greyhound Connection's most unusual and entertaining placements. He came to the adoption group from his previous home at a nudist resort. The trip two volunteers made to pick him up was chronicled in "Tukan's Last Resort" (Winter 2003 CG). A senior, a scrapper, a safecracker (he could open any cabinet), and a wonderful companion, Tukan will be long remembered by all who met him. He had a face that tugged at the emotions and an inquisitive mind that tried one's patience. He was still catching critters and bringing them to Julie as gifts until very recently. Now, he races free and chases butterflies.

Without the Greyhounds whose stories and images populate its pages, Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine would not exist. With In Memoriam, we express our gratitude and bid farewell to those who have, in previous issues of CG, enriched our lives by sharing a bit of themselves with us.



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