

3rd Quarter, 2002

On The Right Track

inside

Calendar of Events	3
Ten Year Anniversary	4
Disaster Plan for your Pets	8
Preventing Heat Stroke	9
Houston Area Emergency Vet Clinics	10
Greyhound Vet Network	12
In Memory of	13

Our President

Letter From Summer is upon us. The fireworks past and now we need to just settle in for the long hot spell. Be sure to use good judgment when out in the heat of the day. Always carry water and towels or blankets that can be wet down. Precooling the car before loading up by running the air conditioner, and parking in the shade can always make things better for your greyhound or any pet and people for that matter. Do not walk the dogs during the heat of day if at all possible and be careful of hot pavement for their feet. My rule of thumb is if it's too hot for my bare feet than it's too hot for theirs.

This summer is the 10th Anniversary for GPA Houston to be housed at the Best Friends Pet Hotel. There is a story of how we came to being here in the newsletter. The Pet Hotel has always helped us out when we needed extra kennels for a night or two, provided a place to bathe the pups and give us a storeroom and the front office too. It started with 10 kennels, moved to 20 kennels and now we have 43 kennels most of the time for which there is no charge. They only ask that during the holidays that we foster out as many greyhounds a possible so that they can use our wing of kennels for boarding – after all The Pet Hotel is a boarding kennel. This arrangement has worked very well for GPA Houston and our ability to place as many greyhounds as we do.

Many of our members board their greyhounds at the Pet Hotel when they are gone over the weekend or vacation. Besides boarding the Pet Hotel offers full grooming services to all pets. They also have a nice line of toys and treats and of course beds (which our greyhounds have been known to try out). They carry food and other products for your pet. Now a few of you asked what was the shampoo used for the Grey Spa 2002...just call the Pet Hotel they sell it there!

Next time you drop in to see GPA Houston be sure to say thank you to the Pet Hotel and staff for having us there. And take a look at their merchandise, your pups will love for you to bring them home a treat or toy!

Sharry MacLaren
Summer 2002



Contact Information

Officers:

President: Sharry MacLaren
sharry@gpahouston.org

Vice President: Cheri Duncan
cheri@gpahouston.org

Secretary: Julie Rowe
Julie@gpahouston.org

Treasurer: Ann Slanis
ann@gpahouston.org

Directors:

Lee Edgington lee@gpahouston.org
Tim Heller tim@gpahouston.org
Noreen Reid noreen@gpahouston.org
Dave Jahnsen davej@gpahouston.org
Jeannie Wehrman Jeannie@gpahouston.org
Cathy Sonsel cathy@gpahouston.org
Evelyn Gilleland evelyn@gpahouston.org

Office Manager Nicole Butler
nicole@gpahouston.org

Vol. Coordinator: Janny Planting
janny@gpahouston.org
Julie Rowe
julie@gpahouston.org

Newsletter Editor: Noreen Reid
noreen@gpahouston.org

For communication with the Board of Directors, please direct e-mail to board@gpahouston.org.

Shelter Office: 713-667-3804

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

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, Laura Marshall, Sharry MacLaren, Julie Rowe, Jeannie Wehrman, Evelyn Gilleland

Area Coordinators

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 Szyszkowski

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

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
joanne@gpahouston.org

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
lllInm@houston.rr.net

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)

Date	Event	Place
July18-21	AstroWorld Series Dog Show	Reliant Hall
July 26-July 28	GPA National Convention	Riviera Hotel Las Vegas
October 11-13	Dewey Beach Reunion	Dewey Beach Delaware
October 25-27	Texas Home & Garden Show	Reliant Hall
October	Annual Houston Halloween Party	Houston,TX
October	3rd Annual Greyhound Classic	Tour 18 Golf course..
Nov.-Dec.	Christmas Giftwrap	Barnes and Noble

Storefront Appearances

First Saturday of the month:

PETCO: 3265 East Broadway - Pearland

First Sunday of the month:

PETSMART: 16758 SW Freeway - Sugarland 1-3pm Jeannie@gpahouston.org

*Note: We are looking for someone to take over this storefront...email Julie@gpahouston.org

PETSMART: 19075 I-45 Ste. 114- The Woodlands (just south of 242, on the feeder in the Portofino shpg center) 1-3pm Martha@gpahouston.org

PETCO: 6883 N Hwy 6 - Houston 1-3pm Janny@gpahouston.org

Second Saturday of the month:

PETSMART:19945 Katy Freeway - Houston 1-3 pm Laura@gpahouston.org

PETCO: 2110 S. Shepherd near San Felipe - Houston 12-2pm Cheri@gpahouston.org

Second Sunday of the month:

PETSMART: I-45 and FM 1960 - Houston 1-3pm Marti@gpahouston.org

PETSMART:1549 West Bay Area Blvd. - Webster, TX 2:00-4:30pm Tom@gpahouston.org

Third Sunday of the month:

PETSMART: Willowchase. FM249 - Houston 1-3pm Kim@gpahouston.org

PETSMART: 10500 Old Katy Freeway - Houston 1-3pm Marti@gpahouston.org

Fourth Sunday of the month:

PETCO: 12015 Northwest Frwy- 43rd St @ Hwy 290Houston 2-4pm Tim@gpahouston.org

PETSMART: 1549 West Bay Area Blvd - Webster 2:00-4:30pm Tom

Last Sunday of the month:

PETSMART: 20407 Hwy 59 N - Humble 12-2pm Katie@gpahouston.org

Ten Year Anniversary Thank-you Pet Hotel



As Time Goes By.....

Imagine you are back in time and it is April 1992. You are a prospective greyhound adopter, and you are waiting for your greyhound to arrive. You have no idea what he or she looks like. You are standing in Carla's driveway, and a hauler, usually a volunteer, pulls up and brings out 10 dogs, fresh from the farms. They haven't had a bath, they are not spayed or neutered, no shots, not cat tested, not temperament tested and then you are told that this one is your new pet. You drive away with a smile on your face, happy to finally have your retired racing greyhound.

That is what it was like before the Pet Hotel. Like most greyhound adoption groups, we too once completely depended on foster homes to house our dogs. We had as many as 3-4 adoptions a month.

That was until June 14, 1992. It all changed for GPA Houston that day. That was the day that we came into the Pet Hotel. We had received a call from the owner of the Pet Hotel. He wanted to donate some space to a local rescue group and wanted to know if we wanted to use some of his kennels to house our dogs. To say the least, we were very happy and a little scared. We moved into our 20 kennels and into our office, what is now our back storage closet, yes that 10'*6' room where we keep our kennels and other miscellaneous stuff.

Everything changed for us that day. Volunteers did all the labor, from turning out the dogs and cleaning their kennels, to doing the adoptions on the same day. It was hard work for everyone but it was nice to have a place to call home.

Since then, our adoptions numbers have grown dramatically, up to as many as 37 in one month. The number of dogs that we can house has risen from 20 to over 40. And the dogs themselves have changes. We can now bring in the seniors, the injured, along with the strays who are heartworm positive. All this because of the Pet Hotel.

So next time you come in to visit the dogs or volunteer some of your time, just think of what we used to be and where we are today....and smile.

It's that time of year again. It's time for the 7th Annual Fall Texas Home & Garden Show 2002!

On behalf of GPA/Houston I would like to invite you to join us at the 2002 Texas Home and Garden Fall Show. It takes place at the new Reliant Center, which is at the same location of the new Texans football stadium and the Reliant Dome (formerly Astrodome). The show dates and times are October 25th (2p.m. to 8p.m.), 26th (10 a.m. to 8 p.m.) & 27th (11 a.m. to 6 p.m.), 2002 . This is a new venue at the Reliant Park and will draw lots of crowds because of it and it is also known to be one of our big events for reaching the public and raising awareness about our wonderful Greys. We will be scheduling volunteers in two hour increments. Some passes will be available for volunteers as in the past and we will have more information on the event as the date grows closer. Parking for the event will be \$6.00.

If you would like to volunteer for the GPA/Houston booth at the 2002 TX Home & Garden Show please e-mail me at Evelyn@GPAHouston.org or call me at 713/534-9593 (home). This event is lots of fun and the pups are always a huge crowd pleaser. Hope to see you there!

Evelyn Gilleland

(For more info on the show itself please visit their website at: <http://texashomeandgarden.com>)



Passion plus a silver tongue equals...????

... a GPA volunteer at the 2002 Reliant Park World Series of Dog Shows talking about the spectacular example of dogdom at their side. If you think this describes you and you're not adverse to loads of fun and laughs, please come join us.

If you ever doubted that GPA needed your involvement at the Dog Show, one of our newer members, Gail Piper, is quoted as saying,

"I stopped by at your booth last year when I was looking for a dog and after some research discovered greyhounds

were the perfect breed for me. If it wasn't for your booth I may not have considered one."

Gail has volunteered for this year's Dog Show with her greyhound, Dan, to give back to our organization, in an effort to help other individuals learn about and consider our retired, racing greyhounds when looking for a terrific addition to family and home.

Volunteers are still needed to fill time slots for the Greyhound Pets of America / Houston booth as indicated by the following schedule:

Time Slots	9:00 - 11:00 am	11:00 - 1:00 pm	1:00 - 3:00 pm	3:00 - 5:00 pm
9:00 - 11:00 am	none	1 v/d needed	1 v/d needed	none
11:00 - 1:00 pm	none	none	none	none
1:00 - 3:00 pm	1 v/d needed	3 v/d needed	2 v/d needed	1 v/d needed
3:00 - 5:00 pm	2 v/d needed	3 v/d needed	None	none

Note: "v/d" indicates volunteer/dog (personal pet) team

If interested in volunteering, contact Laura Marshall at laura@gpahouston.org or 281.599.8918.

Mailman and Whitney Chat with the Pet Psychic

The Pet Hotel was a full of activity one day in early May when the animal psychic, Sonya Fitzpatrick, and her cre, came to film a segment for the Animal Planet Program Pet Psychic. Whitney and Mailman were the chosen subjects. The kennel staff hoped to find out if these two senior pups, who had been together for many years, would be okay if they were adopted into separate homes. Sonya sat on the floor and had a bit of a chat with these two and discovered that Mailman was a bit tiffed with Whitney. Seems she has been getting more attention then he has and he was not at all happy about it. In the end it was concluded that these two would probably be happier if they were allowed to stay together.

Currently Mailman and Whitney are in a foster home together and the following is an update sent in by their foster dad.

"We arrived at our home without any mishaps during the drive — I think Mail Man may have even missed the entire ride, which was probably just as well. We quickly made a turn of the house with them to let them get to know the lay of the land as well as to help us identify things that needed to be relocated out of their tails' way. For the most part, Mail Man slept the rest of the day away, probably courtesy of the anti-nausea medication. However even with the help of the medication, MM answered our question of whether or not he had eaten that morning by presenting a little bit of proof that he had...twice. Other than that, he's been fine. We took them for an evening walk in the park, and when we got back, they decided they had had enough for one day and curled up on their sleeping pads.

Sunday was a big day. It started with an early 6:30 AM wake-up whine from W. Then, our good friend, Erik, called to tell us that he had to leave town that evening and would be gone all week. We always take care of his dog, Asgard, when he goes out of town. Asgard is a 9-1/2 year old Norwegian Elkhound, who we have known since he was a puppy. Erik brought Asgard over a little early so we could make sure that there wouldn't be any problems. When they arrived, we put everyone on their leash and made the introductions. Much to our surprise, Asgard (who is normally quite submissive) began defending his home away from home. I suppose in retrospect, it really isn't all that surprising, since Asgard has been the only dog here since last October. After a

while, he settled down, and the gratuitous sniff-fest began. MM & W quickly lost interest in Asgard, but Asgard watched them with a wary eye for the remainder of the evening, but there were no altercations beyond a warning from MM when Asgard tried sniffing when MM was napping. Feeding time was very much a challenge, trying to keep each dog in their respective bowl while delivering the Benadryl-laced hotdog bit to MM without confusing it with the decoys for the other two. The walk that evening was also quite a site to behold. Towards bedtime, things were almost describable as normal.

Yesterday, everything was fairly low key. All three dogs were ready to go at the sound of our alarm, which is more than I can say for us. So we took care of the feeding, watering, and bio-breaks and settled in for...a morning nap. I took care of e-mails and continued my efforts to find another engagement to work on so I could avoid the specter of the layoff, and they slept. That afternoon, my parents came over for a visit, and as usual, MM and W were on their very best behavior. I think Mom and Dad left fairly impressed by their good manners.

That afternoon, I continued my work, and they continued their napping. We went for an early evening walk, since the overcast afternoon kept things from getting hot. They're still learning the ropes from Asgard as to proper greeting protocols for when Ronda gets home. Apparently Asgard was waiting at the back door while MM & W were looking in opposite directions, awaiting her arrival.

This morning came, with another doggy alarm. We experimented with letting them roam in our backyard. Ronda kept a very close eye on them, even though there's no easy way for them to get out, but neither of them showed any interest in making a big break. We're considering allowing them off-lead in the backyard but not unsupervised. In fact, they did their business in the preferred area, ran around the yard for a little bit with Asgard trying his level best to keep up, and then came right back home. Who could ask for anything better? The thunderstorms rolled through, and W started to whine, so I took my laptop out in front of the TV and she settled in right next to me and went to sleep. Later after the storms left, she was whining again, which I thought was strange since there was no thunder. On a guess, I let her out into the backyard, and found out she was telling me she needed to go out! You can't get that with a puppy! We just came back in from another backyard romp, and the three of them are now snoozing again.

These two are by far the most affectionate dogs we have met, with the single exception of our American Eskimo, Polo, who I raised from a pup of 6 weeks. MM has latched onto Ronda, and Whitney has latched on to me. Sure, they may do this with everyone, but as far as I'm concerned right now, they're only doing it because they really like us. I must admit, though — it's kinda spooky having W follow me everywhere I go, or at least have me in direct eye-site! :-) The biggest surprise was when I turned the corner, and she was lying there with her hind legs under her, her front legs extended straight out, and her head held up with her ears totally erect. She looked EXACTLY like a statue of an ancient Egyptian jackal that we saw when we went to Egypt two years ago! If the name Whitney didn't suit her so well, I'd be tempted to re-name her Anubis.

I realize that we are probably still in the Honeymoon Phase of Greyhound Fostership, but we are really enjoying the experience of getting to know these two wonderful seniors as well as finding out what life would be like with 2 greys and a Norwegian Elkhound."

Andrew & Ronda



Why Rescue?

I looked at all the caged animals in the shelter... the cast-offs of human society. I saw in their eyes love and hope, fear and dread, sadness and betrayal. And I was angry.

"God," I said, "this is terrible! Why don't you do something?" God was silent for a moment and then He spoke softly.

"I have done something," He replied. "I created You."

— copyright © Jim Willis 1999

Something to Think About

I've been helping with the emergency calls for the last few months and we've seen several lost greyhounds... Not too long ago, there was a 12 yr old female a few houses away from a VERY busy intersection... Fortunately a very nice woman stopped her car and escorted the older grey to the side of the road and called GPA... I looked up the GPA tag number on this grey and she was about 15 miles from home and of course there's no answer on any of the numbers listed for the members. I was on my way to get her (not knowing where she belonged) and the woman called back and had found her "guardian." It turned out that the grey was being cared for by a friend while the owners were out of town.

With summer time here and everyone vacationing I would like to throw out a piece of advice. If you are leaving your dog somewhere other than your home please be sure you attach some type of ID that tells where the grey is currently staying. I've heard of people putting an address label (or other sticker) on the BACK (don't cover up any of the other info!) of their dog's ID tag that has the person's address and phone number that is responsible for your dog.

Another thing is fostering... I have a permanent ID tag that I had made that just has my name, address and phone number on it that each foster wears when they are staying with me. That is just an extra precaution. I do everything possible to keep them from escaping (as we all do) but we all know that it can happen. And if it does happen - we all want them home safe and sound!

Lets keep those greys safe.

Julie



Disasters and Pets: Have a Plan

Hurricane season is upon us and we all know how important it is to be prepared in case a storm hits. Many of us learned just how important being prepared can be after the onset of Allison last year. Preparation and planning provide the best defense against natural disasters, and these plans should include our pets. Unfortunately in the heat of the moment our pets can be forgotten, and because their reactions to changes can be unpredictable it is best to be well prepared.

Owners need to think about what they need to have ready and easily accessible in case of an emergency. If at all possible plans should be made to take pets in case of evacuation.. Emergency shelters usually do not accept pets, so it will be necessary to make alternate arrangements for pets. It is wise to have a list of boarding facilities, vets, hotels (which accept pets), and shelters in a wide radius around your area, so you will have available contacts if you need to evacuate the pets.. Have a copy of medical records and, if applicable, vaccinations ready to go as well.

If you must stay in your home or cannot take your pets with you, have a plan in place to try to make sure the pets will be as safe as possible. Place cages away from walls or windows, in a secure room. In case of flood make sure cages are off the floor and that there are accessible high areas for non caged pets. Make sure plenty of food and water is accessible. It is much safer to take pets with you if you can.

Remember that pets may react unpredictably to changes and the chaos created by the emergency. They may become stressed and very easily startled. Care should be taken to keep pets safely confined as they may bolt if scared. Have a recent photo of your pet on hand, to increase the chances of quickly reuniting with a lost pet.

Being well prepared will give you the best chance of making it through an emergency with the *whole* family intact.

Animal Protection Institute

Pet Friendly Hotels in the Houston Area

Comfort Suites - Galleria	6221 Richmond Ave	713-787-0004
Comfort Inn	9041 Westheimer Rd	713-783-1400
Doubletree Guest Suites	5353 Westheimer Rd	713-961-9000
Holiday Inn - Airport	15222 John F. Kennedy Blvd	281-449-2311
Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites	7787 Katy Fwy	713-681-5000
Mainstay Suites	12820 NW Freeway	713-690-4035
Motel 6	3223 S Loop W	713-664-6425
Motel 6	14833 Katy Frwy	281-497-5000
Shoney's Inn-Astrodome	2364 South Loop West	713-799-2436
Staybridge Suites	5190 Hidalgo	713-355-8888
Studio 6	220 Bammel-Westfield Rd	281-580-2221
Studio 6	12700 Featherwood	281-929-5400
Studio 6	12827 Southwest Freeway	281-240-6900
Studio 6	1255 North Highway 6	281-579-6959
Studio 6	3030 W. Sam Houston Pkwy	713-785-8550
Best Western Houston West	22455 I-10 West Katy	281-392-9800
Best Western Houston East	15919 I-10 East	281-452-1000

Protecting Your Grey from Heat Stroke and Heat Exhaustion

Heat stroke is a summer danger that can be prevented. Heatstroke most often occurs on hot, humid days. As the outdoor temperature rises, pets use panting to help dissipate the heat. If the temperature rises faster than they are able to accommodate, their body temperature will rise rapidly. Signs progress from panting to increased heart rate to respiratory distress to seizures, coma and death.

Many factors such as temperature, exposure time, air circulation, humidity, anxiety and activity level and general health/medical problems affect how quickly a pet may develop heat prostration.. Black dogs absorb the sun's rays, so they get hot more quickly than lighter-colored dogs.

Heatstroke affects all body systems. The cardiovascular system has an increased metabolic rate and increased oxygen consumption. The respiratory system shows signs of hyperventilation, which in turn affects the acid-base balance of the whole body. Pets can go into acute respiratory failure. Muscle tissue breaks down, fluid accumulates in the brain and the coagulation system breaks down. Once the temperature reaches 109 degrees, the pet has only a few minutes before the heat destroys all tissues.

Clinical signs start with panting and anxiety. The gums get dark, and the pet has an increased heart rate and temperature. After a short while, the pet develops severe respiratory distress and goes into a stupor. The pet may have bloody vomit and diarrhea before having a seizure, going into a coma and dying.

Treatment for heatstroke involves cooling the pet down to a normal temperature as quickly as possible, while preventing or treating shock and brain swelling. If the pet is having respiratory difficulty, the airway needs to be kept open and oxygen should be supplied if necessary. Intravenous fluids are given as treatment for dehydration and shock; Additional medications are given for shock and brain swelling. The body temperature should be brought down to 103

degrees within the first 10 minutes using cool, not cold, water.

To avoid heatstroke, never leave pets in enclosed areas, especially cars.. Do not overexercise your pet in a hot, humid environment. Bring pets into air-conditioned or cooler quarters when appropriate. If your pet appears to be suffering from heat prostration, cool him down with cool water and take him to the veterinarian as soon as possible.

The first signs of heat exhaustion:

- * Excessive panting
- * The skin on the inside of the ears becomes flushed and red

The signs of heat stroke

- * Weakness
- * Walk becomes wobbly
- * Fainting/loss of consciousness

"Your quick action can save your dog's life. If your dog starts getting weak and wobbly, faints and loses consciousness, cool him down as fast as possible — don't wait to get to the veterinarian's office. Those few minutes could mean the difference between life and death. Hose the dog down with cool water. Apply an ice pack to the dog's head — a cooler with ice can come in handy — just place ice inside a towel or other fabric before applying the ice."

Many dogs, especially greys, don't know when to quit exercising. They love running, so much that they will continue to the point of exhaustion. It is up to the owner to use good judgment and decide when play should stop. Let's keep those pups safe.



Houston Area Emergency Vet Clinics

Animal Emergency Care Clinic

8921 Katy Freeway
Houston
713) 932-9589
Weekdays 6 PM-7:30 AM 24 hours
Weekends and Holidays

Animal Emergency Clinic Northeast

9817 Old 1960 Rd-Humble Westfield Rd.
Humble
(281) 446-4900
Weekdays 6 PM-8 AM
24 hours Weekends and Holidays

Animal Emergency Clinic Southeast

10331 Gulf Freeway
Houston
(713) 941-8460
Weekdays 6 PM-8 AM
24 hours Weekends and Holidays

Animal Emergency Clinic Southeast

1100 Gulf Freeway #104
League City
281) 332-1678
Weekdays 6 PM-7:30 AM
24 hours Weekends and Holidays

Animal Emergency Clinic 59 Southwest

9920 Highway 90A, Suite 100C
Sugarland
(281) 340-8387
Weekdays 6 PM-8 AM
24 hours Weekends and Holidays

Southwest Freeway Animal Hospital

& Emergency Center
15575 SW Freeway
Sugarland
(281) 491-8387
24 Hours 7 Days a week

Animal Emergency Clinic

1111 West Loop S
Houston
(713) 693-1100
Weekdays 6 PM-7:30 AM
24 hours Weekends and Holidays

Animal Emergency Clinic

18707 Tomball Pkwy
Houston
(281) 890-8875
Weekdays 6 PM-7:30 AM
24 hours Weekends and Holidays

Animal Emergency Clinic

920 W Dallas St
Conroe
(936) 539-3800
Weekdays 6 PM-7:30 AM
24 hours Weekends and Holidays
(936) 539-3800



If you know of anyother Emergency Vet Clinics in the Houston area, please send the information to newsletter@gpahouston.org



On July 1, Maggie McCurry, of Wings for Greyhounds fame, took off from Arizona on an 8,000 mile odyssey to promote the adoption of retired racing greyhounds. Her second stop was right here in Houston, Texas.

Maggie had to fly around a major storm to make it to Houston on the planned date. After resting for the night she was met at Arlington Field by her next set of passengers, Chunk and Dan, two of GPA Houston's greys looking for a home.

Nancy Holland from channel 11 News was on hand to film the event and several GPA members showed up to say goodbye and good luck to Maggie and the greys. With each stop Maggie makes the publicity increases. Her visit to Houston was aired on CNN and she will be interviewed on some of the morning shows in New York City.

Maggie recently lost her companion grey Lance and is making this trip in his memory. If you would like to know more about this event check out Maggie's website at <http://www.wingsforgreyhounds.org>



Maggie shares her love of greyhounds with the film crew.



Maggie gives some last minute instructions.



Sharry and Roibbie get the boys ready to go.



Kennel Up...or should it be plane up?

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 SPIRIT OF A GREYHOUND

I was standing on a hillside
In a field of blowing wheat,
And the spirit of a Greyhound
Was lying at my feet.

He looked at me with kind dark eyes,
Ancient wisdom shining through.
In the essence of his being,
I saw the love there too.

His mind did lock upon my heart
As I stood there on that day,
And he told me of this story
About a place so far away.

As I stood upon that hillside
In a field of blowing wheat,
In a twinkling of a second
His spirit left my feet.

His tale did put my heart at ease,
All my fears did fade away
About what lay ahead of me
On another distant day.

"I live among God's creatures now
In the heavens of your mind,
So do not grieve for me, my friend
As I am with my kind.

My collar is a rainbow's hue,
My leash is a shooting star.
My boundaries are the Milky Way
Where I sparkle from afar.

There are no pens or kennels here
For I am not confined,
But I'm free to roam God's heavens
Among the Greyhound kind.

The trees are full of liver treats,
And tennis balls abound,
And milkbones line the walkways
Just waiting to be found.

At night I sleep in angel's arms,
Her wings protecting me,
And moonbeams dance about us
As stardust falls on thee.

So when your life on earth is spent
And you stand at Heaven's gate,
Have no fear of loneliness—
For here, you know, I wait.

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.

Blue	The Ingraham Family
Casey	The Deville Family
Rene	The Hartman Family
Mystique	The Yager Family
Cassidy	The Mancuso Family
Otto	The Ingraham Family
Sylvia	The Jones/Crook Family
Jodie	The Jackson Family
Oreo	The Coyle Family
Flak	The Heller/Rohr Family
Shasta	The O'Hare Family
Shelby	The Wilson Family
Sidney	The Wilson Family
Nittany	The Tibbs Family
Perth	The Tibbs Family
Madie	The Summerlin Family
Bead	The GPA Family
Misty	The Dugas Family
Katie	The Henley Family
Dolly	The Henley Family
Angle	The Rowe Family

Whiz the Wonder Dog...

Back on May 15th one of our members reported that her male brindle greyhound, Whiz, had gotten loose while out walking on a leash. Several people attempted to locate Whiz and everyone was concerned about his safety and return. He was lost off of Highway 6 near Highway 90 (in the Sugar Land area). Several days went by and still no sightings of the gorgeous boy. Days turned into weeks. We did not have much hope that this boy was still alive...

Monday, June 10th seemed like any other day... I decided I would plant some flowers in the yard and stopped by Home Depot to pick up a few things. While there my cell phone rang and it was GPA's answering service. A young girl had called and reported a "found" dog in her boyfriend's barn. The service gave me the name and number of the girl and I called her. She said that the day before she had been at her boyfriend's house and they found a greyhound that was very scared and alone in a barn that is no longer in use. She noticed that he was very skinny and scared of everything. She gave him some food and water and he had made a bed out of insulation. He was still wearing his leash. She said that she couldn't read his GPA tag number but she did get our phone number... I asked her to describe him and she said he was a brindle male. My first response was "Are his feet white like he has socks on" and she said yes! My heart absolutely sank and I immediately knew that it was our Whiz! We headed out to the barn and sure enough it was Whiz. He was terrified and shaking. Every bone in his little body was showing and he was weak. At first glance I could see that he was missing a toe (we later found out that was a previous injury) and one of his nails had come off. Other than being extremely dirty and insect/flea bitten he was in remarkable shape. He was very afraid of leaving the barn that he'd been calling home and reluctantly got in the truck. Once in the truck he knew that he was safe and immediately started smiling! We got him home and bathed him immediately. He was so weak that his back end started giving out during the bath. He enjoyed every single second of his bath and his massage. Next came mealtime... Then once he was settled in a little better we cleaned his ears, did his nails and gave him the "once over" to make sure there were no other obvious injuries. Whiz was elated to be safe and in a home again. If I would leave the room or go to the bathroom he was crying at the door. And then the reunion was that of being gone for days... The following day he went to the vet to be checked out and came back with some minor treatable injuries (a Urinary Tract Infection and hookworms). He had lost 24 pounds and desperately needs to add some pounds.

Whiz has been with us for several days now and it is already obvious that he has put on several pounds. He's eating 3 meals a day (plus lots of treats) and is happy as can be. Whiz is an absolute sweetheart and is going to be another one of those fosters that is difficult to say good-bye to! He loves the other

dogs and is fine around small dogs. I haven't had him around a cat – so I'm not sure if he's cat friendly. He has not had an accident in the house and I have not crated him at all. The only drawback with Whiz is that he DOES NOT like to go for walks! He is perfectly content at home or in the backyard, but he would NOT do well in an apartment... He likes the comfort of his home and surroundings. He does enjoy car rides and going places, but he doesn't like to be out in the open areas on a leash.

Whiz is a remarkable hound that withstood almost thirty days on his own. He will be five years old in December. Whiz originally came to GPA in January after a member saw an ad in the Greensheet selling a greyhound and he was adopted out shortly after that. He has now come back into GPA's custody and is looking for a very special home where he will be loved for the rest of his lifetime! In the meantime he's taken up residency at our house and will be loved and pampered while gaining some weight!

If you have any questions or would like any additional information about this greyhound please contact the shelter or email me at Julie@gpahouston.org

Julie Rowe



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

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 available 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

Have You Checked Your Dogs ID Lately

On July 4th Noreen got an emergency call on a greyhound who had been found at some people's house. The couple, and 2 other couples who were over for the festivities, had just walked out the door to go and watch our neighborhood's fireworks display and heard very heavy panting, and discovered a very terrified greyhound who was also extremely overheated. Fortunately one of the visiting ladies knew a GPA member, and called her co-worker, and got our emergency #. These very caring folks also stayed there with the greyhound and put wet towels on him to try to cool him down. He had collapsed right after they found him, and they were afraid he was going to die. This greyhound had no collar, thus no GPA tag, and his people had moved 3 years ago and never updated their address, fortunately we did have the correct phone #, and got ahold of the man. After he arrived he said his wife was out of town, and the greyhound's collar & tags were probably in her vehicle. He said he let the greyhound out in the back yard to go potty, and he's very scared of the fireworks, so must have pushed his way out the gate. I discussed some safety issues with him, including collar & GPA tag, and putting a padlock on the gate, and he replied "he's really my wife's dog". When the wife came by our house 3 days later to return the collar and lead I had put on him, she told my husband that he doesn't wear the collar & tags in the house because they "make too much noise". My husband told her there were at least 3 loops on the collar so you can put the tags separately. He also told her they should put a lock on the gate.

I cannot say this enough, take a moment to think from your greyhound's perspective, think from between his ears, not yours. Put the tags on separate rings, or get tag bags. Keep the collar and tags on, at all times, repeat ALL times, this takes no effort, and can mean the difference in you being found in an emergency, or someone calling animal control. Do you have any idea how many different "animal control" type places there are in Houston and surrounding area? If you know your greyhound is afraid of fireworks, or of thunderstorms, don't let them out when those things are going on. Or if you feel he/she must go out in the backyard, go out in the backyard with him, on a leash, don't just turn him out to face his fears alone. If you move, make notifying GPA of your new address & phone # a priority.

Does GPA have your CURRENT address & phone number?

Jeannie Wehrman

West Nile Virus

With the discovery of the West Nile Virus in the Houston area, I thought our readers might be interested in some information on this virus. These facts come from the Department of Agriculture in Connecticut.

What is West Nile virus (WNV)?

West Nile is a type of virus that causes encephalitis, or inflammation of the brain. The virus has been found in Africa, western Asia, the Middle East, the Mediterranean region of Europe and recently in the United States. Mosquitoes become infected with the virus after feeding on infected wild birds and then transmit the virus through bites to people, animals and other birds.

Can West Nile virus cause disease in dogs or cats?

Although there is a published report of WNV isolated from a dog in southern Africa (Botswana) in 1982, the majority of dogs exposed to WNV exhibited no clinical signs. WNV was isolated from a sick stray kitten found in a storm sewer in New Jersey in 1999. There have been no documented cases of WNV infections in dogs or cats in Connecticut.

How do dogs or cats become infected with West Nile virus?

The same way people become infected by infected mosquitoes bites. The virus is maintained in the mosquito's salivary glands. During blood feeding, the virus is injected into the animal. The virus then multiplies and may cause clinical signs in a susceptible animal. Most infections are inapparent or mild. If your pet shows signs of fever, depression, incoordination, muscle weakness or spasms, seizures or paralysis, see your veterinarian. Your veterinarian will assess your pet's condition and give appropriate treatment

Can sick dogs or cats be carriers and transmit West Nile virus to people and other dogs or cats?

No, this is very unlikely. Infected mosquitoes transmit WNV to people through blood feeding. There is no documented evidence of person-to-person, animal-to-animal, or animal-to-person transmission of WNV. However, people who directly handle sick animals should take precautions such as wearing gloves to protect themselves from contact with saliva from sick animals that may actually have rabies rather than WNV infection

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



713-866-4466

www.gpahouston.org

Adopt A Greyhound