



GREY T TALES



A Greyhound Connection Newsletter

Spring/Summer 2009

Pet Disaster Planning

Plan ahead for you and your Grey

Living in San Diego definitely has its perks, but with this climate also comes the possibility for disaster. For those of you who experienced the dreadful wildfires 2 years ago, you know exactly what I'm talking about! The following recommendations can help you plan ahead in the event of having to escape quickly.

- Maintain a pet emergency kit with sufficient supplies for each pet. This should contain:
- A leash and pet carrier
- A properly fitting martingale collar with securely affixed license tags
- Transportable containers with at least a week's supply of water and pet food, unbreakable water bowl or dispenser and sturdy food bowl or feeder (include a manually operated can opener and plastic can lid for canned food)
- A copy of current vet records, including rabies and wellness vaccination certificated, and at

continued on page 2

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Pet Disaster Planning, Troop 8189 Earns Bronze
- 3 Adoptions
- 4 Rainbow Bridge
- 8 Beauty and the Beast, Be A Volunteer
- 9 Daisy Takes A Bow

Troop 8189 goes Dog-Gone Wild Earning their Bronze Award!

By Sandra Chazen

On September 21st, the girls of Troop 8189 received their Girl Scout Bronze Award, the highest honor that a junior girl scout can attain. In a nutshell, the Bronze Award requires numerous hours of skill-building, badge-earning and individual leadership demonstration, all culminating in a community service project which shows the girls' promise to help others, improve their community and world and become the best they can be. And did they ever! The girls, Stephanie Bombardier, Kirsten Cassidy, Sarah Chadwick, Torrey Chazen, Alyssa Irwin, Isabel Lee, Jessica Lim, Nicole Nelson and Lauren Provo, teamed up with Greyhound Connection, a San Diego organization that places rescued retired racing greyhounds with foster families and ultimately, for adoption with a family.

The girls brainstormed on what they could do to help the organization and came up with a two-prong approach. They set up and conducted three separate weekends of "meet and greet" events at the Carmel Mountain Petco where they educated shoppers on the plight of these sweet dogs and the great work the organization does. They invited members of Greyhound Connection to participate in these "meet and greets" with their own greyhounds acting as goodwill ambassadors.

The girls handed out "wish lists" to Petco shoppers of items to purchase for use by the foster families in teaching the greyhounds how to become family pets. The donated items ranged from nail clippers to squeaky toys and shampoo to rawhides. In addition, the girls each sewed dog blankets to be given to new foster dogs that come right off the race tracks without a collar or a name. The troop would like to give a big Thank You to Mrs. Nancy Sonnenberg, a lifetime Girl

continued on page 3

least a week's worth of any needed medicines and supplies-in a waterproof container.

- A pet first aid guide and supplies including wound cleaning, dressing and bandaging material.
- Supplies to collect and dispose of pet wastes such as plastic bags, scooper, etc.
- Several recent photographs of your pet kept in a waterproof container (in case your animal gets lost).
- Listen to local emergency broadcast radio
- Start a buddy system with people in your neighborhood
- Locate and map kennels, vet facilities or other animal boarding facilities
- Be prepared to quickly evacuate your home

For more information visit: www.sddac.com

Rattlesnake Season

The simplest way to identify a rattlesnake is by seeing or hearing the traditional rattle hiss or buzz.

Rattlesnakes can lose their rattles, however, so don't rely on seeing rattles for identification.

Rattlesnakes come in a variety of colors such as brown, tan, yellow, green, gray, black, white and dull red. Many have a characteristic diamond on their backs or sides. Rattlesnakes usually hibernate in the fall and winter only to awaken in the spring.

If a rattlesnake senses your approach and has an avenue of escape, it will leave the area, probably before you even see it. Startling a snake is the way that most people get bitten. Should you encounter a rattlesnake, or hear its warning rattle, stand still until you have located the snake, then walk away from it calmly. Rattlesnakes cannot crawl as fast as you can walk, and you should have no problem leaving the area.

Rattlesnakes fulfill a vital ecological role. They primarily eat rodents, but they will also eat rabbits, gophers, squirrels, chipmunks, birds and lizards.

Rattlesnakes can strike in a split second! Snakebites are defensive reactions and are not meant to be an act of aggression. Rattlesnakes can strike one third to one half their own length.

Tips to help you and your grey avoid snakes:

- Wear hiking boots
- Stay on paths and trails
- Keep your dog on a leash while hiking
- Consider using a walking stick when hiking. If you encounter a snake it may strike the stick instead of your pet
- Give rattlesnakes the right of way
- If you live in an area where rattlesnakes have been found, check your yard before letting your pets out to play



ADOPTIONS 2007-2008

Oct 2007

Zoey (Nosey) Amanda & Brady Molter San Diego

Nov 2007

Sunset Jennifer Secker Oceanside

Bob (Beach) Molly & Leon Tenebruso San Clemente

Scotty Melissa & Brent Johnson San Marcos

Pancho Melissa & Brent Johnson San Marcos

Dec 2007

Maximus (Ice Tea) Michael & Lizbeth Miller San Diego

Jan 2008

Chi Martina Wetmore Mission Viejo

Kayla (Carmela) Roxanne & Ian Rosengarten San Diego

Pecos Alexandra & Roger Ford San Diego

Feb 2008

Delyla (Skippy) Kimberly & Isaisas Vargas San Clemente

Buddy (Bumber) Gloria & Ron Simmons Carlsbad

March 2008

GiGi Kevin & Heather Hudson San Diego

Pele (Sissy) Michael & Phyllis Krawczak Santee

May 2008

Cricket (Royal) Heidi Farrance & Ursula Brenner Palm Desert

June 2008

Kennedy Monica & Kevin Barry San Diego

Georgie (George) Roger Laferriere & Allen Roske San Diego

July 2008

Bobbie Sue Calvert Oceanside

Aug 2008

Lindsey Laura & Gary Geren San Marcos

Nov 2008

Whisper Roger Lafferriere & Allen Roske San Diego

Dec 2008

Forest (Raider) Kimberly & Isaias Vargas San Clemente

Rosie (Rose) Wally Lacey Fallbrook

Troop Earns Bronze (continued)

Scout who raised four Girl Scouts of her own, who donated fifteen fleece dog blankets and dog toys to the cause. All in all, the girls made and collected approximately \$800.00 in pet supplies from Petco. Great job, Girl Scouts!



Photo: From Left to Right: Leader Sandra Chazen, Sarah Chadwick, Isabel Lee, Nicole Nelson, Kirsten Cassidy, Jessica Lim, Stephanie Bombardier, Lauren Provo, Leader Blair Provo, Torrey Chazen. Not pictured: Alyssa Irwin

ADOPTIONS 2009

Jan 2009

Moe Amy & Roger Elliott Carlsbad

Trooper Val & Chuck Charland Murietta

Dory Fae (Fae) Val & Chuck Charland Murietta

Mar 2009

Sprinter (Piper) Tim & Susie Aldrich Oceanside

Robyn Michael Blattner & Taylor Milford San Diego

April 2009

Holly Salvatore & Stephanie Basoune Escondido

Banyan (Montana) Allison & Christopher Rynne San Diego

Eagle Monica & Andrew Hoffman San Diego

Larry Monica & Andrew Hoffman San Diego

Zero (Petey) Melanie Sponselee San Diego

May 2009

Brindie Amber Whelton & Jason Neal Murietta

Pharaoh (Buster) Shanna McDonell San Diego

Rainbow Bridge



**Peaches, Loved By
Linda Hess**



**Logan, Loved By Allison
& Christopher Rynne**



**Hillary, Loved By Debbie
Hagen**



**Bandit, Loved By Debbie
& Martin Zam**



**Norm, Loved By Erich &
Angie Schmidt**

Rainbow Bridge



**Annie, Loved and Missed
very much by Lois & Paul
Niven**



To live in this world you must be able to do three things: to love what is mortal; to hold it against your bones knowing your own life depends on it; and when the time comes to let it go, to let it go.

-Mary Oliver



**Top Gun, Loved By
Wanda Abeyta**



**Simon, Loved By Nancy
Lazar**



**Cash, Loved By Laura &
Gary Geren**



**Kirk, Loved by Valeri &
Chuck Charland**

Rainbow Bridge



**Cleopatra, Loved By
Davis & Cherylyn
Beasley**



**Chipshot, Loved By Kate &
Ben Echeverria**



**Tory, Loved By Angela
Eubanks**



Swick, Loved By Julie Lawrence



**Heather, Loved By Barbara &
Al Olliveras**

Also remembered but not pictured:
Corina, Loved by Wanda & Mike Abeyta
Pass, Loved by Debi Ewing

Rainbow Bridge



Cosmo, passed over the Rainbow Bridge on 6/1/09 at 12 years old. He was adopted by Melissa Krone and Steve Donovan from Greyhound Friends for Life in northern California.



Sunny

God saw you getting tired and a cure was not to be.
So He put His arms around you and whispered "come to me."
With tearful eyes we watched you and saw you pass away.
Although we loved you dearly, we could not make you stay.
A golden heart stopped beating, soulful eyes at rest.
God broke our hearts to prove to us He only takes the best.
You did not go alone, for part of us went with you the day
He took you home.

*—In Memory of our beautiful boy, Sunny, Aug. 5 2000-April 3, 2009
Loved by Monica Fett, Steve Blood, Lulu and many others*



Beauty and the Beast Charity Event

August 3, 2008- La Jolla Spa MD partnered with Greyhound Connection and the San Diego Humane Society this year for the first annual Beauty and the Beast Charity Event. Spa MD roped off its outside garage area and turned it into a playground for people and their pets! Legend, Journey, and Zinfandel represented the greyhound contingency and enamored the crowd with their sweet and gentle personalities. Among the other vendors were Sarah Nee photography, Clothes by Kaneta, Pilates of La Jolla, Sweet Panda Pet Sitting, Muttropolis, and San Diego Pets Magazine. Food was donated from Extreme Pizza and La Jolla Brew House, and there was even a fashion show for the best-dressed dog! Dogs and owners alike were given the chance to showcase their stuff and walk the runway. The winner of the competition was Dr. Dylan, a poodle who had his own set of scrubs and stethoscope. The inside of the spa housed the champagne, spa tours and silent auction.



Donations were abundant from local businesses, whether it is a gift certificate to George's on the Cove, or a \$500 gift card from Charriol Jewelers; all of La Jolla came together to help raise money for Greyhound Connection and the SDHS. The event has even been featured in September's issue of Riviera Magazine. I am proud to say we were able to raise \$725 for greyhounds alone both in cash donations and money raised from the silent auction! There was such a positive response from the crowd that they were inquiring when the next event would be. Stay tuned!

Be a Volunteer!

Greyhound Connection is looking to fill the following positions:

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Responsible for maintaining updated volunteer list. Recruiting and scheduling volunteers for events.

EVENT COORDINATOR

Contacting street fairs, pet stores, walks to schedule events. Accurate scheduling and coordinate with Volunteer Coordinator.

FUND RAISING COORDINATOR

Write letters for donations. Schedule fund raising events, coordinate with Event and Volunteer Coordinator.

SECRETARY

Accurate taking and emailing meeting notes. Keep records of previous board meetings, write agenda for meetings.

ADOPTION COORDINATOR

Works with home reps and fosters to place dogs.

HOME REPS AND FOSTER HOMES NEEDED

Please reply to Debbie Zam at greyhound_connection@yahoo.com if you need more info and/or are interested in volunteering and keeping Greyhound Connection going.



Rubber Stamps used with permission:
www.voyagersjewelrydesign.com

Ready for Adoption

Fernie is a racing dog from Guam who came to the U.S. with quite a story. He is one of over a hundred greyhounds that have been part of an amazing rescue effort. For the complete story of the Guam Dog Rescue, please go to www.guamgreyhounds.org.

Fern is a four year old small black male with a sweet personality. He arrived a diamond in the rough, but all the TLC in his foster home is slowly bringing out the gem in him. Fern is a very independent and active boy who loves to spend his time taking in the sights and sniffs of the outside. Fernie gets very excited about his current morning walks, but once out and about he walks very well on his leash. Gentle and well mannered by nature, he's in the midst of learning a lot of new things about the sweet life. Fern is very comfortable in the company of other medium to large breed dogs but is a little too curious to be around small fluffy dogs and kitties. He would also do well living with older children. Fern has come a long way to live out his California dream and is looking for someone to share it all with.



Daisy Takes a Bow

By Constance Fett

In 2006, it was a significant time in life when I adopted my now 6-year-old Greyhound, Daisy, from Greyhound Connection. At that time I'd suffered more than my share of personal losses including the death of a beloved dog. When I heard about Daisy I knew she was the one. She lifted me out of my cycle of grief into a more positive way of thinking. Well—she did—just not in the way I imagined...



Daisy had issues, and me, with my Greyhound/dog ignorance helped exacerbate those issues, but not for the better. My vet recommended Trainer's Academy, a dog training facility, whose motto is "positive reinforcement." It's run by an animal behaviorist who offers dog training, doggie daycare, and private counseling. They even have a program especially tailored for rescued Greyhounds and their new parents.

Daisy thrived in this program, learning basic obedience and a few tricks, but the issues remained, even getting little worse. I have to admit that I did a few things they advised against, like take her to the dog parks. This might not be a negative experience in all cases—with Daisy it exacerbated her issues. It was then I consulted the animal behaviorist and took her advice. Daisy thrived in this environment by moving forward to become a Canine Good Citizen and more importantly a Certified Therapy Dog.

We visit hospitals, nursing facilities, and rehab centers. She never fails to bring smiles, sometimes-happy tears and especially gratitude. The times she doesn't want to get too close I've taught her to bow and this suffices. I get many questions and compliments about her good behavior and looks. Daisy brings a moment's reprieve to an otherwise gloomy situation.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

GREYHOUND ANNUAL PICNIC

SEPTEMBER 2009

ENCINITAS STREET FAIRE

Fall 2009

GREYHOUND WALKING CLUB

PLEASE VISIT FOR MORE DETAILS:

<http://gwcsdc.homestead.com/index.html>



Daisy Takes a Bow (continued)

Being a retired registered nurse I did not always get smiles, but more than likely my loftiest deeds brought a relief of pain and suffering and/or a delivery of sad news. It was not an easy job, yet I did the best I could—so you can see how gratifying this new role with Daisy is to me.

As with adopting a human and/or animal you have to go forth with an attitude of, how can I make life better for them? Love will follow. Always seek the advice of those more knowledgeable and experienced than you. It takes a while, but the rewards are endless.



CAN YOU FIND THE GREYHOUND?

Photo submitted by Sue Calvert (Bobbi in the middle)

