

**Greyhounds Pets of America-Northern California (GPA-NC) /
Greyhound Adoption California (GACA)
Newsletter, Fall 2011**

New Adoptions

We wish our new adoptees much love, lots of long walks, and a cushy bed for long naps!

Kelly and Jac Stone adopted *Lizzy*.

Parker Noel was adopted by long-time greyhound owners Chance and Gloria Lauria. It hasn't taken her long to adjust to retired life.

Kiki found a forever home with the Mabens and enjoys having adopted sister *Nola*.

Sweet *Katy* joined the Parmelee family.

Hero was adopted by Andre and Jillian Sternang.

The Denegri family decided they had room in their hearts and their home for another greyhound and adopted *Mindy*, who joins sisters *Sasha* and *Nicky*.

Dr. Nicola Mohr's family welcomed *Rosie* into their home. Mom says that her greyhound trio of Rosie, *Penny*, and *Shadow* is "happiness times 3!"

Brady joined the family of Mary Pepper and enjoys playing with his new stuffed squirrel.

And, very special thanks to Patrick DiChiro, who, after fostering *Echo* for two months decided to give the 12-year-old senior greyhound a forever home. Echo now happily resides with his four-legged sisters *Darcy* and *Mia*.

Thanks to all for giving these retired racers a good home!



Katie Bugs & Coco. Picture courtesy of Jeff Heyman.

Available Greyhounds

The following greyhounds are looking for forever homes. Can you help?

Papelbon (aka "Happy Pappy") is a brindle male, 5 years old, weighing in at 70 pounds of love. He enjoys running with his foster parents and sleeping on the couch.

Stella is a beautiful, energetic, loving fawn female. She's 9 years old and needs adopters who are willing to love an old girl with kidney disease. Stella's hobbies are chasing squirrels and bossing around her foster siblings.

Chanel is a sweet, smart, 6 ½-year-old, black, female who needs adopters who can give her daily walks. She tested tolerate of cats and small dogs, but has never lived with them and thinks that kids are great sources of treats.



Happy Pappy. Picture courtesy of Carol O'Neal.

Are you interested in helping provide a foster or forever home for any of these greyhounds? If so, please let us know at 2greys@mindspring.com.

Summer in Santa Cruz

Kudos to our Santa Cruz area adopters for showing that a simple activity such as walking together with friends and their greyhounds can be an opportunity to promote greyhound adoption.



Placement Representative Jill Schmidt describes an August 2011 group walk in Santa Cruz. "...we had 11 Greyhounds showing off their best sides for the pictures. The Greyhounds were a big hit — every time we stopped, the cameras or the cell phones came out. You would have thought it was someone from Hollywood. We were told many times by people walking by, they had never seen a Greyhound or so many of them at one place...This was a nice day for all of our Greyhounds to be together as a pack; they all had smiles and happy faces."



Picture contributed by adopter Nicola Mohr

GACA Events

How about getting into the Holiday Spirit by wrapping gifts while telling others about the joys of greyhound adoption and collecting donations for GACA? Once again, we will be at Barnes & Noble Booksellers, 3600 Stevens Creek Blvd., San Jose, CA, wrapping gifts during the holiday season. Barnes & Noble provides the paper, we provide the manpower, and, hopefully, the public provides donations.

We have scheduled the following days for wrapping:

Nov. 27, 9a-2p (Sunday)
Nov. 28, 6p-10p (Monday)
Dec. 4, 2p-6p (Sunday)
Dec. 7, 6p-10p (Wednesday)
Dec. 12, 6p-10p (Monday)
Dec. 13, 6p-10p (Tuesday)
Dec. 15, 6p-10p (Thursday)
Dec. 17, 2p-6p (Saturday)
Dec. 18, 9a-2p (Sunday)
Dec. 22, 6p-10p (Thursday)

If you'd like to help, please contact Sherrlyn at sherrlyn@yahoo.com.

And, please check our website (www.greyhoundadoptioncalifornia.com/events) for upcoming and recurring events, including:

- 1st Saturday of the month show & tell at a San Jose Petco at Blossom Hill
- 2nd Saturday of the month show & tell at a San Jose Petco at Meridian and Branham
- 3rd Sunday of the month greyhound walk in Pleasanton Sports Park

Do you know of any events that would be good show & tell opportunities? Are you interested in doing a show & tell at your local pet store? If so, please let us know and we would be happy to help you get started.

Greyhound Pets of America News

The Atlanta Chapter of GPA will be hosting the Greyhound Adoption Conference in Atlanta, GA, June 15-17, 2012.

For greyhound news at the National level, see <http://www.greyhoundpets.org/>.

Annual Greyhound Picnic



Jack Fishbaugh is honored as founding member of GACA



Sarah Scott, who will be 14 years old in January, wins title of "oldest greyhound"

Our annual picnic was held on September 24, 2011, at the Amador Community Center in Pleasanton, CA.

The weather was perfect and the venue was ideal (many of our greyhounds enjoyed running off-leash and visiting their friends in our private fenced-in area).

Thanks to all who participated in this event, which is our major fundraiser for the year. And, special thanks to our picnic organizing committee of Nina Denegri, Delene Dunne, and Sherrlyn Lancaster, who worked so diligently to make the picnic a success.

Identification of Greyhounds

Any greyhound who is to officially race in its lifetime must be born of parents who are listed in the National Greyhound Association (NGA) registry. Accurate identification of individual greyhounds is critical to the legitimacy of the racing industry.

In the United States, breeding and whelping dates are required to be registered within ten days of the event. Information that is recorded includes the sex and color of the pups and the registry of the parents. In the U.S., at approximately 90 days after birth, the color and sex of each pup is recorded and an official identification tattoo is applied to each of the pup's ears. The left ear is marked with the litter identification number given by the NGA and the right ear has numbers corresponding to the month of the year in which the pup was whelped, followed by the last digit of the year in which the pup was whelped, and, finally, a letter designating the order of tattooing. Of course, the problems associated with this system are that the characters are not always legible and tattoos often fade with time.

In such cases, colors and markings on the greyhound can also provide some information about greyhound identity. The NGA records predominant color (the five basic colors are black, blue, brindle, fawn, and dun), toenail and body markings, and scars on a registry drawing for every greyhound. Because of such documentation, we have been successful in learning the registered names of greyhounds for which we only have partial tattoo information by contacting the NGA. The NGA folks, given a good description of a retired racer, can usually deduce the identity of the greyhound in question by consulting the registry.

The color of a greyhound also can be used to determine if the suspected lineage is correct. Color inheritance in greyhounds has been studied and documented. For example, black greyhounds must have at least one parent with black or blue coloring. Blue greyhounds will also have at least one parent that is either black or blue. However, the pairing of two blue greyhounds cannot produce black pups. Two dun-colored parents can only produce dun pups. A fawn and brindle pairing can only produce fawn and brindle pups (no black or blue ones).

The definitive test of greyhound identity rests with its genetic material. For this reason, NGA requires all brood bitches and stud dogs to be DNA registered if their litters are to be eligible for NGA registration. Just as with humans, greyhound DNA samples are collected with cheek swabs.

Microchip identification represents an area in which new technology could potentially replace tattoos for greyhound identification. Arguments against the use of microchips in the racing industry include that there is currently no universally-accepted microchip standard (different microchips require different scanners to read their information), that the microchip might migrate in the greyhound because of its high level of physical activity (note: this is estimated to be a problem in only 0.3% of greyhounds), and that the insertion of a microchip is considered to be a veterinary procedure. However, the main driver for not using a microchip system is its greater cost relative to the less expensive tattooing.

Information for this article was taken from Care of the Racing and Retired Greyhound by L. L. Blythe, J. R. Gannon, A. M. Craig, and D. P. Fegan, 2007, American Greyhound Council, Inc.

Greyhound Trivia

A Greyhound, *Soaring Cindy*, holds the Guinness World Record in the canine high jump category, with an astounding leap of 68 inches in 2006. Her world record feat can be seen on You Tube and her story can be found at www.soaringcindy.com.



Zena enjoys camping!

Get Involved!

We are always looking for volunteers. Please contact us at 2greys@mindspring.com if you would like to help us in our mission to find loving homes for greyhounds. We are always looking for greyhound foster parents, newsletter writers, people who are willing to transport dogs, etc. Whatever your talent or passion, please let us know how you'd like to contribute.

And, if you have friends or neighbors that are interested in greyhound adoption, please feel free to print and give them a copy of the Greyhound Adoption California brochure that you can find on our website at <http://www.greyhoundadoptioncalifornia.com/whygaca.html> (the link to our brochure is located under the picture of the lounging greyhound).

New Website

We are currently working on a new Greyhound Adoption California website, expected to see it active in the near future.

Newsletter Editor

Carolyn Koester