

Message from New President Jim Shofstahl

I would like to thank Rory for all the commitment he has given to and the time he has spent over the years running Greyhound Pets of America and helping greyhound adoption and greyhounds in general. Without Rory's devotion to greyhounds during his time with Greyhound Pets of America many greyhounds wouldn't have made it to their well-deserved retirement life. I also wish him success in his future endeavors.

Greyhound Pets of America could not exist without all of the volunteers that run the chapters and the national organization. Without these volunteers we couldn't have placed more than 80,000 greyhounds. Your commitment has been greatly appreciated – especially during the trying times (i.e. when a track closes). The next year could be a very trying time for all of us if Florida adopts the decoupling legislation that is being considered by the legislator. If this legislation is approved, we could see thousands of greyhounds become available for adoption in a very short period of time. The impact of this legislation will not just be felt in Florida but through-out the entire country and in adoption groups outside of GPA.

In 2006, some changes were occurring at my work that a co-worker thought were very reminiscent of comment on a new TV show (30 Rock). Jack Donaghy (played by Alec Baldwin) upon taking over the TV division stated "That sometimes you have to take something that is working perfectly well and make changes to it make it your own". Well I don't prescribe to that notion, but then I did realize we would have to make some changes at the GPA National level since the Vice President position was vacant when I took over as President. Tonya Bearer (GPA – Tampa Bay), our Executive Secretary, has agreed to assume the position of Vice President. This of course meant that the Executive Secretary position was also open. Dana Nutter (GPA - Charleston) has agreed to take on the position of Executive Secretary. Their dedication and support to greyhounds and GPA is greatly appreciated.

Once again I wish to thank everyone for helping find homes for the greyhounds that we all love and I look forward to working with all of you.

Jim Shofstahl

Thanks Rory For Your 10 Years of Service

By Alane Shultz



Rory Goree

Many of you may not realize it but Rory Goree has been a GPA National Officer for 10 straight years, nine of those being President. I was fortunate to have been a national officer working with Rory for many of those years to the present. I think that those years have been the most productive positive growth years since GPA's formation in 1987. There are many things to mention. I'm sure I'm leaving out some important events or accomplishments but highlights are: providing grants from GPA National to chapters, start up funds for new chapters, the 7 X 7 Committee, the beautiful pair of Lenox Greyhounds, the Emily Griffin Memorial Injury Fund, free ads for GPA Adoption in the Greyhound Review, making the national meeting into the North American Greyhound Adoption Conference which included non-GPA greyhound adoption people and this will hopefully make a return for future meetings, the Online Radio Show Greyhounds Make Great Pets, the Juarez Mexico track closing, GPA National attending major events such as Dewey Beach and the North American Veterinary Conference, most recently rewriting the Policy and Procedure Manual and more! The downside was there were headaches to deal with as well plus you can't make everyone happy all the time and no one is perfect! The GPA National President is human too!

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Meet Jim Shofstahl

Pat Roberts of GPA El Paso, TX stated that “when I realized the problem with the dogs in Juarez was more than my little group could handle, I turned to Rory for help. He didn’t hesitate for a minute. Rory was the driving force behind getting all the dogs back home safely. There was a very real risk to all of us but that didn’t deter Rory at all. He was not about to let those American dogs stay in Juarez in the situation they were thrown into. A lot of us have our sweet babies thanks to the unending effort of Rory.”

Gary Guccione, the Exec. Dir. for the National Greyhound Assn., commented “Rory is one of those special, soft hearted people, with much of the room in that heart reserved for his feelings toward greyhounds. It became apparent early on in our relationship that he would do anything that would benefit greyhounds—even a single, individual greyhound. He proved that time and again during his term as GPA president. If it was cooperation that would bless their lives, he’d do it. If it was confrontation, he’d do it. Even if it meant war, yes he’d do it. His devotion to the breed and to the cause he championed is something I’ll always admire and remember. The lives of thousands of greyhounds have been altered for the better because of the efforts of Pres. Goree. Thank you, Rory.”

I don’t have a lot of time to search through years of old Communiques but I did come across one from 2004 with some information about who Rory was and is. This is also true of many of us doing greyhound adoptions. Rory stated “I was recently asked by an author working on a story why I do what I do for the greyhounds? Simple, Anna Marie awakened my soul. It is hard for those who have never experienced the awakening process to understand, but once achieved, the wonders that these royal hounds bring to our lives is truly remarkable. Some may consider us nuts, but that is because they haven’t been privileged to the awakening process. Since that day when Anna awakened my soul, I have a new found respect for the process that is adoption, a privilege that not everyone is fortunate to participate in. We have learned that the adoption process is a process that is about responsibility, commitment and seeing to the safety and care of our greyhounds from the day they enter our program until the day they cross the Rainbow Bridge.”

We wish Rory and his wife Kathy the best and continued inspiration through our beloved greyhounds.

Jim grew up in a small town in Western Pennsylvania. He graduated from the University of Pittsburgh with a B.S. in Chemistry in 1983 and then earned his Doctorate in Chemistry from the University of Akron in 1988. After a one year faculty position at the University of Akron, he joined Waters Corporation in 1989 as a scientific programmer in their mass spectrometry group. Two years later Jim left Waters and joined his current company, Thermo Fisher Scientific, where he has worked for the past 20 years. Jim is Lead Software Scientist for Life Sciences Mass Spectrometry at Thermo and specializes in Proteomics, Metabolomics, and Mass Informatics software.

Jim and his wife Carolyn adopted their first greyhound, Casper (Wigwam Diamond – 5/1997 to 1/2011), in July of 2001. Casper went into a bit of depression not having another greyhound around, so Jim and Carolyn started doing some Meet & Greet events and dog sitting so that Casper could spend time with other greyhounds. In January of 2002, they adopted their second greyhound, Wendy (BC Miss Peggy – 11/1999 to present) so that Casper would have a full time companion. While Casper was a fairly low key greyhound, Wendy was the complete opposite. She really didn’t calm down until her 10th birthday. They were adopted by their third greyhound, Pete (Dear Mr Barnhorn – 6/2001 to 7/2008) in late 2006 after he bounced and came to their house to be fostered. Their fourth greyhound, Jack (DLT Jack Daniels – 12/2005 to present) was adopted in September of 2008.

Jim and Carolyn became placement representatives with their group, Greyhound Adoption California / GPA –Northern California, in the fall of 2001. At that time the chapter was a sub-chapter of GPA – Orange County. When their chapter became a full chapter of GPA, they were asked to become Board Members for the chapter. He became Vice-President in 2005 and then became President of the chapter in the fall of 2006 when the original president (Ann Sanders) passed away.

In his spare time, Jim is into bicycling, motorcycles, collecting Hot Wheels cars, and woodworking. He recently put some of his wood working skills and what he learned while watching 25+ years of This Old House to use in remodeling the kitchen and bathroom in their house in Pleasanton, California.

You can find Jim on LinkedIn.

Can Class IV Laser Help Your Hound?

While the first development of the therapeutic laser was described by Albert Einstein in 1916, the later discovery of accelerated wound healing under a low intensity laser in 1967 led to a revolutionary form of treatment that many have come to rely on today. The diode laser was then invented in the late 1970's, giving modern society the ability to use high wattage lasers at a low cost.

Class IV laser therapy uses a type of laser that is also known as the k-laser. This laser is specifically engineered for highly therapeutic use. Class IV laser therapy is a medical breakthrough, and is now being widely used to treat pain that is resistant to other forms of treatment.

Although class IV laser therapy is a non-invasive form of treatment, these lasers are capable of penetrating five inches in from the skin's surface. This is quite a significant change from past devices in which the light and energy of the laser could not reach as far.

The energy used in class IV laser therapy is 100 times greater than that of the laser devices used in the past and class IV laser therapy is FDA approved. Many vets are using Class IV laser therapy as an alternative pain treatment over pain medications and all of their related side effects. Class IV laser therapy is used to repair scar tissue as far as five inches from the skin surface, which is quite a big difference from past devices that could only go a quarter of an inch in.

Therefore, the speed of healing is quicker and can stop unnecessary surgeries as well as repair damaged tissues, muscles, nerves, ligaments, tendons and joints. While doing this, class IV lasers also decrease inflammation, allowing for even further decreased pain and a better quality of life. Also, class IV laser therapy increases the blood supply, stimulates the immune

system, stimulates nerve function and it develops collagen and muscle tissues.

The scientific breakthrough that has brought class IV laser therapy to the forefront of pain management and treatment of a number of major disorders has not only revolutionized medicine, but has also brought substantial relief to a number of patients. Class IV laser therapy is recommended for many greyhounds with major injuries where pain management is required and also for those diagnosed with immune related

conditions and any other health condition which produces chronic pain. Laser Therapeutic Effects During each painless treatment, laser energy increases circulation, drawing water, oxygen, and nutrients to the damaged area. This creates an optimal healing environment that reduces inflammation, swelling, muscle spasms, stiffness, and pain. As the injured area returns to normal, function is restored and pain is relieved.



Joshua Halper, DVM, of Reynoldsburg, Ohio treats his patients with a Class IV laser. (Courtesy of K Laser)

K-Laser Class IV Therapy Promotes: increased circulation, immune stimulation, muscle relaxation, improved vascular activity, accelerated cell reproduction and growth, stimulation of nerve regeneration, and increased metabolic activity.

Positive Effects of K-Laser on the Body: improves and promotes healing, reduces pain and spasm, increases joint flexibility, reduces symptoms of osteoarthritis, improves peripheral microcirculation, detoxifies and eliminates trigger points and advanced pain relief. Benefits to Patient: faster patient satisfaction, delivers more laser energy to the target tissues, faster treatment times, effective treatment in 3-8 minutes and faster patient recovery time.

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A chronic case such as an arthritic pet does need ongoing treatment, practitioners say, but the good news is that the effects are cumulative, so the intervals between treatments often can be extended.

Practitioners speak of success rates above 90 percent, with some animals going from immobility and nearly constant discomfort to being able to climb stairs and go for walks again.

Some veterinarians cite the lack of scientific evidence supporting therapeutic laser efficacy as a deterrent in integrating the therapy into their practices, while those who have used the equipment report great success. “I was skeptical when I first started using the class IV



Pain relief from use of a K-Laser

laser, because it's difficult to realize the benefit of light,” says Tim Montague, DVM, of Eads Animal Hospital in Eads, Tenn. “Now, I've been using the laser for two years and I continue to be amazed in ways the laser helps to reduce pain, decrease inflammation, improve nerve function and the different modalities in which it can be used.” Not all vets have a class IV laser. Class IV lasers can cost from \$12,000 to \$26,000. Typically, patients begin with three treatments the first week, two the next and then one treatment each of the next two weeks. The price is typically \$300 to \$350, depending on the number and size of the areas to be treated. If you consider this for your greyhound you might want to ask the vet for some testimonial references or talk to other greyhound owners in your area that have done this.

Heat Stroke And Heat Stress In Greyhounds

By Carol Macherey, DVM

Heat stroke is an avoidable tragedy but it still kills some of our greyhounds every year. With warmer weather, we walk our hounds more,

jog with them, travel in the car, attend fun runs, leave them in their yard longer, and each outing carries the risk of overheating. Greyhounds are sprinters, not long distance runners. Few are conditioned for strenuous exercise and few can cope with high humidity and heat.

Heat stress is an overheated dog that can quickly become a heat stroke victim.

Dogs release excess body heat by panting, and minor sweating from their paws. On a hot and humid day, this simply can't cool them. While their normal body temperature is between 101° and 102°, during a heat stroke it can quickly spike above 105° and rise as high as 110° or more.

Recognize Heat Stress And A Heat Stroke

- Hard panting
- Rapid heart rate - normal is 60-90 beats per minute at rest
- Salivation and/or diarrhea
- Weakness
- Mental confusion, staring, seizures
- Rectal temperature above 104° indicates heat stress, and above 105° is approaching a heat stroke

First Aid For Heat Stroke

- Move the dog to air conditioning – preferably a car that can transport to the vet
 - Begin cooling with cold towels placed all over the body, including the head and ears. As the towels heat up, soak them again in cold water and replace.
 - Apply ice to the pads. Rubbing alcohol is also an effective coolant on the pads.
 - Take the rectal temperature every 5-10 minutes.
- Stop Cooling The Dog When It Reaches 102.5°.** In the aftermath of a heat stroke, the brain loses the ability to regulate temperature (hopefully temporarily) and you can quickly drop the temperature well below normal.
- Get the greyhound to the vet as quickly as possible, even if s/he seems to be “ok”.

At the vet, most heat stroke victims will receive emergency care – IV fluids, temperature regulation, and assessment of organ damage. Internal organs are not tolerant of heat stroke temperatures and serious organ damage can occur. Kidneys can fail, the brain can swell, an often-fatal blood clotting disease called DIC can occur. Heat strokes damage every area of the body. Death from a heat stroke can occur days later, not just at the time of the event. Your vet will continue to monitor for these complications.

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A pool can help prevent overheating

How Can You Avoid A Heat Stroke Tragedy?

- Always have cool or cold water available, both for drinking and for cooling
- Walk or exercise early in the morning, before the pavement heats up, and before the temperatures start to climb. Even when the sun sets, it can be very hot in the evening.
- Avoid any exercise in high humidity
- Use a “cooling coat” – usually terrycloth kept wet with cold water - available online or you can make one
- Keep your hound’s outings brief and be aware of what they’re doing
- **Never** leave your greyhound in a car
- Avoid obesity, a predisposing cause of heat stroke
- Don’t trust your greyhound to stop running when their temperature rises. A greyhound’s spirit keeps them running in heat, when they’re in pain, in sickness, and even with broken legs.

You Must Control Their Activity.

Does Your Greyhound Need a Harness?

There are many reasons owners use a harness on a greyhound, including safety concerns, medical conditions, or behavior issues. For a greyhound and other large breed owners it is a way for owners to exert more body control over a large dog. A dog harness is often essential for breeds with thick necks and small heads as they can easily pull out of their collars. No matter what your motivation for using a harness, finding the right style should be easy when you stop to consider a few factors before you shop.

Features to Consider in a Dog Harness are:

- Materials
- Type (training (i.e. no pull or no jump harnesses), H-harness, car seatbelt adaptable, step-in)
- Width of straps
- Size
- Adjustable
- Safety, strength
- Comfort
- Fashion
- Type of buckles
- Ease of Use

Desirable Features in a Dog Harness are:

- Convenient and easy to use
- Machine washable
- Strong material and secure buckles
- Safe
- Durable
- Guarantee
- Appealing
- Performance

Features to Avoid in a Dog Harness are:

- Avoid leather; it is too bulky and uncomfortable
- Avoid harnesses that are not adjustable

An ideal choice for a harness for your dog is an adjustable, easy to fit harness with secure buckles, that is comfortable, durable and machine washable. Choose from either the training harnesses, H-harness, car safety, or step-in harness based on your dog’s size, temperament, body type or for primary function and ease of use.

Shopping and Safety Tips for Buying a Harness for your Greyhound:

- Check to make sure the thickness of the harness straps are proportional for the size of your dog.
- Before you shop, take measurements of your dog’s chest so you can determine the appropriate size. Keep in mind that each harness type may have different or additional measurement points to assure proper sizing.
- The H-style and step-in harnesses tend to be a little easier for owners to put on.
- The no-jump or no-pull training harnesses need to fit differently than other harnesses. Follow the directions carefully, or have your trainer fit the harness the first time.
- The Gentle Leader® Easy Walk™ Harness tightens across the chest and shoulders when your dog attempts to pull forward.

- When wearing a No Jump Harness®, your dog will be able to walk but not run or jump.
- Car safety harnesses work with your car's safety belt. Generally they allow your dog to sit or stand comfortably while keeping him secure in the car. Some (but not all) can be left on for walking once out of the car.
- Buy a harness in a durable, washable material.
- A harness should be tight enough to prevent slipping.
- The harness material may stretch or loosen with age, use, or washing so be sure to check the fit each and every time you use it.
- Be aware that some dogs have the capability to slip out of a harness that is too loose, especially if they "put the brakes on" and you pull forward.
- Whatever type of harness you select, find one that is adjustable so it fits your dog properly and will expand if she does.
- Before taking your dog outside on the harness and leash, let her wear the harness indoors so that she becomes acclimated to it and you can be assured that it fits properly.



****The Premier Sure Fit Greyhound Harness seems to be the first pick for many greyhound owners. It is designed to place the pressure on the breastbone, not on the bottom of the neck which causes coughing and choking. It fits girths 25-36" and is a 1" width. It can be found at many online stores by Googling Premier Sure Fit Harness.*

Using Facebook to Promote Greyhound Adoption

By Lynn Hughes, Treas. GPA Emerald Coast

Everyone used to think that social media was just a way that teenagers and young adults wasted their time on the internet. I was one of them. At first, I just thought of Facebook a frivolous social network that was completely without merit but I have now changed my thinking. There are many businesses and non-profit charities using social media for free publicity and promotion and using it effectively.

Consider the following statistics provided by O'Reilly Media. Between September 2008 and February 2009...

- The number of Facebook users between the ages of 35 and 44 increased by 51%
- Facebook users among the ages 45-54 grew by 47%
- Facebook users ages 26-34 increased by 26%
- More than half of the 140 million Facebook users are out of college

As you can see Facebook is no longer just for teenagers. Why should you use Facebook as a way to get publicity for your adoption group? The answer is easy; you can use Facebook to gain new adopters, stay in touch with current and past adopters and feature available greyhounds and upcoming events or fundraising opportunities. You can also use it to communicate with the greyhound community at large.

This was one of the main reasons that GPA Emerald Coast decided to get our own Facebook page. When the tragedy at Ebro first came to light this past October, there was a great need to find a way to get information out to the general public about what was happening at the track and what our group was doing to make sure that nothing like this would be allowed to happen again. People wanted to know how the survivors were doing and they needed updates on the criminal case. Facebook gave us the perfect place to let the public know what was happening down here in the panhandle of Florida.

Facebook Offers you Facebook Pages. What does that mean? You can use Facebook Pages to create and give your adoption group their own profile on Facebook and the best thing right now is they are free. These pages give your adoption group an identity on Facebook which gives you publicity. Current adopters

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or even potential adopters can become fans of your page and by doing so, this allows them to follow you and receive any updates that you post to your page. Getting started is easy for your group. One of your board members can be selected to be the administrator of the page to start with. Later you can add other administrators who would be the only ones able to edit or post on your group pages. If they don't have their own personal Facebook page then they will need to go to www.facebook.com and sign up. On the welcome page you will see the "Sign Up" section. Just fill in your name, email, birthday and gender. Click the "Sign Up" button, and then enter the code you see on their security page. You will be sent a confirmation e-mail.

Once you sign up or if you already have a Facebook account, then you can click on a link on your profile page that says "Create a Page". It will give you the choice of what kind of page you want to create. For our greyhound adoption purposes, you would choose the Company, organizations or institutions button. By clicking on this icon, you will then be given a choice from a pull down menu of different categories. Scroll down until you come to non-profit and click on that. You will then type in the name of your group, check the agree to terms box, and finally the "get started" box. After all this, your group page will come up and you are ready to design it.

Most organizations will put their logo as their wall picture so they will be readily identified. Facebook is very user friendly with plenty of icons to just click on that are self explanatory. There will always be step by step instructions to help you load anything you want on your pages. Once you have your page up, then it is time to announce it to your group. To become a fan of your groups page, all people have to do is go to it and click the "like" button at the top of the page. The great thing about Facebook Pages is that every time someone becomes a fan of your page, all of their friends see that they have become a "fan." This often attracts other followers as well as creates a buzz regarding your adoption group and of course, your Facebook Page.

You can use your Facebook Page to not only share your group's information, but you can also use it to post photos, videos, applications and messages. Any activity that you perform on your Facebook Page is then broadcast into the mini-feeds of your followers. To keep your fans interested, you must be willing to post updates frequently and keep your pages current. If not, people will lose interest and "unlike" you. With the cost of advertising, this is a wonderful free way to get

publicity out about your greyhound adoption group and to promote greyhound adoption. It is truly a win-win situation.

The Dancing Greyhound History

by Gil Gilley

Dancing Greyhound history stretched across many states and several countries.

In 1978 it began as the all-breed Panama Canal Kennel Chapter Drill Team in Central America. In 1996 it was reborn as The Dancing Greyhound Drill Team covering North America. In 2003 it became The Dancing Greyhound Comedy Show. In 2007 it became The Singing and Dancing Greyhound Musical Comedy Review, complete with music to dance by. In 2011, it ceased. Whatever it was, it was the only one in the world. The Girls did some obedience moves, free-style dancing, retrieving, leaping and jumps. But, also included and never predictable, were the improvisations they chose on the spur of the moment.



The Dancing Greyhounds

This was a Greyhound show, run by Greyhounds. From the beginning, The Dancing Greyhounds were a full-time, owner-funded, unsponsored, not-for-profit, volunteer effort. It supported Greyhound adoption and all-breed education, with a wide variety of other public services included. The Team accepted invitations September through May. The winter months were spent servicing the Southeast; the summer months, they work camped in the cool mountains of Colorado to make gas bux. The Greys helped with trail patrol.

Kathleen Gilley, captive of the Dancing Greyhounds, was a native-born Zonian, raised in the Panama Canal Zone. She was a board member of the Club Canino de Panama and the Panama Canal Kennel Chapter. Kathleen was the Registrar for all pure-bred dogs born in that country, a licensed obedience instructor and a judge. (See <http://www.clubcaninopanama.com/cursos%20de%20adiestramiento.html> All the dogs at the bottom of the page were ours except for Marlene's Miniature Schnauzer.)

The Gilleys remained in the Panama Canal Area until the political situation became difficult.

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Gil retired in 1989 and they left their home country(Panama Canal Zone), North America became their new location.

Upon arrival in the United States, they bought a motorhome to look around this huge new continent. In fact, the Gilley Greyhounds never knew any residence other than a motorhome. Kathleen returned to her involvement with dogs by giving performances and seminars on traveling with canine companions to recreational vehicle groups. For nine years Kathleen wrote a monthly dog column for a major motorhome travel club. She developed programs to promote responsible dog ownership for schools and other civic groups in addition to the shows. Greyhounds were her dedicated breed since 1992. She lived and breathed Greyhound, answering all questions from anyone about Greyhounds.

Any kind of invitation as long as it was not anti-racing or animal-radical connected was accepted. We never charged for the mission; it was what we were doing with our retirement. The mission of The [Singing and] Dancing Greyhound Comedy Show was to educate and entertain. They performed therapy dog activities along with dog safety programs for schools. Although

primarily a dog resource, we did venues as diverse as pet fairs, state and county fairs, humane societies, schools, hospitals, parades, rehabilitation centers, senior centers, RV rallies, Founders' Days, libraries, churches, store and car dealership openings and mall entertainment.

We were the only troupe providing a mobile, full-service "Greyhound Infotainment Center" to help raise funds for organizations, spice up picnics, reunions, fun days or info-tain the younger generation. Full service included: Dancing Greyhound Comedy Shows, seminars on No Fear/No Pain Methods of Discipline, Do Your Own Dog Dentals, Introduction to Fostering, Behavior Problem Solving round tables and other dog-related subjects, with question-and-answer time. For youth groups or schools we had a special presentation on dog safety and reading canine body language, while the Girls provided comic relief in the back ground. We did nail clipping clinics at Greyhound gatherings.

The Dancing Greyhounds passed the half-million mile mark. They performed in 32 states, three Canadian provinces and at 17 tracks. It lasted 19 years. There were 16 Grey members over the years. The Team started with three but usually had six performers. There will never be another Kathleen or Greyhound Drill Team!!!



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**ADDRESS CORRECTION
REQUESTED**