



Greyhound Pipeline Express

Welcome!

We welcome you to our first issue of the Greyhound Pipeline Express newsletter.

Brought to you by Greyhound *Trust & Alliance (GT&A)*.

Who are we – A dedicated group of greyhound supporters giving back to the retired racing greyhound community by helping to bring awareness to the breed. GT&A supports all greyhounds, owners and adoption groups that are the fabric of our community.

We are committed to these grey hounds, their owners and the wonderful volunteers and organizations, has never been stronger. Over the past five years we have been able to offer assistance and support to over 30 groups and associations. If the need is there so are we.

We invite to learn more about us by visiting our newly redesigned website greyhoundtrustalliance.webs.com

Now it's time to take the next step for the community by being able to provide information , share group knowledge, talk about what's happening , answering frequently asked questions and providing owners and caregivers the tools and social connections for the benefit of all.

As we all agree IT'S ALL ABOUT THE HOUNDS!

So sit back and enjoy.

As always your comments and thoughts are most welcome.

Pamela Cramp
p.cramp@yahoo.ca



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Travelling with your hounds through the USA?

Check out the **Red Roof Inn**

http://www.redroof.com/partners/greyhound_trust_and_alliance/

Upcoming Events

February 16, 2014 Drop in Social at WAG
9:30 – 11:00 am
1071 Bank St, The Glebe, Ottawa, ON
Email for info: info@gsncr.ca

June 1, 2014 Annual BBQ and Fundraiser
11 – 3 pm
Masters N' Hounds, Ayr, ON
Hosted by Greyhound Trust & Alliance

February 22, 2014 Indoor Hound Playdate – GSNCR
Register by 5pm, Feb 20th
6:30 – 7:30 pm
425 St-Laurent Blvd, Ottawa, ON
\$5 per hound
Email: brandy 834@hotmail.com for info

For all GT&A events and details,
visit: greyhoundtrustalliance.webs.com

April 12, 2014 After the Track's 4th Annual
Roo, Rock & Roll Pub Night
7:00 pm, Melanie Pringles, Whitby, ON
Tickets: \$10;
Reserve by email: info@afterthetrack.ca

March 24, 2014 Card Making Workshop - GSNCR
Pre-Register by email: begin.mel@gsncr.ca
1:30 – 3:30 pm; \$20 per person (Cash only)
225 Alvin Road, Buzz 139 The Party Room,
Ottawa, ON



Finding the Right Vet

Contributed by: Pamela Cramp, GT&A



This has become one of the most frequently asked questions over my 16 years involvement with Greyhounds. It's also been one of the most difficult to try and pin down. In the end it comes down to personal taste and what fits with your lifestyle.

My research has been ongoing for a long time correlating my own experiences as well as the experiences of others and what the professionals have to say on the subject. That's a lot of data to sort through. What I have come to understand is there are basic questions to ask yourself if you are going through the process.

What are you looking for from your care provider?

If you know you are not happy what is it exactly that you are not happy with?

What is your level of faith and trust with the caregivers you are dealing with now?

Do you feel you are getting value for the money you are spending?

In the words of Louise Murray, D.V.M, Vice President of the ASPCA's Bergh Memorial Animal Hospital in New York City "***The best way to love your pet is to educate yourself so you can be an educated advocate. Your pet can't speak up, so you have to become brave for your pet***"

To help you on your journey I have put together a summary of guidelines based on data collection to help you come to a positive result for yourself, family and hounds.

Remember these are wide ranging guidelines and you need to decide which parts you believe will work for you and select accordingly.

First Step – Recommendations for valued sources

Talk to people that you know with Greyhounds. Find out who their Vets are, if they recommend them, what they like and do not like about the practice and services they receive.

Second Step – Making a short list of Vets and Practices you may want to consider.

Remember there is no shame changing to a new practice if you are not happy. This is a business and you need to make the best choices for you.

Third Step – Make a list of questions that are important to you.

Fourth Step – Evaluate the office and the care environment

Fifth Step – Evaluate your personal experience with the Vets, Technicians and the practice during your visits. What did you see? How was the communication level with others in the office? Did you make a connection? What was your confidence level? Would you Trust them with your beloved hound?

Final Step – What was the level of connection and interaction with your hound?

Continued...

Finding the Right Vet Continued

Summary of Questions that could be considered:

1. How many Greyhounds do they have in their practice currently? Do they have access to the latest medical information specific to Greyhounds and their needs? If you conduct your own research or obtain consulting information from other sources will your vet review the information you provide? Open communication is a key point
2. Is the location convenient to you? What is the access like from the parking lot to the facility? Are they able to offer assistance for your hound if you need it? Something to consider if you are alone and your hound is incapacitated.
3. Is this a small practice or a large practice? How many Vets and technicians do they have? There are up sides and down sides to both scenarios. Although a small practice may provide a more intimate relationship for your hound, a large practice with multi-vets may have the extended knowledge with specialists and access to more services and specialized equipment on the premises. It is important to note that within a large multi-vet practice, if there are only one or two vets that have your confidence, you should be able to have access to those vets specifically upon request.
4. What is the range of services offered? What are the fees for these services? Are written estimates provided and discussed? What are the payment terms? Is Pet insurance an option for you to look into? Keep in mind do your research if you are considering pet insurance before you sign.
5. Does the Vet refer patients to specialists? If so who and what areas?
6. What happens if you have an emergency? Do they have after hour services, are they open 24/7, do they make house calls? When minutes count this is a priority must know.
7. How are overnight patients monitored? If not, do they refer you to another facility if so where?
8. Does your vet stay informed with the latest in medical advances for your breed? Is wellness to prevent health problems promoted and open for discussion with you? What is the vet's philosophy and position on vaccinations? Is it in line with yours?
9. What types of anesthetics are used in the practice? What is the protocol for pain management? Greyhounds have special needs in this area ensure your Vet is fully knowledgeable.
10. Can you get a tour of the facility? Is it clean, well organized, and monitored appropriately? The practice should have complete and detailed medical records in the office especially if there are multiple vets and technicians accessing this data when you visit. There is nothing more annoying than having to explain the same thing over and over again when you visit to caregivers you are dealing with. Your hound's file should be complete.
11. How well does the office staff communicate with both you and your hound. Do they seem knowledgeable about and sensitive to animals? Do they communicate well with you?
12. Be observant. See how the vet and techs interact with the animals in the clinic. They should project calm and positive energy. Be sure to sense the energy level of your hound to see what the level of comfort is.

So now you have a set of, what I hope, are helpful guidelines for your Toolbox.

Your "perfect" vet is always going to be what fits you best.

Excerpts from Muzzle Talk:

Learn to Love your Greyhound's Muzzle!

By Lynda Radecki

Are you really aware of the myriad of uses for the single best tool that arrives with your Greyhound on adoption day - its muzzle?

Think about those first-time Greyhound owners are embarking on one of the most rewarding experiences of their lives adopting a retired racing Greyhound and gaining a cherished new member into their family. On adoption day, your adoption group will do everything possible to prepare new owners for this experience by offering abundant literature and detailed discussions involving everything you'll ever need to know about your new addition in order to keep him safe and healthy. As well-intentioned all this excellent information may be, this experience can be overwhelming for new owners; their brains virtually bursting with more input than any mere mortal could be expected to process.

This is the first time, you were introduced to the plastic basket muzzle that came with your hound, and told it is to be used when introducing him to his new housemates, around small animals, if he is prey-driven, and when allowing him to participate at Greyhound playgroups. Did you know that your Greyhound's muzzle is a remarkable tool that has a myriad of other valuable uses that can save him from all types of hidden dangers and health issues, and you from unnecessary veterinary expenses?

As a new Greyhound owner we may have cringed at the sight of a muzzled Greyhound and our Greyhounds look sad when wearing a muzzle... so we tend to dismiss it and everything we are told about it. We get home with our sweet, gentle Greyhound and the first thing we do is pack the muzzle away, or worse yet, throw it away. And then, reality strikes when a series of random events plays out over time your home. How many of you have endured any of the following small sampling of typical events:

- Casual, non-aggressive, playful nips between two Greyhounds playing in your own back yard... and off you run to the veterinarian for stitches or staples.
- Unexpected, brief, flash arguments between well-adjusted canine housemates over a delicious chewy treat or cherished toy (and once again, off to the veterinarian for more stitches!).
- A Greyhound that cannot stop licking his paws constantly until his feet are raw, red, and painful with no measurable improvement made by way of traditional medical care.
- Licking or gnawing at a healing laceration or wound so it never seems to heal, keeps reopening and gets infected (off to the veterinarian yet again).
- Your Greyhound helping you out (thanks very much!) by removing his stitches long before they should be removed.
- Snacking on that irresistible ambrosia of the Gods... feces - his own, his housemates, or even the occasional, delightfully yummy, half-decayed, and moldy cat poop discovered in the flowerbed deposited by the family or neighborhood outdoor cat - Resulting in either vomiting or diarrhea (or both!).
- Foraging in and consuming houseplants (including decorative moss or dirt) resulting in vomiting and/or diarrhea. And let's not forget that Greyhound who, when left alone, likes to personalize your (I mean his) favorite chair with teeth marks and chew holes - perhaps even removing a little of the stuffing!
- Dining on cicadas and other interesting insects (beetles, spiders, etc.), frogs, and other wildlife (including the occasional unfortunate dead bird, mouse, or even squirrel found decomposing in perimeter of your large yard) - or eating mulch (some types of which can be poisonous and fatal if swallowed).
- Making like a bovine, grazing on grass until he vomits a distasteful, yellow, foaming splatter of half-eaten grass and bile on your freshly cleaned or newly purchased carpet. No, they never vomit outside or on the tile floor - always on your expensive, special-ordered, hand-cut oriental wool rug!
- Your sweet, gentle Greyhound suddenly deciding to pick up an itty-bitty neighborhood dog in his mouth without warning just cuz.

Continued...

Excerpts from Muzzle Talk Continued

Let's take a minute to re-evaluate, understand, and embrace the single most valuable tool you have at your disposal - your Greyhound's muzzle. A muzzle offers an amazing way to deal with a myriad of everyday problems that all Greyhound owners endure - issues beyond the typical examples such as safe introductions, playgroup etiquette, and use in multi-hound households. In fact, almost every problem you have ever had with your Greyhound that involves his mouth can be nearly "cured" by using his muzzle in creative and intelligent ways.

Muzzles are not cruel, they are not inhumane, and they are not a painful emotional reminder to your dog of his days in the kennels. And, in the majority of cases, an open plastic basket muzzle does NOT make your dog hotter. Most of all, by a stroke of great fortune, your Greyhound arrives already conditioned to wear his muzzle on a daily basis! How lucky can we be?

A lot of the resistance expressed or felt about the muzzle, is not, as we profess or believe, because the dog doesn't like it - it's because we humans just don't like it and refuse to use it. And, it's often because we simply don't like the way it looks or the impression it might give other people. Perhaps we feel it's a too much of a pain to use, or we make a personal choice not to embrace the benefits of muzzle use.

Whatever our reasons, we need to stop making excuses about hating our muzzles, and open our eyes to all the positive benefits offered by this simple, inexpensive, piece of well-designed plastic. Make no mistake, these muzzles are used in the racing industry for very good reason - most notably to keep unnecessary expenses to a minimum and secondly to keep the dogs safe from unnecessary injury! Why do we resist the muzzle and refuse to use the single best tool we have available to keep our dogs healthy and safe?

No matter HOW gentle a hound is, or how safe around your own cats or small dogs, you can never be 100% sure how he will react around town in new and unavoidable situations involving unfamiliar small creatures. [Authors note: Carrying along, or wearing a muzzle on your dog at all times also gives strangers a visual clue that it might not be the best idea to let their little fluffy Tinkerbelle approach off-lead. It does NOT say, "My dog is dangerous." It says, "I am a responsible and considerate owner who cares about the safety others."]

Many people complain of their hounds grazing on sweet, irresistible grass during the Spring-thru-Fall months. Muzzles appointed when the dogs are in an open grassy area keeps them from eating large volumes of grass, mushrooms, insects, sticks, mulch, stray toys/chewies/balls, etc. and ending up with upset tummies and vomiting on your favorite carpet. Worse yet, ingesting certain things can lead to an intestinal obstruction - always very expensive to remedy and frequently fatal.

Muzzles should ALWAYS be available and used when visiting the veterinarian or when in any unfamiliar or potentially anxious situation. At the veterinarian, if any procedure must be performed that might be uncomfortable for your hound (i.e., nail clipping, examining or expressing anal glands), it is far better to use the basket muzzle than the cloth muzzles the veterinarian uses that hold the mouth closed - cloth muzzles do not allow the dog to pant when stressed, and can cause increased anxiety and mild hyperventilation. Likewise, if you and your hound are visiting anyone in an unfamiliar house (especially homes with infant or toddler children) always use your muzzle - and when the visit is not prolonged, leave that muzzle on the entire time. It is far better to wear a muzzle, than a trip to the hospital to treat an accidental bite to an innocent child who unnerved your Greyhound or startled him accidentally.

In conclusion, once we allow ourselves to really grasp the power and goodness of the muzzle, we can truly realize the pride and satisfaction that comes with knowing we are doing absolutely everything possible to keep our dogs safe and healthy. When someone asks why muzzle the answer is simple "Because you love them!"

Paw Protectors and Hound Boots

Creative Ideas from Greyhound Manor Crafts

Did you know that the salt used to keep roads and sidewalks clear in the winter can be harmful to your hound's paws? Ever noticed your hound doing the "cold foot shuffle" when you're walking him in the winter? Maybe you need to whip up a set of these simple paw protectors or hound boots.

These simple-to-make paw protectors are great for:

- Keeping paws dry for those hounds who don't like getting their feet wet in the rain
- Protecting paws when walking on rough or uneven surfaces
- Protecting paws from the heat of pavement
- Protecting paws from salt and other chemicals used to melt ice
- Keeping paws warm when walking in snowy or icy conditions
- Preventing damage from scratching when medical conditions such as skin allergies arise.

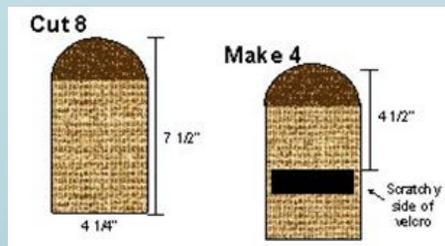


Materials Needed

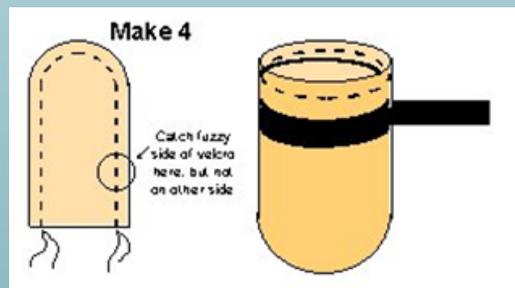
- * 1/4 yard of strong, non-slip fabric such as cordura nylon, pack cloth, upholstery fabric or suede.
- * Four 4-inch lengths of 1-inch sewable velcro.

Paw Protector Instructions

1. Cut 8 pieces of fabric in the shape shown below. Each piece should be about 4 1/4 inches wide and 7 1/2 inches tall.



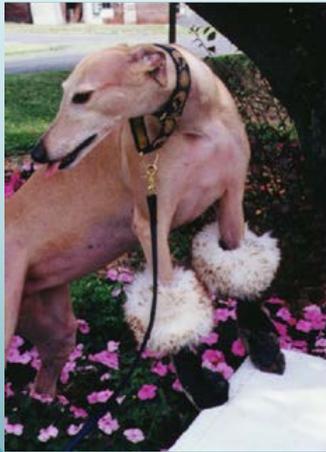
2. Sew the scratchy side of the velcro to the right side of 4 of the shapes about 4 1/2 inches from the rounded end. The scratchy side of the velcro should face up.
3. Form four sandwiches with right sides together. Each sandwich should contain one piece with velcro and one piece without. In between these two pieces of fabric, insert the fuzzy side of the velcro with the fuzzy side facing away from the scratchy side of the velcro.
4. Sew around all but the short side of the boot, using a 1/2 seam allowance. Catch one edge of the fuzzy side of the velcro in the seam, but leave the other edge free.



5. Turn each assembly right-side out. Fold top edge over twice (once will do for suede) and topstitch to form finished edge on each boot.
6. To test the boots, slip them on to your hound's foot with the velcro side facing forward. Wrap the free piece of velcro TIGHTLY around your hound's leg. It should fall above the "wrist or ankle" joint for best results. Now take a test walk. Paw protectors may twist on the foot, but should not fall off.

See Next Page for Hound Boots...

Hound Boots continued



Winter Hound Boots

The small paw protectors may fall off in deep snow, never to be found until Spring. They also have a tendency to twist while on the hound's foot. If you find this annoying, try making full hound boots. The ones pictured here have a decorative fur trim to really make a fashion statement. Each set of winter boots takes 30 - 60 minutes to make, depending upon materials and embellishments. To make the winter boots, follow the paw protector instructions, but make 4 of the shapes (for the front feet) 12 ½ inches tall rather than 7 ½ inches. For best results, use two strips of velcro; one at 4 ½ inches from the toe to be just above the first joint and one at 7 inches from the toe to be just above the second joint. The four shapes for boots for the back paws should be 16 ½ inches tall with velcro 4 ½ inches from the toe and 12 inches from the toe.

These Hounds Get Around

Ever travel with your hounds? Know the ups and downs of hounds in cars? Around crowds? Long distances, overnight stays or easy day trips?

If you answered no to any of these, and want to know more about Greyhound friendly advice for trips, adventures and activities...

Why not ask the professionals themselves!

"Two Hound Travels" is a dog friendly blog. Outings and events as seen through the sighthound eyes of Nancy and Goldie, two former racing greyhounds who are adjusting to retirement and venturing out into the world.

They may not be world travellers but gaining confidence as they meet and greet with peeps from all over and get themselves into some usual and unusual situations.

Are these safe situations ? What does "Pet Friendly" really mean? As these two hounds travel, learn with them as they go about their own journey of discovery. There are many unique characteristics that belong to greyhounds. We can all learn from their travel adventures.

Travel with the hounds at:

<http://twohoundtravels.blogspot.ca/>

Feel free to comment, suggest and add to the entries each week. Each success story has been given the official two paws up. "Goldie and Nancy Approved". ...Or not. After all, its all about the hounds!



Donations Needed: 4 Legs 4 Hounds Program

As many of you know the Greyhound Health and Wellness Program website and consultation services, closed effective January 1, 2014. However, the 4 Legs 4 Hounds (4L4H) program that works collaboratively with two racetracks in West Virginia to provide a second chance to Greyhounds incurring a career-ending racing injuries is still active and could use our support. After-all it is about the hounds.

The Ohio State University Veterinary College's Greyhound student group, Buckeyes 4 Greyhounds, insures these injured dogs are transported and receive the specialty care needed in addition to providing the much-needed foster care.

Currently they have 4 greyhounds in their care and those hounds are in need of items. If you have any gently used coats, collars & leashes that can be donated to the 4 Legs 4 Hounds (4L4H) program they would be forever grateful for those donations to help the greyhounds out while recovering.

You can send the items to:

Amanda Simons, RVT
The Ohio State University
601 Vernon L. Tharp St.
Columbus, OH 43210



News from



www.afterthetrack.ca

Roo in Review – After the Track's 2013 Roundup

Contributed by: Sonya Matheson

2013 marked the second successful year of After the Track Greyhound Adoption. In 2011, our group of dedicated volunteers set out to make a small difference in the adoption community, and a great difference in the lives of a few retired racers. By the end of 2013, the momentum at which After the Track is growing has pleasantly surpassed all our expectations.

In March, we hosted our annual Silent Auction Pub Night Fundraiser at Melanie Pringles' in Whitby. This successful event kicked off our busy season of fundraising and appearances. Following our Pub Night, some other notable events were our participation in the All About Pets Show, Newbarket, Dog Days of Scugog, Fun in the Sun BBQ, Night at the Drive In, Annual Yard Sale, Greyt Plant Sale, Barkfest and various other events. All were wonderful opportunities to socialize and get people talking about our hounds. The year wrapped up with our annual Christmas Luncheon, where we were able to celebrate the successful year with friends, food and lots of laughs.

Continued...

Continued: News from



This past year proved to be phenomenal in the way of building fantastic working relationships. After the Track has had the pleasure of working closely with other adoption groups such as G.R.A.C.E. (Greyhound Retirement, Adoption, Care and Education) Detroit, Michigan; Homeward Bound Greyhound Association, Cincinnati, Ohio; Greyhound Supporters of the National Capital Region, Ottawa. These groups have been instrumental in helping us transport hounds, find homes for hounds and offer education, expertise and support.

2013 also offered us the opportunity to participate in many GREYT fundraisers and events. Most notably, in spring, we travelled to Wheeling, WV to participate in Greyhound Trust and Alliance's Kennels to Kouches. The event was greatly successful, and an excellent networking opportunity, and a glimpse into the inner workings of greyhound racing, and life on the track. Greyhound Trust and Alliance has become an integral partner to After the Track in 2013, hosting various fundraising events, networking events, educational days and get-togethers full of fun for families and hounds alike.

In the latter part of the year, we were honoured to be invited by the Pet Network to participate in an extremely exciting project. A documentary looking at Greyhound Adoption in Canada came about as a result of the impressive dedication and endless work put forth by our team members, affiliates and friends. Carolyn Adamson, Adoption Coordinator, and I (Sonya) the Haul Coordinator, were followed by a camera crew over the course of 2 months, capturing some key events and wrapping up with a marathon haul to and from the US to pick up some dogs right off the hauler from GPA Daytona. It was an emotional, exhausting and wonderful project that we are honoured to be a part of. We are anxiously anticipating the documentary to be aired on the Pet Network this February! All the best in 2014!

2014 will bring some more exciting projects on the horizon. Along with Greyhound Trust and Alliance, and an extremely generous third party partner, we are working on helping make the idea of a dedicated Ontario greyhound hauler a reality. This hauler project will make great strides in the challenges that Ontario adoption groups experience when transporting dogs from the United States. We are thrilled to be a part of this venture.

This year was not without challenges – and of course not without disappointments and heartbreak. We remember all the dogs adopted in previous years that went over the Rainbow Bridge in 2013. But, with every loss, an opportunity for another wonderful greyhound to find a home is created. It is with this spirit that we continue to honour and support all our adoptive families, and the loving greys they said goodbye to this year. They will always be in our hearts.

Overall, 2013 saw 35 adoptions, which is a new record for After the Track. We are a small team, but what we lack in size, we make up for in dedication and tenacity. We sincerely would like to thank everyone who made this great success possible. To our members; Our foster families, our personal family members and spouses, our trusted friend Dr. Cathy Adams, our adoptive families, our adoption partners and affiliates, Helping Homeless Pets, our generous vendors, our fans and our Facebook followers – THANK YOU for your ongoing support. We appreciate and love you all. And finally, to our hounds – you make what we do worthwhile. We cherish you most of all.

All the best in 2014!

News from



www.gsncr.ca

2013 was another busy year for the Greyhound Supporters. In early January we launched our fundraising program with a dinner at the Rideau Carleton Raceway and everyone who attended had a fantastic time. A number of our participants got to ride in the pace car which meant we were right next to the horses and we got our photo taken with the winner of one of the races. Some of our other fundraising activities in 2013 included an evening of Epicure, a Creative Memories workshop, a 31 Gifts fundraiser and a collar-making workshop. We also continued to maintain our Think Green Program as an ongoing fundraiser and the Purina Weight Circles program which enables us to feed our foster hounds. It is thanks to the support of an incredible number of people that we have had so many fundraisers this year – we are indebted to them.

We continued with our monthly toe nail clipping clinics this past year, as well as our drop-in socials at WAG – A Posh Shop for Spoiled Pets and our indoor playdates which we held every month throughout the year. Thanks to the generosity of one of our adopters, local greyhounds have access to a fully-fenced field where they can exercise any time they want (weather permitting, of course), or just lounge around on the grass and enjoy the weather. And of course, we published four editions of our Greyhound Gazette – thanks to the team that coordinated the compilation of each edition and the folks that contributed articles to it.

We participated again this year in the St Patrick's Day Parade and our entry won a prize! It was a greyt way to showcase these incredible retired athletes and have fun dressing up in costumes. We had such a good time that we decided to participate in Ottawa's biggest Santa Claus Parade and again, our hounds were a huge hit with the crowds as we walked past them. We also continued to support many of the local dog rescue groups by participating in some of their events, such as Hopeful Heart's Walkathon, the Canadian Guide Dogs Dollars for Dogs Walkathon, B.A.R.K.'s annual picnic and Take the Plunge which supports a number of dog rescue groups.

Our big events of the year included our 5th annual Picnic which was held at Marianne's field in North Gower, our 9th International Greyhound Planet Day and our 8th Annual Christmas Craft and Gift Sale. And the lifeblood of our organization are the Meet and Greets that are organized at local pet stores and events throughout the year. The humans and hounds that volunteer their time to help raise awareness about retired racing greyhounds and talk about our adoption program are why our adoption program has been a success.

2013 saw some significant changes to our adoption program. Without the dedication and commitment of our foster homes, this change would not have been possible and we would like to thank this incredible team of families who have opened up their hearts and homes to the many hounds that benefitted from their foster families. The Greyhound Supporters has been working with G.R.A.C.E. (based in Michigan), GPA Wheeling and GPA Daytona to bring up hauls of hounds to Ottawa for adoption. And, we could not have succeeded with these hauls without the support of GT&A (based in Toronto) and a number of folks in Ottawa who have helped with the haul driving, sometimes in very dangerous driving conditions. And of course, thanks to our wonderful adopters without whom our adoption program would not be possible.

2013 was a greyt year and we're looking forward to 2014.

News from glohw

Greyhound Lovers
Of Hamilton-Wentworth

www.glohw.com

2013 A Year of Transition and Change for GLOHW

2013 was a busy year of transition and change for GLOHW. We welcomed the addition of many new members, several of whom had the thrill of adopting their first greyhound. The Executive Committee added new volunteers, as terms came to an end for others.

Eleven lucky track dogs were matched with their ecstatic forever homes. Two of these dogs received special VIP service when a group of GLOHW members made a trip to West Virginia and brought them back. While there, we were able to watch the greyhound races, view the adoption kennel, and visit a greyhound breeding and training farm. Being allowed into the Nursery Kennel to hold and play with puppies (under the watchful eye of their proud Mamas) was an amazing experience! GLOHW was also asked to find new homes for 3 dogs, whose families could no longer keep them. As well as finding suitable forever homes for retired racers, GLOHW was active in the community promoting greyhound adoption through library visits, Meet & Greets, Get Off the Couch walks, capping off the year by "strutting our stuff" in the Hamilton Santa Claus parade!

Changes in the Executive Committee included the addition of long-standing member (and past-President) Terry Baynham as President, taking over from Reg Cramp who finished his 4 year term. Victoria Ingram has joined the Board as Vice President.

Sadly, the GLOHW family had to say goodbye to Heather Geres in November. Heather's involvement in GLOHW and greyhound adoption in southern Ontario was well-known. She graciously gave of her time, knowledge, and resources in her support of the education and promotion of greyhound adoption. For those of us who attend Romp & Roos, her presence was always a given. Even during her final illness, her face would light up when she welcomed the new dogs being bathed at the barn. Heather will be greatly missed, but we are committed to carrying on with the work she started.

Looking forward, 2014 brings exciting times, with Romp & Roos, Get Off the Couch walks, and a variety of Meet & Greets (details on glohw.com and Facebook), all with the aim to promote greyhound adoption and to have fun with our dogs. We hope that you will come and join us!

News from



www.needlenose.ca

Reflections on 2013

Needle-Nose has once again had an enjoyable year with these wonderful dogs and their adopters. We always enjoy making our way down to Cross Lanes, West Virginia each year to introduce members to life at the track and on the puppy farm. The hospitality is wonderful and a good time is always had by all. This year we had the privilege of bringing up four dogs that we affectionately call the Needle-Nose litter as we had previously met these puppies when they were five hours old. Of course they carry Canadian names! Three of the seven are still on the farm having puppies and we are looking forward to placing them in forever homes in the future. We just had a call recently from Fast Dog Eh!'s (good Canadian name eh!) adopters to say that for some unknown reason he (now Max) decided to eat the lens from a pair of eye glasses and they were desperate to know what to do. Nothing a dose of Hydrogen Peroxide didn't take care of. He did throw up all the pieces — but a new pair of glasses will be needed! It just takes about a tablespoon of Hydrogen Peroxide every five minutes until the job is done. In this case Max was very co-operative but did give them the sad eye look we are all familiar with. You know, the one that just melts your heart!

Our foster families and “baby-sitters” have always been there when needed. These are the people who make the Needle-Nose family such a warm welcoming place.

We always enjoy attending the “Greyhound Trust and Alliance Annual Greyhound BBQ & Fundraiser” held each June in Guelph and 2013 was no exception. Lots of vendors, good food, run for the dogs and the best of course is meeting old friends both of the skin and fur kind and making new ones. Thanks to Tina Kelly and crew for organizing this event. We know it doesn't just happen and takes lots of planning and greyt volunteers.

Each September Needle-Nose holds a BBQ/picnic for its friends and members. This year we held it in August so Kathy and Jeff Bowman and family, our contacts in West Virginia, could once again attend and enjoy some time in Canada. It provided an enjoyable opportunity for the Bowman's and the adopters and their greys to meet one another. We had over 80 people and 47 greys attend this year. The weather was greyt and we had people come from as far as Sudbury, Tobermory, Peterborough and Ajax. Thanks to all our wonderful volunteers who make this fun event possible each year.

On a sadder note, although not a member of Needle-Nose, the Greyhound World lost one of its most ardent and pioneering supporters. Heather Geres passed away this fall, leaving all who knew her sadder and most grateful for all she did for the greyhounds in Southern Ontario. Heather had a great love for the retired racing greyhounds and she will be sorely missed.

Needle-Nose Greyhound Adoption is looking forward to another exciting year ahead in 2014.

