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needle **nose** news

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From the President ...

Our 8th Annual GAGC Family Picnic is May 28. Please come! This is my favorite day of the year! I'll speak for *Kathy* too; it is such a rewarding feeling looking around at all the happy greyhounds with their families. This is why we do what we do! Hope to see you all there! Detailed information is on page 11 of this newsletter.

The strength of any organization is in its people. I believe what sets GAGC apart from other rescue groups is your support, love and dedication to these magnificent creatures. We have so much to be proud of in what we do. We *are* making a difference in the lives of so many retired racing greyhounds. Our focus is always on the dogs and you are supporting that mission. Thank you!

Brenda

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



Greyt Health & Safety Common Pet Poisons Lurking in Your Garden

— from ASPCA

Last year, the ASPCA's Animal Poison Control Center fielded tens of thousands of calls related to pets that accidentally ingested or came in contact with garden-related products, including insecticides, weed killers and pet-toxic plants. Don't let your furry beloved become a victim of your green thumb — read our expert tips below.

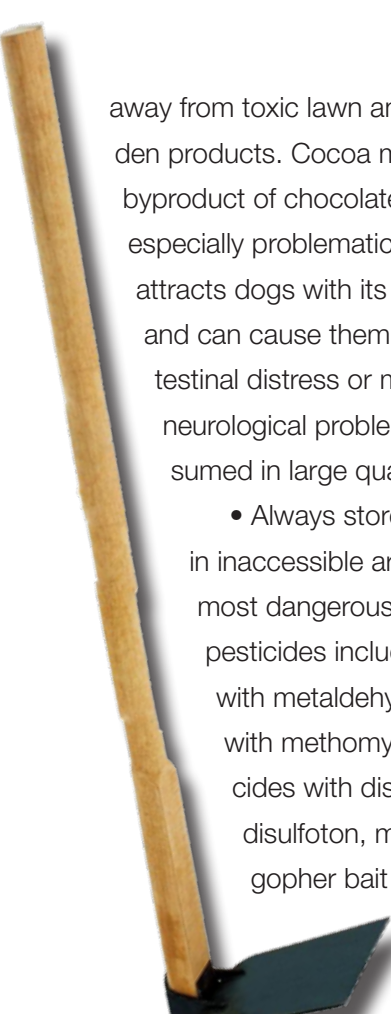
- When designing and planting your green space, keep in mind that many popular outdoor plants — in-

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cluding sago palm, rhododendron and azalea — are toxic to cats and dogs, and may cause liver failure or heart problems.

- When walking your dog, take care to keep Fido off the grass and



away from toxic lawn and garden products. Cocoa mulch — a byproduct of chocolate — is especially problematic because it attracts dogs with its sweet smell and can cause them gastrointestinal distress or more serious neurological problems if consumed in large quantities.

- Always store pesticides in inaccessible areas. The most dangerous forms of pesticides include snail bait with metaldehyde, fly bait with methomyl, insecticides with disyston or disulfoton, mole or gopher bait with zinc phosphide, and

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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.

needlenosenews staff:

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Lost the Race



Won Our Hearts

most forms of rat poisons.

- Unattended garden tools may seem like no big deal, but rakes, tillers, hoes and trowels can be hazardous to pets and cause trauma to paws, noses or other parts of a curious pet's body. Please leave all unused tools in a safe area, not scattered on the ground.

For a complete list of tips, check out this [online guide to Pet-Safe Gardening](#).

Think about Pet Food & Feeding

— from *Center for Veterinary Medicine*

You may think of your dogs or cats as family members, but do you handle their food and feeding utensils the same way you handle your own? You should! You wouldn't eat off of the same plate or drink out of the same glass, day after day, without washing them between meals. So it stands to reason you shouldn't neglect to wash your pet's food bowls between meals every day and the water bowl every day or two.

Dogs and cats (just like people) have bacterial microbes in their mouths and these microbes can be transferred to dishes

the pet eats and drinks from. Food left in the dishes can provide the microbes with a good environment for multiplying (moisture, oxygen, and nutrients) and can produce illness in people who touch the dish, or the pet that eats or drinks from the dish.

The same good hygiene practices that apply to handling and storing food for people also apply to food for pets. Leftovers should be stored in a closed container and refrigerated if the food is moist.

To be safe, remember to wash your hands in warm, soapy water after touching pet food and feeding dishes. Also wash your pet's dishes and storage containers before refilling them with new food. Both you and your pet will be safer if you do.

Pet Food Recalls

The FDA periodically updates their web site with new pet food recalls. Don't take a chance with your pet's health. To check the safety of your pet's food, please [click this link](#).



In the News — Man Rescues 46 Greyhounds from Kennel Fire at Derby Lane

— contributed by Joe (Edited for space)

By Stephen Thompson

The Tampa Tribune

Published: Feb. 16, 2011

ST. PETERSBURG — James Campbell's cell phone went off at 2:48 a.m. Tuesday. It was security at Derby Lane. His leased kennel was on fire, and dozens of dogs were inside. Campbell ran outside to his GMC Sierra and raced out of his apartment complex, ignoring the speed limit ... before reaching the track six to eight blocks away. He got to the kennel before firefighters did.

"It didn't matter to me how much flames, how much smoke," said Campbell, a father of three. "I was going in. I was getting my dogs." There were 46 greyhounds in 46 crates stacked two high, with names such as JR's Boy and Backwood Omar. As the fire crackled to life in the back of the

kennel, with flames he described as 20 feet high, Campbell started quickly, but methodically, rescuing the dogs. He unlatched the crate on top, helped the dog out, unlatched the crate underneath it, let that dog out. Then he went to the next stack, working down a row.

The fire grew in intensity, as did the smoke, and soon Campbell was coughing. The last dog he let out was Blood Diamond, a greyhound Campbell was holding for his fiancée, a woman who puts retired greyhounds up for adoption in Naples. As he was doing so, parts of the ceiling started dropping to the floor, and firefighters walked in through the front door. The fire would grow so hot it melted the casing for a side rearview mirror on a truck parked 10 feet from the building. In the end, he got all the dogs to safety. "There was an ultimate power that was looking out for them and for me," he said.

Vera Rasnake, a spokeswoman for Derby Lane, said the fire's cause appeared to be electrical. The track has more than 20 buildings designed as kennels, which are separate from the main track building. Because only 16 are in use, there was no problem finding the 46 dogs new accommodations. Campbell leases the building from the track, but he lost about \$2,500 in equipment designed for the dogs' care. He doesn't own the dogs but is paid to take care of them.

Reporter Chip Osowski contributed to this report. The complete story with photos is available at [this link](#).



Stop the Jingling!

— from Stephanie

Have you ever been awakened from a sound sleep by the sound of a greyhound shaking? Those flapping ears and jingling tags can make a lot of noise. If you'd like to sleep a little better at night, you may have looked into solutions for those noisy tags. You can buy rubber rims that fit around the tag; they help, but you can't always find them in the right shape or size, and our dogs always end up scratching them off. You can also buy leather pouches that fit around all the tags. But I have found a free solution: a big rubber band! I like the extra-wide but not too long ones that hold together bunches of broccoli or asparagus. Wind that band around the tags and they will stay quiet for quite some time. Eventually, the rubber will dry out and break, but all you'll have to do is go out and get another bunch of healthy vegetables, and you'll get a free replacement. If you're picky about color and style, you can always use a hair elastic. Whichever option you choose, you'll enjoy the peace and quiet.

Black Collar Sets

We appreciate all of you who have returned your black collar sets to

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.



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*.

Webmaster

Our wonderful webmaster *Mike* is doing triple duty these days: his day job that pays the bills, his volunteer web duties for GAGC, and his newest gig as Grandpa. Thanks so much, *Mike*, for all you do for GAGC and greyhounds.

Facebook Reminder

Did you know that GAGC is on Facebook? We're grateful to *Melissa* who set up our account and maintains it for us, and to *Mike* who also does updates when he adds items to our website. Check us out — we're listed under [Greyhound Adoption of Greater Cincinnati](#).



Dog Runs

Ron P. did the dog run to Jackson, Oh., on May 3 and met *Rodney* from West Virginia. We got some very nice dogs on this run: **Tailwaggin Talk**, **EF Sallyblizzard** (pictured above with *Cindy* and *Debbie*), **WV's Alma** and **Hoosier Eppie**. *Ron* said the girls lay right down in the car and **Tailwaggin Talk (Jake)** didn't want to disturb them while trying to find a spot to lie down. Finally one of the girls made room for him and he was a perfect gentleman the whole ride home. The reason that's significant is that no one had been spayed or altered yet so it could have been interesting.

After *Ron* got home from the dog run, *Heather* and *Jason*, *Debbie*, *Cindy* and her mom, *Jake* and *Sandee*, *Ron* and *Brenda* help bathe and dry them before they went to the vet to be

spayed and neutered. *Heather* stood in the shower and there was an assembly line taking them in; *Jason* dried them as they came out. The volunteers all had fun meeting the new dogs. Everyone agreed these four are really nice sweet dogs and will do greyt in their forever homes. *Brenda* felt **Eppie** was the favorite; she sat and watched all the action of coming and going and when it was her turn she walked right into the shower and enjoyed the special attention she got. Thanks to all of you for all the help!

On May 14, we got a sweet boy named **Beach Buggy** (nickname **Booga Booga**) via a very roundabout route. A trainer at a Sarasota track was making a dog haul to Wisconsin stopping in Louisville, Indianapolis and Chicago dropping off dogs. Apparently one of the groups cancelled their order

for 10 dogs. The woman in Sarasota contacted another local group that apparently gets dogs from her on a regular basis, asking her to contact other groups to see if they could help with the 10 extra dogs. *Brenda* received an e-mail asking if GAGC could help and something struck her about **Beach Buggy** (pictured at right). The dogs were to arrive on May 12, but we didn't have someone available to pick them up in Louisville or Indianapolis, so the hauler continued to Wisconsin. On the return to Sarasota, they dropped off **Beach Buggy** and another dog in Louisville but we still weren't sure when they would be arriving in our area. The other group picked up both dogs and took them to Tri-County PetsMart where *Carl* and *Melissa* finally were able to pick up **Beach Buggy** late Saturday, May 14. Whew! They took him home, picked off fleas and bathed him. Thanks to them both! Sunday morning, *Brenda* met them at County Animal Hospital where she got pictures and made vetting arrangements. Nothing boring about this dog run!

Red's Opening Day Parade – March 31

We want to send a huge thanks to *Ed* for arranging a spot in the parade for GAGC and to *Stephanie* for heading up the Red's Opening Day Parade. It was a chilly day but it sounds like those who attended enjoyed the excitement of the day! Our greyhounds are GREYT! Thanks to *Stephanie*, *Kyle*, *Kyle's* friend *Bradley* with **Lucy**; *Greg*, *Michelle*, *Davis* and *Gabrielle* with



Ozzy; *Rich* with **Bernadette**; and *Lori* and *Ross* with greyhound **Finny** and pointer **Laszlo**.

Bark in the Park

Debbie, *Jami*, *Keeghan* and *Parker* plus two of their greyhounds attended the first Bark in the Park at the Red's game on April 2. *Deb's* girl **Tessa** and *Jami's* girl **Soul** proudly represented GAGC. They had a table set up and many people stopped to pet the greyhounds. **Soul** even got to walk on the field before the game in the dog parade. It turned out to be a beautiful day and there were around 600 dogs in attendance. GAGC collected \$70 in donations. Thanks to *Deb* and *Jami* for pursuing this.

Blue Manatee Bookstore

GAGC was invited to attend story time at this children's bookstore in Oakley on April 3. **Bernie** was a huge hit; he lay right down and enjoyed all

the attention from the children attending. *Brenda* spoke for a few minutes about greyhounds and answered questions from the kids and their families. Thanks for representing GAGC so well!

Greyhound Ambassadors

Parker got an opportunity to educate his fellow classmates about greyhounds at John Hole Elementary in Centerville (south Dayton). The second grade class got to meet his greyhound **Soul** and ask questions about the breed. The kids were all very excited and interested. *Parker* used his Meet & Greet experience to answer all their good questions without any parental coaching (see picture on page 6).

Questions included: Do they dock their tails? Did she win any races? Why was she bad at racing? How many miles per hour does your fastest greyhound go? How many pounds does she weigh? They all gasped when *Parker* told them **Soul** weighed 67



pounds! *Parker* told the kids that while they do not dock their tails, there is a greyhound in the group that got his tail cut off in an accident. **Soul** did a wonderful job and enjoyed the kid's attention and *Parker* was very excited to show off his greyhound!

Shear Pawfection event in Mainville

May 15 was a rainy, yucky day, but of course our members came and supported our efforts. The grand opening of Shear Pawfection on Rt. #48 was a success in spite of the rain. The food was delicious and the raffle prizes were terrific. *Jason* and *Heather* set up and stayed all day! We had more dogs in attendance than any other group. Of course GAGC members won multiple prizes. Thanks to the pups that attended; they were a little chilly, but they managed to stay warm by snuggling up against each other. Thanks to the pups: **Jo, Sophie, Kelly, Ninja, Lexi, Layla, Tessa, Soul, Boone, Sky,**

Randy, Bernie, Mimi; and to their humans: *Heather, Jason, Joe, Cleo, Edey, Bob, Deb, Jami, Melissa, Jacob, Sunny, Gary, Ron* and *Brenda*. Thank you all for attending. You all amaze us with your continued support for GAGC.

Flying Pig Marathon

Thanks again to those of you who were able to volunteer at the Flying Pig. A huge thank you goes to *Laura* who coordinated all the volunteers again this year. Your organizational skills are greyt. It's exciting to meet runners from all over the world. This was easy money and everyone who volunteered had a greyt time. We had 60 sign up and 49 showed up, so we barely made our quota. Thanks to the following members for donating your time for GAGC: *Beth, Jami, Angie, Suzanne, Carole, Melissa, Jacob, Sheli, Susan, Rosemary, Timothy, Laura, Bob, Nick, Kelly, Cathy, Ed, Nancy, Liz, Barnie, Heather, Brandon, Julie, Rob, Willis, Dan, Julie, Debbie, Jill, John, Susan, Peggy, Dar-*

rell, Sunny, Gary, Brenda, Ron, Wiley, Stephen, Marilyn, Craig, Karri, Mike, Kathy, Margie, Lori, Stephanie, Kyle. Your efforts earned GAGC \$750 to help our mission to find good homes for the retired racing greyhounds. Thanks to all who participated for helping us meet our quota; the money will be used for vetting more dogs off the track!

Adopt-a-thon

The May 1 Petsmart Adopt-a-thon in West Chester was a nice day to visit with members. We had several families interested in adoption because of **Ty, Smiley, Indie, Haywood, Halo, Ripley, Haley, Fave, Bernie, Mimi** and **Tobee**. All the dogs had to meet every family that stopped by. Thanks to *Kelly, Laura, Bob, Sandee, Steve, Ron* and *Brenda* for representing GAGC.

Congratulations!

Heather and *Jason* had their wedding reception April 2. Unfortunately their greyhound pups **Ninja** and **Lexi** couldn't attend. This young couple adopted their first greyhound in July of 2010 and fell in love with the breed.

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.



They adopted **Lexi** just three weeks later. At their wedding, their party favors were dog treats with GAGC's business cards attached. They also gave a wedding gift to GAGC — a generous donation to the organization to help our mission — to find good homes for the retired racing greyhounds. *Heather* and *Jason* have become a huge part of GAGC; they have helped with dog runs, home visits, M&Gs, and have fostered over five dogs now. We're sure you'll see a lot more of them in the coming years.

Congratulations to new GAGC members *Karen* and *Jason*. They were married on May 6. This couple met GAGC representatives at the Fairfield M&G and fell in love with the greyhound breed. They adopted **Izzy** and bought a new house shortly after that. However, **Izzy** seemed lonely so *Karen* adopted **Dexter** for *Jason's* wedding gift! Now that is LOVE!

Donations

Thank you *Steve*, for your donation when you adopted **Carson**. She's a very lucky girl to have you, *Mia* and *Lucy* as her family.

Thanks *Sandee* for your generous donation to GAGC.

GAGC sends a big thanks to *Alex* for providing over 50 plastic buckets to GAGC. These buckets are perfect for foster food, saving GAGC money on purchasing gallon zip lock bags. *Brenda's Ron* appreciates the convenience of the tubs while filling them for the families' foster dogs. *Alex* saw a need and made it happen!

Dear Dogs and Cats,

The dishes with the paw print are yours and contain your food. The other dishes are mine and contain my food. Please note, placing a paw print in the middle of my plate of food does not stake a claim for it becoming your food and dish, nor do I find that aesthetically pleasing in the slightest.

The stairway was not designed by NASCAR and is not a racetrack. Beating me to the bottom is not the object. Tripping me doesn't help because I fall faster than you can run.

I cannot buy anything bigger than a king size bed; I am very sorry about this. Do not think I will continue sleeping on the couch to ensure your comfort. Dogs and cats can actually curl up in a ball when they sleep. It is not necessary to sleep perpendicular to each other stretched out to the fullest extent possible. I also know that sticking tails straight out and having tongues hanging out the other end to maximize space is nothing but sarcasm.

For the last time, there is not a secret exit from the bathroom. If by some miracle I beat you there and manage to get the door shut, it is not necessary to claw, whine, meow, try to turn the knob, or get your paw under the edge and try to pull the door open. I must exit through the same door I entered. Also, I have been using the bathroom for years; canine and feline attendance is not required.

The proper order is Kiss me, then go smell the other dog or cats butt. I cannot stress this enough!

To pacify you, my dear pets, I have posted the following message on our front door:

To All Non-Pet Owners Who Visit & Like to Complain About Our Pets:

1. They live here. You don't.
2. If you don't want their hair on your clothes, stay off the furniture (that's why they call it fur-niture)
3. I like my pets a lot better than I like most people.
4. To you, it's an animal. To me, he/she is an adopted son/daughter who is short, hairy, walks on all fours and doesn't speak clearly.

Foster Families

Our foster families give us the option of having multiple dogs readily available for new applicants to meet and adopt. Thanks to:

- **Teresa and Chuck: PG's Versatility**
- **Melissa and Carl: Gonzalez, Beach Buggy**
- **Colleen: Ahk Carson City**
- **Joe, Holly, Riley & Cleo: RWC Mulberry**
- **Heather and Jason: Come On Around, Kistler, Jackson, WV's Alma**
- **Melissa, Mike & Jacob: Braska Zinc, Tailwaggin Talk (Jake)**
- **Sandee and Steve: Haley**
- **Michelle and Greg: JG Lucinda, Jackson**
- **Josh & Michael: Flat Out Vaughn**
- **Tracy, Todd and Ben: Lee Dazzler**
- **Anne and Rory: Sam**
- **Kathy: WV's Gunman (Gunny)**
- **Jami: EF Sallyblizzard**
- **Michelle and Jon: Braska Zinc**

Current Foster Dogs

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

- **Flat Out Vaughn (Viper):** 2-year-old black male
- **PG's Versatility (Vinnie):** 4-year-old white and brindle male
- **Lee Dazzler (Sydney):** 4-year-old brindle female
- **WV's Tornado (Jackson):** 6-year-old brindle male

Sam: 7-year-old black male

RWC Mulberry: 4-year-old dark brindle male

Braska Zinc: 2-year-old red fawn male (pictured at right)

EF Sallyblizzard: 2-year-old black female

WV's Alma: 2-year-old red female

Beach Buggy (Booga Booga): 2-year-old white and red male

J's Houdini Girl: 3-year-old white and red brindle female

AHK Cypruss: 2-year-old white with black male

Get the Job Done: 2-year-old white with black female

Please contact your local placement representative (*Brenda or Kathy*) if you are interested in adding one of these beauties to your family.



Recent Adoptions

JG Lucinda (now **Lucy**): March 28 to *Stephanie, Chase and Kyle* of Carlisle

Come On Around (now **Phoenix**): April 7 to *Marybeth and Ryan* of Western Hills

Gonzalez (now **Dexter**): April 14 to *Karen, Jason, Chelsey, Olivia and Austin* of Trenton

WV's Kistler (Kistler): April 16 to *Leslie, Kate and Alan* of Kettering

Ahk Carson City (now **Casey**): April 16 to *Steve* of Cincinnati

Bobby's Haley (Haley), pictured at right): April 22 to *Sandee, Jake and Steve* of West Chester

Hoosier Eppie: May 7 to *Joyce and Walter* of Wyoming

Tailwaggin Talk (now **Jay Jay**): May 13 to *Darryl, Carol, Sam and Daniel* of Covington



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

— Joe Gores, mystery writer

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.

GAGC condolences go to *Brandi* and *Adam* who lost their 11-year-old boy **Levi** in late March to liver failure. He went downhill very quickly. **Levi** was one of the last **WV’s Big Tyler** pups.

We were sorry to hear that *Leslie*, *Alan* and *Kate* lost their little mixed breed girl **Rascal** on April 5. However, that sad circumstance resulted in a happy ending for a greyhound. Their first greyhound **Nick** was lonely and needed a buddy so they added **Kistler** to their family in mid-April.

We send our deepest condolences to *June* and *Larry* who lost their



greyhound **Homer** on April 22. He had to be euthanized following complications resulting from a series of strokes. **Homer** was surrendered to GAGC in 2005 and adopted by *June* and *Larry* who gave him the best years of his life. *Larry* recalls the situation concerning **Homer’s** transfer of ownership to GAGC. He wrote: “We went to pick him up. He walked down the steps to the street, put his feet on my shoulder and licked me in the face. That got him a home for 6+ years.”

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 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.



“It came to me that every time I lose a dog they take a piece of my heart with them. And every new dog who comes into my life gifts me with a piece of their heart. If I live long enough, all the components of my heart will be dog, and I will become as generous and loving as they are.”

— Unknown



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:

- Feb. 20 to March 19: \$369.60
- March 20 to April 16: \$474.42

This is such 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. Our newest ones cost \$1 and have \$1 credit pre-loaded. Please help us out! 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):

- 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

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. E-mail him at Virgil@PawPrintsPet.com or visit his website at www.PawPrintsPet.com.



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 *Brenda* at brpennix@aol.com.



Mark your calendars

May 28: *GAGC Family Picnic, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.* This is our “don’t miss” event – our annual picnic at Keehner Park in West Chester. We’ll have: FREE Doggie Goody bags (one per family please); FREE cake and drinks; FREE bagels and cream cheese donated by *Nicole*; FREE Starbucks coffee; Paw Prints photographer *Virgil* will be available to take photos of your greyhounds and family; GAGC group photo at 3 p.m.; calendar photo contest — vote for the 2012 GAGC calendar photos; used gold sale/fundraiser; silent auction and raffle — really nice items; GAGC booth with new logo t-shirts, logo hats and lots of new collars and coats; recycled items — bring your gently used doggie items to re-sell; pack a lunch, bring your blankets and chairs and enjoy a day with all our families. The stars of the picnic will be all the foster dogs we have available who will be in attendance. This just in: Karen’s Kookies has donated a basket of cookies for the raffle. She will also have a table set up selling greyhound cookies. A dollar of every sale will go back to GAGC.



Directions to Keehner Park:

Coming from north of West Chester:

I-75 Tylersville Exit

Left off exit heading east

Right on Cox

Right on Barret

Left at the dead end (sign will say Keehner Park to the left)

Go around the curve, park is on the left, second parking lot on the left (you’ll see a log cabin)

Coming from south of West Chester:

I-75 Tylersville Exit

Right off the exit heading east

Right on Cox

Right on Barret

Left at the dead end (sign will say Keehner Park to the left)

Go around the curve, park is on the left, second parking lot on the left (you’ll see a log cabin)

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.

June 11: *Harmony Hills Vineyards Meet & Greet, 4 – 8 p.m.* We’ll have a tent set up; bring a chair and enjoy a leisurely evening together! The dogs love meeting visitors to the winery. See their website at www.hhwines.com.

June 25: *First Annual West Chester Farmer’s Market Meet-N-Greet, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.* Alex is putting this event together for us. Appearances are being planned for dog related local businesses such as the “Dog-Wash”, Pet caricatures by *Mary Beth*, as well as any suggestions made by our GAGC members. Alex is requesting as much participation and as many greyt pets as possible to join in for all or part of the event. An informal parade of greyhounds wearing their best bandanas will hopefully become a trademark of this event with awards given for several classes of bandanas (traditional, fanciest, toughest looking, etc.). Other greyhound groups from the Cincinnati area will also be invited. This is an opportunity to present a “Tour-De-Force” example of how wonderful our retired racers are as loving pets. Additional details will follow. Please visit the [Gravel Knolls Farm website](#) for information on the location, purpose and services offered by the wonderful people at the Gravel Knolls Farm.