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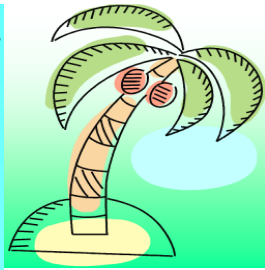
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Emerald greys

Issue seven

Spring 2011

Greyhound Pets of America/Emerald Coast

Roger Spencer *President*

Greetings GPAEC gang! I'm Roger Spencer, and I can't tell you how honored I am to be following Ann as the President of this outstanding organization. Fortunately, Ann is still very much involved with arranging forever homes for our gorgeous greys, 916 last year! Ya set the bar kinda high, didn't you Ann?

Barbara, our talented newsletter editor, asked me to introduce myself and reveal a bit more about my background, so here goes. I hail from the great state of Illinois, born and raised in a small town with all the Midwest values associated with growing up in the 50's and 60's. We had all kinds of critters around the house (beagles, terriers, Flemish gait rabbits, a cat or two, even turtle doves for a while) that I'm sure drove mom crazy. Her five very active boys were a handful, and to this day I have no idea how she managed to keep us all on the straight and narrow. Well, dad had a lot to do with that too, and mom's ping-pong paddle was always at the ready.

Anyway, in 1967 I went off to the University of Illinois on a Air Force ROTC scholarship, and quickly learned I needed more support than the Air Force could provide. So I went back home in 1969 and married Jan, my high school sweetheart, and promptly put her to work with the university so we could both eat. Eventually earning a degree in aeronautical engineering, I entered the Air Force in 1972 and completed a brief career twenty one years later. We had been stationed at Eglin AFB in the early 80's and decided to come back here in 1993 to retire. My boss from that first Eglin assignment hired me to work for his engineering services company that supported Eglin's many missions and I've been working there ever since.



Continued on page 2

In With The New

As we approach the Spring of 2011, there have been many changes to Greyhound Pets of America/Emerald Coast. First and foremost is the "change of command." After many years of service to GPA/EC, Ann Bollens stepped down as the President of GPA/EC. She is still an active Board member, Director Emeritus, and doing what she does best, moving greyhounds! We thank you Ann for all your years of devoted service. Taking over the Presidency is a capable and well-known member of GPA/EC - Roger Spencer. See his story on page 1.

Something else to look forward to is the new Hound Dog Howliday. This is one you won't want to miss! The venue is changing to beautiful Gulf Breeze, Florida. This is a beach town just east of Pensacola. Gulf Breeze got national recognition as a wave of alien sightings were reported in 1987. (Read more about Gulf Breeze on page 3.) Rumor has it "They" are back, in the form of greyhounds?

Another note worthy change is that we have a new Meet and Greet Coordinator. Phyllis Hill, is taking over for Barbara Nuckols, who managed this position temporarily after the resignation of Lori Douglass earlier in 2010. Phyllis and husband Norman have volunteered to fill many vacancies in the GPA/EC group. Norman is now doing hauls, and Phyllis remains as site leader at the Pensacola PetSmart. Thanks to both of you.

Continued from page 1

So how do greyhounds enter into all this? My daughter got me hooked. She volunteered with a GPA group in Orlando while in college there. In 2002, we attended a Meet and Greet at Pensacola's University Mall one Saturday. We met a lady named Susan Dombrowski who tried her best to get me interested in a sweet little girl who had garnered Jan's attention. Well, I was just sitting there on the bench when Muddy Rain entered the scene with foster mom Joni Ostrich, on the other end of the leash trying to keep up with this giant red boy. He stopped dead in his tracks, stared right at me, and almost ran across the mall to put his head in the center of my chest. As they say, the rest is history. Muddy waits at the bridge now, cancer got him in 2006, but he left a big paw print on my heart forever. To even things out with Jan, Puzzle joined us in 2004 and is now queen of the castle. She is the sweet little girly dog Jan wanted all along. Well, I kinda like her too. Along the way we have had several fosters, some short termers, some long term, but every one leaving their mark on our lives as they now occupy their forever homes and bring joy to their human companions. And after all, that's why we do what we do-it's all about the dogs. See ya at Howliday!

Roger Spencer

President GPA/EC

Gulf Breeze, Florida, Venue for Howliday 2011



Gulf Breeze, Florida is a waterfront community of 6,189. The city of Gulf Breeze is located just east of Pensacola Florida. It has eighteen miles of waterfront and three protected bays where residents enjoy all sorts of waterfront activities.

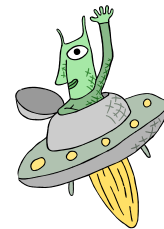
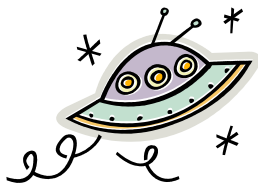
Gulf Breeze received national recognition when UFO sightings were reported on November 11, 1987. News of high quality UFO photos spread rapidly and became the subject of newspaper articles and talk shows, both television and radio.

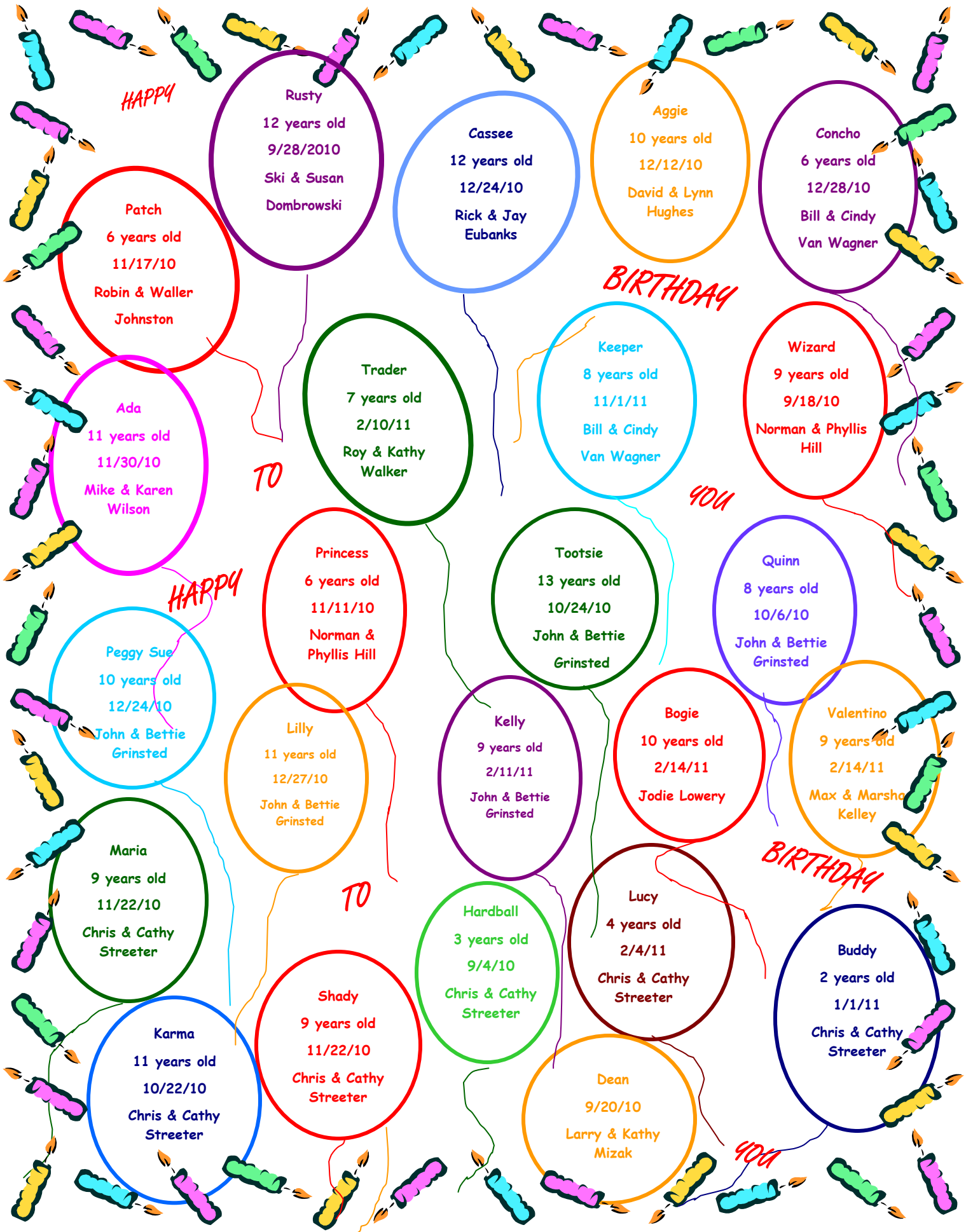
The evidence is a series of photographs and claims made by a resident of Gulf Breeze. It began for him on an evening in November. He documented a series of UFO sightings over a period of three weeks. These photos were taken with a Polaroid camera and were unusually clear. They at first generated great excitement. However, research done in the early 1990's revealed a trail of suspicious money leading to that Gulf Breeze resident, giving the initial indication that this was all a hoax.

Years passed and new evidence emerged, including the discovery of a model found in the attic of a house once owned by the Gulf Breeze resident. This model was similar to the UFOs in his photos, with the majority of opinions shifting to the possibility that the photos were fake.

So are they real or not? Other sightings as recent as 2009 have been reported. Maybe while in Gulf Breeze, and enjoying all the Howliday activities, you will witness for yourself a UFO hovering over beautiful moonlit Escambia Bay.

(Some content and information was taken from Wikipedia.)





HAPPY

Rusty
12 years old
9/28/2010
Ski & Susan
Dombrowski

Cassee
12 years old
12/24/10
Rick & Jay
Eubanks

Aggie
10 years old
12/12/10
David & Lynn
Hughes

Concho
6 years old
12/28/10
Bill & Cindy
Van Wagner

BIRTHDAY

Patch
6 years old
11/17/10
Robin & Waller
Johnston

Trader
7 years old
2/10/11
Roy & Kathy
Walker

Keeper
8 years old
11/1/11
Bill & Cindy
Van Wagner

Wizard
9 years old
9/18/10
Norman & Phyllis
Hill

TO

YOU

Ada
11 years old
11/30/10
Mike & Karen
Wilson

HAPPY

Princess
6 years old
11/11/10
Norman &
Phyllis Hill

Tootsie
13 years old
10/24/10
John & Bettie
Grinsted

Quinn
8 years old
10/6/10
John & Bettie
Grinsted

Peggy Sue
10 years old
12/24/10
John & Bettie
Grinsted

Lilly
11 years old
12/27/10
John & Bettie
Grinsted

Kelly
9 years old
2/11/11
John & Bettie
Grinsted

Bogie
10 years old
2/14/11
Jodie Lowery

Valentino
9 years old
2/14/11
Max & Marsha
Kelley

BIRTHDAY

Maria
9 years old
11/22/10
Chris & Cathy
Streeter

TO

Shady
9 years old
11/22/10
Chris & Cathy
Streeter

Hardball
3 years old
9/4/10
Chris & Cathy
Streeter

Lucy
4 years old
2/4/11
Chris & Cathy
Streeter

Buddy
2 years old
1/1/11
Chris & Cathy
Streeter

Karma
11 years old
10/22/10
Chris & Cathy
Streeter

Dean
9/20/10
Larry & Kathy
Mizak

YOU

Sponsor News, Charlie Tuller

You all are continuing to support your Sponsorship program and help a lot of greyhounds on their journey to find homes. By mid-February, 11 separate sponsors have contributed for 19 Greys. This brings your program in its 3 ¼ years of existence to a total of 184 sponsorships of 384 Greys. You guys are fantastic!

Only a short note, but "Thank you" isn't a short message, it's big time sincere! Nobody sits at your kitchen table and asks you to sponsor, it's your program!

BTW, we are getting inquiries from other groups in other states, and in Canada, on the specifics of our sponsorship program so theirs can be modeled after what you do. Good on you!

Charlie



Susanne Stack, D.V.M.

Greyhound Myths

The Greyhound myths by Dr Stack have run in the GPA/EC newsletter before. Here are just a few, but they are worth repeating.

Older greyhounds need low protein senior diets.

With greyhounds we're usually trying to keep the weight on the oldsters, not off of them. Low protein diets may cause muscle wasting and weight loss.

Greyhounds with diarrhea should be switched to high fiber food

This approach often backfires on greyhounds, who do better on meat based diets. Grain based diets or the simple switch to kibble are often the cause of diarrhea.

Alabama rot happens to track hounds from eating the raw 4D meat.

The strain of e. coli that causes Alabama rot is found in everything from apples to alfalfa sprouts.

Feed from raised feeders to prevent bloat

Bloat is mostly genetic and much more common in show (AKC) greyhound lines.

Bald butts are from laying in crates at the track

The cause of bald thigh syndrome is unknown. Bald thighs are seen with both low and high thyroid levels. Greyhounds who have never been crated or to the track have bald butts.

Adoptions

Kosmic Khaos (Kacy) Gary and Pat Hart_____	12/1/10
KB's Fine China (China) Doc and Pamela Wallach_____	12/16/10
Ulrick (Ulrick) Richard Bradley_____	12/31/10
RCHi Tailin It (Taylor) Alesia Sailors_____	1/4/11
Tomco Lavender (Bella) Carol Christensen_____	1/8/11
Superior Falcon (Falcon) Dave and Nancy Warren_____	1/9/11
JD Premier Gold (JD) Carolyn Powell_____	1/12/11
KB's Golden Girl (Goldie) Phil and Virginia Ireton_____	1/17/11
Boyz Uptono Good (Trouble) Alice and Francis Young_____	1/20/11
Roc A By Badgirl (Angel) Joe Castranova_____	1/27/11
Wind Chimes (Windy) Ed and Victoria Wrann_____	2/4/11
Amazin Dancer (Dancer) Marcie Strobel_____	2/12/11
Won Night Scandal (Sandy) Erica Wildinger_____	2/16/11
Tx's Muffin (Muffin) Steve and Ellen Fitzgibbon_____	2/15/11
Gem Springs (Gemma) Cheri Tapp_____	2/18/11
Conor (Conor) Daniel and Lindsay Bahrenburg_____	2/25/11

Donations



Texas Greyhound Assoc.

Jason Billington

Wendy Rushatz

Thomas Petagna

Blair Stephensen

Nola Caudell

Chuck London

Sharon Lindgren

Davie and Marsha Kaplan

Maggie Gellers

Kenneth Karadin

Handmade4Hounds

Chuck Anderson

Susan Hedges

Luke Miller

Stephanie Hertz

Rainbow Bridge



Farewell



JD Princess (Princess)

August 8, 1998 - December 14, 2010

Misty Dawn and Preston Harbin

Gene's Run Scott (Scottie)

April 3, 2000 - December 27, 2010

Sam and Stephanie Sharpe

Aramis

Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Struck

Fiery Farrah

Joe Castronova and John Kirby

Kangaroo Jack (Jack) 1/14/11

Carra, Dan, Carson, and Morgan Summers

MPS Be Joyful (Duchess)

May 18 2001 - February 16, 2011

Mark and Joan Cooper

Please remember a greyt friend of greyhounds ,

Kathleen Gilley

February 8, 2011



Fun Stuff

Cleaning House

S	W	E	E	P	I	N	G	N	I	P	P	O	M	M	B	N	W	B	F	N	R	T	E
L	A	I	R	E	T	C	A	B	I	T	N	A	E	L	C	O	T	I	D	Y	T	K	P
A	E	R	E	F	F	I	W	S	U	D	G	O	P	A	O	R	X	G	P	X	D	K	P
C	G	S	G	A	R	B	A	G	E	I	H	S	I	L	O	P	F	N	G	E	R	M	S
I	N	N	N	P	G	N	X	C	C	I	W	C	K	T	R	A	O	I	B	D	F	Y	L
M	O	K	A	Z	N	S	L	E	W	O	T	R	E	P	A	P	Y	R	D	N	U	A	L
E	P	O	R	T	I	U	R	Y	D	B	O	U	M	B	M	Z	I	P	C	I	R	W	I
H	S	E	R	F	T	A	E	N	N	W	P	B	U	L	M	S	I	S	F	W	N	A	F
C	S	A	A	T	S	H	I	N	E	T	U	B	U	L	O	S	E	N	I	P	I	T	E
O	S	U	E	E	U	W	X	S	W	C	B	I	C	T	N	R	E	T	A	W	T	U	R
H	W	R	R	R	D	P	U	P	K	L	Q	N	A	P	I	C	K	I	N	G	U	P	I
M	O	O	R	B	G	O	V	E	E	D	O	G	V	C	A	R	P	E	T	S	R	A	S
Z	F	I	L	T	H	Y	T	S	U	I	A	Q	H	U	F	O	R	O	S	I	E	O	G

dusting	windows	fresh	paper towels
sweeping	vacuum	fix	broom
mopping	carpets	bubbles	water
Swiffer	put away	sponge	garbage
rags	laundry	brush	rearrange
scrubbing	wax	clean	debris
Windex	wipe	spring	neat
chemicals	bucket	arrange	tidy
ammonia	trash	germs	organization
polish	Pine-Sol	antibacterial	apron
furniture	filthy	soap	housework
picking up	grease	refill	
declutter	shine	Magic Eraser	

To find the answer to the trivia question, look for a word or phrase that is hidden in the puzzle, but not in the word list

Trivia: From 1970 through 1990, Nancy Walker played the role of a waitress who promoted Bounty paper towels. She became famous for the line, "the quicker picker-upper." What was the first name of Nancy's character on these commercials?

Answer: _____

Super Word Search Puzzles - www.superwordsearchpuzzles.com

Pet Doors

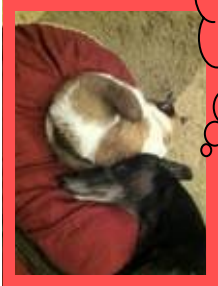
Pet doors, good idea or not? We installed a pet door about four years ago. It was probably one of wisest investments we made in a long time. We are retired, but the constant task of getting up to let one dog after the other out or in, got old very fast. We have five dogs, three of which are greyhounds and two small dogs. You can imagine the frustration when they all decided to want in or out at different times, and they usually did!

The pet door has been a valuable addition to our home. We all have times when we are away from home longer than expected, and worry about the dogs potty time. This is especially true if you are a working family. The pet door gives your pet the freedom to come and go as needed. It gives you the peace of mind you won't have to come home after a long day at work to clean up doggy messes.

Those are the advantages. The disadvantages are minimal, some things to consider are: is your yard safe, are your gates secure, is your dog a fence jumper or a digger, and can you trust your

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Greyt Pals



Aah Nap time



OK, you can stay



Ya think you could spare a crumb?



When did you say Santa is coming?

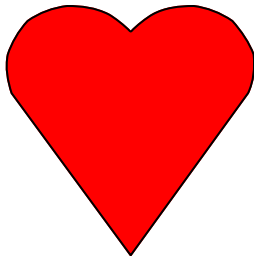
I luv so much, you hunky man!
XXXXXXXXXX



Eew who cut the cheese?



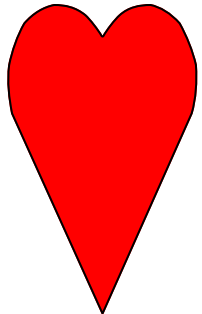
Just one more little itsy bitsy kiss



You' make a greyt pillow!



You take up too much room, Move over!



Letters to States Attorney For Ebro Dogs

Rep. Esteban Bovo, Jr
 Chairman
 Business and Consumer Affairs Subcommittee
 Economic Affairs Committee
 204 House Office Building
 402 South Monroe Street
 Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300

February 21, 2011

Senator Dennis L. Jones, D. C.
 Chairman
 Senate Committee on Regulated Industries
 408 Senate Office Building
 404 South Monroe Street
 Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

Dear Mr. Chairman

As president of the board of directors of Greyhound Pets of America, Emerald Coast Chapter (GPAEC), I write to urge you and the Business and Consumer Affairs Subcommittee convene hearings as soon as possible into the October 29, 2010, tragedy at Ebro Greyhound Park. State inspectors, responding to our complaint, found at least 37 Greyhounds dead or dying from dehydration and/or starvation. More were later found in the nearby area dumped under a highway bridge. This level of cruelty is horrendous and absolutely intolerable. Even though this incident is apparently limited to a single kennel operator currently in the custody of the Washington County Sherriff's Office, the Greyhound racing industry at large and state regulators must do better. We had a similar incident at the Pensacola track in late 2009 with over 20 dogs lost. That trainer still faces legal action.

The Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering convened a special meeting November 2, 2010, and invited members of the racing industry and Greyhound adoption organizations to testify. The purpose was to brainstorm ideas to improve regulation of Greyhound Racing and to improve enforcement of regulations and laws already existing.

Among the ideas discussed:

- Banning overflow kennels and requiring tracks/kennels keep fold up crates readily available to temporarily house additional dogs when required.
- Developing a better system of documenting and monitoring dogs injured while racing.
- Establishment of a minimum kennel earnings threshold and reporting system to alert track and state regulators to increase inspections to ensure the proper care and feeding of all Greyhound inhabitants.
- Better enforcement of current vaccination requirements.
- Requiring the track veterinarian be available to kennel compound operators to distribute medications or administer vaccinations as well as to provide care for race related injuries as currently stated in FL statutes.
- Capping the number of active racers for every kennel at every track.
- Documenting detailed information on every dog leaving or arriving at a track kennel compound such as; owner, NGA registration numbers, destination, or name and location of previous kennel operator/trainer.
- Forbidding the licensing of minors as racing dog owners, track compound trainers, or kennel operators.
- Requiring track managers and kennel operators to enter into a lease agreement with specific responsibilities identified for the care and welfare of all dogs in the kennel, whether live racing is underway or not.
- Requiring successful completion of a suitable length apprenticeship under an experienced and licensed trainer/kennel operator before being eligible for a trainer's license, as was once the case in Florida.

The racing industry, state government, and Greyhound adoption communities simply must come together to identify and resolve issues that led to the Ebro tragedy so such will never occur again anywhere in Florida. We aren't asking for justice for the starved dogs. The legal system will accomplish that in time. What we are urging is for all human participants in Greyhound racing to act now to regain their humanity.

Sincerely

Roger L. Spencer
 President, Board of Directors
 Greyhound Pets of America, Emerald Coast Chapter
 125 Lake Lorraine Cir
 Shalimar, FL 32579

Please remember the Ebro Greys and send your letters to either of the above addresses. We can't let this be put on the back burner. Your letters are important and will let our state legislators know we do care and expect justice.

Greyhound Pets of America/Emerald Coast

Continued from page 8

Address and Phone Number For GPA/EC

GPA/EC

PO Box 64

Gonzalez, Fl. 32560

Phone Number 888-216-7236

Pet Doors continued:

pets to get along for extended periods of time while you're away? If the disadvantages are not a concern, then maybe a pet door will work for you too.

The next thing to consider is the size. As I said, we have three greyhounds and two small dogs. We decided the extra large pet door served us best. Our small dogs can navigate in and out with no problem, and the greys have plenty of back clearance so not to scrape themselves as they enter and exit.

For those of you who are limited to a sliding patio door, that's not a problem. They make a pet door for that too. They are relatively easy to install and can probably be a Saturday afternoon project. Training your dog to use the pet door is pretty simple. Some dogs just seem to know what to do, others may take some coaxing with treats to get the hang of it. Once they learn what the pet door is for, they will love the freedom and so will you!

Easter Sunday

Easter Sunday is coming up soon. A holiday to watch your pets closely. Easter baskets full of chocolate eggs, and candy, are very tempting to pets. Don't forget the stuffed bunnies that may not be pet safe. Your pet will not know the difference from their stuffed toys and the Easter stuffed toys.

Another thing to beware of this time of year, it's spring! After a long and cold winter we all have cabin fever, and are looking forward to doing some Spring planting. Some plants are toxic to pets if ingested. Bulbs such as Day Lily, Gladiolas, Daffodil, and Iris are just a few. If you see your pet chewing/eating something they dug up from the yard or flower bed, it's best to check and make sure it's not a plant or bulb. It's a good idea to know the poison control number in your area in case of accidents.

On a lighter note, have a safe and Happy Easter!

St Patrick's Day
March 17

Easter Sunday
April 24