

Tails *from the* Northwest



For And About GPA Members And Our Dogs - A Publication of Greyhound Pet Adoption Northwest

April 2011



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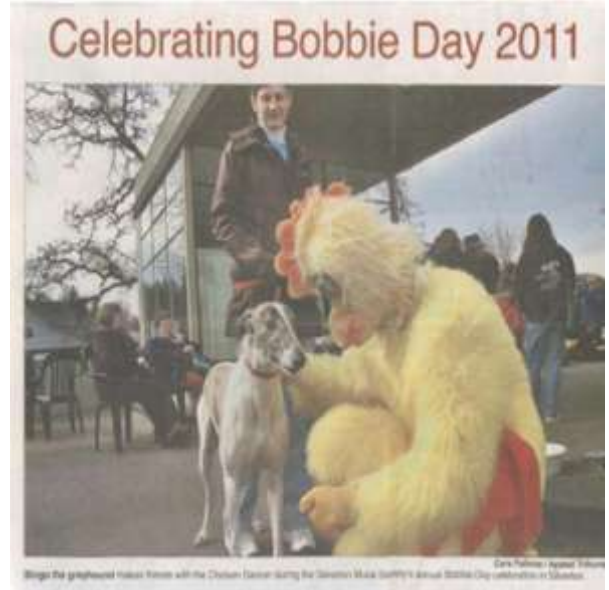
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On The Road Again

By Carol Vinnacombe

The Hounds Out and About crew have begun the 2011 scheduled In February, Janice and Carol transported Greyhounds to the Silverton Bobbie Celebration, where they were joined by local volunteers. The Green Store in Silverton provided sidewalk space so that people attending the Celebration could meet Greyhounds and learn about our adoption program. Bingo even participated in the ceremony and made the local newspaper when he met the Rooster Dancer.

The Santiam Marketplace and Outdoor Show on March 5 was the venue for our second HOAA event of the year. Anne, Janice and Carol drove Greyhounds to Stayton to join local volunteers Paul Hartwell, Jim & Judy Shirek and Hans & Laura Lethe for this all-day event. Just having arrived from Florida the week before, Singh, Jasper, Calli and Courtney made their debut at this event. Bingo and Rudi rounded out the Greyhound participants. Our booth was busy from the moment of opening to the very end and we met a lot of people seeking more information about the Greyhounds. With 109 vendors at the event, the Marketplace drew a large number of attendees and was a wonderful opportunity to showcase how well behaved the Greyhounds can be and give our new Greyhounds the opportunity to encounter a myriad of new experiences.



The following weekend, Jackie, Carolyn and Carol took 6 Greyhounds to Bend Pet Express for a two-day adoption event in Bend. Event experienced Greyhounds Navy and Tocho were joined by newly retired Kicker, Chandi, Smokey and Dana. We were assisted by local volunteers Clay & Joanne Barham, Lynn Smith, Marcia Tripiano, and Alicia Watson. After a very busy event on Saturday, the dogs were fed and settled in for the evening, while their human companions joined hostess Lynn Smith for the Redmond Humane Society Gala Dinner. What a delightful experience to attend such an event and not be responsible for any of it!

On Sunday, Chandi went to her foster home in Redmond with Alicia Watson. Sunday was another very busy event highlighted by meeting Cyndi, a previous adopter of ours who had moved to Bend and Carla, a volunteer who has worked previously with Cara Brockhoff. Both are eager to join our volunteers in the area. Sunday's event also resulted in an application which is in process with a Greyhound going back to Bend soon to live permanently.

The return back to Sandy was a bit like Mr. Toad's Wild Ride – just west of Warm Springs, we were hit by the high winds/torrential rain that had hit our homes a couple of hours before. When we and all the ski/snowboard enthusiasts reached Welches, all traffic came to a screeching halt. It seems the storm had knocked out all power in Sandy, backing traffic up in both directions. Once we were able to reach a side road, we were able to wind our way back by taking back roads and going through Boring because every road turning toward Sandy had trees and lines down. After being buffeted by very strong winds, all dogs and humans were glad to have their feet touch ground again.

In celebration of Adopt-A-Greyhound Month and National Garden Month, Greyhounds extend an invitation to other well-behaved canines and their humans for the



Greyhound Garden Party



Saturday, April 16, 2011

6:00 P.M. TO 9:00 P.M.

at

George Morlan Design Center

2222 N.W. Raleigh St.

Portland, OR 97210

Admission: \$25 per person

Includes:

- Glass of wine, beer or soft drink
- Appetizers
- Chocolate fountain
- "Yappitizers" and good clean water for canines.



Canine Contests



Silent Auction



Bobbing for Hot Dogs



Door prize drawing



No-host bar



Music & dance floor



Name A Greyhound Puppy Raffle Drawing



Recognition of Service Canines

All proceeds benefit Greyhound Pet Adoption Northwest
P. O. Box 6524, Portland, OR 97228 * 503-784-1285 * www.gpa-nw.org



Starlight Parade

The theme for this year's parade is Carnival and coordinator, Cathy Varner, is already busy with plans for GPA Northwest's float. The parade will take place June 4th, with float construction taking place June 3-4th. If you would like to help with the preparation of the various facets of the float which be taking place over the next three months, please contact Cathy at starlightnw@gpa-nw.org. Donations of wood and paint are needed – if you have such that you can donate, please let Cathy know.

New ID Tag Request Form

Your Greyhound has an ID Tag with our old name and telephone number on it use this form to request a new ID Tag.

ID Tags are critical to the safety of your Greyhound so please cut this form out and send in your form right away to protect your Greyhound in case it is lost. We will mail your new tags right away. The new ID Tags are free, it is important to keep your Greyhound protected by being part of our database. *Please Print Neatly!*

Your Name: _____ Your Telephone #: _____

Your Address: _____ City: _____ ST: _____ Zip: _____

_____ Your Greyhounds Name _____ Current ID Tag#

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

4) _____

5) _____

Mail This Form To

Greyhound Pet Adoption Northwest
P.O. Box 6524
Portland, OR 97228

OR
Email To: AdoptionNW@gpa-nw.org

A Greyhound Wish List

Greyhound Pet Adoption Northwest Is in need of many items to keep our dogs healthy.

Here is our wish list:

- Newspaper for farm kennel bedding
- Old comforters for trailer and crate bedding
- CET Dog Chews
- CET Chlorhexidine Rinse
- Finger Toothbrushes
- Otamax
- Tresaderm
- Frontline Plus
- Capstar
- Heartguard
- Interceptor
- Super Omega 3
- Nutra Nuggets Dog Food (Available at Costco & Fred Meyer)
- Oatmeal and Aloe Vera Shampoo and Conditioner
- Vet Solutions Universal Medicated Shampoo
- Sweet Potato Chips
- Nature Vet Enzymes and Probiotics



Attention Creative Members!

GPA Northwest would like to invite our members to participate in a contest to design a new T-shirt. The design does not need to say GPA Northwest, it just needs to be about Greyhounds. Submissions need to be entered by July 15, 2011. The new design will be introduced at our annual picnic in September. **Here's your chance to let your creative side shine!**

If you would like to enter, please email bodnw@gpa-nw.org to request an entry form. The winner will receive a special gift!



If you would like to make a donation please contact: Infonw@gpa-nw.org ■

Photo of The Month

Send us photos of your happy Greyhound!



Sis is a foster dog and she LOVES cheese! Happy Greyhounds in happy homes.

Does Your Greyhound Need A Spa Day? Then Don't Miss This Greyhound Pet Adoption Fundraiser!

2011 Hound Wash

Date: Saturday June 25th

Time: 9:00pm - 4:30pm

Location: Vinnacombe Residence

12790 SE Bluff Rd., Sandy, OR

[Link to Map & Directions](#)

\$25.00 Per Greyhound

*Includes: Brushing, Bath & Conditioner, Ear Cleaning,
Nail Clipping and a stylish Neck Scarf!*

By Appointment Only - Appointments Begin at 9:00am

[Click Here To Make An Appointment](#)



Please contact Carol at 503-826-9141 or Email [Hound Wash](#) to volunteer to help.

Plus a 1-acre fenced, Private Dog Park Where the dogs can romp and play! As an Added Bonus:

- ◆ Breakfast Snacks, Lunch items & beverages (for humans) will be available for a small cost. Unique Greyhound merchandise will be available for purchase from the Greyt Stuff Shop.
- ◆ Visit with Greyhound friends and socialize your dog. You may meet some of your dogs litter-mates, parents or pups.



April is Greyhound Adoption Month!

Tell a friend about the wonders of owning one
of these extraordinary dogs!





Health & Safety Tips

Sheila & Snow Say . . .



Itching and scratching in dogs
By T. J. Dunn, Jr. DVM
From ThePetCenter.com, A useful website.

Allergic Dermatitis - I'll be honest. There's no way to cover this topic in one article. Veterinarians spend entire weekends and lots of money attending seminars on this topic alone! It is common, it can be lifelong, it is a challenge to diagnose, and once identified it can be resistant to attempts at treatment. All the other categories of dermatitis must be ruled out (especially those elusive Sarcoptic mites) before a diagnosis of Allergic Dermatitis can be made. Food ingredients, synthetic and natural fibers, medications and pharmaceutical products, plant material and even dust all can trigger an Allergic Dermatitis.

Even common bacteria on the dog's skin can provoke an allergic reaction to themselves! These cases of sensitivity to normal resident bacteria are very challenging to correct. No matter what kind of allergic dermatitis afflicts the dog, the ultimate cellular cause of the inflammation and resulting "itch-and-scratch-bite-and-lick" activity has a common cause... the release of histamine from skin Mast cells, the deposition of antigen/antibody protein complexes within tissues, the dilation of some blood vessels and constriction of others, the release of toxic chemicals from broken intracellular structures, and chemical and physical irritation of sensory nerve endings.

To what are dogs allergic? Take a look around you right now. Odds are that your dog could be allergic to half-a-dozen different substances in the very room you sit; that doesn't even include microscopic substances in the air you and your dog breathe! Food, carpeting, blankets, dust mites, mold spores in the air, pollen, plastic food dishes, furniture stuffing and ornamental plants all have the potential to trigger an allergic reaction in your dog. Food allergies are so common that pet food manufacturers have invested millions of dollars in research, development, promotion and delivery of "antigen specific" diets to help in the therapy of dogs with food allergies.

How do allergies develop? Each individual's biochemistry is determined by millions of genetic variables. On occasion, an individual's various immune responses may over-react to a certain material and "learn" to recognize this substance in case of future contact with it.

The offending agent is called an antigen. Flea saliva is a good example of an antigen that triggers "flea bite" hypersensitivity. When an antigen makes contact with the dog, the dog's immune defenses - all primed and ready for a fight since it has previously identified the antigen as an enemy - set to work to disarm the antigen. Unfortunately, during the course of the battle (called an antigen/antibody reaction) side effects of the battle can cause tissue irritation, inflammation, swelling and cell destruction. That's when we notice the dog going into the "itch-and-scratch-bite-and-lick" mode! There's a biochemical war going on within the dog!

Immunologists have classified a number of different types of allergic reactions. Skin and blood tests are common methods of attempting to identify what the patient is allergic to. Probably the most common type of Allergic Dermatitis seen in dogs is Atopic Dermatitis. This situation is triggered by a number of antigens including inhaled substances such as molds, dust, pollens and other static and airborne microscopic organic substances. Dogs with Atopy lick and chew at their paws (see photo on right) and scratch their face, eyelids and ears. This disorder can be very troubling for dogs and frustrating for the owner. One minute the dog may look and feel normal, the next it will chew its paw or face raw from the intense pruritus. There is a new product available to treat Atopic Dermatitis in dogs called Atopica. For many patients, this medication has truly been a "life saver".

(Continued on next page)



Health & Safety Tips

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Treatment of Allergic Dermatitis includes topical medicated soothing baths, ointments and sprays. The use of oral antihistamines can neutralize some of the destructive effects of internally released histamine. More effective in alleviating the discomfort of allergies is cortisone. This potent hormone, normally secreted by the adrenal glands, can be manufactured commercially. Numerous derivatives of cortisone are used in pill, injectable, spray, liquid and ointment form. Caution: If you are sent home with a prescription for cortisone, or your dog has simply been given "a cortisone shot to stop the itching", your dog may ultimately be worse off than before if the true diagnosis happens to be an unrecognized case of Sarcoptic mites! Be patient, yes, but be persistent, too. If your dog is itching, scratching, and licking, or if the skin and coat are not healthy appearing, you and your dog need a diagnosis before treatment is started.

A key point to remember is this: There is no cure for allergies! All we can do is avoid the food, material or parasite that is triggering the immune response, desensitize the patient through immune modulation techniques, and assure that the patient is eating a high quality diet.

Neurogenic Dermatitis – This group presents a major challenge to diagnose and treat. As a veterinarian I know I have classified a number of cases as "Neurogenic" simply because I have ruled out all the other categories! There's nothing left but to blame the poor dog for all that incessant licking and chewing at itself! The most commonly seen form of Neurogenic Dermatitis is called Acral Lick Dermatitis, Lick Granuloma or canine neurodermatitis. See more about Lick Granulomas here.

Although rarely seen in cats, in the dog something creates an impulse to lick at a specific area of skin. Characterized by persistent, obsessive licking and chewing at the target area, lick granulomas may have an unknown origin. Commonly, though, most cases have a suspected cause such as boredom, separation anxiety, frustration, confinement, or even a minor physical origin such as a tiny abrasion that captivates the dog's interest. The dog persists in traumatizing the area, which is usually confined to an easily accessible forelimb, carpus (wrist) or ankle area, and never allows the skin to heal. Repeated episodes of self-mutilation, partial healing, then repeated trauma and healing, result in severe and disfiguring scarring. Deep bacterial infections are common and permanent skin damage results. A Specialist in Dermatology and a Behaviorist may be the dog's best friends in these cases of Neurogenic Dermatitis.



Greyhound Pet Adoption Northwest, this week's newsletter is brought to you by **eBay** where 40% of fees (paid by the seller) help **Greyhound Pet Adoption Northwest**.

New Additions to the iGive Network:



2.4% Donation at Boden USA

New spring styles for the family - 10% off plus FREE shipping and returns!

[More deals @ iGive.com/Boden](#)



2.4% Donation* at The Rainforest Site

Celebrate Spring with \$10 off any \$50+ order with coupon code EARTHMONTH. Ends 4/30.

[More deals @ iGive.com/therainforestsite](#)

Flowers By Mary Beth Bartel

I have been doing floral arrangements for years. Being a gardener, I started arranging fresh flowers over 35 years ago.

(503) 203-8652, www.flowersbymarybethbartel.com

Bridal Bouquets, Bridesmaid Bouquets, Centerpieces, Altar Arrangements, Fireplace & Mantel Arrangements, Aisle Pew Arrangements, Arbor Arrangements, Corsages and Boutonnieres, Flower Balls and Flower Girl Baskets, Miscellaneous Flowers

The Captains Dog

A novel by Robert Scott McKinnon



A Dog's View of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, is a classic canine adventure in three parts by veteran dog writer Robert Scott McKinnon, This is Part 1.

Available Online at www.whiskeycreekpress.com

VCA Southeast Portland Animal Hospital

13830 SE Stark St., Portland, OR 97233

(503) 225-8139

www.vcahospitals.com/southeast-Portland

VCA-SEPAH offers emergency 24-hour care and excellent orthopedic specialists. They have helped dozens of GPA Northwest Greyhounds live better lives through their expert care.

If your Greyhound needs emergency care or has a serious injury, we recommend VCA-SEPAH.

Orchard Hills Animal Hospital

At Orchard Hills Animal Hospital we understand the bond you have with your pets. We believe it is our responsibility to strengthen this bond by keeping your beloved family member as healthy as possible. Therefore, we strive to provide the best medicine, client education, customer service and compassionate care that is possible. Dr. Erich Barger is the primary veterinarian for GPA Northwest and worth the drive if your in the Portland/Vancouver area.



3501 Evergreen Way, Washougal, WA 98671
360-835-2184 - www.orchardhillsvet.com

East Padden Animal Hospital

Our doctors and team members have devoted themselves to helping people and their animal companions. We embrace the importance of treating each pet as our own and extending the utmost care and progressive treatment. We believe in the value of preventative medicine and client education.

East Padden Animal Hospital is one of GPA Northwest's primary veterinarians. We trust our Greyhounds to their care.

www.eastpaddenanimalhospital.com



East Padden
Animal Hospital

8611 NE Ward Rd. # 115 Vancouver, WA 98682
(360) 892-1500

Greyt Stuff Shop

Supporting Greyhound Pet Adoption Northwest



The Greyt Stuff Shop is run by Greyhound Pet Adoption Northwest volunteers. All proceeds are used to support our mission to find homes for retired racing Greyhounds and to educate the public about the Greyhounds and their desirability as pets.

Your purchases will help us continue our work and give you something you or your dog can enjoy.

All items shown, and many more, are available on our Greyt Stuff Shop Website at www.GreytStuffShop.com. You can click the Shop header image on any page to go directly to the shop website or click the item name to go directly to that item.

For special orders Send us an e-mail or call our Shopkeeper Jackie, at 503-631-2673 or [Send Her an Email](#)

It's nearly Spring and time to start thinking about walking your Greyhound and going places together. Here are some great items to refresh your Greyhounds look and comfort.



[Med. GPANW T-Shirt](#) \$20.00



[Lg. GPANW T-Shirt](#) \$20.00



[XL GPANW T-Shirt](#) \$20.00



[Med. Get a Life T-Shirt](#) \$25.00



[Lg. Get a Life T-Shirt](#) \$25.00



[XL Get a Life T-Shirt](#) \$25.00

GPA Northwest Directors

President Carol Vinnacombe PresidentNW@gpa-nw.org Vice President Janice Jones Vicepresidentnw@gpa-nw.org
 Treasurer Rebecca Nance TreasurerNW@gpa-nw.org Secretary Carol Vinnacombe Secretarynw@gpa-nw.org
 Director Anne Soeder BODNW@gpa-nw.org Director Jackie Holstrom BODNW@gpa-nw.org

GPA Northwest Key Coordinators

Adoption Placement	PlacementNW@gpa-nw.org	Jackie Holstrom
Communications	CommunicationsNW@gpa-nw.org	Robert Vinnacombe
Events/Activities	EventsNW@gpa-nw.org	Janice Jones
Medical Coordinator	MedicalNW@gpa-nw.org	Jo Trout
Volunteer Activities	VolunteerNW@gpa-nw.org	Cindy Ramzy
Greyt Stuff Shop	GHstoreNW@gpa-nw.org	Jackie Holstrom
Contact Triage	AdoptionNW@gpa-nw.org	Anne Soeder
Foster Homes	FosterNW@gpa-nw.org	Carolyn Duffy, Jackie Holstrom, Deanna Cecotti & Carol Vinnacombe

If you have time in your life to volunteer for the Greyhounds, please contact any of these coordinators, they will gladly tell you about the many ways you can help make a difference.

Calendar of Upcoming Special Events

GPA Northwest holds Meet A Retired Racer (MARR) adoption events nearly every weekend. We also plan Special Events to bring the Greyhounds to the community, to raise funds for our adoption program and to celebrate our dogs and socialize with other Greyhound lovers.

APRIL

4/16 [Greyhound Garden Party](#)
 4/30 [OSU Pet Day](#)

MAY

5/21 [Silverton Pet Parade](#)
 5/28 [Bend Hounds Out & About](#)

JUNE

6/4 [Portland Starlight Parade](#)
 6/25 [Annual Hound Wash](#)
 6/16 [Bend Wine Tasting & Yappy Hour](#)

Calendar of Upcoming Adoption Events

Meet A Retired Racer (MARR)

April				
April 2	Portland, OR	MARR	1:00pm - 3:00pm	Bark Market
April 9	Vancouver, WA	MARR	Noon - 2:00pm	Petco Hazeldell Town Center
April 16	Gresham, OR	MARR	11:00am - 1:00pm	PetsMart Gresham
April 23	Vancouver, WA	MARR	Noon - 2	Petco
May				
May 7	Portland, OR	MARR	1:00pm - 3:00pm	Bark Market
May 14	Vancouver, WA	MARR	Noon - 2:00pm	Petco Hazel Dell Town Center (Seniors Adoption Event)
May 28	Vancouver, WA	MARR	Noon - 2:00pm	Petco
June				
Jun 4	Portland, OR	MARR	1:00pm - 3:00pm	Bark Market
Jun 11	Vancouver, WA	MARR	Noon - 2:00pm	Petco Hazel Dell Town Center
Jun 18	Gresham, OR	MARR	11:00am - 1:00pm	PetsMart
Jun 25	Vancouver, WA	MARR	Noon - 2:00pm	Petco

On The Cover This Month

Halo, Enjoying the Spring garden and looking forward to summer.

Check our website, www.gpa-nw.org,
 call 800-767-5139 or email EventsNW@gpa-nw.org for
 specific information on these upcoming events and more!

The mission of Greyhound Pet Adoption Northwest is to find responsible, loving homes for Greyhounds and to acquaint the public with the desirability of Greyhounds as pets.