

Music City Roo'er

www.nashvillegreys.org

GREYHOUND PETS OF AMERICA - NASHVILLE

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2 | SUMMER 2003

Sit, roo, celebrate the fun



GPA/N picnic,
September 21,
Centennial Park

Around the world, Sept. 21 is Greyhound Planet Day. It honors greyhounds and their kin worldwide. In Middle Tennessee, it's also Greyhound Pets of America/Nashville's annual picnic.

Set for noon-5 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 21, this year's picnic and potluck will be in Nashville's Centennial Park in a pavilion on Twenty-Seventh Avenue off West End Avenue behind McDon-



PICNIC PROWESS - GPA/N's Sunday, Sept. 21 Greyhound Planet picnic in Centennial Park will top last year's gathering which drew +80 dogs and their families, plus perspective adopters.

alds. It's a chance for Greys and adopters to converge for an afternoon of conversation, good food and fun.

GPA/N is providing BBQ from the local hotspot; soda and water will be available for purchase. Attendees are asked to bring a side dish. RSVP with Jill Peterson at 399-7979 by Sept. 8. Since not all Greys are other-breed friendly, please bring only Greyhounds to the picnic

The picnic will begin with a blessing of the hounds at 12:15 p.m. by the Rev. Mike Waldrop, pastor of East End United Methodist Church. Lunch and music from the band, Deville, will follow.

For the dogs, there'll be a costume contest and Dunkin' for Dogs game. Each Grey will have the chance see how many hotdog "coins" floating in a dish of water he can snatch in three minutes. There'll be a toy swap. Bring a toy your Grey is ignoring and swap it for another. There also will be a dog massage demonstration.

For humans there's a silent auction. Merchandise already pledged includes a Greyhound afghan (no, not a dog, a blanket), a Greyhound tote bag, a 20-pound bag of food, a custom dog portrait, an agility lesson and a hand-crafted reflective dog coat.

T-SHIRTS HERE

Want the official GPA/N Second Annual Greyhound Planet Day t-shirt? E-mail Sharron Lane at mcrooers@hotmail.com. GPA/N will place a bulk order and cover shipping. To see the styles/prices or to order your own go to <http://www.cafeshops.com/gpanashvillegpd>.

RAINBOW BRIDGE

Honors past pets
To honor our companion animals who have died, there will be a Rainbow Bridge Memorial Board at this year's picnic.

Please bring photos or tributes to post of beloved pets, whether furred, feathered, finned or scaled, who have crossed the Rainbow Bridge. There will be no ceremony. Only the moment it takes to put up the picture and pay tribute to the memory of an animal who has shared his love with you and your family.

Food for thought

Greys are what we feed them

The kind and quality of food you feed your Greyhound matters and the reason is simple — as with human food, not all companion animal food is created equal. Reading labels can help. Here's a label reading primer.

The first four or five ingredients make up nearly 75% of the contents. Among these, ideally you want two to three sources of quality animal protein. For example, Eagle Pack Holistic Select, which GPA/N feeds its foster dogs, starts off

COME ROO WITH US

Music City Roo'er is always looking for photos and articles, so send them to greyhoundpetsnashville@hotmail.com. The next issue will be in November. In the meantime, watch www.nashville-greys.org or our Yahoo group for breaking news and announcements.

Working on this issue were: Pam Brewer, Mardy Fones, Sharron Lane Carol Machery, DMV, Wayne Travis and Ray Wong.

with chicken meal, ground brown rice, whole ground barley, fish meal, chicken (organic).

Whether the first ingredient is real meat or meal also matters. Fresh meat is 70-75% water. Chicken, for example, as the first ingredient by weight must be discounted as three-quarters of its

weight evaporates in processing. However, chicken meal is fresh meat with the fat and water removed, so, as the first ingredient, it means chicken is a larger component of the final product. The more specific the meal, the better. Chicken meal, is better than poultry meal which is better than generic "meat meal" which can be 4-D meat — animals that are diseased, disabled, dying or dead at slaughter.

Also remember "natural" is an undefined term, even in human food. "All natural" doesn't necessarily mean "all good." In dog foods, it often refers to how the product was preserved. High fat dry dog food will turn rancid if not preserved. Mixed tocopherols (a vitamin E source), vitamin C and oils of rosemary, clove or other spices are often used as "natural" preservatives. These are preferred over synthetics such as BHA, BHT, propyl gallate, propylene glycol and ethoxyquin. Even when not listed on the label, these chemicals may be in rendered meat products before they reach the manufacturer.

Our greys count on us to provide quality food, so check labels before you buy. If you still have questions, call the manufacturer. Here are a few dry foods that pass the quality test - Eagle Pack foods, Holistic Select blend, California Natural, Innova, Wellness, Canidae, Solid Gold Millennia, Flint River Ranch Dry Water, Back to Basics, Pinnacle (Breeder's Choice) and Natural Balance Ultra Premium. And remember - if one type of food doesn't agree with your Grey, try another. There's no reason for either of you to suffer.

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GREYT SCENES



GIRL GREET'S GREY — Saturday Meet & Greets at the 100 Oaks PetsMart are one way GPA/N members inform the public about the joys of Greyhound ownership. Come Join Us!



GREYT SALE — This year's GPA/Nashville yard sale raised more than \$1,600. Thanks everyone for your donations and help. Remember to save your best stuff for next year's sale.

A custom holiday gift

Feature your Grey in a 2004 calendar

Make your Grey a star by getting a 2004 calendar featuring just pictures of him or her. Ray Wong teaches design at Middle Tennessee State University and he's arranged for his students to do custom calendars for GPA/N members as portfolio projects.

You supply at least 15 photos, plus dates for the calendar (birthdays, anniversaries) and the student will design it and oversee printing. (Students will be graded on their work, so you know they'll be doing their best stuff.)

The cost is \$25 per design; \$10 for each extra copy of the original design. Proceeds go to GPA/N. For details, visit nashvillegreys.org or e-mail Ray at rglwong1@comcast.net. The deadline for submitting materials is Sept. 15 to ensure delivery by Thanksgiving.

'Galgos'



Saving Spanish sighthounds

BY CAROL MACHERY, DMV

Grassmere Animal Hospital

Spain has its own Greyhounds called "galgos." Slightly smaller than our racers, they're less leggy; some have longer wiry coats. They are bred for "coursing" (chasing and catching hares) rather than racing. Typically, at the end of each hunting season in January, hunters kill galgos — usually by hanging them from trees. If they ran well, they are hung "high" so they die quickly. Galgos who coursed poorly are hung "low" with their feet touching the ground so they suffer longer. Other galgos are burned, drowned, impaled and dragged to death. Hunters don't want to have to feed them after the end of the season and new, young galgos are easily bred each year. Adoption? Spain doesn't recognize galgos as pets so there is virtually no adoption within the country.

The horror facing these dogs began receiving international recognition in the mid-'90s; financial and logistical support from Europe and the US has grown. There are also a few Spaniards struggling to maintain shelters around the country. One of these is called Scooby and is run by Fermín Perez, the director of the Medina del Campo shelter.

In February, three Nashville vets — Bev Hollis, Kathy Kunkle and I — and two assistants — Laura Tarkenton and Hiland Langhan — went there on a spay/neuter mission. In eight days, we performed 104 surgeries. There were



Nashville veterinarian Bev Hollis, DVM, visits with galgos awaiting adoption in the sleeping area of the Scooby refuge in Medina Del Campo, Spain.

many new arrivals in those eight days. Thirteen galgos were recovered from a municipal pound. They hadn't eaten in three weeks — yes, weeks. Another had had the end of his nose cut off as a puppy. He came from a village that traditionally does that thinking their dogs would then run faster. A galgo rescued from hanging came in with neck wounds.

Since it was established a few years ago, Scooby has grown from an

unheated, waterless second floor of a warehouse to a genuine refuge with space for 500+ dogs. Galgos come to Scooby directly from hunters, municipal shelters and other smaller galgo refuges. Some are captured strays. At Scooby, they are checked, vaccinated, dewormed, neutered and eventually travel outside of Spain for adoption. When the hunting season ends, the population at Scooby explodes.

Their future? Better than it was 10 years ago but there is still much to do. Hanging is going "underground" because of the international outcry. There are now several shelters around Spain. Dr. Hollis, another vet in Arizona and I have formed a new non-profit named Operation Scooby to help provide medical assistance in the future. Our goal is to help fund medical groups wanting to travel to Medina and to help with medical supplies.

There is much work to be done. The eyes of a galgo speak as clearly as the eyes of our Greyhounds. The language of hope is universal.



Carol Machery, DVM, right, and technician Hiland Langhan spay a galgo at Scooby.

Elvis sighting in Paducah

CoraFaye, the hound, not far behind

BY WAYNE TRAVIS

Why did I want a Greyhound? I had been to the track in Ebro, Fla. many times. They would always parade the hounds before the race. There were signs everywhere — DO NOT ATTEMPT to pet the dogs. Well, I did and was told if it happened again, I would be asked to leave. I was missed by a dog at home and just wanted to pet a dog. At that time, I didn't know Greys were being adopted out.

Back then, I had Sydney, a mixed-breed Brittney Spaniel and she was my baby. She had her own Lazy Boy and slept in the bed. I even had a cement pond put in so she could swim. When I lost her to cancer last September after 16 years, I swore I'd never give my heart to another dog.

One Click Did It

One night last November, I was surfing the 'net and saw something about Greyhound adoption. My mind went

into reverse to the track at Ebro. I found the GPA/N website (www.nashvillegreys.org) and looked at it for a few days. Should I give my heart again? Deb and I finally decided we wanted a Greyhound.

The night before the home visit, we were so nervous we didn't sleep. We hugged the cell phone in case the home visit people couldn't find where we lived.



Enter the King

At 10:10 a.m. Nov. 16, Elvis found us. He ran in the fenced yard. When we came back in, Elvis made himself at home on the couch. Sharron

Lane said, "Looks like he is at home." We had our first Greyhound. We showed him off like a new car.

Since then, CoraFaye has added to the love we give and receive. She was one of GPA-N's special needs dogs because of a broken hock. Now that she's fully recovered, she sleeps with us every night, just like Elvis. It's safe to say, there is no love like the love of a Greyhound.

IT'S A GREYT WORLD

The following people in the GPA/N area adopted in May, June and July.

Hank – Gay & Troy Rye
 Tut – Cynthia Yancey
 Allegro – Jennifer, Sarah & Amanda Musgrave
 Astro – Barbara & Daniel Martin
 Trixie – Charles & Roxie Marston
 Jo and Chess – Bill & Dot Jones
 Ice – Chris & Angel Slater
 Blitz – Barbara & Robert Kimbro
 Axel – Vincent Peppe & Martha Splain
 Trinity – Sheila Shelley
 Hurricane – Stephanie, Stokay & Maria Bourque
 Sue – Trish Walker

Chips (adopted additional greys)

Chloe – Nancy Allen
 Bear – Robert & Leigh Dinwiddy
 Gaylord – Cindy & Steven Peter
 Gypsy – Sharron Lane
 Oscar – Mike & Stacy Johnson
 Chauncey & Sadie – Beth & Doug Petch
 Payday – Chris & John Norris
 Jesse – Pam Stephens
 Ella – Ramona Grove
 DeCarte – Marcy & David Rhese
 Erka - Tracy Coyne
 Rocky & Ella - Ramona Grove
 Levi - Jennifer Henry & Kerry Dye
 Rain - Andrea & Richy Vaughn
 Raquel & Dimples - Don & Tommie Long
 Seminole - Michael & Gina Julian
 Nadab - Kyle Pendleton & Alan Maloney

New greys to Middle Tennessee

Gracie – Malissa & Ken Groneck,
 Moon – Stacia Lynds
 Sal & Sammy – Lynda & Mark Dillin
 Stella – Todd Plambeck

Greyhound Pets of America - Nashville



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