

Bay Grey's Gazette

Bay Area Greyhound Adoption's, Inc. Newsletter and Current Events Sept 2007

Bay Area Greyhound
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Est. 2004

THIS ISSUE FEATURES

Big Heart Soft Touch



I want to tell you a story about a wonderful woman named Cindy (Ken's sister and my sister-in-law) who worked so hard to save an unfortunate family of animals who had been left alone and neglected. She works in her client's homes and when she went to work for one of her clients one day, she found out from this person that a neighbor was in the hospital for a lengthy stay and her pets were all left unattended. Her neighbors pulled together and did what they could to feed and water them. There was a large Poodle chained up outside, a horse in the field and two cats left to fend for themselves in the house. The poor poodle's hair was matted and it appeared as though he has partial blindness or cataracts. Cindy could not bear it. She had to do whatever she could to find these animals a good home. Unfortunately her current situation would not allow all of these animals a home with her as she has animals of her own to care for, so she did the next best thing. She began by going online and making phone calls to everyone imaginable to find these pets a good home. Finally, after much prayer and a lot of investigating she found someone who she thought would be willing to take the horse at least as this woman had a horse farm. When she was able to talk to her on the phone, she discovered that this angel of mercy was going to drive all the way from South Carolina to pick up not only the horse but all of the animals. Cindy was so very relieved and concerned at the same time about her ability to take all of the animals and what it would take to fix them. She told Cindy everything she had planned to do for them and what kind of facilities she had available for them. She told her that she and her husband were truly blessed to be able to take on such a task and looked forward to meeting her and the animals and taking care of them. Not only did Cindy find a home for the animals but she went to the owner and had her sign a release so the animals could be taken legally. Cindy is a true volunteer in her heart and is one of the most generous people I know. She truly has a BIG HEART and SOFT TOUCH. Her example is a tribute to the meaning of rescue.

P.S. The lady came and took all of the animals and fixed them. The poodle's paws had to be soaked numerous times to get all of the rocks, sand, etc out of them and she had to be shaved completely. Cindy and her daughter have been to the farm to visit them since their rescue and they are all doing well. The picture above shows Cindy with the horse at his new home.

This page is dedicated to the health and welfare of your Greyhound with some invaluable information about treatment centers and treatments.

BAGA has recently become a distributor for two new products that can really help your greyhound have a healthy and happy life. The first is Flexicose, which is a liquid joint supplement containing glucosamine, chondroitin and MSM complex. It is the best supplement for arthritic joints we have ever used. Once you use the Flexicose, you will recognize a difference in your dog, and can often avoid giving Rimadyl or other pain medication for arthritis. We recommend it for senior dogs (over 7 years old) or any greyhound that has sustained a racing injury. A 64 day supply is available for \$25.00. For more information please go to the following website, www.flexicose.com.

A new product we are really excited about is Pet-Z-Life Oral Care Gel and Oral Spray. This is the first product we have seen which will actually remove plaque on a dog's teeth. Several of our volunteers have tried it on their own dogs, and are very happy with the results. It was used at the last session of the S.C.A.L. prison program in Michigan with equally good results. When used regularly, Pet-Z-Life can eliminate the need for most yearly dental cleanings and the risk to your greyhound from anesthesia. The ingredients are all natural so it is perfectly safe for your pet (it works for cats as well as dogs). The main active ingredient is grapefruit seed extract. We have 4 oz. gel or spray for \$25.00 which will last 2-3 months when used as directed. We also will have a starter 2 oz. size of the gel for \$15.00. All adopters will now receive Pet-Z-Life gel in their adoption kits. For more information on Pet-Z-Life and how it works please go to, www.petzlife.com.

A message from: Brenda Fulcher

Of: the Florida Veterinary Specialists and Cancer Treatment Center Blood Bank

Those of us who have pets feel a strong bond with our animals and many of us feel that our pets are part of the family. We love and nurture them, care for their special needs and nurse them when they are sick or hurt. We each have our own personal motives for doing what we do for our four-legged children. For some, the reason may simply be the love of a breed, and for others, perhaps it's the horror of euthanasia as a method to control pet overpopulation. In fact, some of you may be like I am and wish that you could save them all. You may not be able to take them all off the streets and give them a home, but there is another way that you and your pet can help those in need.

Just as in human medicine, there is a constant need in veterinary medicine for donated blood. Animals need transfusions for a variety of reasons-blood loss due to trauma, immune-mediated diseases, coagulation disorders from heat stroke, and so on. Florida Veterinary Specialists and Cancer Treatment Center (FVS) is a specialty referral and emergency veterinary hospital that currently has an active blood donor program and we are in the process of instituting a full-scale high-volume blood bank. Therefore, we need to expand our donor base. Our three hospitals (FVS, Brandon Veterinary Specialists and New York City Veterinary Specialists) alone perform an average of 370 canine and feline transfusions per year, or approximately 31 per month. To achieve our goal of providing adequate supply of blood products for FVS and her affiliated hospitals along with other veterinarians, we must recruit many more donors.

Greyhounds are the preferred donors for several reasons:

- They are usually very calm and well behaved during the procedure and they rarely need any kind of sedation.
- They have easily accessible veins for the donation.
- Most greyhounds are what we consider to be the universal donor.

Potential canine donors need to meet the requirements below:

- Be between the ages of 1 and 8.
- Dogs must weigh at least 50 pounds and cats at least 10 pounds.
- Be neutered or spayed with no prior pregnancies.
- Should have no prior transfusions.

WHOOOOOOroooooo rooooo Rescued Whom? Story by Sherri Ferstl:

We adopted all three of our dogs in ONE YEAR from BAGA, 'cause, as the saying goes, you never can stop at just one! On April 1, 2006, we started with Kia. Kia is a beautiful red fawn who never wished to race. The day we picked up Kia was the day that BAGA was having their semi-annual picnic. I recall when we got her, I kept asking Linda, our BAGA president, if it was ok to walk Kia around with me. She said, "Sure, go ahead, she's yours." I couldn't really believe we were being "allowed" to have this graceful creature, as our own! Kia was the most shy & skittish dog I'd known. She didn't know what to make of our van. I rode in the back with her. She leaned against me & I talked softly to her, calling her "my girl". From that day forward, she has been MY girl. She loves "Dad", but won my heart first, thanks to that ride home together. Her ears go up & she turns her head anytime I speak. Her proudest achievement was overcoming her timidity & learning how to open the screen door to come in. She was bursting with pride! She hopped up & down, wagging her tail as if to say, "Look at me! I finally did it!"

Sometime in June, Krissy came along. She was too skinny & afraid of other dogs, especially small ones. Our youngest son whispered to me, insisting we had to take care of her. The first few times we took Krissy to the doggy beach, she would freeze & not move. We'd have to coax her. Now Krissy's our tomboy, racing along the beach. Her spirit is back. A "Born Free" dog. Now she knows that the beach means finding her friends that like to race her, and swimming. We've filmed her several times while she's racing. She looks like a regal princess, head held high & looking as if she could take on the world! Krissy can't wait for me to get out the door in the mornings when I go to work. That's the time "Dad" takes her to the local park. If she were able, she'd dress me herself, hand me my coffee, and butt me out the door. The best she can do is roo at me to leave AND butt me with her head as if to say, "Would you get out of here already???!!"

Lenny was a fluke. He's an Iggy. Someone asked BAGA to take him. Lenny made himself at home. He found the stuffing in the couch pillow and discovered "Dad's" peanut butter energy bars. We couldn't say a thing to blame him! Don't you know that pillows are the equivalent of squeaky doggy toys?? And don't you know how much dogs LOVE peanut butter?? It all made perfect sense, of course. It was felt Lenny might not take to men since he'd been abused by one. But he's "Dad's buddy". When Keith goes out of town, he chews his nails, sits in Keith's couch space, & cuddles up with me & cries. And you certainly can't forget the most important thing of all. Lenny must be covered up at night! Heaven forbid he get up to get a drink of water because then he has to be covered up again! My favorite pictures are of Keith & Lenny asleep, nose to nose. Two buddies who have a bond, an understanding.

Now our greys have a new undertaking. Besides our two sons, we've now added three teenagers by adoption. Our furry fellow adopters are busy making our new adoptees right at home in their new setting. Our kids always want to know about every funny thing our greys do when they're not home. Every story is relished, no matter how small. And when the kids come in the door, they are given an enthusiastic welcome, all 12 paws-worth! We started out with it in mind to rescue our greys. Instead, they rescued US!

A note to the S.C.A.L. trainers and staff from Tiffani Smith: Fang has a permanent home as of Jun 21st and he is very much loved by his former foster...and now adopted person! His previous "progress notes" from the guys have just been received here---and I wanted his prior handlers to know that he's REALLY good on the leash for the most part. He is kind of a happy, bouncy guy---so sometimes he sort of leaps and flies around and I feel like I'm more of a horse trainer than a dog owner...but, mostly he adjusts and walks beautifully by my side. I want to share my story with all of you who have dealt with Fang. I myself was competitive runner until last year when a bone tumor in my hip completely grounded me. I also unexpectedly lost my best friend and running partner---a 7 year old male Basenji (African barkless dog). It was long and depressing year and I recovered pretty well from my physical stuff but really missed having a dog. So I checked out the Greyhound Rescue/Adoption groups thinking volunteering would be a nice way to ease into things again. That was this past March or Feb and I haven't regretted a minute of it since. I'm so happy to have a canine companion in my life again an Fang's ALWAYS up for a jog around the block or longer, if I can keep up. What a wonderful healer for me! If he didn't already arrive with a name, I would've changed it to Karma because his place in this world has truly come full-circle. Although he is the only dog in my home, I also want his trainers to know that this guy gets out and about on a regular basis! He's walked a minimum of two times daily and we go to the dog park every weekend where once I turn him loose, he does a spectacular full-out run for everyone. Two times around and the people cheer him on and the dogs love to try and catch him! He has all his friends there and truly does enjoy the company of other dogs. He has attached himself to a group of Great Danes that come when we do. There are five in all and he races to the fence when they arrive. He's very fond of them. Fang's health checked out great at the vet's and was pleased to know he's a very loved member of my home.



Bay Area Greyhound Adoptions, Inc.

Fall 2007 Picnic

Greyhounds Halloween

September 30, 2007

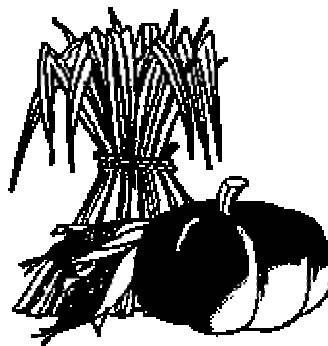
Al Lopez Park, 4810 N. Himes, Shelters 303, 305 & 306

12-4 pm

RSVP by: September 28, 2007...813-272-2332 or baga@tampabay.rr.com

(Please respond with the number of people attending and your choice of lunch entree)

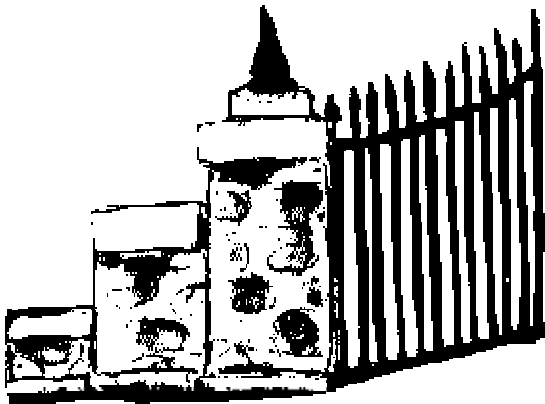
**Food
Drinks
Photographs
Nail Trimming
Raffle
Auction
Vendors with
Greyhound products**



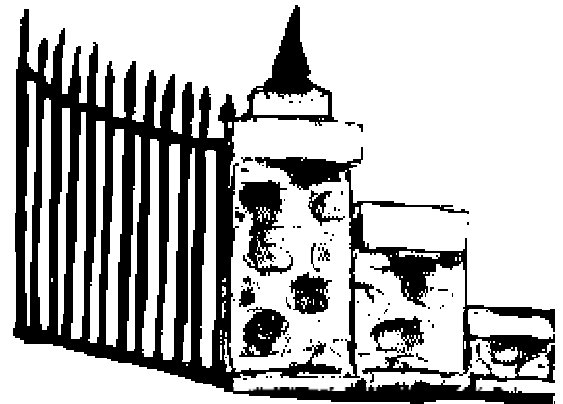
Pet Costume Contest

- 1. Most original**
- 2. Funniest**
- 3. Prettiest**

**Picnic Lunch \$5.00
Meat Entrees:
BBQ Pork, BBQ Chicken,
Hot Dogs**



*Please bring your
Greyhounds only.
Some Greyhounds
are not small dog
friendly.*



Donations Needed! If you are attending the picnic and would like to help the Greyhounds, please bring an item to donate. **We especially need:**

- Canned dog food
- Canned Pumpkin
- Printer paper
- Used comforters & blankets
- Baby Gates
- Pre-paid Gas Cards (for the kennel truck)
- Gift Certificates to Staples & Office Depot
- Dog biscuits & toys
- Bath Towels (for cool-down coats)



From the President, Linda Lyman: We have been fortunate to have received quite a bit of media coverage recently. A nice story with photograph about Scott, Eva, and Quincy Tashman's greyhound, Checkers appeared in the Osprey Observer. A front page article on the Second Chance at Life Greyhound Prison Program at the Hernando County Jail appeared in Hernando on August 30, 2007. Another Hernando Jail trainee Honor (BB's Straight A) was featured in a television story. We also appeared on the Channel 13 Morning Show with S.C.A.L. prison program graduates Bambi and Hattie. Bay News 9 did a very nice feature from the Hernando County Jail regarding the Prison Program and Channel 10 also did a story. Best of all, we have just learned that Will Shumaker's greyhound Reese (Adopted through BAGA) has been chosen for the cover of the Fall 2007 issue of CG (Celebrating Greyhounds) Magazine!

Helpful Phone Numbers for Lost and Found:

24 hour pet watch: 1-866-597-2424 or www.24petwatch.com

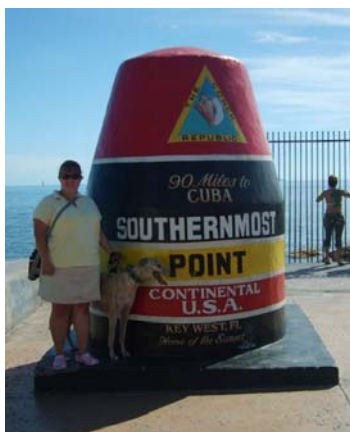
BAGA Hotline: 813-272-2332

Thanks To:

All of our volunteers: Without all of you we would not exist. Your dedication and tireless efforts do not go unnoticed. We are so proud of all of you and the things we have accomplished so far with this organization. We began this group in July of 2004 with just a handful of volunteers and we have grown so much since then. It is thanks to you we have been able to do what we do which is rescue our beloved Greyhounds and find them good homes.

All of our Vets: Without their support and love of the breed, we could not be as successful as we are.
All of our location sponsors: Their support allows us to conduct "Meet and Greets" so potential adopters can see feel and experience the Greyhounds.
All of the donators: Everyone who gives of their time, donates gifts and prepares food for our picnics. They have become more successful each time.
To our volunteers: Without you, we would not exist. You are the foundation of our success.

PETCO Warehouse in Orlando: Who donate pallets of dog food for our foster program.



This is a note and picture from Niana Westerling to Linda Lyman:
Linda,

I just got back from my first trip to Key West and Ace came with me. He was an angel in the back seat of my boyfriend's SUV the entire trip there and back - 9 hours one-way! He's even a celebrity. A large Japanese family all posed with Ace in front of the Hemingway House for pictures and people stopped us everywhere we walked to give him pets. He also was the Southernmost Greyhound in the entire USA on Saturday! All attention has fortunately not gotten to Ace's head and he doesn't miss all his Key West fans. Since we've been home, he hasn't left the bed. In case anyone is interested in going to Key West, we stayed at Key West Hideaways. They are very pet friendly with no weight restrictions and the staff is very easy to deal with. They have properties all over Key West from studios to 2 story houses to 4 bedroom penthouses at www.keywesthideaways.com.
Thanks Linda for all you do, Niana and Ace

BAGA

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To: