



**WELCOME TO
NEEDLE-NOSE**

“Hui Gou” ... “Windhund” ... “Levriero” ... no matter how you say it, it means Greyhound! In this issue of Needle-News, you may find it interesting to know how the word Greyhound translates into other languages. If you are new to Greyhound ownership and are thinking of an activity with your Greyhound, why not consider trying out for the St. John Ambulance therapy dog program? If you don't have time to volunteer but just want some recreation, why not check out a Greyhound hour at one of the parks near you? Ever wonder how your Greyhound lived before you adopted him? Be sure

to check out “A Racey Glimpse Behind the Scenes” which helps demystify the world of Greyhound racing. Our newsletter is written by and for Needle-Nose members to help guide, encourage and feed your love of the Greyhound. Second only to our website at www.needlenose.ca, it is a great source of communication to the public at large when you read it and share it with your family and friends. Won't you help us spread the word? Greyhound adoption is a wonderful thing!

*Elizabeth Hunt
Editor, Needle-News*

Are You and Your Hound Ready to Lick Leptospirosis?

Spring is in full swing, which means summer isn't too far away. Are you and your Greyhound ready? There is a lot to consider. Which type of heartworm medication do you choose? Do you need a flea-controlling medication? If so, which one? You know, you can't put a flea collar on a Greyhound! Any course of prevention or treatment should always be discussed with your vet.

Another type of vaccination you may want to consider is the one that protects against Leptospirosis, or “lepto” as it is commonly known. If you have a cottage, spend lots of time near water or hike where there's standing water and your Greyhound is your close companion on any of these excursions, it may be worth considering.

Check out this article by Dr. Stephen Ball, Veterinarian at Brookville Veterinary Clinic and then talk it over with your own vet. Then get out there and enjoy the Summer!



Leptospirosis

What is Leptospirosis?

Leptospirosis is a disease of dogs, pigs, cows, horses, wildlife and people.

It is caused by a bacterium which has many subtypes called serovars. It may also be that many new serovars are emerging.

How important is Leptospirosis?

This can be a very serious disease for dogs. While many incidental hosts may not show illness (particularly raccoons), they can shed the bacterium into the environment. Infected dogs can present with high fever, lack of appetite, painful abdomen and blood in the urine. These signs can appear very suddenly.

Where does Leptospirosis come from?

The source is usually infected wildlife or livestock. They pass the bacterium through urine, birth tissue, bites and venereal contact. Most dogs pick up the infection via their mucus membranes, from contaminated water or soil during warm summer months. In Ontario, many outbreaks seem clustered in certain rural areas.

How Can Leptospirosis be prevented?

The simplest method of prevention is to avoid potentially infected swampy areas in the summer months. There is

a 4-way vaccine available through most Veterinarians.

Some vets feel that this should be part of the core vaccines for the following reasons:

- (1) Local numbers of cases
- (2) Serious nature of the disease in dogs;
- (3) Potential for zoonosis; and
- (4) Increasing raccoon population.

Arguments against including the vaccine in core protocols include the following:

- (1) The sporadic nature of the disease;
- (2) The number of reactions to leptospirosis vaccines;
- (3) Confusion about the serovars in the field versus those found in the vaccine; and
- (4) The cost.

For more information about Heartworm, click this link to view the article “Canine Heartworm; A Preventable Disease”, in the April 2008 issue of Needle-News. <http://www.needlenose.ca>

West Virginia: A Racey Glimpse Behind the Scenes

By Joanne Sanford

Two years ago I entered the wonderful world of Greyhounds after thirty five years of raising and showing Irish Setters. No longer in the show game due to health reasons, I was able to pursue ownership of the breed I had encountered at several "Meet and Greets" stateside while showing my setters. I always thought to myself, *what an interesting breed*, but was perpetually, deeply ensconced in my show dogs, sometimes living with as many as 10 at a time during my busiest showing and breeding years. All that changed though in 2007 when, down to one beloved older setter, I took the leap and got my first Greyhound. I had all but forgotten about the breed and was actually on the waiting list for an appropriate rescue dog from my Irish Setter Club. As fate (and good luck) would have it, while walking down at the lake with my girl, I met a couple walking a beautiful female Greyhound. After chatting with them for a bit, I walked away and thought *huh, Greyhounds...I can look into getting one now*. And that was the moment my life took the fortunate turn into Greyhound nation.

Over the next several days, I spent many hours on the Internet, pouring over everything I could find on the breed. Greyhounds would be quite a departure from the crazy and wild Irish Setters that I so loved. I wanted to make sure I was doing the right thing. It was also through my research that I found Brenda and Geoff and Needle-Nose Greyhound Adoption.

"Was I going to see a bunch of sad Greyhounds and be heartbroken..."

Throughout my journey in cyberspace I encountered many horrific images of the Greyhound racing industry that were to forge my prejudice against this "sport". I came to the conclusion that there was nothing but a lifetime of misery for these poor dogs until they were adopted after retirement. That was before a very

enlightening trip to Cross Lanes, West Virginia in January of this year.

I was getting my third Greyhound and he was coming from West Virginia. This time was going to be different though, because I was invited by Brenda to accompany her to Cross Lanes to pick up my boy and three other greys. Leanne McGarr was also joining us on the trip. While there, we were going to see a breeding establishment for racing Greyhounds and attend the Greyhound races. Although I was excited to go it wasn't without trepidation. Was I going to see a bunch of sad Greyhounds and be heartbroken that I couldn't take them all home with me?

After checking in at our hotel we made our plans for the next day over supper. We were going to visit the adoption kennel of Kathy Bowman and the Greyhound puppy farm of Harvey Maupin. In the evening we would attend the races.

The next morning brought a snowfall that was beautiful to look at but not so nice to drive in. The trip to Kathy's place was cancelled because getting there involved driving on hilly, winding roads that were not so safe in the snowstorm. The route to the Maupin farm was somewhat easier to navigate, so that visit was still on.

We met Kathy in Cross Lanes and followed her to Harvey's place. The farm was located in the beautiful, hilly countryside of West Virginia. We couldn't see too far when we first arrived because large flakes of snow were still falling pretty steadily. Inside the kennel building, we met Belinda and Ray Cunningham and their son Jordan who work for and live on Harvey's farm. My eye was drawn immediately to several litters of puppies at various ages along one side of the building. There was a gentle, lovely momma with her two-day-old babies, and the other litters ranged in age, up to a few months old. They all had spacious, clean, warm in-

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From Top: Kathy Bowman showed off one of the beautiful Greyhound pups at Maupin's farm; Joanne Sanford snuggled with an eight-week-old Greyhound pup; Leanne McGarr wanted to take this sweet newborn Greyhound pup home!

A Racey Glimpse Behind the Scenes (cont'd from previous page)



Hosts Belinda Cunningham (left) and Kathy Bowman met the Needle-Nose gang in Slippery Rock, PA.

door areas with outdoor access to large runs. Each of the indoor rooms had a half door so we were able to reach over and interact with these adorable puppies. They were all happy, healthy and playful. The adults in the kennel were in large built-in crates stuffed with clean shredded paper for bedding. Just prior to their supper, the Greyhounds were heading out for an exercise period in large runs adjacent to the kennel building, and we were there to see it.



Needle-Nose's Brenda Aston cuddled an 8-week-old Greyhound pup

When I first read about racing Greyhounds, I felt so sad that they were confined to "crates" and let out for scheduled exercise periods. But now,

after having two of my own Greyhounds for the past two years, this pattern of activity is very similar to what they do when given free choice. My dogs have 24-7 indoor-outdoor access through a flip door from the house to a full acre enclosed with five-foot high wire fencing. They choose to go out in this area a few times a day by themselves and I go out to play with them usually once a day. After brief bursts of activity they come in and sleep contentedly on their beds or the couch.

All the dogs were handled with obvious affection by Belinda, Ray and Jordan. They have a large number of pet Greyhounds themselves at their home.

The snow cleared and we headed outside to see the older youngsters. They were in several very large enclosures with whole litters housed together. You could see why this is such a social breed with their own kind since this is the way they are raised. They had large, raised, fully enclosed structures for shelter and sleeping. Again these dogs were happy, healthy and playful in spacious clean surroundings.

I could have stayed at the kennel all day, but the dogs needed to be fed and we had to get ready for our trip to the racetrack.

"...there was that familiar feeling of anxiety...but once again, I was pleasantly surprised."

In spite of many trips to Florida over the years, I had never been to dog races. I was looking forward to going but there was that familiar feeling of anxiety that I was going to see things that would leave me feeling sad - but once again I was pleasantly surprised. I spent a lot of time around the preview area where one could get a close-up view of the dogs that were about to race. The dogs all appeared happy and excited. Their handlers were gentle and had lots of pats for their charges. I could see through a door into a back room away from the public area where the next group of dogs were being readied for



A devoted Greyhound mom tended to her beautiful brood at Maupin's farm

the viewing area. Here too, the dogs were being handled with respect and some of the handlers were even playing with them.

Walking out to the track you could see the excitement in many of the dogs. Once inside the starting box the cacophony of barking was tremendous until the tone sounded indicating the race was about to begin. The dogs surely know that sound because they all stopped barking at once. I could just envision them intense and ready to bolt as soon as the door opened. And then they were off. We stood down on the rail next to the track and I was shocked at their speed! I thought my dogs moved freakishly fast around their acre field, but the speed of my ex-racers was nothing compared to these dogs. In peak condition on a straight run, with the added incentive of the "rabbit", these dogs moved! As with all the interactions I'd seen between the dogs and their handlers, the recovery of the dogs after the race was well done, with no rough handling.

The next morning we met Kathy at the racetrack to pick up the newest Needle-Nose greys. There was my big silly brindle boy named Scooby, now Otis; an adorable tiny black girl called Fuzz Face Peanut, now called Abby; a beautiful big red boy called Bob, now Beau; and a lovely black girl named Angel.

The trip home was uneventful and we hit my house around suppertime. After a quick bite to eat we used my show grooming room with its raised bath tub

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West Virginia: A Racey Glimpse

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to bathe the dogs. They were all so well behaved and even started to fall asleep during their baths! After drying them they were off to start their new lives in Canada as loved family pets.

I wasn't coming away from this trip with a heavy heart as I had feared. I had been pleasantly surprised with the fact that all is not bad in the racing industry. I am not so naïve to think that all Greyhounds are cared for as well as the dogs I had seen in West Virginia. I've been involved in dogs (and horses) too long to see the world of animal sport through rose coloured glasses. I have seen purebred show dog kennels that were absolutely wonderful and others that were a disgrace. After my exposure to the world of racing dogs in West Virginia I was reminded that there is good and bad in every endeavor humans partake in with animals. The Internet can be a wonderful source of information but it can also produce an unfairly biased picture as well. The people I met in West Virginia care for the animals well until their racing careers are over and then work with the adoption groups to find loving homes for these retired greys. They often spend their own money keeping these dogs until a good home can be found for them. Yes there are still Greyhounds being euthanized but that number has significantly declined over the years. With increased public education on how wonderful these dogs can be as pets there will be even more homes for these amazing animals. Support your



adoption group however you can and spread the word to anyone interested in owning a dog that a Greyhound may be just the breed for them.



Adoration, Affection and Accolades - A Greyhound Therapy Dog's Paycheque Includes Their Favourite Things

An immigrant athlete whose racing career is at an end. Hefty fees for sports endorsements are not an option. So what should these gentle creatures do with their time to receive the accolades and adoration and tender loving care they deserve? How about the St. John Ambulance Dog Therapy program? Greyhounds by nature are not the high-strung creatures you would expect: they are used to a great commotion at a race-track, they are used to a great deal of handling by owners, track operators, trainers, and veterinarians. Tall and slender of build, they are good-natured, rarely bark, have no need to

jump up on people, and genuinely enjoy the company of caring humans without pushing themselves on people. What you have is a dog not intimidated by wheelchairs, IV poles, walkers or artificial limbs -- they take all people in their considerable stride. If you are interested, and are willing to dedicate volunteer hours as a team with your Greyhound, and you live in the Halton Region, please contact Sandra Hall at 905-877-1630. If you are in another Region, please check your local phone book for St. John Ambulance and they should be able to connect you with the local Therapy Dog coordinator.

WE WANT



YOUR GREYHOUNDS!



Do you have pictures of your Greyhound you want to show off? Does your Greyhound have an interesting or entertaining story to share? Well, we want it in our next newsletter! Don't be shy – fellow members love to read about other Greyhounds and see your pictures. Send your submissions to Elizabeth at bethhunt@sympatico.ca. Any pictures you send will also be considered for Needle-Nose's 2010 Greyt Hounds Calendar.

Needle-News Nips



Cara-Lea has Passed the Torch! Check it Out!

At this time we'd like to say thanks to Cara-Lea Suttie for setting up the Needle-Nose website and keeping it going since our humble beginnings back in 2006. Cara-Lea has now passed the torch to Liberty Karp, who has made some changes and has volunteered to keep it current. Do check it out if you haven't already!

www.needlenose.ca.

There's been a new addition to the web site as well. We hope you'll take advantage of the links to archived issues of Needle-News.

Happy reading!

Needle-Nose Picnic to Greet West Virginia Greyhound Breeders

Kathy and Jeff Bowman, Needle-Nose's adoption contacts for Greyhounds from West Virginia, will be visiting our neck of the woods from August 11-16! The Bowmans and their two daughters would love to meet you and greet your dog, particularly those from West Virginia. So that Needle-Nose members can meet Kathy and Jeff, the picnic will be held on August 15 to coincide with their visit. Members will be informed of any specific gathering information as it becomes available. So pen that date into your calendar, and get ready for a very special Needle-Nose Picnic!

Hugs for Hounds 2009 - Volunteers needed!

Needle-Nose will once again have a booth at the annual Hugs for Hounds Event on Saturday, August 22, 2009. It's a fun event in Breslau, Ontario (minutes from Kitchener) complete with barbeque, doggie-friendly vendors, doggie costume contests, bake sale and more. Bring your dog and come out for a few hours of fun for the whole fam-

ily. All proceeds benefit Needle-Nose and other sight hound rescue groups in our area. For more information, check out our website at <http://www.needlenose.ca/events.html>. To volunteer, contact Brenda or Geoff at adopt@needlenose.ca.

Greyhound Sitting Available

Did you know that Needle-Nose maintains a list of fellow members who will "babysit" when you are away from your hound? A cozy home environment is best for your hound when he can't join you on your trip. Please let us know if you need a pet sitter or if you want to be included on our list of available sitters.

Nelson and Simon Welcome new family member

Congratulations to Janet and David and Rebecca Ambridge on the birth of their son and baby brother William James born in February. William has been well accepted by his resident fur kids, Nelson and Simon.








A Greyhound by Any Other Name is Just as Sweet


While talking to friends and colleagues, I became intrigued by the word Greyhound and how it translates into other languages. Some of the translations are very interesting, and those that don't seem to have a specific word for Greyhound become interesting for another reason: the oldest breed in the world, dating from 7,000 to 3,000 BCE, doesn't as a rule necessarily have a specific word for this hound! As languages developed, it seems that an adaptation and assimilation of other languages occurred.


How do you say "Greyhound" in?


 Levrier (French), pronounced "lev - ree - eh", defined as a dog with long legs, perfect for chasing the hare.


 Levriero (Italian), pronounced "lev - ree - air - o" (same definition as for French).


 Windhond (Dutch), pronounced "vind - hund", which literally means wind hound or wind dog.


 Hazewind hond (Dutch), pronounced "hasse - vind - hund", which is hare + wind + dog so it probably means something like the "fleet hare hound" or the short form of a description like "the fast dog that chases hares".

 Windhund (German), pronounced "vind - hund", meaning wind dog. This probably refers to the fact that they are as fast as the wind.


 Anglicky Chrt (Czech), pronounced "anglitzky hurrrrt", the word chrt stands for a sighthound in general, and then you just elaborate on what kind of sighthound it is. For example: Greyhound = English sighthound = Anglicky Chrt.


 Hui Gou (Chinese/Mandarin), pronounced "hui gou" meaning "grey dog" in Mandarin.

 Lebrei (Spanish), pronounced "le - brei".


 Galgo (Spanish), pronounced "gal - go". Interestingly, the colloquial word "galgo" is also used to mean 'gluttonous, always hungry', something we all know about there!


 Galgo (Portuguese), pronounced "gal - go".

 Szary Pjes (Polish), pronounced "sha-ri pee-es", meaning grey dog. As far as we could find, there is no particular word for Greyhound in Polish, but when you say grey dog, it is understood that one means the breed Greyhound.

 Groya Hundt (Yiddish), Deconstructing the compound word of "grey" and "hound", however, would be similar to the Platt Deutch (Low German - which is the root language of Yiddish) as: "Groya": (hard "GR" accent on first

syl) for grey "hundt": German (or Yiddish) for dog or hound. In Yiddish "grey" is also associated with age as in grey hair. Another version is to call a Greyhound an "alta groya hundt" meaning an "old grey dog".

 Mynde (Danish), pronounced "muun - e", means Greyhound and svelte. The word "Myndeslank" is also used in Danish (which means 'slender as a Greyhound'). This word - "Myndeslank" - is translated to the English "willowy" and (esp. about women) "svelte".

 Norwegian -- curiously enough they use the English word "Greyhound" in Norwegian!

Etymology Of The Word 'Greyhound' In English

Per D. Caroline Coile in her book "Greyhounds: A complete Pet Owner's Manual" published by Barron's © 1996 "Some Greyhounds are gray, and many people assume that's how the breed got its name. But the name more likely comes from another source. Some believed it is derived from 'gaze-hound,' which was in turn either another name for sight-hound or was derived from gazelle hound, another term for the Saluki. Or it may come from 'Graius,' meaning Greek, or from the Latin 'gradus,' referring to its foremost grade on dogdom. Of course many present-day Greyhound owners would assert that it is simply because Greyhounds are 'great hounds!'"

Per Cynthia A. Branigan in "Reign of the Greyhound", Howell Book/Macmillan © 1997: "The origin of the term Greyhound is still the subject of debate. You may assume that the name refers to the dog's color, but the fact is, relatively few Greyhounds are actually gray. Other theories suggest a corruption of the following words or expressions: Greek Hound (from the Latin Graius); Great Hound; Grech or Greg (from the old English word for dog); Gradus (the Latin word for grade or degree, implying that Greyhounds are top grade).

Regardless of the origin of their name, Greyhounds are valued for what they can do, admired for the way they look and loved for the way they are."

Thanks to Members, NN Continues to Save Precious Greyhound Lives

Needle-Nose wishes to thank members who renewed their Needle-Nose membership in 2009, making it possible for the adoption group to continue bringing beautiful Greyhounds to Canada for adoption by loving forever families.

We are looking forward to another successful year of placing even more Greyhounds with loving homes!

Needle-Nose Brings Smiles to Greyhounds and their Peeps



Bella and Peanut were among the many Greyhounds brought to Canada by Needle-Nose Adoption over the past five months. Bella arrived at her forever home with Sandra, Jeff and Lauren Wilkinson, under the watchful eye of Verne. Abbie (formerly Peanut) is enjoying retirement with her forever family, Gerry and Carolyn Hambly.

Hot Fun in the SUMMERTIME!!! Indoor Playtime Venues on Ice 'til October, but Come 'n Play in the Great Outdoors!

Just a quick note to let everyone know that the two indoor playgroups have wrapped up for the summer. In the meantime, there are two outdoor playtime venues for Greyhounds who love to get out and romp with their friends!

For west-enders, there is a Greyhound only hour every Sunday from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. at Prospect Park in Acton. For more information, see the Needle-Nose website at www.needlenose.ca.

In addition, there is a fenced-in leash free play area at Norwood Park, not too far from The Beaches. Although the city has not formally declared a Greyhound-only hour, Greyhounds have been meeting there on Sundays between noon and 1 p.m. for a few years now. The Park is located on Norwood Road, just off Gerrard Street, west of Main Street.

Greyhounds Havin' Fun (GHF) and Galloping Greys Play Group will be back at the horse farms in October, and there is plenty of room for existing and new members!

GHF will meet at S.L.O. Acres, north of Ajax on Sundays from 9:30-11 a.m.



Galloping Greys Play Group (GGPG) will meet at Dreamcrest located just north of Oshawa on Sundays from 5-6 p.m.

For more information about Greyhounds Havin' Fun, e-mail Lesley Cadham at timothelea@rogers.com.

For more information about Galloping Greys Play Group, e-mail Renee Cotton at renee_cotton@rogers.com.