

# Celebrating Greyhounds



Fall 2014 Online Magazine

## Life on the Farm

### *ALSO INSIDE:*

- Veterans & Greyhounds
- Hero Hound Clobberhead
- 5K Fundraisers



Fall 2014  
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# Editorial Comment



*Editor-In-Chief Stacy Pigott, with Greyhound Gypsy and Australian Cattle Dog-mix Jewel.*

Over the last 20 years, the affordability of the personal computer and the popularity of the Internet have changed the way we see and relate to the world around us. The first magazine I worked for received press releases on a thermal fax machine. If it was a busy news weekend, we'd have to remember to change the paper roll on Saturday night, lest we miss anything.

Nowadays, the press releases come via email and my smart phone alerts me to incoming messages. Gone are the days of waiting for the morning newspaper; the latest news is online and updated by reporters who have ditched their steno pads for iPads.

The digital age has afforded us plenty of benefits, including the ability to meet and network with Greyhound folks around the globe. But I've also noticed an alarming trend — the dissemination of less-than-credible information shared as truth. Simply put, someone writes something and puts it on Facebook, and we share it. It goes "viral."

The personal anecdotes often have to do with something that could harm our hounds, so we are apt to believe the stories, because we love our dogs. The reality of the matter is that few of the stories shared as fact are based on any scientific evidence.

This isn't a new phenomenon. Before Facebook, there were

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email “chain letters.” Do you remember reading about how Febreze would kill your pets? The popularity of such wide-spread rumors spawned sites such as Snopes.com, which calls itself “the definitive Internet reference source for urban legends, folklore, myths, rumors, and misinformation.” The Febreze rumor started in December 1998, and Snopes was still updating its Febreze information in 2011, more than 10 years later.

Some of the recent “warnings” that have gone viral on Facebook include ice cubes and trifexis killing dogs. Numerous veterinarians have disputed the claims with scientific evidence,

the exact thing that is missing in the Internet stories. And yet people continue to share the unsubstantiated stories.

As a journalist, it’s disturbing to see so many people blindly believe and share “news” that is unresearched and lacks credibility. As a Greyhound owner, it’s downright frightening to think how many dogs could be harmed by well-intentioned owners who do, or don’t do, something just because they read it on Facebook.

Do your own research. Talk to your vet. Get the facts — the

real facts, not just unproven anecdotes. Find the truth. Don’t be like the character in the popular **State Farm commercial**, who dates a French model she met online. Just because you read it on the Internet, doesn’t mean it’s always true.

*Stacy*

## DISCLAIMER

*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 to hold such material for an indeterminate period. If your Greyhound is ill, please see a veterinarian.

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# Greyhound Bytes:

*News you can sink your teeth into*



*Todd Henson, fostered through MoKan  
Greyhound Adoption in Independence, Missouri*

## **The Greyt Escape Makes the News**

The Greyt Escape – Kennels to Kouches, held Aug. 2-3 in Wheeling, West Virginia, provided entertainment and information to the public about Greyhound safety all weekend. Wheeling Island Casino and Racetrack was packed with things to do during the event such as shopping, watching live races, touring the track, meeting trainers, and seeing the Greyhounds after a race. The Greyhound Trust &

Alliance partnered with renowned Greyhound veterinarian Dr. Guillermo Couto, of the Greyhound Health Initiative, to present two days of Greyhound education and fun as the Greyhound Wellness Conference joined the Greyt Escape – Kennel to Kouches.

The annual event attracted the attention of a local television news station, which aired a “**Good News**” segment on the gathering.

## **Gold Coast Greyhound Adoptions Founder Dies**

Gold Coast Greyhound Adoptions founder and President Bill Sharpstein lost his battle with colon cancer in July, at the age of 65. But it was not before he built a legacy his supporters have vowed to carry on. By 2014, Sharpstein had led his rescue team to the successful placement of more than 5,000 Greyhounds in their “forever homes.”

Read the complete story at [AllVoices.com](http://AllVoices.com).



## Greyhound Stuck and Saved in South Africa

Trapped in the bush behind a schoolyard, it looked like certain death for Gina. The Greyhound had been there for two weeks, howling for help as she tried to scramble out. But it was hopeless. Emaciated and exposed to the elements, she was stuck. Luckily, a local man searched for the source of the cries, found her, and saved her.

Read the full story at the [IOL News](#).

## Former Aussie Cricket Captain Ricky Ponting Supports Greyhound Adoption

The Test cricket great Ricky Ponting has traded cover drives for a good cause after becoming ambassador of a Greyhound adoption program in Victoria, Australia. A

record 536 former racing hounds found new homes under the Greyhound Racing Victoria program last financial year with dog lovers increasingly aware of their suitability as pets. Ponting, a Greyhound fan his whole life, joked that the docile domestic animals were “a bit like me post-cricket” as he urged Victorians to continue to adopt.

Read the full story at the [Herald Sun](#).

## Greyhounds Australasia Appoints New Greyhound Welfare Working Party Chair

Greyhounds Australasia (GA) is pleased to announce the appointment of prominent Greyhound administrator, owner and breeder Steve Hawkins as Chair of GA's Greyhound Welfare Working Party following the retirement of Dr. Geoff Baxter.

GA's Welfare Working Party's priority task

is overseeing the effective implementation of the industry's national Greyhound welfare strategy, approved by the GA Board in May this year. The Welfare Working Party is made up of leading industry administrators and participants.

Read the full story at [Greyhounds Australasia](#).

## Greyhound Racing New South Wales Expands Its Adoption Program

Greyhound Racing NSW (GRNSW) is expanding its Greyhounds As Pets (GAP) program following the successful purchase of a new facility on the NSW Central Coast. The 3.5-acre property can house up to 120 dogs at any one time when fully operational, of which about one-third will be Greyhounds.

Read more at [Greyhound Racing NSW](#).



# Greyhound Bytes



*Maggie-Mae, at age 11 and a five-year bone cancer survivor, adopted by Suzie Collins of Skinny Hound Designs*

## UK Greyhound Dies After Running into Exercise Equipment in Park

A much-loved Greyhound was fatally injured when she collided with exercise equipment hidden in long grass in a park.

Distraught owner Michael White, 56, said his beloved dog, Blue Desire, broke her back from the accident.

Read the whole story at [Your Local Guardian](#).

## South Africa considers legalizing Greyhound racing

Dog racing has been put back on South Africa's gambling agenda just three years after government decided to abandon the idea, the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) said. In May, the trade and industry department tabled a new draft National Gambling Norms and Standards bill in the Government Gazette, said IFAW Southern Africa companion animal adviser, Cora Bailey. The bill included dog racing as part of a proposed suite of gambling activities.

Read more at [IOL News](#).

## New York Museum Features Greyhounds

The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City is one of the most famous museums in the world and it's there that you'll find Gary Tinterow and an unexpected, yet wholly understandable connection with Greyhounds and art. Gary Tinterow – now director of the Museum for Fine Arts in Houston – was the head of the department that takes care of nineteenth century modern and contemporary art at the Met. On the Museum's website, a short yet detailed piece entitled 'Connections I Greyhounds' was recently published. The piece provides some fascinating insights into the Greyhound breed that confirm beliefs held by friends of Greyhounds world-wide.

Read more at [Greyhound Racing Victoria](#).

Watch the "[Connections I Greyhounds](#)" feature with audio and slideshow.



# Greyhound Bytes



*Phoebe, adopted by Joann and Mike Bast of Edgewater, Maryland*

## Greyhounds teach students at University of Nebraska

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Professional Program in Veterinary Medicine is using Greyhounds to teach students how to give dogs physical exams. The dogs, three males and one female, are donated each year from licensed breeders in Iowa who breed Greyhounds for racing. All dogs in the program come from United States Department of Agriculture-licensed facilities and Greyhound breeders, and meet the requirements of the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee. Other veterinary programs use animals from similar sources. The dogs are given new homes at the end of the semester. All of the dogs have already been adopted.

See what one student has to say at the [Midwest Producer](#).

## Greyhound Blood Donation Saves Brother

A Greyhound won the race of his life after his brother donated blood to keep him alive. Dexter, 6, was close to death after he suffered internal bleeding while undergoing surgery for a suspected muscle tear. His condition of haemophilia meant he couldn't stop bleeding and vets said he needed a blood donor to keep him alive. So in stepped Dexter's brother Timmy, also 6, to save the day.

Read the tale of two brothers at [Echo](#).





*Teddy Palmer and her personal Greyhounds, Sam (left) and Devine (right). Credit: Bonnie Rausch*

# Five Minutes with Teddy Palmer

An Oklahoma woman has helped rehome nearly 5,500 Greyhounds over the last 12 years.

*By Leslie A. Wootten*

Theadora “Teddy” Palmer became acquainted with Greyhounds in the late 1990s when she adopted one as a pet. Before long, she adopted another, and soon, there were others. Through the years, many more joined her household, living out their lives with Teddy and her husband, Russ. “We have had 38 Greyhounds go to the bridge,” she remarked during a recent conversation. Having to say goodbye to so many pets has not deterred Teddy from welcoming more. These days, six senior Greyhounds and an aging Saluki are residents of the Palmer

house near Tulsa in Sapulpa, Oklahoma. In fact, only seniors over age 8 are eligible to move in permanently.

Now, at age 69 and retired after 18 years as a human resources manager for the City of Tulsa, Teddy is a senior who helps canine seniors, youngsters, and every age group in between. Along with her personal pets, Teddy has helped thousands of other Greyhounds through [Halfway Home Greyhound Adoption](#), which she founded in the spring of 2002. With just 10 volunteers, her group has moved about 5,400 Greyhounds.







*Teddy's love of Greyhounds and her dedication to the breed has helped rehome more than 5,000 Greyhounds over the last 12 years. Credit: Bonnie Rausch*

Halfway Home is unique from other adoption groups in that it primarily moves Greyhounds into adoption from farms, rather than racetracks. In the 1990s and early 2000s, racing kennels usually had access to track-sponsored groups. Rural farmers, however, were not so lucky. They were often far from racetracks and metropolitan areas where most groups congregated and, quite simply, had no one to call. Teddy gave them her name and number, and they have been calling her ever since.

"Our group's main focus has always been to move dogs from where they are to where they aren't," Teddy said. With that philosophy in mind, Teddy formed alliances with qualified adoption groups throughout the U.S. and Canada, coordinating adoption hauls to regions

such as the Pacific Northwest, where pari-mutuel dog-racing once flourished, but no longer exists. She moves Greyhounds to adoption groups in other regions as well, and her group annually places 25 to 35 Greyhounds in adoptive homes in Oklahoma City, Tulsa, and other local cities.

Over the years, Teddy has formed beneficial working relationships with many farms in Oklahoma, Kansas, and elsewhere. D.Q. and Sharon Williams, who have a Greyhound farm in western Oklahoma, have worked with Teddy for years to ensure their Greyhounds and many others become pets after completing racing and breeding careers. For example, they have a kennel at their farm that is reserved for adoption dogs, and they pay all related costs, donating the space as well as maintenance, care, and feeding.





*Teddy Palmer and DLT Hurricane, just off the haul in Solvang, California.  
Credit: Courtesy of Teddy Palmer*

Another of their contributions is that all pet hauls coordinated by Teddy's group load out of the Williams' farm, with Greyhounds arriving from out-of-state and in-state locations a few days in advance. The family has contributed in other ways, as well. Recently, D.Q. named a Greyhound Teddy Palmer, and the family donates a percentage of the dog's race earnings to Halfway Home.

Based on her experience, Teddy has great respect for those who operate Greyhound farms. In addition to the Williams, she has formed close working relationships with many Greyhound farmers in Oklahoma, Kansas, and beyond. Some of those farms belong to Bladen, Hastings, Lingles, Martin, Parvin, and Strickland, to name a few.

Teddy does what she does because she loves Greyhounds and their people. The respect is mutual. In 2009, she was named Greyhound Adoption Person of the Year by the [American Greyhound Track Operators Association \(AGTOA\)](#). According to an American Greyhound Council (AGC) article on January 27, 2010, nomination commentary about her was stellar. Donna Weeks of Gambrills, Maryland, said, "She's built the trust of the racing community all across the U.S.; she's not in it for the recognition, just to help the hounds." Shirley Sureck of St. Petersburg, Florida, noted that Teddy has "an unfailing mission to succeed no matter what the obstacles; a deep, loving heart and an unselfish motive." Karen Keelan, then president of AGTOA, stated, "We had more than 40





*Teddy and Sam. Credit: Bonnie Rausch*

nominees this year, and every one had made exceptional contributions to Greyhound adoption. But even in this special group, Teddy Palmer was a standout.”

Given everything Teddy has accomplished, and that she is of an age where she could be enjoying her own retirement, one might expect her to slow down. Not so. In fact, a few years ago, she used money she saved for a recreational vehicle to construct an 18-kennel building on her property in Sapulpa. The facility is a way-station for Greyhounds who will soon begin pet careers. “The Greyhounds move to exciting places, and we get letters from them,” Teddy said, alluding to the reality that she and Russ have not taken a vacation in years. She emphasized that Russ is all in when it comes to Greyhounds. “If I need him to pick up dogs in Abilene or

somewhere else, he’s on it,” she said.

As for vacations, Teddy is really too busy to think much about not taking them. She enjoys pleasures of a different kind. Three nights a week, she settles down in the way-station to watch movies with several Greyhounds sprung from their kennels. As they sprawl on dog beds, Teddy reclines on a couch, munching popcorn. Yes, it is her woman cave, a special place to call her own. Yes, it is a relaxing space — and fun. But, there is a plan in it, too, because movie nights help prepare Greyhounds for their upcoming lives as house pets.

Even family milestones revolve around Greyhounds. For example, as a 46th wedding anniversary gift, Russ presented her with a Dodge 2500 diesel truck large enough to accommodate an aluminum dog box donated by a retiring farmer. “Diesel





*Teddy Palmer preparing for a haul out of the Williams' farm in Oklahoma. This Greyhound was raring to go to adoption! Credit: Courtesy of Teddy Palmer*

trucks go many miles before wearing out," Teddy said. "The plan is that when I can't do Greyhounds anymore, the dog box will come off and the original truck bed will go back on. We'll hook up a travel trailer and take a vacation."

It's a good plan, of course, but one that might just be 100,000 miles in the future. With Greyhounds in the house, in the kennel, on farms, and on the road, it looks like the dog box will stay on Teddy's diesel truck for many miles and years to come.

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*About the author: Leslie A. Wooten hails from a family that has been involved with Greyhound coursing and racing since the 1800s. She has been writing about the sport and Greyhounds for over 20 years, with many regional and national publications to her credit. She lives in central Arizona with retired racer Annie (Check-It-Twice).*





# Teddy and Sam: A Love Story

A love-at-first-sight match stands the test of time.

By Chris Grieb



*Count Ivan, aka Sam, in his first career as a racer — a job he excelled at and loved.  
Credit: Chris Grieb*

It happened rather innocently, really. She was there to visit for a celebration. He was there because he was working that night. When their paths crossed and their eyes met, there was something special there, to be sure. She's done so much for boys like him and he's captured the hearts of women everywhere. And after nearly four years, they're together again — this time for good.

On October 23, 2009, Teddy Palmer came to Jacksonville, Florida, and the [Orange Park Kennel Club](#). As some are aware, Teddy has made huge inroads with Oklahoma Greyhound farmers. She has also been the driving force behind approximately 5,000 Greyhounds being moved into homes and adoption groups throughout the country. The fact that she can pretty much have any Greyhound she wants as a pet goes without saying.

That same evening, a very special racer had "drawn in." This big boy was something special. He came to us and lit the



## *Teddy and Sam*

world on fire. He made the finals of the first stakes race he entered in only his 15th career race, finishing second to an eventual All-American. This fella was the kind of dog everyone knew and loved. Everyone knew his kennel name and everyone wanted to pet him. He was happy to oblige and loved the attention. Moreover, he craved it. And more times than not, he got what he wanted. How could someone not fall for a big, 85-pound, handsome, red brindle boy who was seemingly always happy?

**Count Ivan** (Kiowa Sweet Trey x M's Duchess Amy), better known to his friends and fans as "Big Sam," would go on to a stellar career at the Orange Park Kennel Club. He was a two-time **stakes winner** who had blazing speed and was always a threat to break the track record. Big Sam would also be named an **All-American**

before his time was through. He was indeed world class.

As sweet, loving, and goofy as he was off-track, he was all business when he set foot on the track. He had an impenetrable gaze — what some folks refer to as the "thousand-yard stare."

Once that box opened, all the big fella needed was 18 inches of daylight and he'd put 10 lengths on you in the blink of an eye. Sam ran his race that night, but unfortunately he didn't fare well. He ended up fifth, which was rare as



*Sam tearing up the sand pen at Teddy Palmer's Halfway Home Greyhound Adoptions. Credit: Bonnie Rausch*

he would eventually go on to win **60 percent** of his races. Sometimes Greyhounds have a bad night at work, and Sam had his. I picked him up after his race, walked him back to the





*Sam had a short career as a stud dog after his retirement from the racetrack.  
Credit: Chris Grieb*

truck to let him quench his thirst. As I started to walk him so he could catch his breath, I heard, "Oh my God, who is that big, gorgeous animal?"

And so it began.

Teddy Palmer, the godmother of Greyhound adoption, was smitten with "my" hound. She

so it was somewhat cool. "Certainly, Teddy. Walk with us, though," I said. It didn't take long for Sam to work his magic with her as he'd done with so many others. As we walked, Sam firmly planted his head onto her hip. It was at this moment I truly believe Sam had

## *Teddy and Sam*

walked over to me and asked his name. "This is Count Ivan, Teddy. But his kennel name is Sam." Never once did her gaze shift from Sam to me, nor his from her. She kindly asked if she could pet him, as she was fully aware of the importance of letting a dog cool off after a race. Fortunately, it was a late fall evening,

stolen her heart. It was over.

When Sam retired from racing, he had a stud career to begin. For someone to fall in love with a dog who is good enough to be a stud is a tricky thing. Most folks who pre-adopt a racer will get that hound not long after its racing career is concluded. But, for those who fall for a dog who may have a second career as a stud or brood, one could wait years until the dog has concluded that second aspect of his life as a racer. Sam had a few litters, some of which are still racing today, and had a few vials of his semen stored, just in case folks should like to try him out in the future.

After Sam's stud career ended, I received a phone call. "Hey Chris, do you know anyone we can adopt Sam out to?" the caller asked, adding, "I don't want to adopt him out to just



## *Teddy and Sam*

anyone, he needs to go to a home that wants him for him and not who he was as a racer.”

Several names came to mind immediately, but I wanted to put more thought into it. After all, this was my Sammy we were talking about. After a couple of phone calls, it dawned on me. Teddy. I called her immediately. “Teddy, I don’t know any other way how to ask this, but, ummm, are you sitting down?” When I asked her if she wanted Sam, there was dead air. “Helloooooo, Teddy? Are you there?” I asked.

“Are you serious?” her voice trembled. That was all I needed to hear. She still wanted her boy.

Within an hour, we had made all the arrangements to get him off the farm. In three days he was being fostered by friends of Teddy’s in South Carolina. He stayed there to get some house training for a few weeks. Big Sam’s foster family had a scheduled run to

a farm not far from **Halfway Home Greyhound Adoption**, outside of Tulsa, Oklahoma. So, Sam hitched a ride. Oh, no, not in the hauler; Sam rode in style in the backseat! What Big Sam wants, Big Sam gets!

They all met up at the farm the foster family was going to. That night Teddy and Sam would live in sin at a local motel. The next day, they’d go for a visit to D.Q. and Sharon Williams’ farm. Even at 90 years old, D.Q. knew Sam. He knew him because when Sam raced, his dogs rarely beat him.

One morning, a short time later, I got a phone call from Teddy. I could hear the smile in her voice. She had her boy. Sometimes, what’s meant to be, will be. Congratulations, Teddy and Sam, may you live happily ever after! ■



*Today, Sam shows off for Teddy and visitors at Halfway Home.  
Credit: Bonnie Rausch*

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*About the author: Chris Grieb is an American racing Greyhound trainer at Orange Park Kennel Club in Jacksonville, Florida.*





*Are these Greyhounds exhibiting normal behaviors, or displacement behaviors?*

# A Replacement for Displacement

**Is your Greyhound's repetitive behavior a harmless habit or an obsessive disorder?**

*By Deb Levasseur, CTB*

**H**ave you ever heard of displacement behavior? Dogs often engage in this, but what is it? Can identifying and understanding it really help dog owners to bond and train their dogs more effectively? Let's explore the phenomenon of displacement behavior and how to deal with it.

Displacement behavior is a set of actions that animals and humans exhibit when they are unsure how to behave. They are activities that are out of context with the given situation. When faced with stress or anxiety, displacement behavior is often used as a coping strategy. People may find themselves scratching their heads, chewing pens, or biting their nails when uncertain of how to proceed in a particular situation. These actions preoccupy us while

the conflict is happening.

Some common displacement behaviors in canines include the following:

- ☐ Yawning, often an exaggerated yawn
- ☐ Lip licking when no food is present
- ☐ Scratching or suddenly stretching as seen in the play bow
- ☐ Self-grooming, often of the genital area
- ☐ Sniffing the ground when there's nothing new to sniff
- ☐ Shaking off when they are not wet

While displacement behavior is often confused with appeasing (calming) signals, it is simple to differentiate them. Both are used for calming, but



displacement behavior is generally self-directed while appeasing signals are directed toward other dogs or people. They are an important part of daily communication for dogs. Unnecessary conflicts can be dangerous and detrimental to the pack, making good communication skills vital to canine survival.

My first Greyhound, Victory Now, or Nikki as we called her, displayed a bizarre repetitive action. While waiting for her meals, she would become anxious and start humping either the air or another dog. She would display this undesirable behavior at nearly every meal. We eventually realized the behavior was related to meal times and we taught her a replacement action to calm and occupy her while she was waiting. She learned to “sit” or “down” (we liked to mix it up) and wait nicely for each meal. With any of these behaviors, we have to be careful they don’t turn into obsessive disorders.

[Watch this video](#) and see if you can identify the displacement behavior the Greyhound is displaying. What could be done to treat this?





We can see in the first section of the video that the Greyhound continuously paced around the dining room table before his meal. This is undoubtedly displacement behavior, as pacing around a table has nothing to do with the act of eating his meal. The dog was feeling anxious and conflicted as he did not want to wait to enjoy his dinner. The method he devised to deal with those feelings of stress was to pace around the table — quite smart really, but then we all know how intelligent Greyhounds are. As with Nikki's humping, this became a learned behavior and was repeated with each meal.

There are two ways to correct the behavior displayed by the dog in the above video. First, the owner could prepare the food when the dog is not in the room. He could then call the dog to the feeding

station and give a cue to wait or sit. It is a great way to get in some daily positive leadership training. After the owner achieves his set criteria, he places the food in the stand and proceeds to give the dog a release command, at which point the Greyhound enjoys his meal. The second option would be to teach the dog a sit or down cue and have him obey the command until his meal is ready.

Although the pacing appears to be fairly harmless behavior, this could easily become an obsessive disorder. The dog could eventually use pacing as a calming behavior for other stressful situations. It could even eventually lead him to compulsively pace around the table for much of his day. It is very important to nip compulsive behavior in the bud, as obsessive disorders are unhealthy for your pet and extremely difficult to treat.

If you see your dog compulsively repeating a behavior that appears out of context, carefully consider whether it may be displacement behavior. Avoid reinforcing the action by rewarding the undesirable behavior. Also, do not try to resolve the issue solely by stopping the dog from performing the compulsive action. This will increase your dog's stress and may lead to worse behavior. Instead, develop tactics to lower your dog's stress level so he doesn't feel the need to engage in the behavior. If necessary, train your dog to perform a different behavior that eliminates the possibility of performing the compulsive behavior. However, it is always preferable to lower the stress and anxiety that is causing the behavior in the first place.

Finally, it is very important to realize training your dog is a way of life. You are



constantly influencing your dog's behavior, whether you realize it or not. By making your dog work for meals and treats, you are establishing your leadership and teaching self-control. By teaching your dog to wait before going outside and walking nicely on a leash, you are teaching manners and patience. However, if you reward your dog for undesirable behavior, such as giving him leftovers when he begs at the table, taking him for a walk when he barks at the door, or feeding him when he paces around a table, you are reinforcing that behavior.

Training your dog can be a fun and rewarding experience. Simply start with what your dog already does well and slowly build on that foundation. Be

aware of your dog's body language and what he may be trying to communicate. By understanding what our dog is communicating through body language, we improve our relationship and our bond with our best friend. ■

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*About the author: Deb Levasseur, Certified Canine Behavior Therapist, is president and founder of [Maritime Greyhound Adoption Program](#) based in Moncton, New Brunswick, Canada. She can be reached at [deblevasseur@rogers.com](mailto:deblevasseur@rogers.com)*





# ☆☆☆ An Unlikely Hero ☆☆☆

Clobber saves the day by alerting his new family to a potentially life-threatening situation.

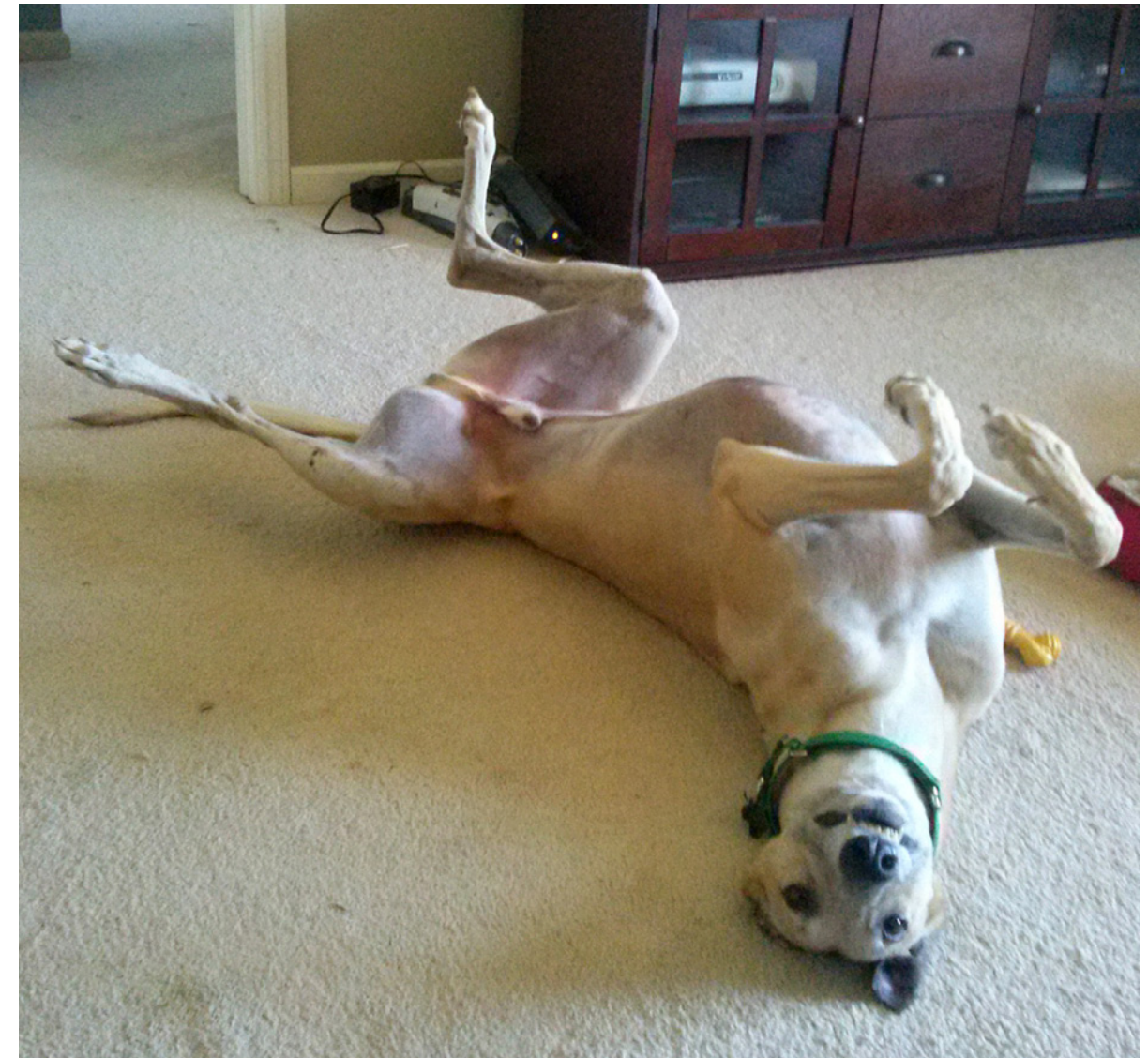
*By Erin Cramer*

"Would you like to meet Clobberhead?"

I read the email twice. Clobberhead. What a heavy name for such a beautiful dog! What would I call him? Clobber? Clob? If I adopted him, would I change his name? Perhaps something along the fantasy line, like Dobby. The ears were a bit elf-like. All I knew was that he was gorgeous and his eyes spoke to me. I had requested a calm, easygoing Greyhound and he appeared to be just that. The fact that he looked exactly like my first Grey, Silhouette,

didn't hurt either.

Clobberhead's foster parents brought him to meet me and my 13-year-old daughter, Maddie. I can't explain it, but I knew the minute he stepped in the house that he wasn't leaving. He was very timid, but very friendly. He took to Maddie immediately and she to him. As he was new to the concept of stairs, they even spent that first night side by side on the living room floor. Every night was the same until he finally mastered the stairs three weeks later.



*Clobberhead, aka Alex*





*Maddie slept on the floor with Clobberhead until he mastered the stairs.*



By March, Clobberhead, whom we call Clobber, was part of the family. We love his eccentricities — his scar on his shoulder, his haggard right ear, and our favorite, his slight overbite, which causes him to chatter his teeth every time he gets excited or nervous. His one and only love is being with us, with some exceptions. He is not fond of riding in the car. He also is not too keen on walking on slick floors, such as those at the veterinarian's office or at our local Rural King. And he doesn't like being crated much, which is fine since he has always been a perfect gentleman when left uncrated and alone. His greatest fear, as with many dogs, is a thunderstorm. He will run and hide, shake, and chatter to the point where I had to eventually find ways to calm him.

One day in early March, Maddie was gone for the weekend. I had a horrible case

of bronchitis and planned on spending the entire Saturday in a chair, with my meds, and watching TV with Clobber at my side. I woke up late and settled into my recliner. Much to my surprise, Clobber did not join me on his bed near my chair. He chose instead to go to my bedroom, lying as close to the wall as possible. I checked him occasionally, but he would not move. He would lay his ears back and flatten his head to the ground. I knew storms were possible that day, so I chalked it up to the threat of severe weather. Clobber was my fast and furry barometer.

After several hours of this, and after I started feeling a little bit better, I decided he needed to go outside, even if he didn't want to. Much to his dismay, I attached his leash. My bedroom is on the second floor, so I had to get him downstairs. When he finally got up, we walked to the stairs and he froze. I





Maddie and Clobberhead



couldn't understand why, as he had become accustomed to stairs. I wondered, *were the storms really going to be that bad?* I moved to his other side, near my utility room door, to try to coax him down. Suddenly he was at full attention and would not let me near the door. Instead, he blocked the door, slid around me and bolted down the stairs, dragging me along behind.

We went into the yard, which is not yet fenced, and to my surprise he relaxed, but only for a minute. He settled down in the grass, took several deep breaths in, rolled over once and then sat up. His ears went back against his head and he looked directly at the house. Without warning, he started for the house. I tried to pull him back, to keep him out a while longer, but he leaned into his collar and pulled against it like a workhorse. Once inside, I couldn't get the leash off fast enough for him to dash

upstairs to my bedroom.

When I reached my bedroom, I found him with his nose solidly against the wall and his back end facing the doorway. This was not a normal position for him. While I pondered the situation, he looked at me. I ignored the look as I tried to decide what was happening. In frustration, he turned to the wall and began chewing it with his front teeth. He looked at me again to see if I was watching and then repeated the whole process over again. I didn't get upset, but I was worried something was really wrong with him. I pulled him away from the wall and calmed him, or at least tried.

I decided to wash his main bed that was by my chair. If storms were coming and he was this upset, perhaps a clean bed would entice him to come out. I entered the utility room at the head of the stairs, where he had acted so strangely, to get the washer





ready. I opened the door and to my shock, a wall of natural gas came flooding out of the small room. I quickly shut the gas off for that room and opened windows, despite the cold temperature. Clobber came running out of the room and down the stairs. He looked back up at me as if to say, "See? I told you! Now get down here!"

I immediately called the gas company, which sent a technician within the hour. He found that my new water heater had been improperly installed. Several leaks had developed as the water heater settled. He shut off the gas to the house and a plumber arrived soon after. To add insult to injury, the plumber discovered that the leak was also the fault of improper installation. There was no "pipe dope," as plumbers refer to it, to keep the joints from leaking. Screws were not put in and pipes were bent. As he checked the water heater, the

plumber found that the unit had been wired incorrectly at the factory and was sparking on and off. He called it a miracle that it had not sparked that morning.

When finished, the plumber praised Clobber and asked how I could not smell such a strong odor from where I had been all day, especially since I am a chemistry teacher and quite familiar with detecting natural gas leaks as a part of my job. It was quite simple. I was sick and couldn't smell anything until I was right in the middle of it.

On St. Patrick's Day, I wrote to Greyhound Pets of America-Indianapolis to thank the organization for matching us with Clobber. Without him, I may not have survived that day. Our house would have been destroyed, and my neighbors' homes would have been damaged. My unlikely hero has also brought me the opportunity to meet his former owner, his trainer, and his other

foster family. I learned that Clobber often went by the name Alex. He was overjoyed the first time I called him that.

He still remains fearful of storms. He is very timid around men. Those slick floors in strange buildings still perplex him. He still chatters with joy whenever he gets excited. He is still Clobber/Alex, and he is ours. We will love him always and forever and thank goodness that we were blessed enough for him to be our forever Greyhound in our forever home. He truly rescued us far more than we rescued him. ■

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*About the author: Erin Cramer lives in Shelbyville, Indiana, with her daughter, Maddie and, of course Clobberhead (aka Alex). She is a science teacher and former naturalist who enjoys spending time outdoors hiking and camping and also enjoys reading and writing. Above all, she enjoys spending her days with her daughter and Alex, who is her second Greyhound.*



# Positively Inspirational

Based on the real-life story of Logan, a retired racing Greyhound, Suzanne Burke's books teach children the power of positive thinking and determination.

By Joanne Ardizzone

Suzanne Burke

## *Logan's Secret: A Retired Racing Greyhound's Amazing Survival Story*

CreateSpace Independent Publishing  
Platform, 2nd Edition 2012  
114pp., illustrated. \$13.86  
ISBN: 978-1478325383

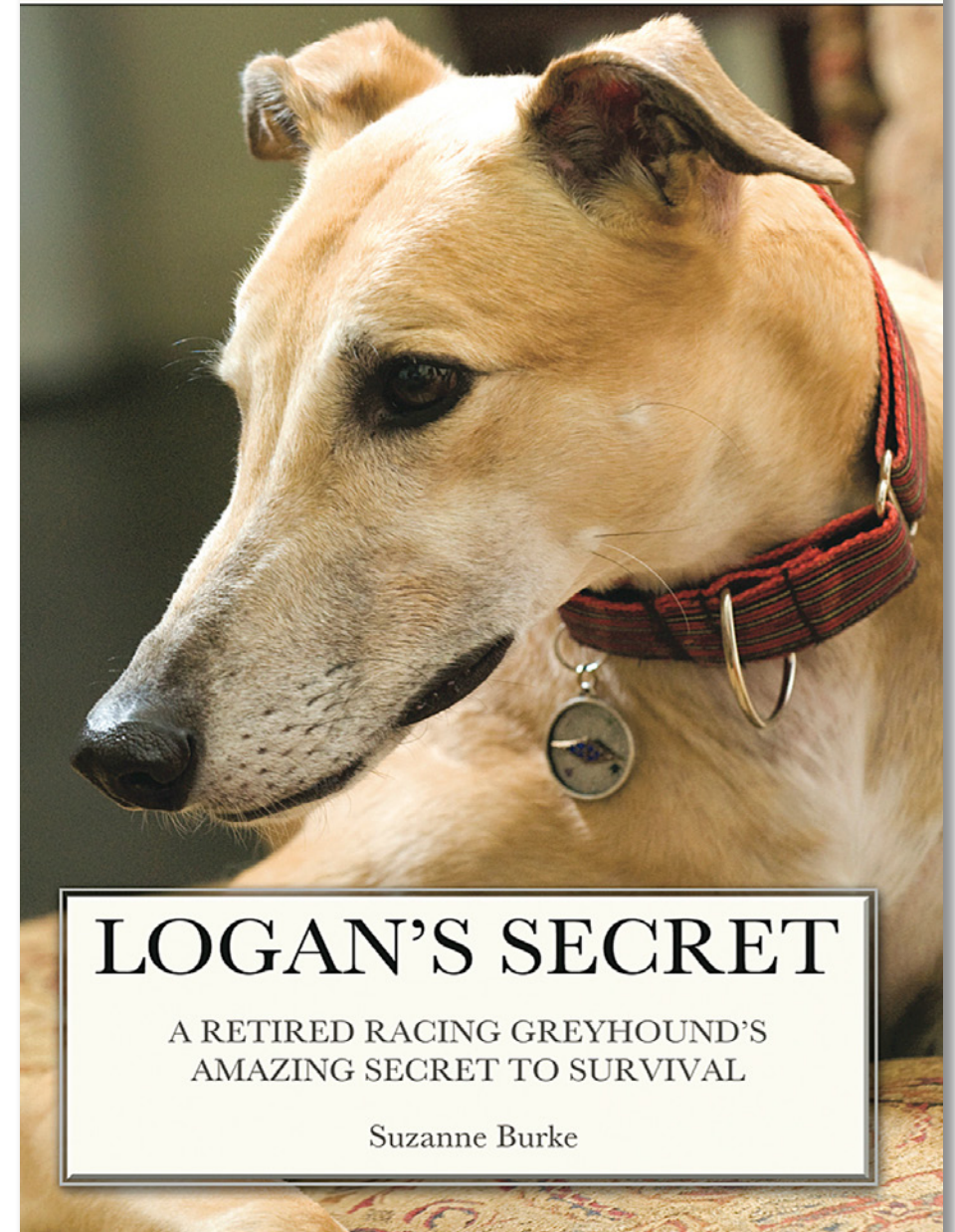
I never anticipated that a children's book could bring me to tears, but by page 14 *Logan's Secret* did. This educational and inspirational children's book gives us the possible glimpse into the thoughts of a

racing Greyhound. Author Suzanne Burke has a sweet, gentle, and touching way of teaching valuable life lessons to children.

In *Logan's Secret*, Logan the Greyhound teaches us independence. He takes a stand for what he wants out of life. Then, through determination and positive thinking, he achieves his dreams and goals.

One of my favorite parts of the story is when a bunny, Jack, comes to Logan in his dreams. Logan chooses to think for himself and be kind to Jack. As he ponders his experiences, Logan realizes he has no reason to hate bunnies. At this moment, he

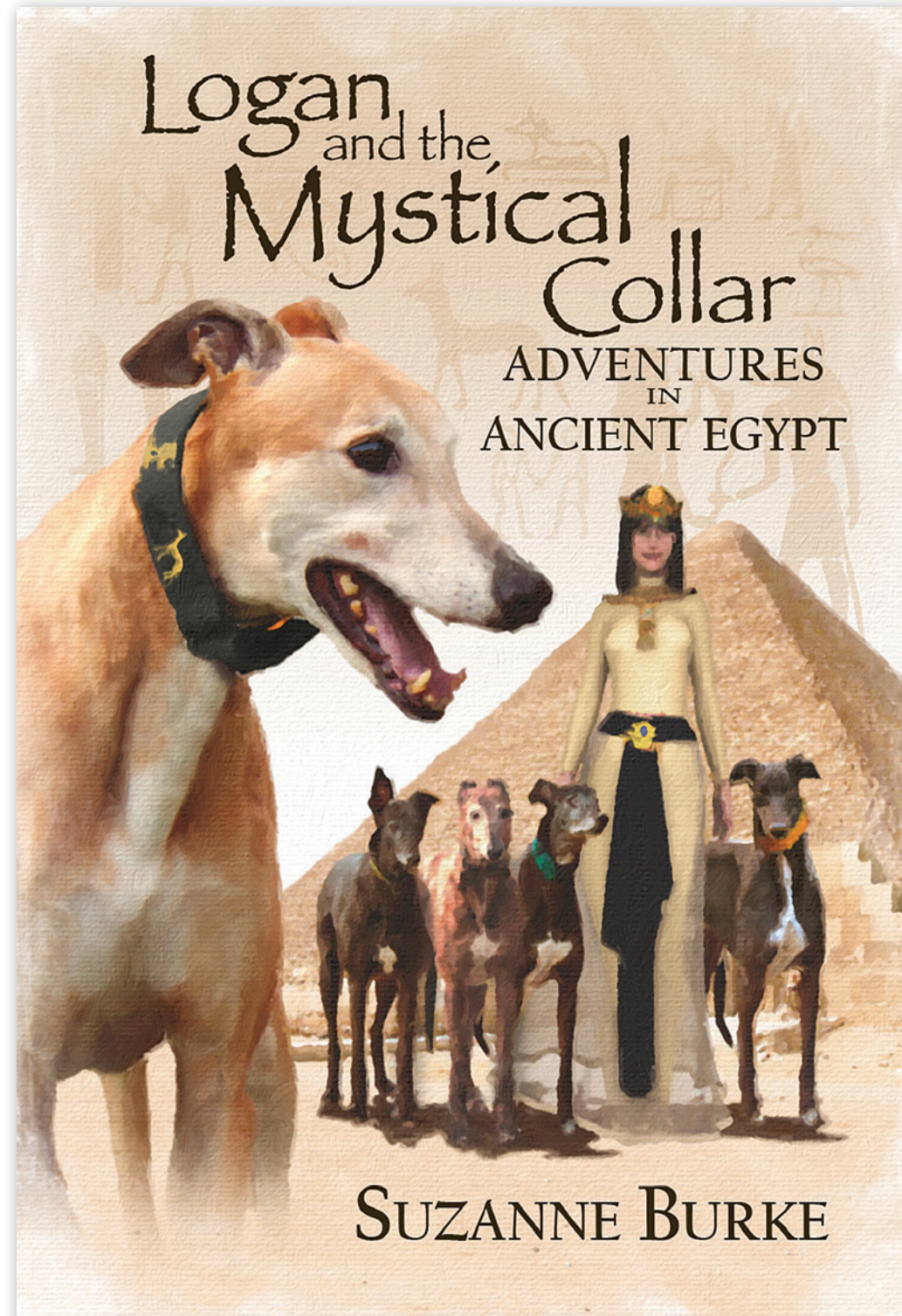
GREYHOUND  STORIES





teaches independent thought and leadership. This book is chock-full of events that demonstrate powerful decision-making skills.

Burke was a speaker at the 2014 Solvang Greyhound Fest. There I had the pleasure of listening as she shared the personal journey that led her to write Logan's Secret. Her question-and-answer session evoked numerous questions and piqued my interest in her books. At that time I didn't have any questions, having not yet read Logan's Secret. I look forward to my next opportunity to visit with Burke, as I now have many questions about Logan. Clearly he was an amazing and dearly loved Greyhound. I, for one, hope that my Greyhounds dreamed of a forever home that included me.



Suzanne Burke

***Logan and the Mystical Collar***

CreateSpace Independent Publishing  
Platform, 2013

132pp., illustrated. \$19.88

ISBN: 978-1490992426

**Logan and the Mystical Collar** is a fanciful, suspenseful, and educational story written from Logan's perspective. In this book, Logan's adventure takes us to ancient Egypt. There he must face and overcome many challenges. Author Suzanne Burke tackles a truly sensitive topic seen far too often these days. Sadly, Logan is bullied by another Greyhound, Zeus. Logan shows true strength of character as he stays positive and brave against all odds.

As she did in Logan's Secret, Burke addresses current issues and teaches valuable life lessons to children, all while also providing an engaging and enjoyable story.

Burke is a creative and descriptive writer, enabling readers to visualize ancient Egypt and



feel as though they are right there with Logan on his grand adventure. The scenery and characters jump right off the page, such as when Logan is running through the red sandy desert in the Great Race, or hearing the sound of Zander's toenails on the marble floors. Burke's writing is very detail-oriented yet easy to read. It is also educational as it introduces children to ancient Egypt and Greyhounds, which makes this book perfect for readers of all ages.

I found Logan and the Mystical Collar to be an enjoyable book that I highly recommend. I look forward to the day Logan has his next exciting adventure. ■

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*About the author: Joanne Ardizzone is a longtime volunteer copyeditor for Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine. She lives in Las Vegas with her husband and three Greyhounds.*



*GoBlue (CJC's Bring It) and Maizey (Iruska Too Chord), adopted by James, Kim, Sophia, and Tommy Ostrander of Michigan.*



# *The Real Logan*

A lost dog and his long journey to his forever home led author Suzanne Burke to write her first book.

By Suzanne Burke



*Suzanne Burke and the real-life Logan*

People often ask what inspired me to write *Logan's Secret*, the first book in my Greyhound Stories series. The initial outline for *Logan's Secret* was written in 2005 following the real-life events of Logan's colorful journey from the racetrack to my house. This is not just any dog, or any story, but at its core the book contains some timeless deep truths in life — positive thinking, perseverance, visualization, and determination.

The story is not just about a dog's journey to find his forever home, but also about how a dog teaches a whole

community about faith, courage, overcoming adversity, and triumphing at the end. The story is filled with life lessons for both young and old.

*Logan's Secret* is told from Logan's perspective — conveying the emotions that both he, and his humans, encounter in the search for this elusive hound. It is a story of impossibilities, but somewhere within the story, readers begin to identify with Logan and their own personal journeys through life.







*Suzanne Burke and Logan*



*Logan passed away on Dec. 30, 2012.*

Logan is an adventurous racing Greyhound who yearns to explore life beyond the confines of the racetrack. His early years are a controlled life of crates and daily routines. Fed up with racing, Logan seeks his freedom to discover himself and his rightful place by imagining his life in a warm, loving home filled with happiness and joy. He uses the power of visualization and positive thinking to free himself from the bonds of the racetrack, only to find himself in precarious situations he did not anticipate.

On a deeper level, this story can help adult readers visualize the human parallel of people who are also seeking freedom to explore life beyond whatever confines they find themselves in, whether it be the corporate jungle, a battered relationship, or a joyless life. Originally written for children as a first “chapter book,” *Logan’s*

*Secret* took off globally within the Greyhound community and became well-known.

I left my job at the end of 2011, taking an eight-month sabbatical to spend time with Logan and write our story. I had promised Logan I would write his while he was still with me. I began writing *Logan’s Secret* in January 2012 and by May 2012 it was published and available on Amazon. A chapter at the end educates readers about Greyhounds’ rich history, dating back more than 4,000 years, and also provides information on the wonderful characteristics of this fascinating breed.

Following the success of *Logan’s Secret*, readers asked for more. That got me thinking about how I could carry Logan’s legacy forward to help children. A book series was born. The Greyhound Stories series follows Logan and his Greyhound





*One of the beautiful illustrations from Logan and The Mystical Collar*

friends as time travelers through exciting historical periods and into the future. Each book is a chapter adventure story filled with illustrations to help guide it, and with the history of that period to educate the reader. I also included vocabulary words and a list of projects and questions to help children expand their learning experiences through reading the stories.

My second book, *Logan and The Mystical Collar*, was written and published in 2013. It weaves an action adventure that transports Logan and his Greyhound friends to ancient Egypt for a treasure adventure with Cleopatra. It teaches readers about the important social issue of bullying and also educates readers on historical ancient Egypt.

My purpose for writing this book series is to encourage children and adults to enjoy reading, to educate them on history and introduce them to the joys of Greyhounds as family pets, and to help raise funds so that other retired racing Greyhounds can find loving responsible homes.

I lost Logan on Dec. 30, 2012 to bone cancer. I am so grateful for the time we had together to get our story on paper and have it published so everyone could know the special soul he was and the joy and lessons he brought to my life. I believe pets are brought into our lives for a purpose: to teach us valuable lessons. If you pay attention to your furry companion, you will come to understand why he or she has chosen you to help you with your own personal journey in this





*Suzanne autographs a book that is also stamped with Logan's "pawtograph"*



*Logan's legacy lives on through his books.*

life. Dogs or cats do not have long lives, so it takes many of them to teach us the things we need to learn. Maybe that's how our creator designed it.

I am currently working on the third book in the series that will take us to the medieval period to teach readers how the Greyhound breed was saved from

extinction. You can bet it will have lots of color and action.

I also visit schools with my Greyhounds to teach children about writing and the fascinating Greyhound. My books are being used in elementary education to teach children social principles and the history included within the stories.

Kids and Greyhounds — it's a powerful combination. My dream has always been to bring these two together and it's now happening! ■

*About the author: Suzanne Burke became involved with retired racing Greyhounds after adopting her first retired racer, Allie, in 2002. She has been an active volunteer for **Greyhound Adoption League of Texas** since 2002.*





# Raising Baby

**Have you ever wondered how your Greyhound was raised as a puppy? One curious owner decided to find out.**

*By Joee Kam*

**S**ometimes when I watch my retired racers, I wonder what they were like when they were puppies and how their life was before I adopted them. I'd ask myself questions, like: Did he steal toys and keep them for himself? Was he the one who instigated play and antagonized the others? Did he learn to dig those craters on the farm? I was curious and wanted to know more, so I contacted several Greyhound farmers and asked questions.

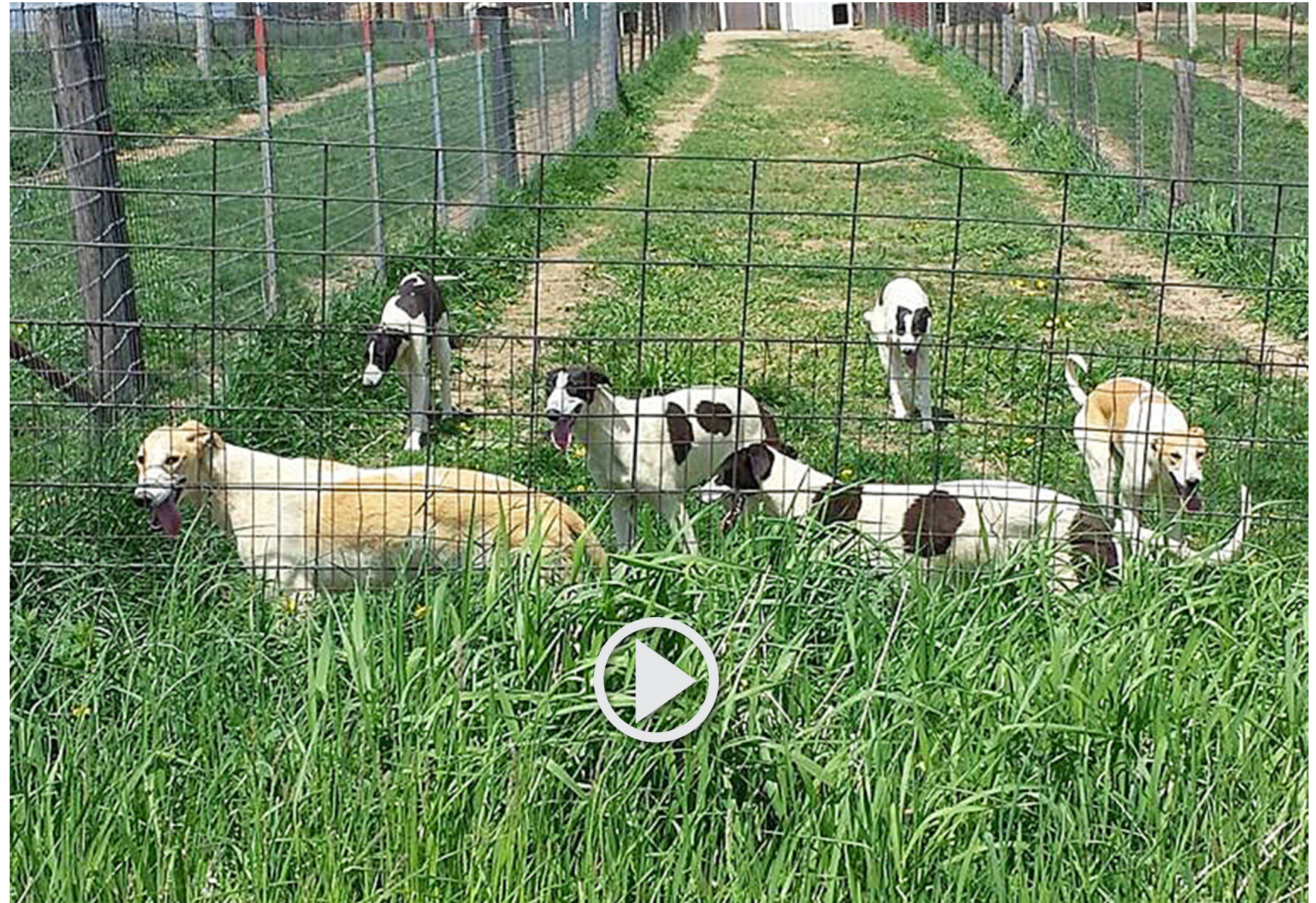
One farmer in particular, Melissa Schmidt, really touched me with the story of how her determination to start a farm came to be. "I fell in love with this breed after literally spending one evening at a Greyhound farm. After the first time seeing them, I begged my husband every day for four years to let me get into the Greyhound business. That is approximately 1,460 days! He finally gave in."

National Greyhound Association (NGA) Greyhounds are born on farms,



in climate-controlled buildings, where they stay with their mothers until they are between six and ten weeks old, and occasionally longer. Once they are weaned, the entire litter moves to a large outdoor pen, known as a run. There they can play until they tire themselves, take a nap, and do it all over again. Typically, Greyhound puppies stay with their littermates on the farm for a year.

Her pups have a variety of toys to play with: stuffed animals, braided ropes, tug-of-war toys, rubber tires, and balls. Of course, they also dig (perfecting their technique in creating those large holes that drive us crazy), roll around, and run, just like they do in our backyards. During this time, they also start “figuring out pecking order and how to negotiate, mediate, pick on each other, and establish who the boss is—all the things they are going to need for the real world,” Melissa



*Click on the slideshow to view more adorable Greyhound puppy pictures!*





said, adding it's similar to what we do at home with our siblings.

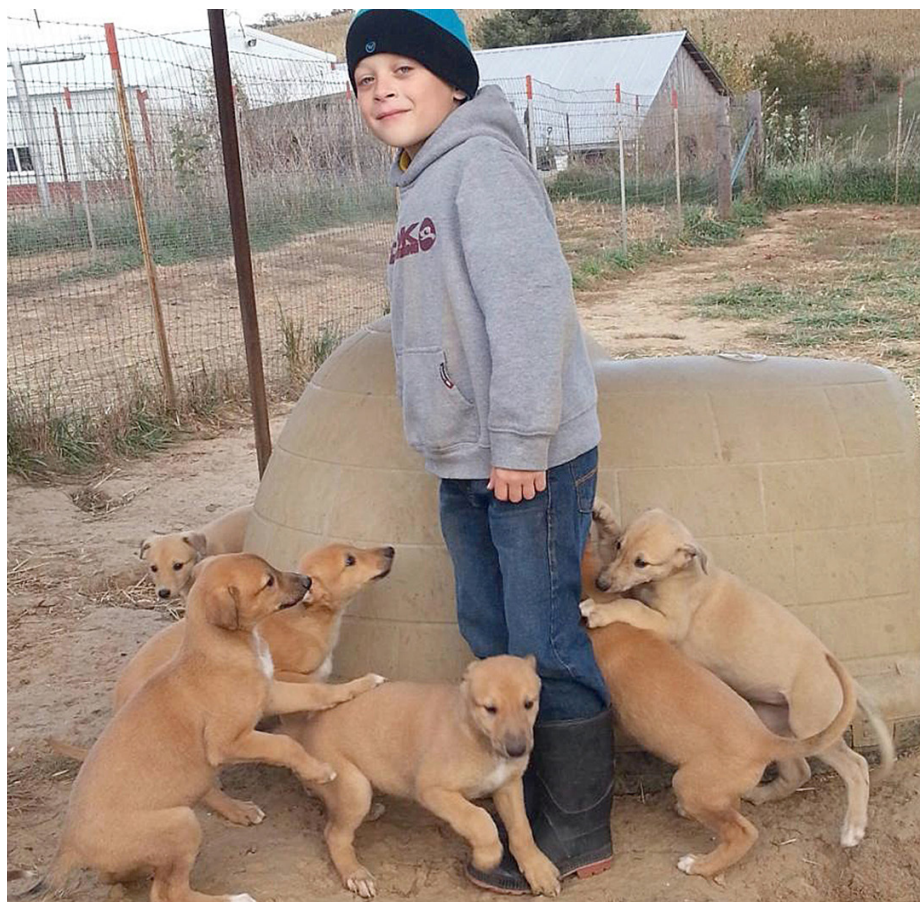
Greyhound puppies have dog houses filled with straw, to keep them warm in cooler weather, and have fresh water available at all times, not just for drinking, but for playing, too. Most farms have kiddie pools in which the dogs can lay, splash, and play. During the warmer months of spring and into the heat of the summer, sprinklers mist the runs to keep the dogs cool.

As the pups grow older, they are separated into smaller groups and moved into larger runs. They generally start in 100 ft. runs, then move to runs that are 200 ft. As they get older, they finally grow into runs that are 300 ft. long or longer. The fenced-in runs are usually parallel to each other, so the dogs can socialize and chase each other along the fence line.

Greyhound farms often have visitors, which the dogs are always happy to see. If you've never been to a farm, remember to wear long sleeves and long pants to protect your bare skin. Greyhound puppies have sharp teeth and nails and can't wait to include you in their play. They're not called "land sharks" for nothing!

An important part of a puppy's development is socialization. Greyhound puppies are handled every day, and the older ones are also given attention throughout the day. Melissa has six children, ages 6 to 17, who all play a big role on the farm. They help socialize the pups from the minute they are born. The children help with tattooing, worming, vaccinating, walking, and moving the pups to new runs. They also routinely bring puppies into their home to give them some





extra attention. After all, who could resist those adorable faces?

Worrying about the health and well-being of the dogs is also a part of being a Greyhound farmer. "I do worry a lot about safety, but more so about the heat or air conditioning going out," Melissa

said. "I have alarmed my buildings for temperature controls. I couldn't even sleep at night, worrying about it getting too hot or too cold for the pups and broods." Notices are sent to her cell phone if the temperature in the buildings changes significantly. To her it's peace of mind.

Melissa said she also feels very strongly about her responsibility to Greyhound adoption. She does regular hauls to adoption groups for free, and helps them whenever she can. Each time a brood is adopted, she provides all of its vaccinations, pays for a health certificate, and gives the adoption group a healthy donation.

Being a Greyhound farmer is a tough, but rewarding occupation. Being on-call 24 hours a day, seven days a week, is just like being the





parents of children, but on a larger scale. Most days start between 5 a.m. and 6 a.m. and don't end until approximately 10 p.m. Between feedings, changing water buckets, turnouts, sweeping, picking up after the dogs, and disinfecting and hosing down pens, there's still more to do. So why is Melissa a Greyhound farmer you might ask?

"I do what I absolutely love. It radiates from every cell of my body, beginning from my heart," she explained. She adds that her favorite place to be is "in the brood barn and the whelping barn. You just can never be in a bad or sad mood around any of them.

"Getting to work every day with the most beautiful, graceful, gentle, funny, loving, and loyal animals on the

planet," witnessing the birth of their amazing babies, and watching the pups they raise turn into mothers and athletes is the ultimate reward for their labor of love.

If you ever get the opportunity to visit a farm, ask as many questions as you can, while watching the happy hounds doing what they love to do — dig, play, and run. ■

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*About the author: Joee Kam and her family adopted their first retired racing Greyhound in 2004. They currently share their Grand Rapids, Michigan, home with Sasha, a 13 and one-half-year-old Golden Retriever, and Joy (AJN Joy Lee). Joee volunteers with **Allies for Greyhounds** and is the founder and president of the non-profit **Greyhound Facts Inc.***





# Greyhounds and Aristocrats

**Artwork from as early as the 1300s often depicts Greyhounds with royalty, whether religious or earthly in nature.**

*By Henry Townsend*



When a Greyhound appears in a painting or other work of art, what does it mean? Why did the artist include the Greyhound? Or, why did the person who commissioned the art ask for the Greyhound to be included? Sometimes, a Greyhound may be just a dog among other animals or the natural companion to a hunter. But as we will see, most of the time a Greyhound in art is more than just a commonplace animal. Often the presence of a Greyhound indicates that someone of noble birth, an aristocrat, is present. But there are

several variations on this theme, some of which may surprise you.

In this article we mention 30 works of art, too many to appear in this space. Therefore, many of the works we discuss may be seen in the accompanying slideshow (as indicated by an \* before the title of the work). All of these have appeared before in *Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine* (CG). None of the images in the body of this article have appeared in CG before.

Some examples of Greyhounds with aristocrats dating from the 15th and early

16th centuries are the great *\*St. Sigmund and Sigismondo Pandolfo Malatesta*, by Piero della Francesca; the *\*Procession of the Youngest King*, by Benozzo Gozzoli; *\*Enea Silvio Piccolomini Leaves for the Council of Basel*, by Pinturicchio; and *\*An Episode from the Life of Publius Cornelius Scipio* by Bellini. The subjects of these paintings are the Count of Rimini, several members of the Medici family of Florence together with their friends, a future pope, and a Roman general. All of them were great aristocrats of their day.





*The Nativity, Perugino, 1500-5, Art Institute of Chicago*

These early examples of Greyhounds in portraits of real people are rare. Before 1600, Greyhounds were more often seen in paintings of the birth of Jesus, the Nativity, the Adoration of the Shepherds, the Adoration of the Kings, or the Adoration of the Magi. The Bible, of course, does not mention any dogs who were there, so the presence of a Greyhound is a purely artistic invention.

An early *Nativity* in the Uffizi in Florence, was painted in the late 1330s by Bernardo Daddi. There seem to be sheep behind the quite



*Adoration of the Magi, Joos van Cleve, c. 1515, Museo di Capodimonte, Naples*

realistically painted Greyhound, so the men in the background must be shepherds. The *Adoration of the Kings* by Vivarini, from around 1445, includes a Greyhound with a host of richly dressed people. *The Nativity*, painted between 1500-1505, is by Perugino. There are no sheep and the four men other than the Holy Family are hardly dressed as kings. Nevertheless there is a Greyhound. One panel of *The Adoration of the Magi*, by Joos van Cleve, painted around 1515, shows a Magus, a non-European man, richly and exotically dressed





*Adoration of the Shepherds, Vincenzo Catena, 1520-31, Metropolitan Museum of Art*

with a Greyhound. The *Adoration of the Shepherds* by Vincenzo Catena, created around 1520-1531, shows a Greyhound with one kneeling worshiper with another entering the scene. Only the title of the painting identifies them as shepherds. Finally, the tapestry of the *\*Adoration of the Shepherds*, by the school of Raphael, shows another.

It was well understood in medieval and Renaissance times that

Greyhounds were the natural companions to aristocratic Kings. Therefore, it is easy to understand why a Greyhound appears with Magi. But why did Daddi choose a Greyhound to accompany the shepherds in his *Nativity*, and why did Catena do the same? See, too, a Greyhound in the *Adoration of the Shepherds* tapestry. Greyhound owners know quite well that a Greyhound would be worthless as a sheepdog. The answer must be that, just as Greyhounds were the natural companions to the aristocratic Kings, so too Jesus, the King of Kings, the most aristocratic of all men, must be accompanied by a Greyhound. This association of Jesus with a Greyhound holds as well in Nativity scenes, when there are no Kings nor Magi, underscoring the relationship of Greyhounds and aristocrats.

Greyhounds can also be seen in paintings with Biblical





*David and Bathsheba, Jan Massys, 1562, Louvre*

Kings. *David and Bathsheba* is by the 16th century Flemish artist Jan Massys, who specialized in painting beautiful nude women in Biblical and mythological settings.

By the 16th century, paintings on secular themes became more common. Greyhounds appear in hunting scenes, as in *The Stag Hunt of the Elector Frederick the Wise*, painted in 1529 by



*The Stag Hunt of the Elector Frederick the Wise, Lucas Cranach the Elder, 1529, Kunsthistorisches Museum*

Lucas Cranach the Elder. They also appear in the tapestries making up *\*The Hunts of Maximilian*, designed by Frederick van Orley. Veronese painted both the charming *\*Gentleman Returning from the Hunt*, a fresco on the walls of the Villa Barbaro in the countryside near Venice, and the *\*Boy with a Greyhound*. In the first three of these paintings, we see Greyhounds in scenes of the sport of aristocrats, the hunt.





*Venus and Adonis, Abraham Janssens, c. 1620, Kunsthistorisches Museum*

The classical gods worshipped by the ancient Greeks and Romans can be regarded as unearthly aristocrats. Another fresco by Veronese at Villa Barbaro shows the Roman goddess of the hunt, \*Diana at Mount Olympus. \*The Wedding of Thetis and Pelee with Apollo and the Muses shows many gods at an outdoor luncheon, where a beautiful white Greyhound appears from under the table. *Venus and Adonis*, by Abraham Janssens, aside from a Greyhound depicts Venus, the goddess of love, as a beautiful nude, along with



*Death of Meleager, Charles LeBrun, 1656, Louvre*

Adonis, the god of beauty. Two Greyhounds appear in the *Death of Meleager*, by Charles LeBrun. Meleager appears in a complicated Greek myth which does involve a boar hunt with dogs, but while the white and black Greyhound on the left sniffs around; the brindle on the right is far more interested in scratching his ear.

By the 17th century, portraits more or less as we know them today had appeared. Around 1620, the great portraitist Peter Paul Rubens painted *Alethia Talbot, Countess of Arundel* with various attendants, including her court dwarf and a handsome black and white Greyhound.





*Archduke Albert and the Archduchess Isabella, Wilhelm Francken II, 1621, Walters Art Museum*

The *Archduke Albert and the Archduchess Isabella* were the joint rulers of the Spanish Netherlands, the Catholic part of that country. She was the daughter of the King of Spain, while her husband, who was also her cousin, was the son of the Holy Roman Emperor, and held several other titles as well. Therefore, it was only natural for Wilhelm Francken II to include a Greyhound in their portrait, done about 1621.

A few years later, in 1636, the great Flemish portraitist Sir Anthony van

Dyke painted *\*James Stuart, 1st Duke of Richmond and 4th Duke of Lennox* with his magnificent fawn Greyhound.

The *\*Village Feast with an Aristocratic Couple*, painted by David Teniers the Younger in 1652, is quite different in style and feeling from the portraits of grand aristocrats. A couple with their son and another woman stand at the edge of a party of local peasants. The couple is better dressed than the peasants celebrating around them, but are shabby by comparison to the 17th century aristocrats in the previous three paintings. Aside from their clothing, they are also fortunate, for their son has a Greyhound.

Louis XV was king of France from 1723 until 1774. He was as aristocratic as they come. He had Jean-Baptiste Oudry paint various pairs of his Greyhounds, Mignonne and Silvie, and Misse and Turlu, which hang at Fontainebleau, and *\*Misse and Lutine*, which is in the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C.

Easily the most famous portrait of a Greyhound is *\*Eos*, by Sir Edwin Landseer, painted in 1840. It was brought to the household of the greatest monarch of the 19th century, Queen Victoria, by her fiancé, Prince Albert. A contemporaneous painting, *\*The Caledonian Coursing Meeting*, by Richard Ansdell, shows no fewer than 17 Greyhounds with at least 15 aristocrats among the





*William II (1792 - 1849), King of the Netherlands, Jan Adam Kruseman, 1839, Rijksmuseum*

spectators. Well before the end of the 19th century in Britain, coursing was no longer an aristocratic spectator sport, but had become a middle-class one. Perhaps as a consequence, fewer aristocrats chose to be painted with their Greyhounds.

Another 19th century monarch who admired Greyhounds was *William II, King of the Netherlands*, who was painted in 1849 by the Dutch portraitist Jan Adam Kruseman.

The Eighth Duke of Newcastle, Henry Francis Hope Pelham-Clinton-Hope, inherited an enormous estate in 1884 from his grandmother, Anne Adele Hope, under the condition that he take on her name. He seems to have done this not just once, but twice. His coat of arms, painted on



*Pelham-Clinton-Hope coat of arms, unknown armorial designer, 1887, cloister wall, Norwich Cathedral*

a wall of the cloister of Norwich Cathedral, has not one, but two Greyhounds. Part of his inheritance was the Hope diamond, which he had to sell in 1902 because of enormous debts due to his extravagant lifestyle.

All of the works of art we have discussed depict the association of Greyhounds with aristocrats in a positive, even noble context. Indeed, almost every work of art that we know shows Greyhounds and their companions

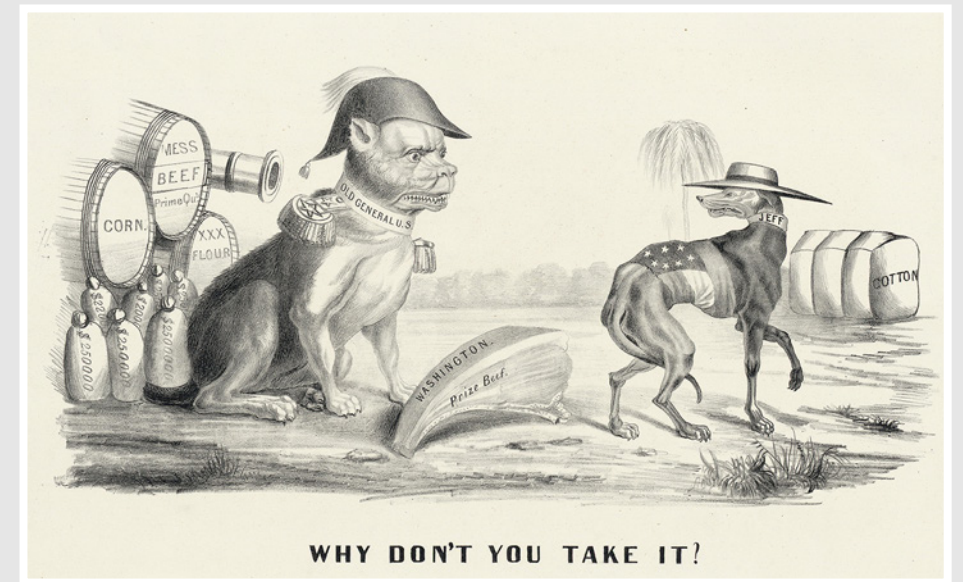




*Leisure and Labor*, Frank B. Mayer, 1858, Corcoran Gallery of Art

in fortunate, enviable situations. We know of only two exceptions, and these are by American artists working in a noble cause—the abolition of slavery.

*Leisure and Labor* was painted by Frank B. Mayer just before the Civil War in 1858 as abolitionist propaganda. It contrasts a hardworking Northern blacksmith, shoeing a horse, with an effete southern aristocrat, as shown not only by his dress, but by his Greyhound. To many in the North at that time, the Greyhound was a symbol of the idle aristocrats



*Why Don't You Take It?* Frank T. Beard, 1861, Library of Congress in the ballet *Giselle*, as reported in *CG*, Winter 2013.

of the South, who lived off the toil of slaves and had nothing better to do than breed and race useless animals. Indeed, during the Civil War, the Greyhound sometimes was understood in the North to be a symbol of the Confederacy. A print *Why Don't You Take It?*, by Frank T. Beard, was published in April of 1861, the first month of the Civil War. It shows the commanding general of the U.S. Army, Winfield Scott, as a bulldog, challenging the Confederate president, Jefferson Davis, as a Greyhound, to take the beef, representing Washington.

These images have depicted Greyhounds as



companions to aristocrats, whether with Jesus, with a classical god, or with an earthly aristocrat. These themes in art have become far less common over the past few centuries. We know of only one *Adoration* with a Greyhound painted since 1700, and few on other religious themes. Classical themes have declined in popularity as well. In the 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries, Greyhounds appear in art usually as pets with their humans, as companions in the hunt, or alone as beautiful animals. Of course, in the 20th and 21st centuries, representational art on any theme has become far less common. But quite possibly the decline in paintings of aristocrats has been at least one of the reasons for the decline in art that includes our friends. ■

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*About the author: Henry Townsend and his wife, Jessica, will celebrate 11 years with their Greyhound, Salisbury, in November. Henry has contributed articles to Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine since 2009. The closest Salisbury has come to an aristocrat was when he and Duke Albrecht went hunting together in Silesia, now in Poland. Of course, that was a fictional encounter in the ballet *Giselle*, as reported in the Winter 2013 issue of CG.*



*St. Sigmund and Sigismondo Pandolfo Malatesta, by Piero della Francesca*



# 5K Fundraisers

A Team Greyhound Adoption of Ohio member shares the group's experiences after successfully running a 5K fundraiser on April 5.

*By Becky Smith*

**T**o start, it's helpful to have a leader—someone interested in seeing the event through from start to finish.

The leader must be able to delegate tasks and organize the flow. It would be helpful if this person has some experience in race events, either participating, volunteering, or planning.

Now that you have a leader, she will need some help. Finding three or four people to be part of the 5K planning committee is your next step. Determine where their interests or connections lie in reference to planning needs. For example, different members may be able to easily supply a venue, advertising, printing,

food, or even financial donations. All of these can be very useful. The committee should hold regular meetings to gather ideas, divide tasks, and vote on key decisions. Along with a committee, you will need to find race-day volunteers. Gather as many volunteers as you can to work the registration table, packet pick up, start/finish line, water station, and food and raffle ticket tables. Also consider planting some people on the course to cheer participants on. Don't forget about setup and cleanup.



*A well-marked route helped participants enjoy Team Greyhound's 5K event without getting lost.*

We were fortunate to have a local Girl Scout troop at the water station and cookie sale tables. There are always groups looking for community service projects. Find them!





*The route was planned in advance to be safe and scenic.*

## Pre-planning

The first two things to consider for an event are the venue and date. Finding a location that provides the best background for your fundraiser is a key consideration in having a 5K run/walk event with dogs. If you can find a place that has bathrooms, a covered shelter with tables, an off-road course or path to run on, is dog-friendly, and is rentable, then secure it at least six months prior to your chosen date. Schools, bike paths, and parks are good places to look.

If your course crosses any major roadways or

runs along a public road, you will need to obtain permits to close the road or pay for police assistance. If no restrooms are available, portable ones need to be brought in. More added costs equal less profit. This is why the venue is highly important. Saturday is the preferred day of the week to hold your run, but a Sunday afternoon will work, too. Research the date you pick to assure there are no major conflicts at that time. It wouldn't be advisable to hold your event at the same time as a well-established race in the same town, or a large gathering at the same location that



*Volunteers braved the cold to help manage the early April event.*

would limit parking availability.

Next, determine if you want to use a service to process payments, advertise, setup





*Other items were offered for sale to raise money for Team Greyhound.*

the course, and time the race for you, or if you will do it yourself. Contact a local running company for a quote and check their availability with your date. It can be costly, but depending on the size of your race and your expectations, it could be worth it. If you decide to do it yourself, you can use a computer-based service to collect the entry fee and compile the data from participants. We used Eventbrite and were very satisfied.

It's now time to start designing a race

brochure and flyer. You can get ideas from other race literature or create a form from Microsoft Office. A catchy name for your event can help describe what you want to provide the participants and why. Make sure to include detailed information about rules, costs, deadlines, and a waiver of responsibility. Have others review it for errors frequently. A brochure can be used to hand out or mail, as long as it includes an area with registration and payment information. A well-designed,



*All dogs, not just Greyhounds, were welcome to enjoy the 5k.*



*One little dog enjoyed the event from the comfort of her stroller.*





*The Greyhounds were bundled up against the cold weather.*

eye-catching flyer can be displayed in local businesses and posted on Facebook. It should include your email and website information, to enable people to sign up for the race, but should contain much less information.

The best scenario when putting on a race is to have one or more corporate sponsors to fund the expenses. Even if your non-profit has funds available, you might still want to consider soliciting outside funds or getting specific items donated. For example, printing the brochures and flyers are part of the cost category. In our case, we had printing services through our sponsor and received half off the venue fees because of a personal connection.

Advertising is key to a successful event. If people aren't aware of your race, they won't come! Some advertising is free, like word of mouth and local civic calendars. We advertised on our Team Greyhound website, and also on our Facebook page. We chose to run a

Facebook ad that charged per usage, so we could control the costs. You can also contact television and radio stations to have ads placed in broader media outlets for a fee. Of course, the flyers we distributed were part of our advertising strategy, but most of our business came from social media and word of mouth.

## The Perks

Shirts! Most race events provide participants with a shirt as part of the entry fee. These can be the biggest expense, which should be taken into account when setting the entry fee. If a shirt will cost you \$19, then your entry fee probably needs to be more than \$20. Sponsors can help offset this cost and you can easily add their logo to the back of the shirt. We got shirts for less than \$8 each, so charging a \$20 fee was adequate. Designing a shirt is much like designing a brochure. Pertinent information and advertising to get your non-



profit's name out there is key. We used the same picture on the shirt and flyer to aid in recognition of our group.

Awards for first, second, and third-place finishers are as varied as race themes. We opted for a standard, engraved medal and awarded only first through fifth place in three categories: men, women, and dogs. This made it much simpler to time the race ourselves with a hand-held device we borrowed from a local track coach. Big races often award first through third in several age categories after the first three finishers come through. You would need over 40 medals to include the age groups, where we only needed 15.

The goodies we provided in packet pick up bags were a mixture of paid-for and donated items. Our donated items consisted of: the bag itself, dog treats, a magnet, dog kerchief, and literature. We purchased the



*Watch a video of the race.*

shirt, a race bib number with pins, and poop bags.

All food and water for participants was donated. Even the Girl Scouts donated their cookie sales to our cause. With the

proper paperwork submitted in advance, grocery stores and restaurants may donate gift cards or day old bagels. Pet stores may also donate, especially if you already have a connection with them.



## Race Day

Now it's race day, and you have work to do. The weather is beyond your control, and our early-April race date was apt to bring a variety of conditions. If you have elected not to use a company to provide the race set up and results, then you need to ensure that you know the course. It's important for serious runners that you have a 5K course that is as close to 3.1 miles as you can. We walked the course and mapped it out. We also made signs to direct and motivate the runners. On race morning, we placed the signs along the course in the appropriate spots.

Our volunteers arrived one hour prior to packet pick up to get setup and get their assignments. We had a place designated for everyone before they arrived. Volunteers picked up food and set it up; one local restaurant even brought sample sandwiches. We printed out check-in sheets from Eventbrite and assigned race numbers in

advance. Because of that, volunteers at check-in were able to easily find names, shirt sizes, and the number of participants. Race day sign-up was also permitted, but shirts were not provided.

At race time, call the runners to the starting line, make announcements, and signal the start. At the finish line, keep track of finishers for the medal presentations. You may give medals as they finish or hold an award ceremony after most of the runners have finished. We also announced the winners on our website and Facebook page.

After the cleanup, which includes walking the course for leftover "goodies," you can start planning for next year. In the weeks following the event, be sure to send out thank-you notes to the appropriate parties, and hold a follow-up meeting with your



*The winning team*

committee. Talk about what worked and what you might do differently.

Was it worth it? Of course it was! The first time is always the hardest. From now on, it's all good. We didn't make a huge profit, but we raised awareness and most of all, we had fun walking our dogs. ■



# Walking for a Good Cause

Shelley Bossert and her “honorary Greyhound” help the hounds by walking in Team Greyhound’s 5K

*By Shelley Bossert*

I’m no 5K expert. I’m not even a Greyhound owner. But my parents have been active with Team Greyhound Adoption of Ohio for many years. They have adopted four Greyhounds and fostered many others. My dog, Saga, is an honorary Greyhound (she even has a bandana to prove it) and I’m an experienced Greyhound babysitter.

My first 5K was also Team Greyhound’s first 5K in the spring of 2011. I had spent the winter recovering from major surgery, and used the event as an incentive to get up and moving again. In the weeks preceding the race, I took

my dog on long walks as often as I could to get us both prepared. Afterward, I felt great and wanted to do it again the next year. Unfortunately, Team Greyhound didn’t plan their next 5K until 2014, but I made sure I was there.

The first thing I noticed when I arrived at the park in Newark, Ohio, was that it was cold! I feel pretty confident saying it was the first, middle, and last thing the volunteers noticed. Spring had officially arrived two weeks ago. The volunteers who spent four to five hours outside, from setup to cleanup, were probably



*Shelley Bossert celebrated her 39th birthday at Team Greyhound’s 5k fundraiser, where volunteers made sure everyone knew about Shelley’s special day with a sign planted mid-course.*



wondering how Mother Nature missed the memo, text, email, tweet, and Facebook status update.

Saga and I explored the park a bit. She sniffed the dogs and I greeted the people attached to them. I remembered I had an extra hoodie in my gym bag, so we jumped in the car long enough for me to add a layer, find some gloves, and warm up a bit. These small preparations worked wonders. I also knew when I started walking the race, I would warm up and be fine. The Greyhounds had their fancy human-made coats and the non-Greyhounds had their own fluffy fur coats. So our four-legged friends seemed not to notice the cold too much.

My mom was running the registration table, but it took me a while to get there with all the puppy greetings. I found my dad, one of the designated photographers, covered in cameras, and my brother with Pleskey, my

parents' younger Greyhound. I vaguely noticed tables with fruit, water, cookies, and raffle items, as my main focus was keeping the dogs out of trouble until the race started.

We heard someone with a bull horn calling us to the starting line. So, we meandered toward the sound. Race etiquette dictates that the runners line up first, the serious walkers next, and the rest of us in the back. My brother, Pleskey, Saga, and I found a spot in the back, where I asked the people around us if this is where the slow people are supposed to stand. The woman with the bull horn said the race would start with a whistle. My brother joked that they should use a dog whistle, so only the dogs know when the race is starting. As Bosserts, we have no delusions about winning races, but, gosh darn it, we know how to make shivering people laugh.

The beginning of the 5K was pretty typical. The runners take off and disappear, never to



*Shelley's parents are heavily involved in Team Greyhound of Ohio, and her dad helped photograph and film the 5k.*



be seen again. The run/walkers (people who run part and walk part of the race) aren't far behind them. I try to stay in the shadow of the fast walkers and work toward my ultimate goal of not being last! The dogs drag us along as they usually do. They are very excited to get where we're going, even though they have no idea where that is.

The dogs just see it as a very long walk, which keeps me from any illusions of having a fast finish time. They stop, sniff, drag you off course, and do their business. You tug, cajole, drag them back on course, and pick up after them.

The course was paved, didn't cross any busy roads, and had some very nice scenery. We passed the same water station, manned by Girl Scouts, twice. According to the adults, the girls were supposed to be passing out water. In reality, we got our own water while the girls played with the dogs and gave them treats.

The course was well-marked with handmade

signs and sidewalk chalk arrows. I appreciated the economy of sidewalk chalk. The less money spent on course prep, the more money that goes to the dogs. The handmade signs had cute sayings taped to them, like, "Properly trained, a man can be dog's best friend," and notes from sponsors, such as, "What do Jimmy Johns and Greyhounds have in common? They are both freaky fast." At 2.5 miles, a sign read, "Happy Birthday Shelley!" In March, I had shared the "Team Greyhound 5K Run or Walk Your Dog" Facebook event with a list of the top 10 reasons to attend the event. The top reason I'm doing the 5K is to celebrate my birthday. Apparently, my Facebook post somehow made its way to the volunteers who made the signs.

I knew we were close to the finish line when I saw my dad standing with a video camera. I heard cheering. Once I figured out it was for us, I was inspired. I said, "Come on, Saga," and we ran the last 100 yards or so. I was surprised when

my brother and Pleskey didn't come running up beside us. My brother said Pleskey wasn't much into running at that point. My Aussie looked ready to do it again, but the Greyhound was ready for a nap. If you've ever wondered why Greyhound races are measured in meters and not miles, I think we found the answer.

We arrived at the picnic shelter just as Jimmy Johns was delivering the subs they donated. My brother and I each had a sub then stopped by the cookie table for dessert. We listened to the raffle numbers being called as we ate our snacks.

The volunteers who had not participated in the race were frozen solid. Nevertheless they stayed long enough to cleanup and pack up all the leftover donated food and water. I'm told they spent that afternoon and evening trading emails and messages about what they did to warm up and how long it took them, while their Greyhounds, I imagined slept soundly in the background.



## Shelley's Top 10 List:

10. You are not racing against Greyhounds, really fast dogs. You are racing against fast dogs connected to slow people by leashes.
9. You can bring your dog, even if you don't have a Greyhound.
8. You actually don't have to run or race at all. Remember, lots of people are with dogs who wanna stop, sniff, and pee on everything. All you have to do is walk and not stop every three steps and you will pass many people.
7. You actually don't have to walk at all. You can stand near the finish line, cheer, and pet all the puppies that go by.
6. If you have even less energy than that, remember Greyhounds are really tall. You can pet many dogs without even having to move or bend over.
5. You will be supporting a great cause, helping to pay for not only training and finding homes for retired racing Greyhounds, but also other things like medical care of older Greyhounds that have been returned to the organization and living in foster care. They will always take their dogs back and care for them no matter what.
4. Team Greyhound people are cool and fun to hang out with.
3. There will be cookies.
2. All four Bosserts in one place at one time; Oh my!
1. I'm going to celebrate my 39th birthday! Who doesn't wanna celebrate the last birthday I will have in my 30s with me? I require no presents, just your presence!



*Ra, adopted by Dawn Vojtush of Altamonte Springs, Florida, through Gold Coast Greyhounds.  
Credit: Judy Baker.*



# Hounds and Heroes

**A special program to match service Greyhounds with military veterans is making a difference.**

*By Barbara Masi*

**E**arly in 2011, I was approached with the idea of using retired racing Greyhounds as service dogs for veterans. It is something I had been thinking about for some time, since my own Greyhounds are service dogs working for the local sheriff's office. Providing these fully trained, magnificent creatures to servicemen and women was an ideal way both to promote the breed and help our veterans.

Some in the Greyhound movement believe that these dogs need to be retired

as pets only, and not as working dogs. Of course, many Greyhounds are, shall we say, a bit lazy and enjoy life as a pet, but some are still eager to work, even if in a different profession. In order to avoid confrontation due to this difference of opinion, I began working on this project and placing Greyhounds for the purpose of forming an organization specifically to train them, [Awesome Greyhound Adoptions](#) (AGA) and the [Hounds and Heroes \(H and H\)](#) program. This way, there would be no



question about the fact that we are looking for Greyhounds who will qualify for training as service dogs. Working exclusively with retired racing Greyhounds for this program is heartwarming, as they are such gentle, loving creatures and always want to please their owners. What is better for these devoted hounds than to be with their human owners and assist them 24/7?

There's a process by which a retired racing Greyhound becomes a service dog, and it





*Part of the education and training process includes putting veterans and their Greyhounds in real-life situations and helping them through, such as this outing at a shopping mall.*

begins with selection. AGA selects Greyhounds and has them thoroughly vetted. Our Greyhounds receive a great deal of treatment

compound—basically, the “brat” of the kennel. We can curb some of the enthusiasm

and screening. They are spayed or neutered and microchipped. Their teeth are cleaned and blood work is performed. Finally they are treated for worms or any other condition present.

The qualifications we look for in a potential service dog are that the dog be young, uninjured, outgoing, personable, and gets along with other dogs in the

as training progresses, but that eagerness to be “in your face” is what makes a viable service dog. We cannot bring a shy hound into the program. They have to be confident in any situation and the shy ones will not adapt to this profession. In some instances size does matter. If the veteran is tall, it is better for the dog to be a larger male, since many of them will be used for mobility assistance.

Service dog applicants are treated and evaluated exactly as a standard adoption application. Many of the referrals come from our local Veteran’s Administration hospital or other veteran’s service provider. Greyhound and veteran are matched according to the needs of the veteran. We work with those who need a post-traumatic stress disorder and mobility assistance dog. We have also worked with persons with multiple sclerosis and other





*Every veteran takes home a collar with their service Greyhound. Carl Doby made these collars representing each branch of the U.S. military.*

issues requiring a service dog.

During the approximately four to six-month process, the service dogs in-training live with the trainer in his house. AGA covers all



*Service hound Buff got a specially made harness to accommodate her veteran's physical limitations.*

expenses related to our Greyhounds including food, crate, heartworm medication, service dog vest, lead, and collar. Trainers take the service dogs everywhere: the mall, grocery

store, restaurants, movies, and other venues. The hound must be adaptable to any situation the veteran would encounter. Of course, there are stairs for the Greyhound to conquer. They must learn to stop while ascending or descending stairs to assist those veterans who have balance issues. We are working with one particular Greyhound now who we are attempting to train to retrieve and perform a few more assistance duties. Who

would have thought there would be a new breed — the Greyhound Retriever?

We require each Greyhound to attain





*Father Rob meets Buff, his new service Greyhound, for the first time.*

### Canine Good Citizen (CGC)

status, and also the specifics for “watch my back” and other appropriate commands specific to the particular veteran for whom they are being trained. During the last couple of months of training, the veteran joins

the trainer and the Greyhound so they can learn together. Sleepovers are arranged, and Greyhound and veteran become one, as it needs to be when the dog is a constant companion. When both trainer and veteran

are confident with the level of training, the Greyhound is formally turned over to his new owner and goes to his forever home.

H and H has placed five Greyhounds already, and has three currently in training. We are always in need of positive trainers to help us with the program so we can provide more Greyhounds to the applicants who are waiting for their service dogs.

The enthusiasm of the kennel owners to have their Greyhounds selected is overwhelming. The Palm Beach Kennel Club is unreservedly behind this endeavor to allow their Greyhounds to begin a new and exciting career as service dogs. They believe it will enhance the recognition of the Greyhound breed as something other than just a racing dog. So many people are not familiar with them as pets, therapy dogs, and

service dogs. They are multi-talented animals and highly intelligent.

Many people wonder if a Greyhound ever fails the program. It does happen. One was released from the program due to separation anxiety and was immediately placed in a home where he is comforted by another Greyhound, a Whippet, and numerous birds. He now has no more separation anxiety. Another left the program due to his inability to concentrate on the trainer after one or two commands, and he is now lying on the couch at a super pet home. The Greyhounds that make it through the program, not only have a great forever home themselves, they are helping to improve the quality of their veterans’ lives.

“My dog has changed my life significantly,” states a recipient of one of our Greyhound



service dogs. "In the Army, you have a person that you pair up with who is designated as your 'battle buddy.' My dog is now my 'battle buddy' here at home. He has given me the ability to go places where I could not go before, as he resolved my anxiety issues and my fear of crowds. My family also is impacted by my having him, as I no longer hesitate to go places with them. He is my best buddy." ■

*About the author: Barbara became involved in Greyhound adoption over 14 years ago. In addition to founding Awesome Greyhound Adoptions and the Hounds and Heroes program, she has volunteered at the Boynton Beach City Library for their Storytime With Greyhounds program. She has worked with the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office in the Harmony in the Streets Summer Camp and Animal Kindness programs since 2007, teaching*



*children about animal kindness, and how to care for and to be safe around dogs. She is a member of The Veterinary Assisting Academy Advisory Committee of South Tech Veterinary Assistant School, The Association for Professional Humane Educators, The American Humane Animal Protection Services, The National Association of Pet Rescue Professionals and of Placement Partners, and serves on the board for PETS (Pet Emergency Treatment Services) with her*



*local fire rescue organization and with Foster, Love, Educate and Adopt (FLEA), a newly created all-breed rescue assistance organization sponsored by the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office.*



# ***Flying into Another Decade***

**Hall of Famer Flying Penske continues to leave his mark as a sire of top racing Greyhounds.**

*By Dana Provost*

**D**oes your favorite Greyhound have **Flying Penske** running through his bloodlines? If so, you might be interested to know the incredible racer and sire was officially enshrined in the Greyhound Hall of Fame on October 17, 2013, at the museum in Abilene, Kansas, during the National Greyhound Association's (NGA) Fall Meet. Fellow inductees joining him were longtime kennel owner-operator and trainer Darby Henry and veteran racetrack operator and official Bill Lee.

Flying Penske was a black son of Hall of Fame inductee Oshkosh Racey and She's a Natural, and was whelped at Flying Eagles Kennel on Sept. 20, 1997. He was owned by Vince Berland and H. Hal Gill of Valor Sires, Inc. Flying Penske was almost 10 years old when he passed away unexpectedly of an apparent heart attack on February 25, 2007. His legacy,



*2013 Hall of Fame inductee Flying Penske. Courtesy of the National Greyhound Association*



however, is alive and thriving.

Flying Penske's racing career was nothing short of spectacular. He competed at seven tracks in six states. He raced at both five-sixteenths-mile and three-eighths-mile distances and competed in 14 stake finals. Flying Penske graced The Woodlands, in Kansas City, Kansas, in 1999, where he won the \$50,000 Kansas Bred Sprint, and was second in both the \$40,000 Great Kansas Shootout and \$10,000 Kansas Cup. In 2000, he made the final of the \$75,000 Hollywood World Classic, where he encountered traffic and ran fourth as the betting favorite. That same year, he was third in the \$60,000 American Derby and fifth in the \$100,000 Wonderland Derby, the latter after going undefeated through all rounds. As a 4-year-old in 2001, Flying Penske set a new track record in the Kansas Cup rounds not once, but *twice*. The second time, on July 4, was also a world

record. He went on to win the \$22,500 Kansas Cup. Flying Penske's career record was 65-22-16-8 in 131 starts. But that is only part of this pup's astounding story.

To say Flying Penske was amazing is an understatement. While he was spectacular on the racetrack, his greatest achievement is as a sire. Flying Penske's sire line can be traced to the great Tell You Why. Even though he has been gone for seven years, Flying Penske continues to appear in the pedigrees of some of the most outstanding Greyhounds which have raced throughout the years. This is achieved through the use of modern-day frozen semen technology. Flying Penske was a Top 5-ranked sire for 10 years and the 2013 standings ranked him No. 1 in the nation despite his passing in 2007.

Flying Penske's offspring included Tiger Boy, who in 2011 won the Rural Rube Award; Nimby

TP Jan, a 2005 Flashy Sir Award winner; and TK Quick Strike, winner of the Flashy Sir Award in 2008. The Rural Rube Award is given to the best sprinter in the country, while the Flashy Sir Award goes to the best distance Greyhound as voted on by industry participants. Four of the last five Flashy Sir Award winners and the last three Rural Rube Award winners have Flying Penske in their bloodlines.

Named to All-American teams were: Kiowa Jordan Doc and Smokey Joe in 2013; Tiger Boy in 2012 and as captain in 2011; Hi Noon Hero in 2009; NMS Sweet Thing in 2008; Kay V Tattoo Tony in 2006; and Nimby TP Jan in 2005. Flying Earnhardt in 2002 was the Hollywood Classic winner and Texas Gold was the fastest stayer in Australia for many years. Eleven of Flying Penske's sons were ranked on the 2012 NGA sire standings. Flying Penske daughters have produced well, with eight ranked on the 2012



dam standings, including the nation's No. 5 producer Lazy K. Jill. Flying Penske is the maternal grandsire of Flying Coal City, a 2010 All-American team captain, Rural Rube and Flashy Sir award winner, and Kiowa Wish Frank, a 2008 All-American.

Simply stated, Flying Penske was a magnificent hound whose legacy will continue thanks to modern technology and his outstanding sons and daughters. ■

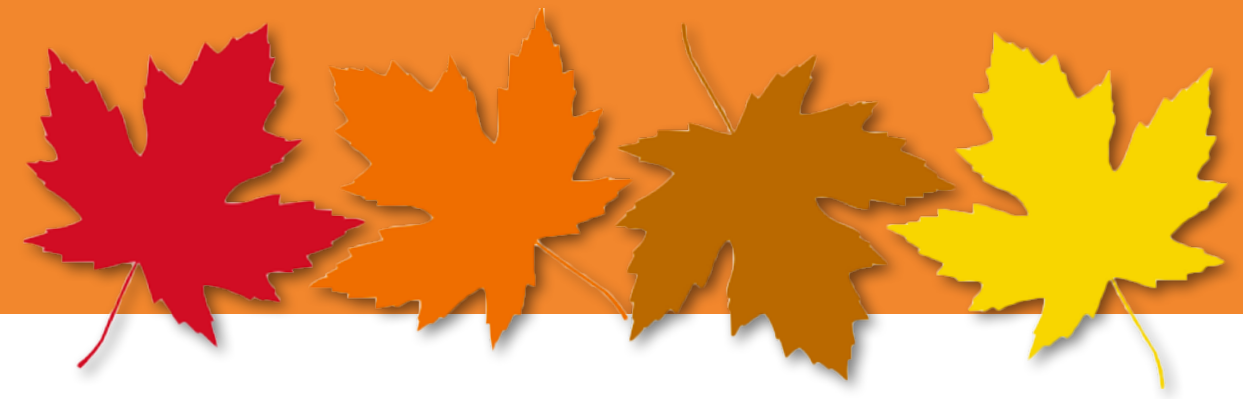
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*About the author: Dana Provost has been Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine's features editor for 10 years and has been involved with Greyhound rescue for more than 20 years. She volunteers with events and fundraising for [Greyhound Pet Adoption/Las Vegas](#). Dana has also been heavily involved with canine therapy work, using her Greyhounds through Therapy Dogs Incorporated. Dana spends the rest of her free time designing Greyhound apparel for her business, Wild Things for Greys, and works full-time at a national employment law firm. Dana currently has three 9-year-old Greyhounds, Sancerre, Chanel, and Dior, who was rescued from Guam.*





# You're Invited



## **Sunday, September 21, 2014**

Fall Picnic

GPA Nashville

1 – 4 p.m.

Centennial Park Large Events Pavilion

Nashville, Tennessee

An afternoon of fun featuring auctions, games, food, nail trims, and sales of martingales, coats, and pajamas. The proceeds support the care of broken-legged dogs. Free admission.

615-269-4088

[www.gpanashville.org](http://www.gpanashville.org)

[gpanashville@gmail.com](mailto:gpanashville@gmail.com)

## **Saturday, September 27, 2014 (rain date: Sept. 28)**

PetsAffair

Retired Greyhounds as Pets (REGAP) of  
Connecticut, Inc.

10 a.m.– 4 p.m.

105 Fairwood Road, Bethany, Connecticut  
REGAP of Connecticut, Inc., will conduct its seventh annual PetsAffair. All money raised by this event directly supports the care of the dogs — food, veterinary costs, and kennel maintenance. This year's event will include a silent auction (10 a.m.–3 p.m.), tag sale, pet-a-cures, great basket giveaways, great luck contests, pet photos, Greyhound meet and greets, picnic and cookout, bake sale – canine and human – and much more.

[www.regapct.com](http://www.regapct.com)

[info@regapct.com](mailto:info@regapct.com)

## **Saturday, October 18, 2014**

Greyfest

Greyhounds Unlimited

Noon – 4 p.m.

Addison Circle Park

4970 Addison Circle Drive, Addison, Texas

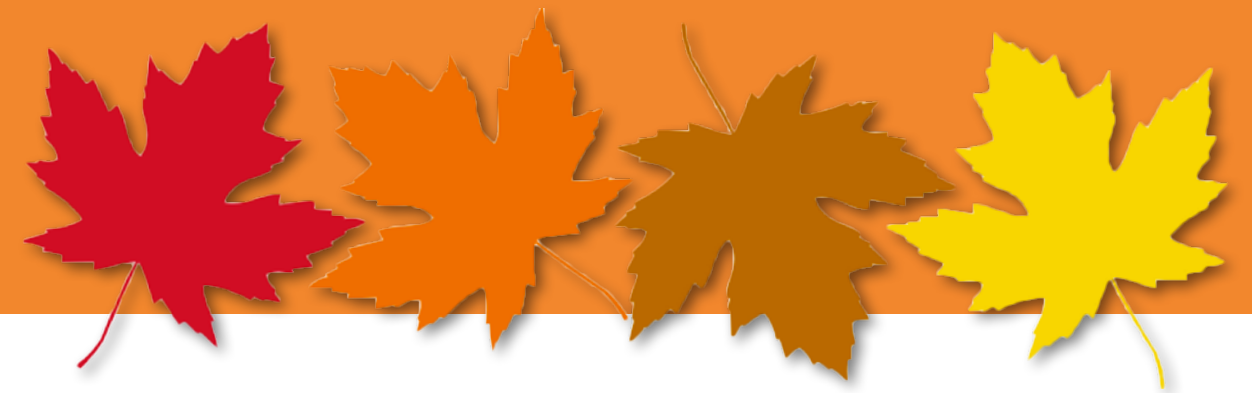
Bring your Greyhound and hang out with other Greyhound lovers at Greyhound Unlimited's annual gathering and fundraiser. Shop for fun and unique Greyhound items at a variety of vendors or in the silent and live auctions.

[www.greyhoundsunlimited.org](http://www.greyhoundsunlimited.org)

[Greyhounds Unlimited on Facebook](#)



# You're Invited



## **Thursday through Sunday, November 6–9, 2014**

Second Annual Remember the Greyhounds

Heart of Texas Greyhound Adoption, Inc.

LaQuinta Riverwalk, San Antonio, Texas

A celebration of Greyhounds, their sighthound friends and their humans benefitting the Greyhound Angel Network. Activities will include informational seminars by Dr. Davey Harkins from Kansas, Dr. Robin Robinett, who will give a demonstration this year in addition to a talk, Sandra Baas from BaasGalgos and animal communicator Val Hart, hound contests, strolls on Riverwalk, professional portraits by Crackerdog, aka Steve Uyehara, fun, laughs, raffles, silent and live auctions.

**Remember The Greyhound on Facebook**

[www.heartoftexasgreyhounds.org](http://www.heartoftexasgreyhounds.org)

[lexsam@ptd.net](mailto:lexsam@ptd.net) or [burpdog@msn.com](mailto:burpdog@msn.com)

## **Sunday, February 14, 2015**

Winter Gathering

GPA Nashville

1–4 p.m.

Middle Tennessee Livestock Center

Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Vendors, fun run, food, games,  
silent auction, and nail trims.

Admission is \$5 per person and \$2 per dog

615-269-4088

[www.gpanashville.org](http://www.gpanashville.org)

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*Malone, adopted by Joan Hassett of Aston, Pennsylvania, through Greyhound Angels Adoption*





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### Advertising Deadlines

Spring	February 1
Summer	May 1
Fall	August 1
Winter	November 1

### Questions?

Please contact us at  
[advertising@adopt-a-greyhound.org](mailto:advertising@adopt-a-greyhound.org)  
with any additional questions.