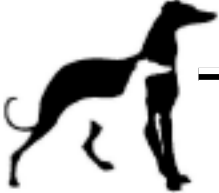




The Hounds' Run

Special issue



See us on the web at www.floridagreyhounds.com

*Calendar Year Summaries:
2006 39- Local Adoptions 248 -- Shipped
2005 79- Local Adoptions 375- Shipped*

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Howl-o-ween Celebration

October 28, 2006

6:30PM - 9:00PM

Satellite Beach Civic Center

David R. Schechter Community Center,

1089 So. Patrick Drive, Satellite Beach, FL.

A special invitation is extended to all GPA members to our First Howl-o-ween event. We have wanted to do a special Fall Event for GPA Members and hounds and also have a celebration for our Tenth Anniversary as the primary adoption agency at the Melbourne Greyhound Park.

Some highlights for the evening include:

Howl-o-Ween Costume Contest - Hounds attending in costume will have a chance to win prizes for the Funniest, Most Original and Best overall.

Dog Bobbing for Treats Contest: Does your hound woof down his/her food? This contest is for them. Bobbing for treats is a timed contest. Pieces of hot dog will be placed in a pail of water and the fastest eater will win.

PowerPoint Presentation: Ever wonder "What exactly the greyhounds go through at the track" or "What's involved putting a shipment together". Well this presentation should answer your questions. We have managed to put together some very interesting and some behind the scenes photos that are very informative. This presentation has been well received by groups in Maryland, South Carolina and "Sandy Paws" participants. It also will be featured at Dewey Beach.

Howl-O-Ween

GPA Highlights and Election Meeting. - Members will be brought up to date on current events and goals of GPA Central Florida. This is your chance to meet the officers of the group and hear what is going on. The offices of Vice-President and Sec/Treasurer are up for re-election. The existing officers (Monique Moore - VP and Claire Tyler (Sec/Treas) have agreed to run for these positions.

Tenth Anniversary Salute - Since taking over the adoption office at the track we have achieved several milestones. As of this year we have successfully transitioned over 4,900 greyhounds from the track.

Refreshments: This is a "Covered Dish - Finger Food" Gathering. Members are encouraged to bring their favorite warm or cold appetizer. GPA will be providing a special 10th Anniversary Cake and Beverages.

Special Note: We are still trying to collect recipes for a GPA Central Florida Cookbook so please consider whipping up a culinary delight and sharing it with

all those in attendance. We need your help with this one. Our target is to get at least 30 appetizer recipes for the Cookbook.

Special Raffles: GPA will have some items up for raffle. GPA will have an assortment of Greyhound and Non-greyhound items that will be raffled off. Items will be on display at the Howl-O-Ween event and all proceeds will go to help the hounds.

Cash for Critters & Purina Weight Circles: We will have a rebate box set up at the Sign-in table. Members can drop off their old inkjet cartridges, used cell phones and Purina Weight Circles in it. All these items actually help the group. We are able to cash in on rebates and help to keep our costs down.

We will have a limited sales table at this event.

Please reserve this date and plan on attending. I hope to see you there.

Tenth Anniversary

BY Claire Tyler

A lot has happened in ten years since GPA Central Florida became the primary adoption group at the Melbourne Greyhound Park. It has been an incredible journey and has made a difference for the lives of the greyhounds that have spent time at the kennel compound.

In 1996, we were asked if we could move 70 hounds a year. Locally at that time, there were placements of maybe 30-40 hounds from the track. At that time we thought 70 was a big goal. We soon learned about transports and in that first racing season, we managed to move 160 greyhounds.

While each year presents different challenges, our primary focus has always been on the greyhounds and giving this majestic breed of animal a chance at a good retirement.

It takes time and effort to gain the trust of kennel operators. One of the biggest accomplishments has been the ability to have access to all of the racing kennels and the greyhounds that are candidates for adoption. This not only helps in showing hounds to local adopters, it also helps when putting together shipments.

With the ability to transport and the power of the internet, we have made major milestones. I have no doubt that each greyhound that found a forever home

became an ambassador for greyhound adoption and helped with the placement of countless other greyhounds. These ambassadors were instrumental in mustering up support for our program. Through their help and the generosity of the greyhound community, we were able to purchase two transport trailers.

We now feel we have extended family members locally and in South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Ohio, New York, Delaware, Maryland and Canada. We have been able to attend several Greyhound reunions and it is so heart warming to hear the testimonials on how the adoption of a greyhound has impacted and changed so many lives.

This year also marks another major milestone. We have managed to pass the 4900 mark for greyhounds that have transitioned from racing to adoption. Our program has been set up as an example of how things should work. We have managed to get support from Melbourne Greyhound Park, Kennel Operators, the American Greyhound Council, the registered National Greyhound Association Owners and over 45 Greyhound Adoption Agencies to make sure the retired greyhounds are the real winners in finding their ultimate reward of forever homes.

Happenings

Special Events - Please mark your calendar. There are several events that are coming up and we know you won't want to miss out. Fall is a wonderful time of the year to get out with your hound and be a part of our Community Outreach program. Your hound can be an Ambassador and help promote adoption for some of their canine buddies who are still in the track kennels. Please volunteer and help us so we can help them. **Contact Brenda Stacy at 321-637-8210 or email her at stacyjohn@cfl.rr.com.**

Greyhound Planet Week 9-17 thru 9-24. Each year the Petco Foundation sponsors a special week that features greyhounds. This year it is September 17 thru 24. The store will be doing a special round up promotion where customers will be asked to round up their purchases to the nearest dollar and the proceeds will go to GPA. Supporters will also be given a special Greyhound Planet Day Bookmark.

GPA plans on promoting Greyhound Adoption from 12:00 to 2:00 PM on Sunday, September 17, and Saturday/Sunday September 23 & 24.

On the 17th and 23rd, GPA will have the trailer and candidates for adoption at the store. GPA will also have a limited sales table that will feature the 2007 Celebrating Greyhound Calendars.

Please help spread the word about Greyhound Planet Week to your family and friends

October 1 - Responsible Dog Ownership Day - Cocoa Village The Brevard County Dog Trainers Club is hosting a special event with the focus on responsible dog ownership. GPA will have volunteers on hand and use this venue as a means to promote greyhound adoption. This is a perfect opportunity to get out with your hound on a Sunday afternoon and have a fun afternoon in beautiful downtown Cocoa Village.

October 7 and December 2 - Titus Nights Our members in North Brevard will be manning an informational Table and informing the public how "Greyhounds Make Great Pets". These evening events are located in Downtown Historic Titusville

and a fun street party atmosphere. Contact Vicki Smith at (321) 632-3502 or vicki11@peoplepc.com



WE NEED YOU...

Cocoa Village Craft Fair October 21-22 10-5 - and December 2-3 10-5 This is a wonderful event and great opportunity to get your hounds out in the community. GPA will be needing volunteers to greet the public and promote adoption. Please consider helping.

October 28, 6:30 - 9PM HOWL-O-WEEN event at *Satellite Beach* David R. Schechter Community Center, 1089 So. Patrick Drive Please mark your calendars for this get-together.

October 29, Village Pet Masquerade Contest hosted by Frieda's Pet Boutique in Cocoa Village. For more information call Freida's at (321) 637-1008.

November 4 -Satellite Beach Founders Day GPA will be an active part of this event hosted by the Satellite Beach Woman's Club. GPA will have a sales table and pass out information on Greyhound adoption from 9:00 - 4:00. This is a fun one day event and a wonderful opportunity for Community Outreach. The event also features a parade through the nearby residential area. GPA will be soliciting the help of volunteers for this event to be held at the David R. Schechter Community Center, 1089 So. Patrick Drive, Satellite Beach, FL. Contact Lori Stewart if you can help at zoomer@cfl.rr.com or 779-9289

November 18, Paws in the Park - Wickham Park 9-1. Brevard County Parks & Recreation Department is host to this Educational Program that will host several different rescue groups from around the county.

February 25, 2007 WOOFFSTOCK- Wickham Park Main Pavilion 11AM - 3PM Please make sure to mark you calendars for our biggest event of the year. Preparations are under way. The Gilley Dancing Drill Team will be on hand to entertain everyone. There will be pet contests, live music, vendors and special raffles. **Reserve the date now.**

Coffees Story!!

BY Laura Chambers Lewandowski

I was checking email when I heard the not-so-distant animal screams. I rushed to the back yard where I had moments before seen my greyhound Coffee chasing squirrels along the fence. The gate, used recently to mow the lawn, was open. The next awful thought was that he must have been hit by a car – the ultimate fear a greyhound owner has for our foolish sight-hounds. I discovered a similar fate. A gentleman from my neighborhood clutched his little dog in his arms; she was bleeding and the two were weak from the struggle to free her from Coffee's grip. From the greyhound's perspective, Coffee had pursued the same old squirrel that teased him daily. But in reality, he had exchanged the squirrel during the pursuit outside of the fence for the small fluffy dog directly in front of him, and had finally caught his lure.

The trip to the emergency vet was bleak. Vets tried everything to save the little dog, and her owner spared no expense for her life. She never went home; internal injuries were overwhelming. We received the miserable news the next morning. In our depression we knew there would be consequences dealt for Coffee's behavior, but we were not prepared for the ensuing events.

The county animal control officers arrived the following day. They issued fines and broke the devastating news that Coffee would be impounded for a minimum of 10 days as the county declared him a "Dangerous Dog". Their case was simple; Coffee had seriously injured or killed a domestic animal off of his home property. Brevard's Dangerous Dog ordinances are excruciating for an owner and for the offending pet. Coffee would never, for the rest of his life, be permitted off of our property again, not even on-leash or with a muzzle, except for veterinary purposes. Coffee could never run free in his back yard without us physically present with him. For a greyhound accustomed to daily neighborhood walks and plenty of animal-human socialization, a confinement within the home would be terrible.

Dangerous Dog owners pay heavy fines; in addition to the punitive fines, mandatory fees include \$300 per year for a license and \$1000 per year for special liability insurance. Any future offense is a \$500 fine, minimum, and assessment as to whether or not the dog should be *destroyed*. Every entrance

to the home, including the front door, has to be marked with a large sign indicating "dangerous dog" complete with a picture of a dog. We were counting our pennies to pay the bills and fines, coping with depression for the loss of the other dog, kicking ourselves for having a poorly designed gate that could be left open, and coming to terms with how we would be able to maintain a happy balance with our pet under the severe restrictions. The alternative, the choice made by the vast majority of Dangerous Dog owners each year, is killing the dog. It was not an alternative for our pet.

Meanwhile, Coffee was detained at the county shelter, in a small pen with no run, for days on end. We were not allowed to touch him during our visits. He peed and pooped in his space – slept in it and stood in it day after day after day.

We fully cooperated with the animal control officials who informed us of options to appeal the Dangerous Dog declaration. We took action – collecting evidence of Coffee's exemplary history and socialization with other animals and people, including volunteerism at GPA events. We gathered photographs and requested statements from neighbors. Under county ordinances, Coffee would be detained until the appeals hearing, which could have added another three weeks to his initial 10 day detention. Each day we waited for the hearing we visited our hound at the shelter. He was losing his appetite, his energy, and his sparkle. One county official actually urged us to not appeal the Dangerous Dog declaration so we could take Coffee home before the trauma of detention set too deeply into his psyche.

Greyhound Pets of America Central Florida came to our side immediately upon hearing Coffee's plight. GPACF President, Dennis Tyler, joined us for the hearing where we once again had to face the victim's owners under



Coffees Story!!

continued from page 4

unpleasant circumstances. They cried; we cried. We presented our case to the Dangerous Dog appeals council. Against ALL odds, the power of forgiveness prevailed that day. The victims, angry at the greyhound racing and training system, found it in their hearts to forgive our errors with the gate, to take pity on our pet, and to plead a compromise to the appeals council. The council agreed with the compromise and acted on the opportunity to give Coffee a lesser sentence.

We agreed to always muzzle Coffee when outside, whether on-leash or confined in our back yard. We completely redesigned our gate. The gate hinges are now spring-loaded to swing closed effortlessly. It swings inward such that a dog cannot push it open. The latch is spring-loaded to slam shut over the crossbar. A padlock ensures no one except us can open the gate at any time. We are installing an electronic fence for the front yard to help protect against the possibility of Coffee ever slipping out the front door. With a very young child in our home, we will also be

using childproof doorknob protectors for the exterior doors to ensure the little one never inadvertently lets Coffee, or himself, out to the street. We do not resent a single one of these actions; we only wish they had all been in place before the fateful day that allowed Coffee's breed and racing experiences to intersect with squirrel chasing and the incredibly unfortunate timing with another dog in front of our house.

Every greyhound owner should be aware of the consequences of an extreme, unexpected situation that could ruin the life of your own pet and others. Dangerous Dog ordinances were clearly written to bias owners toward euthanizing their offending dogs instead of maintaining them with severe penalties. You cannot trust your hound to *not* do what it was trained and bred to do given the one-in-a-million opportunity. Ultimately, dog owners should not risk the well being of other pets in the community. Do the right thing – check your home boundaries very carefully. Take double safeguards against ever having to hear the screams of a neighbor's pet or the screams of your own hound being hit by a car.



Comfort Zone!!

BY Laura Chambers Lewandowski

As greyhound owners it has been infused into our brains to never "trust" your hound to voluntarily stay by your side and to never let your ex-racer off-leash in an unfenced area, but "never" is hard to achieve. We mow the lawn, fix the sprinklers, haul in the groceries... there are dozens of reasons per week to unintentionally give your pet an opportunity to run the neighborhood. The consequences could be dire. Not only does an escaped greyhound endanger him/herself with risk of a car accident, but some retired racers may still harbor a prey-drive that could potentially be directed at an unwitting cat or small dog.

There are a few things that you can consider doing to reinforce your home boundaries.

First, examine your fence gates. A good gate design can prevent accidents from happening. Consider these design tips that serve to both "dog-proof" and "human-proof" a gate:

- Gate should swing in toward the dog yard such that the dog cannot push it open.
- Ensure the latch is above the dog's reach.
- Choose a spring-loaded latch that can be visibly confirmed as closed from either side of the fence.
- Add springs to either pull or push the gate closed without human effort.
- Use a lock to prevent outsiders (such as the meter reader or the lawn service) from coming in unannounced.

Continued on page 6

Ben-her ? - "One in a Million"

BY Lorie Stewart

My husband and I first met Benie as a 5 week old pup. He was this cute ball of black fluff and stole our hearts in an instant with a cuddle and a deep whiff of puppy breath. Having heard the horror stories about greyhound puppies and their activity levels, I held out for three days, before giving in to family pressure to add a greyhound puppy to our greyt trio of hounds. My husband, Bob, was the instigator of the family conspiracy, and employed his own big brown puppy dog eyes with great effect.



At his six month check-up things began to become a little interesting. It was time to be neutered, but his testicles hadn't dropped yet. The vet explained that it wasn't that uncommon and we decided to wait a few more months to see if they came down so he could avoid a major surgery. If they didn't drop, the vet basically had to go in and look for them, fairly major when compared to the normal simple snip when a male dog is neutered.

Benie came home when he was only 8 weeks old and quickly proved that all the stories were true. Greyhound puppies do everything a normal puppy does at **twice** the speed of light. He terrorized the older dogs, tore up paper and toys and earned the titles "*The Black Terrorist*" and "*The Flying Piranha*". Sharp puppy teeth and nails left scars, and talk about vocal... I swear that he was talking to us and just couldn't understand how those stupid humans didn't understand what he was saying.



Somewhere in all that chaos are the sweetest moments of having a greyhound puppy; loving kisses, long snuggles and naps, running to 'mommy' when he was scared, hurt or hungry, and all the funny things he did as he discovered life in our home. Balloons pop, stuffies and balls are great toys and don't chew on mommy's shoes are life lessons for all grey hounds. Those precious moments earned him another nickname, *Scrunchie*, because all you wanted to do was scrunch him up and squeeze him with love.

House training was relatively simple, he picked up the idea that *outside* was the place to go and we had very few accidents. He also learned some simple commands; sit and down, very quickly. Sitting down became his way of asking for something. Before too long we didn't have to say the word, he just sat when offered a treat or he saw something he wanted. By the time he was six months old, he had an extensive vocabulary and had the entire household wrapped around his little paw.

By the time he was 8 months old, we realized that he was going to have to go under the knife and have the exploratory surgery to remove his testicles. It was really hard to take my baby to the vet and drop him off, knowing this could be a big deal. I worried all morning long and when the call came from the vet I was beyond shocked.

"Benie is doing fine, "

continued on page 10

Comfort Zone!!!

Continued from page 5

Second, think about what would happen if your hound slipped out the front door. Do you have any boundary protection for your front yard? While not a perfect solution, an electronic fence can serve as a good back-up plan that may keep your ex-racer out of trouble. If you have small children in your home, doorknob protectors for the exterior doors are also a great preventative measure.

Don't let the comfort of your home lure you into complacency. Accidents happen, so be sure to protect your greyhound from as many as possible.

Happenings!!!

Celebrating Greyhounds 2007 Calendars

GPA Central Florida has just received its supply of CG Calendars for 2007.

There are a few familiar GPA CF faces in the calendar. **Miss Blue Eyes** who owns Dennis & Claire Tyler made it in the Desk Calendar. Former MGP track stars who are retired in other states made it also. **Kelly** adopted by Cindy Urban is in the Wall Calendar for October. **Cara** owned by Mike & Joanne Bast (GPA MD) and **Rory (Subtle Breeze)** owned by Sharon Smith (GREAT - Buffalo NY) are in the Desk Calendar.

Calendars will be on sale at GPA local events and can be purchased by mailing a check to GPA CF at 3525 Manassas Ave, Melbourne, FL, 32934. Cost for the Wall Calendar is \$12.00 and Desk Calendar is \$7.50. Shipping and handling will be \$3.00

Woofstock & Online Auction Success -

Thanks to everyone who came out and joined in the fun at Woofstock. This event proved to be the most successful one we ever had. We managed to clear over \$4,000 for the group.

We received so many auction items from members and supporters in the greyhound community that we held a Online Auction in June. This auction hosted by Alisha Navarro of 2 Hounds Design was a lot of fun and we managed to raise over \$4,700. The support was awesome.

In August we posted items to ebay. This auction was to help defray the \$3000 in Surgery bills we had for two hounds, Stan and Zimmerman. 12 items were posted and we managed to raise \$1,300.

Hats off to those who were instrumental in all these success stories.

Native American Prayer

I give you this,
one thought to keep,
I am with you still,
I do not sleep.

I am a thousand winds that blow,
I am the diamond glints on snow,
I am the sunlight on ripened grain,
I am the gentle autumn rain.

When you awaken
in the morning's hush,
I am the swift, uplifting rush
of quiet birds in circled flight.
I am the soft stars
that shine at night.

Do not think of me as gone-
I am with you still,
in each new dawn.

In Memoriam

A TRIBUTE TO FRIENDS WE HAVE RECENTLY LOST

CHLOE-BELLE (ZIA UP CLOSE)
BELOVED PETS OF
DAVE & DEBBIE DOBSON

TOBY (WINNERS LOOK)
BELOVED PET OF
BRENDA & JOHN STACY

NIKKI (LA FEMME NIKITA)
BELOVED PET OF
LINDA VICK

DEE DEE (DESIRE ULTIMATE)
BELOVED PET OF
KACY & TRACY WARREN

HEIDI (TEXOMA HIGHLIGHT)
BELOVED PET OF
RICK & VIVA PENNY

SHADOW (BIG BLACK BOY)
BELOVED PET OF
RICK & BOBBI LASHER

Happenings!!!

Dewey Beach - Delaware Greyhounds Reach the Beach October 5-8

We are proud to announce that we will be attending this event. Each year over 2000 greyhound enthusiasts and their greyhound pets assemble at the beach side communities of Dewey Beach and Rehoboth Delaware. This year GPA Central Florida will put on a PowerPoint Presentation about Greyhound Life. It is packed with interesting and wonderful candid photographs of greyhounds. The presentation is very informative not only about greyhound life but what our chapter does to get these majestic animals a happy retirement.



most instances, the hounds are in need of some veterinary care. At a minimum, they are in need of dental care and updated shots. Some are in need of special diets.

We have set up this fund to help the seniors with their expenses and also to help provide some TLC items to help with their stay in the kennel environment.

Members who are interested in helping can make a donation to this fund. Members can also specify that their yearly membership dues be directed to the "Nikki" Fund.

Purina Weight Circles - Thanks to everyone who has donated their Purina Weight Circles to GPA Central Florida. They add up to big savings for our group and help to reduce the cost of food for greyhounds in our kennel. We can accept weight circles for Purina Dog or Cat Food.

Recipe's Wanted - Do you have a favorite Family Recipe? Do you enjoy cooking? Do you have a mouth watering dessert? We know there are several fantastic cooks in our group. Here is your chance to help the hounds and raise funds for GPA Central Florida.

GPA Central Florida is planning on a CookBook Fundraiser and you all can help. We are asking our members to jot down their recipes and share them with us. We will have a special box set up in the Chili Cookoff area of the Pavilion at Woofstock. for the recipes or you can also email them to Claire Tyler at greymomcrt@cfl.rr.com

Nikki's Fund:

GPA Central Florida has established a special fund for Senior Greyhounds. We decided to call it the "Nikki Fund" in honor of a special hound that was fortunate to spend her last months in the home of Linda Vick.

Nothing can be more upsetting than to have a returned senior pet. These mature hounds have been in a home for years. For no fault of their, a family situation changes and they are returned to GPA. In

Journalists and Writers take Note:

Does your hound do funny things? Do you have a testimonial story on how adopting a greyhound changed your life? Does your hound have a medical issue you would like to share? Has your hound won an award or special recognition? Please consider writing a story and submitting it to the Hounds Run for publication in the next newsletter.

Please submit your articles to Claire Tyler at greymomcrt@cfl.rr.com.

Questionnaire & Database Update: In an attempt to update the GPA Database and also cut down cost of mailing out a newsletter, we have included a short questionnaire on the last page. For members who do not respond, anticipate receiving a phone call from one of our volunteers.

Greyt Scentsations
 Presented by GPA Central Florida
 for discriminating hounds of all shapes & sizes

Offering a full line of
 Scent-sational products
 (Greyhound soaps, Shampoo, Bath Salts,
 Carpet Sprinkles, Potpourri, and Candles)
 call 321-242-8282 for info

100% of proceeds go to GPA

WELCOME 2006 NEW ADOPTERS

| DATE ADOPTED | FIRST NAME | LAST NAME | DOGNAME |
|--------------|-----------------------|--------------|------------------|
| 01/01/2006 | MISTY & RALPH | TORGERSEN | BOHEMIAN IDEA |
| 01/06/2006 | ELAINE | ROETS | DG'S SPY |
| 01/07/2006 | JIM & MICHELE | ABOD | HURRICANE TIME |
| 01/07/2006 | JENNIFER & JEREMY | PARSONS | MCP'S JULIAN |
| 01/14/2006 | JIM & SARA | WAMSLEY | TAG A LONG KATE |
| 01/14/2006 | PAUL | PIEKEN | TOSTITOPARTYDOLL |
| 01/16/2006 | JULIE | GRASS | DB'S DIAMOND LIL |
| 01/18/2006 | FRANCES | KRUEGER | PAT C U TURN |
| 01/20/2006 | CHERYL | WALSH | JETABB EEL |
| 01/21/2006 | DILLARD | TUCKER | FLITEOFTHECONDOR |
| 01/28/2006 | MELANIE | ROBERTS | KELSOS ROCCO |
| 02/01/2006 | Nora King and | Gaylen Drape | WIN EMERALD WIN |
| 02/25/2006 | MARK & LOUISE | GROSSMAN | IRUSKA TIMONE |
| 03/01/2006 | CONNIE | ROSS | TROYS DRAGSTER |
| 03/04/2006 | KAY | STAHL | TIME AGAIN |
| 03/15/2006 | DENNIS & ALICIA | BERRY | RX GHOST |
| 03/16/2006 | JIM & SARA | WAMSLEY | KNOCKIMOV |
| 03/17/2006 | RENEE | GEIGER | SMK PATRIOT |
| 04/07/2006 | ROBERT | MINNERLY | JC'S RHET BUTLER |
| 04/12/2006 | LISA & AARON | BRADFORD | MAGIC SNAZZEY |
| 04/19/2006 | RENEE | GEIGER | CLASSYBONNIELASS |
| 04/22/2006 | PEGGY | KELLY | WCS MILLER DRAFT |
| 04/26/2006 | DENNIS | HAGLUND | ERLENE |
| 05/05/2006 | JAY & ELAINE | OLINDE | BIG PAPI |
| 05/06/2006 | BETSY GUZMAN & JULIAN | LAXTON | PERFECTLY CANDID |
| 05/06/2006 | LINDA | VICK | AMF NIGHT RIDER |
| 05/06/2006 | LINDA | VICK | AMF TRAIL RIDER |
| 05/12/2006 | ELIZABETH | CHANDLER | SMK HEARTBREAKER |
| 05/16/2006 | BRIAN & DENESE | KOLB | GOODBYE DON |
| 05/19/2006 | THERESA | LAWTON | GOODBYE MODANNA |
| 05/27/2006 | JIM & LENORA | CORBETT | BB'S ACT NATURAL |
| 05/29/2006 | JIM & LENORA | CORBETT | DZ TOPAZ |
| 06/09/2006 | JERRY | STUITS | TMC CLOVER |
| 06/14/2006 | SUE & KEN | KEVELIN | KELSOS STREAK |
| 06/16/2006 | BEN & GLORIA | COPPOLA | POKER RUN |
| 06/16/2006 | JENNIFER | SHORT | GOODBYE GLEN |
| 06/17/2006 | CAROL | GFELLER | LIL TISHA |
| 06/30/2006 | DONNA J | ANDREWS | TOUGH TALENT |
| 07/08/2006 | DENNIS & ALICIA | BERRY | SHANNONAUTUMN |
| 08/05/2006 | GEORGE | PROCTOR | SAS SUPERMAN |
| 08/12/2006 | ANDAY & TRACEY | SEGAL | URKISSISLIKEWINE |
| 08/28/2006 | RICHARD | GREENBERG | MYOKIE ALEX |

1996

Considering this is our 10th Anniversary, we took a little look back. Here are some interesting historical highlights that we found interesting especially the cost of gasoline

Bill Clinton was President

Braveheart was the **Best Picture**

ER was the best **TV Drama Series**

A gallon of **Gasoline** avg. \$1.25

A DOGS AGE

What does a dog's age equate to in human terms? Here is a current chart of equivalent ages. Just think a 13 year old grey is actually 96.....

| Actual Age | Equivalent Age | |
|------------|----------------|-------------|
| | Small Breed | Large Breed |
| 1 | 15 | 12 |
| 2 | 24 | 19 |
| 3 | 28 | 26 |
| 4 | 32 | 33 |
| 5 | 36 | 40 |
| 6 | 40 | 47 |
| 7 | 44 | 54 |
| 8 | 48 | 61 |
| 9 | 52 | 68 |
| 10 | 56 | 75 |
| 11 | 60 | 82 |
| 12 | 64 | 89 |
| 13 | 68 | 96 |
| 14 | 72 | 103 |
| 15 | 76 | 110 |

A Special Thanks to the following members for adopting a **Senior Hound**:

Jim & Michele Abod for adopting "Hurricane Time"

Carol Gfeller for adoption "Lil Tisha"

Donna Andrews for adopting "Tough Talent"

Dennis & Alicia Berry for adopting "Shannon Autumn"

Ben-her ? - "One in a Million"

continued from page 6

the vet said, "but there is one thing that has come up. Benie isn't a **boy**, Benie is a **girl**". Come to find out there were no testicles to drop, Benie was a hermaphrodite. Boy parts on the outside; location of the urinary system and under-developed penis. Girl parts on the inside; full uterus and ovaries. The vet was so entertained by the "discovery" that he only charged me for a regular spay.

I on the other hand was very confused. Do I have a boy or girl dog or both? Do I change his/her name? Are there medical issues that I need to be aware of? The vet answered all my questions... Technically more girl parts than boy parts = girl dog. They had already renamed her on her records... **Ben-her!** As for medical issues, there are some possibilities of urinary tract problems that we need to watch for, because of the location and the underdeveloped size of the urethra.

A year later, Benie (we just never could get used to anything

else) is a happy, healthy greyhound girl. As she matured, her face became more feminine and she has maintained the slender build of the female greyhound, but she is on the tall side. It took us awhile to get used to the idea that we now had a female greyhound puppy, and we still occasionally say slip and say he. The vet and his staff know Benie well and look forward to her visits, it always prompts a story telling session about her uniqueness and her name.

She is the light of our life and still has the entire household wrapped around her paw, especially the older dogs who tolerate more from her than I ever thought they would. She has settled down a good bit, but we still have moments of chaos; *The Black Terrorist* rides again. It keeps life interesting and one grey kiss makes it all worth while.

I know she thinks '*those silly humans, I knew all along I was a girl and I tried to tell you!*' Benie really is the one in a million greyhound puppy!

GPA Central Florida Scorecard

We recently went back through our records and thought it would be interesting to see our statistics for the past 10 years. The following table includes data up to September 3, 2006.

It's easy to see that GPA Central Florida is "Making Adoption A Real Option". At the end of 2006, we will be close to pushing the 5000 mark

| Year | Adopted | Shipped | Total |
|------|---------|---------|-------|
| 1996 | 48 | 60 | 108 |
| 1997 | 113 | 453 | 566 |
| 1998 | 117 | 298 | 405 |
| 1999 | 122 | 453 | 575 |
| 2000 | 100 | 480 | 580 |
| 2001 | 88 | 322 | 410 |
| 2002 | 80 | 373 | 453 |
| 2003 | 84 | 455 | 539 |
| 2004 | 67 | 431 | 498 |
| 2005 | 79 | 375 | 454 |
| 2006 | 41 | 290 | 331 |
| | | | |
| | 939 | 3990 | 4919 |

Exercise for you Older Greyhound

As your greyhound ages you will probably begin to notice it take him/her longer to get up and go. They may not be as eager to chase after that ball or stuffed toy, or they may get tired quicker on their daily walk. When this happens the first thought is usually to let them lay around the house more, reducing their activities. When this happens the inevitable begins, weight gain. Because with less activity, there are less calories burned. Some dogs can handle additional weight without any problems, however our greys are not like most dogs. They are not built to handle much additional weight.

As a rule of thumb, a grey that is more than 5 pounds over their racing weight is overweight. More than 10 pounds and they are obese. Obesity increases the risk of serious diseases and health problems such as diabetes and arthritis. Being overweight also strains the joints and can eventually lead to osteoarthritis, one of the leading causes of lameness in elderly greyhounds.

The solution: Keep your grey moving! That doesn't mean they should be able to walk as long as they could when they were 3 years old. But going on daily walks is the best way to keep your greyhound in shape. If your dog has been sedentary for awhile it's a good idea to have your vet look him/her over before beginning an exercise program. Once they're given a clean bill of health you should begin with 30 minute walks 3 to 4 times per week. For those dogs that have problems walking 30 minutes at a time divide the time into two 15 minute walks, working up to 30 minutes. The eventual goal should be daily walks of 30 to 60 minutes.

With regular exercise you'll have a healthy greyhound by your side!

2006 - 2007 Membership Is Due

Greyhound Pets of America needs your support to help without many expenses. The fee associated with adopting the greyhounds does not always cover our actual expenses. GPA Central Florida depends on donations to cover all emergency veterinary expenses, foster home supplies and many other costs incurred that are not met by adoption fees. Please consider becoming member. As a member you will receive our newsletter and be informed of events that are happening in our are.

GPA is a 501(c)3 organization dedicated to the placement of retired racing greyhounds. A copy of the Florida Registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling 800-435-7352 within the state. "Registration does not imply endorsement, approval or recommendation by the State."

Please take a few minutes to fill in and mail this application to:

Greyhound Pets of America, Central Florida, 3525 Manassas Ave, Melbourne, Fl., 32934

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ e-mail _____

Type of Membership:

- Family \$20
- General Sponsor \$25 receives a Bumper Sticker
- Donor \$50 receives an Adoption Awareness Ribbon
- Senior Hound "Nikki Fund" Donor receives notepad/pen
- Activity Sponsor
 - Frontline Application for 6 greyhounds - \$30
 - Broken Leg Treatment sponsor
 - Donor to cover cost of x-rays - \$75
 - Donor to cover cost to Feed recovering greyhound for 6- 8 weeks - \$60
 - Donor to cover surgery \$200 - \$1,700
 - Special Testing or Treatment Sponsor
 - (member will receive bio on greyhounds who need special testing or help)
 - Donor for Detail Thyroid Testing - \$50
 - Donor for Thyroid Medications - \$75
 - Donor for Tick Titer testing - \$90
 - Donor for Heartworm treatment - \$250

Please take the time to fill out the questionnaire on the page 12 of this newsletter

2006 Membership Database Update

We need your help to keep our database current.

Update personal address information if mailing label is not correct. Please give us your current phone numbers.

Name: _____ Phone _____ Cell # _____
 Address: _____ City/State: _____ Zip: _____

Please provide your current email address _____

Would you be willing to get **The Houndsrun Newsletter** via email rather than hardcopy in the mail? (**Y** / **N**)

Greyhounds in Household (If more than four, list at bottom of page)

| | | |
|-------------------|----------------|-----------|
| Racing Name _____ | Pet Name _____ | Age _____ |
| Racing Name _____ | Pet Name _____ | Age _____ |
| Racing Name _____ | Pet Name _____ | Age _____ |
| Racing Name _____ | Pet Name _____ | Age _____ |

We need **Volunteers!!!** Please take a few minutes to answer the following questions regarding your availability to help the hounds.

1) Have you volunteered for GPA in the past? If yes, what did you do and date/dates of activity.

2) Are you interested in helping out with your hound on a periodic basis? (please circle)

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|----------------|---------------------|
| PetsMart in Melbourne? | Bi-weekly | Monthly | Occasionally |
| Petco in Viera? | Bi-weekly | Monthly | Occasionally |

3) Are you interested in helping out with or without your hound at special Events? (please circle)

| | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|---|----------------------|
| · Cocoa Village Craft Festival | · Titus Nights | · Woofstock | · Howl-o-ween |
| · Founder's Day | · Paws in the Park | · Other events as they come up _____ | |

4) Can you help out with manual labor at the track kennel compound? (**Y** / **N**)

Please complete and return this form with your membership dues to Claire Tyler by October 15th so we can have an updated database for the annual meeting October 28th.

Greyhound Pets of America
 Central Florida Chapter
 3525 Manassas Ave
 Melbourne, FL, 32934

