



Greyhound Rescue, Inc.

Adoption Manual New Owner's Guide

Caring for your Retired Racing Greyhound...

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Thoughts of a Greyhound

by: Kathleen Gilley - from a seminar in 1998

This breed has never been asked to do anything for itself, make any decisions or answer any questions. It has been waited on, paw and tail. The only prohibition in a racing Greyhound's life is not to get into a fight -- or eat certain stuff in the turn out pen.

Let us review a little. From weaning until you go away for schooling, at probably a year and a half, you eat, grow and run around with your siblings. When you go away to begin your racing career, you get your own "apartment," in a large housing development. No one is allowed in your bed but you, and when you are in there, no one can touch you, without plenty of warning.

Someone hears a vehicle drive up, or the kennel door being unlocked. The light switches are flipped on. The loud mouths in residence, and there always are some, begin to bark or howl. You are wide awake by the time the human opens your door to turn you out. A Greyhound has never been touched while he was asleep.

You eat when you are fed, usually on a strict schedule. No one asks if you are hungry or what you want to eat. You are never told not to eat any food within your reach. No one ever touches your bowl while you are eating. You are not to be disturbed because it is important you clean your plate.

You are not asked if you have to "go outside." You are placed in a turn out pen and it isn't long before you get the idea of what you are supposed to do while you are out there. Unless you really get out of hand, you may chase, rough house and put your feet on everyone and everything else. The only humans you know are the "waiters" who feed you, and the "restroom attendants" who turn you out to go to the bathroom. Respect people? Surely you jest.

No one comes into or goes out of your kennel without your knowledge. You are all seeing; all knowing. There are no surprises, day in and day out. The only thing it is ever hoped you will do is win, place or show, and that you don't have much control over. It is in your blood, it is in your heart, it is in your fate - or it is not.

And when it is not, then suddenly you are expected to be a civilized person in a fur coat. But people don't realize you may not even speak English. Some of you don't even know your names, because you didn't need to. You were not asked or told to do anything as an individual; you were always part of the "condo association"; the sorority or fraternity and everyone did everything together, as a group or pack. The only time you did anything as an individual is when you schooled or raced, and even then, You Were Not Alone.

Suddenly, he is expected to behave himself in places he's never been taught how to act. He is expected to take responsibility for saying when he needs to go outside, to come when he is called, not to get on some or all of the furniture, and to not eat food off

counters and tables. He is dropped in a world that is not his, and totally without warning, at that.

Almost everything he does is wrong. Suddenly he is a minority. Now he is just a pet. He is unemployed, in a place where people expect him to know the rules and the schedule, even when there aren't any. (How many times have you heard someone say, "He won't tell me when he has to go out"? What kind of schedule is that?)

Have you heard the joke about the dog who says, "My name is No-No Bad Dog, What's yours?" To me that is not even funny. All the protective barriers are gone. There is no more warning before something happens. There is no more strength in numbers. He wakes up with a monster human face two inches from his. (With some people's breath, this could scare Godzilla.) Why should he not, believe that this "someone," who has crept up on him, isn't going to eat him for lunch? (I really do have to ask you ladies to consider how you would react if someone you barely knew crawled up on you while you were asleep?) No, I will not ask for any male input.

Now he is left alone, for the first time in his life, in a strange place, with no idea of what will happen or how long it will be before someone comes to him again. If he is not crated, he may go through walls, windows or over fences, desperately seeking something familiar, something with which to reconnect his life. If he does get free, he will find the familiarity, within himself: the adrenaline high, the wind in his ears, the blood pulsing and racing through his heart once again--until he crashes into a car.

Often, the first contact with his new family is punishment, something he's never had before, something he doesn't understand now, especially in the middle of the rest of the chaos. And worst of all, what are the most common human reactions to misbehavior? We live in a violent society, where the answer to any irritation is a slap, punch, kick, whip, or rub your nose in it. Under these circumstances, sometimes I think any successful adoption is a miracle.

He is, in effect, expected to have all the manners of at least a six-year old child. But, how many of you would leave an unfamiliar six-year old human alone and loose in your home for hours at a time and not expect to find who knows what when you got back? Consider that if you did, you could be brought up on charges of child abuse, neglect and endangerment. Yet, people do this to Greyhounds and this is often the reason for so many returns.

How many dogs have been returned because they did not know how to tell the adopter when they had to go out? How many for jumping on people, getting on furniture, counter surfing, separation anxiety, or defensive actions due to being startled or hurt (aka growling or biting)? So, let's understand: Sometimes it is the dog's "fault" he cannot fit in. He is not equipped with the social skills of a six-year old human. But you

can help him...

The Newest Member of Your Family

Owning a retired racing Greyhound can be a rewarding and exciting experience. It can also be frustrating. When you look at your new dog, you see a fully-grown and, in some cases, mature dog. However, the history of this breed and your new dog in particular, is very different from most other dogs. A retired racing Greyhound has had a very unique background that warrants particular consideration during the introduction and adjustment to its new family and home. Acclimation to his new home will take some time and patience.

Your Greyhound has led a very structured life. The routine seldom presented any deviations on a day-to-day basis. If your Greyhound is properly familiarized with a new routine, it will make the transition less stressful for both of you. It is important to understand that Greyhounds are very social animals and have been handled by many, many people over the course of its life.

Every Greyhound comes to you leash trained. They have learned how to walk quietly and easily next to you. **NEVER** unleash a Greyhound in an unfenced area. Centuries of breeding and instinct will cause them to chase anything that moves, whether you see anything to chase or not. They will bolt—achieving speeds up to 45 mph--they will not listen to you—chances are they can get hit by a car before you ever catch up to them. Please read “*Trust, A Deadly Disease*” included in this manual.

Greyhounds are sight hounds--they hunt by sight rather than by smell--the way other breeds hunt. Sight hounds, have extraordinarily keen vision and can sight objects, such as squirrels and birds, up to a half-mile away. The human eye cannot detect objects at that distance. Your new dog can sight, focus and be off after the prey in a matter of seconds, before you can even know something has caught his attention. **NEVER** allow your dog off leash outside a fenced enclosure. It could be the last time you ever see him!

Greyhounds do not have a strong homing ability. Since they have been raised in kennels for hundreds of generations, that need for survival hasn't been used, and it has been lost. Greyhounds that do get free of enclosures can find themselves lost right next door!

Your Greyhound should be brought home when someone will be present to supervise the adaptation for at least two or three days. When you arrive home with your new family member, make every attempt to stay with the dog the rest of that day and night. During this time, concentrate on introducing the Greyhound to the house and the area it will be using to relieve itself. Keep in mind your Greyhound has probably never been inside a home before. Decide where you will keep the water bowl and where you will feed him. Show him the water bowl and be sure to leave it in the same place.

Begin crating that evening. Within a week, your Greyhound should understand that although left alone during the day, someone will always return home. Having more than one dog/Greyhound reduces the likelihood of anxiety when the dogs are left alone. The learning process can be very easy for some Greyhounds and not as quick for others. The key is patience, for you will eventually be rewarded with a very loyal, loving companion.

Your Greyhound might follow you around from room to room—bathroom, kitchen, and basement, upstairs--downstairs--everywhere. This is part of the adjustment process and may eventually subside or never stop!

During the adjustment phase, the more time you spend walking, playing and running with your Greyhound, the easier the transition for the Greyhound from “athlete to family pet”.

You will soon learn that Greyhounds are friendly and courteous to everyone—total strangers included. But, it is you they learn to trust and bond with. They do not, however, blindly trust an individual. They are independent, almost cat-like in the way they choose to display their affection towards you. The more time you spend with your Greyhound, the more you interact with your dog, the deeper your relationship becomes. Once your dog feels comfortable with you and his/her new surroundings begin to take him with you wherever you go. This helps facilitate the bonding process.

Your Greyhound's personality will gradually emerge. This will not be an overnight process and may take several months to a year before his personality completely develops. That's why we cannot stress strongly enough—**PATIENCE, PATIENCE AND MORE PATIENCE**. This will not be the case with every Greyhound but, just when you think you finally know your dog, the “old dog” has learned a new trick! This helps facilitate the bonding process. This also allows your dog to learn his new world—with someone they have learned to trust. They are

very sociable creatures and will be curious about everything.

MAKING THE INTRODUCTIONS

Greyhound Rescue, Inc., should have been advised if there were additional pets in the house prior to taking your Greyhound home. There are several reasons for this. Some Greyhounds have high prey drives and should not be placed in homes with other small furry pets, i.e., cats or even other small dogs. Some Greyhounds do not particularly like other breeds of dogs--small or large. When introducing your new Greyhound to his housemates, following a few simple rules will make the transition easier. Always keep the dogs on a non-extendible leash during this process. Also remember that Greyhounds are familiar with, comfortable with, and not threatened by a muzzle. Please use one during the introductions! Another valuable tool that many of our multifamily pet owners use, especially when the Greyhound is becoming familiar with the cat, is a spray bottle. A firm NO and a quick spray will teach the dog that the cat is off limits. Utilize the spray bottle technique anytime there is undesirable behavior and it will help reinforce the training process.

INTRODUCING DOGS

- Introduce the dogs on neutral grounds outside the home and have the Greyhound muzzled. He doesn't mind and it makes him less threatening to the other dog.
- After the initial sniffing and a short walk, bring the dogs inside the house together. Continue to have both on leashes and the Greyhound muzzled.
- At the first sign of aggression--raised hackles, snarling with a curled lip, or stiffly raised tails, tug quickly, but firmly, on the leash with a sharp "**NO!**"
- Watch your dogs closely for the first few days until your comfort level has been reached and they are at ease with one another. Supervise all play until you are comfortable.
- Always remind them that YOU are their alpha. You **MUST** remain in charge at all times.

INTRODUCING CATS

- Place a muzzle on your dog and keep him leashed.
- Make sure the cat is in a safe place while your new Greyhound explores the house.
- Then allow the cat access to where you are.
- While your dog is still muzzled and leashed, allow the dog to examine the cat. If the dog lunges for the cat, snap the leash with a sharp "**NO!**"
- If your cat is older or shy, this process may take a few weeks. Remember that cats are quick and very good at defending themselves. If you are in doubt, ALWAYS muzzle your dog if the two will be unattended, or better yet, do not allow your Greyhound access to the cat unless you are home and able to supervise.
- Even though your Greyhound accepts the cat indoors, outside is another story. The dog may think the cat is fair game once outside. Many "cat safe" Greyhounds will sleep with the cat indoors, but chase the cat outside. Until you are certain this is just a game and the cat is in fact safe, do not allow the cats and dogs outside together unattended and be prepared to intervene if necessary.
- Take note that most Greyhounds will eat almost anything--cat food seems to be a particular favorite. Also keep the litter box in a place that affords privacy for the cat and no access to the dog.

CHILDREN

- If this is your child's first dog, there is a learning period for the child too. Teach your child to respect the newest family member. That also means **DO NOT DISTURB** the dog when he is eating or sleeping.
- Never leave the child and dog unsupervised--whether inside or outside of the house. Either one could get hurt while running and playing.
- When introducing your new dog to your child, encourage the child to pet and touch, but not to hug the dog around the neck until both have gotten to know one another and feel comfortable with each other.
- Never leave your younger child and dog alone unsupervised. The jerky movements of young children can be interpreted as threatening by your dog.
- Do not allow your child to approach the sleeping dog and jump on the pillow with the dog. This can frighten the dog and he can react by growling and snapping. Little fingers and hands can get in the way of those "snapping" teeth.

These guidelines are applicable to all breeds, not just Greyhounds. There is no reason your Greyhound will not fit into your already existing established family. Exercising caution in the initial stages of expanding your family will, however, benefit everyone. Most Greyhounds like to cuddle with soft things. Don't be surprised if you find your Greyhound and small dog or cat sharing a blanket or pillow. It will be a learning experience for both of them.

MIRRORS, SLIDING GLASS DOORS AND SLIPPERY FLOORS!

Everything in the house is sooo confusing! You bring me in and I have to climb up the stairs and now you want me to walk on this slippery floor! I can stand up against this clear thing and see the outside but I can't get through it—what's the deal? Then I follow you in the bedroom and I see another Greyhound that looks just like me and moves when I move—why won't he come out and play with me?

Some Greyhounds are terrified of linoleum floors. They have a terrible time trying to negotiate them—even hardwood floors. They will learn in time how to negotiate these slippery floors. Your Greyhound may be oblivious to the TV set or it may provide some entertainment for him, especially if a barking or howling dog appears on the screen. A Greyhound may stand and stare at his reflection in the mirror for hours trying to get this mysterious dog to come out and interact with him. A flushing toilet, ringing telephone, or beeping microwave can send your dog flying down the hall—your Greyhound will react like a child first exposed to all of these new experiences.

To reduce risk of injury, it is helpful to put masking tape or Post-it-Notes at your dog's eye level on sliding glass doors (and sometimes screen doors) to prevent your new retired racer from running at it full speed to get that squirrel outside.

SOFAS AND BEDS

If it is soft, your Greyhound will love it and attempt to claim it as his/her own. If you do not want your Greyhound lying on your sofa or bed, teach them from the start that they are off limits. Your Greyhound will quickly learn to love the luxury of stretching out on the sofa, end-to-end, if allowed. There's nothing better except a bed of course! If you do not allow your Greyhound on the sofa or bed, an old blanket on the floor helps keep your dog in one spot.

The important thing is consistency. Greyhounds have good memories and won't understand when he can do something one time and the next time it is off limits. Establish the rules the first day and stick with them. Ensure each family member reinforces the same rules. Be liberal with praise. It is easier to establish good habits from the beginning than to correct them later should you change your policy after the fact.

STAIRS

Your Greyhound has probably never seen nor had to deal with stairs. You must teach him to climb them. You can get behind him and move one paw at a time, step-by-step, showing him what to do. Make sure you provide sufficient verbal praise and positive reinforcement. When learning to go down the stairs, hold his collar securely and go down the stairs slowly right next to the dog to ensure he doesn't slip or attempt to take two or three steps at a time. He will quickly learn the step routine and will be running up and down them in no time flat.

If your stairs do not have treads or carpet, they will be even more difficult for the Greyhound to navigate. While he is learning the steps, old rubber bath mats cut to fit the width of the stairs or some inexpensive rubber stair treads will help him develop confidence while learning to go up and down the stairs.

WHOO'S ALPHA?

Dogs are pack animals and look to the pack leader for protection, guidance, security and discipline. **YOU** are the pack leader--the alpha dog in your dog's pack. Your dog's health and safety are your responsibility.

Make sure your dog knows that you are in charge now and will remain in charge. Many Greyhounds are comfortable being members of the pack and will not vie for "top dog" position. However, if your dog thinks he would like to be alpha, he may show subtle signs such as ignoring you, not moving--making you step over them. Any dominance related behaviors must be halted immediately or you risk losing control of your dog. These dogs are big and strong and must know their place in the pack at all times for the safety of all concerned.

If you think you may be having a challenge for position within the pack, reinforce your dog's status. If you walk through a hallway where your Greyhound is lying, call his name and nudge him so that he moves rather than you walking around him. Don't allow your dog to sleep with you. It gives him the notion you are a littermate—an equal, not the leader. Wait until you have finished eating before you feed your dog. The alpha always eats first in a pack. Be consistent, firm, and confident in your commands. Don't scream, beg, or raise your voice. Your dog understands desperation and responds to it, but not in the way you want. When entering a doorway, you go first, and then allow your dog to follow.

WHAT TO DO IF YOUR GREYHOUND BECOMES LOST

Have your Greyhound wear his identification at all times, even when he is in the house. Someone could leave a door open or accidentally let the dog out of the door. Even if you have a fenced in yard, leave your dog's collar and ID on at all times when the dog goes outside. Someone could accidentally leave the gate open or not latch it securely. Without an ID, there is no way to know who the dog is or whom it belongs to. A non-Greyhound owner would not think to begin calling the local adoption groups to trace ear tattoos.

If you take your dog on vacation with you, prepare a temporary tag with your hotel address and phone number so that you can be easily traced.

If your dog has just escaped, immediately go after him. It's good to have a Squawker or squeak toy with you to attract his attention. Most Greyhounds are trained to chase the lure using a Squawker and will respond to it in emergency situations. Have a leash ready to attach to the dog as soon as you can get your hands on him.

If you've lost sight of the dog and more than half an hour has passed, you should ask your family/friends/neighbors to continue to search and go home and check your answering machine—someone may have already caught him.

Next, call us [Greyhound Rescue, Inc., 304-229-4944] and let us know your dog is lost. In Maryland, you can call Darlene Riden at 410-721-1154; Virginia, Judy Chopp at 703-323-0118. Should someone find your Greyhound and call us, we will be able to quickly identify who the dog belongs to through our database of dogs and owners using the dog's ear tattoos. Usually anyone who finds the dog will call you [if you have your own identification tag on the dog] or they will call the number on the tag we provided you—remember—you agreed to **ALWAYS** have that tag on your Greyhound! We cannot stress the importance of your dog wearing these ID tags—yours and ours both.

After you report the dog missing to us, begin searching the neighborhood. Also call the local animal shelters and prepare signs to post at street corners and local convenience/grocery stores.

- Always have your own identification tag on the dog **ALONG WITH** the Greyhound Rescue, Inc., tag, which has three contact numbers—one for the organization in WV, a MD contact and a VA contact.
- Always use a slip proof collar and have it on your dog at all times when outside with your dog.
- Never let your dog run off leash unless it is in a secured-fenced in area. **NEVER** means **NEVER!** Greyhounds cannot be trained to ignore their instinct to chase

If you move, promptly notify Greyhound Rescue, Inc., of your new address and telephone number so that we can easily locate you. Purchase another ID tag with your new phone number and address and be sure it is securely fastened to your dog's collar. **PLEASE NOTIFY US OF ANY CHANGE OF ADDRESS**

OR PHONE NUMBERS!

EXERCISE AND PLAY

Greyhounds do not need any more exercise than any other dog of comparable size. They take the title "retired" very seriously and literally. They do, however, require exercise to maintain a properly working body, just as we do. Just like people, they need play to keep mentally and emotionally fit.

- Always keep your dog on a leash when not in an enclosed area.
- Greyhounds are sprinters and if you want to jog with him, you must gradually build up his stamina. Be aware of injuries to your dog's feet. The tracks and turn out areas consist of sand and dirt. The pads on their feet are rather soft. Exercise caution when introducing them to sidewalks and streets. The rough concrete and blacktop of city streets and sidewalks can cause undue wear and tear on their pads, causing soreness. They will need to "build up" those soft pads to endure the pounding on the pavements.

- Use common sense in cases of extreme temperatures. During the summer your dog is susceptible to heat

stroke and heat exhaustion.

- During the winter months, a general rule of thumb is, if you need a coat, so does your dog! Limited exercise in extreme cold is also recommended.
- Exercise with caution and make certain he is completely cooled down before feeding. There should be no strenuous exercise at least two hours before or after eating. Strenuous exercise can induce bloat—a very dangerous condition for the Greyhound.
- Clear your back yard or other exercise area of rocks and sticks. Fill any holes in the yard.
- If you have a swimming pool, teach your dog how to exit the pool in case he falls in. However, the first rule of safety is to **NEVER** leave your dog unattended around the pool. Whatever rules apply to children, apply to your Greyhound.
- Greyhounds have never had the opportunity to learn how to play. They do not understand the concept of fetch. They can be easily taught to fetch a ball or Frisbee.
- They enjoy the soft, furry "stuffies" with a squeaker inside. Check out the big, hard rubber toys called KONG. They bounce in funny directions and are excellent chew toys that promote good dental health. ALL chew toys should be used while supervised. Nothing is indestructible and pieces can become lodged in your dog's throat or cause a stricture of his esophagus.

HOUSEBREAKING

Kennels are run on a schedule and Greyhounds have always relied on the trainers to turn them out into the run at the proper time. Because they are crate trained, Greyhounds are relatively easy to housebreak. At the track they are turned out into the runs and allowed to run and take care of their business unencumbered, so you will have to teach him to "go" while on a leash if you don't have a fenced yard.

Develop your own schedule and stick to it as closely as possible--some suggestions:

- First thing in the morning
- After every meal
- After naps
- Before you leave the house for work, or to run errands
- Before bedtime
- If he seems antsy or if he is sniffing or pacing
- If he has trouble holding it through the night, cut off his water after about 7:00 pm

If you can't "read" the signals and he starts going in the house, make a sharp sound like clapping your hands and simultaneously say "NO". Then take him outside immediately. When he resumes and finishes give him lots of praise. While housebreaking, use the tools at your disposal. Confine him to his crate, an X-pen or simply fasten him to your waist by attaching his leash to your belt loop. If your hound has an accident, use an enzyme-based cleaner specifically developed to clean up pet messes. Use it on the area even if there is no stain or spot. These enzyme-based products neutralize the odors that may attract him back to the same spot.

If your Greyhound suddenly begins to eliminate in the house after weeks or months without any accidents, consult your veterinarian. There could be an underlying medical problem.

TRAINING

Greyhounds have been dominated by people during their lives at the track and are quite trainable. The key to effective training is patience, consistency and praise. Establish your relationship with your Greyhound. Find a way to communicate with and educate your hound and manage your hound's environment so that it is a win-win situation for both of you.

A couple of things to remember:

- Whatever the house rules are, enforce them at all times. One non corrected bad behavior soon develops into a bad habit.
- In most cases, a firm sharp "NO" will be enough to reprimand your dog. If not, ignore him after the reprimand for several minutes. This will serve to reinforce his guilt and may serve as a deterrent to that unwanted behavior in the future.
- If your dog seems anxious or afraid of something new, do not cuddle and baby him. This reinforces the fearsome behavior. Instead, encourage him with a confident tone of voice to face the situation and praise him when he has successfully faced it.
- Greyhounds can do very well in obedience classes. If you opt not to put your Greyhound in a class, you

should at least teach him some basic safety commands such as come, stay, sit or stop.

Note: Most Greyhounds do not sit like other breeds. Some will. Alternatively, a "down" command can be substituted for the "sit" command.

HOME ALONE AND SEPARATION ANXIETY

The life of a typical racing Greyhound is filled with people, noise and with many other Greyhounds. Your Greyhound has lived its entire life in a temperature-controlled kennel. In the kennel, your dog occupied a 2 X 4 crate.

Your Greyhound has been in the company of other dogs since birth and has never been left alone. The routine included seeing humans at least four times a day—like clockwork. To be suddenly placed in an environment where the family is gone most of the day and human contact is limited to mornings and evenings and, especially if the household does not have any other pets, will be quite an adjustment requiring some understanding on the human's part (that's you).

A Greyhound can adjust to being alone most of the day provided each family member, during the adjustment period, is patient and doesn't try to rush the process. Every dog will respond and adjust differently. In most instances, they will learn to patiently await your return and suffer little or no anxiety in the process.

Leaving a radio on helps when you leave the house, as this is a common practice in many Greyhound kennels. Also remember to leave a light on if you will not be returning until after dark. Have toys available but be sure it is not something that can break off and choke your dog. Always "childproof" your house before leaving your dog at home, especially if you have weaned your Greyhound from the crate. Or, if still in the weaning process, leave the crate door ajar so that your dog can enter/exit at his preference. Be sure to leave a pillow or blanket on the floor for your dog to lie on. When in doubt, and certainly during the transition period when everything is new, **CRATE YOUR DOG WHEN HE IS HOME ALONE.**

Some Greyhounds suffer from "separation anxiety". If separation problems begin, such as prolonged barking, whining, soiling in the house or destructive behavior, trembling, or excessive panting, start over with your hound as though you just brought him home today. This is easier than trying to treat separation anxiety.

Separation anxiety is a common problem in dogs adopted as adults. When a dog is moved from one home to another, it is more likely to develop separation anxiety. As exciting as it is to have a new Greyhound in your home, don't overdo the attention the first few days. Let him get used to the fact that he will be spending some time alone. Provide interesting distractions, such as a Kong toy. It is a hollow rubber toy found at most pet supply stores.

You can stuff the Kong with peanut butter, bits of dog biscuits or even some leftover chicken. Confine your dog using the crate or an X-pen. Also provide plenty of other fun toys to keep him occupied. A soft stuffed toy that your hound can use the way a child uses a teddy bear actually helps many retired racers overcome their fear of being alone.

If the behavior persists or worsens, talk with representatives of your adoption group for suggestions or contact your Veterinarian and eliminate the possibility of an underlying medical condition contributing to the behavior.

SLEEPING

Another aspect that encourages the bonding process is the sleeping arrangements at bedtime. Do not shut your Greyhound in a separate room to sleep. From birth, your Greyhound has always slept with many other dogs. It will be his preference to sleep in the same room with you or another family member. We hesitate to mention also that he would really love to sleep in the same bed as you as well if you let him. If this is not your preference, bring his pillow in the bedroom at bedtime and place it on the floor next to your bed. Your dog will learn this routine and in no time at all he will start telling you when it's bedtime.

Please remember that your retired Greyhound has always had his own personal sleeping space--his crate. If your dog is sleeping, arouse him gently by calling his name. When his breathing pattern changes and eyes open, you may touch him. **NEVER** arouse your dog from a deep sleep by pulling on his collar, jumping on the pillow where he is sleeping, or tickling his whiskers. He may growl, bite or snap at you.

When your dog is sleeping, it is better to leave him alone. You don't want to step on him in the middle of the night and have him startled and jump up or growl at you just because he is scared. If your Greyhound sleeps in the hallway or next to your bed, it is advisable to get him used to your presence when he is sleeping.

Do this gradually, patiently and with a quiet voice and gentle touch. Advise your children to be extremely careful

around your sleeping Greyhound. Do not allow your child to approach the sleeping dog and jump on the pillow with the dog. This can frighten him and he can react by growling and snapping. Little fingers and hands can get in the way of those "snapping" teeth.

FEEDING YOUR GREYHOUND

Some Greyhounds are very nervous when eating. They seem to be worried that someone else is going to take their food away. Some Greyhounds will load their mouths with food, leave the room (usually head for "their" pillow) drop the food and then leisurely consume it in private. They'll repeat this exercise until all food is gone.

Other Greyhounds will "inhale" their food, barely chewing, almost choking, and trying to grab every morsel before someone takes the bowl away. More food will be dropped all around the bowl than is almost consumed.

Then there's the Greyhound who comes into a multi-pet family who fiercely protects the bowl of food—even the empty bowl—that they know is theirs. They extend meal time by 15 minutes or so standing there looking around watching every move towards "their bowl". There is barking and growling, even snapping at the other animals. It is best to separate the dogs at feeding time and allow everyone to eat "in their own space" to avoid confrontations and potential dog fights until the new kid on the block adjusts to his new life and the older kids accept the new kid.

All of these behaviors described above are typical and all usually diminish in time and better manners will eventually prevail. Be patient. Everyone has to work it out in his or her own way and time.

Greyhounds generally have good appetites and will eat almost everything - some are pickier than others. Unfortunately, everything does not always agree with them and can cause diarrhea. Greyhounds have very sensitive digestive systems that respond to changes in their diets. Too many table scraps are not a good idea but if you choose to supplement your dog's kibble, add cooked rice, cooked vegetables or pasta. Once you select a good dry kibble that is well tolerated and liked by your Greyhound, stick with it. If you change abruptly, you will be treating a bad case of diarrhea.

Greyhounds should get between 4 and 5 cups of dry kibble per day depending upon current weight, size of the dog and age. Feed your dog on schedule—every morning and evening.

Greyhounds need to have their food dishes elevated when they eat. You can purchase feeding platforms or simply use a stool or an inverted bucket to sit the dog's bowl on. This prevents the dogs from choking and neck strain.

WHAT KIND OF KIBBLE?

Greyhounds are fed a protein rich diet while they are running. When they retire, a high protein diet is no longer needed and should be adjusted to reduce the amount of protein and fat they consume.

Your Greyhound will no doubt need to add a few pounds to his racing weight, but be careful not to overfeed. Ideally, you should be able to feel your dog's ribs and hipbones. They should not be prominent, but just under the skin.

Greyhounds are used to a varied diet that includes fruits and vegetables. Fruits and vegetables are good for them and make good treats or regular additions to their diet. Avoid high fiber vegetables (broccoli, carrots, and greens) until your dog has accepted and is doing well on his new diet. (**NEVER** include raw potatoes, raw onions or coffee, as these can be toxic to your Greyhound.)

Everyone has his or her own preference for dog food. Check with Denise Davis or your Vet for recommendations if you are unsure. Select a high quality Lamb and Rice or Chicken and Rice kibble from a reputable pet food store. Choose a kibble without by-products or corn. And always choose food products and treats **made in the U.S.A.** Some of the high quality brands include: Eukanuba; Iams, Nutro Max, Pedigree, and Pro Plan. Check out the pet stores on the Internet for some good deals on kibble. When they run their specials they frequently include free shipping and you have the convenience of having it delivered to your doorstep. Kibble is preferred over "wet" (canned food) as kibble has the added benefit of being abrasive and helps to clean the dog's teeth.

SUGGESTED FAVORITE ADDITIVES TO YOUR GREYHOUND'S DRY KIBBLE

- Buttermilk
- Dry, powdered milk
- Yogurt
- Cottage Cheese

- Canned Pumpkin
- Rice
- Pasta—any type: spaghetti, penne, macaroni, noodles
- Cooked vegetables: broccoli, string beans, peas

TREATS

Again, make sure all treats are made in the U.S.A. They frequently contain chemicals that are harmful to Greyhounds.

Some suggested treats:

- Large dog biscuits
- Knuckle bones
- Apples
- Bananas
- Most fruits
- Raw carrots
- Rawhide chews are a popular treat but be careful!

ONLY PURCHASE RAWHIDE CHEWS MANUFACTURED IN THE UNITED STATES. Rawhides cured in other countries have added toxic chemicals, such as formaldehyde and arsenic. These are potentially very dangerous to your Greyhound. A rawhide chew is chewed into pieces and then swallowed. Pieces can become lodged in your dog's throat. Never leave him alone with one and learn how to clear your dog's throat and airway should a piece become lodged. Also be aware that some chewy treats, such as the pig's ears, contain chemicals that you may not want your dog ingesting. Some also contain dyes that can stain your carpet or furniture. Always read the labels carefully.

HEALTH AND HEALTH CARE

Greyhounds have long been bred as athletes. Many conditions other breeds are prone to don't exist in these dogs. They are remarkably healthy, but still need regular vet care in order to maintain that level of health and to keep their vaccinations up to date.

GENERAL TIPS

Their skin is more sensitive to injury than other breeds. Maintain a first aid kit [see *Appendix VI - Putting Together a First Aid Kit*].

Clean your dog's ears with clean, warm water or an ear cleaning product available at a reputable pet supply store or ask your vet to recommend a product for this purpose. **DO NOT** use Q-tips in their ears as they could damage the ear canal.

Greyhounds have long, tough nails, which must be trimmed regularly. Use the guillotine-type nail trimmer or a dremel (rotary grinding device). The ends of the nails are dead tissue and can be clipped without pain. The trick is to trim as close to the quick as possible without actually cutting it and causing it to bleed. The quick appears as a dark line in white nails but is almost impossible to see in dark nails. The best way to begin trimming is to clip only the sharp, curved portion of the nail and then work back a bit towards the paw. Clip only a small bit at a time to avoid trouble.

Have either cornstarch or a product called Quick Stop on hand. Pet stores and your vet can also keep your dog's nails trimmed for a nominal fee.

A consistent dental care routine will help keep your dog's teeth and gums healthy. Pick up a toothbrush and canine formulated toothpaste at a pet supply store or from your veterinarian.

Greyhounds are bathed regularly at the track and some also have access to whirlpools after a race. Be aware that warm water can be so relaxing to your hound that he may become wobbly and unable to stand by himself. Be careful to protect him if he begins to fall, but continue to bathe him. **DO NOT** use human shampoo on your Greyhound! Many varieties of canine shampoo are available and formulated for your dog's individual needs.

ANESTHESIA PROTOCOLS FOR GREYHOUNDS

Greyhounds' livers metabolize toxins out of their bloodstream more slowly than other dogs of comparable size, so it is possible for harmful concentrations of these toxins to develop. Also, the breed has a very low percentage of body fat in proportion to its size. There is, on the average, only 16% fat in a Greyhound's body weight versus about 35% fat in body weight for a comparably sized dog of another breed.

Greyhounds are very sensitive to certain medications, including anesthesia. Before allowing your Greyhound to undergo **any** surgery, make sure that your vet is aware of the special anesthesia requirements for Greyhounds. In particular, barbiturates are to be avoided.

Do not be afraid to ask questions of your vet; not all are aware of a Greyhound's special anesthesia requirements. [See APPENDIX 1 – Making Anesthesia Safe for Greyhounds – a handy guide you can copy and give to your vet.]

DIARRHEA

Diarrhea can happen with any dog at anytime. Some common causes of Diarrhea are: stress; garbage picking; table scraps; changing diet [change in kibble brand].

TREATMENT

- Withhold food for 12 hours and limit water intake.
- Give your dog Imodium, Pepcid/AC (for gassy tummy) or Pepto Bismol using the recommended dosage for a child.
- Feed your dog cooked white rice. Mix 1/2 cup of rice to 1/2 of the normal amount of dry kibble for each feeding. Serve at room temperature. Increase the amount of kibble to rice ratio as diarrhea improves.
- Once the dog has returned to “normal” you can begin to introduce more of the dry kibble and reduce rice accordingly. Make a gradual transition to all dry kibble.
- Once the dog has returned to “normal” you can begin to introduce more of the dry kibble and reduce rice accordingly. Make a gradual transition to all dry kibble.
- You can also feed your dog boiled chicken or hamburger and white rice—2 cups of rice and 1 cup of cooked hamburger or chicken and 1/4 cup of dry kibble. Again gradually increase the dry kibble and decrease hamburger/chicken/rice until you have returned to a normal diet. If diarrhea returns, go back to a diet of rice and boiled chicken or hamburger only and reintroduce dry kibble slowly once again.
- **CONTACT YOUR VETERINARIAN IMMEDIATELY** if the diarrhea does not improve over a **three-day period** or if you see blood in the stool.

FLEAS AND TICKS - TREATMENT

Advantage
Frontline
Program

Check with your Vet--there are products on the market now that treat fleas, ticks and worms with one monthly dose.

Flea collars, and long lasting pesticides such as Hartz Blockade, are HARMFUL and can be FATAL to your Greyhound.

****NEVER PLACE A FLEA COLLAR ON A GREYHOUND!****

HEARTWORM

Have your Greyhound tested yearly for heartworms. Mosquitoes spread heartworm. Before your Greyhound can be treated, he must be tested. Put your Greyhound on a monthly medication to prevent the disease. Products are now on the market that combines heartworm treatment with medications which treats other parasites and even

fleas. Please check with your veterinarian to choose one of these products that will be safe for your Greyhound.

HYPOTHYROIDISM

This is a condition that occurs in Greyhounds, but it is easily treatable. If the baldness in the hindquarters continues or occurs after you have had your dog awhile, have your Vet test for this condition.

ROUNDWORMS, HOOKWORMS, TAPEWORMS AND WHIPWORMS

Your Greyhound was treated for all these worms before you adopted him. Yearly tests will reveal the presence of these parasites.

Again, medications such as Sentinel or Interceptor combine heartworm treatment with treatment of these parasites, with the exception of tapeworms. Please check with your vet for appropriate treatments.

TICK-BORNE DISEASES

The most common tick-borne diseases are Babesiosis, Ehrlichiosis, Lyme disease and Rocky Mountain spotted fever. They can go dormant for long periods of time—even years. Their symptoms are subtle and mimic a lot of other conditions making it very difficult to identify. They can be fatal if they are not diagnosed and treated early.

Symptoms can include lameness, fatigue, loss of appetite, fever, vomiting, spontaneous bleeding, depression or weight loss. They can appear, lessen or disappear. If in doubt, request a tick panel be performed through your vet. The blood sample is measured for antibodies to the organisms. If the titer levels return above a certain level, a course of treatment with antibiotics will be recommended. Currently many heartworm tests will also include a snap test to detect Lyme disease. These tests are NOT conclusive, and a negative test may just mean the titer was too low to detect and a positive test will indicate exposure but may not indicate treatment if there are no active symptoms. Additionally, even after treatment, your Greyhound will continue to test positive for the disease but titers may reduce. The titer indicates exposure and does not indicate active disease. However, if you know your dog is positive and begins exhibiting symptoms, often times it is recommended to treat the dog without additional testing. One note is to be sure to let any vet know if your dog has tested positive for a tick-borne disease. In active cases, medicating a dog with corticosteroids may allow the disease to become more active because it will suppress the dog's immune system. While it is a problem with symptomatic dogs to use corticosteroids, don't worry about treating an asymptomatic dog with corticosteroids as long as your vet is aware of your dog's history.

Unless your vet requests it, your hound will be tested for the four most common disease causing organisms. Labs do not routinely test for all four strains of Ehrlichia. They routinely test for the strains most prevalent in the region of the country where your dog resides.

It is important to remind your vet that your dog is not from MD, VA, WV, DC, and has probably traveled to many regions of the country during the course of his racing career before retirement. Your dog may have been infected with, or exposed to, a number of tick-borne disease agents which may be uncommon in your area. In many cases, Greyhounds may actually appear perfectly healthy, with virtually no symptoms of disease, but be in a carrier state and potentially exposing other dogs, including their housemates. He could have been exposed to other strains predominant in other areas of the country. That is why it is important to perform a panel covering

ALL strains of tick borne diseases. Request the lab to screen for *E. canis*, *E. risticii*, *E. platys* and *E. equi*. The facility which is most familiar with tick-borne diseases in Greyhounds is ProtaTek ReferenceLaboratory in Chandler, AZ. All Vets have laboratories they use locally. If all other illnesses have been ruled out and your Greyhound still exhibits signs of illness, insist a panel for all tick-borne strains be run using ProtaTek. At least 3cc of blood needs to be drawn, spun down and shipped overnight to:

Dr. Cynthia J. Holland
ProtaTek Reference Laboratory
574 East Aalmo Street, Ste. 90
Chandler, ZA 85225

Phone: (602) 545-8499
FAX: (602) 545-8409

Visit their web site: http://www.protatek.com/ProtaTek_Reference_Lab/protatek_reference_lab.html

WHAT TO WATCH FOR IN YOUR RETIRED RACER

Become familiar with his gait so you can easily detect a limp from a strain or sprain from running or playing. If the limp persists, see your Vet, as there could be a more serious underlying condition. Surface wounds/injuries - these can be safely treated at home with a basic first-aid kit. Cleanse the wound with hydrogen peroxide or aerosol contact lens saline solution. If the wound is bleeding, wrap it in sterile gauze. A roll of vet wrap is a simple yet convenient way to secure the gauze.

CHOOSING A GREYHOUND-FRIENDLY VETERINARIAN

Choosing a veterinarian is another important decision. Greyhounds have special needs when it comes to drugs and anesthesia. You must select a veterinarian who is familiar with the special needs of the Greyhound or your Greyhound can easily die during a routine procedure.

Greyhounds are different from other breeds of dogs in the way they respond to anesthesia, drugs and chemicals in general. Their liver metabolizes drugs and chemicals much more slowly.

Another factor is the low percentage of body fat proportionate to the dog's size and weight. The level of some drugs in a dog's system falls by going into its body fat. The less fat the dog has, the longer it takes for the drug level in the blood to fall. Therefore, extreme caution must be exercised when administering anesthesia and drugs to the Greyhound. That's why it is so critical to carefully choose a veterinarian who is familiar with the proper doses and procedures to use on your Greyhound.

It is important to choose a veterinarian in advance of your Greyhound's arrival. If you do not already have a Vet, call around and set up some interviews. Some questions to ask are:

- How much experience do you have with Greyhounds?
- Do you currently have any clients with Greyhounds?
- Are you familiar with the recommended guidelines and protocols for using anesthesia with Greyhounds?

* **APPENDIX III** lists some local veterinarians with sight hound experience in VA, MD and WV. Contact Greyhound Rescue, Inc., or the volunteers if none of these vets are in your local area and you need to find someone closer to you.

Whenever possible, combine minor surgical procedures with teeth cleaning, etc... This minimizes the number of times your dog has to be anesthetized.

TRUST: A DEADLY DISEASE

NEVER trust your dog off the leash in an unfenced area! As the weeks, months, and years pass, your Greyhound becomes more civilized and bonds closer and closer to you and so does the false security of trust. So many people have become comfortable trusting their dog to walk along beside them unleashed, or run free in a park or open field only to have a little voice from the past to whisper in your dogs ear -"Look at that cat-squirrel-whatever—it looks just like one of those fuzzy lures I used to chase—LET'S GO GET IT!!!"

It could prove to be deadly. All the calling in the world, squawkers and promises of treats does not make the dog stop and return to you. Your dog could be killed instantly by a moving vehicle in its path. Sadly, it has happened far too often.

And Finally...

Should you have ANY problems with your Greyhound or questions, do not hesitate to contact us regardless of whether it is a health issue or behavior problem. We have a great deal of experience with the breed and we have access to resources at the kennels, the tracks and to veterinarians outside of our local area who have dealt with the breed for a number of years.

We consider these individuals to be Greyhound "experts" and they are willing to consult with us, you or your vet at no charge. Due to the nature of the breed, our veterinarians do not have all the answers. Consulting with one of our "experts" can mean the difference between life and death.

APPENDIX I

Making Anesthesia Safe for Greyhounds Veterinary Information By: Dr. Harry S. Newman, DVM

Do not hesitate or be embarrassed to discuss anesthesia protocols for your Greyhound with your veterinarian. If your vet has had minimal experience with Greyhounds and anesthesia, provide them with a copy of this

information--it may save your Greyhound's life!

PRINCIPALS FOR ADMINISTERING ANESTHESIA TO GREYHOUNDS

- Never use thiobarbituates, including Biotol, Surital or Pentothal.
- Acepromazine is a safe and reliable preanesthetic tranquilizer in the Greyhound.
- Diazepam and Ketamine combination or Telazole are safe IV anesthetic drugs to use for intubation.
- Isoflurane is the gas anesthetic of choice. It is exceptionally safe and recovery is rapid.
- Greyhounds should have IV fluids administered during all major procedures lasting greater than 45 minutes. The rate of infusion is 10 ml/kg/hour.
- Greyhounds are prone to hypothermia while under anesthesia and should be kept on a heated water pad or other source of safe heat during surgery.
- There is no age limitation for surgically spaying or neutering Greyhounds, but proper presurgical workups should be done and all workups should include platelet evaluation. This will further insure the safety of an anesthetic procedure.

PROCEDURE

- Give a dose of 0.1cc of Acepromazine subcutaneously 30 minutes before administering. This will result in a smoother recovery.
- Give atropine sulfate or preferably glycopyrrolate at the time of surgical induction with the intravenous anesthetic.
- A reliable IV induction anesthetic combination consists of equal amounts of diazepam and Ketamine drawn up in the same syringe. The calculated dose of this combination is approximately 1cc of the mixture per 10 pounds of body weight. Half of the calculated dose can be given as a bonus, then administer just enough as needed to intubate. Telazole is a safe drug to use in place of diazepam and Ketamine. It is dosed as 1cc per 100 pounds of body weight. Isoflurane is then used at about 1.5%-2% to maintain anesthesia.

APPENDIX II

What's In Those Blood Tests?

By Suzanne Stack, D.V.M.

When your veterinarian sends your greyhound's blood to a lab he is most commonly asking the lab to run a CBC (Complete Blood Count). This common analysis covers these items:

BLOOD TESTS

- RBC = Red Blood Cells
- Hgb = Hemoglobin
- PCV / HCT = Packed Cell Volume/Hematocrit
- WBC = White Blood Cells

PLATELETS

For a more in-depth look, usually to determine kidney/liver functions, the veterinarian may also ask for a "Chem Panel". This will give them information about:

- T.P. = Total Protein Globulin
- Creatinine
- T4 (Thyroid)

If you don't understand what your veterinarian has ordered, ask.

Greyhound blood work has enough differences from "other dog" blood work to sometimes make it deceptively "normal" or "abnormal" if one isn't familiar with these differences. The salient differences are discussed below.

Greyhounds:

- RBC: 7.4-9.0
- Hgb: 19.0-21.5
- PCV: 55-65

Other Breeds:

- RBC: 5.5-8.5
- Hgb: 12.0-18.0
- PCV: 37-55

APPENDIX II

Greyhounds have significantly more red blood cells than other breeds. This elevates parameters for RBC, hemoglobin, and PCV/HCT, and is the reason greyhounds are so desirable as blood donors. Most veterinarians are aware of this difference. Never accept a diagnosis of polycythemia—a once-in-a-lifetime-rare diagnosis of pathologic red cell overproduction — in a greyhound. Conversely, never interpret a greyhound PCV in the 30's-40's as being normal just because it is for other dogs. A greyhound with a PCV in the 30's - 40's is an anemic greyhound. Here in Arizona, a greyhound PCV less than 50 is a red flag to check for Ehrlichia.

WBC

- Greyhound: 3.5-6.5
- Other dogs: 6.0-17.0

Other greyhound CBC changes are less well known. The greyhound's normally low WBC has caused more than one healthy greyhound to undergo a bone marrow biopsy in search of "cancer" or some other cause of the "low WBC."

Platelets

- Greyhound: 80,000-200,000
- Other dog: 150,000-400,000

Likewise, greyhound platelet numbers are lower on average than other breeds, which might be mistakenly interpreted as a problem. It is thought that greyhound WBCs, platelets, and total protein may be lower to physiologically "make room" in the bloodstream for the increased red cell load. Compounding these normally low WBC and platelet numbers is the fact that Ehrlichia, a common blood parasite of greyhounds, can lower WBC and platelet counts. So if there is any doubt as to whether the WBC / platelet counts are normal, an Ehrlichia titer is always in order. The other classic changes with Ehrlichia are lowered PCV and elevated total protein. But bear in mind that every greyhound will not have every change, and Ehrlichia greyhounds can have normal CBCs.

T.P. & Globulin

- Greyhound TP: 4.5-6.
- Other dog TP: 5.4-7.8
- Greyhound Globulin: 2.1-3.2
- Other dog Globulin: 2.8-4.2

Greyhound total proteins tend to run on the low end of normal — T.P.s in the 5.0's and 6.0's are the norm. While the albumin fraction of T.P. is the same as other dogs, the globulin component is lower.

Creatinine

- Greyhound: .8-1.6
- Other dogs: .0-1.0

APPENDIX II

Greyhound creatinines run higher than other breeds as a function of their large lean muscle mass. A study at the Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine found that 80% of retired greyhounds they sampled had creatinine values above the standard reference range for "other dogs." As a lone finding, an "elevated creatinine" is not indicative of impending kidney failure. If the BUN and urinalysis are normal, so is the "elevated" creatinine.

T4

- o Greyhound: .5-3.6 (mean 1.47+/- .63)
- o Other dogs: 1.52-3.60

These figures are from a University of Florida study of thyroid function in 221 greyhounds - 97 racers, 99 broods, and 25 studs - so it included both racers and "retired." While greyhound thyroid levels are a whole chapter unto themselves, a good rule of thumb is that greyhound T4s run about half that of other breeds.

Urinalysis

And lastly, the good news — greyhound urinalysis is the same as other breeds. It is normal for males to have small to moderate amounts of bilirubin in the urine.

Sources:

M.R. Herron, DVM, ACVS, Clinical Pathology of the Racing Greyhound , 1991.
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J.Steiss, DVM, W. Brewer, DVM, E.Welles, DVM, J. Wright, DVM, "Hematologic & Serum Biochemical Reference Values in Retired Greyhounds," Compendium on Continuing Education, March 2000.
M. Bloomberg, DVM, MS, "Thyroid Function of the Racing Greyhound," University of Florida, 1987.
D.Bruyette, DVM, ACVIM, Veterinary Information Network, 2001.

Dr. Suzanne Stack is a veterinarian in practice in Arizona. She has had many years of experience working exclusively with Greyhounds and, for that reason; we consider her one of the experts in her field on this breed.

Dr. Stack has graciously offered her advice and medical knowledge on numerous occasions when we contacted her for help when one of our adopted Greyhounds were sick and we needed her expert medical advice. She has provided valuable assistance to many of our families and we are grateful to her for the help she has given our hounds.

APPENDIX III

The following pages is a list for convenience only and does not imply we recommend or endorse any particular vet included on this list nor does it imply that they have any specific expertise as a Greyhound veterinarian. This list has been compiled based upon recommendations from families who have adopted Greyhounds through our group and have had good experiences with these veterinarians and have been happy with the care their Greyhounds received.

Local Veterinarians with Sighthound Experience

VIRGINIA GREYHOUND-FRIENDLY VETS		
Dr. Davis Hall Town & Country Animal Hospital 9836 Lee Highway Fairfax, VA 22030		703-273-2110

<p>Dr. Wanda Pool Depwood Veterinary Clinic 7300 Ordway Road Centreville, VA 20121</p>		<p>703-631-9133 24-hour Emergency Services (fenced dog park for clients)</p>
<p>Dr. Davis Hall Town and Country Veterinarians 9836 Lee Highway Fairfax, VA 22030</p>		<p>703-273-2110</p>
<p>Dr. Powers 10464 Dumfries Road Manassas, VA</p>		<p>703-368-8284</p>
<p>Dr. David Redmond All Creatures Veterinary 34875 Snickersville Turnpike Round Hill, VA 20141</p>		<p>703-517-3137</p>
<p>Dr. Sanford Christmus Oakton-Vienna Veterinary Hospital 320 Maple Avenue, E Vienna, VA 22180</p>		<p>703-938-2800</p>
<p>Dr. Kusterbeck & Dr. Helen Jewett Ridge Lake Animal Hospital 1400 Old Bridge Road Woodbridge, VA 22192</p>		<p>703-491-1111</p>
<p>Caring Hands Animal Hospital 5659 Stone Road Centreville, VA 20120</p>		<p>703-830-5700</p>

MARYLAND GREYHOUND FRIENDLY VETS		
<p>A Anne Arundel Veterinary Emergency Clinic 80B Bestgate Road Annapolis, MD 21401</p>		<p>410-224-0331 410-974-6306 Open 24 hours - 7 days a week</p>

Emergency Vet Clinic 32 Mallor Avenue Catonsville, MD 21228		410-788-7040 Emergencies ONLY!
Dr. Bob Cohn North Laurel Animal Hospital 9105 All Saints Road Laurel, MD 20723		301-953-7387
Paradise Animal Hospital 6350 Frederick Road Catonsville, MD 21228		410-744-4224
PetVet of Clarksville Drs. Bryan Hall & Stuart Caplan 12186 Clarksville Pike Clarksville, MD 21029		410-531-6500
VCA Lewis Animal Hospital 10665 Route 108 Columbia, MD 21044		410-730-6600
Highway Veterinary Hospital 2604 Crain Highway Bowie, MD 20716		302-249-2005
Highland Veterinary Hospital Ask for Dr. Patti 13401 State Route 108 Highland, MD		410-531-3372
Dr. Knox Inman Telegraph Animal Hospital 7863 Telegraph Road Severn, MD 21144		410-551-3100
Carrolltown Veterinary Hospital 1818 Liberty Road Eldersburg, MD 27184		410-549-1500

APPENDIX III

GREYHOUND FRIENDLY VETS - WEST VIRGINIA

<p>Inwood Animal Center 7611 Winchester Avenue Inwood, WV 25428</p>		<p>(304) 299-7387</p>
<p>GREYHOUND SPECIALISTS – OHIO</p>		
<p>Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine Greyhound Health and Wellness Program 601 Vernon Tharp St Columbus, OH 43210</p>		<p>(614) 247-6757 (614) 247-8490</p>
<p>GREYHOUND SPECIALISTS – PENNSYLVANIA</p>		
<p>Dr. Guillermo Couto Metzger Animal Hospital 1044 Benner Pike State College, PA 16801</p>		<p>(814) 237-5333</p>
<p>GREYHOUND SPECIALISTS – VIRGINIA / WEST VIRGINIA</p>		
<p>VA-MD Regional College of Veterinary Medicine Virginia Tech Duck Pond Drive (0442) Blacksburg, VA 24061</p>		<p>(540) 231-7666 Directions on the Internet: www.vth.vt.edu/directions.asp</p>
<p>Dr. James Radcliffe Town & Country Animal Hospital 831 Old Fairmont Pike Wheeling, WV 26003</p>		<p>(304) 242-9575 24-hour hospital staff on duty</p>

CRATE RENTAL PROGRAM

For your convenience, we operate a crate rental program in Virginia and Maryland. This program is managed by our volunteers. The fee is \$5.00 per week with one month's rent payable in advance. We prefer the wire mesh type of crate. The dimensions are 48"L x 36" H X28" W. The ones that fold for storage are quite convenient. If purchased, they cost about \$200.00.

MARYLAND		
Darlene Riden Annapolis/Crofton/Bowie	(410) 721-1154 driden@comcast.net	Anne Arundel & Prince Georges Counties
Rayne Frazier (Columbia/Catonsville)	(410) 997-4020 raynefrazier@gmail.com	Howard & Baltimore Counties
VIRGINIA		
Judy Chopp	(703) 323-0118 jafc03@gmail.com	Fairfax
Terry Stansell	703-3187022 terrystansell@aol.com	

You will need to gather some old blankets or bedspreads to use in the bottom of the crate. If you live near a Trader Joe's, they sell very nice orthopedic mats that are crate size and comfortable for the dogs for a very reasonable price—about half the cost of what PetsMart sells them for.

APPENDIX V

ASSEMBLING A FIRST AID KIT FOR YOUR GREYHOUND

Below is a list of suggested items to include in a First-Aid/Travel Kit for your Greyhound(s). These supply amounts are suggested for a one-Greyhound family. Modify the amounts accordingly if you have more than one Greyhound or other pets.

Purchase a Rubbermaid or other plastic-type container with a lid that is just a little bit larger than a shoebox for your First-Aid Kit. Label the kit with a permanent marker on the outside. Also write on the lid the telephone number of your Veterinarian and the closest Emergency Veterinary Clinic that provides veterinary services in the evenings, middle of the night, holidays and weekends—in other words, whenever your Vet is typically unavailable. There is nothing worse than scurrying around trying to locate telephone numbers during an emergency with one of your pets. This will also serve as a handy resource if anyone is pet-sitting your Greyhound. Also write the telephone number of the **National Animal Poison Control Center** on the lid (**900-680-0000**)

FIRST AID KIT SHOULD CONTAIN THE FOLLOWING:

3-4 Rolls of 3" Gauze	2 Rolls of 3" Cast Padding	1 Roll 1" White Adhesive Tape
1 Dozen 4" x 3" Telfa Pads	2 Rolls of Vet Wrap	1 Box (1"x2") Large Band-Aids
1 Ace Bandage	1 Small jar Vaseline	1 Small tube Neosporin
1 Small plastic bottle Betadine	1 Small bottle generic Aspirin	Ziplock bag with Cotton Balls
1 bottle Hydrogen Peroxide (to induce vomiting)	1 Tube or spray bottle EMT GEL (www.emtgel.com) Reduces pain, itching. Stops bleeding, reduces chance of infection, promotes rapid healing.	1 bottle Benadryl for bee stings and itching
1 Aerosol can Saline Contact Lens Solution (Good for cleaning dirty wounds.	1 Rectal Thermometer	1 Oral Dose Syringe
Blunt Scissors	1 Squawker (Used if your dog gets away from you. Greyhounds respond quite well to this sound and will typically run toward you when heard)	Index card with dates of most recent vaccinations

PLEASE NOTE: This list of first-aid items is by no means a substitute for proper veterinary care. Should your pet become seriously injured or ill, it is **STRONGLY** recommended that you always call your veterinarian. This is simply a suggested list of items that will prove to be useful to deal with minor injuries not requiring veterinary treatment, or in case of emergency, you will have the items on hand to provide temporary treatment before transporting the dog to the veterinarian.

APPENDIX VI

***P**oisonous **F**oods*

Certain foods which humans eat regularly are very poisonous to dogs. **Call your vet immediately** if your dog eats one of these. See the Toxic Substances webpage above for other problem foods.

FOOD	PORTIONS	THE DANGER	SYMPTOMS
Chocolate	With its high cocoa content, dark chocolate is the most dangerous – as little as 2 ounces can cause problems in a 10 lb. dog.	Theobromine (in all chocolate) is similar to caffeine, a stimulant that can affect the heart and central nervous system.	Diarrhea, vomiting, rapid heartbeat or muscle trembling.
Raisins or Grapes	Pets can get sick from a half ounce of raisins or a handful of grapes.	Doctors still aren't sure why, but grapes and raisins can make the kidneys fail within 48 hours.	Stomach upset and vomiting. May lead to kidney failure and death.
Sugar Free Gum, candy, breath mints	Just a few pieces could be dangerous.	Xylitol, a common sweetener, causes a sudden drop in blood sugar.	Weakness, seizures, liver failure – and sometimes death.

Onions	It takes just 3.5 ounces of minced onions (raw or cooked) to cause a reaction in a 25 lb dog.	A chemical in onions, propyl disulfide, breaks down red blood cells and prevents them from carrying oxygen.	Can cause blood in urine, weakness, rapid breathing and fast heart rate. Serious threat to a pet.
Salt	As little as 1 teaspoon ingested by a 10 lb. dog can cause illness	Salt changes how bodies hold fluids. It can trigger swelling in a dog's brain.	Tremors and seizures, may also cause death.

**APPENDIX VII
RECOMMENDED BOOKS, PET RESOURCES AND
GREYHOUND INFORMATION
ON THE INTERNET**

<i>FOR INFORMATION ABOUT TRAVELING WITH YOUR PETS</i>	
Pet Vacations	www.petvacations.com
<i>STRICTLY GREYHOUND SITES</i>	
The National Greyhound Association	www.ngagreyhounds.com
The Greyhound Project	www.adopt-a-greyhound.org
<i>GREYHOUND SUPPLIES, COLLARS, COATS, RAINCOATS</i>	
2 Hounds Design	www.2houndsdesign.com
Classy Couch Potatoes	www.classycouchpotatoes.com
<i>BOOKS</i>	
Adopting the Racing Greyhound	Cynthia Branigan

Retired Racing Greyhound for Dummies	Lee Livingood
Childproofing Your Dog	Brian Kilcommons
RESEARCH YOUR DOG'S FAMILY TREE RACING RECORDS & RACING VIDEOS	
The Greyhound Breed and Race Database	www.greyhound-data.com
TrackInfo	http://www.trackinfo.com/dog-search.jsp

