

2nd Quarter, 2002

# On The Right Track

## Our President

### Letter From

We have had many events in the last three months. Just to name a few, the Home & Garden Show, The St. Patrick Day Parade – GPA won the award for the best animal group! The Easter Hound Hoopla and the bunny showed up too. We had lots of storefronts, and informal outings with our greys to run and be puppies in the wind. We have lots of new

families and greyhounds in their forever home. We will always have more to find homes for.

This issue is dedicated to the Senior Greyhound. As you may have noticed we have quite a few on our website – well they are at the kennel waiting for you and their forever homes. For many of us these are the very special greyhounds that need homes. In September 2000 my Stanley came to live with us. He was 11 years old and from Ireland. My Stanley went to the Rainbow Bridge in January of this year. Many of us have lost our Senior in the last few months. I miss him all the time but have no regrets for taking him into my life. As we all would like to have more time, there just wasn't enough. All Stanley ever asked for was "Mama get off the phone **or** give me a treat", he got lots of healthy treats. His love really was unconditional. He never got on the furniture, he didn't chew anything up and he asked if he could go outside even with the doggy door. We all have loving stories about our Senior greys that have passed and it does help to share them.

Please think about our Senior's and see if there isn't a place in your home for the sweetest greyhound. They ask for so little, just love and hugs which are so easy to give

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and a place to call home. May is National Greyhound Senior Month and there are lots of gifts available for adopting these special greyhounds.

Sharry MacLaren  
President, GPA Houston

## Grey Spa

Been a while since you clipped your grey's nails? Are you beginning to notice a slight doggie aroma? Are your pups ears in need of a good clean out? Well, here is your chance to get your pup pampered. Gpa Houston will be conducting a Grey Spa on May 18th from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM at the Pet Hotel. For a mere \$18.00 your grey will be treated to a bath, ear cleaning, teeth brushing, nail clipping, a nice relaxing brushing session and finish off with a treat. Drinks and snacks will be available for humans to purchase.

A member has offered to donate \$10.00 to GPA Houston for each dog that is bathed. That's an offer we can't refuse. For more information contact Janny (janny@gpahouston.org) or call the office.



# Area Coordinators

## Contact Information

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Shelter Office: 713-667-3804

For Emergencies: 713-866-4466 (Answering Service)

We have broken down the Houston Metropolitan Area into sections to facilitate handling storefronts and other local events. Each area has a "coordinator" that is in charge of things going on in that part of town.

Below is a brief outline of each area and where it is located. Also listed are area coordinators for that area.

- Area 1** Roughly inside Loop 610, beginning downtown and going north and west through the Bellaire area.  
Coordinator Available
- Area 3** West Houston, north of I-10  
Coordinator Jan Szyskzyowski
- Area 4** Southwest Houston  
Coordinator Julie Rowe 832-265-7426  
julie@gpahouston.org
- Area 5** Area south and east of Houston, from Pasadena down to Galveston.  
Coordinator Tom Miller 281 218-0836  
enpaix@ev1.net  
Jim/Karen Guerra 281 286-7629  
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- Area 6** Cities southwest of Houston (Sugarland, Stafford, Missouri City, etc.)  
Coordinator Available
- Area 7** Far northwest Houston and its suburbs  
Coordinator Sharry MacLaren 281 651-6565  
sharry@gpahouston.org
- Area 8** The Woodlands and areas north  
Coordinator Diana Ballard 281-367-5014  
dballard13@juno.net
- Area 9** Kingwood  
Coordinator Joanne Timm 281 299-4448  
greyhoundcraze@aol.com
- Area 10** Beaumont Area  
Coordinator Julie Buckles 409 745-2828  
buck45@mbusa.net
- Area 11** Far West Houston and Katy  
Coordinator Laura Marshall 281 599-8918  
llllnm@houston.rr.net

**On The Right Track** is a quarterly publication of GPA/Houston, Inc. Deadlines are April 1, July 1, October 1, and January 1. Items to be considered for publication may be sent to: newsletter@gpahouston.org or Newsletter Committee, P. O. Box 741176, Houston, TX 77274-1176. Newsletter Committee has the right to review all material submitted for content and clarity. Newsletter subscriptions are available to non-members for \$30 per year.

**Contributors:** Noreen Reid, Nicole Butler, Tim Heller, Laura Marshall, Sharry MacLaren, Avery Fletcher

# Calendar of Events

**We need your help** -if you can work, plan or help to plan any of the following , please email our [Events Coordinator \(julie@gpahouston.org\)](mailto:julie@gpahouston.org)

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Place</b>
April 20-21, 27-28	International Festival 11am-8pm	Downtown Houston, TX
April 26-28 Kanab	Greyhound Gathering	Kanab, Utah
May 11	Giftwrapping 10am-10pm	Barnes & Noble Clear Lake
May 11	Giftwrapping 10am-10pm	Barnes & Noble West Oaks
May 11	Giftwrapping 10am-10pm	Barnes & Noble Voss/Westheimer
May 18	Grey Spa	Pet Hotel
May 18	PAWS Houston Kick Off 2-5 pm	Whiskey Dick's
June 15	Giftwrapping 10am-10pm	Barnes & Noble Clear Lake
June 15	Giftwrapping 10am-10pm	Barnes & Noble Voss/Westheimer
June 15,	Giftwrapping 10am-10pm	Barnes & Noble West Oaks
June 13,14,15,16	Greyhound America 2002	Abilene, Kansas
July18-21	Astroarena Annual Dog Show	Reliant Hall
July 26-July 28	GPA National Convention	Riviera Hotel Las Vegas
October 25-27	Texas Home & Garden Show	Reliant Hall
October 26,27,28	Dewey Beach Reunion	Dewey Beach, Delaware
October	Annual Houston Halloween Party	Houston, TX
October	3rd Annual Greyhound Classic	Tour 18 Golf course..
Nov.-Dec.	Christmas Giftwrap	Barnes and Noble

Anyone interested in working at any of the above events, or planning or helping to plan any of the above events, **please** contact: [Julie \(julie@gpahouston.org\)](mailto:julie@gpahouston.org) as soon as possible.



# Volunteer Spotlight

## David Johnson

David hasn't been involved with GPA for very long but his help has been great, and I wanted this chance to thank him. Over the last few months, he has been there to lend a helping hand. His greatest job was driving dogs to the vets, at any time that he could. He also came in and did some handy work around the office, which included hammering, sawing and even some painting. His cat was also put through some "testing" with some of the dogs. He has recently started a new job and his volunteering has diminished somewhat but he still does his monthly storefront with his wife, Kim and their 2 greys, Doc and Phoebe. We wish him the best of luck and look forward to seeing him at the kennel again soon.

## Janny Planting

What can I say about Janny? Nothing bad. She has been tireless with what she does, recently becoming the kennel volunteer coordinator. She's been involved with GPA for many years and is the proud mom of Vista, Solitaire, Sweet Pea and Tootsie. She has done all the orientations for ALL volunteers and keeps everyone up to date on what needs to be done at the kennel. Not to mention coming in every week to help groom all the dogs. So hats off to you Janny and keep up the grey work!!!

Nicole

# The Purrfect Volunteer

Volunteers on the GPA/Houston team come in all shapes and sizes with the ultimate goal of finding the best match of greyhound and a new family. No job is too big or too small. And while some volunteers are more visible than others, that doesn't lessen their contribution to the organization as a whole. One such group of behind-the-scenes "volunteers" is made up of all the cats who cat-test the greyhounds. Having just lost our 17 1/2 year old cat, Turbo, we draw back on our memories of him. Many of those thoughts intertwine with our life as members of the GPA family and



our foster dogs. I don't know how many of you are aware that when we joined GPA 11 1/2 years ago there wasn't cat-testing as there is today. You fostered a dog, brought it home and handled whatever situation came along. In fact, our very first foster dog, Bob, came into our house and immediately, upon sighting Turbo, pinned him up against the kitchen window like a suction-cup toy in a car window. Luckily we had a muzzle on him and no harm was done, but it just never occurred to us he wouldn't get along fine with the cat. After a few days of the cat living upstairs and Bob downstairs (Bob didn't know stairs at the time) along with some positive reinforcement for proper behaviour, Bob became accepting of Turbo's place in the home. For Turbo's part, he was an aggressive cat with all his claws and he took every opportunity to reinforce his standing in the existing family structure to Bob and all the other foster dogs that came into our house through the years. Even when GPA started formally testing dogs at the Shelter, our foster dogs got a refresher course from Turbo on how to treat him and his brethren that they were able to use when they were finally placed in their forever-homes. There were quite a few dogs in our fostering career that we had to rescue because Turbo was acting the bully and had them cornered.

So this tribute goes out to ALL those cats who have, in GPA/Houston's past, present and future, helped to purrform the task of cat-testing, and even in a few cases reforming, greyhounds waiting for that purrfect home. (Sorry, I couldn't resist the pun.)

If some of you old-timers like us have a memory or two about your feline's part-time job as a greyhound tester from way back, or today, we'd love to hear it. Our newer members might get a kick out of the stories. It might also enlighten people to the lengths that GPA "volunteers" of all shapes and sizes go to, then and now, in order to aid in the adoption process by knowing as much as possible about each dog's individuality.

Laura Marshall



# Classified Ads

## Can you help our staff by:

Cleaning the office and carpeted area?  
Dusting merchandizing area?  
Stocking giftshop items?  
Helping with the laundry of dog bedding  
Helping to keep the storage closet organized?  
Misc. administrative duties.

Here is a list of just some of the tasks that need **your** generous support:

- Bathing
- Nail clipping
- Teeth brushing
- General grooming in addition to the monthly bath brigade.
- Helping to exercise and walk the dogs. (These very important tasks are crucial for the socialization of our dogs!—very easy, much fun!)
- Transporting to local clinics for immunization.
- Giving monthly frontline and heartworm treatments.

You can pick the day, time and frequency of your schedule. Please fill out the [volunteer form](#), let us know what you would like to do and someone will get back to you shortly.

## Donations Requested:

**Building Fund, General Expenses, Food and Supplies**

## Special Needs Hounds

Since we have taken in greyhounds with ailments from a broken hock, to mysterious skin problems to heartworms, and everything in between, our monthly vet bills are astronomical. If you would like to help defray these medical expenses please visit our [Special Hounds](#) section on the webpage to offer your support. ~Thank you.

## We need the following items for our day-to-day operation:

**Frontline:** Maybe you can ask your vet if he/she is willing to donate frontline for our greys. We need to be ahead of the fleas and especially the ticks.

**Chlorhexiderm topical** antiseptic flush — 2 percent solution. Made by DVM Pharmaceuticals.

**Adult T-shirts**, size large, for the greys who consistently manage to work their way out of their blankets. Robbie plans to cut the arms out, shorten the shirts and knot them in the back so the greys will stay warm.

**Dog Coats:** new, used, store-bought or handmade—we'll take them all!

**Dog Food:** Premium Edge Lamb and Rice. This food can be purchased at the Pet Hotel.

**Paper towels**

**Bristle Brushes**

**Miller Forge stainless steel nail clippers**

**Larger sized muzzles:** for the kennel. Call the shelter if you can help with this one — phone: 713-667-3804

**Shampoo:** we like to try the Mane 'N Tail

**Absorbent towels**

**Toothpaste for dogs**

## Foster Family Program-

We need Foster Homes throughout the year to help with the overflow at the Pet Hotel.

There are several times during the year when we are asked to vacate the Pet Hotel for their paying guests at which time we need you in a very big way. If you would like to be considered for our Foster Family List, please send your note to this address:

[fosterfamily@gpahouston.org](mailto:fosterfamily@gpahouston.org).

Be sure to let us know your requests—cat safe or small animal friendly, small child friendly, etc. Also, be sure to give us a phone or pager number that we can reach you

## **Kennel Volunteer Form**

**I'd like to volunteer:**

Once a month      Every other month      More often

**My preferred days are:**

1<sup>st</sup> Saturday      2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday      3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday      4<sup>th</sup> Saturday

Other Days

**My preferred hours are:**

9-11 o'clock      11-1 o'clock      1-3 o'clock

**Are you willing to commit to come each time or find a replacement when you are unavailable?**    Yes    No

**Do you have a dog(s)?**    Yes    No    **If so, what breed(s)?**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Comments \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# Greyt Photo Gallery



Bandit and his new little sister. Welcome to the GPA family, Avery Lin Kelley.



We are thinking about hiring Run Bun to do a little free advertising for GPA Houston.



Raggie enjoying the finer things in life.



Winnie teaching her new friend how to get some attention from the humans. "Just do this for a while and they will come running out to play with you."



In memory of Honey  
Honey and Starla enjoying a bit of fun.



Zoe enjoying the view from her very own window.

If you would like to submit a picture for our GreytPhoto Gallery, email it to [newsletter@gpahouston](mailto:newsletter@gpahouston) or snail mail it to the Newsletter, PO Box 741176, Houston, TX 77274

# Who Would Have Thunk it?

Tips and Advice for the new and experienced greyhound owner

We are trying out a new column where members can submit suggestions and remedies for problems and situations that arise when owning a greyhound. These suggestions should be taken as just that... suggestions, and should NEVER EVER take the place of responsible pet ownership or proper veterinarian care.”

## **Keeping those wounds, cuts, scraps, tears, and stitches away from teeth and tounge.**

*Ode to a Tube Sock” by Laura Marshall*

In our 12 years with GPA, we have been faced with the challenge of keeping a dog from licking a wound and are not keen on the idea of an Elizabethan collar banging around the house on the dog’s neck. Cutting up a tube sock in various configurations (elastic top and toe) has worked for us since “our of sight, out of mind” has prevailed in our dog’s thought processes. A sweatshirt sleeve (sew 2 strips of the same sweatshirt onto the sleeve’s cut end and tie loosely around the dog’s waist to keep the sleeve from falling and yet is not constricting movement) has also worked in the past to cover a whole leg keeping a large bandaged wound inaccessible or an unbandaged wound open to air flow. Or, using a large-gauge syringe casing, attached with gauze and fabric tape, to the end of a battered tail to protect it while it heals. The casing allows the wound to breath while healing, protects it from being reinjured when the dog wags it tail, the dog can’t tamper with the wound no matter how pointy the nose and if the wound does reopen, any bleeding will be generally confined to the inside of the casing. And from personal experience, we added a bright red bow for that feminine touch while the tail healed on our first greyhound, Kim, 12 years ago.

*Curlers Aren't Just for Hair Anymore*

If you ever have to deal with the Happy Tail Syndrom, try using a sponge curler. Slit the curler up the side, wrap it around the injured area, wrap with vet wrap. The wound can breath which will help healing and a sponge roller is nice and soft when whacking you across the shins. Any one that has had a dog with happy tail incased in a plastic case knows how painful that can be :-)

## **The Dasterdly Digging Dog**

If a dog digs, I was told to refill the hole(s) with dirt AND feces which is a deterrent for the dog to dig there again. I haven’t had personal experience with this on a big scale but it does make sense. And, don’t ever let your dog see you digging in the garden because it gives them the idea that it is OK and loads of fun, to boot. If your dog is digging up your yard, try giving him his own special place to dig, place some sand in an area of your choice and praise your dog everytime he digs there.

**Please submit your tips and suggestions to [newsletter@gpahouston.org](mailto:newsletter@gpahouston.org).**



## TAKE ME HOME, PLEASE!

We went to GPA that day to “look” at the greyhounds! Sarah had wanted one for about five years (Sarah is my daughter, and it was soon to be her 14<sup>th</sup> birthday.) My husband and Sarah had each called Gulf Greyhound Park and Greyhound Pets of America for information and directions. I had told Sarah that we would “look only” at one place to see what greys were available. Carla answered the phone at GPA and was so friendly and enthusiastic that we decided GPA was the place to go.

After assuring myself that I was reasonably certain I knew where I was going, Sarah and I set off. Mind you, this was a journey to “look only”. I had promised my husband and myself that I would not return with yet another pet. Famous last words! We had been in the kennel only about ten minutes when a man walked in with a gorgeous greyhound on a leash. Both the man and the greyhound had tears in their eyes. The greyhound came immediately up to Sarah and started working his magic. The man, however, was looking more and more miserable by the minute. He had to return his beloved dog due to a change in lifestyle. It wasn't long before a very kind soul with a beautiful silver braid (Sharry) said “Here, let me take him for you.” The man smiled a brave smile and thanked the nice lady. By that time, both Sarah and I were hooked. I found myself filling out adoption papers then and there! We had decided that this was the dog for us! Carla insisted, though, that we at least MEET the other dogs. It was at that moment that my love affair with greyhounds began. We walked up and down the kennel, we petted and talked to the dogs, we read their cards and watched as their eyes met ours. It seemed as if each one said “Take me home, please! I want to love you and be loved by you and live with you forever.” One in particular, made a special connection with me; his name is Braveheart. He had been at the kennel for many, many months; he wasn't old, but he was “a lot to handle”. Still, we had already made our selection, and he was waiting for us in the office. He had asked first, and, after all, Sarah had her heart set on a brindle. We just couldn't let that beauty go back into the kennel. As difficult as it was to walk away from Braveheart who had been there so long, Sarah and I signed the papers and did something unusual, we walked out with our dog that very afternoon.

On the drive home, we continued to talk about Braveheart and how we wished we could have taken him also. He had been there so long! Of course, the family fell in love with our newest member, renamed Bengal on the drive home, as soon as we walked in the door. Sarah and I did something else

that night as well; we filled out applications to become volunteers at the kennel. That was in October.

Each time we went to work at the kennel Braveheart was still there. He wasn't the only long time resident. As glad as I was to see him each week, it also broke my heart to see such a loving and beautiful animal still unadopted. At Thanksgiving, we jumped at the chance to foster him for the holiday period. Yep, you guessed it; we failed Fostering 101. Braveheart found his forever home with us as soon as he walked in the door. That beautiful dog that was “a lot to handle” is the sweetest, gentlest, most loving dog I've ever known, and I've had many, many dogs in my lifetime. He was also listed as “not cat or small animal friendly.” Let me tell you, he plays for hours on end with a nine-inch tall dog that Sarah rescued and brought home! Braveheart and Texas are the best of friends!

It is amazing how different the dogs are once they are in a home. Shy dogs come out of their shells, “hard to handle” dogs settle down and become big couch potatoes, “not cat friendly” dogs become “pussycats” themselves, and always, they look at you with love. The antics of a greyhound are comical and endearing. They look at garbage cans and counter tops as smorgasbords, and their tails make wonderful dusters for your coffee tables. The greyhound will also put his/her “needle nose” under your arm and force you to surrender a hug. They will run like the wind given the opportunity. The “greyhound stretch” looks as if the dogs are bowing before you. It brings a smile to my face every time I see it!

Each time I log onto the GPA website I look at the available dogs list hoping that our long-term residents have found their forever home. I go to work at the kennel hoping that I will find empty cages where Amy and Pebbles have lived for so long. Even though I love them and am glad to see them, my joy in seeing them is marred by the knowledge that they have not yet gone to their perfect forever home. There are others like Amy and Pebbles; Mail Man and Whitney have now been at the kennel for several months, and they are older dogs that grew up together and would make a perfect pair for the right family. (They really want to be adopted together, and they are beautiful.) Big Boy Style melts my heart every time I see him; he is ten going on three! A more gorgeous dog would be hard to find. If you are looking for the perfect companion and are looking for a greyhound, please take a moment to look at the older dogs and/or the dogs that have been long-time residents at GPA. I promise you, you won't be disappointed!

Avery Fletcher

# **Greyhounds Are Flying**

## **Taken from an article by Joan Belle Isle,**

### **The Greyhound Project**



It all started innocently enough when a representative of AK Media Company stopped by the Daytona Beach Greyhound Adoption Program. Although he could not adopt a greyhound, he wanted to do something to help and offered to make unsold advertising space available in airports for displays promoting greyhound adoption. He could not guarantee that the promotion would be up 100% of the time, and they would be moved around the airports depending on where the space was available. The space would be free, but the adoption group would have to get the display produced and delivered to the airports.

Airports get a huge amount of traffic every day - business travelers, families traveling on vacation, families and friends meeting people arriving. Even small regional airports get a large amount of traffic. The demographics on the traveling population in the U.S. describe well-educated, financially secure, responsible people. Exactly the kind of people to get interested in adopting retired greyhounds

The offer was too good to pass up, but too much for one adoption group to handle alone. That is when The ASPCA and The Greyhound Project became involved. When Cynthia Cash offered to handle the research and coordination, the project took off. The ASPCA and The Greyhound Project each contributed \$2000 to launch the project.

Cynthia located and got bids from the companies that produce the displays for the major airport advertising companies, and we negotiated with five of the major airport advertising companies to provide the same service as that being offered by AK Media. TKO Visual Communications, the production company selected, helped to develop a simple visual display that is intended to grab attention for the dogs. Because a large proportion of the travelers may be “passing through”

rather than “going home” when they see the exhibit, we decided that they should all have the 800 referral numbers - the GPA/AGC number and the NGAN number. Both networks refer to adoption groups based on where the individual lives.

Whenever we mentioned the project to any of the greyhound groups, they wanted to know how they could become involved. With the initial funding, we expected to be able to place two displays in the ten most heavily used airport, but with the interest of everyone we talked to, the project rapidly expanded to seventy-nine displays in thirty-eight airport. We even had individuals who wanted to sponsor display as a memorial to special greyhounds. For adoption groups sponsoring displays, we added a line for the name of the group and the local telephone number. This is only the beginning. There are hundreds of airports all over the country. We want to see greyhounds in all of them.

### **Donations for Star of Hope**

Several of our members are active volunteers with the Star of Hope Mission in Houston . It came to our attention that they are in desperate need of food at this time. We have set up a donation box in our office at the Pet Hotel. They are in need of all non perishable food items, especially baby formula and pedialite. If you would like to help, please drop you food items by the office at your convenience.

### **May is Adopt a Senior Month**

Yes, May is Adopt a Senior month. Why not consider adding a senior greyhound to your family. The joy of owning a senior greyhound is probably one of the best kept secrets around. Seniors tend to be more sensitive and can already be an expert at knowing how to please. They seem much more grateful to have a forever home and fit in right from the beginning. Many are already house trained and are more than happy to spend their days lounging on their bed or on the couch with their head in your lap.

GPA Houston has many available seniors at the kennel waiting for their forever home. Some are returns and others are broodies. They may not be with you for as long as the young ones, but the time you do have with them will be something you will treasure forever. Why not take a few moments and check out our wonder seniors.

## The Ten Most Important Tips for Keeping Your Older Dog Healthy

1. Establish a relationship with **the best veterinarian** you can find. For most older dogs, it is advisable to make an appointment with the vet every six months. Your vet should be someone whom you trust and who has a knowledge of greyhounds..
2. **Become informed** about the conditions common to older dogs and the therapies used for them. Be alert to symptoms, bring them to your vet's attention promptly, and be prepared to discuss treatment options.
3. Feed your older dog **the best food you can afford**
4. **Don't overfeed** your dog. Obesity will create health problems and shorten his life.
5. Consider the use of **dietary supplements** such as glucosamine/chondroitin for arthritis.
6. Give your senior dog **adequate exercise**, but adjust it to her changing abilities.
7. Attend to your dog's **dental health**. Brush her teeth daily and have them cleaned professionally whenever your vet advises it.
8. Tell your vet you wish to have your dog **vaccinated only once every three years**, as currently advised by the major veterinary colleges.
9. Be diligent in **controlling fleas and ticks**, and keep your dog and his environment scrupulously clean.
10. Make your senior dog as much **a part of your life** as possible, and do all you can to keep him interested, active, happy and comfortable.

### A Review of the Signs of Aging

Semi-annual visits to the vet are advised when a dog becomes "senior," which, in general means at about the age of 8. You can help your vet to diagnose an age-related illness, if you stay alert to symptoms. Therapies are available for many of the following conditions:

<b>Condition</b>	<b>Symptoms</b>
Arthritis	limping, difficulty getting up, difficulty climbing stairs, stiffness, yelping or crying when a sore joint is touched
Teeth and mouth problems	bad breath, red gums, broken teeth
Diabetes	increased urination, weight loss despite good appetite
Cognitive Dysfunction	staring, sleep disturbance, forgetfulness
Vision Loss	running into things

Among the best therapies for keeping your older dog healthy and happy, is providing quality attention and affection and including your dog in as many fun family activities as possible.

From the Senior Dog Project



## Suzy Waddell...19 Years and Still Going Strong

No newsletter on senior greyhounds would be complete without mentioning Suzy Waddell. Many of you already know about this very special girl and for those of you that don't, you are in for a real treat. I had the pleasure of meeting Suzi at Dewey Beach last year and the memory of this sweet girl has never left me. When we decided to make the focus of this newsletter 'senior greys' the first one I thought of was Suzi. I contacted her family and asked if they would be willing to provide me with some information about Suzi, and of course they said yes (who with a greyhound doesn't want to talk about their greyhound.)

Suzi's story has made me laugh and cry. Her mom sent me a current picture of her which is now posted on my frig. When I start to worry about the health of my seniors or contemplate not adopting any more seniors because of the heartache suffered when they leave us, I will look at Suzi's picture and be reminded of all the joy that living with senior greyhounds has added to my life.

Suzi's history is not clear, but it is thought that she raced until she was 5 or 6 and then was a brood mom for several more years before she was adopted out. At the age of 15, she was brought to Greyhound Friends West in Massachusetts when her owner had to be put in a nursing home. She spent several months at the GF kennel before moving to Greyhound Friends NJ and into the Waddell home as a foster. Suzi fit right in the the Waddell family which included 3 other greyhounds, but she was promised to another family and soon left. Many tears were shed at the Waddell house. The day after Thanksgiving they received a call that Suzi had tried to bite someone and was being returned. (Of course she only had one tooth in her mouth to bite with) Suzi had made it very clear that she knew where home was and wouldn't settle for anything less.

Suzi is amazingly healthy for a dog her age. Up until about 8 months ago hypothyroidism was her only problem. In the past few months Suzi has shown evidence of muscle wasting in her hind end and she is no longer able to take long walks. The vets have diagnosed bone spurs but Suzy is not showing any signs of pain as of yet. She is currently taking glucosamine HCL and chondroitin sulfate supplements daily vitamin e supplements, Prozyme to aid her digestion and a daily dose of metamucil for bulk. She is still continent and always lets her family know when she has to go potty. She needs a little help going up the stairs. but otherwise she walks, a bit wobbly, and will even dig and run on the beach. The Waddells give some credit for Suzy's longevity to the fact that their vet started titered her for immunology soon after she came to live with them and she has not recieved inoculations, except for rabies, since 1998. She does not have glaucoma or cataracts, her heartbeat is regular and strong, her kidneys and liver are functioning perfectly, her hemoglobin and white cell count are where they should be, she has an excellent appetite and her hearing is still good.

Suzy lives on the beach in New Jersey with 3 other greyhounds, Kelvin 10, Tess 9, and Dasher 7. The Waddells believe that Suzy will stay with them as long as she is having fun, and of course they hope that is for a long time yet. Way to go Suzi, you are a wonderful spokesdog for the joys of owning a senior grey.

## Senior Gifts

May is Adopt a Senior Month, and some special people would like to make adopting a senior greyhound even more special by donating gifts to anyone who adopts a senior during the month of May.

Person or Organization Donating	Item donated	Web page/Email
Kari Swanson Midwest Greyhound Adoption	50% off a collar 25% off and other item	www.midwestgreyhound.org whdog@aol.net
Nancy Beach	Blanket	www.unc.edu/~nbeach/testform.html
Donna Greycouch Inn	Two Gate Signs	jimoland@in-motion.net
Julie Dearmin Circle of Friends	Greyhound Decal	juliestramp@juno.com
Therese Skinner	Hand Painted Scarf	gentlehugs@juno.com
Melinda Capers	Bandannas	capersdoghaven@juno.com
Kerry McMullen	Jammies	www.nonudehounds.com
Cindy Brooks Northwest Canadian Greyhound	Nylon collar	koenenb@telusplanet.net
Teddy	A surprise	Germanprnce@aol.com
Sarah Regan Snavelly	Greyhound Poster	dogart@cableone.net
Cara Brockhoff	Take Another Grey Home T-shirt	cara@northcoastgreyhounds.net
Kathy Walsh	Hand stenciled tote bag	walsh.kathleen@worldnet.att.net
Megan Robertson	Free coat to first 10	megan18@oz.net
Greta Kirkland	Homemade Treats	www.dog-biscuits.com
Suzanne Palmer	Snuggler	www.suzieqdesigns.com
The Greyhound Project	Current Issue of Celebrating Greyhounds	groups@adopt-a-greyhound.org
Claudia Presto Greyhound Gang	Get Up and Go Glucosamine	claudia@greyhoundgang.com
Ann Brandon	Snuggler	annbrandon@cwcom.net

## Senior Gallery

### Senior Greyhounds Available for Adoption from GPA/Houston

#### Mailman 8

Soon to be featured on Animal Planet along with Whitney. A very friendly and well behaved older gentleman.



#### Big Easy 9

Lived in a home for several years. Would like to live in a home where someone could let him out during the day.



#### Clara 9

A real angel, loves to mother everyone. Very good with dogs, large or small and cats. Excellent house manners. Has been in a foster home for several weeks.



#### Whitney 8

Pretty little girl. Goodhousemanners. Loves to snuggle. Soon to be a star.



#### Charm 8

This big girl loves to play and is insistent on getting her share of the attention. She acts more like a 2 year old. Doing very well in her foster home.



#### Pebbles Almost 8

A very intelligent older lady. Knows how to use a doggie door and gets along great with other dogs. No cats please.



#### Jewel 8

Her name says it all...what a Jewel. Beautiful well mannered lady.



**Dagger Almost 8**  
She prances when she walks. A real beauty.

#### Dasher 11

Calm and quiet. In a foster home with cats and doing great. Ready to find a permanent couch.



## Webmaster

From our



Here we are again...the clocks have moved forward...and with the advent of spring, and summer comes all kinds of events for you and your hounds! We list them on the website in our Events page, where we want to give a brief statement of the event, and the contact person should you wish to help out or volunteer your time. (Also listed in our new Classified Page...see article elsewhere in this newsletter...)

You may also wish to notice our Special Events Calendar—This is on the Events page...just scroll down a little...This has been a good thing to print out—just highlight with your cursor and print just the Special Events Calendar to keep handy. You will be able to see at a glance all of the different events that GPA /Houston has in the planning stages, or firmed up. And along these lines....(events, programs, volunteer opportunities, greyhound needs, shelter needs, etc.) we have our Classified Page Please be sure to read about this page.

As always, we have a houseful of absolutely wonderful greyhounds awaiting their new forever homes. Please visit the Available Dogs page, and take a look at the pictures and descriptive notes on each dog. THEN, take a deep breath (and please, don't pass out) and then call the shelter and run on down to give a pup or two a chance in your home. Well, you don't have to adopt – but you can still get that 'fix' ... You can come in on a Saturday and help in the Bath Brigade!

It's a blast—we have folks helping that don't even have a greyhound yet—but when they do adopt, they are going to have so much experience with these hounds—it will be as if they have had a greyhound in their homes for years.

Our Special Needs page has really been very successful, and we thank everyone that has helped with this. We have built up a little bit of a fund to help with our medical/ surgical needs, and this is listed with the donors, along with

the total received. As of this writing there is a little over \$1400.00 earmarked for our Special Needs Hounds. Woof-Woof!!

There is a section of our website that is really loaded with information—all kinds of information, some of which, someday you might need! And that page is the Resources Page—Here you can read the interesting account of the origin of the Greyhound. You will find the pertinent Adoption and Kennel information such as hours of operation, phone numbers, etc.,etc.etc. Vet Support Team, Ombudsman, Feedback form, the Annual Questionnaire / Membership Renewal form. We also have placed a link to a little form, when you want to place a donation to GPA. (“Donations Greytfully Accepted”) Here too, is a link to a page we started quite some time ago—even then it was long over due, and that is the page entitled “Special Friends and Supporters”. This is our page of acknowledgements to our friends and supporters. By the way, if you readers out there, are aware of some group or person(s) that are not mentioned here, please email me so that I can get them in this list. We appreciate all of the help that we have received, and sometimes it is difficult to gather and post this data. ([tim@gpahouston.org](mailto:tim@gpahouston.org))

And then, last but not least is one called simply, “Links”. This will take you to another section of links – such as suppliers, giftware, a list of literally hundreds of greyhound sites from around the United States and Europe, etc. (Happy Surfing!)

As the summer approaches, please take care, be watchful for over exhaustion in your dog(s)—with the hot Houston summer coming on! (Remember too—keep your pets protected from fleas/ticks and to keep current with your monthly heartworm preventative!)

Tim

## Frontline Donation

Many thanks to the anonymous donor that matched the funds raised to purchase Frontline for our pups. We were able to raise \$1206.00 to which our donor added \$1000.00. Thanks to all who donated, there will be a lot less scratching in the kennel this summer.

# Greyhound Vet Network

CLINICNAME	VETNAME	ADDRESS	PHONE
Bissonnett/Southampton Clinic	Dr. Taffi Tippett	2028 Bissonnett	(713) 520-8743
Memorial Town and Country	Dr J M Brasher	12661 Memorial Dr	(713) 464-7109
Rice Village	Dr James Bray	2348 Rice Blvd	(713) 527-0489
Meyerland Animal Hospital	Drs. Vining, Werner, Teller, Golden	4995 W Bellfort	(713) 723-8612
Fairbanks Animal Clinic	Dr Glen Reiger	7151 Fairbanks N Houston	(713) 937-7274
Voss Road Animal Hospital	Drs. Tharp, Hayes & Glass	2215 S Voss Rd	(713) 782-1500
Bay Glen Animal Hospital	Dr. Lisk & Janney	1616 Clear Lake City Blvd	(281) 480-8800
TLC Animal Hospital	Drs. Kuecker & Richardson	14870 Space Center Blvd S	(281) 282-9944
Tanglewilde Animal Hospital	Drs. Mousser & Stiles	2717 Rockyridge	(713) 783-4044
Northwest Animal Clinic	Drs. Peggy Huckabee	3031 FM 1960 W	(281) 444-1084
FM 1960 Animal Hospital	Drs. McLaughton & Simpson	6703 FM 1960 W	(281) 444-4170
Nottingham Animal Clinic	Drs. James Fix & Jon Brooke	14465 Memorial Dr	(281) 493-1919
King's Crossing	Dr Diana Blessman	3425 W Lake Houston Pwy	(281) 360-5550
Porter Animal Hospital	Dr Phillip Elmer	FM 1314	(281) 354-8099
Critter Fixer	Dr. Bob Rogers	5703 Louetta	(281) 370-3262
Stuebner-AirlineClinic	Dr Max Heimlich	16116 Stuebner-Airline, St 7	(281) 376-2505
Enchanted Oaks	Dr Tony McCall	153 Cypresswood Dr	(281) 350-3730
Paws, Claws and All	Dr Deb Cunningham	2535 Cartwright Rd	(281) 261-7953
Bay Creek Animal Clinic	Dr. Hoffman & Mogas	1236 E Main	(281) 332-3051
Forest Lake Animal Clinic	Dr Roof	3942 Nasa Road 1	(281) 326-2576
All Pets Animal Clinic	Dr. Pat Choyce	959 S Mason Rd	(281) 579-7083
Deer Park Animal Clinic	Dr. Longford	202 W San Augustine	(281) 479-0405
Longenbaugh Veterinary Hospital	Dr. Keadle	15703 E Longenbaugh	(281) 856-7023
Treaschwig Vet Clinic	Dr. Debra Garrison	22732 Cypresswood Dr	(281) 443-2626
Animal Hospital Highway 6	Dr JP Hauke	3429 Hwy 6	(281) 980-8387
Kuykendhal Veterinary Hospital	Drs. Green and Dunn	17740 Kuykendhal	(281) 353-5700
Waller Vet Clinic	Dr. Melanie Walker	31315 FM 2920 Ste 12	(936) 372-9121
Major Drive Vet Clinic	Dr. Williams	1320 South Major Dr	(409) 866-8208
Telge Rd Vet Clinic	Drs. Karen Metzler & William O'Brien	11430 Telge Rd	(281) 955-9797
Southside Place Animal Clinic	Dr. Alice Frei	6902 Stella Link	(713) 349-0718
Atascazoo Animal Hospital	Drs Bolleter, Jensen, Batra & Kiker	5910 FM 1960 E #5	(281) 852-8398
Wilcrest Animal Hospital	Drs. Milan and Chandlen	704 Wilcrest Dr	(713) 781-3770
Brazos Bend Animal Hospital	Dr. Karen Ross	721 FM 359	(281) 342-1117
Animal Medical Center	Dr. Wayne Johnson	11100 Cypress N Houston	(281) 469-1171



## THE RAINBOW BRIDGE

(Inspired by a Norse legend)

By the edge of a woods, at the foot of a hill,  
Is a lush, green meadow where time stands still.  
Where the friends of man and woman do run,  
When their time on earth is over and done.  
For here, between this world and the next,  
Is a place where each beloved creature finds rest.  
On this golden land, they wait and they play,  
Till the Rainbow Bridge they cross over one day.  
No more do they suffer, in pain or in sadness,  
For here they are whole, their lives filled with gladness.  
Their limbs are restored, their health renewed,  
Their bodies have healed, with strength imbued.  
They romp through the grass, without even a care,  
Until one day they start, and sniff at the air.  
All ears prick forward, eyes dart front and back,  
Then all of a sudden, one breaks from the pack.  
For just at that instant, their eyes have met;  
Together again, both person and pet.  
So they run to each other, these friends from long past,  
The time of their parting is over at last.  
The sadness they felt while they were apart,  
Has turned into joy once more in each heart.  
They embrace with a love that will last forever,  
And then, side-by-side, they cross over together.

~ Author Unknown ~

## In Memory of...



Our deepest sympathys to those who have recently lost their greyhound. May your memories bring a smile to your face.

Savannah	The Harmson Family
Shadow	The Pickard Family
Morning Star	The Moura Family
Prancer	The Kovaly Family
Caper	The Hughes Family
Byron	The Kalhorm Family
Honey	The Rowe Family
Shadow	The Campbell Family
Tia	The Szyszkowski Family
Reebok	The Bussell Family
Dillard	The Fridge Family
Allie	The Purgson Family
Luci	The Dear Family
Harley	The Guerra Family
Snoopin	The Goldman Family
Mystique	The Yager Family

## Merchandise Corner

Our new spring t-shirts are in and what a hit! Hurry down to the kennel and pick yours up today, or order online from the GPA Giftshop on our webpage.



. The new ball caps have sold out but we will hopefully receive more soon.

We will be placing an order for some fancy collars soon so be sure and stop by the office next time you are at the kennel to see if they have come in yet. Every dog deserves a dress up collar. We have also ordered ink pens with our name phone numbers and website address. Great way to do some advertising for GPA Houston.

## Randalls and Kroger Cards

Don't forget to use your GPA Kroger Card when doing your grocery shopping. It may not seem like much, but it does add up.

Randalls will also donate a percentage of your purchase to our organization. Just stop by their Customer Service booth to sign up. Our charity number is 941. Every little bit helps.

## Mother's and Father's Day Giftwrapping

Barnes and Nobles has graciously agreed to let us wrap gifts in several of their stores on the day before MOTHER and Father's Day. This is a great opportunity to show off our hounds and raise some money for GPA Houston. Please see the calendar page for times and locations. If you are interested in helping out please contact Julie ([julie@gpahouston.org](mailto:julie@gpahouston.org)) or call the kennel office.

## St. Patrick's Day Parade

We are proud to announce that GPA Houston won Best Animal Entry in this years St. Patricks Day Parade. The Houston St. Patrick's Day Parade is one of the largest in the country and we were honored to be a part of it. Be sure and check out the photo section of our webpage for more pictures.



## Lights, Camera, Action

Early in April, the Pet Hotel became a television studio as the producers from Animal Planet came to film a segment for a new television program. Members of the GPA Board of Directors were interviewed and so were a few of our resident dogs. The program should be airing sometime during the summer and we will be sure to let you know when we learn an exact date.



### Greyhound Pets of America National Convention

Friday, July 26 2002 - Sunday, July 28 2002

The GPA National Conference will be take place from July 26-28 at the Rivera Hotel in Las Vegas Nevada. Featured speakers include Gary Gucionne, NGA, Dr. Lynda Blythe, author of Care of the Racing Greyhound, and Lee Livingwood, author of Greyhounds for Dummies. This promises to be a very fun and informative event and several members of our organization plan on attending. For more information visit their website at [www.gpaconvention.org](http://www.gpaconvention.org)



digital dynamics software

Tony Antonucci, President  
Digital Dynamics Software, Inc  
[www.digdyn.com](http://www.digdyn.com)



Many thanks to Go-Data for printing and mailing out our newsletter. Your help is greytly appreciated.

## E-Grey Email List

In an effort to find better ways to communicate with our membership, GPA Houston has established a member group email list called E-Grey. We will use this list to communicate with our members about upcoming events, and other important news. The first test message was sent out in April so if you would like to be included in this list and did not receive and E-grey introduction email please send your email address to [e-grey@gpahouston.org](mailto:e-grey@gpahouston.org) and we will add you to the list.

Richard J Presutti

Attorney at Law

525 N. Belt, Ste 690

Houston, Tx 77060

Thank you for your generous donation to  
GPAHouston.



Vivian A. Ross

Vice President

[www.rossreporting.com](http://www.rossreporting.com)

## Ad Space Available

Would you like to wish your pup a happy birthday and help GPA at the same time? Maybe you have a business that you would like to promote to the GPA family. Ad Space is availble in our newsletter. A business card size ad will cost \$25.00. Larger ads are also available.

If you would like to place an ad, please email the information to [newsletter@gpahouston.org](mailto:newsletter@gpahouston.org)

## Membership Renewal.....

There is still time to renew your GPA membership for 2002, if you haven't done so already, please take a few minutes to fill out and mail in the membership renewal form. If you prefer, you can fill out the form on-line at our GPA/Houston webpage [www.gpahouston.org](http://www.gpahouston.org).

# ANNUAL ADOPTION QUESTIONNAIRE AND MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

GPA/Houston, Inc. P.O. Box 741176 Houston, TX 77274-1176 713 667-3804 / 713 866-4466

Completion of this annual questionnaire by each greyhound adopter is required per GPA/Houston's Adoption Application. This information is essential for the benefit of you and your greyhound(s). Please return the completed form by mail to the above address, or bring it to the adoption center. Please make a copy of this form if you have more than four greyhounds.

Owner's Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone (1) \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone (2) \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please check here if this is a new address.

Other Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation (1) \_\_\_\_\_ Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation (2) \_\_\_\_\_ Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Greyhound's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ GPA ID Tag # \_\_\_\_\_

Greyhound's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ GPA ID Tag # \_\_\_\_\_

Greyhound's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ GPA ID Tag # \_\_\_\_\_

Greyhound's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ GPA ID Tag # \_\_\_\_\_

Has your greyhound experienced any health and or behavioral problems during the past year? If yes, please provide brief explanation. Use separate page if needed \_\_\_\_\_

Name and address of your veterinarian: \_\_\_\_\_

What is the brand name of the heartworm preventative your greyhound receives? \_\_\_\_\_

**I am renewing my GPA/Houston Membership for 2002.** (If you adopted after October, your dues are paid for 2002)

\$25 Member      \$50 Supporting      \$75 to \$150 Benefactor      \$200 to \$500 Angel      \$1,000 Saint

**Payment Information**      Check      Visa      Mastercard

VISA or Mastercard # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**As a member, I would like to help the greyhounds by:**

Volunteering at the kennel      Being a holiday or as needed foster home.

Transporting greyhounds to vet      Participating in storefront/events in my area.

Other: (Please list any special skills you may have that may benefit our organization.)

I am enclosing a tax deductible donation in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please apply this donation to:

The building fund      Special Needs medical fund      Food for the greyhounds      General Operating expenses

My employer offers a Matching Gift Program. Please contact me at \_\_\_\_\_.

**The greyhounds appreciate your continued support. Thank-you.**

GPA/Houston, Inc.  
P. O. Box 741176  
Houston, TX 77274

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713-866-4466  
[www.gpahouston.org](http://www.gpahouston.org)

**Adopt A Greyhound**