

# Greyhounds Pets of America-Northern California (GPA-NC) / Greyhound Adoption California (GACA) Newsletter, Summer 2005

## Fall Preparations

Summer is almost over and Fall is closing in quickly. Back to school preparations are being made. Are you preparing your Greyhound, especially if it is a new member to your house? It will be quite traumatic for him/her to suddenly be left alone, so be sure to go through the steps for separation anxiety. This involves leaving your Grey alone for short increments, making each time longer and longer. Be sure to just up and leave. Try not to signal to them that you are leaving. When you get home, do not greet them right away. Put your things down first and then turn and praise them IF nothing has been disturbed. By easing them into the new routine, you will be rewarded with a much happier Greyhound when the time comes.

## Picnic Success

Our fourth annual picnic was a GREYT success. We raised lots of money to continue our efforts to rescue retired racing Greyhounds. The day was hot as usual, but we were prepared with lots of water for in and over our Greys. The winners by category are: Kahuna Herron is, by far, the tallest Greyhound and little Matti Bottarini is the shortest this year. The oldest is Gazette Stone and the youngest was a tie, Zula Henderson and Grasshopper Quan/Williams. The longest tail for the fourth year in a row was Wendy Shofstahl. Gazette Stone won for the shortest. The farthest traveled Greyhound was Rachel Sainz. Best trick was again, Gromit Lancaster. We didn't do the hot dog bobbing as it was just too hot. The Greys used the pool for cooling off instead. Thank you to all who helped, to all the wonderful vendors and to all of you who attended.

## West Nile Protection

The news lately has been full of reports on the West Nile Virus. We've heard it can infect birds, horses and humans. Can it infect dogs or cats? The answer is that they can test positive for the virus but dogs do not show the symptoms and cats rarely show any symptoms. For dogs and Greyhounds, West Nile Virus is a non-issue. Only 40 dogs have tested positive so far since 2003 across the country. Also, your dog or cat cannot pass the virus on to you, even if it bites you. Bites from mosquitoes carrying the virus is the most common way for people to get the virus. The only product on the market that protects dogs against mosquito bites is Advantix. Unfortunately, it is fatal to any cat who gets near it. Therefore, Frontline Plus which protects against fleas and ticks is what we recommend. Avon's Skin So Soft is recommended as a topical as it will not harm your dog if ingested. Even so, it should only go on your dog's tummy. Off or any of the other topical mosquito repellents can be harmful if ingested.

## Greyhound Transport

FYI, we expect to be bringing in our next load of Greyhounds at the end of September. **Please consider being a foster.** Also, if you would like to adopt a second Greyhound as a companion to your Grey, now would be a great time to [let me know](#).

## 2006 Calendars

It's time to order the Celebrating Greyhounds calendars for 2006. You have your choice of the regular wall calendar or the desk diary. **I will be placing the order the first week of**

**September**, after I get back from National. If you want one, [please let me know by Sept. 1st](#). We will base our order on the number of responses.

### **September Events**

We have two big events coming in September. The first is Greyhound Planet Days, Sept. 12th through the 18th. This is done through Petco and anyone who would like to do a Show & Tell at your local Petco, [let me know and I can set you up](#). Also, each Petco will be giving out bracelets with a running Greyhound to anyone who rounds up or donates \$5 or more. This is a world wide event. If you have a Petco near you, please contact them and give them our name as their preferred Greyhound group. This way, our organization will get the donations that they collect.

The other big event is Bark in the Park in San Jose. This is also Sept. 17th. For more information and directions, you can go to [their web site](#). This is a fun event with lots to do for you and your Grey. [Let me know if you can help out with the booth](#).

### **Convention Time**

The National Greyhound Pets of America conference is in Tampa Bay, Fl. this year. We will be represented by Board Members, Ann & Scott Sanders and Carolyn & Jim Shofstahl.

### **Babysitting Guidelines**

Many of you contact us each year for babysitting services. We are more than happy to send out the message. There are a few guidelines that we would like for you to follow. First of all, please give us at least a month's notice. Also, when you are placing your request, be sure to put the following: your location, if your Grey is male or female, age, personality (i.e. alpha, submissive), cat safe or not and any other description that will help people to decide if your Greyhound will get along with their Greyhound. Try to schedule a meeting with your babysitter before hand so that the two Greys can meet. Remember to bring your Grey's pillow, food and food dishes. Also, we are asking for a donation to the babysitter for their effort. The going rate is \$1 per hour or \$24 per day. We now have two Greyhound friendly places that we recommend. Along with Greyhound Granny, Dorothy Conner in Mountain View (650-967-7433), there is now Greyhound Bark. [Greyhound Bark](#) (925-625-3364) is located in Oakley and is set up for sight hounds. It is located on three fenced in acres and is highly recommended.

### **Flyer Now Online!**

Due to popular request, our flier will now be [available on our web site](#) for downloading. I am sure you have been stopped when walking your Grey and asked lots of questions. Now you can print out our flier to carry with you for anyone who may seem interested in adopting a retired racing Greyhound.

### **Solvang Greyhound Gathering**

The second annual Solvang Greyhound Gathering is going to be on February 24th, 25th & 26th, 2006. [The Royal Copenhagen Inn](#) is taking reservations now and is filling up fast. If you are planning on going, be sure to call them at 800-624-6604. **Doggy Dental** John Morris of Doggy Dental Inc. was at the last Solvang gathering. He travels all over dispensing "safe and gentle teeth cleaning without anesthesia." John will be in Northern California in September and asked me to let all of you know. He has two contact numbers, 714-637-5929 or 866-637-5929, to schedule an appointment.

## Condolences

We have unfortunately lost four of our wonderful Greyhounds recently. Gretchen & Ken Catron lost both of their sweet boys, Fritz and Jet. Also, the Paladini's lost their dear Hank. Ann & Scott Sanders lost their beautiful four year old Becca to bone cancer. Our condolences to all.

## Heatstroke Caution

Heat Stroke in dogs. Even though summer is almost over, we still have lots of hot days ahead. As many of you know, we just received a dog named Gifford, who suffered a heat stroke when he came off the trailer in Santa Nella in 105 degree heat. Gifford spent the weekend in intensive care at Adobe Animal Hospital in Los Altos. For two days, we weren't sure if he was going to make it. Fortunately he did and his blood work showed no long term damage. He was very lucky. Part of the success of his recovery was that we recognized he was in distress immediately. He was panting excessively and shaking. We started to wet him down and put him in the cool car immediately to rush him to the hospital. When we arrived, we told them we had a dog in distress and they went into action. He was taken in and fluids were pumped into him. He was wrapped in wet towels. His total recovery took several weeks. Please be aware that your dogs can go into shock and it can happen very quickly. To prevent this, keep your dog out of the heat and well hydrated. Also, have towels and a spray bottle full of water available to help cool your dog down when the temperature starts to climb. This is especially true if you are traveling. **NEVER LEAVE YOUR DOG IN THE CAR, EVER, WHEN IT'S HOT.** The only exception is if you can leave the car running with the air conditioner on. Saving Gifford was a labor of love but it was also very expensive. You do not want to put your Grey through that.

## New Adoptions

We have **twenty** new adoptions to report. Also we have three new members of the "Black Pack."

Jade Quan and Tony Williams adopted both Madison (Misty Memory) and Hopper (Grasshopper). They join Marilyn and Sonoma, their Greyhound and Whippet in San Jose.

Louise Stalcup adopted Lady (Sunshine). Lady is 8 years old and a senior. Louise was looking for a friend and companion that would get along with her grandchildren. All is going well. They live in Atwater.

Linda & Mitch Culver and their children, Danielle and Mitchell were looking for a companion to their male Greyhound Hailey. They adopted Mia, a pretty three year old brindle. Hailey and Mia are doing just fine together in San Lorenzo.

Joseph & Kristine Brasseaux and daughter Kylie, adopted Mavros (Matador). Since Mavros is black, they are now the newest members of the "Black Pack" in Fresno. Mavros is Greek for black.

David & Rebekah Reyes, daughters Sapphira and Sigourney, adopted Amigo (Mesa Black Flyer). Amigo is doing very well except for the stairs which will happen eventually. Amigo is also black, extending the "Black Pack" to Monterey.

Erik & Briana Holland adopted Boeller (Katie). They are the third new members of the "Black Pack." Boeller is doing fine and settling in after a period of adjustment. Her new home is in Fremont.

Joani & Calvin Douglas adopted Annie. According to Joani, "Annie is everything you said she'd be and more. What a DOG!! if you can call her that. I think she is just a furry child!" They live in Auberry.

Cyndi & Don Luck and daughters Katie and Kellie adopted Suede. Suede is doing so well that the Luck's have become one of our newest foster families in Modesto. Way to go Suede.

Dick & Delene Dunne adopted Emmet (Ember), a wonderful senior boy. Emmet has quite a background in that he was found chained to a fence, emaciated and close to death. The Missouri chapter of GPA took him in and nursed him back to health. It took almost a year to get him back to normal. He is doing well and is settling in to the Dunne "gang" in Tracy.

James & Lynn Brooks, son Reed and daughter Elizabeth, and Greyhound Phoebe, have adopted Gus (Pico's Seahunter). They originally were only going to foster Gus but when it came time to give him up, they couldn't. Gus will move with them to their new home in Bakersfield. We wish them all well.

Tom and Doreen Carter adopted Kona, (Destry Garfield). Their male cat, Kitty, has shown Kona that he is boss and Kona is respecting that. Tom & Doreen went away last weekend and found out first hand how our Greys get to us. They couldn't wait to get back to Kona. They live in San Jose.

Paul & Patricia Paladini adopted Rowan, a sweet brindle girl. They just lost their Greyhound, Hank, due to accidental poisoning. Rowan was available to fill the void that Hank left. We wish them well. Her new home is in Castro Valley.

Aila Dawe adopted another senior, Enyatta. Enyatta was used for breeding and is now enjoying her retirement with Aila. She has a fancy new collar and leash and is being spoiled beautifully at Rossmoor.

Karen Keys & Michael Blankenship and their daughters Emma and Holly adopted Glennis (Destry Glennis). Glennis is the litter mate of Destry Garfield and Destry Gifford. She is a bundle of energy and fun. Her new home is in Concord.

Ronene & Todd Anderson and family, Michael, Garrett and Nellie have adopted Nike (San Tan Fireball). The Andersons own a winery in Napa and Nike goes to work with Ronnie including accompanying her on wine tours. Lucky boy.

Gary & Antje Cornick and daughters Alisha and Shannon adopted Gifford (Destry Gifford). Gary is happy to have another male in the house. They discovered why Gifford didn't race...he likes to stop and observe his surroundings. An admirable quality. His new home is in Hollister.

Mark & Jill Schmidt and daughter Stephanie adopted Cleo (Just Too Eager). Cleo was fostered by the Luck's and the girls painted her nails for her trip to her new home. Stephanie was thrilled and has plans to continue the practice. Lucky Cleo. She'll be very stylish in Salinas.

Rose & Michael Epting adopted Finnian (Goober). Finnian is only 18 months old and still getting into mischief. Rose had to leave him alone for about an hour and left him in the bathroom after making sure he wouldn't freak out. When she came home, he had figured out how to turn on the hot water faucets and had created a sauna for himself. Good thing Rose & Michael have had lots of experience with puppies. Rose volunteers for the East Bay SPCA. They live in Union City.

Scott & Ann Sanders adopted McDuff (Og's Late Charge). McDuff is a black brindle and looks alot like their Sprocket. He joins Winks and Shadow to round out the Sander's Gang.

Thank you all for giving a retired racing Greyhound a wonderful "forever home."

## **You Say It's Your Birthday!**

Happy Birthday to the following Greys:

July: Martie, Astro, Abby, Emma, Sadie, Carol, Gracie, Grommet, King, Cindy H., Chai, Katy Bell, Goldeen, Cairo, Amanda, Giulette, Sophie, Piccolo, Pepper, Wags, Dusty, Kids Yo Man, Matador and Ginny.

August: Carly, Winks, Tayo, Elle, JeT'aime, Phoebe B., Sasha, Kaliegh, Fiona, Apple Jack, Cora, Shelby, MoJo, Kohl, Toby, Camberley, Dixie, Prancer, Tivo, Georgia, Boeller and Sidestep.

Hope you all had a wonderful day full of treats and hugs.

## **GPA Report on Juarez Track Conditions**

The following is from the Greyhound Pets of America web site ([www.greyhoundpets.org](http://www.greyhoundpets.org)) . I am including it to let you know what really happened when GPA's representatives went to Juarez, Mexico to check on the welfare of the Greyhounds racing there:

GREYHOUND PETS OF AMERICA  
VISIT TO THE GREYHOUND RACE TRACK  
AT JUAREZ MEXICO

### **The Facts**

A great deal of misinformation has been circulated regarding a recent visit to the track at Juarez, Mexico by individuals representing Greyhound Pets of America. We thought it was important for people to have the facts. Greyhounds have been racing at Juarez for more than a year and there is nothing that GPA nor any other U.S. organization can do to change that fact. As the largest greyhound adoption organization in the U.S., Greyhound Pets of America felt it was important for it to play a leadership role to ensure that greyhounds racing at Juarez were returned to the U.S. for placement as pets when their racing careers at the track were over. Prior to the visit of Greyhound Pets of America representatives, there was no plan or program to ensure the welfare of greyhounds racing at Juarez nor was there an adoption program.

### **Greyhound Racing at Juarez**

- o A new greyhound/horse track was built at Juarez within the last two years. The track announced in 2004 that it would begin live racing. There were no protests from greyhound advocacy groups.
- o Greyhounds have been racing at the track in Juarez, Mexico for more than a year.
- o The track plans to run greyhound races three nights a week, Friday, Saturday and Sunday.
- o Approximately 300 to 400 greyhounds are required for that racing schedule.

### **Jurisdiction Over the Greyhounds Racing at Juarez**

- o The only people who can determine whether or not greyhounds race at Juarez are the owners of the greyhounds
- o There is no U.S. authority that can determine whether Juarez can offer greyhound racing nor is there any U.S. authority that can stop greyhounds from racing at the track.
- o Greyhound Pets of America does not advocate greyhound racing nor does it have the authority to determine whether or not greyhounds race at a track.

### **Greyhound Pets of America's Visit to the Juarez Track**

- o Rory Goree, president of Greyhound Pets of America; Dr. Leah Cole, a recognized greyhound veterinarian; and Patricia Roberts from the GPA chapter in El Paso, Texas visited the Juarez track on July 16, 2005.

o The purpose of the visit was to determine whether the track would cooperate in setting up a system to return greyhounds racing at Juarez to the U.S. for adoption at the end of their racing careers.

#### **Condition of the Track and Kennels**

o On July 16, 2005, the kennels were clean, air conditioned and had crates that meet U.S. standards.

#### **Results of the Visit**

o The owner of the track agreed to return greyhounds to the U.S. when they have finished racing at Juarez.

o Each greyhound leaving the U.S. to race at Juarez will have its picture taken, tattoo numbers recorded and each greyhound will be micro chipped. This ensures that each greyhound can be tracked while it is in Juarez and when it is returned to the U.S. This level of accountability is precedent setting and could become a model for tracking all racing greyhounds in the future.

o The GPA chapter in El Paso, Texas will monitor the greyhounds entering and leaving Juarez and also will play a leadership role in coordinating the placement of the greyhounds in homes as pets when they retire.

o Greyhound Pets of America's 7x7 committee has changed its name to "No Greyhound Left Behind." Our goal is to do everything we can to ensure the welfare of greyhounds and to find homes for them when their racing careers are over, whether they are racing in the U.S. or in nearby Mexico.