

# Greyhound Gazette

A quarterly publication for greyhound owners and other dog lovers

Dec. 1, 2009 – Issue 4



## Announces – the winner of the 2009 Holiday Hounds Photo Contest

Thank you for all your wonderful submissions.

The Gazette volunteers had a wonderful time judging the photos. It was a tough decision, but in the end Jayne Field & her Greydeer Fudge took the win.



*Fudge & Jayne*

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Who we are:  
The Gazette Committee

Les Arany  
Melanie Begin  
Heather Bourdon  
Carol Harkness  
Frank Shaffer

### *The Greyhound Supporters is proud to introduce the new arrivals*



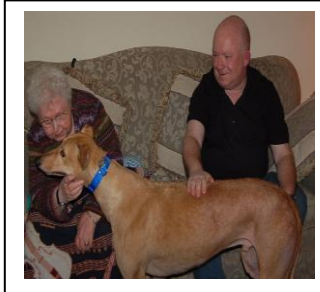
#### *Astro – aka - **Flying Linden***

Meet Astro, probably the only greyhound ever described as **SPROINGY**. And true to form, he sprang right into the hearts and home of his new family, Nicki and Tim. Despite all of his energy, Astro is a loving and friendly hound that just loves to cuddle..



#### *Tucker – aka - **PA's Noah***

This tall handsome boy with the dark mask is Tucker. Tucker is usually a little bit shy, but when he met his new mom and dad, his shyness evaporated. We all knew it was meant to be when he leaned up against Julia and then tucked his head and leaned into Tim's chest.. Tucker shares his new home with a 12 year old kitty who still is not too pleased with the new addition



#### *Ziggy – aka - **Rogue Barzini***

Mike and his mom Kathleen are proud to announce the arrival of their new boy Ziggy, who waited a year at the adoption kennel for just the right family to call his own. According to Kathleen, Ziggy is absolutely "perfect". According to Ziggy, his new family and home are just "perfect" too! Ziggy shares his new home with a Cockatoo named Toby.



#### *Cassie – aka – **Che Mar Cassini***

Cassie adopted us (Andy & Heather Bourdon) while visiting the kennel on Nov. 28<sup>th</sup>. She wasn't able to come home with us that day so on Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> we are returning with Solli and Meeka to pick up our new little girl and bring her home.

*We* would also like to welcome the 7 new hounds just arrived in Ottawa from Orlando. Congratulations to Tina and Walter Noble, Tracy Thompson, Christine Flammer and to those we have yet to meet.

# Planet Day- Jayne Field

The GSNCR would like to thank all those who came to support our 5th annual Greyhound Planet Day, held on Saturday, November 14.

Again this year, a wide variety of activities were offered, including raffles, contests, a bake sale, dog massages, nail clipping and painting, a blessing of the hounds, and of course, shopping. A number of vendors were on hand, offering a wide range of wares for both people and pets.



**Information Boards**

You could also check out the various information boards to learn about greyhounds and their adoption, aging in dogs, tick born disease, *and much more.*



**Raffle Table**

Those of us who have lost a beloved pet were able to light a candle in their memory at the Rainbow Bridge Memorial.

The Rogers Community Cruiser supplied coffee and Timbits and for those looking for more sustenance, our own kitchen offerings included hot dogs and cold drinks.



**Rooster & Fudge**



**Photo Contest**



**Vendor Booth**



**T-Leggs (Mtl) and Hounds-R-Us  
setting up for the day**



**Ruth Fox with son Andrew at the Bake  
Sale Table**

All in all, it was a day full of puppies, prizes, and purchases. Through the generous support of all those who have joined us over the years, GSNCR has been able to support a number of worthy causes, including research into canine cancer and tick borne diseases, and senior dog adoption. This year, the monies raised will be used to support GSNCR's efforts to find new forever homes for greyhounds. Don't forget to join us again next year!!!

# Health & Wellness

## Laryngeal Paralysis – Miki Shibata



To understand laryngeal paralysis, it is important to first understand some basic anatomy and function of the larynx. The larynx is commonly referred to as the "voice box", and is located in the throat. Not only is the larynx where sound comes from, but it also acts as a cap to the airway. The larynx closes the respiratory tract off when we swallow (while eating or drinking) so that food is not inhaled. The larynx expands and opens when we are breathing, and can be opened extra wide if we need to take a deep breath.

Laryngeal paralysis happens when there is malfunction of certain nerves that control the muscles of the larynx. This means that the larynx can no longer expand and open up to allow deep breathing, and the laryngeal folds hang weakly in the back of the throat resulting in a smaller opening to breath through. Laryngeal paralysis can be unilateral (affecting only 1 side of the larynx) or bilateral (affecting both sides). To understand how a dog with laryngeal paralysis feels, imagine if you were forced to breathe through a straw. This may be fine as long as you were relaxed and at rest, but imagine how things would change if you were running around the block and needed more oxygen than you could get through your straw. If you needed big deep breaths and were unable to take them, you would probably feel a great deal of anxiety. Anxiety leads to more rapid breathing and distress - a vicious cycle. The other problem with laryngeal paralysis is incomplete protection of the airway when swallowing, allowing inhalation of food/liquids.

Animals affected with laryngeal paralysis have a reduced tolerance for stress, exercise, and heat, and in severe cases this may lead to a fatal respiratory crisis.

### CAUSES

In the majority of cases the cause of laryngeal paralysis is unknown, though it can sometimes occur secondary to hypothyroidism, neuromuscular diseases, cancer, or trauma. While it can occur in any dog, it is most commonly seen in middle aged to older large and giant breed dogs. There is also a hereditary form of laryngeal paralysis which occurs in certain breeds that will show up before 1 year of age.

### SYMPTOMS

Symptoms of laryngeal paralysis include a change in voice, gagging and coughing especially after eating or drinking, noisy breathing, excessive panting, heat and exercise intolerance, and in severe cases cyanosis (blue tinged tongue and gums which indicates inadequate oxygen levels in the blood), and syncope (fainting). Laryngeal paralysis can also result in aspiration pneumonia or an acute respiratory crisis, both of which can be fatal.

### DIAGNOSIS

To diagnose laryngeal paralysis, it is necessary to directly visualize the laryngeal folds as an animal breathes. This is usually done by lightly sedating the pet and then looking down the back of the throat with a laryngoscope. In a normal larynx, the arytenoid cartilages are seen to open and close widely as the animal breathes. In a paralyzed larynx, one or both of these cartilages just hang limply in the back of the throat.

A newer technique to visualize the larynx involves passing an endoscope down the nostril, though this does require specialized equipment.

Additional testing may include radiographs to rule out aspiration pneumonia, megaesophagus (which complicates a laryngeal paralysis case), and cancer. Complete blood work including thyroid levels is also recommended.

### TREATMENT

Many dogs with mild laryngeal paralysis respond well to environmental and medical management. Affected dogs should be kept relatively calm and should have limited exercise. It is best to avoid the summer heat and to switch to a harness rather than a collar to reduce any pressure on the neck. Weight loss can be very beneficial as symptoms are more severe in obese pets. Medications that may be used include mild sedatives, corticosteroids to reduce swelling and inflammation in the throat, and bronchodilators to open up the airways.

## ***Laryngeal Paralysis- cont'd.***

Many dogs with this condition may have a sudden respiratory crisis often associated with heat, stress, or exercise. In this situation, the laryngeal folds become swollen making the obstruction of the throat worse and creating a vicious cycle of anxiety and respiratory attempts. These dogs must be sedated, stabilized with oxygen therapy and medications, cooled down with water, and sometimes require intubation or a tracheotomy.

Aspiration pneumonia is another common complication associated with laryngeal paralysis. Pneumonia is always potentially life threatening, and aspiration pneumonia is especially difficult to cure due to the large contaminated food particles in the lungs. Antibiotics, fluid therapy, and physical therapy may all be included in the treatment of this condition

Severely affected animals will often benefit from surgery. While there are a number of different surgical procedures that can be performed, the most common is unilateral arytenoid lateralization, otherwise known as a "laryngeal tieback". This surgery consists of suturing only one of the arytenoid cartilages in a maximally open position (like tying back a curtain). This allows more normal breathing and will reduce the signs of exercise and heat intolerance, but unfortunately this surgery may increase the risk of aspiration of food/liquids into the lungs in the future. It is important to note that this surgery will cause a permanent "hoarse" bark and some dogs will have a persistent cough after surgery. Afterward, these patients still need to be managed in the same way as those with mild cases of laryngeal paralysis.

## ***In Memoriam – for the Greyhounds lost in 2009***

### **Abbey "Northern Abbey"**

Dec. 28th, 2008

Loved by Paula Piilonen

### **Taze "Twilight Taze"**

Jan. 5<sup>th</sup>, 2009

Loved by Monica McGrath, missed by "Katy"

### **Magic "Black O Matic"**

Jan. 5<sup>th</sup>, 2009

Loved by Deb Riordon-Bean

### **Jennifer "BD's Jennifer"**

June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2009

Loved by Traci and Jessica Thompson

### **Comanche "Comanche Pluto"**

June, 2009

Loved by Allan McIntosh and Nahinni Frey, missed by "Baz"

### **Tommy "Brooke's Tommy"**

June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009

Loved by Heather and Andy Bourdon, missed by "Solli" and "Meeka"

### **Joey "Imokie Chipper"**

June 30th, 2009

Loved by Vikki, Les, Avi and Jilli Arany, missed by "Sadie"

### **Sully "TH Springer"**

July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2009

Loved by Tina, Walter, Cory and Holly Noble

### **Cyah "Purple Polkadot"**

Aug. 8<sup>th</sup>, 2009

Loved by Tina Kelly and Eric Sellka, missed by "Booker," "Sahara" and "Ducati"

### **Gentle "Gentle Bob Kail"**

Aug. 11<sup>th</sup>, 2009

Loved by Cathy, Abbey and Roy Simons

### **Sara "Blazing Sara"**

Aug. 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009

Loved by Bruce, Locrin and Janet Stewart, missed by "Nitro"

### **Harry "Hey Harry"**

Oct. 7<sup>th</sup>, 2009

Loved by Carol, Court, Sarah and Larissa Harkness, missed by "Cleo"

### **Dime "ICU Dime Time"**

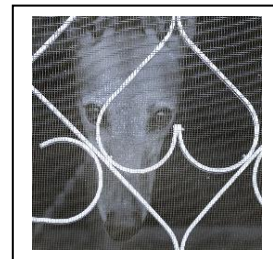
Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>, 2009

Loved by Jackie Genaille and Scott Galliford, missed by "Duncan" and "Dax"

***They filled our lives and hearts and are now running free***

## *Sue Bird Photography our Vendor Spotlight*

*A*ward winning animal Lifestyle Photographer Sue Bird started her career in photography with a Degree from Carleton University and a Diploma in photojournalism from Loyalist college. After 10 years as a newspaper photographer, Sue decided to stay home with her two young girls and start her own photography business catering to a market that was not being tended too. Suzanne heard numerous times that photographers were not willing to work with dogs or had no patience with dogs. At the same time, Sue and her husband Adam had lost one of their best furry friends to brain cancer at the age of 14. Lucky dog was a beautiful smart collie cross rescue that truly had the personality of a wise old maid.



At the time of Lucky's death, Sue found comfort in all the great moments in photos they had of her, it occurred to Sue that there was a need for someone to offer people the great gift of having beautiful photographs that capture the bond between dogs and their owners. There was a need to honor these vibrant personalities hidden behind all this fur! With this she started her market research and connected with local dog businesses and slowly grew her services through word of mouth.

While building her business as an animal lifestyle photographer, Suzanne was drawn to the connection that exists between retired racers and their owners. The bond, commitment and loyalty that Greyhound owners have is beyond just a regular dog rescue, it is true devotion and fully encompasses an incredible relationship with this elegant breed and community. Some of her most beloved images are of Greyhounds and their owners and images from Greyhounds Reach the Beach in Delaware USA. Her images have captured the attention of Ottawa's leading holistic Veterinarian Dr. Eddie Beltran and was featured on CJOH's Regional Contact in 2006.

Some of Sue's work can be seen monthly in Dogs in Canada magazine as well as Dogs in Canada's 2010 Annual, due to hit the stands mid November. Suzanne is available for sessions at your home or at her new home Dog studio in Carp. Sue supports many local rescues and charities, keep posted to her blog to find out about upcoming events she will be photographing at. For more information visit [www.photobysuebird.com](http://www.photobysuebird.com) | call 613 296 4658 | studio at 613 836 2807 or email sue

at [birdpix@sympatico.ca](mailto:birdpix@sympatico.ca)

Suzanne Bird

Urban Dog Photog

## *Healthy Hound Treats – by Mel Begin*

Kelp 'N Cheese Biscuits

1 cup rolled oats

1/3 cup margarine

1 cup boiling water

3/4 cup cornmeal

1 tablespoon sugar

1 instant bouillon cube (chicken or beef)

3/4 cup milk

1 cup shredded cheddar cheese

1 egg, beaten

1/2 cup of kelp (available through GSNCR)

2 – 3 cups whole wheat flour

Preheat oven to 325 degrees

Grease cookie sheets with shortening

In a large bowl, combine rolled oats, margarine, bouillon cube and boiling water; let stand for 10 minutes. Stir in cornmeal, sugar, milk, cheese and egg; mix well. Add kelp and mix well. Add flour 1 cup at a time, mixing well after each addition to form a stiff dough.

On a floured surface, knead in remaining flour until dough is smooth and no longer sticky. Roll or pat out dough to 1/2 - 3/4 inch thickness, cut with cookie cutter. Place cookies 1 inch apart on greased cookie sheet. Bake at 325 for 35 to 45 minutes or until golden brown. Cool completely. Store loosely covered.

Freeze leftover treats in airtight container. Remove from freezer 1 dozen at a time ensuring they are not left out for more than 1 week on the counter or 2 weeks in the fridge.

## *Chilly Dogs Apparel - is this issues Product Review by Melanie Begin*

Greyhounds, due to their low body fat, can have trouble staying warm through cold Canadian winters. Since many of our retired racers hail from hot or temperate climates like Florida and the Southern states, they aren't used to the chill that we experience for half of every year. Because our weather is so extreme, greyhounds appreciate being covered up in the cold and wet weather. Doggy jackets fit the bill, but choosing from the many manufacturers can be a bit intimidating.

If you're shopping for a high quality garment for your dog that you can expect to last more than one season and look great while doing it, steer your cart towards Ottawa's Chilly Dogs. This locally based dog gear business understands the needs of greyhounds and makes long and lean coats that fit their distinctive frames. The coats are of the highest quality – better than some jackets I've owned – and their construction is durable enough to withstand years of wear. They are priced reasonably for the peace of mind you get from knowing that your pup is protected from the perils of our climate, and the *Julie Kelly (owner & designer)* is very friendly and professional should you desire some alterations or aftercare.

## *Toe Nail Clipping Clinics – West End – Heather Bourdon*

Our groomer, Pat Swabey came to my house in January to clip my three greyhounds nails and during the visit suggested I invite a few people over with their hounds and she would groom all at the same time. After some thought it was decided to run this program through GSNCR thus keeping all greyhound related programs under one umbrella. So the birth of the Nail Clinics began. The first one was held in February. We now have a nail clinic monthly in Barrhaven with an average of 18 hounds at each one. The humans and the hounds both love to socialize and exchange info about caring for their greys. These clinics have been so successful we have expanded to the east end. Here are a few pictures from the various clinics.



Pat working hard



Pat with her Assistant Carol



Sadie waiting for her turn with mom Vikki



Pebbles being comforted by Carol

Relaxing later



Relaxing with friends & hounds



Dash relaxing with Carol



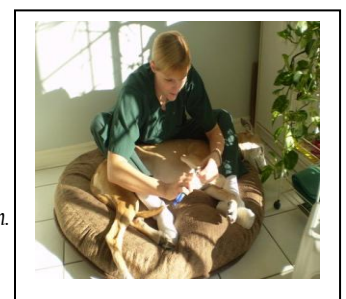
Waiting patiently for their treats



Evan being fitted for a muzzle

## *Toe Nail Clipping Clinics – East End – Marie Benak*

The East-End Clipping Clinic was a Greyt success! Anne, an apparent dog whisperer, used her gentle and professional clipping technique to bring even the most raucous of our four-legged boys and girls to pedicure perfection (some even falling asleep for the duration!). With seven hounds in my little town-house, there were moments of wanting to race and exchanging their own news, but in the end they all tried to sneak back to Anne for more pampering. The humans in the house also enjoyed the chat-time and had a Greyt afternoon. Everyone is looking forward to the next pedi-pooch session!



For dates and times for the clinics, please check the Grevken website [www.grevken.com](http://www.grevken.com)

## *Winterize your Greyhound – Les Arany*

Greyhounds have little to no body fat. Nice, but rather uncomfortable once the weather turns cold. The good news is that your hound will let you know when it is time to put some warm clothing on. Just watch as they curl up into a ball with feet underneath and nose tucked in.

The even better news is that there are many products on the market that can make life bearable, even pleasant, for your hound no matter the double digit minus temperatures and snow. After all, they do have to go outside even if for short periods, at least a couple of times a day.

When it is time for the human to wear warm clothing, it is time to dress the greyhounds as well. Available products range from sweaters, light and heavy coats to boots, hats and ear and neck warmers. Footwear is of particular importance, as greyhounds feet are sensitive to salt and other debris.

Finally, remember pyjamas and a blanket for your hound for the night. Old sweatshirt tops work very well, as do custom made PJs. As for blankets, anything will do as long as it is warm. [www.hounds-r-us.ca](http://www.hounds-r-us.ca)

Visit previous issues of the Greyhound Gazette for sources of information on the various products available for your best friend. [www.chillydog.ca](http://www.chillydog.ca)

Good luck, happy winter and warm hounds.

## *A Fundraising Opportunity*

The Greyhound Supporters is working with Jackie Genaille of Avon on a special fundraiser – just in time for Christmas.

Avon is offering a boxed set of four glass Angel Christmas Ornaments for \$10.00/box (including tax) of which 45% goes to the Greyhound Supporters. Each Angel ornament in the boxed set is unique. Not only can these angels be used as Christmas tree ornaments, they can also be used as place card holders to decorate your table during the holiday season. The boxed set comes with 8 placecards for that purpose.

You can order your Angels in advance by contacting Jackie a [www.genaille@3web.com](mailto:www.genaille@3web.com).

## *Upcoming Events*

Dec. 5, 2009 - Christmas Craft Sale @ 3 Sage Crescent, Barrhaven. (Laura Simmermon)

Dec. 13, 2009 – Toe Nail Clinic – West. For dates and times for the clinics, please check the Greyhound Supporters' website: [www.gsncr.ca](http://www.gsncr.ca)

Dec. 19, 2009 – Toe Nail Clinic – East. For dates and times for the clinics, please check the Greyhound Supporters' website: [www.gsncr.ca](http://www.gsncr.ca)

Jan. 24, 2010 – Drop-in Social @ WAG, Bank and Sunnyside 10:30 to 12:30

## *Greyhound Moments by Les Arani*

Sadie is a white dog, sporting random black spots and polka dots in no particular order, logic, or pattern. One day while a friend was walking her in the neighbourhood, some wise guy wanted to know, "Who painted that dog?"

*The Gazette Committee* encourages readers to share this newsletter with dog lovers of all kinds.

The next edition of the Gazette is scheduled for March 1, 2010. If you have any suggestions for articles or would like to submit one please send it to [solligrey@rogers.com](mailto:solligrey@rogers.com) before February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010.

Enjoy

Your Gazette team.

FROM ALL OF US  
TO ALL OF YOU



HAVE A VERY HAPPY & SAFE HOLIDAY