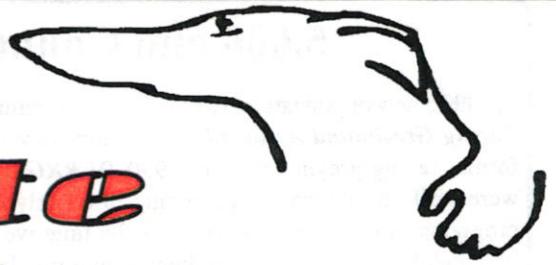

Greyhound Update



A Newsletter From The National Greyhound Adoption Program
4701 Bath Street - Philadelphia, PA 19137 - (215) 331-7918 - (215) 331-1947 - Fax - ngap@ix.netcom.com - E-mail - www.ngap.org - Website

Dewey Beach Edition - 2001

Dewey Beach 2001 Special Edition



5,000 and Counting!!

In 1990 a new organization was formed by the name of *Delaware Valley Retired Racing Greyhound Association*. Its purpose was to find adoptive homes for former racing greyhounds. In 1990 *DVRRGA* adopted 46 greyhounds and were well on our way to becoming ultimately one of the premier adoption programs in the United States. At the time we would meet adopters at the Philadelphia Airport, present them with a greyhound right off the track. We slowly developed instructions as to what they should do in caring for their new pets.

Looking back it's difficult to perceive that in those early days the process actually worked. How things have changed – we now have what we call the Greyhound Compound. Every greyhound will now first come to our adoption facility and be kenneled there while going through the adoption process. All will be neutered or spayed and receive a host of other medical related things done to them, as well as profiling each so they can be appropriately matched with an adopter. We can now house over 100 greyhounds at this facility. We also board greyhounds, which gives us an opportunity to address medical needs. We have a state of the art surgical facility and do more surgery on greyhounds than anywhere in the United States. We do several different dental procedures, offering a variety of alternatives to adoption greyhounds as well as adopted greyhounds. Because we are so focused on one breed, we are able to pick up finite idiosyncrasies and accomplish research that would be difficult to do anywhere else.

We have now adopted over **5,000** greyhounds and have filing cabinets full of information on all of our adoptions. We are very proud of our facility as we continue to expand it and expand our knowledge of this wonderful breed.

We look forward to the next 5,000!

Greyhounds are Greyt as Pets!

David G. Wolf, Executive Director

I Told You So!!

This is an e-mail message we received from Carol I. Pyle of Akron, PA., 9/17/01.

I think you might be very busy with incoming dogs that I read about on the Greyhound-L, but I wanted you to know the following:

It's been a month (8/16/01) since I brought Indy (7 years old) and Elmo (10 years old) to the Clinic for dentals. And I want to tell you how well they are doing, especially Elmo. I adopted the pair from another group as "bounce backs" after about 4 years in Manhattan.

Elmo was very much underweight when I got him, and I waited for a few months until his weight improved. Both desperately needed dental work, and I knew that NGAP was the best place to have this done. Elmo needed 12 extractions; he did fine on the soft diet and antibiotics, as did Indy, who only had 2 extractions.

Elmo is now twice as handsome as he was before the surgery - his swollen jaws had shortened the look of his muzzle and now his "needle nose" is back. And the best is that now he readily jumps into the station wagon; before the surgery, there were days that the effort was almost too much and he needed much coaxing (and I babied him by lifting him many times). He smiles more now, too.

For those who are afraid to have dentals done because of anesthesia or extractions, I would say that with NGAP's experience, the benefits of a better quality of life for the greyhound are the most important consideration. Thank you so much Mr. Wolf and Drs. Patel for the great job you did for Elmo and for Indy.

Dental Care Of Greyhounds Is Their Most Important Impactable Health Issue

Most greyhounds coming to adoption facilities at the age of 2 ½ years and older, often have the beginnings of periodontal disease, as a result of eating high bacteria food while racing. If adopters do not have a very aggressive program to deal with their greyhound's mouth, by the time they are age 5, they're usually ready for multiple extractions. Bad teeth are an avenue for bacteria, entering your greyhound's bloodstream 24 hours a day doing damage to the heart, liver and kidneys. Unfortunately, you can't always rely on your veterinarian for help.

National Greyhound Adoption Program has published a paper addressing dental care. It will be available free to those that want it at Dewey Beach. Also on Saturday morning National Greyhound Adoption Program Director, David Wolf will be speaking about dentistry done at the National Greyhound Adoption Program under the tent.

Don't miss this lecture – it's important for you and your greyhound!