

Tails *from the* Northwest



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

February 2011



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Name That Greyhound Puppy Raffle

In a first for GPA Northwest, we have made arrangements with a racing Greyhound owner to allow us to name one of their racing Greyhounds. The winner of this Raffle will be able to name a racing Greyhound puppy. Your selected name will be the Greyhounds registered name with the National Greyhound Association.



You can follow it's racing career online if you like and, best of all, when the Greyhound you named retires, GPA Northwest will bring it home to our adoption program to be adopted into a wonderful home. As the winner of the Raffle, you will then have the first option to adopt that Greyhound. You are not obligated to adopt but you will get the first right to do so.

This is your opportunity to know that this Greyhound will be coming home to the Northwest when it's racing days are over and to know that you have made a tangible impact on the life of this Greyhound.

Raffle Tickets are \$10.00 each and you can [Purchase](#) as many as you want online through our website. The more tickets you have, the better your chances are of winning! The real winner of this raffle will be the Greyhound puppy that starts life with a future destined for adoption here in the northwest. ■



Letter from the President

By Carol Vinnacombe

Our first communication to all of you for the New Year is a big **THANK YOU!** Our membership responded very generously to the appeal letter from Susan Strible (one of our Bend volunteers) making it possible for us to end our year with about \$5,000 to start the New Year. As a sneak peek at the Annual Report which is being prepared for email distribution this Spring:

- In 2010 we had 137 Greyhounds in our program (down 30% from 2009)
- 53 of the 137 Greyhounds in our program were seniors
- In 2010 we found homes for 106 of those Greyhounds (down 31% from 2009)
- Expenses for 2010 were approximately \$97,500 (down 24% from 2009)
- Income for 2010 was approximately \$111,800 (down 10% from 2009)

In making a comparison between 2009 and 2010, there was one major difference for our adoption program. In 2010, we experienced a 97% increase in the number of seniors in our program – some of these were Greyhounds who were retiring from the racing industry later in life and a large number were Greyhounds returned from adopters as a result of economic influences. While we are all very proud of the number of seniors that we were able to find new homes for in 2010, this difference limited the number of newly retired racers we could take into our program, increased our medical vetting cost, and required adjustments in our procedures. For instance, with a limited number of foster homes available, Greyhounds who are being returned are moved into foster homes and, if they are seniors, they will likely be there for a longer period of time. With foster homes filled to capacity in this manner, any new retirees must be boarded at a local facility to await a foster home opening, thereby making our expenses rise.

We anticipate the trend we experienced in 2010 to continue through 2011. Another trend we saw in 2010 that we hope does not continue in 2011 is lower volunteer participation in events and activities. Of the \$111,800 in income last year, only \$28,300 came from the adoption donation – leaving a large number to be met by direct donations, grants and fundraising events/activities.

We understand that everyone is experiencing increased demands on their time as they adjust to meet the economic challenges in their lives. The Board of Directors will be evaluating some of our major events with an eye to the volunteer resources needed. We are in agreement - we will hire help putting on these events such as the Hound Wash, Annual Picnic and Christmas Tree Sale, if we don't have sufficient volunteer participation. These have been significant

fundraisers for our organization, but too often it is the same volunteers setting the event up, serving at the event itself, and doing the tear down. Without the volunteer power to put these events on, we have to be realistic. If we can hire help and the cost impacts the financial goal of the event at an acceptable level, we will do that – otherwise we are faced with eliminating the most labor intensive events.

We have already had to cancel our major Spring fundraiser, the Valentine Gala, because enough pieces didn't come together in time. Without another fundraiser, it will be June before we have the Hound Wash and can replenish our coffers.

If each Greyhound family volunteered just a couple of hours each year to help at one of our events, we would have the volunteer power to continue to educate the public about Greyhounds as pets, get Greyhounds out to various locations so that people can meet and adopt them, provide fun activities for people who like to do things with their Greyhound, and raise the supplemental funds needed for our adoption program.

Our Event Leaders are busy scheduling the events for 2011 and below are some of them. In addition to these, there are Meet A Retired Racer events throughout the year in Gresham, Forest Heights area and Vancouver – we know that Cindy, Gail and Jon & Rachel would welcome help with these events. Other areas are still being

scheduled. Hounds Out and About events will be held regularly starting in March in the Bend area and in the greater Salem area – if you live in these areas we could use your help. Many of these are one day events, so if you live in the Portland-Vancouver metro area and would like to travel with the adoptable dogs to these events, we could use your help.

We hope that our members will respond as generously with their time as you all did with your money. If you can help with any of the events scheduled so far, please email eventsnw@gpa-nw.org or call 800-767-5139. We have seen the effect that a \$5 or \$10 donation can make when it is combined with like donations from our membership – we know that an hour or two of your time, combined with that of other volunteers can have the same affect. Together we can make a difference in the lives of many more Greyhounds. ■

2011 Events

Santiam Marketplace (Stayton)	March 5
OSU Pet Day (Corvallis)	April 30
St. Johns Parade	May 14
Silverton Pet Parade & Hounds Out & About	May 21
Bend Saturday Market	May 28 & 29
Starlight Parade (Portland)	June 4
Hound Wash (Sandy)	June 25
Santiam Summerfest (Stayton)	July 30
Tualatin Crawfish Festival	Aug. 13
Annual Picnic (Happy Valley)	Sept. ?
Christmas Tree Sale (Westside)	Dec. 5

Board of Directors Meeting Invitation

The Board of Directors extends an invitation to all of our members to the Board of Directors meetings. Meetings are held on the third Sunday of each month at 1 p.m. at the Vinnacombe residence in Sandy (12790 S.E. Bluff Road, Sandy, OR 97055). For years, we have tried to find a central location to hold meetings and found issues with each facility we found. Restaurants are too noisy, don't allow for additional attendees and have time limits. Pet store training areas have unreliable availability. General public meeting areas either have a cost or have long-standing bookings. The Board decided in 2010 it would rather have a reliable location where it can consider the business of the chapter peacefully, where any number of people can attend and where dogs can attend. In nice weather the meetings will be held in the dog yard so dogs are welcome to attend and play during the meeting. ■

- President & Secretary – Carol Vinnacombe
- Vice President – Janice Jones
- Treasurer – Rebecca Nance
- Director – Anne Soeder
- Director – Jackie Holstrom

[New FAQ Pages](#) are Live on the **GPA Northwest Website**

Patti Dahle, Kara Ostgard and Susan Strible volunteered early last year to take on the challenge of updating our FAQ pages so they were current and complete. They searched the internet and other sources for information and provided the great knowledge base that we now have available on our website for prospective Greyhound adopters and current Greyhound owners. Their work was long and hard and it has taken until now for it all to be edited, prepared and posted to the website.

We thank them for their hard work and patience as we worked to get it all posted on our website. Some of the information they provided will become part of the new adopters packets so they get all of this valuable information when they adopt their new Greyhound.

Great job and thank you for being great volunteers!

Do Greyhounds make good pets?

What should I expect when I bring a Greyhound into my home?

Are Greyhounds good with other pets? What about small dogs and cats?

Aren't they "wild" when they come off the track?

What differs between male and female Greyhounds?

Doritos Crunch-Spiration

By Kathy Jones

Last July GPA Northwest received a call on our 800 number from a local film producer looking for a Greyhound to use in a commercial. A request was placed in the newsletter and several people offered their dogs for stardom. Local film producer, Terry Lomax, was sent photos of the dogs; most of the dogs were either black or white and the producer opted for fawn. The fawn dog available on the day of the shoot was Crowe.



Crowe is ready for her close-up.

Terry was producing a 30 second Doritos commercial for the Super Bowl contest. The shoot took place in Tualatin, Oregon at one of Terry's friend's house. Crowe and I were on the set for about 4 hours, which is a long day for an animal. Crowe had a nice time visiting with the kids on the set.

The commercial made it through several rounds of cuts but not into the top 10 which will be voted on for the big prize. You can still view the commercial at: <http://www.crashthesuperbowl.com/#/gallery/?video=1523>

While we didn't make it into the finals, anytime we can get a Greyhound in the public eye is an opportunity to raise awareness for the breed. ■



Crowe on set during filming.



Crowe with her Housemates
A Whippet and
an Italian
Greyhound



Crowe poses with the starlets..

A Greyhound Wish List

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

Here is our wish list:

- ◆ Nutra Nuggets Dog Food (Available at Costco & Fred Meyer)
 - ◆ CET Dog Chews
 - ◆ CET Chlorhexidine Rinse
 - ◆ Finger Toothbrushes
 - ◆ Otamax
 - ◆ Tresaderm
 - ◆ Frontline Plus
 - ◆ Capstar
 - ◆ Heartguard
 - ◆ Interceptor
 - ◆ Oatmeal and Aloe Vera Shampoo and Conditioner
 - ◆ Super Omega 3
 - ◆ Vet Solutions Universal Medicated Shampoo
 - ◆ Sweet Potato Chips
 - ◆ Nature Vet Enzymes and Probiotics
- If you would like to make a donation please contact: Infonw@gpa-nw.org ■

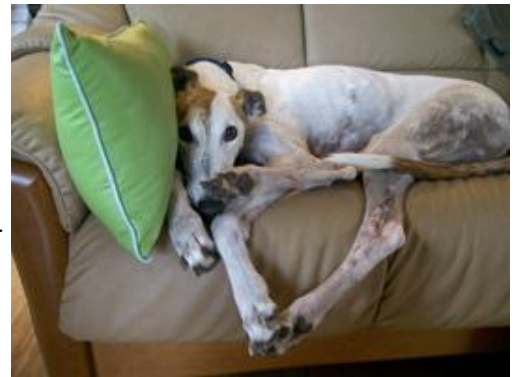


Photo of The Month

Send us photos of your happy Greyhound!



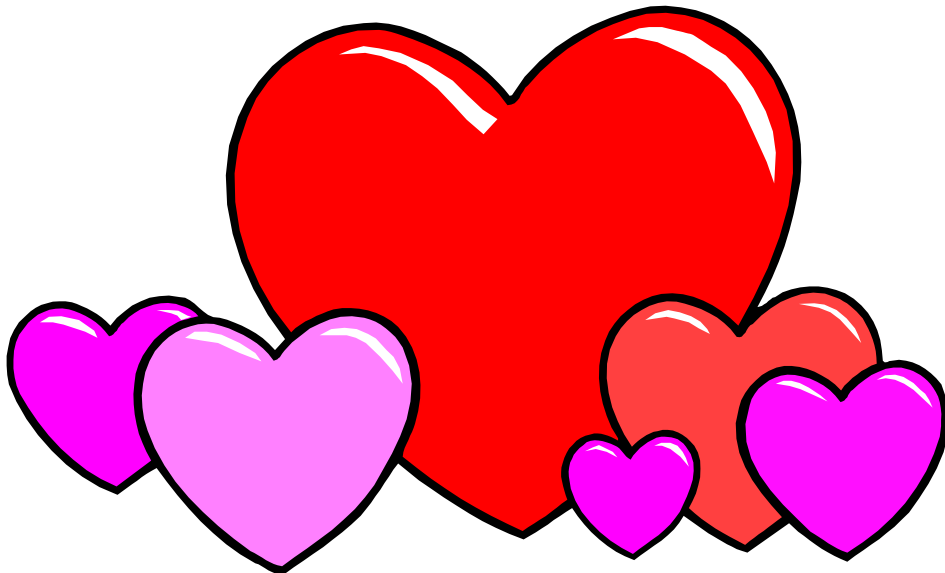
Kellen is ready to take a nap in her foster home. She has since been adopted, but she learned the fine art of relaxation from GPA Northwest.

Happy Greyhounds in happy homes.

Featured Greyhound For Adoption

Nesse

Nesse is a very precocious three year old. This little brindle girl is cute as a button, loves life and has a little "cloud" of happiness that covers her wherever she goes. Retiring from racing as Royal Finesse, she threw off her formal name so she could play unencumbered. Nesse was a bit thin when she arrived, but with TLC, antibiotics and worming she quickly got into retirement shape. Nesse is a bit too interested in cats to live with them. Nesse truly is a royal tomboy princess. ■



February 22nd is Spay Day!

The Humane Society of the US has designated Tuesday, February 22, 2011, as "Spay Day." GPA Northwest spays and neuters every Greyhound that comes into our adoption program. With the thousands of Greyhounds each year who are not fortunate enough to find homes because there is nowhere for them to go, we want to ensure we are not responsible for the production of more Greyhounds or Greyhound mixes. We would like to urge adopters to take advantage of this day to have your other breeds of dogs and your cats altered. There will be free clinics available on this date - please check www.humanesociety.org for a clinic near you or contact the Oregon Humane Society for local assistance. Spaying and neutering pets reduces the numbers of pets who end up in shelters to be euthanized, as well as reduces the risk of some types of cancer in aging pets. Please share this opportunity with others. ■



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



Health & Safety Tips

Sheila & Snow Say . . .

Itching & Scratching It's An Important Symptom

By T. J. Dunn, Jr. DVM



Parasitic Dermatitis - The most common response a pet caretaker makes when they see their dog scratching and biting at itself is "I think he's got fleas". And sometimes this guess is correct. Dark, copper colored and wingless, and about the size of the head of a pin, fleas are big enough that they can be seen scurrying along the skin surface trying to hide within the sheltering forest of fur.

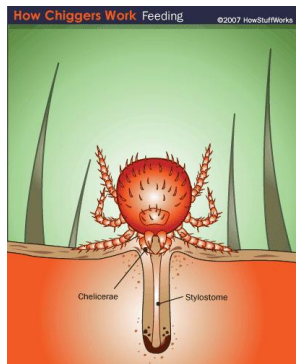
There are a number of highly effective and safe flea preventatives your veterinarian can prescribe.



Fleas are ubiquitous, but an understanding of their life cycle, where they hide in the dog's environment, and utilizing modern pharmacology breakthroughs, no dog needs to be "driven crazy" with pruritus, hair loss, scabs and infections as a result of flea infestation. See a veterinarian's discussion about fleas at ThePetCenter.com. Repeated exposure to fleas can trigger a hypersensitivity (an abnormal, excessive reaction) to the bite of even a single flea.

Every veterinarian has been fooled into making a diagnosis of "allergy", not even suspecting fleas, simply because no fleas were discovered at the time of the physical exam. This is a classic example of a Parasitic Dermatitis (flea bites) triggering a complicated Allergic Dermatitis (due to the flea saliva).

Interestingly, the all-too-common tick rarely triggers pruritus or allergic reactions, but on occasion will leave an ulcerative lesion that is notoriously slow to heal.



Chiggers, deer flies, and gnats (sometimes called No-See-Ums) can be considered nuisances and generally do not create remarkable systemic skin problems. Local treatment with first aid ointments generally is successful.

Cheyletiella mites look like tiny spiders under a magnifying glass and are often called "Walking Dandruff" because upon close inspection it seems like little flakes of dry skin are actually moving about. Partly because they live on the surface of the skin, these tiny critters can be eliminated easily by using any common flea shampoo. And here's a creepy thought... Cheyletiella mites can be transmitted to humans where they create, just like on the dog, alopecia (hair loss) with a dry, flaky, slightly pruritic skin surface.



(Continued on next page)



Health & Safety Tips

Sheila & Snow Say . . .

Itching & Scratching It's An Important Symptom

By T. J. Dunn, Jr. DVM



Sarcoptic mites are nasty critters! Also called scabies or red mange, they create very intense pruritus, alopecia, and inflamed skin with multiple small scabs often present. Sarcoptic mite infestation, more than any other entity, is frequently misdiagnosed as Allergic Dermatitis by even very competent and experienced veterinarians. There is a good discussion of Scabies in the Exam Room of ThePetCenter.com. Many veterinary dermatology specialists will not accept an uncontrolled "Allergic Dermatitis" referral case unless the referring veterinarian has first ruled out Sarcoptic mites by actually treating the dog for scabies.



Do as many skin scrapings as you like, you're not going to find these little rascals because, unlike most skin parasites, these burrow right down into the skin. (Even ticks simply hold on to the surface of the skin while they feed; ticks do not burrow into the skin.) Unfortunately, many dogs are treated with cortisone for a supposed allergic dermatitis when in fact these Sarcoptic mites are the cause of the pruritic, inflamed skin... the unnecessary cortisone eventually worsens the situation.

Sarcoptic mites happen to have preferences... certain types reproduce and thrive on dogs, but they do not thrive on other species such as humans. Nevertheless, Sarcoptic mites from dogs can infest humans so if your dog has signs of scabies and you are itching and have little scabs, make sure you see your dermatologist (MD, not DVM)! Mention your concern about scabies mites. If your physician makes a diagnosis of scabies on you, your next call should be to the veterinarian to make an appointment to discuss the possibility of Sarcoptic mites in your dog... (the one that's been getting all those cortisone shots for "allergy").

Then there are **Demodex mites** - also called "mange". These little rascals do live and reproduce just under the skin surface in the tiny hair follicles and oil glands of the skin. Unlike Sarcoptic mites, Demodex mites can be seen on a skin scraping viewed under the microscope. They look like tiny cigars with stubby legs stuck to the front half of their body.



Demodex is most commonly seen in young dogs. In adult dogs, Demodex cases seem to be associated with individuals that are stressed from disease, poor nutrition, immune disorders or a harsh environment. There is evidence that many cases of Demodex have a genetically transmitted immune protein deficit underlying its manifestation; the dog's breeder should be informed of any cases of Demodex mites. If the dog is otherwise healthy, there are effective treatment protocols for Demodex. On the "itch scale", Demodex causes very little pruritus. On the "baldness scale" Demodex creates mottled and patchy alopecia.

We will cover the other categories in future editions so keep reading. ■

This information is from ThePetCenter.com, A useful website.

This information is for educational purposes only, always consult your veterinarian or a specialist before taking any advice or using any recommended products.

Change shopping for good, earn free money for GPA Northwest!

A penny a search and a portion of each purchase will be donated to your favorite cause. How often do you search or shop online? Start helping today. SELECT your favorite cause (GPA Northwest). Register with iGive and SHOP at brand name online stores through the iGive Mall. A portion of each purchase is donated to your cause. SAVE money with exclusive coupons/free shipping deals. Plus, when you shop within 45 days of registering we'll donate an extra \$5 to your cause!

STEP 1: SELECT
My Cause

STEP 2: SHOP & RAISE MONEY
BARNES & NOBLE, GAP, QVC, STAPLES, eBay, BEST BUY

STEP 3: SAVE
SALE, Free Shipping, \$5 OFF

[Sign Up Now, It's Free And You Will Be Able To Help Our Cause While You Browse And Shop Online!](#)



Flowers By Mary Beth Bartel

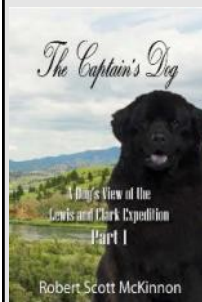
I have been doing floral arrangements for years. Being a gardener, I started arranging fresh flowers over 35 years ago.

(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](#)



[Greyhound Socks - White](#)

\$7.50

[Play Bow Jacket](#)

\$40.00



[Dogs & Paws Socks](#) **\$9.50**



[Black, Lime & blue Socks](#) **\$9.50**



[Kissing GH Socks](#) **\$9.50**

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	Carol Vinnacombe
Medical Coordinator	MedicalNW@gpa-nw.org	Jo Trout
Volunteer Activities	VolunteerNW@gpa-nw.org	Rebecca Nance
Greyt Stuff Shop	GHstoreNW@gpa-nw.org	Jackie Holstrom
800 Telephone Response	AdoptionNW@gpa-nw.org	Anne Soeder
Foster Homes	FosterNW@gpa-nw.org	Carolyn Biamont, 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.

FEBRUARY

No Special Events Scheduled

MARCH

Santiam Marketplace & Outdoor Show
Bend Hounds Out And About

APRIL

OSU Pet Day

Calendar of Upcoming Adoption Events Meet A Retired Racer (MARR)

February

Feb 12	Vancouver, WA	MARR	Noon - 2:00pm	Petco Hazeldell Town Center
Feb 12	Gresham, OR	MARR	11:00am - 1:00om	PetsMart Gresham
Feb 26	Vancouver, WA	MARR	Noon - 2	Petco

March

Mar 5	Portland, OR	MARR	1:00pm - 3:00pm	Bark Market
Mar 12	Vancouver, WA	MARR	Noon - 1:00pm	Petco Hazel Dell Town Center
Mar 26	Vancouver, WA	MARR	Noon - 1:00pm	Petco

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 - 1:00om	PetsMart Gresham
April 23	Vancouver, WA	MARR	Noon - 2	Petco

On The Cover This Month

This photo is of a litter of Greyhound puppies born here in Oregon. They are all grown now and some have come back to find their homes. Others have been lost forever. This edition is dedicated to them and to the Name That Greyhound Puppy Raffle.

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.