



# PAWS & REFLECT

Greyhound Pets of America Central Texas Newsletter

Vol 5, No. 9 September 2001

## Calendar of Events

You and your guests are invited to attend GPA/Central Texas' monthly meetings at 7pm on the first Monday of each month. (If the first Monday is a holiday, the meeting day, time and location will be announced.)

Meetings are held at the

### Town Lake Animal Shelter

Davenport Bldg. 1

1156 W. Cesar Chavez St.,

behind the ball fields that front Chavez (formerly West First St.) across from Town Lake.

### September Meeting Monday the 10th

## Meet - n - Greets

Noon to 3pm unless noted

### First Saturday

▶ Petco/Hancock Center

### First Sunday

▶ Petco/RR @

FM 1325 & IH-35

### Second Saturday -

▶ Walmart-RoundRock

7pm-9pm

### Third Saturday

▶ Petco/ Brodie Lane

11am-2pm

### Fourth Saturday

▶ Petco/Arboretum

▶ Gallery of Pets @

Hwy 183 & Duval Road

## The 3rd Annual Pet Expo

in Georgetown will be in San Gabriel Park on September 15 starting at 10am. Set up time will be at 9am. The Pet Expo will be located in the livestock barn across from San Gabriel Park in Georgetown. We will be there to show the greyhounds and raise some interest in the October Greyhound Jamboree. There will be a variety of activities and a silent auction. All proceeds will go to the Georgetown Animal Shelter. NO ITEMS ARE TO BE SOLD AND NO DONATION BOXES.

Directions to the Pet Fest will be displayed on the announcement list. To become a member of the announcement email list send a blank email to [gpact-subscribe@egroups.com](mailto:gpact-subscribe@egroups.com) or contact Bobbie Wier at [racersaver@prodigy.net](mailto:racersaver@prodigy.net)

## New GPA Foster and Adoption Policies

GPA Central Texas announces new policies with regard to placing dogs in Foster or Adoptive Homes.

1) The GPA foster & adoption application asks the question of the applicants intentions on the dog being an inside dog. This is a very important question because of the extreme changes in temperature that can occur. This summer, at least one incidence of death due to heat stroke has occurred. The decision has been made to be more rigorous in the enforcement of this item from the application. Effective immediately, GPA will begin making unscheduled visits to adopters homes checking on the inside vs. outside situation. If no ones home and the dog is outside, it is hoped that there is a doggie door to allow them to come and go as they wish. Failure to comply with this portion of the adoption/foster can result in immediate forfeiture of the dog to GPA.

2. Effective immediately, all applications for adoption/fostering without fences are placed on hold until a new committee of GPA member(s), who live with no fences and understand the commitment to walk their greyhound for necessity and health, can review and screen them.

3. GPA will start checking vet references listed on all adoption applications. Examples of items to be checked: are all animals kept current on annual check ups, rabies vaccinations, and all other required inoculations. Additionally, GPA will check the type and frequency of purchase of Heartworm Preventative.

If you have questions please contact Jon or Beth Underwood at 512-454-9062.

### Join us at the September Membership Meeting

September 10, 2001 at 7pm

The meeting has been moved back a week because of the Labor Day holiday.



## GPA/ Central Texas Board of Directors

### President

Bob Trapp, 267-7603  
email: rftrapp@aol.com

### Vice President

Shari Gray, 219-8464  
email: sharigray@yahoo.com

### Treasurer

Beth Underwood, 454-9062  
email: scout@scoutusa.com

### Secretary

Sally McIntosh, 301-8236  
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### Foster Coordinator

Jon Underwood, 454-9062  
email: scout@scoutusa.com

### Adoption Coordinator

Wendy Adkins, 281-0081  
email: wendysark@aol.com

### Board Members

- ▶ Hannah Baxtor, 733-0194  
kalibax\_2000@yahoo.com
- ▶ Leslie Ford, 259-4048  
leslieford@earthlink.net
- ▶ Bobbie Wier, 255-1163  
racersaver@prodigy.net
- ▶ Glen Bridge, Jr., 288-4689  
glenbridgejr@msn.com

### Greyhound Pets of America/ Central Texas

P.O. Box 40086  
Georgetown, TX 78628  
512-454-9062  
800-366-1472

Contact us for a newsletter.

### Visit our website

[www.gpacentraltexas.org](http://www.gpacentraltexas.org)

### Join our Email list

send a blank email to

[gpact-subscribe@egroups.com](mailto:gpact-subscribe@egroups.com)

or ask Bobbie Wier

Newsletter contributions welcome!

Email Diane Schiesser at  
[gpago@austin.rr.com](mailto:gpago@austin.rr.com)

## New Officers

Elections were recently held for the two open director positions in our chapter. The ballots have been counted and our two new board members are Hannah Baxter and Glen Bridge Jr. They have already begun fulfilling their roles by participating in the August 16 Board Meeting. In addition, our own Newsletter Editor, Diane Schiesser, was elected Corresponding Secretary of National GPA at the National GPA Convention in Atlanta last month.

## Greyhound Jamboree Update...

Every thing is moving right along, like the group is made up of old pros. Time is getting short and still lots to do.

If you haven't signed up for a volunteer position, please email Erica at [bella621@earthlink.net](mailto:bella621@earthlink.net) or call 454-8115.

If you know someone that is a craftsman and has a unique product to sale, contact Bobbie at [racersaver@prodigy.net](mailto:racersaver@prodigy.net) or call 255-1163 for information on how they could become a vendor.

For any questions concerning the Jamboree, contact Bobbie Wier. See you October 27 in Georgetown

**SAVE YOUR 1 LB  
COFFEE CANS!**

The Jamboree committee can use them for the Jamboree. Drop them off at the Meet N Greets.

The PhotoAlley

Pet Photography



Photo Contest!

Go to: [www.photoalley.com](http://www.photoalley.com) Click on "Community" and then on "Photo Contests". PhotoAlley will be awarding a \$1000 cash Grand Prize to the very best image they receive. There will also be a \$300 First Runner-Up Prize and a \$200 Second Runner-Up Prize. Winning images will be posted on the website after December 15, 2001. Photographs can only be sent in digital form. They can be made with digital cameras, or shot on film and scanned into digital form. Do not send prints or slides. All entries must be received at PhotoAlley by Midnight PST on October 31, 2001. Contest winners will be announced on December 15, 2001 at the PhotoAlley website.

Entries limited to five per person.

You must be a PhotoAlley Community member to enter the contest. Membership is absolutely FREE!



# Personals

## Find a special four legged friend here!!

**Key to Personals:** M-male; F-female; R-red; Wh-white; Blk-black; Bu-blue; Fw-fawn; Harl-harlequin; Bdl-brindle; L-large, S-small; PCF-possible cat friendly, SDF-Small dog friendly

**Murphy** - RFW/F 3 years old  
I am small and expect to be petted. I am shy at first and very routine oriented. I am also sweet and loving.

**Chase** - Blk/M 19 months old  
I may be on the young side but I am a sweet attention hog. Okay, I can't help myself I like people.

**Oreo** - Bdl&Wht/M 22 months old  
I am aloof at first and will come up for petting after I have gotten use to the new surroundings. I can be very loving.

**Cookie** - Bk&Tan/F 4 years old  
I am a shy little girl who needs a lot of love and attention. I am very sweet and loving.

**Manny** -DkBdl/M 4 years old  
I am a very sweet boy, who likes my humans. I like toys of any kind, and can be pushy for attention.

**Jax** - Bk/M 3 years old  
I am an attention hound for sure! I am sweet and loving. I am playful especially when there is a ball around.

**Brindie** - Wh & Bdl/F 5 years old  
I'm a small, very sweet, friendly young lady looking for a forever home. My tail wags a lot.

**Jack**- Fw Bdl/M 3 years old  
In need of some tender loving care. I will love you forever in exchange for a forever home and a family.

**Silver** - Greyish Brown/F 1+years old  
I am a mix, but I think I'm a full greyhound. Very small, cute little girl. Needs a very dedicated firm

handed guardian and loving home. Very friendly tail wagger.

**Miss Minge** - DkBdl/F 6 years old  
I am friendly and love to be around people. I am sweet and quiet.

**Spice** - RBdl/M 3 years old  
I am a shy guy at first, but with some time I will show you my loving personality. Toys are an absolute must for me, I would love to come check out your toys.



*Spice*

## Senior Fosters are like a Summer Breeze.

**Bob** - RdBdl/M 10 years old  
Bob's my name, and a friendly couch potato is my game. I get along with small dogs!! So call on Bob

**Riva** - Red/F 12 years old  
I'm an older gal and I'm cat friendly. Call on Riva to come be your sweet greyhound pal.

**Zeus** - DkBdl/M 11 years old  
Zeus is a older dog who would love to snuggle on the couch with you and your cats! Call me up for a sweet charmer to let in your life!

**Jesse** - Blk/F 7 1/2 years old  
Calm and gentle, sweet older girl wants a loving home.

**Hottie** - Red Bld/F 9 years old  
I'm a really nice, calm old girl. I am looking for a loving lifetime home. My sister Soo Nipi found her a loving home some months ago.

**Wabash** - Red/BDL/M 10 year old.  
Laid back older fellow. I have been through obedience training and I also have my Companion Dog certificate. After I had lost my companion of eight years, my adoptive guardians gave me back to GPA/CT, they didn't have time for me any more. I am small child friendly, know how to use a doggie door and do very well climbing stairs. If you are interested in a really nice old gentleman who wants a lot of love, please ask for me.



## Adoptions

8/2/01 - Phoebe (NXS Risky Rita)  
Adopted by Paula and Steven Molloy and whippet Farley.

8/8/01 - Lyle (NXS Lyle Lovit)  
Adopted by Shana Solley and her mother Ellen Sloan-Solley, Golden Retriever/Lab mix Jocko and two birds.

8/10/01 - Lilly (NXS Lilly Mae)  
Adopted by Connie & Joe Spears, greyhounds Belle & Beau and Yorkie Jessie.

8/13/01 - Violet (WMS Eclipse)  
Adopted by John, Lou Ann & Alex Anderson and greyhound Shelby.

# CURSE OF THE BLACK DOG!!!



I want to share a little story with you. When I was finally able to convince my husband that we truly "needed" an animal around the house, we started our research. We, of course, came to the conclusion that we were a greyhound family waiting to happen (all we were lacking was the greyhound). We started by talking to people with greyhounds and reading Cynthia Brannigan's book "Adopting the Racing Greyhound". An all-in-all, "greyt" start. We put a lot of thought into the qualities that this new family member should possess to make us a perfect match. After all of that our list was pretty short: we wanted one that loved and needed us, was not too active, and oh by the way, any color but black! Our reasoning sounded perfectly legit at the time. We had light carpet and would prefer any stray hairs not show and we thought the black dogs were not pretty. Well, we went to pick out our first "child" and came home with a young, handsome, huge boy that loved us from the minute he saw us. He chose us, how could you ask for more! He had the most beautiful golden eyes and the way he looked at us made our hearts melt. He had us wrapped around his rather large paw before we got out the door. Talk about love at first site! Oh, and did I mention he was, of course BLACK! The moment we saw him, we knew our reasons for not wanting a particular color meant absolutely nothing. We lost ROO to cancer a year later, but to this day, I have never seen a greyhound more handsome. That was 6 years ago.

I have helped many people find their perfect greyhound match since then. If I've helped you to adopt a dog, you've probably heard that story. I think that it is so important for families to choose a dog based on personality and NOT by physical appearance. That statement is so important, I feel like saying it again. It is important for families to choose a dog based on personality and not by physical appearance. Yes, you need to like "looking" at your dog, but who doesn't think their beloved dog (s) are the most beautiful in the world. They are like children in that respect.

I was looking through our "Available Hounds" list the other day and it really hit me we have many black dogs that

have been in our organization for quite some time. That prompted me to look at some simple statistic, which in turn, prompted this article. I don't want to bore you but I do want you to be aware of a few numbers. As a whole, approximately 40 percent of all our available hounds are black. Considering the variety of colors in the greyhound spectrum, that is a very large number. Further, approximately 65 percent of the hounds that have been waiting for a home for over 8 months are black. Conclusion: Black dogs are not being adopted at the same rate as other colors. This troubles me. Are we saying that black dogs are not as deserving of homes? Surely not. Their personalities are no different than greys of any other color. Below is a list of the reasons I've heard over the years for not adopting a black dog (The Cons) and also a list of why I think you should consider a black dog (The Pros).

**CON:** They look like other breeds that can be considered "aggressive." (Dobes, Rot's, etc.)

**PRO:** We all know that greys aren't protection dogs, however, because people mistake black greyhounds for Dobes (understandable, but Rots, come on!) would-be attackers are probably not going to get close enough to find out otherwise. People with good intentions will ask!

**CON:** Their hair will show more on my light carpet, furniture, etc.

**PRO:** Ask anyone with a light colored dog what happens when they love/rub you one last time before you head off to work. What color do we all wear because it makes us look thin?

**BLACK!** Believe me, it is a benefit to have a black haired dog on those occasions, especially when you are going straight to a meeting! Also, if you are willing to adopt a brindle, then you still have black hair mixed in with other lighter colors.

**CON:** Black is not what I think when I picture a greyhound.

**PRO:** You'd be surprised at how many times I hear "I didn't know greyhounds come in so many colors, I've only seen grey ones." That's an interesting statement considering we only

see about two "grey" greyhounds a year and we adopt out over 200. That is less than one percent. I've already given the statistic on the number of black dogs we get in (40 Percent).

**CON:** They are not as pretty/handsome as the other color dogs.

**PRO:** It is true that the fur on most black dogs looks pretty rough when they come in. It is not any rougher than the others, just more visibly rough. Give them a chance to shed that "puppy coat" and you will be hard pressed to find a more magnificent looking animal than a greyhound with a black coat that shines. They are the diamonds in the rough, waiting to be discovered.

The moral of the story? (Oh come on now, you know that every story has a moral. What would be the point of it other wise.) When you choose to adopt a greyhound, you are making a life changing decision. Please make your choice based on something that really matters, such as personality, rather than something as trivial as color.

*By Brenda Gasperich  
Printed by permission of Fast Tracks*

## Greyt Greyhound Links

<http://www.dollarpets.com> - GREYT prices on doggie toys.

<http://www.pgreys.org/catalog/clothing.htm> - "Greyhound: The Ultimate Survivor" T-shirt

<http://www.hh-industries.com/> custom made dog beds.

<http://www.dogphoto.com/greyhound.html> - Greyt Greyhound T-shirt

<http://www.laserengraver.com> - excellent greyhound die cuts and stencils.

<http://www.dog-art.com> - wonderful greyhound etchings, relief prints, clay sculptures, note cards, etc.

*Submit Greyt Greyhound Links to  
gpago@austin.rr.com*

# For Dewey

by Bobbie Wier

Three weeks ago today our big white greyhound left us to join the others at the bridge. I have thought about what to say about Dewey and how to make others understand what a special spirit he was, but I simply can not find the words to put on paper.

Our family adopted Dewey when he was nine years old. He had spent his younger years with two different families. His first family was a lady who lived in Temple for six months and then traveled with Dewey to Florida for six months out of the year. When she became to frail to care for him, he then traveled to the valley and took care of Susan Voss' elderly aunt and uncle. Dewey was the light in their lives and was a very well behaved gentleman. When his second family was no longer able to care for him, he was returned to GPA and he ended up as our foster. He had given so much to others, it was time for someone to take care of him.

There was only one real bump in the road in adopting Dewey, every night after we had finished our dinner, he would come and put his head in my lap or Steve's and look at us with those huge brown eyes and just stare. Then he would start barking soft and low in the back of his throat He was desperately trying to tell us something, but what? It nearly drove us insane. We even would call other people and let them hear him bark in case they might know what he was asking for. After months of this, we were able to find out that every night after supper, Dewey shared a bowl of Blue Bell ice cream with his family. That is what he was trying to tell us. HE WANTED ICE CREAM. Never was there a happier greyhound than Dewey when he was eating ice vanilla ice cream.

The night before Dewey died, we tried everything to get him to eat something, but he did not want anything even his ice cream. We knew then he was leaving us. Three years was such a short time, but we would never trade a second of it. It was an amazing journey my friend, one that I am glad we got to share.

Image courtesy of The Greyhound Gang



# Goodbye Sweet Chester



Keith, Hannah, Tara and Ingrid (Ramsey) lost their Chester on August 3.

When Keith and I adopted Chester back in 1992, we weren't sure what to expect. After reading another one of those horrible stories about what happens to greyhounds that just don't win enough anymore, I knew I wanted to help in some way. Chester had been returned from San Antonio from someone who claimed he shredded her bedspread. When we first went to visit Chester at his foster home, I was amazed at how big he was (almost 100 pounds) but found him to be beautiful. He was a red brindle and was so sweet. All the other dogs we visited just didn't touch my heart the way Chester did.

We didn't know what to expect when we brought the big guy home—was he going to knock everything off the coffee tables? He wasn't a big clumsy dog—very careful and calm. He loved to run and play in the backyard with Abby (boxer) and when we got Claire (greyhound) they became quite a threesome. He enjoyed going to greet n meets and never turned away from anyone who wanted to give him some loving. I can't prove it, but I believe he had a taste (literally) for expensive leather shoes. On a couple of occasions I came home to find a boot had been partially eaten or a strap taken off a pair of sandals. I've never seen another dog smile and grin the way Chester did. Whenever we got home he was at the door waiting and smiling. If you talked to him in a playful manner, he would grin from ear to ear and chatter his teeth.

We nicknamed him "The Big Freak" a couple of years after we had him. It was around Christmas and he was spending his evenings running back and forth through the house and snapping at invisible flies and looking for them as they buzzed around him. The vet first thought it might be the blinking lights on the Christmas tree that were doing crazy things to him, but further testing proved that he had a thyroid deficiency and medication soon alleviated the invisible flies, but the name stuck.

When we returned from our vacation in Germany this year, we found that Chester had a tumor and was diagnosed with bone cancer. Because of his age and the arthritis in his back legs, amputation was not an option. We gave all the medication the doctors would allow and he was able to stay with us for another six weeks. I'm sure he enjoyed all the special chicken and beef he had fixed for him so he would eat. Nothing was too good for our Chester. I promised him on the Friday when I had to have the vet come to the house that he would never have to hurt again and that he could go play with his friends and be free of pain. When the tears finally stop, I know that we'll be able to look back and delight from our many fond memories of our Chester. We love and miss you Chester.

## Our Thoughts are with you....

Donation in memory of Josh Underwood given by Rick & Jeanette Schiffner.

Todd Underwood passed away 8/4/01. He as well is very much missed.

Dewey Wier passed away 8/2/01. He is very much missed.

Magic Trapp passed away 8/12/01. The Trapp family is going to miss her.

These that we have lost are now free of pain and frolicking with JJ, Max, Josh, Dodger, Ebony and all the other pets and companions we have all lost over the past few years



## Host a K-EYE Backyard Barbeque!

Each Thursday, starting August 16, 2001 until October 4, 2001, KEYE's Troy Kimmel will broadcast the weather reports for KEYE's 5PM and 6PM newscast live from some lucky viewer's backyard. Rudy's BBQ and Pace Picante will supply a barbecue dinner for up to 25 guests.

Use the link below to register:  
<http://keye.com/event/bbq2k1/index.shtml>

## Artists for Animals

A benefit to help homeless cats and dogs. Poets speak out for those that cannot. Poems about dogs and cats will be compiled into a scrapbook called "The Truth About Cats and Dogs". There will be musicians sharing their voices and talents for this special event.

All proceeds from this benefit will go to various Texas Animal Shelters and Rescue Groups.

**When:** Wednesday, September 26, 2001

**Where:** Cafe Mundi  
1704 E 5th Street

**Time:** 6 pm - 10 pm

Please help GPA-Central Texas support this event and come for poetry, music, food, and a great time.

## A Happy Announcement:

Martina, Alan & Amanda Leffew welcomed son & brother, Travis Cole into their hearts and home on 7/2/01. He arrived half grown at a whopping 10 lbs 2 oz, 21 inches long. The Leffews moved to Pennsylvania last year from Round Rock. Martina worked for Great Oaks animal Hospital for some time. They have 2 greyhounds adopted from GPA/CT, Hettie and Nathan.

## Pick Up or Pay Later

In a recent visit to the home of an elderly greyhound I was surprised to find a large amount of greyhound droppings that were not picked up for some time. At a recent medical seminar a Greyhound veterinarian speaker stated that the leading reason that dogs do contract worms (hook, round and whip) was the kennels inability to pick up droppings in the turn out pens. Studies and tests on soil proved that thousands of worm eggs were present in the soil and when the dogs licked their feet they were reinfested with these parasites.

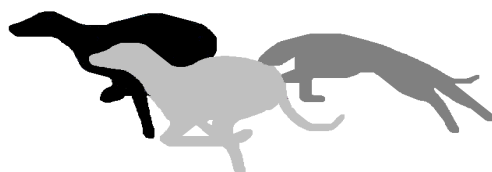
Some people will also wash droppings into the soil and that proves to be just as bad. Picking up the droppings and disposing of them in the trash is the only sure way to avoid this problem. Aside from being a health hazard to the greyhounds, veterinary bills can be expensive to treat such infestations.

The kennels use a shovel or large scoop with a small rake to pick up droppings and put them in a trash bag situated in a pail with a lid. This is the best way to store and dispose this waste.

Any bloody stools or stools with mucus could be a sign of worm infestation that if left untreated could progress into a life threatening problem. If you pick up your droppings and treat your dog with "Heartguard Plus," a wormer that takes care of Heartworms and most of the other worms you will rarely have a problem. Should your greyhound encounter constant diarrhea or any of the above stool problems, contact your vet for care and treatment. From the Spring 01 Issue of GPA/Central Florida's "The Hound's Run"



*Patty*



## NEW! An Inside Line Recording

**Many, Many Thanks** to The Austin American Statesman and the Inside Line for a generous donation of an Inside Line number. After many months of getting a script together and getting it to Robyn Wilson, daughter of Jean and Nelson Malcolm, who graciously did the recording.

If you would like to listen to the recording call 416-5700 and dial extension 3500.

It is a wonderful recording and Thanks to Robyn for doing this for us.

**Are you giving your aluminum cans to GPA? No? Then your taking money away from the dogs. GPA recycles the cans for money. Last year we raised over \$300 just from the cans collected.**



# Heatstroke...the Hot Weather Killer!

By Robin Krautbauer

Summer's here, and the warm weather means more time spent outdoors-and more outdoor activities to share with your hound. But there are hidden dangers for our dogs in these lazy, sultry days. One of the most serious summer emergencies is heatstroke, which can cause permanent damage to your hound's internal organs or even death.

## What causes heatstroke?

Heatstroke occurs when your dog's body temperature gets too high. An owner leaves a hound in a parked car (even with open window, temperatures in a car can climb to lethal degrees within minutes) or leaves a dog outside without shade on a hot day. An owner exercises the hound too much when it's hot or is simply unaware that greyhounds are especially vulnerable to the effects of heat.

## Know the signs

Dogs dissipate heat by panting, but in some conditions, that's not enough to adequately lower their temperature. Any of these signs may indicate that your dog is overheated:

- Excessive panting and drooling
- Vomiting and/or diarrhea
- Elevated heart rate
- Notable lethargy or just odd behavior
- Seizures
- Very red gums
- Collapse or unconsciousness

## What to do

If you notice any of these symptoms on a hot day, you must act quickly. The best way to find out if your hound is suffering from heatstroke is to take your dog's rectal temperature. Of course, some people may not feel up to this. But relying on external signs alone may lead to a false diagnosis. It's important to get a temperature as quickly as possible, because cooling occurs somewhat slowly. If you choose not to take your dog's rectal temperature, call your veterinarian right away! When your dog's body temperature is higher than 105 degrees Fahrenheit, it is in the danger zone. (Normal body temperatures for dogs range roughly from 100 degrees to 102 degrees Fahrenheit.) Take immediate steps to cool down your pet. And call your vet.

## Cooling down

If you suspect heatstroke, keep your hound as still and quiet as possible. Move them to a cooler spot or inside an air-conditioned house. Apply cool, not cold, water. You can submerge your hound in a sink, bathtub, or wading pool for a minute or so at a time. If you are unable to lift your dog, you may want to hose them down with cool, not cold, water from a garden hose. Placing

cold towels on your dog's head and feet can help. Feeding your hound ice is not a good idea-he or she could vomit. Then retake your dog's temperature. Your goal is to get the hound's temperature down to 104 degrees in the first 10 to 15 minutes. Then get to a veterinary hospital as soon as possible. Even if you've succeeded in lowering the temperature, there are serious conditions that can result from heatstroke that may appear only after several hours, such as brain swelling, seizures, kidney failure, blood clotting abnormalities, shock, coma, and even death.

## What to expect at the vet

The vet probably will run intravenous cool fluids into your dog. She will also give the dog a bath, draw blood to check for kidney damage and other conditions, give medication as needed for complications, and monitor the dog's body temperature. She may also administer a cool enema. (Caution: Never do this at home! Human enemas can be fatal to dogs!)

## How to prevent heatstroke

Of course, prevention is the best defense against heatstroke. Here's how to make sure your hound doesn't get overheated in the first place:

- Never leave your dog in a parked car in warm months, not even for a few minutes.
- When your hound is outdoors, make sure there's a shady area readily accessible with plenty of fresh water. Make sure the water bowl can't be knocked over.
- Choose cool times of the day for exercise and avoid strenuous exercise when it's very hot.
- Use extra caution if your dog is obese, prone to seizures, or has heart or breathing conditions. Keep these hounds extra cool in summer temperatures.
- Reserve airline travel for cool parts of the day, use direct flights, and avoid airline travel completely in hot weather.

Even when you have the best intentions, accidents happen. When they do, be ready to act properly to save their life.

Originally published in *Home Stretch*.

Reprinted with permission

# Be aware of toxic plants

If you suspect your Pet has been exposed to a toxic plant, do not induce vomiting until you speak to your veterinarian or local emergency hospital. Keep your Pet warm and quiet and figure out what the Pet ate, when your Pet ate it, and how much of it your Pet swallowed.

Here's a list of some plants that are toxic to Pets:

- Apple (seeds)
- Apricots (pits)
- Azalea
- Baby's Breath
- Bulbs (crocus, daffodils, hyacinth, narcissus, tulip, amaryllis)
- Castor Bean
- Delphinium
- Fireweed (also known as Burning Bush)
- Foxglove
- Elephant's Ears
- Hemlock
- Holly
- Ivy
- Japanese yew
- Lily-of-the-Valley
- Mushrooms (most wild forms)
- Oleander
- Onions
- Pear (seeds)
- Periwinkle
- Potato Plants (new shoots and eyes)
- Poppy
- Rhododendron
- Sago Palm
- Snapdragon
- Sweet Pea
- Tansy
- Tomato plant (foliage, vines)
- Verbena

For a list of toxic plants, pet-friendly lawn care products and less toxic alternatives, contact your veterinarian or the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center at 1-888-426-4435. *List Sources: ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center, American Veterinary Medical Association and University of Illinois Toxicology Medicine Library.*

## Letters Policy

The Paws and Reflect newsletter of GPA/Central Texas encourages letters from its readers. Letters should be to the point, typed, double spaced and signed. Address and telephone number must be provided for verification purposes.

Letters will be printed on space available basis (300 word limit). Letters should be concise and not be simply a means of expressing personal belief.

We reserve the right to edit all letters for length, content, and potentially libelous statements.

## GPA Central Texas

*Enclosed is my donation to help with greyhound expenses  
REMEMBER: It is tax deductible!!*

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Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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Do you want a receipt mailed to you? \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Donation: \_\_\_\_\_ Individual membership (\$15.00/year)

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Please Mail Donations To:  
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PO Box 40086  
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*Annual Membership: Individual \$15; Family \$25; Adoption Fee of \$125 includes  
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Join Us for the First Annual Greyhound Jamboree Saturday, October 27, 2001 from 10am to 4pm