



RETIRED GREYHOUND ATHLETES

Issue No. 27

Winter 2008

## GREAT STORY TO SHARE?

Have a cute photo or story about your hound that you would like to share? If you would like to publish it in "The Final Turn", please submit it to [thefinalturn@gmail.com](mailto:thefinalturn@gmail.com) Please include a phone where you can be contacted.

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# The Final Turn

The Quarterly Newsletter of Retired Greyhound Athletes, Inc.

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF RGA

Holiday Greetings to everyone! I hope the Holiday season is a safe and happy event for you and your greys. This past year RGA placed 22 greyhounds in their forever homes.

This was one of our busiest years ever. Starting with the Green Bay Pet Expo and going through the volunteer gathering, a brat fry in both DePere and Manitowoc, the First Annual Golf outing and into the Fall festival season, our volunteers stepped forward.

In all my years with RGA, I feel that our volunteer base is stronger than

ever. Just this past month 4 families signed volunteer agreements. Does this mean we can rest on our laurels? No! We need to continue building our base of volunteers and find more events and ways for them to be active in educating the public about greyhound adoption and in raising money for our cause.

If you can/want to join the ranks of RGA volunteers or if you know someone who would like to volunteer, send me an email expressing interest. If you know of an event that we can support, let us know.

Finally one of the proudest things I have

to report is that two new families joined our ranks of foster homes. Without the foster families we would not be able to place as many greys as we did last year. Kudos to all.

In closing, pat yourself on the back for helping RGA remain so strong and for helping all of the greys.

See you in the New Year!

Dave Picard



## STILL HAVE SOME SHOPPING TO DO?

Have a greyhound-lover still to shop for this holiday season? Why not some RGA apparel... *Contact Todd Yaekel at 920-687-2227 for size, color, cost, and availability.*

Collars

Dog Toys

Celebrating Greyhound Calendar (wall or desk)

Cell phone covers

RGA golf balls

RGA golf towels

Denim button down w/ 3-dog logo

Denim button down w/ implied logo

Women's v-neck tee w/ 3-dog logo

T-shirts (various colors) w/ 3-dog logo

T-shirts (various colors w/ implied logo

Sweatshirts (various colors) w/ 3-dog logo

Fleece jackets w/ 3-dog logo

Fleece vests w/ 3-dog logo

Polo shirts (various colors) w/ 3-dog logo

Nylon windbreaker w/ 3-dog logo

Run, Roach & Roo short or long-sleeve

## THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

Roberta Miketinac with Lily and Stella

*RGA is blessed by a wonderful, dedicated group of volunteers. Each newsletter we will be showcasing one of our volunteer families. This newsletter please read about Roberta, Lily, and Stella.*

I'm sure everyone remembers the first time they met a greyhound. I was living in Connecticut in 1989 when a friend adopted a beautiful brindle from the Plainfield track. I was taken back by the athletic physical stature and gentle demeanor of this dog. I knew at that moment that one day I would adopt a greyhound.

Several job transfers later I settled in Harrisburg, PA and adopted a Jack Russell Terrier. Willem was a typical feisty Jack with a dominant personality. While doing volunteer work for an all breed rescue group I met a member of Personalized Greyhounds, Inc. who invited me to a Meet & Greet. A short time later I adopted Misha, a beautiful red fawn. She and Willem were opposite personalities yet became inseparable.

Adopting Misha came with the bonus of meeting and making friends with members of the rescue group. We became involved in Meet & Greets, fund raisers, holiday parades and reunion picnics. Misha and I twice made the trip to Dewey Beach which was memorable to say the least. When my job with an insurance company required a move to Pittsburgh, we became active volunteers with Going Home Greyhounds. Several years later came our move to Wisconsin where the first order of business was getting in touch with Retired Greyhound Athletes. Members of the group warmly

welcomed us. I was immediately impressed by the compassion and dedication of the RGA family.

Both Misha and Willem passed away in 2006. It was very difficult to lose them but I knew that my life would not be complete without another greyhound. Lily came into my life in early 2007 and has been a joy. She is a typical tomboy, full of mischief and sass. During that same time my sister Karen Baier adopted Engine, who I think is the poster boy for RGA. She has since adopted Chloe, a beautiful brindle, and my family has grown with the addition of Stella, a sweet fawn. Our Dad loves talking about his four greyhound 'granddogs' and has become an unofficial ambassador for the breed.

I work at Shopko corporate as their general liability claims manager. Outside of work I am a member of the committee planning the 2009 RGA reunion picnic. We hope to make it the best ever. I also enjoy Meet & Greets where I can help educate the public about these incredible dogs. I'm looking forward to my first foster in 2009.



Stella and Lily

## ASK THE "GREYT ONE"



*A greyhound with lots of retirement experience, "Greyt One" has the answers that newly adopted pups are seeking.*

*If your hound has a question for "Greyt One", please email it to [thefinalturn@gmail.com](mailto:thefinalturn@gmail.com). "Greyt One" will try to answer as many letters as possible.*

Dear Greyt One,

Things are changing all around. A tree (Can you believe that??) was placed in the middle of the living room, and it has these hanging things that I just want to grab. Things that I would think would be new toys are placed around the house. There are lights twinkling and these new red plants around I seem to be getting informed I should be leaving everything new and most interesting alone. If I hear "Leave it!" one more time I will bark, and we all know greyhounds don't bark!

Sincerely,  
Very Curious



Dear Very Curious,

This is a time of the year that your humans feel the urge to decorate and have a lot of stuff around the home that is not normally around. The main item would be the tree. Just remember that this is not put here for your convenience! If you are writing me you have probably already figured this one out. It is for show and those "Balls" are not really balls at all

they are very dangerous because they are made of glass. When glass breaks it will cut you and you will bleed. Then you will be in a bandage and if it is a cut foot your humans will be putting you in a Clean Break cast protector. Then you will be writing me again. Your humans may want to consider blocking this tree from you if you can't learn to "Leave it!"

Another item on that tree are the pretty lights. These are electric and very dangerous if you feel the need to chew on these. I repeat do not chew on these!

Another very interesting item to us is the pretty red plant. This is a Poinsettia and is poisonous! Stay away at all costs! Most people know that this is a poisonous plant so they will not have it around. But I know how some of us can get around the counters! This is a plant to not to surf out!

I hope this alleviates a "Leave it" or two and you can enjoy the season along with your humans.

Happy holidays and Happy New Year.

The Greyt One

p.s. Those fancy boxes under the tree leave those alone also. If you are good I guarantee one of those will be yours! Santa doesn't forget animals, especially Greyhounds.



## GREYT HOLIDAY WEBSITES

**Animal Crackers** [www.k9gifts.com](http://www.k9gifts.com)

Tree toppers, stocking holders & holiday decorations

**Greyt Gifts** [www.greytgifts.com](http://www.greytgifts.com)

Great artwork and ceramic pieces

**Voyagers K9 Apparel** [www.k9apparel.com](http://www.k9apparel.com)

Toasty gifts to keep your grey warm in cold weather

**Shore Dog** [www.shoredog.com](http://www.shoredog.com)

Shopping for the perfect new collar for your grey's personality?



## The pups need you!

Have you ever considered becoming a foster home? There are always greys looking for their forever home. Help those sweet faces learn the joys of the next part of life! If you are interested contact Kay Picard at [kpocard@live.com](mailto:kpocard@live.com). We also need volunteers. If you would be interested in volunteering to get the word out about adoption, email Dave Picard at [dpocard@live.com](mailto:dpocard@live.com)

### ADD SOME PIZZAZZ TO YOUR HOLIDAY CARDS WITH GREYHOUND STAMPS!

[www.zazzle.com/christmas\\_greyhound\\_postage\\_stamps-17273241288659963?gl=foovay](http://www.zazzle.com/christmas_greyhound_postage_stamps-17273241288659963?gl=foovay)

[www.retiredgreyhoundathletes.org](http://www.retiredgreyhoundathletes.org)



Visit our website for info about us, dogs available for adoption, and greyhound links. Please share this web address with interested friends and potential adoptive families so they may learn more about this wonderful breed.

You can also reach us by email at [info@retiredgreyhoundathletes.org](mailto:info@retiredgreyhoundathletes.org)

## PRODUCT REVIEW – CLEAN BREAK CAST AND BANDAGE PROTECTOR

Submitted by Todd Yaekel

After numerous foster dogs and my greyhound, Sherry, in bandages/casts for extended periods of time the answer to my dreams has been answered. By what you ask? The miracle invention I am referring to is the Clean Break Cast and Bandage Protector made in West Allis. I must give kudos to Lori Dachelet and Dave Picard for finding it at the GPA fall event.

This simple device does what all owners of greys in a cast are required to do – keep the cast/bandage clean. You can imagine is difficult in times of rain and snow. In the past you struggled to get a plastic bag on the cast and not break the rubber band. All the while you are in some new fangled yoga position with a leash around your neck! At least that's the way

it is around here! However, with the Clean Break you put the cast in and tighten two Velcro bands. It is made of a durable nylon with a reinforced bottom. The Velcro bands are adjustable so it will accept any size cast/bandage.

Anyone interested in more information on this fantastic product you can contact them at [www.cleanbreakprotector.com](http://www.cleanbreakprotector.com). They are available in sizes from extra-small to extra-large and in a variety of colors. Check out their website for more information.

Thanks again Lori and Dave. You are making my winter so much more enjoyable. Considering how the snow is adding or should I say piling up!





### Our Mission Statement

Retired Greyhound Athletes, Inc. is a volunteer, non-profit organization whose primary purpose is the placement of retired racing greyhounds in qualified homes. We provide ongoing support to ensure successful dog/owner relationships, and provide public education about the needs of this unique breed. Our mission is grounded in the promotion of the welfare of retired racing greyhounds.



### Golrusk Pet Care Center, Inc.

1991 Allouez Avenue  
Green Bay, WI 54311  
(920) 468-7956  
Fax (920) 468-5058

Janice Grosskopf

## FUNDRAISING NEWS

### THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Very special thanks go out to the following folks who have made recent donations to Retired Greyhound Athletes:

**Helen Koett, Janet Lull, Donna Schuman, Linda Page & Diane Murray**, in memory of Darlene Dachelet

**Petco's Greyhound Planet Days**

**Manitowoc Harley Davidson**



### SAVE THE DATE!!!

The 2nd Annual RGA Greyter Open will be held at Westridge Golf Course, Neenah on August 1, 2009. Join us for the fun.

If you are interested in volunteering or donating prizes, please contact Lori Dachelet 920.757.9075

### FREE WAYS TO DONATE

#### GoodSearch.com

GoodSearch.com is used like any other search engine, and RGA receives money (about a penny) per search! The following link will take you directly to the search window that benefits RGA (you will automatically see our info under the "I'm supporting" window). If it does not work, go to [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) and find us in the pull-down menu.

[www.goodsearch.com/?charityid=814087](http://www.goodsearch.com/?charityid=814087)

#### Pick 'n Save — "We Care" Program

With RGA designated as your charity of choice (done when you apply for your card, or ask how to designate us if you have an existing card), Pick 'n Save automatically donates to RGA when you use your card. Our account number is **664200**.



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sat. January 10	Petco, Appleton West, Manitowoc	11 to 1
Sat. January 17	Petco, Appleton East, Green Bay	11 to 1
Sat. February 14	Petco, Appleton West, Manitowoc	11 to 1
Sat. February 21	Petco, Appleton East, Green Bay	11 to 1
Sat. March 14	Petco, Appleton West, Manitowoc	11 to 1
Sat. March 21	Petco, Appleton East, Green Bay	11 to 1
March 27-29	WBAY Pet Expo	
Sat. April 11	Petco, Appleton West, Manitowoc	11 to 1
Sat. April 18	Petco, Appleton East, Green Bay	11 to 1

Please note that this schedule is subject to change. Volunteers are always needed for these events. If you are interested in representing RGA at any event, please contact Dave Picard at [dpicard@live.com](mailto:dpicard@live.com) or 920.336.1580.

## HELPING A LITTLE GIRL IN NEED

RGA is pleased to introduce Zippy! Zippy broke her leg in a schooling race on Fri November 14. It was a horrible break; several of her bones were shattered and her bones were through her skin. Initially, officials at the track were unsure if she would survive the accident. We received a call from the kennel owner asking if we would be able to help this sweet little girl. Zippy was a favorite at the kennel, one of the helpers was moved to tears when he saw Zippy after her accident.

RGA was able to find a foster home for her and arrange surgery that afternoon with Dr. Korosec at Elkhorn Veterinary. Dr. Korosec is no stranger to greyhounds; he was the main vet to the Geneva Lakes Greyhound Track before it closed. He was very concerned about Zippy because of the lack of bone available to stabilize the leg. A plate was out of the question because there wasn't enough bone to attach it to so a pin and a great deal of wire were needed to help stabilize the injury. Going into surgery it was unclear if this would be possible; if Dr. Korosec was unable to stabilize the calcaneus bone his recommendation was to amputate the leg. Although extreme, greyhounds have lived very full, happy lives with three legs. This was discussed and RGA agreed with Dr. Korosec. With the game plan in place Dr. Korosec did try to ease our minds by reminding us that greyhounds like to heal and are remarkable patients. This gave us great hope for this little girl.

Several hours later we received a call from Dr. Korosec. Our first question was "Does she have four legs?!" He answered quickly with a "Yes"! He was able to stabilize the calcaneus bone with

wire and a pin. It was a very long surgery and we are very grateful to Dr. Korosec to his commitment to saving Zippy's leg. Although the surgery is considered a success, it is still unsure if Zippy may need additional surgeries. Because of the severity of the break this may be required and we will not know this until later in her recovery.

Zippy was picked up by Todd Yaekel and Maggie Streed at Elkhorn Vet while taking Honey #1 to her final appointment. Honey received a clean bill of health that day and was adopted by Maggie and Jim Streed while Zippy came home with lots of meds. As expected, this little girl was in a great amount of pain and was prescribed some heavy duty pain meds while at the vet and for the first week after surgery.

Back in Appleton, it was discovered that Zippy was also in heat! The foster home who had agreed to take Zippy had two males and may not have been a real relaxing atmosphere for her to recover! The Yaekel family graciously agreed to foster the little girl as they have all females. Thank you!!!!

Zippy is doing wonderfully! She has started to break out of her shell and is enjoying toys and giving and receiving love. She is so small that a small belly warmer looks huge on her and goes about half way down her tail, so when that tail is wagging, which it does a lot!, her belly warmer is getting a work out too! She is precious.

Although she is doing well, Zippy is not out of the woods yet. We pray that she will not need

additional surgery. It would be wonderful if all the fragments heal together and she is able to recover with a good stable leg. The first surgery was \$1,950.00. This is for the surgery alone; with no additional surgeries her care may reach the \$3,000.00 mark easily. She will be going back to Elkhorn Vet for all her follow up care which will include X-rays at each appointment to ensure the leg is healing properly. While Dr. Korosec is very kind to RGA, this type of injury has a great cost. If you are interested in contributing to Zippy's care donations are greatly appreciated.

Please keep Zippy in your prayers for a successful recovery. She does have a long road ahead of her, but as Dr. Korosec says, greyhounds like to heal!

Contributions may be made to:

RGA  
Lisa Knoff  
609 S. Covenant Lane  
Appleton WI 54915-3371

If interested in adopting Zippy please contact Janet McIntyre at [janetsgreys@new.rr.com](mailto:janetsgreys@new.rr.com) or 920-734-6224.



## GIVING JOSALYN A LIFT

Meet Josalyn! Josalyn is a wonderful playful red female who needed some very special surgery. She needed surgery to treat Perivulvar



Dermatitis also known as vulvar fold dermatitis or crotch rot. This condition can occur in greyhound females from the testosterone given to them to prevent the dog from going into heat when training or racing. The testosterone given can produce, in underdeveloped young dogs, a vulva very small which can develop excessive moisture and inflammation. It can be very painful for these dogs. Dr. Barr with Northern Lights Greyhound Adoption in Coon Rapids Minnesota is an expert with the procedure needed to correct the chronic skin condition. The procedure, epispioplasty is a very delicate surgery as over or under compensating can result in additional discomfort for the dog.

RGA had scheduled to bring Josalyn into our foster care program. We spoke to Dr. Jessica Barker, the vet with Dairyland Greyhound Park. She made us aware of Josalyn's special needs and told us that Dr. Barr had agreed to bring her into their program and give Josalyn the surgery she needed to live a very comfortable life. The only obstacle standing in the way of Josalyn getting the surgery she needed was a ride to Northern Lights Adoption Center.

Todd and Troy Yaekel volunteered to give Josalyn the lift she needed! Josalyn was picked up from Dairyland and the Yaekel's opened their home to her for several days until arrangements could be made to make the trip to Minnesota. The only comment I heard from her stay at the Yaekel's was "she should have been a brindle!". She had a good deal of energy!

We are happy to report that Josalyn's surgery was a success and she has since found her forever home!

RGA would like to take this opportunity to thank the Yaekel family for opening their

home and transporting Josalyn to Minnesota. It is a long trip and this was a wonderful gift given to a very special spirited little girl.

RGA is very appreciative of all the volunteers that help in the care and placement of these wonderful animals. No act of volunteerism is overlooked or goes unappreciated. If you would like to volunteer please contact Dave Picard or any member of RGA. We are always in need of volunteers to promote greyhound adoption. It may be bringing your dog to a meet and greet, working on a committee for a fundraiser, volunteering for a fundraiser, fostering, opening your home to a dog while a foster home is on vacation, transporting dogs to vet appointments or submitting your story about greyhounds to the newsletter. There are many ways to help families learn how wonderful greyhounds are as companions.

If you would like additional information on Perivulvar Dermatitis there is a wonderful article in Celebrating Greyhounds magazine summer 2008.

## GET RACING VIDEOS OF YOUR HOUNDS

By Bob Nash & Dana Miller  
 American Teletimer, Inc.  
 Video Services for Dairyland Greyhound Park

Now that you have found the perfect companion, why not bring home a piece of their history? Videos of your greyhounds' racing history are available! We have races from Dairyland starting in May 2002 to present. We also have selected Geneva Lakes races from June-November 2005.

For a small fee, we can provide you with a personalized VHS tape or DVD of your new companion's racing history. Contact us at 262-612-8228 to see how we can help you or answer any questions you may have. Please have your greyhound's racing name so we can assess racing reports.

### AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION

**Tucker:** Tucker is a wonderful brindle boy who loves people! He will be a wonderful addition to any fur family!

**Hank:** A very handsome large brindle boy! Hank is a big boy, but he is as sweet as he is big!

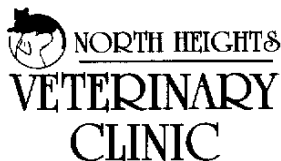
**Zippy:** See included story about Zippy

*If you are interested in meeting either Hank or Tucker please contact Janet McIntyre at [janetsgreys@new.rr.com](mailto:janetsgreys@new.rr.com) or 920-734-6224. Photos can be seen at:*

[www.retiredgreyhoundathletes.org](http://www.retiredgreyhoundathletes.org)

### NEW RGA TAGS

If you would like new RGA tags for your pups, please contact Lori Dachelet at 920-757-9075 or [ldachelet@new.rr.com](mailto:ldachelet@new.rr.com)



Bruce Byom, D.V.M.  
 Lynn McDermott, D.V.M.

(920) 739-7816

1001 W. Northland Avenue • Appleton, Wisconsin 54914

## OVER THE RAINBOW

We honor the greyhounds who have passed on. Please let us know if there is a hound who should be remembered. May the list always be short.

**Ebbie** (YF Factor)  
 sadly missed by Dee & John Williams

**Daisy** (Myokie Daisy)  
 sadly missed by Jim & Maggie Streed

**Dinky** (Slips Dinky)  
 sadly missed by Jim & Carol Schmirler

**Mortimer** (Devie's St. James)  
 sadly missed by Dan & Becky Furey

**Gypsy** (Silverhawk Gypsy)  
 sadly missed by Chris Marquardt



### WELCOME TO THE FAMILY!

**Astro** (Hilco Astro) September 10, 2008  
 Adopted by Ken & Karen Anderon

**Flame** (Flaming Psychic) October 29, 2008  
 Adopted by Dick & Mary Eckert

**Holly** (Hawaiian Honey) November 3, 2008  
 Adopted by Bruce & Kathy Liesch

**Rose** (Bohemian Dab) November 22, 2008  
 Adopted by Bill Grabow & Rod Bergman

**Honey** (High Heels Honey) November 25, 2008  
 Adopted by Jim & Maggie Streed

**Grady** (Shady Grady) December 4, 2008  
 Adopted by Laura & Adam Wolfgram

**Bella** (AMF Bad Influence) December 5, 2008  
 Adopted by Terri McGuire

# WELCOME

### NOTICE

RGA is not able to accept for placement a greyhound that has been placed by a different adoption group, without the prior consent of said adoption group.

## Reunion Planning Underway for 2009

Mark your calendar for June 14, 2009 - RGA's next reunion! Planning is underway for a fun-filled day with something for everyone. The event will take place from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Winnegamie Dog Club. We'll have vendors, refreshments, auctions and, of course, a chance for you and your hound(s) to reunite with old friends!

Check out the registration form included with this issue of "The Final Turn" and watch for future updates on the fun in upcoming newsletters. Everyone is welcome to attend, however the only dogs to be admitted are retired racing greyhounds.

This is a major fundraiser for RGA and all proceeds will help retiring racers to find their forever homes. Hope to see you there!

**Register Now for the Retired Greyhound Athletes – Run, Roach & Roo Greyhound Reunion!**

**Sunday, June 14, 2009 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.**

**Winnegamie Dog Club, Menasha, Wisconsin**

- YES, I plan to attend!
- YES, I would like to volunteer for reunion planning!

Number of people attending \_\_\_\_\_ Number of greyhounds attending \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**I would like to order t-shirts (please indicate quantity)**

Small	_____ orange	_____ purple
Medium	_____ orange	_____ purple
Large	_____ orange	_____ purple
XL	_____ orange	_____ purple
2XL (\$20)	_____ orange	_____ purple



I am unable to attend but would like to make a donation of .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Registration fee (\$15 per family) .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

T-shirts (optional; \$18 each for sizes S-XL and \$20 each for 2XL ) .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

To register, please send this completed registration form along with a check for the above amount payable to **Retired Greyhound Athletes**:

Todd Yaekel  
W2611 Aspen Ct.  
Appleton, WI 54915

Questions? Call Todd at (920) 687-2227



## RETIRED GREYHOUND ATHLETES

W6730 Fairlane Drive  
Greenville, WI 54942

NONPROFIT ORG  
US POSTAGE

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APPLETON, WI  
PERMIT NO. 31

## RGA Board Members

**Gary Allen**  
Appleton Events  
920.739.6008  
a\_e@att.net

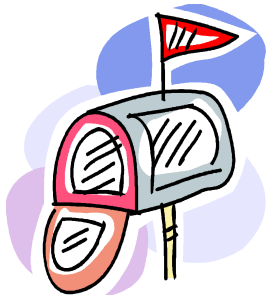
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**Matt & Wendy Fleming**  
920.886.2276  
blezek@hotmail.com

**Todd Yaekel**  
920.687.2227  
buckyaekel@new.rr.com



### **PLANNING TO MOVE?**

Please remember to notify RGA with changes of street address, email address, and/or phone number.

Contact *Lori Dachelet*  
ldachelet@new.rr.com  
920.757.9075

**Lisa Knoff**  
Treasurer & Historian  
920.954.0611  
ka6174@sbcglobal.net