

Home Stretch

Newsletter of the Minnesota Chapter of Greyhound Pets of America

www.gpa.mn.org

May the luck of the Irish
Lead to happiest heights
And the highway you travel
Be lined with green lights.



VOLUME 6 ISSUE 1

763-785-4000

newsletter@gpa.mn.org

JAN/FEB /MARCH 2001

Do You Have A Medical Professional On Your Couch?

By Laura Marshall



Sure, in the world of humanity, we greyhound-owners are good people. We have opened up our hearts and homes to give these ex-racers, regal and time-honored beasts, a new start. It's their big break for a life full of love. Dare I go so far as to say we are terrific people? Sure, with terrific dogs. But have you ever thought that these terrific "retired" athletes could switch gears from the "entertainment" arena to that of a medical professional? And that you, a terrific person, could team up with your very special pet to share just a bit of yourselves with others? I am referring to Animal-Assisted Therapy. If you are not familiar with the term, Animal-Assisted Therapy is the interaction between animals and people in a positive setting which ultimately results in being mutually beneficial to both. It is based on the belief that animals can bring unique rewards to humans. A major distinction between animals for entertainment and animals for therapy is the human/animal bond. That bond is defined by the inter-relationship between humans and animals, the strong attachment of a person to the animal and the animal's responsiveness to that person's needs. As early as 1860, Florence Nightingale believed animals had an impact on patients, so much so that she carried a pet owl in her pocket. Examples of Animal-Assisted Therapy can be found throughout history but it wasn't until the 1980's that pet therapy, as we know it today, originated. The San Francisco SPCA started a program of bringing puppies to a local nursing home and the outpouring of support was overwhelming. Volunteers were lining up and facilities all over the San Francisco area were clamoring for this new service. In time, AAT developed into 3 categories: social, educational and clinical.

As a greyhound owner, you have probably focused mainly on the care and love of your canine family member. But if you stop to consider: greyhounds are the perfect height to stand next to a wheelchair to be brushed by a patient trying to strengthen coordination. They can also hover by a sofa while the subject of conversation is the greyhound's amazing history. Drop a few names like Cleopatra and General George Custer, who were greyhound owners, and you will have anyone's attention diverted from a painful injury to your fascinating dog. With it's calm, gentle demeanor, the greyhound's temperament is perfect for any area of AAT. Because there are no dominance issues, they accept everyone into their realm. They are predictable in a positive way- no. And colors... have we got colors, all within the same breed! Now that's a conversation starter for a social visit if I've ever heard of one. The tattoos are fascinating to children but offer a sure-fire "in" for opening lines of communication with harder to reach young adults, sometimes past gang members. Although big in size, greyhounds convey friendliness with their eyes, the movement of their ears, and how about those dogs that actu-



(Continued on page 2)



These are just a few of the wonderful hounds your donations have helped! No one appreciates your help and donations the way the hounds do. There are so many more waiting! Please won't you help us help the hounds by being generous this year. **Your donations are tax deductible.** Send our donation in TODAY! Don't wait! **Please send them to:**

GPA/Minnesota

P.O. Box 49183

Minneapolis, MN 55449



Our organization **NEEDS** your support desperately to continue helping the hounds that cannot help themselves. Thank you so much to those who have donated time as well as funds! We do so much good and it would all be impossible without your support!

Please Help!



Mike



Molly



Greyhound Pets of America – Minnesota’s Mission Statement

Greyhound Pets of America – Minnesota is the Minnesota chapter of a national non-profit, all volunteer organization dedicated to finding loving, responsible homes for retired racing greyhounds and also younger greyhounds that haven’t been successful at various tracks throughout the country. We also take great pride in educating and informing the public that retired racers make excellent, loving pets.

Current Officers (and board members):

- President – Bruce Krautbauer
- Vice President – Teresa Ruohomaki
- Secretary/Treasurer – Robin Krautbauer

Boardmembers

- Anne Cassens Shari Scott Gray
- Neil Kresal Kathy Marr DVM
- Jen Rachac Marty Reynolds
- Robin Schaper Sarah Snavelly

Coordinators:

- Buddy Coordinator – Martha Cleveland
- Adoption Coordinator – Marcy Barger
- Foster Coordinators – Anne Cassens
- Meet and Greet Coordinator – Sylvia Kresal
- Fundraising Coordinator – Robyn Abear
- Lost & Found Hound Coordinator – Robin Schaper
- Supply Coordinator – Liz Hendricks
- Veterinary Coordinator– Judy Dickerson
- Track Liaison – Robin Krautbauer
- Web Masters - Shari & Ryan Gray
- New Hound Site - Mark Schmit
- 2001 Festival Coordinator - Teresa Ruohomaki

Adoption Representatives:

- Marcy Barger
- Jen Rachac Martha Cleveland
- Bob Smith Bruce Krautbauer
- Sylvia Kresal Robin Krautbauer

Do You Have A Medical Professional On Your Couch?

(Con’t from page 1)

ally smile? When it comes right down to it, greyhounds, Animal-Assisted Therapy and healthcare facilities are a match made in heaven. With no "doggie" smell and very little shedding, greyhounds are a welcome addition to any hospital's volunteer list. In the politically correct vernacular, greyhounds are "hygienically-gifted". So maybe I used the term "medical professional" a bit loosely but it has been shown that greyhounds make exceptional therapy pets. Since so much of Animal-Assisted Therapy is done in hospitals and healthcare facilities, the term seems to fit even if the professional in this case has four legs instead of two. You know the joy you feel when you touch your greyhound, when you hug them, when they bestow their wet kisses on you, or, just a certain look in their eyes. That is your first-hand experience with AAT, even if you didn't know there was a name for it. By asking your dog to accompany you, you not only share a little of yourselves, your time and your knock-out example of dogdom, but you also share a taste of that joy to individuals who have a need. Consider joining a pet therapy group in your area and take a little of the "couch" out of your couch potato.

For information regarding all options in Animal-Assisted Therapy groups in your area, contact : **Delta Society, 289 Perimeter Road East , Renton, WA 98055-1329 (425)226-7357 (8:30 am- 5:00 pm PST, Monday - Friday) petsforum.com/deltasociety/dsg000.htm**

OR, your local Humane Society

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Any questions concerning content or distribution should be directed to Robin or Bruce Krautbauer at either:

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Or E-mail
Newsletter@gpa.mn.org

GPA-MN



or
send mail to:
GPA-MN, P.O. Box 49183, Minneapolis, MN 55449

Donations and Sponsors

We are a national, non-profit organization. Donations and Sponsors are greatly needed to help keep costs down and enable us to continue to let the public know about the glorious greyhound. All donations are tax deductible. Any and all contributions are greatly appreciated.

To make a donation in honor of your hound’s birthday, adoption day, or in memorial please send your donation and your request in by the 15th of the month prior to the month the event falls in. Send in donations and information to: GPA-MN, P.O. Box 49183, Mpls., MN 55449

PLEASE help with your generous donation!





Ask Tilly & Jack (And Sometimes Duke!):

Dear Jack and Tilly and Duke if needed,

Hi, my name is Smash, super friendly, ready for action. I have a problem. I don't like sleeping at night, all night. I lay around a lot all day and when it comes to bedtime I sleep awhile and then I'm up and at it. The problem is nobody else wants to walk or scratch or play with me. I usually get up and try to wake up my male caregiver. If he ignores me I sometimes whimper and he just says "Timmy's in the well." Why is it when ever we whimper humans say Timmy's in the well. I'm only two and I don't know Tim and why don't they put a fence around the well so he stops falling in it? Anyway if I sent you a scale model of our sleeping area with scale furniture pieces do you think you could rearrange them to give me more play area? Or any other suggestion would be appreciated.

Insomnia
Smash

Tilly: Well, Smash, the main problem here is your age – two. At two, we hounds still need plenty of exercise or we get bored and wake people up at night, among other things. The fault isn't really yours, it's your humans. They aren't giving you enough walks. Your male caregiver should be in good enough shape to give you plenty of exercise. As a postal employee, he should be just chomping at the bit to go for another walk with you in the evening. What's wrong with him? Is that AK47 postal employees tote around too heavy for him? He's TOO tired after work to stroll you? Jack: Well, Tilly, we have discussed postal employees in the past and you should remember that they don't carry AK47s –they are more patriotic and carry something American-made. Tilly: That's right, Jack. I forgot. Anyways, show your humans this column so they give you more walks. Jack: As far as Timmy being in the well, humans aren't always that smart. Especially the miniature ones. Duke: I remember Timmy. He was this simpy little kid who lived on a farm that was near the mountains, the desert, the prairie and everywhere else. Every week he got himself into some kind of mess and of course a dog named Lassie had to save his butt. It was a pretty good TV show even if

– the dog wasn't a greyhound.

Dear Jack and Tilly and Duke if a tie vote breaker is needed,

Hi, my name is Rusty and I basically have enjoyed a relaxing, carefree lifestyle until we got Smash. I sleep in my bed at the foot of the bed of my caregivers. I use to sleep all night, once in awhile getting up to stretch or change positions. Now I am awakened several times a night from my roommate Smash. He likes to sleep a little then get up at 1, 2, or 3, no set time on any given night. He tries to wake my male caregiver but he ignores Smash knowing he will go away. Then Smash goes to the other side of the bed which is through my bed. See the problem here? How can a retired greyhound retire for the evening with him crawling all over me? I went to my caregiver and suggested building my bed on top of Smashes but he said that's bunk. I whimpered to him suggestions of Velcro, duct tape, Timmy's in the well, crazy glue and even an old boat anchor but my caregiver only picked up on the well thing. Do you guys have any suggestions , humane or otherwise to keep Smash asleep and in bed all night?

Sleepless in Mankato
Rusty

Tilly: Rusty, I think we have solved Smash's problem (see above). This should solve your problem as well. However, if your humans are too lazy to solve Smash's problem, I do have a solution for you alone. You were the first greyhound in the house, right? You should be sleeping on your HUMANS bed like I do. What's this foot of the bed stuff? Don't they love you enough? You said you sleep peacefully, right? Why can't you sleep on their bed? If it's not big enough they should go out and buy a bigger one! Jack: That's right, Rusty. Even though Tilly gets to sleep on the bed, I agree with her – we hounds have to stick together. You and Smash have to stick together and stop your bickering. Duke: You and Tilly stick together, I'll stick to Mom. She's my main squeeze.

Tilly: I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of our fans for the holiday greetings they sent us this year. Jack: Not many sent food – what's to thank? Tilly: Well, Jack, we received thousands of greetings from around the world and I especially liked the photo that Fletch (aka Hit Parader) sent us from Canada. He looked just wonderful with those reindeer antlers he was wearing. He's my kind of guy. Jack: Yeah, he's breathing! Duke: Will you two cut it out? Can't a hound get his beauty rest?

Keep those letter & E-mails coming!

Tilly and Jack

5401 James Avenue So., Minneapolis, MN 55419
Or E-mail: jackandtilly@gpa.mn.org



NEWS

FROM THE GREYHOUND REVIEW

Official Monthly Publication of the NGA

From the July 2000 Issue Track Talk:

Greyhound Database The Seventh Edition (2000) of the International Greyhound Research Database is now available from the American Greyhound Council. The Database is an on-going, decade-long project involving the collection of papers worldwide, with respect to studies pertinent to the racing Greyhounds. Many new citations have been added to these that were listed in the last edition, published in 1998.

The International Greyhound Research Database, compiled by Drs. Linda L. Blythe and A. Morrie Craig of Oregon State University, is available both on the World Wide Web and on CD-Rom.

The entire Database can be searched, viewed and printed on the American Greyhound Council web page at www.agcouncil.com. Also, the Database is available on CD-Rom for a fee of \$10. Write International Greyhound Research Database, P.O. Box 543, Abilene, KS 67410 and include \$10.

From the August 2000 Issue Footnotes:

After nearly a decade of sharp declines, the number of breeding and NGA-registered pups whelped has leveled off. True, there was another decline in the number of pups whelped in 1999 (contributing to a 36% drop since 1990--much of which was welcomed with respect to the humane issues; in fact, NGA had encouraged members to cut back breeding in the early 1990s for that reason). But in 1998 the number of breeding and pups whelped leveled off; and in 2000 thus far, NGA is showing a 20% increase in breeding through the first five months of the year--an indication of renewed optimism and confidence in the sport's future. We certainly don't need a return to the days when the breeding pace created a situation where supply far outweighed demand. But it's nice finally seeing, at least for now, an end to the sharp declines.

From the August 2000 Issue Track Talk:

Registrations drop Total number of pups whelped fell from 35,801 in 1998 to 33,256 in 1999--renewing a decade-long slide in breeding that briefly leveled off in 1998.

The decline came despite no additional closing of pari-mutuel Greyhounds in the last few years. During the first six years of the decade, 14 tracks had closed their doors. Part of the reason for the declines can also be attributed to a call by the NGA and the AGC to reduce the number of Greyhounds bred and to concentrate on quality, not quantity. Total number of pups whelped has declined by more than a third--about 36 %--since the beginning of the 1990s. The number of Greyhound adoptions remains at about 18,000 each year. This estimate is based on previous estimates ago by an independent agency, the steadiness in the number of adoption agencies in existence since that time (still at about 240), and adoption data received from

numerous adoption groups.

The latest statistics indicate that a higher percentage of Greyhounds than ever before are being placed in homes as pets. More than 80% of all Greyhounds whelped are ultimately being retired back to farms for breeding purposes or are being placed in homes as pets upon retiring from racing.

NGA statistics also show that 27,059 pups, also more than 80% of the total pups whelped, were individually registered last year--a registration procedure that generally occurs when pups have reached "track-age", or about 14-17 months old.

Credit for the current trends, according to Gary Guccione, NGA Exec. Dir. and AGC Coor., goes to the many placement agencies who give countless hours, working with personnel in racing-owners, breeders, trainers and track officials to facilitate the huge number of pet adoptions. Since 1990, it's estimated that more than 134,000 Greyhounds have been adopted as pets into homes. The current Greyhound pet population in the United States and Canada likely exceeds 90,000, according to Guccione, making the Greyhound pet an increasingly popular and recognizable phenomenon on the American social scene. The AGC makes a direct contribution to the number of Greyhounds placed, annually allocating * **\$40,000 for grants to qualifying pet adoption groups** . A sizeable portion of the fund has been provided by the AGTOA through its Night of Starts racing program. Racetracks, in addition to their financial support of the Council, contribute \$1.7 million annually to local Greyhound adoption efforts. More than \$10.5 million has been spent by the tracks in the last seven years to support local adoption programs.

The 1999 statistics were compiled from NGA registration information (including the official number of pups whelped, litter-registered and individually registered with NGA registry each year). Factored in also were natural attrition rates and retirement of racers back to farms for breeding purposes. NGA statistics show litter size in 1998 to have been 6.52, consistent with litter size average of recent years.



Roni and Tyler Krautbauer.



Important Upcoming Dates to Remember!!!

April 21st & 22nd is National Adoption Week-end. We will be staffing nearly every Petco in the Twin Cities area with Meet & Greet booths. Please see if you can join the M&G hosts to help give out information. Bring the hounds along as ambassadores.

May 19th—Saturday GPA/Minnesota's Yearly Garage Sale!!! Jen & Doug Rachac have kindly consented to let us have space at their home to have this. Thanks much! Please save your saleable items for us! More information coming on this event.

June 2nd—Saturday Greyhound Pets Of America/Minnesota's GREYHOUND FESTIVAL 2001!!!

(Whew-whooo! The Biggest Greyhound Festival in Minnesota. Every year greyt fun. Also our largest fundraising event of the year! So much to see and do... eating, playing, shopping and just hanging out with the hounds!) It will again be at Spooner Park in Little Canada, Minnesota. 11AM—4 PM.

Please contact Teresa—planning is in the works NOW! And your help is essential to the success of our biggest event!! 651-483-5997 OR Email: HeyYouSir@wavefront.com We need lots of Help! Help! HELP!

June 23rd & 24th—Pride. Come help staff a booth all day—both days. Contact Carol Jillian. (612) 871-5727

August 26th—Sunday - Minnesota State Fair We will be doing shows at 9AM, 11AM, and 1 PM. Contact Robin Schaper. (763) 425-3316

September 22nd & 23rd—Renaissance Festival Weekend in Shakopee, MN! All day both days! Contact Robin Krautbauer. (763) 780-4748

Rappin' for the Dogs

by Sylvia Kresal

Twas the weeks before Christmas
And all through the store
GPA book wrappers were wrapping books by the score.

On Samantha, on Daphne!
On Lyle and Karissa!
Go Angela and Anne
And Lori and Sylvia!

From the bottom of our hearts
To the Barnes and Noble walls
We say, "Thank you for helping the greyhounds.
Thank you one and all!!"

GPA-Mn would like to thank Maurrie at the Barnes and Noble Bookstore in the Galleria for making it possible for us to take part in their Holiday Book Wrapping for Donations program. We would also like to thank Samantha Shine, Lyle and Karissa Eckert, Anne Cassens, Angela Ponder, Lori Kjesseth, Sylvia Kresal and Daphne the Wonder Dog for giving so generously of their time this holiday season. The dogs appreciate it. We'll be back next year!!

Also, many thanks to Sylvia Kresal for setting this event up!



Lori and Samantha rappin' for the dogs!





Meet & Greet Calendar (phone 763-785-4000 ext. 4)

Meet Rocky!

Petco—Apple Valley - The Cassens

March 17 Saturday 1 - 4 PM

April 21 Saturday 1 - 4 PM

Petco—Brooklyn Park - Kevin K

March 17 Saturday 12 - 3 PM

April 21 Saturday 12 - 3 PM

Petco—Coon Rapids - Sandy J.

April 21 Saturday 12 - 3 PM

April 22 Sunday 12 - 3 PM

Petco—Eden Prairie - Nancy & Brittany

March 31 Saturday 1 - 4 PM

April 21 Saturday 12 - 3 PM

Petco Central (Fridley) - Bruce & Robin

March 24 Saturday 12 - 3 PM

April 22 Sunday 12 - 3 PM

Petco Highland (St. Paul) - The VanTassel Family

March 17 Saturday 1 - 4 PM

April 21 Saturday 1 - 4 PM

Petco Maplewood - Teri & Jason P.

March 18 Sunday 1 - 4 PM

April 22 Sunday 1 - 4 PM

Pet Expo, Mankato - Nancy & Bryan R.

March 18 Sunday 1 - 4 PM

April 22 Sunday 1 - 4 PM

Petco Oakdale - Karissa & Lyle

March 17 Saturday 12 - 3 PM

April 21 Saturday 12 - 3 PM

Petco Richfield - Neil & Sylvia

March 17 Saturday 1 - 4 PM

April 21 Saturday 1 - 4 PM

Petco Ridgedale (Minnetonka)

March 18 Sunday 1 - 3:30 PM

April 22 Sunday 1 - 3:30 PM

Petco - St. Cloud - Kate & Pat

March 10 Saturday 11 - 1 PM

April 14 Saturday 11 - 1 PM

Petco - West St. Paul -

Brian, Marty, Lisa, & David

March 10 Saturday 11 - 2 PM

April 14 Saturday 11 - 2 PM



This is Rocky. His racing name is 'Dodge Viper'. Rocky is one of the Guidant Lab Dogs GPA/MN rescued last year. He is a sweet, but energetic boy who now lives with his greyhound sister, Ace and his humans The Meyers in Iowa. He is lookin' pretty sexy in his chair!



Rocky is learning to play. Looks like he loves his new toy.



If you would like to see your wonderful greyhound(s) be featured in our newsletter please send along a photo or two and a paragraph giving information on your hound(s) along with a self-addressed, stamped envelope to:
GPA-MN,
P.O. Box 49183,
Minneapolis, MN
55449



We will return the photo to you as soon as we are finished using it!

Thank you! We appreciate your help in keeping this section of our newsletter going!





Turbo Spud *By K. Parkhurst*

WWW.TURBOSPID.COM

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Spud is based on a real live dog but his real live name is Trooper. His racing name was W.R.'s Z-Sam. He uses 'Spud' as his online handle to mack on hotties in the Saluki chat rooms.

GPA Orange County/Los Angeles accorded our household the privilege of basking in his constant presence. Little did we know.

K. Parkhurst





Cookies and Brownies and Fudge ---
=Oh My!!!

This is a big thank you to everyone who helped out with the GPA-MN "Bake Sale" in November and December 2000. The Richfield Petco store designated GPA-MN as the recipient of its "Holiday Ornament" fundraiser this year. It was suggested that we offer baked goodies when we were there in order to heighten awareness of GPA-MN. What fun it turned out to be! GPA volunteers were so generous with their time and skills as people either baked goodies for donations or helped staff the table. I met so many generous and kind volunteers that it just made the holiday time perfect. For me, this past holiday season was what Christmas is all about – generosity of spirit, unselfish giving, kindness, and just plain enjoyment.

Kathy TeGrootenhuis, the store manager, and her marvelous staff made us feel welcome and even contributed to the donations! What a great store and what wonderful people who staff it.

To all who helped out – GPA-MN thanks you, I thank you, and the greyhounds we serve thank you. If I have left your name off of this list of "angels" please let me know so I can correct things.

A big greyhound Thank Roo to:

- Kathy TeGrootenhuis
- Richfield Petco staff
- Marcy Barger
- Samantha Shine
- Marlene Elke

- Bill Elke
- Martha & Walter Cleveland
- Angela & Bob Ponder
- Carol Jillian
- Judy Dickerson
- Luana Ball
- Dawn Courtney
- Anne Cassens
- Stacy Lindgren
- Jodi & John Brunner
- Debbie Greenstone
- Robin & Bruce Krautbauer
- Lonni & Bob Skretner
- Jill Walser



Bob Skrentner, Debbie Greenstone, Neil Kresal, and Bill Elke.

Sylvia Kresal

Also — huge thanks to Sylvia Kresal for setting up the entire event!!!!



Daphne and Samantha Shine.

Adoptions

- December 2nd, 2000 Cannon to Susan Starr.
- December 5th, 2000 Joey to Bonnie Carlson.
- January 9th, 2001 Lance to Fred Walk.
- January 9th, 2001 Spa to Dave and Val Harrington.
- January 11th, 2001 Amazon to Dr. Dena Rassmussen.
- January 11th, 2001 Wooney to Scott and Sandy Henke.
- January 13th, 2001 Irene to John and Pat Aspinwall.
- January 14th, 2001 Liner to Jeff and Kristy Banick.
- January 22nd, 2001 Misty to Brian Short and Marty Reynolds.
- January 31st, 2001 Flash to Mark and Marcia Schneider.
- February 3rd, 2001 Runner to Mike & Cristyn Rybak
- February 4th, 2001 Gayle to Deb Minlschmidt
- February 4th, 2001 Hilly to Mark & Michelle Stevens Soshea
- February 5th, 2001 Lou to Scott Gettemy
- February 13th, 2001 Ugot to Amanda Horton

***Congratulations and best wishes for these wonderful greyhounds and their new families!!**



Mik Wilkens © 1999



Daphne Mae Explains It All By Daphne

This month Mom and I have decided to focus our attention on "Greyhound Love," in honor of Valentine's Day. Some of you may be scratching your heads wondering what the heck Greyhound Love is. Don't worry, we'll explain! I think Greyhound Love would include all the little things our humans do for us all year long to show how much they adore our slender selves...stuff like making sure our crates and blankies are nice and clean, keeping our food bowls full of good-quality chow and our water dishes clean and full. And of course, the special things they do for us, like grooming (much as I dislike some aspects of this, like nail-clipping and tooth-brushing and the dreaded quarterly baths!!!) and preparing special food when our tummies are upset or we're being "picky." (not that I ever am--HAH!)

But Valentine's Day is a special day, like "Gotcha Day" or your birthday--My mom always comes across with a yummy fish or steak dinner (she knows what I like!) and lots of mushrooms in olive oil (one of my absolute favorite veggies!). And of course, a lovely knuckle bone (gift-wrapped, no less) and if I know my Mom she'll even have one for my pal Piper (whose mom and dad are in someplace called Germany), who comes up to keep us company while her people are away (Piper's parents are some of my favorite humans and I sometimes stay there when my mom goes away). Greyhound Love is something we have around here 365 days a year and its really all the small things Mom does for me without complaining or me whining for them. Its the way she puts on my Mutt-Luks three or four times a day and even manages to do it while I am lying on my side relaxing without any effort whatsoever on MY part. And how she always makes sure I get my tummy warmer on under my storm coat if its below 20 degrees or a below 10 degree wind chill. Another thing is how Mom always comes across with special treats when I have done something well and rarely forgets my biscie after our morning walk (I DO have to remind her sometimes). It's the way Mom often falls asleep with her hand rubbing my tummy (she refers to me sometimes as her "baldy-belly") or my schnoot or my muzzle and sometimes wakes up with her arm as my pillow. Or how Mom will wake up and run her hand across my ribcage--if she thinks I feel chilly she takes a soft purple cover and drapes it over me and kisses me lightly so I am not awakened, telling me I'm her little "Schnoodle-birdy" and that she loves me.

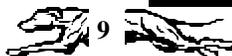
Waking up with my Mom is the very best time of my day!!! I get to sleep until my stretching wake Mom and then she gives me ear scratches and neck rubs. I respond by licking her hands and face and rubbing my nose up into Mom's armpit or nuzzling against her hip. Mom loves to laze with me until both of us are almost ready for my walk (hers too!) and she will detour to the kitchen (where she sets up her coffee at night) and turn on the pot before dressing and washing. I stretch and goof around while I wait for Mom. When she finally is done, I get on my blankies and wait for her to get ME dressed and ask if I'm ready for "whizzies and poops," which I am (who wouldn't be?).

So when you are out with your human(s) on this Valentine's Day remember where you were before they got you and be extra kind to them. They may not be the sharpest tools in the shed, but I am pretty sure they adore you and don't be shy about letting them know you feel the same way about them! Remember they are only HUMAN. Wishing you all lots of love and treats this Valentine's Day. **Daphne (with help from Sam)**

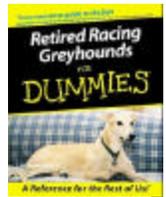
Editors note: Thanks to Samantha Shine for helping Daphne submit her article!



The author – Daphne!



'Retired Racing Greyhounds for Dummies!'



A greyt new book.... And WE are selling it! Profits on this book will help the hounds!!!

A must have! Only \$15.00 plus shipping!

Order your own copy NOW from GPA/MN!

A Borders Happening

On Saturday, Dec. 16, 2000, Tilly, Jack, and Duke hosted their first Meet and Greet at Borders Book Shop at Calhoun Square in Minneapolis. They also brought us along-their lucky owners--because someone had to drive. We were greeted at the store by Andrea Guiliani, the Community Resources Coordinator, Dave Blackmer, General Manager, and Mike Sullivan, the Assistant Manager. Everyone who was working that day came to greet Tilly and the boys. We had comfy chairs to sit on and Tilly, Jack, and Duke had a carpet to recline on as they greeted their admirers. (As Tilly would say, "Don't hate me because I'm beautiful.") They received a ton of attention and we were able to pass out GPA information and greyhound information, in general, to a lot of folks. We were all pretty tuckered out by the end of the day.

We would like to thank Andrea for inviting GPA to do Meet and Greets there and the marvelous Borders staff for making us feel so welcome. Tilly, Jack, and Duke are looking forward to going back!

Neil, Sylvia, Tilly, Jack, and Duke Kresal



Greyhound Sitting!!

The Coop has been a great benefit to all of us who have used it, knowing that our hounds are well cared for when we're gone! If you are interested in participating please call Bethany and Lauren Kauffman (763) 576-0455 for further information!



Gotcha' Day!

Congratulations to these folks and hounds on their one year adoption anniversary!

Rainbow adopted by Sue and Ron Nelson & family.

Keegan by Jeremy McCrank.

Crista adopted by Diane Ringwelski & family.

Ursula adopted by Mark and Teresa Ruohomaki & family.

Speedy adopted by Sheila Wick & family.

Chickasaw adopted by Marshall Walker.

Steely by Sandra Schroder & family.

Jade by Darryl and Kathleen Zempel

Sissy by the Pylka family.

Smash by Bryan and Nancy Rittenhouse.

Blew by the Krautbauers

Vegas by the Stradcutter Family

Brenda by the Kiely Family

Ben by the Lewis Family



Clip art by Gary & Bonnie Booker



Announcements

Clip art Mik Wilkens 1999

Garage Sale to Benefit The Hounds!

May 19th (Saturday)

Please save your unwanted, saleable items for this event!!

Doug and Jen Rachac are hosting this yearly event. Many thanks to them!

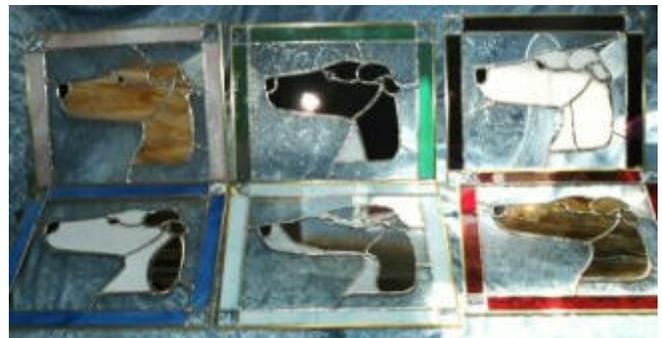
Please contact them for further information about how you can help!!!

Phone: 763-795-9356

Or E-mail: jen.rachac@medtronic.com



<http://www.montanainspirations.com/>



Sarah Regan Snavelly
fine dog art

Rainbow Bridge

Sterling pendant 1" ...\$25

Brooch 1" ...\$30

Bracelet & earrings available soon.

No one knows how many greyhounds have lost their lives without ever knowing the love of a family or having a home of their own. This piece honors all dogs, both well-loved and unknown, who have crossed before us.

<http://cumor.home.texas.net/blackhorsesdesign/>



Mention GPA-MN if you purchase items from Carmon and our group will get a donation from your sale!



Black Horse Design

Animal Motif Jewelry & Handpainted Silk
by Carmon Deyo



Jewelry, Note Cards, and fine art work!

<http://dog-art.com>



YOU are the Heart and Soul of GPA -MN!

Thank YOU, Volunteers!

- Robyn Abear
- Steve Abear
- Luana Ball
- Marcy Barger
- Mike Barger
- Mary Bauer
- Cheri Bravo
- John Brunner
- Jodi Brunner
- Anne Cassens
- Cort Cassens
- Justin Cassens
- Alyssa Cassens
- Marion Chow
- Martha Cleveland
- Walter Cleveland
- Chuck Collins
- Sue Collins
- Dawn Courtney
- Richard Courtney
- Judy Dickerson
- Kate Douglass
- Mike Douglass
- Jackie Dubbe
- Karissa Eckert
- Lyle Eckert
- Bill Elke
- Marlene Elke
- Chad Foote
- Shari Scott Gray
- Ryan Gray
- Debbie Greenstone
- Sue Gunwall
- Bob Heeschen
- Dee Heeschen
- Dave Heller
- Lisa Heller
- Liz Hendricks
- Greg Hendricks
- Karen Hoyle
- Sandra Jammer
- Linda Jones
- Mike Jones
- Carol Jillian
- Nancy Jones
- Cullen Keily
- Sharon Kelly
- Tom Kelly
- Lori Kjesseth
- Kevin Kocur
- Bruce Krautbauer
- Robin Krautbauer
- Kim Krautbauer
- Neil Kresal
- Sylvia Kresal
- Garland Lundquist
- David Lundquist
- Kathy Marr
- Pat Murphy
- Becca Nelson
- Greta Palmberg
- Todd Palmberg
- Kim Parkhurst
- Brittany Perlich
- Nancy Perlich
- Jason Petrin
- Teri Petrin
- Angela Ponder
- Bob Ponder
- Claudia J. Presto
- Jen Rachac
- Doug Rachac
- Dena Rassmussen
- Marty Reynolds
- Bryan Rittenhouse
- Nancy Rittenhouse
- Mark Ruohomaki
- Teresa Ruohomaki
- Julia Ruohomaki
- Andrea Ruohomaki

- Cole Ruohomaki
- Sean Ruohomaki
- Dean Rush
- Jan Rush
- Bob Schaper
- Robin Schaper
- Mark Schmit
- Wally Schwab
- Steve Sedesky
- Jeanne Sedesky
- Ben Sedesky
- Samantha Shine
- Brian Short
- Bob Skrentner
- Bob Smith
- Ann Smith
- Susan Starr
- Mark Stevens
- Michelle Stevens
- Sarah Snavely
- The VanTassel s
- Jill Walser
- Susan Wevley
- Mik Wilkins

Thanks to all of the Foster folks.
Thanks to all who have been involved

in the Coats for Hounds program.
Thanks to all who are involved through our Buddy program.
Thanks to all who volunteered their time to make our annual Greyhound Festival a success!
Thanks to all of the folks who help out with our Meets & Greets.
Thanks to all who staff and attend our special events!
Thanks to all who worked with the Bake Sale this year!
Thanks to all who do the gift wrapping at Barnes & Nobles to profit the hounds!
Many thanks to the veterinarians and their staff that commit their time and resources to help the hounds.
Many thanks to the folks at all the Petcos who make us feel welcome. Also thanks to the folks at PetExpo in Mankato!
This is a list of volunteers that are currently active in our organization and have done some service for the hounds within the last month. It is in alphabetical order. If we have missed someone we would greatly appreciate you letting us know so we may add them to our next list. Thank YOU GPA-MN Volunteers!

2001 Board Members



Sarah Snavely, Shari Gray, Robin Schaper, Marty Reynolds, Jen Rachac, Neil Kresal, Teresa Ruohomaki, Anne Cassens, Robin Krautbauer, and Bruce Krautbauer. (not pictured Kathy Marr DVM).

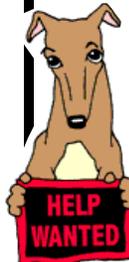


Fostering is an important part of a greyhound's transition into their new permanent homes.

Please Help Us Help the hounds we are working to help by becoming a foster home.

Call Anne at 951-921-9800!

Thank you so much for your help!





Dancing Greyhounds On TV!

The Gilley Girls Greyhound Dance and Drill Team appeared on Animal Planet's 'K9 to 5' series on March 10th, 2001 giving national exposure to retired racing Greyhounds. They are the only such performing greyhound team in the world. Their jumps, synchronized moves, comedy routines are as entertaining as they are truly wonderful.

The Gilleys spend the majority of the year traveling the continent performing for greyhound adoption groups, race tracks, children's hospitals, nursing homes, rehab centers, and schools in an attempt to spread the word about the marvels of retired racing Greyhounds.

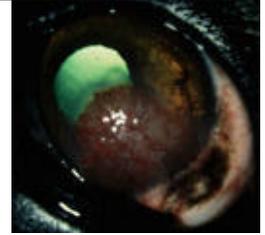
The Gilley troupe have been performing in their act since 1996. The team has five to six canine members, all females, with uniquely different personalities. The service they provide to the greyhound adoption movement is priceless. The Gilleys are instrumental in bringing national attention to the adoption movement as well as educating the public in regards to the greyhounds' intelligence and pet-worthiness.

The Gilleys are guaranteed to bring a smile to your face. It is so nice to know that Kathleen and Gil had the vision and the drive to make the Gilleys a reality.

Our eternal gratitude to Kathleen, Gil, and their greygirls . We all love what you do and greytly appreciate their effort and their sacrifices more than words can describe.



Pannus



Pannus, or chronic immune-mediated kerato-conjunctivitis sicca, is a chronic, progressive disease of the eyes by which the cornea becomes overgrown with new blood vessels and dark pigment that results in impaired vision. This disease is believed to be an immune reaction by the greyhound to its own cornea and maybe related to the amount of ultraviolet radiation to which a dog is exposed.

Clinical signs of Pannus are a lattice work of tiny red blood vessels that can be seen growing in from the margin of the cornea. The outer edge of the clear cornea then becomes cloudy and dark in color. Small white spots may be seen on the leading edge of the dark pigment. The area of pigmentation slowly increases to cover a larger part of the eye.

With the help of your vet and the necessary medications Pannus can be controlled.

An excellent resource is the book, 'Care of the Racing Greyhound'. This is the source of the above facts and is available from several on line book sellers and the NGA. It is a wonderful reference book to have. If your Greyhound is diagnosed with pannus, or any other illness or disease it is always a greyt idea to become as knowledgeable about the subject as possible. After all, in the end, you are the one that makes the decisions of your hounds care and treatments!

Helpful links:

All Breeds Apart E-Magazine

<http://www.abap.org/pannus.htm>

Eye Clinic for Animals

<http://www.eyeclicforanimals.com/dog5.html>

VetInfo.com

<http://www.vetinfo.com/dciks.html>





A Greyhound's Wish Come True

Soft and warm, I'm snuggled in,
A little child to scratch my chin.

A bed to sleep on by the fire,
Anything my heart desires.

In the yard I roam at will,
Until, at last, I've had my fill.

I then return to waiting arms,
Protecting me from all life's harms.

Hugs are plenty where I now live,
I give them back all I can give.
Treats, toys, and kisses galore,
It's me for me that they adore.

I hope they know I love them too,
I try to show them in all I do.
My eyes send messages to their heart,
In hopes that we will never part.

Whatever I wrote that caught your ear,
Created a miracle, Santa dear.
Thank you for life's brand new start,
And for the family that fills my heart.

I do have one unselfish plea,
There are many more like me.
If you have time in the days to come,
Please find families for everyone.

Copyright (C) 1995 Robin Krautbauer

What Is A Lurcher?



Typically in the United Kingdom a Lurcher was a Greyhound crossed with Border Collie or terrier mix. This is where Whippets came from. They were Greyhound - terrier mixes.

The Lurcher was originally used by the poorer working classes as poaching dogs. Where they could go on lands of the Lords and

poach game. The desired use of adding collie was to get a smarter dog that would heed commands of the owner.

At one time "Lurcher" was used to denote a sighthound - non-sighthound mix, and "Longdog" was used to denote a mix of two different breeds of sighthound. (Greyhound x Saluki being the most common nowadays by the Lurchermen).

Now they mostly just use "Lurcher" to denote any mixed sighthound/non-sighthound or sighthound/sighthound cross.

They are still quite popular in the United Kingdom and they are constantly experimenting with new crosses for different type of game. The lurcher is not a breed of dog but a type, produced by customising the greyhound to the specific needs of the lurcher owner.



An Irish method for tackling problems:
There comes a time when you must take the bull
By the tail and face the situation squarely.



The Canine Good Citizen's Test

The Canine Good Citizens Test Actually is 10 tests in one. The purpose of the CGC test is to ensure that our companion, our dog, can be a respected member of the community.

Test 1. Accepting a Friendly Stranger

Test 2. Sitting Politey for Petting

Test 3. Appearance & Grooming

Test 4. Out For a Walk (walk on a loose leash)

Test 5. Walking Through a Crowd

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

Test 7. Coming When Called

Test 8. Reaction to Another Dog

Test 9. Reactions to Distractions

Test 10. Supervised Separation



FASHIONS FOR GREYHOUNDS ON THE RUN!

AZALEA'S FASHION GIFT GUIDE

This is my first fashion gift guide. Below I have listed some of my favorite things that I have enjoyed the past year.



Diamonds Are A Girls' Best Friend! Here I am in my red diamond collar purchased at Bone Adventure. Mommy told me that they aren't real diamonds, but I think she said that so I wouldn't be conceited. A 'must have' for any time of the year!

Impress the "rellies" during their visits with your matching jacket and pillow combo. We made these ourselves by purchasing the fabric and pet pillows from Joann Fabrics. They're so easy to make. I hardly had to lift a paw.



"Precious, precious, precious!" is what you'll hear from everyone when you cuddle with your giggle toy. It is my favorite toy, and you'll like it even better once you tear off those pesky legs like I did! My toy came from Petco. This earns a 4 Paws Up!

Top Dog—Watch the neighborhood "dogs" crash and burn when they get caught in your jet wash as you do a low altitude flyby at MACH 5 in your fleece and leather bomber. It's coutier de grey.



Queen of the Nile— I'm striking a pose in my Egyptian collar crafted of metallic gold and purple leather reminiscent of the find gold collars worn by our royal Egyptian ancestors.

These last two items were custom made for me. If you are interested, have your humans contact my Mommy at:
nancyj@cptitle.com Ready, Set, Goooooo Shopping!





*Letters and Notes to
GPA/MN*



Other losses that touch our hearts...
Karin Miller's Goody has gone to the Rainbow bridge.

I'd like to make a donation in honor of my hound, **Jessie** for our one year anniversary!

Susan Starr

This donation is being sent in memory of **Gunner** who passed away September 1st, 2000. We would have celebrated our 7th anniversary together on December 10th. In lieu of birthday and Christmas gifts this year, I asked family members to make contributions in Gunner's memory. Gunner was adopted from St. Croix Meadows adoption program in December 1993. He moved to Colorado with me in August of 1995. He was diagnosed with osteosarcoma in August of 2000. He passed away the morning after his amputation, before I had a chance to bring him home.

I wouldn't have given up my time with Gunner for anything in the world. I hope this donation helps bring together other people with greyhounds to share the love and companionship we shared.

Best wishes, **Susan Brown**

This donation is from my mother, **B.J. Clarke**. She wanted to help restore funds we used for the research dogs.

Liz Hendricks

A Special Donation In Memory of **Casey**

Casey Kam, Sweet Boy, Happy Boy — How much love you gave us, how grateful we are that you graced our lives. How much we miss you, how much we will always love you. You and Sophie are in our hearts forever.

Mom, Dad, Waldo, and Molly (Walter & Martha Cleveland)

To honor the adoption day of **Cooley**. February 19, 1999. Two years of fun and counting!

Dee and Bob Heeschen

A special donation was made to celebrate **Beebe** and **Roni**. Two of our greyhound girls who are having birthdays in March. Roni is now 9 years old and Beebe is now 13. Both still going strong! How we love you both!

Bruce, Robin, Kim, all the hounds, the kitties and Sami -bird

Thanks so much for all the notes and donations. All are greatly appreciated.

Our most sincere and heart-felt sympathies to those of you who lost one of your most precious family members.

GPA/MN

If It Should Be

If it should be that I grow frail and weak
And pain prevents my peaceful sleep,
Then you must do what must be done
When this last battle can't be won.

You will be sad. I understand.
Selfishness may stay your hand,
But on this day, more than the rest,
Your love and friendship take the test.

We've had so many happy years
That's what's to come can hold no fears.
You'd not want me to suffer. So
When the time comes, please let me go.

Take me where my needs they'll tend.
Only.....stay with me until the end.
Hold me firm and speak to me
Until my eyes no longer see.

I know in time, you too will see
It is a kindness that you do for me.
Although my tail its last has waved,
From pain and suffering I've been saved.

Do not grieve it should be you
Who must decide this thing to do.
We've been so close, we two, these years...
Don't let your heart hold any tears.

Anonymous



Websites of interest....

Pet Laser Surgery: www.petlasers.com

Greyhound Cancer Study: www.renewdlife.org

Healthcare & Pet Drug ref. library: www.petplace.com



Greyhound Pets of America – Minnesota
P.O. Box 49183
Minneapolis, MN 55449

Phone 763-785-4000

Address Service Requested



Adopt a Fast Friend!

GREYHOUND PETS OF AMERICA - MN



**The 2001 GPA/MN
 Greyhound Festival
 Is coming!!!**

June 2nd (Saturday)

11 AM—4 PM.

Spooner Park

Little Canada, Minnesota

**If you can offer volunteer time
 or donations (cash or new items
 to sell or raffle) PLEASE let us
 know.**

**We need your help to make our
 yearly fundraiser and social
 gathering a success!**

763-785-4000

www.gpa.mn.org

Greyhound Pets of America/Minnesota would like to thank the following for their support and financial aid:

PetCos

in the Twin Cities Area and St. Cloud

Pet Expo

Mankato, MN

Softworks, Inc.

763-780-9731

The Brooklyn Park Animal Hosp.

763-566-6000

Maplewood Pet Care Clinic, P.A.

651-770-8373

Anoka West Animal Hospital

763-427-2220

Borders Book Stores

Office Depot



Alta Veterinary

612-285-6550

Chanhassen Vet Clinic

612-934-8862

Grove Square Pet Hospital

612-420-7958

Andover Pet Clinic

763-427-8045

The City of Blaine

Insty Prints – Spring Lake Park

Walmart

KARE TV

Next month: The Land O' Lakes Dog Show
More on GPA/MN's Yearly Greyhound Festival
Heartworm Season... and more!