

News and Roos

From
GPA/Three Rivers Greyhounds, Inc.



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The Countdown Begins.....

In June 2014, GPA/Three Rivers Greyhounds will play host to the annual North American Greyhound Conference. Mark your calendars now and plan to attend!

The event will be held June 20-22, 2014 at the Sheraton Station Square. Day One will be the annual national meeting of Greyhound Pets of America. Day One will also feature speakers on topics of interest to greyhound adopters. In the evening, a wine reception will be hosted by Grapehound Wine Tours.

Day Two will feature speakers on topics of interest to greyhound adopters. Dr. Guillermo Cuoto from the Ohio State Veterinary School will be the featured speaker. Day Three offers additional seminars/speakers and closing remarks.

Throughout the conference, we will have vendors offering greyhound items for sale. A special dinner cruise on one of the Gateway Clipper fleet's boats is planned. The Station Square venue allows easy access to many of Pittsburgh's popular attractions, including the Duquesne Incline, Hard Rock Café, etc.

Please continue to check our website (www.gpatrg.org) for the NAGAC page which will be up and running soon. The site will be updated with vendor information, speakers and events that we will be offering during this three-day national conference. Our Facebook page is up and we will be updating this regularly as well.

TRG would like to express its appreciation to artist Kent Roberts who has created the conference logo. The logo is a beautiful representation of Pittsburgh and greyhound adoption in our chapter's colors. T-shirts will be available to order and purchase as the convention draws closer.

BUT one important item is missing – volunteers! TRG will need additional volunteers, aside from our usual core of hard-working volunteers. If you would like to help in any way, please contact us at info@gpathreeriversgreyhounds.org so that we can place your name on the volunteer list.



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Summertime.....and the living is easy.....



HOT, HOT, HOT! Not just lyrics from a song by Buster Poindexter in the 70's, but summer weather and its higher temperatures are something we should consider when exercising our dogs, letting them out in the yard, or transporting them in a car or other vehicle during the summer months.

Greyhounds require extra vigilance when dealing with heat because of their lack of body fat and short coat; they don't have the insulation other dogs have. It should be noted that dogs can suffer heat stroke in 80 degree weather if the humidity is high.

Walk your hounds in the early morning. Street pavement and air temperatures are cooler. If your hound is playing in the yard, monitor their level of activity; a plastic pool with water is a greyt idea for cooling them off. Never leave your hound in a car in the summer (or any other time for that matter). Keep the A/C running if you stop the car and need to get out of the car for a moment.



Make sure your greyhound is hydrated; carry a bottle of water with you on your walks. A thermos filled with ice in the car is a good idea. Keep a squirt bottle with water in it; use it to keep him wet under his belly, and on his legs, ears and coat. If your greyhound appears to be getting overheated, turn around and head home.

Signs of heat stroke include the following ~

- ✓ Excessive panting/difficulty breathing (remember dogs don't perspire!)
- ✓ Inside of ears becomes flushed and red/tongue & mucous membranes are red
- ✓ Weakness or Wobbly walk
- ✓ Fainting, vomiting, diarrhea
- ✓ Rectal temperature of 104-110 (dogs normal temp is between 101 and 102.5 F)

A dog may have some of the symptoms, but not necessarily all of them.



Quick action can save your greyhound's life if he is exhibiting any of the above symptoms. If possible, get them in the house with the A/C running or into the shade, if outside. Get cool water on him any way that you can. Use a garden hose if necessary. Wet some cotton towels and place them all over the dog, especially on their belly and between their legs. Keep the towels cool; if they become warm, remove them and replace with other wet and cool towels. Please note: ***Drinking water will not lower the dog's temperature quickly enough.***

As soon as possible, GET YOUR DOG TO THE VET! Heat stroke can have other complications including kidney failure, spontaneous bleeding, irregular heartbeat, and seizures. These complications can occur hours or days later.

ALWAYS use good judgment and common sense when taking your dog outside. If it is too hot or humid, and you would be uncomfortable, then your greyhound will most certainly be uncomfortable.



Do you shop online? Do you do online searches?

Did you know if you do, and you use our website links, you can raise funds for TRG? Seriously!

Goodsearch is a search engine that donates back to TRG for each and every search made through the link on our site. They also donate for each purchase made through a search. We have affiliate partnerships with many businesses that donate back to TRG if you make a purchase and use our code, or link. You don't need to do anything different than usual, except use our "links" page.

We have partnerships with a variety of greyhound related businesses! We also have 2 brand new partnerships!

PetMart Pharmacy – a pharmacy run by veterinarians who offer discount pricing to anyone using their website! Go to www.petmartpharmacy.com to place your order. During the checkout process, place the code "Three Rivers" in the coupon code area and TRG will receive 5% of your purchase! They offer a wide variety of prescription and non-prescription items, including flea/tick medication and heartworm meds.

Amazon.com – We are now an affiliate with Amazon – one of the most popular shopping sites on earth! All you need to do is use the link on our "links" page and shop away. We will receive anywhere from 4-10% of your purchase!

See how easy it is to help TRG help the hounds! Now...let's go shopping!



Wanna Have Some Fun?!

Money, money, money....everyone wants your money! GPA/Three Rivers Greyhounds even asks for your money. Why? TRG is a 501c3 non-profit organization. Every penny raised for the greyhounds is used for the greyhounds. We don't have any paid employees...we're all dedicated volunteers.

Fundraising is a necessary evil for a non-profit's survival.

Behind the scenes.....we pay for spaying/neutering, micro-chipping, vetting, necessary dental surgeries, emergency medical care, boarding for the available hounds, food, worming, collars, leashes, and so much more! Our adoption fees only cover a small portion of what we do. This is why we do fundraising.



Currently, thanks to our wonderful volunteers, we are able to have a presence in many different venues to get our name out there and to make our hounds visible. Our meet and greets are held in various Petco stores, and other wonderful venues that open their doors to the greys. We have an annual bowling event in Greensburg, golf outing in Butler, buffet dinner in Greensburg, a fall bath-a-thon, and our Rock n' Roos Reunion in Wexford. We also have a presence in cyber space with our annual online auction.

We are always open to new ideas, new volunteers to head a fundraiser, and of course, more fundraising! Some ideas we currently have that need a coordinator include a cash bash and a walk-a-thon. We would LOVE to hear your ideas for a fundraiser. And if you want to head up a fundraiser, let's talk. We can help your plan come to life!



This year's annual reunion was a Cinco De Mayo festival that was enjoyed by hounds and humans alike!

TRG invited a record number of vendors to our Rock 'N Roos Reunion with a variety of tastes for even the pickiest of hounds! The hounds had a variety of treats, and for those that participated in 'My hound will eat what?' they REALLY had a variety of tasty treats!

All in all, the Rock 'N Roos reunion was a BIG success and **raised over \$1700** for the hounds!! Thank you to all who came, indulged, rooed and had fun!!!

The Rock 'N Roos Reunion will not be held in 2014. Instead, TRG is hosting the 2014 North American Greyhound Adoption Conference in June. Please plan on joining us for this national event!

Fore the Hounds Golf Outing Scheduled

Another fun outing on the links of Lakeview Golf Club on Route 8, Butler is planned for this summer. Here are the details ~

Date: Sunday, July 28
Cost: \$75 per golfer
Where: Lakevue North Golf Course
First Tee Time: 10:00 a.m.
Includes: Buffet style dinner, prizes, Chinese auction and more!

Greyhounds will greet you at the 19th hole!

Please note: The golf portion of the outing is played on a public course, and on a weekend. Please be sure you have golf experience and are able to keep up with the pace of play. This is a courtesy we owe to the other golfers on the course who will follow us that day.



For more information contact ruth@gpathreeriversgreyhounds.org A registration form will be emailed and be available on TRG's website soon.



Bowling for Greyhounds



When: Sunday, August 4, 2013 @ 2 p.m.

Where: Main Bowling Center, Greensburg PA

Registration Fee: \$20.00 per bowler

Includes: 3 games of bowling, shoe rental and t-shirt

There will also be a Chinese Auction and door prizes!

Register by July 10th!

Download a registration form at www.gpatrg.org on the events page

Thank you to the following for their donations to Three Rivers
Greyhounds~

Petco Foundation - Spring a Pet fundraiser
The Passantinos
Kristen Curtin
Brian Duffy
Michael & Helen Pepperney



New Meet and Greet Venue Added



If you've been checking our website or "Like" us on Facebook, you've probably already seen that we have a new meet and greet venue for the summer months!

It's Jergels Rhythm Grill located at 103 Slade Lane, Warrendale, PA. We're there on the following dates: July 2, August 6 and September 3 from 6 p.m. until the hounds get tired! Contact Lisa Paulson (lilipaulson@gmail.com) for more info.

It's a greyt way for more people to see what fabulous family members greyhounds can be!

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Congratulations to one of our own!

TRG's own Susy Durso was elected as the National Executive Secretary of Greyhound Pets of America at the annual meeting in April.

Susy's term is for 3 years. She will remain as TRG's secretary/treasurer.

Congratulations Susy!

The Sunburst Project ~ Getting More Florida Hounds to Adopters



Rich and Jerrie Ingersoll, co-founders of The Greyhound Alliance, named this unprecedented effort to home Panhandle greyhounds for the spirit of one of their true friends, Nicklaus.

“Nicklaus, our first greyhound, was our inspiration to help as many greyhounds as possible find forever homes. He truly brought a ‘burst of sunlight’ into our lives that continues to shine through The Sunburst Project.”
Rich and Jerrie

The Greyhound Alliance, in partnership with GPAEC and with support from the Ebro, FL track, established the Sunburst Project in 2011. It uses donations to vet, house and feed retired dogs from across Florida in a donated kennel at Ebro, then transport them to groups in the Northeast, the Upper Midwest and West.

In the first four months of their partnership, Sunburst and GPAEC together moved 302 dogs; in 2012, 896. As of April 1, 2013, 300 have left Florida for groups waiting for adoptable dogs. As the racing industry shrinks, many adoption groups in non-racing areas are left without easy access to adoptable dogs. At the same time, there is a surplus of Florida dogs waiting for placement. Getting this glut of retired racers out of Florida and into the hands of adoption groups that need them is one of greyhound adoption’s biggest challenges.

Over the past two years, the Sunburst Project and GPA Emerald Coast have moved 1,498 Florida dogs to groups around the country where adopters are waiting. Sunburst was initially underwritten with a two-year grant from an anonymous donor to the Greyhound Alliance. The grant is specifically earmarked to help move dogs from Florida tracks into adoption. That money runs out July 31, 2013.

The Sunburst Solution

The only way the Sunburst Project can continue to move this huge number of greyhounds is for greyhound people to step up financially.

To raise money, Sunburst has been applying for grants and soliciting funds from adoption groups and the industry. Meanwhile, Sunburst needs two kinds of help.

- Money to pay its \$5,000 per month bills for vetting, housing, feeding, transportation and staff.
- Adoption groups that can take unvetted dogs. This helps cut vet bills and crowding in its kennels by moving these dogs quickly into adoption groups that do their own vetting.

To help the Sunburst Project through the Greyhound Alliance, contact Rich Ingersoll at JeRiMeIpk@aol.com or visit greyhoundalliance.org.

Send checks to:

Greyhound Alliance
P.O. Box 5803
River Forest, Ill. 60305-5803

To help the Sunburst Project through GPAEC, use the Paypal button on GPAEC’s website, www.gpaec.com, or send checks to:

GPAEC/Sunburst Project
PO Box 64
Gonzalez, FL 32560

*** The Greyhound Alliance and GPAEC are 501(c)3 organizations so donations are tax deductible. ***



The Greyhound is also a special breed with life saving qualities? Greyhounds have a special physiological trait in that their blood is so unique that it can help save the lives of other dogs.

There are eight different blood types in dogs, but approximately 60% of greyhounds have the type that enables them to be universal blood donors. Greyhound blood differs from other dogs in that it has a higher red blood cell count, lower white blood cell count and lower platelet count.

Most dogs can receive the universal dog blood type, regardless of their own blood type. In an emergency, a dog can receive a transfusion from another dog that is of a different blood type since dog blood does not have antibodies. However, after the first transfusion, antibodies develop which require that a good "major crossmatch" is achieved between compatible donors.

To volunteer as a donor, a dog must generally be between one and seven years of age, weigh at least 50 pounds, be in good health, not on any medication except for heartworm/tick prevention, and able to remain calm and well-behaved during the donation procedure. The donor dog must also be current on all vaccines. Each blood bank may have more specific requirements.

When a dog donates blood, the blood is usually taken from the jugular vein, which is the large vein in the neck. A standard blood donation in the dog is 450ml ('one canine unit'). Donating takes about ten to fifteen minutes.

The procedure is not painful, and dogs are usually rewarded with treats afterward. Some blood banks give donors a special bandana and usually are given a tag identifying them as a blood donor.



The 2013 Steel City Pet Expo
June 29, 2013
10AM to 6PM



The Monroeville Convention Center
Free Parking & Admission
Bring Your Pet

Visit us at the Expo this year!

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