

# GREYHOUND TAILS

NEWSLETTER FOR GREYHOUND PETS OF AMERICA - CENTRAL NEW HAMPSHIRE  
Fall / Winter 2008

From the Directors Chair,

Hello and WELCOME to the GPA-CNHC quarterly news letter. We've lots to discuss in this issue. So without further ado I'd like to begin with some announcements.

First it is with GREYT sadness that I must inform you of two resignations from our organization. Ken Wright, Director and Carolyn Wright, Keeper of the Hounds have tendered their resignations OFFICIALLY effective January 1, 2009. However, due to some personal family issues both of these *tremendously dedicated* members will be unavailable from the middle of November this year. I know you all will join me in expressing our deepest appreciation for all of their service, experience and *genuine care* for the Hounds and for us as well.

So now we move on to the introductions. I am your new Director-elect, Jeffrey Betterini. Many of you know me as the kooky fellow with the stars at the annual spring dinner, or as the guy with the bullhorn at the annual picnic. Although I have not been with GPA-CNHC for very long I am no stranger to volunteer organizations. I look forward to helping make *every hound* a winner through the Greyhound Adoption process.

Our new Keeper of the Hounds-elect is by no means a stranger in the GPA-CNHC family. Ms. Donna Hubbard of Epping, New Hampshire, active with the group for five + years knows what to do and how to get it done. Together with her own 2 Greys, Benny and Champagne Fizz (a.k.a. "Fizzy") Donna is well experienced in Greyhound family life and has a profound love and respect for the breed. Her naturally big-hearted demeanor fuels her drive for adoption SUCCESS. Knowing Donna the way that we all know her, I can say that no one will be surprised at how well this transition period progresses.

Con't page 8

From the Editor,

Some good news... and some sad news

This issue is a combined fall / winter issue. We had a glitch in the system and the fall issue never made it to print.

I'm happy to inform our readers that Connie has been found. She was out on her adventure for 3 weeks. Between an intensive flyer campaign and speaking to neighbors, there was finally a confirmed sighting. A feeding station was set up. Once she knew where food would be available and returned to that site, a live trap was set up. She was captured within a day of that.

After 3 weeks, she had lost some weight and had numerous ticks. Luckily there were no injuries. When an animal has been off a feeding schedule, it can play havoc with their digestive system. Sometimes they are also dehydrated. A trip to the vet is necessary to evaluate their condition and sometimes they need IV fluids. The next week or so, they require small frequent feedings. Connie stayed at the Wright Rehab Center and Carolyn was able to take her to work to accommodate her feedings.

We can all learn lessons from this. One is that each GH is an individual. What liberties we might have been able to take (or get away) with a previous GH will not apply to any others. Especially one new to your home. Another is when an escape happens. Quick notification is a big help and can greatly aid in a quick recovery. We realize that accidents happen, but please do not feel ashamed when it does happen. We are not here to pass judgment, we only want a quick recovery. Please call the 800 number to inform us so we can start an organized search.

I also want to thank the individuals that came forward to have their names added to a search list. Hopefully more will come forward and add their names to the list.

Now for the sad news. The fall issue had a "Beware of the limp" update from Tully about Mo. Sadly in Sept. she said goodbye to Mo and he went to be with his sister Lindsey and so many others.

Con't page 6

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## Featured hounds

### Daytuna



Daytuna (Charlie) is a 4-year-old fawn male. He would prefer to be in a home without cats

'Charlie' enjoys being with his other grey friends. He always likes to be the one on the couch next to us when we watch TV. He especially follows me around all the time.

He would prefer not to be in a crate, but I would not leave him at home without a muzzle (just in case). Daytuna's only flaw (besides not being cat safe) is he gets carsick. We are still working on finding a solution for this. When Daytuna plays, he likes to playbite and therefore would be better with older children. He does have previous home experience and does stairs extremely well. As a matter of fact, he likes to sit at the top of the stairs and wait for us to go down with him.

### Ruby



Ruby is a 6-year-old female. She would prefer not to live with cats.

Ruby is a 6 yr old female from our broken leg program. She was returned by her adoptive home due to economic reasons.

Ruby has a high energy level, loves to play with toys and is great at fetch. She is so smart that I think she may be good at agility or some other activity. She knows tons of words.

She is not cat safe, and she is very wary of children under the age of 6. She will bark if they approach her while she is on her bed, and run away if they continue to approach.

Ruby is a love bug, and will try to get in your lap or on your bed if she can. The more love she gets, the more silly she is!



### Mana Jam

Jam is a 6-year-old dark brindle male. He has lived with cats and small dogs and would rather not be crated.

My name is Jam and I just turned 6 on November 6<sup>th</sup>. I have lived in a home before but couldn't stay because my owners had to move.

I'm having a great time at my foster home, but for my birthday I was hoping I'd have a home of my own. Hopefully Santa will make my wish come true and I'll have a home of my own soon.

I'm living with 7 other GH's and we have a lot of fun together. I can do stairs without a problem. I've even learned some tricks since my retirement.

My family left me with a dowry of toys and things, so don't forget to ask for them!

## Where have all the GPA hounds gone??

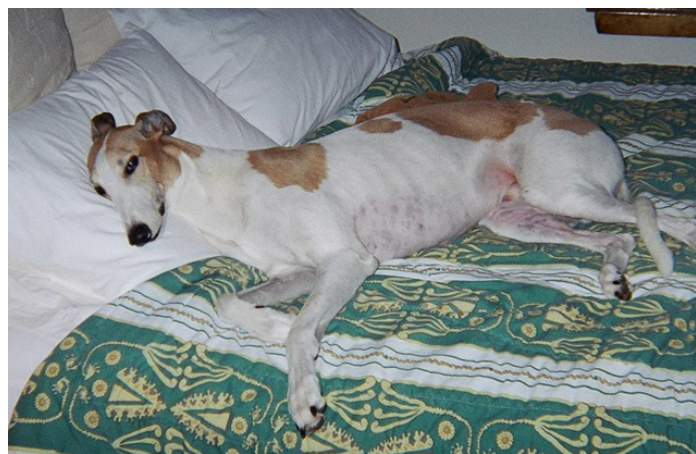
When I search back through the Happy Endings page on the GPA web site, I see so many GPA GH's that have been adopted.

Along with my fosters that I've lost contact with, I wonder how things have been going with everyone.

Please write in and let us know. Do they do anything unusual? Funny? Any special accomplishments? Any pictures you'd like to share?

If so, you may either send them via US mail or to my email address

newsletter\_editor@gpa-cnhc.org



## Project Runway

for Greyhounds

With winter here early, it is time to assess your GH's winter wardrobe. Most of us that have had GH's for some years are probably all set. For those of you new to GH's, you may be wondering what you will need.

Many GH's survive fine without anything extra. People that have multiple GH's wouldn't have time to dress them all multiple times a day.

Those people more than likely have fenced yards, so the dogs would go out more times for shorter periods each time.

When they are out, they are probably more active and keep themselves relatively warm. Con't below

Hi GPA - I read the summer issue of GH Tails yesterday, and was pleasantly surprised to see Blitz's picture with his brothers on page 5! I'm writing to report that Blitz has become quite an integral part of our family, and he is doing well.

My parents are elderly and very ill. Dad has leukemia, cancer in his lymph nodes, and type II diabetes. Mom has moderate stage Alzheimer's. About 4 years ago (right before we adopted Blitz), I moved here from CA to care for my parents full-time. Blitz provides infinite comfort and joy to all of us. We believe he was an answer to prayer.

Attached are a few pictures of him. The first is one of my favorites - he's particularly alert because he sees a snack (big surprise!). The second is his customary position on my bed in my home office while I work at my computer. Yes, he sleeps on a pillow whenever he can, and he usually plumps it first! Something none of our friends or relatives believe until they see it themselves.

If you happen to know how to contact the families of Stunt and/or Sack, please feel free to forward my contact information to them. We'd love to have a reunion!

Blitz lives with Estelle Tournas and her parents in Dracut, Mass.

If Stunt and Sack's family would be interested in either a reunion or email correspondence with Estelle, please send your contact information to me and I'll forward it to her. newsletter\_editor@gpa-cnhc.org

### Project Runway con't

Those of us that don't have fenced yards and have to walk our GH's for exercise and potty breaks can face more of a challenge. Coats may be needed, however each dog is different. Some actually prefer the colder temps and absolutely hate coats of any kind. Others start shivering at 60 degrees. Something nice to have on hand is a lightweight waterproof coat, just in case at some point they change their minds. It will at least keep them dry and act as a windbreaker of sorts. After a while you will know what your hound needs and likes.

Another thing some of us find our hounds need are booties. GH's feet were designed for desert conditions, not N.E. conditions. It will depend on where you need to walk your dogs, and the normal condition of this during and directly after storms. I have found with mine over the years, it's colder temps (under 25 degrees) and wet, slushy snow that bothers them the most, also very frigid temps in any snow, even well packed snow paths.

I have bought a few varieties of booties over the years. What has worked best for my GH's are from <http://www.dogbooties.com/products/toug90boot.html> I buy the medium size with VELSTRETCH closure. They are lightweight, and easy to put on. I've found they stay on very well. You can't beat the price either.

# Paul's Story

By Irene Ullmann



In January of 2006, my father named Paul, died after a five-month stay in hospice. In February I was reading *GreyTalk* and noticed that Diane Canfield had posted a photo of her handsome foster, Woo Woo Canoe; call name Paul. He was running, full out, in the snow.

She said he was cross-eyed and had a dirty face. I called to my husband and asked him to come look at a dog named Paul. Len said, "He's cute. Write to the woman and ask about him".

We had Brandy and John E, and I certainly wasn't interested in another dog. We were traveling to Sandy Paws soon, and I wasn't in a position to adopt another dog. We had purchased a travel trailer that was crowded enough with two large dogs and I couldn't imagine three in it.

I kept coming back to look at his photo. Paul had the most interesting eye color; light brown. I felt like his eyes were looking right into my heart. I wrote to Diane and asked about his personality. She said he had absolutely no issues and that was good because John E had many. She also said she was taking him to a M&G that weekend and some people were supposed to be coming to look at him. I said to myself, if these people took him home, then he wasn't meant to be ours.

They didn't take him and before I knew it, I was asking if GPA-CNH would do long distance adoptions. They had to think about it, generally they do not do long distance adoptions. There would be no way to do a home visit, among other concerns.

Both Diane and I were asked to write down our thoughts and feelings on the subject, before they would make their decision. Now, I am pleading my case. There is no racing in New Jersey, so any dog arriving in my state is technically a long distance adoption.

We have been active in greyhound adoption since 1998, so we were experienced owners. We support our group with a monthly Meet and Greet and also have a small greyhound business. We support greyhound adoption with donations of merchandise all year long.

Carolyn wanted to be able to keep tabs on her dogs and was concerned if there was a problem how would we return him. We promised that there would be no problem and if there was, the same way we picked him up, we would bring him back. Diane pleaded our case, and I think some of our references and other vendors spoke up for us, and Paul became ours.

We decided, and it was agreeable with Diane, that we would meet halfway, after Sandy Paws and pick him up. On the way back, we broke down, with the trailer, in South Carolina for four days. I called Diane and let her know and she said it had to be that weekend. So we finally arrived back home on Friday and on Saturday we started our trip to Hartford, Ct. Three and half hours up, met at a deli, and three and half hours back. Seven hours round trip after traveling over one thousand miles during the week.

Paul was skinny, of course, he had red elbows and a really bare butt, but it was love at first sight. Later that year, at Dewey, I wanted him to see Diane again, and I thought he would be really excited and his reaction was totally nothing. I was so disappointed for Diane and I will never forget what she said to me. "I guess he loves the one who feeds him now." Diane and I have maintained email contact over the past two years and I think she is a greyt person.

We lost Brandy in October 2007 and John E in February 2008. Paul selected Fuzzy, another large, white male as his buddy at the end of February.



# GREYHOUND ADVENTURES

WONDERLAND GREYHOUND ADOPTION EXPO JUNE 13<sup>TH</sup> , 2008



Once again we made the trip to Wonderland on Friday June 13<sup>th</sup> for the 5<sup>th</sup> Adoption Expo. We were blessed on this day with pleasant weather. I think I have the route down pat, for the 1<sup>st</sup> time I didn't have to make my usual turn around at Suffolk Downs. Nor did I get lost (which I did on my 3<sup>rd</sup> Expo adventure).

For the 1<sup>st</sup> time I was meeting others from the GPA family. Gae and her daughter Sarah made the trip with Liam and Ellie. Maureen came with Kelan and Chris came with Armando. I had Matt, Buddy and was dog sitting Trey. Trey's dad was in the hospital. I brought along 2 xpens, which makes for an easier time with that many dogs. They were able to chill out undisturbed and we could spend some time hands free of leashes. In normal GH fashion, everyone got along famously. It made for a more enjoyable day having friends there.

Although I didn't buy anything, there were many vendors selling their wares. Having adopted my 1<sup>st</sup> GH 10 years ago, I've bought most items I need...and many things I 'think' I need!

As this was Gae, Maureen and Chris's first time at the expo, I spent quite a bit of time at the table watching GH's, leaving them to explore.

The most anticipated part of the day was the afternoon's fun runs. The retired GH's get an opportunity to relive their racing lives...for a brief moment. There is no lure and only race the home stretch. Once the GH's get near the track, most remember and they are very keen to get on the track. Kelan was so excited he could barely contain himself. Matt, Buddy, Kelan and Armando were all going to race together towards the end of the afternoon. Kelan 'smoked em'. My old guy Buddy was very keen as well...just not very fast.

We had 2 photographers taking pictures and can be seen at the links here:

<http://www.mutalik.com/expo08/>

<http://forum.greytalk.com/index.php?showtopic=20335>

I've pasted the GreyTalk link; the Photobucket link is too long to type.

After the fun run, we had speakers and a nice buffet dinner. Then came the raffle. I won 2 matching dog treat jars - in separate drawings! It was a long but fun day.

The Adoption Expo is a weekend event. I didn't attend, but on Sat. the 14<sup>th</sup> the activities move to Raynham. It's different type of event, more of a picnic atmosphere. On Sunday there is a walk at Borderland State Park.

Below are a few pictures taken by George Giunta, Jr of Mass., posted with permission.



# ADOPTION UPDATES

Editors' Note: this was an email we received regarding a recent adoption.

Well, it was nice to meet you! Thank-you for also coming to my home.

I have never been so happy! After you left, I put down a comforter and Angie went right for it! I sat down next to her and she got playful! It was a trip! She starts tapping me with her paws for me to brush her and I did! I thought she was falling asleep but like you said, where I go, she goes

I tossed her a rope toy and she played with it and it was funny! Feeling like we had bonded and it still not being boiling hot, I took her out again! Same short route, just around the corner... It was SWEET! She went down the stairs and around back up the concrete stairs too! Like you said, A FAST LEARNER.

Oh, and we ran into a barking hot dog. Dachshund, I think they are called. Angie, just ignored the barking. She is sleeping now and I am typing my laptop on her carrier right next to her. Even motorcycles do not disturb her.

It has been over a year since I had the dream of owning a best friend. The pit bull made me a nervous wreck, barking at every noise, never getting tired, always hyper. It was a nightmare!

I feel a new lease on life. 4 years ago, I was in a wheelchair. 3 years ago, I defied everyone by purchasing a car, One and a half years ago, being able to drive, I moved here, defied my family once again. Now, I have found the companion that is going to bring me to new places and snuff out old fears of being cursed when I go out.

In my humble opinion, after a year of visiting shelters, meeting animal people, losing 100s of dollars and so many other bad things, you are testimonial to what adoption should be. Consideration for both the dog and adopting person. No pressure, information and understanding that not everyone has 3 personal references, wants to save the world by taking in abused dogs, and most of all, you never made me feel bad. That's what others did. Try and stick you with a senior dog or one that is special needs because I am home all day.

You walk away feeling crappy because you say NO and they look at you like you hate animals with special needs. I just wanted a regular dog; a best friend like in the song Mr. Bojangles. That guy grieved for his dog for 20 years. That's how much he loved him! Thank-you for giving me dignity and placing me with this wonderful friend.

Cordially,

Anthony Quartararo, Manchester, NH



Angie 'chillin' out in her crate

From the editor con't,

All seemed to be going well with Mo with his rear leg amputation and chemo. The last 4 or 5 weeks he was having increasing difficulty getting around and in pain. Meds helped for a short while and Tully made the trip to Mass. to Eddie's Wheels to have a custom doggie wheelchair made for him. Then one day his pain and inability to get around was too much and Tully knew it was time. She has her family and friends along with her GH's Nacho and Murphy and Sarah the cat. I'm sure when she is ready I'll get an email that another GH will be joining her family.

Another sad announcement that another GPA GH, Shilling, is also running at the bridge. His picture is on page 9 of this issue. The Lando's had sent in an article for the fall newsletter. They live on Long Island and summer at Lake 'W'. On the lighter side The Lando's were at the annual reunion in Sept. and adopted another GH, Cuda (Cudabenacontenda). Great name! You will see pictures of both Mo and Shilling on the Rainbow Bridge remembrance page.

From three Dog Bakery

A puppy's teeth begin falling out at four to five months of age. The last of the adult teeth to come in are the 'fangs', which are usually grown in by six months of age. A dog has 42 teeth- 10 more than we have.

# When is it time?

By Sherry Evans

"Ready to go out, girl"

Nothing.

I say it again, a bit louder, "Star, ready to go out."

And still silence. But more, her head leant against the bookcase at a very odd angle, her eyes closed. She moved nary a muscle; no twitch.

It only took a second for all this to register and I was on the floor next to my dog, certain she was dead. Then she moved her head.

I think I had stopped breathing. Tears were already forming. When I realized she was alive, I crawled back in bed and collapsed to let my heart rate return to normal. Even today - a week later- when I retell the story some of those physical symptoms return.

What happened? Did she not hear me? Was she being coy? Did I not see the tiniest glimmer of a movement she may have made? Was she in deep sleep or having a minor seizure? I'll never know. I only know that when Star's time comes I will be devastated and that for now she is with me.

When you own an eleven and a half-year-old dog, losing them is always at the back of your mind. When will it happen? How will it happen? Will I make the right end-of-life choice for her? Who will help me? I know it will be hard. But I had no idea how hard until the other morning when I thought she was dead.

I have a call list - people who will help me make the decision. They know who they are. I trust them and they know my attachment to Star.

We've been together seven and a half years. She is a newly retired racing greyhound; me, a new condominium owner. At the Greyhound Adoption Open House, I walked into a room full of greyhounds. All colors, all sizes, from perky and friendly to shy and withdrawn. Star was the latter. Small, timid, a female in shameful, decrepit shape. The color of her coat is black but that day it was a dingy brown. All her ribs showed; she trembled. But I knew - she was perfect. We began our adventure together.

It hasn't all been gravy. Like best friends we are a trial to each other. The usual - getting into the garbage, waking me up too early, running off at night, the throw up, growling and snapping at my friends and neighbors. And for her, I'm away all day leaving her alone. The twice-daily feedings often occur at sporadic times. I don't always want licks from her smelly mouth. I won't let her sleep on my bed OR the couch, sometimes she runs out of water and then there are the loud, busy grandchildren that visit.

The list goes on for both of us. But we are oh so close.

I extended her life. If not for me (or someone like me) she would have been dead long ago. And it's a good life - plenty of sleep, love, food, the run of my home. And she gave me unwavering love, companionship and she's a good listener. We walked on the beach year round and, in her younger days, she ran endless figure eight's around me, chased birds, and ran with other dogs, always winning the race.

And now, we still walk the beach but by the end she is panting, sluggish and ready to go back to sleeping. She's no longer interested in other dogs. Perhaps she makes one figure eight in the sand.

One day my old greyhound will lose her race. Will there be another dog for me after Star? No, I don't think so. She's my old girl; the princess.



Sherry and Star

Greyhounds come in 19 different primary colors and in over 55 different color combinations. Greyhounds have a larger heart, lungs and more red blood cells than other canine breeds.

## Heritage has a new job !!

Hi,

I have written before about my grey Heritage, that I have had for going on 4 years. He gets called a black lab, by some of you guys because he might have a little extra weight, but he lives on a horse farm and runs around all the time. He just likes his groceries I guess. He really isn't fat, he looks good.

However I'm not writing about that. Heritage is a therapy dog. He hasn't been through the formal training, but he used to go into the NH Hospital which housed emotionally disturbed people to visit with them. Then he started going to kindergarten with me. One day he sat through 2 different kindergarten classes. He was awesome!

He now also goes to a brain injured group home, he just walks in, goes up and leans on everyone, then lays down on the rug. It's uncanny how comfortable he was there from day one.

Of course he has brought unmeasured joy to me, but I can't count the number of other people that he has touched. He is a great dog!!!!!!!!!!!!

Heritage lives with Debbie Dickinson in Barnstead, NH



From the Director's Chair con't

Filling the position of Foster Home Coordinator, vacated by Donna's succession to the K.O.H. position is a vibrantly energetic young lady named Jeannine Scott. Jeannine lives in Hooksett, New Hampshire and is the owner / operator of her own bonded and insured pet sitting service. Jeannine has her own Grey named "Bailey" and is a natural born Greyhound aficionado. We welcome her "electric" zeal and determination with both the confidence and, admittedly, relief of each and every GPA-CNHC Board member.

Mrs. Colleen MacDonald has graciously accepted the position of Events Coordinator. Colleen came on board with GPA-CNHC as a Foster home provider and has been very active assisting with Meet and Greet events. But alas... Colleen and her husband have a cat that is set in her ways and likes to rule the roost. Perhaps some time soon the MacDonald family can again try to foster. We are truly proud to have her aboard. She will do a WONDERFUL job.

Rounding out the *changes* in the "Executive Board" are our fairly - new Treasurer and fairly - new Secretary. Please join me in WELCOMING and THANKING Mr. and Mrs. Jim and Carin Glick. Both of whom have been in their seats for some time now and have been a tremendous help to GPA-CNHC.

We'll now on to other issues such as operations, finances and the general state of GPA-CNHC. I'll be somewhat brief here. We're hanging on by our fingernails. This year we have had more than our fair share of broken leg hounds come in. If that isn't enough, we've endured some profoundly expensive vet bills this year. Add to that the fact that we just do not have enough Foster homes and have been forced to place dogs in kennels for extended periods. The end result is that our bank accounts are at critically low levels. We need help urgently.

We need more FOSTER HOMES right away. Hinsdale contacted us with 30 hounds needing placement immediately. Yet we have no FOSTER HOMES with space left. FUNDING is a critical issue now. If every household this message reaches can quickly make a "tax deductible" donation of \$10.00 or more we will be well on our way to stabilization of our finances and helping *more* hounds find homes. Also, if anyone who *knows* their way through the "grant request" crafting process and has time they can lend, we would deeply appreciate your assistance.

Yes, I *know* that in this *difficult economy* ten bucks doesn't come easy. But to benefit the Greyhounds and make them ALL winners of the FOREVER FAMILY race we need your help. I will strive to keep you advised of our situation as time marches on.

Most sincerely,

Jeffrey Betterini, Director-elect GPA-CNHC

# The Rainbow Bridge



Above are pictures of Tully Derby's Mo that were for the fall issue. Mo is seen enjoying a sunny day in the yard and with his brothers Nacho and Murphy on Mo's fancy ramp.

Just this side of heaven is a place called Rainbow Bridge.  
 When an animal dies that has been especially close to someone here, that pet goes to Rainbow Bridge.  
 There are meadows and hills for all of our special friends so they can run and play together.  
 There is plenty of food, water and sunshine, and our friends are warm and comfortable.  
 All the animals who had been ill and old are restored to health and vigor; those who were hurt or maimed are made whole and strong again, just as we remember them in our dreams of days and times gone by.  
 The animals are happy and content, except for one small thing; they each miss someone very special to them, who had to be left behind.  
 They all run and play together, but the day comes when one suddenly stops and looks into the distance. His bright eyes are intent; his eager body quivers. Suddenly he begins to run from the group, flying over the green grass, his legs carrying him faster and faster.  
 You have been spotted, and when you and your special friend finally meet, you cling together in joyous reunion, never to be parted again. The happy kisses rain upon your face; your hands again caress the beloved head, and you look once more into the trusting eyes of your pet, so long gone from your life but never absent from your heart.  
 Then you cross Rainbow Bridge together.

Author unknown...



Shilling is seen to the left with his family, Nancy and Charlie Lando volunteering his time over the 2007 holidays to help the Salvation Army.



Pictured left, a family reunion at the annual reunion! Center is the Lando's new GH Cuda. On the left is Rip Off Nash and on the right is Rip Off Collins (now Kelan).

## Who's Who of Dogs

Extraordinary lives of ordinary dogs Edited by John R.F. Breen

Cleopatra Burke Putman Valley, New York

Strong and purest Golden...Devoted till the end...Patient and proud...A sympathetic friend...Gave up Manhattan or the good life in the woods...Fearful of nothing, except vacuums and Chinese food...Fond of soccer balls, big red vans, and animals that fly..."Fetch till you drop" is the motto she lives by...Swimmer of all waters, oceans, streams, and trenches...In search of the world's most nauseating stench...A moody princess who can't look you in the eye...She lives and loves only for her special guy.

## Dewey 2008

Matt, Buddy and I made our annual trek to Dewey Beach over Columbus weekend. Matt and I are veterans, this was Buddy's first time. This was my 8<sup>th</sup> trip... I think... I've lost count. What I know for sure was that for once, the weather was beautiful!! It was as perfect as you would ever want. No rain, neither to hot nor to cold.

I didn't do as much as I normally would have. I injured my knee a few weeks earlier and was still limping, for good reason. MRI showed that along with multiple tears, I had a fracture!

We stayed again this year with my friends Audrey, Bob and their 'kids', GH's Asia (who had just finished her last chemo for osteo and amputation), their new girl Nova, and last but not least, Cosmo, the watchdog toy poodle.

We had fun shopping, meeting up with friends, walking the beach. This was the first year I spent evenings on the Bay side, and saw some spectacular sunsets. Of course, it helps when the sun is actually out and not hidden by clouds and rain!



Top= Fun at the Hund Run  
Bottom= Thirsty dogs (and humans) taking a pub break  
Right= One of the many costumes at Saturday nights costume contest

## Simple Simon's Birthday Bones

From Three Dog Bakery

2 cups whole-wheat flour  
1 tbls. Baking powder  
1 cup natural peanut butter  
1 cup skim milk

- Preheat oven to 375 degrees
- In a bowl, combine flour and baking powder. IN another bowl, mix peanut butter and milk.
- Add wet mixture to dry, and mix well.
- Turn out dough on a lightly floured surface and knead. Roll out to  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch and cut out shapes.
- Place on a greased baking sheet and bake for 20 minutes or until lightly brown. Cool on a rack then store in an airtight container.

## Thank You Blue Hound Traders

On behalf of not only GPA-CNH, but also the GH adoption community, we would like to thank you for all you have done over the past 8 years.

Steve and Linda (AKA Blue Hound) started this business as a way to help raise funds for GH 501C charities. Over the years they have generously donated a portion of their profits to events they attended as vendors. They could also be counted on to donate wonderful items for raffles at these events.

They have been fixtures at most N.E. GH events in NH, Maine and Mass. They have also made the trek to Dewey each of those years. They have also been to Greyhounds Invade Gettysburg (PA) and Grapehounds (NY).

Many factors have prompted this decision, recent economic conditions among them. We will miss seeing them as vendors at GH events. However we hope to be able to see them as spectators, enjoying events with some of their own GH's.

Enjoy your (semi) retirement!



# A View from both sides by Nancee and Raider

We tried to live dog less (without dog) for a few months after the loss of our German Shephard and Rhodesian Ridgeback within eight months of each other. It was impossible; our home needed a dog in it! By chance we discovered GPA-CNHC at one of their monthly "Meet and Greets" at PetCo in Portsmouth. I spent a lot of time that day chatting with the group and discovering more about Greyhounds. I had not known much about Greyhound Rescue before that day, but we had already decided to adopt a rescue dog instead of getting a dog from a breeder this time around. In discovering more about Greyhounds, we concluded this breed would fit into our lifestyle very well.

The next step was to attend the "Open House" and there we found many wonderful greyhounds available for adoption. We were able to interact with all of them. The meeting was informative and we were encouraged to walk and play with all the dogs. The foster families that were there were terrific and very open. We were able to find out about each dog's personality from them in order to make a good choice for both the dog and ourselves. This is the day we first met and got to know Raider General. What a delight he was - and gorgeous too! We only had to wait a short time to pass our home inspection after filling out our application for adoption. In May we met with his foster family and Raider came home with us. I was amazed at how quickly he adjusted to our home and our schedule.

In the past when we have welcomed other dogs into our home, it has always been a process of either training or retraining them. This was not the case with our new adoptee; he arrived house trained, crate trained, leash trained and well-mannered. The foster family had done a marvelous job and we will forever be grateful to them for opening up their home and hearts to Raider. All of the people at GPA-NH do a superb job and I would highly recommend the route we took in finding just the right dog. Nancee Kerstetter

It's not everyday a dog gets to publish a story, so I am pretty lucky to be writing this. Actually it's been a pretty lucky year for me, even if I may not have won any races at the dog track! GPA-CNHC picked me up from there and I have been having a blast since then. I was able to live with a really cool foster family - and I even had a furbrother. Moxie was a really neat pal to hang around with. I learned all sorts of things about humans and houses from him and my foster parents. I learned how to be a dog! But - here's the secret - I learned how to be a really GOOD dog! Yep, it makes all the difference in the world! I get to go on long walks and to different dog parks and to the beach - get to meet all sorts of dogs at these places - oh and the smells - let me tell you - it is like Disneyland for the snout! I love riding in the car, and I still go to the "Meet and Greets" to meet up with my fellow greyhounds, my buddies! Hey, we have to get caught up on stuff too! We also have to check out the placement possibilities for all my buddies that are still looking for homes! And when each furry fantastic day is over I get to come home to my very own snuggly bed, and all my toys. Yep, life is good - Woof!

Raider

You can read more about me at [www.dogster.com/dogs/793932](http://www.dogster.com/dogs/793932)



Raider striking a pose and with his ducky friend

## Hints from Three Dog Bakery

Dogs communicate with us and with each other through their facial expressions, body postures, tail and ear positioning, and barking patterns.

## Grapehounds 2008

Matt, Buddy, Trey and I made the trek to Grapehounds again this year. This was Buddy's first trip with us, and we also had Trey tagging along. Trey had spent the summer with us while his Dad wasn't feeling well. We arrived early Friday afternoon and settled in our cabin at Buttonwood Winery. Buttonwood hosted a Zydeco band concert and there were a number of vendors selling their wares.

Saturday turned out hot and humid. We drove along the Cayuga Lake Wine Trail. Every winery had a vendor or two and we did some shopping. We ate lunch at a bistro located at one of the wineries, then back to the cabin to cool off before meeting friends at a local restaurant for supper. They had set up table, chairs and a tent next to the lake and we had a relaxing early evening supper.

Even driving @ 400 miles away, I still couldn't escape the thunderstorms. Of all my pets, this is the first time I've had to deal with thunderphobia. Both Trey and Buddy are thunderphobic. Trey usually sleeps in bed with his Dad, so he kept that up with me as well. I woke up during the storm to find Buddy on the bed, lying across my legs. Matt was on the floor, oblivious to the world.

We left very early Sunday AM and awoke to a beautiful sunrise. If GH's and wine are some of your favorite things, this is the event for you. Go to <http://grapehounds.com/> for info on next years Grapehounds.



### Buttonwood Winery & Concert

Top: Just some of the hounds and their families

Enjoying the Zydeco concert

Top right: The only way to listen to Zydeco music!

Bottom right: One of the vendors at Buttonwood

## Please help GPA 'Think Green'

As you have read in "from the Director's Chair", GPA is facing a budget crisis. The state of the economy has effected everyone, and GPA is no exception.

In addition to much needed monetary donations, we are looking at ways to cut some expenses. One way is how everyone receives the newsletter. Even with a GPA adopter giving us a break on printing costs and using non-profit bulk mailing, it's still an added expense.

What we would like to do is have as many of you as possible be willing to have Greyhound Tails delivered to you electronically. An added bonus is that you will see each issue in color. You would also be able to print it from your home computer.

I know some of you don't have computers. We will still print paper issues for those of you that prefer that method.

If for whatever reason you wish to be taken off the mailing list, we will do that as well.

Please send email address or removal from mailing list to:  
[newsletter\\_editor@gpa-cnhc.org](mailto:newsletter_editor@gpa-cnhc.org) Please make sure the email address you use will accept PDF files. With pictures it can be a large file.



**Rating your dogs food:  
Reprinted from GH-L**

The following chart was posted on an Internet GH list serve.  
It can be used as a guideline for selecting your dog's food.

Several people asked for this and I was going to send it to them privately but thought others might like to see it.

I received permission to cross post this information from another group. It was posted by a veterinarian. She asked that I state that she hasn't analyzed it to determine how valid it is, but thinks it's a good tool for evaluating foods you might be considering feeding.

How to grade your dog's food: Start with a grade of 100:

- 1) For every listing of "by-product", subtract 10 points
- 2) For every non-specific animal source ("meat" or "poultry", meat, meal or fat) reference, subtract 10 points
- 3) If the food contains BHA, BHT, or ethoxyquin, subtract 10 points
- 4) For every grain "mill run" or non-specific grain source, subtract 5 points
- 5) If the same grain ingredient is used 2 or more times in the first five ingredients (I.e. "ground brown rice", "brewers rice", "rice flour" are all the same grain), subtract 5 points
- 6) If the protein sources are not meat meal and there are less than 2 meats in the top 3 ingredients, subtract 3 points
- 7) If it contains any artificial colorants, subtract 3 points
- 8 ) If it contains ground corn or whole grain corn, subtract 3 points
- 9) If corn is listed in the top 5 ingredients, subtract 2 more points
- 10) If the food contains any animal fat other than fish oil, subtract 2 points
- 11) If lamb is the only animal protein source (unless your dog is allergic to other protein sources), subtract 2 points
- 12) If it contains soy or soybeans, subtract 2 points

- 13) If it contains wheat (unless you know that your dog is not allergic to wheat), subtract 2 points
- 14) If it contains beef (unless you know that your dog is not allergic to beef), subtract 1 point
- 15) If it contains salt, subtract 1 point

~~~~~Extra Credit~~~~~

- 1) If any of the meat sources are organic, add 5 points
- 2) If the food is endorsed by any major breed group or nutritionist, add 5 points
- 3) If the food is baked not extruded, add 5 points
- 4) If the food contains probiotics, add 3 points
- 5) If the food contains fruit, add 3 points
- 6) If the food contains vegetables (NOT corn or other grains), add 3 points
- 7) If the animal sources are hormone-free and antibiotic-free, add 2 points
- 8 ) If the food contains barley, add 2 points
- 9) If the food contains flax seed oil (not just the seeds), add 2 points
- 10) If the food contains oats or oatmeal, add 1 point
- 11) If the food contains sunflower oil, add 1 point
- 12) For every different specific animal protein source (other than the first one; count "chicken" and "chicken meal" as only one protein source, but "chicken" and "any other protein source" as 2 different sources), add 1 point
- 13) If it contains glucosamine and chondroitin, add 1 point
- 14) If the vegetables have been tested for pesticides and are pesticide-free, add 1 point

Score:

94-100+ = A 86-93 = B 78-85 = C 70-77 = D 69 = F

**Money Saving Tips**

Check the web site for the brand of food you are feeding your dogs. Many offer a frequent buyer program. Buy a certain number of bags and get one free. Even if the brand you feed doesn't offer a program, many of the larger pet stores offer one on all brands they sell. Another source for this is through a vet, dog grooming and dog day care.

"A well-trained dog will make no attempt to share your lunch. He will just make you feel so guilty that you cannot enjoy it"

Helen Thomson

"The most affectionate creature in the world is a wet dog"  
Ambrose Bierce (1812-1914)

# UPCOMING EVENTS

December

Check with your local Petco. Most will have photos with Santa.

April 2009

GPA Annual Spring Banquet. Date TBA  
We are always looking for raffle donations. Anyone wishing to donate items, please call the 800 number to arrange drop off or pick up.

April 24 - 26, 2009

Greyhounds In Gettysburg  
<http://www.trianglegreyhound.org/gig/>

July 23-26, 2009

3<sup>rd</sup> annual Grapehounds Cayuga Lake, NY  
If you like GH's and wine...this is your event!  
<http://www.grapehounds.com/>

September 2009

GPA Annual Reunion Date TBA

Benefit Poker at Seabrook GH Park  
Sept. 9-18

# REGULAR SCHEDULED EVENTS

Below is a schedule of our ongoing regular events. Called Meet & Greets. This is where we show off our GH's and answer questions about GH's as pets. Many times this will be someone's first exposure to GH's.

For someone that would like to help spread the word but feels that fostering might be a bit too much for them, this is an excellent opportunity to help out. Many of you met your first GH at a M&G.

If your GH loves people, other animals (esp. the little ones), we would love to have anyone stop by and help out.

## First Saturday of the month

Manchester Petco 11am to 3pm

## Second Saturday of Jan, March, May, July,

September, November

Kennel Shop Sanford, Me. Noon to 3pm

## Second Sunday of the month

Nashua Petco 11am to 3pm

## Third Saturday of the month

Portsmouth Petco 11am to 3pm

## Fourth Saturday of the month

Pet Adoption Day Pelham, NH

11am to 2pm

## Last Sunday of the month

Concord Petco 11am to 3pm

# OPEN HOUSE

## First Sunday of the month Warner, NH

Take Rt.89 north to Exit 7 (Davisville /Rt. 103). At the bottom of the exit go east on Rt. 103 for about 1 mile then take a left onto Rt. 127. Approx.  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile turn left onto Poverty Plains Rd. Dirt drive for Woodlawn Training Center is  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile on your left.

~~~~~ Please consider fostering ~~~~~

Unlike many GH adoption groups who have an actual kennel to house their retired racers, GPA utilizes foster homes only. With fall approaching that means that 3 of the 5 New England tracks will be closing for the season. The Lodge at Belmont will close by Labor Day. Seabrook, Hinsdale and Wonderland will close by the end of the year. All GH adoption groups in NH, ME, and Mass will be filled to overflowing with retired GH's. As a group GPA can only take as many as we have foster places for. We would like to give as many of these GH's a chance for a home of their own. If you've ever considered fostering, this would be a great time to give it a try. If you've thought about adding another GH to your home, many foster with intent. The intent being that they foster with the intent on adopting if the fit is right for the home. GPA has done all necessary medical needs, and will reimburse foster homes for food. If interested in fostering, please contact foster home coordinator Jeanine Scott at [foster\\_family\\_coordinator@gpa-cnhc.org](mailto:foster_family_coordinator@gpa-cnhc.org)

## **GPA-CNHC Policy**

To all of our members, please be reminded that GPA-CNHC adheres to National GPA Policy and Procedure. The primary objectives are to:

- Locate responsible, loving homes for greyhounds that fail to qualify, or no longer qualify for the racetrack.
- Educate the public about greyhounds, stressing their desirability as pets.

The GPA position is that we are primarily interested in the welfare of the greyhound. We are NOT animal activists, nor an animal rights organization. However, GPA will take appropriate action if we see a greyhound mistreated or abused. We will do what needs to be done to get the abuse stopped as quickly as possible through the proper authorities.

GPA is politically NEUTRAL and is neither pro- nor anti-racing. GPA representatives are required to remain factual on all issues. If engaged in conversation which moves toward negative issues, we can best serve the greyhounds by emphasizing what wonderful pets they make and why. It is possible that upon determination that a member has engaged in conduct materially and seriously prejudicial to the interests or purposes of GPA, they will be terminated from the organization. Thank you all for doing your best to comply with our mission.



Please consider a donation to GPA



We are an official 501c non-profit organization. IRS TAX ID# 02-0424800  
Your donations are tax deductible. The hounds thank-you!

\$10.00 Individual

\$50.00 Donor

\$15.00 Family

\$100.00 Benefactor

\$25.00 Sponsor

\$100.00+ Angel

Send checks to:     **GPA-CNHC**  
                              **PO Box 778**  
                              **Concord, NH 03302-0778**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City / State / Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

**Greyhound Pets of America  
Central New Hampshire Chapter  
P.O. Box 778  
Concord, NH 03302-0778  
888-507-9597  
www.gpa-cnhc.org  
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**Greyhound Tails  
Newsletter of GPA-CNHC**

**Greyhound Tails is the official newsletter of Greyhound Pets of America's Central New Hampshire chapter and is distributed to GPA-CNHC supporters. It is also available to other similar humane groups, veterinarians, etc. This newsletter has two main purposes: to inform and entertain. To meet these goals we welcome reader submissions, letters, items of interest, articles, photos, stories, original cartoons, humorous items, veterinary information, helpful hints, etc. Publication is quarterly, with submission deadlines of Feb. 1, May 1, Aug. 1, Nov. 1. Photos not taken at a public event must have the subject's written permission to publish accompanying them when submitted.**

**Please send your materials to Greyhound Tails, P.O. Box 778, Concord, NH 03302-0778 or email them to the newsletter editor: [newsletter\\_editor@gpa-cnhc.org](mailto:newsletter_editor@gpa-cnhc.org)**