

cgm magazine

celebrating greyhounds
Summer 2006

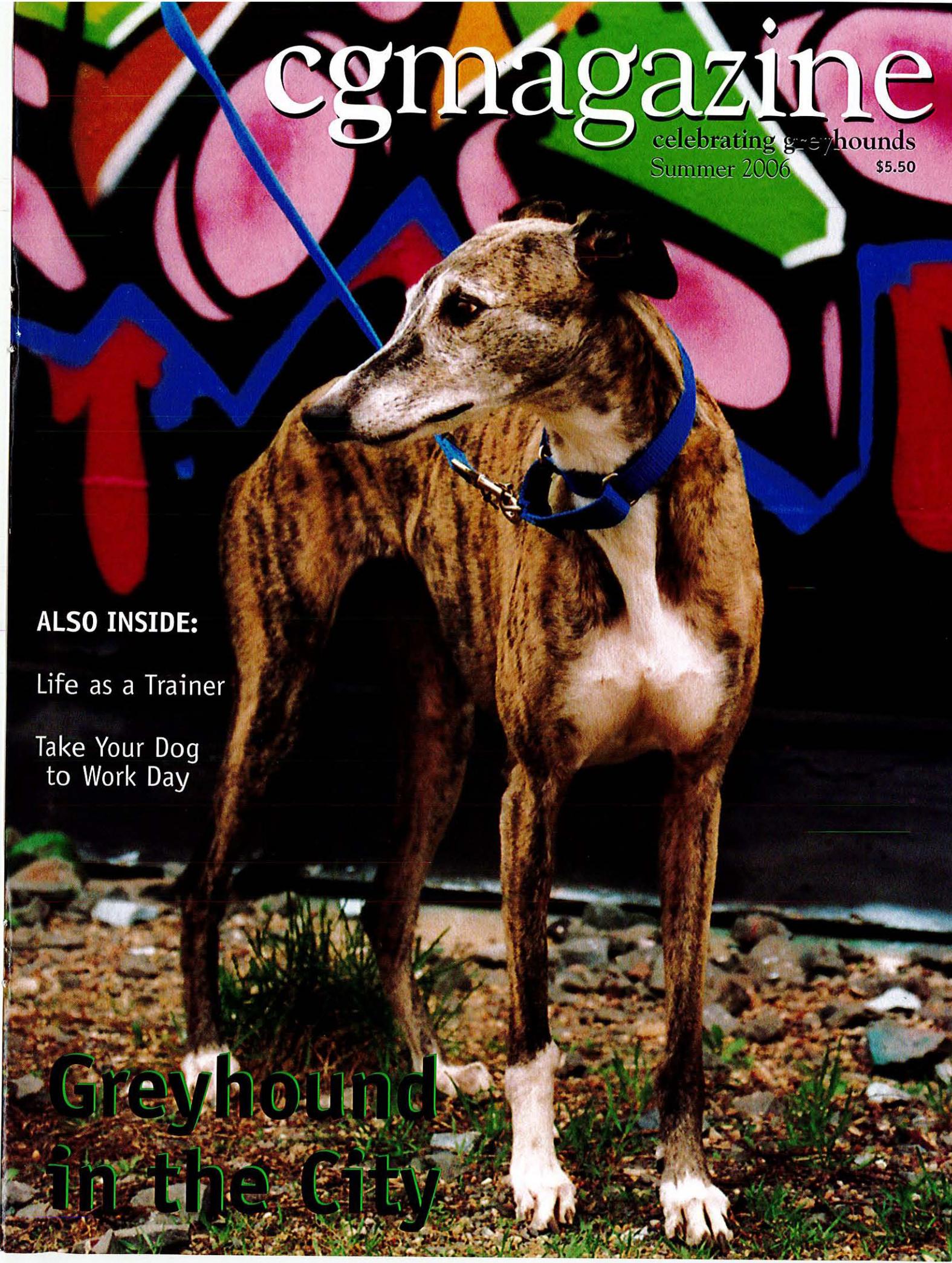
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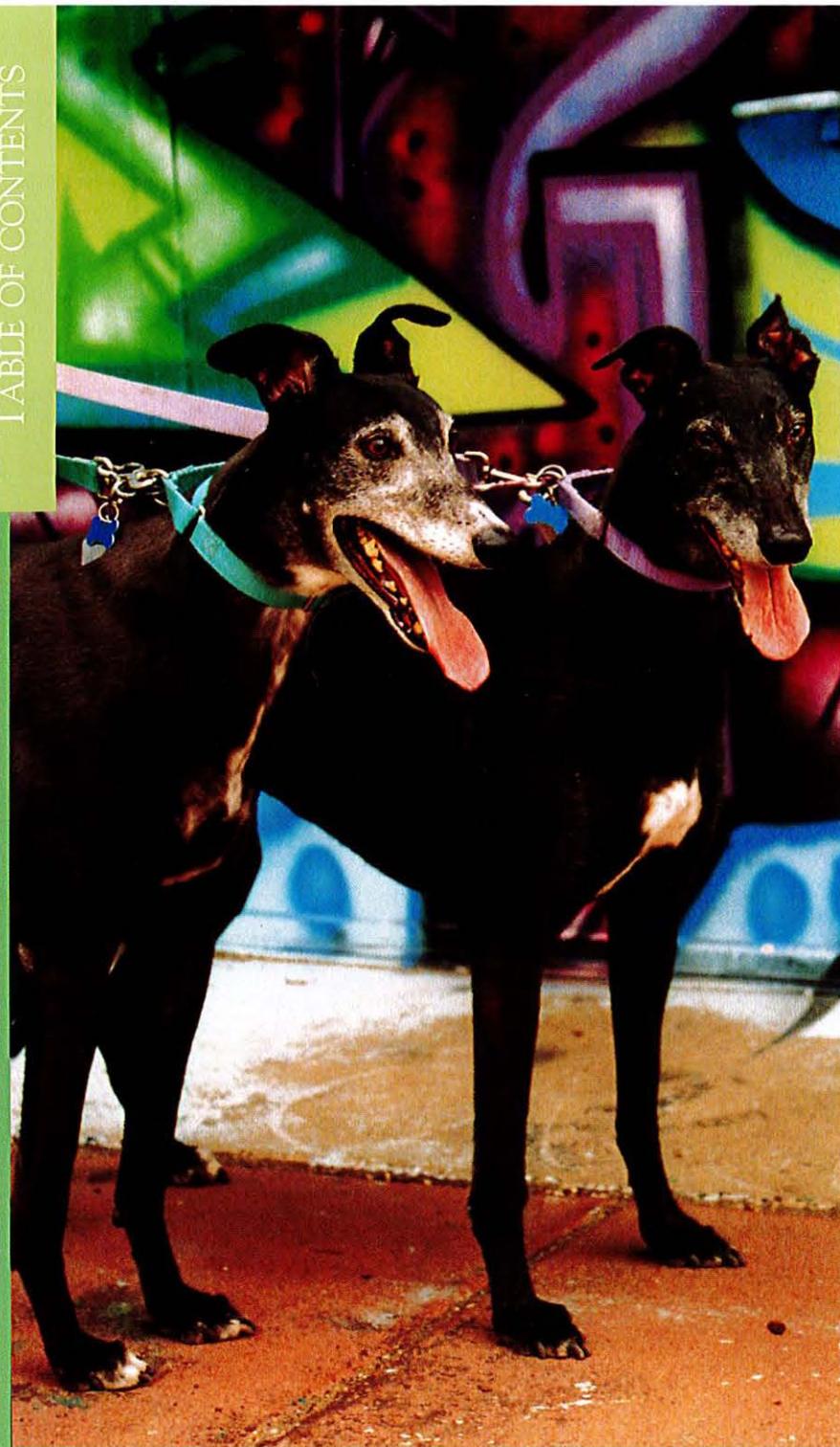
ALSO INSIDE:

Life as a Trainer

Take Your Dog
to Work Day

Greyhound in the City





Lex and Laila, adopted by Gregg Janke and Laura Eikmeier of Roseville, Minn.

Front Cover Credit: Four-year-old Greta (UBetheEagles) lives with Amanda and Rob Van Pelt in St. Paul, Minn. Photo by Cindy Hanson

Back Cover Credit: It's just another day at the office for Peanut. Four days a week, he accompanies owners Pete and Beth Wade to work at Wade Dynamics, Inc., a machine shop in Cleveland, Ohio.

cgmagazine

The Magazine for Greyhound Adopters,
Owners, and Friends
Vol. 11; No. 2 Summer 2006

Features

29 Activities

Greyhounds and Dog Parks. A primer on dog park etiquette. Kris White

32 Activities

Take Your Dog to Work. In this photo essay, Greyhound owners around the country take their dogs to work.

35 Fiction

Finders Keepers. It's a hot night in the big city, and Sweets the Greyhound is on the case. Arnold Haber

38 Care and Feeding

Home Alone, No More: Daycare for Dogs. Choosing the right daycare option for your pet. Relaela Sindelar

41 Care and Feeding

Do You Need a Pet Sitter? What to expect from a pet sitting service. Gina Mieczkowski

44 Living With Greyhounds

The Hound About Town. A former racer retires to a place in the city. Ellen Shaffer

47 Living With Greyhounds

Building a Greyhound Community. Residents of a Baltimore neighborhood find that they have something in common. Rowan Job-Julian

51 Crafts

Scrapbooking 101: More Greyhound Photo Keepsakes. The second of a continuing series on scrapbooking techniques using Greyhound rubber stamps. Lisann Porter and Becky Taggart-Redmond

Regular Departments

- 2 Editorial Comments
- 3 CG Readers Speak Out
- 5 Book Talk
Shock to the System: The Facts about vaccination, pet food and how to keep your pets healthy. Reviewed by Susan Tanona
- 7 Exploring Medicine
About Tramadol. A pain relief option for dogs who cannot tolerate narcotics. Relaena Sindelar
- 11 Hero Hound
A Service Greyhound accompanies his owner to the hospital. Maggie Wallis
- 12 Hall of Fame
JR's Ripper, the Nolan Ryan of Racing Greyhounds. Laurel E. Drew
- 14 House Calls
Be Streetwise with Your Greyhound. Avoiding common urban perils. Dr. Jim Bader
- 17 News
- 54 You're Invited
- 57 Marketplace
- 65 In Memoriam



Ed, adopted by Amanda and Rob VanPelt of St. Paul, Minn.

Speaking of Adoptions

- 19 Adoptions
Placing Greyhounds in Urban Homes. Tips from an adoption group that routinely finds homes for Greyhounds in the New York City area. Denise Ripko
- 22 Adoptions
My Week as a Kennel Helper. Adoption volunteers intern as kennel help at the race track. Shirley Smith and Laura Pike
- 25 Adoptions
A Trainer's Tale. This photo essay captures a day in the life of a Greyhound trainer. Chris Detrick

Many years ago, some Greyhound adoption volunteers in my area were brainstorming about how to raise money. Somebody mentioned the idea of a rummage sale. Full of enthusiasm, and possessing a nearly empty two-car garage, I suggested we hold the event at my house.

After a long silence, someone said: "Well, I don't know . . . some people might not be all that comfortable coming into the city."

The discussion continued, and another location was chosen. But I continued to roll that around on my tongue long after the meeting was over. Where did they think I lived, exactly? What did "the city" represent to them? I flashed on a scene from the 1961 Disney film "The Parent Trap," in which the prissy rival for the affections of the twins' father stumbles through the woods on a camping trip, clacking a pair of sticks together in an attempt to ward off bears. Briefly, I envisioned my colleagues scurrying along the sidewalk in front of my home, fearfully shaking their mini-van keys at my neighbors.

Then I forgot about the whole thing.

I recalled this exchange recently, when we began to put together this issue of *Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine*. As the authors whose works appear in this issue make abundantly clear, Greyhounds and their families thrive in urban environments. Because of their calm, gentle nature, Greyhounds make pretty good neighbors. They don't need a home with acreage, although they certainly enjoy the occasional visit to an enclosed running area. And the sights, sounds, and smells of the city can provide just as much stimulation as a romp in a suburban park.

A few years ago, it wasn't uncommon for prospective adopters who lived in a townhouse or a home without a fenced yard to hear "Thanks, but no thanks" from their local Greyhound adoption group. I hope those days are history. Adoption groups who still have some reservations about placing Greyhounds with city-dwellers should take a look at Denise Ripko's article, "Placing Greyhounds in Urban Homes." Wondering how a Greyhound would fit into your life and home in the city? Check out the charming accounts of urban Greyhound life by Ellen Shaffer and Rowan Job-Julian. Feeling that it's time to get out and about with your Greyhound? Kris White provides the scoop on Greyhounds and dog parks, and Dr. Jim Bader gives us some tips about being streetwise in avoiding common urban hazards. Want to take advantage of some of the services increasingly available to pet owners everywhere? Gina Mieczkowski explains what to expect from a pet sitting service, and Relaela Sindelar tells us how to find the right doggie daycare.

We all know that life with a Greyhound (or two, or three, or more) can be a wonderful, exciting, fulfilling journey. That's true no matter where we live.

And if you come to my front door, shaking your keys, I'll let it pass.

Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine

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SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES

CG Magazine, Attention: Subscriptions, PO Box 5239, Framingham, MA 01701; subscriptions@adopt-a-greyhound.org. Allow eight weeks for change of address.

SUBMISSIONS

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR AND QUESTIONS

CG Magazine/Editorial Office, PO Box 120048, Saint Paul, MN 55112; editor@adopt-a-greyhound.org.

ADVERTISING

CG Magazine/Advertising, PO Box 5239, Framingham, MA 01701; advertising@adopt-a-greyhound.org. Advertising information and guidelines are also located at www.adopt-a-greyhound.org/cgmagazine/advertise.html.

WEB ADDRESS

www.adopt-a-greyhound.org/cgmagazine

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IDBM 1093-0892



Volunteers from Greyhound Adoptions of Greater Rochester and Quad Cities Greyhound Adoption gather with Dubuque Greyhound retirees at their June 2005 picnic.

Winter Photos

I just received the Winter 2005 *CG Magazine* today and was totally (and pleasantly) surprised to see the wonderful photo of my gang on the back cover! I had sent that photo in along with some others to the CG calendar group over a year ago (that was my gang's Christmas card photo two years ago) and thought nothing came of it. It is really special timing that it is on this issue's back cover because we just lost our precious Sweetie (on the right) last month. She was 14 years, 3 months old. She was our special needs senior tripod that we adopted just before her 11th birthday. Seeing her on the back cover brought tears to my eyes. What a nice tribute to her and a wonderful memory for me.

Deb Lipartito
Gwynedd Valley, Pa.

It was with initial delight and then dismay that I saw the photo appearing on page 3 of the Winter 2005 issue of *CG Magazine*. I had submitted this photo inside a folded handwritten letter, placed in an envelope, identifying who the dog was and who the owner was and what organization the dog was adopted through. However, the letter was apparently lost and the photo

appeared with the caption, "What is this dog's name? Only David Campbell of Grand Blanc, Mich. knows." The dog's name was Pico, and he was adopted by Robin Gedye of White Lake, Michigan through Greyhounds of Eastern Michigan. I took the photo of Pico when he was in foster care in my home. Your acknowledgement of this information in the next issue of *CG Magazine* would mean a great deal to Mr. Gedye and me as Pico died in June of 2005.

David Campbell
Grand Blanc, Mich.

As these letters indicate, some of the photographs that appear in Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine are "leftovers" from the process of selecting photographs for the Celebrating Greyhounds Calendar. We are delighted to be able to give everybody who submitted their photographs for the calendar a second chance to share their wonderful Greyhounds with everyone. For years, we have reminded everyone who submits photographs to the calendar (and to the magazine, too) to put complete identifying information on the back of each photograph. Bear in mind that your photo is one of hundreds that the calendar receives; the likelihood that an

enclosed letter will remain with the photo as it passes through the many hands involved in the selection process is extremely small. Before you mail us your favorite images of that special Greyhound, please take a few moments to put complete identifying information on the back of each photograph. —Ed.

Enclosed is a picture taken at the Greyhound Adoptions of Greater Rochester annual picnic in June 2005. This group photo includes some Quad Cities members and the "dogs from Dubuque" adopted by our group. I had the pleasure of meeting Joseph Stoenen that day. He greeted the dogs by name and displayed genuine affection for all the dogs. If Joseph, who was featured in "Merit Badges and School Projects: Young Volunteers Tell Their Stories" (Winter 2005 *CG*) is an example of the other young volunteers, the future of Greyhound adoption is in capable and caring hands.

Pam Cloonan
Clifton Springs, N.Y.

Looming Crisis, or Crying Wolf?

In my view, Dr. Brad Fenwick downplays the very serious issue of canine influenza (News, Winter 2005 CG) with potentially devastating results. In January 2006 Dr. Cynda Crawford from the University of Florida lectured at the North American Veterinary Conference on the issue of canine influenza, which was first noted in Greyhound kennels in 2004. It significantly affected racing kennels in 2004 and 2005. Many tracks closed their doors in quarantine. Quarantine is the only currently known solution to stop this airborne illness. This virus can be transmitted simply by a kennel operator touching an infected surface in a kennel, then going home and touching his dog, or any surface in the home that the dog can touch. Canines that exhibit symptoms, which may initially appear to be kennel cough, can quickly develop influenza and without immediate recognition of the problem a Greyhound can quickly and horribly die. Dr. Crawford said there are now six strains of this flu that have been recognized across the country and it is now in the pet population. Is it an epidemic? Certainly

not yet. Can it be? Unquestionably yes. Dr. Crawford told me after she has entered a Greyhound kennel that before she will enter her own home, she will strip all of her clothing and wash herself thoroughly. That tells me we should be concerned. Dr. Crawford is now considered the guru on canine influenza in the U.S. In my view, Dr. Fenwick often takes stands that will downplay the negative side of Greyhound racing.

David G. Wolf, Director
National Greyhound Adoption Program
Philadelphia, Pa.

Thinking What He's Thinking

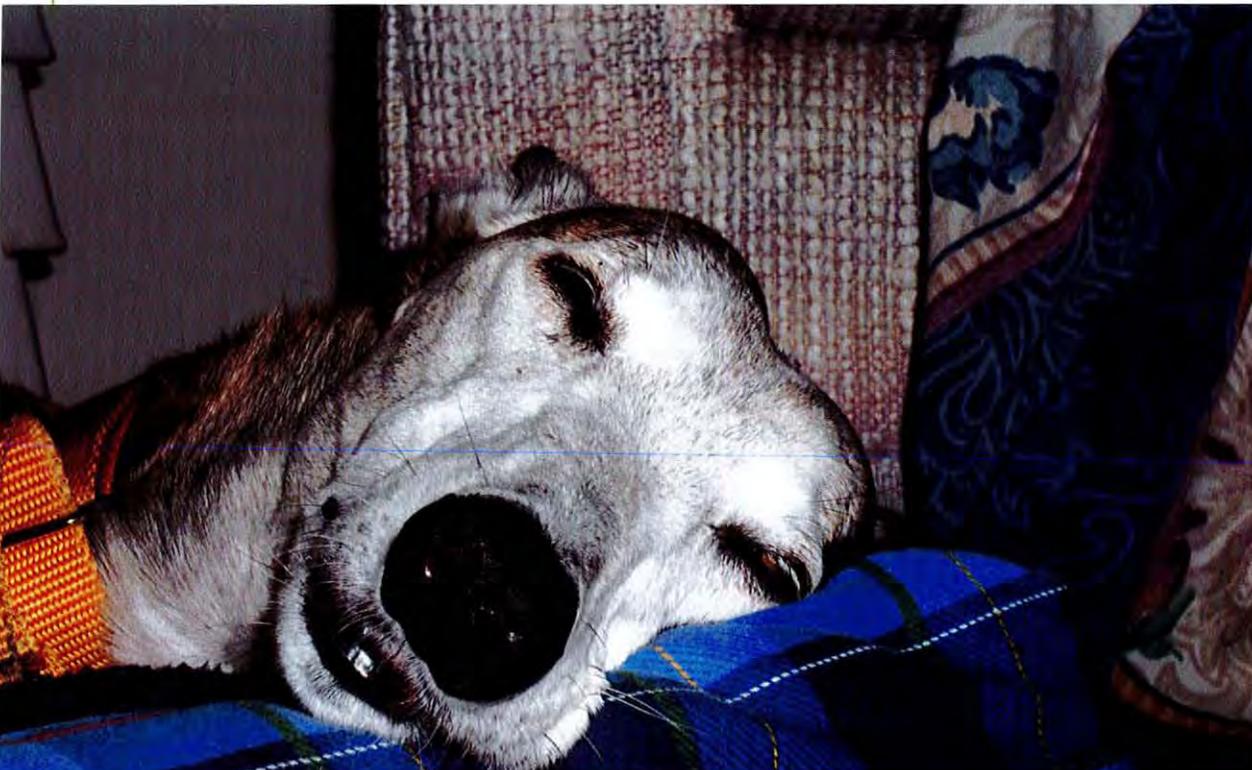
I've had Greyhounds for over 20 years, about half my life. We all know how perceptive, intuitive, and smart Greyhounds are. Yesterday was a fine spring morning; sunny, and warm, unusual for northeast Maine in March. I was minding my own business, drinking my coffee, and thought it would be good to take the dogs for a walk. I have a motley collection of dogs: two

Greyhounds, a Borzoi, and a German Shepherd. I consciously and deliberately did nothing to give any indication that a walk was going to happen. No body language, no words, no nothing. The dogs were all outside, anyway. But the Greyhounds knew. And they came in and let me know they were going for a walk. I'm not going to use the "T" word (telepathy) or go off on some New Age tangent. But this is one of the things I love so much about Greyhounds: They can read your mind.

Tony Hammond
Danforth, Me.

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

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



Athena, adopted by Donna and John Kindler of Annapolis, Md.

SHOCK TO THE SYSTEM

The facts about animal
vaccination, pet food and
how to keep your pets
healthy



Catherine O'Driscoll

Shock to the System

By Susan Tanona

Shock to the System:
*The facts about vaccination,
pet food and how to keep
your pets healthy*
By Catherine O'Driscoll
Dogwise Publishing
(a division of Direct Book
Service, Inc.)
Wenatchee, Wash. (2006)
ISBN 1919142298
\$21.95

S*hock to the System*, by British author Catherine O'Driscoll, discusses the role of vaccination, diet, and stress in our pets' health. O'Driscoll believes we are overvaccinating our pets. As a result, she argues, we are killing them with kindness. In addition, she maintains that commercial pet foods are substandard and contribute to the rash of chronic diseases plaguing our pets.

Before I continue, I should note my own opinions on this subject, because they no doubt were a factor in my reaction to this book. I believe we are overvaccinating our pets. I also believe standard off-the-shelf pet food doesn't always provide balanced, high-quality nutrition. I vaccinate my pets as infrequently as possible (and regularly have titers run to test for immunity against disease), and I prepare my dogs' meals myself. In other words, O'Driscoll to some extent is preaching to the choir here.

I wanted to like this book. Yet, I approached it with an open mind and hoped it would add to my resolve that I am doing the right thing for my pets. Unfortunately, this did not happen. I found *Shock to the System* difficult to get through, rambling, and at times bordering on the melodramatic — factors that ultimately weaken the message O'Driscoll is preaching. This is unfortunate, because I believe the message is an important one.

Canine Health Concern

Catherine O'Driscoll founded Canine Health Concern (www.canine-health-concern.org.uk/) in 1994 after two of her young dogs died "tragically." (One of her dogs experienced hind-end paralysis, and the other died of leukemia.) As a result of her research into the real cause of her dogs' deaths, O'Driscoll became alarmed by what she learned about standard vaccination protocols as well as pet nutrition. Thus was born Canine Health Concern, a foundation that researches the causes of ill health in companion animals. In addition, the organization advocates a natural diet and encourages pet owners to question conventional veterinary care.

These are all worthy causes in my opinion, but when it comes to *Shock to the System*, the devil is in the details. Where I hoped I would find a balanced treatment of a topic that — though still somewhat controversial — is no longer new, I found disorganized text interspersed with descriptions of scientific studies followed by what were in my mind at times questionable conclusions drawn by O'Driscoll.

Shock is organized into 11 chapters covering such topics as Vaccine Studies, Vets on Vaccines, and The Diseases We Vaccinate Against. Some of the information in these chapters is both interesting and compelling. Unfortunately, much of it is obscured by rambling and occasionally emotional and melodramatic text (for example, "I was compelled to share what I had learnt, simply because I could not bear the thought of anyone standing over the corpses of their friends asking, as I had done, 'Why did nobody tell me?'"). If I found this description a bit overdramatic, I can only imagine how someone who approaches this book with more skepticism about the topic would react.

Later chapters cover such subjects as Duration of Immunity (interesting material), The Homeopathic Vaccine Alternative (an entirely inconclusive discussion of the homeopathic nosode, which is a "minute dilution of a disease-causing agent" that is given orally to stimulate an immune response), and The Healthcare War (an extremely disorganized chapter that covers such varied topics as prevention of parasites, pet shampoos, and

the risks of such drugs as Rimadyl®).

In the chapter Let Food Be Thy Medicine, O'Driscoll discusses the natural and raw-diet trend, again drawing some conclusions that made me cringe. For example, she concludes that a dog who was fed raw chicken wings for the first time and wound up at the veterinarian on IV fluids could not tolerate the "life force in raw food."

Shock to the System ends with a discussion of the role of stress and genetics in the health of our pets.

If you can see your way past the flaws of this book, there is valuable information here. O'Driscoll urges readers to educate themselves about pet healthcare and draw their own conclusions about what is best for their pets. She claims not to be telling us what to do; rather, she is only presenting the "facts" so we can decide for ourselves.

The chapter that covers immunity includes some compelling data. O'Driscoll cites a 2003 finding by the American

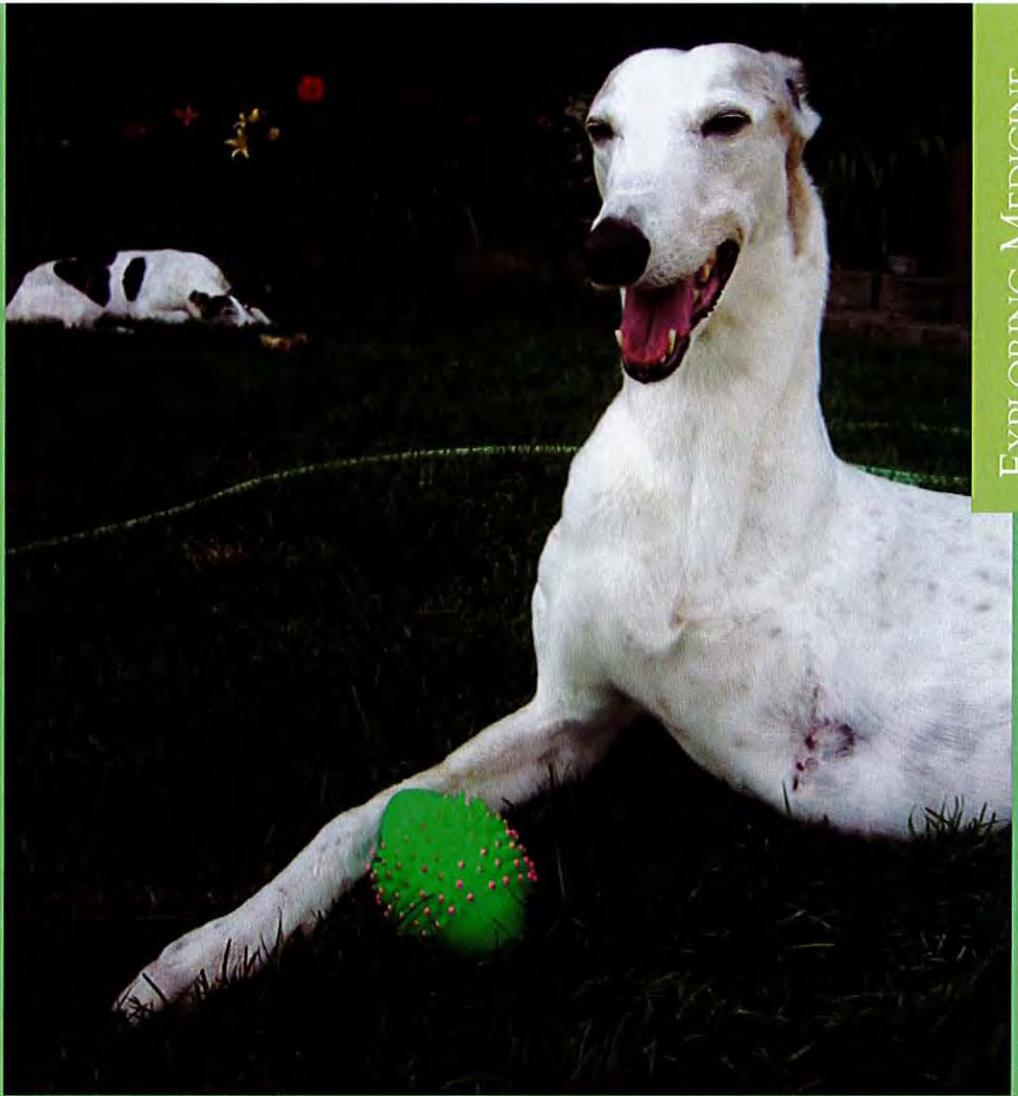
Veterinary Medical Association Council on Biologic and Therapeutic Agents that concluded annual vaccines not only are not necessary and provide no additional protection, but they are not without risk. The council further stated unnecessary vaccinations should be avoided. This is an important departure from previously accepted recommendations and protocol.

The bottom line: Read this book if you have the patience to sift through it to find the worthwhile nuggets that will make you stop and think. Above all, don't let this book turn you off of the important topic of natural healthcare for our pets. There are many good books on the subject (some of which are listed under Recommended Reading at the end of *Shock*) that can help you make informed decisions without resorting to sentimentality and emotion. ■

Susan Tamona is a CG copy editor.



Bailey, adopted by Deanna Long of Seattle, Wash. Julia Kazmarek



Duchess's distress after surgery was a reaction to the morphine she received to relieve her pain. *Relaena Sindelar*

About Tramadol

By Relaena Sindelar

Two days after we heard the heartbreaking word *osteosarcoma*, our Duchess was on her way home, bandages wrapped tightly around her body after leg amputation.

We had spent those two days preparing our home to be a safe, non-skid, well-cushioned recovery haven. However nothing prepared us for what we would learn about pain and how to control it.

That evening, our normally stoic Duchess went from panting to restlessness to whimpering. The emergency clinic assured us that these were normal side effects of her pain medication (though we would later learn that many veterinarians consider vocalizing/whimpering and restlessness to be the signs of an adverse drug reaction, not the need for increased pain medication).

By midnight, Duchess was crying steadily and panting heavily. We naturally assumed what most dog owners would — that the pain medication was not strong enough. When I called the emergency clinic a second time, I could barely hear the words of the veterinary technician over the sounds of Duchess' distress, and was relieved when they told us to bring her in.

The veterinarian on duty suspected that Duchess's pain was still under control but that she was having a *dysphoric* (unusual emotional or psychological) reaction to morphine. Moments later they confirmed this by giving Duchess an



Your Greyhound depends on you to choose effective methods of pain management. Bella, adopted by Juan Carlos De La Rosa of Monterey Park, Calif.

injection of naloxone, a drug that reverses the effects of narcotics. The injection almost immediately halted most of the side effects of the morphine.

The clinic then applied a fentanyl patch as an alternative form of pain control. Only after doing so did they warn us that Duchess might have a secondary reaction to the fentanyl, since it is also in the narcotics family, and Duchess had already proven to be morphine-intolerant. "You'll know in about 12 hours," they said, "once the patch's effects ramp up."

It wasn't even 12 hours. The next after-

noon we were in the parking lot outside of Target, where my husband was purchasing a few more rubber-backed throw rugs for our house while I remained in the car with Duchess. One minute she was calmly lying in my lap. The next minute she jumped up and began screaming.

I called my husband on his cell phone. He couldn't understand a word, but he heard the screeching and came racing out to the car. On our harried drive back to the emergency clinic, Duchess was frantically biting at her bandages, biting at the air, heaving her body against the inside of the car, and losing con-

tinence. Her eyes were dilated with fear, and her breath was coming through her teeth in freight-train shrieks.

Whether it was the fentanyl patch, applied so soon after her difficulty with morphine, or her possible intolerance to narcotics altogether, something had put Duchess entirely over the edge, causing a second and far worse dysphoric reaction.

Because many veterinarians seldom see dysphoric reactions, and because these reactions look so much like a dog in pain, it's difficult for a veterinarian to know the best way to proceed. I kept asking if there was any other form of pain medication to give our poor girl. I received only headshakes in response. Duchess had to wait it out at the clinic under close observation. It was Thanksgiving holiday, and my regular veterinarian was out of town, so I was unable to get a second opinion.

Intolerance to Pain or to Medication?

It is fairly standard protocol to place dogs on morphine or a similar narcotic-based pain reliever after severe trauma or major surgery. It is not unusual for morphine and some other narcotics to cause a dog to pant. Some dogs will also whimper or become restless (again, veterinary opinions vary on whether those side effects are acceptable).

But the dog whose symptoms are more severe falls into a gray zone — the area where veterinarians must proceed carefully to determine whether the dog is having a drug reaction or simply not getting enough pain medication.

Regardless of what medication is controlling a dog's pain, if a dog is having more than minor reactions to the medication and is consequently unable to rest, then the dog's anxiety levels are high. If a dog's anxiety levels are high, the pain may be controlled, but she cannot sleep. If she cannot sleep, she cannot begin to heal.

If your dog is having severe reactions to her current pain medication, what are your options?

About Tramadol

The morning my veterinarian came back into town, she asked the clinic to give Duchess an alternate pain medication called

tramadol hydrochloride, or Ultram® (Ortho-McNeil, Inc.). Despite the day clinic's outstanding reputation in veterinary surgery, none of the veterinarians on staff had heard of it, and they were unwilling to give something "unknown" to Duchess.

My veterinarian then called me. "Go to this pharmacy and pick up a new prescription I just called in for Duchess. Go to the clinic and give Duchess half a pill. Wait 15 minutes until the pill starts taking effect, and bring her home."

Within an hour of her arrival back home, Duchess was sleeping for the first time in five days, and her recovery progressed rapidly from that point forward. Meanwhile, I started to spread the word about tramadol so no dog would have to endure what Duchess did.

Back in 2003 when all this happened, veterinarians in the Pacific Northwest were only just becoming aware of tramadol — thanks in part to a local veterinary neurosurgeon with ties to Washington State University's veterinary teaching hospital, where the drug was being used experimentally. Even today there are still a few veterinarians who know little about tramadol, depending on where they practice.

Tramadol is a human-grade pain medication that is used in hospitals to treat certain forms of post-operative pain, particularly when morphine's side effects are interfering with healing. In dogs, morphine's side effects can include lowered body temperature, lowered respiratory rate, lowered heart rate, nausea/vomiting, constipation or diarrhea, difficulty with urination, and in some cases, mood-altering experiences. With prolonged use, morphine can cause dependency in dogs just as it can in humans.

By contrast, tramadol has very few side effects for the majority of animals (and humans). It is not a narcotic, so it requires no special paperwork other than a prescription. Instead it works as an opiate, helping to block pain receptors.

Tramadol is safe for dogs with kidney and liver conditions and does not cause gastric bleeding. If necessary, it can even be combined with nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) such as Rimadyl®, Deramaxx®, and piroxicam.

Tramadol is much less expensive than a

narcotic drug, particularly in its generic form, and usually readily available at drugstores.

Tramadol is often the drug of choice when a dog is recovering from minor surgery such as a spay/neuter, or for dogs who require ongoing pain management at home. It is especially useful for dogs like Duchess who cannot tolerate narcotics such as morphine or the fentanyl patch.

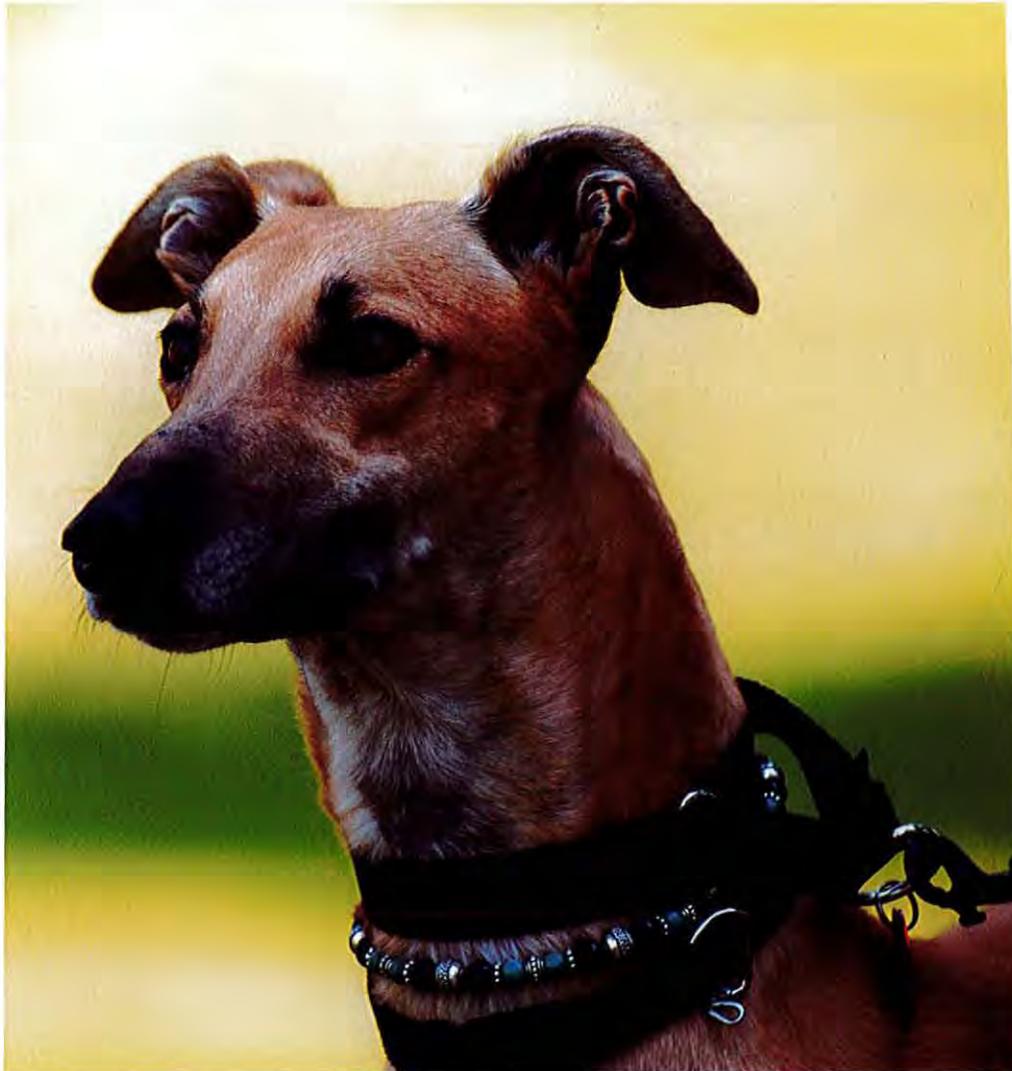
For all these reasons, and because it is generally safer than a narcotic, many veterinarians now consider tramadol to be their first line of pain defense for pets. Certainly it's not the right choice in every situation — if a dog is experiencing extremely high levels of pain, stronger pain medication is necessary, usually in the form of some kind of narcotic.

Some veterinarians are not aware of tra-

madol because clinical trials have only been done in human medicine, never in veterinary medicine. Much of tramadol's research is considered anecdotal evidence for pets. However, in the last few years, Washington State University's School of Veterinary Medicine released dosing parameters after seeing animals' overwhelmingly positive response to the drug in experimental use at the hospital.

My veterinarian first learned about tramadol after experiencing her own bad reaction to morphine following surgery. Shortly after, she began investigating every medical report and journal she could find and calling veterinary schools around the nation to determine if tramadol was being tested in veterinary practice.

She finally began trying tramadol on



Shilo, adopted by Patrick Benson of San Ramon, Calif.

selected “extreme cases” — dogs with intense neck pain whose owners had exhausted every other option and were considering euthanasia. She informed her clients that the drug was experimental in animals but proven in humans. If they chose to try it, she required them to keep a daily log. She started with very low doses, gradually increasing the dose according to the dog’s responses, with the owners closely monitoring their pet.

After nearly four years of positive experience, my veterinarian expanded her use of tramadol to a more broad range of pain applications. That was more than ten years ago. To this day, she continues to sing its praises: “Tramadol works in nearly every instance, with little to no side effects.” It seems to be especially effective in Greyhounds, given

their tendency for more drug intolerances than other breeds.

When your dog is in pain, she has enough to go through physically and emotionally to begin the healing process. Pain management is paramount. Talk to your veterinarian about pain management before you find your dog in pain. Understand that there are different forms of pain management — ranging from narcotics/opiates to NSAIDs — with many variations and appropriate applications for each. Recognize that narcotics have their place in pain management, but depending on the situation, tramadol may be an option, particularly if you have a narcotic-intolerant Greyhound. ■

Resources:

- <http://vettechs.blogspot.com/2005/04/tramadol.html>
- www.marvistavet.com
- www.veterinarypartner.com (type “tramadol” into the search box)

Relaena Sindelar lives in Seattle with her husband and two Greyhounds, Holly and Patrick. Her love of dogs, enthusiasm for learning, and passion for writing have resulted in a variety of articles on dog-related websites, newsletters, and magazines over the past eight years. This article is dedicated to her first Greyhound Duchess, whose wise, loving spirit still lives on in Relaena's heart.



Neko, adopted by the Coble family of Fredericksburg, Va. Linda S. Dupie



Blueberry Hound alerted caretakers when his owner was in distress, and he accompanied her to the hospital. *Handi-Dogs, Inc.*

The Marvelous Blueberry Hound

By Maggie Wallis

Of all the accomplishments of the marvelous Blueberry Hound — winner at the racetrack, Delta Society Pet Partner (complex level), Canine Good Citizen, first Greyhound ever certified as a service dog by Handi-Dogs, Inc., and beloved friend — perhaps his most impressive is that of rescuer of his human companion.

Several months ago I moved into a retirement center for seniors with assisted living services. Not too long after moving here, I experienced a small stroke late one night and fell in the living room. I was unable to get up, and my right eye, arm, and hand were not working properly.

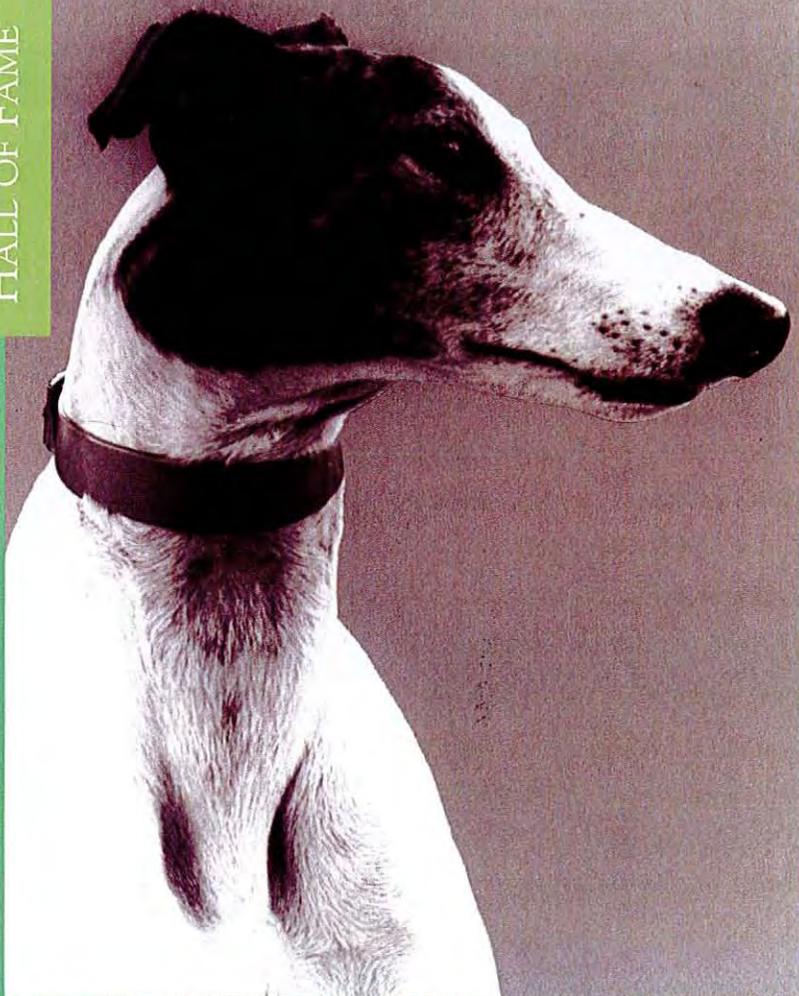
Our apartments have “help” cords in each room for emergencies, but I could not reach one. But when I asked Blueberry to “get help,” he went into the bathroom and pulled the assistance cord. He then went to the door of the apartment. Using his nose and mouth, he unlocked the latch above the door handle, turned the handle to open the door, and waited there for the assisted living staff to arrive.

When the staff member arrived, he called the paramedics and I was transported to the hospital by ambulance. My Blueberry Hound never left my side. He rode in the ambulance, stayed with me during my examination in the emergency room, and moved with me into a hospital room. During the ride and the emergency room visit, he wore his Service Dog cape but was off leash because no one knew where to fasten him. (The staff had sent along his rug and water bowl, however.)

I soon regained the use of my right arm but had major retinal bleeding in my right eye. The eye surgeon recommended laser surgery as soon as possible. Outfitted with a surgical gown, booties, and bouffant style cap, Blueberry Hound accompanied me into the treatment room for my surgery.

I am now legally blind in my right eye, but Blueberry seems to know that all kinds of things — buildings, people, trees — walk into me on that side if he doesn’t watch out for me. He has taken on a number of extra jobs by himself, with no additional training. He has come a long way in the two years since I adopted him, and he continues to amaze and delight me with the things he learns to do for me. He goes everywhere with me — Mexico, the symphony, restaurants, church, the doctor’s office, the library, on airplanes, and even on a merry-go-round. He gave me back my life, and he truly is my hero. ■

Retired nurse Maggie Wallis (Hagen) and Blueberry Hound live in Tucson, Ariz.



JR's Ripper's record of 143 wins, set in 1985, stands to this day. *Greyhound Hall of Fame*

JR's Ripper

The Nolan Ryan of Racing Greyhounds

By Laurel E. Drew

Some dogs in the Hall of Fame are huge winners, nationally known and well traveled. This story is about a dog who isn't as well known, at least not to folks outside the southwestern United States. And this story is as much about the trainer as the dog.

JR's Ripper came into the life of Irene (Billy) Jenkins of Tucson, Arizona in 1982. Billy purchased Ripper for \$2,000 as a replacement for a young dog who had badly broken a toe. Ripper had already begun his racing career at Oregon's Multnomah Greyhound Park — one of the premier Greyhound racing facilities in the country at the time — but he was sent down to Billy. She trained him carefully, as she did all her dogs, and began running him at Tucson Greyhound Park. Billy was the first licensed female trainer in Tucson and possibly in the entire United States. She was given the nickname Billy when she received her trainer's license because some of the "good ol' boys" didn't want it known that there was a woman training and running dogs at the track.

JR's Ripper was inducted into the Greyhound Hall of Fame in 1992. Why? Ripper never turned in breathtaking scores. His slowest time was 33.35, and his fastest was 30.40. He once had a string of 11 straight wins, but this was

not his claim to fame. Though he had 100 pups running grade A in Arizona and Florida as of the late 1980s, he was not famous for his bloodlines. He never made the All-American Team or won the Rural Rube or Flashy Sir awards. Ripper's fame and fortune came from one outstanding feat. On November 22, 1985, JR's Ripper won his 138th race, surpassing Indy Ann's count of 137, which had been set in 1957. Ripper continued to run until he was 5-and-a-half years old, and he posted a final record of 143 wins. Twenty years later, this record still stands.

Some sportswriters have called Ripper the Nolan Ryan of racing; in dog years, he was about Ryan's age when he retired in 1986. He retired without injury, and he was known as the "Iron Dog of Tucson." Ripper retired in grand style; in a presentation at the track, he received hot dogs and steak. (Billy

was presented with a trophy and roses.) After the presentation, they were escorted from the track in a white Rolls Royce to the cheering of their many fans.

Asked one time if she thought her dogs were happy, Billy replied: "I never thought about it." Given time to think, she added: "Some people have a strict turnout schedule. They give their dogs exactly so many minutes outside every day. I don't believe in that. I wait with the boys and girls, and they tell me what they want to do." She loved her dogs, and it showed in the way she would fondle and pet them, talk to them and rub their ears. She treated them as her friends.

She also remembered that they were professional athletes and kept them in the best of condition. Early in his career, Billy noticed that although Ripper's explosive break from the starting box often gave him an initial lead, he sometimes faded in the stretch.

When a retired dog man told her about bee pollen, a natural (and legal) nutritional supplement, she decided to add some to Ripper's meals to improve his wind and stamina. Whether it helped or not, Ripper began "closing like a house afire" shortly after Billy began this new regimen. Billy thought bee pollen seemed to help all her dogs.

Oh, those 100 pups? One of them, Jesse James, went out and won nine of his first ten races. Like father, like son. ■

Laurel E. Drew is a CG regular contributor.



JR's Ripper with his trainer, Irene "Billy" Jenkins. *Greyhound Hall of Fame*



Gigi's tail was bitten by a dog at an off-leash dog park. After four surgeries attempting to repair the damage, the tail could not be saved. She lives with Kathie and Gordon Heeres of Holland, Mich.

Be Streetwise with Your Greyhound

By Jim Bader, DVM

Life in a big city can be quite an adventure for a Greyhound. It can also be hazardous if the dog and owner are oblivious to their surroundings. The following discussion of three potential dangers associated with urban areas — antifreeze toxicity, vehicular trauma (being hit by a car), and negative encounters in dog parks — will help the Greyhound owner understand and avoid these risks and keep his dog happy and healthy.

Antifreeze — Sweet but Deadly

Most dog owners know antifreeze contains ethylene glycol, a sweet-tasting and highly toxic chemical compound. We store our antifreeze away from our pets, and so we believe that we have successfully managed the risk. But cars often leak antifreeze, and puddles of this toxic liquid can be found in driveways and other parking areas. Even a small puddle may prove dangerous, as only about 1/2 teaspoon per pound of body weight needs to be ingested for toxicity. Because antifreeze tastes sweet to animals, it is very palatable. The Greyhound owner may not even know his dog ingested the antifreeze. After ingestion, the antifreeze is rapidly absorbed through the stomach wall into the bloodstream, where the body recognizes it as alcohol and attempts to “detoxify” it. The liver metabolizes the ethylene glycol and passes it through the bloodstream to the kidneys, where it causes severe damage to the filtering tubules of the kidneys. Oxalate crystals form in the kidneys and urine as a result.

When the body recognizes the antifreeze as alcohol, the first clinical signs appear. The Greyhound will act drunk.

Symptoms of antifreeze ingestion include staggering, diarrhea or vomiting due to intestinal irritation, increased consumption of water, and frequent urination. If these symptoms are not recognized and treated, the next clinical signs are those of kidney failure. This usually occurs two to three days after ingestion. The Greyhound may stop eating and drinking, act depressed, and begin vomiting. During this time there is little to no urine production, and the small amount of urine that is produced has the appearance of water. Once the clinical signs of kidney failure appear, there is little hope for treatment.

Antifreeze toxicity must be treated early, during the intoxicated phase. If the body did not attempt to detoxify the antifreeze, it would pass through the body, be excreted in the urine, and no damage would occur. The basis for treatment is to occupy the enzyme in the liver that detoxifies alcohol (alcohol dehydrogenase) with ethanol or fomipazole. Both medications are given intravenously, usually concurrent with the administration of intravenous fluids. The intravenous fluids keep the Greyhound hydrated and urinating so the antifreeze is passed out of the body. The treatment with either medication usually lasts 36 to 48 hours.

The ethanol is given at a dosage that usually causes the dog to be almost comatose drunk, while the fomipazole does not have this side effect. The fomipazole is more

expensive than the ethanol, but the ease of administration and reduced need for nursing care offset the cost compared to the ethanol.

Kidney function is checked at three, seven, and 21 days following treatment. Blood and urine samples are taken. The urine is checked for oxalate crystals, and a urine protein-to-creatinine ratio test is run (an abnormal result is an early indicator of kidney damage); the blood is checked for normal kidney function. If mild to moderate damage has occurred, dietary changes may be in order to ease the work of the kidneys. If severe damage has occurred, treatment may not be possible. In cats, kidney transplants have been performed after antifreeze toxicity, but kidney transplantation in dogs is expensive and rare (see "New Treatment Options for Kidney Disease," Spring 2006 CG).

Keeping your Greyhound away from antifreeze is the best way to avoid the hazard. Safely store your own antifreeze. Do not allow your dog to drink from or walk through puddles of antifreeze (or any puddles at all, because they could contain antifreeze runoff). And if you suspect your Greyhound has ingested antifreeze, call your veterinarian immediately.

My Greyhound Has Been Hit by a Car!

At some point in their lives, almost every Greyhound will escape. The cause may be a gate left open, an unlatched door, a collar slipped, the dog pushing its way out the door,

or the dog hitting the "down" button on the car's power windows. And a Greyhound running loose is at serious risk of being hit by a car.

The impact trauma resulting from your dog's encounter with a moving vehicle may be mild to severe. In all cases, the number one concern is the Greyhound owner's safety; if you are injured, then you and your dog will be at risk. So first make sure you and your Greyhound will not be further injured by oncoming traffic.

A dog who is frightened or in pain may bite; so before you can help your Greyhound, you need to restrain him so he cannot hurt you. A heavy coat or blanket to throw over him may assist you moving him to safety. A board, used as a stretcher, can also assist. Once the dog is safe, place him in the car and call your emergency veterinarian to let him know you are on your way. The emergency veterinarian will prepare for your arrival.

Even if your Greyhound appears to be uninjured, he should be examined by a veterinarian. Early detection of internal trauma may allow intervention and treatment before complications arise. The veterinarian must evaluate the dog, stabilize him, and form a plan to complete treatment. Shock — which is essentially the collapse of the circulatory system — is a major concern. If the Greyhound is in shock (symptoms include dilated pupils and shallow breathing), intravenous fluids and shock medications are



Gigi, before the accident.



Calypso, Delilah, and Zeus, adopted by Bob and Carole Hillwig of Greensburg, Pa.

administered. Radiographs of broken bones, chest, and abdomen help the veterinarian assess the Greyhound's status. Fractures are stabilized with temporary splints until the dog is out of danger, at which point surgery can be performed to repair the fractures. This might not happen until several days after the initial trauma.

Playground Safety — The Urban Dog Park

Dog parks are wonderful facilities that allow you to let your Greyhound run off leash. But there are two potential problems with dog parks: Other dogs and other people.

Sometimes the dog park becomes as much a social event for the pet owners as for the dogs. In those situations, owners pay more attention to one another than to their dogs. What happens if an owner brings a dog to the park whose behavior is inappropriate for the park (for example, he acts aggressively toward other dogs or people)? You don't know how other dogs behave, although you know how your own dog acts. Or do you? What if the dog whose behavior is inappropriate for the park is your own? Your dog may exhibit behavior that is surprising to you if you have never seen him surrounded by other dogs, some of whom might be acting aggressively. A dog bite can occur in any of

these situations. If your dog receives a bite wound, infection is a risk, and sutures may be required. Take your dog to your veterinarian or after-hours clinic.

You may know how your own dog behaves at the dog park. You may even know the other dogs at the park. But do you know the health status of the other dogs? Can you be sure that the other dogs are free of parasites and contagious diseases? Although your dog may be current on his vaccinations, it's possible not every dog is protected. A sick dog may bring kennel cough, parvovirus, or distemper to the park and expose your Greyhound to these diseases. In addition, keep in mind that your vaccinated Greyhound may not be safe; no vaccine provides 100 percent protection. Although the parvovirus and distemper virus vaccines are very effective, the kennel cough vaccine protects only against certain strains of the virus. If your Greyhound is exposed to a different strain, he may contract the disease. While kennel cough is readily treated with antibiotics and, if needed, cough suppressants, you should be aware that dog parks present the risk of exposure to these diseases.

Dog parks are also a good place for your Greyhound to pick up parasites. A dog may carry into the park intestinal parasites such as hookworms or whipworms. If dog owners

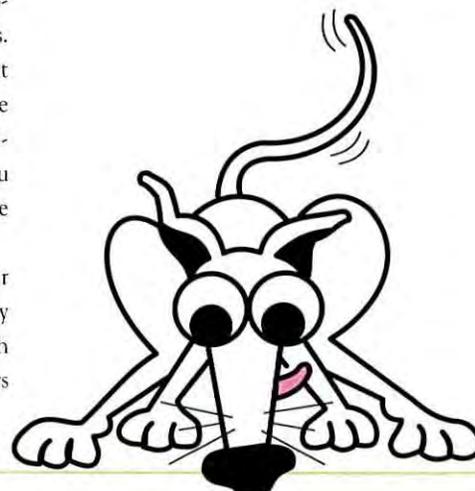
always picked up their dogs' feces, exposure to intestinal parasites would not be a problem. But not everyone does pick up after their dogs. And since dogs are generally running off leash in the dog park, you may not have the opportunity to stop your dog from sniffing, stepping in, or even snacking on another dog's waste. All these behaviors present the risk of exposure to internal parasites. If your Greyhound frequents dog parks, have a fecal sample checked for internal parasites two or three times a year.

No dog and owner can live in a plastic bubble. Risks are everywhere. The key to keeping your Greyhound healthy and happy in an urban environment is to be streetwise — be aware of the risks and minimize them as much as you can. Don't let your Greyhound investigate unfamiliar puddles on the pavement. If you use dog parks for your Greyhound, only socialize with other owners and dogs with whom you are familiar. If your dog is injured, have him checked by your veterinarian immediately.

In addition, know your veterinarian's emergency policies before you have an emergency. Is your veterinarian available for after-hours emergencies, or will you be referred to an emergency clinic? Do you know where the emergency clinic is? How does your veterinarian accommodate daytime emergencies? Knowing the answers to these questions will save time and may save your Greyhound's life.

Take these simple precautions and both you and your dog will enjoy the always-changing urban environment. ■

Dr. Jim Bader is a CG regular contributor.





Friday and DeSarro, adopted by Cathy Norris of Fremont, Mich.

Greyhounds in the News

PETCO Foundation "Rounds Up" Support for Greyhound Adoption

The PETCO Foundation's 2005 "Round Up/Spay Today" fundraiser raised \$869,000 nationwide, thanks to the compassion of PETCO customers, vendors, and associates who supported the in-store campaign with generous donations. The event, which ran from July 24 to August 14, focused on raising funds for spay-neuter organizations to help solve the problem of pet overpopulation.

"We are continually inspired and impressed by the generosity of our customers, vendors, and associates," said Paul Jolly, Vice President and Director of the PETCO Foundation. "The PETCO family is truly committed to animal welfare, and our Round Up/Spay Today success proves that together we can make a difference in controlling the pet population."

The fundraiser encouraged pet lovers to "round up" their purchases to the next highest dollar. Each of PETCO's more than 750 stores selected one or more spay/neuter-focused charitable partners to be the recipient(s) of the individual store's fundraising efforts. This year's national giving of \$869,000 increased 6.9% over last year's campaign, which collected over \$817,000.

Thirty-nine Greyhound adoption groups partnered with local PETCO stores in the 2005 "Round Up/Spay Today" fundraiser.

The 2006 "Round Up/Spay Today" campaign is scheduled to run from July 23 through August 13. For more information, visit www.PETCO.com and click on the "PETCO Community" link, or contact your local PETCO store.

Greyhound Dances to Victory

Cody, whose experience in canine musical freestyle was described by owner Diana Cognigni in the Fall 2003 issue of *Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine*, continues to excel in the sport. On January 21, 2006, Cody earned first place at the World Canine Freestyle Organization's titling competition, Dancing Away in Bark-A-Ritaville, in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. With this competition, Cody earned the title W-Ch.FD/MF (that's World Canine Freestyle Organization Champion Freestyle Dog, Musical Freestyle to you). Cody is the first Greyhound to earn this title. Congratulations to Cody and Diana!

Are You Moving? Need to Renew?

In order to not miss a single issue of *Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine*, please send your address changes and subscription

renewals well in advance of your move or expiration date to *Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine*, PO Box 5239, Framingham, MA 01701. Address changes may also be e-mailed to subscriptions@adopt-a-greymagazine.org. Subscriptions may also be renewed on line at www.adopt-a-greymagazine.org/cgmagazine/subscribe.

Free Issues of CG to Adopters of Senior or Special Needs Greyhounds

Do you know someone who has adopted a senior or special needs Greyhound? If so, tell this Greyhound lover that he or she is eligible to receive a free issue of *Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine*. All the adopter needs to do is send a note to the Editor at the Editorial Address (see the address at the end of the CG Readers Speak Out section, in this

issue) or send an e-mail message to editor@adopt-a-greymagazine.org. The note should include the following information: The name and address of the adopter, the name of the Greyhound, the adoption group or other source of the Greyhound, and a brief description of the Greyhound's special need. (For the purpose of this offer, the "senior or special needs Greyhound" is one who is at least seven years old at the time of adoption, or one of any age who has a special medical problem requiring veterinary attention at the time of adoption.)

New CG Regular Contributor

With this issue, *CG Magazine* welcomes illustrator Susan M. Collins as a regular contributor. Look for her charming Greyhound illustrations throughout the magazine. ■



Fabulous Bo, adopted by Sarah P. Jones of Cocoa, Fla.



Flash, adopted by Donna and Tom Sander of Florissant, Mo.

Placing Greyhounds in Urban Homes

By Denise Ripko

We have all heard it before at Greyhound adoption meet-and-greets:
Oh, I can't adopt a Greyhound because I live in an apartment.
I don't have a big back yard.
Greyhounds need a lot of exercise.

These are common misconceptions regarding retired racing Greyhounds as pets. The truth is that because Greyhounds are very adaptable and easily trained, they make fine pets for people who live in the city.

Many Greyhound adoption groups have placement policies that would exclude most urban homes from consideration. For example, some groups have policies against placing Greyhounds with apartment dwellers or in other homes without fenced yards. The adoption group for which I volunteer, Long Island GreyHound Transfer (LIGHT), has placed many retired racers in a variety of adoptive homes, including those in major urban areas. In 2005, LIGHT placed 120 Greyhounds, 30 percent of whom live in New York City.

Placing a Greyhound in an urban home is similar to placing a Greyhound in any other type of home. The prospective adopter completes an application. The adoption group reviews the application and interviews the adopter. If all goes well, a Greyhound goes home. When LIGHT receives an application from someone who lives in



Bett, adopted by Nancy Gillis of Holland, Mich.

the city, our adoption representative will ask a number of additional questions to get a sense of the home environment and the potential adopter's commitment.

Does the adopter's building allow all sizes and breeds of dogs? Many apartments have weight restrictions on canine residents (a limit of 25-35 lbs is typical). Many buildings will not allow residents to own breeds such as Pit Bulls, Dobermans, and Rottweilers. Even in buildings without such restrictions, a landlord who is not familiar with Greyhounds as a breed might reject the resident's request to acquire one as a pet. We recommend that the potential adopter assemble a Greyhound resumé for the landlord. This document should summarize the positive attributes of the breed. The resumé should also convey that the prospective adopter is a responsible pet owner who would clean up after the dog and maintain the dog's health with regular visits to the veterinarian for required vaccinations and monthly heartworm, as well as flea and tick treatments.

If the prospective adopter lives in a rental unit, we require permission from the landlord before approving an adoption application.

Where is the building located? Knowing whether the building is on a major thoroughfare or a quiet city block helps us to determine the temperament of the dog that would be suited to this home. If the adopter lives on a busy street, it is important to choose a

Greyhound who is not overly affected by visual or auditory stimuli.

Does the building have stairs and/or an elevator? Since LIGHT's Greyhounds do not spend time in foster homes prior to adoption, a new home might be their first encounter with a staircase or an elevator. We provide detailed written and verbal instructions to the adopter about how to teach a Greyhound to master stairs. If the apartment has an elevator, we instruct the adopter to hold the dog on a short lead, enter the elevator at the

same time as the dog, and hold the door open until both are safely inside, paying special attention to tails.

How many hours will the Greyhound be left alone? If the hours alone exceed eight to nine hours, we suggest that the adopter hire a dog walker. Of course, eight to nine hours is a general guideline as every dog is different. We adjust our recommendations when the dog is older or has separation anxiety. Good sources for finding a reputable dog walker are friends, neighbors, or the veterinarian.

Who will be the main caretaker of the Greyhound? Adopters should have a backup caretaker(s) in the event they are delayed at work or if an emergency arises. Ideally, a spouse or roommate would be the perfect choice. However, a neighbor, relative, friend, or dog walker is a good alternative. The adopter must inform the backup of the Greyhound's feeding and bathroom schedule. We recommend that the adopter post a schedule on the refrigerator. The caretaker should also understand how to safely handle the Greyhound. Finally, we advise the adopter to provide the caretaker with the phone number and location of the nearest veterinarian and emergency animal clinic.

Do the new owners have access to a dog run or park where the dog can be exercised? Although the Greyhound will get some exercise a few times a day during bathroom



Katy, adopted by Kit Merriman of New York, N.Y.

breaks, we suggest that the dog have longer exercise breaks two or three times a week. Long walks in the park or a play date at a local dog park are good choices. Major urban areas may have social clubs with regularly scheduled events for dogs and owners such as walks, picnics, parties, and country hikes. Special instruction is given to teach the owner how to socialize the dog as well as a recommendation for the owner to enroll in a formal training class.

Will the dog come in contact with small animals and/or children? Even if the prospective adopter does not have other pets or children, the likelihood that the Greyhound will come in contact with both is much greater in an urban setting. Our colleagues at the kennel do extensive temperament testing to make sure that the dog placed in an urban home will be comfortable with small animals and kids.

After our adoption coordinator has finished reviewing the application and interviewing the prospective adopter, a LIGHT volunteer conducts a home visit. The purpose of the home visit is to determine if the home is suitable and safe for the Greyhound and to confirm the commitment of the potential owner(s). The volunteer brings her Greyhound to visit the home. The prospective adopter's family members must be present so the volunteer can confirm the entire family is committed to the dog's care.

Typically, the prospective adopter and family first want to meet the volunteer's Greyhound. The ensuing discussion is a great opportunity to explain more about the breed and provide basic care instructions. The next step is the volunteer's evaluation of the prospective adopter's living space. Is the apartment clean and free of clutter? Is the space adequate? Where does the adopter propose to put the dog's feeder and bed? Does the apartment have glass doors or mirrors? What is the condition of other pets in the house? Answers to some of these questions may present educational opportunities. If the home has glass doors or mirrors, the volunteer will alert the adopter about the risk posed to the Greyhound and explain how to prevent accidents. Answers to other questions might indicate that this home is not suitable for a Greyhound. Recently, I did a

home visit where the potential adopter wanted to put the Greyhound in the basement and the feeder on the stairs. Other red flags would include the presence of other pets who appear to be neglected or an adopter who lives in a studio or one-bedroom apartment with five roommates. Our volunteers know to trust their guts when it comes to determining whether or not a home is suitable.

If there are no issues in the home visit, the volunteer reports the findings back to the adoption coordinator, who decides whether or not to approve the application. If the green light is given, we provide detailed information to our kennel representative, and a perfect match is made. After the adoption, we keep in touch with the adopter to

answer questions, provide support, and make certain that the placement is going well.

A newly-retired racing Greyhound will do just as well in an apartment as he would in a house with a big back yard. The key to successfully placing a retired racing Greyhound in an adoptive home in a major urban area is carefully evaluating the dog's potential owner, obtaining accurate information about the dog's environment, and ensuring the owner understands how to appropriately care for his new companion amid the hustle and bustle of the big city. ■

Denise Ripko volunteers for Long Island Greyhound Transfer in the New York City area.



Jack, adopted by Lynne Peters of Arlington, Mass.



The dogs rest in their crates after a turnout.

My Week as a Kennel Helper

By Shirley Smith and Laura Pike

When first approached to be a kennel helper for a week, I thought to myself: *Hey, piece of cake! What can be so hard about picking up poop? I do it for my own Greyhound every day. How could I possibly refuse such an offer?*

As a volunteer in Greyhound adoption for nearly nine years, my desire to learn more by working as a helper in a racing kennel was about to come true.

My day as a kennel worker at William O'Donnell, Sr.'s kennel began at 6:30 a.m. for first turnout, and from that point on I worked non-stop until 10:00 or later each evening. Greyhounds are muzzled for each turnout, with males and females placed into separate areas. Tending to 110 Greyhounds definitely took up a good part of the day.

Wearing my old jeans and long-sleeved t-shirt, I arrived at Raynham Taunton Dog Track in Massachusetts. My timing was right on; I entered right behind one of the trainers with whom I would be working. It was 6:00 a.m. that June morning, and with confidence and a smile, I stepped out of my van and walked up to trainers Glen "Tank" Atkinson and Jeanne Perry. They greeted me and led me through the gate into Anthony Napolitano's kennel.

How exciting to hear the Greyhounds barking, anxiously waiting to be turned out. We deposited our belongings in the kitchen area and closed the gate. Tank warned me that the dogs would jump on me. I smiled and told him I was ready.

One would think that letting a Greyhound out of a crate would simply mean opening the door. Not so. There is a skill involved in safely letting a Greyhound out of his or crate. Trainer Casey O'Neil was patient with me as he tried, over and over, to teach me the proper procedure.

I positioned myself in the area next to the turnout. Forty-plus muzzled Greyhound girls came out in a frenzy, jumping and rubbing up next to me. The more I laughed, the more they jumped. After a few minutes, Tank came out and corralled the ladies into their turnout.

Next were the boys. They behaved the same way, but were bigger and stronger. "If you were a foster dog," I thought, "I would not allow this behavior." But they were racers, not foster dogs; I reminded myself of my place in this pack.

In between each turnout, we swept the floors and fluffed and changed the shredded paper in each crate as needed.

My least favorite task was sweeping the floors. All I could think was Gosh . . . where

is a vacuum cleaner when you need it? The most challenging task was trying to weigh the Greyhounds. They probably each gained a pound from the biscuits I fed them while I tried to get them to stand still and stop wagging their tails.

My favorite tasks included two very different things. The first was placing the newly shredded paper into the crates. Often the Greyhounds would help pull the paper into their crates, and give kisses or stand for petting. It was a great opportunity to chat with them one on one. I am not sure who found the chatting more amusing, the racers or Tank. I did finally realize that the dogs want to go out first, chat and pet later.

During each turnout, we watched for signs of limping or for changes in stools. We recorded these changes. Medications were given where necessary. In addition, each Greyhound is checked daily for injuries and treated as needed. Their nails are clipped when required. The Greyhounds scheduled to race are given massages, which they seem to enjoy; when I listened,

I could hear their sighs of contentment.

Returning a Greyhound to his cage would be a trouble-free task, I thought. Once again, I was mistaken. When you have a mass of excited Greyhounds waiting to be put back into their crates, they all begin to look the same: a mass of brindle, red, black, and so forth. I repeatedly found myself asking Casey where a particular Greyhound was in the mass. After two days of asking, I began to notice that the Greyhounds were far smarter than this trainee. These smart little cookies would come in from turnout, stand in front of their own crates, and look up at me as if to say "Here I am . . . it looks like you need help."

What did the Greyhounds think of me? They were a bit concerned that despite having their names written on their muzzles, their collars, and their crates, I was a bit slow in returning them to their proper locations. They thought that standing directly in front of their crates would make things easier for me.

Breakfast consists of meat, kibble, and a



Mila, adopted by Kathleen Perry and Henry Martini of Jacksonville, Fla.

stew of lamb and vegetables and is normally served at about 10:00 a.m. Each portion is prepared according to the Greyhound's racing weight, and individually weighed.

The task I feared most was preparing the feed. Being a lady who likes to order her food "well done," putting my arms into a pile of raw meat was something else. (Note to self: Bring longer rubber gloves next time.)

Over the next few days, the routine of turning the dogs out and then crating them became easier and truly enjoyable. I was allowed to try everything. Jeanne and Tank were incredibly patient teachers and explained all aspects of the racers' daily care. Watching them work as a team to care for the dogs was nothing short of amazing.

Also filling our days were the Morning Schoolings or Official Schoolings. Morning Schoolings are really just an exercise program, where the Greyhounds get to run for fun. (Some of them even tried to run the wrong way.) Official Schoolings are performed in the same manner as an actual race. Each Greyhound is weighed, and his tattoos are recorded by track officials. The Greyhound dons a racing jacket and is led around the track by a Lead-in. The Lead-in places the Greyhound in his designated starting box. The race begins, and the

Greyhound runs the required distance. After each race, the Greyhound is checked for injuries and cooled down before being returned to the kennel compound, where he will be turned out, fed, and turned out once again.

Another favorite task was the unofficial schooling. We gathered on the track with people and Greyhounds from the other kennels. Each had an opportunity to hand-slip the dogs (as opposed to placing the dogs in the starting box), letting them go to chase the lure. While holding the Greyhound's collar, you could feel the dog's anticipation and excitement.

What surprised me most was how hard a kennel worker's job is, how they know each and every Greyhound by name, and how they interact with each Greyhound on a one-to-one basis. The Greyhound depends on this person for daily care, and the kennel worker is basically there for the Greyhound 24-7.

It is important to understand that working with the Greyhounds requires long hours, dedication, and patience. It is not a job, but a lifestyle. The reward for this lifestyle? Being with the Greyhounds all day.

As the end of the internship got closer, track personnel asked questions about my experience. Everyone was so courteous and

helpful. Even if my responses were brief, I hope they noticed my smile. The thought of having to say goodbye to Jeanne, Tank, and the Greyhounds was difficult.

My week as a kennel helper will remain with me forever. I have never picked up so much poop in my life! And I learned so much about Greyhounds in seven short days. I have a newfound appreciation for those who look after these amazing animals before we even have the chance to care for them in our homes.

This experience taught me many things. Having a better understanding of the racing life has given me some ideas that I hope to implement in fostering in order to make the transition from racing to retirement a bit easier on the Greyhounds.

Anyone who works with Greyhounds, whether it is in racing or adoption, is driven by passion. If you do not love the breed, you should not be involved in either activity. We have a great deal in common; for all of us, the Greyhounds come first. ■

Shirley Smith, who volunteered at William O'Donnell, Sr.'s kennel, is the Founder/President of Greyhound Rescue Quebec. Laura Pike, who spent a week at Anthony Napolitano's kennel, volunteers for Buffalo Greyhound Adoption.



Luke, adopted by Jeff, Nancy, and Bryanna Hanson of Palatine, Ill.

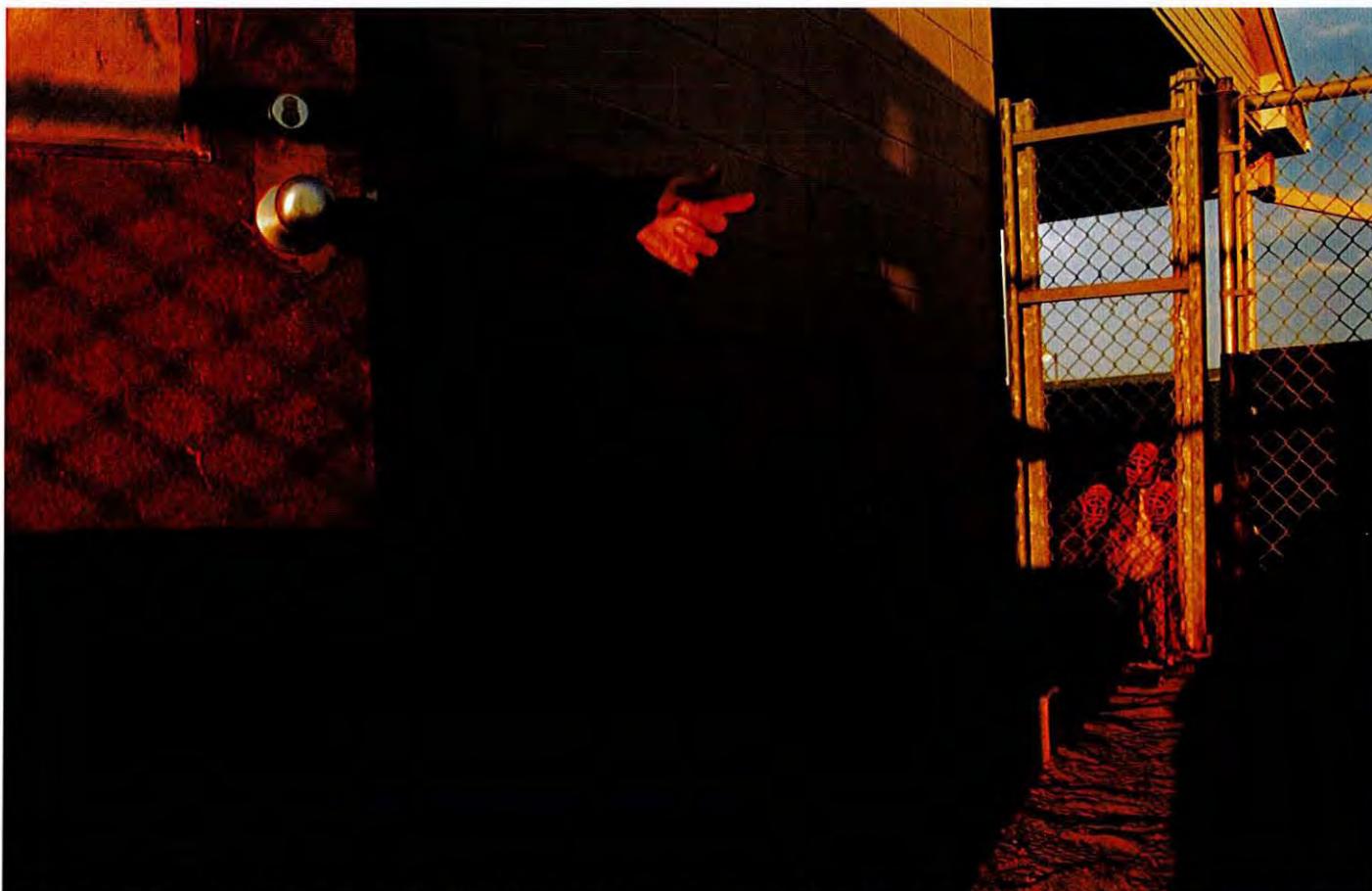
A Trainer's Tale

By Chris Detrick

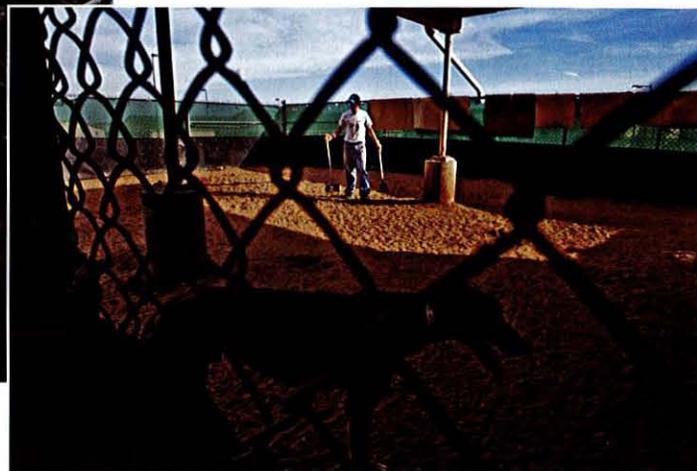
Eighteen-year old Cory Owens works with his Greyhounds at the dog track, but he gains much more than a paycheck. Owens spends around 80 hours at The Woodlands Race Track in Kansas City, Kansas each week, taking care of a kennel of 66 racing Greyhounds. Because he spends a significant amount of time around the dogs, Cory has developed special bonds with each of them and often refers to the Greyhounds as his "kids."

"There have been several valuable lessons that I've learned from taking care of the kids, said Owens, "but the one that I would say was most important is that nothing but hard work and a true care for what you do will suffice." ■

Chris Detrick is a recent graduate of the University of Missouri's photojournalism sequence with minors in violin performance and psychology. He worked as an intern at the Salt Lake Tribune for six months before it turned into a full-time job. Detrick received a Silver designation in the Domestic Picture Story category of the 2005 College Photographer of the Year Awards for "A Trainer's Tale." All photos in this series are available to reprint for personal use; please contact Chris Detrick at mail@chrisdetrick.com for sizes and prices.



Greyhounds eagerly await Cory Owens, an assistant Greyhound trainer, each morning and evening. "If your heart isn't in your work and you don't care about it, then you won't get the most from it and it won't be as useful. I truly care about the Greyhounds, and I believe I work hard to keep them happy and healthy."



Greyhounds swarm Cory Owens for some water as he walks into the outdoor recreation area. Owens waters the dogs nearly four times a day. His weekend mornings usually start around 7 a.m. to let them out. He then doesn't leave until after midnight. The dogs demand a lot of Owens' time. He changes their beds, gives them baths, lets them outside for several hours a day for exercise and waters them. "They are considered to be family and it's the same as any person would do for their kids," he said.

Taking care of 66 Greyhounds also means that Cory Owens has to do some dirty work. Each day he must pick up after the dogs in their play area.



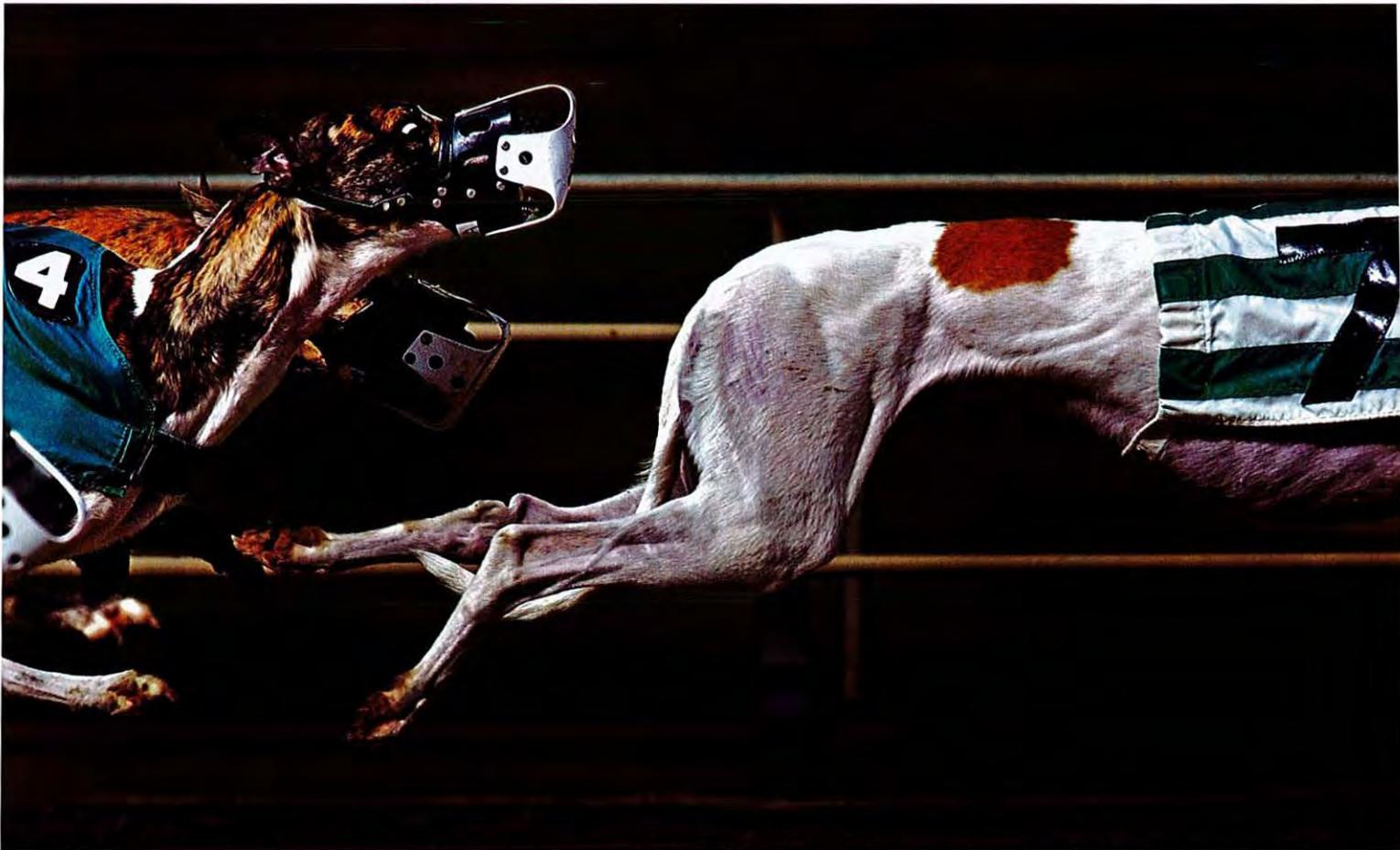
At the start of each day Cory Owens walks the race dogs to the track from the kennel. Walking the dogs, instead of driving, helps the Greyhounds stretch before the race.



Puppy Bello Navajomoon, also known as Mooney, gives Cory Owens a hug as he puts her back in the cage after a bathroom break. "She is really affectionate but all of them show a great deal of affection," Owens said.

“They always cheer you up and are glad to see you, and can make even your worst day a good one. For that, I’m truly grateful and nothing will be able to replace the feelings of joy they bring me from day to day.”

—Cory Owens, assistant trainer, Full House Kennel, The Woodlands



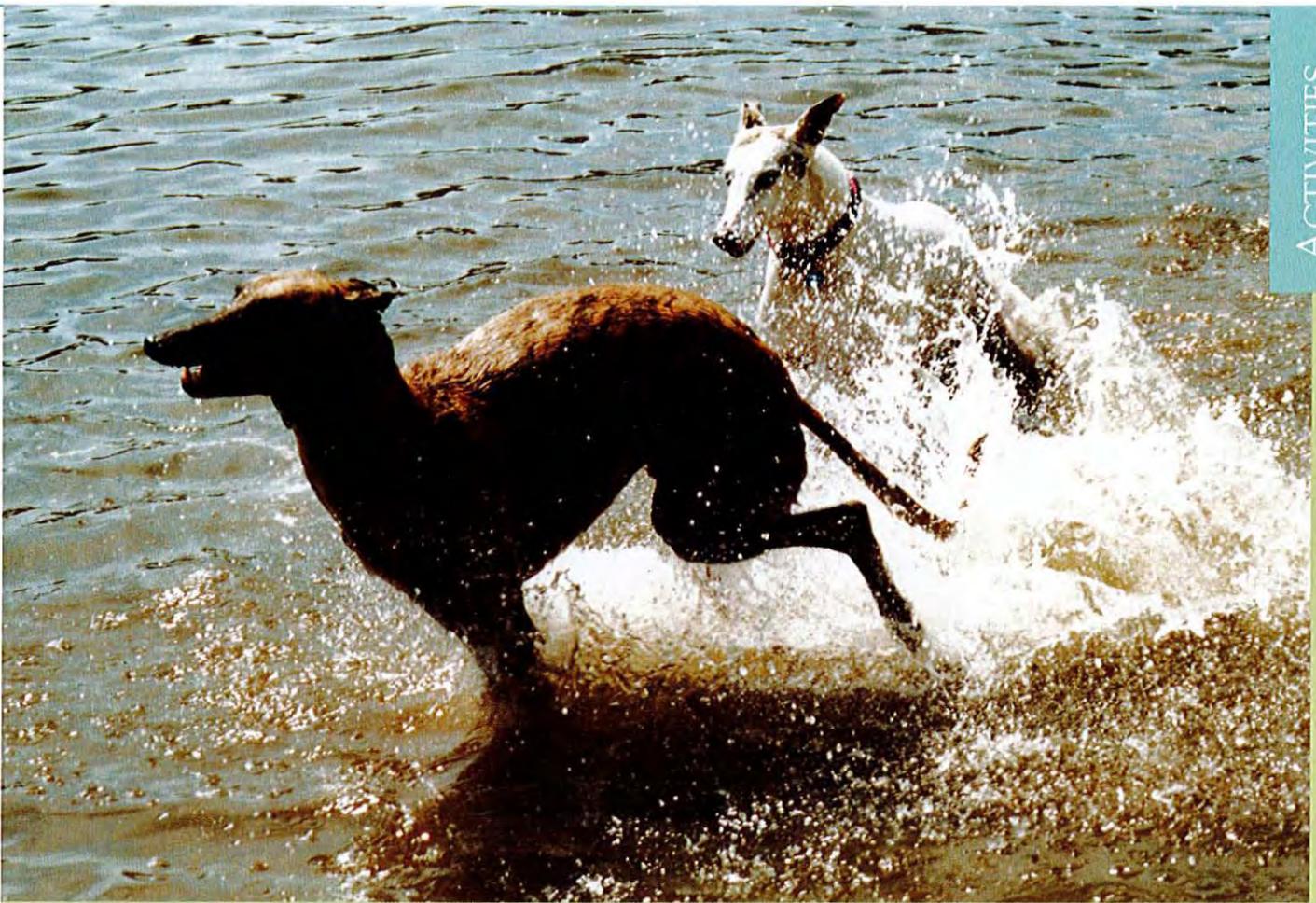
Greyhound Fandemonium, #4, races behind Santa Fe Madonna, #7, during the sixth of fifteen races at The Woodlands race track. Fandemonium came from behind and finished in fourth place to defeat Santa Fe Madonna with a time of 31.34 seconds. Greyhounds can reach top speeds of around 45 mph during the races.



Cory watches the Greyhounds race around turn one in the last heat of the day. Due to the increased competition of other local entertainment venues in the past ten years, especially from the riverboat casinos on the Missouri River, the Woodlands has seen a dramatic decline in attendance.



Cory Owens puts a Greyhound to bed with a belly rub after a long day at the track. "We give them lots of attention," said Owens. "We have someone here with them in our kennel 20 hours of the day, and a vet on call at any-time, which is more than most owners of any other dog does for their pet."



Some dog parks include streams or ponds for the dogs to enjoy. Andy and Gracie, adopted by Lynne Peters of Arlington, Mass.

Greyhounds and Dog Parks

By Kris White

Greyhound owners who live in an urban setting will often discover that there are one or more dog parks nearby. A dog park is land that has been set aside as a recreational area for dogs and their people. While many dog parks are enclosed with double-gated entrances, others are simply designated areas within parks, or other publicly owned land, where dogs may run and play off leash. Dog parks range in size from half an acre to several acres. Enclosed dog parks often will have a separate area for smaller dogs. Some dog parks may include streams or ponds that can be enjoyed by water dogs. Most dog parks contain benches, a bag dispenser to enable people to clean up after their dogs, and covered trashcans for the disposal of used cleanup bags.

Almost all dog parks have rules. Many dog parks will require owners to obtain permits or tags for their dogs. Some dog parks limit the number of dogs from the same household that can be in the park at the same time to ensure that all animals in the park are under an owner's full control. Other rules may address smoking, small children, and eating. Feeding your dogs in the park or bringing your dogs' toys to the park may be against the rules; many dogs are possessive of food and toys and will become aggressive when other dogs are around their toys or when food is around.

A dog park is a wonderful place to socialize and exercise Greyhounds. It can be a very social experience for the owner as well. It is not uncommon for a group of people who regularly use a dog park to socialize outside of the dog park. Dogs will often develop special friendships with other dogs they meet at the dog park. However, not all dogs are dog park dogs. Aggressive dogs are not welcome at dog parks. Shy or anxious dogs may make it very clear that the dog park is not for them.

At first the dog park may be a very different environment for Greyhounds, particularly those just off the track. They may still run around the dog park as if they were on a track. The best way to introduce a Greyhound to a dog



Gigi enjoys her visit to the dog park. *Kathie and Gordon Heeres*

park is to take your Greyhound at a time when few other dogs are present. Holding your Greyhound by the collar, walk around the dog park. Make sure your dog is aware of any trees, fences, benches, trashcans, and uneven ground that might be hazardous if the Greyhound were to run an invisible track. Then release your dog to run and enjoy the park. Once your Greyhound is comfortable with the environment, return to the dog park when there are likely to be other dogs around.

Greyhounds may be a little reticent or anxious at the dog park during the first several visits. Usually once they get to know the other dogs, they become more comfortable and enjoy themselves. Some Greyhounds may continue to be anxious at the park. Even these Greyhounds may enjoy going to the dog park and running off leash when other dogs aren't there. As a Greyhound owner, you may be a little anxious during your first visit, too. While you should expect other owners to closely supervise their dogs, it is often difficult for the newcomer to differentiate play from potentially aggressive or unacceptable behavior. More experienced dog park users can be helpful in this area. However, if a particular group of dogs is permitted to play more roughly than your comfort level allows, try the dog park at a different time. It may be a completely different experience.

Most Greyhounds will enjoy having the open space in which to run. Once the Greyhounds learn that the other dogs can't catch them, they will often entice the other dogs to chase them. Other Greyhounds may prefer to interact more directly with the other dogs. Do not be surprised if your gentle, calm Greyhound barks and plays enthusiastically with other dogs. (At some dog parks, barking is discouraged, particularly in urban locations.)

Some Greyhounds will not enjoy close contact with other dogs at all. Instead they will walk the periphery of the dog park, pick-

ing up the scent of any squirrels or rabbits that might be around. These dogs seem to enjoy themselves just as much and are equally excited about going to the dog park.

Dog parks work because they are neutral areas for dogs. They work best when owners follow the rules and demonstrate dog park etiquette. This means that you must be cognizant of your dog's behavior at all times, have a leash in hand, and be ready to quickly to retrieve your dog if necessary. Be aware when new dogs come into the dog park, and ensure that your dog doesn't rush the new dog. And clean up after your dog.

Small dogs may use the dog park. If your Greyhound is not cat safe, he may not be small dog safe. Be prepared to act quickly if your Greyhound shows any undue interest, or becomes intent on chasing or cornering a small dog. If your dog exhibits these signs, removing him from the dog park when small dogs are present is in everyone's best interest.

The combination of squealing and motion — by a frightened or anxious dog of any size, or even a small child — may cause an instinctual response on the part of the Greyhound. It is always surprising when one of the most laid back and gentle of Greyhounds leads the charge in response to a squealing dog. Although this behavior is not limited to Greyhounds, because the public perceives Greyhounds as gentle, quiet, and calm, dog park users (including new Greyhound own-



Nevada Faith, adopted by Lesley Cohen of Henderson, Nev.

ers) can be caught by surprise when this type of situation suddenly occurs.

Three or more Greyhounds from the same household will form a pack. Often three or more Greyhounds in a dog park from unrelated households will react as a pack. This means that when one of them responds to a trigger, the rest of them will often respond as a unit. This response may be heightened if there are only one or two dogs at the park that are not Greyhounds. Therefore it is important to be aware of this dynamic and consider how you will respond in this situation, as it can erupt quickly.

In many dog parks it is considered bad etiquette to permit dogs to hump or grab other dogs. Some Greyhounds react loudly when other dogs jump up on them. Greyhounds may run over dogs, corner them, or grab other dogs' ears, especially long, floppy ears. Do not permit your dog to engage in these behaviors, as they can quickly escalate into aggression.

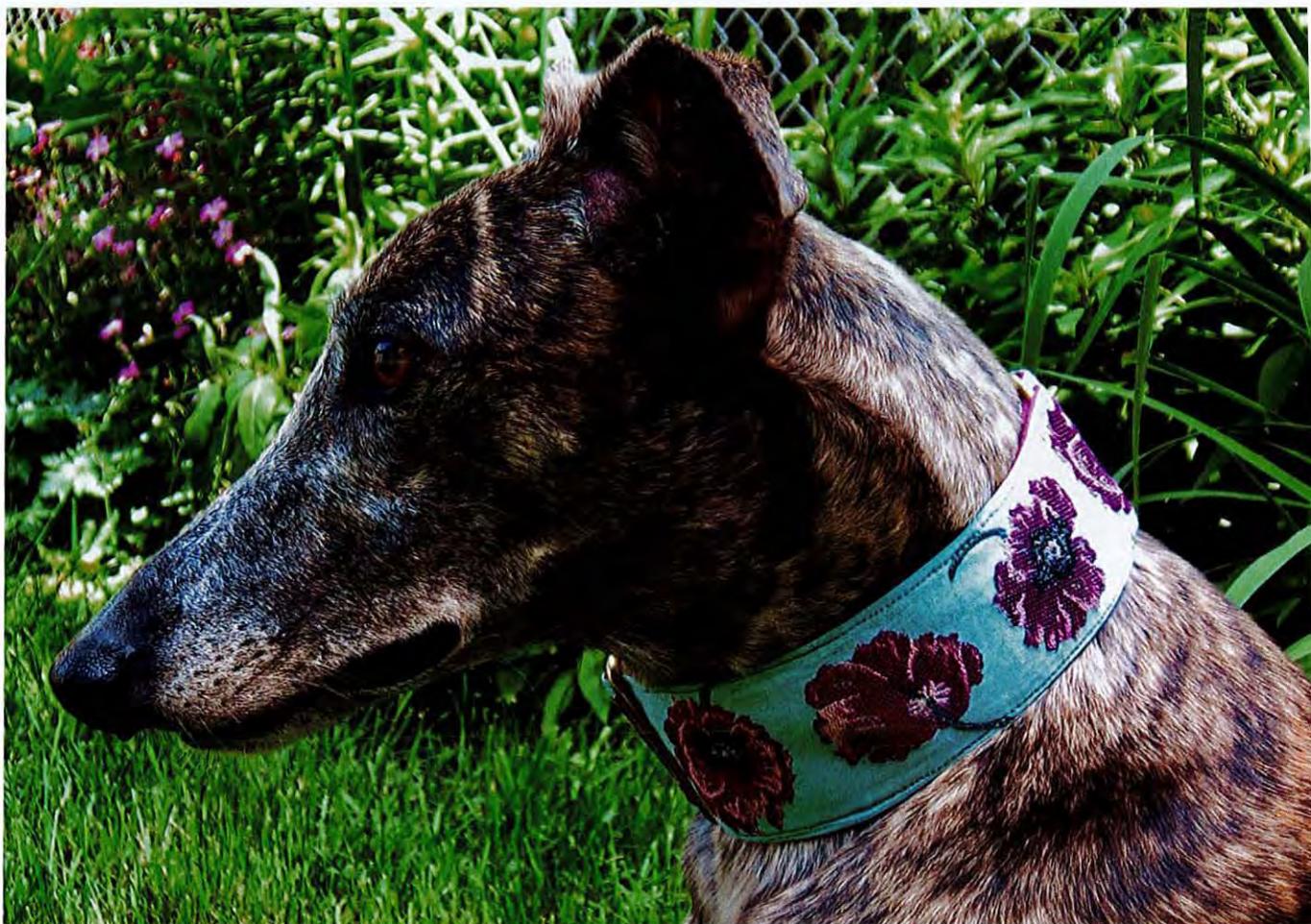
Work on recall commands while at the dog park, and ensure that your dog comes to you when you call him. If your dog is consistently not listening, a time-out may be in order. This may mean leaving the dog park for a few minutes. Dog parks with double entrance gates are perfect for timing dogs out, as long as you pay attention in case someone is trying to enter through the gate. Usually the dog listens much better after being permitted back into the park.

If anything happens at the dog park that makes you or your Greyhound uneasy, retrieve your dog and leave the dog park immediately, even if another owner or dog is responsible for the unsettling event. This isn't about who is right; it is about protecting your dog.

Dog parks are a wonderful place for urban Greyhounds to run off leash and socialize with other dogs. When owners follow the dog park rules and practice good dog park etiquette, the dog park is a safe and enjoyable

recreational space. A dog park can become a regular social center for Greyhounds and their people, as well as strengthening the bond between them. ■

Kris White lives in Greenbelt, Maryland and is the proud owner of three retired racing Greyhounds. The eldest, Pinkey, is 14 years old and still goes to the dog park once in a while. Kris also has a miniature pinscher, Bingo, who is not a dog park dog. The Greenbelt Dog Park (the first dog park in the State of Maryland) is an enclosed, city-operated dog park that is celebrating its 10th anniversary this year. Kris was President of the Greenbelt Dog Park Association at the time the city agreed to construct the dog park and still serves as a Board Member. She has been an invited speaker for a variety of groups and events over the years, speaking about the benefits of dog parks and best practices related to the construction and maintenance of dog parks.



Breeze, adopted by Myriam Parent and Edouard Cantin of Quebec, QC, Canada.

Take Your Dog to Work

When you walk out the door to go to work, do you leave your Greyhound at home? June 23, 2006 just might be your opportunity to change that. Sponsored by Pet Sitters International and *Modern Dog* magazine, Take Your Dog to Work Day® encourages dog owners to take their pets into the workplace for the day. In its eighth year, Take Your Dog to Work Day is a celebration of the great companions dogs make. (Britain has its own similarly titled event; sponsored by the Blue Cross, an animal welfare charity, the eleventh annual Take Your Dog to Work Day will be September 19, 2006.)

Ask your employer if your workplace will be participating in this event. For more information, visit the websites of the sponsoring organizations (www.petsit.com/dogday/ in the United States, www.takeyourdogtoworkday.co.uk/ in Britain). Be aware that not every co-worker may be as thrilled about a dog in the workplace as you are; as one cranky blogger noted, Take Your Dog to Work Day is also known as Lose All Productivity Day, Be Forced to Clean Your Carpets Day, Flea Bomb the Office Day, and Wear Earplugs to Dull the Barking Day (www.punditguy.com).

Might a calm, well-behaved Greyhound be your ideal workplace companion? According to these lucky Greyhound owners, who bring their dogs to work every day, the answer is a resounding Yes. ■



Randy Granger is a singer, songwriter, composer, performer, and recording artist who plays the Native American flute. He performs in and around his home in Las Cruces, New Mexico. He plays at the Las Cruces Farmers and Crafts Market every week, where he is usually accompanied (though not musically, we're told) by his Greyhound, Ancho. *Egon Bauer*



Pete and Beth Wade work for a small, family-owned business in Cleveland, Ohio. Wade Dynamics, Inc. is a specialized machine shop with nine human employees and two canine employees. Smiley and Peanut accompany Beth and Pete to work four days a week and spend most of their days lounging on their beds in Beth's office. The customers and vendors truly enjoy walking into the office and seeing two Greyhounds sprawled out on the floor; in this sense, Smiley and Peanut really are the "PR" department of Wade Dynamics.



The website for American Recycled Plastic, Inc. (www.itrecycled.com) identifies Gino the Greyhound as the company's Official Mascot. According to Gino: "You will really enjoy recycled plastic outdoor furniture; I have some in my own backyard and I must say, I am having a hard time destroying these picnic tables, benches, and rockers. It's not like wood products, which were so easy for me to chew up in the past. And when I have a little 'accident' on recycled plastic, I don't get into any trouble — because the nice folks at American Recycled Plastic tell me animal urine doesn't affect the plastic at all. Boy, does that make me happy!" Gino accompanies owners Mike and Amy Hazlett to work every day at their showroom in Palm Bay, Florida.



Most days, if you stop by Grand Performance, a bicycle shop in St. Paul, Minnesota, you'll be greeted by Dewey, owner Dan Casebeer's Greyhound. When regular customers come in, the first question they often ask is "Where's Dewey?" New customers are surprised at the presence of the big, quiet dog, but their surprise soon turns to curiosity and pleasure. Dewey is almost as big a draw to the shop as the bikes.

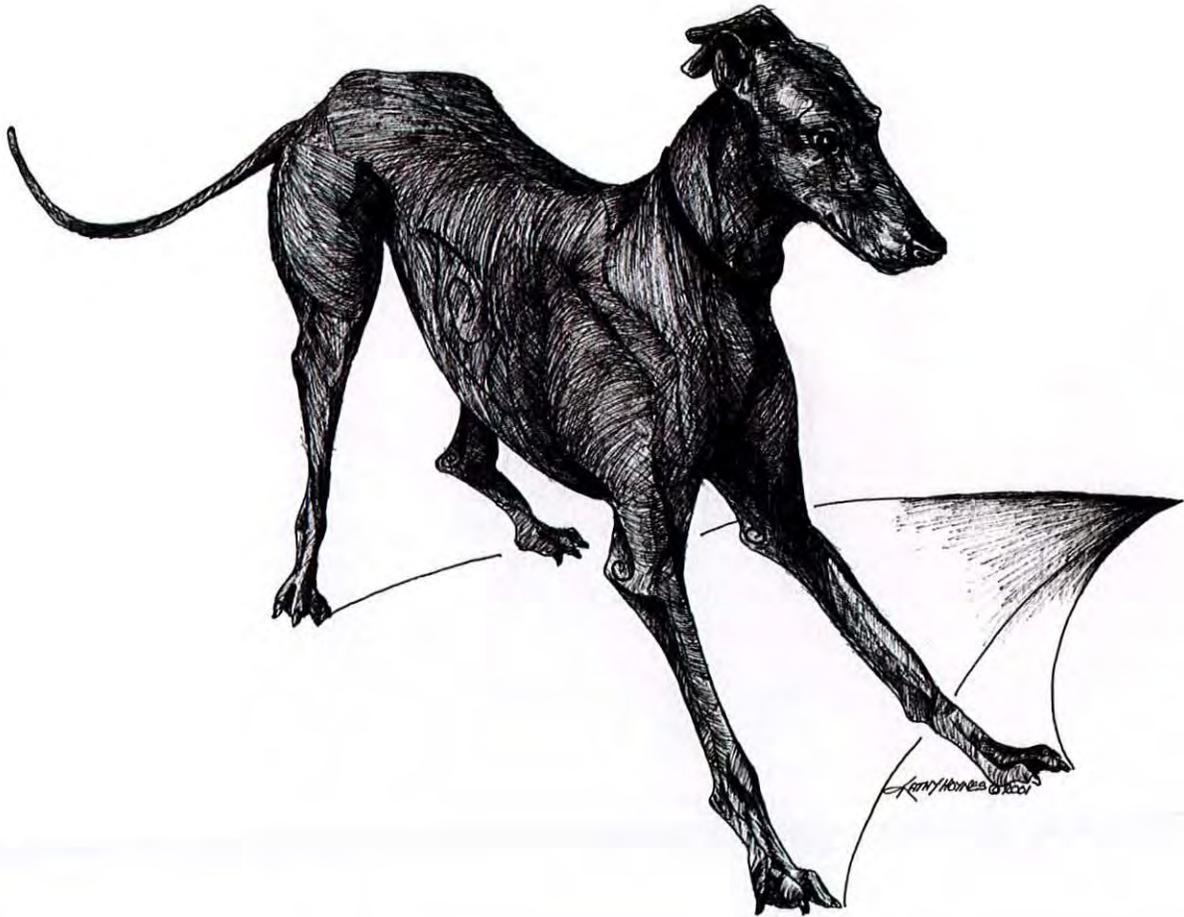


Becky and Herb Redmond have been designing and making jewelry since 1973. Adopted Greyhounds have been part of their staff at The Voyagers Jewelry Design, a jewelry design workshop and retail store in Cambridge, Wisconsin, since 1990. The Greyhounds scatter themselves about the store, which is located in a 155-year old stone house. They can be found napping under or behind a display case, in front of the limestone fireplace, or tucked in a corner. Each hound seems to have a designated job: Lilly herds people around the store, Sox is the greeter, Tina entertains the children, Jake rests quietly by the front door, Gavin lurks elegantly, and Sammy is the official leaner and tail wagger. Jake, Sammy, and Lilly are pictured.



Bob came to live with Joy and Ken Pfister and their family in 2004. Little did he know he would be living and working with a local celebrity! Bob began making public appearances with Joy as she undertook the duties associated with her reign as Mrs. Virginia 2004. Joy's website (www.trainingforthecrown.com) chronicles the process of Bob's adoption and includes a link to the website of the Richmond, Virginia chapter of Greyhound Pets of America. Bob and Joy continue to promote children's fitness and Greyhound adoption at parades, fundraisers, schools, and children's events in the Richmond area; Bob in his "Adopt a Greyhound" racing silk, and Joy in her Mrs. Virginia sash.

When Mike and Lynn Rice adopted Bowzer from the track in Pueblo, Colorado, they were looking for a companion to fill the void left by their previous dog, a 14-and-a-half year old Akita. As owners and operators of the New Mexico Skies Guest Observatory in Mayhill, New Mexico, they were also looking for a dog that would make their guests — visiting astronomers — feel welcome. Bowzer runs into the office to greet newcomers as they arrive, and he waits in the library/lounge for guests to come in at night for a warm-up after hours of stargazing from one of the facility's six permanent observatories. Months after their visits, guests often ask Mike and Lynn how Bowzer is doing. They send packages to Bowzer from all over the world; one guest even sent him their beloved dog's booties that they could not bear to discard after the dog had passed away. "I do not like animals," said one guest, "but Bowzer is different — he is a special dog."



Finders Keepers

By Arnold Klaber

There are a lot of words to describe late July in Fresh Meadows, Queens, New York. Cool ain't one of them. No breeze, no air...just plenty of heat reflected inland off Jamaica Bay. The humidity kept the weather where it was — miserable. We were working the graveyard shift out of the 107th precinct. It was the hottest part of the nastiest tour of the nastiest night.

My partner, Sweets, and I had just won the booby prize of assignments from Commander Talamo, the boss of the precinct.

"Find this dog!" Talamo snarled. "I want this dog found and fast or you'll both be walkin' the dunes in Rockaway! By the ocean! Where it's wet with your sweat! You get me?"

I got it real good, even though Sweets and I had heard it all before from Talamo. Before every one of our gigs, he'd always threaten us with being transferred to Rockaway to walk the dunes if we failed. Sweets listened, yawned, and grinned at me like he always did when he heard this routine. He winked and licked his chops and gave me his "not-to-worry" look. All during the Talamo pep talk, Sweets just squinted until his eyes were just about closed, as if he was dozing. But I knew he wasn't 'cause his Greyhound ears were twitching something fierce.

Talamo ended the briefing by shoving a file across his desk toward us. "It's all in there. Get outta here and find her!"

When Commander Talamo got to the "her" part, my partner opened up his baby browns, sat right up, shook himself down, and nudged me out of the boss's office.

Nothing about females ever got by Sweets. Not only was he good at what he did —and that covered about everything and anything — he was an object of affection from every female of every persuasion that he came across. Next to him, I was chopped liver, while my man, Sweets, was the dude of dudes.

I shivered as we walked to our desk — partly from the drafts of hot air from the ceiling fans, partly from the humidity that seeped through the spaces by each window in the squad room, and partly from what I was reading in the file. Sweets just looked at me nicely and grinned.

"What's so funny, Slick?" I muttered. "We screw this gig up, we can say hello to walkin' the dunes where your hot shot silk tops won't mean squat."

In addition to being one of the two best cops at the 107 (I naturally was the other), Sweets had the rep of being chief dapper doggy of the neighborhood, with his hand-made short silk jackets and purple bandanas. I, on the other hand, was the partner with the raincoat and ratty scarf.

"There ain't no justice," I sighed.

My partner just nodded and grinned.

I began reading the file out loud. Sweets settled back and listened as I went over the

facts of the case. Leelee was a retired racing Greyhound of the female persuasion, 4 years old, who had become a national television star after appearing on a network comedy show under her stage name, Golden Earrings. She had gone missing the other day after being in New York to see her manager. She was last seen in Queens doing a public relations appearance at a restaurant in our area. She was fawn in color, slim, and beautifully built. I showed Sweets the eight by ten glossy included in the file. He showed his appreciation of the lady in question by staring at the photo as if burning a hole through it.

When I got to the part of the file dealing with the restaurant, Sweets sat straight up and nudged me. He gave me the "we-just-got-our-first-lead" look and put his paw by the restaurant's name. We knew the place: Sunny's on Francis Lewis, an Italian restaurant. We knew that Yazoo Rizzo, a real slimeball, hung around the laundrette a few doors down from Sunny's. We also knew that Yazoo liked to take some bets on the side and had a habit of booking and running bets for some low-life Manhattan mobsters.

Sweets looked at me and nodded. I caught his drift and thought about his meaning. "Okay," I told him, "let's go talk to the slimeball."

It didn't take long for us to check out the laundrette. We spotted Yazoo by the entrance. He kept looking up and down the street, always moving forward or backward, turning and twisting and talking into his cell phone. He looked guiltier than the face on an FBI poster.

Sweets outlined his plan of action. We took a couple of deep breaths and moved into position. The plan was simple. We split up, me heading toward Rizzo while Sweets would block his escape to the rear. Coming at him from two directions would throw the slimeball for a loop. He'd never think about why I was the only one facing him. We counted on Rizzo's fear and figured he'd run. Our ace in the hole was that few things on this earth could outrun a Greyhound. Yazoo Rizzo was definitely not one of those few things.

It was a good plan, based on Sweets' uncanny (and sometimes canny) ability to know everything there was to know about a suspect. Sweets and Yazoo had had some contact shortly after we arrived at the 107. Yazoo would do anything for a fast buck. Unfortunately for Yazoo, he wasn't smart enough to get away with anything, and even the button guys in the area couldn't stand him.

His biggest mistake was opening his yap about how Sweets was the slowest and weakest Greyhound in the city and how he was working the 107 'cause he wasn't fast enough or smart enough to work anywhere in Manhattan.

When we got that word, I passed a few pieces of info to the street about how we didn't take kindly to being badmouthed by Rizzo. I said that as soon as Sweets could devote time to correcting Yazoo's misconceptions and we were able to turn over the rock under which Rizzo was currently hanging out, Rizzo's assessment of Sweets' abilities



Joe Montgomery, adopted by Kimberly Smith of Poolesville, Md.

would be redefined. That word got around, and Rizzo made sure to make himself scarce any time he thought we were around.

As soon as he caught sight of me, Rizzo cut off his phone conversation, tossed his phone away, and began to book down the block . . . that is to say, he tried to book down the block. Unfortunately for himself, Rizzo kept turning his scrawny neck around to watch me coming after him. He never noticed Sweets darting out of a dim doorway, slipping to Rizzo's side, straightening out his personal weapon — his tail — and catching Rizzo just under his knees. Wap, wap, wap went the stiffened tail. Yazoo went sliding into Sweets, landing on his back with Sweets sitting on his chest, grinning sweetly.

After a few minutes of conversation, Yazoo decided that he had nothing to gain from being unfriendly and decided to give us the scoop on Leelee's whereabouts.

He offered us a deal: He'd tell us where she probably would be if he could be left out of the case. Sweets looked at me, closed one eye, and nodded. I told the slimeball that if we got her back okay, we'd let him off the hook. If not, he was in for a very, very bad time. It took Rizzo about thirty seconds before he spilled his guts. We called for backup and left the slimeball with the bluecoats who came by. Then we went for the lady.

We found her in a backroom behind the launderette. She wasn't hurt, and nobody had treated her badly, except she had been locked up. She had water and food and somebody, probably the slimeball, had taken her for walks during the night. She was very cold, despite the heat; she was shivering when we found her, shivering and scared. Sweets gave me his "give-her-your-raincoat-dummy" look. When I put it around her, she snuggled right into it and snickered her relief.

I drove us back to the station. Leelee and Sweets sat very close together in the backseat of the car. When we hit the 107, the press was out in full force, flashbulbs popping, reporters holding out mics and throwing questions at us. We muscled our way inside and debriefed Talamo who then, as a Commander must, went out and held a press conference.

It all ended with Leelee reunited with her manager, her manager reunited with much

publicity, and Miss Leelee's name, address, and phone number added to Sweets' list of female acquaintances, while I was reunited with my ratty raincoat. After the hubbub had died down and the station was quiet again, Sweets walked over, nudged my leg, looked up at me, and smiled.

"Okay, Don Juan, you did it again." I smiled back at him and scratched his ears a bit. "Hey, dude, how about a donut . . . on you!"

My partner gave me his very special "I'm broke-gimme-a-break-look."

"Yeah, yeah," I sighed, "I shoulda knowed. Awright, let's go, amigo."

We walked out just like we always walked in — together. ■

Arnold Haber is a retired pharmacist/health planning consultant living with Sweets, an 8-year-old retired racer in Fresh Meadows, N.Y. Sweets loves peanut butter, pizza, long walks, and kids. They both work with their Block Association as co-chairperson and mascot, respectively. Arnold is currently working on a story for children about the fictional adventures of a Greyhound named Comet, a Malamute named Igloo, and a Spanish cat named Rodrigo.



Dove, adopted by Sandy and Jim Volschow of Woodville, Ohio.



The devil finds work for idle paws, Could doggie daycare be the answer? Jac, adopted by Debora Chelson of Prescott, Ariz.

Home Alone, No More: Daycare for Dogs

By Relaena Sindelar

Roscoe had a bad case of doggie wanderlust.

We first became acquainted when he dug a hole the size of a Volkswagen under my fence to “come visit” — right through the middle of my dahlia bed. Fortunately for Roscoe, one big, body-wiggling grin was all it took for me to shake my head and forgive him.

As the months went by however, Roscoe became more determined. Each time his parents filled in his holes and topped them off with rocks and bricks, Roscoe simply selected new excavation sites. It was a case of a typical two-year-old, missing his family and needing something to do. Finally I left a message on his parents' phone, suggesting a doggie daycare.

Daycare for Dogs?

Daycare has become a popular service for our canine friends, particularly in large metropolitan areas. Reasons include pampering the dog, exercising the dog, socializing the dog, and often just plain peace of mind knowing that the home, furniture, and yard (not to mention relationships with the neighbors) are safe from the overly active dog. Depending on where you live, your choices may include all-day and half-day daycare; dog playgroups for routine field trips and exercise; day rental of kennel runs; and pet-sitter visits for walks, turnouts, or playtime. This article gives a brief overview of each option, followed by a checklist of what to look for, and how to inspect a dog daycare facility.

Daycare

My first experience with doggie daycare was at the San Francisco Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SF/SPCA) — an organization viewed as a national model in terms of their facilities, their rescue/adoption program, and the range of dog-related services they provide, one of which was an exceptional Dog Daycare facility.

Owners dropped off their dogs in the morning and picked them up after work. Most brought their dogs to the daycare five days a week, although a few dogs only came two or three times a week.

When I arrived, a group of 17 dogs were spending time together in the indoor facility. In addition to the Manager, there were three volunteer staff — two indoors, and one outside on a routine dog walk. The facility had a separate quiet area for dogs who wanted to get away from the group, a few open-door kennels, a number of blankets and dog couches, and an assortment of toys. The area was large enough to give the dogs plenty of room to “do their own thing,” whether that involved napping, playing chase, chewing on a toy, or leaning against a daycare volunteer’s legs for non-stop affection.

Activities included private walks, working on obedience commands, naps, brushing, and individual or group play sessions. Grooming was available from the SF/SPCA Grooming College next door. Although the SF/SPCA’s daycare has since been closed down to provide additional training and program space, their model lives on in daycare facilities throughout the Bay Area and beyond. For more information about dog daycare in your area, visit the American Boarding Kennel Association at www.abka.com.

Play Groups

You may have seen a flyer for a play group on the bulletin board at your neighborhood off-leash park, animal clinic, or pet supply store. Play groups are basically routine “field trips” for dogs, managed by one or more dog handlers. The handlers will pick up dogs from their homes, take them to an off-leash park or their own play group property, and return them after two or more hours (depending on the facility, number of dogs in



Digging her way to doggie daycare? Nellie, adopted by Laurie B. Palmeira and Michael Tabory of Milton, N.H.

the group, and the location of the park or property). The cost is usually a little less than a daycare facility, although rising gas prices may eventually erase that difference. Ask for references, and carefully research their methods by using the checklist at the end of this article.

Day Rental of Kennel Runs

A number of boarding kennels are beginning to offer what they call “daycare” services. Those I spoke to all readily admitted that their “daycare” was non-interactive; staff do not walk, play, feed, or interact with the dog. However, most provided both indoor and outdoor runs at a rate lower than their standard boarding fee. Again, use the checklist to give them a good screening.

Pet Sitters/Dog Walkers

If you want to give your dog more personal attention, an in-home pet visitor or “pet sitter” might be the answer. As described elsewhere in this issue, these individuals visit your home to let your dog outside, provide a walk, and in some cases feed, massage, and play with your dog. Some companies and individuals include light housekeeping services such as mail pickup and plant watering and, if you’re really lucky, back yard pet waste removal. Many also offer overnight or extended care while you are on vacation.

These companies tend to serve clientele within a limited neighborhood or area, so be sure to confirm that they serve your location. For more information about petsitting, check out the National Association of Pet Sitters’ website at www.petsitters.org, or the Pet Sitters International (PSI) website at www.petsit.com. Or simply watch for dogs enjoying routine mid-day walks around your neighborhood each day; chances are, the dog walker is a pet sitter (or a neighbor who might be willing to share the effort).

Choosing a Daycare Facility

If you’ve decided to use the services of a professional dog care provider, gather as much information as possible by phone and during a personal visit.

Interview the owner or manager as thoroughly as you would a child’s babysitter. Ask about experience, licensing, and insurance. Observe how he or she (and staff if appropriate) interact with your dog as well as with other dogs.

Obtain a list of client references — in the case of in-home service providers who will have access to your belongings, checking references is particularly important.

In the case of dog daycare facilities, drop by for a visit without a pre-scheduled appointment to see how the dogs are being treated. Visit with owners who are dropping

off or picking up their dogs so you can get first-hand feedback about the service.

Daycare Research Checklist

Acceptance Requirements: What are the requirements for a dog to join and remain in the daycare? Is there an entry questionnaire? At a minimum, the staff should ask about your pet's preferences, personality, behavior with humans and other dogs, current health and vaccination status, and any unique requirements. Remember, your dog is being exposed to other dogs' health and behavior issues, so make sure proper screening is performed.

Health Requirements: What are the health requirements? Is there a daily check-in for distress, sickness, or disease? Is a veterinarian on call at all times, or available nearby? Every dog should be current on Bordatella and DHLLP vaccines, and have a negative fecal test prior to being accepted.

Introduction: How are new dogs introduced to the rest of the pack? Is there a trial assessment period and/or section where new dogs can be evaluated on their social skills and evolving pack order? Is there a limit on the number of dogs in the facility? How does the energy of this particular pack feel? How is your dog reacting (if you brought him with you)? Remember, your dog can't choose this pack; it is being chosen for him. The daycare owner must have the integrity to turn away newcomers that would not fit in well with the pack's dynamics.

Activities: What is the typical routine each day? What kinds of activities are offered? Can you bring toys, treats, or your dog's own bed?

Kennels: Are dogs placed in kennels at any time? Under what circumstances, and for how long? How large are the kennels? Are the doors left open or closed?

Problems: What is done in the event of a dog fight? How have they been handled?

Outdoor Access: Are dogs allowed outdoors? How often? How are the dogs contained? What kind of flooring and fencing is used? Be sure to inspect it... is it "Roscoe proof?"

Staff: What is the owner's background and length of experience with dogs? What

made him or her decide to do this for a living? Get to know them as a person before leaving your dog in their hands. Do they seem well balanced, with calm, assertive energy? Are their own dogs quiet and well behaved around them? Are there sufficient staff to give your pet some personal attention? How are the employees trained? Are the employees certified in animal first aid and CPR? How long have the current employees worked there? A high turnover may indicate company management problems.

Other Services: Is daycare the primary focus of the business? If there are ancillary services offered (training, grooming, etc.), is there adequate staff to cover these services in addition to overseeing the daycare?

Legal Issues: Is the business licensed, insured, and bonded? What exactly does the insurance cover, in case of emergencies or problems?

Daycare Inspection Checklist

Space: Is there adequate space for the number of dogs in the facility? Dogs tend to stay close to other dogs in the pack, but there should be enough space for younger, more exuberant dogs to run and play freely without treading on the older, napping dog's space.

Cleanliness: How does the facility smell? If the facility is kept clean and disinfected, there should not be any overpowering odors when you walk in the door.

Accommodations: Do the dogs have

comfortable, reasonably clean beds and good sturdy toys to play with? If the facility has kennels, what size and how many? Are the floor surfaces safe and easy to clean indoors and outdoors? Rubber mats are easy to clean and also provide cushioning for the dog's joints.

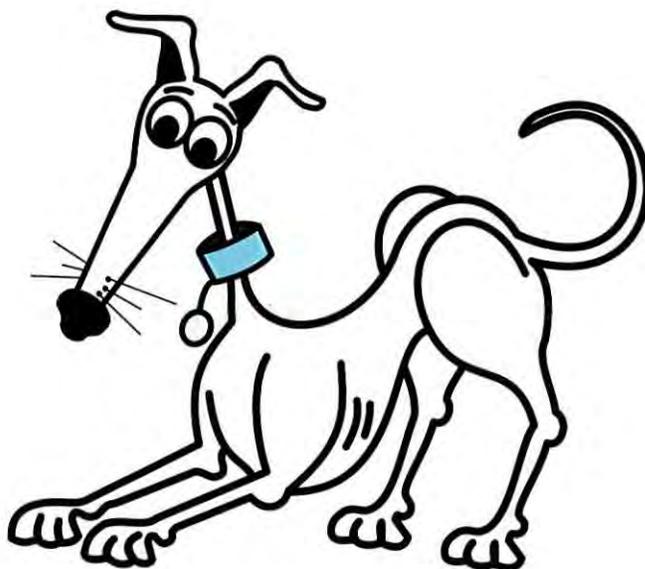
Outdoor Access: Is outdoor space available? If the outdoors is not always available, dogs will eliminate indoors. This may lead to housebreaking issues and can be especially detrimental to young pups trying to learn the basics of house training. What does the outdoor area look like? Most urban daycares prefer cement over grass, as it doesn't get muddy, is easier to disinfect, and keeps urine smells to a minimum.

Outdoor Security: Does the outdoor space have safe and secure enclosures? Double-gated entrances provide added security. Keeping a large number of dogs inside the play area can be difficult without a secondary gate arrangement.

Exhausted Smiles

No matter what decision you make — whether modifying your in-home routine, calling on a pet sitter, or choosing a daycare — you'll know you made the right choice when you come home to the big, tired grin of your favorite furry friend. ■

Relaena Sindelar lives in Seattle with her husband and two Greyhounds, Holly and Patrick.





Spiff, adopted by Carolyn and Harry Heisinger of New Haven, Conn. *Joseph Mieczkowski Jr.*

Do You Need a Pet Sitter?

By Gina Mieczkowski

When I started volunteering for meet-and-greets a few years ago, I noticed that most people's main concern with adopting a Greyhound — or any dog for that matter — was the amount of time the dog would be left alone during the day. Others yearned for the companionship of a dog, but had to travel frequently for work or had activities that would take them out of town on weekends. This feedback led me to consider a career as a professional pet sitter.

With more than 62 percent of households in the United States owning pets, the pet care industry is on the rise. It has never been easier for pet owners to find quality care for their pets. Gone are the days of having to impose on a neighbor or family member to care for your pets while you are away. If boarding is not an option for your furry family members, a professional pet sitter could be just what you need.

A pet sitter will provide you with a variety of services such as feeding, playtime, exercise, transportation, cleaning cages or litter boxes, and even administering medications. Some pet sitters are also experienced in

different animal therapies such as Reiki, T-Touch, animal massage, or training.

You can hire a pet sitter for daily walks while you are at work, or multiple visits when you are going to be away for an extended period of time. Some pet sitters will even stay at your home with your pets while you are out of town. The services of a pet sitter are ideal for someone who has a newly adopted dog or puppy. Your pet sitter can be scheduled for multiple visits to your home while you are at work for feeding and potty breaks. A pet sitter will provide your dog with plenty of attention and "me" time, including belly rubs, playtime, and brushing among other things.

In addition to caring for your pets while you are away, pet sitters can perform various

tasks to keep your house looking "lived-in." Most pet sitters are happy to bring in mail, adjust blinds and lighting, water plants, and place your trash outside for pickup.

Many pet sitters will provide transportation for your pet should they need to go to the veterinarian or groomer, or attend a play date. Play dates at dog parks are becoming more popular. Some pet sitters will transport several dogs to a dog-friendly park to run around, expend extra energy, and encourage social interaction.

For dogs whose owners are away from home long hours for work, a mid-day visit from their dog-walker is a treat. This gives your dog a chance to get some fresh air, stretch his legs, and take a potty break. A daily dog walker is a new best friend for your

pet. Your dog will know when you leave in the morning that he won't be alone for long.

Hiring a pet sitter will give you the peace of mind of knowing that your pet is in the capable hands of a professional. Your pet's regular schedule can continue uninterrupted without having to impose on a family member or neighbor. The services of a daily dog walker will relieve you of the guilt you may feel if you have to work late. Having your pet cared for in your home also means that you won't have to worry about transporting your pet to and from a boarding facility when you go out of town, and your pet can remain in the comfort of his home.

A professional pet sitter will belong to at least one of the organizations developed specifically for the pet sitting profession: Pet Sitters International (PSI) and the National Association of Professional Pet Sitters (NAPPS). These organizations set quality standards for their pet sitters and provide continuing education through their accreditation programs. Visit PSI at www.petsit.com or NAPPS at www.petsitters.org to locate members in your area.

Other methods for locating a pet sitter include inquiries with your veterinarian's office, local pet store, animal shelters, other pet owners, and your adoption group.

A desirable pet care professional will:

- Belong to a professional pet sitters organization
- Be insured and bonded
- Have references
- Be knowledgeable in caring for animals
- Have experience caring for the breed of your dog
- Have experience with pet first aid
- Have a method of transporting your pet should he become ill while in their care.

Once you find a pet sitter, he will schedule an initial interview or meet-and-greet with you and your pet. This meeting usually lasts about 30 minutes. During this time, you will have a chance to observe how your pets interact with the pet sitter, discuss your pet care needs, and fill out paperwork.



Sally O'Malley, adopted by Linda Pelechacz of Hamden, Conn. *Gina Mieczkowski*

A professional pet sitter should come prepared for your meeting with the following:

- References
- Descriptions of services offered
- A list of his or her policies and procedures
- A comprehensive questionnaire regarding your pet's routine
- A client questionnaire
- Veterinarian authorization form
- Contract

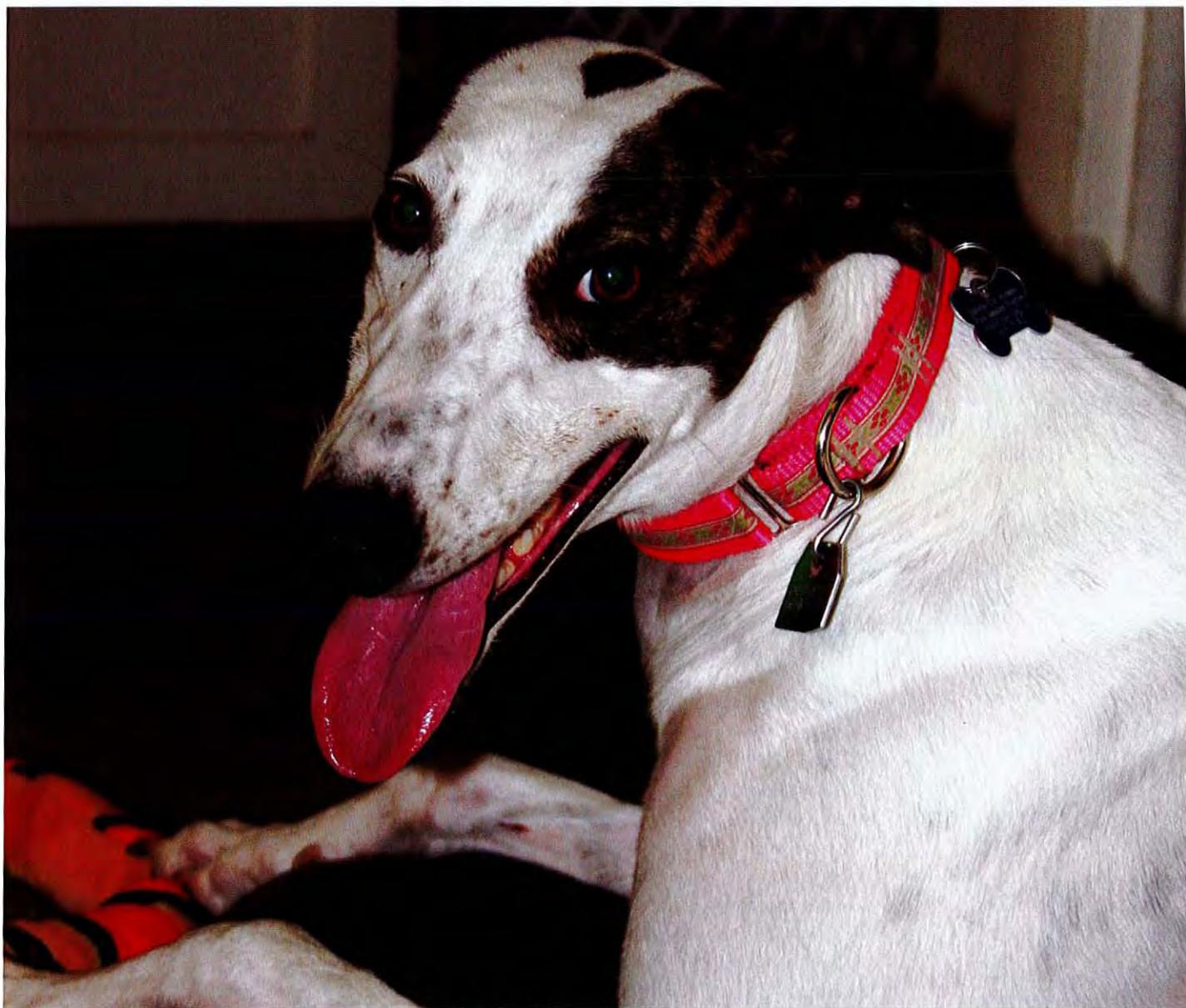
Building a solid relationship with your pet sitter is beneficial to both you and your pet. You will need to provide this person with

at least one set of keys to your home. You should expect some form of communication from your pet sitter after each visit. Some pet sitters leave a "daily report card" for your pet; others will leave a note detailing the things that happened during their time with your pet. Your pet sitter is also another set of eyes regarding your dog's health and well-being. An experienced pet sitter will often be able to identify signs that your pet may be getting ill.

A pet sitter is a wonderful addition to your pet family. Whether you use his or her services for daily dog walks or just when you go out of town, it's great to know that your

pet is in capable hands while you are away. Pets adjust better to their owners' absence and experience less stress when they remain in their own home — your pet will remain in familiar surroundings, with all the sights, sounds, and smells of home. Consider a professional pet sitter. Your pet will benefit, and you will, too. ■

Gina Mieczkowski is the owner of Bella Pet Sitting in West Haven, Conn. and an accredited member of Pet Sitters International. She has two Greyhounds of her own. The Greyhounds pictured in this article are clients of Bella Pet Sitting.



Baby, adopted by Erica and Frank Riley of Stratford, Conn. *Joseph Mieczkowski Jr.*



Albert, city dweller and bon vivant.

The Hound About Town

A former racer retires to a place in the city

Story and Photos by Ellen Shaffer

It's 5:15 in the morning in Saint Paul's historic Cathedral Hill neighborhood. The birds are just starting to twitter. There are tinges of light in the sky. And Albert the Greyhound is hoping he can persuade my husband to take him for his morning constitutional an hour early.

He whimpers. He wheedles. We know from experience that this probably isn't a potty emergency. But Albert has other emergencies on his mind. There are thuggish urban squirrels out there that need to be chased up into the trees. There are meek rabbits that need to be menaced. And there might be the most important quarry of all: the delectable, half-eaten sidewalk muffin.

Our pedestrian-friendly, inner-city neighborhood is richly endowed with cafes, bistros, and bakeries. This means that the boulevards and window boxes are richly endowed with half-eaten bagels, sandwiches, and dinner rolls. I'm sure most of the folks who leave these morsels think they are feeding the birds or the squirrels. Instead, they are supplementing the diet of our well-fed Greyhound. It's a good thing he gets a lot of exercise.

How It Began

My husband and I were dog-less dog lovers. We were so crazy about dogs, if we saw one when we were out driving, we'd actually slow down to admire it. We even gave private nicknames to the dogs we saw regularly.

We had been talking about getting a dog of our own for a couple of years but our conversations always stalled. My husband had a strong preference for a big dog. But I couldn't imagine an energetic Labrador bounding around our condo or a protective German shepherd sharing our building's elevator with our neighbors.

And then friends of ours adopted a retired racer named Gobi, the sweetest, calmest, mellowest, 70-pound dog we'd ever met. We were smitten instantly — and we were

amazed to see how well he fit into their small house on a quiet street in Minneapolis. It was all too easy to imagine one just like him in our third-floor condominium. Within a week, we were on the phone with Northern Lights Greyhound Adoption in Coon Rapids, Minnesota. Soon thereafter, we adopted a retired Greyhound of our own.

His racing name was MS Smokin Albert but we just call him Albert. We like to say he quit smoking.

The Condo-Compatible Hound

Although some Greyhound adoption organizations are adamant about yards and fences, Northern Lights Greyhound Adoption does not prohibit lawn-less apartment dwellers like us from adopting

Greyhounds. And Albert is proof that Greyhounds can adapt to living situations like ours. He is quite content in our apartment. It helps that he has three dog beds and dozens of toys.

We were very honest about our living situation when we applied to Northern Lights. Our unit measures about 1,400 square feet and we're located in a vintage 1889 hotel that has been converted into about 40 condominiums. The building permits residents to keep dogs and has no size or weight limits.

Even so, many of our fellow condo-dwellers regarded the arrival of Albert with politely concealed trepidation. Their concern was understandable. At 78 pounds, Albert is kind of a moose by the standards of his breed. He takes up almost half the elevator — and he has no sense of personal space.

But Albert's size belies his many neighborly qualities. He's quiet (unlike some of the small, "apartment-size" dogs in our building). He's never smelly. And he's friendly without being at all aggressive.

Even so, we were worried about introducing Albert to the building so we tried very hard to be considerate and mannerly. We've always kept him on a short leash in the common areas of the building. Initially, we even asked anyone who was in the elevator before we arrived if they were comfortable having us along for the ride. Even those who were obviously uncomfortable at first have since come around. Several people in the building even have offered to dog sit for us.

We've been just as conscientious about maintaining Albert's image outside the building. This means that we steer him away from anyone who looks at all anxious when they see us coming down the sidewalk. And we're very conscientious about picking up poop. This isn't just because we're such virtuous dog owners (though we are). Albert is so big and so distinctive that anonymity is impossible.

The Adventure Dog

When we get bored with our customary walks through the neighborhood, we put Albert in the car and head for one of our favorite urban parks. He enjoys the 1.6-mile walking path around Lake Como, on the north end of town. And he enjoys tramping



Did you say Weimaraner, or Wertmüller? Albert picks up a little culture to go at the local video store.

on the trails of the Crosby Farm Nature Area, a 534-acre span of deep woods and sandy beaches along the Mississippi River. It's safe to say that, without Albert, I never would have discovered the myriad pleasures of this low-impact wilderness experience within city limits. So Albert has prompted us to make more of our city's offerings than we would have otherwise.

Without Albert, I never would have visited our city's scruffy, friendly off-leash dog park. There's no scenery to speak of and the landscaping leaves a lot to be desired but it's four and a half acres of Albert heaven. He, like many Greyhounds, is indifferent to other dogs. But he loves the people that come with those dogs. They give him compliments, rub his ears, and don't seem to mind in the least when he pokes his long, elegant nose into their pockets and fanny packs to look for treats. The park even has a few daredevil squirrels, so that Albert can live out his fantasy of being a great hunter. There's never any carnage, though. The squirrels are much better at climbing trees than Albert is.

The off-leash park is fun for me, too. I love to watch him run, which he'll do sometimes, seemingly for the sheer joy of being in a wide-open space without a leash to hold him back.

Errands on a Leash

We knew that we could bring Albert to our local video store — they have a sign on their door announcing that leashed pets are permitted and they keep a canister of dog bones behind the counter. But we never expected that Albert would be welcomed elsewhere. So it was a pleasant surprise when he was invited into the neighborhood wine store. And our favorite florist just loves him.

To make sure that local business owners remain happy to see Albert, we only bring him into establishments where he's been expressly invited. We keep him on a short leash. And, of course, we would never bring him anywhere where food is sold or served. However, Albert has been known to pause yearningly at the doorsteps of the neighborhood's bakeries, and his patented look of piteous longing has caused more than one table full of patrons at the nearby Italian place to burst out laughing when they catch sight of him through the window.

Limits and Lessons

We were fortunate to find a well-fostered Greyhound who would adapt so well to city life. Albert had been with his suburban foster family for about six months, so he was very familiar with the rhythms and rules of a home environment. Stairs and elevators were never a problem. And we haven't had a single potty accident in almost three years. It helps that we can compensate for our lack of a back yard — my husband and I are freelance writers with flexible schedules so we maintain a schedule of four leashed walks per day.

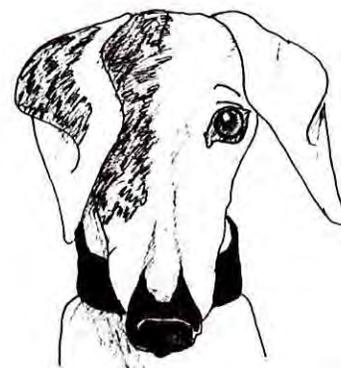
Even though we work at home, it would be very difficult for us to foster a dog fresh from the track. It's possible that all the stairs, all the noise and all the strangers would confound and intimidate a newly retired Greyhound.

Albert might argue that the strangers are one of the best things about living in the city. All dogs — well, all friendly ones, at least — serve as social lubricants for city dwellers. They give us something to chat about with our neighbors. But retired racing Greyhounds are particularly well suited to the task of getting people to talk to one another because they come with such vivid and intricate stories.

Many of the people we meet on our walks have heard at least a little something about Greyhound adoption. They want to know where he raced and how well he did. We hear the same questions over and over. Where did we get him? How much does he weigh? How much does he eat? Is it unusual for a Greyhound to be so calm? How long do they live?

Like many Greyhound owners, we've answered these questions so many times, we probably recite our customary responses in our sleep. But we never get tired of saying the same things again and again. Because we know that our good-looking, outgoing brindle boy is a fine ambassador for his breed and a compelling advertisement for the cause of Greyhound adoption. Everyone we encounter is a possible convert. ■

Ellen Shaffer lives in St. Paul, Minn. with Albert the Greyhound and Kevin the husband.



KATHY HAINES © 2005



Okie, Easy Lovin', and Becker live in a community in the Baltimore, Md. area.

Building a Greyhound Community

Story by Rowan Job-Julian
Photos by Jonathan Julian

It was a beautiful September day in Baltimore, the perfect afternoon for a walk with our new red brindle Greyhound, Easy Lovin'. As my husband and I strolled through our residential neighborhood, people stopped us to ask questions about our new girl. Then it happened. "Hi Sasha!" exclaimed a young girl who ran towards us and went right to petting Easy. I politely explained that this was not Sasha; this was Easy, our special Greyhound, and she was new to the neighborhood. I chalked up the name confusion to children's imagination. We walked another block, and it happened again. "Sasha, how's it going?!" A man walking a handsome mutt brought his dog across the street to meet us. I explained again that this was Easy, not this other mystery brindle Greyhound girl. I was a little irritated that Easy was not being treated as a "special girl" by the neighbors. Around the corner, we met yet another Sasha admirer. By this time, I was grouchy. "Who is this Sasha, and why is she hogging all the glory from our new girl?!"

One month later we unexpectedly met Sasha and her humans at a Greyhound event and I sarcastically told them that they were making it hard for Easy to be the most famous Greyhound in town. Was our city neighborhood big enough for more than one Greyhound? Of course it was. Sasha and her humans, Scott and Becky, became our best friends from that moment on. Soon, they adopted another Greyhound — a big fawn boy named Jimmy. Not to be out-chipped, we adopted Easy's newly retired littermate, Becker. This friendship, along with four hounds, started our journey into building a Greyhound community in the big city.

Since meeting Scott and Becky, we have met many other city Greyhound owners and established a support network. Creating a community of Greyhound owners and friends has many benefits. Hosting get-togethers with both the humans and the Greyhounds makes for lots of fun. Our Greyhound community is there in times of need, whether



When Easy Lovin' moved into the neighborhood, she was frequently mistaken for another Greyhound in the area. Here, Easy Lovin' and her housemate Becker check out the scene.

dog related or not. We share Greyhound goodies, information, and news. There is always someone to talk to on walks and at the dog park. And most importantly, we have a group of people in the city who are focused on getting more Greyhounds adopted into good homes, whether those homes are urban, suburban, or rural.

The number of Greyhounds in our neighborhood is increasing thanks to the efforts of local adoption agencies and the city Greyhound owners. We try to counter misconceptions about having Greyhounds in urban areas (they actually are quite comfortable even without half-acre yards). As we meet new Greyhound owners, we expand our Greyhound community in the city by trying to do a few simple things.

Party!

Human and hound get-togethers are a great way to socialize with friends who have a common interest. They also provide the Greyhounds with a pack feeling, which can often make them happy.

For a football game, host a "Who let the dogs IN" party where hounds can hang out together while the humans watch the game. It can be extra fun (and noisy) to have squeaky footballs for the dogs to play with. Some cities have dog-friendly (and often outdoor) restaurants where the humans can

have a nice dinner and the Greyhounds can relax together. Take portable sleeping pads, just as you would for a meet-and-greet, to make sure that the dogs are comfortable.

Another laid-back but fun way to get Greyhounds and their owners together is to have a Movie Night. Offer movie snacks like

party mix, veggies and dip, and popcorn for owners, while the hounds enjoy doggie ice cream or frozen bananas (make sure to offer a stomach-friendly treat for the dogs — no one wants their dog leaving your party sick). The movie doesn't have to be *Lady and the Tramp*; the hounds will probably be asleep in your lap by the second scene.

One of our favorite party ideas is to meet at the local dog biscuit bakery and have "brunch" on Sundays. There's nothing like seeing your Greyhound order treats from the case by leaving nose prints on the corresponding spot of the glass.

Network

Create a list of Greyhound owners in your neighborhood/city that you can contact for urgent Greyhound situations, or just for a friendly chat about the dogs. This list will come in handy when trying to find a Greyhound-savvy dog sitter in a hurry. Or in case of an emergency, a few quick calls to the list can get the help you need.

When you meet a new Greyhound owner in the neighborhood, consider giving them your contact information and asking for theirs in return (be safe and use your best



Edgar enjoys a walk with the other Greyhounds in his Baltimore neighborhood.

judgment). It's often overwhelming to have a new Greyhound, or to move to a new city with a hound, and your help will probably be greatly appreciated. Introduce new Greyhound families to others in the area to help them acclimate and expand their circle of contacts.

I introduced myself to one of our Greyhound friends by yelling out of my car window, "Hey, Greyhound lady!" While some people may be put off, Stacy was excited to have someone take interest in her new dog, a happy dark brindle named Cole. She has been a good fellow hound owner and buddy ever since.

Share

What do you know about Greyhounds? Probably a lot. Sharing advice, books, and information is a great way to help build a Greyhound community, as well as to win karma points. For example, if you come across a great website for Greyhound topics, e-mail a link to your network of Greyhound owners. If you get coupons for food that hounds enjoy, why not put a few in your fellow Greyhound owners' mailboxes? Dog sitters who are familiar with Greyhounds are worth their weight in kibble. But if you only use their services only a few times a year, it would be nice to share the dog sitter's contact information with your Greyhound community. After all,

how many times have you had to beg a family member to stay overnight with your dogs while you were away on vacation?

Sharing even the little things can mean a lot to your Greyhound community friends. Our neighbors, Steve and Mylina, have a whippet and a Greyhound, so we lent our *Greyhounds Big and Small* book to them. In return, they invited us over for a party.

Exercise

Another fun way to create a stronger sense of community among Greyhound owners in the city is to exercise the dogs together. Why not take walks together around the neighborhood at a set time? Choose a route that passes all the Greyhound owners' houses. Then walkers can join in and drop out as you go. Have an unofficial hound run/romp in the nearest enclosed dog park or enclosed safe area (with approval, if needed). Require muzzles for the dogs, and make sure the area is checked for hazards before letting the dogs loose. Some cities are lean on open space, especially with grass and trees for the dogs to explore. Ask some questions — a dog park may be something that the city government and neighborhood association would consider.

A Greyhound family we met who lives in the Baltimore suburbs coordinated a small hound run at a community college soccer field that was completely fenced in. The dogs

ran a few laps, and then treated themselves to nature-made spa treatments. (Oh, no — not the mud puddles!)

Mix it up

Socialize your Greyhound with other dog breeds if possible, and help your Greyhound to learn to interact well with people. Part of building a Greyhound community is also being part of the greater community that is the city. It can be very hard to have an anti-social Greyhound in the city, which is full of diverse dogs and humans. Having your hound interact well with other breeds will help to promote a good image of Greyhounds, as well as build your dog's confidence in everyday situations.

Participating in neighborhood events to promote Greyhound adoption can help increase awareness about having Greyhounds in the city, and may benefit the neighborhood as well. Even if you don't set up an official adopt-a-Greyhound booth, having Greyhounds at the local street festivals and gatherings is a fun way to show off these wonderful city pets.

Our non-Greyhound dog-owner friends have also become advocates for owning Greyhounds in the city, thanks to the good manners and great dispositions of the neighborhood Greyhounds. Easy and Becker have become comfortable with all kinds of dogs, in



Walking the Greyhounds together helps create a sense of community.

all shapes and sizes. Becker even mistook the cat around the corner for a small dog; when he tried to exchange “dog pleasantries,” she scratched his snout. They are happier Greyhounds for all the variety they get in their daily lives.

Scott and Becky are still our great friends, even though they’ve moved to the warmer climate of Raleigh, North Carolina. They are contributing to and helping to expand the Greyhound community there by taking Sasha and Jimmy to Sunday morning bagels and hound run at the local ball field, helping new hound owners in their area get acclimated, and having Greyhound sleepovers.

No matter how you achieve a Greyhound community, the benefits it gives to each participant are invaluable: the hounds enjoy spending time with their own breed and the humans enjoy making new friends. In the process of creating a network of Greyhound owners, both the hounds and humans have fun, enjoy their surroundings, help their fellow city dog-owners, and promote Greyhound adoption. You have support in good times and bad, and best of all, your city Greyhound community adds positive experiences to your life. ■

Rowan Job-Julian lives in Baltimore, Md. with her husband, Jonathan, and Greyhounds Easy Lovin’ and Becker. Rowan volunteers with GPA/Maryland. The Julians maintain a website chronicling their city life, which can be viewed at

www.thejulians.net/hounds. The Greyhound community described by Rowan is mainly in the neighborhood of Federal Hill. All of the dogs pictured in this article are part of this community.



Okie and Soxie enjoy city life.



A community of Greyhound owners and friends. L to R: Soxie, adopted by Will and Donna Hornsby; Jellybean and Okie, adopted by Steve and Mylina Johnson; Edgar and Aldo, adopted by Tom and Monica Kearns; Becker and Easy Lovin’, adopted by Jonathan and Rowan Julian; and Cole, adopted by Stacey Monaghan.



Scrapbooking 101

More Greyhound Photo Keepsakes

By Lisann Porter and Becky Taggart-Redmond

This article is the second in a series on scrapbooking techniques using Greyhound rubber stamps. In this issue, Lisann and Becky provide instructions for three more scrapbook pages to display your Greyhound photographs and keepsakes.

Here is a quick review of items needed for scrapbooking and rubber stamping projects:

First, select your favorite photos. Any size photo will work; allow three to five photos per page.

Next, choose two to three colors of paper or card stock (acid-free paper is best) for each two-page project. Try to choose colors that are predominant in the photographs. To select colors that enhance your photos, lay the photos out on an assortment of colored card stock.

Assemble your rubber stamping supplies: ink pads, several rubber stamps, ruler, scissors, adhesive (glue stick, mono adhesive, or double-sided tape), permanent markers, colored pencils and chalk, cotton swabs, and brushes.

Optional supplies include a paper trimmer and fun accent accessories such as ribbon, colored brads, buttons, and wire spiral curls.

Scrapbooking and rubber stamping supplies are available at most craft stores. Also check out the website Stampin' Up! (www.stampinup.com).

Refer to the articles on rubber stamping in previous issues of *Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine* (Fall 2004, Winter 2004, Summer 2005, Winter 2005, Spring 2006) for basic stamping instructions and specialty techniques. Copies of these articles are also available in the Greyhound section on our website (www.voyagersjewelrydesign.com).

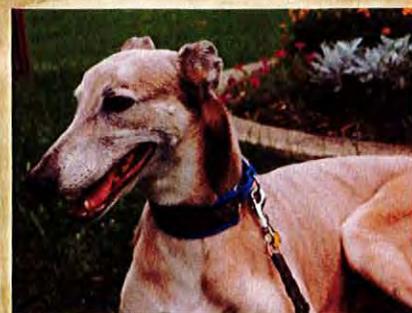
Hound Happiness



Greyhound Thoughts

...my greyhounds really do make me smile
...best friends
...play time
...emerging personalities
...attachments & bonding
...humor & silliness
...running & walking buddies
...never-ending make-you-laugh-out-loud ear positions
...pride and the awe of watching them run
...is it really possible to be charming & naughty at the same time?
...loyalty & companionship brings optimism & joy.

And yet, after all these years, even the old photos can still make me smile.....



“Greyhounds Make Me Smile” (two pages shown)

Create a patterned paper using an assortment of rubber stamps (we used the Tug-of-War stamp for the background of both pages shown).

Cut squares of colored cardstock slightly larger than the size of your photos. Darken the borders of all colored card stock blocks by “inking the edges” using a coordinating stamp pad. To ink the edges of the cardstock blocks, distress the edges by gently dragging the paper across the stamp pad or smudging them with a cotton swab.

Next, mount the photos on the cardstock.

To create the assortment of Greyhound stamped blocks, we inked the stamps with coordinating markers instead of a stamp pad. Using this technique, we made a two-color stamp design and stamped a lighter colored paper. Trim around the stamp design and mount the stamped pieces to additional pieces of colored cardstock. Ink the edges of the cardstock.

Add computer-generated or hand-let-

tered word strips, or create a title using letter stickers. For unusual decorative trim, add ribbon and wire spiral curls.

Stamps used for these pages:

- #24V, Tug-of-War
- #17V, Smelling Flowers
- #37V, Wreath Hound
- #23V, Bone Frame
- #27V, Proud Hound
- #101V, Ten Hounds

“Hound Happiness” (two pages shown)

Create a thoughtful scrapbook page; include a list along one side with your personal comments and thoughts about your Greyhounds and what they add to your life.

Spackle background paper using an old brush and ink or a spackle stamp. We also randomly stamped the paper using the small Greyhound paw stamp. Cut a square of darker paper and stamp a pattern across that, too (we used the Ten Hounds stamp).

Distress the edges of the paper using colored chalks, then mount the photos on the paper.

To make the decorative accent tag shown, stamp an image with darker ink on lighter colored cardstock (we used the Napping Hound stamp). Color the image with coordinating chalks, then cut around the image and mount the image to the tag. Sew or glue buttons to the tag as desired.

Attach ribbon to the page (either by sewing it to the page or by using glue or tape) and mount the tag over the ribbon.

Handwrite your thoughts about the photos, or print them on your computer. Cut them out in the shape you wish. Distress the edges of the paper with colored chalks.

Stamped images can be a great way to add balance and fill empty spaces; see the Greyhounds and Ivy stamp in the example shown.

Create a title using letter stickers.

Stamps used for these pages:

- #12V, Small Paw
- #101V, Ten Hounds
- #22V, Napping Hound
- #68V, Greyhounds and Ivy

“One is Never Enough” (two pages shown)

Start with three sheets of coordinating colors of paper, including a patterned or textured paper that works nicely with the cardstock you will be using to mount the photos. Trim and mount the photos on cardstock, leaving an edge for framing and adding a name.

Title and text can be hand lettered or computer generated. The layout shown was done using fonts that were manipulated on the computer; everything can be printed on one 8 1/2" x 11" sheet of paper. We then cut the paper in two pieces (one half for each page).

Stamp several Greyhound images on paper that is the same color as the card stock on which you have mounted the photos. Cut around the images or cut the images into

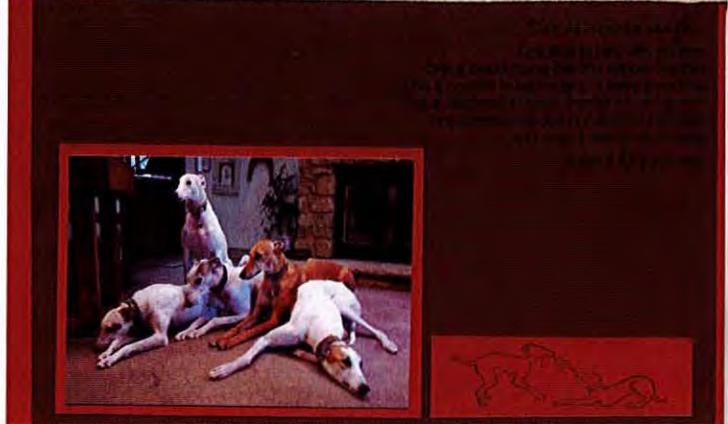
block shapes to be mounted to your photo pages. Use as many as you like. (In the example, we used the Napping Hound, One Ear Up Hound, and Tug-of-War stamps.) Try overlapping several images in one area, or use one alone at edge of a photo.

Using a long rubber stamp (we used the Ten Hounds stamp), stamp an image on natural colored twill tape. Cut the tape to fit your page. Use adhesive to fasten the tape to the page. In the examples pictures, we added brads to the edges of the twill tape and clipped a couple of wire curls to the photo corners as interesting accents.

Stamps used for this piece:

- #101-V, Ten Hounds
- #5-V, One Ear Up
- #22-V, Napping Hound
- #24-V, Tug-of-War ■

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



Friday through Sunday, June 2-4
Mountain Hounds 2006
 Greyhound Friends of North Carolina
 Gatlinburg, Tenn.

A weekend of fun and games, including vendors, catered picnic, and contests for the Greyhounds. Come enjoy the Tennessee mountains and the company of fellow Greyhound owners. Proceeds benefit Greyhound Friends of North Carolina. Contact: Bob Navarro, (704) 283-1547, bob@2houndsdesign.com; Lynda Montgomery, (704) 392-7868 or gfncregreyhound@bellsouth.net

Saturday, June 3
Eleventh Annual Greyhound Picnic for All "At the Fair"
 Personalized Greyhounds Inc.
 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
 Latimor Valley Fairgrounds
 Dillsburg, Pa.

Life music featuring Brett Alexander of The Badlees, prizes galore, nail clipping, Chinese auction, silent auction, vendors. Food and drink available for purchase, or bring your own. Contact: Diane Freundel, (717) 737-2609.

Saturday, June 3
GreyFest
 GPA/Minnesota
 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
 Spooner Park
 Little Canada, Minn.

Fundraiser to help support placement of retired racing Greyhounds. Great food, lots of fun, fantastic raffle prizes for every age and interest, shopping, games, contests, and lots of Greyhounds! Rain or shine. Contact: Pat Walsh, 763-785-4000 or www.gpa.mn.org.

Thursday through Sunday, June 8-11
Greyhound America — 2006
 Race the Wind Greyhound Adoption, Inc.
 Sterl Hall
 Abilene, Ks.

This annual event, sponsored by Race the Wind Greyhound Adoption, Inc., is attended by participants from all over the U.S. and Canada. Watch your dog participate in a fun run, visit several Greyhound farms, discover a wealth of information at the Greyhound Hall of Fame and the National Greyhound Association, and bid on the many items available during the fun-filled live auction. Mark your calendars now and plan to join us in June! Contact: Judy Sparks, (316) 688-1369 or greydogs@cox.net

Saturday, June 10
Fourth Annual Picnic
 Greyhound Adoption of Greater Rochester,
 N.Y.
 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
 White Brook Nature Area
 250 Aldrich Road
 Fairport, N.Y.

Rain or shine. Lots of fun, games, demonstrations, prizes, raffles, great Greyhound merchandise and food. Contact: events@greyhoundadopt.org or (585) 377-0811; www.greyhoundadopt.org

Saturday, June 10
A Round for the Hounds Golf Tournament
 Virginia Greyhound Adoption
 8:00 a.m. start
 Somerset Golf Club
 35448 Somerset Ridge Road
 Locust Grove, Va.

Fee for the event is \$65.00 and includes continental breakfast at 8:00 a.m. and buffet lunch at conclusion of play. Mulligans, 50/50 raffle, auctions, and more. Contact: Ted Vranken, (703) 501-2165 or gpaw@adelphia.net; www.virginia-greyhounds.org

Sunday, June 11
Ninth Annual Reunion Picnic
 National Greyhound Adoption Program South
 Jersey Volunteers
 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
 Atlantic County Park at Estell Manor
 Mays Landing, N.J.

Raffles, prizes, contests, etc. Contact: Merci Riccardi, (609) 266-7818, mercibar1@aol.com

Friday through Sunday, June 16-18
Greyhound Adoption Expo
 Noon-9:30 p.m. June 16, Wonderland Greyhound
 Park
 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. June 17, Raynham
 Greyhound Park
 9:00 a.m. June 18, Borderland State Park
 Racing Owners Assisting Racers, Inc. (ROAR,
 Inc.)

Greyhound fun and education, vendors, speakers, fun runs, Back on Track parade of retired racers, blessing of the hounds, fun and informational booths for Greyhounds and kids. Meals are served at the tracks so the family can enjoy the entire event together. Contact: register@greyhoundadoptionexpo.com; www.greyhoundadoptionexpo.com

Saturday, June 17
Summer Blast
 Monica's Heart Greyhound Adoption
 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
 Legion Park
 Hollidaysburg, Pa.

Lots of games, vendors, food, prizes, auctions, raffles, pet photography. Fun for Greyhounds and their people. This is Monica's Heart's tenth anniversary, so we're planning some new things! Contact: Kay McNelis, (814) 942-3145, houndmom@atlanticbb.net; Peg O'Brien, (814) 943-1475, obie@alt3.com

Saturday, June 17
High Desert Greyhound Fiesta and Reunion
 GPA/New Mexico Greyhound Connection
 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
 Bow Wow Blues
 3845 Rio Grande Blvd., NW
 Albuquerque, N.M.

All Greyhound lovers are welcome to join us for a Greyhound fiesta and reunion amid the cottonwoods of Albuquerque's north valley. Bring a picnic lunch and enjoy games, a raffle, swimming pools for the dogs and special recognition for Greyhound Dads. Contact: Candy Beck, (505) 897-0427 or info@nmgreyhoundconnection.org

Saturday, June 24 (rain date June 25)
Spring Fling
 Greyhound Friends of New Jersey
 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
 Atlantic County Park
 Estell Manor, N.J.

Greyhound picnic and fundraiser. Raffles, door prizes, food, micro-chipping, therapy dog testing, nail clipping, ear cleaning. GFNJ is partnering with Humane Society of Atlantic County to include their walk-a-thon as part the Spring Fling. Contact: Patty Tustin, (609) 625-2653 or (609) 425-3067, spotsylott@comcast.net

Friday through Sunday, July 14-16
Greyhound Festival of the Bluegrass
 Shamrock Greyhound Placement
 3:00 p.m. Friday through noon Sunday
 Holiday Inn Hurstbourne
 Louisville, Ky.

Weekend of Greyhounds (all events indoors) with vendors, speakers, classes, raffles, and live auction. Registration required, attendance limited to 250. Greyhounds welcome. Contact: Jennifer Watkins, (502) 241-3140, questions@greyhoundsofshamrock.org

Saturday, July 22
Grapehound Wine Tour
 Greyhound Adoption of Greater Rochester and
 Keystone Greyhounds
 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
 Cayuga Lake, N.Y.

The Cayuga Wine Trail goes to the dogs. Enjoy wine tastings and food pairings at 16 wineries that surround Cayuga Lake in the Finger Lakes region of New York. Each human participant will receive a commemorative Greyhound wine glass. Each Greyhound will receive a doggie treat at each winery that they visit. There will be doggie vendors and an adopt-a-Greyhound booth at Cobblestone Farm Winery and Americana Vinyard. Tickets are \$20.00/person in advance, \$25.00 at the door; a portion of every ticket sold will be donated to GAGR and Keystone Greyhounds. Contact: Cathy Millsbaugh, (800) 684-5217, info@cayugawinetrail.com; Larry Bowersox, (717) 669-8723, greyhoundman@peoplepc.com; www.grapehounds.com

Friday, July 28
Western Specialty
 Greyhound Club of America
 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
 Ryon Park
 Lompoc, Calif.

Obedience and conformation show for AKC-registered Greyhounds. Contact: Jane Ragusano, Show Chairman, (209) 295-6819; Sheryl Bartel, Publicity, sbartel@sos.net.

Saturday, August 12
Sixth Annual Greyhound Golf Classic
Rainbow's End Greyhound Rescue
 8:00 a.m. tee-off time
 Skyline Golf Course
 118 Petrilak Road
 Greenfield Twp, Pa.

Join us for a day of golf, food, fun, and prizes. Golfers and non-golfers welcome. Buffet dinner follows tournament. Even a few Greyhounds may stop by. Proceeds benefit Rainbow's End Greyhound Rescue. Download an application at www.skylinegolfcourse.com. Contact: Miles or Roxanne Neutts, (570) 282-1326 or xhippie@aol.com; Skyline Golf Course, (570) 282-5993.

Saturday, August 19
2006 Picnic Fundraiser
Team Greyhound Adoption of Ohio
 11:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
 Lucas County Fairgrounds
 1406 Key Street
 Maumee, Ohio

This year's theme is "The Lazy Greys of Summer." Fun for people and Greyhounds alike. Vendors, food, silent and live auctions, nail trimming, contests, a Fun Run, and more. Contact: Lisa Caccioppo, lisac841@yahoo.com; www.teamgreyhound.com

Saturday, August 26
Annual Reunion
GPA/Louisville
 Noon to 5:00 p.m.
 Community Building
 4-H Fairgrounds
 Charlestown, Ind. (10 miles northeast of Louisville, Ky.)

All Greyhound lovers and owners welcome. \$5.00 admission donation requested. Vendors. Catered meal available for additional charge. Contact: Lois Mauk, (812) 282-6492; LoisMauk@insightbb.com

Saturday, September 9
Ninth Annual Picnic
Northern Lights Greyhound Adoption
 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
 Battle Creek Regional Park
 2300 Upper Afton Road
 Maplewood, Minn.

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

Friday, September 15
Eastern Specialty
Greyhound Club of America
 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
 West End Fairgrounds
 Route 209
 Gilbert, Pa.

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

Saturday, September 16
Greyt Greyhound Gathering
GPA/MoKan
 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
 Camp Shawnee
 Parkville, Mo.

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

Sunday, September 17
Annual Picnic
GPA/Northern Virginia
 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
 Still Pond Park
 Franklin Farm, Va.

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

Sunday, September 17
Annual Picnic/Reunion
Greyhound Rescue, Inc.
 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
 Carderock Park
 Carderock, Md.

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

Sunday, September 17
Annual Picnic
GPA/Nashville
 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
 Centennial Park Events Shelter
 Nashville, Tenn.

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

Saturday and Sunday, September 23 & 24
It's a Greyhound Life!
Greyhound Lovers of Hamilton Wentworth
 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
 Binbrook Fairgrounds
 Highway 56
 Binbrook, Ontario, Canada

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

Sunday, September 24
Second Gathering of the Greys
GPA/Keystone Greyhounds
 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
 City Island Carousel Pavilion
 Harrisburg, Pa.

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

Saturday, September 30
Greyhound Gathering 2006
Connecticut Greyhound Adoption/GPA
 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

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

Saturday and Sunday, September 30 & October 1
Annual Fall Open House
Greyhound Friends, Inc.
 Noon to 5:00 p.m.
 167 Saddle Hill Road
 Hopkinton, Mass.

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

Sunday, October 8
Roofest
GPA/Greater Northwest
 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
 Paws-Ability
 1007 Industry Drive
 Tukwila, Wash.

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

Sunday, October 15
Houndraiser 2006
Greyhound Pets, Inc.
 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
 Pavilion Building
 Evergreen State Fairgrounds
 Monroe, Wash.

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



**GREYHOUND ADOPTION OF OHIO'S
13th Annual Canine Fun Days and
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Two days of fun for *all* dogs and their people!
August 19th ~11-5 ~ August 20th ~ 10-5
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Sunday 10AM ~ Blessing of the animals & breakfast!

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- Participate in games & raffles!
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- Shop our vendors for grey
greyhound stuff!

STUFF FOR YOUR DOG TO DO!

- Agility fun course
- Lure coursing (fenced field)
- "Fun Run"
- Straight lure coursing
- "The Maze"
- Open running times
- Senior Recognition (special
gifts for oldest greyhounds)
- Fun dog show (see right)

A FUN DOG SHOW!

- Best Costume (\$100 1st
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- Best Trick
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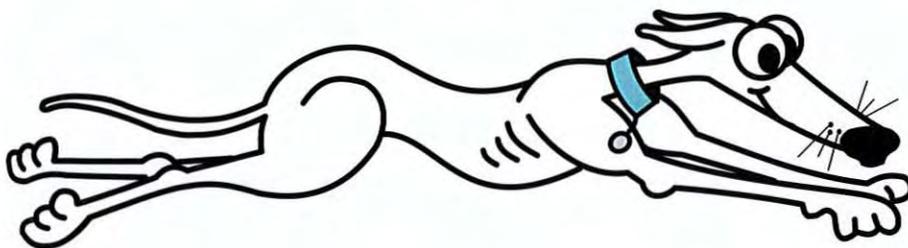
**Prairie Beach: A Gathering Of Champions
Sept. 15 - 17, 2006
Altoona, Iowa**

**Greyhound adoption supporters from 14 states and a Canadian province attended the first four years of our Midwest celebration. Join in the fun this year!
Dogs are welcome at all Prairie Beach events!**

More information online at:
www.heartlandgreyhoundadoption.org
Just click on the Prairie Beach icon!



Registration forms also available
by writing to:
Heartland Greyhound Adoption
P.O. Box 342
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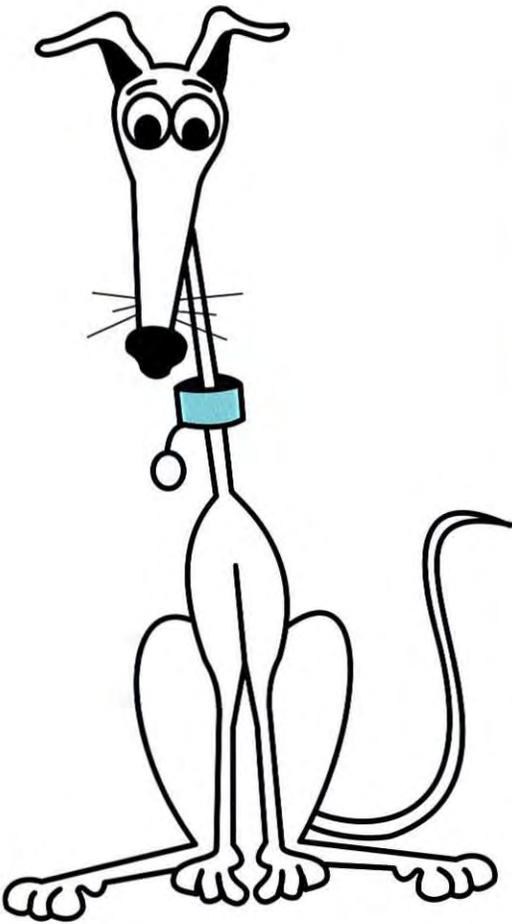


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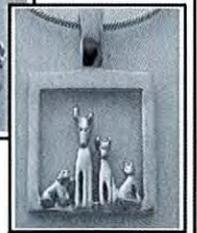
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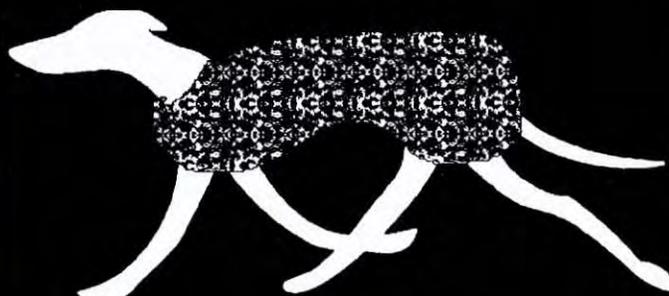
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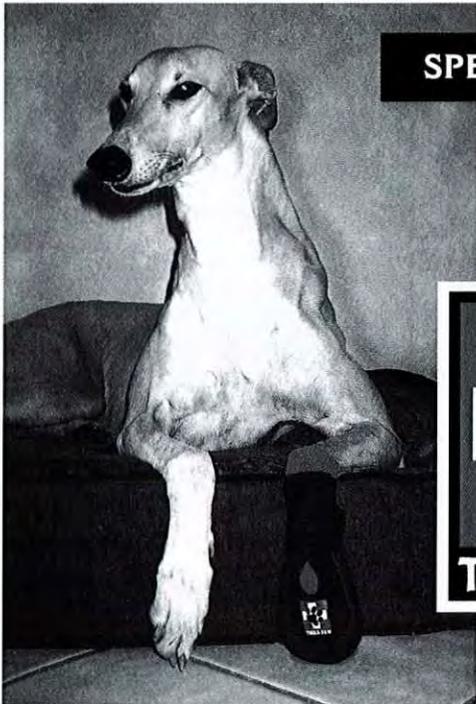
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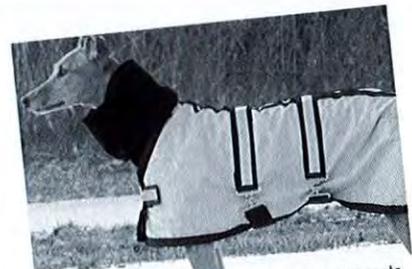
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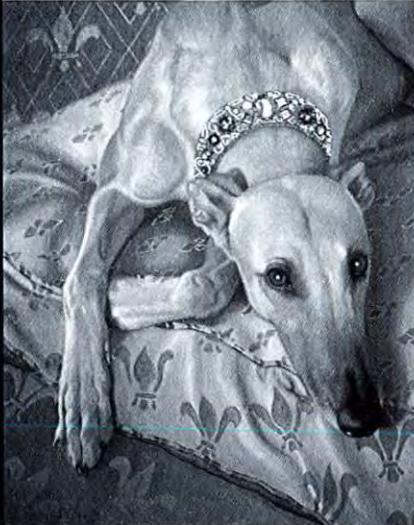

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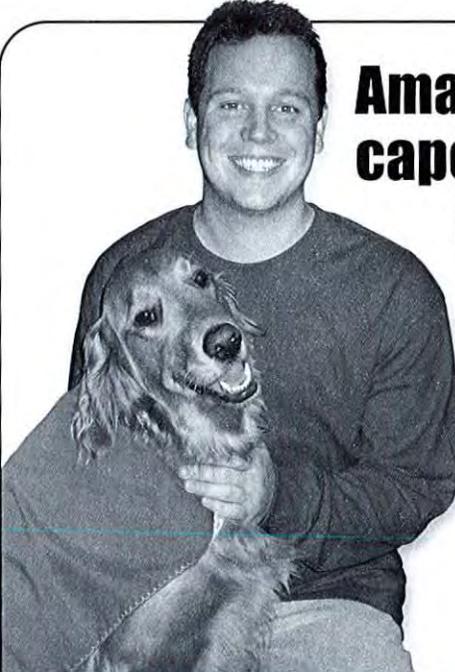
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Adam (Reckon So Adam)
1993-2005

Adopted and loved by Joyce Brown, Adam was pictured on page 21 in the Winter 2005 issue of *CG*. Joyce chose to set Adam free from his battle with lumbosacral stenosis, which began in 1999. At the time of his passing, he was also experiencing renal problems and a tumor in his breast bone. His eyes told Joyce that he just wanted to be released from the pain and struggle. Beautiful, sweet, patient Adam is missed by Joyce, ornery kitty Inky, and his sister Gracie, who still searches for him today. He will always be remembered with love.



Bob 1994-2004

Adopted and loved by Mary Childree, Bob appeared in *Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine* numerous times, most recently on page 22 of the Fall 2004 issue and inside the front cover of the Spring 2003 issue. Bob was the second Greyhound to enter Mary's heart. A very loving, handsome, and happy-go-lucky dog, Bob lived in their hearts and home for eight wonderful years. He contracted bone cancer and within two months crossed over the Rainbow Bridge. They think of him daily and miss him very much.



Charmane 1993-2005

Adopted and loved by Mary Childree, Charmane was the first Greyhound to enter Mary's heart, after she lost her dog of twelve years. Charmane was timid, stubborn, and sometimes difficult and challenging. She was worth every minute of it. Charmane had unforgettable style and elegance with which she graced the pages of *Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine* several times, most notably the cover of the Winter 1999 issue. She was the queen of Mary's castle for ten years. After her companion Bob passed away in 2004, Charmane never seemed herself. Eventually, she was also diagnosed with cancer. Although she is gone, she will never be forgotten. She is with her companion Bob now, and surely she is happy again.



Snip (Brass Button Guy)
1992-2006

Adopted and loved by Will Shumaker, Snip appeared in the pages of *Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine* many times, most recently on the cover of the Fall 2005 issue. After a long battle with a neurological problem in his back, Snip went to the Rainbow Bridge. A son of P's Rambling, Snip was a grade A racer in his early years. Will adopted him as a return to GPA/Largo and spent eight wonderful years with him. Snip loved to be petted and had a wonderful disposition. He never stopped enjoying his treats with a big smile.



Stretch 1991-2005

Stretch's amazing rehabilitation and recovery from a neck fracture was featured in the Spring 2005 issue of *CG*. He lived for many years with the foster and family hounds of Jim and Leah Cole. He then moved in with a foster family in Bouse, Arizona. He spent his golden years with a 220 lb Mastiff/Dane mix named Kino. Stretch and Kino would chase rabbits off the property in a full sprint, then spend the rest of the afternoon resting in the sun. Stretch with his neck injury and Kino with his bone cancer made for a rag-tag pair of walking partners, enjoying their afternoon strolls in the desert. But each day Stretch was happy, healthy, and motivated. Stretch enjoyed many days in the sun after his injury and unknown early life. Leah and Jim are honored to have known Stretch and wish him peace.

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



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