

# Greyhound

# Update



A Newsletter from the National Greyhound Adoption Program, Inc.

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Spring 1998

## ORAL HYGIENE (You Better Pay Attention!)

Many of our adopted greyhounds are now over five years old. We usually can tell how old they are by simply looking in their mouth. Unfortunately, some greyhound's mouths will be older than their age and the adopter has a lot to do with that. Since NGAP has its own surgical facility we offer adopters the ability to bring their greyhounds to us for a dental cleaning. We subsequently see many adopted greyhounds that are 5, 6, 7, and 8 years old that need to have their teeth cleaned in an aggressive manner. We have now found that we routinely extract between 10-20 teeth-that's right 20 teeth-from many greyhounds mouths. Recently in one 10 day period we extracted over 100 teeth from 6 greyhounds. We only do it because it is necessary. If your greyhound has extreme root exposure, tartar or calculus it will build-up quickly and as that tartar builds up it will only push the gum line back farther and create higher bacteria levels in your dog's mouth. Some adopters seem to be totally unaware of the dental problems their greyhound has other than knowing that it's mouth is foul.

We have found most veterinarians are not aggressive enough when it comes to extractions. That could be that either they don't do many and are not properly skilled or they just don't pay attention to your dog's mouth. WE DO. There are many

things that you can do to alleviate the problem so that as your greyhound ages its mouth and gums won't. We know that many people may have been quoted numbers over \$500.00 for extractions and facing that kind of a bill they are hesitant to have the work done. They also believe that it is very important to have these teeth in order to properly eat. That is not true. A greyhound will do fine on a smaller kibble with almost no teeth in its mouth as long as there are a few there to keep the tongue from falling out, it will do just fine. That foul mouth and the resulting bacteria can ultimately cause your greyhound to die. The poisons coming from the teeth and gums literally will go through its body and ultimately determine how well your greyhound feels.

About four years ago, Roscoe, was returned to us. He was lethargic, did not eat well and was uncomfortable eating. This was before we had our surgical facility so we literally sent him out and had his teeth cleaned two times with some extractions, by a local veterinarian and then once by the University of Pennsylvania. I kept Roscoe at my home for several months. When he first came to us he didn't want to run, he didn't want to eat, he didn't want to play, he just wanted to lay around.

When we were finished getting his mouth back in order we adopted him to Sue Moser. When he left he ran, he played and he wanted to be the leader of the pack. Sue is an extraordinary person and literally brushes his teeth several times a day. So his teeth are just as good now as when she first adopted him or even better.

We have come a long way since Roscoe was returned to us and learned procedures where we can safely extract large numbers of teeth at one time where the dogs respond well and are back in stride in just a few days.

We have listed some of the things you need to do to avoid a 20 tooth extraction on your greyhound. If you follow one or more of these methods your greyhound can have a clean smelling mouth, will be able to chew on treats, will not have gingivitis or periodontal disease. You will have a happy camper. Literally everyone should check their dog's mouth at least once a month. You simply lift up the lip, look at the canines in the front and the molars in the back and see if they are white. If they are not white you probably have tartar build-up that needs to be dealt with.



## Hill's Prescription Diet Canine t/d®

Hill's Pet Nutrition, Inc. makes a product specifically designed to keep your dog's mouth, teeth and gums in good health. It is a fully balanced diet so it can be used in lieu of any other foods. Canine t/d® is a special dry kibble that actually cleans teeth as your greyhound eats. As the greyhound chews, each tooth is gently scrubbed clean without chemicals or mineral abrasives. It is the most convenient way to minimize plaque and tartar buildup to help reduce bad breath and keep your pet's mouth healthy. If you received a greyhound from us within the last two years, you probably received a sample, or bag of Hill's Canine t/d®. If your greyhound is prone to developing significant tartar, it is probably the diet for your dog. This past year we put 6 greyhounds on a diet of only t/d. At different intervals we have been taking pictures of their mouths and have seen excellent results. We have not seen significant tartar build-up which is the goal. This product may cost more than some pet store purchased foods, but it will cost a lot less than extensive, repeated dental cleaning and massive extractions. If you don't wish to use it as a primary diet we suggest you use it as both a snack food and an after dinner treat to help clean your greyhound's mouth. It can only be purchased through your vet. If you go to your Veterinarian and he/she does not have Canine t/d, or can not get it, we suggest you call Hill's Customer Affairs Department at 1-800-445-5777. If you would like to receive a \$5.00 rebate coupon from Hill's for your initial Canine t/d purchase, simply fill out the enclosed, and mail to:

Hill's Pet Nutrition, Inc.  
Attn: Specialty Markets  
P.O. Box 148  
Topeka, Kansas 66601



## BRUSHING

There is no better way of keeping one's teeth in better condition, than brushing them. Whether it be a greyhound's teeth or a person's teeth, brushing has a direct correlation with good oral hygiene. The more we brush the lower the bacteria levels in our mouths, the less chance of build-up of tartar, getting gingivitis or periodontal disease. Of course, if you don't brush your greyhound's teeth about two times a day it won't do much good. Brushing every few days or once a week won't have a clean, healthy mouth. Brushing, when done in conjunction with other good oral hygiene steps is one helpful step.



## OXYFRESH

NGAP now carries two Oxyfresh products. One is a liquid whereby you put one teaspoon in 36oz. of your greyhound's drinking water on a continuous basis. It will help keep your greyhound's teeth clean and reduce bacteria levels. Don't expect it to be helpful if your greyhound already needs a dental cleaning or extractions. It performs best when your greyhound has a clean mouth and it will help keep their mouth clean. Oxyfresh also makes a gel which you simply put on your index finger and rub on the gums once daily. This will also keep the breath fresh and clean but is only effective after a dental cleaning.



## SCALING

About 80% of greyhounds will permit a technician or a veterinarian to scale it's teeth without the use of anesthesia, and if done routinely, can help keep tartar from building up. It takes a little bit of effort on your part but may help eliminate the need for dental cleaning and anesthesia. If you live near the National Greyhound Adoption Program's kennel you can stop in and watch how we scale teeth. Scalers can be purchased from most drug stores for about \$5.00. They are also available from NGAP for the same price (our scalers are probably better). A little Glyoxide in the mouth after a cleaning will help reduce the potential of any infection.



## VRX PRODUCTS

VRX is a company that sells toothpastes, toothbrushes, oral gels, special chew bones and other items through veterinarians. These items are specifically designed to help the oral hygiene of your dog. Most of the products are available through your veterinarian. If you would like more information contact the NGAP office and someone will help you.



## DENTAL PROCEDURES AVAILABLE THROUGH NGAP

At NGAP we have a 4-step process dealing with dental hygiene. Greyhounds that board with us or other greyhounds that come into the kennel are offered the following procedures:

1. **Scaling:** Greyhounds that have tartar build-up are laid on a procedure table, held down by a kennel helper and the teeth are scaled by hand. About 90% of the greyhounds will permit us to scale their teeth. The cost is normally \$15.00.

2. **Ultrasonic Cleaning without Anesthesia:** If there is significant build-up, especially in between the teeth, regular scaling will not do a sufficient job. We then use our ultrasonic machine that we normally use with anesthesia, except we will attempt to do this without the anesthesia. About 70% will permit us to do this. This will do a superior job to the hand scaling and we also polish the teeth after the procedure. The cost is normally \$30.00.

3. **Dental Cleaning with Anesthesia:** Greyhounds that have significant tartar build-up and need to be cleaned ultrasonically, but will not permit us to it without anesthesia will be anesthetized. This procedure permits us to clean both the outside and inside surfaces of the teeth and polish. The cost is \$55.00 (this also includes a nail clipping).

4. **Dental Cleaning and Extractions:** If it is determined during the dental cleaning procedure that extractions are necessary these extractions are done. Extractions cost will be added to the dental cleaning costs. The total extraction cost will range between \$30.00, for a few extractions to \$175.00, if 15-20 extractions are done. When a number of teeth are extracted we may keep the greyhound here a day or so to make sure it is feeling well. There is no extra charge for these extra days.

In order to bring your greyhound in for any dental procedure it is necessary to make an appointment through the NGAP office. Surgeries are normally done on Mondays and Fridays. It is possible to drop your dog off the night before if you wish.

## DOUBLE & TRIPLE LEASHES

Greyhound adoption is so popular that many people are adopting sometimes two or three greyhounds. When it comes to walking them many people are using coupling leashes to walk two or three greyhounds at one time using one lead. Most of the time this works out well but we have heard of occasions where the greyhounds got tangled up or tripped on another which may institute an altercation. I know of one circumstance where one greyhound actually killed the other. If you plan to use this type of coupling lead please be very careful regarding it's use.

## PLAQUE WHACKER

Plaque Whacker is a new product. It is the combination of a toothbrush and brillo pad. It comes in two different size brushes and two different abrasive finishes for regular cleaning and heavy duty cleaning. It should be an excellent product for those greyhounds that build-up tartar quickly after they have had a dental cleaning. You can specifically concentrate on those areas that build-up tartar quickly. It will not work well if your greyhound has significant tartar build-up. Your greyhound's teeth need to be cleaned first. It is available through the greyhound store.

Prices are: Regular Cleaning Brush - \$6.00  
Heavy Duty Cleaning Brush - \$6.00  
Dental Gel - \$6.00

## Plaque Whacker

CLEANS DOGS TEETH LIKE NO OTHER  
COMMERCIALY AVAILABLE PRODUCT!



- REMOVES BUILT-UP PLAQUE AND TARTAR
- EASY TO USE
- TWO SIZES
- RESILIENT CLEANING PAD WITH MICROSCOPIC SCALING SURFACES
- EASY GUM MASSAGE

GREEN PAD:  
SUPER CLEANING

WHITE PAD:  
REGULAR CLEANING

EDITORS CHOICE AWARD  
FROM  
DOG FANCY MAGAZINE

## New Treatment Area To Be Dedicated

In the wintertime it has always been necessary to bathe the dogs in the front kennel area. When large numbers of greyhounds come in we have found that all day bathing literally gives the dogs in the front kennel no rest at all. It was determined that we would make up a new bathing area where bathing could be done as well as other procedures including dental cleanings could be done away from the boarding kennel.

When the new adoption center and store area was finished in December, space became available to perpetuate a treatment room. That treatment room will be dedicated sometime in June. The treatment room will be dedicated to honor Sam & Gay Latimer and our other Virginia Beach affiliates. Over the years they have given us overwhelming support and dedication and we believe that this is one small way that we can honor them for so many years of hard work. Be sure to stop by and see our new treatment room during your next visit to NGAP.



# THE NATIONAL GREYHOUND ADOPTION PROGRAM'S

## "1997" YEAR IN REVIEW

1997 has been an exciting year for us. We have made several accomplishments in many areas and continue to be the "cutting edge" as it pertains to greyhound adoption, awareness, advocacy, health related matters and physical plant.

### **EACH YEAR OUR PHYSICAL PLANT OR KENNEL COMPOUND CONTINUES TO IMPROVE BUT...**

This year we can actually say that we have a compound. In time for our Picnic in September two new 160' long runs were put in for the greyhounds to exercise, complete with all of the fencing necessary. This was no easy project. We literally had to fill in an old railroad siding and remove multiple trailer loads of sand to cover the area and make the ground soft for the greyhounds to run in. Shortly after that we completed a new adoption center and store area. We now have the ability to comfortably seat four family units in the adoption area where we can get their complete attention and at the same time everyone can be seated comfortably. Also during 1997 we completed our post-op area. This permits us the ability to take female greyhounds after spaying and keep them away from the general population, giving them a crate to recover in and afford us the ability to closely monitor their vital signs. Approximately 1 in 50 will hemorrhage post-operatively. Since we have been using this new post-op area we have been able to catch sings of distress and take appropriate action. Adjacent to the post-op area is our new laundry area and adjacent to that we are beginning to put together a new room which will primarily be used for bathing new greyhounds coming in. It will also be used for ultrasonic dental cleanings without anesthesia (an NGAP exclusive) and other medical treatments.

### **GREAT STRIDES HAVE BEEN MADE MEDICALLY...**

Since we are seeing such a large concentration of greyhounds we are learning far more than any individual clinic would be able to learn about this specific breed. We took much of this knowledge and prepared a hand-out for veterinarians at the North American Veterinary Conference and the University of Pennsylvania Veterinary Conference containing medical information they need to know about greyhounds. From what we learned in 1997 we are now going to do blood transfusion therapy. We have just begun a study with Antech Diagnostics on hypothyroidism. We have done more T4 tests at this point than probably anyone in the world. We hope to begin a study sometime this year with Schering Plough on Babesia, a tickborne disease, that is of great concern to the greyhound community because of the high percentage of exposed greyhound racers. We continue to be very aggressive in the area of dental care and continue to stress not only to the veterinarian community, but adopters, the importance of dental care and the need for an aggressive extraction policy. In one ten day period we saw 6 greyhounds where over 100 teeth were extracted. All but one of these greyhounds came from an adoptive home.

### **ADOPTIONS...**

Continue strong with over 600 adoptions in 1997. Considering there are now so many other programs across the U.S., we are still number one.

### **IN THE AREA OF ADVOCACY AND AWARENESS...**

In March we were very involved in pressuring Mississippi State University to release greyhounds that they had illegally acquired for terminal research. We also coordinated a demonstration against Mississippi State University in Biloxi. We have organized and participated in more Meet & Greets in 1997 than ever before.

### **NGAP FOR THE FIRST TIME NOW HAS...**

A greyhound adoption billboard in the Philadelphia area. No other rescue can boast such large awareness. In 1998 this will expand hopefully to many cities across the country.

### **WE CONTINUE TO PRESSURE THE STATE OF FLORIDA...**

To enforce more humane treatment of greyhounds and we recently made a presentation in New Hampshire regarding the end of live racing in that state.

### **FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER...**

A rescue haul was put together from Pensacola, Florida. In Pensacola, one veterinary clinic euthanized between 600-800 greyhounds annually. This rescue happened because of subsidy to pay for the transportation by NGAP.

### **1998...**

Appears to be another wonderful opportunity to continue at even a faster pace the actions that have made us successful in the past.

### **NGAP Billboard To Be Displayed In Orlando**

Our 14' X 48' billboard in Philadelphia has been such a large success the we looked to expand the concept. The next Billboard to go up will be in Orlando, Florida. We will be taking the Philadelphia billboard and shipping it to Orlando, making a few small revisions to it. One of the revisions which is significant is the fact that it is being sponsored by Hill's Pet Nutrition and although the space is donated to us by Universal Outdoor Advertising, Inc., Hill's will pay for the cost to make the display. A new display is being prepared for Philadelphia and this one will have the actual picture of a greyhound on it. By the time the next newsletter comes out we should be able to tell you it's location

### **INTERNET ACCESS**

If you don't already know, NGAP has their own web page with lots of information about both activities and the adoption process. We will soon be listing in detail all of the store items that we sell so that you can simply click on your computer and find out all of the items we have in detail with appropriate photos. Tune into our web site at <http://shell.idt.net/~smoser19/ngap.html>.

## "PETERSON"

Let's just chalk this up to coincidence. In early October we received a call from Hollydogs, an adoption program based in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Over the years we have taken in many greyhounds from that facility. We would probably take more in but since we must fly literally all of the greyhounds from Fort Lauderdale it becomes an expensive option for NGAP. In this particular case Hollydogs was overloaded with greyhounds and they had already made arrangements to fly some of them to the Greyhound Protection League in San Francisco. They only needed permission to use our U.S. Airways account, although they were going to pay for the flights.

It happens that NGAP director, David Wolf had planned a vacation in that area in mid-October. Upon arriving in Florida we notified a local charitable trust that has been very supportive to our efforts-The Folke H. Peterson Charitable Trust Foundation. We sent a letter to the Folke H. Peterson Foundation outlining the desperate situation that Hollydogs was in and asked if they could give us a subsidy to cover the air transportation. Our normal cost averages \$100.00 per greyhound per flight. The Foundation supported this effort and with that support nine greyhounds were flown to San Francisco and sixteen greyhounds were brought to Philadelphia. While in Florida director Dave went to Hollydogs and walked the potential recipients of our air lift. Not really thinking about their names the sixteen greyhounds to be flown to Philadelphia were selected.

On Saturday, October 26, 1997 our director brought back four of those greyhounds on his return flight. As it turns out one of these greyhounds was named "Peterson!" Peterson is a large, fawn, male with a black mask and a gentle temperament. He has a name that is quite uncommon for a greyhound (Of course, this situation was quite uncommon).

Our sincere thanks to the Folke H. Peterson Foundation for their constant support. I am sure Mr. Peterson would have been happy to hear that "Peterson" was one of the greyhounds we rescued.



## GENUARDI'S TAPES AND BOXES

As you may know we have been collecting Genuardis Super Market register tapes for some time now. Genuardis gives us back \$.01 for every dollar of tape that we give them. A good way to collect a lot of tapes is by putting a collection box at your office so that fellow employees or friends can deposit their tapes as well. The box has an attractive greyhound collage. If you have someplace where you can put the box call NGAP and we will send one to you. Thanks to Genuardis for their continued support and everyone that has sent in their tapes.

## HADDON HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL BEGINS WALKING THE DOGS

Patty Kolodi, a teacher at Haddon Heights High School, decided to adopt a greyhound. But then she decided to do more than just that. She decided to solicit the support of students at Haddon Heights to come and walk our greyhounds. So each Sunday morning, about 9:00a.m., several cars pull into the parking area filled with excited teenagers ready to walk the dogs. For about an hour and a half Patty and her students get all of the dogs out for a nice, long walk. Walking is one of those things that we don't have time to do, but it gives the dogs additional exercise and enjoyment. Our greyhounds are out five times a day but that is not the same as a nice, long walk. Now that the weather is getting better come and walk our greyhounds. Walking hours are the same as kennel hours: 8-11a.m, 1-2p.m., and 3-5:30p.m. If you come at any other time the gate may be locked. Also, anyone that is interested in volunteering in the kennel to coordinate walkers so that the kennel staff can continue to do their chores, would be greatly appreciated.

## NEW ADOPTION CENTER AND STORE BECOME A REALITY!

Each year for the past several years Petco stores in our area have held a fund-raising drive during the month of October where they ask their customers to donate "a buck for a pup", with the proceeds going to the National Greyhound Adoption Program. One of the catch phrases has always been that the greyhound doesn't have "a ghost of a chance", relating it to Halloween. This year with increased incentives supported by NGAP, Petco raised almost \$50,000.00. For these years of support we decided to honor them by naming the adoption center and store area *Petco's Place* and on 12/18/97, Petco presented us with a check for \$49,417.00 and we unveiled the sign in front of the adoption center and store area naming it *Petco's Place*. This new adoption center gives us the ability to comfortably seat several families at one time and go through the adoption process. It also gives us the ability to display most of the greyhound items we have available for sale. Stop by and see it sometime. If you plan to visit the store, please call the office to make sure someone is here to show you around since the area is kept under lock-and-key.

## WHILE YOU ARE WAITING

If you attend the Picnic the most important popular area is the free Nail Clipping Clinic and that is where the wait is the longest. While you're waiting two of our adopters, Jeff Savitz, a massage therapist from the Massage Center at B & R Health Club and Celia Hymson, a massage therapist from Onsite Massage Therapy, will give chair massages at a cost of \$1.00 per minute with all of the proceeds going to N.G.A.P. They can also do massage therapy on your greyhound. Just another additional event to look forward to at the Picnic.

## MEMORIAL PLAQUE

Our greyhounds have a very special place in our hearts and when they pass on, a large vacuum is created in our lives. We can make their lives even more meaningful through a permanent memorial. NGAP now has a memorial plaque donated by Steven & Cyndi Napolitan. The plaque reads:

### MEMORIAL PLAQUE

#### NATIONAL GREYHOUND ADOPTION PROGRAM IN LOVING MEMORY

*Our greyhounds come to us asking little, they crave our affection and offer their hugs.*

*For what we give them, they give us so much more love, affection and devotion. They comfort us when we are sad. They offer patience and comfort when we are tired, they brighten our every day and enrich our lives. When they are gone, our lives appear quiet and empty.*

*As a tribute to their love, we add their name to this plaque so that they will never be forgotten.*

For a donation of \$50.00 your greyhound can be permanently remembered here at NGAP. For information contact Vivian at the NGAP office.

## ACME BEGINS REGISTER TAPE DONATIONS

Acme Markets has begun a program similar to Genuardis. All you have to do is collect Acme register tapes and send them in to NGAP. Since there are many more Acmes in this area we should be able to generate considerable funds to help us. Our register tape boxes are now designed to take both Acme and Genuardi's tapes. If you have some place where you can put a register tape box to get even more, we will be happy to send one to you.

Everyone can help support us with Acme & Genuardi register tapes!

## QXYFRESH DISTRIBUTORS NEEDED

The National Greyhound Adoption Program is an Oxyfresh distributor and Oxyfresh is looking for new distributors for their many products which are not limited to the ones that we sell. Both people and animal products are available. If you're interested in making additional income for a \$40.00 investment and a \$200.00 initial order you can become an Oxyfresh distributor. If you are interested contact Vivian at the NGAP office.

## Great Dog Cookies From NGAP

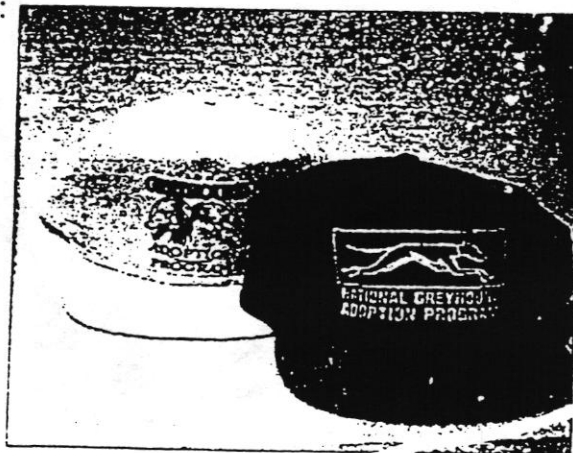
One of our adopters and volunteers, Laurie Rhodes, has started to make dog cookies. She has them available in several flavors and currently packs them by the pound at a cost of \$4.00 picked up at NGAP headquarters or \$6.00 if we ship them. The ingredients are all natural and there are no preservatives added. The first pound was tried out by Director David Wolf's three greyhounds and one Italian greyhound and it was a marvelous success. If it's a success with his dogs it will be a success with everyone's dog. Check in with us for a really good cookie.

## ITS TIME FOR HELGA'S SUMMER SOAKERS!

In the Summer time a way to avoid overheating your greyhound when it is hot and muggy is to put one of Helga's Summer Soakers on it. The soaker is made out of towel material. Each soaker is a little different than the next. You simply soak it with cool water before its time to walk your greyhound and take a spray bottle with extra cool water in it and simply spray the soaker down as you take your walk. They only cost \$12.00 + UPS. A must for this Summer.

## BASEBALL CAPS ARE HERE!

We finally got some neat baseball caps and there is an introductory price up until July 1, 1998. All NGAP caps, when purchased at the kennel, will be only \$5.00. When purchased by mail order only \$7.00 including UPS. There are two basic designs. One is a three color design with the new NGAP logo. The other is a one color design (either in black or white on any of the nylon caps). The caps are available in either white or black corduroy or turquoise, grape, green or blue nylon. See photo below:



## 1998 GREYHOUND PROJECT CALENDAR

Each year the Greyhound Project, a nonprofit greyhound organization, puts out a calendar made available to adoption programs across the country. This year's calendar is unquestionably the best one they've put out. It has colored pictures of greyhounds from adoption programs across the nation. The photos are dynamic. Each photo has an inscription telling about where that greyhound is from. Two of NGAP's greyhounds made the calendar this year, which is just the icing on the cake. The front cover illustrates two beautiful, blue greyhounds surrounded by a myriad of wild flowers. They will be available at the greyhound store for \$7.00 each (includes UPS).





## GONE, BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

Since October, 1997, three of our founding greyhounds have left us and gone to where so many less fortunate greyhounds have preceded them. The first to go was *Black-Eyed Debbie*. She was eight years old and had been ailing to a degree for many months. She came to visit the director's home for a few days and never left. She was the perfect public relations greyhound. She could go anywhere, do anything and bring smiles to everyone. She was all white with a black eye. For a long time when you would see her run you knew she had to be the quickest. She could always beat the boys dashing around the pool. It wasn't even close. We all know that most greyhounds don't sit. *Debbie* had a special way of sitting. She literally sat on her haunches. It was comical to see her everytime she would do this. I can remember when *Debbie* represented us at a large pet show in Atlantic City. All of the vendors were selling their items and this one man had stacked up mattresses in a pyramid shape with about 7 or 8 stacked high. *Debbie* took one look at the stack and before you could blink an eye she was on top. She was quite a princess. Everyone around thought it was cute and funny except for the man selling the mattresses!

*I'm Original* goes back to January 1990. He was one of the first 5 greyhounds to be part of the National Greyhound Adoption Program. It was not our intention to keep him but he was so ornery, we kind of kept him because no one else wanted him. I remember the first time he jumped on our queen size bed and plopped down his body and then jumped up and plopped down on another space on the bed. He did that for quite a while. He seemed to be just so happy to find a comfy place to lay on. As time went on he began to think the bed belonged only to him and we would have to devise certain ways to get him off so he would not give you a growl. He was a sweetheart but he was an alpha male and when he was outside running with the other greyhounds it was always a requirement for him to wear a muzzle because he refused to let anyone pass him without a nip. His favorite thing in the world was to lay out under our patio on a lounge chair looking at his realm. He was always checking the fence line to see if there was a rabbit or a squirrel. He would run after the birds but then come back to his lounge chair. He could stay there for hours on end just enjoying his day. Of course, when coming out of the air-conditioned house he would love to just bake in the sun for about 4 minutes and that was enough and then he was ready for the lounge chair or back into the house. *Original* was a "frisbee dog." He could snatch it out of the air at a full gallop. He was terrific at it. Even after he had a horrible broken leg, that took almost a year to heal, he was able to catch a frisbee. As tough as he was, he was always tolerant of the puppies that would come to visit us (for sometimes months) and kind to the Italian Greyhounds as well. They knew not to mess around with *I'm Original*. He as a real homeboy. He hated the car and if the gate was open he would never think of leaving.

*Reiko* sparked the Virginia affiliate in a different way. *Reiko* was purchased as an investment by the Latimers, who were unaware of the plight of racers at the end of their careers. She raced well and was retired at the age of four, when the Latimers requested the greyhound be returned to them. *Reiko* was the greatest gift they have ever received. She was a queen, was treated as one from day one and became the hostess and poster girl for the NGAP in Virginia. Because of *Reiko*, they got involved in rescuing greyhounds and as of this date, 252 greyhounds have been saved by the Virginia affiliate. In a letter of condolence, one of her admirers wrote, "*Reiko* is missed more than words can say. She was the first real greyhound many of us had ever met. Her gentleness and beauty were a big part of our decision to adopt. All our greyhounds are special and loved for themselves but there is only one *Reiko* and this "Grand Lady" will live on in our hearts and memories." The Latimers have certainly become one of greyhound adoption's strongest advocates and it was all because of *Reiko*.

These three greyhounds have made a special impression on our lives. They have helped to mold the National Greyhound Adoption Program and certainly because of them and the love and affection they gave us we know it has been worth the effort that we spend to try and save so many more.

*Debbie, Original and Reiko, we do it for you.*



## THE MISSING LINK

### \*The Organic Supplement to Add to Better Health and Longer Life\*

Greyhounds coming off the track and greyhounds that are getting older are prime candidates for this product. The *Missing Link* has the following ingredients:

- enzymes to improve digestion and help prevent allergic reactions
- essential fatty acids (omega-3 and omega-6) for skin health and functions of the liver, heart and brain
- soluble and insoluble dietary fiber for detoxification and bowel health
- beneficial ('friendly') bacteria that assist in optimizing intestinal function
- vitamins and major and trace minerals to enhance general health and immune function
- phytonutrients that are disease fighting and health benefiting
- electrolytes, antioxidants and amino acids
- proteins necessary for growth and maintenance

The *Missing Link* will do all of these things for your greyhound:

- General Health & Well-Being
- Better Digestion
- Healthy Skin & Coat
- Increased Energy
- Quicker Recovery After Surgery or Injury
- Less Shedding
- Reduced Allergies
- Less Scratching & Itching
- Reduced Odor
- Less Joint Stiffness & Pain

The *Missing Link* is available from the Greyhound Store at \$12.00 for a 1lb. freeze-dried supply. It is a patented food product where you add 2-3 teaspoons daily mixed with your greyhound's food. One pound is approximately a two month supply. This product is available at the NGAP office or can be picked up at the greyhound store when it is open or shipped UPS for \$14.00.

## GET YOUR NEIGHBORS INVOLVED

Now that Acme will give us 1% of the total register receipts as our idea to expand this program, if you have neighbors that you talk to and like you can get them involved in helping us as well. If you call the NGAP office we will send you some form letters for you to give to your neighbors to see if they would be willing to collect register receipts and drop them in your mailbox to forward to us. As we expand our horizons, fund-raising is ever important and this is certainly an easy way. One of your neighbors might even want to adopt a greyhound!

## BLOOD DONOR PROGRAM TO BEGIN

The National Greyhound Adoption Program is way ahead of everyone else in terms of dealing with greyhound's health. In the past year we have begun a transfusion program which enables us to do the following:

- #1) Buildup female greyhound's that do not have good coagulation times
- #2) Save greyhounds post-operatively that have hemorrhaged massively
- #3) Help greyhounds that are not feeling very well with good, whole blood
- #4) Offer blood to greyhounds that have been involved in accidents where a transfusion is necessary.

Thus far, we have been using greyhounds from the kennel to supply our needs, but as the program expands the need for using some of our greyhounds that have been previously adopted is more appropriate. Greyhounds that are put into the program go through blood screenings to determine if their blood can be used. NGAP will pay for the cost of this diagnostic work as well as offering free blood to your greyhound, if it is needed. You will also receive a copy of the diagnostic work that we have done which would normally cost you several hundred dollars.

In order for this blood donor program to work we need many volunteer greyhounds. It is a painless procedure and your greyhound will leave approximately one hour after they are given their transfusion. Your greyhound can help save the lives of other greyhounds. Call Vivian at (215) 331-7918.

### IRELAND ALERT!

We have been informed through the Internet that Vietnam plans to open a greyhound track in the near future and that track has been approved with greyhounds being supplied primarily through Ireland. So what will happen to the dogs that are not winning in Ireland? Instead of being euthanized they will be dumped off to Vietnam where we can expect poor treatment, abuse and the losers will probably be eaten. We can help try and stop this from happening and we can do this by writing the Irish Consulate in Washington and by boycotting anything and everything that is Irish-made. We can tell our friends to stop travelling to Ireland and send them a message that this inhumane treatment of their greyhounds is not accepted in the United States. If you have friend that are travel agents suggest that they blacklist Ireland. We will prepare a release to travel agents about this disgraceful behavior. We can all help to send this message. The address for the Ambassador of Ireland in the United States

Ambassador Sean' O'Huiginn  
c/o The Embassy of Ireland  
2234 Massachusetts Ave. NW  
Washington, DC 20008  
(202) 462-3939

We would also suggest you write the Vietnamese Ambassador at:

Ambassador Le Van Bang  
c/o The Embassy of Vietnam  
1233 20th Street NW  
Washington, DC 20036  
(202) 861-0737



**PHILISTINES - 3, GREYHOUNDS - 0**  
**Greyhound racing once again has dealt it's athletes another blow.**  
**This time its a triple-whammy.**

The greyhound racing industry began to fund the ASPCA approximately five (5) years ago with \$50,000.00 each year to help support greyhound adoption programs throughout the United States. First, we must realize that \$50,000.00 is a very small sum to try and accomplish a big task. Last July they eliminated this funding and said they would fund rescue transportation as well as support adoption programs more efficiently than the ASPCA would. They have not done that. They have funded almost nothing and have not funded rescue transportation that is so vitally needed.

For many years Colorado State University has taken in large numbers of greyhounds to use both for teaching and as a service to greyhound breeders, euthanizing the excess greyhounds they take in. Two different greyhound organizations used the Freedom of Information Act to find out specifics regarding greyhounds that Colorado State accepted. Basically, each year they would acquire approximately 1,000 greyhounds of which 350 were used at the University for "studies." The balance being outright humanely euthanized. Remember that number - 650.

The National Greyhound Adoption Program, being one of the two organizations asking for this information, contacted the University and offered to find homes for these 650 greyhounds if the University would prepare them for adoption. That preparation would include neuter/spay, dental cleaning, as well as other procedures. Initially, the University appeared to be interested in that concept but as time passed they continued to back farther away from the responsibility of caring for these animals and spend the money that it would require for their care. In a recent discussion with them their position was the following:

1. The University would continue to use greyhounds for "studies".
2. The University would try to take in less excess greyhounds,
3. The University would do "what it could" to help greyhounds available for adoption.

Somewhere - it must have been forgotten - at Colorado State University, that one of their objectives is to instill care for the animals that future veterinarians will treat. Someone at Colorado is certainly getting plenty of experience in putting animals to death. Was it insensitive when it was publicized that Colorado State gave a greyhound's brain to elementary school children to pick apart? When you kill so many you forget that some people are offended by this exercise. In the meantime, the racing industry has enacted recommendations to cut off greyhounds for all biomedical research, which the University does none, but most people don't know that fact. Then Colorado Breeders' Association has passed a ruling that no Colorado breeder should give the University any greyhounds. What will now happen to these 1,000 greyhounds annually? Can we suppose that local adoption programs - without any money - would be able to absorb and find homes for this excess 1,000 greyhounds, or should we assume either that the breeders will club them, shoot them or find some other means to destroy them rather than paying to have them humanely euthanized. We have found that breeders find this the easiest way to dispose of their excess.

Now comes the third part of the triple-whammy which is how breeders dispose of excess greyhounds. Forty-five greyhounds were found dead in O'Fallon, Missouri, on public utility property. They had been dumped there over a several month period. The mature greyhounds had their ears cut off so they could not be identified. The untattooed, young greyhounds (under one years old) were obviously not racing quality and were subsequently destroyed prior to them being tattooed.

Greyhound racing continues to butcher it's athletes. All of the citizens of this country that are perspective gamblers or are participants of this racing industry should know what goes on.

**PENNSYLVANIA GREYHOUND LICENSE  
 PLATE STILL AVAILABLE**

NGAP, of course, has the only state license plate for greyhounds in the United States. There are over 500 NGAP tags currently registered in Pennsylvania. You can get a tag for only \$20.00. Simply call the office and we will mail you an application. The state gets all of the money, so ultimately the \$20.00 will go to them. JOIN IN!



**GREYHOUND RACING HASN'T CHANGED**

As we're getting close to the time for the newsletter to go to press we have just learned that 43 young greyhounds were found dumped in an isolated area near St. Louis, Missouri. All of them were young, many so young that they had not been tattooed in their ears. In order to hide the identity of the greyhounds that were obviously of tattoo age, their ears were cut off. Greyhound racing hasn't changed. We have to make a change and you can help. We will put further information on our website at:  
<http://shell.idt.net/~smoser19/ngap.html>

**WE NEED MUZZLES!**

If you received a muzzle when you got your greyhound and no longer need it, please send or bring it back to us. We can use it for another adopter's greyhound and this will help keep our costs down.

## Picnic 1998 To Be Held on September 19th

NGAP's Picnic is the largest greyhound Picnic held anywhere. For the last few years we have had at least 500 greyhounds in attendance. It is a wonderful, inspiring event, fun for greyhounds and people alike. Tentative plans have now been formulated to have this year's Picnic at the Neshaminy State Park. This park is located right outside of Philadelphia, only minutes from I-95. It is a beautiful park and should be able to accommodate all of the parking we need. It has many shady areas and should afford us a great deal of comfort. It has considerable frontage of the Delaware River and part of your day can be spent just browsing through the park and enjoying the day. Many new activities are planned as well as more free items in the registration package and the best Picnic special ever. There will be more new items for sale than we've ever had before and since it is only ten minutes away from our kennel facility we will afford those who have not seen it in several years the ability to see all of the new kennel improvements. The next newsletter will fully detail every aspect of this year's picnic. We have included the Picnic Registration form in this newsletter. Anyone that registers before the mailing of the next newsletter will receive a NGAP baseball cap for free.

Unfortunately, if you have not registered for the Picnic or have not made a donation to NGAP in the last twelve (12) months you will not receive another newsletter this year. Please send your annual donation in so that you can get all of your newsletters.

## USDA FEELS THE WRATH OF NGAP

On May 12, 1998, the United States Department of Agriculture had a public meeting inviting organizations having interest in animal care, under their jurisdiction, to attend. NGAP found themselves in a room with many "movers and shakers." University people, research people, airline people, humane society people and advocacy people were just some of the 250 people that had come to this meeting from across the country. The meeting was opened up by Dr. Ron DeHaven the acting deputy administrator for Animal Care at the USDA. Our feeling was that he tried to paint a rosy picture of what a good job they were doing. He had made specific reference to a new test program of scanning for microchips at research facilities as well as talking about penalties assessed to violators of USDA regulations. After the initial presentation we specifically questioned that the microchipping program was so insignificantly small that little could potentially come of it and that the fines against large animal research facilities were so small that they were nothing more than a slap on the wrist. We also made reference to the transportation of greyhounds and the lack, but need for regulation.

Barbara Rich from the National Association for Bio-Medical Research spoke at the second session. We specifically questioned her about Mississippi State University's illegal acquisition of greyhounds as well as Colorado State University's euthanasia of 1,000 greyhounds per year. We were told that the Association would recommend to research facilities that they take great care in being sure that their acquisition of greyhounds is legal and has followed all USDA guidelines. If they ultimately followed through and did this we would hope that this would lead to less greyhound being acquired by research facilities.

In the meantime, we have filed a formal complaint with the USDA against Mississippi State University for their failure to respond to our Freedom of Information Act request.

When all was said and done and the meeting was over we were sure that greyhound interests and concerns were known to all in the audience and USDA officials. We hope to move forward and press the National Association for Bio-Medical Research to fulfill commitments they made at this meeting. NGAP was the only greyhound group in attendance.

## NEW PHILADELPHIA BILLBOARD TO GO UP SHORTLY

The cost of our new Philadelphia billboard is being paid for by ProPlan. It is a multi-color billboard with an actual photograph in color of a greyhound from our kennel. We'll let you know in the next newsletter where to find it. Our thanks to ProPlan.



**Adopt a Greyhound  
SAVE A LIFE!**

**NATIONAL GREYHOUND ADOPTION PROGRAM**

**215-331-7918**

**PRO PLAN**