

# Greyhound Pipeline Express

I can't believe the summer has flown by so quickly. There is a chill in the air, the leaves are turning their cavalcade of colours and it's time to start thinking of the Holidays with family and friends. The hounds will soon be decked out in sweaters and winter gear, and wondering just what is going on here.

The 2014 GREYT Escape at Wheeling Island Racetrack and Casino was a roaring success. For all those able to attend it was a time to learn, ask questions, meet all the people involved and see the cycle firsthand from puppy farms to training to racing to adoption. The big picture, how the lives of our beloved hounds flow through all the stages until they find their forever homes. The vendors attending were top notch and had everything you could need or want. We even made the local news – A wonderful surprise to us all, taken in stride, a credit to the level of energy and knowledge the Greyhound community proudly shares. I hope you enjoy the articles on the event you will find inside. And yes GREYT Escape 2015 is already in the works. It takes the commitment and dedication of all our volunteers from multiple groups to pull this event together. Under the leadership of Tina Kelly, President of GT&A, with her core team, she has the knack to make it appear seamless with style. In short : it's FUN!



We also enjoyed a very successful Wine Social this past September in Beamsville. The weather was almost perfect bright and sunny although the wind had a personality of its own. Awesome turnout of people and hounds from every local rescue group with GSNCR from Ottawa leading the pack introducing the first arrivals from FIG (Flying Irish Greyhounds). Excitement was the tone of the day. We are looking forward to the news of the next arrivals from Ireland in November.

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 me a line.**

Yours truly

Pamela Cramp,  
Publisher

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## Two Hound Travels Blog

Two Hound Travels - The greyhound travel blog continues to highlight the adventures of Goldie and Nancy, two retired Greyhound friends, discovering new and exciting dog friendly places, events and activities. See the dog friendly places they visited over the summer and activities they watched from the comfort of their dog beds. Did you know some greyhounds know how to swim and others need a little help? How about dog-friendly fall festivals and greyhound group walks? Join the girls in their "retiring" journey.

Check out their latest adventrue! The Great Pumpkin Hunt – <http://twohoundtravels.blogspot.ca/>



# The Greyhound Health Initiative

## Improving Greyhound Health through Education, Research, and Accessibility<sup>SM</sup>

If you have a greyhound or other sight hound living with you, then you probably already know they are not a "normal" dog and you may also be aware that they have specific healthcare needs and idiosyncrasies. The Greyhound Health Initiative's mission is to improve the health of sight hounds through the education of both sight hound parents and their veterinary healthcare providers about their unique medical conditions. We do this by giving lectures, presentations and in-service workshops throughout North America and Europe. We also offer medical consultations to veterinarians and owners either in person, over the phone or online.

The Greyhound Health Initiative is working with sight hound adoption groups by providing direct veterinary care and funds and will continue our research into cancer and other medical issues afflicting greyhounds. Through the generous support of our volunteers and donors we will continue to expand our services, take on more research projects and improve the health of sight hounds everywhere

Watch this space for future updates and news from Dr. Couto featuring the best in medical updates that impact us all.

Our Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Greyhound-Health-Initiative/1583621001863839>

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



# Canine Massage: Dispelling a common misconception

## **Misconception: canine massage is a luxury**

Massage is a valuable addition to your dog's ongoing wellness program and can also offer support for the recuperating, aging or transitioning dog.

I looked to canine massage initially for my senior dog. I wanted to offer her some relief from the physical discomforts of aging. I couldn't find a practitioner in my area, so I enrolled in a canine massage program with the intention of massaging my own dog.

It was during my training that I became aware of the significant impact of massage – both physical and emotional. This changed the way I viewed the massages I received and their impact on my body. It also made me realize I wanted to offer massage to other dogs in addition to my own.

The most common misconception I have encountered since I have been practicing is that massage is merely a luxury for enjoyment.

Yes, setting aside an hour for yourself or for your dog to experience something that is, generally-speaking, pleasurable; an hour to lay in peace in a serene environment; an hour to do nothing but receive caring and compassionate touch could be viewed as a luxury. But, beyond the emotional benefits of this hour of relaxation, there are so many benefits that can be derived from the physical action of massage on the body.

Dr. Michael Fox, a well-known veterinarian and former vice president of the Humane Society of the United States says, "Massage may seem like a frivolous idea, but the fact is that massage has so many physical and psychological benefits for your dog that you could almost call it an essential of health care..."

## **Maintenance of Wellness**

Massage impacts the body as deeply as the cellular level. The physical action of massage pushes blood through the body, increasing circulation. The cells of the body are nourished with oxygen-rich blood while toxins are encouraged to move along; carried off to be processed by the animal's lymphatic system. For this reason alone, massage is an ideal component of a dog's ongoing wellness regimen.

Some of the many benefits your dog may experience are improved condition of the skin and fur through stimulation of the sebaceous glands; maintenance of muscle tone and flexibility; contribution to bone and joint health. Also, due to the last two listed benefits, there is a reduction in the potential for injury to your dog.

## **Promoting Your Dog's Healing**

In addition to regular maintenance massages, you can call on a massage practitioner should your dog be rehabilitating from an injury or recuperating from surgery. It has been shown that, when incorporated into a dog's recovery, massage can reduce the healing time significantly. Massage aids in healing by increasing the circulation and by helping to reduce the build-up of fibrous tissue adhesions, which make it both difficult and painful for the dog to move.

If your dog has been injured, massage is very effective in helping to relieve the tension and pain held in the *uninjured* areas of the body that are being stressed as the dog's body compensates for the injury. It is important to address compensation issues to prevent additional injury caused by overuse of these compensating areas as the dog heals.

Massage may also reduce the stress a dog feels during this rehabilitation period through pain reduction and endorphin release.

# Canine Massage continued

## Caring for Your Retired Athlete

The retired racing Greyhound was once an athlete. Training and racing can result in over exertion, repetitive strain and muscular sprain, and stress fractures. Massage can help release stress which may have accumulated in the dog's body and address issues of old injuries, scarring and spasming. Massage can offer relief from discomfort, allowing freer movement, and potentially improve your dog's quality of life.

## Supporting Your Senior Dog

Massage acts as a tonic for the senior dog, stimulating the lymph and the blood circulation. The degenerative and chronic disorders associated with aging benefit from the stimulating and tonifying effects of massage. Relief can be offered for early-morning stiffness, arthritis, muscle atrophy, decreased nerve action, diminished mental function and circulatory problems. Massage can help your dog age with grace.

## Comforting Your Dying Dog

In the case of the terminally-ill dog where a decision has been made that it is in the dog's best interest to not attempt to treat the illness, light massage using calming, soothing strokes can be used for palliative purposes. While massage won't extend this dog's life, it can improve the quality of his life during his illness.

## Could Your Dog Benefit from Massage?

In addition to the situations mentioned above, when might your dog benefit from massage?

Observe your dog. Watch for changes in the way he moves and behaves. Does your dog slow down on walks or has he become disinterested in walks? Has he become less interested in play? Does your dog have difficulty getting up from sitting or lying down? Does he have trouble climbing stairs or getting in and out of the car? Have you noticed muscle twitching? Is he moving less fluidly and more stiffly? Is there an area of his body he doesn't like touched? These are a few signs that may indicate your dog could benefit from massage.

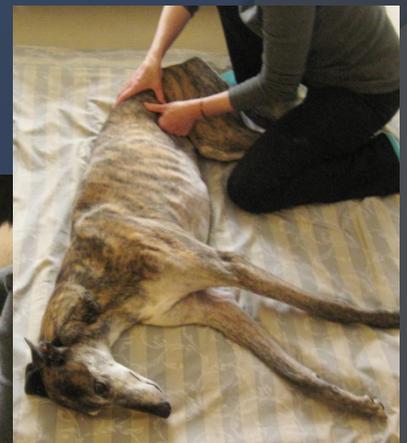
*(Massage is a complement to, and not a substitute for, good veterinary care. An ill or injured dog should be examined by a veterinarian prior to massage. It is also important to note that while there are numerous conditions that will improve with the aid of massage, there are some conditions that can be adversely affected. It is important to work with a trained practitioner who is aware of these contraindications to massage.)*

## Teresa Bendall, Canine Massage Practitioner

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# Quick Reference Guide For GDV BLOAT

Vet's Emergency Telephone Number...

	What Is Happening	What The Dog Does	What You Should Do	Treatment
<p>Stress ▶▶▶</p> <p>Excitement ▶▶▶▶</p> <p>Vigorous Exercise ▶▶▶▶▶</p> <p>Large Meals ▶▶▶▶▶</p> <p>Long Drink ▶▶▶▶▶</p> <p>Swallowed Air ▶▶▶▶▶</p> <p>Familial Tendency ▶▶▶▶▶</p>	<p>Stomach function is normal.</p> <p>Gas accumulates in the stomach but the stomach does not empty as it should.</p>	<p>Dog behaves as usual.</p> <p>Seems slightly uncomfortable.</p>	<p>Keep the dog quiet; Do not leave the dog alone; Give Antacid if your vet agrees.</p> <p>Be aware of Phase I symptoms.</p>	<p>During this period the dog may recover without going on to develop Gastric Volvulus.</p>
<p><b>PHASE I</b> GDV</p>	<p>Stomach starts to dilate. (Gastric Dilatation)</p> <p>Stomach twists. (Gastric Volvulus)</p>	<p>Anxious, restless, pacing; Trying to vomit-may bring up stiff white foam but no food; Salivating; Abdomen may be swollen.</p>	<p>Call your vet, tell him what you suspect and why.</p> <p>Take the dog to the vet without further delay.</p>	<p>During this period the dog may recover if your vet releases the pressure with a stomach tube.</p>
<p><b>PHASE II</b> GDV</p>	<p>Blood supply to part of stomach is cut off. Stomach tissue is damaged.</p> <p>Portal vein, vena cava and splenic vein become compressed and twisted. Spleen becomes engorged. Shock begins to develop</p>	<p>Very restless; whining &amp; panting; Salivating copiously; Tries to vomit every 2-3 min; Stands with legs apart &amp; head hanging down; Abdomen swollen &amp; sounds hollow if tapped; Gums dark red; Heart rate 80-100 beats/min; Temperature raised (104°F)</p>	<p>Get someone to tell your vet you are on your way and why.</p> <p>Take the dog to the vet as quickly as possible.</p>	<p>During this period the vet will need to relieve the stomach pressure, start an intravenous drip and perform surgery to untwist the stomach.</p>
<p><b>PHASE III</b> GDV</p>	<p>Spleen and stomach tissue become Necrotic.</p> <p>Shock now very severe.</p> <p>Heart failure develops.</p> <p>Shock now irreversible.</p> <p>Death</p>	<p>Unable to stand or stands shakily with legs apart; Abdomen very swollen; Breathing shallow; Gums white or blue; Heart rate over 100 beats/minute; Pulse very weak; Temperature drops (98°F)</p>	<p>Death is imminent.</p> <p>Get someone to tell your vet you are your way and why.</p> <p>Take the dog to the vet as quickly as possible.</p>	<p>As well as doing everything above, the vet will need to remove part of the stomach and the spleen. He will also need to use powerful drugs to counteract shock.</p> <p>It is no longer possible to save the dog's life.</p>

# GREYT ESCAPE

By Pam Cramp

The much anticipated weekend of August 2nd finally arrived and there we were in Wheeling West Virginia. Behind the scenes there was much to be done on our arrival at the Oglebay Resort, our base of operations. Tina, Jen, Val, Laura, Jayne, Jennifer and I shared one of the cottages. It was stunning, spacious and had all the amenities anyone could possibly need or want. The family of deer roaming outside the windows was a bonus. The team worked hard, fueled by laughter and excitement, as we sorted, bagged, tagged, and catalogued late into the night. We were all up again at 6 am to set up the beginning of the conference bright and early Saturday morning. Being 10 minutes away from the conference site at the Wheeling Racetrack and Casino made transport of all the gear a breeze. The resort took my breath away. It was the perfect place to take a breather and relax. I was glad it was decided to arrive a day early. Thanks Tina!



Our setup schedule started early at 7:30 am with registration. With help from more volunteers, Donna and Jean, registration intake was quick and everyone was presented with their hand- out bags and the day's agenda. Our team leader had all the functions covered with the help of Blair, Bill and Jen. Nothing was overlooked. I had the chance to meet many of the people "in person" that I had been corresponding with over the web for some time. What a treat! The opportunity presented itself to connect to other groups in the US and learn even more about their groups, and members and to see their commitment to the hounds, as well as share what we are doing up here in Canada. I think of these opportunities as building strong bridges and extending connections which adds to the richness of the Greyhound Community at large.

As the conference room filled and everyone picked up their coffee and continental breakfast, the anticipation was building waiting for the session to start.

First up, Dr. Guillermo Couto introduced the newly formed Greyhound Health Initiative Team. In his usual easy, professional style, we all got the first glimpse of the "next steps" in Greyhound care. The question and answer period was informative and provided an opportunity for the attendees to play an interactive part.

Continued...



# GREYT ESCAPE Continued

Dr. Jonathan Dyce brought us up to speed on the latest in Greyhound Orthopedics. We experienced his focus and desire to mend the breaks that happen, how it's done and how well the hounds recover and resume their active lives with us. He spoke to the room with a soft spoken grace and well respected authority on the subject while providing enough detail and pictorials that everyone in the room obtained a good grasp of the subject.

Dr. Fred Metzger provided valuable information on diagnostics in veterinary medicine: the importance of blood work and tests with stress on the value of creating a baseline history on your hounds. He clearly outlined what a full service facility can offer and what levels of care are available. A very diverse subject in which everyone has thoughts, questions and opinions on based on their own experiences. When your hound is sick knowing what well is in that individual provides the bigger picture for your vet to be effective. It is also important to know what "normal" for greyhounds is compared to other breeds.

"What's new in Greyhound bone cancer" was presented by Dr. Couto. As one of the most trusted and acclaimed experts in this field, he held the audience in his hands as he shared his experiences and knowledge with us all.

One of his anecdotes will stay with me forever – How many legs does a Greyhound have? 3 and 1 spare as seen through the eyes of his children when they were small, since in their father's line of work, three legged greyhounds was the norm. Imagine their surprise the first time they actually saw a Greyhound with four legs!

For a summary of the finer details – read on "What I learned about Greyhounds " by Jayne Field

The later afternoon was filled with learning about the lives of our beloved racers from the time they are born, how they are raised, exactly what constitutes their training from play running at the farms to learning how to focus and chase the lure to finishing school and finally, the race track. Dean Miner, owner, openly shared his life experiences and love of the breed. This was followed by a racing roundtable where all the conference attendees had the opportunity to ask questions and hear first hand from kennel owners, handlers and trainers. The owners and trainers shared their thoughts honestly with all of us that in another 10 years they expect greyhound racing will cease to exist as it does now in the United States.

I learned these are passionate people who love the breed and understand the joy the hounds experience doing what they love: "RUN". For someone like me who had never been to a track before and never seen a race, I gained a new understanding of these athletes and the competitiveness that drives them. In their eyes, they are all first at the finish line and happy to get the adorations and treats for their efforts from their handlers.

Having a tour of the adoption kennel at the track was an eye opener as well. The kennel is clean and the dogs are kept in tip top shape. There were 40 dogs in the kennel on Saturday, all but 7 were placed with adoption groups or individuals looking to adopt by Monday with another 40 coming into the kennel that Thursday. Evidence that working hand in hand between the track and the adoption groups that all the hounds find homes.

Sunday was a full day for browsing vendor wares, socializing with like-minded Greyhound owners and supporters, and promoting Greyhound adoption to the public.

The organized tours of the puppy farms were a huge hit. Registration was for these tours filled up quicker than we could have imagined. Lesson learned for next year.

Puppy Farm pictures taken by Jayne Field say it all – read on

# GREYT ESCAPE Part Two

## What I Learned About Greyhounds

By Jayne Field

During the August long-weekend, three of us from the Greyhound Supporters (Laura Simmermon, Jennifer French, and myself) attended Greyt Escape: Greyhound Wellness Conference, put on by Greyhound Trust and Alliance, in Wheeling, West Virginia. This was an opportunity to hear from Dr. Guillermo Couto, an expert in canine oncology and Dr. Jonathan Dyce, a world class greyhound orthopedic surgeon. As a greyhound parent, I learned a lot, so I thought I would pass some of it on. Keep in mind that this info is from the notes that I took as a layman, and not as a medical professional.

### Cancer:

- 3% of greyhounds develop osteosarcoma (bone cancer), which is a higher prevalence than other breeds.
- Greyhounds are 17% more likely to get bone cancer than mixed breed dogs. Bone cancer represents 50% of cancer in greyhounds.
- 1 in 3 greyhounds with bone cancer succumbs to it. It is the most common cause of death in retired greyhounds.
- Not yet known why non racing greyhounds don't have as high a cancer rate.
- Expect to be able to test for the gene mutation that causes cancer in greyhound in 3 to 5 years. This could allow keeping these dogs out of the gene pool to reduce future instances (and hope-fully the cancer gene is not related to the speed gene).
- Bone cancer presents in both right and left sides, so racing stress is likely not the main cause, but could be a contributing factor.
- Occurs more frequently in males (60/40, male/female).
- Bone tumours are very aggressive and don't respond well to chemotherapy; can spread rapidly to the lungs.
- Bone tumours are most commonly found in shoulder, then front wrist, back thigh, back knee and hip.
- Because greyhounds don't get hip dysplasia, if presenting with hip pain, get it x-rayed.
- to confirm cancer diagnosis:
  - Fine needle aspiration is recommended: easy, no pain, no anesthesia, \$
  - Biopsy: larger needle, general anesthesia, pain issues, could fracture already weak bone, \$\$\$\$
- Chemo for dogs has low toxicity (they don't feel sick like people do) and increases survival.
- Greyhound chemo protocol is different than the protocol in other dogs. For example, don't delay chemo in greyhounds with low white blood count, because their normal count is lower.
- Dosage of the pain drug Tramadol needs to be lower in greyhounds, to minimize instances of dysphoria (acting weirded out).

Continued...

# GREYT ESCAPE Part Two Continued

## Orthopedics:

- Injuries to toes are very common.
- No one treatment for corns; antivirals, hulling, excision, denervation, pad augmentation, boots, and toe amputation are all options.
- Look out for and seek vet attention for lame-ness, swelling, deformity. These types of orthopedic injuries are common in retired racers and may show up later in life.
- A fracture is sometimes the first sign of osteosarcoma.
- If a fracture repair is misaligned, can lead to osteoarthritis later in life.
- Do fractures lead to sarcoma? When large, young at time of fracture, unstable repair, infection, more likely to develop osteosarcoma 6-7 years later.

## General medical info:

- Often hear murmurs because they have monster sized hearts and blood is pumping fast.
- The clinical presentations of some diseases are different in greyhounds.
- 25-30% will bleed after surgery or dental extraction, even though clotting tests show normal.
- Clotting can break down 3 days later (can lead to death).
- Aminocaproic acid (Amicar) stops this bleeding, and can be used as a preventative measure.
- 3 things to have in your medicine cabinet: Pepto Bismol, diarrhea caplets, Amicar (1
- Signs of stroke: acute onset of disorientation, lack of coordination, staggering, salivation, dizziness.
- Give an 81mg aspirin right away, then 1/2 tablet once per day for ever.
- Greyhounds have low thyroid levels and about 15,000 to 20,000 are taking meds for thyroid problems unnecessarily.
- Often don't do well on Prednisone; lower doses sometimes works better with them.
- The new anesthetics in use are safe for grey-hounds. They just don't need as heavy a dose and may sleep a bit longer than other breeds.
- Lyme disease: if get a positive from the SNAP 4DX test, still need to look at other presentations before diagnosing lyme; there are other more detailed tests to perform at that point.
- When taking blood for a CBC, take from jugular, not paw.
- Often, things are not always as they appear with greyhounds.

I hope you find this information useful. We already know our dogs are special. Turns out this is also true medically in a lot of cases. In the end, it is important to remember that you are your dog's advocate as you work in partnership with your veterinarian.

# PUPPIES

By Jayne Field

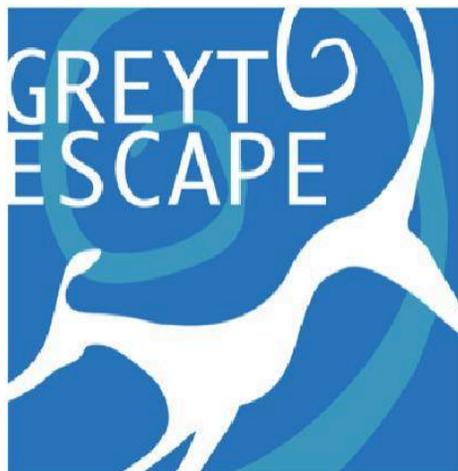
Thanks to the generosity of several owners and breeders in Wheeling, West Virginia, participants of Greyt Escape had the opportunity to visit some puppy farms. Having adopted our hounds as adults, I am sure that many of you, like me, were curious about life as a young greyhound. Based on what we saw (and recognizing that all farms are not the same), life as a puppy is pretty good! Lots of brothers and sisters to play with, progressively large pens to stretch growing legs and learn to run, and plenty of food to eat.

After seeing puppies of various ages in action, my personal theory is that greyhounds sleep 20 hours per day as adults because they have expended all of their energy growing up! I hope you enjoy my "best of" pictures



# Unleash *the* Hounds

AUGUST 2015



GREYHOUND  
TRUST AND  
ALLIANCE

**Oglebay Resort and Conference Center  
Wheeling, West Virginia**

*Greyhounds welcome to attend with you!*

**Dr. Guillermo Couto** will be returning to host the Sighthound Wellness Conference, with many special guests, including **Lee Livingood**, author of *Retired Racing Greyhounds for Dummies*.

In partnership with:



*Watch for details to come!  
We hope to see you there!*



# Memories: Zoe's View

## Memories ZOE'S VIEW

By Patricia Anthony

Zoe was our retired, gentle white and brindle ex-racing Greyhound from West Virginia. She came to us at the age of 10 and in the final 2 years of her life she was adopted by our family and assumed her place in the Anthony-Male household as reigning "Queen".



*If I can't chase it,  
I don't want it ....*

With a bed in every room of the house, Zoe displaced my husband Roy, our two sons and Mikey, a 12 year old Chihuahua cross. Zoe and I became fast friends and Zoe knew I belonged to her, and just managed to tolerate everyone else in the typical greyhound casual manner. On



*Ahhh - You leavin' again? What am I supposed to do - SLEEP all day?*

March 10, Zoe crossed over the "rainbow bridge" Her family and many neighbors and friends miss her beauty, grace and goofiness. I started creating the cartoons to be used as an educational tool to heighten public awareness about the ex-racing Greyhounds. This is my "Ode" to a unique and unforgettable greyhound. I've tried to capture her view of the world with focus on her thoughts and expressions the way I experienced them. Greyhound lovers will quickly recognize what they see in their own hounds. There are dogs: and then there are greyhounds!

Zoe was a docile and unique pet who enriched my life .

Welcome to her world!



*45 mph. Outside ... and Absolutely "0" indoors*



*It has nothing to do with shame. It's how I relax ...*

# Our Journey from Alabama

Written By: Mony-Mony & Phantom Goddard.

Edited by: Valerie Goddard.

It all started when I went from Victoryland race track to stay with this wonderful lady called Amy Cochrane, in Union Springs Alabama. She had lots and lots and lots of greyhounds and loved us all very much. At first I thought I was going to live with Amy, but then I overheard that there was a forever home waiting for me in Canada, in a place called Stoney Creek! How cool does that sound! So I smiled my special smile for Amy, rumpling my nose up and showing absolutely all of my teeth and gums! Amy said, "Don't worry Mony-Mony, I am going to take good care of you until it's time to leave for your forever home.

A few days later, I heard the most terrible sound out on the lovely street where Amy lived. Apparently Amy knew well the sound of the euthanasia hauler, driving up and stopping at her home with greyhounds. Oh it just made me want to cry. But then, I looked up and in came Amy with two more greyhounds! The driver man knew all about how hard Amy worked to take care of greyhounds and find forever homes for us all. That's what Amy does! One dog's name was Cajun Sugar Plum- she was limping and I heard Amy making plans to get her to the vets really quickly and have her all fixed up. The other greyhound, wow, he was a big super skinny blue boy. He was really handsome but his beautiful amber eyes held such fear. Our Amy gave him a load of extra care and he eventually started to relax. Amy researched the blue boy's tattoo but could not find his registration. He was a phantom- so that became his name; Phantom. What an amazing name.

Amy's house was really great. A big room off the front of the house was filled with cages two rows high! There were lots of windows to look out and some big fans to keep us cool. All of us greyhounds stayed in there where we were safe from the bad storms we sometimes heard outside. After our breakfast, Amy would let us go into the backyard where we had lots of room to run and play. Sometimes we even got to wander around inside the house in the front room! We could socialize and Amy took care of us, brushing us and putting on flea stuff.

Eventually Phantom and I became good friends. Amy called me Phantom's girlfriend! Other greyhounds arrived at the house then Amy would talk on the phone and work long hours on the computer, and then the greyhounds would go to their new homes. Amy said Phantom and I were going to Canada- together! But there was a little wait to get things organized so we would stay with her for a while longer. One day I heard Amy talking on the phone and she said our new parents were driving down to Alabama to get us! We sure got excited. Then.... How horrible, there was a really bad storm - a hurricane Amy called it and it was very dangerous. We even lost all our power for two days! We thought our new parents might not be able to come for us.

Continued...



# Our Journey from Alabama Continued

The power came back on, and almost immediately the phone rang and I heard Amy talking to someone called Dave. I thought to myself, "Dave is the name of my new dad! I wonder if it's the same person." And then Amy was talking to someone called Val, giving directions to drive to our Amy's house! WOW!

I told Phantom what I'd overheard and we both watched the front door. Then we heard the doorbell! Amy let the new parents in and introduced us. Amy told them all about us, our stitches and our food and that she didn't think soy was good for us. Amy gave Phantom and me a good brushing, and lots of hugs – then we went outside with our new collars and leashes on.

My new mom and dad talked with our Amy for a while. I overheard them talking about greyhounds coming to Canada. That made Phantom and me really happy knowing more of our friends would be making the trip too.

The next thing you knew we were in a nice comfy truck full of blankets. Our Amy had some happy - sad tears in her eyes; Mom and Dad looked really happy and off we drove. Phantom sat right down- he is such a goody goody... I preferred to ride shotgun. Mom told me to sit down at least 12 times. So finally I did. I didn't want them to turn around and go back to Amy's house even though we loved her and all. It became apparent I had to be good until we were at least half way to this Canada place.

When we left Amy's house in Union Springs, Mom & Dad drove through the town. There were many wonderful old buildings dating back to the 1800's. I think that was when Mom was born. I think that was what Dad said, anyway. Then we drove along some interesting red sandy roads; lush evergreens, thick woods and ponds everywhere. There were roses and bougainvillea along the roads and in most of the gardens. Mom said it looked like it came right out of something called Gone with the Wind? After being on the road for a while we stopped for gas and Mom & Dad let us out for a drink and a sniff about. Then back into the truck and onto the highway again. Next we drove through a place called Georgia, then Tennessee and another place called Kentucky with mountains and it is really, really beautiful, even though our ears went pop. The parents went on and on about the beautiful mist on the mountains and all the plateaus with towns and nice places to stop. Mom said she wanted to go back to Kentucky in the fall and stay in the mountains. I hoped they'd take us too. Phantom expressed much delight at all the trees.

It was getting pretty dark when we came down off the mountains. We did sniffing, in a place called Ohio that just went on and on forever. Then back in the truck again.....



Continued...

# Our Journey from Alabama Continued

The next thing we knew we were crossing something called the Ambassador Bridge to Canada! We stopped for yet more gas- who knows what the parents are going to do with all this gas when they get home! It was Mom's turn to drive again. Then I noticed the sun light on the horizon. Holy cow, another day! And in a new country, with a new home and our very own forever parents. How exciting it all was!

We turned into a driveway and mom stopped the truck. We'd arrived at our new home. In we went all together; we had a bite to eat and then all of us went to sleep. Ah.....our forever home.

Mony is letting me take over and tell this part of the story!

After we'd been in our forever home for a couple of weeks, a friend of the parents dropped in to meet us. Mom said to behave ourselves, so her friend would know what a good job our Amy did with us. Mom & Dad said Amy socialized us really well. And what a difference that we could live in Amy's home and be around people and be handled all the time. We already knew about asking to go outside and not to do naughty things like piddle in the living room. Mom said our Amy was so amazing and kind. How lucky we all were that our paths had crossed. And for Phantom- that's me- I'm especially happy. Our Amy gave me so much more than a cool name. She gave me more life!



# Jingle Collar

From Greyhound Manor Crafts

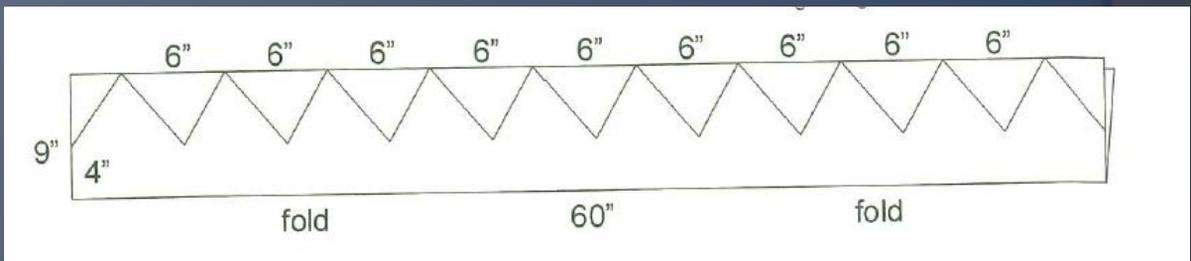
These whimsical, jester-like jingle collars take 15 minutes of machine-sewing and 45 minutes of hand stitching to get the jingle bells on. Just the kind of thing you can work on while riding in the car or watching TV.

Materials Needed:

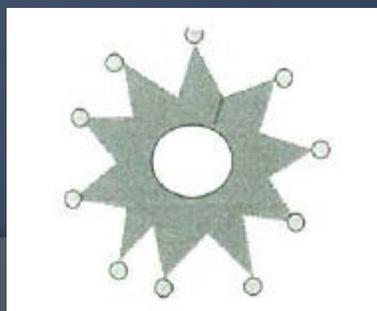
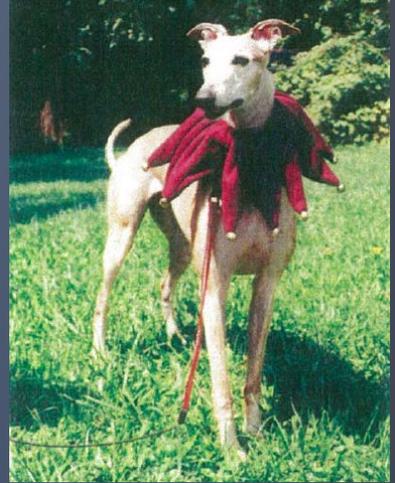
- ½ yard of polar fleece or other thick/stiff fabric - 60" wide
- 10 ½" jingle bells
- 14" piece of ¼" elastic

Jingle Bell Collar Steps

1. Fold the fabric in half to form one long skinny rectangle 9" x 60". Make a mark 4" from the fold along the 9" side. Make a mark every 6", 4" from the fold.
2. Make a mark 3" from the edge along the raw 60" edge. Make a mark every 6" from this first mark along the 60" edge.
3. Sew in a sawtooth pattern to join the marks. The result should look like:



4. Trim about ½" from the seam you just sewed. Be sure to clip all the corners.
5. Turn the jagged tube right-side out.
6. Feed the elastic through the tube and sew the two ends of the elastic together.
7. Use a whip stitch to hand-sew the two ends of the collar together to form the round collar shape.
8. Sew a jingle bell on each of the 10 points.



# Fast Food

## Apple Crunch Pupcakes

A fruity treat your dog will adore just in time for the Holidays.

### Ingredients

- 2  $\frac{3}{4}$  cups water
- $\frac{1}{4}$  cup applesauce (unsweetened)
- 2 tbsp honey
- $\frac{1}{8}$  tsp vanilla extract
- 1 medium egg
- 4 cups whole wheat flour
- 1 cup dried apple chips (unsweetened)
- 1 tsp baking powder



### Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees
2. Mix water, applesauce, honey, egg, and vanilla together in a bowl
3. Add remaining ingredients and mix until well blended
4. Pour into lightly greased muffin pans
5. Bake 1  $\frac{1}{4}$  hours

Store your homemade dog treats in an airtight container and place them in the freezer. Allow the treat to thaw for 10 – 20 minutes prior to serving to your dog. Treats can last for up to 6 months in the freezer.

# News from...



**By Sonya Matheson**

We all love greyhounds! Greyhounds of every shape, size, colour and origin. We love their sweet dispositions and their soulful eyes. Often, greyhound lovers find their love of the breed extends to other members of the stately Sighthound family. Often, you can find grey enthusiasts “ooing” and “ahhing” over whippets, borzoi, wolfhounds and of course, our greyhounds’ Spanish cousins –

## **the Galgos!**

Often called the “Spanish Greyhound”, the galgo is actually a unique breed of Sighthound from Spain. Originally, they were not directly related to greyhounds, but over the years, galgo breeders have been introducing greyhounds to galgo lines to create a faster hunting dog.

Though they are as beautiful and graceful as greyhounds, the Spanish galgo is sadly amongst the most persecuted and mistreated hunting breeds in the world. Used to chase prey across the Spanish countryside, these dogs are often owned in large packs, and “disposed of” once they have outlived their hunting usefulness. Pack owners, known as “galgueros”, often stoop to deplorable means of inhumanely executing these retired galgos to thin out their own packs.

Fortunately, there are many groups in Spain dedicated to rescuing, vetting, rehabilitating and rehoming these cast-off galgos. Volunteers visit dog shelters, as well as known galguero dump sites, and dark and often dangerous terrain to pick up galgos on the loose. The stories they tell are both thrilling and heartbreaking. Sometimes the dogs can be nursed back to health, and sometimes the volunteers are too late. But, what’s always true is that Spanish shelters are always bursting at the seams with wonderful galgo dogs looking for forever homes.

It is on that note that After the Track Greyhound Adoption is extremely excited to announce our new partnership with Baasgalgo Association (<http://www.baasgalgousa.com/>) in Spain! We will be working with the good people at Baas to bring in two deserving galgo boys to find their forever homes in Canada.

The galgos will arrive in Toronto, Canada on December 21st, 2014 – and we are now accepting applications for pre-adoptions of these two gorgeous boys!

While After the Track is dedicated to continuing our work in placing retired racing greyhounds from the United States, we are so happy to be able to help out the dire situation in Spain, and bring some galgos “home”.

If you are interested in adopting a wonderful Spanish galgo, please note that while they may look similar, due to their unconventional upbringing, they do not have the same temperament as retired racers. We always encourage potential adopters to do their homework, and ask lots of questions to make sure this type of dog is the right one for you!

Please contact us at [info@afterthetrack.com](mailto:info@afterthetrack.com) to find out about how to apply for one of these Spanish sweethearts.

Now THAT is something to roo about!

Olé!

# News from...



## **GLOHW Makes a Road Trip**

By: Victoria Ingram, GLOHW Vice-President

On June 6th, 2014, fifteen intrepid Greyhound Lovers of Hamilton Wentworth (GLOHW) fanatics packed up and headed south to West Virginia on a mission of love and curiosity. Their goal – to return to Canada with three lovely retired racers longing for new homes in the north. But, while they were on the road, they decided to learn a few things about the greyhound racing industry, visit a breeder, spend a bit of time at a track, and throw in a bit of shopping and good eating along the way!

Meeting up in Grimsby, the caravan of vans and SUVs headed for the US border, agreeing to meet again for lunch at the outlet mall in Grove City, PA. Some did a bit of shopping, some simply enjoyed lunch and took a driving break, but by early afternoon, everyone was on their way to the Mardi Gras Casino in Nitro, West Virginia.

The Mardi Gras Casino, with 150 room hotel and onsite restaurants, features live greyhound racing, with kennels and dog facilities nearby. It was at the track kennel that the group met a local greyhound breeder for a Saturday trip to his farm outside of town. The breeder and his wife maintain a kennel of greyhounds for racing in West Virginia. The dogs are housed in large dog runs and specialized out buildings, with shelter for inclement weather. Each day, each dog is given personal attention and handling, making them people friendly and anxious for attention.

The group enjoyed petting and talking to the young dogs, as well as getting the opportunity to see pregnant females, new litters, small newborn dogs, and puppies at various stages of development. Since everyone knows that greyhounds are adorable when grown, one can imagine how heart-meltingly cute they are when smaller. They are also bundles of energy and excitement, clamoring for attention and petting! Visit the GLOHW Facebook page to see pictures of these racers-in-waiting (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2266371891>).

The breeder joined the group for dinner at one of the Mardi Gras' fine restaurants on Saturday evening, sharing stories of his 25 plus years of experience as a greyhound racer and breeder. His memories of years in the business provided a lot of information, background, and a few laughs for the travelers.

Sunday morning and everyone loaded up again to pick up the dogs selected to return to Canada to their forever homes. A trip that might have actually taken 20 minutes lasted about two hours as relying on GPS proved to be quite a mistake in rural, mountainous West Virginia. A gentleman preparing for services at his rural church seemed a bit confused to see five vehicles with Ontario license plates passing by in the middle of the morning! Fortunately, the scenery was beautiful and eventually the residence where the dogs were waiting came into view.

After a get-acquainted chat, Woodpecker, Jack's Crosby, and Keke Mac were loaded into vans and everyone was ready to head back to Canada. At the border, the proper documentation for each dog was shared with the officers, who seemed more interested in getting a look at the dogs than their papers. With their clearance, the group headed for "the barn" at the Geres Ranch, where everyone pitched in to provide the new four-legged Canadians with their baths and rub downs. Then, it was off to their foster homes for preparation for live in homes, with new families eager for their arrival and excited to welcome the dogs to their life in retirement.

Returning travelers were so enthusiastic about their experience that others are now asking about when GLOHW will offer this kind of opportunity again. A trip in the spring of 2105 is being considered. You can find more details, when they are available, at [www.glohw.com](http://www.glohw.com)

# News from...



## **The Luck of the Irish**

By Laura Simmermon

In April 2014, I was approached by a representative of a group called the Flying Irish Greyhounds (FIG) to find out if the Greyhound Supporters would be interested in working together to bring Irish greyhounds to Ottawa. FIG is a non-profit group of volunteer couriers established in September of 2013 to coordinate the transportation of Irish greyhounds to North America for adoption. FIG works with the Irish Greyhound Board (IGB) which has agreed to cover all veterinary costs related to of health certifications, vaccinations, spay/neuter, dentals and micro chipping.

The Irish Greyhound Board (IGB) is the organization responsible for the control and development of the greyhound industry in the Republic of Ireland. In addition to regulating all aspects of greyhound racing, the IGB is responsible for the welfare of racing greyhounds, and it works with the Greyhound As Pets (GAP) Trust in support of the adoption of retired racers.

FIG has established certain criteria that its partner groups in North America must meet in order to ensure the health and welfare of the Irish hounds. With a few minor modifications to its adoption and fostering program, the Greyhound Supporters was able to meet the criteria and the Greyhound Supporters was then approved as a FIG partner and arrangements for made for the first flight of Irish greyhounds in early September. In support of its Irish Greyhound Program, the Greyhound Supporters was very pleased to establish a partnership with the Greyhound Trust & Alliance (GT&A), which has been a key element to the success of this initiative.

On September 9th, 5 Irish greyhounds landed in Toronto and were transported to their respective foster homes – 3 in Ottawa and 2 in Toronto. All of the Irish hounds are lovely hounds, wonderful dispositions and lots of personality, and all of them settled very quickly into their new environments.

The Greyhound Supporters is working with FIG to set the date for another flight of retired racers from Ireland so look forward for more updates.

If you are interested in getting involved with the Greyhound Supporters' Irish Greyhound Program, please contact Laura at [info@gsncr.ca](mailto:info@gsncr.ca)



# News from...



**Exciting changes have been happening at GRA Canada!**



Heather Main and her dedicated volunteers have been renovating the old kennel to make our wonderful Greyhounds happy, healthy and cozy. Since the change in management, we have insulated, painted and repaired many things. Thanks to the extremely generous greyhound community, fundraising efforts have enabled us to have a (long awaited!) new furnace installed before old man winter comes knocking at our door.

Having heard through the greyhound grapevine of the improvements, many people have been returning to volunteer, walk dogs, donate, and just help out in any way. As all of you know, the greyhound community is a very close, loving and giving one. After all, there is one thing we all agree upon: it's ALL ABOUT THE HOUNDS :) We strive to rehome retired greys from various racetracks in the United States to loving 'forever' homes in Ontario. Seeing the excitement of a new adopting family, joining in their anticipation by posting updates on our Facebook page or Website while they are waiting for the adoption process to be completed, is a wonderful experience. Watching our beautiful babies climb in to their new owners vehicles, shedding a few tears as they pull out of the parking lot, is extremely fulfilling. We simply love what we do, and hope to continue for many years to come.



# News from...



Dear Diary,

Just wanted to give you news on how my "first day as a pet" went.

After driving for what seem liked hours (and me voicing my displeasure every 1/10th mile) we finally arrived in Montreal! I got out of the car and went into this Magic Box that whisked us up into the heavens. When the door to the magic box opened I was in a totally different place! I had to wait in the hallway while this lady (I shall refer to her as The Commandant from now on, because she seems to give the orders) went in through a door. I waited and waited with this nice person I will refer to as "Daddy".. Finally the Commandant came out with 3 other greyhounds, all muzzled up!! After a few minutes of butt-sniffing and appropriate greetings, the Commandant declared "all was well" and our Hannibal Lecter masks came off!!

Then I had to pee, so I found a nice soft spot on the carpet and started to tinkle. Boy! The Commandant's face got all red and I got WHISKED out of the house, back into the magic box and out into the bitter cold (50F). We walked and walked but, of course, I had already peed and didn't have to go again - (I think this Commandant is very dumb and not up to houndie ways).

Then supertime came around. The Commandant said I could have a "little something", so I had some kibbles - at least they feed me here!!!

After the kibbles I got leashed up and got taken out again. I walked and walked for like almost a minute!! Don't know why I was outside as I was waiting for that nice soft carpet back in the apartment! Ahhhhhhhh , sweet relief! ACK - the commandant's face got even redder than before and, yes you guessed it - away we went back outside!!!

(Doesn't this lady know when a houndie is empty?? sheesh!)

Then some people came over to meet me and I was my charming, yet shy self. Then everybody got ready to leave and, yes once again, I had to go "outside". Then we went back upstairs - thank goodness, because I had an urgent need to go poopy! Poopy, it seems, gets done on the kitchen floor NOT on the carpet. Ahhhhhh, more sweet relief.

OOPS - I thought the Commandant was going to burst a blood vessel!!!!  
Yes.... whisked downstairs again!

Finally it was time for bed. I got into my crate to dream of the day to come!

"BARK! Bark bark!" Yes, that was me - waking up at the "butt-crack of dark" as the Commandant said. So I got leashed up and away we went downstairs. I do NOT understand why I have to be attached to the Commandant by a rope so she can watch me do my business. It's embarrassing!! So again I did nothing!

Up we went for breakfast. Nom nom nom! Ahh ! After breakfast - oh oh poopy cramps!! But the Commandant was IN the kitchen - so I found a nice spot in the dining room. Gah - you'd have thought world war three had broken out! Whisked downstairs again!!! But this time I could not hold it in so I HAD to pee outside on some leaves. WOW! You would have thought I had produced a masterpiece - not a "masterpee"! I got all kinds of lovies from The Commandant! Maybe there IS something to this peeing outside thing. I might have to try it with poopy as well.....

Then about a few hours later we all went for a long walk and I showed Daddy my new trick of peeing outside! MORE lovies! Then we came in and the Commandant and daddy had what they called breakfast. I tried to show them my best side, I even put my two front feet on the table to investigate Daddy's plate but to no avail. I got no snacks! I'll have to try to be even more endearing at their next meal.

All seems to be good.

Love and licks,

Buffie



# Adoptable Spotlight

## Meet Gerard

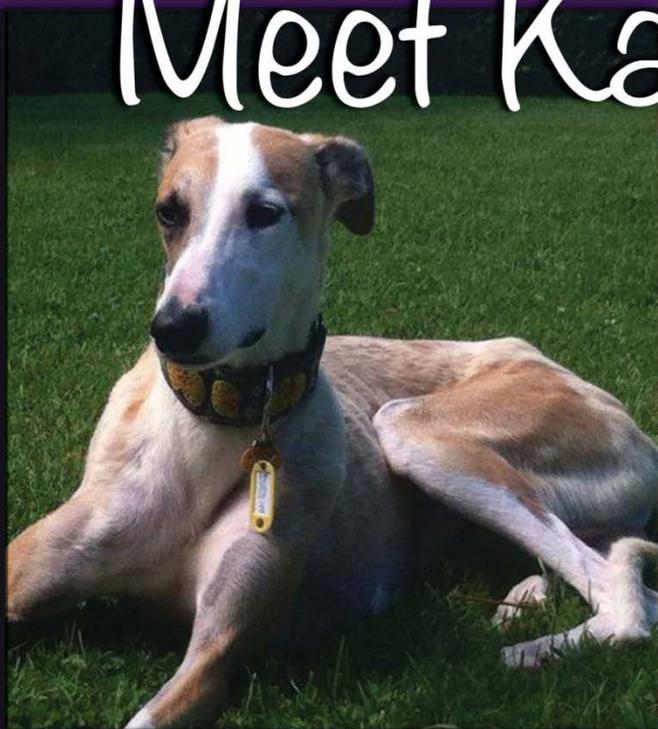


### Available for Pre-Adoption!

Gerard is a male galgo rescued in Fuensalida. He is young, active, and friendly. He needs space to run and play and the best would be with an other active dog. He is very sweet and kind. No cats, please.

For more information on how to adopt Gerald please email: [info@afterthetrack.ca](mailto:info@afterthetrack.ca)

## Meet Kako



### Available for Pre-Adoption!

Kako is a male galgo, about 4 years old, who has overcome great odds. Rescued in an alley in Toledo, Spain, he was rushed into the vet. He was found with a serious back end injury and in horrible condition. He has beat the odds, and miraculously pulled through. A very sweet, well-adjusted, and silly boy. He is fun, healthy and very loyal. He is cat friendly.

For more info on adopting Kako, Email: [info@afterthetrack.ca](mailto:info@afterthetrack.ca)

# **TEAM GREYHOUND** **INTERNATIONAL**



[www.facebook.com/southerncodydesigns](http://www.facebook.com/southerncodydesigns)  
[southerncodydesigns.storenvy.com](http://southerncodydesigns.storenvy.com)



TGI is officially born!

All TGI merchandise is available for pre-order in the store. Most items will only be available through the pre-order campaign and will not be a stock inventory item. Order now to make sure you don't miss out on an item you want for yourself or as a gift for someone else. Items will be ready to ship in mid-November which is great to get some early Christmas shopping done!

Visit <http://southerncodydesigns.storenvy.com/>

The dream for this store is to become a non-profit in which all proceeds will be donated to help various greyhound causes. We also hope to expand this to include coverage for other sighthounds such as Galgos and Podencos. It may not seem like much, but believe us when we say that every share on Facebook matters for causes such as this. This little endeavor has grown tremendously over the course of this year and we hope to see that trend continue.

This fundraiser is a two pronged effort. The first of which is the Blackjack line of items. ALL proceeds from the sale of his items will be donated to the Greyhound Health Initiative, a team dedicated to improving greyhound health through educations, research, and accessibility. The second effort is the TGI line, in which are goals are summarized below.

**Team Greyhound International is a commitment to providing factual information to the public about Greyhounds from breeding through retirement from an international perspective. Our aim is Teamwork, Awareness, Education, Community and Support for all aspects of greyhounds' lives.**

We hope that by taking this endeavor by way of merchandise it will allow for a visual within the community to ask questions and provided consistent answers will allow for public awareness. A percentage of funds raised by the merchandise will be used to aid in various areas of greyhound lives from birth through and into retirement. Areas included, but not limited to, are: International aid in transportation fees for hounds set for retirement, Supplies/Medical aid for greyhounds on preparing for their career, Racing and into retirement, Medical emergencies for hounds whether at the track, farm, or adoption group that may need emergency care. We also make donations to adoption groups to help offset the care of our retired companions while in foster care

**GET YOUR TGI WEAR TODAY!**

**<http://southerncodydesigns.storenvy.com>**