



Greyhound Pets of America - Minnesota

Home Stretch

November - December 2009

Volume 16, Issue 1

4th Annual GPA-MN Art & Craft Sale

Get your Christmas shopping done early at the 4th annual GPA-MN Art & Craft Sale.

Saturday, November 14

10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Warren – An Artist Habitat
4400 Osseo Road
Minneapolis, MN 55412

We will have one-of-a-kind jewelry, pottery, quilts, prints, paintings, framed photographs, scarves, stained glass, candles and much more for that special someone. Be sure to invite all your friends and family!

All items have been generously donated by GPA members and friends. All proceeds go directly to GPA-MN to help find forever, loving homes for retired racing Greyhounds.

If you have items that you would like to donate to the sale, please contact Susan Spiller at spillgirl555@yahoo.com to schedule a pick-up.

We hope to see you there!

Christmas Safety and Cold Weather Tips



Chocolate and candy canes, trees and garlands – Christmas represent the joy of giving, peace and love. Unfortunately for some, Christmas also means emergency veterinarian visits for obstructed bowels after the tinsel on the tree mysteriously disappears, chocolate poisoning and turkey bones from the garbage that must be removed from an intestine.

See page 2 for tips to keep your entire family safe during the holidays.

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.

The Home Stretch is the publication of the Minnesota Chapter of Greyhound Pets of America. Entire contents are Copyright ©2009 Greyhound Pets of America—Minnesota. Reproduction or quotation strictly prohibited without written consent of the publisher. All rights reserved. GPA-MN reserves the right to edit or withhold all articles or advertisements submitted for publication. GPA-MN does not necessarily endorse any product advertised in this newsletter.

Any questions concerning content or distribution should be directed to Jen Cottew at:
Newsletter@gpa-mn.org or
jencottew@hotmail.com.

Or mail to:
GPA-MN Newsletter
P.O. Box 49183
Minneapolis, MN 55449

Newsletter Committee
Lisa Quast
Jen Cottew
Wendie Johnson
Sylvia Kresal
Ed Mall
Nicole Middlecamp
Susan Spiller

Christmas Safety and Cold Weather Tips - continued

We want your entire family to have the safest, happiest holiday season possible. Here are some tips for you and may your season be full of cheer!

- Don't forget to spend quality time with the fur-family – sometimes we get so caught up in the activities, we don't take time for long walks and play sessions with our buddies – which are an excellent de-stressor. Try to keep your pet's world consistent.
- Keep electrical cords and Christmas tree lights away from your hounds – one chomp is all it'll take. You can run cords thru PVC pipe, cover with rugs or put behind heavy furniture
- Decorate the lower branches of your Christmas tree with things that don't mind being broken, swallowed or pawed.
- If you have a chewer, coat new wires (like the ones for the Christmas tree lights) in bitter apple or another chew deterrent.
- If you are having guests over, try to leave a room available as a "quiet room" for the hounds to escape to – especially if there are a lot of noisy children.
- Put an exercise pen around the tree as a measure to keep really determined dogs out and the tree and goodies in.
- Anchor your Christmas tree to the ceiling or wall behind it.
- When ingested by a dog, tinsel and angel hair can cause obstruction of the intestines, and the tinsel's sharp edges can even cut the intestines.
- Ivy, holly, mistletoe and poinsettias range from mildly upsetting to extremely toxic. If eaten they can cause gastrointestinal irritation, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, drooling, coma, central nervous system or cardiac problems or even death.
- If you have a live Christmas tree, keep the water stand covered so your hound can't drink the water – tree sap mixed with water makes a poisonous drink for your hound.



Some cold weather tips

- Be very careful where and how you store your Anti-Freeze. If ingested by your pet, it can be lethal – even in small quantities. This is a serious medical emergency and should be treated by your veterinarian immediately.
- Hypothermia – when a dog's internal temperature drops below 96 degrees F (by being exposed to cold weather for long periods, or getting both wet and cold), there is a serious risk to the dog's safety. Any sign that a dog is very cold – such as shivering – should be a signal to bring the dog inside.
- Ice melting chemicals and salt placed across sidewalks and roads can cause severe burning to your dog's footpads; wash the footpads upon returning home.
- Be cautious of fireplaces including ashes and popping wood. These can cause bronchial irritation, burns, skin irritation and digestive distress.

Have a very joyous and safe holiday season – Peace on Earth

Mr. Drysdale - November Hound of the Month

By Michael Horrigan

My heart hound Mr. Drysdale



As soon as I purchased my home, I volunteered to foster hounds for GPA-MN. I specifically purchased a house with a fenced yard and added a carpet runner up my stairs to the second floor bedrooms. I purchased dog bowls and baby gates and GPA provided a wire kennel. I was as ready as I could be.

Dan helped me pick up my first foster because I didn't think he would ride well in my Corolla. I nervously waited at the Fridley Petco until my new foster was selected. Teri Petrin handed me FRD Drysdale aka Mr. Drysdale or just Drysdale for short. He was a handsome, 5-year-old red brindle, weighing around 65 pounds. We loaded him into the back of Dan's Honda CRV.

We had the back seats folded down and I held his leash from the passenger's seat. He cried as we proceeded to get on the road and before we even reached Highway 694 East, he had a major case of diarrhea - the 'BIG D' I had read and heard so much about. It was a smelly ride home; Mr. Drysdale cried the entire way and was I ever glad we hadn't taken my vehicle!

First day home alone

The weekend went very well after cleaning up the vehicle and hound. Mr. Drysdale marked a couple spots but was basically house-trained by Sunday night. I had to return to work Monday and was nervous about leaving my new foster alone all day. I asked my friend Deb to stop by the house and let him out around 4 p.m. At 4:10 pm I received a phone call from Deb saying, "Guess who greeted me at the back gate of your yard? Mr. Drysdale."

I rushed home to find Deb and Drysdale relaxing in the back yard. He had broken out of his wire crate, spread his dry kibble all over the kitchen, knocked over the trash and made a big mess - all before jumping through the open-screened window at the rear of my house. Amazingly, he was completely unharmed by any of his escapades including the six-foot drop from the window. Deb was forever his favorite friend and he always showed more excitement over her than anyone else whenever he saw her, because as she put it, "I am his favorite because I rescued him."

I put the kennel back together and placed Drysdale back in it while I rushed to Menards to purchase wire ties to secure the kennel better. It took me about 30 minutes to complete this errand - guess who greeted me at the back door on my return? I was fostering an escape artist- clearly Mr. Drysdale didn't care for his new wire kennel.

Continued on page 4

Volume 16, Issue 1

The board wants to be accessible to chapter members. Please contact us with concerns, questions, suggestions, or to get involved.

Below are the e-mail addresses for all the board members and the committee each chairs. If interested in getting involved with a committee, contact that board member directly.

Lisa Quast - President, Media/PR
lquast@memsi.com

Mark Downey - Treasurer, Merchandise
mark@nervecenter.net

Susan Spiller - Secretary
spillgirl555@yahoo.com

Paula Docken
pdocken@travelers.com

Ed Mall - Newsletter coach2_2@
hotmail.com

Nicole Middlecamp - Foster Coordinator
Nicole.Middlecamp@target.com

Pete Opitz - Fundraising
pete_opitz@hotmail.com

Lori Rasmussen - Special events
ourmustang@comcast.net

Adoption Coordinators:
Luana Ball - luanaball@yahoo.com
Teri Petrin - xracinggreys@msn.com

Meet-n-Greet Coordinator:
Sylvia Kresal
nskresal@comcast.net

Continued - Mr. Drysdale - November Hound of the Month

Mysterious vet appointment

My next task was to take Drysdale to the vet for a teeth cleaning, vaccinations and to be neutered. All was fine until the vet called, saying they stopped surgery as they could only find one testicle - I'd have to bring him back to see a specialist. So, after a two week recovery, Drysdale went back to the vet. The specialist spent nearly two hours operating on Drysdale, searching for the missing testicle, only to discover scar tissue proving it had been removed during his racing career.

Back home we went. He was groggier and slower to recover from this surgery. I slept with him on the floor at night, as it seemed to be the only way to calm him. Within two days I called the vet to report that Mr. Drysdale was breathing rapid short breaths. He ended up getting an infection from the second surgery and he was in a lot of pain. Back onto another antibiotic, pain medication and strict orders for very limited movement for two weeks.

Bonding time

Time was flying by and the foster I had expected to have for two to three weeks, was now approaching six weeks and I had fallen in love with this quirky hound. He cried a lot - he cried when I arrived home from work, he cried when I left home, he cried in the car. He loved playing with stuffed animals, especially if they squeaked. He was so smart; I had to alter my behavior so he wouldn't know when I was leaving the house, but he always figured it out. Drysdale would snuggle with me on the couch and rest his head on my lap while watching TV. I had forgone most encouraged foster behavior during his long convalescence.

I called my adoption coordinator with trepidation to report that while I knew GPA didn't foster to adopt, but I really bonded with this boy and could they please make an exception and allow me to adopt Mr. Drysdale. I was so happy to hear that she had a feeling this might happen during this extraordinary foster adventure and yes, I could adopt Mr. Drysdale!

Five joyful years

That was the beginning of five very joyful years. He traveled with me to barbeques with friends and vacationed with me in Itasca. Drysdale stayed with Deb and her Doberman Ricky, whenever I traveled home to the East Coast. He slept on my bed; he provided comfort when Karita, my cat of 14 years crossed the bridge. He went to work with me most every day and won over the hearts of co-workers, the mail lady, the UPS and FedEx delivery people. He also begrudgingly put up with close to a dozen foster hounds over the years. He always was very happy when we returned to our normal routine - he loved being the center of my attention!

Challenging mystery

The last six months of Mr. Drysdale's life were challenging. On a cold February morning in 2008, he fell on some ice. He shrieked in pain but was able to get back up and we completed our walk without any further issues. It seemed from that moment on, Drysdale was never 100% OK. Whether the fall was related we could never truly figure out. He was definitely in pain and his condition was not easily diagnosable. X-rays showed a problem with one of his lower discs, but physical examinations didn't cause him much pain. Many trips to the vet and the University of Minnesota, plus an acupuncturist, didn't resolve the issue. I knew our time was coming to an end but I hoped we had 3-6 months left where I could enjoy every last moment with him while managing his pain. I began talking with my vet about an at-home euthanasia in the future.

One day in late August I came home from work to find my friend under great duress, stumbling around the house, struggling to catch his breath. I could look into his eyes and not see any recognition. My friend Nick piled in the back of my Matrix to hold Drysdale while I quickly drove us to the vet. I wanted to be back there with him but Nick couldn't drive a stick.

As I carried my dear boy into the vet's office, he lost consciousness in my arms and his head drooped over my arm. He regained consciousness, but struggled to breath. An injection to calm him didn't work, so a second injection was administered. While it worked, he was now unconscious. After a further exam from my vet, her best guess was that Mr. Drysdale had either had a stroke or had been suffering from brain cancer all along. I said my good byes and let my dear boy cross the bridge that night.

Final gift

It was very sad and painful. As I imagine it always will be. I cried daily for weeks. It is my belief that the sudden end to his life was in a strange way his last gift to me. It removed the responsibility of my scheduling the appointment that we both knew was coming eventually. I still miss him terribly, even with my current two hounds to keep me company. He was my first greyhound; he will always be my hearthound.

Greyhounds adopted from June to September

- Rosco - Jeffrey Greene
- Suzee - Luana Ball
- Bones - Shelly and Jeff Schmidt
- Presley - Liz and Greg Hendricks
- Phoebe - Darrell and Linda Hackett
- Java - Victoria Jones
- Moose - Roger and Susan Swanson
- Susie - Michelle Moore
- Kelly - Mari Nehls
- Jenny - Dennis Nelson
- Razz - Brian Graebel and Dorianne McCreary
- Lula - Heather Lewis and Mary Doran
- Jack - Michelle Vance

- Justin - Alan Colpitts
- Golden Girl - Troy and Barb Rasmussen
- Maya - Seth and Jessica Craig
- Jax - Greg and Lori Brandt
- Rose - Richard and Pennie Turcott
- Abby - Jim and Sue Borthwick
- Candy - Jonah and Anne Scholen
- Tucker - Mark and Ellie Bloom
- Nola - Nicole and Scott Limback
- Bailey - Dan and Liana Smith
- Jimmy - Jill Schwendeman and Tiger Heise
- Luath - Jim and Christie Vereide
- Tigger - Sonya and Chad Garrett

Waiting at the Bridge

*While our beloved hounds may no longer be with us,
they remain forever in our hearts.*

BayBee - Wally and Cheri Schwab
Lulu - LuAnn Yerks

Whistle Blower Policy

By Pete Opitz

GPA-MN has a strong and compelling interest in conducting its business with a high ethical standard. To help in this regard, the Board of Directors adopted a Whistleblower policy in May of 2008. In part, it reads:

(GPA-MN and Board) encourage(s) members, volunteers, program coordinators, officers, and Directors to report suspected fraudulent or dishonest conduct. GPA-MN will investigate any suspected fraudulent or dishonest use or misuse of GPA-MN's resources or property by Directors, program coordinators, consultants, or volunteers. GPA-MN is committed to protecting its members, volunteers, and Directors from interference or retaliation when making a protected disclosure.

With most volunteer organizations such as ours, fraudulent and dishonest behavior is very rare. Somewhat ironically, that makes these types of policies all the more important. If you are ever concerned that any fraudulent or dishonest conduct has occurred related to GPA-MN activities, please e-mail: whistleblower@gpa-mn.org. You will be asked to read a copy of the full policy before making a disclosure as outlined therein. Of course, if you are simply curious to read the policy, you may request a copy using that same e-mail address.



HUZZAH!

Once again GPA-MN was well represented at the Minnesota Renaissance Festival Aug. 29 and 30. This is truly one of the favorite special events that generates a lot of publicity and interest in our group. Despite the changes in gate policy and our booth location, our faithful volunteers were able to show off our marvelous hounds to a lot of interested people. Thank you so much to the following people for donating their time:

- Al Fiene and Diane Hagen
- Bob and Becky Pinegar
- Barb Lund
- Bob and Lonnie Skrentner
- Rob and Cara White
- Jude Edling
- Chuck and Sheila Wick
- Paula Docken



November

2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Gassy Walk Sundays at 2PM - Weather permitting Meet at the Rose Garden at Lake Harriet or Como Lakeside Pavillion 1						M&G's Richfield 12-2 Woodbury 11-1 7
Gassy Walk 2 PM Gassy Walk Too 2pm M&G's Duluth 12-2 8		3	4	5	6	 Art & Craft Sale M&G's St Cloud 12-2 Eden Prairie 12-2 14
		 Veterans Day	11	12	13	M&G's Fridley 11-1 Ridgedale 11-1 Coon Rapids 11-1 MKC Dog Show 21
Gassy Walk 2 pm Gassy Walk Too 2pm M&G's 15	9	10	17	18	19	 Fridley 11-1 Ridgedale 11-1 Coon Rapids 11-1 MKC Dog Show 21
Gassy Walk 2 PM Gassy Walk Too 2pm M&G's St Paul Urbanimals 11-1 MKC Dog Show 22	23	24	25	26	27	 Cookie Day Richfield Petco 12-2 27
Gassy Walk 2 PM Gassy Walk Too 2pm M&G's Urbanimal 11-2 29						M&G's Highland 11-1 28

December

2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Gassy Walk Sundays at 2PM - Weather permitting Meet at the Rose Garden at Lake Harriet or Como Lakeside Pavilion						M&G's 12-2 Richfield 11-1 Woodbury 5
					HAPPY HANUKKAH	M&G's Cloud 12-2 Eden Prairie 12-2 Highland 11-1 1/2
					1st Day of Hanukkah 11	
Gassy Walk 2 PM Gassy Walk Too 2pm	7	8	9	10		M&G's Fridley 11-1 Coon Rapids 11-1 19
Gassy Walk 2 pm Gassy Walk Too 2pm M&G's Duluth 12-2	14	15	16	17	18	Kwanzaa Begins 26
Gassy Walk 2 PM Gassy Walk Too 2pm M&G's Mankato St Paul Urbanimals 11-1 20	21	22	23	24	25	Christmas 25
Gassy Walk 2 PM Gassy Walk Too 2pm M&G's Mpls Urbanimal 11-2 27	28	29			30	New Year's Eve 31



December Hound of the Month - Bette Kresal

By Bette Kresal

Hello! My name is Bette Kresal and I am the hound of every month, every week, and every day! My name is spelled two ways depending on who you are talking to. If you're talking to Mom, she spells my name with a "y" - "Betty." She says I am named after Betty Boop because I am a "boop boop te do" kind of gal. Dad spells my name with an "e" - "Bette." He named me after Bette Davis, actress and drama queen extraordinaire.

About me

I am a beautiful red brindle girl born on Nov. 12, 2000. After I retired from racing, I was adopted through GPA-MN to a family who were unable to keep me. I was returned to GPA and adopted by Mom and Dad on July 1, 2007. They had a lot to learn! They hadn't had a brindle girl since their Tilly died and had to make do with boys - Chuck and Dave. And then I arrived! It took about a month to whip Chuck and Dave into proper subservient shape. It took a while longer with Mom and Dad. (They aren't too smart.)

For example, I have certain things I don't do. I don't walk on linoleum kitchen floors. Mom had to buy rugs to make a pathway across the floor from the carpeted living room so I could go outside and also visit them in the kitchen when they cook or eat. I also don't walk on the white tiles at Petco. (However, I will walk on the blue.) So when we attend a M&G I have to walk real fast (and not look down) from the door to the sleeping bag. Sometimes they have to lay a little fabric path for me so I can make it from the door to the sleeping bag.

Privacy please

When I go outside in the back yard to go potty, I insist on privacy and wade through mom's daylilies until I am all covered up and then walk out again when I am done. I don't like thunder and will run upstairs to lie on their bed. They don't come upstairs to comfort me so I am forced to come downstairs and sit with them and Chuck and Dave. I lay with my back to them and sigh a lot so they know I am unhappy with them. But, sadly, they don't understand a brindle beauty and tell me to "quit pouting."

Playing with the boys

I like to take Dave's toys away from him when he's playing with them. He gets kind of upset. It's fun to tease him. I used to tease Chuck by stepping on his head when he was sleeping on the floor. He would scramble up and growl at me, and Mom would tell me to "leave him alone!" He's not much fun to tease especially when he makes it look like it's my fault! I especially enjoy standing over Dave and/or Chuck when they are peacefully sleeping on their pillows. They wake up and look at me and then get up and move! It's fun. I don't want their pillows - I just want to see if they will move. I do it because I can! Whee! That fun didn't last much longer as Mom and Dad instituted a "no bullying Chuck and Dave policy." Sigh, sigh and sigh again!

Talented girl

I can sit and shake hands and sit up and lay down. I love to be petted. If someone is petting me and they stop too soon I will reach out with my paw and "grab" them so they don't leave. I can never be cuddled too much.

I also love to eat and have never missed a meal, been late to a meal, or left anything in my bowl. I will help to clean out Chuck and Dave's individual bowls if they leave anything. What would they do without me? Mom and dad (and even Chuck and Dave) think I am a beautiful, bossy brindle girl with a few quirks. But nothing that can't be handled with hugs and kisses and good cuddle on the couch. I'm a lucky girl. They say they are the lucky ones.



It's ALL Raw for Romeo!

By Molly Mallory

Our family had the pleasure of adopting Romeo (formerly known as Sparky) during the summer of 2007. After years of research and becoming a groupie at the local meet and greets, we were finally ready to take the leap and make a greyhound a part of our pack. When we saw a beautiful brindle male on Petfinder, we knew he was the one for us.

When Romeo came to live with us he had two problems: a very stubborn Lick Granuloma and loose stool. They were frustrating problems that proved difficult to heal. Romeo's foster mom did her best to get the Lick Granuloma under control with medications and by keeping the area wrapped to prevent licking. There seems to be an obsessive psychological component to this issue and the stress to Romeo, along with a change in his living environment, made this a very challenging issue. When Romeo entered our home we did everything we could to get his leg to heal. Nothing worked. I also was trying to get a normal, formed stool from Romeo, which seemed next to impossible.



Skeptical, but desperate

About two months after adopting Romeo I learned about feeding dogs a raw meat diet. I was a bit skeptical to say the least. I also was a strict vegetarian at the time and the idea of handling meat (cooked or raw) was a little disconcerting for me. I was however, desperate to heal Romeo's wounds and I wanted to give him the best nutrition possible for his general health and well being. After doing research about raw diets, I put Romeo on a 50% raw diet and kept him on 50% kibble.

Within two weeks Romeo's leg was healed! I was amazed. He also was well on his way to having normally formed stool that was much easier to clean up! The other positive effects from the raw diet were: Romeo's anxiety decreased and he seemed more "settled," his breath improved, he had fewer, smaller, less odorous stool, no gas and a remarkably soft coat.

Raw diet is natural fit

Romeo and I are now fortunate enough to work part time at Woody's Pet Food Deli in southwest Minneapolis where we help prepare fresh real food diets for pets. I have learned a great deal about canine nutrition from many sources including all of the pets that find relief from various health conditions through eating a real food diet. I learned that a raw/real food diet is as close as you can get to a dog's natural intended diet. A dog's intestinal tract is designed to handle a raw meat diet. Their bodies are able to assimilate 100 % of the nutrients from raw bones, organs and meat. Romeo now eats a 100% raw food diet. He enjoys a variety of meats including chicken, turkey, beef, bison and elk. I usually add in a few "mix-ins" like rice, sweet potatoes and cooked veggies.

If you are considering a raw/real food diet it can be a very easy transition. It is a good idea to take it slow and let your hound's digestive system get used to eating real food. Some people do a 100% switch to real food and others like to continue feeding a bit of kibble. There also is the option of feeding cooked meat rather than raw. Generally, a dog will eat about 2% of their body weight per day in real food. Romeo weighs around 80 pounds so he eats a little more than 1 ½ pounds of meat per day. It takes a bit more effort to feed a whole food diet but I have found the benefits far outweigh any extra work required. I believe I am not only promoting health with Romeo's diet, but preventing disease. The rewards of a healthy and happy hound are priceless!

The Companion Animal Blood Bank needs you (and your pet)!

The Veterinary Medical Center (VMC) maintains a network of rescue Greyhounds and volunteer dogs and cats to provide blood products to our patients. Our animal blood bank functions like a human blood bank. Healthy dogs and cats can help less fortunate animals by becoming blood donors.

Why do animals need blood?

Critically ill veterinary patients with cancer, anemia, underlying clotting problems or trauma (i.e., internal bleeding from a motor vehicle accident) often need blood or plasma. Blood products can be a life-saving treatment, and are provided by animals belonging to our veterinarians, students, staff and technicians. Because of the high demand within the VMC for blood products, the blood bank has begun a volunteer canine and feline donor network. VMC is currently looking for volunteer dogs to donate blood to VMC patients.

What happens when my dog donates blood?

First, we need to make sure your animal is healthy enough to donate. Please see the listed requirements below. If your pet qualifies, please call the Companion Animal Blood Donor Program and leave a message at 612-625-9726, extension 2. Initial blood screening tests will be performed if your pet qualifies, along with a preliminary physical examination. More extensive blood tests are run during a second screening process. All these blood results are available for your own record, and are valued at about \$600. To qualify for this screening, you must commit your pet to blood donation at least six to eight times a year.

What happens when my dog donates blood? How much blood is donated?

Blood donation takes about 15 to 30 minutes. Owners often drop off their pet for a few hours while they are donating. For dogs, sedation is rarely necessary. We lay your dog down on his or her side on comfortable blankets and clip an area of hair over the jugular vein. After preparing the area with a sterile scrub, blood is collected through a needle into a sterile collection set (just like when you donate blood). Dogs should be fasted for 10-12 hours prior to giving blood. Afterwards, your dog is given IV fluids through a separate catheter to replace the one pint of blood that was removed (about 450 mls. or 16 oz. of blood). The catheter is then removed and your pet is given lots of TLC and a toy or treat to go home with.

Can my dog become a blood donor?

The following guidelines ensure safe blood products for patients. Your dog must:

- be friendly and happy to meet people
- weigh more than 50 pounds
- be current on vaccinations (must provide proof) and cannot be receiving any medications other than heartworm, flea and tick preventive
- be on heartworm, flea, and tick preventive during the six-month flea and tick season
- be healthy and without a heart murmur
- be one to six years old when entering the program
- have never received a blood transfusion nor been pregnant

What are the benefits of having my pet as a blood donor?

Not only are you saving a pet's life, but you will receive other benefits such as:

- a 20-pound bag of dog food at the time of each donation
- a complete physical examination
- extensive blood screening (with a copy for your records)
- a six-month supply of heartworm preventive if your pet donates at least six times a year
- a free blood typing, which means that if your pet ever needs emergency care or a blood transfusion, you'll know what blood type he or she is

To receive all of the benefits listed above, your pet must donate at least six times a year. While bringing your pet in for blood donation may seem like a big commitment and a lot of work, you are helping save hundreds of lives a year! Call the blood donor voicemail at 612-625-9726, ext. 2, if you are interested in having your pet donate blood.

Donations to GPA-MN

- O. Ya Greyhounds, in honor of Precious, Beauty, Kelly, Copper and Jimmy
- Peter Opitz
- United Health Group
- Richard and Georgia Hetland, in memory of Oakley
- Luana Ball
- Michael Horrigan, in memory of Mr. Drysdale
- Anonymous donations from Woofstock attendees.

A huge THANK YOU to all of the donors who made our annual GreyFest raffle successful again this year! Your generosity makes it possible for us to hold this thriving event every year, and we are so very greytful for your contributions!

A Grace of Hounds

Aid 4 Greys
Alicia Reynolds-Minear
Angie Shoemaker
Animal Humane Society/
Now Boarding
Ann Moe
Audrey Beckstrom
Auntie Ruth's
Barb Gates & Steve
Schaben
Barbara Lithander
Betty Alexander
Bookends Boutique
Bow Tie Publications
Bowwow Bonnets
Brave New Workshop
Bunker Beach Water Park
Caribou Coffee Company,
Inc.
Carrie Peterson
Cheesecake Factory
Chilly Dogs
Cottage Hound Designs
Dan & Lori Rasmussen
Dapperdawgs
Dave Engravings, Inc.
Days Inn - Maplewood
Desiree Kamman
East Hennepin Auto
Service, Inc
Eden Prairie PETCO
EFC
Fast Frame - Minneapolis
Garden Greyhounds
Ralph H. Simpson, Co.
Gary & Linda Johnson
Gawn 2 The Dawgs
GPA Houston
GPA-Central Florida
GPA-MoKan
Grey Karma Designs
Greyhound Greetings

Greyhounds Puttin' On The
Glitz
GreytKards
Harley Davidson - Mankato
House O' Hounds
Hurricane Hounds Designs
Ingrid Helmar
Jackie Gattberg
Jaybird Designs
Jen Jett - Lia Sophia
Jeni Brunner Bozic
Jennifer & John Cottew
Jim Stinchfield - Greyhound
Caricatures
Jkalika Designs
John & Lisa Quast
Kari Keller
Kendra Kirby
Let's Dish - Edina
Lisa and John Quast
Long Dog Leatherworks
Lori Anderson
Lori Parsons
Lou Wallis
Luanna Ball
Mankato Ink Tatoo
Minnesota Dance Theater, in
honor of Loyce Houlton
Minnesota Renaissance
Festival
Minnesota Vikings Football
Club
Mixed Blood Theater
MSU Womens' Center
MyMartingaleCollar.com
Nancy & Bryan Rittenhouse
North Coast Greyhounds
Northcoast Greyhound
Support
Peter Opitz
Petcessories
Plymouth Playhouse
Posterhoundz
Richfield Petco
Ron Rust
Sarah Adams
Sherri Baker
Shore Dog
Signz & Dezines by suzieq
Skinny Dog Crafts
Studio B for Hair
Susan Spiller
Sylvia & Neil Kresal
Tabet Berry Studio
Tahmi.com
Tara Schuneman
TCF Bank - MSU Branch
TFH (Nylabone)
The Greyhound Project
(Celebrating Greyhounds
Magazine)
The Handmade Hound
Theater in the Round
Treasure Island Resort &
Casino
Tropics Indoor Water Park
/ Shoreview Community
Center
Victoria Jones
Voyager Greyhound Apparel
Waggin' Pet Accessories
Walsh Family
Wendie Johnson
Wild Mountain Taylors Falls
Recreation
Wild Things for Greys
Xan Art

If you made a donation and
your name was inadvertently
left out, please send an
e-mail with your contact
information to
fundraising@gpa-mn.org

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-MN's E-mail list

To subscribe to the GPA-MN E-Mail Correspondence

List and automatically receive a digital copy of the Home Stretch go to: www.gpa-mn.org/mailman/listinfo/list_gpa-mn.org

GPA-MN's Home Stretch

To request a digital copy of the newsletter only that you can read on your computer screen or print to read later go to: http://gpa-mn.org/mailman/listinfo/gpa-mnnewsletter_gpa-mn.org

To request a paper copy of the newsletter be mailed to your home please send your name and address to info@gpa-mn.org or leave this information on the GPA-MN phone line which is 763-785-4000.

GPA-MN's Web site

Visit our Web site to learn about special events, volunteer opportunities, greyhounds available for adoption and helpful links. www.gpa-mn.org

PETFINDER.COM

Petfinder.com is where we keep information and pictures of all our greyhounds that are available for adoption. Visit www.petfinder.com and under the breed category, select greyhound.



Greyhound Pets of America - Minnesota

P.O. Box 49183
Minneapolis, MN 55449

763-785-4000

newsletter@gpa-mn.org
www.gpa-mn.org

GoodShop.com lets you donate while you shop!

As the holiday shopping season approaches, be sure to take advantage of GoodShop.com, where up to 30% of every purchase will go to GPA-MN!

GoodShop.com is a click-through site, which means you visit GoodShop.com first, then click through to your favorite online store. The list of participating online stores is HUGE, and includes dozens of popular stores such as Target, Best Buy, Macy's, Amazon, Barnes and Noble, LLBean, PetSmart, Home Depot, Old Navy, Land's End, and Toys R Us.

And as an even greater bonus, when you select an online store, GoodShop provides you with a list of known coupon codes for that Web site, so you can get great deals as well. You get what you're looking for, at a discount, and GPA-MN gets a donation too. Triple score!

Here's how it works:

1. Go to GoodShop.com and designate "GPA-MN" as your charity of choice.
2. Find your favorite online store in the list shown on GoodShop.com and click through the link to start shopping.
3. Up to 30% of your purchase will be donated directly back to GPA-MN!

Yes, it's really that easy! So make sure you visit GoodShop.com before you buy anything online, and you can support the hounds as you shop!



Special thanks

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

Our Meet & Greet Locations:

PETCO Stores www.petco.com

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| • Coon Rapids | • Richfield |
| • Duluth | • St. Cloud |
| • Eden Prairie | • Woodbury |
| • Fridley | Urbanimal Minneapolis |
| • Highland Park | 612-879-0709 |
| • Mankato | Urbanimal St. Paul |
| • Ridgedale | 651-696-1817 |

Our Participating GPA Vets:

Blaine Area Pet Hospital 763-754-2131
Brooklyn Park Animal Hospital 763-566-6000
Chanhassen Vet Clinic 952-934-8862
Cottage Grove Animal Hospital 651-768-0200
Maplewood Pet Care Clinic, P.A. 651-770-8373