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needle **nose** news

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From the President ...

Happy New Year!

GAGC found good homes for 74 dogs in 2010 and we're starting off greyt this year with eight greyt adoptions already in 2011! It continues to amaze me how wonderful GAGC families are and the continued support you provide. It's so obvious you all love your greyhounds, share that feeling with others, and totally support our mission to find homes for the retired racing greyhound.

GAGC held its annual meeting on Jan. 22 and voted in *Cindy Brown* and *Bob Drennan* as new board members. You have seen and will continue to see them at events, etc. Other board members are *Angie*, *Vanessa* and *Jodie* plus our officers. Our officers are behind-the-scenes workers; they are the ones who keep GAGC running smoothly. *Rob* is our VP and is our legal representation, handles the insurance, helps with taxes and also checks our P.O. Box. *Dave* is our treasurer and a new father who spends count-



less hours keeping our books; he is one who never gets the attention he deserves, but likes it that way. *Kathy* is our secretary and she supplies us with an outstanding newsletter; she is also the placement representative for Dayton and rep for the Beaver Creek M&G. *Kathy* wrote a grant proposal for GAGC in November of 2010 and we were awarded with \$1,500 to help our foster dogs and for vetting of dogs off the track. She also is responsible for our PetMeds program that gives us free flea treatments for our new foster dogs (a huge cost saver). *Kathy* and I talk almost daily and bounce ideas

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to make decisions together. I'm your president (leader of the pack) and get to have all the FUN!

I can't begin to thank everyone enough for allowing me to be part of

Adopting a retired racer: \$225 ... Having a friend for life: Priceless!

such a wonderful organization and, let's face it, we all do it for the greyhounds! I hope to see everyone this year at our annual GAGC family picnic on May 28 and at other events we are starting to schedule. I'll continue to send e-mails reminding you or you can go to our website to check the details.

I saw this quote by French poet Anatole France, and think it's very fitting for our organization:

"To accomplish great things, we must not only act, but also dream; not only plan, but also believe."

Brenda



Greyt Health & Safety Pawz Foot Protection

— from Stephanie

Our **Bella's** paws seem to be particularly prone to problems, so we were glad to see GAGC's "Paw Bandaging Tips" in the November newsletter. However, during the wettest weather, even a sock won't always keep a bandage dry. And our vet says that a plastic bag secured with a rubber band is a no-no, as the rubber band can cut off circulation, and then there won't be any paw to protect! We've found another helpful product, Pawz. These are reusable rubber dog boots that you can slip over a bare or bandaged paw. You can buy these at www.pawzdog-boots.com or through various retail and online stores including Petco and Amazon. The manufacturer provides a detailed sizing guide; our 70-lb. **Bella** wears a large. Or, you can make your own rubber boots out of balloons

about 4-inches across when uninflated — cut off the narrowest part of the neck, so you can pull it over the paw snugly without it being too tight. You can also secure it with some masking or bandage tape. Both Pawz and balloons can be washed and reused until they have holes in them. Rubber boots are great not only for keeping bandages dry, but also for walking on ice or snow that's been salted. But you might want to have your video camera ready when you put them on the first time: some hounds walk like they're knee-deep in molasses until they get used to their new boots! Treats and praise will help them adjust.

Vascular (spinal) strokes in greyhounds

— from Dr. Carol Macherey with additional notes from Dr. Dawn Stiens

One of the medical problems that can be seen in greyhounds can best

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Formed in 2002, GAGC's mission is to strive for the best quality placements. We focus on being small and doing things right. We recognize that we cannot save all the greyhounds in the world, but we can make a difference to the ones we touch.

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Lost the Race



Won Our Hearts

be described as a spinal stroke. A blood clot prevents normal circulation to vital areas, so the affected areas “go numb.” If this happens in the spine, you get impaired function or paralysis behind the location of the clot. If it happens in a leg, that individual leg loses function. The onset of symptoms is rapid and dramatic. Your hound can be perfectly normal, and five minutes later be unable to move the back legs and be in a lot of pain and distress ... crying, panting and flailing.

Naturally, there can be other explanations — slipped disc, spinal tumor, fracture and a condition called FCE (fibrocartilagenous embolism). The final diagnosis needs to be sorted out at your vet’s office so don’t delay getting your hound seen and evaluated. Since many of these episodes in greyhounds are spinal strokes, however, you should know what to do as a quick first-aid measure, and also be able to talk to your vet about the diagnosis since this is more of a greyhound problem.

As a quick first-aid measure,

Pet-friendly lodging

Looking for pet-friendly lodging when you go on vacation? The following web site will give you listings of lodgings that accept both you and your dogs: www.petswelcome.com.



quickly give your greyhound 1/2 baby aspirin. If the diagnosis turns out to be something other than a spinal stroke, this won’t hurt. If it is a spinal stroke, it will speed the dissolution of the clot. If the diagnosis is consistent with a clot, continue giving 1/2 baby aspirin once a day for up to five days. Then reduce the dose to 1/4 baby aspirin once a day. This is continued for life. Once a dog has shown the ability to form these clots, they stay on low dose aspirin forever.

Immediately after the event, most dogs need support. They won’t eat or drink and can dehydrate quickly. That worsens the blood clotting situation. So, IV fluids can be very important. This is a painful problem, so analgesic medications are also vital. There is evidence that excessive protein loss through the kidneys can predispose to this problem, so your vet may want to evaluate your hound’s kidney function. We vets have a tendency to quickly reach for

cortisone when facing any inflammatory problem. Cortisone is contraindicated in clotting problems — it increases the coagulability of blood and predisposes to forming more clots. A greyhound with a spinal stroke should NOT be given cortisone.

Because the same presentation in another breed would likely be diagnosed as FCE, you have to be aware of this issue with greyhounds and at least discuss it with your vet. The treatment is different — cortisone is commonly used for FCE patients, whether it actually helps or not — and the outlook for improvement with the stroke diagnosis is actually better than with an FCE event. It takes longer for a piece of grizzle to resolve than a blood clot. Most of you will never encounter this problem, but if you do, you need to know what it is and what to do.

(Editor’s note: I shared this article with Dayton vet Dr. Dawn Stiens who had some clarifications on this topic

plus some additional comments following discussions with several local experts. Her remarks follow.)

I've heard opposite opinions on the effectiveness of aspirin; it may help prevent further incidents, but that's not been proven like the literature suggests in humans, and it won't dissolve an existing clot. I agree about not using steroids such as cortisone. However, the only way to really tell the difference between a clot, an FCE, or a spinal tumor is referral to a specialist and probably imaging of the spine like a CT scan, myelogram or doppler to trace the blood flow through the area. A physical exam and X-rays are not going to differentiate between those.

Here are *Dr. Stiens'* notes based on her discussions with two specialists who talked with her about "strokes," or "vascular accidents."

Dr. McElravey, an internist at CARE, said she does see strokes in dogs, and not just greyhounds. She sees about an equal number of brain and spinal cord clots in greyhounds. She believes most probably have underlying kidney disease, which could increase the likelihood of vascular disease. A stroke cannot be differentiated from an FCE (fibrocartilagenous enfarct) on physical exam alone, as the signs can be the same, depending upon where in the body the clot occurred. Lab tests on blood and urine would be indicative in a dog that's had signs of a stroke, especially to look for underlying disease. Aspirin does not dissolve or heal an existing clot. She does sometimes use low-dose aspirin or Plavox

to try to prevent further incidents, but there is no research proving they help. TLC, time and treating any underlying disease are the main treatments. She did agree with not using steroids.

Dr. Lovitz, a neurologist at MED-VET, considers an FCE a type of "stroke," so doesn't treat them differently. He also agreed no steroids, but said there was no evidence that aspirin helps. Some dogs are in pain when the clot first happens, and the pain can last up to a day or so. His treatment is nursing care and physical rehabilitation. Dogs with spinal clots are usually walking again within 10 to 14 days. The diagnosis is based on histopathology of spinal tissue (not something we'd be doing on a living dog).

Pet Food Recalls

The FDA periodically updates their website with new pet food recalls. Don't take a chance with your pet's health. Please go to the following site to check the safety of your pet's food: www.fda.gov/AnimalVeterinary/Safety-Health/RecallsWithdrawals.

E-mail Problems

As we send out mass e-mails to our families, some are bouncing back as not valid. If you have changed your e-mail address or you know of a member who changed their e-mail, please notify us so we can keep our address book up-to-date. Have you moved or changed phone numbers since you've adopted your greyhound? If so, please let us know so we can update our records. Contact *Brenda* or *Kathy*.



GAGC ID tags

Do you still have our GAGC ID tag on your dog's tag collar? If you have lost it and need another one, please let *Brenda* know so she can mail you a replacement tag. This is an excellent way to keep your dog safe if he or she gets lost.

Black Collar Sets

We appreciate all of you who have returned your black collar sets to GAGC to use for future adoptions. We continue to need them, so if you no longer need yours, please return them to *Brenda* or *Kathy*, or take them to any M&G and the rep will turn them in for reuse. Thanks!

Looking for Used Crates

We continue to have a need for large collapsible black wire crates in good condition that you might be willing to donate to GAGC. We now tend to have several dogs in foster care at once (we've had as many as 11!), plus we offer the loan of a crate to a new adopter for the first month. Therefore we are still sometimes scrambling for

crates. If you can help by donating a used crate, please contact your adoption representative — *Brenda* or *Kathy*.

Lost Dog

Another local greyhound group contacted *Brenda* on Jan. 11 — in the middle of a snowstorm — to tell her one of their dogs was loose in the Mason/West Chester area and was not wearing tags. *Brenda* immediately gathered some GAGC folks to assist in the search for the white and red female. A big thank you goes to *Brenda* and *Ron*, *Sandee*, *Jake*, *Brian* and *Marsha* who left their warm houses to look for the dog out in the falling snow. The best news is that **Stella** was found cold but safe after wandering in the snow for more than seven hours.

Webmaster

Congratulations to our webmaster *Mike* and his wife *Debbie* who became grandparents two weeks earlier than anticipated. Their daughter *Andrea* had a little girl — *Amelia* — on Dec. 29. She was tiny at 4 pounds, 14 ounces and 18 inches long but everyone is doing well. According to *Mike*, “[It’s the] only thing better than adopting a grey baby!”

We would like to thank *Mike* not only for the great website support he provides, but also for his generosity. *Mike* has paid all the annual fees

required to maintain the GAGC site as a donation to our organization.

Tastefully Simple Party

Thank you, *Josh*! His “Tastefully Simple” party on Jan. 23 was a huge success. *Josh* did a fabulous job preparing for this event. The food was excellent, we had several GAGC families show up, and several of *Josh*’s friends showed up as well. Donations collected throughout the day were \$750. We truly appreciate his willingness to open up his beautiful home and support GAGC’s mission to find homes for retired racing greyhounds.

Goldtopia Party

The Goldtopia party with *Kelly* — a precious metals analyst — was also a success. We got to walk away with some cash in our pockets and GAGC got a 12 percent donation of \$236. Thanks to *Sandee* for coordinating this party. *Kelly* will also be at the GAGC picnic in May if you’d like to take that opportunity to trade your old gold for some cash!

Mason Petsmart Santa Photos

Our Santas were greyt on Dec. 5. Thanks to *Rob* and *Jason* for the time they sat in costume handling a lot of different breeds of dogs. *Julie*, *Cindy*, *Alex*, *Angie*, *Pam* and *Heather* were our photographers and Santa’s helpers getting the best shots possible. *Brenda* was there with our GAGC M&G table talking with families about greyhounds. Thanks to all the GAGC members who

came bringing their families and dogs to this fun event. We were a huge success. And the best part was we got two applications!

Centerville Petsmart Santa Photos

On Dec. 19, GAGC volunteers took Santa photos at the Centerville Petsmart. Thanks to *John* and *Drew* for taking shifts as Santa, and thanks to all our helpers: *Vanessa*, *Angela*, *Cindy*, *PJ*, *Carolyn*, *Justin* and *Kathy* and their pups **Bubba**, **India**, **Roxy**, **William**, **Frankie**, **Basia** and **Kiowa**. Most of our greyhounds were in an x-pen near Santa’s seat, sending out calm energy to all the dogs getting their photos taken. Not only did we photograph a wide variety of dog breeds this year, but we also had a kitty get its picture taken with Santa.



Newsletter Photos or Articles Needed

If you have good photos of your hounds, send them in as we might use them for the newsletter. Send them to *Kathy* at koe@donet.com or to *Brenda* at brpennix@aol.com.

Dog Runs

Our first dog run of the year was on Jan. 6 at 4:30 in the morning! *Ron P.* and *Cindy* braved the cold and met the Alabama hauler in West Chester and moved the dogs to *Ron* and *Brenda's*. *Kathy* went at a more civilized hour to pick up **DS CrackerJack**, took him back to Dayton, and foster mom *Trudy* picked him up and took him home to *Troy* for fostering. Blue brindle female littermates **Pat C Not So** and **Pat C No Bale**, plus handsome dark brindle **Karma Drive** all were collected by their foster families in the next few hours. We have superb teamwork in GAGC and we appreciate all the support received. Thanks to *Brenda* for being the Master Coordinator!



Congratulations!

Congratulations to *Kelly* and *Stan*! They were married this past September in Gatlinburg and their attendants were greyhounds **Nika** and **Bailey**. **Nika** was adopted from GAGC in October 2006. What a lovely family!

Congratulations also to new grandparents *Vickie* and her husband who foster for GAGC. They welcomed not just one, but two granddaughters over a two-day period. Here are the details from *Vickie*: Our first granddaughter, *Haley Elizabeth Morris*, was born at 9:52 a.m. on Dec. 11 (two weeks early) in Portland, Ore. She weighed 7 pounds, 6 ounces, and her proud parents are *Eric* and *Gwen (Haley) Morris*. Our second granddaughter *Clara Tinsley Haley* was born at 9:52 a.m. on Dec. 12 (a week late) in Indianapolis, Ind. She weighed 7 pounds, 2 ounces and her proud parents are *Tim* and *MaryKaren Haley*. *Vickie* says, "I call them my 'twins'. Everything we do will be duplicated!"

Donations

Many thanks go to *Gillian*, who donates part of the proceeds from the sale of baby booties via her website to GAGC. Visit the site at www.etsy.com/shop/starlightsound. Check out the booties and bibs — they're adorable!

We would also like to thank *Chris H.* in Kentucky, *Howard* and *June*, and *Trudy* who all made year-end donations to GAGC. Thanks also to *Honey* and *Dale* who made a donation in January to help with our continuing expenses.

GAGC received several donations in memory of *Brenda* and *Ron's Ellie Mae*. Our thanks go to *Deb*, *Jami*, *Joyce* and *Walter*, *Kathy*, *PJ* and *Angie*. From *Brenda*: "Thank you all sooooo much for your generous donations in **Ellie's** memory — you don't know how much it means to us. I have

met the greytest people while working with greyhounds."

Thanks to *Mary DeSalvo* (from another local greyhound group) who recently donated to GAGC to help with expenses for our senior re-homed couple **Carrie** and **Otis**.

We also want to thank *Trudy* and *Lindo* who made a donation to cover some vetting costs for foster boy **DS CrackerJack**.

Angie and *Ron* also made a very generous donation to GAGC to help support our mission. These two are long-time supporters of our organization and we truly appreciate them.

Grant In Memory of Hustler

Once again this year, *Lisa* participated in the United Health Group Dollars for Doers Program, earning a \$200 grant for GAGC. She asked that this donation be in memory of *Diane's* greyhound **Hustler**, the best buddy of *Lisa's* greyhound **Julian**. Thank you!

Pet Sitters

Do you need a pet sitter for your greys

while you're out of town? *Brenda* has a list of GAGC members willing to pet sit, but we're also looking for more willing folks, in the Dayton and Cincinnati areas. Let *Brenda* know if you're interested.



AGC Grant

The day before Christmas, we were notified that the American Greyhound Council had approved a \$1,500 grant for GAGC to continue our mission to find homes for retired racing greyhounds. Their letter thanked us for our excellent efforts and commended us on our successful program. Thanks to *Kathy* for preparing the grant.

Dorothy Lane Markets Good Neighbor Program

For those who shop at Dorothy Lane Markets in the Dayton area, you can support GAGC while you get your groceries. Enroll in the Good Neighbor Program which will run from Jan. 1 through Dec. 31, 2011. Once you've enrolled, use your DLM card and spend at least \$500 during the year for your purchases to be included in the accumulated total that earns money for GAGC. Totals will accumulate from your sign-up date, so start today!

Foster Families

We are so appreciative of our foster families. They give us the option of having multiple dogs readily available for new applicants to meet and adopt. Thanks to:

- *Susan*: **Dancing Juliet**
- *Teresa and Chuck*: **Carrow Road**
- *Melissa and Carl*: **Struttin Boris, Grice**
- *Colleen*: **Karma Drive**
- *Trudy and Lindo*: **DS Cracker Jack**

- *Joe, Holly, Riley and Cleo*: **WV's Doak**
- *Heather and Jason*: **Anfield, Pat C No Bale**
- *RuthAnn and Jim*: **Grice**
- *Cindy and Alex*: **Inkan Horn, Dancing Juliet**
- *Kathy S*: **Jazzy Moon, Bobby's Haley**
- *Pam*: **Kelso's Lady Astor**
- *Doug and Sarah*: **Dancing Juliet**
- *Brenda and Ron*: **Anfield**
- *Joyce and Walter*: **Carrie and Otis**
- *Kathy*: **Pat C Not So**

foster care:

Dancing Juliet: 5-year-old red brindle female (brood) [adoption pending]

Pat C Not So: 2-year-old blue brindle female

Carrie: almost 11-year-old red brindle female

Otis: almost 11-year-old red brindle male

Katie's Countryboy: 2-year-old white and brindle male

We have four more dogs coming soon from West Virginia — watch for them on the website! Please contact your local placement representative (*Brenda* or *Kathy*) if you are interested in adding one of these beauties to your family.

Current Foster Dogs

Are you ready for another greyhound? We have the following dogs in

Recent Adoptions

Jazzy Moon and **RK's Party Boy** (now **Duke**): Dec. 3 to *Keith* of Oakley

Inkan Horn (now **Henry**): Dec. 6 to *Jennifer, John, Collin* and *Ben* of Mason

Struttin Boris (now **Boris**): Dec. 11 to *Ann* of Wyoming

RK's Duct Tape (now **Monti**): Dec. 17 to *Deb* and *Tom* of Centerville

Bobby's Haley (now **Haley**): Jan. 9 to *Kathy* of Cincinnati

Carrow Road (now **Jax**): Jan. 15 to *Honey* and *Dale* of Mentor-on-the-Lake

Kelso's Lady Astor (now **Scarlett**, pictured): Jan. 15 to *Michelle* and *Jon* of Carmel, Ind.

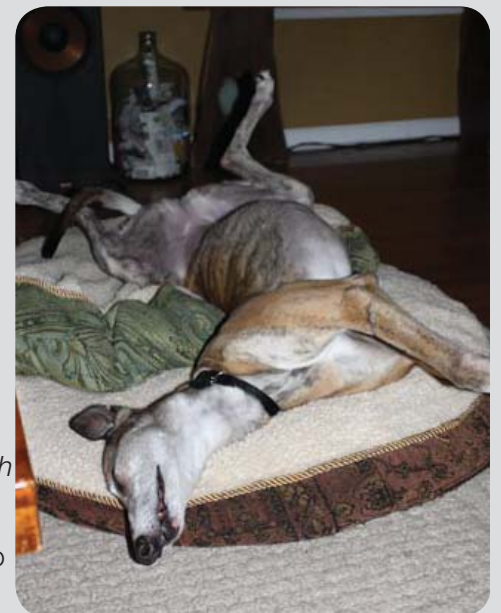
Grice (now **Ozzy**): Jan. 17 to *Michele, Greg, Gabrielle* and *Davis* of Fairfield Twp.

Pat C No Bale (now **Bailey**): Jan. 17 to *Jill, Tim, Allison* and *Alex* of Madeira

DS CrackerJack (now **Jack**): Jan. 19 to *Malia* and *Michael* of Bethel

WV's Doak: Jan. 21 to *Jenna* and *Josh* of Kettering

Karma Drive (now **Karma**): Jan. 28 to *Malia* and *Michael* of Bethel



Our Condolences

Editor's Note: Every time we lose one of our greyhound to cancer, GAGC makes a donation to the Department of Veterinary Clinical Services at Ohio State University's College of Veterinary Medicine, led by Dr. Guillermo Couto. GAGC hopes that someday soon, Dr. Couto and his colleagues can determine why so many greyhounds are struck down prematurely by cancer and other causes.

We were saddened to hear that **Magic** finally lost his battle with cancer the day after Thanksgiving. **Magic** was a big boy who had been surrendered



to GAGC. We soon found he had an untreatable cancerous tumor. When we had problems finding him a new home, we con-

tacted **Hettie**, the founder of Craiger's List, a group that finds homes for senior and hard-to-place greyhounds. **Hettie** and her husband took **Magic** into their own home and made his remaining months wonderful. We are so grateful to them for their kindness to this special boy.

Our heartfelt condolences go to



Michelle and **Jon** who lost their sweet girl **Elly** on Dec. 13 after months of failing health due to GI lymphoma.

Michelle shared



the following: "**Elly** is gone and my heart is broken, but she was worth every tear and I would do it all over again for her. I loved her more than even I realized. For such a skinny girl, she has left a huge hole in our home." **Michelle** and **Jon's** Doberman **Tyler** also misses her terribly. (Editor's note: **Michelle**, **Jon** and **Tyler** helped heal their heartache by adding **Kelso's Lady Astor**, now **Scarlett**, to their family on Jan. 15.)

Bone cancer struck down **Anne's** boy **CJ** in mid-December. Sadly, **CJ** broke his leg and **Anne** had to let him go to Rainbow Bridge. She only had him 1½ years, but we suspect they were probably the best years of his life. We are so sorry for her loss.

Honey and **Dale** of Mentor on the Lake (who also have a home in Dayton) lost their male greyhound, **Luke**, to bone cancer on Dec. 20. **Honey** described him as a big goofy boy who would walk on you if you were on the floor. He was just a carefree soul.

Honey and **Dale** adopted **Hope** from GAGC several months ago and **Lukie** cared for her and protected her during her bouts of illness. **Honey** told



Brenda that the night before they decided to let **Lukie** go to the Bridge, **Hope** would not go upstairs to bed with them; she chose

to stay with **Lukie** all night. **Honey** said she knows **Hope** was protecting him and could feel his pain. **Hope** is lost without her buddy, but **Honey** has already asked to adopt another greyhound in January. (Editor's note: **Honey** and **Dale** added **Carrow Road**, now **Jax**, to their family on Jan. 15.)

Darrell and **Peggy** lost their boy **Cole** on Jan. 1 to spinal cancer. It had progressed far enough that **Cole** had no control or feeling in his back legs. The family considered a surgical op-

tion, but his age wouldn't allow it, and the drugs to mask the pain kept him in a stupor. The kindest decision was to let him go. **Cole** was 13 years, 8 months old.

GAGC members mourn the loss of *Brenda* and *Ron's* greyhound **Ellie Mae** to bone cancer on Jan. 1. **Ellie** was 13, and as sweet a girl as



you'd ever want to meet. She influenced many families considering greyhound adoption. *Lauren* asked to share the following:

"*Brenda* brought **Ellie** to our house for our home inspection after we had completed the application. **Ellie** was calm and matter-of-fact and knew why she was here. When she was ready, she came over to check me out and chattered her teeth. I was fascinated by the noise and *Brenda* told me it's a greyhound's way of purring. That was it for me. I was hooked. What a compliment from **Ellie**! A few days later, *Brenda* brought us **Jake** straight from the track. Three weeks later, **Jessie** was what I call repo'd and it wasn't long until she chattered at me. I was thrilled to have a chatterer. **Ellie** inspired the love for the breed that I have and will always have and I am forever grateful to *Brenda* and to **Ellie**."

SPECIAL NOTE: If your beloved greyhound goes to Rainbow Bridge and you would like to share a tribute about him or her, please forward a picture if desired and your memorial

In Memory of ...

I got to the gate of heaven today, after we said good-bye.
I began to miss you terribly, because I heard you cry.
Suddenly there was an angel, and she asked me to enter heaven's gates.
I asked her if I could stay outside for someone who would be late.
I wouldn't make much noise you see, I wouldn't bark or howl.
I'll only wait here patiently and play with my tennis ball.
The angel said I could stay right here and wait for you to come.
Because Heaven just wouldn't be Heaven if I went in alone.
So I'll wait right here, you take your time, but keep me in your heart.
Because Heaven just wouldn't be Heaven without you to warm my heart!

— Author unknown

A Pet's 10 Commandments

1. My life is likely to last 10 to 15 years. Any separation from you is likely to be painful.
2. Give me time to understand what you want of me.
3. Place your trust in me. It is crucial for my well-being.
4. Don't be angry with me for long and don't lock me up as punishment.
You have your work, your friends, your entertainment, but I have only you.
5. Talk to me. Even if I don't understand your words, I do understand your voice when speaking to me.
6. Be aware that however you treat me, I will never forget it.
7. Before you hit me, before you strike me, remember that I could hurt you, and yet, I choose not to bite you.
8. Before you scold me for being lazy or uncooperative, ask yourself if something might be bothering me. Perhaps I'm not getting the right food, have been in the sun too long or my heart might be getting old or weak.
9. Please take care of me when I grow old. You too, will grow old.
10. On the ultimate difficult journey, go with me please. Never say you can't bear to watch. Don't make me face this alone. Everything is easier for me if you are there, because I love you so.

statement to us and we'll enter it in an up coming newsletter. High-resolution photos are best — 300 dpi. If they are 72 dpi, then they should no smaller than 4 inches on the shortest side.

"Old age means realizing you will never own all the dogs you wanted to."

— Joe Gores, mystery writer

Tributes

Ellie Mae — 11/97 – 1/1/11

Ellie, our 13-year-old greyhound had been limping for over a week when we took her to the vet and got the worst news every greyhound owner dreads — bone cancer! She was in so much pain we decided to let her go to the Rainbow Bridge on Jan. 1, 2011. We adopted her in 1998; she was always a girly dog, feminine and ran throwing her legs side to side (I smile now picturing it). She was an omega dog, just following the pack. Loved our grandkids and always tolerated their actions around her. She was a loner but her eyes watched every move we made. *Ron* and I had to make special



efforts to include her and give her the attention she deserved. She was probably the sweetest greyhound I've ever met. She was a greyt Meet & Greet dog and was the reason many greyhounds have gotten adopted, a true ambassador for GAGC. Everyone wanted to adopt one just like her. As the years passed and we added to our pack, **Ellie** taught them by example what was accepted in our home. She helped lots of foster dogs learn what a well-balanced greyhound should be. Tears are flowing while writing this; she will never be forgotten. It's comforting to know she's at the Bridge now running with our first greyhound, **Elroy**. Neither is in any pain anymore and they will be waiting for us to be together again someday!

HUG your hounds now and let them know how much you love them!

Brenda and Ron

Elly (Eleanor / Maria / DB's Gotta Go): Jan. 18, 1999 – Dec. 13, 2010

Dear **Elly**:

I miss you so much! I've had a hard time coming up with the right words, but I think what it really boils down to is, "Thank you!" Thank you for being such a good girl and for being patient while you taught me all about greyhounds. Thank you for making me laugh and for sharing your "happy head" laughter with me. Thank you for your sweetness — I never knew a dog could be so loving. At times, I didn't think I deserved your unwavering affection, but maybe you saw something I didn't. Thank you for being my friend. I am so lucky to have had you in my life. Thank you for introducing me to greyhounds. Because of you, I have become passionate about your kind. You gave me so much! I only hope that you feel that you got a lot from me in return. I love you **Elly**!



Michelle (and Jon and Tyler)

Show Your Support

GAGC can always use your support. Here's how you can help!

Go Krogering!

Do you shop at Kroger? Do you know someone who does? The Kroger



gift card program is one of GAGC's most reliable fundraisers. Go to the

GAGC website to get all the details on this gift card program. We receive a \$200 donation from Kroger each time our group achieves \$5,000 in total purchases. We use these donations to cover vet expenses for new or rehomed greyhounds in need. Thank you for your support! Here are the amounts of our latest awards:

- Oct. 3 – 30: \$399.60
- Oct. 31– Nov. 27: \$362.01

This is a great source of funding for us! If you have purchased a Kroger gift card, be sure you keep reloading it and use it at check-out. If you don't have one, you can contact *Brenda* or *Kathy* to get one. We have some that cost \$10 but come pre-loaded with \$10 credit; our newest ones cost \$1 and have \$1 credit pre-loaded. This is an easy and consistent fundraiser.

Do a Meet-and-Greet

Bring your greyhounds and join us at a GAGC Meet & Greet to introduce other people to this wonderful breed. They are on Sundays at the following Petsmart locations (check our website for times):



NEW!

- 1st Sunday of the month: Milford

- 2nd Sunday: Beavercreek (in the Dayton area) and Tri-County
- 3rd Sunday: West Chester, Western Hills and Centerville (Dayton)
- 4th Sunday: Fairfield and Mason

Pet Photography

Have you seen *Virgil's* photographs? *Virgil Sweeden* is a long time GAGC member who takes pet photos



at a reasonable price. He is available to take photos of

your greyhounds, other pets, or even of human family members and special events. For pet photos, he'll come to your home if you prefer, to make your pets more at ease and comfortable.

E-mail him at Virgil@PawPrintsPet.com, or check out his website at www.PawPrintsPet.com

Mark your calendars

March 19: *Heart Mini Marathon and Walk 34 Expo*, 11 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. at Duke Energy Center Hall C. Greyhounds can attend ONLY if scheduled. To schedule a time, contact *Brenda* at brpennix@aol.com. GAGC will have a booth to display adoption information.

March 31: *Cincinnati Reds Opening Day Parade*. *Ed Faulkner* has registered us again for the opening day parade. Mark your calendars and plan on attending. It is really a lot of fun! We get lots of public exposure! Watch the website and your e-mail for more details.

June 2 – 5: *Mountain Hounds 2011*. This is the seventh year for this event. Go to www.gfncmountainhounds.com for details. The Sidney James Mountain Lodge at www.sidneyjames.com will again be hosting Mountain Hounds. For general questions, go to gfncgreyhound@bellsouth.net.



“To live with greyhounds is to live with beauty. There is no escaping it.”

—Alice Sebold, author

Just For Fun

Brenda received this "announcement" from one of our newest adopters:

PROUD PARENTS MICHAEL & MALIA WELCOME ANOTHER OF GOD'S BLESSINGS,

DS CRACKERJACK TO BE KNOWN FOREVER BY ALL AS 'JACK'

BORN: 3/5/09 ADOPTED: 1/19/11

71.8 (SOON TO BE 80) POUNDS OF PURE GRACE & LOVE
29" AT THE WITHERS

MADE POSSIBLE ONLY BY THE GOODNESS & TIRELESS EFFORTS OF THE
GREYHOUND RESCUERS AND FOSTER VOLUNTEERS FROM G.A.G.C.

LILY, MANE & MOOSE, WOULD BE PROUD OF THEIR SUCCESSOR.
THEY KNOW HE WILL BE LOVED & ADORED
AS MUCH AS THEY WERE & STILL ARE!!!

COMING SOON "KARMA"
WITH A NAME LIKE THAT, HOW COULD YOU CHOOSE BETWEEN THE 2?

Sent from Ken:

