



"Until man extends the circle of his compassion to all living things, man will not himself find peace..." Albert Schweitzer

Canine Virus Scare: Racing Greyhounds Believed to Be Source

*By Judy K. Paulsen, Founder
Greyhound Companions of New Mexico*

Word of a mutating strain of respiratory disease in dogs has kept the media busy in recent months. When the story attracted the attention of **The New York Times**, the news began to spread as quickly as the virus is said to have. Reported to have originated in greyhound racing kennels in Florida, the virus has been traced to a strain which has infected horses for decades.

Greyhound Network News (GNN), the publication which exclusively covers news regarding racing greyhounds worldwide has been covering this story for years. **Joan Eiding**, publisher and editor of GNN, has been diligently keeping an eye on this story. GNN reported in the Spring 2003 issue that the deadly epidemic had spread from Florida across the U.S.

Concerns of how the disease was transmitted from horses to dogs have created speculation, but the most credible theory at this time was suggested by **Susan Netboy** of the **Greyhound Protection League**, a national greyhound advocacy group. Netboy, a pioneer in exposing the inhumane conditions under which racing greyhounds live - and die - has long suspected the tainted meat fed to racers as the source for many ailments these dogs suffer. Raw meat, often contaminated with various bacteria and determined unfit for human consumption, is the main diet of a racing greyhound. The animal source for the meat can often *not* be positively identified and it is not unrealistic to presume meat from sick horses has been introduced into the food supply for racing greyhounds.

Initially thought to have been contained primarily to the east coast, the canine flu virus was soon discovered to exist in kennels as far west as CO and AZ. Each year, for at least the past three years, there has been a mandatory quarantine at racetracks in an effort to quell a nationwide epidemic. And each year, the disease spreads from east to west as greyhounds are transported from track to track prior to the quarantine being enforced.

Not just a greyhound disease, this virus can be contracted by any dog exposed to the virile pathogen. Experts believe that humans coming into contact with infected dogs can spread the disease to other dogs. If indeed this virus originated in racing greyhounds, its transfer to other dogs could have easily occurred through trainers and other racetrack staff touching infected greyhounds and then passing the virus along to their pets at home. Once an infected animal is introduced to a large population of dogs (as in a boarding kennel or animal shelter), especially

if stress is a factor, as is often the case in facilities housing numerous dogs, other dogs can easily become ill.

Resembling common kennel cough in its initial stages, the illness will not produce severe symptoms in all dogs infected. The higher the stress level in the dog's environment and the weaker the immune system, the more likely the disease will become a serious threat to the dog's health. Greyhound racing kennels are notorious for stress-inducing stimuli. Overcrowded and often unclean, these kennels are perfect environments for the rapid spread of disease. Because many trainers continue to train and race dogs which have already contracted the virus, the immune system is compromised and vulnerable to illness. This practice has been responsible for the deaths of unknown, but likely high, numbers of racers from the respiratory virus, and other illnesses, as well.

At present, aggressive research is being conducted by virologists and immunologists who've created a team from **Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine** and the **U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC)**. Currently, there is no vaccine for the virus. The Bordatella vaccine for kennel cough is ineffective in preventing this disease. Experts say an anti-viral drug used to treat flu in humans, **Tamiflu**, is likely to be effective in treating dogs for this new strain of canine flu, however its high demand this year for humans will decrease the possibility it will be available for dogs.

Word of this insidious virus has people wondering what they are to do should they suspect their dog is infected. It's this simple: If your dog is coughing, get it to a veterinarian. Be sure your veterinarian is aware of this new canine virus, and knows what to look for. Nasal discharge, wet cough, high white cell count and high temperature are all markers of this disease, where they are *not* for common kennel cough. Symptoms usually appear within a week of exposure to the virus. Although there is no currently approved treatment for the virus,



antibiotics to control secondary infections should be administered. Keep your dog in a calm, quiet environment to decrease stressors during recovery.

As for reports of this disease being transmitted from dogs to humans, there is absolutely no evidence at this time to suggest this has occurred.

Weems International Artfest Extends Invitation to GCNM

This internationally famous, juried art show is a spectacular showcase for art, whether you're a serious collector or just one to browse. This year, **Greyhound Companions of New Mexico** has been invited to join a select few animal welfare groups to help educate the public on animal issues and to share the extraordinary ambience among art and artists. The Artfest is at the **Manuel Lujan Building on Expo New Mexico State Fairgrounds** and we will be located near the Children's Artsmart within the building.

Friday, November 4th from 10:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. and Saturday, November 5th from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., **GCNM** will join **Bro & Tracy Animal Welfare, Inc.** and **Enchantment Great Pyrenees Club** to greet visitors to the Artfest and talk with them about adoption and animal welfare issues. The Artfest continues on Sunday, but GCNM will only be present on Friday and Saturday, so come visit us and stroll through the many exciting art booths.

Animal Humane Association Doggie Dash and Dawdle

Come join the fun this year at the Doggie Dash and Dawdle! Once again, **Greyhound Companions of New Mexico** will be exhibiting at this annual good-for-the-heart event at **Balloon Fiesta Field in Albuquerque**. The date is Sunday, November 6th, starting at 8:00 a.m. Please visit the **AHANM** website (www.ahanm.org) for general information. To register for the races online, visit www.active.com. Hope to see you there!



**GCNM Reunion:
Bigger and Better Every Year!**

Each year, **Greyhound Companions of New Mexico** attracts more greyhound fanciers and their greyhounds to our fall reunion. This year was truly a banner year, not only in attendance, but also in fund-raising and glorious weather. Over **140** greyhounds were in attendance! What a sight for passersby! Of the six greyhounds up for adoption that day, all went into homes. All the adoptive homes already had greyhounds from GCNM, so there was no application process needed - just a new collar and a leash, and off they went!

For the fourth year in a row, **PETCO** has made a monetary contribution to help with our expenses, and provided in-kind donations, as well. People and greyhounds were thrilled with their loot as they foraged through the goodie bags to find a large assortment of treats and other surprises. **PETCO, PetsMart, Pet Vet Market, The Bone Bistro, Three Dog Bakery** and **Janice Wrhel** contributed items to make these the best goodie variety ever!



Awards were given for dogs who've "Beat the Odds," meaning they've survived a significant medical crisis. "**Doc**" **Gilbert-Murray** was again present this year to receive his award for surviving cancer and an amputation in April 2004 (see GCNM News, Spring 2005 for his story). "**Lace**" **Reisenbach**

is another amputee who received an award, as well. "**George**" **Lindsay** is another cancer survivor award recipient. His cancer was a soft tissue type. George's medical odyssey culminated in a trip to **Colorado State University (CSU)** in Ft. Collins, CO, where he received surgery necessary to correct the abysmal effects of an aggressive chemotherapy. **Del Lindsay** felt he was doing the right thing in choosing chemotherapy for George, only to discover the specific type of chemotherapy recommended is a highly controversial procedure, sometimes with catastrophic results. Thanks to the expertise and skillful hands of **Dr. Nicole Ehrhart**, a board certified oncology surgeon at CSU, George exhibits minimal scarring and is behaving like his normal, congenial self. George received high praise from the CSU vets and staff for his stoic demeanor before, during and after his surgery.



"**Sweetie**" **Hagan-Murray** received a special award for having survived being abandoned in the desert outside **Las Cruces, NM**, with her throat slit, covered with ticks, and her tongue



blistered from dehydration. All who saw her condition at that time considered it no less than a miracle that she was still alive. Extremely fearful of people at the time she was found, she has evolved into one of the finest ambassadors GCNM could ask for. In the capable and loving hands of **Dave** and **Marja**, Sweetie now delights in her walks around Old Town Plaza along with greyhounds **Lite** and **Estilo**, happily greeting anyone who's willing to give her a pat on the head!



Awards were also presented to the GCNM volunteers who have been conducting monthly adoption information clinics at **PetsMart**, **PETCO**, **Pet Vet** and various other locations where the GCNM greyhounds are in high demand.

The raffle and silent auction netted more than any in past years. GCNM netted over \$7,000.00. The generosity this year has given new life to the dream we may eventually have a kennel where available dogs can be housed. Currently, we rely solely on the kindness of our foster homes, but this can make for logistical difficulties when prospective adopters want to see the dogs up for adoption. Hopefully, the future holds a bright new kennel facility for all greyhounds coming into our program awaiting placement into permanent homes. Veterinary bills continue to be our biggest expenditure. When able, GCNM also assists adopters who are confronted with unusually high, unexpected veterinary expenses on greyhounds adopted through our program.



All the items donated for the raffle and silent auction were of exceptional quality and worth. To list all the items and express gratitude to the donors would require more space than allowed in this newsletter, but among those that fetched

the highest bids were: the Heart Hound necklace master-cast donated by **Black Horse Design (Carmon Deyo and Mike Dibble)**; two beautifully engraved greyhound necklaces from **Gayla and Abel Flores** of Hobbs, NM; a bronze greyhound statue donated by **The Greyhound Adoption Center** in CA; a \$300.00

gift certificate from **Aquila Travel**; a gift certificate for a custom greyhound coat by **Peg Rexford**; an exotic handmade wooden rolling pin with stand by **Larry Hitchens**; silver chain and greyhound pendant by **Voyagers Jewelry**; an antique greyhound pitcher donated by **Tomi Balestrieri**; numerous handmade collars and leads by **Cara Balestrieri**; plush greyhound winter coat by **Sue King** of **Toastie Coats**; and a gift certificate for a facial micro peel from **Eisbach Facial Plastic Surgery**. The

handmade greyhound storyteller doll by **Bonnie Fragua** of the Jemez Pueblo generated a lot of interest, as did the whimsical greyhound prints donated by **Janet Murray**. **Greyhound Protection League** donated several items emblazoned with the

message "*Race Cars Not Dogs*," which caused a flurry of activity at their bid sheets.

The raffle tickets sold fast and furiously and the grand prize, a large shadow-box-mounted paper sculpture of two running greyhounds, valued at \$1,200.00, was won by **Barb and Glen Young**.

All in all, it was a beautiful day filled with wonderful hounds and memorable experiences. Thank you to everyone who made this such a huge success. See you there next year!!



GCNM Yard Sale Hot, in More Ways Than One!

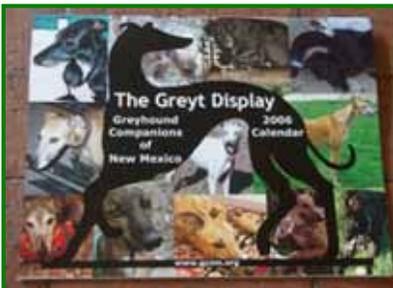
In our last newsletter we asked for someone to volunteer their yard or garage for a sale to raise funds. Stepping up to the plate was **Leo Frechette**, to offer up his property on San Pedro, N.E. Leo owns and operates **Floleo's This & That** - a thrift store and indoor flea market.

Located across the street from the main entrance to the **Expo New Mexico State Fairgrounds**, the visibility was high and so were the net proceeds. For two hot days in June, GCNM volunteers priced, organized and sold a plethora of items donated by our supporters. Heavy traffic in and out of the fairgrounds, where an art show was in progress, helped boost our sales.

Leo and his staff were gracious in providing not only the space, but lots of hard work, as well. A great big thanks to all the contributors of yard sale items and particularly to those who worked long hours to produce a great fund-raiser.

Calendars Have Arrived

The success of last year's **Greyhound Companions of New Mexico** calendar proved there are plenty of folks out there wanting a repeat performance of the efforts by **Marja Murray of One Two Pause, LLP** to design and produce this unique work. For 2006, in addition to a wonderful array of color photos, there is a special collection of greyhound photos contributed by **Georgia Schilling of New Jersey**, depicting 1941 photos of greyhounds in charming poses. Georgia and husband Keith are shown in the calendar with their greyhounds, too!



Drop by **All Sports Trophies** at 2939 Monte Vista, N.E., Albuquerque, NM, to purchase your calendars today! They make great

holiday gifts. For out-of-town orders, call toll free, **800-749-2436**, to have them shipped - or email **allspts@aol.com** for ordering. Sorry, we can't take credit cards, but we'll be happy to take your checks, cash or money orders!

Beauty Inside and Out! Mary Kay Sales Benefit GCNM

Embrace your beauty on the outside with products from Mary Kay, and nurture your beauty on the inside by donating to Greyhound Companions of New Mexico!

Mary Kay Independent Beauty Consultants Erika Stueck and Katrina Hummell proudly announce that with the mention of this newsletter, 10% of your sales will be donated to GCNM. The Mary Kay product line includes more than 200 products in facial skin care, body care, color cosmetics, nail care, sun protection and fragrance. Mary Kay products are cruelty-free.

You may shop online for convenience, or you can schedule a complimentary, no-obligation



consultation with Erika or Katrina. Gift wrapping and shipping are always free – that's fantastic convenience for the holidays!

East Albuquerque:
Erika Stueck
417-9673
www.marykay.com/estueck

West Albuquerque:
Katrina Hummell
922-9557
www.marykay.com/khummell



Shop Our Website “Store” for Special Holiday Gifts

Make your holiday shopping easy by going to www.gcnm.org to see all the merchandise available. Anyone with a greyhound or just admiration for the breed will appreciate our unique selection of greyhound items.

We have added some new items that you’ll not find anywhere else - like the greyhound “storyteller dolls” by **Bonnie Fragua** of **Jemez Pueblo, New Mexico**. These exceptional little sculptures are custom-made. Bonnie does her best to fill each order to the desires of the purchaser. Her contact information is on our website. From the homepage, click on “Store.” Bonnie will donate 10% of each sale to GCNM.

Greyhound Rescue Spotlight: Save The Greyhound Dogs!

By Scotti Devens, Founder, Director of STGD!

In the spring of 1991, I experienced what we call love at first sight. A stately and sleek black greyhound named **Gator** stole my heart and entered my life. He was the perfect friend to my other dog, Bear. Somehow I sensed that he was to become a most significant part of my life, too. That was the understatement of a lifetime.

After adopting Gator, curiosity got the better of me. Why had I never seen a greyhound? What was their “story”? Who could educate me about this? And help was on its way: I was put in touch with **Susan Netboy**, founder of the national greyhound advocacy group, **Greyhound Protection League**. She was to become not simply my teacher, but my mentor as well. Susan shared her knowledge and enthusiasm with me. I became inspired and impassioned by what I learned from her and knew then which road my life was to embark upon.

In 1992, I founded **Save The Greyhound Dogs!** (STGD!) in **Vermont**. We were incorporated as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Our mission was clear; we would become the voice for the defenseless and voiceless greyhound racing dogs. And with a failing greyhound racetrack in southern Vermont which had a past and present proven reputation of more than unacceptable treatment of the dogs racing there, our path was clear. With a spanking-new moderate-size membership, our work began.

Local support was overwhelming. Our legislature completely supported our efforts and

determination. In our first attempt to pass a bill to end greyhound racing in Vermont, they knew we meant business. On a beautiful, sunny day in May of 1995, bill **S.152**, the “**Gator Bill**,” named in honor of the greyhound who inspired our efforts, was passed. Signed into law by then **Governor Howard S. Dean**, the bill ended not only greyhound racing, but simulcasting and pari-mutuel betting, as well. The suffering at **Green Mountain Racetrack** in **Pownal, Vermont** was over! This bill gave Vermont the distinction of becoming the first state that banned greyhound racing where a racetrack existed and where racing was, at the time, a legal enterprise. Although the track had temporarily closed, it could have reopened at any time without passage of bill S.152.

With hard work never deterring us from our goals, STGD! achieved smaller but other important victories. **American Airlines**, at our request, stopped showing a travel film which included promotion of greyhound tracks in Florida. The **U-Haul Corporation** changed a truck decal design that depicted a key example of what each individual state is famous for. Their **Kansas** trucks showed a muzzled greyhound racer in its numbered racing silk. This representation of Kansas was chosen because the **Greyhound Hall of Fame** (the racing industry’s shrine to greyhound racing) is located in **Abilene, Kansas**. U-Haul graciously changed their Kansas artwork to a steam locomotive.

I also traveled to **Washington, D.C.** and met with the ambassador from **Spain** to discuss their appalling treatment of racing dogs in their country. He examined thousands of names on petitions calling for an end to the suffering in his home country. He was informed of our eventual plans to boycott Spanish products that are imported into the U.S. He was in full agreement that it will only be through the "wallet" - as he described it - that change will affect those in Spain who condone the torture of unsuccessful racers by hanging them from trees to die a slow, agonizing death.

STGD! also had the distinction and pleasure of bringing the first two anti-greyhound racing bills before the **New Hampshire** legislature. Currently, three greyhound tracks operate there. Neither bill brought an end to this dying,

smokestack industry. We knew that this challenge would be great. That did not then, nor will it ever stand in our way. It is only a matter of time before the process that succeeded in Vermont will be repeated by our impassioned organization!

In 1999 the world lost a gentle dog and a good friend. Gator was diagnosed with osteosarcoma. The end was short; he deserved that at least. His life and being were the catalyst for so many important accomplishments. He was completely loved and there is a void in my life without him. Gator will live forever in the hearts and minds of good people always. As voices for these dogs, clearly our work is before us. Every step that we take, as greyhound welfare advocates, rejuvenates our passion to protect these gentle, noble creatures.

The Bone Bistro: Albuquerque's Newest Hot Spot for Dogs and Their People

Want to meet your friends at a great place for a little socializing, but don't want to leave your hounds at home? If you'd like to sip on a coffee, espresso or fruit smoothie and spoil your pooch with gourmet treats, you should visit **The Bone Bistro**. Fun, unique items for people and their animal companions make for an unusual shopping experience at The Bone Bistro, too!

Owners **Nathan and Kate Butters** have created a great environment where people and their dogs can do a little schmoozing. The store features contemporary decor and stimulates the eyes and the tummies!

Nathan is a native of **Albuquerque** and is currently in his second year of law school at the **University of New Mexico**. Having a profound interest in animal rights, he intends to eventually focus on animal law. Recognizing that this realm of law may have a major influence on the future of legal practice, Nathan states he would

welcome the opportunity to be a part of this important movement.



Kate's background is in marketing and graphic design, but her heart is in anything related to animals. "Kate loves animals more than anyone I've ever met," says Nathan, "and she always wanted her work to involve animals in some way. Opening a store like The Bone Bistro was her dream..."

Kate and Nathan's ultimate goal is to make this store a success and to expand to more locations. Their love of animals is evident when you see their dogs lounging behind the counter on their lush beds. All four of their dogs, **Jack, Pudgie, Bosco** and **George** are rescues, and to them and all animals, the Butters dedicated The Bone Bistro.

You can find **The Bone Bistro** at **Wyoming** and **Paseo Del Norte** - north of Paseo Del Norte and

east of Wyoming - just east of the Whataburger. Their hours are Mon. - Fri. 10:30-7:30; Sat. 9:30-6:00 and Sun 12:00-5:30. They can be reached at **797-9663**.

Take your dog out for a date and encourage your friends to do the same. See you at **The Bone Bistro!**

Sending America's Greyhounds to Mexico: Will Microchips Protect Them from Abuse?

*By Judy K. Paulsen, Founder
Greyhound Companions of New Mexico*

A highly charged debate has been raging on the Internet and over phone lines for the last several months. It all began with the re-opening of the **Juarez, Mexico** dog track. The debate was fueled with reports of eight greyhounds that died of heatstroke while being transported from **Tucson, AZ**, to the Mexican track. Adding fuel to the debate, a national greyhound adoption group, **Greyhound Pets of America**, constructed a plan to support the Mexican track by shipping American racing greyhounds to their country.

Dogs do not fare well in third-world countries. To believe racers taken to Mexico will be treated humanely is as absurd as the argument that proponents for this plan are using. It is common knowledge that squalid conditions in which most Mexican citizens live are what drives them to risk their lives to illegally cross the border into America. The impoverished nation has low standards for treatment of humans and NO animal welfare standards.

To believe racers taken to Mexico will be treated humanely is as absurd as the argument that proponents for this plan are using.

Presumably in response to the high volume of objections received from people concerned for the safety of the racers once they cross the border, the **National Greyhound Association** (the governing body for the dog racing industry) has placed a temporary ban on exporting American racing greyhounds to Mexico. However, in a bizarre twist of events, the largest

national greyhound *adoption* group, **Greyhound Pets of America**, has decided to **support and encourage** the exportation of greyhounds to Mexico. **Rory Goree**, President of **GPA National** and **Candy Beck**, President of the New Mexico **GPA** chapter (**New Mexico Greyhound Connection**) have been busy defending their position to the multitude of protesters.



Goree and Beck have been attempting to deflect criticism of the plan to send America's slowest racers to Mexico by saying the greyhounds would be brought back into the U.S. upon retirement, for placement into adoptive homes. They suggest that microchipping the greyhounds will give them control over the disposition of the racers; however, they fail to address the neglect and abuse to which these dogs will be exposed while racing in Juarez.

Beck and her husband were invited to join **Jose Maria Guardia**, owner of the Juarez track, for an evening of dining and dog races early this past summer. The Becks returned from Mexico with glowing reports on conditions at the track and the hospitality shown them by track officials. Beck's comments posted on her website were explicitly positive and reflected no concern for the fate of the dogs, whatsoever. She did, however, comment that it could've been a little cooler in the area where they were being entertained by Mr. Guardia as they dined and watched the dog races.

Guardia has been immersed in various scandals involving alleged money laundering and his ties to Cuban dictator, **Fidel Castro**. Guardia aspires to be "first off the block" with plans to open a Las

Vegas-like resort in Juarez, capable of handling \$20 billion in bets daily.

The actions of GPA in collaborating with Mexican track officials to transport greyhounds to Juarez is incomprehensible and lacks the compassion and concern most greyhound rescue programs have exhibited in objecting to this travesty. One well-known greyhound welfare advocate is currently under attack by racing-industry proponents for saying the dogs would be better off euthanized than suffering during transport to and racing in Mexico. Most anyone with a conscience and even a shred of compassion would agree that racers who fail to perform well in the U.S. should be given the most humane treatment possible; euthanasia being a more benevolent alternative than neglect, abuse, injury or death at the Juarez track.

It is abundantly clear that there are not enough homes for all retired racers in the United States - otherwise, why would there be thousands slaughtered annually on our own soil? For GPA representatives to argue that they will retrieve

Sending losing racers to Juarez, Mexico should not be an option. Hoards of Mexicans trying to escape their own country are testimony to what life is like in a third-world country struggling to take care of its citizens. If it's deplorable for humans, imagine what it will be like for animals who are nothing more than a source of entertainment.

Sending losing racers to Juarez, Mexico should not be an option.

The proposal to send racing greyhounds to Mexico is *unanimously* objected to by **all greyhound welfare advocacy groups** in America and also the **American-European Greyhound Alliance, Inc.** GPA is not considered a greyhound welfare advocacy group; they are an adoption coordinator for the racing industry, plain and simple. Their support of the plan to send greyhounds to Juarez, Mexico speaks volumes for where they stand on the rights of racing greyhounds.

...euthanasia being a more benevolent alternative than neglect, abuse, injury or death at the Juarez track.

every greyhound shipped into Mexico and place them in loving homes is preposterous. Does this mean that more of the dogs coming off U.S. tracks will be euthanized instead of the Juarez dogs, just to prove they can place those lucky enough to leave Mexico alive? Unless Mrs. Beck or Mr. Goree has intentions of moving to Juarez to oversee operations at the track, it is irresponsible for them to favor a plan to ship greyhounds to what was and still is considered a "dumping ground" for unsuccessful racers.

If you want to express your feelings regarding this shameful act, we encourage you to contact Rory Goree at **pres@greyhoundpets.org** (be prepared for a canned response telling you to listen to his weekly radio show) or to Candy Beck at **info@nmgreyhoundconnection.org**. You can also pass on your concerns to **nga@ngagreyhounds.com** (this is the email address for the greyhound racing industry's main office in Kansas - the state where greyhounds are not considered dogs!)

Volunteers Needed

We can never have too many volunteers. If you want to help by working at adoption clinics or fostering or transporting greyhounds, please call **Sara Mathis** at **881-9034** and get your name on the list. If you haven't heard from us in a while, it might be a good idea to call and make sure your name is still on the list, otherwise you may miss out on great opportunities to show off your hounds and your devotion to our cause!



Sandia National Labs Employee Contribution Plan

Another window of opportunity will open for those who wish to designate **Greyhound Companions of New Mexico** as a recipient of **United Way** Funds through **Sandia National Laboratories**. *This window is from October 24th through November 11th.* We apologize if you receive your newsletter too late to take advantage of this. Timing is everything and ours is a little off this year in that publication of our newsletter may not coincide with the good intentions of Sandia Labs!

Sandia's ECP (Employee Contribution Plan) has a brief enrollment period wherein you can enroll online through the Sandia Nat'l Labs computer network. If you need assistance with how to do this, please contact **Barb Wells** at **844-4642**.

GCNM Adoption Donation to Increase

We have not raised our adoption donation amount in ten years. Because we have added new extras to the veterinary care each dog will now receive prior to going into its new home, we feel it's necessary to increase our adoption donation request to \$175.00. We now are microchipping every dog that comes into our program and also doing a heartworm test.



\$175.00 is still a great deal considering what you'd have to pay a breeder for such a wonderful companion!

Help Spread the Word

Car magnets are a great way to display your support for **Greyhound Companions of New Mexico** AND just to brag about being the proud guardian of a greyhound!



These magnets are available at **All Sports Trophies** (where all GCNM merchandise is sold) - drop by and pick yours up today. They also make great gifts.

GCNM Recruited to Help Hurricane Victims

It's hard for most of us to imagine life without our animal companions, but for many of the people affected by hurricanes Katrina and Rita, this became a reality. Given orders to evacuate immediately, those in Katrina's path were told not to take pets with them. Shelters did not allow animals.

Following hurricane **Katrina**, pleas from animal welfare groups nationwide brought about some positive changes when hurricane Rita headed for the gulf coast: Evacuees were allowed to bring their animals into shelters as long as they were confined in crates and on leashes when removed from the crates.

Staggering numbers of animals rescued after both hurricanes, crowded all nearby shelters, and makeshift accommodations sprang up in surrounding areas. Many animals were

transported to other states, including **New Mexico** and our neighboring states.

Greyhound Companions of New Mexico was contacted early in the first stages of animal rescue efforts after the ravages of Katrina left behind thousands of stranded animals. Foster homes were desperately needed and we quickly volunteered our assistance. None of our foster homes were needed after all; however, we did send crates to areas where animals are being held until their people can be located or they can be adopted out, if not claimed.

Always have a plan, no matter where you live, to take your animals with you in case you are forced to leave your home for any reason. This terrible tragedy underscores the necessity of planning, not only for humans, but also for our beloved animal companions. The **Humane**

Society of the United States (HSUS) has disaster preparedness information on their website at www.HSUS.org - please take the

time to visit this worthwhile site for tips on how to provide for your animal companions in times of crisis.

PETCO Celebrates Greyhound Planet Week

September 12th through the 18th was designated by **PETCO Foundation** as **Greyhound Planet Week**. This is the 4th anniversary of Greyhound Planet Week. What started out as a one-day fundraising response to a greyhound tragedy has developed into a weeklong fundraising celebration of this regal breed and the progress various groups have made in protecting racers from abuse and neglect all over the world. Last year, PETCO donated over \$100,000.00 to greyhound groups.

PETCO in **Albuquerque**, at **10700 Lomas Blvd., N.E.**, has been partnering with **GCNM** for the past two years. All proceeds at this store

during Greyhound Planet Week were earmarked for **Greyhound Companions of New Mexico**, to assist with our endeavors to protect racing greyhounds. PETCO Foundation feels compassion and concern for the lives of greyhound racers and strives to make a difference for the future of this much persecuted breed.

We at Greyhound Companions of New Mexico want to express our gratitude to the continued support this store has demonstrated in their support for our work. Please show your appreciation by patronizing the Lomas location of PETCO in Albuquerque.



In Memory Of:



“Destiny” - Three years ago, **Cathy Scoblionko** moved from Carlsbad, NM, to Tampa Bay, Florida, and along with her went the “family” of dogs. Moving several times after arriving in Florida, Cathy always made sure to accommodate her dogs. Destiny was a faithful companion to Cathy for four years before passing away on June 29th, at the age of 13. Cathy was the southern New Mexico adoption coordinator for Greyhound Companions of New Mexico prior to her move to FL. She has continued her work educating the public on the atrocities of racing and now volunteers with a greyhound adoption/advocacy group in FL. Destiny was known and loved by many in NM and FL and will be greatly missed.



Destiny Scoblionko

“Nikki” - **Eliza Stewart** adopted Nikki in 1994. Found as a stray in Clovis, NM, it was apparent she had been used as a coyote hunter. Extensive scarring on her body was highly suggestive of what greyhounds suffer when running through barbed wire fencing. GCNM obtained the dog *Nikki (right) with Eliza Stewart and Kara*



from the animal shelter in Clovis and Eliza adopted her without hesitation. Nikki was smart. While overnighting at the vet’s office she discovered how to open the door to her run and was happily awaiting the staff’s arrival the next morning! In the loving care of Eliza, Nikki lived to be 13 and was euthanized on July 5 after multiple health complications. The photo is of a

painting by Eliza's brother, depicting greyhounds Kara (white), Nikki (black) and Eliza.

"Jazzmine" - **Lisa Marbury** wrote the following tribute to Jazzmine: "On Sunday, July 3rd, 2005, Jazzmine simultaneously ascended to doggie heaven, entered the reincarnation



Jazzmine Marbury

queue, and returned to the void. Her passing was peaceful and made easier by the attendance of her longtime human companions, Lisa and Aaron. Her loss brings great sadness but it is with the understanding that such loss is the other side of a life that brought much joy." Lisa adopted Jazzmine in 1996, subsequent to her rescue from the Roswell Humane Society by GCNM. She died of hemangiosarcoma at the age of 10.

"B'Mer" - **Darcy Bushnell** and **Kris Osnes** adopted B'Mer at the age of 9. Through no fault of her own, B'Mer had been surrendered by three different adoptive homes. When she was relinquished to GCNM, she was featured in a newsletter as a special-needs dog needing a home. Darcy and Kris took one look at the photo and decided it was time to add a third greyhound to their duo, Dante and Devon. B'Mer was a sweet



B'Mer Osnes-Bushnell

redhead with soulful eyes and always had a smile on her face. Darcy's brother nicknamed her "Maime," after Maime Eisenhower and said, "All she lacked was the pillbox hat" in her

resemblance to the late first lady. Last April, at the age of 13, B'Mer succumbed to complications from a degenerative spinal condition. (On July 9th, Darcy's birthday, another greyhound, Joe, was adopted in loving memory of B'Mer and Devon, who had passed away in June 2004.)

"George" - **Dave Hagan** and **Marja Murray** lost their good friend, George, to osteosarcoma on August 10, a day after his 12th birthday. One of only two Frisbee-catching greyhounds ever



George Hagan

to grace our 13-year history of doing greyhound adoptions, George was exceptional in many ways. Kind, loving and an

incredibly tolerant soul, George was the impetus for more greyhounds to join Dave and Marja's family of greyhounds (see reference to their greyhound, Sweetie, in the story about this year's annual reunion.) George's mid-air antics while chasing Frisbees were the subject of many a photo. His passing is a huge loss not only to Marja and Dave, but to everyone who knew George, for he was a dandy dog who was a favorite ambassador for GCNM.

"Fresca" - **Norm and Linda Jones** lost their lovely girl, Fresca, to a massive seizure on September 1, 2005.

She was adopted on December 6, 1996 and lived to be one day shy of 11 years old.

Linda affectionately recalls Fresca's penchant for bread and squeaky toys and that "one evening, while on sentry duty, Fresca caught the



Fresca Jones

underclass cheerleaders from

Eldorado High School toilet papering houses. They left in a hurry” and the Jones’ house was the only one not covered in TP! Fresca was the Jones’ second greyhound and they later adopted a third. Linda writes that “the hardest thing is to be in the house all day and constantly remember everything you do for your dogs during the day and everything they do for you, day in and day out.....our hearts are broken.”

“**Boss**” - Having a fondness for the older greyhounds, **Jon and Rachel Miller** have chosen to adopt those that are often rejected because of age. Some of their dogs have outlived younger ones most often chosen for adoption by others. Boss was 15 when he died on August 19, 2005, and he had 6 wonderful years with the Miller family before crossing the Rainbow Bridge. At the GCNM reunion this year, in loving memory of Boss, Jon and Rachel adopted an 8 year-old greyhound that had been surrendered to GCNM.

“**Nikki**” - **Tom and Trudy Braig** sent a generous donation to GCNM in memory of their “sweet, loving and gentle” Nikki. Nikki departed this earth on Sunday night, August 21, 2005 with the gentle help of **Dr. Rachel Moulton** of the **Urgent Care Veterinary Hospital**. Nikki had suffered multiple seizures, the last leaving her severely debilitated. Tom and Trudy gave Nikki their last gift of love by releasing her to eternal peace.



Nikki with Tom Braig

“**Diego**” - On August 7th, **Jason Christensen** and **Fundy Adajar** came home to find Diego in a critical state from severe hemorrhagic diarrhea - cause unknown. Rushing him to the veterinarian did not produce the outcome Jason and Fundy were hoping for. Diego had lost too much blood and died while at the vet’s office as Jason and Fundy hovered nearby, desperate for answers and a miracle. Seven-

year-old Diego had two wonderful years away from track life before his premature death. In loving memory of Diego, Jason and Fundy adopted a greyhound from the Roswell Humane Society after she’d been brought in as a stray.

“**Renegade**” - **Bob Goodfellow** wrote the following: “My dear and beautiful 12 year-old Renegade died yesterday afternoon (October 6th) here at home. He had fallen in the kitchen a week ago, breaking his back leg, and was



Renegade Goodfellow

operated on the next day. From the beginning, he did not do well at the clinic and so I brought him home. We hoped he would rally, but that was not to be. We miss him greatly. He was such a handsome, lovable guy who loved everyone; dog or human - even cats! I am devastated at the loss because he had been so active and outgoing until his accident. He was a wonderful friend and companion to me for the past 7 years. He will never be forgotten!

“**Dollie**” - **Chuck and Judy McLaughlin** lost 9 year-old Dollie to liver failure on August 16th, 2005. She was one of the first pair of greyhounds for the McLaughlins and was responsible for them forming a lifelong devotion to this breed and the plight of racing greyhounds. Dollie will be missed by the whole family, including her greyhound companions Buddy and Saoirse. Everyone who ever met Dollie fell in love with her. Friends and family across the country are saddened by her passing. As a tribute to Dollie, the McLaughlins adopted greyhound, Murphy, while at the GCNM reunion this year.

“**Noble and Harry DeRemer**” - Harry DeRemer adopted Noble in December 1999. Close companions from the beginning, it is not

surprising that Noble passed away one week after his loyal guardian, Harry, died of cancer. For six years, Noble and Harry shared camping adventures and just hanging out at home, like best friends. Both will be sorely missed. Harry's daughter, **Flora Harris**, was caregiver to Harry and Noble, and is an advocate for the welfare of the racing greyhound. Her recently constructed website can be found at www.weluvdogs.com. It is an online dog supply site and she is contributing a percentage of her profits to Greyhound Companions of New Mexico, both because she believes in our cause and in memory of Noble and Harry.

Buffie and Scott Nelson had been closely monitoring Bear's condition and had consulted several veterinarians. Medications were ineffective and one day before he was to see another veterinarian for another opinion, Bear lost the use of all his legs. Quiet and passive, he took his last breath in Buffie's arms, seemingly grateful for this last gift of love. The



Bear Nelson

Nelsons adopted another greyhound in memory of Bear while at the GCNM reunion this year. "Jester" has been helping their other greyhound, Autumn, overcome the loss of her companion and it has been healing for the family, as well.

"**Tim**" - **Beth Anderson** lost her beloved greyhound to health complications resulting from a heart condition and neurological problems. In Beth's words, Tim, or Tiny Tim, as he was officially known, went to join other members of our animal family on the other side on October 3rd, 2005. He was almost 13 1/2



Tim Anderson

years old and was such a fighter and survivor.

He was and will always be an inspiration to me. He

was loved and will be missed, but I know he is running through fields with his greyhound buddy, Shadow, now free of pain."

"**Twister**" - **Richard, Laura and Kristin Chambers** lost 11 year-old Twister to osteosarcoma in May. "Our whole family has been grief stricken, however we made sure his last days were happy by filling them with car rides, salmon, back scratches, and other things that he loved. Although he must've endured intense pain because of the cruel nature of this disease, he never complained once and kept his happy-go-lucky demeanor to the very last."



Twister Chambers

"**Bear**" - After a steady decline in health, Bear was put to rest on September 12th. Suffering from a central nervous system disease, he began to lose the use of his legs and on his last day was unable to stand after collapsing.

"Taz" - Stunned by the loss one month earlier of Twister, **the Chambers family** lost Taz at the early age of 5. An unknown medical condition resulting in blindness and neurological complications affecting his ability to walk took his life, after only two years in the Chambers' home. His sudden departure was difficult on the Chambers family and in their words, "the



Taz Chambers

sense of loss is profound, and we will never forget him for the affection and joy he brought to us."

"Ben" - **Chrissie Boyd** and **Mehdi Sattari** lost Ben to multiple health problems, just a few months short of his 12th year on this earth. The following is in Mehdi's words:



Ben Boyd-Sattari

We knew he had to go back someday,
and it is today
He's in God's hands and getting more than the love that all our hearts could muster

Please give him gingersnaps, crunchy tater chips and what his sweet mouth desires
And please please keep that devil off his back
Let him run in the good pasture with no pain
and you will see his ears stand up like a party hat
Hold him in your eternal love and we shall hold him in our heart along with you
Bless us with the gentlemanly wisdom evident in his life
Thank you for this passing gift and may it teach us to love only as you can.



Available for Adoption



"**Groovy**" is a five year old female with lots of personality. NOT cat safe, but great with other dogs and with people.



"**Ozilline**" is a three year old brindle female. She is timid but very affectionate. Gets along well with other dogs and is very well-mannered.



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Greyhound Companions of New Mexico is a licensed non-profit organization concerned for the welfare of the retired racing Greyhound. Tens of thousands of Greyhounds are needlessly destroyed annually; we strive to educate the public of the plight of the retired racer and to find loving adoptive homes for these affectionate canine athletes.

GCNM NEWS is published by:
Greyhound Companions of New Mexico
www.gcnm.org

Editor: **Judy Paulsen**
 Layout: **One Two Pause, LLP** (www.12pause.com)

If you want to help the Greyhounds,
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