



Greymatters

Greyhound Pets of Atlantic Canada's Information Source



Submitted Photo

Denali & Shelby Relax Together

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Editors Note

Thanks to everyone who sent in pictures or other submissions, please keep them coming. You can send me poems, pictures, upcoming events, updates on past events, comments, quotations, even useless information or facts.

I would like to dedicate this issue of Greymatters to my Grandmother, Julie May Kearley of Topsail, Newfoundland, who recently passed away after 101 years. A remarkable woman who was born in the reign of King Edward VII. She saw every province of Canada, and flew in a helicopter, just because she hadn't done it before. She even had her own email address.

Sue Locke

How to pick up a Greyhound

Have you ever been faced with having to lift up your Greyhound? Maybe having to get up on that vet table, hurts a leg or simple refuses to get into the back of the vehicle. Well there is a right way and there are wrong ways. The incorrect method can put a lot of pressure on that long delicate neck or allow the dog to fall forward out of your arms.

So here's how you do it:

You slip one arm through the front legs and under the chest and the other under the butt and lift. There is no pressure on the neck and the dog can't fall forward over the arm.

Don't forget about the proper method for lifting any heavy object; bend those knees and watch your back.

Submitted by S.Locke

Poisonous Substances

Who knew so many plants were poisonous to dogs. Some are obvious and most people know that if we can't eat foxglove, nightshade, or monkshood neither can our pets.

The following is a list of some of the more popular plants that are poisonous but for a more complete list check out www.greyhoundmuses.com Help & Tips.

Amaryllis
Autumn Crocus
Daffodil
Day Lily
Elephant Ears
Gladiolas
Hyacinth
Iris
Lily of the Valley
Narcissus
Tulip
Hydrangea
Poinsettia
Diffenbachia
Foxglove
Morning Glory
Onion
Dumbcane
Peace Lily
Rhododendron
Yucca
Aloe Vera
English Ivy
Bird of Paradise
Calla Lilly

For those of us who's plant recognition is limited to dandelion maybe we should just stick with letting them eat a few blades of grass.

Submitted by S.Locke

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

A Greyhound No Longer In Distress

It's been a year since you came here
All muscle legs and muzzle
Your racing background cruel
I changed your name to Robbie
After a famous Scotsman we have known
I only wish I could write like him
Now that I've put you in a poem

You worked at fitting in so cautiously
You'd always been alone
Stairs and mirrors and praise we're new new to you
You'd never really had a home

The years' been very hard for me
Seems I've been housebound for so long
But your affection and loyal way
Has always kept me strong
Your manner is so pleasing
And like other dogs I've known
You simply ask for nothing
But to have a loving home

Your nature is so quiet
Your sense of humor fun
I love the way your eyes light up
When you've had your daily run
You chase and gallop 'round the yard
I know you try to impress me...it's not hard

And when I'm alone and scared at night
Strange sounds and noises that I new
You even bark and stand the guard
You are my protector, that is clear

Some men who are greedy cruel and blind
Misuse your breed and make you run
Your life not worth more than a two dollar bet to some

And when the racing is over
You feel only discard and neglect
You and others like you
Left to starve, with no one to protect
Just chucked out of sight and broken hearted

But for those good souls who have seen your plight
Find loving homes for you and others alike
We are so grateful to those that care
To have found you now, your life I'll share
Just me and Robbie
Now that's a pair!

*Betsy Wilson
Nova Scotia
November 1998*

Submitted by Sue Michalski

Titus and Fozzie get into the Halloween Spirit



Photos submitted by:Angela Collicutt



GPAC Board of Directors Announcement

On October 9, 2005 the GPAC Board of Directors accepted, with regret, the resignation of Terry Goodyer as Treasurer/Secretary. The Board of Directors would like to thank Terry on behalf of all members of GPAC for the outstanding work and dedication that she provided while filling the role of Treasurer/Secretary. Terry plans to continue volunteering with GPAC and, although we will miss her presence on the Board, we look forward to working with her in other capacities.

The GPAC Board of Directors has appointed Cheryl Sinnott as Treasurer and Angela Collicut as Secretary to fill the vacancy. These appointments are temporary, to carry us through to the Annual General Meeting where the positions will be filled by election. The Board thanks Cheryl and Angela for agreeing to fill the need until the AGM.

While on the topic of the Annual General Meeting, if you would like to consider running for a position on the Board of Directors or if you know of someone who would, give it some thought now. More details about the AGM and the elections will be published at a later date.

Rose Marie de Villers
Director of Operations.



Attention! Yarmouth Area Greyhounds

Yarmouth Area Greyhounds will be walking every Wednesday night at 6:30pm, meeting at the Tims/Wendies Train Station, we can walk the Water Front route or Main Street depending on the wind/weather. There is no cancellation for these walks, it's by choice, you decide if the weather is not suitable for you and your hound(s). Sometimes there may be only one family or a dozen or more but regardless your puppy will appreciate the walk. If you need pamphlets to pass out on your Summer walks be sure to ask me for some. When the ticks die down we can head back out to Ellen Wood park again and maybe try some of the local trails as well on a Sunday Afternoon. Put on your walking shoes and pack the poop bags :-). Lets have some fun with the hounds...

Enjoy your Summer Everyone,
Judi

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 GPAC hit hard
by Air Canada

Good News Update!

Finally a bit of good news for Greyhound Adoptors in Newfoundland and a big sigh of relief for those organizing the transport from Halifax to St. John's. After many hours spent worrying, making calls & waiting another airline has stepped forward to help. Hats off to **Canjet** who are willing to accomodate the dogs through cargo and give us a discount. The cost is less than Air Canada was charging.

For those who are reading this and are not aware (we do get non-Canadian readers) Newfoundland is an Island and one of the biggest dilemmas faced with Greyhound adoption here is the transportation issue. They are flown in as cargo, which is unheated, so that restricts our adoptions to the warmer months of the year. Air Canada was going to charge us \$500.00 per dog plus a crate - Yeah Right! A bit of a turn off for prospective adoptors.

Our local GPAC group will continue to subsidize the cost of transportation as much as possible. For more information on this issue please contact Lynanne at lyfurlong@yahoo.com

On the count of 3 third finger up to Air Canada. 1,2,3 Go!



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!

**Congradulations to Newfoundland GPAC
for the best year yet with 30 greyhounds finding new homes.**

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

Greyhounds do the Darndest Things

Last week, I was working as a makeup / hair artist on a local film. I was away early and back late. I had also been greyhound sitting my friend's dog for a few weeks. So now you have the set up.....

One early morning, I dumped out my large supply of wigs on the spare bed and took those I needed. I closed the door to the bedroom and went off to work thinking I'd put everything away later in the evening.

During the day, my greyhound Sophie managed to get into the room, pulled 30 or more wigs off the bed, ate my human hair wigs (and only the human hair ones) and then gathered all the red wigs into a pile and peed on them. She was ticked off that I went onsite at the film for too many hours maybe or maybe she was reacting to Asti going home. Maybe she had discovered that if she did something really obnoxious she got all the attention. BECAUSE.... next day, I bought a brand new box spring and mattress. While I was at work, she opened the door with her teeth or paw, got up on the loveseat, jumped over to the bed and you guessed it. I think she was up so high that she couldn't jump down, but I tell you, it's a good thing I love her so much cause she has sorely tested my patience this week.

On the set, I was telling the ladies that my greyhound Sophie loves wigs. If there is one anywhere in range she grabs it in her teeth and throws it into the air and catches it on her head. I told them how the day before she got into the bedroom by opening the door with her teeth, and likely because she was upset at being left alone all day, ate the human hair ones. Then she rounded up and peed on the red ones. At that, one of the actresses in my makeup chair, Sandra, said "your great aunt Sophie peed on your wigs?????" Another actress, Ruth, laughed so hard she almost peed herself. She said "Sandra, you mean you only questioned anything when you heard about the peeing?" Sandra said "Well, I just thought Terri must have a senile aunt living with her that had no arms. I thought it was funny but I figured that she had to open the door with her teeth and pitch the wig into the air to get it on her head...." It was 6 a.m. what can I say.

Terri

p.s. I was obviously pretty miffed at Sophie that she was peeing on things all of a sudden and I told her so. SO last night, every couple of hours, she came into the bedroom

and whined and whined till I got up and let her outside. She'd pee (or pretend she was going to) and come back in. Straight to the treat bucket..... after all, she was giving me what I asked for..... that she ask to be let out and not pee in the house.

Oh my.

T.

Submitted by Terri Andrews

Fundraising and Craft Fairs in Newfoundland

Recently there have been ticket sales, and Meet & Greets, the biggest one held over several days. A big thank you should go out to all the people who sold tickets, some by the hundreds, those who sat in grocery stores, and who stood and greeted hundreds of people at the Glacier Craft Show. I should mention that many of these people turned up more than once over the duration of this event. Nothing happens without work so thanks to everyone who put it together and who showed up to volunteer.

Winner of the Ken Power Print is: Carol Tulk
Winner of the Mark Brown Print is: Sheila Bussey

Welcome to New Adoptors

- Corbett family who opened their home and hearts to Tucker and Cody who lost their mom to cancer.
- Comeau family for adopting Chase (ie Moon over Delaware)
- Danyelle Ravell in Clarendville for taking in Kelso's Aspen
- Thanks to our foster families for taking in a grey needing a temporary home.

30 New Greyhounds in Newfoundland

Tucker and Cody find a new home Together

Hi Everyone,

Many of you in the Halifax/Dartmouth area who are part of the Greyhound world may be wondering and possibly worrying about Tucker and Cody (now Coby). I am now the proud Mom of these gentle and loving "boys", who are also a hit with our family and neighbors. They have settled in and seem quite happy.

This year has been an especially difficult one for our family, but for me in particular. On February 2, 2005 we lost our lovely sister-in-law to Breast Cancer. She had just turned 55 years old. A month later I lost my beloved Aunt, a lady who was more like my Mom than my Aunt. Our family also lost a special Uncle and several friends.

My grief seemed endless. Just as I was starting to feel better my beloved Yellow Lab, Darcy, passed away on August 6, 2005. She was 14 years old and had been ill for a couple of years. Because we spent so much time together the loss was almost unbearable. She had been unwell since February and I believe that she kept going for me.

I never intended to get another dog. I have the three cats and figured they were enough. One day while visiting my son, he suggested that I take a look at the Greyhound website. It was there that I read about the Greys available for adoption. My heart ached for the two Greys who had lost their "Mom" to Breast Cancer. How alone and confused they must feel!! The ad also stated that they needed to be placed together. I said a little prayer that they would find a good home.

Some time later I decided I would get another dog. I truly missed Darcy and knew she could never be replaced, nor did I want to replace her. I wanted another buddy. I wanted a walking buddy and someone to snuggle with. I wanted their unconditional love and affection.

By this time I had decided I would get a Greyhound. I applied and was approved. When LynnAnne Furlong offered me an older male I readily accepted. During the course of our conversation I realized he was one of "the pair" who had lost his Mom and was very attached to his "brother". I found myself in a dilemma. Since no one had



come forward to take both, how could I allow them to be separated?

I immediately told my husband the story. He had agreed to take one Grey, and even though I would have taken both, he may not have thought that it was a good idea. But he did, bless him. So on October 1, 2005 Tucker and Coby came to live with us. I couldn't love them more if they have been here for years.

The "boys" have already had a few laughs at our expense. The first few days we had them, we had their names reversed. When we called Tucker, but looked at Coby, they would look at each other and look at us with their heads tilted to the side and a puzzled look on their faces. I realize now they were saying to each other - "what's up with them??" We now know who is who!

My family and I would like to express our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Cheryl Robertson. She must have been a very special lady because her "boys" are fantastic. She will be missed, but her death was not a total loss as I have her amazing "boys". God, indeed, does work in mysterious ways. So folks don't worry, all is well with Tucker and Coby.

All the best,

Pat Corbett



Dog Bed Dilemma

So you are looking for a dog bed and you want a big, soft, cozy bed that your greyhound will just love and hopefully be enough incentive to stay off yours. Now my guy prefers an old duvet that he can spend 5 minutes rooting, tugging, and pulling until it is shaped like some twisted coil and then plunk down across it in the most uncomfortable position possible. Of course that is only when I am looking, cause when I am not around he is sure to be lounging on the sofa.

My point in all this is “what to use a stuffing” in a dog bed? There has been some concern and questions lately about pet beds that are stuffed with cedar. Cedar has long been used as pet bedding due to it’s pleasing odor, it’s absorbency and it’s also thought to deter fleas. It is especially linked with small animals like hamsters and rabbits. You can find just about anything on the web and can find opposing arguments concerning any topic. I did find many sites advertising dog beds with cedar stuffing and several were on Greyhound Rescue Group sites. I also found quite a lot of documentation concerning the dangers of using cedar as a bedding material and not just for greyhounds. They don’t suggest using it for hamsters and other small animals, maybe that’s why the hamster I had as a teenager lost patches of fur! I no longer use cedar in my hamster cage and have become a fan of wood pulp shavings - naturally it is more expensive but my hamster does seem to enjoy it. Now before you throw away the cedar and change to pine shavings - they are not much better. The following is a condensed version of my research on cedar as it relates to pets and their bedding.

The Problem:

The main problem is caused by the chemicals that cause that distinctive aroma associated with cedar and pine. These chemicals are called phenols and can interact with the liver and respiratory system causing potentially dangerous side effects. Most research has been conducted on humans but it is assumed that animals, having a greater sense of smell, will be more sensitive to such irritants. When you think of cedar what images come to mind? Hamsters, trinket boxes, clothes closets, and trunks. With the exception of the first cedar was used especially for the chemicals it produced because it killed clothes moths. If you want to do further searching on the topic, the primary irritant in cedar is plicatic acid and abietic acid in pine.

The Alternatives - Bedding

- If you want to use wood shavings try the hardwoods like aspen. Hardwoods do not contain phenols. You can buy pine shavings that have been specially dried to remove phenols, so check labels.
- Corn-cob bedding is non-toxic but may be prone to growing mold and tends to be hard.
- CareFRESH is created from 100% wood pulp fibers that are too short to make paper. It is a light weight, fluffy bedding, although it is not very attractive in appearance. It is dust free and really absorbent, and has no inks or dyes. It also doesn’t disintegrate when wet.
- Yesterdays News is made from recycled newspaper. It is very absorbent (the pellets degrade as they absorb moisture) and no dust.
- Eco-Straw Pellets are pellets are made from wheat straw and are said to absorb 300% of their weight in moisture. Dust free and heat treated to eliminate mites and other pests. It is completely biodegradable and can be composted or even flushed down the toilet.
- Two body pillows work quite nicely. (easily found these days in most department stores)
- I have seen stuffing for bean bag chairs that look suitable but have never read the label for hazards.

Other Options:-Make a Cover

If you already have a cedar bed and you are pleased with it, don’t throw it out, make a cover for it. It is always nice to be able to unzip/button the cover and throw it in the wash. You never know when an accident might occur or even to periodically wash away the drool, dog cookie crumbs, dog hair, etc. If you like the fabric you already have you can make an inside cover instead. Another option may be to make the inside cover waterproof. Most waterproof materials, that are not ridiculously expensive, are pretty crinkly and noisy but there is a solution. Pick up one of those quilted/waterproof mattress covers, a twin size should do it with little waste.

Dog bed covers are fairly easy to make even without a sewing machine. Simply sew two rectangles or shape of your imagination together and stuff. If sewing by hand use a strong thread, quilting thread should do

Cont’d on pg. 11

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

Meet & Greet Schedule

All Meet & Greets are scheduled from 10am – 4pm except where noted. We are always looking for volunteers to come out and donate a couple of hours of their time to educate the public on these wonderful dogs. A lot of people are not aware that a greyhound adoption program exists in the Atlantic Provinces. The more exposure the dogs get, the better the chances will be of placing more dogs. The malls are a great way to get that exposure. Mall meets are the number one source of new adopters. So if anyone who would like to come out and help, here are the contacts:

November 19 - Halifax Shopping Center, Halifax

Contacts:

For Halifax Meet & Greets: Please call Cheryl Sinnott at Home: 435-1099, Fax: 435-0415, Cell: 471-6973 or e-mail fastdog1@ns.sympatico.ca

For Yarmouth Meet & Greets: Please call Judi Mallinson at 648-2717 or e-mail judi_mallinson@yahoo.ca

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

- **Holly Kuster of Wet Nose Wardrobe**
- **Holly's BowWow Boutique** for donating one *glow-in-the dark Halloween martingale collar* which we auctioned off this past Hound Day. It went for \$26 and was won by the Sears Family (lord knows which dog will get to wear it!... they have something like 4 of their own and are fostering 2 right now).

- **Elisabeth Weinerman** (a donator from the States). She's donated *8 bars of goat's milk soap with a greyhound imprint on them* and *2 pewter greyhound zipper pulls*.

Angela Collicutt

Thank you all for your kind donations

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.



The Fire Hydrant

Thanks to all those who have made donations for the kennel. Donations are always welcome and below is a list of some of the items needed:

- Blankets
- Rectal thermometers
- Polysporin
- Bin liner garbage bags (the giant ones)

Canadian Tire Money is always usefull and can be used to purchase all sorts of much needed supplies.

If anyone has items to donate please contact:

Lynanne Furlong in Nfld - lyfurlong@yahoo.com

Another Grey't Idea from EXIT Reality

As you are all aware by now, Anne Squires and Exit Reality 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

This space could be yours!

**Advertise in
Greymatters
and
All profits go directly to
Greyhound Pets
of Atlantic Canada**

Cont'd from pg.8 it. A zipper would also be a good idea and if you have never sewed before just remember your dog won't care how it looks.

Some of the web sites I browsed when researching this article are:
www.aracnet.com/~seagull/faq/beddingfaq.shtml
www.trifl.org/cedar.shtml
www.exoticpets.about.com/
www.dogdecor.com

Tiagh and Ms. Nibbles reluctantly share a moment. Tiagh has never forgiven Nibbles for running full speed into his nose while in her exercise ball.



Submitted by S. Locke

Newsletter Submission Deadline Dates & Information

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.