



Greyhound Pipeline Express



Spring, glorious Spring!

It's time to enjoy our second edition of the Pipeline Express ezine.

This edition is designed for your enjoyment of the season. Packed with what we hope is useful information as requested through valuable input from the Greyhound community – THANK YOU!

This year promises to be a very busy one and we are off to a Greyt start. From the launch of Dr. Coutos's new ventures, the newly established state of the art medical services in Southern Ontario culminating in the 2014 Greyt Escape – Kennel to Kouches conference weekend Aug 2nd and 3rd in Wheeling West Virginia. Come join us details on our website: www.greyhoundtrustalliance.com

The GT&A BBQ in June kicks off the season. Hope to see your there!

Look for Pipeline event announcements coming to you soon as activities come on line.

There is so much to look forward to. So sit back and enjoy.

As always your comments and thoughts are most welcome.

At any time should you wish to be removed from this mailing list, please drop us a line.

Your team,
Pamela Cramp, Editor/Publisher
& Jen Cormier, Creative Editor

In this issue:

- Upcoming Events
- Poop Composting Bin
- Gardens and Greyhounds
- Dog Tales
- Food, Glorious Food!
- The Wild Gene
- Hypothyroidism
- Adoption Group updates:
 - After the Track
 - GLOHW
 - T-LEGS

Upcoming Events

May 4 : 2nd Annual Woolwich Pet Show

10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.,
24 Snyder Ave., Elmira, ON N3B 1Y9

May 4: West End Toe Nail Clipping Clinic

1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
3 Sage Crescent, Ottawa, ON
Email for appointment: info@gsncr.ca
\$5.00/hound

May 10: Adopt-A-Pet Day in Laval

11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Arena Samson
655 Rue Sylvie, Sainte Dorothée, QC

May 11: Meet and Greet at Munchies

11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Munchies Coffee House and BARKery
Unit #4 – 1000 Upper Gage Ave.
Hamilton, ON L8V 4R5

May 17: Bake Sale and Meet and Greet at Healthy Pet HQ

420 Bank Street, Ottawa, ON

May 17: Indoor Hound Playdate

6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Ottawa Canine School
425 St-Laurent Blvd, Ottawa, ON
Email to register: brandy834@hotmail.com
\$5.00/hound

May 18: Drop in Social at WAG

9:30 – 11:00 a.m. (or beyond)
1071 Bank Street, The Glebe, Ottawa, ON
Free parking at corner lot of Sunnyside and Bank
Email for info: info@gsncr.ca

May 23: Karaoke Fundraiser & Silent Auction

8:00 p.m.
651 Somerset Street West, Ottawa, ON
\$10.00 at the door

May 24: Great Glebe Garage Sale

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
208 Clemow Ave., The Glebe, Ottawa, ON
Email for info: info@gsncr.ca

May 25: After the Track's Galgo Fundraiser & Play Day

12:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Barks n' Rec
1590 Matheson Blvd, Unit 8-9
Mississauga, ON L4W 1J1
Free to attend, but donations for the
Baasgalgo Association are appreciated!

May 31: Hot Dog Café

11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
6678 Boul, Taschereau Brossard, QC

June 1: GT&A's 5th Annual BBQ and Fundraiser (see ad on next page)

11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Masters N' Hounds
2517 Fischer Hallman Road
Ayr, ON N0B 1E0

June 7: Greyhound Supporters Annual Picnic

TBA
Ottawa, ON
Find them on Facebook for details

June 7: Adopt-A-Pet Day in Brossard

11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Arena Michel Normandin
3105 Blvd de Rome, Brossard, QC

July 20: T-Legs Adopters and Hounds Annual "Piknik"

10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Anima +
167 rue Principale, Les Coteaux, QC

August 1-3: GREYT ESCAPE: Kennel to Kouches (see ad at end)

1 South Stone Street, Wheeling, WV 26003
Get your tickets! This event is selling out quickly!!!
For Tickets: [http:// greytescape.eventbrite.ca](http://greytescape.eventbrite.ca)

Search Facebook for details on any of the upcoming events or email us to inquire:

greyhoundtrustalliance@gmail.com

DON'T FORGET!...

ANNUAL GREYHOUND
2014 BBQ and
FUNDRAISER!



JUNE 1 Sunday from 11-3
Raffles/Vendors/BBQ/Off-leash runs



NEW LOCATION!
Masters'N Hounds
2517 Fisher Hallman Rd.
Ayr, Ontario NOB 1E0

Details at greyhoundtrustalliance.webs.com



Poop Composting Bin

Creative Ideas from Greyhound Manor Crafts

If you have dogs, you have poop. And how to dispose of that poop is an issue. Traditional composting theory and most agricultural extension offices will tell you that dog manure may not be added to compost bins. However, in a cooperative study between mushers and the Fairbanks Soil and Water Conservation District in Alaska, researchers are finding that with some special precautions, dog waste can be successfully composted.

With five dogs of our own, poop is a big issue for us. We're also avid gardeners. When we saw the research coming out of Alaska, we started experimenting with it. We've developed plans for a simple, easy-to-turn, contained compost bin to use when composting dog manure. We've had good success with this system. But, as the researchers caution, we **DO NOT USE THE COMPOST ON FOOD CROPS!** We only use the compost in beds for flowers, shrubs or decorative plantings.

It's important that you follow the compost recipe closely. The additive to the dog waste must be a carbon source such as sawdust. You can't just add dog manure to your regular compost bins or piles and expect to get good, safe results. You must also make sure the recipe gets to the temperature specified. A long-stemmed thermometer is useful for this. If you do not reach the "magic number" of 140 degrees F, you may not kill the pathogens present in the dog waste.

The Recipe

2 parts dog manure
1 part sawdust

Where to use the Compost

At this point, the Natural Resources Conservation Service is not sure the compost gets hot enough to kill *Toxicara canis*, or large roundworms (one of the most heat-resistant pathogens found in dog manure). The researchers in the study were not able to find dog waste samples infected with roundworm because mushers are so good at controlling it. It is not known whether roundworms will be killed during the process. For that reason, only use the resulting compost on non-food plantings such as flower beds and shrubs.

Practice Safe Composting

When handling dog waste there is a risk of disease transmission, so always take these precautions:

- Always wash hands after handling dog waste.
- Confine dog waste to a specific area.
- Keep dog waste tools/clothing separate from other tools/clothing.
- Do not feed raw meat or fish.
- Use extra care around children.
- Don't use sawdust from pressure-treated wood.
- Consult a veterinarian about an appropriate parasite control program for your region.

At this time, do not apply compost to crops used directly for human consumption, especially root vegetables or crops eaten raw. (Studies are still ongoing as to whether dog manure compost that has reached 140 degrees Fahrenheit or more can be used safely on vegetable gardens.)

Closed Composting Bin

In order to better contain the potential odor and animal-attracting nature of an open compost bin, we developed this pattern for a simple, turnable, covered compost bin for our dog-waste composting.

Materials Needed

- Plastic or metal garbage can with a lid. Any size will do. We found the 20-24 gallon size most manageable. Avoid brittle plastic cans as they will be hard to drill holes in.
- OPTIONAL: One or two elastic cords to hold lid on can if necessary.
- OPTIONAL: Long-stemmed thermometer
- 4 foot 1-inch dowel (or old broom or mop handle)
- About 14 feet of 2 x 4 stock (pressure-treated is best)
- About 6 feet of 1 x 3 stock (pressure-treated is best)

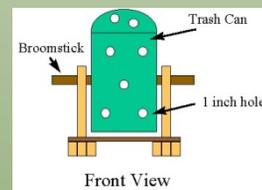
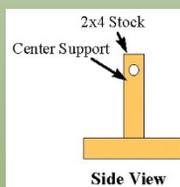
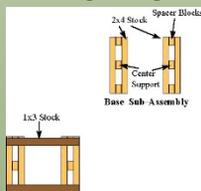


Instructions

1. Drill $\frac{1}{2}$ - to 1-inch holes in the garbage can and lid. Space the holes 6 to 8 inches apart. Do not drill holes in the bottom of the can. Holes can be drilled randomly around the can and lid with one exception. You must drill one set of 1-inch holes on opposite sides of the can to allow for the broomstick turning pivot. These holes should be a few inches above $\frac{1}{2}$ the height of the can for best turning results.



2. Cut four 24- to 36-inch lengths of 2 x 4 stock for the base. And four 6-inch lengths of 2 x 4 stock to use as spacers. Cut two lengths of 2 x 4 stock about 36 inches to function as the center supports. Make sure the center supports are tall enough to allow the can to rotate freely. For most garbage cans, 36 inches is appropriate. Cut two 24- to 36-inch lengths of the 1 x 3 stock. These should be wide enough so the garbage can fits with extra space between the two supports.



3. Drill a 1-inch hole 2-3 inches from the top of each center support. These holes will accept the broomstick pivot for the can.
4. Assemble the pieces as shown in the diagrams above. First, construct the two base components. Make a sandwich of 2 x 4 lengths and 6-inch spacers. The center of each base component should be the center support, standing straight up, perpendicular to the base to form a T shape. After constructing the two base components, add the 1 x 3 lengths to connect the two components.
5. Insert the broomstick through one center support, then through the garbage can, then through the other center support.

Gardens and Greyhounds

*Grant me
Serenity
To accept the things I cannot change
Courage
To change the things I can &
Wisdom
To know the difference*

First learn the serenity prayer – then carry on –

Over the years we've tried various techniques to keep the yard safe and relatively mud free for our dogs. Some work, others not so much, but I'll pass along what we've learned.

Our first learning curve was moving to a townhouse. The back yard was small but had a sturdy fence. After securing the back gate with a padlock we notified the condo corporation we'd maintain our own yard. Sod was removed, and a layer of pea gravel put down for drainage. Next a layer of pine needles about 2-3" thick that we'd collected from neighbourhood park. White pine is beautifully soft if you can find it. In the back corners we planted hostas and daisies just to have some colour. The pine needles worked really well. They need topping up from time to time as they do break down. No mud, nothing much tracked in and easy enough to clean up the yard. Tossing in a few pine cones was a nice look and it all smelled pretty wonderful.

This accomplished we moved to our house with a 'normal' back yard. Wanting to break up the area for gardens and hounds, we assembled a stone wall 24" high around the perimeter of the yard allowing a nice raised garden area. This worked well as the hounds learned quickly not to step up into the raised area. We added some low ornamental fencing panels just be on the safe side. Next was breaking up the space so the hounds could play yet not get up speed for running into each other. We added two Plane Trees for their beautiful bark as well as shade.

A bathroom area went along the back section of the stone wall, 15 feet long and 6 feet wide. Pea gravel 6" deep. Then the completing piece the lush green beautiful sod. Wow. Most worked but not the sod of course. Piddle spots were dug out and replaced with dirt and grass seed. The replanted areas got muddy and lumpy and we decided to rototill and reseed the area the next spring.

Year Two: Spring and the lawn area enthusiastically fenced and seeded; eventually lovely new grass came in. Toss in 5 minutes of hound twirling & play we had divot central. Trying to cope we looked at alternatives for the next spring!

Year Three: White Clover. High in nitrogen, and therefore reported to carry on despite the odd piddling incident. What we ended up with was a much larger plant than a blade of grass that croaked when piddled on. It looked terrible uncut, and even worse when we went over it with the lawn mower: a lawn of green twiglets and no leaves. Sigh.... Next spring we'll try again.

Continued...

Gardens and Greyhounds continued

Year Four: OKAY- what do we have that works?? The raised gardens, the trees, the piddle area (for the most part) and not the grass/sod/lawn area. In the previous fall while mulching the gardens I'd commented I should just give up completely and mulch the entire yard. Hmmmm.....maybe that does have merit.

We went to the garden supply and looked at mulch. First off no cocoa mulch with dogs due to the health risk of dogs eating the cocoa. The coloured mulches are full of dye. Therefore we rejected the red, the brown and the black mulches. Our neighbour has black mulch and the dogs track black dye all through the house, from their feet. So cedar mulch it be. The yard was rototilled, weeping tile and two drainage areas dug down into the ground. (We live on a ravine and have underground water to deal with). A 3" layer of pea gravel applied once the soil was tamped back down then several yards of mulch. The bathroom area was incorporated. We added some ornamental grasses, lots of nice rocks from the garden supply, big and round to make some pretty little areas. The yard smells wonderful, and looks great. Super easy to pick up behind the hounds and no amount of piddling can kill the mulch! Water for the most part drains away. Success! In the fall we just order lots of mulch to cover the gardens and the back yard. It's relatively quick and easy. No lawn maintenance. Most of the annual grasses grow well despite being chomped down and piddled on. A little mulch tracks in with heavy rain, and spring thaw, but overall it's worked really well for 8 years, and counting.

Remember to keep the yard free of anything the hounds can run into or poke themselves on such as hose guides, or hanging plant stakes.

Our hounds relax on their mattresses on the patio, under the covered pergola or one of the trees. Wrought iron gates replaced the wooden fence panels at either side of the house so they can see what's going on outside their yard. The man-door to the garage was secured open and an x-pen installed across the big garage doors. Add dog mattresses and the hounds have a sheltered area to hang out in if the yard gets too hot/cold/windy/rainy/ boring. This also facilitates loads of exercise up and down the side of the house monitoring the neighbours and anyone walking past or to and from the ravine. Squirrel watching is done- perhaps a cat? Elevating the overall party atmosphere- our next door neighbours did the same thing, access from yard to garage and x-pen across their garage doors. Now everyone can communicate not just up and down the fence, but can peak around the slight bowing of the x-pen. It's all good.



Continued...

Gardens and Greyhounds continued

Plants & Safety

Many plants that look great in the garden can be toxic to pets, and should be avoided especially if pets will have unsupervised access to these plants.

The following list was compiled by Director of Pharmacy Dr. Valerie Wiebe, and accounts for the majority of calls to Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital (VMTH) about possible plant poisoning. <http://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/index.cfm>

The toxicity of the plants listed varies according to the species of animal exposed (cat, dog, bird, etc.), the amount ingested, and specific variety or species of plant.

1. **Lilies:** Day lilies, Stargazer bulb lily etc.: Ingesting any part of the plant can cause complete kidney failure in 36-72 hours. First symptoms appear in a few hours and may include appetite suppression, lethargy, vomiting.
2. **Lily of the Valley:** Ingesting any part of the plant can cause cardiac dysrhythmias, vomiting, diarrhea, confusion, weakness, and even death.
3. **Anemone:** Irritating to the mucus membranes, and can cause blisters, hemorrhagic gastritis, shock, convulsions, and death.
4. **Aloe Vera:** Vomiting, depression, diarrhea, anorexia, tremors, change in urine color.
5. **Amaryllis:** All species, including Belladonna Lily. The bulbs are the toxic part of the plant. The "Amaryllis" commonly seen during the December holidays are *Hippeastrum* species. Symptoms include vomiting, depression, diarrhea, abdominal pain, hyper-salivation, anorexia, tremors.
6. **Asparagus Fern:** Allergic dermatitis, gastric upset, vomiting, diarrhea.
7. **Daffodil, narcissus:** Vomiting, diarrhea. Large ingestions cause convulsions, low blood pressure, tremors, and cardiac arrhythmias.
8. **Philodendron:** Irritation, intense burning and irritation of the mouth, lips, tongue, excessive drooling, vomiting, difficulty swallowing.
9. **Jade Plant:** Vomiting, depressions, ataxia, slow heart rate.
10. **Chrysanthemum:** Vomiting, diarrhea, hyper salivation, incoordination, dermatitis.
11. **Cyclamen:** The tubers or rhizomes contain the toxic glycoside cyclanin, a terpenoid saponin. Ingestion can cause excess salivation, vomiting, diarrhea, heart rhythm abnormalities, seizures, or even death in rare cases.
12. **Cycads** including Sago palm: The "Sago palm" is a cycad, not a true palm, and all parts of the plant are poisonous. Symptoms include vomiting, lethargy, melena (black "tarry" feces), icterus (jaundice), increased thirst, hemorrhagic gastritis, bruising, coagulopathy, liver failure, and death.

Continued...

Gardens and Greyhounds continued

Accidental Poisoning of Greyhounds

By far, the most common threat to a greyhound's life and health is the casual attitude of the adopter who uses pesticides, fungicides, herbicides and chemicals used for lawn and garden maintenance. It cannot be emphasized enough that greyhounds are hyper-sensitive to environmental toxins. Even the most conscientious user can unintentionally poison their animal companion. Improper dilution of products can make them extremely toxic, and in cases where the adopter relies on the expertise of a lawn, garden, or pest control service, there would be no way of determining if this grave error has been committed.

Avoiding the use of all environmental toxins is the best protection for your animals. Even chemicals that have been approved for use around animals (flea collars, powders, etc.) can prove deadly for some animals. Always have your dog on a leash when outside your own property and do not allow your pet access to other yards - national forests and open space areas are also targeted for use with traps and poisons to control certain pests and non-native plants. Remember that greyhounds cannot tolerate many substances that would not pose a risk for most animals. Treat your greyhound as you would a human infant - don't expose them to toxic chemicals of any nature.

<http://www.gcnm.org/concernsnews.html>

Happy Gardening!



Dog Tales...

By Angie Villeneuve (a.k.a Jack's Mom)

Hi there everyone. My name is Jumping Jack Flash and I'm a Greyhound. The reason for my name is that I can jump from a standing position straight up into the air. I think it's wonderful that I can do it but my Mom isn't too thrilled since I have so far peeled the paint off the front door. Even managed to knock her on her bum once but not in public of course.

I came to this wonderful home a year and a half ago in October. I remember thinking how nice that I have a big sister hound dog and two cat friends that I can spend my life with. I did have some issues before I came here but as soon as I walked in I thought great! Where's my food and where do I sleep. I have the nicest backyard and Mom has provided me with a pool and an umbrella in case I get too hot. I also have many bales of hay so that when I feel like it I can nest to my hearts content. Life is good! Mom and her best ever friend David take us walking all the time. My favorite place is the beach. We walk from Hutches to Confederation park and back and I get to smell and pee on everything. The best part about our walks is that Mom and David stop at Hutches for fish and chips. Guess what!!! I get to have a fry with gravy on it. Yum. I don't get many but have a cuteness factor in my favour so I just give her the look and she relents.

Ha! Who's the man. So this is my first introduction with many more stories to tell. Maybe later I can talk about myself more but I didn't want to sound too self absorbed. So till next time enjoy my blogs.



Food, Glorious Food!

By P. Cramp



Food, a controversial subject that all Greyhound owners face. One of the great things about the Greyhound community is everyone has an opinion they are willing to share, they do their research and they talk to one another. Social gatherings are a great place for communication exchange.

So what group do our hounds fit into? By genus they are classified as carnivores their teeth, digestive systems and behavior support this fact. Yet our hounds must also be recognized for their significant omnivorous ability. Their proven ability to digest carbohydrate-based foods has been known for many years. Modern genetic research has proof that ten canine genes play key roles in starch digestion and fat metabolism. What this really means is they are a combination in balance which is what we try to do with their dietary needs making selecting which food to feed your retired Grey complicated.

We've all been told Greyhounds need a high-quality diet suited to their specific needs. According to Lee Livingood, author of the Greyhound "Dummies book" - *"The ideal balanced dry food diet for the average healthy retired racer is composed of 22 to 27 percent protein, 10 to 15 percent fat, and 5 percent fiber. As long as your Greyhound's weight is good, his coat is shiny and healthy, and his energy levels are strong, you're doing it right."*

Over the years what I have discovered is the decision on what to feed your hound is what works for you, your hound, your lifestyle and your budget.

According to the experts, these are the basics of good greyhound nutrition:

Protein

The amount of energy your Greyhound gets from the protein sources in his diet depends on the quality of the protein and its digestibility. Some proteins are used by dogs more efficiently than others. The highest quality protein sources are eggs, fish, meat, and poultry.

Fat

Fat is a highly concentrated source of energy, supplying more than twice as much energy as proteins and carbohydrates. Fat provides essential fatty acids and transports fat-soluble vitamins. Fat may also make food taste better and may help your dog feel fuller with less food.



Carbohydrates

Carbohydrates come in the form of grains, sugars, fruits, and vegetables. Dogs don't need high amounts of carbohydrate in their diet.

Water

Your retired racer should always have a supply of fresh water available.



Continued....

Food, Glorious Food! continued

So many choices available

Commercial foods come in wide variety of ingredients and quality both canned and dry. Read the label to see exactly what you are getting and compare that to what you are looking for.

Then there is the BARF diet (Biologically Appropriate Raw Food) i.e., a completely natural raw meat and vegetable diet. A dog's digestive system can cope with raw meat easily; it is what they would eat if they had to catch their own dinner. Do your research if this appeals to you and suits your lifestyle.

Then there is the home cooked hound food. What an incredible variety to choose from. The internet resources are almost overwhelming. Using a mixture of meat, vegetables, rice and pasta is always a great alternative if this is your heart's desire to keep your hound happy and healthy.

So what happens when it goes wrong? We've all been there. You know the look that goes with I don't want to eat that, tummy rumbles followed by gas or diarrhea or constipation. The most noticeable signs of something not right with your hounds world.

Everyone I have ever talked to has their own favorite method when this happens. For me it was bring out the yogurt with active culture and raw pumpkin to settle the tummy and lots of water. If that didn't take care of the problem in a day then we'd go to plan "B" home cooking with rice, sweet potato and chicken. My hounds loved it, it was easy to do and after a week or so we were back to their normal. For my girls that meant kibble.

For simplicity here are a couple short lists designed to help you on your way.



NO! Human chocolate, coffee, caffeine, alcohol, grapes or raisins, macadamia nuts, artificial sweetener (Xylitol), avocado, onions, peaches, apple seeds



YES! Pumpkin, leafy greens, peas, carrots, sweet potato, apples, banana, brown rice, pasta, fresh chicken, fresh beef, blueberry, cranberry, tomato

Wonderful treats they will love:



Dried tripe, pig's ears and raw chicken wings, raw poultry necks or ox tail as treats. These are all good on the dog's stomach and also (with the exception of the treats) are excellent at helping to keep teeth clean.

As always the choices you make for your hound are yours to make and being a Greyhound caregiver the better informed you are the happier your family will be to enjoy a long and happy life with your Greys.

The Wild Gene

by Dennis McKeon reprinted by permission, Copyright, 2012

Retired Racing Greyhound adopters, as a group, are perhaps the most enthusiastic, enthralled and bemused pet owners in the world. Many of them have adopted small packs of retired racers, unable to resist having "just one". The Racing Greyhound is a bewitching creature, indeed. One only has to search the various internet Forums to infer that there is something very special happening here. People all seem to sense in their greyhounds, an ethereal, mystical and beguiling quality, and the essence of which they just can't seem to identify, grasp, or wrap their minds around. They don't quite understand it, but they know it is there, just below the surface.

Since before the dawn of civilization, Greyhounds have been the companions of men. They have always served a purpose, and they have been maintained as a supremely functional breed, because of this symbiosis. Yesterday, they were lethal coursers and hunters. Today, they are racers of astonishing athleticism and speed.

The essence of our modern Racing Greyhound's ancient ancestors is still held just beneath their skin. When you see that certain look in his eye, when you notice that certain set to his ear, or that certain body language and expression that seems foreign to you, almost otherworldly, don't be alarmed.

You'll never touch it, you can't hold it, and you can't feel it. It is beyond you. The ancient dogs of pre-history who culled the elk herds, the dogs who hunted and fought with the Celts, and the dogs who coursed after the hares and deer on the verdant fields of Ireland, are simply calling out to him.

He can hear them as clearly as you hear the alarm clock in the morning. He can hear them, and he can understand that ancient language which has resonated across countless generations and through oceans of time. He can hear them, and he must heed them, because he is a Racing Greyhound. When racing is gone, when Greyhounds no longer perform even a variation upon their natural function, only then will those voices forever be still.



Hypothyroidism and Possible Causes

GCNM News Excerpt

Hypothyroidism in greyhounds is a subject of much discussion and disagreement.

It has long been recognized that normal thyroid concentrations in greyhounds differ from those in the general canine population - often being in the low normal reference range or even slightly below the low end of normal thyroid panel values.

Many drugs administered to racing greyhounds, including corticosteroids, which suppress the immune system; phenylbutazone - an anti-inflammatory drug; trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole - an anti-bacterial/sulfa drug; anti-convulsants; and testosterone (routinely given to females to prevent them from coming into season) can influence blood tests that determine thyroid function. According to Dr. W. Jean Dodds, director of HEMOPET animal blood bank in Irvine, CA, most cases of hypothyroidism result from a process known as autoimmune thyroiditis. Her theory is that the above mentioned drugs and/or exposure to viruses, can trigger the autoimmune disease process.

Dr. Dodds keeps 150 retired racing greyhounds at her facility (after a year of being blood donors, they are adopted out) and thus has ample opportunity to evaluate their blood characteristics.

Dr. Dodds is an advocate for limiting the frequency of vaccinations if your dog may be susceptible to autoimmune disorders. State and Provincial laws govern the frequency of rabies vaccinations and these can vary anywhere from annually to every three years, depending on the state. She always allows at least two weeks between vaccinating for rabies and any other disease, so as not to over-tax the immune system. In Dr. Dodd's opinion, after the age of 10 years, booster vaccines are generally not needed and might be inadvisable if obvious signs of aging or disease are present. Discuss this with your veterinarian, as it is usually a matter of professional opinion.

Other illnesses may also influence thyroid panel results and ideally should be eliminated before testing. It is also believed that a smaller dose of thyroid supplementation than typically used in other breeds can maintain a greyhound.

A diagnosis of hypothyroidism should be based on a patient's clinical signs and history combined with supporting laboratory data, rather than blood values alone.

News from



It Takes a Village

Giving our foster families some well-deserved love.

By: Sonya Matheson, After the Track Greyhound Adoption

The busy season is upon us. For pet adoption (especially greyhounds who need to be transported through the winter-ravaged northern states), the spring and summer months are our peak time for action. The end of winter paves the way for meet and greets, late-evening hauls, and outdoor events that take place all across the GTA. It's full-swing in spring!

Dedicated adoption volunteers are in constant contact with the public at this time. And being at the forefront, I often hear one phrase that always warms my heart ...

"Thank you for what you're doing for these dogs."

As someone who dedicates every waking hour to greyhound adoption, the above never gets old. And, thank you for saying it. These dogs are worth it. But, I can't take all the credit, because I certainly don't do it alone.

It takes a village.

Adopting dogs is a pretty involved process. From Adoption Coordinators, Home Visitors, Volunteers, Haul Coordinators, Fundraisers, Treasurers, Drivers, Partnering Groups, Vets and Behavioural Experts. **No one does what we do alone.** When people think of all the important steps that go into adoption, it's easy to see why we on the front-lines get all the glory. But there is one group who often gets forgotten off the list – it's one of the most crucial and difficult jobs – **FOSTER HOMES.**

Foster families are the backbone of the adoption and rescue world. These families turn their lives upside down for the benefit of helping a dog transition to their new role as a forever pet. Foster parents willingly accept whatever baggage that animal has brought to town. They encounter situations such as boisterous curiosity, fear, anxiety, potential medical issues, and the possibility of underlying aggression – just to name a few! New dogs off the track are rarely a walk in the park for the first few weeks, yet not only do foster families open their homes to these dogs – a month later, they do it again! And then, again!

Foster families have endless patience and care. They get up at 4 AM for a puppy-pee. They sleep on the couch to keep the dogs company. They spend hours walking dogs up stairs, and on slippery surfaces. They sacrifice their shoes, their carpets, and [sometimes] their sanity. And, somehow, they make it look so simple.

Needless to say, without foster families, the rate at which adoption groups successfully place retired racers would be drastically reduced. Foster families are the behind-the-scene heroes, and we owe them a world of gratitude.

Foster families, **THANK YOU** for what you do to help these wonderful dogs.

**Do YOU think you have what it takes to be a Foster Hero?
If so, contact your local greyhound adoption group for some more information.**

News from

Contributed by John Watkins, Treasurer, GLOHW

While the majority of people welcome springtime (especially after the long, nasty winter we've just had), there is one aspect that many dread - income tax time! All registered charities, including GLOHW, must operate within specific guidelines, including being open with the public regarding both income and expenses.

So where does the money come from and where does it go?

Income -

This comes from membership fees, adoption fees, fundraising, and donations. Your annual membership fee gives you a vote at the AGM, which is essentially a voice in how the group operates, and access to GLOHW's resources and support. Income generated through fundraising and adoptions are self-explanatory. Lastly, donations are gifts of money, objects or services given to the group. As a registered charity, GLOHW is able to provide the donor with receipts for income tax purposes for donations over \$20.00.

Expenses -

Operating a greyhound adoption group involves both fixed and variable costs. The fixed costs include banking fees, insurance, accountancy, post office box, stationary, mail, and the 1-800 number for lost/found GLOHW dogs. These expenses are essential to the operation of GLOHW. Then there are the variable costs which may change on a year-by-year basis depending on the number of dogs adopted, fostered etc. These costs include food, collars, leashes, muzzles, bathing/grooming supplies, ID tags, vetting costs (mainly spay/neuter surgeries, vaccinations, dental cleaning), and nominal travel expenses for the volunteers who provide their vehicles to transport the dogs.

GLOHW's final expense is to other registered charities and groups that help support our cause of finding homes for retired racing greyhounds. This support is given both locally and to those who are directly involved with greyhound adoption at the source - the race tracks, trainers and breeding farms in the US. Our support enables these caring individuals and groups to help as many retired dogs as possible, under the best conditions. GLOHW benefits by receiving healthy, well-socialized dogs to place in forever homes.

You may have noticed as you read this that financial compensation is not mentioned as an expense. None of GLOHW's Executive Board or volunteers are paid for the many hours that are needed for the group to function. And although part of our mandate states that members are not allowed to benefit from the operation of the group, we don't think that the feeling of joy and satisfaction we all experience when we are able to find a greyhound its forever home counts!

If you would like more information about GLOHW, on becoming a member or on making a donation, please visit us at

<http://www.glohw.com/>

or connect with us on twitter at @glohwhoundies

News from



The League of Extraordinary Greyhounds (T-Legs) is a volunteer not-for-profit organization, formed and operating in Montreal to promote the adoption of retired racing greyhounds. The mission of T-Legs is: to educate the public about greyhounds through meet & greets and events; to encourage the adoption of greyhounds; to accept and screen applications for greyhound adoption; and to aid and support our adopters and hounds from beginning to end.

Greyhounds are intelligent, calm and graceful and they make wonderful pets. Greyhounds love people and are very sociable. They reward their owners with a lifetime of unconditional love and affection.

Meeting and Greeting

Have YOU ever met a retired racing greyhound “in the fur” so to speak?

Have YOU ever looked into their liquid brown eyes or melted at the soft touch of their velvet ears?

If your answer to the above is “NO” or if the answer to the above is “YES and I want to do it again!” then please join us at one of our many “Meet & Greets” held at various venues around the city.

We hold these sessions to educate people on the retired racing greyhound as a pet and to promote greyhound adoption. Occasionally they will be in conjunction with a bake sale or a car wash or even a costume parade. To find out where we will be holding our next meet 'n greets you can join our Meetup group at www.meetup.com/t-legs

Here's what we have in store for you for the next few months:

Saturday May 10th, 2014 from 11h – 15h

Adopt-A-Pet Day in Laval – Arena Samson, 655 Rue Sylvie, Sainte Dorothée, QC

Saturday May 31st, 2014 from 11h – 15h

Hot Dog Café, 6678 Boul, Taschereau Brossard, QC

Saturday June 7th, 2014 from 11h – 15h

Adopt-A-Pet Day in Brossard – Arena Michel Normandin, 3105 Blvd de Rome, Brossard QC

Sunday July 20th 2014 from 10h – 16h

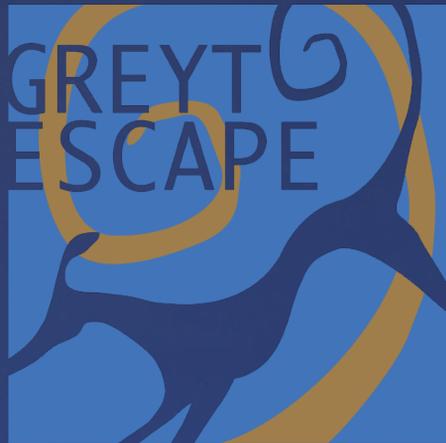
T-Legs Adopters and Hounds Annual “Piknik” – Anima+, 167 rue Principale, Les Coteaux QC

**For more information contact The League of Extraordinary Greyhounds
email: greyhounds@t-legs.com; phone 514-239-2513**



ESCAPE WITH US!

Bigger and BETTER than EVER!



GREYHOUND
TRUST AND
ALLIANCE

August 2 & 3, 2014

Wheeling Island Casino & Race Track
1 South Stone Street, Wheeling, WV 26003

The two-day event will feature a full day of education on the retired racer, followed by a day of racing, kennel tours, vendors and puppy farm visits (Farm Tours are SOLD OUT), a mini trade show, boasting the hottest products and styles for today's discerning hound owner, a parade of retirees, interaction with owners, breeders, kennel staff and many, many more events!

For Tickets: [http:// greytescape.eventbrite.ca](http://greytescape.eventbrite.ca)
For Details: <http://greyhoundtrustalliance.webs.com>

Don't forget the **Greyt Roo Happy Hour!**

August 1, 2014

4 – 6 p.m.

River City Ale Works

1400 Main Street, Wheeling, WV 26003