



# Home Stretch



Newsletter of the Minnesota Chapter of Greyhound Pets of America

VOLUME 6 ISSUE 4

763-785-4000

[newsletter@gpa.mn](mailto:newsletter@gpa.mn)

JUNE 2001

## More Than An Angel

The young pup and the older dog lay on shaded sweet grass watching the reunions. Sometimes a man, sometimes a woman, sometimes a whole family would approach the Rainbow Bridge. They would meet their loving pets and would cross the Bridge together.

The young pup playfully nipped at the older one. "Look! Something is happening!" The older dog stood up and barked, "Quickly, get over to the path!"

"But, that's not my owner," whined the young pup, but he did as he was told. Thousands of pets surged forward as a figure dressed all in white approached the Bridge.

As the glowing figure passed each animal, that animal bowed its head in love and respect. The figure finally approached the bridge and was met by a menagerie of joyous animals.

Together, they all walked across the Bridge and disappeared.

The young pup was still in awe. "Was that an angel?" he whispered.

"No, son." the older dog replied. "That was more than an angel. That was a person who worked for rescue."



~Author Unknown~

## Perceptions of an Adoption Representative

Volunteering for our group as an Adoption Representative and as a foster home has been a great experience for me. I can remember when Doug and I were adopting our first greyhound. We were so excited, nervous, and most of all, anxious to actually get through the adoption process and bring our dog home. As an Adoption Rep, I see all of these same emotions in our new adopters. It is a wonderful feeling to help make a match between an adopter and their new dog.

Recently, my experience as an Adoption Rep. has been leaving me feeling a little discouraged. I have found myself having to call potential adopters again and again to tell them that we don't have any dogs and that I don't know when we will be getting more dogs. Adoptions that should take 2-3 weeks are now taking over 2-3 months because we don't have enough dogs to fill the applications. Part of this is due to all the commotion that has been going on at the track. However, a large part of our dog shortage is due to a lack of group members volunteering to open their homes to a foster dog.

The only way to keep our organization healthy and strong is to continue matching dogs with homes. I will not try to deceive you, fostering is a bit of work. However, there is nothing more rewarding than watching a dog come out of its shell and learn what retirement is all about. Then, when you meet the adopters who will be making your foster a permanent part of their home, you know that you have done something really special in getting your foster ready for their home.

Your fosters hold a special place in your heart forever. Each of our 6 fosters have been truly wonderful dogs. I have learned many new and fun things about greys through fostering. So I say thank you to each of these magnificent animals: Charlie, Hershey, Coto, Cappy, Ruby, and Brin (Fuzzy).

My plea as an Adoption Rep and a foster is for you to open your home to a foster dog, even if it is just 1 foster a year. We are relying more and more on the same families to foster over and over again. Please don't assume that we have plenty of volunteers who foster and that we don't need your help – WE NEED FOSTERS. Anne Cassens, our foster coordinator, and many of us who foster will be more than happy to answer any questions you may have about fostering.

Please consider becoming a very important link in connecting retired racers to their permanent homes. Your rewards will be seen in the wagging tails and the morning kisses of your foster hound and in the joyful smiles of a new greyhound family.

Sincerely,

Jen Rachac, GPA Volunteer



## ***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

### **Board members**

Anne Cassens	Shari Scott Gray
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Neil Kresal	Kathy Marr DVM
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Jen Rachac	Marty Reynolds
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Robin Schaper	Sarah Snavely
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### **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
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Bob Smith	Bruce Krautbauer
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Sylvia Kresal	Robin Krautbauer
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## **Greyhound Festival 2001**

THANK YOU to everyone who was such a big help yesterday!! I could not and would not organize the festival without all of the help that I received. I want to say a special thank you to Sylvia Kresal, Samantha Shine, Marty Reynolds and Bob Heeschen who came to my home this week and we got raffle baskets and boxes organized. Also the folks who arrived at my house yesterday bright and early at 6:30 am to get things to the park on time.

Marty Reynolds, Jen and Doug Rachac, Marcy Barger and of course my own family: Mark, Andrea, Julia, Cole and Sean. Everyone that arrived to the grounds early to help with all of the set up. I can't thank you all enough!! Robin and Bruce Krautbauer, Terri and Jason Petrin, Robin Schaper, Bob Heeschen, Samantha and Sylvia, Lyle and Karissa Eckert, Jim and Bev Martin with Tracy, (who came down from Canada for the festival and stayed to the end and helped with the clean up also!) I appreciate everyone that took a turn at the volunteer positions. Thank You too!! I hope that I didn't miss anyone - so many of you. I even had time to take a few breathers and take care of the baby Sean who took everything in stride. (there is a God, didn't know how he would do) The picnic committee who started this way back in February with me - you did a great job getting donations! Samantha Shine, Sylvia Kresal, Judy Dickerson, Bob Heeschen, Angela Ponder, Michelle Soshea- Stevens, Robin Krautbauer, and Jen Rachac. I hope that you all had a fun time! I loved to visit with you all and enjoyed seeing the hounds having fun. Especially those that ran Speed Alley. It was so much fun to watch.

*Teresa Ruohomaki*

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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

**GPA-MN**

**Newsletter@gpa.mn.org**

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 sometimes Duke),**

You've talked a lot about cats and what to do with them. Maybe you can explain how I accidentally "trained mine." She grooms me! It's great – though granted it's only a spot at a time! I figure if I can get a cat to groom me, as a group we greys ought to be able to take over the cat world. What do you think?

**Jodie** (not Jubilee – since she almost ate the cat, they barely speak!)

**Tilly:** Jodie! Run, do not walk, as fast and as far way from that cat as you can. **Jack:** Oh my doG, Tilly, do you think it's already too late? **Tilly:** I don't know, Jack, but we've got to try to save her. After all, she's a loyal GASSY girl and we owe it to her to try. Jodie, you didn't "train" the cat and she's not "grooming" you. She is trying to infuse you with her alien cat DNA! Didn't your mother teach you anything, girl? **Jack:** That's right, Tilly. The first thing my mother taught me was to avoid cat spit like the plague. Right after that she taught me to never miss a chance to pee in public. We men have to advertise, you know. **Tilly:** Advertise what, Jack. You lost your merchandise when you retired, if you recall.

**Duke:** Hey, no need to be mean, Tilly. Besides, you're straying from the issue. I remember back in '91 when a cat licked me while I was half asleep. After being infected, I felt like biting every human I came into contact with. Luckily, my superior self-control carried me through this dark period of my life. **Jack:** I just have one question for you, Jodie – can you say, "cat on a stick?"

**Dear Jack, Tilly and sometimes Duke,**

My name is Zoë. I am only 2 and had a very embarrassing racing career. I am looking forward to putting that all behind me in my new life. Since spring is finally here, I

am spending more time in the back yard. My mom is a great believer in digging in the dirt (she calls it gardening). She must not be very good at it, since so far I don't see any results. So I am trying to help out by digging too. It's fun and I thought maybe I could help my new family. However, every time I try, my Mom really pitches a fit! Aren't I supposed to find a way to be useful? **Zoë**

**Tilly:** Hi Zoë. You're not alone in your confusion. My mom also likes to "garden." I get yelled at too when I try my paws at it. I mean, it's not like there's much grass left in the yard with the three of us using it as a combination race track and toilet. What's the big deal with a little hole here and there? **Jack:** Well, Tilly, I used to dig too because it made a nice cool spot to lie down in. That was until Mom got me my own pool, which is much nicer (not to mention cleaner). It's a good thing she convinced that guy at the hardware store to deliver it. **Duke:** Spoiled, that's what you youngsters are, spoiled! I remember when I was your age, I had to make do with a mud puddle to cool off in. Kids!!!

**Dear Jack, Tilly and sometimes Duke,**

Well – in the last few months I've really started to see things as my very own around here. It has taken me awhile to come around and I can see that I haven't taken full advantage of my home situation. I should have long ago and now I have some catching up to do! There is another cutie living here that I have recently been trying to get to know \*just\* a little better... if you know what I mean! However, my humans just won't let this 'thang' happen. I mean, heck, Spring has Sprung ... doesn't matter how young or old you are, time to get it goin' on! My problem is how to cut my humans out of the act between me and this cutie I have my sights set on! (After all, I \*am\* a \*sight\* hound!)

Zero to 30 in less than 3 strides,

**Shassy** (ma Lassie)

**Tilly:** I only have one thing to say to you Shassy – you are a sight hound – that means "look, don't touch!" Besides, I don't know how to break it to you, but you're missing some essential equipment. If you don't know what I mean, talk to Jack and Duke the next time you see them.

**Keep those letters coming!**

*Tilly, Jack and Duke*

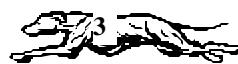
**Send letters to:**

**Tilly and Jack**

**5401 James Avenue So., Minneapolis, MN 55419**

**Or E-mail:**

**jackandtilly@gpa.mn.org**



## Heisman's Alien Encounter

By Therese Skinner

Well, it's been almost 4 months now and Heisman is starting to \*protect\* his family. He's a bumbly, goofy boy but oh so lovable and Hilariously funny! Last night he growled ferociously and pawed at a teeny tiny ant because it had invaded his territory..... now this.....

This evening was still a slightly humid evening but ok to walk a short distance for some exercise. We got to our turning point to come back home and it started..... the fierce protector Heisman was called to duty.

I had Heisman on lead. He likes to walk a bit out in front but not pulling at the lead. Adrienne had Jackie on lead next to her. Everything was fine until..... something moved in the shadows of the evening. Was it a cat? no.... Was it a bunny? no..... it moved again and this time it crossed paths with Heisman! Now folks - you have to picture this one in your mind, ok? I weigh around 100 lbs. Heisman weighs a good 80+ lbs and could pull me around like a rag doll if he wanted to. But instead of pulling me, he stopped with ears alert. His eyes fixated and the stare started. okay..... now what do I do? My eye sight is not all that good to begin with and I had no idea what this moving thing was! I couldn't see it! Then it happened..... Heisman frantically did a complete turn in the air and then tried to pounce on the moving object but missed! Luckily, I now know enough about greys on lead to react quickly. Down I went and grabbed Heisman's collar loop commanding him with a firm no! Heisman is still fixated on this moving object.

Finally, the moving object slightly moved into the light of the streetlight that just came on and I could see the outline of its shadow. It looked like a rock just as still as could be. I guess it decided that it had all it could take from a fixated, drooling, whimpering grey and took a stance against Heisman! The next thing I knew was I had an 80 lbs black alpha grey almost on top of me because his nose got attacked by the moving object! Heisman about jumped out of his skin! When I caught a good glimpse of this \*thing\* I about died laughing! Heisman had encountered a TOAD on the sidewalk! After attacking Heisman's nose it hopped off toward the grassy area with Heisman looking at me with those goofy eyes of his as if to say "Mom! What was THAT THING? I tried to protect you but it got my nose!"

We finished our evening walk without any other \*alien encounters\* and when we arrived back home, Heisman's nose was inspected (no sign of injury - only insult.) I wiped off all traces of \*TOAD GERMS\* so Heisman would feel more comfortable.

Hopefully, Heisman will sleep like a baby tonight.....

## Important

### **Upcoming Dates to Remember!!!**

#### **June 30th—Saturday**

#### **Taste of Minnesota**

Joining Petco in their booth from 11– 3 PM. Petco's booth will focus on pet adoptions and their commitment to adoption groups. Please contact Kevin Kocur for further information at (763) 566-0243.

#### **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.

Or E-mail:

[SisterTex@softworksinc.net](mailto:SisterTex@softworksinc.net)

#### **October 27th**

#### **Anoka Halloween Parade**

Line up at Noon. Parade begins at 1 PM. Tailgating follows w/ goody give away. Contact Robin Krautbauer for further information. 763 780-4748

Or E-mail:

[SisterTex@softworksinc.net](mailto:SisterTex@softworksinc.net)

## A Senior Moment....

### The Golden Years

Even though your dog may be considered a canine senior citizen, you wouldn't necessarily know it to look at him. Dogs slip into the golden years at anywhere from 5 to 9 years of age. Generally, the life span for a greyhound is between 12 to 14 years.

With aging comes a slowing metabolism, which often means fewer of those long wrestling and fetching sessions. This, coupled with your dog's tendency to store fat, may produce a pudgy pooch, so ...

- Ask your vet to help you choose the right food.
- Change his food to a higher-fiber, fat- and calorie-reduced "senior" formulation (high-protein foods may help your dog maintain his lean body mass).
- Your vet can also help you keep track of any changes in your dog's weight, which may signal an illness.
- Another way to keep your dog fit is to avoid letting his daily exercise slide, no matter how content he seems to be watching the world from the front window.
- Slow down your pace and shorten your walks, if need be, but don't forgo activity altogether.

To help your dog get his stiff, arthritic joints moving each morning spend a few minutes gently messaging his joints. If you're short on time, you might consider focusing on his ears and feet to give him a jump-start to a pain-free day. According to practitioners of dog acupuncture and massage, the ears and feet contain all the energy paths for the entire body (although such pats are scientifically unproven). As an added bonus, when you're massaging your dog, you'll be likely to notice any lumps, bumps, and skin and coat changes, all of which should be reported to your vet. Softer bedding and vet-approved vitamins might also soothe creaky joints.

A little compromise is to be expected. If you notice that your dog is having trouble hopping up onto his favorite couch, either teach him to stay down, place a stool nearby to help him hoist himself up or provide a soft pillow for him to lie on. Loading your older dog into the car can also become a problem. If he can't jump into the back of a high minivan, or even hop into the back seat of a car, use a strong plank of wood with a non-slip surface as a ramp to help him walk with dignity into his favorite cruising seat. Elevating his food dish to chest-height is an especially good idea with an older dog, since bending only contributes to more pain and neck-strain problems. Do all that you can to ensure that his comfortable daily routine doesn't change too much. Dogs don't like to veer too far off their familiar course.

That distinguished gray beard and his salt-and-pepper coat are other signs that your dog is getting along in years. However, don't let the gray fool you into thinking that he doesn't need as much grooming as he used to. Brush and clean him as always, using a more delicate touch if necessary. In addition, don't chalk up consistently bad breath to the normal aging woes. It may be a sign of illnesses such as liver disease, chronic indigestion or stomach ulcers. Chronic halitosis can also be caused by periodontal disease, which can, itself, lead to other health problems, including heart, lung and kidney disease. Keep up with your dog's dental and gum-care routine and report consistent or recurring breath problems to your vet. As always, check your dog's ears, eyes, nose, coat and full body, keeping alert for any changes that may signal illness.

### OLD DOG IN A LOCKET

(Author unknown)

Old dog in a locket  
 That lies next to my heart  
 I will always love you  
 As I did right from the start.  
 You were right beside me  
 Through the darkest of my days  
 It was your kind and gentle nature  
 That made me want to stay.  
 Now I hold you in my arms  
 Your breath still warm against my hand  
 Our hearts still beat together  
 And I wonder if you understand.  
 Through the hours that I held you  
 Before the light did leave your soul  
 I knew a way to keep you  
 Forever in my hold.  
 I snipped the hair from around your eyes  
 So I would always see  
 The beauty that surrounds me  
 Even in times of need.  
 I snipped the hair from around your ears  
 So I would always hear  
 Music in the distance  
 To quiet any fears.  
 I snipped the hair from across your back  
 To bring me strength in time of need  
 And the power of your essence  
 Would always be with me.  
 I snipped the hair from around your heart  
 That beat in time with mine  
 So I would know that love would find me  
 At some distant time.

2001 GREYHOUND  
 FESTIVAL COVERAGE  
 WILL BE IN THE  
 JULY 2001 ISSUE OF  
 HOMESTRETCH!



## Meet & Greet Calendar

(phone 763-785-4000 ext. 4)

### Petco—Coon Rapids - Sandy & Alyssa

July 15 Sunday 12 - 3 PM

August 18 Saturday 12 - 3 PM

### Petco—Eden Prairie - Nancy & Brittany

July 15 Sunday 12 - 3 PM

### Petco Central (Fridley) - Bruce & Robin

July 21 Saturday 12 - 3 PM

### Petco Highland (St. Paul) - The VanTassel Family

July 14 Saturday 1 - 4 PM

August 11 Saturday 1 - 3 PM

### Pet Expo, Mankato - Nancy & Bryan R.

July 15 Sunday 1 - 4 PM

### Petco St Cloud- Kate & Pat

July 14 Saturday 11 - 1 PM

August 11 Saturday 11 - 1 PM

### Petco Richfield - Neil & Sylvia

July 21 Saturday 1 - 4 PM

August 18 Saturday 1 - 4 PM

### Petco Ridgedale (Minnetonka) - Karen

July 22 Sunday 1:00 - 3:30 PM

### Petco – St. Cloud - Kate & Pat

July 14 Saturday 11 - 1 PM

### Petco – West St. Paul -

Brian, Marty, Lisa, & David

July 14 Saturday 11 - 2 PM

August 11 Saturday 11 - 2 PM

### Borders Book Shop - Calhoun Square

July 14 Saturday 12 - 3 PM

August 11 Saturday 12 - 3 PM

## Meet Kid!



We adopted Kid from GPA MN on June 6th, 1999, just five days after his third birthday. His racing name is LP's Hayriverkid, we shortened it up a bit!

Kid loves to romp in the snow and run to his hearts content! He also loves to play tug-of-war with his soft fur ball and the occasional squeak from inside the ball is always a good thing. He also likes to go to meet other Greys at Petco Meets and Greets and go on the Sunday walks that GPA-MN has set up.

Another favorite thing of his is to lie on a pile of clothes that is waiting to get washed. Mmmmm comfy...besides anything that touches the floor he thinks he owns...finders keepers???

Our Grey has become a great companion to my husband and I, and as you can see by the pictures, he likes to travel with us. He stayed with us in a Hotel 8 in Cloquet, Minnesota ,35 minutes from Duluth (they were very accommodating!).

He has learned to love people too. During Christmas he met the in-laws and had the best time ever getting lots of rubs and doggy treats. Kid met Santa Claus this year also.

I hope everyone enjoys and loves their Greys as **much** as we do...

***Kid was adopted by Bob and Angela Ponder and is now a greyt ambassador .***



Please come  
join in the fun!



# Turbo Spud By K. Parkhurst

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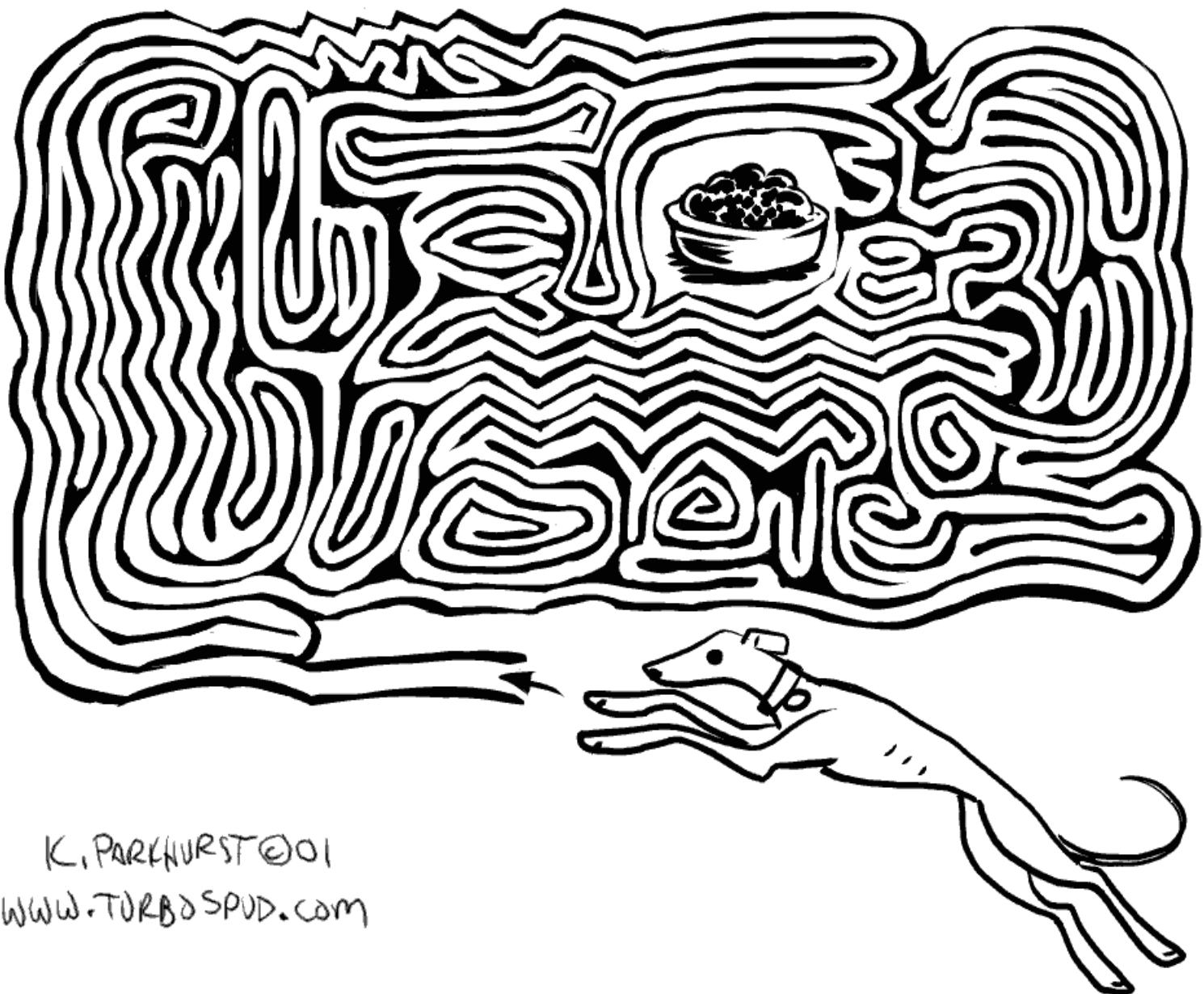
Spud is based on a real live dog but his real live name is Trooper. His racing name was W.R.'s Z-Sam. He uses 'Spud' as his online handle to mack on hotties in the Saluki chat rooms.

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

K. Parkhurst



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



K. PARKHURST ©01  
[www.TURBOSPUD.com](http://www.TURBOSPUD.com)



**Heaven....** A man and his dog were walking along a road.

The man was enjoying the scenery, when it suddenly occurred to him that he was dead. He remembered dying, and that the dog had been dead for years. He wondered where the road was leading them.

After a while, they came to a high, white stone wall along one side of the road. It looked like fine marble. At the top of a long hill, it was broken by a tall arch that glowed in the sunlight. When he was standing before it, he saw a magnificent gate in the arch that looked like mother of pearl, and the street that led to the gate looked like pure gold. He and the dog walked toward the gate, and as he got closer, he saw a man at a desk to one side. When he was close enough, he called out, "Excuse me, where are we?"

"This is Heaven, sir," the man answered.

"Wow! Would you happen to have some water?" the man asked.

"Of course, sir. Come right in, and I'll have some ice water brought right up." The man gestured, and the gate began to open.

"Can my friend," gesturing toward his dog, "come in, too?" the traveler asked.

"I'm sorry, sir, but we don't accept pets."

The man thought a moment and then turned back toward the road and continued the way he had been going. After another long walk, and at the top of another long hill, he came to a dirt road which led through a farm gate that looked as if it had never been closed. There was no fence. As he approached the gate, he saw a man inside, leaning against a tree and reading a book. "Excuse me!" he called to the reader. "Do you have any water?"

"Yeah, sure, there's a pump over there" The man pointed to a place that couldn't be seen from outside the gate. "Come on in."

"How about my friend here?" the traveler gestured to the dog.

"There should be a bowl by the pump."

They went through the gate, and sure enough, there was an old fashioned hand pump with a bowl beside it. The traveler filled the bowl and took a long drink himself, then he gave some to the dog.

When they were full, he and the dog walked back toward the man who was standing by the tree waiting for them.

"What do you call this place?" the traveler asked.

"This is Heaven," was the answer.

"Well, that's confusing," the traveler said. "The man down the road said that was Heaven, too."

"Oh, you mean the place with the gold street and pearly gates? Nope. That's Hell."

"Doesn't it make you mad for them to use your name like that?"

"No. I can see how you might think so, but we're just happy that they screen out the folks who'll leave their best friends behind."



## How To Make A Sighthound Cake

by Jennifer Boswell

Start with four ingenious Greyhounds

Add one super genius Greyhound who can open the fridge to get yogurt, and now the pantry doors.....

Have one full pantry, and mix with several boxes of cake mix, pancake mix, flour and brown sugar.

Now add one poor Borzoi who has previously been coated in pancake syrup at 3am....

Start by dragging the newly found boxes into your mommies bedroom and opening them. Then discover that this is not the best place to do so, instead, do it over the big 'furry Greyhound' (aka Misha Moose the Borzoi). Once said Borzoi is covered in the tasty flour, shake head to get as much out of the box as possible. Drop box, and fight with sibling to get the next box. Take second box and run around the house looking for Borzoi. Repeat step one. Look at Borzoi funny as he is now a brown, yellow and white furry Greyhound. Find bag of flour. Open on top of mommies bed, shake head and kill said bag of flour!!!!

Upon hearing the front door open, grab bag of flour, 'hide' it in your mouth, and RUN for your crate!!!! Look innocent as you (a certain BLACK Greyhound named DYNASTY) run past your mommy with a bag hanging out of your mouth. Don't worry, she'll never notice that your now black and white!!!

Perfect the 'innocent eyes' as mommy laughs at you and cries at the mess.

Never a dull moment in this house.....

## Adoptions

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

**Jet to Terry and Terry Ferrozzo on 4-30-01**

**Polar to Andrea and Dale Thorstad on 5-2-01**

**Thunder to Howard Austin on 5-15-01**

**Ruddy to Alycia Novotny on 5-24-01**

**Holly to Tom and Sarah Ramirez on 5-24-01**

**Eloise to Michelle Grannes on 5-26-01**

**Jake to Kate Douglass on 5-27-01**

**Icee to Kate O'Connor on 5-31-01**



Clip Art by Kim Parkhurst



## Daphne Mae Explains It All By Daphne

Mom was willing to take a vacation, but Niles & I decided we had plenty to say---after all, we rarely bark and only get to write once a month!

Since Mom couldn't find the article she wrote on Grey Fest 2001, we will be revisiting nicknames and terms of endearment again. This territory is once again an issue due to the addition of my brother, Niles. Mom often refers to us as the "poop monsters," a term she five-paw discounted (that means she stole it) from Aunt Susan. She sometimes calls us her "schnoodle dogs" (because of our long elegant noses)...Niles is "schnoodle-boy" and I am "schnoodle-girl."

While we are on the subject of Niles (that dufus!), I am going to let him tell how Mom embarrasses him by calling him the most sickly sweet things (gag me with a pitchfork!).

**(Niles pipes in)**...Mom has this annoying habit of referring to me as her "NI-NI", and by a Russian term her grandma called her brother "boychick"...I am indeed a boy but I am NOT a chick! Heck, I'm not even yellow (ok, so I AM a bit TIMID). Of all the things Mom calls me I dislike Niley Coyote the worst--after that dumb cartoon--I mean grow up, Mom. And then theres what she calls my sister...Nippasaurus--don't even ask! Of all the things Mom calls me I have to admit I like it the best when she calls me Snarflie or Snarfleopolis because that has to do with the way I mow down any sort of food I can get my paws on. Mom is right I sure do enjoy snarfing food--especially hot dogs and white bread. I bet I eat three loaves a week! This writing is tiring I will get Daph to finish!

**(Daphne rises from the couch to stick her two biscuits in!)** Mom has taken to calling me schnoodie-dooey and Daphne Doodle--from our neighbor, who got her started. Her old favorites, Spoodie and Nippasaurus still stick and she also likes referring to me as Sugartush and STD (meaning Striped Tuchas Dog!)--that last one sure turns heads but I can't understand WHY? She refers to me as her Puddin'Schnoot (ever want to dig a hole & crawl into it?) and it just gets my collar in a knot! But I have said it before and I'll say it again...I don't care so much what she calls me as long as there is food and a couch (or the big side of a bed) in it for me. Mom is still pretty swell to live with. We got t-bone steaks on our birthdays (mine was May 24th and Niles had his on June 6th) with delicious mushrooms and the birthday dog got a juicy bone and a peanut butter bische (we had to share that with some of our buds because Mom said it was way too big for just us!). Guess the moral of the story is call us whatever you want, just keep the bowl full!

Daphne (with some help from Niles & Samantha Shine).

The author – Daphne!

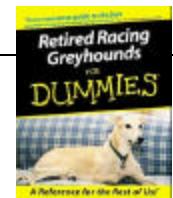


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Kathleen & Gil Gilley, Honorary Life Members  
Dancing Greyhounds:  
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## Greyhound Sitting!!



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!

Radar to Tannis Boucher

Filly to Carol Jillian & Jackie Dubbe

Woody to Shelley and Andrew Baron

Kye to Kim Strandland

Zippy to Katherine Kelly

Yugo to Margaret Weiss



Clip art  
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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.

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Huge thanks to Petco for all of their help and support!

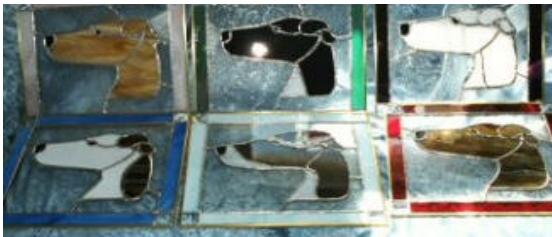


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*YOU are the Heart and Soul of GPA-MN!*

*Thank YOU, Volunteers!*

Robyn Abear	Sandra Jammer	Cole Ruohomaki	<b>Thanks to all of the Foster folks.</b>
Steve Abear	Linda Jones	Sean Ruohomaki	<b>Thanks to all who have been involved in the Coats for Hounds program.</b>
Luana Ball	Mike Jones	Dean Rush	<b>Thanks to all who are involved through our Buddy program.</b>
Marcy Barger	Carol Jillian	Jan Rush	<b>Thanks to all who volunteered their time to make our annual Greyhound Festival a success!</b>
Mike Barger	Nancy Jones	Bob Schaper	<b>Thanks to all of the folks who help out with our Meets &amp; Greets. Thanks to all who staff and attend our special events!</b>
Mary Bauer	Cullen Keily	Robin Schaper	<b>Thanks to all who worked with the Bake Sale this year!</b>
Cheri Bravo	Sharon Kelly	Mark Schmit	<b>Thanks to all who do the gift wrapping at Barnes &amp; Nobles to profit the hounds!</b>
John Brunner	Tom Kelly	Wally Schwab	<b>Many thanks to the veterinarians and their staff that commit their time and resources to help the hounds.</b>
Jodi Brunner	Lori Kjesseth	Steve Sedesky	<b>Many thanks to the folks at all the Petcos who make us feel welcome. Also thanks to the folks at PetExpo in Mankato!</b>
Anne Cassens	Kevin Kocur	Jeanne Sedesky	<b>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. <i>Thank YOU GPA-MN Volunteers!</i></b>
Cort Cassens	Bruce Krautbauer	Ben Sedesky	
Justin Cassens	Robin Krautbauer	Samantha Shine	
Alyssa Cassens	Kim Krautbauer	Brian Short	
Marion Chow	Neil Kresal	Bob Skrentner	
Martha Cleveland	Sylvia Kresal	Bob Smith	
Walter Cleveland	Garland Lundquist	Ann Smith	
Chuck Collins	David Lundquist	Susan Starr	
Sue Collins	Kathy Marr	Mark Stevens	
Dawn Courtney	Pat Murphy	Michelle Stevens	
Richard Courtney	Becca Nelson	Sarah Snavely	
Judy Dickerson	Greta Palmberg	The VanTassel s	
Kate Douglass	Todd Palmberg	Jill Walser	
Mike Douglass	Kim Parkhurst	Susan Wevley	
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Ryan Gray	Jen Rachac		
Debbie Greenstone	Doug Rachac		
Sue Gunwall	Dena Rassmussen		
Bob Heeschens	Marty Reynolds		
Dee Heeschens	Bryan Rittenhouse		
Dave Heller	Nancy Rittenhouse		
Lisa Heller	Mark Ruohomaki		
Liz Hendricks	Teresa Ruohomaki		
Greg Hendricks	Julia Ruohomaki		
Karen Hoyle	Andrea Ruohomaki		

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*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!*



## Canine heartworm disease

Canine Heartworm Disease is not a new problem. It is a preventable problem that has been around for several decades killing thousands of dogs every year.

Heartworms are caused by mosquitoes, which have previously bitten an infected dog or cat. When the mosquito bites and infected animal, a small amount of blood is taken. Within this blood are tiny, microscopic, immature heartworm larvae. When this mosquito bites another animal, the larvae are mixed injected into a new dog's tissue. They then migrate to the blood stream where they will continue to develop over the next six months.

Adult heartworms lodge in the right side of the heart disrupting the efficiency of the heart itself. Each individual adult heartworm can be up to 18 inches long taking up space that normally is filled with blood. The heart in turn, has to pump harder to push the same amount of blood through the body. Depending on the size of the heart, there can be as many as 100 heartworms lodged in the heart causing permanent damage to both the heart itself and the lungs, until death occurs. In fact, damage can occur with as only one adult heartworm inhabiting the heart.

Symptoms of heartworm disease in dogs are vomiting, difficulty in breathing, coughing, lethargy, murmurs, and heart failure. It can also cause swelling of the abdomen or extremities, and sudden death.

Regardless of popular belief, indoor dogs CAN become infected with the disease. Another misconception is that heartworms only occur in the southern part of the United States. The simple fact is, heartworm disease has become a prevalent problem in all 50 states.

Canine heartworm disease is easy to diagnose. A blood sample is drawn from the patient and results of tests can be had within minutes. Sometimes, a drop of blood is placed on a slide, covered with a cover slip and checked under a microscope. If the dog has a heavy infestation, micro-filaria (baby heartworms) are often present. They appear looking like hundreds of tiny worms moving all over the field of vision.

Another way to check is using a Difil test. This involves mixing the blood with a special solution. It is then pushed through a special filter screen that a purple dye is added to later. This is then looked at through a microscope and the worms appear to be strands of hair caught by the screen.

Both of these tests check for micro-filaria. Sometimes, there are none present and the animal can still have heartworms. Then it is time for a test that checks for heartworm antigens. The blood is mixed with solutions then placed into a test device. This device works similar to a home pregnancy test. It is sensitive enough to pick up antigens even if only a couple heartworms are in the heart.

Lack of micro-filaria can be from different reasons. The most common is that the adults haven't been in the heart long enough to make the babies. Another reason can be the sex of the worms involved. As with almost any other living thing, male and females are required for reproduction. It isn't unheard of for all the inhabiting worms to be one or the other. Regardless of the reason, treatment is necessary to prevent physiological damage to the dog.

Treatment involves an extensive battery of blood tests. It is very stressful for the dog so tests are done to check the heart, liver and kidney functions to give the veterinarian an idea of the chances of survival.

Treatment is not a guaranteed thing. Although rare, death of the patient can occur.

When the treatment is commenced, the dog is hospitalized for at least three days. During this time, injections are given on a daily basis to kill the adult heartworms. The injections are formulated to do this over an extended period of time so all the worms won't die at once and plug the heart. The adult heartworms die, pass from the heart to the lungs where they dissolve over several weeks.

Three weeks after the in-hospital treatment, the dog comes back in to receive an oral dose of the drug Ivermectin. This drug is used to kill the micro-filaria. Many veterinarians will want another follow up in two more weeks to run tests making sure all the adults and micro-filaria are gone. If they are, preventative medication is then prescribed and a schedule of a once a month dosage is implemented to insure the dog a longer, healthier life.



## Summer Weather and Your Hound

As the cooler spring weather gives way to the hot summer months, you'll be spending more time outside with your dog, walking and playing in the sunshine. But while you are having fun, you will need to keep your dog cool to protect him from heat-related illness and injury.

**Sunburn** — Most people don't think about their pets getting sunburned but they certainly can. White and lightly colored pets can suffer sunburn just as we can if they experience too much exposure to the sun. Long-term sun exposure can lead to skin damage and in some cases skin cancers. Limit the amount of time your fair-haired pets stay in direct sunlight. Even basking in a sunny window counts as time in the sun. If any type of discoloration or sore appears, consult your veterinarian for a check-up. Areas that are commonly affected are the ears, eyelids and nose.

**Heat Injury** — Heat injury occurs when a dog's body temperature exceeds his ability to cool himself. Unlike people, your dog's normal body temperature ranges between 100 and 102.5 degrees Fahrenheit. When body temperature elevates above 106 F, normal cooling mechanisms are overwhelmed, which results in a serious condition requiring intervention and medical treatment. This type of temperature elevation is different from a fever, which is a normal response to inflammation or infection. The severity of the heat injury can range from a mild/moderate temperature increase called heat stress/ prostration (103 to 105 F) to a potentially life threatening condition referred to as heat stroke (106 F and higher). Heat stress can happen quite rapidly, sometimes only in a few minutes, especially in dogs that live primarily indoors. Even pets that live or spend a lot of time outside can succumb to the heat if their cooling mechanisms are exceeded by weather extremes.

**Preventing Heat Stroke** — In the heat of midday, keep your dog indoors in either air conditioning or in a well-ventilated area with circulating fans. If you have a pet that enjoys water, keeping a small pool of water outside provides a fun and cooling environment. Be sure there is just enough water to play in, the water depth should not come over your dog's head. If a pool is not available, a spray from a hose will help. To get your dog used to the hose, start by trickling a small amount of water on the feet and gently move up until your pet gets used to the water. Never blast water at a dog who is not used to the hose.

**Limit Exercise Time** — Even if your dog accompanies you everyday on a walk or jog, certain weather extremes may call for some changes. Limit vigorous exercise to early morning and after sunset or eliminate long walks/jogs until the weather cools. Also remember that dogs can burn the pads of their feet on hot pavement. Don't forget that any dog left outside in summer weather needs shade, shelter, food and fresh water.

### Never leave your dog in a car.

Your car can reach 120 F in minutes, even on a cool day and exceed your dog's cooling capacity. In the event of a heat emergency, cool your dog with tepid water; **do not use cold water**. A fan will help to cool and circulate air. Call your veterinarian immediately, even if your pet seems to have recovered.

Be aware that the outside temperature may actually be warmer than what the thermometer reads. The heat index, a measure of the temperature and relative humidity, makes it more difficult for a body to cool down by perspiration. A temperature of 85 F can actually feel closer to 100 F (or higher) depending on the index.



## SUMMER TRAVEL TIPS

If you plan on taking your dog or cat along on vacation, that weekend get-away or other summer traveling, here are a few things to remember:

- **Bring food and water from home.** The last thing you want is digestive problems when you're on the road. You may bring your pet's regular dishes, or there are convenient travel dishes available.
- **Call ahead.** Many places (including campgrounds) do not allow pets. Make sure it's OK to bring your pet before you leave. There are several books on the market which contain a state-by-state listing of hotels, motels, and inns that welcome pets.
- **Make sure your pet's nametag is up-to-date and readable.**
- **Pack a lead.** Attach the lead before you open the door for your pet's safety.
- **Don't forget your pet's favorite toys.**
- **Pack a first aid kit for your pet.** It's always a good idea to have one handy, just in case.
- **Cover the seats.** A shedding pet will change the appearance of your car seats forever. Hair is tough to get out. Car seat covers are an excellent investment if you want to retain the value of your vehicle and keep it looking clean.
- **Provide plenty of exercise before you leave.**
- **Stop often** on long trips to allow pets to relieve themselves.
- **Clean up after your pet** to keep the great outdoors great, and out of consideration for others.
- **Travel on an empty stomach.** Car sickness is more likely if your pet has a full stomach. If the trip is long, feed a smaller amount than normal at least two hours before you leave.
- **NEVER LEAVE YOUR PET IN A HOT CAR** even if you park in the shade. Pets are unable to control body temperature as efficiently as humans and just a few minutes in a hot car could cause irreversible damage or death.

## Keep Your Pet Sober

With so much alcohol around during summer celebrations do you have to worry about your dog getting drunk? Liquor is not usually a beverage your dog would choose to drink, but he can develop a taste for it. Several ounces of liquor in a small dog can be deadly. So even if you imbibe, keep your pet sober.



Thank You!

Thank You!



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The Petco Stores in Minnesota have supported our organization in ‘EVERY’ way possible. Their help financially through their various fundraising efforts has been invaluable to our organization.

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**GPA-MN THANKS THE PETCO STORES A THOUSAND TIMES OVER!**



*Our Greyhound Guardian Angels!*



## Hound Horoscopes by Laura Gerking



**March 21 - April 20** Sounds of scratching will wake you from your sleep a few times this month. It is a good idea to investigate these sounds or alert somebody to help you investigate them, as it may be that something in your home will require repair or human care. Mondays look to be your best days!

**February 19 - March 20** A new friend will play a major role in the month ahead for you. You will find that you are enjoying the added attention a great deal! Tuesdays threaten to be a little bumpy for you socially, and it may be a good day to enjoy by yourself. Friday are your best days this month!

**January 21 - February 18** This is a great time for adventure in your life! All month long you will find opportunities for fun and adventure popping up in front of you! Cut loose and enjoy the fun when you see a chance! Your best days come on Sundays and Mondays this month.

**December 22 - January 20** You are feeling more confused than usual this month as some odd events seem to be happening around your home now. It is really a strange time in your life as the world just seems to feel different to you right now. Not bad -just a little odd. You will feel like your normal self again by month's end and your weekends look very good!

**November 23 - December 21** Something that you had all but given up on ever finding again will resurface! A lost toy or blanket or other article with sentimental attachment will be recovered after a long absence. Tuesdays and Fridays look to be great days for you!

**October 24 - November 22** An old enemy or rival will resurface on the scene this month to make you feel a little uneasy. Try to shrug off those feelings of jealousy - you have nothing to be jealous about. Thursdays looks to be your best days this month.

**September 23 - October 21** Music and loud sounds will play a significant role in the month ahead. Maybe you are more sensitive now, but these noises will bother you more than they usually do. Your best days come on Saturdays.

**August 24 - September 22** This month is an excellent time for trying new treats! You should be very lucky this month and if you like to snack, there will be many interesting opportunities now. Keep an eye out for visitors on Sundays!

**July 23 - August 21** Wiggles! All month long you will feel a burst of energy that just makes you want to wiggle, squirm, dance, run or roll around on the floor! Lucky you! All that energy shouldn't go to waste, so see if you can convince somebody to play with you or join you in some exercise. Your best days come on Tuesdays.

**June 22 - July 21** This is a good time for you to make changes in your daily routine. Changes in your family's schedule or just changes in the weather may mean that you will want to make some changes to your own schedule. It just makes good sense. Mondays bring adventure for you this month & for some of you - Fridays bring romance.

**May 22 - June 21** An unfortunate accident around the house may land you in some hot water. Be extra careful about tipping things over or knocking them from high places for the month ahead. You can expect lots of fun in the evening hours on Wednesdays and Fridays!

**April 21 - May 21** This week is a month for pairs! You will find that good things happen in doubles for you now! The unfortunate thing is that bad things will also tend to double-team you as well. This trend should end by month's end and the end of your month looks to be restful and very enjoyable



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## ***Adopt a Fast Friend!***

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#### ***One By One We Can Make a Difference***

##### **'The Starfish' (author unknown)**

There was a man who lived along the ocean. One morning, he decided to take a walk along the beach. It was a foggy morning, and the first rays of the sun were slipping above the horizon. The man enjoyed the walk; it was as if the beach belonged to him. He glanced down on the beach and saw a figure that seemed to be dancing. He wondered why anyone would be on the beach so early; his curiosity caused him to quicken his pace. As he drew nearer, he realized that the figure was that of a young man, and he wasn't dancing --- he was throwing something into the water. As he drew very close, he realized that the young man was picking starfish off the beach and was tossing them back into the water. "Why are you throwing starfish into the water?" "The tide is going out, the sun is rising, and the starfish that are left on the beach will surely die." said the young man, continuing on his task.

"But that's such a waste of time and energy! There are so many starfish, and there are miles and miles of beach. What difference does it make?"

The young man thought for a moment. He reached down to pick up a starfish and said, "It makes a difference . . . to this one."



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

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