



# The Bark

The official newsletter of Greyhound Pets, Inc.

2013, Issue 01

## Letter From The President

Spring and Summer is an exciting time at GPI. April was Adopt-A-Greyhound Month, we welcomed a load of dogs from Florida, and we had our semi-annual Tick Clinic. May brings the Pie Social, The Mother Load (a whole load of Brood Moms arriving from Florida), and the BC Greytwalk. And plans are happening for the 3rd Annual Walkathon in July which should be a lot of fun!

Despite the decline in the number of greyhounds being available for adoption around the country, GPI has been able to continue to find sources for greyhounds needing homes after retiring from racing. What the next few years will bring is unknown, but the GPI Board is exploring the options for the future.

Osteosarcoma is such a deadly disease and sadly hits too many greyhounds. Be sure to read the article in this issue about Osteo by one of our wonderful vets.

We have a second article about our greyhounds as Therapy Dogs. Be sure to read it and see what wonderful work can be done with our greys. Also read about greyhounds as blood donors and please consider signing up.

Hopefully we will see some warmer, sunnier weather this spring and summer in the Pacific Northwest. Now is a good time to take a few minutes and check your fences and gates. Are they secure? Any loose boards? Any rotting wood? Any holes that need fixing? Do your gates close properly and securely? Are your gates clipped or padlocked? Do you have your gates set up so that they close automatically (this can be done with something as simple as a bungy cord)?

With the warmer weather, many of us think about giving our dogs a bath. Don't forget that as soon as the bath is over to put your dog's collar and tags back on. I can't tell you how many calls we've had over the years where a dog has gotten loose with no collar and tags and the reason given is that the person had just given the dog a bath and had not put the collar and tags back on the dog as yet.

A dog without a collar and identification tags is much harder to get home. Yes, most of the GPI dogs are microchipped, but if someone finds your dog they then have to get the dog to a place that can read the microchip and not everyone is willing to take that step. Please don't leave your dog without a collar and identification tags no matter how safe and secure you think your home and/or yard is.

Aside from giving the dog a bath, the other most common reason I hear for a dog not having a collar and tags on is that the tags make too much noise and the noise was disturbing/keeping them awake, etc. If you don't like the tags jingling, invest in a tag bag, put a rubber band around the tags, put some of those rubber key wraps around them, or if you are desperate, tape them together.

And lastly, don't forget to check the adjustments on your dog's martingale collar. Make sure it is fitted correctly so that your dog can't slip out of it. Also check any adjustments on your dog's leash. And check the condition of your dog's collar and leash – make sure they are in good condition and not likely to break due to freying, chewing, etc.

Living in the Pacific Northwest we can be hit by wildfires, floods, or a major earthquake. Be sure to put together an emergency box for your dogs and have plans in place so you can safely evacuate your dog(s) with you. Read the article on our website about Pet Emergency Evacuation Essentials.

Have a safe and happy summer everyone!

Moir  
President



When one thinks of the word love, they don't usually associate it with a name, but these two couldn't be more appropriately named. The love that you can see between them melts the heart. This couple is Kismet at it's very finest.

Most of you know John and Lorean because of the tick clinic that they have organized and conducted twice a year since April of 2000. It is my humble opinion that because of their efforts, many Greyhounds lives have been saved, including my Ridgway, just last October. More about that later.

They both went to Woodrow Wilson Junior High School in Seattle, after having been born in the same hospital, twelve days apart, both having lived on 84th St, but on opposite sides of the freeway and the real surprise is that BOTH of their mothers came from North Dakota. See what I mean about Kismet? They took the plunge on April 11, 1973 at the ripe old age of 21. They have two boys who are both grown and have families of their own, four grandkids - two girls and two boys - and two Grand-dogs that are not Greyhounds. How did that happen?

John plays golf and is a photographer. He has lots of time since retiring from the Metro Transit. He does a lot of the photos that we see at various Greyhound gatherings, including my own Greyfest every September. Lorean's passions are the Greys and her horses. I recently learned that they have a parrot as well. She's still working at ADP, but hopefully, she'll get to retire one of these days, and spend more time on the trail.

When I asked them how they discovered Greyhounds they said that they had adopted a Whippet named Willow, who was Johns' frisbee dog, and started reading about sighthounds and that lead them to the ex-racers. That's when the "some day" dream started. It took ten years, but they finally got their first Greyhound, Tigger (Stride Taker) after Lorean had read an article in the Seattle Times about a track closing in Idaho, and it was such an emotional thing for her that John was willing to break his "two dog" rule (they also had a tri color watcha-ma-call-it named Annie), so off they went to a foster home and met Tigger. It was love at first sight, but then, who doesn't love a Greyhound the first time they meet one?

When I asked them how they started the tick testing clinic they said that they had mysteriously lost Tigger at six years old, just two and a half years after adopting her.

To honor Tigger, they adopted Davey boy. He was very sick and after some research they discovered it was Babesia. They treated him immediately and his health turned around and he became a gorgeous, energetic, happy boy that lived with them happily for years. They

decided then and there that they would NOT let another dog suffer like Davey had, nor Tigger, so they took it upon themselves to make sure that tick testing was not only available, but affordable. They have been running the tick clinic every six months since. Every clinic is a memorial to Tigger.

When they lost Willow, they decided they need a buddy for Davey. Annie was 14 at this time. They put a call into Idaho because they knew a load of dogs was coming over the mountain within the next week or so. The load included a special dog, sent just for them, named Brat. They were told that Brat would be four at her next birthday, but it turned out that she was going to be TWO at her next birthday. Sometimes tattoos are hard to read, as we all know. They didn't like the name Brat, so they renamed her Brite before they ever saw her. Once again, Kismet - her racing name unbeknownst to them was BW Brite Eyes. Once they met her they quickly realized why she had been named Brat! The first night she arrived with happy tail, she made the house look like a multiple murder scene and before she ever slept her first night, they ran to the pet store for the biggest crate they could find. They had Brite for 12 1/2 years and until the end she was still spreading toilet paper all over the house. They learned, like so many of us have, that the most difficult ones are often the ones that need love and understanding the most and have a way of burying their way into our hearts the deepest. Anyone who has had multiple Greyhounds understands this.

After losing Dave, they adopted Buzz, the tail wagger. Buzz has never met a stranger. After losing Brite, just a year ago, they went to the kennel with Buzz and let him pick out his new roommate - Kay. She had been returned due to separation anxiety. That's not a problem in the Love household. With John being retired and Lorean working from home and she has Buzz for company, Kay has lots of "people" to keep her from feeling lonely. Buzz and Kay are fast friends now - pardon the pun.

The Love's are not only Greyhound people, but people people. Most of their friends are Greyhound people. They feel blessed by the friends and camaraderie they have found with and in GPI, but I have to say, I think it is the friends in GPI that are lucky to have the Love's!!!! As with most of us it's not only the hounds that have enriched our lives, but the people we've met along the way and with whom we share our passion. I put the Love's at the top of that list! Their dedication to the hounds' health is another shining example of what GPI folks are all about.

Thank you, so much, John and Lorean for your hard work, your caring and the smiles that you always have on your faces!!!! We appreciate you more than we can express.

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## Koda & Karma's Korner

It is with a **VERY** heavy heart that I write the last Koda & Karma's Korner. We lost Koda December 30, 2012 to the nasty disease, Osteosarcoma. It had taken hold of Koda's hip so there was no chance of treatment for him. I won't go into the disease as there is an Article in this issue of the Bark about Osteo. I thought I would write a little about how this disease has affected our lives.

We had 5 dogs in our house and it was an interesting pack; we certainly made a statement when walking down the street... We have a 16 year old male Bichon (Meeko), a 13 year old male Whippet (Fleet), a 9.5 year old male Greyhound/Shepherd/Border Collie Cross (Bandit) and, at that time, two 9.5 year old Greyhounds (Koda & Karma). After several months a pack order was established and Meeko emerged the leader and nobody would go on a bed if he was on it and he was always fed, walked, etc. first. The real struggle was with Bandit & Koda. Koda eventually won the struggle and ended up being the Pack Leader of the dogs. When you lose a dog it is quite unsettling for the remaining dogs and us people but, as so many of us know, life must go on. The dynamics in our house changed and although we kept the order the same, the dogs (mainly Karma & Bandit) were defining their own order. Our meek mild Karma started to get rather bossy and started to snarl and even growl at Bandit. When we saw that we did correct the behavior and by correct it it was simply saying her name firmly. It took a couple of months but I would say that Karma would now be the pack leader in the house, and Fleet and Meeko have no desire for this position. A sad thing (for us anyway) we noticed is that Bandit is a happier dog not having Koda here, and he plays more and seems to be more confident in himself. Karma is fine at home and is a happy girl, but take her out of the house, to a booth for instance, and she is an insecure girl and misses her strong confident Koda.

A lot changes when you lose a member of your pack, who really was a member of your family. The emotions that you go through are heartbreaking and so difficult. I guess it is true that time helps to heal but there are small things that remind us of Koda and still bring tears to our eyes. Like writing this, so very hard...

Stay tuned for the next duo who Koda & Karma are passing The Bark torch on too, they will write their stories and bring you some laughter I'm sure.

We miss you Koda, more than words can say, and we will love you forever.



## Tres Amigas Historia or The Story Of The Three Sisters By Jeani Penn

On October 16, 2010 the world was about to change for three shy little black girls who came to GPI from Arizona. GPI had been told ahead of time about these three and how horribly shy they were, and it turned out that they were, in fact, **VERY** shy. They were turned out together after getting off the hauler and were very difficult to catch because of their fear. They captured the hearts of many volunteers right then and there. And the story begins.....

Pat Cattolico remembers meeting them on her first shift after their arrival. She fell in love at first sight, as did everyone who met them over the next several weeks. If only the "girls" could know how much they were loved. But that didn't happen for a very long time.

Pat would show up for her shift early and let the sisters run together. After time, BB would poke Pat's bottom with her muzzle, then run away. After Sophie was adopted Pat would play "butt heads" with BB and Jane and they would form a huddle, then run away. Getting them back in the kennel was a little problematic at times and the volunteers would have to open the door and hide until the sisters came in on their own. One time, after over a year at the kennel, they came in and "clicked" their muzzles together, then stood in front of their own runs. It seemed they were saying "we got them again!!!" The avoidance thing obviously had turned into a game for them.

Toward the end of 2012 Pat found herself dogless for the first time in 20 years. Sadly, she lost three of her pup friends in about 8 months. Pat knew she wanted to adopt Jane, but also knew Jane couldn't be an only dog. So she called Marchet and they arranged for Jane to pick out her new roommate. She picked Mr. Jim who had been her turn out buddy. Pat took them home and immediately Jane picked her safe spot in the room farthest from any of the household activities. Jane and Jim are still best friends, but as luck would have it, Jane is the instigator of all things devilish. Jane has become a confident happy dog and her favorite game is "where's Jane's belly?" When Pat says that, Jane flops over for a tummy rub and has a huge smile on her face.

The first time Kathy Kreyling saw Sophie was when she was getting off the hauler and she was walking around with another volunteer. Kathy, being the supporter of the underdog person that she is, gravitated to the sisters without even thinking. She was there the first time all three sisters bumped someone with their muzzles. All the volunteers practically did a group dance! Now, that was progress for the Tres Amigas. Kathy took it as her

## Tres Amigas Historia or The Story Of The Three Sisters (con't) By Jeani Penn

personal mission to find the perfect home for Sophie and would take her home once or twice a week to “socialize” her. Kathy didn’t consider adoption because her Golden, Bridgette, wasn’t crazy about sharing “her” house. Well, we all know how that goes. Sophie now lives with Kathy, and is thriving. She’s a happy girl who is comfortable with people and has won over Bridgette. They’re best buds!

Kathy still is amazed at how this fearful little girl has now become a confident dog. Kathy laughs when she thinks about how now Sophie is very vocal when she wants something or doesn’t like something. Sometimes when given a command, and Sophie isn’t in the mood, she looks Kathy right in the eye and barks at her!!! I’d call that progress, for sure.

Keith Olson has a similar story about the first time he saw BB. He remembers how no one could pet or even touch any of the three. BB was especially spooky and would circle the turnout area along the fence line with her tail tucked. When it was time for turnout the girls would cover in the back of their runs, so afraid of humans. Keith and his wife, Toni, took BB home as a foster dog after 16 months at the kennel, and after losing one of their dogs, Taffy. That left Chatterbox as an only dog, which was okay, but Keith and Toni thought she needed company. They had been interested in BB earlier but GPI wanted BB and Jane to go to a home together. Well, as we all know happens sometimes, the kennel had too many dogs and a load was coming in, so Keith and Toni were able to bring BB home as a foster. She spent her first weeks in the crate they had put in the living room. Keith had to go into the crate to get her out to go potty, and sometimes he would go in and just sit with her. After a couple of months they began encouraging her to roam around the house and closed the crate door. At first BB would nervously circle the living room trying to get back into her sanctuary, but eventually she adjusted to being out. They knew they had made progress when upon returning from errands one day, BB and Chatterbox were both standing at the door wagging tails, happy to see them. BB is still very spooky when strangers come into the house but she comes to Keith and Toni and will tolerate petting. She may be the shyest of the sisters, but it sounds like she’s coming around. The first 4th of July they spent together they had to take BB to bed with them and even put her under the covers!!

So, this is the story of the Three Sisters. As all good stories should, it has a very happy ending. When I do meet and greets people ask me if some of the dogs are shy because they’ve been abused.

My standard answer is that some animals are just shy by nature. Not all humans are friendly, and not all Greyhounds are. But these three prove that with love and patience, they can enjoy the forever homes that every dog is entitled to and should have.

Good doggies to Pat, Kathy, Keith and Toni. You have proven that these guys are worth working for and with, and I thank you for what you do and have done.



## Greyt Blood Donations Our Greyhounds are Perfect Candidates ...

By: Judith Fleming

We are all proud greyhound owners and it never gets dull walking around town and getting stopped by folks to ask about our pups. There are so many unique features that our boys and girls share that differ from most other breeds. One of those 'features' that most of us are aware of is their blood. They have a lower white blood count (fewer white blood cells) and a higher packed cell volume (more red blood cells). What many may not be aware of is the fact that our greyhounds have a very high chance of having a universal blood type for dogs. 'Greyt' for being blood donors!!

So... What is the Process? What is/are the Benefit(s)?  
What is/are the downside(s)?

I contacted one of my local Emergency Clinics (Animal Emergency Clinic of the Fraser Valley – [www.animalemerg.com](http://www.animalemerg.com)) that operates a Blood Donation Program. My boy Wes (WB Wonderful Wes, 5 years old) was then given a physical exam and blood was taken to get typing. He matched the criteria of being between the ages of 1-8, greater than 50 pounds, no previous transfusion, spayed/neutered and fed a premium dog food. (Note: dogs fed raw food are unable to donate due to the fact that a raw meat diet tends to have higher levels of bacteria in their system simply due to the higher bacterial levels in their diet.) This would be a concern in lowered or compromised immune systems should they receive the blood. I had identified to the Clinic Coordinator that Wes had previously been treated for Babesia. He was identified at one of GPI's tick testing clinics as having a very high titre (Thank you to the Love's & GPI for the great clinics they run).

Wes passed his first screening (he was confirmed as being a 'universal donor') and thus he then received a complete blood count (CBC), chemistry screen and urinalysis to make sure he is healthy to donate and the blood he donates has adequate 'levels' so an immunocompromised dog would be okay to receive the blood. They also did a recheck for Babesia. His full Chemistry came back with a slight elevation in his liver values. Because this was Wes' first full workup, we didn't know if this was normal for him or if he was just battling something. A few weeks later we did the retest and all was in normal range. Wes was ready to donate!!

To prepare for donating, Wes had a small area on his neck shaved. The Vet Tech's just LOVE greyhounds for donating blood!! They have HUGE veins which make it easy to set up a main line from their neck. Most greyhounds are also very docile and thus getting them on the exam table lying down

is an easy task. Wes was a perfect example as he waited patiently during the whole donation process. Just a walk in the park for my boy! I was a proud Momma!

The process is just like we donate blood. The donation bag sat on a digital scale on the floor. A needle goes into the jugular vein in the neck and it is connected to a tube to the donation bag. The Vet Techs monitor the amount of blood and once there are approximately 450 grams (1 lb.) of blood in the bag, the needle is pulled, pressure is kept on the vein for a few minutes and a bandage is placed on their neck to keep pressure 'just in case'. Of course a Vet Tech would describe it in a much more technical manner than this but from my standpoint watching the whole process – they made it look so easy!

Now, why would / should I put Wes through this process about every 3 months? There are quite a few upsides to being involved in the donor program. If Wes is ever in an accident or has a disease that means he needs blood, he will receive a blood transfusion for no charge. Plus, if he has an emergency, he won't be charged the emergency fee at the Animal Emergency Clinic of the Fraser Valley where we go. Each time he donates, Wes also gets an appreciation gift as well as a ton of hugs and kisses from all the staff there. I am not certain how all Veterinary Clinics operate who have blood donor programs, but this is an example of one here in BC.



## Greyt Blood Donations Our Greyhounds are Perfect Candidates ...

By: Judith Fleming (con't)

Now the big question, what concerns did I have going through the process? Well, not really alot! Of course, something could have been identified by the blood work – but is that not a good thing? Because I could then be proactive about it rather than finding out that my stoic boy had been hiding something for so long and once his body couldn't fight it anymore it was finally visible to me. Sure, it takes a little time out of my day to take Wes to the clinic but in the big picture, this is not a big deal at all. The whole donation process maybe took 45 minutes from me arriving at the clinic to me walking out the door (but then again, they were dealing with another emergency at the time). We all love our Greyhounds because of what they give us – unconditional love, many laughs at the crazy things they do plus so much more. However, why should we receive all the special love and attention that they have to give? Can they not share their special talents with other dogs? Wes does ... Our new family member Heff (Atascocita Hefty) is eagerly awaiting Wes' next donation day so he can find out if he is a universal donor just like his big brother! As the saying goes - "Blood it is in you to give." ... and it is in our greyt boys and girls too!!

A few Dog Blood Donation Programs I am aware of:

Langley, BC : Animal Emergency Clinic of the Fraser Valley ([www.animalemerg.com](http://www.animalemerg.com))

Vancouver, BC : Vancouver Animal Emergency Clinic ([www.animaler.com](http://www.animaler.com))

Seattle / Renton, WA: ACCES Animal Critical Care and Emergency Services: [www.criticalcarevets.com/service/acces-blood-bank](http://www.criticalcarevets.com/service/acces-blood-bank)



## Sponsor A Greyhound The next best thing

If you can't adopt a greyhound you may find that sponsoring a greyhound through Greyhound Pets, Inc. will be your next best rewarding experience. It costs GPI more than the adoption donation of \$250 to get most dogs ready for adoption. Some greyhounds wind up staying in foster or kennel care for longer than others for any number of reasons. These greyhounds incur expenses for things like food, vet care, prescriptions and more. At any given time, we have a number of greyhounds who are considered "Special Needs" who have higher than normal care costs - extra vet care, special foods for allergies, etc.

You can help by donating \$10, \$15, \$25 or more to sponsor one of the many greyhounds in need through GPI.

To start the sponsorship process, send an email to Robin James, our Treasurer, at [robin@artistreegallery.com](mailto:robin@artistreegallery.com). Let Robin know which dog you're interested in sponsoring and organize payment.

You can mail a check or money order to PO Box 891, Woodinville, WA 98072, you can call Robin at 425-481-3501 and give her your credit card info, or you can donate online through the Netword For Good button on our website - [www.greyhoundpetsinc.org](http://www.greyhoundpetsinc.org). Your name will then be added below the dogs info as his/her sponsor.

Greyhound Pets, Inc. is a volunteer organization which depends on your gifts. Listed below are some of the items your donation can purchase for the adoptable dogs of GPI.

~ Muzzle for one kennel dog	\$10
~ Food for one dog for one month	\$20
~ Vaccines for one new dog	\$25
~ One folding table for the kennel	\$50
~ Running a tick test for a new dog	\$65
~ Sponsor a kennel run (per year)	\$500
~ Complete Vetting for a new dog	\$425

Donate \$250, \$500 or \$1,000 to receive an engraved greyhound "leaf" on our gifting tree at the kennel.

## Got Bark Ideas?

Do you have something you would like to see in the Bark? Something you would like more info on, health, food, etc?

Please email Michelle at [gpibark@shaw.ca](mailto:gpibark@shaw.ca)

## Therapy Dogs - Again By Jeani Penn

Last issue I wrote about how to become a Therapy Dog team. This issue I would like to bring you up to date on some of our dogs that have Therapy "careers". I still maintain that there is probably no better breed for therapy work than our mild mannered, polite and loving Greyhounds. There is always that crazy exception, but, in general, these guys are made for this work. I was amazed at the work some of our hounds are doing and truly making the world a better place.

JA Bob was adopted in May of 2012. His owner showed interest in becoming a Therapy Dog team and he recently passed all of his testing requirements with flying colors. They have started going to nursing homes with the Gentle Paws group here in Sequim. I think he's going to have a long career with Nona. From what I hear JA Bob is doing a wonderful job!

Cocoa has been a Therapy Dog for years now and is known all over both Sequim and Port Angeles. She has fans everywhere from the Library, where kids have read to her, to the nursing homes around. She is a member of Gentle Paws, as well. When I meet people, I hear stories about a mother in assisted living who got a visit from Cocoa, or a father in an Alzheimer's Center that can't remember his family, but he can remember a visit from Cocoa. When Cocoa enters a room it puts smiles on the patients faces. She just adds a moment of happiness for these people that can remember a pup from their past. Cocoa's Chris says that she remembers going to an Alzheimer's Center one day to visit the husband of a friend. When the patient saw Cocoa, he smiled a greyt big smile, reached out to her, and said "Hey, Babe". A good example of the power of a pet, as this man had not said a word in weeks!

Stacy, who, sadly, has gone to the Bridge, was a member of a "Pets and Friends" program at a Senior Centre and Hospice. Stacy was a natural at her "profession" and was always invited back. From her very first visit, she proved her patience while standing and letting the patients pet her and scratch her ears. She did the same in each area of the facility without any instruction or encouragement. This was a job she was born to do! She showed she was always ready to go when asked "shall we go visit?" by wagging her tail.

Izzy is part of a team that volunteers at Camp Korey every summer for 2 days a week. It's a summer camp for kids with life-altering medical conditions. Izzy and other therapy dogs make themselves available for pets and pats and love by the kids, and she's seen some of the same kids over her four years. Ruth hands out trading cards with Izzy picture on them. Some of the kids keep her picture on their wall and look forward to seeing her again the next time they visit the camp.

Then we have Atlas who is a gentle giant of a Greyhound that goes to the VA Hospital in Vancouver, WA every couple of months. Les says he's greeted like a rock star when he shows up and if she goes without him they all want to know where he is. Atlas gets his picture taken often, by the vets and Les emails it to them.

And, last but certainly not least, is Ivan. Ivan had a rocky start dealing with some medical issues, but he had a five year career visiting Veterans at the VA Hospital in Seattle where Bruce works as a Neurosurgical Physician Assistant. They were assigned as a team in the area of the hospital that houses the Nursing Home, The Rehab Service, and the Hospice Unit. Ivan was more than happy to greet everyone whether they were in wheelchairs, recliners, or even bedridden. Bruce thinks Ivan bonded with some of the patients because of his own multiple surgeries and medical history. Could be.

I thought a follow up would be interesting so we could all see how wonderful our Greyhounds are at cheering people up, giving them some comfort and being just who and what they are. Also, I'd like to thank all of you who take your dogs to people in need and make their world a better place. As the old saying goes - we can't change the world, but we can help change the world for that one person - even if it is one visit at a time.

Again, if you are interested in becoming a Therapy Team, TDI can be reached by phone at 973.252.9800, or online at [www.tdi-dog.org](http://www.tdi-dog.org). Pet Partners (formerly Delta Society) by phone at 425-679-5500 or can be found at [www.deltasociety.org](http://www.deltasociety.org). Pet Partners actually has classes that can be taken prior to testing in preparation for the test. Both organizations' websites are very helpful. There truly is too much information available to put in this article.



### **Do you purchase items from Amazon.com?**

Click on the Amazon.com link on our home page and GPI receives a referral fee donation for every dollar spent. [www.greyhoundpetsinc.org](http://www.greyhoundpetsinc.org)

**Do you know that Greyhound Pets, Inc. has a Facebook Page?** Check it out – there is a link on our home page or just search for us on Facebook.

**Are your gates and fence secure?** Have you walked your fence recently to check that it is secure - no rotten boards, holes that a dog could escape through, missing boards, rusty wire, etc.? Are all gates securely padlocked (if possible) or secured with some kind of clip and/or automatic closing device?

## The Notice Board - Stuff you need to know!!

### ~ Returning Your Greyhound.

Please remember, if for any reason you cannot or do not want to keep your greyhound, he/she MUST be returned to Greyhound Pets, Inc. (part of the Adoption Contract you signed). Finding a loving greyhound home for your greyhound should be handled by someone who understands the needs of these great animals. Contact us at 877-468-7681 to make arrangements.

### ~ Have you moved? Do we have your current phone and e-mail addresses as well as physical and mailing addresses?

Please make sure that GPI has your current **physical, mailing and e-mail addresses, and your home and cell phone numbers.** E-mail Moira at [fastpaws@centurytel.net](mailto:fastpaws@centurytel.net) or contact her through the GPI PO Box. Thanks for helping keep GPI's database current.

~ **Is your Greyhound wearing a collar and identification tags?** Please take a moment to make sure your greyhound is wearing a collar with identification tags. Please make sure your greyhound has a GPI tag on his collar. If your greyhound is missing a GPI tag, please call 877-468-7681 or write us at:

Greyhound Pets, Inc.

New Tags

PO Box 891

Woodinville, WA 98072

We will gladly send you a new GPI tag.



~ **Why is a collar and GPI tag important?** If your greyhound gets lost, the toll free number can be called and we can help get your dog back to you faster. Plus, if you've moved and haven't updated your phone/address tag, then GPI's toll free number could be the only way your greyhound is safely returned to you. Without a collar and ID tags, it is much harder to locate and reunite you. Please keep your dog's tags current and update GPI about any phone or address changes.

If you don't like the sound of the tags jingling, try a tag bag, an elastic band around the tags, or some of the rubber bumpers for keys around each tag. But please do not leave your dog without a collar and tags. Your dog's life may depend upon those tags.

All current GPI dogs are microchipped and registered to GPI, as a backup safety net, but if found, someone has to get the dog to a place that can read the microchip before we can try and reunite you and your dog.

### ~ What should I do if my Greyhound gets loose?

- Call the GPI toll free number IMMEDIATELY!! 877-468-7681 (enter us as a contact in your cell phone). We will get a search party organized, post it on our website and social media pages, and alert folks your dog is missing

### ~ What should I do if my Greyhound gets loose?

- Take a squawker (available at the GPI Rootique) and your CELL PHONE with you when you start your search. If your home phone number is on your dog's tags, make sure someone is available at that number as well in case a good Samaritan finds your pup.
- Have a Missing Dog flyer with your dog's picture on your computer ready to print and post at a moment's notice.
- For more tips on finding your lost dog go to [www.greyhoundpetsinc.org/lostdog.html](http://www.greyhoundpetsinc.org/lostdog.html)

### ~ Has your Greyhound passed on recently?

If you have had your Greyhound pass to the Rainbow Bridge, please contact Moira at [fastpaws@centurytel.net](mailto:fastpaws@centurytel.net) or contact her through the GPI PO Box.

## 3rd Annual Greyt Walkathon 2013

### Two locations:

- Bellevue Downtown Park, Bellevue, WA
- Town Centre Park Picnic Area, Coquitlam BC
- Sunday, July 14th, 2013
- 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- Register online at: [GetMeRegistered.com](http://GetMeRegistered.com)



### Have Internet Access?

Join our Greyhound Pet, Inc. email/chat list.

To subscribe to the list just visit [www.greyhoundpetsinc.org/chat.html](http://www.greyhoundpetsinc.org/chat.html)

Want more information? Just email Cathy Munro at [adopt.greyhounds@gmail.com](mailto:adopt.greyhounds@gmail.com)

## **Greyhounds and Bone Cancer**

### **Osteosarcoma - Making the best decision for your pet.**

**By Cindy Duff, DVM**

Our athletic four-legged companions enrich our lives in so many ways. In return, we care for them the best way we know how. But what to do when you have a persistent lameness that begins to affect your pet's quality of life? Osteosarcoma (OSA) is a cause of persistent lameness that unfortunately plagues this breed in particular. Many owners struggle with the decision of pursuing treatment versus ending the suffering. How does one make the 'right' decision when there are so many factors to consider? Armed with the knowledge and stats of the disease, hopefully if faced with OSA, we can make the best decision for our beloved pet.

#### ***What is it?***

Osteosarcoma (OSA) is a type of malignant bone cancer, most commonly affecting the long bones of middle aged or elderly dogs. It is the most common bone tumor in retired racing greyhounds (45%) and the most common cause of death in this breed (25%). It is thought that the repetitive trauma and fatigue in bones during their racing careers are a risk for the disease, as are genetic components. The disorganized cancer cells replace the healthy bone from the inside out, making the overall bone weak and susceptible to non-healing fractures. OSA is painful, aggressive, and highly metastatic.

#### ***My dog is lame. What do I do?***

Perform an exam at home, ruling out any obvious causes for pain. Keep in mind that OSA is two times more likely to occur in the front limb. Check all the pads for corns, cysts in between the toes, foreign bodies (splinters, engrained pebbles etc) any signs of inflammation – redness, heat, pain. Run your hands from the base of the paw, upwards, looking for any heat/pain. OSA is painful to the touch, and in many cases result in pathological fractures (fractures that normally wouldn't occur unless the bone was already somehow weakened/already damaged) which causes inflammation, thus heat. The affected area is usually warm to the touch (compare the opposite limb for heat and symmetry) and painful. Any persistent lameness with unidentified cause warrants a trip to your veterinarian.

#### ***Diagnosis – A trip to the vet***

After examining your pet and identifying the area of discomfort, the veterinarian will recommend radiographs (X-rays). OSA has a recognizable appearance on radiographs, so most of the time, the diagnosis is clear. There are several other diseases that can cause the bone to react and appear similarly on radiographs, so if the radiograph is not completely diagnostic, the vet may recommend

some other test to confirm or disprove this, such as a biopsy. A biopsy will give you a definitive diagnosis, and from here, the decision making process begins.

#### ***Treatment***

Unfortunately, OSA is a very aggressive, fast spreading tumor. By the time we identify the tumor in the limb, it has already spread. The prognosis from the moment OSA is diagnosed is usually 4-5 months. This makes treatment focused on two different aspects: keeping the pet comfortable, and slowing down the spread of the cancer. Prior to making a decision regarding treatment, it is important to get an idea of how far the cancer has spread already. Poor prognostic indicators include visible tumors in the chest and an elevated alkaline phosphatase on bloodwork.

#### ***Chemotherapy***

- The only treatment that will help slow down OSA
- Radiographs of the chest, bloodwork and amputation of the limb are usually performed prior to going ahead with chemotherapy.
- The oncologist will choose a chemotherapy protocol tailored for the individual, depending on organ function, age as well as other factors

#### ***Pain Control***

The pain is originating from the cancerous bone. Most dogs are euthanized due to the pain in the affected bone. If we can't manage the pain, your pet won't be comfortable, and a decision must be made – whether this be amputation of the limb or euthanasia. Keep in mind, amputation will not extend the life of your pet. It will only make them comfortable for the remainder of his/her life. Factors that will influence the decision to amputate the limb are the size and weight of dog, the condition of the other limbs and joints, the stage of cancer, and the location of the cancer.

If amputation is a viable option, removal of that limb can resolve pain in all cases. Most dogs do quite well on 3 legs, and are able to live out the remainder of their lives, pain free. From the moment of diagnosis, dogs usually have 4-5 months to live – regardless of whether the limb is amputated or not. If amputation is followed up with chemotherapy, the survival time can be extended by 3-36 months, with approximately 50% surviving up to a year.



## Greyhounds and Bone Cancer

### Osteosarcoma - Making the best decision for your pet. *cont.*

By Cindy Duff, DVM

#### *Radiotherapy for pain control*

Effective for pain control in 60% of patients. A good option for dogs where amputation is not an option.

#### *NSAIDs: Non-Steroidal Anti-inflammatory Drugs*

These drugs relieve pain caused by inflammation. Most commonly used for arthritis and soft tissue injuries. This medication is often used in combination with a narcotic to achieve good pain control in OSA patients. Examples: meloxicam, carprofen, deracoxib, etodolac

#### *Narcotics*

A well known family of pain medications that are highly effective. Quite safe even if liver or kidney function is impaired. Commonly used in combination with NSAIDs, but often effective on their own if NSAIDs cannot be used. Examples: tramadol, butorphanol, morphine, hydromorphone

#### *Other*

Gabapentin and Amantadine.

Gabapentin –works on neurologic pain. Often used in arthritis in combination with NSAIDs and narcotics.

Amantadine – less commonly used, but reduces the process of hypersensitization of nerves to pain, also known as windup.

#### *Making the decision to say good bye*

This is never an easy choice for owners. Some feel as though they've let their pet down – this is not the case at all. Veterinarians are sensitive to the fact and appreciate that this is a painful disease. You, the owners know your pet better than anyone else in the world. When the pain cannot be controlled and your pet's quality of life comes into question, euthanasia may be the only available option. It's another form of kindness we can offer to them to relieve pain and end suffering. Your veterinarian will be there to help in the decision making process to make your pet comfortable.



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 Thank you so much for your gift to  
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 much!



# ADOPTED!!

October 1, 2012 through March 30, 2013

Tag Number	Registered Name	Nickname	Tag Number	Registered Name	Nickname
4736	Sol Tasmania	Taz	5449	Call Me Perfect	Perfect
4842	Oklahoma Bling	Bling	5450	Virtuoso	Slade
4854	Brew Crew	Brew	5451	Pat C Magic Moon	Magic
4966	Mocan Della	Darcy	5454	Brunos Tim	Tim
5066	Flying Aiva	Aiva	5456	Atascocita Fabia	Fabia
5257	Kiowa Ww Bears	Bears	5457	Atascocita Litzy	Litzy
5321	Kiowa WW Clark	Jake	5463	Atascocita Razor	Razor
5327	Ahk Dowahditty	Honey	5467	Kiowa Ak Odessa	Odey
5348	Feed Bucket Tom	Abe	5474	Tom Allman	Tom
5355	Biblio Ray	Ray	5476	Jnb Creamnsugar	Sugar
5357	WW Crystal Julia	Julia	5477	Dangerous Moment	Dandy
5360	Shippin It	Ship			
5361	None	Shane			
5387	Atascocita Moto	Moto			
5391	Atascocita Tad	Tad			
5399	Hotfoot Zena	Zena			
5405	Weekend Express	Alisa			
5408	I'm Going Far	Faith			
5409	None	Flicka			
5412	Super C Syra	Syra			
5414	Atascocita Gord	Gord			
5415	Superior Gunner	Gunner			
5416	Flyin Alternator	Ezra			
5417	Super C Cheever	Cheever			
5419	Hookem Justin	Justin			
5420	None	Amtrak			
5421	Tracking Baker	Baker			
5422	Atascocita Dilly	Dilly			
5423	Atascocita Villa	Villa			
5424	Atascocita Lanie	Lanie			
5425	Atascocita Shea	Shea			
5426	Atascocita Sam	Sam			
5427	Atascocita Tab	TB			
5428	Atascocita Rowe	Rowe			
5429	Atascocita Binon	Bye			
5430	Atascocita Ryan	Ryan			
5431	Atascocita Hefty	Hefty			
5432	Atascocita Holt	Holt			
5433	Atascocita Mokey	Mokey			
5434	Hotfoot Perry	Perry			
5435	B's Gizmo	Curly			
5436	Westward Ho	West			
5437	Lucky Layton	Bubba			
5439	Barts Roughneck	Oso			
5441	ALE Troy Boy	Radar			
5443	Chalita Diaz	Chalita			
5444	Amy Grant	Amy			
5445	Super C Angelica	Angelica			
5447	Top Model	Cleo			



## Rainbow Bridge Memorial ~ We will miss them

Notices Received Through April 15th, 2013

Tag Number	Registered Name	Nickname	Tag Number	Registered Name	Nickname
3257	First Choice	Chas	4531	AWW Pick a Joe	Joey
3351	Hallo Oregon	Riko	4561	Gable Vanilla	Vanilla
3565	Serengeti Nosey	Nosey	4578	RT's Grace	Grace
3684	Kid's Gilda	Gilda	4609	None	Gabe
3735	DJ's Cream Puff	Addie	4620	Bella Seth	Seven
3737	Harvey's Pumper	Tux	4630	OJ Beauty	Genie
3749	BR Harlyn	Harlyn	4643	Apache Lee	Hayley
3863	Ali Blue Eyes	Blue	4657	Highwind Shadow	Shadow
3886	Stay Awake	No Doz	4713	E's Boss	Spencer
3889	For All the Marbles	Tigger	4773	None	Stacy
3965	Valley Khaki	Patty	4799	TT Dadda	Cooper
4045	Hidden Ace	Ace	4821	DCs Achilles	Achilles
4091	Red Hotman	Red	4863	Piper Calling	Piper
4125	Arjo Vern	Vern	4864	Rayvan	Rayvan
4134	Bob's Marcel	Emily	4907	USS Newyear	Ebony
4147	Blue Sky	Sky	4987	SE's Bankontubby	Toby
4186	None	Patches	4995	GS Kayla	Kayla
4193	Mesa Tracy	Tracy	5025	Wilcoe WV	Freya
4352	None	Koda	5089	Burma Sunrise	Burma
4354	Brazo Miracle	Mas	5165	Star Studded	Sheldon
4435	Crystal Daffy	Dafni	5190	Shall We Shag	Shag
4441	PA's Drivenbeast	Stuart	5265	Starz Kwik	Kwik
4460	Leggs Pretty	Sophie	5352	Seegold Finn	Finny
4486	Boc's Patchman	Archie	5410	Yahoo Reba	Reba
4497	None	Sweetie			



### Share Your Memories

Share your memories of your beloved pup -- Submit a memorial write-up and a few pictures to our web editor and she will put up a Rainbow Bridge tribute to your pup on our website. You can reach Cathy Munro, our web editor, at [adopt.greyhounds@gmail.com](mailto:adopt.greyhounds@gmail.com)

## The Kennel Needs You

Would you like to donate some goodies to the kennel? Here is a list of things the kennel needs to keep our newest pups warm & healthy:

- |  |                      |
|--|----------------------|
| Kirkland Lamb and Rice Kibble          | Paper Towels         |
| Natural Balance Potato and Duck Kibble | Non-stuffed Blankets |
| Kirkland Dog Biscuits                  | Blankets and quilts  |
| Canned Pumpkin (not the pie filling)   | Stamps (Forever)     |
| Bleach                                 | Glucosamine          |
| 13-Gallon trash bags with ties         | Fish Oil Capsules    |

If you can help with any of these items, please contact Moira Corrigan at 206-718-0475 or [fastpaws@centurytel.net](mailto:fastpaws@centurytel.net)

## The Greyhounds Thank You!

In This Issue:

- ~ Pg 1 - Presidents Letter
- ~ Pg 2 - Who We are
- ~ Pg 4 - 5 - Koda & Karma's Korner / The Story Of The Three Sisters
- ~ Pg 6 - 7 - Greyt Blood Donations
- ~ Pg 8 - Therapy Dogs - Again
- ~ Pg 10 - 11 - Greyhounds and Bone Cancer

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