



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

How Many More of These Are Out There? Spirit's Story

On March 21, 2007, **GCNM** received a call from a woman barely able to control her emotions. She identified herself as **Theresa**, and explained between sobs that she arrived at work that morning and was told that a "dying greyhound" had been found in the bushes behind the building. Frantic to get help for the dog, but not sure whom to call, the employees at **Guardian Building Products** decided it was best to call the Albuquerque Animal Control Center so they could end the dog's suffering. Then the employee who initially discovered the dog, **Ed Brown**, decided to call his veterinarian to see if they knew of anyone who could help a greyhound. They were told to call **Greyhound Companions of New Mexico**.

Minutes after GCNM received the call, volunteers **Kent Mathis** and **Sherry Mangold** were mobilized and on their way to rescue the greyhound. What they found when they got there was a shocking sight even to a seasoned veteran who works animal abuse complaints on a regular basis. In addition to volunteering for GCNM, Sherry Mangold is the **Cruelty Complaints Administrator** for **Animal Protection of New Mexico**. She's seen enough animal abuse to make one wonder how the term "**mankind**" ever originated. The greyhound she now saw; emaciated, covered with ticks and urine stains, looked as though she would take her last breath at any minute.

Although barely able to stand, this dog miraculously was able to wag her tail each time she was approached by a human. Hard to believe, considering humans were responsible for her condition. Dogs, especially friendly ones, don't get this way on their own - starving and filthy. How many people had ignored this dog? How many times had she been turned away while she was seeking out a friendly hand?

A large wound to her left hip suggested trauma. Her boney ridge of a back arched over protruding ribs which seemed to hover in the hollow space between gaunt hip bones and front legs barely strong enough to support her. Weighing only a fraction of what would be considered normal for a dog of this size, she was taken to **VCA Animal Hospital** on **Montgomery** in **Albuquerque**, for immediate attention.



Spirit and Rescuers, Sherry Mangold and Elwin Hodgins (Photo by Kent Mathis)

She appeared to welcome the examinations executed immediately upon her arrival at the animal clinic. Technicians swarmed around her expertly preparing her for critical care. IVs to hydrate her were efficiently inserted and tests were begun to evaluate her condition. This dog wanted to live – what else could explain the fact that she had not expired among the bushes behind that building?

Greyhound Companions of New Mexico is attempting to locate anyone who may know something about this dog. Websites for the animal shelters and the humane society in the area showed no entries to suggest anyone had been looking for this dog. She was not microchipped, nor was she wearing a collar. She appears not to have been spayed.

Where did she come from? How did she get this nasty wound to her hip? Did she fall from a moving vehicle, then was left behind to fend for herself? Was she on her way through New Mexico to race in another state? Who could let this happen?

GCNM is offering a reward for answers to these questions, if the information leads to the person(s) responsible for this. Animal Protection of New Mexico has contributed \$500.00 to bring the total reward to \$1,500.00.

Now named "**Spirit**," she is tattooed, indicating she is registered for the purpose of racing. Please call us at 505-281-7295 if you can provide information.

Recovering in her foster home with Sherry Mangold, the veterinarians predict Spirit has a good chance to become a normal, healthy companion. We have an applicant who has expressed a serious interest in adopting Spirit.

Disposable Greyhounds

The racing industry's attitude about the dogs they toss aside when no longer profitable seems to be a contagious disease. Apparently others are beginning to get the idea that since there is such a plethora of greyhounds, they can dispose of their greyhounds when they are no longer convenient to have around.

Tigger was taken to the animal shelter to die. At 12-years old, arthritic, and limping, she was dropped off at the Albuquerque Animal Care Center like so much trash at the dump. GCNM was notified by the shelter vet that an old greyhound had been surrendered by the "owner." We had rescued the starving greyhound, Spirit, just the week before, so the shelter thought we'd likely take this one, too.



"Tigger" in New Home

Without hesitation, we made arrangements to retrieve her from the shelter. GCNM volunteer, **Del Lindsay**, drove to the Westside shelter and loaded her into his car. She was then taken to **Andrea Speed, DVM** for an evaluation. X-rays revealed a possible cancerous lesion in the bone of one leg.

Further evaluations will be done, and this dog will get every chance at living out her life in a loving home, rather than taking her last breath at the shelter, later to be part of the city landfill.

Greyhound Companions of New Mexico, Inc. (GCNM) is a licensed, non-profit organization concerned for the welfare of racing greyhounds. Thousands of greyhounds bred for racing are destroyed and suffer heinous injuries annually. Our mission is twofold in that we find adoptive homes for failed racers in addition to actively campaigning for their humane treatment. Holding the racing industry accountable for actions which threaten the safety and welfare of racing greyhounds is of paramount importance and we vow to uphold that pledge. All our work is done by volunteers. We have no paid staff.

Board of Directors:

*Judy K. Paulsen, President
Sara J. Mathis, Treasurer
Barbara J. Wells, Secretary
Robert K. Mathis*

GCNM volunteer, **Josie Hamlen**, has taken Tigger into her home to provide the affection and care this dog deserves. Thank you, Josie, for sharing your home with this special greyhound.

YIKES! WHAT WERE THEY THINKING? "Free" Greyhounds at Tucson Race Track

In a desperate attempt to rid themselves of racers who are no longer bringing in money, **Tucson Greyhound Park (TGP)** implemented a program to give "free" greyhounds to those willing to fill out an application while at the track. Before each race, the loud speaker boomed the message, "Adopt a free greyhound today!" And the printed racing program advertised "FREE" retired greyhound athletes to "qualified homes only."

In order to qualify, an application must be completed, but apparently the process stopped there. No home

visit, no further evaluation required – just answer the questions and you can be on your way with your free greyhound.

Initially, the plan was to give away unsterilized greyhounds with the agreement that the adopter would come back in for a certificate to pay for the surgery. How many of these “free” greyhounds would drop through the cracks in a system where no follow-up is done? Even if the dogs are sterilized, there still is no screening nor education of the adopters on how to integrate these highly specialized dogs into their homes.

Arizona residents were quick to object to this travesty. They know the district where the Tucson track is located and they feared the free greyhounds might end up as bait to train fighting dogs in the South Tucson area, or just left to roam the streets.

Many of our readers may recall the story in our last newsletter regarding the disappearance of over 100 greyhounds from the Tucson race track last year. Track employees obligingly loaded greyhounds into the truck of a man from Colorado who has an unsavory past of heartless acts toward racing greyhounds. So why is it that Tucson Greyhound Park continues to disregard greyhound welfare issues?

Most troubling of all is the fact that America’s “largest greyhound adoption program,” **Greyhound Pets of America (GPA)** appeared to be endorsing this ill-conceived plan by allowing their applications to be used for these instant adoptions. GPA President, **Rory Goree**, denies he had any knowledge of this plan and had not approved the use of GPA applications, although it is known that GPA and TGP

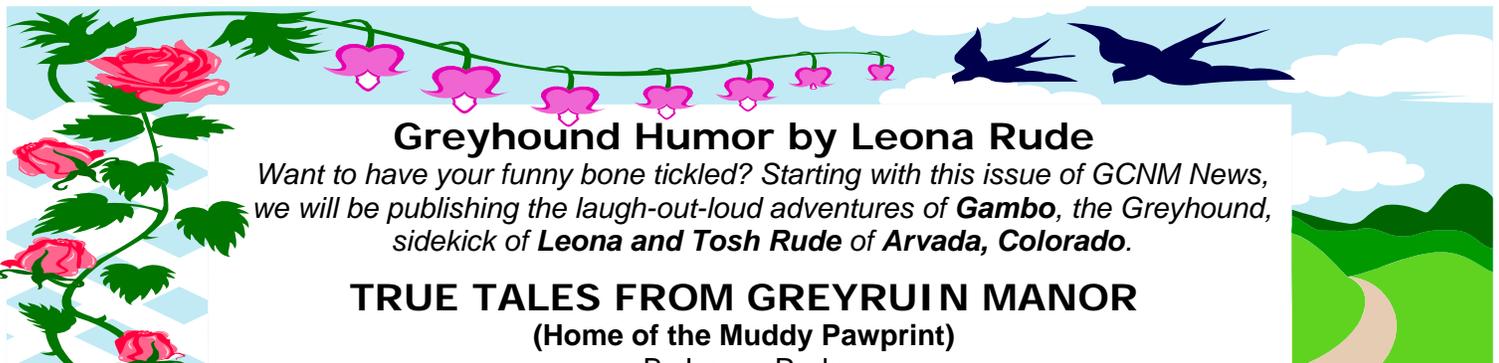
have been in the process of developing an adoption program over the last several months.

Arizona State Racing Commission Director, Geoffrey Gonsler, was contacted by several greyhound welfare groups, including GCNM, asking for his intervention to end the promotion of “free” greyhounds at TGP. On March 13th, GCNM president, **Judy Paulsen**, received an email from Gonsler stating the plan had ceased at his request.

Giving away greyhounds at Tucson Greyhound Park would set a dangerous precedent for tracks across the country who may see this as an easy way to dispose of their losing racers. Just a night at the races and on a whim, one could adopt a retired racer. Provided with minimal information on the unique behaviors of these dogs, adopters would be allowed to leave the track with little or no idea of what to expect when they got home with their “free” greyhound.

By eliminating the need for trained representatives of reputable adoption groups who properly screen and educate potential adopters, this “free greyhound” program could’ve doomed many retired racers within days of being in a new home. Guidance and preparation prior to adopting a retired racer are key elements in the success of integrating these dogs into adoptive homes, and even then, these dogs are returned at an unusually high rate. Having access to greyhound adoption representatives 24/7 who can work through behavioral and/or health problems is vital in the adaptation process, when most adopters need help.

What were they thinking in Tucson? More importantly, who was doing the thinking?



Medicine Is The Best Laughter...

The card arrived in the mail, addressed to Gambo Rude.

“Dear Gambo,” I read. “It’s time for your annual dental check-up. Have your folks call for an

appointment.” That was followed by a list of reasons, emphasizing the importance of the occasion, and a promise of a canvas bag stuffed with goodies. I called the vet hospital, set the date.

On the scheduled date we dutifully dropped him off at 7:30 A.M. and went back at 5:00 P.M. The

receptionist clicked keys on her computer and assured us our statement of charges would finish printing soon. We could look through it, and the attached list of post-op instructions, before the doctor gave us back our dog. He'd explain the complete procedure at that time. The printer kept whirring, spitting out pages of paper. I envisioned a stack that would take two girls to carry to the counter.

I glanced down the list of what they had done to our dog. How could they accomplish all that in only nine and a half hours? When I reached our balance, I giggled. "Candid Camera?" I asked. "April Fool," I suggested weakly, by now realizing the horrible truth. When the credit card made a gurgling/choking sound as the receptionist shot it through the little machine, it quickly removed all our hopes of a vacation next summer. I blanched, turned to Tosh. "I'll wait for the doctor, you go see if a home mortgage office is still open."



"Gambo" "Where'd My Track Go?"

He didn't have time. We were whisked into one of the receiving rooms. The doctor entered the other door. Gambo stumbled toward me, his recent anesthetic making him goofy. The Dentist-vet began an explanation of how two teeth had to come out. He then gave us a graphic description of work done on Gambo's canines. He drew little diagrams and pointed out an abscess on the x-rays, and too much information on how they'd drained it.

During the statement session out in the reception area, Tosh had undergone a strange color change. He was now somewhere between kelly and chartreuse. Usually he's a manly guy, able to withstand life's blows without flinching. However, anything dental renders him weak and queasy. In deference to his crumbling condition, I tried for humor. "I thought *all* dog teeth were canines'." Unfortunately, that pesky little apostrophe can't be seen in the spoken word.

Dentist-vet looked at me for a few withering seconds. "Any questions about the procedure or instructions?"

Tosh shook his head, overwhelmed. I said, "Yes. Right here it states no cold or wet conditions, yet stipulates hot packs to his jaw. Do you mean a heating pad?"

"No, you take a small hand towel, wet it in water as hot as he can stand and apply it gently to the side of

the face. Right about here." He laid his hand against Gambo's jaw. Gambo staggered sideways. So did Tosh.

"I've given hot pack treatments before," I said loftily, "but not without getting the patient wet."

"It can prove tricky," he admitted. An interval of silence ensued into which I hoped he'd insert a suggestion.

I shrugged, tried another approach. "We live in Colorado," I commented. "It's been snowing."

"Yep."

"He's a greyhound."

He nodded at my keen observations.

I continued. "When he goes out, he goes out, if you get what I mean."

"A few of the tiny breeds can be trained to newspapers or a litter box, but with larger breeds like Gambo..."

I gave it a minute. He didn't finish.

I sought another avenue. "So, how do we see that he—uh—you know—without getting cold or wet?"

"That can be a problem."

"Uh-huh. I see." I didn't. "And this part about allowing him to call the shots on type and length of exercise?"

"He will adjust it to fit his needs, ability, and condition."

"His form of exercise is racing six times around his self-made track. In the back yard. Where there used to be grass."

"In this weather?" He smiled indulgently. "Find a better place. Call if he gets worse." He disappeared.

Tosh's heroic struggle to prevent dry retching changed to enigma. "Did you get all that?"

"Sure," I said. "We go home. We pull out the coffee table to make an indoor track so Gambo can shoot berms off the furniture. I put non-wet, hot water in a bucket, toss in a hand towel. While I soak his jaw

dryly, you go out in the back yard and dig trenches in the snow. We take the dog out. I'll walk beside him in the paths you've dug. I'll take an umbrella to protect him from any falling snow. I'll also carry my hair dryer hooked to a long extension cord to keep him warm and dry. You'll go ahead of us backwards, throwing

down plastic drop cloths and thick newspapers to keep his feet dry. Nothing to it. Any questions?"

"No," he replied miserably. "Just a reminder. The dog goes out three times a night. In between all that stuff you said, we better sleep quick."

Leona

Heatstroke in Greyhounds: What You Need to Know

By Judy Kody Paulsen, Founder

Greyhound Companions of New Mexico

I am grateful for the help of Suzanne Stack, DVM, in preparing this article. Dr. Stack is a 1985 Ohio State graduate currently practicing near her home in Yuma, Arizona. Previously, she served as a State Racing Board Veterinarian in Wisconsin and as a track vet in Texas at Valley Greyhound Park. Dr. Stack worked closely with Arizona Adopt a Greyhound (AAGI) for a number of years and still volunteers with that group.

The relative lack of information on canine heat-related and exertional ailments is alarming, considering how common the occurrence is among dogs of all breeds, particularly greyhounds. Not surprisingly, there is contradictory information on how to handle these sometimes fatal catastrophes.

Racing greyhounds are finely-tuned athletes and are usually conditioned by professional trainers. A racer's performance while training and racing is (or should be) closely monitored. The onset of *heatstroke* or another debilitating and potentially life-threatening muscle disorder called *hyperacute exertional rhabdomyolysis (HER)* are two things no trainer wants to see.

Varying degrees of heat/exertional illness require specific treatment approaches to avoid permanent damage to muscle fibers, kidneys, and other organs. An experienced greyhound trainer has the expertise to recognize when a greyhound has been afflicted with one of these medical crises and knows the urgency in administering appropriate treatment.

Once the greyhound has left the racing environment and is lucky enough to be adopted, there are still numerous perils to which the dog may be exposed. One of the most common, yet least considered dangers, is that of over-exertion.

Well-meaning adopters want to give their greyhounds freedom to run and exercise, but it must be understood that unlike humans, dogs do not possess the ability to gauge their fitness and adjust their level of effort accordingly. **Retired racers, depending on how long they've been off the track and how compromised their physical health might be, are at serious risk for experiencing critical problems when allowed to over-exert themselves.**

Both hyperacute exertional rhabdomyolysis and heatstroke can kill a greyhound, particularly an unfit one. Physical effects can vary, but these two urgent conditions can show similar signs, including heavy panting; generalized muscle pain as evidenced by showing sensitivity to touch; muscle tremors; cardiac arrhythmia; a tendency to drag the hind legs or collapse; and extreme difficulty in changing position from standing to lying or vice versa. Treatment for both these maladies is basically the same, but the key is to administer it quickly.

Immediate, appropriate therapy is vital to the dog's recovery. The body temperature must be brought down as quickly as possible. Rapid cooling can be accomplished with hosing down the dog, applying cool wet towels over the body, and exposure to a fan or air conditioning in house or car. *Try to avoid producing a shivering response as this can create more heat in the body.*

Transport the dog to a veterinarian as soon as possible and be sure to inform the vet's office you are on the way with a dog in severe distress from apparent heatstroke. They can then prepare the necessary items for treatment.

The possibility of resulting bleeding disorders will require appropriate medications and, if available, frozen plasma. Not all vet's offices will have plasma, although an emergency vet clinic is more likely to have this on hand.

IV fluids should be administered as soon as possible to prevent the onset of shock and to aid in flushing the kidneys of harmful byproducts leaking from damaged muscles. In researching this article, it is evident there is some disagreement over what solution is best for the IV. Some veterinarians feel .9% sodium chloride (normal saline) is adequate,

while others feel it is prudent to use an electrolyte combination solution.

The effects of heatstroke or HER are not corrected in one day at the vet's office. In-patient care is necessary for proper treatment and recovery. Several weeks of rest at home may be required for convalescence. Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medication should help reduce muscle inflammation and subdue the pain. Antibiotics may be recommended by your veterinarian to prevent secondary infection.

Given the greyhound's purpose as a performance dog and the conditions under which they are trained, raced, confined, and transported, **it is safe to assume many racers have experienced one or more episodes of heat/exertional ailments. These dogs may then have a predisposition for future episodes of similar illnesses** and likely will have compromised kidneys and other organs. Consequently, great care should be taken to protect them from over-exertion and heat-related illness.

The following are some of the risk factors for heatstroke published in *The 5-minute Veterinary Consult* by Larry Tilley, DVM and Francis W.K. Smith, Jr., DVM: Previous history of heat-related disease; age extremes; heat intolerance due to poor acclimatization; obesity; poor cardiopulmonary conditioning; hyperthyroidism; underlying cardiopulmonary disease; dehydration.

Anecdotal reports from adopters whose greyhounds have experienced heat- or exertion-related episodes suggest that adopters need to be better informed of the dangers of allowing their retired racers free reign to run, particularly in hot, humid conditions. **Obese greyhounds will be especially susceptible to the effects of over-exertion.** Even on cold days, given the right conditions, a greyhound can collapse from over-exertion.

Extreme excitability in greyhounds, even while on a leash or in a fenced yard, can produce a combination of life-threatening factors which require immediate

intervention by at least cooling the dog down and eliminating the stimulus (think high-prey-drive greyhound on a leash as a rabbit runs by!).

People who report coming home to a dead or dying dog should take into consideration the environment when evaluating the cause. Broken air conditioners on hot days, lack of shade outdoors, excessive excitement or exertion (possibly running the fence line with another dog), absence of water to drink – these factors can kill a dog or take them to the brink of death. Hot, humid conditions are by far the most deadly.

The frequency with which adopters report greyhounds “dropped dead from a heart attack,” when no previous indications of heart problems existed, suggests that death by heatstroke or HER may not be so uncommon. Only necropsy can identify the likely cause of death.

Close supervision of retired racing greyhounds' exercise routines, particularly those new to their homes, should be recommended to all adopters. Greyhounds who appear to tire quickly, pant excessively, and/or appear to be reluctant to move after exercise, should be limited to mild or moderate exercise and then, only under supervision.

Close attention to heat and humidity in the environment is paramount in protecting a vulnerable greyhound from heatstroke or HER. **A conditioning program similar to that of a human athlete (gradual increase in intensity of workouts) should be implemented before allowing retired racers to engage in physical activities** which substantially increase heart rate and respiration.

Greyhounds lucky enough to have been placed in a loving adoptive home deserve to have more than food, shelter, and attention. Responsible guardianship of retired racers includes being armed with the knowledge to protect them from the hidden dangers that await these athletes once they leave the tracks and training farms. A few precautions and observations can save your greyhound's life.

Bandit's Last Summer

This story was contributed to GCNM News by Bill and Cherry Temple

By Cherry Temple

Bandit loved to run. He didn't seem to mind if it was only chasing a stick across the yard. He would use that as an opportunity to run circles around me or any hapless person or dog standing in the yard when he'd take off. I loved to watch him run from the far

end of the yard to the back deck when he'd race to me for a cookie.

I watched in awe when he joyfully raced along our fence line, with the neighbor pug running along on the other side, trying to keep up. Bandit would then

race into the house to lap up some water and flop down on the cool tile floor near where I sat at the computer. Boomer, our other dog, would be resting up so they could go out and run together.

Bandit was such a special dog. He had more personality than a lot of people I know.

I work from home and spend long hours on the computer. Bandit would get bored when I showed more attention to the computer than to him and his needs. He would walk up to me and head-butt my hands off the keyboard for a pat on the head and a few encouraging words. Then I would let him out to play.

That is what I remember most about that Friday. He came into the office wanting my attention and I let him out to play. The next time I looked out in the yard at him, I noticed he was panting heavily. I called him and he struggled up the stairs. Not realizing how elevated Bandit's temperature was, I did the worst thing at that moment; I brought him into the house instead of hosing him down first to help reduce his body heat.

I tried to cool him off with a wet towel then threw water on his head and face. He couldn't seem to get his breath – the panting was hard and deep. Then he lost his balance. When I could not get him up, I ran frantically to our neighbor for help.

We loaded Bandit in the car and I drove him to the local veterinary hospital. They met me at the car with a stretcher. Everyone had words of encouragement but when I went in and spoke with the veterinarian, he was very grim and not overly encouraging. He explained heatstroke to me. When their body temperature gets too high it puts stress on their lungs, kidneys, and liver. Dogs can overheat in only a few minutes. The longer the dog's temperature is over 107 degrees, the less likely it will recover. The dog will start to hemorrhage and will need plasma to replace the lost blood. If caught in time he could recover. This vet did not have plasma.



"Bandit"

In our effort to save Bandit, we drove him an hour and a half to an emergency veterinary hospital that had plasma. We waited while they hooked him up to an IV and the doctor and technicians started to work on him. We prayed that he would pull through right up until being told Bandit was having seizures and had fluid in his lungs making breathing difficult. We were told he would not survive.

I lost my steadfast companion on that awful Friday. I learned a lot that day. Too late to help my friend, but I hope our lesson will help save another greyhound or beloved pet.

Ed's note: Bandit was only four years old when he succumbed to the effects of heatstroke.

GCNM 11th Annual Greyhound Reunion: September 23, 2007

Mark the Date Now! (and please come!)



Relaxing at GCNM Reunion 2006

Sunday, September 23rd at **Bataan Memorial Park on Lomas in Albuquerque**. Located just west of Carlisle, this is a gorgeous setting where we mingle in the shade of giant trees and picnic on the luxurious grass. It's a blast for everyone and it's our biggest fundraiser of the year.

Over the years, GCNM has seen a substantial increase in the attendance at our annual reunion. Each year we see more people, more greyhounds, and more fun. Please join us this year on

Our silent auction and raffle have generated more funds for us than any other event. Grand prizes, like last year's three days and nights in San Diego (airfare and hotel included) appeal to anyone, not just greyhound lovers. Please come enjoy a day with the greyhounds. You don't have to have a greyhound to attend, but it helps if you love being around them!

Bring your lunch, a blanket, and water for your dog and get ready for a sight and experience you'll treasure forever! Our sponsors and donors of items for our raffle and silent auction have supported our cause for years and just like previous years, there'll be lots of free goodies. Every greyhound in attendance gets a goodie bag loaded with things you and your greyhounds will enjoy. Commemorative bandanas are given to every dog in attendance.

Please join us for this memorable event and help us honor the greyhounds who've made it into adoptive homes and the unfortunate ones who didn't. Help us help the greyhounds by purchasing raffle tickets and bidding on our outstanding items in the silent auction.

What you'll get in return is the satisfaction of knowing you made a difference for the greyhounds AND the possibility of winning a fabulous prize!

Volunteers and Greyhounds Needed for El Rancho de las Golondrinas Festival!

El Rancho de las Golondrinas is having their **Spring Festival and Animal Fair** on **Saturday, June 2nd** and **Sunday, June 3rd** from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (morning volunteers should arrive at 9:30). GCNM has been selected to participate in the special event on both days.

The event is a live historical representation of life on a Spanish Colonial ranch. Lots of fun demonstrations as well as music, dancing, arts and crafts, and various animal exhibits, including, of course, GREYHOUNDS!

Why greyhounds to commemorate Spanish Colonial times? It is a little-known fact that greyhounds were the first dogs brought to the new world by the Conquistadors. They kept them as hunters and pets, and as the Spanish Colonial farms and villages sprung up, greyhounds became an integral part of these early communities.

Please volunteer to bring your greyhound(s) to celebrate and to introduce them to the many people

who come to this event. GCNM will have a choice exhibit spot under a portal on the Las Golondrinas Plaza. We'll be near the outdoor restaurant, restrooms, and idyllic walking paths. We are invited to stroll along the paths with our greyhounds and to mingle with the patrons.

This is a wonderful event for GCNM to impart our message about the plight of the greyhound and what great companions they are. To volunteer, call **Kathy Pallis** at 505-466-4481 or **Pearl Pinkerton** at 505-984-3060. The village of Las Golondrinas is located just south of Santa Fe, off I-25.

Even if you don't volunteer, please consider coming to this wonderful event. Visit their website at www.golondrinas.org for more details on the Spring Festival and other activities.



Archbishop Sheehan with Pat Getz and Greyhounds at the 2006 Spring Festival

Volunteers and Greyhounds Needed for Talking Talons Wildfest

GCNM has been invited to participate in the **Talking Talons WILDFEST** community education day at **Roosevelt Middle School** on **July 21st**. Talking Talons is a youth development organization dedicated to transforming children and youth into tomorrow's environmental leaders.

Wildfest is a wonderful opportunity for the community to learn about animal rescue groups and their volunteer opportunities, see wildlife, see ecology demonstrations, get ENERGY saving tips/strategies, see jugglers and musicians, eat good food, and have lots of fun! All this and more in the beautiful mountain setting of Tijeras, NM.

Please visit the Talking Talons website for more information on this worthwhile organization: www.talkingtalons.com/home.html.

Call **Cara Balestrieri** (250-5538) if you'd like to volunteer on this festive day.



Volunteers and Greyhounds Needed for Pawsitive Pet Fair

Another event in the bucolic east mountain village of Tijeras will give our volunteers an opportunity to show off their greyhounds and tell the public about their plight. It's a day of celebration for dogs and the people who love them. The event runs from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. at **Roosevelt Middle School** on **Saturday, May 19th**.

Please call **Cara Balestrieri** to volunteer – 250-5538 - or email her at cara_balestrieri@yahoo.com.

Bring an item for the "look what I chewed" display of "personalized" pet items, too!



Are We Lucky, or What?

Our mission of protecting greyhounds has attracted a lot of attention over the years. Individuals and even large corporations have recognized our cause as a worthy one and

want to help us realize our goal of becoming the most effective non-profit we can be.

University of New Mexico's Anderson Schools of Management Masters of Business Administration program has chosen **Greyhound Companions of New Mexico** for a project this spring. From a list of animal-oriented non-profit organizations, GCNM has been chosen to benefit from the expertise and professional support of the program.

Travis Brock, Christina Brown, and Kevin Rogers are the three MBA students who will be working with GCNM as part of their Non-Profit Management class. They were assigned with contacting non-profits of their choice, completing a project that met the needs of the organization, and presenting their project to their class.

The student group chose GCNM because of their quality as an organization, proposed projects, and "quick and thoughtful responses." The MBA students will be working on a project to assist GCNM in managing growth and becoming more successful.

Christina graduated from the **University of New Mexico** with a Bachelor in Business Administration in Human Resources in December of 2006 and is currently pursuing a Masters degree in Policy and

Planning. She has an extensive history in retail sales and accounting and has assisted many non-profit groups in New Mexico with fundraising, increasing awareness, organizing promotions, and writing newsletters. Christina has also worked with small businesses within New Mexico to develop successful marketing strategies and improve operations management. She is an avid animal advocate.

A career broadcaster of 24 years, Kevin Rogers has served as an On-Air Radio Personality since age seventeen, holds a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering, and has served as Technical Operation Manager for broadcast properties valued to \$125M in **Dallas and Houston, Texas**. A member of UNM's Anderson Schools of Management 2005-2007 Executive MBA program, Rogers has adopted dogs from two Albuquerque rescue organizations, igniting a passion for finding 'a forever home' for all animals in distress.

Travis has more than five years of marketing, communications, and research experience, mostly in the higher education arena. He has developed and managed research projects for colleges and universities from around North America. He graduated from the University of New Mexico with a Bachelor of Business Administration in Marketing. Travis has also worked in a leadership capacity in customer service, creative development, and research in a variety of industries including merchandising, physical education instruction, school-age care, and food service. He is pursuing an MBA in Policy and Planning.

Watch for Our New Website

We'll have a whole new look to our website soon, thanks to **Juliana Farresta**. Juli has volunteered her services to redesign our already snazzy, but somewhat outdated site. Watch for your dog's picture

– we're using photos that have been sent to us for previous calendar submissions and newsletters. Visit www.gcnm.org and watch the changes!

Speaking of Photos – Submit Yours Now!

Our **Greyhound Companions of New Mexico Calendar** is gearing up for production again, but we can't do it without your photographs. Please send in your submissions for consideration. Send as many as you'd like. Seasonal photos are always a hit, but anything with greyhounds is all we need. Please get them to us by August 1, 2007, for the 2008 calendar. Photo requirements (no slides, please):

- High-resolution digital or clear print photos

- Professional photos qualify, but you need the photographer's permission to publish the photo
- Include a caption for the photo(s) as well as the dog's name, your name, mailing address, phone number, and e-mail address
- E-mail digital photos to calendar@gcnm.org
- Snail-mail prints and/or CDs with digital pictures to GCNM, P. O. Box 22053, Albuquerque, NM 87154-2053.

Volunteer Spotlight: Del Lindsay

Our volunteers are the backbone of this organization. Fortunately, through the years, we've attracted a large group of dedicated people eager to share our goal of helping greyhounds. Many of our volunteers have been with us since the inception of GCNM in 1992. **Del Lindsay** would've hopped on board that year, had he known about us, but 1993 would be the year of the greyhound for Del!

GCNM was participating in a citywide event at the Albuquerque Convention Center in 1993. Del strolled through the various displays and was drawn to a group of greyhounds that had caught the eyes of everyone in attendance. Being an avid animal lover himself, Del stepped up to pet the dogs and admire their calm and regal demeanor. At the time, Del had a cat and a Cocker spaniel at home.

After only a few minutes that day, Del was hopelessly drawn to the gentle nature of the retired racers and decided that would be the next addition to his family. Within days, Del had submitted his application and been approved by the GCNM screening committee to adopt a seven-year-old beauty named **Millie**. Having no reservations about Millie's age, Del welcomed her into his home to begin the process of adjusting to the cushy life she would soon take for granted.

As Del became part of the GCNM family, we marveled at his background and its inconsistency with the emotions Del would show when hearing of animal abuse or neglect. After all, he had been a member of the Secret Service as a Special Agent. It was a hard image to conjure up: Del in sunglasses, talking covertly into his shirt cuff, at the ready for any perceived threat to his charge. As threatening as he must've been, with his imposing 6'4" frame, I still had trouble reconciling this image with what I'd come to know as one of the most sensitive, caring individuals I'd ever met.

Retiring after suffering a broken back in the line of duty, Del was hired by the U.S. Department of Energy in the Nuclear Weapons department, where he stayed until his retirement in 2004. By then, he'd been volunteering with GCNM over 10 years.

Del always aspired to become active in the animal welfare community. His ambition is now being realized as he spends much of his time transporting and fostering greyhounds, and organizing adoption information clinics at various locations throughout the Albuquerque area.

On days when he isn't helping GCNM, he can usually be found doing some other animal-related activity, such as being a Reserve Animal Control Officer for the Albuquerque Animal Care Center. This volunteer position with the city is not a pleasant job, but Del's commitment to animals transcends his personal comfort barrier.

Cruising the streets of Albuquerque, Del and the Animal Control Officer in charge answer animal cruelty calls and watch for indications of abuse and neglect. Hauling in stray animals and rescuing the wounded and frail, Del sees his share of depressing sights in this thankless job.

His reward is coming home to his houseful of happy greyhound faces and wagging tails.

Taking on any assignment necessary to facilitate the rescue and placement of greyhounds is Del's main mission. In his words, "The most rewarding and enjoyable thing, bar none, that I've ever done is to have adopted greyhounds and help their plight by being a member of GCNM. For as long as I am able to care for them, I'll always have a couple or more greyhounds."

Thanks for your commitment to the greyhounds and your undying support of GCNM, Del!



Del Lindsay with His Greyhounds

Want to Volunteer to Help the Greyhounds?

Call **Cara Balestrieri** if you'd like to join our family of volunteers. Many opportunities now and lots more in the future.

Call Cara today and get your name on our list. Cara can be reached at 250-5538 or email cara_balestrieri@yahoo.com.

Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine Takes Aim at Greyhound Welfare Advocates

By **Judy K. Paulsen, Founder**

Greyhound Companions of New Mexico

Last year I wrote a letter to the editor of **Celebrating Greyhounds (CG) Magazine** regarding their increasing number of articles promoting **Greyhound Pets of America (GPA)**, the adoption group which promotes greyhound racing. Rather than publishing my letter in their "CG Readers Speak Out" column, editor **Cindy Hanson** lashed out at myself and two other greyhound welfare advocates in their most recent issue by publishing a scathing editorial. What triggered this is anyone's guess, but considering the tone of the editorial which essentially demonizes greyhound welfare advocates, one must wonder what's going on here.

It's no secret to anyone who can read, that CG Magazine has an agenda which promotes the national greyhound adoption group with ties to the racing industry, Greyhound Pets of America. Clearly, CG Magazine has become yet another marketing tool for the greyhound racing industry.

Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine and GPA have apparently been collaborating for years. Hoping to take the spotlight off their connection with the dog racing industry, their method is one commonly used in manipulative advertising and other schemes – *distract and redirect*.

Ignoring the fact that thousands of greyhounds will die through the years as race tracks struggle to stay solvent and continue breeding a surplus of racers, CG and GPA have been accusing greyhound advocates for complicating matters by wanting to prevent suffering of the dogs.

Some of our readers subscribe to CG Magazine, but many have cancelled their subscriptions in a show of support for the welfare of the racing greyhound, which can only be served by those determined to break the silence about the abuses inherent in greyhound racing.

Shamelessly, GPA groups encourage their members to attend dog races by hosting their annual get-togethers at dog tracks and various other racing facilities. This year's national GPA meeting is being sponsored by three dog tracks.

How can these people, in good conscience, solicit money from greyhound adopters who are unknowingly supporting their pro-racing activities? My guess is that if there were full disclosure of GPA and CG Magazine agendas, they would have considerably fewer supporters/subscribers.

As they continue their crusade to mislead the public about their connections with the racing industry, they get increasingly more creative with their methods. Most recently, CG Magazine glorifies **Rory Goree**, President of GPA, who claims to have risked his life rescuing greyhounds from Juarez.

This inexcusable charade has got to stop. Glossy photos and cute stories appeal to the masses until they grasp the significance of a publication whose purpose is to subliminally promote racing.

In the meantime, those of us who commit ourselves to protecting greyhounds will undoubtedly be targets for continued attacks from those who are protecting the image of racing instead of its victims.





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**If you want to help the Greyhounds,
send donations to:**

GCNM
P.O. Box 22053
Albuquerque, NM 87154

Remember, no donation is too small!

Inside This Issue

Spirit's Story	1
Heatstroke in Greyhounds	5
2007 GCNM Reunion	7
Fun Events for Volunteers	8
Volunteer Spotlight: Del Lindsay	10
Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine Sinks to New Low	11