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Emerald greys

Issue five

Fall 2010

Greyhound Pets of America/Emerald Coast

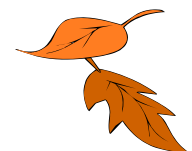
From The Top, Adoption Coordinator, Marsha Kelley

My name is Marsha Kelley, and I am the adoption coordinator for Greyhound Pets of America/Emerald Coast. I became involved with GPA/EC in 2002. In 1992 we moved back to Pensacola from Lemoore, California, to be closer to elderly parents. We had two mixed breed dogs and three cats at the time.

After those dogs passed away, I began to notice the pictures and bios of fostered greyhounds in the Pensacola News Journal. Max and I went to our first meet and greet at the Books-a-Million in Pensacola. So many beautiful greyhounds - we wanted to adopt them all! In December of 2002, we adopted our first greyhound, a big brindle boy, BI Help Wanted, affectionately called Ted. The next year we added Pelican Andy, known as Andy. We added Rapido Dash Cash, known as Dash, to our family in 2008. We also have a small dog and three cats. We lost Ted and Andy this year but still have many beautiful memories of our boys.

I was invited to attend a board meeting in 2003, and found it very interesting. Being new to the world of greyhounds I sometimes found it over my head. After attending several meetings, I was asked to become a board member. I was mentored in the adoption process by Susan Dombrowski. Many thanks to Susan for her patience and expert teaching skills. It seems like yesterday, not seven years ago.

We are also foster parents. I have lost count of the fosters that have passed through our home. Each greyhound is unique and amazing in its ability to adjust to a different life from the dog track, and blossom into a wonderful family companion. I always feel a sadness when each foster leaves, but I know there is another waiting for me and his or her chance at that different life. Fostering is additive to me. Try it you'll get hooked too!



Upcoming Events, Barbara Nuckols

As another holiday season approaches, GPA/EC is making plans for the upcoming holidays. Some changes are already in store for the picnic/Halloween party at Charlie and Barbara's home. We will be combining the Halloween party with the Fall picnic/camping trip. I know you all will be excited about this one. The date will be October 29-31, and the place is Perdido Key KOA in Lillian, Al. They do have cabins available and the hounds are welcome. For reservations for camping and the cabins the phone number is 1-251-961-1717. Mention that you are with GPA/EC, the greyhound group. We are still planning to have the costume contest, and the GPA/EC store will be there for your holiday shopping. You might just run into a mummy or two, or see a greyhound dunking for apples? Hmmm, maybe hot dogs?

Looking forward to Christmas, GPA/EC is planning a big Holiday/Christmas Party blowout at the Pensacola Greyhound Track. Catered food, greyhound store, silly greyhound games and of course, lots of time for you and your grey to meet and greet your fellow grey aficionados. However, we need to know what you want to do? Is there something special you would like to see added? Would you like to meet in a park instead of the track? Tell us your thoughts and let's work together to make this our best Holiday/Christmas Party yet!

So there you have it. Send all your wishes to me blnuckols@bellsouth.net. Get those thoughts in soon, as all the best places will soon be booked for the upcoming Christmas season.



Cartoon courtesy of Draw the Dog

Sponsoring News, Charlie Tuller

Happy Birthday to the Sponsoring Program

Three years ago on September 15th, Bettie and John Grinsted sponsored a sweetie name Sun Shaker to honor their Benjamin. It was our first sponsorship. They got things off to a greyt start, and since then, you have enthusiastically adopted this sponsorship program.

Included among the important functions this group needs to help the greyhounds, are functions such as fostering, volunteer time, and on and on. Supporting adoption by contributing, is as key an activity as holding a leash at a meet and greet. Funding directly translates to helping greys. However, the sponsorship program is not just a contribution mechanism, it is really participation oriented, and the intent is to have more activity and involvement than just writing a check. Your feedback tells us this involvement is a key, and one of the reasons you've adopted the sponsorship program.

In these three years, you all have sponsored three hundred and twenty six greyhounds. You've generated over sixteen thousand dollars of greatly needed help for other greys.

Your feedback tells us some of the things you like about the program, Clearly first is the fact that you are helping greyhounds and the adoption program. Other thoughts expressed have included celebrations like birthdays, gotcha days, endearing moments, contest winning, cute names, and too many others to list. The love of greys and desire to help ties them all together. There is no one specific reason expressed for your sponsorship, " its' mostly I just love my greys and want to help others."

Your feedback also says you like the package of photos and information you get to help you keep track of your sponsored greys. Knowing that your sponsored greyhound has moved to foster home, has a request pending, or some other news, is helpful in keeping you up to speed on your sponsored greys' progress.

We are now getting more greys on the Website. If you haven't sponsored yet, give it a try. To you folks who have sponsored, "bless you and keep it up."

"It's all about the dogs"



Happy Birthday and thanks to Charlie for keeping this greyt program going!

The Dr's Office

*Suzanne Stack DVM
Greyhealth*



Hock Fractures

Right hock fractures are the most common career ending injury of racing greyhounds. Certainly, more toes and metacarpals/metatarsals (quarter bone) are broken, but their racing careers are more often salvageable. The right hock is usually the one to go, most commonly in the first turn, where the greyhound pushes off with it on the banked curve. There is perhaps one fractured left hock for every thirty fractured right hocks.

My feeling is that adoption groups should not reject these greyhounds because they lack funds to fix the hocks. To heal adequately for pet purposes, all the majority of hock fractures need is six to twelve months of house or kennel rest somewhere. The "how long" depends on how picky the adopter is--does the gait need to be perfect before they will accept the dog?

The reason the hocks heal so well with so few repercussions is that the usual fracture is a slab fracture of a tiny bone (central tarsal bone) in a non moving joint. Sometimes, more than one of these tiny tarsal bones is involved- there are five of them, plus the larger talus and calcaneous bones making up the hock joint. Since the fracture is a non moving joint to begin with, the arthritis that develops around the site is fairly insignificant to the dogs movement. And it takes movement to cause pain.

There are a few more disastrous hock fractures, such as when the tip of the calcaneous bone (tip of the hock) breaks off and the dogs Achilles tendon goes with it. This is a dog that really needs surgery to function right. But the bottom line is, I still wouldn't let him die for lack of funds for an orthopedic surgery. My old lady Jamie, is living proof that while these greyhounds are gimps (mechanically their Achilles tendon does not work) they're not in pain for the rest of their lives.

Many kudos to the groups who do fix these fractures. And also to the racing owners who will pay for surgery even when the greyhound can no longer race. But for those groups who can't afford it-- if you have a foster home that can give a hock fracture rest (no galloping) for a long, long time, please take these greyhounds and give them a chance. Except for the big calcified bump on that hock, they will be as good as new once healed

Donations

Thank you

Jennifer Westerman

Michael J. Kochinski

Nola Caudell

AT&T

Pensacola Greyhound Track

Joe and Nancy Underwood



For those of you who are fond of our English language.....

1. The bandage was **wound** around the **wound**
2. The farm was used to **produce produce**
3. The dump was so full that it had to **refuse** more **refuse**
4. We must **polish** the **Polish** furniture
5. He could **lead** if he could get the **lead** out
6. The soldier decided to **desert** his dessert in the **desert**
7. Since there is no time like the **present**, he thought it was time to **present** the **present**
8. A **bass** was painted on the head of the **bass** drum
9. When shot the **dove dove** into the bushes
10. I did not **object** to the **object**
11. The insurance was **invalid** for the **invalid**
12. There was a **row** among the oarsmen about how to **row**
13. They were too **close** to the door to **close** it
14. The buck **does** funny things when the **does** are present
15. A seamstress and a **sewer** fell into a **sewer** line
16. To help with planting, the farmer taught his **sow** how to **sow**
17. The **wind** was too strong to **wind** the sail
18. Upon seeing the **tear** in the painting ,I shed a **tear**
19. I had to **subject** the **subject** to a series of tests
20. How can I **intimate** this to my **intimate** friends

Foster Family, Pat Richoz

Fostering was something I thought about when I adopted my first greyhound, Omar, in 1998. I was still working full time, and Omar stayed with my mother while I was at work.

In December of 2003, I retired and was able to become more involved with the greyhounds. My first foster was Missy, a small white and black girl, who had come all the way from Guam. After she was adopted, my next foster was Iris, a beautiful blue girl. As sometimes happens, I flunked fostering! I went on to foster twenty two more greyhounds, which included another "failed" foster named April.

I had to take a break from fostering for several years, to take care of my mother who became ill. I am now back fostering and my new foster is a big white and fawn boy named Gunny, who has been a joy to foster.

Of all my fosters, I have to admit my absolute favorite was a brindle male named Tate. If I hadn't had two greyhounds already, Tate would have become my third "failed" foster. He has a great family who loves him, and I do see him occasionally when I day sit him.

I have enjoyed the greyhounds that I fostered and have missed many of them when they go on to their new families. I try to remember when they leave, that my house was their first stop on their way to a new life. I really can't adopt all of them, so that makes it easier to let them go.

All of us who foster love what we do. We get to fall in love with so many greyhounds, and then pass that love along to new families. Try fostering, it could be the best thing you've ever done!



Pat also served on the GPA/EC Board of Directors for several years, and is currently a site leader at the Pensacola Petsmart once a month. Thanks, Pat, for all you do, and welcome back to the rewarding world of greyhound fostering.

Barbara



Pat with Carly and Iris

Adoptions

K Rivera Ruth

Foster, Greg & Nydia Harding

Adopt, Greg & Nydia Harding

N Dania

Foster, Max & Marsha Kelley

Adopt, Robert & Sandra Barnett

Haht

Foster, Skip & Ann Bollens

Adopt, Laura Mueller

C Bar Silenceem

Foster, Chris & Cathy Streeter

Adopt, Craig & Paula Retzlaff

Tom S Bugs Bunny

Foster, Sam & Stephanie Sharpe

Adopt, Robert & Alice Klein

Yo Skit Skat

Foster, Max & Marsha Kelley

Adopt, David Stanton

Hot Press

Foster, Chris & Cathy Streeter

Adopt, Lawrence & Kathy Mizak

Magic Goliath

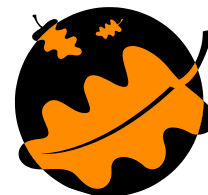
Foster, Chris & Cathy Streeter

Adopt, Charles & Bonnie Woodson

Flintstone Dean

Foster, Max & Marsha Kelley

Adopt, Lawrence & Kathy Mizak



Happy 
Halloween



Grey Tails, Remembering Lady

We Lost our toy poodle in 2001. My wife, while undergoing chemo therapy in 2005, decided we needed to get another pet to fill the void our poodle left.

After much searching for the perfect companion for my wife, we decided on the calm and gentle greyhound. I found an ad in the newspaper that had retired racing greyhounds for adoption. When we arrived at the farm, we looked at several greyhounds, but just couldn't connect with any. Then I saw a red female wearing a red bandana. We asked to see her. Her racing name was Lj's Faline. And yep, she was "the one."

We named her Lady. She was four and a half years old. When we got her home she got a much needed bath and later took a trip to our vets office for shots and a check-up. She spent the first three days in our home, hiding in the guest bathroom- we had to earn her trust. We had the pleasure of having Lady for five years. We adopted her and gave her a good home and in return she took me for daily walks and helped me lose thirty - five pounds!

We miss Lady very, very much. We hope she found all of our other pets at the Rainbow Bridge.

Rudy and Monika White



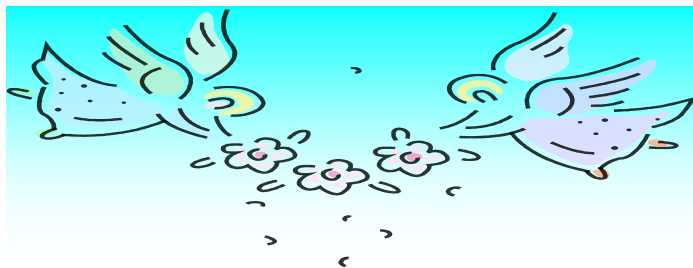
On the door of a little country store a stranger noticed the sign DANGER BEWARE OF DOG. Inside he saw a harmless old greyhound asleep on the floor. He asked the store manager, "Is THAT the dog folks are supposed to beware of?" That's him he replied.

The stranger could not help but be amused. "That certainly does not look like a dangerous dog to me. Why in the world did you post that sign?" "Because," replied the owner, "before I posted that sign, people kept tripping over him."





Rainbow Bridge



Cee Bar Cally (Cally)

7/19/1997 - 6/17/2010

Dick and Evelyn Nachman

BI Help Wanted (Ted)

11/10/1996 - 6/28/2010

Max and Marsha Kelley

Dublin Jail (Emmett/Comet)

2/10/1996 - 6/30/2010

Ron and Konda Maynard

Dolla Imminent (Emmett)

6/7/1998 - 6/30/2010

John and Bettie Grinstead

Ala Qua Tasha (Tasha)

4/4/1996 - 7/8/2010

Mary Gerke

Lj's Faline (Lady)

8/1/2010

Rudy and Monika White

Kelso's Brittany (Brittany)

8/20/2010

Buddy and Mary Rickman

Dream Job

6/15/2010

Alfonzo and Gina Velasco

My Name is Brosman

6/19/2010

Dorty and Stacie Strickland

Ranger

6/22/2010

R.M. Kuharich

Fred Underwood

7/31/2010

Joe and Nancy Underwood

Ramblings From The "East Side Roustabouts"

The Panhandle of Florida, or "The Redneck Riviera," as it is sometimes fondly referred to, covers quite a bit of area, as does GPA Emerald Coast. So those of us in the "greater" Panama City area or the "East End" stay very busy as well with promoting Greyhound adoption, fostering, fundraising and the occasional social get-together!

Each month we continue to have our Meet & Greets at Books-A-Million and Petsmart showing off our wonderful fosters and occasionally setting up the Greyhound Store to raise \$\$! We also love to get involved with various animal friendly community events as well. We will be appearing at two big events coming in up October with "Barkin on the Bay" on October 16th, sponsored by the Bay County Humane Society, and "Responsible Dog Ownership Day" to be held on October 30th, sponsored by the Greater Panama City Dog Club! Two GREYT ways to promote Greyhound adoption AND raise \$\$! We will have a booth set up and hold raffles.

We have also been invited by Bay Families with Dogs to be the sponsored animal organization for "Yappy Hour"! This will take place on October 21st from 6-8pm at Salty Sue's on Back Beach Road on Panama City Beach. This will be a BIG fundraiser for our group! Salty Sue's is Panama City Beach's FIRST dog friendly restaurant. Everyone with any breed of dog is welcome to dine on the deck with your pooch! We will have raffles, games, food and drinks. Other sponsored groups in the past have done very well and have had large turn outs, so we are really looking forward to raising some BIG bucks and showing Panama City what AWESOME pets Greyhounds make!

If you're in the Bay County area, or even if you're not, please join us at these events! We have a great time when we all get together and "brag" about our forever Greys! And most importantly, we share the wonder and beauty of these creatures and how lives will be changed once you've welcomed them into YOUR home forever!

Karen Wilson
East End Social Director
& Mama of Zipn' Ada!

Greyhound Pets of America/Emerald Coast

Address and Phone Number For GPA/EC

GPA/EC

PO Box 64

Gonzalez, Fl. 32560

Phone Number 888-216-7236

Apple Cinnamon Drops

1 large apple

1/4 cup honey

1/2 cup water

1/2 teaspoon cinnamon

1 cup oatmeal

1 1/2 cups whole wheat flour

Preheat oven to 350 degrees

Core, slice, and mince the apple. Use a food processor if you have one. In a large bowl combine the minced apple bits, honey, water, cinnamon, and oatmeal.

Gradually blend in wheat flour, adding enough to form a stiff dough.

In a small bowl, add 1/8 cup wheat flour.

Spoon the dough by rounded teaspoons onto an ungreased baking sheet, spacing about 2 inches apart. Using the bottom of a glass dipped in the wheat flour (small bowl) to prevent sticking, flatten each spoonful of dough into a circle. Adjust the size of the drops based on how big a treat you like to feed your dog. Bake for thirty minutes, remove from oven, flip each cookie, reduce oven temp to 325, return to oven and bake for an additional 30 minutes. Cool overnight. This makes about 3 dozen cookies

Something new!!

A request has been made to include your greyhounds birthdays in the Emerald Greys Newsletter. I think that's a wonderful idea. So starting next quarter I will donate a page just for that. The time period will include birthdays for the next three months. The information I will need is the grey's pet name, birthday and your (the owner's) name.

I do have one request to wish a Happy Birthday, and that's to BeBe, who turned seven in August. BeBe's proud parents are Roy and Kathy Walker. Happy Birthday BeBe!!! My own two girls, are Molly and Bella. Molly is turning six in September and Bella is also turning six in October. Happy Birthday girls, we love you!

In the next newsletter, I will be glad to print greys' birthdays from the months of September to December to catch up, and then start the regular quarterly listings for the months of December through March. I will post the deadlines to get your info to me.

Barbara