

Couch Potato

UPDATE

VALENTINE DINNER

Make your reservations today to join us at our 3rd Annual Valentine Benefit Dinner on Saturday, February 7th, 1998 from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. Enjoy an evening of food, drink and lots of conversation about greyhounds at the Midtown Cafe, 1923 E. Broadway, Long Beach. (You may want to bring along a few pictures of your greyhound to show off to the many greyhound admirers.) We'll give you a brief update on what has been happening and we'll have chances for many great prizes. All proceeds help with food, medical care and other expenses.

Last year's dinner was a big hit, so be sure to send in your reservations (\$12.00 per person) for you and your sweetheart today as seating is limited. Use the enclosed form to mail in your reservations. For information call Nancy Madigan at 562-693-3450.

PRIZES NEEDED

We need additional prizes for our Valentine Dinner. If you would like to make a donation for our drawings to benefit GPA, please contact Nancy Madigan at 562-693-3450. We welcome all donations large or small, for humans or dogs, practical or funny. Help make our dinner a big success!

A TYPICAL GPA SATURDAY

by Joyce McRorie

We brought in 12 greyhounds on December 13th and the day began, as it always does on those days, with Tom McRorie getting up at 4 a.m. so that he is ready to greet the others who will make the ride with him. This day, Cheryl Hoffman, Bonnie and Lawrie Mory and Carol Vinnacombe jumped into the car and, after Tom had hitched up the trailer, they were off to Caliente.

This time the trailer was loaded with dog food, clothing and lots of toys for the dogs in the Pet Kennel. After a fast tour of the kennel, the group loaded twelve greyhounds (six males and six females) into the trailer and took off for the border. A quick stop for shots and cat checking with the help of Devon Williams, and they were off to Karen Charpie-Elton's house for baths and grooming. So that Joyce could help with the shots and cat checking, Phil Faust was babysitting Tom and Joyce's dogs and supervising a construction project at their new home.

In the meantime, one of the greyhounds came in looking a little under the weather, so Joyce took him to Central Orange County Emergency Animal Hospital for blood work. As she entered the waiting room, one of the vet techs asked if she could provide

a greyhound for an emergency transfusion. Since all of the usual donors were at Karen's, Joyce called Neal and Elaine McCarthy and asked them to help. They scuttled their Christmas shopping plans and ran right over with their two dogs.

In the meantime, Joy Moss, Tom Duck, Ray Hillif, Peter Vincent, Becky McKenzie, Joanne Kally, Hal, Wendy, Courtney and Kaesey Friedman, Frank and Cindy Brown, Paige Dimas, Vicki Hickam, Leslie Carr, Jim and Bonnie Jeffers, Nancy Madigan, Sue Thomas and her grandson David were busy washing, clipping and petting the eleven greyhounds at Karen's. In the midst of all of this, Gary Stephan arrived to take photos of all of the new dogs and Karen ran around as usual, making things run smoothly.

One of the dog's tails was hanging at an odd angle, and it was very painful. Nancy Madigan and Peter Vincent rushed her to Cross Roads Emergency Hospital and it was discovered that her tail was broken in two.

As all this was underway, Tom had left and gone home to get ready for a Show and Tell at the Ice Dogs hockey game at the Long Beach Arena. This gig was set up for us by Maggie McCurry of Wings for Greyhounds, Inc. She joined in the fun with her greyhound, Lance. Tom got home around ten-thirty p.m. just about as tired as the dogs he had brought with him.

While all of this was going on, Joyce

got another call from Central Orange County Emergency and they needed more whole blood. Joyce called Phil Faust and he brought Quinn over to donate.

As far as the 12 new retirees, they went home with Kris Schnereger, Kandi Dubrall, Harry and Janet Muller, Olga Kokino, Debby Snyder, Jim and Bonnie Jeffers, Becky McKenzie, Joanne Kally, The Friedman family, Sue Thomas, Karen Charpie-Elton and Joyce McRorie.

The little one with the broken tail is staying with Becky and has had a portion of her tail amputated. Her name is Circe. The dog who went to Central, Titan, (Ti for short), is with Tom and Joyce. He tested positive for Babiosis and has been treated. Adonis, the Jeffer's dog, was demonstrating his "sit" and "down" the day after arrival and all reports are that each of the foster homes has the best greyhound of the lot.

Oh, and it was business as usual for our regularly scheduled Show and Tells. Kathy Mooney hosted one at the Anaheim PetCo and the Cypress PetCo was the venue for Jerry and Kathy Frazier's Show and Tell.

As you can see, it takes more than a village to get our job done, and the best part is that we have a great time doing it. Although none of these volunteers is willing to give up his or her job, there is always room for you to join them. The more the merrier. I can guarantee that the days you spend helping these wonderful dogs will be some of the best in your lives.



HELP WANTED

LOVING FAMILIES NEEDED to provide temporary homes for beautiful greyhounds.

We supply: the dog, food, shots, worming, medical check-ups and treatment, and potential adopters.

You supply: love, attention, walks, training, fresh water, and grooming.

JOIN OUR FOSTER PROGRAM TODAY.

Call Karen at (562) 496-1873.

ADOPTIONS

Thanks to the hard work of our volunteers and the wonderful support we are given by individuals and businesses, some ex-racing greyhounds had a great reason to celebrate when they rang in the new year - a new family and home. Listed below are the families and their dogs who came together since our last newsletter:

Xpresso
Eclipse
Skylark
Donald Duck
Devon
London
Margate
Swansea
Wells
York
Koi
Minnow
Shark
Starfish
Tarpon
Wahoo
Adonis
Circe
Phaedra
Siren
Thalia
Thea
Moriah
Slim

Bob & Carol Vinnacombe of Long Beach
Roy & Shirley Haaswyk of Gresham, Oregon
Michelle Faught of Whittier
Ron & Renae Minshall of Lake Forest
Howard & Norma Schlesinger of Montebello
Nina & Paul Brunskow of Orange
Jack Rowold & George McCormick of Manhattan Beach
Phil, Susanne, Scott & Christopher Venard of Mission Viejo
Alexander Roberts & Jeanne Pangburn-Roberts of Anaheim
James & Jennifer Ciucki of Balboa Peninsula
Leslie, Justin & Cameron Carr of Huntington Beach
Marie & Virginia Aker of Woodland Hills
Sonya Brinsmade of Walnut
Annette Fix of Aliso Viejo
Fred & Joyce Masic of Covina
Marilyn Saam of Tustin
Thomas Shislovsky of Los Alamitos
Linda & Dean Pack of Santa Monica
Janet & Harry Muller of Fullerton
Olga Kokino of Long Beach
Vicki & John Hickam of Santa Monica
Jim & Tammy Morehart of Torrance
Rev. Jess & Janice Palmer of Los Angeles
Joan Headland & Carol Osborne of Cottonwood, Arizona

1998 GPA BOARD ELECTION RESULTS

GPA/CA-OC&GLA recently elected its 1998 officers and board of directors. The vote is in and the results are:

President - Joyce McRorie
Vice President - Jim Jeffers
Secretary - Beth Glavosek
Treasurer - Lynda Adame

Directors:
Paige Dimas
Phil Faust
Fay Huff
Joanne Kally
Nancy Madigan
Becky McKenzie

A special thank you to last year's board for their dedication and hard work and also thank you to our many volunteers and supporters in 1997. We look forward to a successful 1998!

YOU'RE INVITED!

You are invited to drop in at our Washington's Birthday Open House on Sunday, February 22, 1998 beginning at 12 noon at the home of Joyce and Tom McRorie. They are opening up their new home at 1210 North Cypress Street, La Habra Heights (remember, they aren't in Huntington Beach anymore!) to all of our greyhound volunteers and supporters for an informal, relaxing afternoon of greyhound talk and getting to know each other.

Sorry, this is not open to greyhounds, just their owners. However, the McRorie greyhounds will be there to greet you - after all, this is their home, too. But be sure to bring along pictures and stories about your greyhound(s).

Go north on Cypress off of Harbor Blvd. and it is around the bend on the right hand side of the street. If you need more detailed directions, call Joyce at (562) 694-3519.

IS SANTA CLAUS A GREYHOUND?

by Jim Jeffers

I don't remember when I first began to suspect it, but I have for some time now had the feeling that something wasn't quite right about the story of Santa Claus.

Certain clues began to bother me. This guy loved children, right? All children, even the ones with runny noses and sticky fingers. Seems a bit much to ask of any human.

And he's so fast he can get around the world in one night? Experts say that Santa's visit to each home must average 1/1000th of a second for him to make it in one night. Sounds faster than any human or reindeer can go. Maybe a Cheetah could do it, but why would he care to?

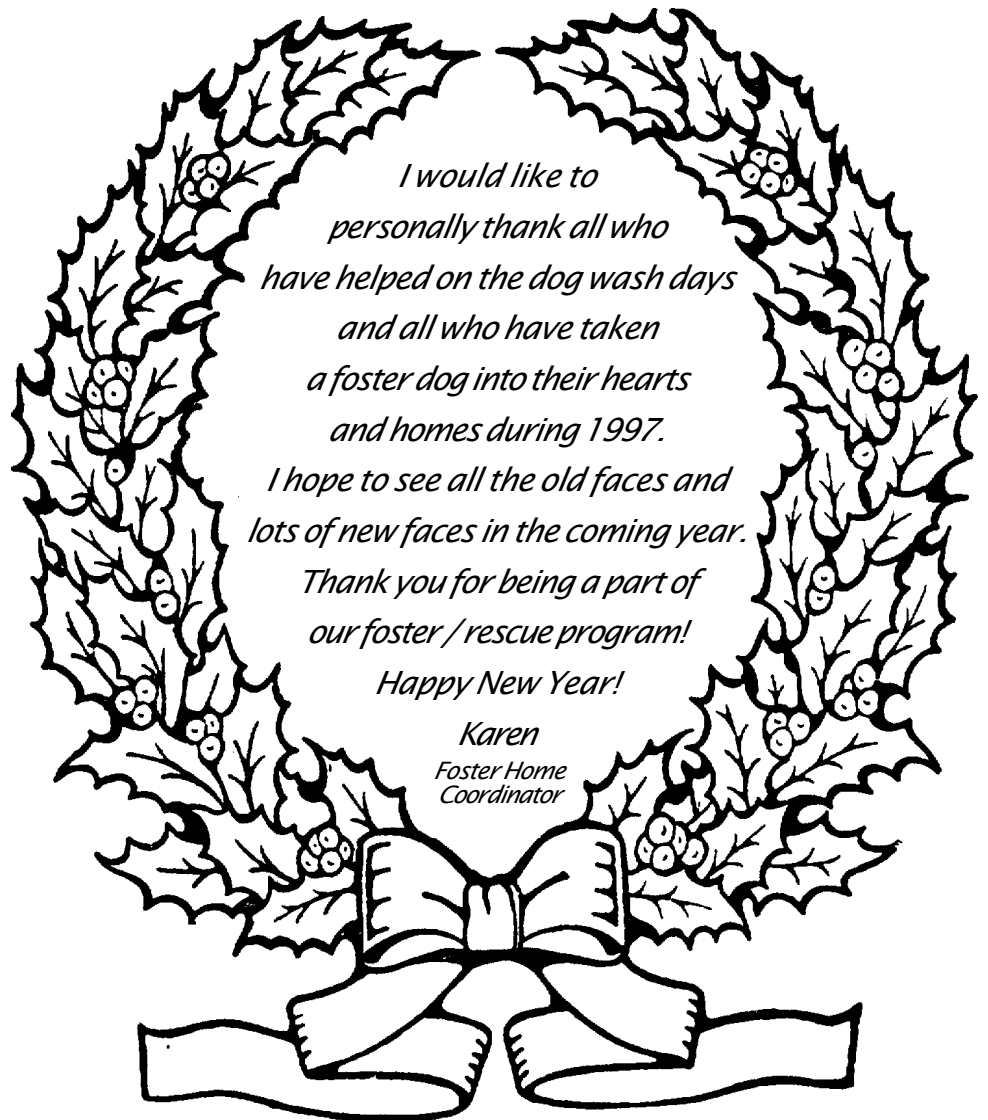
And what about climbing down all those chimneys? He'd have to be pretty skinny and strong to get up and down most chimneys I've seen. But all the stories say he's quite rotund.

And then there's the milk and cookies thing. I began to notice a pattern some time ago. It struck me as odd that, on Christmas morning, every solitary crumb of cookie was gone, as though the plate had been licked clean. But the empty milk glass was surrounded by little puddles of splattered milk.

What could all these clues mean? Someone who loves children unflinching, who is really fast, very skinny, and a messy drinker. It seemed clear to me that Santa must in fact be a greyhound.

Surely the authorities must know this, but why are they keeping it a secret? I contacted the FBI, but they refused to answer my questions for reasons of "national security." Same response from the CIA and the NSA. Nobody was talking. I then turned to a more authoritative source; I asked Cleo, our greyhound. But she wouldn't answer any of my questions. She just sat there and smiled.

So I decided to find out for myself. I hid by the fireplace one Christmas eve, and snapped the photo you see here. Now you can be the judge.



KEEP YOUR GREYHOUND WARM

Winter is here and we've started wearing warmer jackets and sweaters instead of t-shirts. With the arrival of cold weather you may have noticed your greyhound needs a jacket, too!

And with all of the talk of El Nino, a raincoat sure would come in handy when your greyhound has to make that dash into the pouring rain for a potty break. Maybe some boots also to keep those paws dry. If you're wondering where you can find cold or rainy weather apparel available for your greyhound (such as polar fleece jackets, raincoats/windbreakers, tummy warmers, hoods and boots), send your request with a self-addressed, stamped (64¢) business envelope to:

GPA c/o Pat Lynch
1312 Paseo Del Mar
San Pedro, CA 90731.

UMPIRE STEALS HOME

by Jim Jeffers

One of the more interesting greyhounds that Bonnie and I have fostered started his life in retirement earlier than most, but ended up taking longer than most to make it to his adoptive home. He is Umpire, now called Quincy, the puppy in an adult body.

At only 17 months of age, Umpire was the youngest greyhound to come under foster care by GPA/CA—OC&GLA when he came to our home in January. He is a male of average size, a beautiful red brindle with a dark muzzle.

Umpire was rather intimidated by the process of getting shots, cat testing, and grooming, so he was a bit shell-shocked when we first got him. But before long he began to warm up to us, and became very affectionate. In fact, he soon became a “velcro” dog, following us every time we went from one room to another.



Umpire relaxes in his new foster home.

We didn't think much of it when he became playful sooner than most fosters. He just had a strong play drive, we thought; just an advanced sense of recreation. We were concerned that whenever he played, he got pretty “wound up” and had to do laps up and down the hallway. Now we're not talking a casual lope here. We're talking “the box is open, let me at that mechanical rabbit” running. It's unnerving to be passed by a dog doing what seems like 20 miles an hour in your living room. We of course stopped him and tried to calm him down, but he just

seemed to go goofy a couple of times a day and needed to run. Our other dogs just stayed out of the way for the most part, but our alpha dog, Cookie, thought this activity by Umpire was entirely out of line and would let him know in no uncertain terms. So then we had to correct Cookie.

Apart from his manic playfulness, Umpire was an enjoyable and easy foster around the house. He showed his intelligence by learning to sit quickly and by learning how to work the buster cube the first night. He also had no trouble learning where to do his duty.

I really enjoyed playing with Umpire, despite the craziness. He is the only greyhound we've had who will play fetch and bring back the toy every time. I think he would have played with me all day long. One of his more endearing traits also showed his puppyishness. If I was sitting on the floor, Umpire liked to come up and put his head in my lap, with his buns straight up. Then he would twist to one side and plop his whole body in my lap.

Cleo, our shy greyhound girl, generally is intimidated by the foster dogs. But she felt comfortable around Umpire from the beginning, and played with him more than she has with any foster before or since. I think she realized sooner than we did that Umpire was just a big puppy, nothing to be afraid of.

But Umpire hated the out of doors. When the front door opened, he headed the other way. He acted very fearful of every noise while on a walk. A car passing too close would make him buck and try to bolt. This seemed strange, because in the home he was confident and outgoing, the complete opposite of his persona outside.

Umpire also hated to see his people leave. He suffered terrible separation anxiety whenever we left him. Fortunately for him, we work a lot at home and so he was only left at most for three hours. We would videotape him, and see afterwards that he had cried and moaned constantly from the beginning of the tape to the end. We

tried everything to treat this separation anxiety. We tried gradual desensitization, we tried putting him in different environments, and we talked about



Best friends Cleo (left) and Umpire (right).

animal behavior modification with our vet, who had just gone through training for this.

Nothing seemed to work; after nearly four weeks, Umpire was still fearful out of doors and terribly anxious whenever we left him. Karen Charpie-Elton was on vacation at the time, and offered to try working on Umpire's separation anxiety. She felt she was making progress there, but Umpire's wild playfulness was very disruptive to her and Phil's household. Umpire was jumping over baby gates, over couches, over other dogs.

We talked it over with Joyce, and concluded that Umpire was simply still a puppy. Greyhounds generally are still considered puppies until age two, and the males sometimes take longer than that to mature. Greyhound puppies are considerably more animated and energetic than adult greyhounds. In fact, after a certain age puppies have to be separated from the mother because the mother can't tolerate their manic dispositions. Joyce decided that Umpire simply needed some time to grow up. We took him back to the farm and gave him six months to get the wiggles out.

When it was time to bring Umpire back down, we let it be known that we wanted to foster him again. I suppose in part I wished we could have helped him make it to a home the first time and wanted to make sure it happened this time. But I also just missed the big guy and wanted to see him again.

GPA Greyhound Boutique



NEW! Renaissance Picnic

The second in the series of greyhound prints.

22-3/4" x 18" full-color print.

Just mat and frame.

\$30.00

Greyhound Pen with pictures of 4 greyhounds.

\$4.00

Polar Fleece Greyhound Jackets

These jackets were designed specifically for sighthounds. Lightweight and warm, this jacket will take a dog from fall to spring. It retains your dog's natural body heat and is somewhat water repellent. The jackets slip over the head and attach with one Velcro strap under the belly to add stability and to not be restrictive to the dog. The only measurement required is from just below the collar, along the spine, to the base of the tail (in inches).

The jackets come in four sizes: Small - 24", Medium - 27", Large - 30", and X-Large - 33". If the dog falls between two sizes, order the next size up.

Colors: black, royal blue, red, medium gray, and dark teal green, dark plum, and new forest green; all are bound in black.

\$32.00 Indicate size and color.

Also Available Raincoat/Windbreaker, Polar Fleece/Ultrex Jacket, Hoods, Tummy Wrap, Boots, Safety Jacket, Wet-Down Jacket, Beds, and People Jackets to match your dog's jacket. For more information send your request with a self-addressed, stamped (64¢) business envelope to the address on the reverse.



GPA Logo T-Shirts and Sweatshirts

T-SHIRTS are 50/50 Blend

Available in Ash, Forest Green, Royal Blue and Royal Purple.

Sizes: M - L - XL **\$11.00**

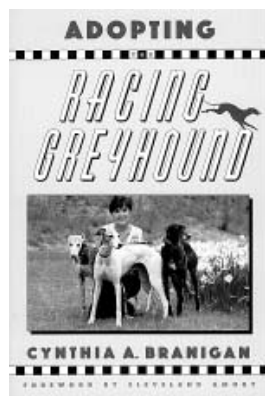
XXL **\$13.00**

SWEATSHIRTS are long sleeve 50/50 Blend

Available in Ash only

Sizes: M - L - XL **\$25.00**

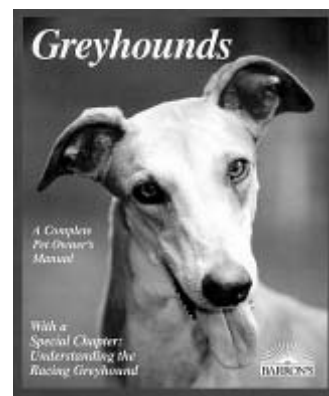
XXL **\$28.00**



Cynthia Branigan's "Adopting the Racing Greyhound"

A must for every greyhound owner or prospective greyhound owner.

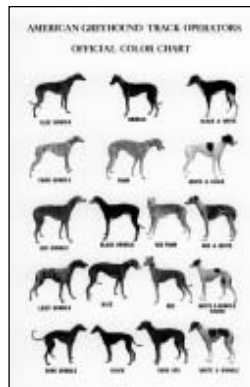
\$13.00



"Greyhounds - A Complete Pet Owner's Manual"

Everything about adoption, purchase, care, nutrition, behavior and training.

\$7.00



Color Chart

8-1/2" x 11" laminated sheet features the official color chart of the American Greyhound Track Operators.

\$4.00

Squawker

A MUST for every greyhound owner. A great attention getter should your greyhound ever get out. Use as a training tool to have your greyhound come to you. Emits high pitched "squawk".

\$17.00

Greyhound Collars & Leashes

Premier collars - designed especially for greyhounds with safety in mind. Their narrow heads won't slip out of these collars.

Sizes: medium - 10"- 6" by 1" wide
small - 8"-12" by 3/4" wide.

Colors: black, royal blue, dark green, red, deep purple, dusty rose.

\$8.00 Indicate size and color.

Matching leashes are 6' long.

\$7.00 Indicate color.

Red Rubber Grooming Mitt

Sturdy and inexpensive.

Your greyhound will love it!

\$6.00



Greyhound Pets of America
(714)962-0789

GPA Decal

Car window decal (approx. 8-1/2" x 11") features GPA logo, name and telephone number. In white only.

\$6.00



Pewter Earrings or Pin

Earrings (7/8") **\$8.00**

Small Pin (7/8") **\$4.00**

Large Pin (1-1/4") **\$7.00**

Cold-cast Bronze Sculptures by acclaimed animal artist Tony Acevedo.



Greyhound Curl

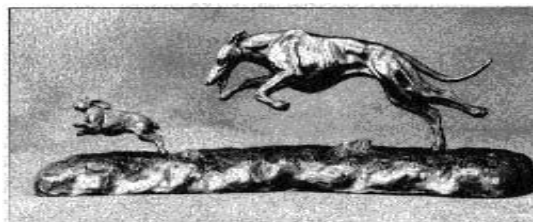
This limited edition of 350 captures one of the favorite positions of the greyhound. 12" x 8-1/2" x 8-1/2"

\$250.00

Coursing Greyhound

The competition of hound and hare immortalized in art and literature for over 2000 years is captured in this limited edition of 350. 14-1/2" x 4-1/2" x 4-1/2"

\$195.00



Lying Greyhound

Part of the "Miniature Series" this piece captures the natural state of the greyhound.

5" x 3-1/4" x 3-1/2"

\$49.00



Standing Greyhound

This sculpture shows off the classic lines of the greyhound.

6-1/2" x 5-1/2" x 1-1/2"

\$49.00



Special Order - Please allow approximately 2 - 3 weeks for delivery.

Ship to: (Please Print) Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone # _____

To Order:

Mail completed order form and check payable to GPA to:

GPA c/o Pat Lynch
1312 Paseo Del Mar
San Pedro, CA 90731

For additional information, call Pat at (310) 547-9470

**If donation is being made as gift for someone, please list name and address on separate sheet of paper and we will send them an acknowledgement of your gift.

DESCRIPTION	COLOR	SIZE	QTY	PRICE EACH	TOTAL
SUBTOTAL					
CA SALES TAX					Included
SHIPPING					
**GIFT/DONATION					
TOTAL					

Shipping:

\$25.00 and Under.....\$4.00

\$25.01 to \$50.00.....\$5.00

\$50.01 to 75.00.....\$6.00

Over \$75.00.....\$7.00

Special shipping charges for:

Bronze sculptures.....\$6.00 each

Greyhound jackets.....\$3.00 each

Thank you for your order!

Prices subject to change - rev. 11/97

Umpire came back to us in September. We wondered, will he remember us and our home? Will he remember what we taught him? At the dog wash, he was once again dazed by the process. When I arrived, Karen had him in an area away from the other dogs because of his general anxiety. But although he was nervous and skittish, he recognized Bonnie and me right away. With his big, sloppy kiss he seemed to say, Oh hi, Dad, great to see you! Let's go home!

He seemed to remember everything about our home. As soon as we came up the walk to the front door, he got excited and started prancing and straining at the leash, trying to get inside. He remembered where the dogs' water was, and of course he remembered the other dogs. Even though he hadn't been inside a home in six months, he remembered his house training and never made a mess. But how could we expect him to remember how to "sit"? Well, that evening I gave it a try. I got a treat and said, "Umpire, sit." He immediately sat! It was as though he had been away only overnight.

But had he grown up? Once he came home with us, Umpire relaxed and his confidence returned. He clearly was happy to be back. Something happened that evening that got him excited. I braced myself for the Tasmanian devil act we had seen in the past, but it didn't happen. Umpire wasn't a completely different dog; he was still playful, loving, and happy-go-lucky. But he had developed an internal restraint that kept him from getting out of control. Even when he ran up and down the hall on occasion, it wasn't with the same reckless abandon and he didn't run as long. He still had some trepidation about new sights and sounds, but not nearly as much as before.

Umpire was adopted in October by Jim and Carol Zabro, who renamed him Quincy. He took to Jim and Carol immediately, and has been making great progress in his new home. Carol walks him daily, and reports that he's doing much better out of doors. Jim and Carol tell us that his confidence overall is growing steadily. They have brought him to a couple of our Show and Tells, and he conducted himself around all those strangers like a champ.

Most of our foster assignments have been "easier" than that of Umpire, but



Umpire takes a break from playing.

none of them have been as interesting. When folks asked me if fostering is challenging, I tell them that it's always rewarding, it can sometimes be challenging, but that the challenging assignments are usually also the most rewarding.

WHAT IF YOUR GREYHOUND GETS OUT?

One of the first things you should do if your greyhound gets out is to call us IMMEDIATELY. Call the same numbers that are on your GPA tags - 562-694-3519 and 800-366-1472.

These are the same numbers that the person could call to let us know he found your dog. So it is very important that we know where to contact you, even if you are aware your dog is out. We may even be able to give you assistance in looking for your dog. And if you and your dog are out of town on vacation, the 800 number is a national number. There is a network of greyhound groups that could help reunite you with your dog.

You always want to be sure you have identification on your dog. If you don't also have a tag with your own address and phone number on it (in addition to our GPA tag with the above numbers) DO IT TODAY. Your dog can't talk, so this is the only way anyone finding your dog can contact you. Make sure your dog has a chance to get back home!

NAME THAT GREYHOUND 3

by K. Charpie-Elton



Once again, our volunteers came up with some pretty original names for our newest greyhounds. On November 8, nine greyhounds fresh off the track were washed, dried, vaccinated, cat-checked, and then named after "FISH": Guppy, Shark, Minnow, Wahoo, Koi, Tarpon, Starfish, Mako, and Marlin. Thanks to Sally Kerl and Joy Moss for sending in the names.

It must be true that "grey" minds think alike: Hal, Wendy, Kaesey, and

Courtney Friedman; Tom, Terri, and Marissa Marinello; and Susan Nims all thought our "G" category should be names from "GREEK" mythology, so the December 13th greyhounds are named Siren, Titan, Thalia, Dorian, Phaedra, Apollo, Zephyr, Adonis, Circe, Thea, Athena, and Atlas.

Some of the dogs from these two groups have found homes already, but a few are still looking for that perfect family. Maybe it's you!

In remembrance of
"Nick" Charpie-Elton

He bravely fought
but lost his battle with cancer.

Nov. 1991- Nov. 1997.

His Family loves and misses him.

TRAINING YOUR GREYHOUND

by Jim Jeffers

"Greyhounds can't sit." "Greyhounds can't be trained." "I'm no good at training dogs." Have you ever heard statements like these? Perhaps you've even said something like them yourself. If you believe all this, maybe your greyhound has YOU trained! Greyhounds can be trained to do a number of useful behaviors, even to sit. And you can learn to do the training.

Over the last year and a half, Bonnie and I have taught 15 foster dogs to sit, and many to lie down, before we sent them to their new homes. Some learned more readily than others, but all were able to sit and able to learn. With time, you can train them to do a lot more, too. We've trained Cleo to sit, lie down, stay, and shake hands.

Others in our group have trained their dogs to do different things, such as to "speak" and to "play bow" on command.

"Why train my greyhound?" you ask. "After all, she's wonderful enough without learning tricks." This is undoubtedly true. But there are some very good reasons to train your dog. First, training teaches your hound some very useful, potentially lifesaving, behaviors. It's very helpful to be able to command your dog to be still. When someone knocks on the door, we make all our dogs sit and stay until they're released. This makes it harder for them to sneak out the door, and it prevents non-dog-loving visitors from being mobbed. (We're still working on this behavior. Even when we've trained them well, you can be sure that we still won't trust them not to make a bolt for the door!)

Second, training strengthens the bond between pet and owner. Your greyhound appreciates any time you spend with him, and enjoys the mental stimulation of learning something new. Third, training is a constructive way to remind your dog who's boss. We easily can be overindulgent with these sweet guys, but dogs need to know who is in charge. In fact, it's not much of an exaggeration to say that your greyhound wants to be told what to do. She wants structure in her life, and expects you to provide it.



Cleo demonstrates her "sit".

Here's the procedure we've used successfully to teach dogs to sit. First, get a treat that the dog likes. Since the scent is the main motivator and you don't want to ruin her diet, the smaller the piece, the better. Next, holding the treat a couple of inches above the dog's nose, say "Sit" in a normal tone of voice. Raise the treat up and away from the nose as you apply downward pressure to the dog's rear end. This has the effect of pulling the front up and pushing the back down. Then give her the treat and praise her with "Good sit!" and other words of encouragement and affection.

Be sure to say "Sit" in a normal tone. Some folks think dogs respond better if you use a deeper, more insistent "voice of command" tone, but this isn't true. They're responding because they want to please you and because they want the treat, so use the tone that is most natural for you. Also, it's important that you say "Sit" only once or twice as you make her sit. You don't want her to learn that she must sit only after you've said the command ten times!

This is enough to get some greys to sit, especially those who sit naturally. If the hound strongly resists your pressure on her hind end, you'll need to use a different technique. Do everything as above but instead of pushing down on the dog's hindquarters, put one arm behind the dog's rear knees and the other arm in front of her chest. Press in behind her knees, causing them to bend and the legs to fold while you tilt

her head up. This will make the dog sit. Be sure to praise your grey as she sits and give her lots of love once she has done it.

You will need to repeat this procedure a number of times before the dog will start to sit on her own. Be patient; it really works, even if it seems like you're forcing her against her will at first. She wants to please you, and is willing to learn something that may seem unnatural at first, if you show approval at her efforts.

Once she has learned to sit, your greyhound can learn "Down" very easily. First, command her to sit. Then, letting her see the treat in your hand, lower your hand slowly just in front of her until it's on the ground. As you do this, say "Down" once or twice (only). She will naturally follow the treat down. Usually greyhounds will stay seated, and just go down with their paws, but occasionally they'll stand up first. If your greyhound does this, start over with a sit. You might need to help her go down at first by bringing forward first one foreleg and then the other a couple of inches at a time.

It's also fairly easy to teach your dog to shake hands once she can sit. Gently lift one foreleg up and shake it as you say "Shake," give her a treat and praise her. Repeat this a number of times and she'll get it eventually.

Sit also can be the starting point for teaching "Stay." From a sit or a down position, tell the dog "Stay" once or twice and reward her if she stays in that position for a few seconds while you're a few inches away. Gradually increase the length of stay and the distance from you, until you can get her to sit (or go down) and stay on command from across the room.

Does this seem like a lot of work? Are you wondering where you'll find the time to do all this? We train our dogs by giving them one or two small scraps after each meal. We work on one behavior at a time, and repeat it till it's second nature. Then we start on the next. We have them do it only a couple of times at any one training session so that they don't become bored or frustrated.

Training your greyhound need not take a lot of time, it's fun to see her learn, it exercises her mind, and she will love the attention (and the goodies).

Special Thanks!

The Greyhound Pets of America / California - Orange County & Greater Los Angeles Chapter would like to thank the following who have donated or provided discounts for veterinary services. Without their support we would not have been able to rescue as many greyhounds as we have.

Dr. Robert Rooks
All Care Animal Referral
18440 Amistad
Fountain Valley, CA 92708
(714) 963-0909

Dr. Kevin Caylor
All Pets Veterinary Hospital
29131 S. Western
Ranchos Palos Verdes, CA 90275
(310) 547-2784

Frank Moore, DVM
Amigo Animal Hospital
13951 Milan St.
Westminster, CA 92683
(714) 894-5558

Rusty Muse, DVM
Animal Dermatology Clinic
13132 Garden Grove Blvd.
Garden Grove, CA 92643
(714) 971-6211

Drs. Guenther & Weida
Blue Cross Dog & Cat Hospital
2665 E. Pacific Coast Hwy.
Long Beach, CA 90804
(562) 494-0975

Gib Benschoter, DVM
Brea Veterinary Hospital
675 S. Brea Boulevard
Brea, CA 92621
(714) 529-4988

Wayne Kopit, DVM
Brook-Ellis Pet Hospital
18452 Brookhurst
Fountain Valley, CA 92708
(714) 963-0440

Dr. John Hamil
Canyon Animal Hospital
20372 Laguna Canyon Rd.
Laguna Beach, CA 92651
(714) 494-1076

Dr. William Carlsen
Carlsen Animal Hospital
11163 LaGrange Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90025
(310) 445-4692

**Central Orange County Emergency
Animal Clinic**
3720 Campus Drive
Newport Beach, CA 92660
(714) 261-7979

Dr. Speas
Crescenta-Cañada Pet Hospital
3502 Foothill Blvd.
La Crescenta, CA 91214
(818) 248-3963

Dr. Charles M. Mintzer
General Pet Hospital
800 N. Diamond Bar Blvd.
Diamond Bar, CA 92765
(909) 861-4116

Dr. Karla Nichols and Dr. Hewson
Grand Avenue Pet Hospital
1602 Grand
Santa Ana, CA 92701
(714) 558-7622

Drs. Carl Palazzolo & William Ridgeway
Long Beach Animal Hospital
3816 E. Anaheim
Long Beach, CA 90804
(562) 434-9966

Dr. Edgar R. Folkers, Jr.
Mission Viejo Animal Hospital
26852 Oso Parkway
Mission Viejo, CA 92691
(714) 582-1220

Drs. Austin, Carpenter & Millian
Newport Harbor Animal Hospital
125 Mesa Dr.
Costa Mesa, CA 92627
(714) 631-1030

Bruce D. Whitaker, DVM
Newport Hills Animal Hospital
2670 San Miguel Dr.
Newport Beach, CA 92660
(714) 759-1911

Dr. Peter Vogel
Southern California Surgical Group
17672 Cowan Avenue, Suite A100
Irvine, CA 92714
(714) 833-9020

Todd Kopit, DVM
Stanton Pet Hospital
8591 Katella Avenue
Stanton, CA 90680
(714) 828-5891

Dr. Joseph D. Szanto
Szanto Veterinary Center
13510 Ventura Blvd.
Sherman Oaks, CA 91423
(818) 981-1899

Dr. L. L. Novy & Associates
Valley Veterinary Clinic
845 Los Angeles Avenue
Simi Valley, CA 93065
(805) 526-0917
(818) 884-1533

Dr. Ronald Morein
VCA Lakewood Animal Hospital
17801 Lakewood Blvd.
Bellflower, CA 90706
(562) 633-8126

**Drs. Casale, Burke, Glasser, Margolis,
Greenlee, and Sechner**
**VCA Rossmoor El Dorado Animal
Hospital**
10832 Los Alamitos Blvd.
Los Alamitos, CA
(562) 598-8621

VETCO Huntington Beach Hospital
19050 Brookhurst
Huntington Beach, CA 92646
(714) 378-8520

VETCO Pasadena Hospital
845 S. Arroya Parkway
Pasadena, CA 91105
(818) 577-2785

VETCO Riverside Hospital
3384 Tyler Street
Riverside, CA 92503
(909) 688-8886

VETCO San Diego Hospital
3994-A Clairemont Mesa Blvd.
San Diego, CA 92117
(619) 483-4145

We welcome our new vets:

Dr. George Rex
Animal Medical Hospital
25778 East Baseline
San Bernardino, CA 92410
(909) 862-3020

Dr. O'Dair
VCA Golden Cove Animal Hospital
31236 Palos Verdes Dr. West
Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275
(310) 377-7804

GPA would also like to thank the following businesses for their help in our efforts to find homes for ex-racing greyhounds.

GRAPHIX Printing & Design
7209-C Arlington Ave.
Riverside, CA 92503
(909) 351-8193

Nature's Recipe Pet Foods
(800) 843-4008

Superior Mini Storage
1600 Superior Avenue
Costa Mesa, CA 92627
(714) 631-3930

"Get-A-Pet" Photo Adoption Magazine
(888) 511-PETS
Watch for our ad in this magazine
available at selected pet stores and vets.

UPCOMING EVENTS

For additional information, call Becky at (714) 997-3072

Events subject to change - Please call to verify.

<u>DATE</u>		<u>TIME</u>
Jan. 17	SHOW & TELL - PetSmart 11945 Central Ave., Chino	11 - 3
Jan. 18	SHOW & TELL - PetSmart 2550 Cherry Avenue, Signal Hill	12 - 3
Jan. 18	SHOW & TELL - PetCo (Third Sun. of every month) 24332 Rockfield Blvd., Lake Forest	10 - 2
Jan. 24	SHOW & TELL - PetCo 1425 Montebello Blvd., Montebello (This is also a Show & Tell training session. If you are interested in attending for Show & Tell training, please call Phil at 562-938-8902)	11 - 3
Jan. 25	SHOW & TELL - PetCo (Last Sun. of every month) 13942 Newport Ave., Tustin	10 - 2
Jan. 31	SHOW & TELL - PetCo 15058 E. Rosecrans Ave., La Mirada	12 - 4
Feb. 1	SHOW & TELL - 1st Annual Dana Point Pet Adoption Day & Groom-A-Thon for local Animal Shelters and various Rescue Organizations (sponsored by "Get-A-Pet" Photo Adoption Magazine and Hennessey's Tavern) Dana Point Plaza, 34111 La Plaza, Dana Point (Off PCH & Golden Lantern)	10 - 4
Feb. 7	3rd Annual VALENTINE BENEFIT DINNER Midtown Cafe, 1923 E. Broadway, Long Beach (Broadway & Cherry)	6 - 10
Feb. 7	SHOW & TELL - PetCo (Every other month) 10690 Los Alamitos Blvd., Los Alamitos	12 - 3
Feb. 14	SHOW & TELL - PetCo 1815 Newport Blvd., Costa Mesa	10 - 2
Feb. 14	SHOW & TELL - PetSmart 11945 Central Ave., Chino	11 - 3
Feb. 21	SHOW & TELL - PetCo 13420 Whittier Blvd., Whittier	10 - 2
Feb. 22	SHOW & TELL - PetCo (Last Sun. of every month) 13942 Newport Ave., Tustin	10 - 2
Feb. 22	GPA/GEORGE WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY OPEN HOUSE Home of Joyce & Tom McRorie 1210 North Cypress St., La Habra Heights	12 noon - ?
May 3	3rd Annual PICNIC IN THE PARK Huntington Beach Central Park	10 - 4

Visit the
Fast Friends home page

the web site of

Greyhound Pets of America

CA / Orange County & Greater Los Angeles

at:

<http://www.fastfriends.org>



United Way

Give a helping hand
to ex-racing
greyhounds.

Specify that your United Way payroll deductions be contributed to the Orange County & Greater Los Angeles Chapter of GPA. Our United Way number is #52324. Thank you for your support.

UPDATE is a bi-monthly publication of Greyhound Pets of America / California - Orange County & Greater Los Angeles providing information on what is happening within our organization and of upcoming events.

GPA/CA-OC&GLA is a non-profit, all volunteer organization dedicated to finding loving homes for former racing greyhounds from dog tracks across the country. We attempt to raise public awareness that these ex-racers make excellent pets and are available to qualified homes. Anyone interested in adopting a greyhound, making a donation, or offering their time or talents can contact us at (562) 694-3519 or (310) 669-4918 or at our mailing address of 1210 North Cypress Street, La Habra Heights, CA 90631.

**Greyhound
Pets of
America**



CA - Orange Co. and Greater Los Angeles
1210 North Cypress Street
La Habra Heights, CA 90631

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED