



Greyhound Chatter

A Publication of the Southeastern Greyhound Club ~ www.greyhoundadoption.org

Fall 2005

In This Issue:

- Turkey and Rice is Nice!
- Be prepared for just about anything with our first aid kit suggestions
- Check out the latest Lure Coursing news

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Celebrating Our Hounds – GreyFest 2005

– by Heather Coulombe

We Southerners are famous for our festivals. With each season we find ways to revel in everything from strawberries to catfish to dogwoods. In keeping with this tradition, Greyhound owners and others gathered on October 29 for GreyFest, a celebration of everything we love most about our needle-nosed companions.

Hundreds of hounds and their families traveled from across the region to Atlanta's Piedmont Park to participate in the day's festivities. Humans enjoyed shopping with numerous specialty vendors and bidding on items in the silent auction, while hounds tried their luck at carnival games like bobbing for hotdogs and digging for buried treasure.



Photo by R. & J. Cross

The Runaway Bride took the prize.

Jen Bachelor and her agility dogs showed the crowd that Greyhounds can excel at activities other than sleeping on the sofa. Author and Greyhound expert Lee Livingood shared her knowledge and experience, offering tips for training and solving difficult behavior problems.

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Girly Finds Her Forever Home – and Her Inner Diva

– by Heather Coulombe

When they hear the word “diva,” most people think of a tall, slender supermodel or a pop star with a self-importance problem. Stacy and Jason Crim are learning the term can also apply to a tall, slender, four-legged friend as well, thanks to Sher's Girly, who entered their hearts in September of 2005.

Early this summer, Stacy and Jason caught the CBS Morning Show story on Greyhound adoption and immediately wanted to learn more about the breed. They read books, talked with current owners and lurked around popular Greyhound message boards. But to be sure a Grey would fit into their two-cat, apartment dwelling family, the Crims first

tried their hand at fostering. After fostering Star for a few weeks before she was placed in her forever home, the Crims weren't sure they were ready for another dog, but six-year-old Girly stole their hearts and their sofa immediately.

“She walked into our apartment and instantly found her spot on the sofa,” remembers Stacy. “It was like she had lived here for years.”

With one exception – the stairs. It was the first important obstacle for Girly to overcome since she would have to face the tricky planks with every potty break.

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President's Message

– by John Parker



Photo by Frank Zayas

Perhaps the highest accolade one Greyhound lover can give another is to say that he or she is a true student of the breed. It represents a level of knowledge about and appreciation for the Greyhound breed to which we all can and should aspire.

As I meet people from various Greyhound communities, whether in racing or adoption or the show world, I am always surprised and a little disappointed at how narrow their focus on Greyhounds can be and how little time some spend thinking about Greyhounds as a breed and what serves the best longterm interests of the breed.

It need not be that way. Compared to most other breeds, Greyhounds – even in their currently recognized form – are an ancient breed with a rich heritage. Literature is full of historic references to Greyhounds, from the Bible to Shakespeare, and in art, Greyhound images abound.

The Greyhound breed is one of the few that have been bred to do a job almost the entire history of the breed, from hunting to coursing to racing. Those evolving jobs have shaped breeding choices and, on the margins, the structure of the breed. Change or eliminate the job, and you change – and even risk eliminating – the breed. With

the banning of coursing in England, some fear that the coursing Greyhound, considered by many to be the classic or archetypal Greyhound, will vanish into history. Others fear that with racing left as the breed's last job, a lighter-framed, less durable Greyhound will emerge as an increasingly faster dog is sought. What then happens to the breed if racing is ended? Regardless of one's views about coursing or racing, these are questions that all Greyhound lovers should ponder on their journey to becoming a student of the breed.

There is little about the breed that isn't fascinating to those who spend time with Greyhounds. The anatomy with which the Creator has endowed Greyhounds in order to do their jobs, historic or modern, is a wonder of physiological architecture that has been studied and written about possibly more than any other breed. The variations in the Greyhound psyche and how it is shaped by a combination of genetics, function and environment are enough to keep the most scholarly animal behaviorist busy.

For those who have chosen Greyhounds as "their breed," becoming a true student of the breed can be both a lifelong aspiration and a fulfilling work in progress. Let us all resolve to serve our breed by doing just that.

Roaching: A belly-up sprawl that says, "I'm a happy camper." Often accompanied by tongue hanging out of the side of the mouth.

Over the Rainbow Bridge

Charles Parrott's Tiffani – 7 years

Joy Riley's Dewey Evans – 14 years

Laura and John Parker's BeeGee – 15 yrs 4 mos

Gary and Tina Wellborn's Misty – 14 yrs 4 mos

Beth and Jack Glavosek's Logan – 9 yrs 2 mos



Photo Courtesy C. Parrott

Tiffani

GreyFest 2005, continued

Novice and experienced Greyhound owners alike took away something new from Lee's presentation.

While the state fair awards prizes for the largest squash or best-tasting apple pie, GreyFest competitions named winners for the best costumes, dreamiest eyes and longest tails. The SEGA raffle allowed everyone to take their chance



Photo by Frank Zayas

Bobbin' for Weenies was a big hit!

on winning impressive prizes like two airline tickets from one of the event sponsors, AirTran Airways.

Greyhound owners treated their fur-babies with homemade cookies in scrumptious flavors like garlic, peanut butter and mountain berry, all generously baked and donated by SEGA volunteers.

Organizing GreyFest is a labor of love that shouldn't go unrecognized. The GreyFest team, led by Keri Tomsic, worked throughout the year to make sure every detail was attended to. And before the GreyFest 2005 dust had settled, plans for next year's festival were already in the works. Stay tuned for more information – it's one Southern festival that Greyhounds and their owners won't want to miss.



Photo by Frank Zayas

Author Lee Livingood poses with a GreyFest goer and her hound.

Lure Coursing Corner

– by John Parker

The Club's lure coursing program concluded for 2005 with the ninth running of the Fullerton Cup, October 22 – 23 at Old Mill Farm in Cartersville. Saturday's trial saw an entry of 64 dogs, with an entry of 57 on Sunday. The weather was good for running sighthounds – cloudy and breezy on Saturday with highs in the mid-60's, and sunny with brilliantly blue skies and temperatures in the low 70's on Sunday.

All dogs winning Best of Breed either Saturday or Sunday, and who ran both days, were eligible to run for the Fullerton Cup on Sunday afternoon. This year, the winner of the Fullerton Cup was the Borzoi Zuzu, owned by Chris and Pattie Neale, of Alachua, Florida. Zuzu herself made a little SEGC history by becoming the first Borzoi ever to win one of the Club's perpetual trophies. She put in a fabulous run and

was well-deserving of her win, and the Neales were both thrilled and gracious in victory. We hope to see both Zuzu and her people running at SEGC trials in 2006, including her "defending" the Fullerton Cup next October.

The other trophy offered for the weekend was the Master McGrath Trophy, named for another great Greyhound of history – the first Irish Greyhound to win the Waterloo Cup, who went on to win it a total of three times. In years past, the Master McGrath Trophy was simply awarded to the Greyhound with the highest combined scores over the course of the weekend – a "mathematical award" of sorts. But, inspired by a very exciting run-off for the trophy in 2004, the organizing committee decided that in



Photo by Nordstrom Photography

Zuzu, winner of the Fullerton Cup, with owners Chris and Pattie Neale.

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Ready for Action: First Aid Kit for Fun-Loving Hounds

– by Patti Peterson

What's the most important feature of a First Aid Kit for your hound? EMT gel? Gauze? Vet wrap? Here's a hint: it's one that's often overlooked. Still stumped? How about "accessibility"? The kit must be readily at hand in an emergency – not at the back of the closet under the Christmas decorations – so be sure to keep it in a location that is obvious and easily accessible by anyone who might need to care for your grey. Fishing tackle boxes or toolboxes make ideal containers for your kit; either will allow you to properly store and easily transport first aid supplies.

The lists that follow are meant to serve as a guide in assembling your own First Aid Kit. Remember that every hound has different needs, so check with your vet about any additional items your kit should include.

Basic First Aid Kit (for a Greyhound with a limited activity level that stays mainly in the home and yard):

Ascriptin® - *preferred by some vets because of its enteric coating*
 Betadine - *use to clean wounds – do not allow it to remain on a wound*
 Canine rectal thermometer
 Cotton tip applicators
 EMT gel - *for sealing open cuts*
 Hydrogen peroxide (1% solution only) - *to induce vomiting; will inhibit healing - not recommended for open wounds*
 Immodium AD

BARF: Acronym for "Biologically Appropriate Raw Food" or "Bones and Raw Food," canine cuisine some swear by.

Instant ice pack
 Saline solution - *to cleanse wounds*
 Styptic powder – *for nails cut too close to the quick*
 Surgical scissors
 Triple antibiotic ointment
 Tweezers
 Sterile gauze dressing
 Vet wrap in various widths

Advanced First Aid Kit (for an active Greyhound, add the following to the Basic Kit):

Alcohol - *for sterilizing items*
 Aloe vera gel – *for itching and burns*
 Bandanas – *for cool or warm wraps*
 Benadryl - *for insect bites/stings*
 Epsom salts – *for soaking sprains or minor soreness*
 Gatorade – *for temp-related activity*
 KY jelly – *apply around wound after cleansing to keep dirt away*
 Nitrofurazone – *wound dressing*
 Oral dose syringe
 Pad protection ointment
 Splint material

We hope you'll never have to rely heavily on your First Aid Kit, but we also know that when you have a hound, things happen. And when they do, you'll be prepared.

Turkey and Rice is Nice!

– by Michelle Kroh

1/2 lb ground turkey	1 cup diced potato
1 cup grated carrots	1/2 cup chicken stock
1 cup diced green beans	2 cups cooked brown rice

Brown turkey in a skillet with a little bit of olive oil. Drain off the fat.

Add carrots, beans, potato and stock. Cook over low heat until vegetables are tender. Stir in rice and cool before serving over kibble. Leftovers can be refrigerated for up to 4 days.



Photo by Teresa Wheeler

A Dog With A Blog?

And not just any dog - he's a Greyhound! Check out <http://mythicalbolton.blogspot.com> for a hound's perspective on what it's like to retire from racing and find a forever home in Essex, U.K. You'll have quite a chuckle.



Ask Dr. Toby

– Interview with Dr. Toby Carmichael by Teresa Wheeler

What is Pannus?

It's a chronic inflammation of the corneas in both eyes that over time causes the cells to become abnormally thickened, impairs vision. It's believed to be associated with the dog's immune system. Pannus is very much breed-related and while it is a problem for only a small minority of Greyhounds, it's more common among them than many other breeds.

What causes the disease?

Nothing definite. We do know that certain things like excessive exposure to bright sunlight, being outside, pollution and allergy problems go hand in hand with Pannus.

What are some signs of Pannus?

Redness or irritation in the eye; changes in the way the dog looks at things – squinting, for example; blood vessels

growing in the whites of the eyes; less often the dog will behave as though the eye area is painful. The layperson may not know that the condition is Pannus but will recognize that there is something wrong.

How is it treated?

Topical steroids are the first line of defense, and cyclosporine cream or drops helps mitigate the immune system reaction.

What should I do if I suspect my dog may have Pannus?

It's extremely important to rule out other, more serious problems, such as ulcers that could burst, without assuming that the condition is Pannus. While treatment won't usually cure Pannus, it can bring it under control, minimizing pain and keeping further vision impairment in check.



Photo by Patti Peterson

Toby Carmichael, DVM

Gotcha Day: Adoption day, or the day your hound “gotcha” with his or her good looks and winning personality. Often celebrated with extra treats, a new squeaky toy or a romp with a best friend.

Girly Finds Her Forever Home, continued

But after just a few days of practice, Girly had stairs down pat. Now she expects everyone to watch her accomplish this amazing feat every time they walk.

“I think she actually looks for new sets of stairs every time we venture outside. When she finds a set she has never conquered, she insists on climbing them and wants everyone to watch her,” laughs Stacy. “She really doesn't understand it when people pass her without telling her how cute, smart or sweet she is. I've even seen her give people dirty looks. That's when I knew she had a diva side to her.”

A new hound always has her challenges and Girly, who still struggles with

walking on a leash from time to time, is no exception.

“She was great at first, but now she's stubborn and stops dead in her tracks. I've read all the books and taken all the advice I can, but it's different when you're the one that has to make it happen. We're working through it.”

After two months of owning a Grey, the Crims say that it is better than they ever imagined.

“She is such a delight to come home to after a long, stressful day. Girly is so excited to see us and very happy we are home every time we come through the door. It's a wonderful feeling.”



Photo by Madeline Meixner

Jason and Stacy Crim with Girly

Helicoptering or

Happy Tail: Tail wags in a circular motion, rather than side-to-side, indicating an extra-happy hound. Some hounds wag so wildly their tails hit walls or furniture and break, resulting in a case of **Happy Tail Syndrome.**



Sher's Baby



Caffrey

Cat Tolerant: Used in reference to a hound that can be trusted – most of the time – not to go after the family kitty. This designation applies indoors only. Outdoors, the phrase is understood to mean “it’s fair game.”

Adoption Screening & Placement Report

– by *Patty Winters*

Adoptions during August, September, and October were brisk with a total of 37 adoptions during this time period. There is a story behind every adoption; space does not permit us to tell all of them, but each is special in its own way. However, there were some adoptions during this time that are memorable because of unusual circumstances.

B's Frankie finally had his name changed officially to St. Onge when his long-time fosters decided to make it permanent. He is one dog that moved in and had no plans to move out!

Caffrey was another special placement as he was a second-time-around dog for SEGA. Originally adopted several years ago with tag number 422, Caffrey came back to us at seven and a half for another chance at a forever home. Teresa Burneson originally fostered him and continued to stay in touch with his family. When the difficult decision was made to return him to SEGA due to "people" reasons, she again took him to foster and could not let him get away a second time.

Black Pearl and Hoosier Gambler came into the kennel at the same time and both went home with the same family - Don and Carolyn Gross, long-time Greyhound owners who decided to take the pair home after meeting them the previous weekend during a kennel visit.

Shers Baby is another sweet story and happy ending for a seven-year-old girl who had always lived on a Greyhound farm. Ginny Wise fell in love with her when they met and it was a happy ending for everyone. A special senior also from the farm, Roccat, found his home of a lifetime with Gerry and Dan Skalsky.

Senior dogs usually take longer to place, but if you ever adopt one, you'll never be without one. We had some exceptional adopters willing to take one of these older hounds into their homes. There are still more dogs to bring up from the farm before the end of the year, most of them seniors. SEGC/SEGA folks have big hearts, so I'm sure that the next group of seniors will be in a warm home for Christmas and counting their blessings by the New Year.

Fundraising News

– by *Christine Sever*

We're still waiting on final totals for our biggest fundraiser of the year – GreyFest. A grant earned from Time Warner and the generous support of our GreyFest sponsors helped to cover most of the costs of staging the event. Admissions, t-shirt sales, auction and raffle proceeds and support from our vendors will all go directly toward SEGA's adoption efforts and kennel expenses.

While GreyFest might be our fundraising star, there are many little ways you can support SEGA all year long that won't cost you a thing. iGive.com is one of

them. Register at the site and choose Southeastern Greyhound Club as your cause. It's free and easy, and if you shop within 45 days of signing up our organization will receive a \$5 bonus!

With iGive.com, you can shop favorite online retailers like Macy's, Target and even Bass Pro Shops, and SEGA will receive a percentage of every purchase you make. With the holidays coming up, you can almost effortlessly make a contribution to SEGA just by entering merchant sites through iGive.com when you do your online shopping.

Lost Hound Tales

– by Michelle Kroh

The Lost Hound Cooperative has had a great first summer! Only two Greyhounds went missing and both were found within 24 hours thanks to all of the volunteers that helped search.

We have heard many stories about Greyhounds slipping out through gates and doors this year – mine included! Please remember: lock your gates or check to make sure they are latched properly every time you let your hounds outside. You never know when a landscaper, handyman or guest will inadvertently leave a gate unlatched. Greyhounds have an uncanny ability to notice if a gate is open or ajar and they can be through it and out of sight within minutes.

Luckily, most that escaped this summer were retrieved by quick thinking and the use of a squawker. Everyone should keep a couple of squawkers at the ready – at least one in the home and another in the vehicle you and your Greyhounds use to travel around town and to SEGA/SEGC activities. Please remember that squawkers should only be used in emergencies and never as a toy. Using one too often may desensitize your Greyhound to the sound and hinder your rescue efforts.

Other items to keep handy are a leash, an extra collar, treats and the Lost Hound Cooperative magnet. To make sure you never have to use these things, keep your gates locked and watch those open doors!



Photo by Frank Zayas

Volunteer Happenings

– by Adam Corsi

Have you owned your Greyhound for a year or more? If so, we need you for our recently re-launched Running Mates program, which partners new adopters with more experienced owners for support and an introduction to the benefits of SEGC/SEGA.

We are also looking for volunteers to help foster (even once a year really helps), dog walkers (only one night a month!), and for volunteers willing to help run a fundraising gift-wrapping shift at Borders in Atlanta for the Holidays (4 hours of time is all it takes).

Please support SEGA and the hounds by volunteering! Contact me at volunteer@greyhoundadoption.org to find out how to get involved, or visit the volunteering section on the main SEGA website.

I'd like to thank all the volunteers that support SEGA in every capacity, including dog walkers, fosters, meet & greeters, dog washers, and GreyFest volunteers (to name a few). We, and the Greyhounds, can't thank you enough for your priceless donation of time and effort.

Bounce: A hound that, for whatever reason, has been returned by his or her adopter. Often leads to the hound landing in a subsequent home that seems “meant to be,” fueling speculation that said hound willfully and purposely bounced from the first placement.



Photo by Madeline Meixner

Blap: Phenomenon in which a hound exercises hard, gulps large quantities of water, and shortly thereafter produces a distinctive ‘BLAP’ sound as he or she regurgitates copious amounts of clear slimy liquid, and sometimes a few stray bits of the last meal, onto the living room carpet.

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Lure Coursing Corner, continued

2005, the Master McGrath Trophy would be run for by the Greyhounds with the two highest combined scores for the weekend. And, as a tribute to the British coursing which the Fullerton Cup trials salute, it was decided that the Greyhounds running for the Master McGrath trophy would run in the traditional red or white knit collars rather than in American coursing blankets. The collars were provided by Cindi Allen, who had made them for her Evie, the first American Greyhound ever to run in the Waterloo Cup.

The Greyhounds with the two highest combined scores this year were Sugar, owned by Patti Peterson, and Stella, co-owned by John and Laura Parker and Glen and Pam Davis. Sugar drew the red collar and Stella drew the white collar. Both girls put in splendid runs, and as feared by the owners, were tied by the two judges – one judge gave the nod to Sugar, and one gave it to Stella. The owners conferred, and it was decided that the trophy would be – to use the British expression – “divided,” with Sugar having the trophy in her home for the first 6 months, and Stella having it in her home for the second six months. Both Greyhounds’ names will be engraved on the trophy plate for 2005. All in all, it was considered a sporting resolution of the tie!



Photo by Nordstrom Photography

Winners of the Master McGrath Trophy: Stella (left) and Laura Parker and Sugar (right) and Patti Peterson

For our lure coursing members whose Greyhounds started their “rookie year” in 2005 by running in the Open stake, start counting up those title points that your hound earned through Dec. 10 of this year, as that is when the Texas Trophy will be awarded – at the SEGC holiday party – to the outstanding new SEGC lure coursing Greyhound for 2005. The antique Greyhound racing trophy has been refurbished and now looks just as it did when it was awarded at the Derby Lane track in the 1950’s. If you think your rookie Greyhound might be in the running for the honors, please submit his or her point totals to me via e-mail to FieldChmn@aol.com.

Nitting: A rapid nibbling with the front teeth that says “I really, really like you!” to a hound’s nibblee. The level of pain nitting brings is roughly equivalent to the hound’s level of enthusiasm.

Meet & Greet News

– by *Beth Glavosek*

SEGA continues to expand its visibility around metro Atlanta through its Meet & Greet program. Currently, SEGA hosts 11 regular Meet & Greets every month at pet and retail stores around Atlanta. We also take advantage of invitations to special events.

In Fall 2005, SEGA appeared at the Duluth Home Depot’s annual fire and safety event, the Sawnee Mountain

Kennel Club match, and the Callaway Steeplechase, to name a few.

Meet & Greets are supported by dedicated volunteers who educate the public about Greyhounds and answer questions about Greyhound adoption. To get involved with SEGA’s Meet & Greet program, please contact me at 770-754-4636 or via e-mail at bethglavosek@aol.com.