



The Home Stretch

February—March 2007

Volume 12, Issue 2

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Upcoming Events

Women's Expo:

Saturday, March 31st & Sunday, April 1st at St. Paul RiverCentre:
*contact Chris King to volunteer
 CLKING2130@aol.com*

2nd Annual Hastings Pet Expo:

Saturday, April 21st: *contact Chris King to volunteer
 CLKING2130@aol.com*

Lupient Chevrolet of Bloomington—M&G:

Saturday, April 28th 12-3 1601 Southtown Drive Food, Fun, Drawings & Greyhounds

Special Chuck & Don's M&G:

Saturday, May 5th 11-2 Chuck & Don's in Dundas Meet & Greet

GREYFEST:

Saturday, June 2nd

Egan Funfest & Parade:

Wednesday, July 4th

Holiday Hero: Sparky

Mary Kildahl

Christmas Day was lovely! We have had a wonderful day, and Santa had left gifts for everyone. After a home cooked supper, we went to bed early because we had school and work the next day.

Around 1:55am, Sparky came into our bedroom and stuck his cold, wet nose on my leg. Of course, that could have caused another problem, but good bladder muscles help. I told Sparky that it was too early for him to go out and to lie down, and he did right by my side of the bed.

Now even five minutes later, he woke me again. This time, I could hear a faint beeping noise, and thought my daughter's alarm clock was going off. I got up to check it out. When I got into the living room, I could smell what smelled like a candle had been blown out. But no candles were burning in our apartment, so I went to our front door and opened it. To my surprise, there was a wall of smoke in the hallway. I shut the door, woke up Joel and Holly, got everyone to put on pants, socks, shoes, and coats, and out the door we went.

We were not able to move back into our apartment until three days later. I believe in my heart that if it had not been for Sparky and his determination to wake me up, we may not have woken up and got out when we did.

He is an amazing dog and our GREYT HERO! Mary, Joel, and their daughter Holly, host the Apple Valley Meet & Greet the 3rd Sunday of the month. Come meet the hero and his family!

Thank You Duane Atter & The Warren

Susan Spiller

GPA-MN thanks Duane Atter and The Warren for contributing the space and many pieces of your own art to GPA's first Craft and Art Sale. Duane is the Managing Director of The Warren which is located at the intersection of Penn Avenue and 44th Avenue in North Minneapolis. Duane's mission for The Warren – An Artist Habitat is to be part of the community it resides in, and to provide exhibition opportunities, networking, hangout space, performance space and a meeting space for artists.

The Warren is a place where art and community come together with the hope of enriching each other. Currently in the small retail space, Duane, a nature and

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The Home Stretch

GPA—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 the various tracks throughout the country. We also take great pride in educating the public that retired racers make excellent, loving pets.

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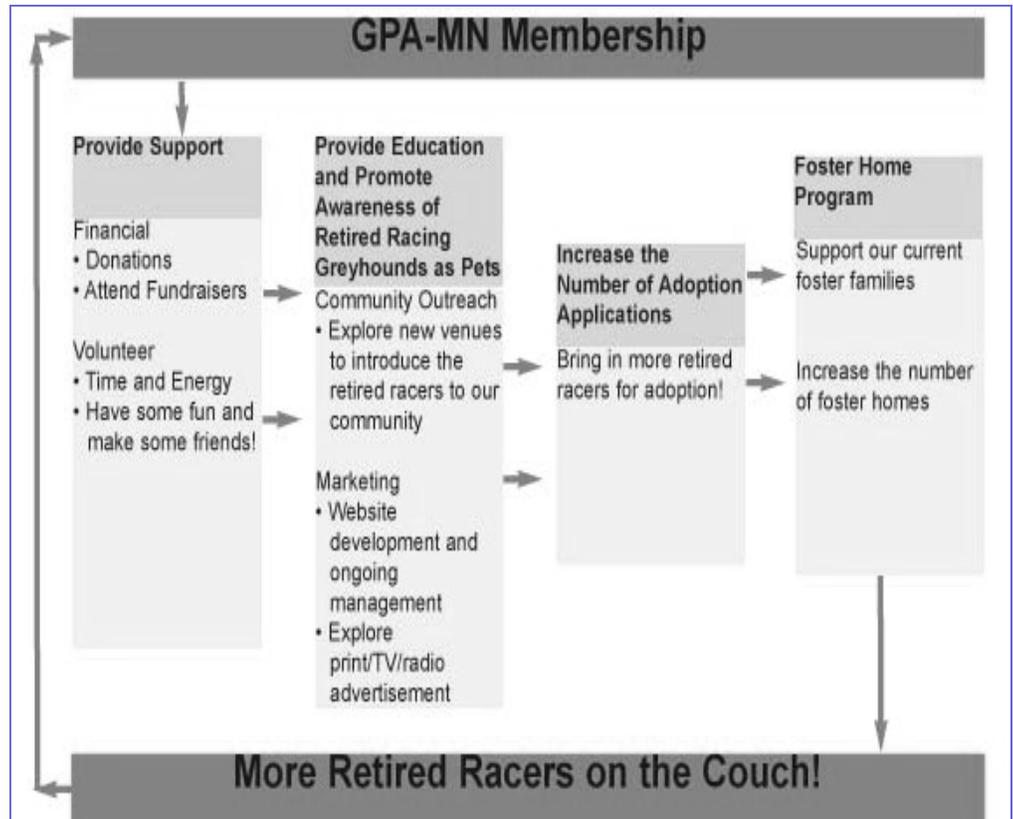
Or mail to:

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GPA-MN Membership: The Race to the Couch



Meet & Greet: Friendly Folks at Fridley

Sylvia Kresal, Meet & Greet Coordinator

Jen and Brian Jett began co-hosting the Meet and Greet at the Fridley PETCO in 2001 with Jen and Doug Rachac. Jen and Doug have now moved to the West Coast and the Jetts are hosting on their own these days. But they haven't really been alone. Their greyhound girl, Seydi (who just turned 7 on Feb. 5) was adopted in October 2001. Their greyhound boy, Marlowe, who is now 5, was adopted in the fall of 2002. Jen, Brian, Seydi, and Marlowe shared their Meet and Greet and their home with another greyhound, Ralph, for 18 months. Ralph died at age 14 about a year ago. Jen has said, "He was one of the best dogs I've ever known...a gentle, gentle soul."

Jen and Brian like hosting Meet and Greets because "Meet and Greets are how we found our dogs. It's a way of giving back and helping other people find their four-legged friends. The dogs love it. It is great for them to get out and socialize. Supposedly, dogs are color blind but these guys know the people in the blue shirts. They give them treats!" The frequent friends who join the Jetts are: Steve Pacholl, Collette Kane and Faith, Holly Deering and Sunshine, Susan Spiller with Jazz, Ann Moe with Angie, and Al Fiene and Diane Hagen with Abby. Even though it seems like there are a lot of GPAers and dogs who attend there is always room for more. The more dogs there are - the more people stop. The more they stop - the more that can find out about greyhounds.

Brian and Jen have nothing but praise for the Petco staff - "truly wonderful!" Another bonus of attending monthly is that they are able to have Kim and the fantastic Fridley grooming

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News from the Board: Board Goals for 2007

Luana Ball, Secretary

GPA-MN's Board of Directors has identified several primary goal areas to help further the overall mission of placing more retired racers in loving homes. The "Adoption Cycle" chart helps to demonstrate how inter-connected the goals are and that the success of one goal is dependent upon progress in another.

With funds and volunteer efforts we can expand our community outreach, explore new venues to introduce the retired racer, further develop our website, fundraising and explore print/TV/radio advertisements!

By expanding awareness of the retired racer we hope to increase the number of adoption applications and subsequently bring more retired greyhounds into the program.

By taking care of our current foster homes/families, as well as increasing the number of foster homes to accommodate the growing adoption demand, we can continue to help greyhounds with this important first step in their learning about civilian life.

With an increasing number of adoptions our Membership will continue to grow and become stronger along with an increasing number of retired racers as our Ambassadors!

GPA-MN's Membership is truly the heart of the organization! Your efforts and contributions are what drive the mission. Please watch *The Home Stretch* and the e-mail list for more about the goals and to learn about opportunities for you to volunteer and contribute to the Adoption Cycle!

Pennies for Pups—Goodsearch.com

Lisa Quast

How would you like to earn money for GPA every time you search the internet? A great site called Goodsearch.com has made that possible!

For every search you do using their search engine they will bank \$0.01 to be contributed to GPA-MN. Searching for a good restaurant? A new pair of shoes? The perfect vacation spot? Every search counts! It's powered by Yahoo, so you'll be getting the same great results you would get by using a Yahoo search, with the added bonus of a penny for the pups with every search! You can even track our progress by clicking the "Amount Raised" button.

It's incredibly simple, and you even have a couple of options for how you'd like to make it happen:

1. Visit their site and type "GPA-MN" in the charity selection field to select GPA as your charity of choice. Then download a search field to be added to your Internet Explorer or Firefox toolbar so you can conveniently use it whenever you search. Every time you

search via that field they will drop a penny in our coffers!

2. Or if you'd rather not download anything, you can visit Goodsearch.com, select GPA-MN as your charity, and search directly from their site. We'll still get the funds either way.

How's that for easy!?! Check it out:
www.goodsearch.com

Happy searching!



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Board Members' Contact Information:

The board wants to be accessible to the chapter members. Please contact us with concerns, questions, suggestions, or to get involved. Below are the email addresses for all the board members and the committee each is chairing. If interested in getting involved with a specific committee, contact that board member directly. More information will be published about the various committees.

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The Home Stretch

2007 CG Wall & Desk

Calendars are still available!

Was your New Year's resolution to get more organized? How 'bout lose a few pounds? We can help!

Keep those important dates right at hand with a beautiful **CG Desk Calendar!** Set a weekly or monthly weight loss goal and track it on a fabulous **CG Wall Calendar!** There are only a few wall calendars left for purchase. Desk calendars are also available.

We have very few still available, so get one while you still can and help a hound!

Send a check (made out to GPA-MN) to: **Teri Petrin, 8863 St. Croix Rd. Woodbury, MN 55125.** Please include: **quantity, style (wall or desk), and a phone number.**

Prices are as follows:

\$15.00 for a desk calendar

\$12.00 for a wall calendar

Please add the following shipping charges:

\$3.00 for the 1st calendar

\$4.25 for 2 calendars

\$1.00 for each additional calendar

If you have any questions, please email Teri at:

jtepetrin@netzero.com.

GREYT EVENTS: Spring into Events

Chris King, Special Event Coordinator

Spring will soon arrive and also coming are springtime events. I'm excited to announce that GPA will have a booth at the **Women's Expo** on **March 31st and April 1st** at the St. Paul RiverCentre located at 175 West Kellogg Boulevard. Hey guys, you're welcome too! I'm looking for volunteers to be Hosts at our booth on Saturday, March 31 from 10:00-1:00, 1:00-4:00 and 4:00-6:00. On Sunday, April 1, I'm looking for volunteers from 11:00- 2:00 and 2:00-5:00. This event will be a GREYT venue to tell the public about greyhound adoption and how very special greyhounds are. Of course you will be able to bring your greyhound(s).

GPA will have a booth again this year at the **2nd Annual Hastings Pet Expo** on **April 21st**. This is a short drive just south of the Twin Cities. For those of you, who prefer a smaller event, please volunteer. I will have more information for you soon.

There will be a special **M&G at Chuck and Don's in Dundas** just outside of Northfield on **May 5th** from 11:00 to 2:00. Northfield is about 40 miles south of the Twin Cities. I'll look forward to seeing you there!

The Greytest of events is our annual **Greyfest** on **June 2nd**. Mark your calendar!

Want to do something fun on the **4th of July**? Participate in **Eagan's Annual Funfest and Parade**; GPA has been invited GPA to be a part of the celebration. You and your greyhound can dress up in your red, white and blue.

Please contact me to volunteer for these and other upcoming events at CLKING2130@aol.com

Remember- Volunteer and have a GREYT time!!!

Paul Revere earned his living as a silversmith. But what do we remember him for? His volunteer work. All activism is volunteering in that it's done above and beyond earning a living and deals with what people really care passionately about. Remember, no one gets paid to rebel. All revolutions start with volunteers.

Susan J. Ellis

Friendly Fridley

(Continued from page 2)

staff trim Seydi and Marlowe's nails. "They do a wonderful job with nails." Brian and Jen have a few other reasons for hosting: "It's an easy way to give back to the organization. In spite of all the greyhounds out there, there are still myths and we are trying to dispel them. It's nice to keep in touch with greyhound people and discuss dogs with other owners. We have an extended family now - not just a dog."

Thank you Jen, Brian, Seydi, and Marlowe. Hope to see you soon at the Friendly Fridley PETCO!!



There are no frowns at Fridley! Jen, Brian, Marlowe and Seydi

GPA Art and Craft Sale Success

(Continued from page 1)

wildlife photographer, is showcasing some of his excellent work in the forms of high quality cards and photographs. In the near the future they will have a terminal where people can search the photographs of other photographers and artists from around the area with the option to print/frame the photos at The Warren.

Duane is also the proud Dad of two greyhounds, Ben and Matt. You can contact Duane at 612-703-9609, email at thewarrenhabitat@comcast.net or visit his website at www.thewarrenhabitat.com to check out the exhibits, theater performances, readings, art fairs, and other happenings at The Warren. Thank you again for making this event so successful!



The Warren: Where art and the community meet!

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you...

Susan Spiller, Art & Craft Sale Co-coordinator

Thank you so much to **EVERYONE** who helped make the Art and Craft sale a huge success. We sold over \$2,560.00 of beautiful, one-of-a-kind pieces of art – all created and donated by our GPA members, family, and friends. If it weren't for you all, we wouldn't have had a sale. We had such a wonderful variety of creative and delightful works of art – I was truly amazed and overwhelmed.

Thank you to everyone who did come to the Sale even though it was just about the coldest day of the century. You were very brave and what good shoppers you were! Thank you to the Greeters (humans and hounds) who played a key part in welcoming all the guests and warming them with your smiles, tail wags, and greetings. Thank you Ann and Holly for your hard work, enthusiasm and perseverance – we made a great team! Thanks to Barb for getting the word out there and promoting the Sale. And a special thank you to

Duane Atter and The Warren for hosting our sale, donating the space and many pieces of your own art work to our Sale. We were also graced by Duane's two greyhounds Ben and Matt. This was a total GPA member effort and you are all to be congratulated! Way to Go!



Art is much less important than life, but what a poor life without it.

Robert Motherwell

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GPA-MN Resources

As an organization, we take great pride in giving our members access to information open forums where they can ask questions, make comments and just talk about greyhounds.

GPA Email list

We've recently moved our e-mail list from Smartgroups to our own website. After months of dealing with e-mails that were delayed by hours, days, and sometimes weeks, it was definitely time for a change! The list works in the same format as before – members can post questions or concerns, share information, celebrate, and commiserate via e-mail about the daily happenings of living with greyhounds. All new adopters are asked if they would like to join this list and veteran members add to the wealth of information and camaraderie. We hope that the switch over from Smartgroups in November didn't leave anyone behind, but if you were on the old e-mail list and have not been receiving any GPA e-mails, please let one of the board members know. If you're not currently on the list but would like to join the fun, please contact Luana Bal (luanaball@yahoo.com)! The list can be customized so you receive each individual e-mail, one "digest" e-mail a day, or read it entirely online, so it can work for the most avid e-mailers as well as those who don't get online as often! And even if you don't feel you'd have a lot to add, it's always fun to read!

PETFINDER.COM

Petfinder.com is where we keep information and pictures of all our greyhounds that are currently available for adoption. If you are interested in adopting another hound, or know someone who might be, have them check it out. Just visit www.petfinder.com and under the breed category, select greyhound. Easy as that!

The Home Stretch

GREYFEST!!

As I see the snow melt and my yard turn into a giant mud pit full of Arrow's footprints I'm optimistic that summer is just around the corner (okay, maybe a long corner) and you know what that means... GreyFest is coming!

GreyFest is a yearly celebration to honor our hounds and raise money to help other retired racers find homes. It's a time to see old and new friends, do some shopping, enter a contest or two and spend some time with a our favorite hounds.

WHEN?

Saturday, June 2, 2007 at 11:00 a.m. Raffle 3:00 p.m.

WHERE?

Spooner Park, Little Canada, Minnesota (about 10 minutes north of Saint Paul)

WHAT ELSE?

More details will follow but mark those calendars now... it's an event that's not to be missed!

Watch the Home Stretch for more information in the coming months!

Barb Gates

Hound Health—Lyme Disease

Susan Spiller

Lyme disease (Borreliosis) is an infectious, tick-borne disease first recognized in dogs in 1984. It is caused by a type of bacteria called a "spirochete." The common deer tick is the primary carrier, generally found in the Northeast, upper Midwest, California, and certain areas in the South. For a tick to transmit the disease, it must be attached to the host for at least 24-48 hours. If a tick dies or is removed within this 1-2 day period, transmission of the bacteria will not occur. Even if the tick is a carrier of the bacteria and it attaches for more than 48 hours, the dog may not contract the disease. Studies have shown that only 10% of dogs exposed will contract the disease. Once a tick has had a full meal, it will detach and not bite another mammal. Infected dogs *do not* transmit the disease to humans.

Symptoms

Clinical illness usually occurs two to five months after initial exposure; the likelihood of disease and the severity of the disease seems to vary with the dog's age and immune status. Dogs show several different symptoms of the disease, but by far, the most common are a fever of between 103 and 105 degrees, shifting leg lameness, swelling in the joints, lethargy, and loss of appetite. Severe cases may include heart disease, kidney disease or arthritis. A few dogs have developed severe progressive renal disease from Lyme disease. This severe kidney failure is non-responsive to treatment. Usually, dogs *will not* develop

any rash or circular area of redness around the bite which is seen in people.

Diagnosis

Your vet may be able to determine if your dog has Lyme disease after performing a blood test. Unfortunately, this test does not provide a simple yes or no answer. The vet must evaluate the results along with the dog's symptoms and take into account your dog's locations. A positive response to treatment is also important in making a final diagnosis.

Treatment

Dogs should begin to show signs of recovery two to three days after beginning treatment with the appropriate antibiotic. The disease may recur within a few weeks or months; in these cases the dog will need to return to antibiotic therapy.

Prevention

Consult your vet regarding preventative products and whether or not they are safe for greyhounds. Quick removal of a tick will help prevent Lyme disease. Avoid areas of high infestation during periods when ticks are active as to avoid contact. Clear any tall grass from your yard. Remove leaves and clear brush from your yard. Frequently wash your dog's bedding. Do a daily check of your dog for ticks, don't forget yourself!





Greyhounds Make Great Pets
The website show for greyhound lovers and their friends.

From the banks of the Nile in ancient Egypt to your local dog track, Greyhounds are an ancient and fascinating breed.

Join Rory Goree and learn more about adoption, obedience and training as well as this canine's history and the racing industry.

There is something for every dog lover whether you own one of these fast friends or not.

www.greyhoundsmakegreatpets.org
Every Friday 2PM Eastern Time

Now available via podcasting!

Waiting at the Bridge

Heidi Millner & Julie Robole—Miloh

Kate & Pat Murphy—Summit

Barry Edginton—Max

Cullen & Roxanne Kiely—Emme

Holly Newman—Thunder

Kathleen Seal, Richard Gray & Family—Coach

Renee Gleitz & Family—Tazzel

The Bragg's—Player

In Memoriam

Emme

(b. 12/98 – d. 6/06)

Emme was a sweet, gentle and sensitive girl. We adopted her in September 1998. It took her a while to accept us, but once she did, she was the best girl ever. Into Emme's life came Thomson. He was a huge Black Lab who we inherited after he proved to be too much for my elderly parents to handle. We soon learned that Emme was a "seizure dog." She could sense that Thomson was going to have one about 30 seconds before it occurred. Her strange behavior gave us just enough warning to get the 140 lb. dog to a safe spot so he wouldn't hurt himself. She even sensed his last seizure...Thinking she was lonely after Thomson went over the Bridge, we decided to adopt another greyhound. Tessa is a high-spirited, clown princess. When they were still young, the two enjoyed racing each other. With her over-developed hocks, Emme would always bolt out to an early lead, but Tessa, as long and lean as Emme was compact and muscular, would eventually pass her. At that point, Emme would simply stop running, as if to say "I was done anyway," rather than ever acknowledge she had been bested by her "little sister." In addition to her loving parents, Emme is survived by Tessa, who just turned 11, her little Am Staff sister Maddie, and, of course, our cats. Preceding Emme over the Bridge are her Greyt Grandparents Carol Jean and Frank Kiely, Thomson, and her favorite cats Sport, Gus and Lorelei Rose.

Player

(b. 12/98 – d. 2/07)

Player (Tattoo# 78323) lived up to his name. After adopting him in Oct. 2001, we had 5 great years with him. We loved him very much and based on the amount of hair he would leave us with every day on our way to work, and he loved us too. His playful time with us was cut short due to bone cancer in his leg. We shared his pain and loved him even more, but knowing that this type of condition was not treatable, could not let him suffer any further. Player is now chasing bunnies and spinning in God's house, pain free. Thanks GPA for all you do for the well-being of the greyhounds in this country. We look forward to adopting another Greyhound in the future to love like we loved Player.

Pazzo Who Nose

(b. 1996 – d. 2/7/07)

We adopted her from GPA-MN August, 1999. She died February 7th at home with her family next to her. She was 11 and had known gum and kidney disease. The vet had suspicions of a tumor in her abdominal cavity. Certainly, there were some neurological changes consistent with stroke activity before her death that night.

We were very pleased to be with her during this very hard time as opposed to "putting her to sleep" or having her die alone. She meant a lot to our family because we adopted her mainly for companionship after our daughter's friend and classmate, Callie Jo Larson of Waseca, was murdered in her home. Tazzel was the security blanket for us while the killer was still on the loose. Tazzel's presence actually provided comfort. Tazzel was a friend indeed and we are forever grateful for her. We've all shared many happy memories together and we are missing her.

Rancho Mad Max

(b. 2/10/00 – d. 2/5/07)

It is very difficult for me to sit here and write this memory. Max died suddenly on February 5th of a rare gastro-intestinal bacterial infection. Max was a shy brindle boy and one of Kim's adoptions. We drove from Winnipeg to Minneapolis to adopt Max in October of 2003 and he became our beloved friend for just over three years. After racing for a year in Kansas City, Max, a gentle soul, became a therapy dog with St. John Ambulance in Winnipeg and his weekly visits to nursing-home patients were something he looked forward to. We miss him, his patience, kindness and acceptance of all those in his life.



Player—Much loved and much missed

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PETCO.com
Where the pets go online.

**Greyhound Pets of America—
Minnesota**

**Would Like to Say:
"THANK YOU"**

To Our PETCO Sponsors

With their help, many retired racers have found and will continue to find loving and caring homes.

Participating PETCO Stores:

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Ridgedale PETCO
Rochester PETCO
St. Cloud PETCO
W. St. Paul PETCO
Woodbury PETCO*

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.

GPA-MN would like to thank both the PETCO Foundation, and the dedicated men and women of the local PETCO stores who go the extra mile and help us in finding loving homes for retired racers.



Greyhound Pets of
America - Minnesota

P.O. Box 49183
Minneapolis, MN 55449

763-785-4000

newsletter@gpa-mn.org

www.gpa-mn.org

Address Service Requested

Donations

Heidi Millner & Julie Robole to GPA-MN in memory of **Miloh (Pazzo Franko)**, who crossed the Bridge January 27th.

Renee Gleitz & Family to GPA-MN in memory of **Tazzel (Pazzo Who Nose)**, who crossed the Bridge February 7th.

Ed & Nancy Marah to GPA-MN in memory of **Cueball**.

Cathleen & Robert Taylor to GPA-MN in honor of **Goldie, Buddie, & Maggie**.

Mark Downey & Christine Sanguinet to GPA-MN in honor of **Barb Gates' birthday**.

Debbie Barker to GPA-MN in honor of **Kieran's birthday & Thomas's Gotcha Day**.

Anne & Reid Lindquist to GPA-MN in honor of **Kieran's birthday**.

Angela Wilson-Taylor to GPA-MN to help with the vetting costs for **Pookie & Slim**.

Todd & Greta Palmberg to GPA-MN in honor of **Aruba**.

Holly Deering to GPA-MN for the **Heal-A-Hound Fund**.

Michelle Walter to GPA-MN for the **Heal-A-Hound Fund**.

Gary & Linda Johnson to GPA-MN for the **Heal-A-Hound Fund**.

Bonnie Satterberg to GPA-MN for the **Heal-A-Hound Fund**.

Paul DesCombaz to GPA-MN for the **hounds**.

Neil & Sylvia Kresal to GPA-MN for the **hounds**.

Susan & David Wilson to GPA-MN for the **hounds**.

Cathy Wright to GPA-MN for the **hounds**.

Jeanne Qualley to GPA-MN for the **hounds**.

Karissa Eckert to GPA-MN for the **hounds**.

Tabet Berry Studio made a donation to GPA-MN for the **hounds**.

Kari Keller to GPA-MN for the **hounds**.

Barbara Ball to GPA-MN for the **hounds**.

Meg Moynihan to GPA-MN for the **hounds**.

Vanessa Lund to GPA-MN for the **hounds**.

Robyn Abear to GPA-MN for the **hounds**.

Brian Clark to GPA-MN for the **hounds**.

Voyager K9 Apparel donated a portion of their profits to GPA-MN from purchases made by GPA-MN members for the **hounds**.

NGA to GPA-MN on behalf of **Ann Moe and Angie**.

Brad Bagley & Bagley Law Office donated tax and non-profit advice to GPA-MN for the **hounds**.

Special Thanks

GPA-MN would like to thank the following businesses and organizations for their support and financial aid:

PETCO Stores — throughout the Twin Cities, St. Cloud and Rochester

PetSmart Charities Spay & Neuter Grant

Pet Expo—Mankato, MN 507-625-2505

Brooklyn Park Animal Hospital 763-566-6000

Cottage Grove Animal Hospital 651-768-0200

Maplewood Pet Care Clinic, P.A. 651-770-8373

Alta Veterinary 612-285-6550

Chanhassen Vet Clinic 952-934-8862

Blaine Area Pet Hospital 763-754-2131

Lupient Chevrolet of Bloomington 952-884-3333

Chuck & Don's Pet Food Outlet 612-926-8161

Sir Speedy Printing Center 763-545-1707

Fast Frame 612-924-9213

Barnes & Noble