

Tails *from the* Northwest



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

May 2011

IN THIS ISSUE

[THANK YOU TO OUR BENEFACTORS](#)

[WINE TASTING AND YAPPY HOUR](#)

[VOLUNTEER FOCUS](#)

[STARLIGHT PARADE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!](#)

[HOUND WASH 2011](#)

[VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES](#)

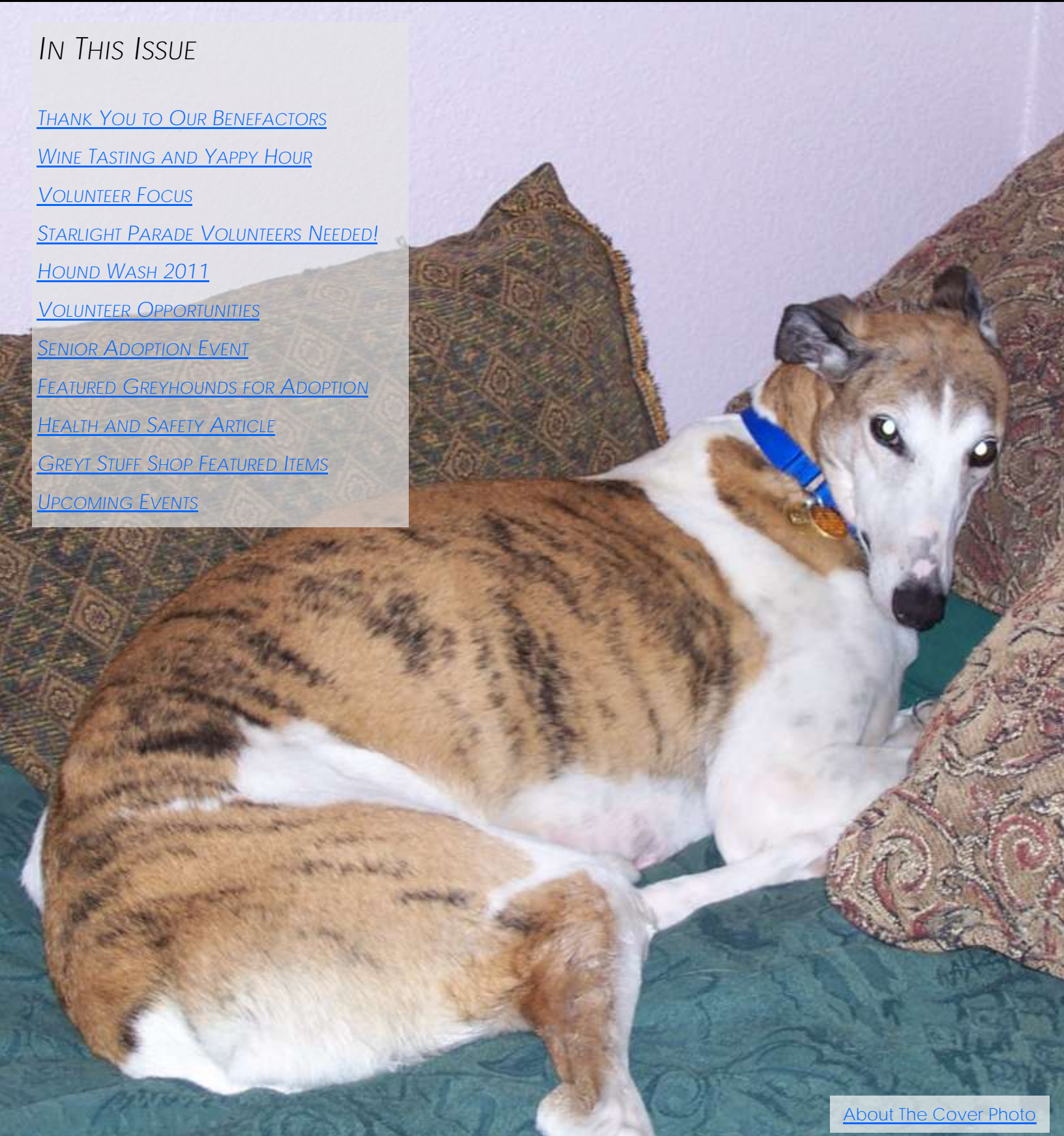
[SENIOR ADOPTION EVENT](#)

[FEATURED GREYHOUNDS FOR ADOPTION](#)

[HEALTH AND SAFETY ARTICLE](#)

[GREYT STUFF SHOP FEATURED ITEMS](#)

[UPCOMING EVENTS](#)



[About The Cover Photo](#)

Thank You to Our Benefactors

By Carol Vinnacombe

GPA Northwest would like to thank those who made the Greyhound Garden Party not only possible, but the success that it was. The only aspect of this event that was not donated was the wine. Donations included the use of the lovely venue for two days by George Morlan and many George Morlan employees volunteered during setup, teardown and during the event itself. The beer for the event was donated by Alaska Brewing Company. The canine appetizers were donated by Canine Confections, Darford Industries, Ltd., and Reba's Healthy Gourmet Dog Bisquits.



Human appetizers were donated by our caterer, Viki, owner of Its Party Time Catering and the lovely (always popular) chocolate fountain donated by Shirley at Dippity Doo Dads. In addition, Graziano's Produce donated the fresh fruit and vegetables to complete the food selections. Joey, owner of In Bloom Photography took pictures of party goers and donated this service for the event. Candice of Brides on a Budget donated her expertise as event decorator and Kaylee of Brady Celebrations donated her services in planning the event as well as being hostess for the evening. Tauren Blackman did an excellent job of filling in as DJ for Chris of Memories of Muzic. We also thank Hallmark Resorts for donating the grand door prize.

Last, but far from least, we'd like to thank Mary Beth Bartel – this event was her vision, she was the driving force that made it happen, donating her time, energy and of course flowers.

Alaskan Brewing Company
Brady Celebrations
Brides on a Budget
Canine Confections
Darford Industries, Ltd.
Dippity Doo Dads
Flowers by Mary Beth Bartel
George Morlan Plumbing and Appliance
Graziano Produce
Hallmark Resorts, Inc.
In Bloom Photography
It's Party Time Catering
Memories of Muzic
Reba's Healthy Gourmet Dog Bisquits



As always, please support those who support the Greyhounds. If you would like contact information for any of our benefactors, please email eventnw@gpa-nw.org.

WINE TASTING

And Yappy Hour



Bend Pet Express is hosting a benefit wine tasting and Yappy hour, donating 20% of their sales that evening.

Tickets are \$20 per person and includes wine tasting, Appetizers for humans by 900Wall and Yappitizers for canine attendees, as well as a silent auction, raffle and door prizes.

Thursday, June 16
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

For Tickets Call 800-767-5139 ext #2
Or stop by the store to order your tickets.
Space is limited for this event
so order your tickets soon

Bend Pet Express – Eastside
420 NE Windy Knolls Drive
Bend, Oregon 97701
541-385-5298

To Benefit Greyhound Pet Adoption Northwest

All breeds and their
owners are invited to
join in the fun



Greyhound Pet Adoption Northwest is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose purpose is to find homes for retired racing Greyhounds.

Volunteer Focus

By Talia Oren

Cindy Ramzy is a volunteer superstar. She has been involved with GPA NW for the past ten years, since she adopted her first two greys in 2001. A one-time Border Collie owner, she was looking for a dog that would better suit her lifestyle at the time, and was anxious to help an animal in need; she decided on a greyhound. She soon found that what greyhounds lack in conventional trainability, they more than make up for in personality and companionship. She was hooked.

Cindy, a medical librarian, wasted no time getting involved as volunteer with the organization. To put it more accurately, she jumped in the deep end and accepted the Contact Triage position, which required her to respond to all manner of inquiries from owners and potential adopters. As the Contact Triage volunteer, Cindy dealt with every imaginable greyhound and greyhound adoption issue, from owners' behavioral and medical questions about their dogs, to logistical tasks, like matching potential adopters with placement volunteers. It was a labor-intensive and stressful job, but it taught her the ins and outs of the organization, and the breed. She remained in that position for 3 years, and during that time, began to expand her involvement to other facets of the organization.

As a volunteer with GPA NW, Cindy has done a little bit of everything. She is currently in charge of the bi-monthly adoption event at the Gresham PetSmart, and also helps with bereavement by sending sympathy cards to owners whose dogs have passed away. Most recently, Cindy accepted the Volunteer Coordinator position. As the new Volunteer Coordinator, one of her first tasks was to solicit and organize help for the Garden Party; working alongside Carol Vinacombe, Mary Beth Bartel, and an army of devoted volunteers, she helped make the event a huge success.

One of Cindy's favorite things about GPA NW is that it offers volunteers so many ways to be involved, from one-day positions to ongoing posts. Part of her job, she feels, is to convey this very message to potential volunteers who are perhaps discouraged by the thought of a major time commitment. Every volunteer contribution is valuable and GPA NW welcomes all who wish to get involved, on any level, for any amount of time; there's a place for everyone.



Cindy , her husband and their two Greyhounds at a Valentine Gala

We need your help at the Starlight Parade!

Once again, GPA-Northwest will have a float entry in the Portland Rose Festival Starlight Parade! Before it became known as the Portland Rose Festival in 1908, it was formerly known as the Rose Carnival, a Mardi Gras style celebration. Thus the theme of this year's festival is "Carnival of Roses." Our float this year will try to be true to this theme with lots of color, lights, and a party atmosphere! (Even though the dogs will likely sleep)

We need volunteers to help put the float together and volunteers to participate in the parade. We also need fabulous Greyhounds to be ambassadors on the float. Is your Grey parade worthy? Is your Grey able to handle crowds and marching band noise while riding in style on a float? If so, then we need you and your pooch!

The Starlight Parade is Saturday, June 4th. If you would like to be in the parade with your Grey, or be in the parade without your dog and walk along with the float, or help with float assembly, please contact Cathy Varner at kaatzmeow@peoplepc.com, or find her on Facebook for a quicker response.

We also have a need for donated materials, like 2X4's, and plywood. We also need to borrow strings of lights of various colors. A work party day will likely happen prior to parade day, date and location TBA.

If you can help in any of these ways, it will be much appreciated!

Thank you!

New ID Tag Request Form

Your Greyhound has an ID Tag with a number **below 4500** 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 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 gift certificate to Willamette Valley Vineyards for a private tour **and wine tasting with hors d'oeuvres for ten people!**



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!



Misha has a romp in the spring sunshine. He lives in Klamath Falls OR.
Happy Greyhounds in happy homes!

Does Your Greyhound Need A Bath?
Then Don't Miss The GPA Fundraiser

Hound Wash

Saturday, June 25, 2011

\$25 Per Greyhound

Includes bath & conditioner, ear cleaning, nail clipping
and a stylish neck scarf!

Appointments Begin at 9:00 am

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 the humans) will be available for a small cost
- Unique Greyhound merchandise will be available for purchase
- Visit with Greyhound friends and socialize your dog
- Professional digital pictures available for \$10

By Appointment Only: Please call Carol Vinnacombe at 503-826-9141 to make an appointment or to volunteer to help

Wash Location: Vinnacombe Residence,
12790 SE Bluff Rd., Sandy

Directions: Take SR26 east toward Mt. Hood,
about 9 miles from Gresham. At Sandy, turn left
on Bluff Rd. for 2-1/2 miles. Watch the street ad-
dress signs on the right (east) side of Bluff Rd.

*Volunteers are always needed
and appreciated!*



Volunteer Position Openings

New Dog Profiler

Need person with Greyhound experience for a two-person team to create profiles of new foster dogs. This person will talk with new foster parents shortly after a new dog has been placed in a foster home, and will complete a profile form that will assist placement volunteers in matching new dogs with appropriate potential adopters. Must be able to record important information and details from discussion with foster parents and include this information in the new dog's profile. Most activity will take place after new groups of dogs arrive and are placed in foster homes.

Transportation or Transporter Coordinator

Need person to coordinate a group of people who are available to transport foster dogs to and from veterinary appointments, to new foster homes or other places, as needed. This person would work with the foster coordinators, placement coordinator and the medical coordinator to arrange coverage for getting dogs picked up and taken to necessary appointments.

Upcoming Events: Volunteers Needed!

Northwest Pet & Companion Fair - May 7 & 8, Portland Expo Center. Need volunteers & their dog(s) to man booth & be available to answer questions about GPA Northwest and greyhound adoption.

Silverton Pet Parade - May 21, 10:00 a.m., Silverton OR

Houndwash - June 25, 9 – 4:00, Vinnacombe residence; Important, busy fund-raiser - Need volunteers for brushing, bathing, drying dogs, yard duty, food preparation, etc.

Please contact Cindy Ramzy (VolunteerNW@gpa-nw.org) if you are interested or would like more information on either of these positions or any of these events. GPA Northwest needs you!





Senior Adoption Event

Come meet our Golden Boys & Girls at an event especially for them.

Petco
8820 N.E. 5th Ave.
Vancouver, WA

Saturday, May 14
Noon to 2 PM




May is Senior Month!

Visit our [website](#) for more information about these special Greyhounds!

GPA Northwest has designated May as Senior Month to highlight the wonderful older dogs in our care. Are you among those special people who recognize the amazing experience awaiting you by sharing your life with a senior Greyhound? The wisdom of years of experience shows in a senior Greyhound's recognition of a good thing – a warm home, a soft couch or cushion, good food and loving hands to pet them. Each of these older Greyhounds has more love to give than the day they were born and yet they still delight in the simpler joys - as they did when they were pups. Sharing your life with an older Greyhound can be a wonderful learning experience – having already mastered living one day at a time and loving the one they're with, these creatures have a lot to give.

If you think you might have room in your heart and home for an older Greyhound, please consider adopting one of the seniors featured this month. Each of these Greyhounds will bring a dowry of a new bed, fish oil caps to provide anti-oxidents, a free exam at a VCA clinic in your area and a trial of Get Up And Go glucosamine/chondroitin from the Greyhound Gang by registering your adoption on their website.


Angel
Female
Color: Red Fawn
Born: 2-00
Cats: Cat Workable



Autumn
Female
Color: Red Fawn
Born: 4-04
Cats: Cat Tolerant




Big Girl
Female
Color: Brindle
Born: 12-00
Cats: Cat Workable



Jasper
Male
Color: Brindle
Born: 4-00
Cats: Cat Workable




Nauti
Female
Color: Brindle w/white
Born: 12-00
Cats: No Cats




Sadie
Female
Color: White w/Red
Born: 7-98
Cats: Cat Tolerant



Sis
Female
Color: Brindle
Born: 12-00
Cats: No cats



Jaina
Female
Color: White w/Red
Born: 4-01
Cats: Cat Tolerant





Health & Safety Tips

Sheila & Snow Say . . . What You Need to Know About Your Greyhound's Weight



Tough Love

By Carol Vinnacombe

At various events and activities throughout the year we happily encounter adopters and it's always a delight if those of us who foster, have the opportunity to see one of our previous fosters. Invariably the questions arises "Do you think my Greyhound is too fat?" I always wonder if the person asking really wants the answer. Sometimes the Greyhound in question looks great, sometimes could lose a couple of pounds and sometimes it really looks too heavy. Unfortunately, the Greyhound below was never one of those that I encountered. And since his return to GPA Northwest, people have tried to tell me "but it's all muscle." As one of the people who now has to rehabilitate this Greyhound, I can tell you there is nothing about muscle involved – other than his heart muscle which is being taxed by this incredible weight.



Weight at adoption



One year later

We describe Greyhounds in our Adoption Brochure as having a "sleek, aerodynamic shape, thin tapered legs, muscular hips and shoulders and long graceful necks." We also tell adopters that they should be able to see the last couple ribs on their Greyhound. If your Greyhound doesn't fit this description, you should ask yourself if your Greyhound is a healthy weight.

The five-year-old Greyhound above was 78# when adopted – a big Greyhound and at his appropriate pet weight. He was 103.5# a year later when he was returned to GPA Northwest because he had had a seizure, may have had a heart murmur and was so fat he constantly stressed to breathe. The owner was not willing to take responsibility for him. He was morbidly obese – so fat that he couldn't clean himself. There are plenty of articles about the perils of obesity in pets. I'm not going to go into specifics – there are plenty of experts to do that. It is not healthy for a Greyhound to be overweight, let alone be obese. Yes, there are times when, due to medical issues, a Greyhound's weight will fluctuate, but in those cases owners should recognize something is amiss and consult their veterinarian. At times weight will increase because of a medical issue, medication or an inability to exercise – it's a good barometer – unless you don't pay attention.

(Continued on next

Someone suggested that GPA Northwest give adopters a recommended food and amount. It's not that easy. There are plenty of good dog foods on the market in a variety of price ranges. Your Greyhound can't read the label on the packages, but you can. The amount you would feed of one food is not necessarily the amount you would feed of another food. Each dog has its own metabolism - we have a 13 year old 55# year female and she eats the same amount of food that her 10 year old 74# offspring does. There's no getting around it – it's up to you. It's not just food, it's the amount of exercise your dog gets, it's the number of treats they get – it all adds up to a unique answer. A vet recently told me about a situation in which he was trying to get to the reason a dog was as heavy as it was. It took several times going through the daily feeding/exercise regime before the owner mentioned how much the dog loved his two scopes of chocolate ice cream each night!!!

We also stress to adopters the importance of finding a veterinarian who is familiar with Greyhounds. If your veterinarian is not familiar with the Greyhound and tells you that your "lab-look-alike" Greyhound is fine at that weight, I would recommend you keep looking for a Greyhound-savvy vet. If you research it, you will find that obesity (as it does in humans) shortens a pet's life.

All breeds of dogs are built for their "work/purpose". A Greyhound is not supposed to look like a Labrador, Rottweiler, Mastiff or Bull Terrier – a Greyhound is supposed to have a waist – they are supposed to be tapered and sleek. If you do not think a Greyhound is beautiful in its God-given form, why get one in the first place? Get a lab and you can play with its love-handles all you want. Put "love/hate handles" on a Greyhound and the 12-15 year old life expectancy goes out the window. We always tell potential adopters that Greyhounds are not

for everyone – we mean it. Choosing to have another cookie for yourself is one thing – you know the consequences. Your Greyhound has no idea there are consequences.



[Become an iGive member and Help Greyhounds](#)

Searching or Shopping means a donation. It's just that free and easy. A penny or more per search, a \$5 bonus for your first purchase and up to 26% of your purchases at over 730 stores like Amazon, eBay, Travelocity, Home Depot, Staples, and many, many more.

Plus you SAVE money with exclusive coupons/free shipping deals. As an iGive shopper, you have access to exclusive coupon codes, free shipping deals, and sale alerts. In other words, iGive is more than just shopping for a cause we're actively seeking out the best deals to help save you money.

Over 800 stores participate in our donation program, including Amazon.com, eBay, Staples, JC Penney, Barnes & Noble, Overstock.com, drugstore.com, Office Depot, QVC, Expedia, Home Depot, HSN, Best Buy, Drs. Foster & Smith, Gap, Buy.com, & NORDSTROM.

[Click here to see donation rates for all 800+ stores.](#)



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.



We trust them with our GPA Northwest Greyhounds

Flowers By Mary Beth Bartel

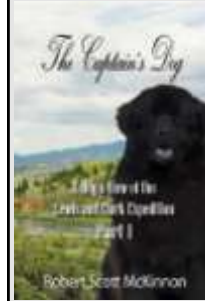
I have been doing floral arrangements for years. Being a gardener, I started arranging fresh flowers over 35 years ago.

(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

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](#)



[We Heart GHs Decal](#) \$4.00



[Window Decal Running](#) \$5.00



[Window Decal Standing](#) \$5.00



[Window Decal Looking Back](#)
\$5.00



[Gaggle of Greys Decal](#) \$7.00



[Double Head Decal](#) \$7.00

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.

MAY

5/7-8 Northwest Pet and Companion Fair
 5/21 Silverton Pet Parade
 5/28-29 Bend Hounds Out & About

JUNE

6/4 Starlight Parade
 6/16 Bend Wine Tasting & Yappy Hour

6/25 Hound Wash

July

7/30 Santiam Summer Fest

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

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
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
July				
July 2	Portland, OR	MARR	1:00pm - 3:00pm	Bark Market
July 9	Vancouver, WA	MARR	Noon - 2:00pm	Petco Hazel Dell Town Center
July 23	Vancouver, WA	MARR	11:00am - 1:00pm	Petco

On The Cover This Month

Nauti is a sweet senior lady that enjoys her resting time as much as her outdoor play time. She is still available for adoption and would make a great addition to a home without cats.

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.

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!