

GREYHOUND Friends for Life Newsline

July 2007

Letter from the Editor Michele Czaja

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Judy Kody Paulsen

Announcing the 2008 GFFL Calendar



GFFL relies on the Auburn foster facility and a network of foster homes to house incoming and returned greyhounds. We would like to add new homes to our foster network for short-term and long-term fostering situations. We are particularly in need of foster homes where there are no cats, small dogs, or other small animals. Are you interested in volunteering as a short- or long-term foster home?

What does GFFL look for in a foster home? Ideally, foster homes require one adult to be home most of the time. Crating is recommended when humans are out of the house, so foster homes must have space for a crate. Other pets should be fairly tolerant of different canine attitudes and some disruption to their routine. GFFL covers the costs, foster homes cover space, daily care, some training, and love,

Wonder why we need additional foster homes?

- When a greyhound is returned to GFFL for re-homing, we prefer placing the dog in a foster home. A foster home is less stressful for a returned greyhound and we have the opportunity to evaluate the dog's behavior in a home setting to ensure that the next home is the greyhound's forever home.
- We receive some greyhounds directly from the track with injuries. The injured dog receives the appropriate medical treatment and may require recovery time in a quieter environment than the Auburn foster facility.
- In some situations, we may place a greyhound that has passed cat testing in a foster home with cats for further evaluation.
- Occasionally, we have a space problem. When the Auburn foster facility is near capacity and new greyhounds are scheduled to arrive or GFFL responds to an emergency rescue, the overflow of greyhounds is managed in our network of foster homes.
- Most of our current foster home families include cats. When we have any of the situations previously described, we struggle to find foster homes for greyhounds that are not small-animal safe.

If you are interested in becoming a GFFL foster home, please contact Ginny Pock at 510-526-2691. Ginny is our foster home coordinator and can answer any questions you have about fostering a greyhound. Thank you for considering this important volunteer opportunity.

The 2008 GFFL Calendar debuts at the GFFL Reunion on August 25th! This wall calendar is all about GFFL greyhounds. **Many thanks** to the GFFL Adopters who submitted photos to this fantastic calendar. Wait until you see it!

GFFL will also sell "Celebrating Greyhounds" desk calendar at the reunion. If you are unable to attend the reunion to purchase the GFFL Wall and Celebrating Greyhounds Desk calendars, please check the GFFL website, www.greyhoundfriendsforlife.com, later this summer for ordering information.

Why Muzzle A Greyhound?

by Judy Kody Paulsen, Founder, GCNM

(Excerpt from Winter/Spring 2002 issue of *GCNM News*)

Over the years of doing greyhound adoptions, I have had the misfortune of seeing and hearing of the tragic results from greyhounds running unmuzzled in groups of dogs. Many of the articles I have written over the years (published in the GCNM newsletter and web site) refer, at least in part, to aggression in greyhounds. It is not that the greyhound has more of a predisposition to aggression than other breeds, it is that they have been trained to compete with other dogs, particularly running dogs.

The purpose of this article is to alert all greyhound adopters that injuries to the dogs are not the only product of aggression or competitiveness among dogs. An equally traumatic and increasingly more common outcome of scuffling among dogs is the ever-present threat of legal action.

Last year, one such case developed after a group of greyhound adopters had gathered to allow their dogs to run and play in a fenced area. Some, but not all of the dogs were muzzled. In a sudden flurry of play that escalated into a pack fight, one dog was gravely injured, others had multiple superficial wounds and two people were injured trying to intervene. This group of people and dogs had been meeting for several months to enjoy the beauty and enthusiasm of greyhounds running freely and had never observed any aggression among the dogs. Months later, all dogs had recovered completely, however the emotional suffering of their adopters was beginning to take its toll.

The couple who owned the dog with the worst injuries sued the adopter of one of the unmuzzled greyhounds that was thought to have done most of the damage. The adoption group that facilitated the adoptions for all these people also was sued. The case was settled out of court, but the defendants ultimately paid more than monetary damages as so much emotional and physical stress was encountered during the legal process, that life will never be the same for any of them. The defendants have since avoided all gatherings where people let dogs socialize, even though their own greyhounds had no history of aggression until the fateful day at the park.

The moral to this story is "stuff happens". Always be aware that animals, just like people, can have disagreements over things that in the past had not created conflict. Given the right circumstances, a friendly exchange can develop into a heated argument. Take into consideration that dogs often rely on teeth and claws to demonstrate their enthusiasm while playing. If an errant tooth or claw should strike an unsuspecting recipient, that dog will likely attempt to defend itself against what it perceives to be an attack because it caused pain.

In the case of racing greyhounds, the fact that they have been trained to compete can alone be the catalyst for play to erupt into a serious sparring match. These dogs have been discouraged from playing while in training for racing. Their job was to chase a lure with the intent to catch it. No matter how long these dogs have been away from the track, you cannot predict when or if the urge to pursue will take over its actions. In human terms, you could relate the racing greyhound's personality to that of a person with post-traumatic stress disorder, wherein past memories can invade one's mind unexpectedly and produce unpredictable consequences. Memories of training procedures used to increase the prey drive of racers could conceivably engage at any time the dog is exposed to situations that may mimic that training.

In the words of one of the defendants in the above described case, "It's about accepting responsibility." Humans must take it upon themselves to anticipate situations where they may find themselves and/or their animal companions in compromised situations leading to a less-than-desirable outcome. Educating yourself about the characteristics and tendencies of your pets can be of great benefit. Knowing what to expect before you adopt or purchase any animal is paramount in behaving responsibly around other pet owners and their pets. Read and heed information to help in determining if a particular pet is appropriate for your home. In the case of adopting a retired racing greyhound, consideration should be given to the fact that you must be willing to implement certain safeguards if you wish to share your home and recreation time with one of these unique dogs.

Ultimately, the safest environment and the least litigious conditions for you and your pets will be found in the confines of your own property. But, if you should choose to allow your animal companions to interact in public with people and/or other animals, you need to do it responsibly. Muzzle your greyhound any time it is allowed to run freely with other dogs, but keep in mind that a muzzle can come off especially during rough play or in the case of a fight. If you are in the company of other dogs that appear to play aggressively, don't allow your dog to participate, even if it is muzzled. The problem with the last statement is that not all dogs are predictable in their behavior and one may seem perfectly sociable most of the time, but can change in an instant if the conditions are right.

(continued on page 3)

Why Muzzle A Greyhound? (continued)

The larger the area to which they have access for running and play, the more likely you are to have an incident if one should experience pain from any source and then turn upon its playmates. The more obstacles there are in a running/play area, the more injuries and fights you are likely to encounter. A "pain-response" fight can happen anytime, anywhere, even among animals that have shared the same living space in apparent harmony.

Our animal companions rely on us to be sensible in our actions and reactions that affect their lives as well as ours. It helps to understand that whenever you have animals, especially when there is more than one present at any time, there is the possibility for disputes. Only we can observe situations that may ultimately lead to problems among our animal companions. We must be prepared for any outcome if we choose to allow conditions to persist that may cultivate aggression between our pets. Even under the best of circumstances, there will be the occasional disagreement among pets at home, but it is possible to avoid public situations that could escalate into a vicious brawl among normally compatible animals and an eventual showdown in the courtroom.

The adopter/defendant involved in the above lawsuit describes her experience as a 15 month nightmare from which she has not yet recovered. She states that "It doesn't matter how well you know the people or that they all agreed to allow their dogs to run together. It doesn't matter if the dogs have always gotten along without any problems in the past...reason often leaves the scene when pets are involved. People are as unpredictable as a dog fight. She hopes that anyone reading this article will learn from her experience.

GFFL Contacts

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Emergency, Lost & Found | 1-800-GHOUNDS (1-800-446-8637) |
| Adoptions – Barbara Judson | 510-525-3844 |
| Alameda – Ginny Pock | 510-526-2691 |
| Contra Costa – Barbara Judson | 510-525-3844 |
| Marin – Betsy McGee | 415-927-4166 |
| Peninsula – Bonnie Amiot | 650-359-6262 |
| South Bay – Patti Simmons | 650-948-4881 |
| Santa Cruz/Monterey – Michele Czaja | 831-659-9225 |
| Sacramento/Auburn – Shana Laursen | 530-269-1231 |
| Napa/Solano – Deb Chadbourne | 707-447-6781 |
| Sonoma – Lisa Pinto | 707-792-9288 |
| Northern California – Nora Star | 707-277-9167 |

GFFL Events

Please check the GFFL Website, www.greyhoundfriendsforlife.org, for a current list of Meet 'n Greet and other GFFL Events.

Update Your Contact Info

This year, a lost greyhound had a hard time going home because GFFL didn't have updated contact information. If you have a change in address, phone numbers (including cell phone numbers), or e-mail addresses, **PLEASE:**

- E-mail Michele at mbczaja@comcast.net
- Call your local contact, see the list above
- Visit GFFL's website, www.greyhoundfriendsforlife.org, and complete a Reconnects Questionnaire

Thank you!

New Adoptions

Craig & Jennifer Ashton (Tammy), Alyssa & Ryan Collins (Barbary Coast), Sean & Sue Digman (Echo), Alette Douglas (Bob), Jon & Cathy Duer (Sherman), Marilyn Feenstra (Hannah), Laurie & Scott Findlay (Brass Ring), Sherry & Doug Fischer (Brandon), Linda & John Geraghty (Del), Donna Kalal & Burt Greenspan (Tips), Alonso Saldivar & Jon Kitto (Dash & Homer), Edward Komissarchik (Taxi), Jonathan Walker & Suzy LaMarca (Walter), Scott Lambert (Comet), Sally Lau (Jenny), Shana & Andy Laursen (Kristy), Janet Long (King), Gale & Randy Lovell (Crystal), Tom & Nicki Murphy (Cory), Dan & Adoree Nevis (Lily), Elena Pidgeon (Jalyn), Raymond Ramirez (Bruno), Mike Little & Sarah Richardson (Quaid), Anne Schlagenhaff (Layla & Chase), Derek Railitou & Laura Schweikert (Anthony), Patti & Norm Simmons (Theo), Janet & Mark Thew (Valentino), Jennifer Vinsky (Suzy), Christina Von Vedder (Zone), Janet & Jim Williams (Nettie), Molly Wolf (Naomi), Bobbi Wolner (Cooper)

Greyhound Friends for Life 2007 Reunion

WHEN: Saturday, August 25, 11:00 am to 3:00 pm

WHERE: Big Meadow Picnic Site, Miller-Knox Regional Park, Point Richmond, CA

You and your greyhound(s) are enthusiastically invited to celebrate the joys of greyhound companionship with other GFFL adopters at the 2007 reunion! A map to the park is shown below. Signs will be posted along the route to help you get to the park and to our site within the park. The park has shade trees, which is great if it's hot, but even in August, it may be chilly right on the bay, so dress accordingly. Water (and bathing pools if it's hot) for the dogs will be provided by GFFL staff and bags will be available for keeping the park clean.



From Highway 580 in Contra Costa County, exit Canal/Garrard. Drive south on Canal (if you've exited from westbound 580, turn left at the base of the exit ramp; from eastbound 580, turn right at the base of the exit ramp) one block to West Cutting. Turn right and at the first stop sign turn left onto South Garrard. Drive through the tunnel and then about 0.3 mile more (now you'll be on Dornan Drive), to the first signed park entrance on the right side of the road. Turn right into the first parking lot. Big Meadow picnic site is the large site facing the parking lot. Look for the signs and GFFL banners!

Activities will include:

- ❖ Shopping at The Greyhound Boutique - shirts, hats, jewelry, and other items for you and your hounds
- ❖ A picnic lunch, cooked by our expert chef, Dan Pock
- ❖ Drawings and silent auction
- ❖ Nail trimming
- ❖ Games and contests

Note that purchases must be made by cash or check; we cannot do credit card transactions

Lunches and reunion shirts should be ordered in advance using the enclosed order form. Also, this year, please preregister for games and contest—Longest Down-Stay, Best Trick, Best Markings, Best Cover Dog, Cutest Rear End, and Owner Look-Alike. Contests are \$2.00 each, 3 contests for \$5.00. First, second, and third-place prizes and ribbons will be given for each event. Lunch and shirt orders, contest registration, and payments can also be made using on the GFFL website (www.greyhoundfriendsforlife.org) using PayPal.

This year's reunion graphic was again created and generously donated to Greyhound Friends for Life by artist and designer Patrick Holt. Carolyn Leopard designed the shirt layout.

We have already received some wonderful donations for the drawing and silent auction from generous supporters. If you know of a business or individual who would like to donate an item, please let Barbara Judson know (510 525-3844, bajudson@gmail.com)!

For safety reasons, all greyhounds must be on leash at all times. We ask that you leave non-greyhound companion animals at home to avoid any negative encounters between the greyhounds and other breeds. Please be attentive to your greyhound's behavior so that the reunion is safe and pleasant for everyone.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

In order to make this event run smoothly and successfully, we need more volunteers, so please sign up on the back of the order form! We especially need help with the following:

**Greyhound Friends for Life Reunion
Advance Lunch and Reunion Shirt Orders*
Map to the Park, Volunteer and Games Sign-up on Back Page
(Please return by August 1, 2007)**

Name _____
Street _____
City, ZIP _____
Email _____

No. of Lunches @ \$10.00 per lunch

Hamburger _____ (Number) Vegiburger _____ (Number)
Beef Hot Dog _____ (Number) Chicken/Apple Hot Dog _____ (Number)
Chicken fillet (on hamburger bun) _____ (Number)

Lunches will include one of the above, plus condiments, chips, drink, and dessert

All shirts are pigment dyed. Ladies t-shirts are celadon green or chambray blue. Unisex t-shirts are white or citrus yellow. Long-sleeve t-shirts are oyster or mustard. Sweatshirts are mocha or Sky blue. Please note the number requested of each size. The design will run from below the shoulder seam down the front of the shirt. The greyhounds are various bright colors.

**To see the reunion design in color on the various shirts, visit the reunion page at
www.greyhoundfriendsforlife.org.**

Short-sleeve T-Shirts (\$18.00, including tax)

Unisex white: S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___ XXL ___ Ladies celadon: S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___ XXL ___
Unisex citrus: S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___ XXL ___ Ladies chambray: S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___ XXL ___

Long-Sleeve T (\$28.00, including tax)

Oyster: S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___ XXL ___
Mustard: S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___ XXL ___

Sweatshirts (run big) (\$39.00 including tax)

Mocha: S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___ XXL ___
Sky blue: S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___ XXL ___



***ONLY A LIMITED NUMBER OF LUNCHES AND SHIRTS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE REUNION, SO
PLEASE ORDER IN ADVANCE!**

Send check made out to Greyhound Friends for Life for the number of lunches, shirts, **games**, and/or donation to:
Barbara Judson, 364 Coventry Road, Kensington, CA 94707

I can't come to the reunion, but enclosed is my tax-deductible donation to GFFL (Tax ID

20-5323161)

Volunteer Signup

I will gladly volunteer to (write in your name):

Pick up and return twelve 8-foot tables to Hertz Rental in Berkeley

Help with setup at 8:00 am August 25th _____

Organize and monitor the Silent Auction and Drawing Tables

Help with Sales

11:00 to 12:00 _____ 12:00 to 1:00 _____

1:00 to 2:00 _____ 2:00 to 3:00 _____

Prepare condiments for hotdogs/hamburgers/vegiburgers/chicken fillet

(sliced tomatoes, onion, lettuce)

Bring ~20 bags of ice for drinks/food storage _____

Help with take-down at 3:00 _____

**Greyhound Games (\$3.00 each/3 games for \$8.00)
(write in dog's name)**

Bobbing for Hot Dogs _____ Longest Tail _____

Best Trick _____ Best Cover Dog _____

Cutest Rear End _____ 50-yard Dash _____





**On May 26, 2007, Humans and Greyhounds Struffed their Stuff at the
*Dogs on Leash Fashion Show***

This benefit for GFFL raised funds to support rescue & adoption of greyhounds. Attendees enjoyed a catered, buffet Brazilian BBQ lunch, wines & other refreshments, spring air at a secluded ranch in the oak woodlands of the Sierra Foothills, Tour of Auburn Foster Facility, temporary home to over 150 greyhounds since June 2005
Fabulous Prizes, Unique Products for Sale,
And, of course, The SHOW!

Greyhound Friends for Life would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the generous sponsors of this event and the individuals and businesses who donated many unique and wonderful items for the drawing.

■PLATINUM SPONSORS

Douglas Van Howd Studios
Oriental Rug Gallery
Coyote Ridge Estates

■SILVER SPONSORS

All Aquatics
Animal Clinic of Penn Valley
Animal Clinic of Rough & Ready
The Capps Group

■PRIZE DONATIONS

Lindsay Scott, Artist
Avalon Gallery
Jerry & Nora Poole
Reynold D. Donovan, DDS
Sandra Ferrando
Encore Music
Truckee Mountain Rug Company

■CONTRIBUTING VENDORS

Goblets by Marj
Studio M
"Greyhound Tales: True stories of Rescue

■GOLD SPONSORS

Astro Paving, Inc
Axis Jet
Reynold D. Donovan, DDS
Maki Heating and A/C, Inc
Michael Greene and Company

■BRONZE SPONSORS

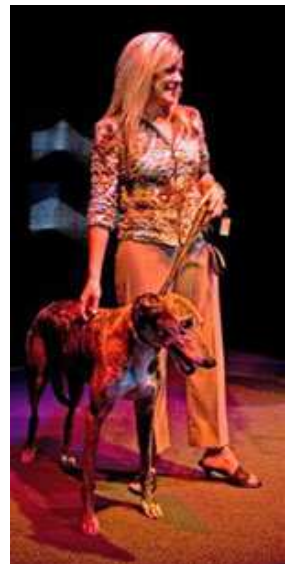
Connie Holt, Coldwell Banker Residential
Broker
Incredible Pets

■PRIZE DONATIONS

Keith Sutter Photography
Cara Brockhoff
Simply Striking: A Lady's Boutique
Goblets by Marj
Marsha Rafter
Ann Ranlett
Mountain Mama
Nicholson Blown Glass

■SPECIAL MENTION

Lucchesi Vineyards
Penguin's Catering
Simply Striking: A Lady's Boutique



Compassion & Love" by Nora Star

GFFL Receives a Grant from Maddie's Fund®

We are very pleased and honored to report that Maddie's Fund has awarded us a \$5000.00 grant to support our rescue and adoption programs.

Maddie's Fund®, the Pet Rescue Foundation (www.maddiesfund.org), is a family foundation established in 1999 to help fund the creation of a no-kill nation. The Maddie's Fund® mission is to revolutionize the status and wellbeing of companion animals. The first step is to help create programs that guarantee loving homes for all healthy shelter dogs and cats throughout the country. The next step is to save the sick, injured and poorly behaved pets in animal shelters nationwide.

PeopleSoft and Workday Founder, Dave Duffield and his wife, Cheryl, created Maddie's Fund. The Foundation makes good on a promise the Duffields made to their beloved Miniature Schnauzer, Maddie, to give back to her kind in dollars that which Maddie gave to them in companionship and love. Maddie passed away in 1997, but thanks to this one little dog, abandoned shelter animals have new opportunities to find loving homes in which they, too, may share in the joy and love that Dave and Cheryl enjoyed with Maddie.

For more information about Maddie's Fund, visit www.maddiesfund.org

GFFL
154 Ford Road
Carmel Valley, CA 93924