

# Houndsight

Summer, 2005

An ADOPT-A-GREYHOUND OF CENTRAL CANADA, INC

Newsletter

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## NEWS & UPDATES

Hot, hot, hot... that pretty well sums up our Summer so far! We seem to have skipped Spring, and gone into record heat, right across North America. This has played havoc with us trying to get our newest 'Canadians' from the kennels in Florida to their new homes in our area. We hope all of you (and your 'hounds) are keeping cool.

### Volunteering...

Former United States President Bill Clinton once said *"Volunteering is an act of heroism on a grand scale. And it matters profoundly. It does more than help people beat the odds; it changes the odds."* This is certainly true of those who volunteer to help the greyhounds... getting involved dramatically changes the odds, and the life of each greyhound that finds it's loving 'forever' home. Adopt-A-Greyhound of Central Canada, Inc., has been blessed with many very special volunteers that work hard to support and promote greyhounds and our program. But, we can certainly accommodate more of our adopters who want to get involved.

We do weekly 'Meet & Greets' complete with greyhounds, at four pet warehouse stores in the greater Ottawa area. We have been approached by the newest one, but we just do not have enough volunteers to commit to this fifth location. If you have considered being a volunteer, be assured that we don't just turn you loose! We conduct 'Volunteer Orientation' a couple of times during the year. (Next one in September.) Once that is completed, you are 'paired up' with a seasoned volunteer to assist and support you for your first few public encounters.

Regular events are held every Saturday afternoon, with special events from time to time. We check dates with you and try not to schedule anyone more than one Saturday a month. If interested, or for more information, contact Lynda. If you have completed the orientation and haven't been involved for awhile, give us a call!



### Greyhound Planet Day is coming...

Keep Sunday, September 18 circled on your calendar! If you used to enjoy our picnic, you will love this event. It is a greyhound only function, with something for everyone! Interested? See page 5 for all the information.

### 'Tis the season for ...

I know, I know, you don't want to hear or even think about Christmas yet, but... as we go to press, we have updated merchandise news to share. A unique Christmas ornament page has been added to the web site. We are discontinuing the "Companion" T-shirt and introducing our new, original and *exclusive* "Greyter Love" one in both long and short sleeve. A new supply of our custom sweatshirts (also an *exclusive*) has just arrived—those cold days are coming! The 2006 Celebrating Greyhounds wall and desk calendars should be here for September 1!

Check out page 6 & 7 for the latest information about these greyt items, and remember, 100% of the proceeds goes to support the work of AAG.

*Chris Seed, Editor*



## GREYHOUND IN THE SPOTLIGHT: KATYDID

BY MONICA MCGRATH



On December 3, 2003, after a very short illness, we lost our beloved Becky Kaye. We were all devastated. It was hard enough dealing with my own grief, but to see our remaining greyhound, Taze grieve over the loss of his special companion was heartbreaking. He would stand in the middle of the living room, where two walls are lined with dog beds, and look from one to the other, whining and crying. Every time I came home he would look past me to see if Becky was following. To alleviate the loneliness, I thought perhaps grey-sitting might be a consideration. I wasn't sure if various dogs coming and going would make things worse, or help, so I emailed Lynda for advice. Lynda replied it was a good idea, but before committing to sitting would we consider fostering? She had need of a family to emergency foster a small female greyhound, for a few months, until a new home could be provided. Of course, we agreed. The best thing for us was to be able to help a "pup in need".

On February 9, 2004 Gonnagetsome, a 47 pound parti-coloured sweetheart, came into our lives needing a new home, and filled our lives and hearts with joy. She fit right in like she was meant to be a part of our family. As a foster we called her 'Little One'. It suited her best because she was so small and sweet, you just wanted to hug her. As she became more comfortable in our home, she started showing her 'other' talents. The sweet, gentle, loving little girl started playing like a Jack Russell Terrier, flipping her toys, tossing them in the air, jumping and pouncing on them. Scatter rugs definitely scattered! She does 'warm-ups' when we're getting ready to go out, grabbing a toy and running back and forth from living room to front door, sometimes trying to get me to chase her. When really excited she does 360's. So bright and alert, she notices everything around her. Like a bloodhound on a scent, she can be very persistent when it's something of real interest. She is very quick, darting here and there, sometimes scurrying along like a little field mouse, and she loves to bounce over the snow.

The first time we met another dog on our walk she let out a huge growl; I looked around to see where it came from... it certainly couldn't have come from our sweet little girl! But it did! She is at her bossiest when she is on leash and meeting other dogs. Though she gets along great with Taze and her new greyhound friend, Hamie, she is protective of her space, and lets other dogs know that she may be small but she's no pushover. In the beginning, she would even growl at Taze when he tried to play 'steal the Nylabone or toy'. All he had to do was look at her bone or toy and she would growl. Now, they love to play this game, distracting each other and stealing whatever it is the other has, and then promptly "telling the other off"! She likes to lay close to Taze, and although he grumbles she finesses her way around him, frequently sharing the same bed. She's small enough that if Taze is in her way, she simply walks right under him. Taze loved to have Becky lick his ears, but as much as he tried, he could not convince Little One to do the same. He does love his new playmate, but sometimes it's like he's wondering why he has to put up with 'this bratty little sister'.

Though Becky initially taught Taze to play, Little One has taught him to be crazy! All 74 pounds of him tries to bounce across the room and do 360's. It takes him two strides to cover the room and the most he can manage are 180's. When we received an email from Lynda saying she had a family looking for a small, passive female for their second greyhound, we panicked and laughed! Little One is anything but passive, though that's the impression she gives when meeting strangers. More importantly, we could never give her up; we love her and she belongs with us. Her home is here and she makes us laugh with her energy and antics!! I believe everything happens for a reason. We knew this sweet, cuddly, loving little girl with 'big' attitude and 'lots of character' was meant to be with us and I think Lynda knew it too. So, although we failed Fostering 101, we kept our Little One, who became 'Katydid', as a new chapter in her life began.



# EASING THE PAIN....

BY CHRIS SEED

**W**e hate to see our greyhounds suffer, so we try and ease their pain with medications. It can be difficult to navigate through the many products available. Over-the-counter (OTC), prescription, human medications and canine ones... some can be helpful, and some can be very harmful.

While there are many forms of pain control, our focus here is on a particular group of medications. My intention is not to list every possible pain killer available, but to provide information on some of the more popular ones. It is important to remember, **NO** medications should be given to your greyhound without consulting your veterinarian. It is also very important to inform (or remind) your vet of any other medications your dog may be taking.

**All of the following medications are from a group called “NSAID’s” (Non Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs).**

While pain medications are both helpful and necessary, all of these NSAID drugs can have side effects, including gastro-intestinal ulceration (stomach bleeding), renal impairment (kidney damage), and liver impairment. If your dog has any of these pre-existing conditions, further deterioration can occur. These drugs can also impair clotting (promote bleeding). They should not be used with other NSAID drugs, as this can dramatically increase these risks. A NSAID medication should never be used in conjunction with a steroid (ie: prednisone, dexamethasone, prednisolone, etc.) as the potential of the previously mentioned side effects rises significantly.

Dogs that are on long term treatment with any NSAID medication should be monitored by your vet (including blood work) at the one month and three month time frame, and every six months thereafter. If using long term, it is recommended to reduce dosage to the lowest effective amount for your dog.

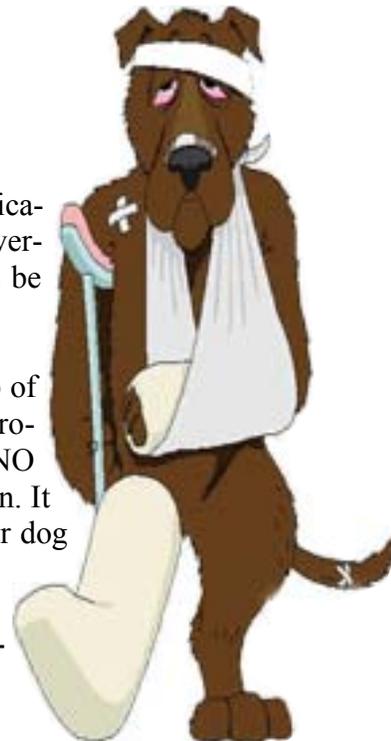
**Acetaminophen** (Tylenol™ is the most widely known brand name) NOT recommended for use in your greyhound. Although there have not been extensive tests on its use in dogs, there appears to be high potential for many of the above side effects occurring. Don't worry... just do not give Acetaminophen to your greyhound!

**Ibuprofen** (Advil™, Motrin™, Nuprin™ are some of the better known brand names) While ibuprofen is widely used in human patients, it is generally considered toxic (and potentially fatal) for dogs. Absolutely NOT recommended for use in your greyhound, or any dog.

**Acetylsalicylic acid** also known as ASA (**Aspirin™** is the most widely known brand name for people.

**Palaprin6™** is a buffered aspirin specifically for canines) Yes, ASA is also a ‘NSAID’ medication and has been widely used for pain associated with arthritis. It can also be prescribed as an analgesic, anti-inflammatory, or anti-platelet drug. However, dogs are particularly sensitive to the *gastrointestinal effects* of pain, bleeding, and ulceration that can be a side effect of these types of drugs. Coated aspirin may help with the gastrointestinal effects\*.

Be very careful when using OTC ASA drugs as their potency can vary drastically by brand and type; from Children's Aspirin – 81 mg (1.25 grain), Standard Aspirin – 325 mg (5 grain), to Buffered Aspirin – 500 mg (7.8 grain)



Continued page 4

## EASING THE PAIN....

(Continued from Page 3)

**Carprofen (Rimadyl™** is the common canine brand) This drug has been popular over the last few years and effective in treating pain, however over the internet there have been anecdotal reports (unsubstantiated by any clinical source/trial we could find) that it can have very serious and potentially fatal side effects. We have no personal knowledge of any problems with this drug, other than those previously stated for all NSAID's. In fact, one area veterinarian we contacted said "I would give my dog a rimadyl, before I would an aspirin."

**Meloxicam (Metacam™** is the common canine brand) Meloxicam seems to be effective, and considered safer by selectively inhibiting COX-2 over COX-1 enzymes. (This is a simplification, but think of COX-2 as the "bad" enzyme and COX-1 as the "good" enzyme, and you get a sense as to how this medication is better). Meloxicam has only been approved in the U.S. for canine use since 2003 but has been available in Canada and Europe for many years. However, meloxicam for human use has been available in the U.S. for a number of years. It is generally given to control arthritis pain in dogs, though it can be given for many other painful conditions. It is often also used as an analgesic in conjunction with surgery. It is a liquid medication, and note that the strength of the dosage varies between Canadian and American products.

**Ketoprofen** An anti-inflammatory agent, used for reducing inflammation and pain. Usually very effective for treating arthritis pain. Available through veterinary outlets in both oral (5, 10, 20 mg tablets) and injectable doses in Canada. In the United States, it is available from your vet in the injectable form, also OTC as **OrudisKT™** (12.5 mg coated\* tablets). If your dog is taking this drug, advise your vet if blood work is being done, as it can cause false readings in some tests.

**Deracoxib (Deramaxx®** is the common canine brand) This is primarily an osteoarthritis medication that has a good reputation. Deramaxx is a tasty, beefy-flavoured tablet that is chewable. Use caution to store it out of the reach of your pet, as it no doubt smells enticing.

In general, a medication that is labelled for canine use is considered to be safer than one *not* labelled for use in dogs.

Dogs are individuals and can react to medications differently. They may also be allergic or hypersensitive to certain medications. When using ANY medication, if your pet experiences depression, loss of appetite, diarrhea, fever, an increase in drinking and/or urination, a refusal to drink, jaundice (e.g., yellowing of the gums, skin, or whites of the eyes), vomiting, bloody or black (tar like) stools, pale gums, hot spots, lethargy, increased respiration (fast or heavy breathing), loss of co-ordination, seizures, or behavioural changes, discontinue the medication and contact your veterinarian immediately.



*\*Keep in mind that a dog's intestines are significantly shorter than a human's. If using 'people' coated pills, it is recommended they be 'split' to allow them to start working sooner. Otherwise they could end up going 'in one end and out the other'.*



# GREYHOUND PLANET DAY SEPTEMBER 18, 2005



Even though this event has been in place in other parts of the world for four years, we thought we would share a little background, and how *you* can participate, as many may have never heard of this phenomenon before...

September 12 to 18, 2005 is the week chosen to internationally celebrate the fourth annual Greyhound Planet event. Greyhound Planet has been established to honour the greyhound and its relatives (lurchers, longhounds, etc.) throughout the world.

International awareness is making this celebration of the greyhound dynamic, wide ranging, and inclusive - connecting many, many people and their greyhounds.

The greyhound adoption movement in North America has burgeoned in the last decade and adoption groups have also been established in Britain, Australia, Ireland, Norway and Spain. This Greyhound Planet Day commemoration began as the idea of a Kansas City greyhound adopter, Therese Skinner and the idea found a home with the American-European Greyhound Alliance ([www.ameurogreyhoundalliance.org](http://www.ameurogreyhoundalliance.org)). Greyhound Planet Day is now being celebrated by greyhound advocates sponsoring events across the United States, Canada, Britain, Ireland, Norway and Australia.

Locally, a group of volunteers joined together under the leadership of Laura Simmermon, to organize the day, and raise the profile of our beloved greyhounds in the Greater Ottawa area. Although the canine participation is **restricted to greyhounds** (from any source), the event itself is open to everyone.

Join us at **Andrew Haydon Park, 3127 Carling Ave, Ottawa**, from 10:00am to 3:00pm (Registration for the Walkathon is at 9:00am) and meet some retired racing Greyhounds up close and chat with their adoptive families. Learn more about these canine athletes, share some BBQ, hang out and have some fun. Start the day by joining the Greyhound Walkathon, then have your face painted with a greyhound silhouette, and light a candle at our Rainbow Bridge Memorial to celebrate the memory of departed canine and feline companions. Afterwards, you can visit Chris' Corner to ask about greyhounds and greyhound adoption, register your greyhound with Find-A-Grey, get a canine massage for your greyhound, and participate in an information session with local veterinarians.

Funds raised at the first National Capital International Greyhound Planet Day will go to support the work of three greyhound-oriented organizations. Greyhound Adoption of Florida is a non-profit organization comprised entirely of volunteers so that all donations go directly to the rescue, rehabilitation and placement of greyhounds in their care. S.O.S. Galgos of Spain is dedicated to rescuing retired racing greyhounds, providing them with safe shelter and veterinary care, and promoting their adoption into qualified homes. Adopt-A-Greyhound of Central Canada Inc., is our own local Ottawa-based, non-profit, volunteer-run group incorporated in Ontario, and devoted to finding quality forever homes for retired racing greyhounds.

**Hurry & check out the website [www.greyken.com](http://www.greyken.com) for some awesome items on the fundraising auction!**

For more information about this event, you can contact LAURA SIMMERMON at 613-823-6500 or E-mail [greyken@magma.ca](mailto:greyken@magma.ca)



## CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAYS WITH A UNIQUE GREYHOUND ORNAMENT



A	PEWTER & GOLD WREATH—Gold plated Greyhound, about 2.5" (6cm) high	\$17.50	(\$14 U.S.)
B	PEWTER HEART—Smaller pewter Greyhound, about 2.25" (5.5cm) high	\$12.50	(\$10 U.S.)
C	PEWTER WREATH—Pewter Greyhound, about 2.5" (6cm) high	\$12.50	(\$10 U.S.)
D	TERRY LERNER ORIGINAL— Sitting greyhound, 2 dimensional, about 3.25" (8cm) high	\$15.00	(\$12 U.S.)
E	TERRY LERNER ORIGINAL— Greyhound Wreath, 2 dimensional, about 4.5" (10.5cm)	\$25.00	(\$20 U.S.)
F	HANDCRAFTED METAL ORNAMENT- 24Kt Gold Plated. Exceptional detail 2.75" (7cm)	\$15.00	(\$12 U.S.)
G	HANDCRAFTED STAINED GLASS— Greyhound head, leaded edge & hook 4" (10cm)	\$15.00	(\$12 U.S.)

A&C, the greyhound is removable and can be worn separately. D&E are hand finished resin castings and signed by the artist. F, the picture does not do it justice, our price is about half what others charge! G is available in assorted colours. All Limited quantities....

## *INTRODUCING OUR EXCLUSIVE NEW T-SHIRT!*

### *NO GREYTER LOVE...*



Our newest "Greyter Love" heavy cotton T-shirt is based on an original drawing by Court Harkness, which captures the loving look of one of AAG's retired racers "Rudy" (Bob's Malone). A very special thanks to Court, who completed the drawing for us last year, and donated it to us specifically for this project.

These T-shirts are all "Natural" (wheat colour) and have an imprint of the graphics at left, on the full front. The short sleeve version has a small paw graphic and our URL on the left sleeve. The long sleeve version has the paw/URL on the back, just below the neckline.

### *ADOPT-A-GREYHOUND*

#### **Gildan Ultra Cotton T**

- First quality
- 10.1 oz. 100% cotton.
- Seamless collar, taped neck and shoulders.
- Double stitched collar, sleeves and bottom.
- Pre-shrunk
- Generous cut

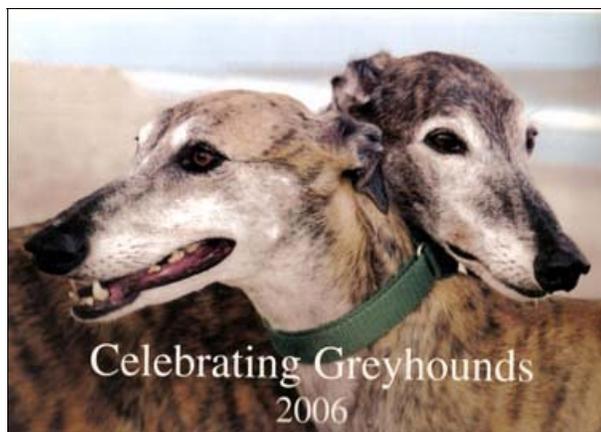
Short Sleeve, available in Small, Medium, Large and Xlarge at a new low price of \$16 (\$13 U.S.) XXlarge also available at \$20 (\$16 U.S.)

Long Sleeve, available in Small, Medium and Xlarge at a new low price of \$20 (\$16 U.S.) XXlarge also available at \$23 (\$18.50 U.S.)



## 2006 CELEBRATING GREYHOUNDS CALENDARS

**B**ack this year, at a new lower Canadian price, the multi award winning *Celebrating Greyhounds Calendars!* We have again ordered a large supply of these, and once more expect them to be a sell out...



The 2006 **Wall Calendar** measures about 23 cm by 30.5 cm (9" x 12") and contains over one hundred full colour photographs, showing over one hundred and fifty retired racing greyhounds from around the world.

Each of the fourteen months, (December of 2005 to January, 2007), contains four photos of different greyhounds, in all kinds of poses and situations.

It has been a few years since an AAG greyhound graced the pages of these wonderful calendars. Let's get some pictures submitted for next year. Not sure how? Contact us, and we'll let you know how to go about it.

You can see that the greyhounds shown in this calendar, are among the very fortunate ones that have made the transition from retired racers, to become pets and companions. Retired racing greyhounds need people to open their hearts, and homes to them, as they end their athletic career. **All the proceeds from the sale of our merchandise, including these calendars, supports our ongoing efforts to find loving 'forever' homes for these majestic creatures.**

Don't be disappointed, order early!

**WALL CALENDAR.....\$12.50 (\$10 US)**

Just ordering calendars? Take advantage of our special \$4 shipping for any number or style of calendars ordered at the same time. You can order by mail,



**DESK DIARY...\$17.50 (\$14 US)**

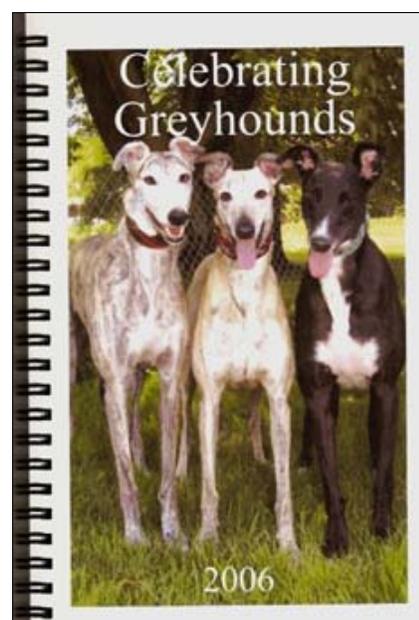
fax, phone, or from our secure web page.

Returning as well for 2006, is the popular, full colour **Desk Diary Calendar**. From the same people that brought you the award winning wall calendar, The Greyhound Project, Inc. This fifty-four week (December, 2005 to January, 2007) desk diary is 15cm wide by 21.5cm tall (5½ inches wide by 8½ inches tall), with a week per page on the right, and a colour greyhound photo on the left. Each week features a new photo. It is spiral bound, to allow it to lay flat, opened on a desk. More than 57 colour photos, featuring over 80 greyhounds.

This amazing desk calendar was introduced in 2003, and proved so successful, it was soon out of print! It's back again for 2006, better than ever!

The photographs in the desk diary are different from the wall calendar, so order both at the same time, and save on the shipping.

Christmas is coming, what a greyt gift!



***Dear Foxy!***  
**Greyt Advice, Dog to Dog**

**Dear Foxy:**

**My Mom took me to the Vet Shop last week - usually not a bad place to hang around. This was different. I was hardly in the door when I was scooped up on the table and soon after I was asleep. Hours later I woke up with my mouth falling off. Every bit of me was really aching. Mom cuddled me on the way home. Nice to get that extra affection! I spent a few days being affectionate with the rug... Bottom line - I only have 2 teeth left. How much mush can a guy eat? Thoughts? - Hoss in Barrhaven**

Dear Hoss: Pass on the crunchy bits that come in the bag. Hold out for *Real Food* – chicken, beef, lamb... even vegetables are first class. You know those crunchy treats? They come in a soft formula too! There is real benefit here big fella - Foxy

**Dear Foxy:**

**I just arrived from “O” Town, and I understand you are the area’s top advisor, so... I’m finding, for the most part, people aren’t that hard to train. So far I have managed to get my new parents to buy me a whole new wardrobe, and move all the furniture around in the house until it suits me, but how do I convince them I need my own TV? -Solitude in Barrhaven**

Dear Solly: Some of us cry pathetically. Some have been known to pace. I, personally, prefer staring at the place where the desired object will be placed. I’ve also found guilt is powerful too. -Foxy

**Special:** To all the new arrivals... When you visit us old Canadian Hounds you must be really good - Don’t help yourself to the food or water, even if it just flushed. Tact in getting to the backyard facilities is desired. Don’t take over the house and toys. Pass on the chairs and the Daddy’s lap in them. Yes, that means you too Callie. - Foxy

***CONTACTING US:***

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***Web page:***

www.adopt-a-greyhound.com

***By mail:***

Adopt-A-Greyhound of Central Canada, Inc  
RR#3, North Gower  
Ontario, Canada  
K0A 2T0



Shipping costs are \$5 for one item, \$6 for two items and \$7 for three or more items, unless otherwise noted. Cheques, MasterCard & Visa are welcome. Use our secure online order form on our web page.

Make cheques payable to: **Adopt-A-Greyhound**



***ONLY IN CANADA, EH?***