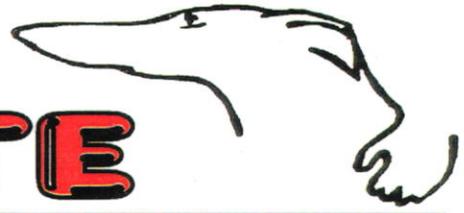


GREYHOUND UPDATE



A Newsletter From The National Greyhound Adoption Program
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Spring 2002

Still The Cutting Edge

In the year 2001 NGAP continued to extend itself and do things that no one else has done. Our clinic and surgical facility continued to make giant strides as we learn how to keep greyhounds healthy throughout their lives. We now commonly see greyhounds between 10 and 15 years old that other veterinary facilities are afraid to touch. They often stumble in but generally leave with a spring in their step and a glint in their eye. Much of that has to do with dentistry and the NGAP approach to dental care. Put simply, if we can't fix it by cleaning and bonding we extract it. Greyhounds do fine without teeth and they are much healthier without badly infected root exposed teeth. The swelling leaves their gums and they always feel better fast. The results of multiple extractions show us such immediate response that we continue to be amazed ourselves.

The surgical facility has additional new equipment to make our tasks easier. This year in addition to our CBC Analyzer, we will have in-house chemistry so there will be no waiting for diagnostic results. When NGAP began doing surgery on greyhounds over five years ago fully 100% of the work we did was for greyhounds we prepared for adoption. Now 50% of our time is spent in the care of adopted greyhounds. We have had people drive for many hours so that their greyhounds could be seen by NGAP. We're very proud of that and we're very proud of the level of care that we give to every greyhound that visits our facility. This year a new research study will begin having to do with thyroid supplementation and coagulation. It will be done with a veterinary university and we are all excited about the potential results.

Things have changed at the kennel facility as well, there is more paving to make parking easier, the main exercise or turn-out area now has one continuous pad appropriately sloped with excellent drainage. The front kennel now not only has a new concrete pad with excellent drainage but it is heated to alleviate winter and snow issues. We expect to give the entire facility a fresh coat of paint this year.

NGAP continues to be a strong advocate of greyhounds and is continuously involved in rescue and legislative issues throughout the year. We now have seven full size billboards in the greater Philadelphia area that seeks adoption as well as car donation. A new color copier was used for the first time for the newsletter and it can fully illustrate and enhance our message.

National Greyhound Adoption Program Recognized By The North American Veterinary Conference

Since 1991 NGAP has attended the largest veterinarian conference in the United States. The purpose of attending this large conference is to continually disseminate information about greyhound adoption and also solicit donations from the large corporate entities in the vendor area. This has always been a worthwhile conference for us to attend. This year conference Director Dr. Colin Burrows has agreed to have NGAP Director David Wolf speak for an hour and a half regarding the medical issues we see. NGAP now sees more greyhounds for medical treatment than any other facility in the United States. We have amassed a wide range of experience regarding greyhound care. This is one of the best opportunities to pass this information on to practicing veterinarians.

North American Veterinary Conference 2002

Each year since the mid 80's the NAVC is held in Orlando Florida. It is a time for those skilled veterinarians in different fields to pass on advanced education to veterinarians that attend from around the country. It is a time when vendors who sell veterinary products from surgical instruments to vaccines can show their wares. It is now the largest veterinary conference in the United States. This year there were probably over 14,000 veterinarians, veterinary technicians and exhibitors in attendance. For the first time ever there was a specific session on greyhound health issues as part of the conference. The speaker like many others submitted a three page manuscript to be published in the proceedings manual for all those in attendance to take home and read as summary of the lecture.

Another unusual part of the lecture of one hour and forty-five minutes is that it was given by a non-veterinarian. David Wolf, Director of National Greyhound Adoption Program spoke and was well received by veterinarians. NGAP now does more surgery on greyhounds than probably any other facility in the United States and it was appropriate that David Wolf who has been dealing with greyhound health issues since 1990 was the speaker. The primary subjects under discussion were coagulation, pain modification, thyroid supplementation, anesthesia, dentistry, nail clipping, separation anxiety, epilepsy and literally anything else that vets asked about. It was noteworthy that greyhound health issues have finally become a part of a conference of this magnitude.

Copies of NGAP Director, David Wolf's manuscript can be found on their website at www.ngap.org

Our Own "2003 NGAP Calendar"

Send in your BEST photo's. Winners will be selected by our photo committee. Winners will receive a t-shirt printed with the selected calendar photo.