



### Vacation goes to the dogs

**O**n the road to retirement, each greyhound has a story to tell. At Almost Home Hounds, a new kennel for retired hounds in Nun, Colo., that story includes the work of volunteers and veterinarian Heather Weir who devoted their time to preparing the facility for its first group of hounds. Today, it houses 50 adoptable dogs who are on their way to adoption groups around the countr and brings retired racers one step closer to their forever homes. **Photos and story by Pam Neiman**



Greyhound Pets of America - Nashville



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

[www.nashvillegreys.org](http://www.nashvillegreys.org)

GREYHOUND PETS  
OF AMERICA  
**NASHVILLE**  
[www.nashvillegreys.org](http://www.nashvillegreys.org)

# Greyt NEWS

VOL. 3, ISSUE 2 | SUMMER 2005

## It's Greyhound Carnival time

Have a barkin' good time Aug. 14 at MTSU in Murfreesboro

**W**hat would summer be without a trip to the carnival? This year, GPA/Nashville is celebrating the love that bonds adopters to their hounds with a Pawsitively Greyt Carnival, 1-4 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 14 in the air-conditioned comfort of the Tennessee Livestock Center (TLC) at Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro. Under the close supervision of their adopters, muzzled hounds can romp off lead in the enclosed livestock show area.

All Greyhounds and their people are invited. Admission is \$5 per person or \$10 per family. Please bring a light snack to share or a case of bottled water or soda to donate.

### Silent Auction Alert

The silent auction, one of GPA/N's major fundraisers, will open for bidding promptly at 1 p.m. Items already pledged include jewelry, collars, gift certificate and lots of Greyhound stuff. Bidding closes at 3:30 p.m.

Money raised during the auction is used to cover costs incurred in rehabilitating injured dogs such as Story, Fandango and Spirit. Interested in



**Mel gives a tail wag of approval for the running surface at the Tennessee Livestock Center, Murfreesboro, where GPA/N's August 14 Pawsitively Greyt Carnival will be held.**

donating an item or have an idea for the silent auction? Contact Joe Twilley at [rangerandharmony@yahoo.com](mailto:rangerandharmony@yahoo.com).

### On the Midway

In addition to the auction, the carnival will include the Shiny Hiney contest to determine the hound with the barest behind and Tall Tails to find the hound with the longest tail.

Following the success of the Winter Gather's dog races, we'll be repeating this event, but with a twist. Owners will call their hounds to the finish line, then

race them back to the start. Times will be recorded for both legs of the run. First, second and third place prizes will be given for all events.

We'll also have photographers on hand to take souvenir photos of hounds. As always, toenail trimming (hounds only, please) will be available for the unbelievably low price of just \$5 per dog.

Not all Greys are other-breed friendly, so please bring only Greyhounds to the carnival.

### Carnie helpers

It takes a lot of hard-working people to make GPA/N's annual picnic a success. If you'd like to help, give Mardy Fones a call. All kinds of volunteers are needed, especially for set up and tear down. Feel like pitching in? Please contact her at [mafones@comcast.com](mailto:mafones@comcast.com) or 297-2033.

### Getting there

Directions to the Tennessee Livestock Center at Middle Tennessee State University:

From Nashville, take I-24 toward Murfreesboro. Get off at the second Church Street/Shelbyville exit. Go two stoplights to Rutherford Boulevard (Wendy's is on the corner.) Turn right. Go five miles on Rutherford Boulevard, then make a left onto MTSU Boulevard. (Watch for radio tower on the right.) At the first stop sign, make a right onto Blue Raider Drive. Go around the curve, on the right, watch for double gate chain link fence and turn right. Watch for the Greyhound signs.

## A word of thanks to some sponsors

**G**PA/Nashville thanks the following local businesses who, through their in-kind gifts and sponsorship, support the work of greyhound adoption in Middle Tennessee and Southern Kentucky.

When you patronize these businesses you also are helping GPA/N hounds find their forever homes:

- Dizzy's Dog Wash
- Mailer's Choice
- Nashville Pet Products

## You on GPAN's New Yahoo list?

**G**PA/Nashville has recently created a new and improved Yahoo List. It's where our adopters can meet to ask questions about greyhounds, show off their latest pictures and talk about the joys of Greyhounds as pets. To keep up with the latest GPA/Nashville news and activities, sign up for the new list by going to: [www.groups.yahoo.com/group/GPANashville](http://www.groups.yahoo.com/group/GPANashville).

GPAN's former list is now called NashvilleGreyhounds@yahogroups.com and is now a general greyhound information resource.

## Meet your new board

GPA/Nashville recently elected a slate of officers. They are:

- **Ray Wong** - President, rglwong1@comcast.net, 615.419.4448
- **Liz Trapp** - Vice President, ltrapp44@aol.com, 615.307.3814
- **Pam Neiman** - Secretary, pamelaneiman@bellsouth.net, 615.308.0688
- **Kent Hiday** - Treasurer, kenthiday@bellsouth.net, 615.308.5712

### AT LARGE DIRECTORS

- **Mardy Fones**, mafones@comcast.net, 615.297.2033
- **Ramona Grove**, ramonagrove@jjs.nashville.org or ramonagrove@earthlink.net 615.480.6852
- **Carol Macherey, DVM**, cmacvet@comcast.net, 615.832.6535

## Keeping our "hot" hounds cool in the summer

By Sharron Lane

**A**s the temperature and humidity rise, your greyhound could be at risk for overheating and heat stroke. Dogs "sweat" only by panting and through their foot pads, so they heat up quickly. Greyhounds' body temps rise faster than other breeds, and that difference puts them at higher risk.

Panting cools by evaporation, but it isn't a particularly efficient cooling

method. Prolonged panting can upset the metabolic system, and lead to heat stroke. The first symptoms of heat-stroke are laborious panting, drooling and a bright red tongue and gums. The tongue may be swollen and appear "foamy." The inside of the ears can appear red, not pink. The hound will likely feel very hot to the touch. To avoid a heat emergency, follow these tips:

- Exercise your hound moderately and only in the early morning or late evening when it's cooler.
- If you have a fenced yard, provide a kiddie pool for him to lie in. Change the water at least every other day so it doesn't become a mosquito-breeding ground. You can use a bathtub for cooling, if your hound becomes overheated. Just be sure to use cool, not the coldest water, so you don't shock your hound.
- No pool or tub? Cool an overheated hound with a garden hose. Run the water under his legs and chest where the major blood-carrying arteries are located. Caution — to prevent burns, first drain water standing in the hose that has been heated in the summer sun.
- Keep fresh drinking water available at all times, especially when you're walking and offer it often. Add Pedialite

or "Stress Dex" to replenish electrolytes lost from exercising.

- Spray your hound's chest and legs using a spray bottle containing ice water.
- Asphalt heats up fast. Don't make your hound stand still on it, and don't walk great lengths on unshaded pavement.

### Safety first

Once the temps are 70 degrees, NEVER leave a hound in your car, even in the shade with the windows cracked. On a 75-80 degree day, the interior temperature can rise to 150+ degrees in minutes. Instead, for quick stops and short periods of time, lock your car and leave it running with the air-conditioning on.

Greys' short, thin coat puts them at risk for sunburn. White or light-colored hounds or those with bald spots are particularly at risk; black greys feel the heat more than light-colored ones. Keep your hounds out of the direct sun and apply all-natural sunblocks.

If your hound walks with you everyday, he may acclimate to an extent to the warmer temps, but he will still need water on walks, and slower, shorter walks at the "coolest" times of the day. Just like people, every hound's tolerance is different. Listen to your hound! He's counting on you.

## GPAN yard sale yields \$5,600

**W**hen GPA/N adopters and their friends see an opportunity to help with greyhound adoption and clean out their closets, attics and garages, the results can be phenomenal.

During this year's two-day yard sale in May, \$5,600 was collected through the sale of donated merchandise. That's nearly enough money to fund the veterinary care of three broken-legged hounds. Many thanks to all who began working months before and who helped during the sale and after with clean up.

Just so you know, we'll be having another sale in the spring, so set aside a corner for merchandise for next year's sale. It's only 10 months away.



Cathy Morris inspects the bird feeders donated by Wild Birds Unlimited for GPAN's annual yard sale on May 6-7 at Carol Macherey's home.

## Vaccinations - fewer needed

By Carol Macherey, DVM

**W**e've all grown up thinking every dog needs every vaccination every year, but that is just not true anymore. Recent work in immunology now recognizes that a dog's immune system has a much better memory than previously thought.

For you and your greyhound, that can mean fewer vaccinations and longer intervals between them. These are the current conservative recommendations for vaccination:

- Distemper and parvo – Annual booster 'til age four, then every three years or do an annual antibody titer instead.
- Rabies – Follow local laws.
- Bordatella – only "as needed" for boarding,
- Lyme – NOT recommended in this area.
- Giardia – NOT recommended.

Some people chose never to revaccinate after puppy shots. Few veterinarians accept that protocol, but the point is you must become informed and participate in vaccination decisions. You and your vet must weigh the risk vs. the benefits, and jointly decide how to proceed.

### Benefits and Risks

The benefits of vaccinating are obvious. Your pet is protected against serious, real and sometimes deadly diseases and your household is in compliance with laws regulating rabies.

There are risks to vaccinating that should be considered. Vaccinating has been considered a minor treatment but it is a medical act with the unlikely, but possible effect of causing harm. For example, some dogs can have a reaction resulting in itching, facial swelling, welts or severe, life-threatening allergic reaction. Vaccinations have been linked to sometimes fatal auto-immune diseases.

When you see your vet for your hounds' annual exam, take all vaccination records with you and discuss the need for any vaccine recommended. More vets are embracing these newer protocols, but you still may have to advocate for your preferences.

All counties in this area of Tennessee require annual revaccination for rabies EXCEPT Williamson which now allows a three-year interval. Kentucky residents should ask their vet what the law is for their area.

## Welcome new Greys, people

### ■ NEW GREYS AND THEIR PEOPLE

Robert & Jennifer Loveridge – Jai  
Lisa & Randy Alsup –  
Awesome Cooper - Cooper  
Kevin Deaton – Kanuken  
Cory Austin – Starr Rap  
Charles & Rebecca Coode –  
Pin Oak Moxan - Mox  
Kevin & Angie Johnson – Ram Air -  
Jethro & Dandy Ruckus - Dandy  
Panthea & Bobby Alyward –  
Kgb Bobby Boy  
Steven & Vanessa Gallegos –  
Starr Maryellen - Ellie  
Diane McAulay – Duntay  
Nikole Edwards – Purcell - Anubis  
Ron & Hariett Wike – Iruska Mac  
Thomas Frey - Road Rally – Rusty  
Heather Kroh & Jamie Cufr –  
Bashful Ruckus  
John & Rose Vick – Oshkosh Law Man  
Chuck & Dixie Falk –  
ZE's Commoncents - ZE  
Tommy Malcom – Run Rin

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

Alison Dunn & Chrystie Howard –  
Kansas Chief - Chief  
Cyndi & Steve Routledge – Master  
Terry & Stacy Armstrong –  
Coot's Son - Edgar  
Andrea Duncan – Tulin Nos - Tulin  
Tracy & Chris Horton – Jada - Kay  
Jamie & Paul Connelly – Bd's Fandango  
Pam Stephens – Pr's Shiney Day  
Fran Moore & Shelly Collins –  
LR Duster - Dusty  
Mike & Linda Biek – Stoney

### ■ NEW TO GPA NASHVILLE

Loretta Pipkin – Grady  
Amber Gallina – Ben  
Laurlyn Chrisley – Abbey  
Amber & Rob Brock – Reckon  
Vicky Simpson – Two Tone Tommy  
Christine Jeansonne – Warrick

Between Jan. 1- July 15,  
42 retired racers found  
permanent homes  
through GPA Nashville.