



For Ulysse

I don't believe in lot of things
I believe in you, my little god
Your chocolate eyes
Your strange smile
Not a bond between us:
There was a hole in the shape of you
In my heart.
I will never let you go from there.
Four months I know you
Four years of your little young life
All my days, months and years.
For you.

—Cecile Moreau

Prison dog program underway

GPA/N is teaming up with a Corrections Corporation of America facility in Nashville for a prison-based foster dog program.

Several Greyhound adoption groups around the nation are working successfully with prisons in such programs.

The relationship benefits both people and dogs. The adoption group gets much-needed foster homes and the inmate-handlers get the pleasure of Greyhound companionship plus the chance to learn the value of caring for and training another being.

HOUNDS BEHIND BARS

The first four hounds will go into the prison in April 2005. Each has two handlers who were selected by the facility staff and a GPA/N volunteer. Like all foster caregivers, the handlers were required to read the "Dummies" book. With the assistance of Kat Martin, a Nashville dog trainer, each is learning basic obedience. The handlers will teach the hounds the ropes of retirement, just as do GPA/N's traditional foster homes.

Hounds will spend a minimum of eight weeks at the prison before being adopted, absent a circumstance that requires early "parole."

Jennifer Henry is the volunteer prison program coordinator. If you have questions or ideas, contact her at Jenh6190@aol.com.

FOSTER HOMES STILL NEEDED

While the prison program allows GPA/N to take more retired Greys into foster care, it does not replace home-based fostering which is one of the most valuable roles volunteers play in preparing recently retired Greys to live as companion animals.

While hounds are being fostered, costs of veterinary care and food is covered by GPA. Ready to give fostering a try? Contact Sharron Lane at Mcrooers@hotmail.com.

GPA/N prison needs

GPA/N is covering the start-up costs of the prison dog program, including crates, bedding, mats, bowls, short leads, brushes, toothbrushes, food bins, books, training, and, of course, all veterinary care.

A separate fund has been set up to cover these expenses while preserving dollars for special needs dogs such as Fandango, Spirit, Chief and others.

Two generous members have made a total of \$1,000 donation to kick-off this program. Interested in helping? Make a donation via GPA/N's Paypal button at www.nashvillegreys.org, via check sent to GPA/N, P.O. Box 306, Hendersonville, TN. 37077, or cash or check given to volunteers at Meet & Greet.

Music City Roo'er

www.nashvillegreys.org

GREYHOUND PETS OF AMERICA - NASHVILLE

VOL. 3, ISSUE 1 | SPRING 2005

It's yard sale time – bring on the goodies

Time to clean out those closets, garages and attics for the benefit of retired Greyhounds. GPA - Nashville will hold its annual yard sale on Friday and Saturday, May 6 and 7, at 5849 Abbott Drive in south Nashville. Once again, Dr. Carol Macherey has graciously agreed to let us use her garage and driveway for this event.

The yard sale is a major fundraiser for GPA/N with proceeds earmarked for greys with orthopedic and other special needs. Your donations help GPA/N help these hounds.

We'll be accepting all kinds of clothing and shoes, books, housewares, electronics, craft supplies, small and large appliances in good working order, electronics, CDs and videotapes, furniture and rugs, purses and luggage not to mention animal paraphernalia. Please, no exercise equipment. It doesn't sell. Please price all of your yard sale merchandise.

Donations can be delivered to Dr. Macherey's house now. If you need pick-up service, please post to the list



Last year's GPA/N yard sale raised more than \$4,000 which was used to help cover the cost of rehabbing broken-legged dogs.

and you'll be contacted. Tables also are needed to display merchandise. If you have some to loan, please post to the list about dropping them by or having someone pick them up.

In the week immediately before the

yard sale, volunteers to help organize the sale area and merchandise will be gathering. Interested in helping or just have questions? Contact Pam Neiman at pamelaneiman@bellsouth.net or 308-0688.

Corns aren't just for people, Greys get them, too

By Carol Macherey, DVM

Greyhounds are often plagued by corns, but it's a condition many veterinarians may not know about.

There are many treatments for corns. In medicine, when there are many treatments, it usually means none work well. This is true with corns. Options include:

- Dremel the corn with a sanding drum or other rough attachment to flatten it level with or below the level of the pad.
- Soften it with any keratolytic agent. We have some at the



Corn photo from Therapaw®

clinic. Dr. Scholl's makes similar products. They hurt less when they are soft.

- Try duct tape or a corn pad. The trick is keeping it on. Flatten the corn first with a dremel, then cut the pad or tape to fit over the corn.
- Use a boot such as "Therapaw" (www.therapaw.net). The boot cushions the corn and can make it less painful.
- Have your vet "hull" out the hard portion of the corn. It will return, but it buys some comfort.
- Surgery, both traditional and laser, have been generally unsuccessful with recurrence likely. Auburn University is experimenting with a fat pad implant – the jury is still out.
- Amputation is a last resort. Greys do fine with three toes, but what if the next toe over develops a corn? It's NOT wrong to amputate, but you must understand the risks.



GPA-Nashville
PO Box 306
Hendersonville, TN. 37077-0306

President's Corner

The saga of Bobby, the Greyhound that escaped the hauler and whose lifeless body was found by volunteers, is still fresh on our minds, so I take this opportunity to reinforce the importance of having identification (ID) tags on Greys at all times. For those of you on the racing side of the business, please keep reading. There's something here for you.

Many people believe what happened to Bobby could never happen to their hound. Those with fenced yards feel their dogs are safe. Why would a Grey need a collar on in his own yard? Those who leash walk only may always have a collar on their hounds, but no tags as the tags are noisy. And since the hound is always on a leash he is safe, right? Those who crate have been told to remove martingale choke collars when their dog is in the crate. Collarless in the crate, a hound may remain collarless out of the crate.

But what if the meter reader/delivery person/neighbor's child leaves the gate open? What if a tree falls on your fence? What if your hound or foster Grey learns to open the gate or your hound gets spooked and jumps the fence? What if your house is broken into and your hound gets loose? What if your hound gets spooked while being walked and slips his collar?

LOST: GREYHOUND

Without ID, he'll be harder to track and catch once he's found. Even if he's found by a Good Samaritan, without tags, who would he call? What if the hound is injured and the vet they call demands assured payment? Even the kindest Samaritan may not be able to make that guaranty. What do they do? Let the hound go, as in Bobby's case, or have him humanely euthanized? It doesn't take much imagination to conjure up more horrors that could befall a loose, collarless, tagless Greyhound.

The simple, inexpensive solution is a tag collar — a buckle, braided or velvet collar to which you affix your hound's ID tags and which you leave on 24/7. You can coordinate the color and style with whatever your hound wears out walking, i.e., his martingale collar, to make a

Taming tag noise

Jingling tags is one of the main reasons adopters let their hounds go tagless and collarless. Your hound's ID tag is key to a safe return when he's lost. There are many options to eliminate noise.

- Get a tagbag - a tiny fabric or leather pouch into which the tags are inserted. It's then fastened to your hound's collar. GPA/N sells tagbags.

- Glue the back of the ID tags together.

- Glue cork to each tag as a cushion.

- Rubberband all the tags together. A small hair scrunchy works, too.

- Buy double sided tags with your personal info on one side and your GPA tag info on the other.

- Buy a nylon tag collar that has your telephone number and dog's name sewn into it. Check out the choices at www.luckypet.com.

- Buy a tag collar with a flat ID tag sewn on it at www.2hounddesigns.com.

nice ensemble. Two collars at once may sound crazy and look awkward, I know. I was skeptical at first, but now my hounds look naked without their tag collars. If you don't like to listen to the tags jingling, see the suggestions above for silencing them.

HOUNDS IN TRANSIT

For racing industry folks reading this, please consider some type of simple ID on every hound in transit.

Yes, hounds are tattooed and a call to National Greyhound Association would match the hound and his owner. But the average person who finds a Greyhound doesn't know this. So make it easy. Use a plastic "cow tag" with a phone number on it. Write a contact number on each dog's kennel collar or on a band of tape around the dog's neck.

I suspect Greyhound Pets of America wouldn't mind the use of its 800 number (kindly underwritten as it is by the American Greyhound Counsel) which would connect a caller to the nearest adoption group which would help get your lost hound returned.

Greyt Regards

Sharron Lane & the McRoovers

Save August 14 for the GPA Picnic, TLP, Murfreesboro

Due to the rousing success of the Winter Gathering at the Tennessee Livestock Pavilion on the MTSU campus in Murfreesboro, we'll return to that spacious, air-conditioned venue for our annual Ain't Nothin' but a Greyhound Fest from 1-4 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 14. As always, there'll be a potluck and silent auction, plus an afternoon of games and races, shopping, toenail trimming and, of course, camaraderie.

LET THE BIDDING BEGIN

The highlight of the picnic is our annual silent auction. You'll be able to bid on an array of items, including jewelry, t-shirts, collars, food, artwork and hound-related items. If you have items you'd like to donate to the auction, please contact Beth Sandlin, bsandlin@entechtn.com or 661-9204. Silent auction proceeds go to cover expenses associated with special needs hounds. One broken hockcosts \$1,500 on average to repair, so bid high and bid often.

Silk Road Collars will be available for purchase with a portion of the purchase price coming back to the group. GPA/N also will be selling books, t-shirts, coats, stickers and other merchandise.

LEND A HAND

As always, volunteers are needed to help make this event a success. If you can help, contact Ginger Tessier (who has volunteered to organize this year's picnic) at gintess@aol.com or 269-5838.

The more volunteers we have, the more money the group gets to keep as the Livestock Center charges us separately for teardown and set-up assistance as well as clean up, including any "deposits" hounds make that aren't cleaned up by owners.

The number of Greys, combined with their myriad dispositions and temperaments, require that this be a Greyhound-only event.



Photos by Russ Nida

Winter Gather activities

Games, shopping and canine pedicures were among the activities that drew about 100 people and their hounds to the Winter Gather at the Tennessee Livestock Center in Murfreesboro in January. The event raised more than \$1,200 for special needs hounds.

On the road with our hounds

One of the best things about Greyhound adoption is the people you meet and the places you can go to meet them.

Plan a road trip with your needle-nosed friends to learn more about the breed and make new canine and human friends.

■ June 2-5

Greyhound America, Abilene, KS
www.racethewind.org

■ June 4

GreyFest, Little Canada, MN
www.gpa.mn.org

■ June 4

Greyhound Gala and Auction, Orlando, FL
www.greyhoundpetsorlando.org

■ June 25-26

Mountain Hounds, Gatlinburg, TN
www.gfncmountainhounds.com

■ AUGUST 14

GPA/Nashville Ain't Nothin' But Greyhound Fest
Tennessee Livestock Center, MTSU
Murfreesboro, TN
www.nashvillegreys.org

■ September 2-5

GPA National Convention, Tampa, FL
www.gpaconvention.org

■ September 24 [expected date]

Mid-South Adoption Option Reunion
West Memphis, AK
www.midsouthgreyhound.com

■ September 30 – October 2

Prairie Beach - Arrive in '05:
A Gathering of Champions
Altoona, IA
www.heartlandgreyhoundadoption.org

■ October 7-9

Greyhounds Reach the Beach
Dewey Beach, DE
www.adopt-a-greyhound.org

Welcome new Greys, people

■ NEW GREYS AND THEIR PEOPLE

Nate Price & Nikole Shipley – Silver Rain - Turkish
Wayne & Betsy Abrams – Hestia - Hailey and Stoked - Scooby.
Greg & Karen Semrow Family – Bow Tie Occasion - Danny
Chris & Wendy Sherman – E's Maddy - Maddy
Matthew & Lynn Reed – Zef
Terry & Stacy Armstrong – Pazzo Sunbury - Sunny
Lori Hanning – Riverwood Baby - Bailey
Jennifer Krause – Pa's Asteriod - Astro
Randy Stone & Sallie Brady – Secret Martin & Pamela Barber – Whytell Asia - Asia
Andy & Sarah Miller – Kgb Har Vee - HarVee
Chris, Maryanna & Kate Clarke – Iruska Mareo - Mareo
Gwynn Thayer – More Curious - Zachary
Jimmy & LeAnn Kiser – Dakota
Jennifer & Robert Loveridge – Jai

■ CHIPS (as in you can't have just one!)

Charles Drumright – Starr Doc Lisa - Lisa
Mike & Karyn Koziel – LB Powerhouse - Spirit
Ray Wong & Mardy Fones – Ww's Racin' Indy - Indy
W. Scott Coffey – Tiger
Jackie Davis – Kbg Rhythm Dance – Morgan
Kelly Townes – Black Stop - Stopper
Sharron Lane – Times Up - Harry
Susan Drye – Packler
David & Beth Sandlin – Downunder - Gusto
Rob & Ellen Lawrence – Titiana
Steve & Ginger Tessier – Taylor's Tribute - Taylor

■ NEW TO GPA NASHVILLE

Al & Patty Ritchie – Inky & Fancy
Tracy Anderson Horton – Brad
Terri Hedges – Bay Gnat & Zin
Travis & Anna Hilton – Bart's Prowler - Emma
Fai Lambeth – Layla

Between Jan. 1- March 30, 18 retired racers found permanent homes through GPA Nashville.