



# The Bark

The official newsletter of Greyhound Pets, Inc.®

2016, Issue 02

## Letter From The President



Happy Holidays!



In September we brought in our 6,000th dog!!! It is amazing that we have been able to help over 6,000 dogs since GPI was founded in 1985.



Meet BR Resolve – dog number 6,000. Resolve is a three year old fawn male who came to us from Florida. He suffered a badly broken leg during his racing career. His leg continues to heal, but he improves daily and he is a sweet, delightful, gentle soul.



Thank you to everyone who volunteered, registered, donated or sponsored someone for our 6th Annual Greyt Walkathon. With your help we were able to raise over \$23,000 for the dogs.



The holidays can be a fun, exciting time with family and friends, but they can also be a scary, dangerous time for our pets. Please be sure to keep your pets safe during the holidays. You can read our article about Holiday Safety on our website – [www.greyhoundpetsinc.org](http://www.greyhoundpetsinc.org). There is a link on our home page.



Do you no longer need your wire or plastic crates, x-pens, martingale collars, leashes, coats or jammies? Why not donate them to GPI and put them to use. Just contact me to coordinate delivery/pickup.



We are running a Holiday Biscuit Fund this year-end. It is always the highlight of the day for our volunteers and dogs at treat giving times at the kennel. With so many dogs in the kennel during the year, we go through a lot of biscuits. Help us keep the cupboards full and donate to our Holiday Biscuit Fund.



As you do your year-end gift giving and donations, please consider giving to the greyhounds. You can donate through our website, our PO Box or in person at the kennel. We are also partners with a number of organizations that contribute to GPI every time you purchase – Amazon Smile, Bartell Drugs, Rescue Chocolates, Fred Meyer, Bissell, and iGive.com. And don't forget our Amazon Wish List. And don't forget that many employers have matching gift programs so that every dollar you donate is matched.



Thank you to all our donors, adopters, volunteers and Kennel Techs. Without each one of you we couldn't be able to help so many dogs. Thank you on behalf of the dogs.



Enjoy the holidays and give your pups a hug from us here at GPI.

Moir  
President



## Who We Are - Pat Cattolico - By Jeani Penn

When I first started writing these pieces I had no idea how many fascinating, talented and amazing people I would meet. It's been rewarding to say the least, and Pat is no exception. She is a tremendous asset to GPI and I'm greytful she's on the Board. Here's a bit of her story.....

She grew up in the Poconos of Pennsylvania after starting out northeast of Philadelphia. They moved to the Poconos after the family built a vacation home there. She has an inherent love of animals but it was fueled by living with the rabbits, deer, fox and black bear of the "hood". After college she lived in no-pet apartments, but knew that something was missing. Twenty-six years ago her husband was transferred by his company to their Bellevue location. They've lived in Kirkland ever since.

This is where the story gets interesting. Her husband didn't want dogs - too much trouble, he said. Well, the movers were no sooner out of the driveway when she went to the local Humane Society and adopted sibling cats. Some of her co-workers had multiple dogs and were involved in agility training and competition. After a couple of years of living with just the cats, one of her co-workers came to her and told he was taking her home for lunch to meet a rescue dog. Sunshine, a champagne Lab had been hit by a car and his wife, a vet, saved her and promised her to find her a good home. Guess where that was???

Pat felt strongly that every specie should have some-one of their own kind to share a life with, so she began the search. Ironically she was in downtown Kirkland one day and came upon a flyer for retired racing Greyhounds. She called the number and it was Greyhound Friends, who took about 100 dogs off the Idaho track when it closed. After discussion, I suspect cajoling, and a home visit, they had a match for Pat and her husband. Pat says she'll never forget the first time she laid eyes on Taco, when his foster Dad brought him. She still gets goosebumps when she remembers seeing him jump out of the car, a big beautiful dark brindle.

Her first connection with GPI was when Sunshine went to the bridge and Taco needed a buddy. She met Pepper at Country Village when we were still at the Red Barn, where she began volunteering for turn out. Taco was in love the first time he saw Pepper. He took one look and made a beeline for her. Thus, as we all know too well, began the chain of loves that come in and out of our lives. There was Barklee, Julia, Gordo, by this time Hern Greyt Works had opened and Pat was volunteering then became a kennel tech. Her husband was volunteering too, wonder of wonders, and he fell in love with 12 year old Annie. They now had a pack of three! Pretty good for a guy that thought dogs were too much trouble.

She lost all three of these precious senior pups in a few months and she hurt so much that she wanted to take a break. That lasted about two months, when she realized that an empty house is not what we are meant to live with. There was one of "three sisters" left. Those of us that have been around for awhile remember the horribly shy and bonded three sisters. Sophie and BB had already found homes, but Jane was left alone. So guess what? Crackerjac Jane found her forever home. Pat was advised that Jane couldn't be an only dog, so that meant she had to adopt another! She also took home Jane's turn-out buddy, Mr. Jim. Then during turn out one Thanksgiving day, her husband fell in love with 10 year old Doll. Whoo hoo! They had a pack again. The best news is that Doll was a brood Mom at the track so she has been a good leader for shy Jane.

When Pat could no longer do the heavy work at the kennel, she quit as a kennel tech, but we are lucky enough that she took the position of Secretary to the Board. She is amazed at how much work is done "behind the scenes". Here's the kicker. She still works and is the Intellectual Property Manager at Kymeta Corporation in the Totem Lake area. I don't even know what that is!!!! Her dream is to retire some day and surround herself with Greyhounds. And I think she's just the person that can do that!

Thank you Pat, you've worked for and with GPI for years and your service is so much appreciated. You told me you feel privileged to be a part of this organization. I think it is us that are privileged to have you aboard. Not by just us two legged types, but the four legged ones too.



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**RESOLVE - Still Waiting For His  
Forever Home - is it yours?**

***Resolve is our 6000th dog!!!!***

He is a love. He can be a little timid with new people and new situations, but he soon warms up. He broke a leg racing and is still healing. Resolve did well in cat testing, but has not lived with a cat.



***Want to be more involved?***

Join our Greyhound Pets, Inc.® email/chat list.

To subscribe to the list just visit  
[www.greyhoundpetsinc.org/chat.html](http://www.greyhoundpetsinc.org/chat.html)

Want more information? Just email Cathy Munro at  
[adopt.greyhounds@gmail.com](mailto:adopt.greyhounds@gmail.com)

***Got Bark Ideas?***

Do you have something you would like to see in the Bark? Something you would like more info on, health, food, etc?

Please email Michelle at [gpi.greyhounds@gmail.com](mailto:gpi.greyhounds@gmail.com)



## The 'Woofs' of Wes 'n Heff... By Judith Fleming

**Heff:** Aaaah, to be home again. It is time for a nap!

**Wes:** You're telling me! What an exciting past month it has been! Great fun but I'll second the nap and also make a motion for a great big sleepy ... day! Naw - I mean week! Or two. We earned it!

**Heff:** Uh, how'd we earn it? What did we do that was so special? I just followed you bro' ... You lead, I follow. Easy!

**Wes:** Shhh, MJ (Mamma Judith) is coming.

**MJ:** Boys, yes, you've earned some rest! So, let me take your 'homework' off your hands for this issue of The Bark. I can tell the folks what you've been up to these past few months.

I must say, it has been an interesting few months. I'll start with the excitement of the Blue Jays coming to Seattle. I was set for a road trip with the trailer. But, due to timing issues – the boys couldn't come and thus, they were to stay with my Mom for 3 nights. In the past, if the boys stayed at home, my Mom would come over and stay at my place. We were trying out how they would do at her place. I took them over in my truck as I was continuing on to pick up my trailer and then onwards to a Federal Way campsite. The boys jumped out of the truck as they always do but Wes tripped or somehow got caught up and didn't land on his feet. Quick check over and he was ok. We went up into my Mom's condo and once we were in – I noticed blood tracks behind us. So, we went straight into the kitchen (a more washable floor). Wes had a cut opened up right by his toenail. I got the bleeding to stop. It wasn't that bad. My Mom is a nurse and so I knew he was in good hands! When away on the road trip I received a phone call from the Emergency Clinic requesting Wes and Heff's presence to be on the a BC news program regarding dog and cat blood donations. I came home on the Tuesday and we were at the news studio first thing Wednesday morning. Of course, bringing two fawn greyhounds to a news studio brings attention. Not one staff member passed us without saying hello. We hung out in the green room, went to hair / makeup but funnily enough, it was just me who had to get some make up. The boys were 'good to go'! We walked on set, sat down at their couches, watched the weather segment and they cut to commercial. The news anchors came over and we were live. The boys handled it perfectly. Wes had his butt well rubbed by the anchorman during the segment. When the segment was over, we got up and looked behind us .... it looked like the boys just dumped a quarter of their fur!! One of the staff just looked and their jaw dropped. They had lots of cleaning to do! Thank goodness the interview was with a couple of the Technicians from the emergency clinic as I asked them to have a look at Wes' toe. One quick peek and they confirmed – yup – the toenail needed to be removed. So off we went to the vets.... and he was much happier!

Fast forward a couple of weeks. Road trip time! My Mom is turning 70 and we haven't done a road trip together in over 20 years. What is on the menu? Yellowstone National Park, Grand Teton National Park and Zion National Park all in 2 weeks. Issue with bringing 2 dogs with you? Yellowstone doesn't allow dogs on the various walks throughout the park. Plan? Camp within the park so the boys can stay in the trailer when we are out exploring. Lucky us! We were traveling at the end of their season (early October) and were able to get a camping spot. Prior to camping within Yellowstone, we had reservations at West Yellowstone. This would give us a day to get a good 'lay of the land'. Weatherwise - we had snow and sun. What more could you ask for?! The beauty of bison with snow on their backs, Ol' Faithful doing her job on time with a brilliant blue sky behind her and mild temperatures - great enough that the boys could hang out in the truck and we could explore as much as we wanted. No overheating! It was (and always is) a huge concern and always avoided.

The boys had many traveling hours in the truck and got super cozy (even spooning some times). I kept a large water bottle filled so we always had the option of fresh water for them at any stop. When in the trailer, they often cuddled on the couch together and I even saw Wes making adjustments to not lean on Heff too much. It melted my heart!

So, what have I learned by 'my boys' these past few months. Well, I was reminded of how stoic these guys are. It was tough leaving Wes when his toe was in question. I am thankful for the involvement with the blood donor program because the staff at the clinic see the boys when they are 'good' and not only when something is up. Thus, the boys are comfortable there and the staff are comfortable with the boys. My recent travels with the boys in the trailer is something I am also thankful for. I love camping and having the boys hadn't stopped me in the past. We tried 'tenting it' but boy ... 'camping / glamping' with them is sooo much better! It has been a new adventure for me that I look forward to doing for many more years. Plus, I see the difference in interactions between Wes and Heff. They cuddle together even more now!



## The 'Woofs' of Wes 'n Heff... By Judith Fleming



## Some of our recently adopted



## The Mysterious World of Tick Borne Disease

### By Dr. Debi Wallingford

It is a widely known fact that our greyhounds seem to be highly susceptible to the disease-carrying ability of that little creature, the tick. Over the years, numerous dogs have been exposed to and tested for tick-borne diseases with the probability of a positive titer—or two—with every one. But what does it all mean? What is a titer? A PCR? You may be wondering about these tests and how to use their results—including—“okay now I know my dog has a positive titer. Now what do I do with that”? And, “my dog seems perfectly healthy. How could it be sick if it has no symptoms?”

Most tick-borne diseases are bacterial, protozoal, or viral in nature. When a tick carrying one of these diseases latches on to our greyhound, it exchanges infected fluid through its mouthparts with our dogs and the greyhound body's immune process through which it begins to fight commences. (As an aside, even though these are referred to as “tick-borne diseases”, it also possible to be born with the disease if the dog's mother is also carrying the disease.) To determine what diseases our dogs have been exposed to, we perform a screening test known as a tick titer test.

The definition of a titer is the concentration of antibodies (immune system's defense fighters) circulating in the bloodstream of an individual dog. The level of these antibodies can be measured to specific antigens (harmful agents) as in the case of our tick-borne diseases such as Babesia. A rising titer (the numbers are increasing) usually means the body is mounting a response to the antigens, i.e., forming an active infection and a decreasing titer over time can mean the carrier state is currently quiet. Up to 40% of greyhounds are known as carriers, meaning they currently show no symptoms but harbor the disease in their bodies. During times of duress, the disease can gain a stronghold and weaken the immune system. Most of the time there may be no outward symptoms at all, however any fever, lethargy, bleeding disorders, or gastrointestinal signs may be indications of underlying disease in our dogs.

Tick-borne disease is still being heavily researched and new findings change the outlay of recommendations almost yearly. Cutting edge information comes to us from Dr. Cyndi Holland at Protatek Laboratory, a lab that specializes in tick-borne illnesses and their diagnosis. Titers 1:40 usually represent exposure only and are usually of no concern. Titers 1:80 to 1:320 should have a cbc and serum chemistry done. If there are abnormalities in red blood count/platelets or liver enzymes then an annual titer should be performed to track any rise in titer.

Monitor these dogs' titers more closely if they should happen to become stressed with another illness. Any dog with a Babesia titer greater than 1:640 should have a cbc, serum chemistry and PCR performed with serious consideration given to treating for Babesia.

A PCR (polymerase chain reaction) test is DNA testing for the particular organism. PCR tests must be utilized in consideration with all other information regarding the disease entity. In other words, it is another step to attempt in the diagnosis of select tick-borne organisms, however should never be used as a stand alone test. If a Babesia titer is high and the PCR test is positive, it confirms active infection and the dog should most likely be treated according to Babesia protocols by a veterinarian experienced at treating the condition. False negatives occasionally occur, so if the test is negative one can be fairly confident that it is accurate--however it is not set in stone!

As one can see, tick-borne disease is not always black and white and can be extremely difficult to diagnose. Since treatment is not without its side effects, it is imperative to be intentional regarding which dogs are treated. Most importantly, knowledge is power--know the tick status of your greyhound through the use of these tests, and keep an effective tick preventative on your hounds to protect them against future tick-borne illness as they venture around the Pacific Northwest!



## HOLIDAY SAFETY FOR YOUR GREYHOUND

It's holiday time again!! Can you believe it? This is a time when friends and family get together, parties are planned and the hustle and bustle and joy of the season fill our homes. That hustle and bustle can also distract us from the safety of our pets, Greyhounds as well as other dogs and cats in our homes. This article will help you prepare your home for a safe and happy holiday season. Compiled from many online articles, it's long, but a great reminder of all the little things we can do to keep our pets safe and happy during the holidays and all year long.

### WEATHER RELATED ISSUES:

- When ice and snow are on the ground, be aware that your dogs pads will get cold FAST. Take them for shorter walks, or buy some booties to cover up those tootsies. (You may also get some interesting video footage for your files of the first time your dog wears them!) Booties will help not only with the cold, but to keep salt and chemicals off of your pet's feet as well as prevent cuts from ice along your walking route. If pets lick salt and chemicals off their feet, they can become ill. If you're not using booties, be sure to rinse your Greyhound's feet off with cool water when you get home to remove any residue.
- Check your gates: buildup of snow or ice may prevent your gates from closing correctly. Please make sure your gates are closed and latched before letting your dog out in the yard.

### SAFETY PROOFING A HOLIDAY HOME

- Trees provide a great temptation for cats to climb and dogs to chew on, so holiday trees should be well secured to prevent accidents.
- Animals are attracted to bright, moving lights so candles should be kept on high shelves. Candles as well as fireplaces should be constantly supervised since embers, sparks and wax can injure pets.
- Other holiday products that can harm pets include snow globes (many of which contain harmful antifreeze) and artificial snow, which can cause reactions if inhaled.
- Holiday plants including ivy, holly, mistletoe, hibiscus, poinsettia, lilies and Christmas greens all have various levels of toxicity. Position these high off the ground to avoid dangerous ingestion mishaps.
- Pine needles, when ingested, can puncture holes in a pet's intestine. So keep pet areas clear of pine needles.

- The extra cords and plugs of holiday lights and other fixtures can look like chew toys to pets. Tape down or cover cords to help avoid shocks, burns or other serious injuries. Unplug lights when you are not home.
- Resist the temptation to tie ribbons around pets necks for the holidays. The pets can tighten ribbons resulting in choking or hang themselves if the ribbon is caught on an object.
- Dogs will often play with glass ornaments as if they were balls and serious oral lacerations can result. Sharp ornament hooks can also become imbedded in your pet's mouth or esophagus. Place ornaments that are shiny, or could be swallowed or broken high up on your tree. Larger, less intriguing ornaments can go near the bottom.
- Decorating trees with food is asking for problems. Candy canes and gingerbread people can be as enticing to your dog as they are to children. We know of one diabetic dog who ran into some problems with regulating her disease because she was stealing candy canes off of the tree.
- Popcorn, raisin, or cranberry garlands are beautiful, but can cause an obstruction when eaten, requiring surgery.
- Because tree preservatives are often sugar-based (and inviting to dogs) and because the water stands so long, the water in the tree stand often harbors potentially harmful bacteria. Fertilizers, insecticides, or flame retardants that were used on the tree may also get into the water. Cover the stand with a tree skirt or use other means to prevent access to the water.
- Very important: do not put aspirin in the water (some folks do this thinking it will keep the tree or plant more vigorous). If a pet ingests the aspirin-laced water his health or even life can be at risk.

You can see the rest of the article here,  
<http://www.greyhoundpetsinc.org/publicforms/holiday-safetytipsforyourgreyhound.pdf>





## Sponsor A Greyhound

### The next best thing

If you can't adopt a greyhound you may find that sponsoring a greyhound through Greyhound Pets, Inc. will be your next best rewarding experience. It costs GPI more than the adoption donation of \$300 to get most dogs ready for adoption. Some greyhounds wind up staying in foster or kennel care for longer than others for any number of reasons. These greyhounds incur expenses for things like food, vet care, prescriptions and more. At any given time, we have a number of greyhounds who are considered "Special Needs" who have higher than normal care costs - extra vet care, special foods for allergies, etc.

You can help by donating \$10, \$15, \$25 or more to sponsor one of the many greyhounds in need through GPI.

To start the sponsorship process, send an email to Robin James, our Treasurer, at [robinjamesgpi@gmail.com](mailto:robinjamesgpi@gmail.com). Let Robin know which dog you're interested in sponsoring and organize payment.

You can mail a check or money order to PO Box 891, Woodinville, WA 98072, you can call Robin at 425-481-3501 and give her your credit card info, or you can donate online through the Network For Good button on our website - [www.greyhoundpetsinc.org](http://www.greyhoundpetsinc.org). Your name will then be added below the dogs info as his/her sponsor.

Greyhound Pets, Inc. is a volunteer organization which depends on your gifts. Listed below are some of the items your donation can purchase for the adoptable dogs of GPI.

~ Muzzle for one kennel dog	\$10
~ Food for one dog for one month	\$20
~ Vaccines for one new dog	\$25
~ One folding table for the kennel	\$50
~ Running a tick test for a new dog	\$65
~ Sponsor a kennel run (per year)	\$500
~ Complete Vetting for a new dog	\$425
Donate \$250, \$500 or \$1,000 to receive an engraved greyhound "leaf" on our gifting tree at the kennel.	

### Do you purchase items from Amazon.com?

Click on the Amazon.com link on our home page and GPI receives a referral fee donation for every dollar spent. [www.greyhoundpetsinc.org](http://www.greyhoundpetsinc.org)

**Do you know that Greyhound Pets, Inc. has a Facebook Page?** Check it out – there is a link on our home page or just search for us on Facebook.

**Are your gates and fence secure?** Have you walked your fence recently to check that it is secure - no rotten boards, holes that a dog could escape through, missing boards, rusty wire, etc.? Are all gates securely padlocked (if possible) or secured with some kind of clip and/or automatic closing device?

## The Notice Board

### Stuff you need to know

#### ~ Returning Your Greyhound.

Please remember, if for any reason you cannot or do not want to keep your greyhound, he/she **MUST** be returned to Greyhound Pets, Inc. (part of the Adoption Contract you signed). Finding a loving greyhound home for your greyhound should be handled by someone who understands the needs of these great animals. Contact us at 877-468-7681 to make arrangements.

#### ~ Have you moved? Do we have your current phone and e-mail addresses as well as physical and mailing addresses?

Please make sure that GPI has your current **physical, mailing and e-mail addresses, and your home and cell phone numbers**. E-mail Moira at [fastpaws@centurytel.net](mailto:fastpaws@centurytel.net) or contact her through the GPI PO Box. Thanks for helping keep GPI's database current.

**~ Is your Greyhound wearing a collar and identification tags?** Please take a moment to make sure your greyhound is wearing a collar with identification tags. Please make sure your greyhound has a GPI tag on his collar. If your greyhound is missing a GPI tag, please call 877-468-7681 or write us at:

Greyhound Pets, Inc.

New Tags

PO Box 891

Woodinville, WA 98072

We will gladly send you a new GPI tag.



**~ Why is a collar and GPI tag important?** If your greyhound gets lost, the toll free number can be called and we can help get your dog back to you faster. Plus, if you've moved and haven't updated your phone/address tag, then GPI's toll free number could be the only way your greyhound is safely returned to you. Without a collar and ID tags, it is much harder to locate and reunite you. Please keep your dog's tags current and update GPI about any phone or address changes.

If you don't like the sound of the tags jingling, try a tag bag, an elastic band around the tags, or some of the rubber bumpers for keys around each tag. But please do not leave your dog without a collar and tags. Your dog's life may depend upon those tags.

All current GPI dogs are microchipped and registered to GPI, as a backup safety net, but if found, someone has to get the dog to a place that can read the microchip before we can try and reunite you and your dog.



## The Notice Board

### Stuff you need to know

#### ~ What should I do if my Greyhound gets loose?

- Call the GPI toll free number IMMEDIATELY!! 877-468-7681 (enter us as a contact in your cell phone). We will get a search party organized, post it on our website and social media pages, and alert folks your dog is missing
- Take a squawker (available at the GPI Rootique) and your CELL PHONE with you when you start your search. If your home phone number is on your dog's tags, make sure someone is available at that number as well in case a good Samaritan finds your pup.
- Have a Missing Dog flyer with your dog's picture on your computer ready to print and post at a moment's notice.
- For more tips on finding your lost dog go to [www.greyhoundpetsinc.org/lostdog.html](http://www.greyhoundpetsinc.org/lostdog.html)

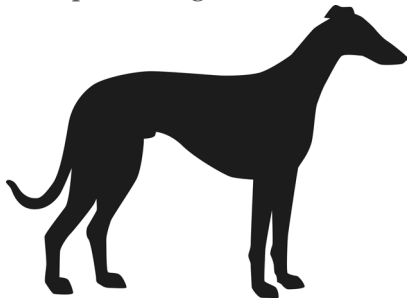
#### ~ Has you Greyhound passed on recently?

If you have had your Greyhound pass to the Rainbow Bridge, please contact Moira at [fastpaws@centurytel.net](mailto:fastpaws@centurytel.net) or contact her through the GPI PO Box.

#### ~ How can you help the Greyhounds?

Go to our website to see the many ways that you can help GPI!

<http://greyhoundpetsinc.org/donations.html>



### Are you on Social Media?

Are you on Social Media? If so, are you following GPI on their Social Media?

Did you know that Social Media double, tripples and even quadrupals our exposure? It allows Greyhound Pets, Inc to increase the awarness of this breed that we love so much! Simply by sharing, liking, commenting, pinning, retweeting our content you could be responsible for a person or persons learning more about GPI and the breed itself. By taking that simple action you could have helped educate someone and peak someones interest enough into coming to a booth or going to our website for more info. You could help one more of our dogs find their furever home! Pretty amazing huh?!

Our Facebook page is an awesome way to stay in touch with GPI, find out what is happening in your area. Is there a booth in your area that you would like to help with, a walk that you would like to join in? Our Facebook page announces those events and more! Are you curious as to what dogs have been adopted? That is all there too.

Greyhound Pets, Inc is on most Social Media along with many other websites that promote adoption. If you are on any of these Social Media platforms go there now and follow, like and share GPI's Social Media!



## How to Feed The Beast. The Beast being our precious pups. By Jeani Penn

Let me start this article by saying I am not an expert at this, I am simply relaying to you information that I have gleaned from various sources in order to help you understand the need for good nutrition for your dog. It is not an easy task, finding the right food, nor is it foolproof, but here is my attempt at helping you to accomplish that task. I will try to touch on dry vs. wet (even BARF), how much to feed, when, how to read food labels and whether bones are good for our dogs.

According to petMD, 30 years ago vets were recommending an all meat diet for dogs. The thinking being that in the wild that's all canines had to eat. Well, this lead to many vets offices across the country seeing sick, weak and balding dogs with metabolic imbalances. We now know that canines need a balanced diet just like we do. They are not strictly carnivores, they are omnivores, meaning they need more than just meat.

Dogs need proteins (the basic building block for cells, tissues and organs), but they also need fat (providing structure in the cells and well as producing needed hormones and protecting organs and skin), fiber (for healthy digestion), carbohydrates (for energy), vitamins and minerals (for a balanced metabolism). And don't forget the water! 60% to 70% of a dog's body is water. They should have a bowl of fresh water every day.

This turned out to be quite an education for me. Even though we now know not to feed strictly protein, we also know that protein should be the main ingredient in a dog's diet. Did you know that dog food can be labeled "high protein", "complete and balanced", or "premium" and it is anything but that. "High protein" food can really contain feathers, hide or hooves and still be technically high protein. None of these ingredients are digestible, but according to "the law" it is okay to use them and retain that qualification. I was shocked! And the worst of it is, the label does not have to state whether these nondigestible ingredients are included or not.

**Dry vs. Wet:** Dry is usually lower in calories. The nutrition content of both can be the same. Dry is considered by some to be better for their teeth. Keep in mind that dry food usually has only a 10% moisture rate and wet and be up to 70%. The age of your dog and the condition of their teeth (in the case of our Greyhounds) can determine whether you want to feed wet or dry, also. Wet food may be good for an older dog whose teeth are bad or missing. Wet is easier for them to eat and the stronger smell (vs. dry) may be a better enticement to eating for some picky eaters. Some people mix dry with wet and get the best of both worlds. The one thing to remember about dry dog food, though, is check the expiration date. Some people believe dry is good forever. NOT true. Even dry dog food contain fats that can spoil.

The bag or box will have an expiration date and it will go bad. The BARF (Bones and Raw Food) Diet is a personal choice. Some people feel it's the best way to go. Many vets that I've talked to are not in favor of BARF. Some of the reasons being that some dogs cannot digest the raw food and the bones splinter off and can cause problems. Or since bone is harder than teeth, sometimes the bone can break a tooth. You must be careful that the food given your dog is not spoiled. Do not give them a raw bone and expect it to be good two days later. Then there's the mess. This is a diet that most closely resembles what a dog in the wild would eat, but remember we have "domesticated" our dogs and their stomachs are not the same as their ancestors, and retired racing Greyhounds, especially, had a very different diet growing up. This is a decision that an individual must make for themselves. But I do have friends that swear by it for their dogs with allergies.

**How Much To Feed** All dog foods have a recommended amount to feed per poundage of the dog. This is not a given. An active Australian Shepherd will have a much higher caloric need than one of our lazy Greyhounds, or a 10 year old Chihuahua. Use your good judgement in this and talk to your vet. If your dog has special dietary needs, take that into consideration as well. Some dogs do better with smaller portions and more frequent feedings, but the total for the day should be the guideline. One general rule of thumb on a Greyhound is to always see at least two ribs when they are standing at rest. If you can't see the ribs, you are probably feeding too much. And, keep track of any treats that you give them during the day. These add to the caloric count as well. Treats are not a "free" food even though usually there is quite often very little nutrition.

**When Dogs can be trained to eat around your schedule.** Free feeding is not recommended unless you know your dog will not overeat and there is no competition for the food. It is recommended that they be fed no less than twice a day though. Morning and night. If you have a dog that has trouble keeping weight on, you might consider adding a small "lunch" to the schedule. The important part is to feed them around the same time every day. Their bodies get used to the influx of calories at certain times and are dependent on that. Forget to feed your dog at the right time at night and just listen to their stomachs. It will tell you it's time to feed!!!

**Read The Label** It's the only real way to know what you're getting, and then it's not a guarantee. Items listed in the ingredients are listed in order of their weight in the finished product. The first three items are the most important. The law also allows for substitutions and the list does not need to reflect that. And then, there are the preservatives. AAFCO (Association of American Feed Control Officials) allow 36 different preservatives, and some are not restricted to the amount that can be used.

So, you think you're being conscientious by buying food that is preserved with Vitamin E. Not so fast. That may be the ingredient that that particular dog food manufacturer uses, but their various sources of ingredients may use anything in any quantity. But that subject is way too complicated for this article. Just make sure that the first three ingredients are, at the least, a good food. Then get into the nutrition breakdown. There is a list on each bag or box that gives the percentage of the ingredients. The first on the is protein. Again, do your homework. Some dog foods have a protein content as high as 38%. Some as low as 22%. The most common recommendation from vets is to stay around 25%. You know your dog - their age, activity level, weight, etc. If your dog has allergies, it's usually a good idea to keep the proteins at a lower level, and some believe stay away from the grains. If you have a senior dog, keep the fat percentage a little lower. These days I believe in reading where the food is manufactured. Some foreign countries do not have any restrictions on what goes into the food and our government doesn't have the manpower to monitor these. This is not a political statement, but a caution. Just because it's made in the USA doesn't mean it's a perfect food, either. Do your due diligence!!

**Bones:** Oh boy. this is a tough one. Dogs loves bones, there is no doubt. But are bones good for them or not? This, again, is your choice. Bones are messy, they can splinter and cause intestinal problems, they can spoil if left out and cause digestive problems. But the flip side of the coin is that they can be good for your dog in many ways. Chewing a bone gives your dog a sense of what he was supposed to do in the first place and a good bone keeps them busy, so they don't get bored. Bones help strengthen teeth and the dental ligaments. The critical part of giving your dog a bone is what kind of bone. Cooked Chicken bones are a no-no. I know people that feed the BARF diet that swear raw chicken bones are fine, but the vets I've talked to disagree. Big beef knuckle bones would be a first choice, but make sure that they don't spoil. Raw turkey necks have been popular for quite some time as a dental aid. They are supposedly a good tool in cleaning your dog's teeth. I have tried them and my Greyhounds swallow them whole (leave them whole - do not cut them up), so there's no dental advantages there.

**Grain Or No Grain** Again this is a personal choice. Dogs that are prone to allergies might do better on a food that has no wheat, corn, barley or soy. Grains make them feel fuller when they've eaten and keeps the digestive tract healthy, but some people prefer no grains because their dogs have smaller eliminations and they feel that more of the food is being digested instead of wasted.

The bottom line is that good nutrition is a must for our dogs. You need to be mindful of the contents of the dog food. This doesn't mean you have to buy the most expensive food on the market, but you probably

shouldn't buy the cheapest either. Pay attention to the label. Most dogs do well with a food that has a protein percentage of around 25%. This can change with the age and weight of the dog. Older dogs seem to need less protein.

If you want more information, the internet has it all! You can try going to <https://www.dogfoodadvisor.com>. The Dog Digest has a list of the worst dog foods and Whole Dog Journal does a yearly evaluation of dog foods. And then, one of my sources is the Association of American Feed Control Officials. Just type in a subject and all the information you ever wanted or needed is there. I've tried to give you a quick overview, but it's impossible to cover all of this in one article. WebMD/Pets has been a good source for me as well and ASPCA website and many others. It just takes time to wade through it all.

Now for the flip side of the coin. There are several foods out there, that we can eat with no problem, but they are a problem for dogs. The list begins with Alcohol and Chocolate. These can be deadly (I speak from experience). If your dog should ingest chocolate though, call the pet poison control center. Not all chocolate is really chocolate, but if it is real, it can cause organ damage and death. The list is long, but includes things you'd never think of like apple seeds, avocado, baby food containing onion powder, cooked bones (we've already covered some of this), candy and chewing gum with Xylitol, cat food, coffee, corn on the cob (it's the cob that's the problem - it can get lodged in the small intestine). Too much fat can cause pancreatitis. Believe it or not, salmon and trout. Raw salmon can be fatal if it is infected with a certain parasite. For the veggies - garlic, grapes and raisins, hops, Macadamia nuts, mushrooms (if they're the wrong kind - again I speak from experience), onions and chives, persimmons peaches and plums, rhubarb and tomato leaves. Some of the other biggies are Xylitol, Tobacco, and spices containing Capcaicin. I am not going to go any further with this list because it's almost an article on it's own, but you can print out the list yourself from the Canine Journal.com website. This is a good website for lots of things.

If you want more information, the internet has it all! You can try going to <https://www.dogfoodadvisor.com>. The Dog Digest has a list of the worst dog foods and Whole Dog Journal does a yearly evaluation of dog foods. And then, two of my sources are the Association of American Feed Control Officials, and as mentioned above, the Canine Journal.com. Just type in a subject and all the information you ever wanted or needed is there. I've tried to give you a quick overview, but it's impossible to cover all of this in one article. webMD/Pets has been a good source for me as well and ASPCA website and many others. It just takes time to wade through it all.

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George Viney	In Memory of Kristie
Peter & Jeanne Chaloner	In Memory of Princess Tika
Heather Collins	In Memory of Zac & Moni, for your many years of Love & companionship
Robert Macquarrie	In Memory of my Loving greyhound companion Bart who died Aug 9,2015
Moiria Corrigan	In Memory of Tika
Rita Laws	In Memory of Tika
Joan Masters	In Memory of Tika
Melody Grieves	In Memory of Tika
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Or donate online via Network For Good through the link on our website,

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

Thank you so much for your gift to the GPI dogs!!! They thank you very much!

# ADOPTED!!

June 1 to November 7, 2016

Tag Number	Registered Name	Nickname	Tag Number	Registered Name	Nickname
5298	Barbaric Champ	Jack	5940	Slatex Niobrara	Goose
5328	Shake That Thing	Poppy	5944	Aye Doctor Ron	Danny
5753	CS Queen O Sheba	Sheba	5945	SG's Mazeroski	Simon
5785	None	Mickie	5946	Strengthnnumbers	Amber
5794	Windy Sheila	Freya	5947	JB 's LuckyLady	Mocha
5804	None	Phoebe	5948	WWW Jethro Gibbs	Django
5807	Craigie Panera	Panera	5950	WW's Speedracer	Tecate
5827	Cream Puff	Laz	5951	Whynot Be Quick	Elwood
5831	Mohican Liam	Liam	5952	PJ Wiggles	Thea
5847	CTW Tribeca	Becca	5954	PRS Redrain	Rain
5859	GEZ Sly Dog	Sly	5955	P Kay Red Eagle	Poppy
5860	Noseylittlemike	Mike	5956	Pixie Episode	Pixie
5864	None	Ebony	5957	VJ Let Me By	Rosie
5865	None	June	5958	Mjt Kylie J	Ky
5866	None	Tiger	5959	WW's Blow It Up	Jack
5877	Coach Perkins	Perkins	5960	Nitro Pricilla	Pepper
5888	Atascocita Marri	Marla	5961	WW's Pistol Pete	Pete
5896	ASAP	Opal	5962	Winta Brady	Hank
5899	Nitro Ashes	Ashley	5963	Boc's Barneyfife	Sherlock
5900	O Ya Hawkeye	Charlie	5965	None	Zoe
5901	Big Boy Beer	Dixon	5968	Atascocita Mad	Maddie
5902	PG Sling Shot	Bart	5969	Chick On A Chain	Mischief
5904	JD Insatiable	JD	5970	JS Blonde Logic	Olive
5909	CBJ Dr Pepper	Ricky	5971	None	Loxley
5911	Boc's Snowsquall	Bentley	5972	None	Rocket
5912	Boc's Scorpio	Brutus	5974	DM Maxine	Maxine
5920	Young and Bold	Olwen	5975	None	Skye
5922	Tilford Nidgy	Nidge	5976	None	Soo
5924	Tinas Fury	Caelyn	5977	Solo Bet	Andy
5925	Afly Anne Murray	Miele	5978	None	Nacho
5926	Flying Sable	Sable	5979	CTW Rocky Balboa	Rocky
5927	Gotthatswing	Swing	5980	Michael Landon	Quick
5928	TB's Shez Theone	Sheila	5981	Pat C Shut Eye	Shut Eye
5929	KB's Best Girl	Sophie	5987	Braska Bitohoney	Honey
5930	Hustle Up Dagger	Dagger	5991	O Ya Danica	Dani
5931	TB's Itz So Easy	Ziggy	5994	Speed Princess	Gracie
5932	Kiowa Spot Trey	Trey	5996	Ya Im The One	Sarah
5934	BR Reaper	Reaper	5998	Atascocita Dax	Dax
5936	Bob's Bess	Rhiannon	5999	Atascocita Kojak	Riley
5937	Ale Leann Rimes	Leanne			



## Rainbow Bridge Memorial ~ We will miss them

Notices Received Through November 8, 2016

Tag Number	Registered Name	Nickname	Tag Number	Registered Name	Nickname
4237	None	Helena	4942	AC Semper Fi	Sam
4316	Polo Sport	Polo	4956	Oneco Canterbury	Canter
4395	Jazz	Jazz	4970	Odd Sabor	Martini
4594	Pals Shipwreck	Deacon	5031	Give In to Sin	Ned
4596	Hibest Monte	Monty	5123	La Nita	La Nita
4626	Boc's Ramona	Ramona	5169	Bella Linen	Lilly
4647	Whistler's Pop	Dalton	5205	Foolz Gold	Ryder
4652	Reward Ricky	Watson	5213	Luvbug Skunky	Lindy
4672	Cajun Notch	Mollie	5246	Bella Fine Art	Sunny
4678	Boyz Waytoheaven	Ginger	5421	Tracking Baker	Baker
4688	Xportress	Tess	5426	Atascocita Sam	Sam
4701	Shannon Impact	Jake	5462	Atascocita Halen	Archie
4728	Mi Dixie Chick	Darla	5503	TMC's Bestofshow	Show
4744	Keeper Izzle	Izzie	5596	All Mighty One	Amos
4770	SOL Lucky Girl	Tessie	5745	Guitar Moment	Harry
4826	Dramatic Paws	Drammie	5781	Pinnacle Roxy	Roxy
4849	RX Yukon	Yuki	5913	Stormy Eamon	Squall
4889	AY's Stardust	Nessie			



### Share Your Memories

Share your memories of your beloved pup -- Submit a memorial write-up and a few pictures to our web editor and she will put up a Rainbow Bridge tribute to your pup on our website. You can reach Cathy Munro, our web editor, at [adopt.greyhounds@gmail.com](mailto:adopt.greyhounds@gmail.com)



## The Kennel Needs You

Would you like to donate some goodies to the kennel? Here is a list of things the kennel needs to keep our newest pups warm & healthy:

Kirkland Dog Biscuits

Kirkland Lamb and Rice Kibble

Natural Balance Potato and Duck Kibble

Natural Balance Fish & Sweet Potato Kibble

Bleach

13-Gallon trash bags with ties

Paper Towels

Non-stuffed Blankets

Blankets and quilts

Stamps (Forever)

Glucosamine

Fish Oil Capsules

Or go to GPI's Amazon Wishlist through the link on our home page.

If you can help with any of these items, please contact Moira Corrigan at 206-718-0475 or [fastpaws@centurytel.net](mailto:fastpaws@centurytel.net)

## The Greyhounds Thank You!

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- ~ Pg 4 - The 'Woofs' of Wes 'n Heff
- ~ Pg 6 - The Mysterious World of Tick Borne Disease
- ~ Pg 7 - Holiday Safety For Your Greyhound
- ~ Pg 10-11 - How to Feed the Beasts

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