



Greymatters

Greyhound Pets of Atlantic Canada's Information Source

Hailey and Cody enjoy a nap



Photo by Charlene

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Editors Note

This is officially the December issue of Greymatters, however, I may put together a special Christmas issue if there is interest. If you have any Christmas related information, stories, pictures, etc. please send them to me by December 16. Refer to pg. 12 for further information.

I would personally like to send out my condolences to Sandra Tarrant, Joe Chase and Family who's greyhound Guinness passed away in November. Many will remember Guinness as the "wooly" greyhound. Those who say Greyhounds don't shed much never met Guinness. Also to Vicky Taylor-Hood & Family who recently lost Melba to Cancer. See page 3 for more.

Every once and a while I'd like let everyone know the process that is involved in the making of Greymatters. As the volunteer Editor, I research and write many of the articles, gather all submitted contributions and do the layout. I even make the ads when required. It then gets passed along to Carol Wood in NS as an Adobe PDF file and she puts it up on the GPAC website for all to see and download. By-the-Way THANKS Carol. Want to know the source of an article? Look for a name at the bottom of the article for who submitted it. I am pretty good at remembering the names of the submitted stuff but sometimes forget to add my name. If there is no name assume it is from me. If I do retrieve information from the internet I will note the site used. We try hard to give credit and attribution for all material we publish. Finally, a professional newspaper editor reviews the newsletter before I send it.

Please send any questions or concerns to the address noted on page 11.

Sue Locke

Gift Wrapping with a Puppy

1. Gather presents, boxes, paper, etc. in middle of living room floor.
2. Get tape back from puppy.
3. Remove scissors from older dog's mouth.
4. Open box.
5. Take puppy out of box.
6. Remove tape from older dog's mouth.
7. Take scissors away from puppy.
8. Put present in box.
9. Remove present from puppy's mouth.
10. Put back in box after removing puppy from box.
11. Take scissors from older dog & sit on them.
12. Remove puppy from box & put on lid.
13. Take tape away from older dog.
14. Unroll paper.
15. Take puppy OFF box.
16. Cut paper being careful not to cut puppy's foot or nose that is getting the way as she "helps".
17. Let puppy tear paper remaining to be cut.
18. Take puppy off box.
19. Wrap paper around box.
20. Remove puppy from box & take wrapping paper from her mouth.
21. Tell older dog to hold tape so he will stop stealing it.
22. Take scissors away from puppy.
23. Take tape older dog is holding.
24. Quickly tape one spot before taking scissors from older dog & sitting on them again.
25. Fend off puppy trying to steal tape & tape another spot.
26. Take bow from older dog.
27. Go get roll of wrapping paper puppy ran off with.
28. Take scissors from older dog who took them when you got up.
29. Give pen to older dog to hold so he stops licking your face.
30. Remove puppy from present & hurriedly slap tape on to hold the paper on.

Cont'd on pg.7

Advertise in Greymatters

Advertise in Greymatters and reach your target market. We have hundreds of viewers every month all across Atlantic Canada and beyond.

Please send ads to greymatters@straylight.ca and forward cheques to Greyhound Pets of Atlantic Canada, PO Box 38203 Dartmouth, NS B3B 1X2

\$10.00 - ¼ page ad
\$15.00 _ banner ad
(across the top or
bottom of a page)
\$20.00 - ½ page ad
\$35.00 - full page ad

Photo by Greg Locke



The Rainbow Bridge

In memory of our greyhounds

Guinness

On November 12 at 10.05 am Guinness made his way across Rainbow Bridge. He started losing weight around August then he was holding his own, not losing any more but not gaining it back. On Friday he took a turn for the worst and by Saturday morning he was gone. His blood was tested three times his stool was tested everything that could be done was done but we couldn't find out what was bothering him. Last week he seemed to make a turn for the better he had a spring in his step and sparkle in his eye maybe it was just his last effort.

Guinness was without a doubt the furriest Greyhound around so much so that we had him sheared in June just to keep him cool. I remember when we first got him we were down at Peter Barry Duff ball park and Kenny said, "Are you sure he's a greyhound he looks more like a wolf." He never needed a coat, he would love to roll around in the snow. The only thing that bothered him was his feet because his pads were so furry they would ice up.



Photo by Joe Chase

He certainly was the boss in our house even though Duke was much bigger and younger than Guinness he was the boss and he always carried himself in that manner. Just don't bug me and you'll be alright, bug me and you'll pay the price.

His buddy was Ruddy when Ruddy would go somewhere without Guinness he would pace and watch the front window waiting for Ruddy to come home. Now that Guinness is gone it's Duke who's looking for Guinness.

One day we were walking down the road and our neighbour stopped and we were talking she said, "It's always hard to have your pet put down but these guys will be that much harder." Truer words were never spoken. I have had dogs and cats all my life and had to have this done before but this was by far the hardest. He had the kindest eyes I have ever looked into.

For three years Guinness never missed a Meet and Greet and he also did a great many home visits where he was always a good ambassador for these fine dogs. So for all those he touched in some small way he says good bye. He will greatly missed by Ruddy, Duke, Jason and Laura, but he will be missed most by Sandra and me. ... *Joe Chase*

Melba



submitted photo

On Friday, a sunny, crisp day, our greyhound Melba made her trip to the Rainbow Bridge. It's taken me a few days to pull myself together enough to write this and, truth to tell, I'm not doing much better now than I was then. While I have no regrets about our part in Melba's life and its ending, I still miss her horribly. Knowing that it was probably best for her is only a small consolation. She was almost twelve and her cancer had spread to her internal organs. Until Friday, she was happy. There were, of course, drawbacks to her last months. She was old, and had arthritis. She had become incontinent and I think this bothered her quite a bit. She was a fastidious dog, precise in her habits and actions, so difficulty in moving and incontinence bothered her as much as they would any of us. She was still bouncy, though, and the mild pain-killers enabled her to follow me from room to room as my shadow throughout the day.

On Friday, I went out for the morning and left her on her bed in the kitchen, with Wikket for company. She had had a bounce around with the other dogs and seemed in good spirits. When I came home at lunchtime, she couldn't get up, wouldn't eat anything (even apple, which she adored) and was quite evidently in considerable pain. A trip to the vet revealed that there was no real decision to make. Opiates might ease her pain, but to what end? She had been happy up until that morning and, by the vet's assessment, had only increased pain and misery to look forward to as her organs failed. The last gift we gave her was oblivion and a release from that pain. Melba slipped gently out of the world at sunset, about two weeks before her twelfth birthday.

There's a part of me that is still angry at the parts of the world that failed Melba. She was a retired racer from the U.S., during which she was effectively treated as livestock. Her career ended with a broken leg that healed badly, causing her to limp and, in her old age, giving her pain as her arthritis worsened. She was adopted through a fabulous rescue organisation, GPAC, to a family that decided not to keep her when she was almost eleven (through no fault of the rescue organisation, I might add).

At ten years of age, she found herself back with GPAC and en route to Newfoundland to a new foster home where she was well and truly loved. I don't know much about the people who had her before she came to Newfoundland (other than that they effectively dumped her in her twilight years), but I do know that Melba's fortune changed for the better when she met Lauren. I'm sure she missed Louie, her "brother" from her first adoptive home, but having Storm and Prince (Lauren's two

greys at the time) around must have reassured her tremendously. She lived with Lauren for several months before John and I found out about her and inquired about adopting her.

Those of you who have spent any time around her know that "there was just something about Melba," as Lauren once put it to me. She had a beautiful face, warm, brown eyes and a personality that was quirky, joyful, cuddly and compassionate all rolled into one brindled bundle. We fell in love with her almost instantly and she came to live with us.

She and Ferg developed a strange friendship, probably born of Melba's need for physical contact with other dogs. I'd often find them curled up together, with Melba's head resting on Ferg's back. Melba was my constant shadow and had beds in all of the rooms in the house in which I spent any time. As I moved, she would follow me. She hated to be alone. When I came home after going out, she would prance around with delight and toss her stuffed toys at me.

She loved apple, hotdogs and pizza. Her favorite place to sleep was on our bed.

On Saturday I got up to do some quick work before heading to the Craft Fair and saw the empty blanket still under my table in the studio. I think Ferg saw the look on my face because she walked over and curled up in Melba's spot as if to say, "I'm here. You're not alone. I remember her too."

Oh crap, I'm crying again....I miss her.

Melba, thank you for the months you spent with us. We love you and hope you're happy and free from pain. I learned a lot about dignity and love from you. Where ever you are now, I'll get to eventually and I'll bring you an apple. Keep an eye out for Louie, Prince, Storm, Ferg and Wikket when their times come. I'm sure they'll be looking for you.

... Vicky Taylor-Hood



submitted photo

If you would like to see more pictures of Melba check out <http://vickyth.blogspot.com/2005/11/melba.html>

PAW PRINTS FOR GREY'T PALS - ORDER FORM

Family Name _____
Hound Name 1 _____
Hound Name 2 _____
Hound Name 3 _____

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY - STAMP INK WILL BE PERMANENT

Please include cash, check or money order payable to GPAC

Send to:
GPAC
PO Box 38203
Dartmouth, NS
B3B 1X2

All Proceeds to the Sparkle Fund

Newfoundland Hound News

Newfoundland Hound Update

It's been a busy year for the Newfoundland branch of GPAC, and it doesn't show any signs of slowing down! In October, we had three meet and greets, one of which was a 5 day event at the Glacier, and we managed to have enough volunteers to cover all the shifts, both day and night! A HUGE thank you to all you volunteers out there, you know who you are! In November we had our last meet and greet of the year, and it was another huge success. As a result of all your efforts, we still have more applications coming in, keep up the greyt work!

On November 27, our branch will be walking in the Downtown St. John's Christmas parade. We have 57 dogs confirmed to be walking together, and they will all be wearing matching coats, kindly donated by Anne Squires of EXIT Realty on the Rock. For those of you with satellite tv in the other provinces, the parade will be broadcast live on NTV, and again Christmas week. Hopefully we'll have some pictures to include in the next newsletter as well!

Anne Squires has also offered a \$400 referral fee as a donation to GPAC if anyone in the group refers someone who either buys or sells a house through their office. For more info, please contact myself or Lynanne Furlong.

We've been busy doing home visits, most of which are completed now, but as I said, we still have applications coming in, so if you can help out, please let Angela Moyse know.

I'd also like to mention that our annual GPAC-NL meeting will be held on January 31, 2006, so mark your calendars! All are welcome.

Cont'd on pg. 7



GPAC Recycling Program - NL

I wanted to send this message as I realize we now probably have quite a few new members and I haven't got to do much with this program since I initially set it up. For anyone who doesn't know we have an account set up with Ever Green recycling-3 locations within the city. All you do is when you bring in your returns, ask to have the money placed into the GPAC account....it's that simple. I know we are well over 100 members so even if we donated some of that money it could most certainly add up. I have been giving some thought to ways in which we could increase this fundraising and am putting together a list of some companies that I may approach to see if they might donate recyclables to us. I also may be organizing several recycling blitz days where we could focus on picking up recycling from you, family and friends or even work places...I will keep you posted. I wanted to also ask you for your help with regards to any ideas you might have, companies we could approach or even just collecting from your workplaces...every little bit helps. Please feel free to contact me with any ideas or comments you may have. I could use your help with this one. Thank you.

Blair Ryan
Fundraising Co-ordinator
Greetings Everyone!

**This space could be yours!
Advertise in
Greymatters
and
All profits go directly to
Greyhound Pets
of Atlantic Canada**

Let GPAC Know!

Due to some organizational changes within GPAC the "Let VRP Know" will now be referred to as "Let GPAC Know". Please contact Melissa Ruginski. mruginski@yahoo.com

NFLD NEWS
cont'd from pg. 6

Finally, this month has had some sadness as well. Two of our local greyhounds have gone to the Rainbow Bridge, first was Guinness, owned by Sandra Tarrant and Joe Chase. The second was Melba, who some of you may remember as the 11 year old dog that was returned last year and went through two foster homes before she was adopted by Vicky and John Taylor-Hood. Melba succumbed to cancer just this past Friday. Guinness and Melba, you will both be missed by all your greyhound friends in Newfoundland. And to your families, my thoughts are with you at this difficult time. I was fortunate to have both of these dogs stay with me for a while in the past year, and they were both very sweet and loving greys.

Lauren Cheeseman
Lauren@nl.rogers.com

GIFT WRAPPING WITH A PUPPY *Cont'd from pg. 2*

31. Take now soggy bow from puppy & tape on since the sticky stuff no longer sticks.
32. Take pen from older dog, address tag & affix while puppy tries to eat pen.
33. Grab present before puppy opens it & put away.
34. Clean up mess puppy & older dog made playing tug-of-war with roll of wrapping paper.
35. Put away rest of wrapping supplies & tell dogs what good helpers they are.

Andrea

www.hawaiianlanguage.com/shelties/wrapping_gifts.html

Hot Coats 4 Cool Hounds



Paintings and ornaments are painted from your Photo's. Comical ornaments are painted with a color likeness to your hound.



Hand knit sweaters made to your hounds length. Sweaters for small breeds available as well.

Collars for everyday or holiday themes.



Check out

www.hotcoats4coolhounds.com
for even more great products.

email for sales

judi@picturethempainted.com

Tel: 902-648-2717

A donation to gpac is made from every sale

To-Day I

By: Belinda Gurnham

To-day I played for the very first time,
It felt funny, didn't know what to do.
You threw a stuffy toy, told me to catch,
I just looked at you, didn't know what to do.

To-day I ate here, for the very first time,
It felt funny, didn't know what to do.
You said, just eat it, it's good for you,
I just looked at you, didn't know what to do.

To-day I slept here for the very first time,
It felt funny, didn't know what to do.
You told me pleasant dreams and go to sleep,
I just looked at you, didn't know what to do.

AND THEN I REALIZED

To-day I was loved for the very first time,
It felt funny, didn't know what to do.
Then my heart caught up with me and I said,
Give me my toy, my food, my bed, but most of all, give me you.

For you see all these things you give me this day,
Mean nothing until you give me you.
Give me your love, your heart and yourself,
I'll give to you my everything, especially me.



http://www.StanleyDiscount.com

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Car Magnets, Books & Other Fine Gifts

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2 Robert Circle
Metuchen, NJ 08849

Email: sales@StanleyDiscount.com
Phone: 732-744-1601
Fax: 732-875-0015

Please visit my eBay Store for More Great Deals:
<http://stores.ebay.com/St Stanley Discount Trading>

A Dogs Christmas Carol

(sung to the tune of Winter Wonderland)

Dog tags ring, are you listening'?
In the lane, snow is glistenin'.
It's yellow, NOT white I've been there tonight,
Marking up my winter wonderland.

Smell that tree? That's my fragrance.
It's a sign for wandering vagrants;
Avoid where I pee, it's MY pro-per-ty!
Marked up as my winter wonderland.

In the meadow dad will build a snowman,
following the classical design.
Then I'll lift my leg and let it go Man,
So all the world will know that it's
mine-mine-mine!

Straight from me to the fence post,
flows my natural incense boast;
Stay off my TURF, this small piece of earth,
I marked it as my winter wonderland."

Bill Thacker

Christmas from a Dog's Perspective

by Shel Silverstein

Tonight's my first night as a watchdog,
And here it is Christmas Eve.
The children are sleepin' all cozy upstairs,
While I'm guardin' the stockin's and tree.

What's THAT now . . . footsteps on the rooftop?
Could it be a c*t or a mouse?
Who's THIS down the chimney?
A thief with a beard - And a big sack for robbin' the house?

I'm barkin' . . . I'm growlin' . . . I'm bitin' his butt.
He howls and jumps back in his sleigh.
I scared his strange horses, they leap in the air.
I've frightened the whole bunch away.

Now the house is all peaceful and quiet again,
The stockin's are safe as can be.
Won't the kiddies be glad when they wake up tomorrow . .
.
And see how I've guarded the tree.

www.travelingdogs.com/xmas/links.html

How Many Dog's Does It Take To Change A Lightbulb?



Australian Shepherd: First, I'll put all the light bulbs in a little circle...



Chihuahua: Yo quiero Taco Bulb. Or "We don't need no stinking light bulb."



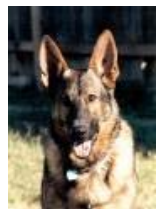
Border Collie: Just one. And then I'll replace any wiring that's not up to code.



Dachshund: You know I can't reach that stupid lamp!



Cocker Spaniel: Why change it? I can still pee on the carpet in the dark.



German Shepherd: I'll change it as soon as I've led these people from the dark, check to make sure I haven't missed any, and make just one more perimeter patrol to see that no one has tried to take advantage of the situation.



Greyhound: It isn't moving. Who cares?



Boxer: Who cares? I can still play with my squeaky toys in the dark.



Jack Russell Terrier: I'll just pop it in while I'm bouncing off the walls and furniture.



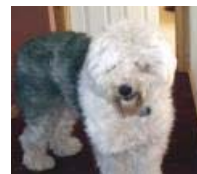
Lab: Oh, me, me!!!! Pleeeeeeeeeeze let me change the light bulb! Can I? Can I? Huh? Huh? Huh? Can I? Pleeeeeeeeeeze, please, please, please!



Golden Retriever: The sun is shining, the day is young, we've got our whole lives ahead of us, and you're inside worrying about a stupid burned out bulb?



Rottweiler: Make me.



Old English Sheep Dog: Light bulb? I'm sorry, but I don't see a light bulb!



Bishon: I'll just blow in the Border Collie's ear and he'll do it. By the time he finishes rewiring the house, my nails will be dry.

How long will it be before I can expect some light, some dinner, and a massage?



ALL OF WHICH PROVES, ONCE AGAIN, THAT WHILE DOGS HAVE MASTERS, CATS HAVE STAFF!

Submitted by Angela

Nova Scotia Hound News



GPAC Recycling Program (Fundraiser) - NS

People may or may not know that your cans & bottles can raise money for GPAC. For the last several months, there has been accounts set up at 3 different recycling depots throughout the HRM. We also encourage any of the branches to follow suit if they are not doing so already. All you have to do is contact your local recycling center and ask them to set up an account. Then anyone can designate that their recycling return can go to GPAC. In Dartmouth we have raised over \$60 so far. It could be a lot more!! The following locations have accounts set up. Please consider donating your recycling to GPAC.

Karen's Recycling 805 Highway #7, Dartmouth, NS
435-7811

Fader's Bottle Exchange, 15 Sackville Cross Road,
L Sackville, NS 864-4343

Tanners Recycling, 6393 Lady Hammond Rd,
Halifax, NS 454-4888

Enviro Depot, Water Street, Yarmouth

Enviro Depot, 12A Rosedale Ave, Dartmouth
Nova Scotia

Popular Dog Treat May Cause Potential Danger

It has been brought to my attention that there may be a potential danger with a popular dog treat called "Greenies". The problem is that they are not as digestible as you may think. They are designed to help clean dogs teeth as they chew and bight. Now if your dog actually chews their food you may not have a problem but if your dog tends to bite off bits and swallow them then it could cause distress or worse for your dog. These chunks that are swallowed are not able to be digested easily and may cause blockages in the bowel.

The company web site: www.greenies.com does say "As with any edible product, monitor your dog to ensure the treat is adequately chewed. Gulping any item can be harmful or even fatal to a dog."

For a more indepth read on the subject from both sides check out www.snopes.com/critters/crusader/greenies.asp

s.locke

SPARKLE CUP NOMINATION BALLOT

I NOMINATE _____ OF
_____ TO BE THE NEXT SPARKLE CUP VOLUNTEER
OF THE YEAR. I BELIEVE THAT THIS PERSON IS DESERVING OF
THE AWARD BECAUSE;

Send Nomination Ballot to:
GPAC
PO Box 38203
Dartmouth, NS B3P 1V8

List of Donators to GPAC Kennel & Upcoming Fundraising Events

WoofWatchers - they're donating over \$400 in therapy care for Dream Maker... a grey who came with a terrible break in his hock .

Pampered Paws Inn - They're letting us hold a Santa photo session at their place of business for free.

Todd from Stanley Discount - he donated 6 "adopt a greyhound" car magnets.

Thank you!

As a thank-you we will be giving our donators a free ad in an upcoming edition of Greymatters.

Please send your ad to the Greymatter's address on page 11.



- Dog Handlers
- Yappy Hours
- Doggie Day Care
- Full Breakfast
- People & Pets

Pampered Paws Inn is the First Bed & Breakfast in Eastern Canada especially for people who travel with their pets. Your pet can stay with you in the room



and if you would like to do some site-seeing, you can leave your dog in the in our play area with our experienced dog dandlers for play, exercise and social-ization, indoors and

out, with other dogs. We have web cams to view your dogs on line. The loft area will be hosting "Yappy Hours" where you can enjoy a beverage while watching your dog play below.

Enjoy a full Breakfast in our breakfast area with wood stove and wrap around veranda where you can watch the sunrise or set. High-speed Internet available with Cable TV's in each room. We also provide a bit of Doggie Day Care and "Sleepovers" for dogs.



Visit our website @
www.pamperedpawsinn.com
We look forward to meeting you!

Another Grey't Idea from EXIT Reality

Newsletter Submission Deadline Dates & Information

As you are all aware by now, Anne Squires and Exit Reality in St. John's have been very good to this branch of GPAC. (I am so delighted Anne got a dog!!) They have now proposed (and I support) another idea. For anyone who refers a friend, family member, coworker, etc to Exit reality which results in the sale of a home, Exit Reality will give back \$400 to this branch to aid in the transporation costs of getting the dogs over. So, feel free to spread the word. I will look forward to the day my home goes on the market with Exit and Anne finds me that lovely home with space for a kennel!!

Lynanne lyfurlong@yahoo.com

Greyhounds are Adictive

I just wanted to say Congratulations to Karen and Terry McDonald, Rain's owners. They were in Halifax last week and decided to visit the kennel. While they were there, they fell in love with a beautiful fawn male named Koda. They decided to bring him back to Newfoundland with them, and now Rain has a brother! His name is now Jasper. Congratulations guys, I told you greyhounds were addictive!

Lauren

The Deadline for Submissions is: the **20th of each month** for the next issue. Any late submissions will go in the next issue.

The following are a list of technical requirements for e-mail submissions:

I can accept:

- .jpg JPEG image format
- .tif Tiff image format (2 Meg max file size)
- .pdf Adobe Acrobat format
- .doc MS-Word files (without embedded images)
- .wpd Wordperfect file (no embedded photos or graphics)
- .doc Lotus Word Pro file (no embedded photos or graphics)

CANNOT ACCEPT COREL DRAW FILES
or IMAGES EMBEDDED IN WORD DOCUMENTS.

Send your submissions to:

E-mail greymatters@straylight.ca

Or snail mail to:

Greymatters
c/o Susan Locke
4 Meighen St., St. John's, NL
A1A 2M4

I Want to Make a Difference

1. I have enclosed my donation of \$ _____

To help Greyhound Pets of Atlantic Canada place ex-racing greyhound s into adoptive homes and promote public awareness of greyhounds as pets.

To the "Sparkle Fund" to help pay veterinary costs for dogs that are returned to our program or those dogs coming off the track that need extra medical attention.

To the "Kennel Fund" to help GPAC realize their dream of a kennel to hold dogs coming off the track.

To the newsletter to help defray the costs of postage, copying, and supplies.

2. I am interested in more information on volunteering in my area.

3. I am interested in fostering a retired racing greyhound.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Prov. _____

Postal Code _____

Phone # _____

E-mail _____

Send to: Greyhound Pets of Atlantic Canada. PO Box 38203, Dartmouth, NS B3B 1X2

Please make cheques payable to "Greyhound Pets of Atlantic Canada." Tax receipts issued for all donations of \$10.00 or more.