



GPA Communiqué

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Inside this issue...

- 2 - GPA National Convention Facts
- 3 - Lynda Stewart & greytimages.com by Lisa Nolet
- 4 - Corporate Help by Rory Goree
- 5 - Bargain Shopper: Focus Insurance
- 6 - Blood Types in Dogs by Celeste Treadway, Texas Animal Blood Bank
- 7 - What is Glucosamine? by Claudia and the Greyhound Gang
- 7 - New Greyhound Book on the Market: Brynna and Mungo's Dream Book by Judith Brody
- 8 - Chapter Contact Information
- 9 - On the Web
- 10 - Chapter Profile: Oklahoma: The Greyhound Lady Reminisces by Cheryl Holmberg
- 13 - Fundraising Opportunities
- 13 - Pets Need Dental Care, Too, compiled from the www.petdental.com website.
- 13 - GPA Calendar

From the President...

There is a disease out there that can cripple a chapter. It is called Founder's Syndrome. Founders are dynamic, driven, passionate and decisive people. This trait is a strong asset for getting a new organization off the ground. However, growth can only occur by establishing a stable administrative infrastructure. Often founders cannot make this transition from a reactive, individualistic leadership to a more proactive, consensus-oriented style. When the organization remains managed according to the personality of the founder, reliable service cannot be provided. Often the organization experiences the same problems over and over again. Money keeps running out, board and members quickly come and go, plans are not implemented, the organization struggles from one crisis to another. No one seems to know what's going on and people become afraid of the founder.

No one is at fault; no founder deliberately sets out to damage his or her organization. This syndrome rarely takes hold without numerous Board and members exhibiting the same symptoms. Eventually funders may confront the founder or Board about ongoing issues and usually the founder will become increasingly anxious and defensive. At this point, it is likely that the founder will be replaced, or even worse, the organization will fold.

Some danger signs of this syndrome:

- Skepticism regarding planning, policies and procedures.
- Making reactive, crisis-driven decisions with little input from others.
- Selecting their Board members and members. Seeing these people as working for the founder as much as working for the organization's mission.
- Count on who ever seems most loyal and accessible, motivate by fear and guilt, usually without realizing it.

- Hold occasional member meetings to report crisis and to rally the troops.
- Work to remove Board members who disagree with founder. Have a difficult time letting go of the strategies that worked to quickly grow the organization, despite evidence that the organization can no longer absorb rapid growth without major change.

Actions a Board must take:

- Understand and take full responsibility for the roll of board member by staying focused on the roles and responsibilities of a governing board by ensuring it is operating effectively.
- Know what is going on in the organization or quickly come up to speed. Ensure job descriptions are up-to-date. Pretend the founder suddenly left the organization or died. Who will or can step in? Where are the files/ records? What is the cash flow situation?
- Conduct regular and realistic strategic planning. Focus on the top three or four issues facing the organization. Establish clear goals, strategies, objectives and timelines.
- Develop a fundraising committee. If a founder is struggling or leaves the organization, finances are usually the first major problem. Closely review regular cash flow, income and balance statements.
- Don't take on the traits of a crisis-driven founder or member. Meet consistently and make decisions based on mission, planning, and affordability, not on urgency. Avoid "quick fixes." This does not address the problem and may make things even worse.
- Regularly communicate with each other, through the appropriate channels, and remind each other the success of the organization and the changes are in

From the President...continued

the best interests of the group. Morale will improve once the organization perceives stability, security and progress.

- Support the founder with ongoing coaching and affirmation. The founder will change to the extent that he or she feels safe, understands the reason for change, and accepts help.
- Monitor implementation and deviations from plans. Don't hold the founder to always doing what is in the plan or budget, but do hold him or her to always explaining any variation and how they can be afforded.
- Establish a grievance procedure where members can approach the Board about concerns if they can prove they have tried to work with the founder.
- Monitor key indicators of successful change. Ensure ongoing communications between Board members and the founder, sound financial management, implementation of plans and policies.
- Take action if problems continue to recur over the next six-twelve months if attempting to follow the

suggestions listed and major problems are not resolved. Has the Board done its job?

The greatest contribution a founder can give is making a dream come true by inspiring others with the ability to keep that dream real. When that dream is realized and the organization is evolved, others need to take it forward. It may be that the founder will have to leave the organization if he or she cannot adapt and move forward. However, no great leader would leave an organization without making sure that organization survives their leaving. A sound transition plan, mutually developed with Board and members needs to be implemented to make sure the organization is passed on to capable hands. Hopefully, the founder will stay and see that what they started becomes a stable and well-respected organization. An organization with a resilient and far-sighted leader who embraces changes and most importantly, knows how to manage it.

Pat Toman

7 x 7...what is it you ask?

7x7 is the name of the new program your National Board has been working on this year with the funding and encouragement of the AGC. Simply put, it means placing 7000 greys by the year 2007. Since August, the National Board has made two on-site chapter visits with another pending. These visits are designed to help the individual chapters work together and be the best they can be. After the visit, each chapter has reported their adoption rate increased by 50%.

Many more details about the 7x7 program will be presented at the convention in July.

National Convention in Vegas

When: Friday - Sunday July 26-28, 2002.
Starts at 10am on Friday.

Where: The Riviera Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, NV. Call 1-800-634-6753 & tell them you are attending the GPA Convention to receive the \$75/night rate.

Who: All greyhound adoption groups are encouraged to attend! The registration fee will be announced shortly.

What to expect: The GPA National Convention is a "Greyt" educational and inspirational experience for all involved in greyhound adoption efforts. Meet, share and network with fellow leaders and volunteers striving to do their best on behalf of retired racers throughout the country. Expect to see Linda Blythe, author of "Care of the Racing Greyhound; A Guide for Trainers, Breeders and Veterinarians" and Lee Livingood, author of "Retired Racing Greyhounds for Dummies." Also expect to see a K-9 Therapist, an Animal Communicator, a greyhound fashion show and much more. For more information call 702-392-5822 or visit www.gpaconvention.org



**Pick A Winner...
Adopt A Greyhound!**

Silent auction donations from the GPA Chapters are needed for the convention. Silent auction donations should be mailed to: Lee Minardi, 3915 Callahan Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89120-2606 minardi@earthlink.net 702.898.0839

Lynda Stewart

It is with much sadness and loss that we share the news of the tragic death of Lynda Stewart, our friend, benefactor, and photographer. Lynda passed away Wednesday, December 19, from a cerebral aneurysm.

Lynda's path and mine were destined to cross because of our mutual love for the greyhounds. Her path began at the greyhound track and mine began when I adopted a greyhound at an art festival in Cocoa Village. Once she and her husband Sam adopted "Laurel" and I became involved in greyhound adoptions, our lives were linked. I've known Lynda for about 5 years and during that time I saw her art become more and more expressive, capturing the spirit of our beloved greys in a way that impressed more and more people into becoming greyhound owners. She took a lot of pride in each and every portrait she made of the greyhounds in our adoption kennel and the impact of these photos was amazing. People contacted us from all over the country wanting to adopt these animals because of the special look she captured in their eyes, or the silly way their tongue was hanging out, or the proud expressions on their faces. Soon, her talents were recognized by greyhound owners and adoption groups all over the world and all are mourning this great loss. Luckily, today many of us have lasting memories of Lynda in the photos of our pets hanging on the walls in our homes and on the t-shirts many of you have bought from our gift shop or from her booth at FunDays.

Lynda's love and generosity towards the greyhounds was endless. When Toby came into our program needing major medical help, Lynda stepped up right away, as she often did, and began raising the needed money. Her Ebay auctions of a specially designed "Survivor" shirt raised over \$1000.

Time out for a hug ...



*Our Greyt' photographer..
Lynda & friend "System Rock Salt"*

Lynda came to the adoption center every Wednesday to photograph the new greys in the kennel. Each time she came, she beared gifts...T-shirts, gift cards, pins...all to sell or auction to raise money for the greys. On the Wednesday of her death, Lynda brought a special T-shirt for my daughter that she had made to help raise money for our new bus. My daughter cherishes her gift and will always remember that she received it on the day that Lynda passed on.

Coincidentally, Joan Harris met Lynda at the GPA office that same Wednesday to pick up two photos Lynda had done of foster dogs that Joan had cared for...Sunrise Snow who recently died and Linda Pine, a senior gal they had fostered for several months. Maybe that photo of Linda Pine was the last one she delivered to anyone, as she was gone just a few hours later...a Greyhound named Linda...maybe this was just a coincidence. Joan and her family had been debating for a while if they should adopt Linda Pine, as six Greyhounds are quite a lot. However, they took this as a sign, and now Linda Pine has permanently joined the Harris household.

Sam Stewart, Lynda's husband, will carry on the business, Greyt Images. Be sure and check out their website at www.greytimages.com.

There is a huge hole left in our lives and in our organization, but we all know how enormously lucky the greyhounds and the volunteers have been to have Lynda Stewart as their friend.

Lisa Nolet

Rainbow Bridge for Volunteers

The young pup and the older dog lay on shaded sweet grass watching the reunions. Sometimes a man, sometimes a woman, sometimes a whole family would approach the Rainbow Bridge, be greeted by their loving pets and cross the bridge together.

The young pup playfully nipped at the older one. "Look! Something wonderful is happening!"

The older dog stood up and barked, "Quickly. Get over to the path."

"But that's not my owner," whined the pup, but he did as he was told. Thousands of pets surged forward as a figure in white walked on the path toward the bridge.

As the glowing figure passed each animal, that animal bowed it's head in love and respect. The figure finally approached the bridge, and was met by a menagerie of joyous animals. Together, they all walked over the bridge and disappeared.

The young pup was still in awe. "Was that an angel?" he whispered.

"No, son." The older dog replied. "That was more than an angel. That was a person who worked rescue."

Author unknown

In recent months, some questions have been posed to me and the President about various aspects of the corporation. What I have done is just put together some information on governing documents, board and officer requirements and associated powers. Hopefully this will be a helpful tool that you can use for new members who are joining the board or just refresher for yourselves.

Bylaws:

Bylaws are a document adopted by an organization which contains the basic rules for governing itself. Bylaws define the primary objectives of an organization and describe how that organization will function.

Bylaws must be consistent with the current practices and legal requirements of the state in which the organization is chartered. In our case, that would be California, since GPA is a California not-for-profit corporation.

Affiliated Organizations:

Organizations which are affiliated with a parent organization, either state or national, must concur with the requirements of the bylaws of the parent organizations. What this means is National bylaws supersede our local level bylaws. It is also important to point out that a chapter should not adopt provisions from the national bylaws that have no local application in a desire to conform. A case in point on this would be membership provisions. On the national level our membership is our chapters and the bylaws are written with this in mind. On a local level, our national membership provision would not work as your membership is going to be made up of volunteers or by people who have paid dues.

Membership Rights:

Under most states nonprofit corporation laws, a formal (legally recognized) member of a nonprofit corporation is usually entitled to vote on the following matters:

- Election and removal of directors;
- Amendment of Articles and Bylaws;
- Approval of merger or consolidation with another corporation;
- Election to wind up or dissolve the corporation;
- Sale of corporate assets; and
- Approval of a transaction involving an interested director or officer.

Members are also generally allowed to request to see the minutes of meetings and financial statements. Under IRS guidelines, if a member requests to see the books and

is not allowed, the IRS may impose a fine on the organization until time that the request is satisfied.

Board of Directors:

The board of directors is responsible for the general supervision and control of the corporation. The board delegate's specific tasks regarding day-to-day operations to the corporations' officers: overseeing the activities of management; and conducting much of its activities in board meetings.

Boards can and do delegate authority to corporate officers, and others. Boards sometimes create committees consisting of board and non-board members to focus on specific issues for the corporation. A board member can't delegate all of the board members' power and authority. For example, the board can authorize an officer or committee to study the feasibility of buying a kennel or renting one, the board can't delegate the ultimate decision of whether to purchase the property or rent.

Duties of Due Care and Loyalty:

Board members and corporate officers owe several duties to the corporation and its shareholders. If a board member fails to satisfy these duties, he or she may be personally liable to the corporation and shareholders. There are several duties, which exist: the duty of due care, the duty of loyalty, the duty of fair dealing, and duty to act in good faith.

Duty of Due Care:

As a director you need to exercise ordinary care. What this means is that you must act as any ordinary prudent person would under the same circumstances and use your best business judgment in reaching a decision. Some independent investigation of the matters being considered is required, because if you merely rubber stamp the recommendations and actions of management without further investigation and follow up, you may later be liable for failing to exercise your proper duty of care.

To satisfy the duty of care, you must:

- Act in good faith and in the best interests of the corporation;
- Exercise good business judgment;
- Use ordinary care; and
- Make an independent investigation and determination of matters presented to board.

Duty of Loyalty:

As a director you are also required to give your undivided loyalty to the corporation. To satisfy this duty, you must fully and fairly disclose all material facts in any

Corporate Help... continued

proposed transaction with the corporation which you have a potential conflict of interest. You should not profit personally from inside information.

Corporate Officers:

Since a corporation can not act on its own, it is dependent upon the actions of others. These others are generally corporate officers. Corporate officers are most often charged with the task of carrying out the directives of the board of directors. Corporate officers are appointed by the board of directors and serve at the pleasure of the board. Officers can be terminated at any time by the board, with or without cause.

Types of Authority:

- *Express or Implied Authority*

Without question, anyone authorized by name or office to perform an act on behalf of the corporation has authority. This is known as express authority. When the corporation seeks to borrow from the bank for that kennel, the board of directors will pass a corporate resolution customarily authorizing the president to negotiate the loan within certain parameters and to sign off on the loan documents.

- *Apparent Authority*

A more dangerous type of authority for corporations and others is known as apparent authority. Apparent authority is based on perception. For example, a corporation's president is presumed to have authority to perform acts that are related to the corporation's ordinary business.

- *Ratification Authority*

The final type of authority is called ratification authority. Technically, this is not a form of authority since this type is the result of events that occur after the agreement has been reached. For example, let's say the president signed off on the loan for the kennel without authority. The board could ratify the signing after being made aware of all of the terms and conditions of this transaction.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding by laws, board procedures.

Keep up the great work on adopting greyhounds, I also want to thank each and every one of you for all the countless hours and hard work you put into greyhound adoptions.

Rory Goreé



THE BARGAIN SHOPPER: INSURANCE

Focus: To give contact information of the leading Insurance Companies that insure rescue organizations like GPA.

Sportsmans Insurance Agency, Inc.
PO Box 799
1042 S. Joseph Street
Cape Vincent, NY 13618-0799
Phone: 315-654-2068
Fax: 315-654-3097

Kennel Pak
2533 South Queen Street
P.O. Box 931
York, PA. 17405-0931
<http://www.kennelpak.com/>
Rep: Sharon Bender
Phone: 800-237-7015

Information to gather before calling:

1. What kind of Policy are you looking for?
General Liability - Protects you against bodily injury and property damage claims of others.
Do you want your officers covered with an Directors and Officers liability policy?
2. Number of members in your organization
3. Number of events your organization has each month
4. Do you want to be able to attach a writer, such as a city?
5. How much coverage do you need? Usually it is a million dollar policy

What to look for

A Blanket policy
Covered no matter where you are
1 million dollar policy
2 million aggregate
500,000 fire coverage
Able to attach a writer, and
cost to add writer at time of event.

Blood Types in Dogs

Most people are somewhat familiar with the ABO blood type system in humans, in which a person can carry either A or B proteins, or both (“AB”), or neither (“O”). A and B are proteins which are carried on the surface of the red blood cell. Dogs also have various proteins, also called “antigens”, which are associated with the red blood cell surface. In dogs, these proteins, rather than being assigned letters to distinguish them, have been assigned numbers. Thus, we have the DEA (“dog erythrocyte antigen”) system.

There are currently at least 11 different red cell proteins which have been identified in dogs. Most dogs carry multiple proteins (sort of like an AB person). Several proteins have only been identified on limited occasions, and cannot be currently tested for by any commercial laboratory, and thus are of academic interest only at this point in time. Most of the others can be tested for by a limited number of special laboratories. Only one protein, DEA 1.1, can currently be tested for “on the spot” by a simple, quick test. This protein is carried by about 60% of the canine population. The most clinically significant types (the ones most likely to cause problems if transfused inappropriately) are DEA 1.1, 1.2, and 7. DEA 4 is carried by greater than 98% of the canine population, and thus is considered “universal”.

Most dogs do not have naturally-occurring antibodies against any of these proteins. Thus, if a dog has never before received a transfusion, in most cases he can be given an incompatible blood transfusion, and will likely not suffer any immediate or serious adverse effects. However, after just a few days, his body will form antibodies against the “foreign” blood protein which was introduced into his body, and will start destroying the transfused cells. Thus, the transfused cells will not survive as long in the recipient dog’s body, and he will not derive as much benefit from the transfusion. Furthermore, he will now be “sensitized” against that protein. Thus, if at ANY TIME in the future—even years down the road—he is given another transfusion of blood containing that protein, he could suffer an immediate and severe transfusion reaction. DEA 1.1 is the protein most likely to induce a severe reaction, called an ‘acute hemolytic reaction’ in which antibodies start attacking and destroying red blood cells.

As veterinary medicine advances, and more owners are opting for life-saving treatments for their beloved pets, the possibility of a dog receiving transfusions at multiple times in his life has increased dramatically. Thus, it is important to ensure, as much as practically possible, that a dog be transfused with type-compatible blood. At the

same time, there is a limited supply of “universal” blood donor dogs. So, knowing when it is OK to use “positive” blood is just as important as being able to supply “universal” blood. Since DEA 1.1 is the only blood type which we currently have a readily-available card test for, this is the only protein which a dog can be positive for, and still be acceptable as a red blood cell donor.

When the Texas Animal Blood Bank draws blood from a potential donor dog, the first thing we do is send samples of this blood to a laboratory in Michigan that performs canine blood typing. It takes a few days before we receive the results. We accept dogs into our program if they are positive for:

DEA 4 ONLY (“universal”), or
DEA 1.1 and 4 (“1.1 positive”).

Dogs that are positive for 1.2, 3, 5, or 7 are not used as donors, because we have no way of knowing the blood type of potential recipients in a timely manner.

Veterinary researchers continue to work actively at developing technology to allow on-site testing for the various blood groups, especially 1.2 and 7. As our laboratory capabilities advance, and compatibility between donor and recipient can be more quickly assessed, we can hope that more dogs will be able to safely donate blood to their canine brothers, and the current “blood shortage” will be alleviated. Until then, we continue to work at identifying as many “universal” and 1.1-only dogs as we can. We thank you for helping in this endeavor.

Celeste Treadway
Texas Animal Blood Bank



America's Flyways

This is the first time ever a greyhound has been on the cover of an aviation magazine. You can read the story on their website at www.americasflyways.com In addition to the cover, four more greyhound/airplane pictures grace the pages inside. So if you want a copy of this historic event, send \$4.25 to America's Flyways, 2637 E. Air Lane, Phoenix, AZ 85034. Mention it is for the February 2002 issue.

What is Glucosamine?

Learn a New Trick....for a healthier, happier dog

Hundreds of greyhounds have passed through my home to their forever homes. I started giving them glucosamine about 4 years ago, and I haven't stopped.

Glucosamine is a natural product that studies have shown can help arthritic pain in humans and hounds. An amino sugar, derived from shellfish, it is one of the basic building blocks of cartilage. Aging and injury causes cartilage and synovial fluids to deteriorate. By supplementing with Glucosamine, you can help maintain healthy cartilage longer. It repairs, not just masks pain. Think of it as a lubricant for the joints in the body.

Does your Dog Need It? If YES, to any of these....

- Older?
- Hard Running, Working?
- Any stiffness, at any time?
- Any broken bone, at any time?
- An ex-racing greyhound?
- Diagnosis from a vet?

Dosage

An arthritic dog (over 50 lbs.) needs 1500 mgs a day of just glucosamine. I also feel adding chondroitin (either in Shark or Bovine form – 1000 – 1500 mgs daily) is helpful. Not all glucosamines are created equal, so make sure that the product says high quality, standardized, mentions testing protocol and clearly spells out what is in the bottle.

The Greyhound Gang offers the least inexpensive, high quality Glucosamine around. You'll get a powder that will last 60 days (2 months supply) for only \$14.95. It's a win-win situation, as your dog will feel better, and hopefully live longer, and you'll know that your money goes to help more greyhounds still in need.

At the Gang (www.greyhoundgang.org), you can read:

- Q&A about Glucosamine
- Price Comparisons
- Testimonials from the many hounds using it

The Gang offers a **free sample** to anyone that adopts a senior hound, or a hound with a broken hock. Free glucosamine is available to people who promote the product on other breed dog lists, or with their own vet and this results in sales for the Gang, so they can continue to help greyhounds.

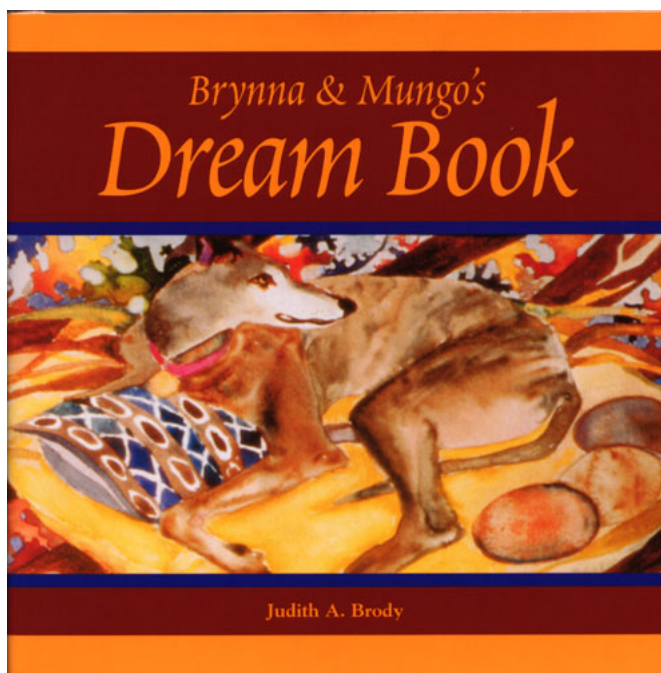
At any time, if you have concerns about your dog's health, please consult a veterinarian. Glucosamine is not a cure-all, but numerous studies have shown it can have a positive effect in arthritic situations.

I've personally seen it extend the life and happiness of my hounds.

Claudia & the Greyhound Gang

New Book: Brynna and Mungo's Dream Book

We are the publishers of an extraordinary new book on Greyhounds: Brynna & Mungo's Dream Book. In the pantheon of dogs, Greyhounds remain unique for their physical qualities and their position in the history of dogs. Judith Brody is a long time advocate of Greyhounds and has both fostered Greyhounds and adopted Greyhounds. The book combines her stunning artwork and stories and deserves to be on every shelf. We hope you will add the book to your collection for much can be learned from reading about the lives of these marvelous dogs.



Please visit our web site at: www.tearoadpress.com where you can order Judith's book and join the drawing (!) for one of her paintings from the book, for online orders only. This beautiful watercolor will look great on your wall.

There is a discount for bulk orders of 60% plus shipping. Bulk being a case of 24 or more.

Please feel free to call (208.322.7239) or email us (TeaRoad@aol.com) with any questions. Or Write to: Tea Road Press, P.O. Box 16590, Boise, ID 83715

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SEAdopt@GreyhoundAdoption.org

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Pacific Junction, IA 51561
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On the Web...

IRS Charitable Deductions

If you go to www.irs.gov, and search for document 526, you can download the Charitable Contributions Form from the IRS, and it has all the info you need relating to charitable donations. For more information on Charitable Deductions search the IRS website (www.irs.gov) for Tax Topic 506

Purdue University Bloat Study

Here's the URL of the report on the bloat study by Glickman at Purdue University for anyone who is interested. Greyhounds were not used in the study. The website includes a way to tell if your dog is more likely to get bloat. www.vet.purdue.edu/epi/clbr.htm

Email Support Lists

Circle of Grey, support list for owners of greyhound with cancer <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/CircleofGrey/>

A cancer discussion list for all dog owners, discussions will focus on the treatment of cancer in dogs <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/CanineCancer/>

A bone cancer discussion list for all dog owners, discussions will focus on the treatment of bone cancer in dogs. <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/CanineBoneCancer/>

I'm also collecting photos of tripods (and one bipod!). Please send a jpg to greypal@mindspring.com If the pic is not of your grey, then please get the owner's permission or tell me how to contact the owner. Here is the link to the Tripod Beauty album, it is a beautiful, spiritual place. Visit often and bring a hankie. <http://www.picturetrail.com/greypal/580877>

Doggie Products for sale on the web

A great resource of Doggie Dental Products http://www.drsfostersmith.com/product/sc_view.cfm?siteid=12&pCatId=59

www.glowdog.com/ - GlowDog is the *only* place you can get reflective pet wear made from illumINITE™.

www.abap.org/sponsors/greytoptions/caric.htm - Doggie Caricature

check out these sites and you can have YOUR dog(s) picture printed on your checks... Too Cool!!!!

www.uniquechecks.com
www.photo-checks.com

Do you need a leather greyhound mask, one can be found at www.falconrose.com/FALCONROSE/Furredx.html



For Your Chapter

Remember the Camera Ready Logo is located on the web server at www.greyhoundpets.org/logofiles/ The national website has had a new make over. If you haven't been by to see it please make a point to, and while you are there please make sure your groups contact information is correct. www.greyhoundpets.org

www.guidestar.org/about/ - The GuideStar Web site is produced by Philanthropic Research, Inc., a 501(c)(3) public charity founded in 1994. GuideStar's mission is to revolutionize philanthropy and nonprofit practice with information.

www.adialogue.com/shelter/- The Doggie Bag and Kitty Pack Gift Kit Program is a free program that's designed to assist you in helping new pet owners get used to the responsibilities of pet ownership.

Free Color Printer Program

Xerox FreeColorPrinters supplies your qualified organization with a Phaser network color printer, and you agree to 1) print a minimum number of pages per month, 2) purchase your supplies from FreeColorPrinters.com, and 3) provide us with a monthly print usage report.

If you participate in the program for three years, the printer is yours to keep. If the program is not right for you, you simply cancel and return the printer. Really, it's that easy.

Visit www.freecolorprinters.com to learn more and apply.

Running a meeting

It is a pretty neat little chart for running a meeting. It might not be a bad idea to make some copies of this for the convention. www.jimslaughter.com/robertsrules.htm

Pannus Article

www.retiredgreyhound.tv/pannus.htm - Excellent and informative article on pannus, an auto-immune disease of the eye which can cause blindness if it is left untreated.

GPA Announcements...

A Warm Welcome goes to the new Sub Chapters...

GPA/Puget Sound sponsored by GPA/Orlando

GPA/Nashville, TN sponsored by GPA/Orlando

GPA/Royal Hounds sponsored by

GPA/Emerald Pacific

GPA/Greyhound Adoption, CA sponsored by

GPA/Orange County & Greater Los Angeles

A Congratulations for becoming a Full Chapter goes to **GPA/Carolina Greyhound Adoptions, Inc.**

CHAPTER PROFILE: Oklahoma

The Greyhound Lady Reminisces

By Cheryl Holmberg

The other day my mind was taken back to a time about 8 years ago with GPA/OK. I pulled some medicine out of the cabinet that we used to use a lot in the early years. It made me start reminiscing about the beginnings of this chapter and I thought you would be interested in my story.

Just like many of you I searched long and hard for a greyhound adoption program. I found GPA/North Texas through reading "Adopting the Racing Greyhound". A gentleman from Claremore, Scott Going, was my contact person. He has since moved to Dallas. Scott arranged for me and another woman to meet the greyhound lady from Dallas in Claremore where she would have five greyhounds from which to choose our pet.

This lady -Denny Baker- was set to arrive the Saturday prior to Thanksgiving in 1992. We had a generous snowfall a few days prior but I didn't think anything about it. I drove to Scott's house in Claremore; he was really embarrassed when he realized he had forgotten to call me and tell me Denny couldn't make it due to the weather. You all can imagine how my bubble just burst. I played with his gorgeous greyhound Duchess; she now plays at the bridge.

Finally, on December 13th, Denny made the trip to Tulsa. My request was for a young, fawn female, because like most of you, I had no idea how this greyhound adoption thing worked. I had met a fawn female and that was what I knew I liked. Denny arrived with a two year old fawn female, a two year old fawn male (90 pounds), a six year old white and brindle female, a two year old black female, and a three year old brindle male (a barker).

I think it only took me two or three hours to make up my mind. The other woman took the black one and named her Ebony. I decided on the 2-year-old fawn female although I was concerned

because she wasn't perfect; she had a crooked leg and it made her walk funny. She handed me the application to fill out and then the contract to sign. I paid her \$75, which went towards the basic medical expense. I later had Bailey spayed and had her teeth cleaned at my expense.

I had already picked out her name "Bailey" from my favorite beverage Bailey's Irish Cream and Coffee, which I soon found out, was her favorite too!! Scott kept the huge fawn male named "Bones" which I thought he was adopting. I later found out he kept in order to have a greyhound on hand for the next interested adopter. This was my invitation—as if I needed one—to begin spreading the word about greyhounds and how to could get one.

My first week with Bailey was horrible! I was NOT a dog person and knew nothing at all about canine behavior. I knew tons about cats. I had and loved cats. I cried and cried and said over and over what a horrible mistake this was. My cats, Rocky and Sasha, and I had been together for nine years and now look what I had done. Bailey wouldn't crate! I would sit on the floor with my back against her butt pushing with all my strength but she wouldn't budge. I just knew she would eat my cats.

I took a week off of work because I was afraid to leave her alone. If I could have given her back without driving to Dallas, I would have.

Well, after the first week we were growing on each other and we bonded more and more as time went on. She was NOT leash trained at all! I started private obedience classes a month after getting her and later followed up with two separate sets of beginner classes. I have definitely had my education on training a stubborn greyhound.

During this whole time, I was helping Scott return phone calls from messages left on the 800 number in Dallas. Denny would call weekly with

the leads on adopters in the OK area. Scott made us a logo and we made brochures. We became the subchapter known as GPA/North Texas and OK.

Our first Show and Tell was at Southroads Mall at the Pet Fair in February 1993. It was a four-day event and all we had was a table and a poster board adorned with pictures that I had stayed up all night making. That was how we started.

Scott and I got in over our heads with too many foster dogs. Somehow the breeders found us. The first one was Susan Pickle, DVM in Cameron OK. She sent us Casper, Red, and Drifter—all brothers. Susan was a big help in the beginning because she took care of all the medical services and sent the greyhounds to us with only a tiny bill to cover a fraction of the actual costs. She was an incredible source of medical information on greyhounds and we learned about how to cut corners and some of the more common greyhound idiosyncrasies.

One by one we acquired more greyhounds from more sources. All of them were kept in our two homes. Four were at Scott's and four with me. Scott didn't have cats but I did. I had some fosters that were not cat-safe and had to run the dogs and cats in shifts. I was very lucky a couple of times when the cat wasn't in the bedroom after all. Several times I had four greyhounds chasing after her and I would have to dive into the pack, grab the cat, hold her as high as possible, and take off running for the bedroom with my cat barely escaping their hungry jaws.

Greyhound selection was slim back then and our paperwork simple. We didn't even do reference checks even though we asked for them on the application. We would discuss greyhounds with the applicant and then pick one out for them and take it to make the adoption. The adopter never got a choice. We just picked the best fit from what we had. We

would meet folks from OKC at midway McDonalds with their new greyhound which they had never seen before. Most of those adoptions stuck for good.

At the time I became so involved in GPA, I was also the president of the Tulsa Alumni Chapter for Alpha Chi Omega and an active member of the Tulsa Junior Philharmonic. I decided to wind down my duties with both those organizations to pursue greyhounds full time. Scott probably wished he had never met me. I got so involved, as I always do, that I took us to a point where he felt he couldn't give adequate time anymore. Scott relinquished his active role at the beginning of summer 1993.

One funny memory I have is from Mayfest 1993. I was so excited to spread the word that I made half page flyers and stuck them in my purse. I took Bailey down to Mayfest for the most part of Saturday and Sunday and just walked around and around looking at the booths and standing in the shade. Of course no one had ever seen a greyhound so I was drawing crowds of people around us. And I just happened to have some information I could give them if they wanted to investigate further. Well, the policeman informed me that it was illegal to solicit on Mayfest property and that I needed to move to another location away from Mayfest. I tried to explain that I was just attending Mayfest with my dog and that these people stopped me—it didn't work and the rest of our mission that weekend became covert.

Then just when I thought I would have to wind up the program, Shahna and Mike Baugus started getting really involved. They adopted their first greyhound Julius in June 1993 and within 3 months they began fostering. They soon bought land in Sapulpa and put up fencing and more fencing establishing what we called our "holding pens". This was where we would put the greyhounds as they came in. We had many obstacles to overcome—you couldn't even begin to imagine. Fleas and ticks in the country are horrific. Not to mention that every load of dogs added to the

problem. We spent much of our meager money on flea and tick products to treat "the farm". Copperheads were also an issue but we handled everything that came along. For a long time Shahna, Mike and myself handled everything about GPA/OK and raised funds by doing nasty, smelly dog dips to raise money.

We didn't have Show and Tells back then. We couldn't have conceived of the idea. Times were just plain different. We held a "Meet a Greyhound Day" quarterly at Southern Agriculture 91st and Delaware to try to get the word out. We would notify all the media so we could get coverage on our event—**and we did**. Each new adopter was a potential volunteer and in those days most adopters became volunteers. Without that kind of support, GPA/OK couldn't have continued.

We didn't have any contacts to lean on or ask questions of except for Denny in Dallas. There were no computers or Internet or networking of any kind. We had to handle all our own medical problems with our vets and we obtained knowledge that the average person would never get in a whole lifetime of owning dogs. We had to make all the mistakes and learn from them. I remember the first time a greyhound melted on me in his bath. Melting is when the warm water temperature affects the greyhound you are bathing and he becomes limp and falls down. This happens due to the lack of body fat that allows the muscles to relax much faster than normal. When I was bathing skinny little BJ, he fell sideways against the back wall of the tub and just went over on his side. Later I found out he had cracked his rib. How I cried for what I had done to him.

We also were forced to become very knowledgeable in behavioral issues and had to seek out specialists in this area for advice. We had to make decisions as to whether or not certain dogs were adoptable and make the hard decisions regarding the fates of some. We definitely had to overcome our emotion and learn to rely

on our common sense and rational thought.

As we could afford them, we bought crates and even had a metal one that Mike would weld back together each time the fosters tore it apart. Mike straightened countless bent crate doors. He rigged ways to lock the plastic crate doors so that the greyhounds couldn't bust the doors open with the tops of their heads or pull them in with their teeth. We worked on a shoestring budget but managed to turn every thing we made over to Dr. Daubney or Sapulpa Veterinary Hospital and meet our financial obligations.

So many dogs staying outside in pens made for many interesting and complex medical issues. We had to treat a lot of wounds like you would on large animals because of the conditions in which we had to keep the greyhounds. We kept 3 per pen and they were all muzzled. We learned that if you think a muzzle will keep two greyhounds from hurting each other you are dead wrong. We had numerous dogfights to contend with. Combining dog personalities in a pen became an art. Then we had to learn about dog personalities outside and how that would translate into a pet home because not all those greyhounds got to try homes before they were adopted.

We would use expired liquid food donations such as ensure from home health suppliers to fatten-up sick and undernourished greyhounds. One time I had an emaciated greyhound resembling a concentration camp victim at my home. She had instigated a dogfight and got the worst end of the deal. She became depressed at the vet and quit eating. Death seemed inevitable, but I took her home and began stuffing her with food and nutrition liquids. Within a matter of a month Whitney (Judy and Pete Tomlinson's first greyhound) was almost at a perfect weight. But not before a person driving through the neighborhood reported me to the SPCA for neglect and abuse. The SPCA inspector came out and was playing with the greyhounds over my fence

Resources...

Joan Belle Isle -
joanb2@ix.netcom.com
The Greyhound Project, Inc.
295 Tremont Street
Newton, MA 02458

Cindy Hanson -
hansonca96@ATTBI.COM
Celebrating Greyhounds
P.O. Box 358
Marblehead, MA 01945-0358

Jacque Schultz - www.aspc.org
ASPCA
424 E. 92nd St.
NY, NY 10128-6804

Patricia Bates, CPA
c/o Frankel, Lodgen, Lacher, Golditch & Sardi
16530 Ventura Blvd, Suite 305
Encino, CA 91436

Gary Guccione - nga@jc.net
American Greyhound Council
P.O. Box 543
Abilene, KS 67410

Kathleen & Gil Gilley -
ghdance@aol.com
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CHAPTER PROFILE...continued

before he came to the door and said, "Those are the fattest greyhounds I have ever seen". At the time, I didn't appreciate the comment but it did get me out of trouble.

We started doing Show and Tells when the 41st Street PETS^MMART opened in February of 1994. Shahna and I did the Show and Tell ourselves every single Sunday from 11-5. We got some volunteers to help us staff these every Sunday events. After a couple years, we began to alternate Sundays because we had enough full-time volunteers to pick up the slack. As years went by we were offered other Show and Tell opportunities. We didn't have enough volunteers to staff two places on one day so we decided to cut back on PETS^MMART to take advantage of other opportunities.

Sometime during 1994 Shahna and Mike got a computer and Shahna found an online Bulletin Board full of greyhound information. I finally got a computer in 1995 and began searching for anything "greyhound" I could find. That is when I joined the Greyhound-L, which had about 500 members at the time. I joined lots of other dog-related lists and began learning more than I could ever have imagined. I have files and files of information I printed out and have used almost every bit of it at one time or another. I bought every book I could on greyhounds and behavior and training and read all I could stuff in my brain.

It is truly amazing how much I learned by accident in those early years. We just did what we had to and asked lots of questions of our vets. We used any local resources we could including greyhound breeders that I had developed closer personal relationships with.

I somehow managed to succeed in fostering for almost nine years without adopting one of my own foster dogs. I think it truly came out of my total commitment to the greyhounds and finding them homes. I just knew that if I kept one, I closed the door for one

waiting to be fostered. This contradicted my purpose and my goal. I adopted some greyhounds that I wanted to keep so bad I still get teary eyed when I remember them. I usually foster three or four greyhounds at a time. I have become friends with many breeders throughout these years.

In 1995 a new litter of greyhounds were born at Jack Williams' kennel. Harriet was so excited because they had their first white and blue puppy she took her 4-week-old picture and sent it to me to show her off. I then told her that when Ariana (She already had her named) retired that I wanted to place her or maybe even keep her myself if she was cat safe. In 1997 Ariana came to live with Bailey and I. That was my #2 and I had held out for five whole years. My #3 came this year when I had a foster that told me she wanted to stay and out of nine years of fostering, this felt like it was supposed to be. So enter Evie. I happen to adore the big males and think they have the better personalities but I seem to have ended up with three bitches instead.

It truly amazes me when I look back at how archaic the beginnings were and what we went through all alone without a support network and without any real "knowledge". The Internet has changed greyhound adoption and made it possible for many more greyhounds to find homes than ever before. We now know about more greyhounds in need and more places who can take them in and better ways to get them moved from point A to Point B. We all network and work together for the good of the greyhounds. I am fortunate to have made so many friends from all over the country that I never would have had without the greyhounds. My best friends are part of this organization. This is my life and that is the way I want it. I love these dogs and from the moment I laid eyes on one I was humbled, in awe and inspired!

Fundraising Opportunities

Any of you that live near a Wild Oats Market should be aware of their 5% day program. On a designated day, 5% of the store's profits go to a local charity. These are high volume, natural food stores, and have to potential to raise a lot of money for any group. As a crunchy, granola-type company, they are very sympathetic to animal rescue, and are pleased to be able to help out. It's a nation-wide chain, so if you are near one, it's worth the effort to make an application. All they ask in return is that you promote the event to mailing lists and contacts, and staff tables at each store on that day. The website for this program, as well as others offered by the company, is http://www.wildoats.com/take_action/wild_giving.html



With reunion and picnic time coming around, get your local **tattoo parlors** to donate **ONLY GREYHOUND** tattoo, gift cert. for up to max. amount, like

\$100, put on a silent auction. You'll make a fortune. It's a greyt fundraiser and not too hard to get donated.

Special Offers

Petco offers low cost vaccination clinics in all their stores. Call your local Petco to find out when the clinics are held.

Did you know...

Greyhounds were big winners this for the prestigious Maxwell Awards presented at the Westminster Dog Show in New York on February 12, from the Dog Writers Association of America. Maxwells were awarded to Lee Livingood for Retired Racing Greyhounds For Dummies, and DRUM ROLL for the second year in a row, Celebrating Greyhounds: The Magazine.

Congratulations to Lee Livingood

And Congratulations to everyone who makes the "Celebrating Greyhounds: The Magazine" possible.

Thank you for producing such wonderful material for us to read!

Pets Need Dental Care, Too

For most of us, caring for our teeth and gums has been a part of our daily routine for a long as we can remember. Just like you, your pet needs dental care, to – regular, professional care from your veterinarian. Home care from you is important to keep plaque removed. Daily brushing and feeding special pet foods can help.

All pets are at risk for developing dental problems. Once your pets displays the warning signs below, serious periodontal disease may be present. Don't wait for these signs. Start a preventive program of veterinarian-supervised dental care today.

Warning Signs for Periodontal Disease

- Bad Breath
- Yellow-brown crust around the gum line
- Bleeding gums
- Pain when eating, or pawing at the mouth
- Change of chewing or eating habits
- Tooth loss
- Subdued behavior
- Excessive drooling



Tips on brushing your pet's teeth

1. Introduce a brushing program gradually; training your pet for this procedure may take several days or weeks.
2. At first, dip your finger into beef bouillon for a dog or tuna water for cats and rub your finger over the pet's mouth and teeth.
3. Make these initial sessions brief and positive.
4. Introduce gauze on your finger with the same beef or tuna flavor and begin rubbing the teeth in a circular motion.
5. When it's time to graduate to a toothpaste for pets, put a small amount on your finger and allow the pet to taste it.
6. Use a finger to brush initially, rather than a bristle brush.
7. Using a bristle brush and toothpaste specifically designed for pets, apply a small dab of toothpaste to a moist toothbrush and begin brushing gently.
8. Do not use a toothpaste designed for people; it contains ingredients that may upset your pet's stomach.

GPA Calendar

April 7, 2002: GPA Daytona Annual Fun Day. The time is 11-3, location is 2201 W. International Speedway Boulevard, Daytona Beach, FL 32114.

April 26-28, 2002: Kanab Greyhound Gathering. See www.greyhoundgang.org for details.

April 20, 2002: Hound Hop, a dinner and dance. See www.gpa-cnhc.org for details.

June, 2002: Abilene Greyhound Gathering.

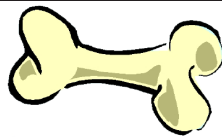
September 20, 2002: Central New Hampshire 2002 Reunion. See www.gpa-cnhc.org for details.

October 11-13, 2002: Dewey Beach Reunion. See www.adopt-a-greyhound.org/dewey for details.

October 19, 2002: 2nd Annual Greyhound Jamboree. See www.gpacentraltexas.org for details.

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