

Permanent emergency medical fund established

Greyhound Pets of America/Central Texas has created a permanent emergency medical fund for special-needs greyhounds in foster care. Many of you have already responded generously to the appeal for funds to help cover unusual medical expenses for foster dogs. Your gifts are helping GPA/CT

cover the costs of caring for dogs such as Iza and Callie.

Callie broke her foreleg after entering foster care, resulting in tests to determine the possibility of bone cancer or a bone infection. Luckily, she had neither. Surgery was performed and pins placed in the leg to hold the bones while they heal. With good care and nutrition, her recuperation will take a minimum of six weeks and will require many return check-ups and x-rays, obviously resulting in a large vet bill.

Iza was returned to GPA/CT by her owner after being bitten by a Brown Recluse spider, which has led to significant tissue dam-

Callie suffered a broken foreleg after entering GPA/CT foster care.

age and required months of intensive treatment with medical bills approaching \$1,000. She was recently adopted by a wonderful family (one of whose members had also suffered a poisonous spider bite), but she will require further surgery to release scar tissue on the affected leg. (That surgery is the responsibility of GPA/CT.)

Iza and Callie illustrate GPA/CT's urgent need to establish this emergency medical fund for special-needs dogs. This fund will help us offer greyhounds the very best opportunity for a quality life instead of allowing harsh economic realities to dictate a difficult decision. (continued on page 5)

Iza's medical bills for treatment of a Brown Recluse spider bite are nearing \$1,000. Read more about Iza's treatment at www.gpacentraltexas.org/news/iza.html.



KEY TO PERSONALS

R	red
W	white
BLK	black
BLU	blue
FW	fawn
HARL	harlequin
BDL	brindle
M	male
F	female
y	years
mo	months
CF	cat friendly
PCF	possibly cat friendly
NCF	not cat friendly
SDF	small dog friendly
NDF	not small dog friendly

Personals

BETTY

W,BLK/F/NCF/NDF

Total love bug! Loves to play, give kisses, and lie on anything soft. Does stairs well. Not a good companion for cats or small dogs. Probably happiest in a home with one other dog.

CHAMP II

BDL/M/3y

Champ II is a very special dog in need of a very special adopter. His ideal home would have a human with high energy and a commitment to maintaining the training that has gone into helping him mature. It should not be a home with any children or small animals and probably no more than one other dog. (Learn more about Champ II at http://www.gpacentraltexas.org/spotlight/champ2_spotlight.html.)

DINK

BLK/F/5y/NCF/NDF

Very active and confident. Not good with cats or small dogs. Loves toys that make a noise!

EDEN

R/F/5y

A little bit shy, but very lovable. Just needs someone to give her affection.

FLITE

FW/F/7y/CF

Surrendered by her owner who moved. Cat friendly and loves to play with other dogs. Looking for a home with lots of squeaky toys and soft beds.

HOLLY

W,BDL/F/9y/NCF/NDF

A perfect lady. Returned after her owner of seven years died. Likes to run and play with larger dogs, but mostly wants a soft bed and a warm blankie. No known health issues.

HONEYCOMB

R/F/2y/NCF

This little lady is very shy and needs a human with patience and love to bring out her personality. Not cat friendly.

LONNIE

R/M/6y

What a sweet boy he is! Just waiting for the right family to give him a soft bed and lots of love. Cats and small dogs? Unknown. Plays well with others, loves toys, likes to run in the yard. Can be hand shy at first, but a real love bug.

SHELLY

R/F/4.5y

Delicate little lady who loves affection. A companion dog or someone at home to keep her company would be the perfect home for this well-mannered girl.

TULLY

W,BLK/M/18m

A bundle of energy, hoping to find a seriously committed human to help him through his teenager phase. He is receiving training and will prove to be an affectionate, loving treasure for the right person. He would almost rather play ball than eat!

ZEUS

BDL,W/M/3y/NCF/NDF

Very friendly, handsome boy, recently rescued, who is learning what it is like to have friends and play, as well as have a human to scratch his ears and lean against. Loves stretching out on his dog bed for some much-needed rest. Currently learning manners related to living in a house. Probably prefers medium- to large-size dogs rather than small dogs and cats.

Heatstroke: Be Safe This Summer!

by Kristin Stark, editorial assistant,
American Animal Hospital Association

Heatstroke is a deadly disease that can kill your beloved companion, even with emergency treatment. The best way to avoid this terrible situation is prevention, and it's all up to you.

SUN + HUMIDITY = HEATSTROKE

Everyone knows that the inside of a car on a hot summer's day can be lethal. But Fido needs you to know more than that to keep him safe in the deadly sun. Days above 90°, especially with high humidity, are inherently dangerous for your pet. Humidity interferes with animals' ability to rid themselves of excess body heat. When we overheat we sweat, and when the sweat dries it takes excess heat with it. Our four-legged friends only perspire around their paws, which is not enough to cool the body. To rid themselves of excess heat, animals pant. Air moves through the nasal passages, which picks up excess heat from the body. As it is expelled through the mouth, the extra heat leaves along with it. Although this is a very

efficient way to control body heat, it is severely limited by high humidity or when the animal is in close quarters.

Overweight dogs are more prone to overheating because their extra layers of fat act as insulation, which traps heat in their bodies and restricts their breathing capabilities. Age can also be a factor in an animal's tendency to overheat — very young animals may not have a fully developed temperature regulating system, and older pets' organ systems may not be functioning at 100 percent, leaving them prone to heat-related damage.

CRACKING THE WINDOWS DOESN'T CUT IT

So where are the danger zones? The most obvious is your car: It can become a death trap even on a mild sunny day — a car's temperature can raise to well above 120°! Never, ever leave your pet inside the car. If Fido can't come with you when you get out of the car, leave him at home.

Leaving animals outdoors without shelter is just as dangerous as leaving them inside a hot car. Be sure they are not left in a cage in the hot sun, on a chain in the backyard, or outdoors in a run without sufficient shade or air circulation.

THEIR LIVES ARE IN YOUR HANDS

Heatstroke is a medical emergency. If you suspect your pet has heatstroke, you must act quickly and calmly. Call a veterinarian immediately. Lower the animal's body temperature by applying towels soaked in cool water to the hairless areas of the body. Get the animal to a veterinarian immediately. Once your pet is in the veterinarian's care, treatment may include further cooling techniques, IV

(continued on page 7)

A GREYT BIG "THANK YOU!" TO EVERYONE WHO HAS MADE A DONATION TO THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL FUND

David & Ruth Beer
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(Donations received as of
June 18, 2004.)



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FOSTERING 101 »»

This month, foster parents Marie Coco and Doug Bevins answer questions about their fostering experience.

—Bob Trapp,
Foster Coordinator

Foster Home of the Month: Marie Coco and Doug Bevins

Who was your favorite foster dog and why?

That's a hard question. We've fostered five greyhounds in the last year or so and they've all been special in their own way. Brentin was probably the favorite for our dogs because he played and played and played. Cody was gentle and well-mannered and beautiful; We'd have to say he was our personal favorite because he came into our home very nervous and wary and left a much more confident dog. Wilma comes in a very, very close second. Wilma is extremely affectionate and smiles a lot. We know she'll be happy in her new home but we still miss her. (We got a "cookie" out for her the other day before realizing she wasn't there).

What has been your best fostering experience?

Watching our dogs and Cody play in the snow on Valentine's Day until they wore themselves out. Their joy was contagious.

What has been your worst fostering experience?

Taking care of an epileptic dog who was recovering from heartworm treatment when we lived in Houston. We knew she felt terrible, and we weren't able to comfort her very much.

What benefit do the greyhounds receive from foster care?

The biggest benefit is that they are eventually placed in a home with people who know what to expect from them behavior-wise and personality-wise as a result of their stay with a foster family. This reduces their chance of being returned. They learn what is expected of them in a home, how to get along with other creatures (cats), all about "cookies" and squeaky toys. They become familiar with a family routine rather than a kennel

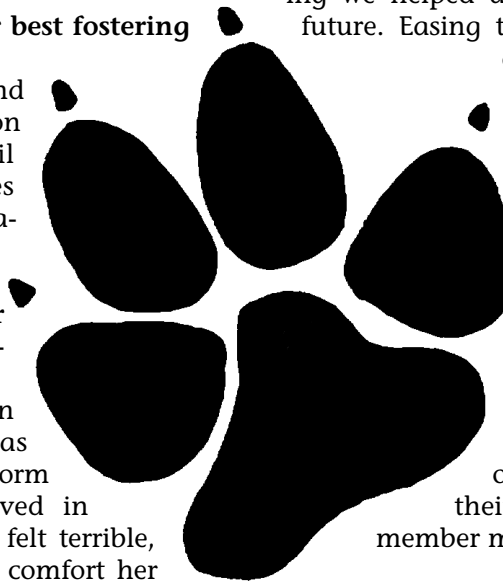
routine. They are petted and hugged and loved and enjoy the newfound security they experience. We adopted our first greyhound from a group that did not foster the dogs prior to placing them and the information we received about the dog was something like: "male, fawn, cat-friendly, five years old." (He was cat-tested for maybe 10 minutes.) It is so much better for a family to know if their dog is afraid of thunder or loud noises, is house-trained, is a chewer, is small-dog friendly, is good in the car, and so on and so on.

What benefit does the foster family receive from fostering a greyhound?

We get the personal satisfaction of knowing we helped another creature find their future. Easing their transition from track dog to family dog is very rewarding. We also believe our own dogs benefit in that they have additional playmates with whom they can exercise and share their toys (most of the time!). Even though it is hard to let go of them, we feel taking the foster dog to his or her new home and watching the excitement of the family as they open their arms to their new family member makes it all worthwhile.

Why do you feel fostering is important?

Fostering is important because each dog has a unique personality, and we are able to identify their individual traits and quirks. As noted above, this ensures that we match them with a family to whom they are best suited. The family has a better experience since they know what to expect of the dog, and the dog has an easier transition as they know what is expected of them. We are also able to work with the dog on any behaviors that are inappropriate, such as counter surfing.



Adoptions

DATE	FOSTER NAME (RACING NAME) [NEW NAME]	ADOPTED BY
May 19	Red (FMC's Red Dirt)	Wallace Reeves and Laureen Chernow, greyhound Slim and mix, Della
May 28	Billy	Jason Flenniken and Melissa Conner, and poodle Cocoa
June 4	Barney	Jana and Nickou Oskoui, basenji Baya and beagle Bonnie
June 4	Breezy (Mister Breeze)	Jennifer and Jamie Lewis, sons Hadyn and Harrison, and mix Charlie
June 13	Wilma [Fiona]	Vance and Stacy Zimmerman
June 13	Iza (Iza Looker)	Vance and Stacy Zimmerman



Our Thoughts Are With You

Troy & Tina Arnold lost their greyhound "Aztec" on May 1, 2004.
Jerry & Shirley Friedman lost their greyhound "BeBe" on May 21, 2004.

Memorial to Jet

I wanted to let you know that Jet had to be put to sleep on Wednesday, June 2, almost four years to the day after he came to live with us. He was diagnosed with bone cancer in his hind leg in February. He had been on medication to help him deal with the pain and had been getting along fairly well, but by this week it became clear that it was time. The vet came to our house and it was peaceful and gentle. He passed away while we were petting him and we know he's in a better place. We miss him so much I can't even begin to express it, but I know you understand.

— Roberta Becker

Emergency Medical Fund

(continued from page 1)

Please consider a donation of \$25, \$50 or \$100, or any other amount you can afford, to help GPA/CT establish this emergency medical fund. You may use the form on the back page of this newsletter or you may donate online using PayPal at www.gpacentraltexas.org. (Please indicate that your donation is for the emergency medical fund.)

Visit www.gpacentraltexas.org/news/medical_fund.html to learn more about Iza and Callie. You can see that while the news of these two dogs is now on a positive note, the need for a permanent emergency medical fund will continue.

To those of you who have already given to the fund, Callie and Iza thank you and send big, wet greyhound kisses!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR 2004 GREYHOUND JAMBOREE

GPA/CT's largest and most successful fundraiser — the Greyhound Jamboree — is coming to San Gabriel Park in Georgetown, Texas, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., on Saturday, October 23, 2004. Planning is underway to make this Jamboree the best yet.

This year's Jamboree will see the return of Speed Alley, doggie daycare, and a fantastic silent auction. New attractions will include a photo booth, doggie paw reader, and the doggie kissing booth featuring our more affectionate hounds. Naturally there will be plenty of food and drinks for humans, and water stations for the hounds.

As with any project this large, the Jamboree's ultimate success will depend on the help of GPA/CT volunteers. Michele Truhlik is the volunteer recruiter and coordinator for the Jamboree, so don't hesitate to let her know if you want to help. Michele can be reached by phone at 512/528-9998 or by email at mtruhlik@pobox.com.

If you are interested in attending a Jamboree planning meeting, we would love to have you. Contact Bobbie Wier at 255-1163 or <racersaver@prodigy.net> for details.

**Greyhound Pets
of America/Central Texas**
P.O. Box 10069
Austin, TX 78766

Web site
www.gpacentraltexas.org

Email announcement list
To join, send a blank email to
gpact-subscribe@egroups.com

Paws & Reflect:
**The monthly newsletter
of GPA/CT**

Submissions to Paws &
Reflect are due the 15th of
the month. Send your story
or photos to <newsletter@
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Advertisements in Paws &
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<newsletter@gpacentral
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GPA/CT reserves the right to
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Thanks to Mike Spann and
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Gwen Pickett and JC Curry at
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Greyhound Ambassadors Sought for Meet & Greet

If you are interested in hosting the Meet & Greet at the Petco on Brodie Lane, please contact GPA/CT President Glen Bridge, Placement Coordinator Sally McIntosh, or Foster Coordinator Bob Trapp. This Meet & Greet is held the third Saturday of each month from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. It is a great opportunity to spread the word about greyhounds.

Open House at Stay N Play Pet Ranch

Stay N Play Pet Ranch invites you to their Open House, Saturday, July 10, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Highlights include training demonstrations/mini classes, massage for people and pets, nature walks, tours, food and drink for people and pets, and raffles and prizes. Stay N Play Pet Ranch is located on Highway 290 just 11 miles west of the "Y" in Oak Hill. For more information, call 894-7387 or visit www.staynplaypetranch.com.

Paws Across the Pond Update

by Pam Cook

In May, GPA/Central Texas was able to ship another box of collars, leads, and other items to Nuria Blanco de Andres of Amigos de los Galgos in Madrid. Our friends from the Heart of Texas Greyhound Adoption group donated almost 50 waterproof kennel collars, which are useful not just for the galgos but for the many other canines Nuria and her crew (shown with two rescued galgos) encounter in gypsy camps, wandering the countryside, and abandoned in the big city. Another dozen leads and martingale collars went into the box, along with eight rolls of vet wrap, two Zoom Grooms, and some handmade decorative collars and tote bags for fundraising purposes. Nuria also received the amoxicillin and huge bottle of vitamins we sent through Greyhounds In Need. Thanks to everyone who bought Greenies and helped fill and ship this box!

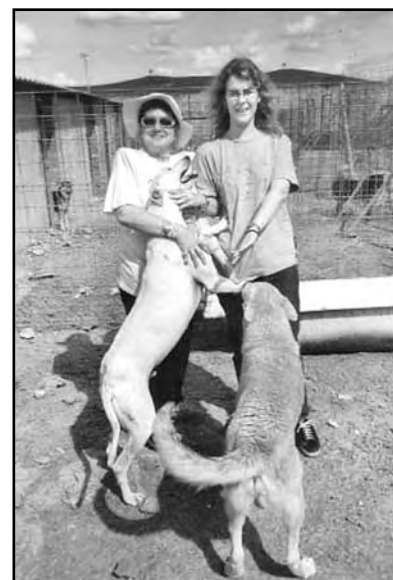
Our next big push will be for Frontline/Advantage and for volunteers who can sew dog coats for the Spanish galgos. They have a terrible parasite problem, so any tubes of flea medicine you can donate are more than welcome. And yes, it's warm in Austin and in Madrid, but a few months from now the galgos will be shivering in the rain and chill. We'll provide patterns and fabric if you'll haul out the old Singer! Contact Pam Cook at pamcook@mail.utexas.edu or 459-1410 to join the sewing circle or donate flea meds.

Greenies! And Frontline!

Are your hounds getting that lean, mean, give-me-my-greenies look? Time to restock your supply of these popular, tooth-friendly treats? Pam Cook will place another order for greenies in July. Prices have risen just a smidgen since our last order, so bulk boxes will cost one dollar more, \$66 each, including shipping and a \$1-\$4 donation to GPA/CT's general fund. Petites are packed 150 to a box, regulars 90 to a box, larges 50 to a box. We'll also offer the "Try-Me" packs (24 petites, 14 regulars, or 8 larges) at \$14/pack.

You may also order Frontline at \$65 for a six-pack of the 45-88 lb. tubes, or Advantage, a four-pack for 55 lb. or over, for \$36. (This is cost-plus-shipping, with no donation to GPA/CT included. Why not donate one tube to our Paws Across the Pond initiative?)

Email Pam (pamcook@mail.utexas.edu) for an order form. Deadline for ordering is July 12. (Don't forget: Pam needs checks made out to her along with your order!)



GPA/CT Events Calendar: July 2004

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
27	28	29	30	1	2 "Greyhounds make great pets," 1 pm, VoiceAmerica.com	3 Meet & Greet, Noon-3pm, Petco-Central (Hancock Center)
4 Independence Day Meet & Greet, Noon-3pm, Petco-Round Rock	5 no membership meeting	6	7	8	9 "Greyhounds make great pets," 1 pm, VoiceAmerica.com	10 Stay N Play Pet Ranch open house (Dripping Springs), 9am-3pm
11	12 Deadline to order Greenies and Frontline from Pam Cook	13 Board of Directors meeting, 7 pm, La Madeleine (35th & Lamar)	14	15	16 "Greyhounds make great pets," 1 pm, VoiceAmerica.com	17 Meet & Greet, 11am-2pm, Petco-South (Brodie Lane)/ Meet & Greet, Noon-3pm, Petco-Temple
18 Meet & Greet, Noon-3pm, Petco-Lakeline	19	20	21	22	23 "Greyhounds make great pets," 1 pm, VoiceAmerica.com	24 Meet & Greet, Noon-3pm, Petco-North (Arboretum)
25	26	27	28	29	30 "Greyhounds make great pets," 1 pm, VoiceAmerica.com	31

Greyhound Pets of America/Central Texas Board of Directors

President

Glen Bridge
512/288-4689
glenbridgejr@msn.com

Vice President

Tim Define
512/260-1962
tdefine@austin.rr.com

Executive Secretary

Lana Henley
512/515-0322
genediggin@directway.com

Corresponding Secretary

Bobbie Wier
512/255-1163
racersaver@prodigy.net

Treasurer

Barbara Clark
512/858-5468
barbara.clark@wholefoods.com

Placement Coordinator

Sally McIntosh
512/301-8236
ghoundsally@earthlink.net

Foster Coordinator

Bob Trapp
512/267-7603
rftrapp@aol.com

Board Member

Hannah Baxter
512/244-0778
greyhoundlady@austin.rr.com

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Jennifer Define
512/260-1962
jennifer_perry@dell.com

Board Member

Donna Seago
512/450-1460
dseago@mac.com

Board Member

Michele Truhlik
512/528-9998
mtruhlik@pobox.com

Heatstroke *(continued from page 3)*

fluid therapy to counter shock, or medication to prevent or reverse brain damage.

Even with emergency treatment, heatstroke can be fatal. The best cure is prevention. Summer does not have to be fraught with peril — with ample precaution, both you and your furry friends can enjoy those long, hot, dog days of summer.

SIGNS OF HEATSTROKE

• Panting • Staring • Anxious expression • Refusal to obey commands • Warm, dry skin • High fever • Rapid heartbeat • Vomiting • Collapse

TIPS TO PREVENT HEATSTROKE

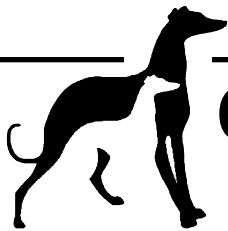
- Never confine your pet in a car during warm months.
- Check outdoor storage areas before closing them to ensure pets aren't locked inside.
- Provide outdoor shade.
- Always have fresh, clean water available.
- If you exercise with your pet, do so during early morning or late evening hours.
- See your veterinarian regularly for physical examinations and vaccinations, since an underlying disease such as obesity or heart disease can increase an animal's risk for heatstroke.



Greyhound Pets of America/Central Texas
 P.O. Box 10069
 Austin, TX 78766

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Greyhound Pets of America/Central Texas

Mail your donations to P.O. Box 10069, Austin TX 78766

Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home phone _____ Office phone _____ Cell phone _____

Email address _____

Please add me to the GPA/CT email announcement list.

Donation amount \$ _____

- Membership (\$25 yearly)
- Donation to GPA/CT general fund
- Donation to Permanent Emergency Medical Fund

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