

News and Roos

from Three Rivers Greyhounds



Spring 2017

Issue #27



Looking Ahead

The adoption of greyhounds into loving forever homes is always at the forefront of TRG activities. Coming up in the next several months will be opportunities for previous and potential adopters to welcome a greyhound into their forever home.

BE SURE to read about the following events, then mark your calendar and plan to attend. Details are provided in the newsletter.

Sunday, May 7 – M&G at Atria's, PNC Park. **Shiver me timbers** and don your Pirate gear to let the Pirate faithful get to know greyhounds and learn what wonderful family members greyhounds make. (pg. 4)

Saturday, May 20 – Color Vibe 5K, a unique M&G opportunity to showcase our greyhounds. See page 9 and let coordinator Joe Kubiak know if you (and your hound) plan to attend.

Sunday, May 21 – TRG Rock n' Roos Reunion to be held at Blueberry Hill Community Center, Franklin Park. Details on page 8.

Sunday, June 11 – Annual Bath-a-Thon at TanZar Kennels. Your hounds will come home soft, clean and sweet smelling from this event! (pg. 9)

From the Board ~~

WE ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE ADDITION OF BEV STULEN TO TRG'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

BEV HAS A WEALTH OF EXPERIENCE WITH FOSTERING GREYHOUNDS AND EQUIPPING THEM WITH THE SKILLS TO SUCCEED IN A FOREVER HOME.



Ruth Scheller, President

Kyle Catanzarite, Vice President

Louise Evans, Secretary

Sue Yanakos, Treasurer

Bev Stulen, Director

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A Special Thank You to Our Holiday Campaign Contributors

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO DONATED TO THIS APPEAL. A TOTAL OF \$2,655 was raised to help greyhound adoption costs.

Michelle Pcsolyar, in honor of Wolffy, in memory of Cameron & Capri
 Jane Fahringer, in honor of Bentley and Ginger, in memory of Max
 Nancy Bartman, in memory of Kristine Bartman
 Renie & Larry Mistick, in honor of Smokey & Lainey, in memory of Nala
 Jim Evans, in honor of all 14 greys I've had, in memory of Dolly
 Amanda & Joshua Kozak, in honor of Macie
 Kathy Sudiak, in memory of Levi (It's On)
 Gretchen Keat, in honor of Gracie the Sweet
 Suzanne Griffith, in honor of Cecilia (CeCe), in memory of Zora & Asa
 Jennifer Krandel, in honor of Sophie
 Lisa & Mark Paulson, in honor of the Paulson fur family
 Frances lafolla, in honor of Honey Girl & Ernie
 Louise & Bill Evans, in memory of our Bridge Hounds
 Blaise & Sandy Pezek, in memory of Rosie
 Linda Kostka, in memory of Greycie
 Joseph & Kathy Boback, in honor of Wild Lady Gaga
 Paul & Diane Passantino, in honor of Bella & Annie, In memory of Gyp, Maz, Indy
 Michael & Susan Timko, in honor of Phil
 Anthony Lucarelli, in honor of Arrow
 Bill & Sue Yanakos, in memory of Emma
 Pauline Peters & Nicholas Gangolas, in honor of Louie
 Jan & Austin Lacy
 Jim Hammond
 Jane Woods



Thank you to those who have made other donations to TRG~

Jan Lacy in mermory of Emma Yanakos
 Karen Smail in memory of Emma Yanakos
 Carla & Manny DiNatale
 Scott Siripalaka and Thrivent Financial
 Maryann & Vince Flot in memory of Sierra
 Bev Stulen in memory of Sierra
 Fran laofolla in memory of Sierra



ONE SIZE DOES NOT FIT ALL

Recently, several greyhounds in our area have slipped their collars and had a taste of living on the streets. Most often they have been spooked by a strange noise or sight.



This usually happens when the hounds back out of their collar quickly and their owner is unable to react fast enough to stop it.

Believe me, I have experienced the panic of a greyhound getting frightened by a falling tree branch, stepping on an empty plastic water bottle, or a noisy car driving by, and my greyhound trying to escape these frightening events.

We can reduce this by checking the tightness of our hound's collar each time we take them out for a stroll.

Please check out the informative graphic to the left so that your greyhounds won't slip their collar unexpectedly. It is a timely reminder for all greyhound owners.

~ Louise Evans

Remembering those Hounds that have recently crossed the Bridge...

Katie Rose, loved by Darlene and Matt Callihan

Zach, loved by Adel and Jeff Knapp

Misty, loved by Sue Ballard

Mesa, loved by Debi Page

Dash, loved by Adel and Jeff Knapp

Stitch, loved by Danielle and Scott Bertram family

Sierra, loved by Maryann and Vince Flot



A special thank you to those that have recently sponsored a greyhound on our website.

Amy Leyland, sponsored a greyhound, in fond Memory of Dorothy Mead

Lori Delale-O'Connor, sponsor of Ice Honey

Greyhounds & Pirates!

TRG hounds are now at a new Meet and Greet location, thanks to the work of volunteer Joe Kubiak,

Fans walking to Pittsburgh Pirate games on a PNC Park's Kids Sunday will be able to meet and learn about greyhounds and our organization. Hounds and humans can be found outside the Atria's Restaurant by PNC Park.

Our first M&G was April 9th, and as you can see below, even the sea-worthy pirates were enamored with our "salty dawgs". A total of \$220 in donations was collected.

Next M&G is Sunday May 7th, 10:30 am-1:00 pm. Come dressed in your Bucco gear and show off your hometown and greyhound pride!



Greyhound Factoid ~ Did you know that... that a greyhound 'nits'?



No, it's not the needlework knitting; so don't expect a warm scarf from them this holiday. It is a behavioral trait that sometimes people might interpret as fear or aggression.

However, It's actually the exact opposite. When a Greyhound is very happy, and loves their "person" they may nibble at their arm or side (or any available skin) with their front teeth. It's actually an expression of great happiness but it might be misinterpreted as aggression. The nibble might be strong enough to leave a bruise, so, although it's actually meant as a true compliment, it's wise to be careful.

A variant of this is chattering and air snapping. When some greys are happy, they may chatter quite loudly, clicking their lower jaw as though they were cold. You may see a greyhound do this at mealtime or when their "person" comes home. They literally vibrate with excitement. They are just letting you know that they are so happy to see you!

Air snapping is similar to nitting but instead of nibbling at your skin, they snap at the air. Again, this could easily be misinterpreted as aggression when it's not. The "snapping" is not aimed at you - it's aimed at the air.

** Reprinted from a previous issue of "News and Roos"

Greyhounds and Children - Tips for a Winning Combination

by Heidi Scarsella

Greyhounds are greyt pets! Just like any dog that you rescue, they need love, patience, and training. The unique situation with greyhounds is that they are new to being a pet *and* also new to having children around. Here are some helpful tips that are tried and true for our recently rescued greyhound, Calvin.



Have your children feed your hound his/her meals. We started by holding his collar and having him watch the children prepare his meal. When his meal was ready, we would let go of his collar and cue him "yours". This helps avoid jumping or knocking people over to get to the food. As your hound becomes familiar with routines, you will no longer need to hold onto the collar.



Have your children involved in walking your hound, even though they may not be able to walk your hound for bathroom breaks or for exercise. Start by holding your hound by the collar and letting your children walk through the doorway first. If your children are old enough, they might be able to hook the lead onto the collar. During walks, we always have our children go down the steps first and lead the way. At first, your hound might need a little coaxing to not get ahead of the children or not cut in front of them. A firm tug on the lead and a cue "wait" become effective over time.



Have your children give treats to your hound for EVERYTHING! When he/she comes in from a walk, let the children give the treats. When he/she is being good on his /her bed, the children give treats.



Have your hound learn to greet your children appropriately. When your children come in the door and your hound comes to greet them, have them give him/her treats on the spot which may take a little planning ahead of time to have treats with them or within reach. If your hound likes to jump, remember to hold onto his/her collar and not allow this. Reward your hound right away when he/she greets them. If your hound does not get up to greet your children, go to him/her and bring him/her to your children. Once the interaction is appropriate, give praise and treats.



Train your hound to know where his/her personal space is. It might be on his/her bed, in a specific corner, or in a specific room. Then train your children to leave your hound alone when he/she is in that personal spot. Be careful when selecting this area. In our house, it is his bed. However, we move his bed to the quiet areas in the house based on the time of day. In the daytime, that is the living room, for the afterschool rush it is in our bedroom, and at night it is in our sons' bedroom). This took some time for him to realize it was not a specific place, but wherever his bed is.



When you first get your greyhound, he/she might not play very much. As he/she becomes accustomed to the surroundings, he/she may begin to explore the surroundings. For our hound, he has a love for my daughter's toys, including stuffed animals, dolls, and blankets. Once he takes an item, he "hides it" near his bed. If you do not "catch him in the act", he might not understand why you

are taking an item from his "stash". We try to restrict rooms where we know he might collect items and we also keep forbidden things out of his reach. If we do find him with something that is not his, we give him a toy that is his before we take one from his "collection". We avoid having our children take things from him.



Supervise your children around your hound, especially in the beginning. Do not be afraid to use the muzzle if your hound will be unattended with your children, including if you need to step away to make dinner, go to the bathroom or if your children are playing on the floor near the hound's bed. Greyhounds are accustomed to their muzzles and they do not view having it on as a "punishment".



Use the crate. The crate is a great tool in helping your hound find a balance between the stimulation of your family life and his/her need for rest and peace. Do not perceive it as a punishment for your hound. He/she will become accustomed to going in the crate when he/she is over stimulated. Peanut butter in a Kong will keep your hound happy and busy enough to pass time in the crate before taking a nap!)



Use closed doors and baby gates to keep your hound in areas that are safe for him/her and your children. In our house, our children know that Calvin needs to be on the other side of the baby gate before they are allowed to open the door to the outside. It is a good "double door" policy so the hound is safe and the children still have freedom to come in and out from the backyard.



Rely on others! Do not be afraid to ask the adoption group for advice as you work your way through any issues. There is an entire *community of greyhound "parents"* willing and able to answer your questions!

Summer Dog Treats

PEANUT BUTTER AND BANANA ICE DROPS

1 cup peanut butter

1 banana

1/4 cup water

Line sheet pan with wax paper.

Mash and combine peanut butter and banana in a small bowl.

Mix in water (this will help with the freezing consistency).

Spoon the mixture onto the tray in drops and freeze overnight.

Once frozen, store the treats in a bag or container in the freezer.



GPA/Three Rivers Greyhounds Inc. is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Your contribution made to Three Rivers Greyhounds in 2017 will be fully tax deductible, and 100% of your donation will be used to benefit the greyhounds!

Please consider sharing this appeal letter with friends, animal lovers, etc. Thank you.

EMERGENCY APPEAL
Please Support Wheeling Island Greyhound Adoption Center's
4 Legs 4 Hounds Program

Dear Friends of Greyhounds!

Every year, over 300 retired racing greyhounds move from the Wheeling Island Greyhound Adoption Center (WIGAC) to greyhound adoption groups throughout the United States. At any given time, there are 30-40 retired racers at the kennel with many more greyhounds waiting to come into the kennel.

In 2011, the Wheeling Island Racetrack collaborated with The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine to develop the 4 Legs 4 Hounds (4L4H) Program to treat greyhounds that fracture a leg during racing.

When a racing greyhound sustains a fractured leg requiring medical intervention, the dog is evaluated and then placed into the 4L4H Program for appropriate treatment. This treatment may range from applying a cast for a less serious fracture at a local Wheeling veterinary practice, to an extensive surgical procedure at The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine or University Veterinary Specialists in Pittsburgh. Although their racing careers are over, these greyhounds, through the 4L4H Program, will have an opportunity to spend the rest of their lives as a family pet in a forever home.

The 4L4H Program receives much appreciated, but limited, financial assistance from the Wheeling Island Racetrack and the greyhound racing kennel owners. The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine receives donations to offset the costs of the surgeries and has many committed volunteers who provide post-surgical care. To further support this important program, the hard-working volunteers of Three Rivers Greyhounds are continually involved in fundraising activities to help cover critical veterinary care for leg fractures.

Due to a higher than normal number of injuries to racing greyhounds requiring surgery during the first three months of 2017, the funds available to surgically repair leg fractures have been seriously depleted. As a result, we are looking to sources outside the greyhound racing, university and adoption communities for funding support. ***We Need Your Help!***

A donation in **ANY** amount is greatly needed and appreciated! All monies donated will be used solely for the veterinary care of greyhounds in the 4L4H Program and are 100% tax-deductible.

The Three Rivers Greyhounds Board of Directors and Volunteers
extend sincere thanks to you!

Please make your online donation at: <https://www.gpathreeriversgreyhounds.org/>
 Click on the ***Donate*** icon and donate to the ***Dara Smiles Fund***.

You may also donate by check payable to: GPA/Wheeling
 Add 4L4H Program to the memo line.

Mail to: Three Rivers Greyhounds, PO Box 101033, Pittsburgh, PA 15237
THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION!



Attention TRG Family, Friends, and Supporters!

Spring and Summer are busy times for TRG and its fundraising efforts to support greyhound adoption. We hope you can volunteer or come to one of the following events.

Now more than ever, your support of greyhound adoption is needed!

May 21st ANNUAL ROCK N’ ROOS REUNION. This is the place to be for all past adopters and prospective adopters to come, or any one that needs their greyhound fix.



TIME: 3 – 6 p.m.

PLACE: Blueberry Hill Community Center, Franklin Park PA

DONATION: \$12 for adults, no charge for children age 10 or younger

ACTIVITIES: Blessing of the Hounds, greyhound nail clipping, collar & coat vendors,

ENJOY DELICIOUS HOMEMADE FOOD, DESSERTS AND DRINKS. 50/50 RAFFLES, CHINESE AUCTION BASKETS, AND MORE.

We will also be selling special raffle tickets to win four (4) park hopper passes to Disney World. Only 200 tickets will be sold! See below the details about this raffle.

If you plan to attend the reunion, we ask that you **RSVP prior to May 15th**, so that we prepare enough food.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

A special raffle for the 4- One Day Park Hopper Passes donated by **Walt Disney World**. They are a \$640 value and are good until 3/4/19. The cost of a raffle ticket is \$10 (we will only sell 200 tickets) and the drawing will be held on **October 31st**.

We will be selling these tickets at the reunion, the Bath-a-Thon and the Tailgate Party, but would like to have volunteers take and sell tickets, if possible. If you would like to sell tickets, contact Bev Stulen.

Any questions—call or text Bev ([412-983-4519](tel:412-983-4519)).

🌀 Raffle 🌀

Your donation goes to our mission of finding forever homes for retired racing greyhounds

Grand Prize

Walt Disney World

4--One Day Park Hopper Passes

(a \$640 Value, passes are good until 3/4/2019)

Tickets: \$10 each, only 200 tickets will be sold

Winner will be drawn October 31st. Need not be present to win.



Who doesn't love an explosion of color! Let your greyhound be part of this fun event by participating in this Meet and Greet. This is a 5K running event, so your hounds will be right at home cheering the humans.

Date: Saturday, May 20th
7:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
590 Pittsburgh Mill's Circle, Pittsburgh Mills,
Tarentum
Contact Joe Kubiak for more info.



Annual Bath-a-Thon ~ June 11th

The annual TRG Bath-a-Thon will be held on **Sunday, June 11, 2017 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at Tan-Zar Kennels in Wexford.** The kennel is located at the intersection of Mingo Road and the State Gamelands Road.

All Greyhounds and their humans are welcome to attend. Other short-haired, large breed dogs are welcome too. No small dogs PLEASE!

For a \$20 donation, your hound(s) will be bathed, brushed and receive a nail trimming from professional groomers!

There will be snacks and cold drinks, in addition to opportunities to mingle and share Greyhound stories. Don't miss this greyt way to enjoy an afternoon with greyt hounds and their humans!

While we truly appreciate the overwhelming attendance at last year's bath-a-thon, we want to be respectful of our kennel staff's personal time. This year, we may stop accepting check-ins at 2:15 pm.



Congratulations to these Greyhounds who have found their forever families through TRG in 2017 ~

- Kiowa Cry Merle*
- BOC's Ripinit*
- Black Bart Bones*
- Rico's Aquafina*
- KB's Skylark*
- Mac's Jude*
- SE's Blue Nova*
- PJ Pipe It Down*
- Backwood Duchess*
- Happy Fella*
- Molly Solverson*
- BJ's About Gone*
- SE's Hot Teacher*
- Kay Ice Honey*
- Alexa Rose*
- CTW Oliver Lee*

