

Greyt News

A publication of Arizona Greyhound Rescue, vol. 4, no. 1

2002 – AGR's Year In Review

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2002 was Arizona Greyhound Rescue's tenth year. It started with three hounds crated in the small house of one person. The volunteers could be counted on one hand and adoptions were few. Today, AGR may often have 15 to 25 hounds for adoption at one time. There are more than 60 volunteers to keep AGR running and spreading the word about the greyhounds. In 2002, we topped all our previous adoption records, thanks to all of those who devote their time to finding homes for these wonderful dogs.

Dog Numbers

AGR started the 2002-year with seven hounds at the kennel and in foster homes. 78 hounds were rescued from the track last year. Another 34 hounds came to us from other sources, either owner-returned or found and unclaimed. We placed 113 greyhounds in new homes in 2002. That was almost 30 more than the previous year. The busiest month for adoptions was May with 16 hounds adopted.

AGR hounds were also spotlighted four times last year on the local cable program, Pet Connection. Each taping showed a different hound up for adoption.

Community Events

AGR sponsored the A.Y.S.O. #922 Hot Shots Girls Soccer team. The CDO Little League AAA Devil Rays was another team to receive our sponsorship. AGR received two beautiful plaques for being a part of these great youth teams.

Volunteer Workshops

To continue to improve and assist AGR, several volunteers went beyond their volunteer duties and took part in educational workshops. These workshops included: Events Planning (a two-day workshop),

Grant Collections Orientation, and a national workshop put on by Petfinder.com.

Expenses

AGR's 2002 expenses increased by 49% from the previous year. Our biggest expenses were our kenneling of hounds and the medical care of them. Our boarding cost were up 57%; this was due to the increase of hounds that we took in.

Our medical expenses increased 73%. More hounds taken in means an increase in spaying and neutering. We also medically treated more hounds with broken legs, which required the placement of casts, splints and visits to a specialist. For the first time, Dr. Quick, from Pantano Animal Clinic, had to do plastic surgery on a hound, which came to us so disfigured in the face that you couldn't see her nose. Then of course we had the other ailments: trauma induced contusions; kennel cough; valley fever; tick fever; giardia; and injuries from dog fights.

Unfortunately, our income didn't increase at the same rate as our expenses. AGR's income increased 36% from the previous year. This is obviously a situation that can not continue; we can not spend more each year than we take in. Only a surplus from 2001 allowed AGR to take in as many hounds as we did last year. Arizona Greyhound Rescue's policy is to take in any greyhound in need, even those with special medical problems. But caring for the "special needs" is expensive, and takes money that is also desperately needed to assure that as many greyhounds as possible are accepted from the track and placed in loving homes. In order to continue this policy, we will need to increase our fundraising activities for 2003, but this will only happen if we have the volunteers willing to help out.

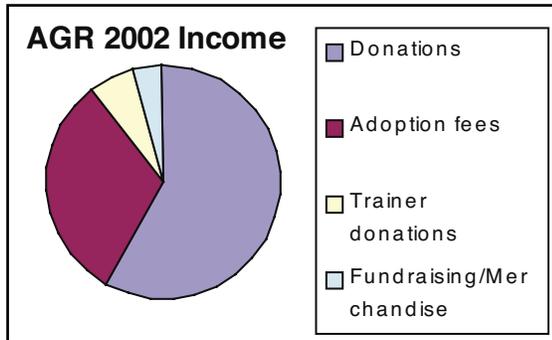
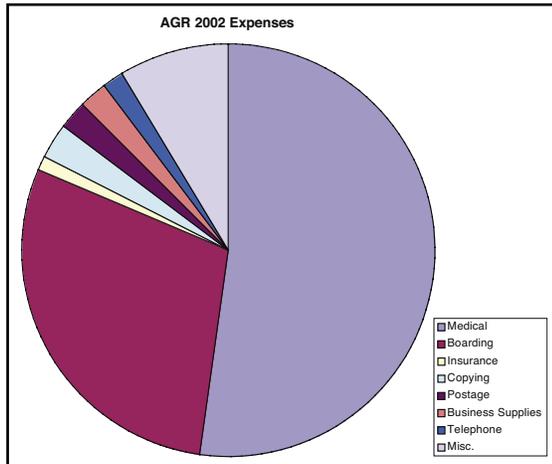
If you'd like to help 2003 be an even more successful year than 2002, please call AGR at 886-7411 to donate time or money.



TAG ALERT

One of the most important things a greyhound can have is a collar with a tag on it bearing his owners name and phone number.

These tags are for your greyhound's protection should they accidentally slip away. To give added protection, AGR is now selling a metal tag with our phone number on it and a number assigned to your hound. If your greyhound is lost, and we are notified, we can locate you through the assigned tag number. The cost is \$1.50 per tag. Please send the following information to us along with a check or money order and we will mail a tag to you immediately: Name, Address, Phone Number(s) (home, work, cell, etc.), and the name of your dog.



In special memory of Wilson, a beloved AGR hound. Wilson was the only Tucson victim of the recent outbreak of distemper among racing greyhounds. We can only hope that the death of Wilson, and the hundreds of other hounds that died of this entirely preventable disease, will lead to regulation mandating the proper and yearly vaccination of all racing greyhounds. Special thanks to Cassandra, who took Wilson into her home in his last days, so he could have a taste of home life before going to the Bridge.



Vital Statistics

Adoptions

- Banjo** - Jack and Michelle Stamm
- Hope** - Barbara Bowers and Chester Gadola
- Fritz** - Julia Jasper
- Bianca (Frieda)** - Elizabeth O'Leary
- Columbo** - Jean Kayner
- Hannah** - Bob and Gail Sinicola
- Frenzie** - Sandy and Dan Wilson
- Shay** - Perri Miracolo
- Dodge (Ferrari)** - Carol A Mitchell
- Hailey** - Sheryl Black
- Ford (Tigger)** - Liz Barene
- Skeeter** - Kimberly Horner
- Kennedy** - Mary Starks
- Echo (puppy)** - Tom Edwards
- Eric (puppy)** - Cathy Erchull
- Elron (puppy)** - Jack and Michelle Stamm
- Sadie (lurcher)** - Ursula Bradley
- Edie (lurcher puppy)** - Laura Hulse
- Epic (lurcher puppy)** - Kim Keri
- Eclipse (puppy)** - Tom Edwards
- Penelope** - Holly Orloff
- Hastings** - Reynold Kraft

Hounds Gone to the Rainbow Bridge

- Tula** - beloved 14 year old hound and companion of Loren Dawn and Tika
- KJ** - beloved 11 1/2 year old companion to Keo Taitano
- Wilson** - beloved 2 1/2 year old AGR hound
- Fortune** - beloved 8 year old AGR hound & Penelope's companion, has joined his owner Kathy Grant at the bridge.

Donations made in Memory of Wallace Huthoefer: Michael and Mary Ann Martin
Comanche Wells Mobile Home Park
Donations made in Memory of Rose Carroll: Joanna Riedel

Arizona Greyhound Rescue Board of Directors

- Sukey Waldenberger, President
- Brad Pritchett, Vice-President
- Susan Wester, Treasurer
- Linda Kangas, Secretary
- Elle Llerbrowen, member
- Dawn Melichar, member

Vist Our Web Site: www.azgreyhoundrescue.org

See what is new! View the new hounds! Check out our upcoming events! Share pictures and stories! Updated frequently so check every day!

“Arf For Art”

On January 18th, Bear’s Path Gallery and You CAN Paint presented the “ARF FOR ART” gala. Patricia Murray, owner of You CAN Paint (and dedicated companion to her greyhound, Easel), displayed paintings of greyhounds that her students painted. These paintings remained on display at the gallery through the end of February, where they would then sold to the highest bidder in a silent auction. In addition, a special painting called “Comfy”, painted by Patricia herself, was raffled off.

This project started in November of last year, when Patricia’s students learned the art of painting greyhounds. For the adult classes, live greyhound models were provided by AGR volunteers. But it was soon discovered that greyhounds, although usually couch potatoes, tended to be a little more restless when they had to model and showoff their regal physique. Actually, it was difficult to keep their tails out of the paint. So, the children’s classes used photos to paint from. For many of the students, it was their first time at painting. The results were wonderful works of art on canvas!

The gala drew in greyhound admirers wishing to adorn their walls with beautiful and unique paintings. Food, wine and music accompanied the event. It was definitely an evening of enjoyment.

At this writing, several of us are patiently awaiting the results of the auction and raffle. We will post the winners in our next newsletter.



Linda Critiques the artwork



Let’s hear it for Easel



Enjoying the “Arf”work

SHELTER CARE: A NEW ADOPTION BENEFIT

Arizona Greyhound Rescue lists all of our adoptable hounds on Petfinder.com, a nation-wide website resource for shelters and rescue operations. Petfinder.com has provided many benefits to AGR, including sponsoring seminars and providing free samples of products. But they’ve outdone themselves this time. As of January 1st, Arizona Greyhound Rescue is proud to announce that, thanks to Petfinder.com, we can now offer two months FREE pet insurance for any hound we adopt out.

The coverage is provide by Pethealth, Inc. a company that has long provided pet insurance in Canada, and is now operating in the United States as well. The program is called ShelterCare, and is designed specifically to cover the illnesses or injuries that a newly adopted dog or cat may encounter. ShelterCare covers kennel cough, internal parasites, urinary tract infections, upper respiratory infections, ear infec-

CALL FOR PHOTOS AND VIDEOS

Announcing THE GREYTEST LOVE OF ALL Volume 2: ARIZONA GREYHOUNDS

You may have seen our video tape, THE GREYTEST LOVE OF ALL, featuring a compilation of greyhound photos set to a beautiful soundtrack of world music. Now, due to popular demand, AGR is producing a second tape featuring YOUR OWN hound photos and video clips.

Any AGR adopter or volunteer may submit pictures or videos of their hounds-- whether the dogs come from AGR or not (we love them all). Email Brad at blptucson@yahoo.com or give him a call at 390-4107 if you are interested in contributing to this project.

We are seeking about 200 pics total, plus some video. The tape will run for 30 minutes and sell for under \$15.00, proceeds to benefit AGR. We have had good success selling the previous volume on Ebay and at Greytalk.

Deadline for submission is April 1 (but this is no joke!). We plan to have the tape ready for the Spring Picnic!

In the meantime, Volume 1 remains available for purchase at www.bradpritchett.com/GLOA.htm.

 Petfinder.com

 ShelterCare.

Cont. on pg 4

FUND-RAISERS AND SPECIAL EVENTS OF 2002

In addition to our usual weekend tabling events at Petsmart, AGR sponsored or took part in the following events:

February

El Charro
"Drink to the Hounds"
Foothills Mall Valentines
Day Tabling

March

2-day Yard Sale
Wild Oats 5% Day
Foothills Mall Easter
Tabling

April

AGR's "Spring Thing"
Reunion

May

Petsmart Adoptathon
"Paws for Fashion"
at Dillards

June

"Father's Day and
Best Friends"
Origins at Park Place
"Philanthropy w/Phlavor"
at Pastiche Modern Eatery

July

Memorial for the
3000 racing greyhounds
killed in Alabama

August

Volunteer Orientation

September

Petsmart Adoptathon
Greyhound Planet

October

"Philanthropy w/Phlavor"
at Pastiche Modern Eatery
Humane Society Book Sale
AGR's Fall Reunion

November

Entertainment Books

December

Santa Photos at Petsmart
Border's Gift Wrapping

Cont. from pg 3

tions, mange and mite infestations, canine parvovirus, foreign body ingestion removal, motor vehicle accidents, fractures and poison ingestion. You can use any vet you like. There is no catch! Petfinder.com has prepaid two months of coverage for any pet adopted through its member organizations. At the end of the two month, an adopter can opt to continue ShelterCare coverage, convert to another of Pethealth's more extensive policies, or simply let the free policy lapse. You can't lose!

Pethealth and Petfinder.com are also showing their commitment to homeless pets and the people who help them by offering a 10% discount for any AGR volunteer who buys any one of Pethealth's pet insurance policy. You can find out more about the Sheltercare program or any of Pethealth's plans by visiting www.sheltercare.com, or calling toll-free 1-866-375-PETS (7387). Or check out the info at AGR's website, www.azgreyhoundrescue.org, or call AGR at 886-7411 for more information.

UNITED WAY

Thank you adopters and volunteers who have named Arizona Greyhound Rescue as their United Way recipient. You, too, can designate your United Way donation to help out the greyhounds.

Our Agency Code is: 1638.

Our Agency Name and Address is:

Arizona Greyhound & Animal Rescue Fund
8987 E Tanque Verde Rd. Suite 309-153
Tucson, AZ 85749

SWEET TOMATOES FUND-RAISER

Thanks to the adopters and volunteers who took part in the Sweet Tomatoes Fund-raiser on January 15th and 20th. It was once again a very successful and fun event. Sweet Tomatoes donated to AGR 20 percent for each dinner guest who supplied the required flyer. It was nice seeing so many familiar faces and enjoying the general chatter of the evening, which always came back to talking about our hounds.

www.azgreyhoundrescue.org

Events

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION RECEPTION

On January 26, AGR hosted a "Volunteer Appreciation Reception" for its valued volunteers. The event was held in the beautiful and serene patio setting of the Tucson Botanical Gardens on an absolutely perfect day. The volunteers who attended were awarded with certificates and a wonderful tape displaying greyhounds during the seasons, donated by Brad Pritchett of Painted Desert Narrowcasting. The scrumptious buffet was prepared and lovingly displayed by our own Special Events Coordinator, Dawn Melichar. Volunteers were also able to win wonderful raffle items, from donated gift certificates for fine dining to car detailing. It happened to be Brad's birthday on the 26th, and Sukey's birthday was four days later, so both were surprised with birthday cakes that they generously shared with all the attendees. It is because of the time and effort of AGR's volunteers, that we are able.

VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

Have you always wanted to learn more about volunteer opportunities with AGR? Then mark your calendars for Sunday, March 9. AGR will be holding a "Volunteer Orientation" Meeting from 1pm to 4pm at the Speedway/Wilmot Bookman's. Come learn about AGR's history, meet the Board and key volunteers, find out about the different areas to volunteer in, come chat with other greyhound enthusiasts, and enjoy some refreshments.

Call 886-7411 and let us know that you will be attending, or E-mail Linda at Annienator@aol.com. See you there!

AGR'S WISH LIST

Foster homes!
Medicines that have not expired: Rimadyl, Nizoril, Sporanox, Cephalixin, Amoxicillan.
Medical Supplies: vet wraps, bandages, tape, neosporin.
Crates, Blankets, Collars (14" -18"),
Pedigree Dog Food, dry and canned,
Dog Treats, Dog Toys,
Stamps, Envelopes,
Standard Copy Paper,
E20 Cartridge for Canon Copier



Illustration by Casey Jones

B.A.R.F. ...Not in here Mister! This is a Mercedes!

Have you heard of BARF? Although it sounds like this might be a discussion of something very unpleasant, BARF is an acronym for “bones and raw foods” or “biologically appropriate raw foods”. Proponents of a raw diet for dogs say it may help strengthen your dog’s immune system, avoid common ailments and lengthen life.

Domestic dogs are canids not unlike their brothers the wolf, coyote, hyena and dingo. The digestive systems of domestic dogs are largely unchanged from that of their wild brethren. The premise of the raw diet is that you feed your dog a range of fresh whole foods in a form similar to what they might eat if in the wild, the way evolution designed them to eat.

The raw diet relies on raw meaty bones (“RMBs”) as its mainstay. Approximately 60% to 70% of the diet of a raw fed dog consists of such things as chicken backs and necks, chicken wings, pork neck bones, lamb neck bones, whole fish and other RMBs. These items can be eaten in their entirety by a dog and the meat and bone provides a phosphorus/calcium balance a canine needs.

The remainder of a raw fed dog’s diet is made up of muscle meat, organ meats, and vegetables. Organ meats provide essential nutrients such as minerals, fatty acids, vitamins and enzymes. Vegetable matter provides additional vitamins and minerals, along with fiber and antioxidants. Vegetable matter is fed totally crushed so that cell walls are broken down and the nutrients are readily available. This mimics what a wild dog would find in the stomach of its prey animal.

For those of us brought up to think one should never feed a dog bones, giving a dog its first raw chicken neck can be a little scary. It is important to note that one should never give a dog COOKED bone. Cooked bone becomes brittle and prone to splintering, and can harm or even kill your dog. Uncooked RMBs are soft and digestible. Our other concern is the bacteria that may be present in raw meat. The belly of a dog contains strong digestive enzymes and bacteria capable of dealing with the raw diet. Further, a dog’s digestive system is fast.

What takes a human being 24 hours to digest is passed through a dog in half that time. A dog’s food is quickly digested, the nutrients taken from it and the waste passed out very rapidly.

If you’re with me so far, you’re probably wondering why you want to consider feeding your dog a raw diet. For many dogs, the health benefits become apparent very quickly. For example, the chewing action required to eat RMBs has the wonderful side effect of cleaning a dog’s teeth in the most natural way. Raw fed dogs have sparkling teeth and no doggie breath, without needing veterinary dental care. Raw fed dogs have soft, shiny coats. Dogs prone to ear problems, hot spots, infections and itching often improve on a raw diet. Dogs that have difficulty digesting grains do well on a raw diet and things like continual diarrhea clear up. They have less gas and their bowel movements are much smaller – less clean up for us! The combined benefits can often translate to more robust health and fewer vet visits. Another less tangible benefit is the sheer enjoyment raw fed dogs seem to have eating their meals.

A raw diet can often work out to be less expensive than a premium quality dog food. Some bulk purchasing and planning must be done, and it certainly helps if you have extra freezer space, but once you are going with the raw diet daily feeding is just as easy as feeding commercial dog food and often cheaper. A raw diet is often not foreign to our adopted greyhounds, many of whom were fed some form of raw food during their racing careers. For some ex-racers, their first exposure to kibble comes when they leave the track.

There are support groups for raw feeders on list serves such as Yahoo and Smartgroups. NaturallyGrey on Yahoo exists to bring together greyhound owners who are interested in feeding raw food diets. TucsonRaw on Yahoo was formed to provide support for raw feeders in the Old Pueblo (greyhound and otherwise) as well as a convenient food buying co-operative. The co-op takes much of the effort out of getting started and feeding a raw diet.

URGENT: CAN YOU HELP?

Arizona Greyhound Rescue is looking for a new liability insurance provider. Our current provider is not renewing any policies for dog groups, and it is becoming increasingly difficult to find any company willing to insure any interaction between people and dogs. Of course, we all know how gentle and friendly greyhounds are, but it’s hard to get an insurance company to take our word for it! So, if you are an insurance broker, or know anyone who is and might want to help us secure coverage so we can continue to work for the hounds, please give us a call at 886-7411.

UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MARCH
9th – Volunteer Orientation
at Bookman’s – 1pm-4pm

16th – Tabling at Bookman’s
12pm-5pm

22nd – Yard Sale

APRIL
13th – AGR’s Spring
Reunion Reid Park
12pm-4pm

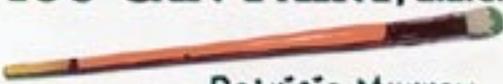
27th – Tabling at Bookman’s
12pm-5pm

MAY
18th – Tabling at Bookman’s
12pm-5pm

Cont. on pg 7

Greyhound Sponsors

YOU CAN PAINT, L.L.C.



Patricia Murray
Artist/Instructor

8806 Tanque Verde Road 760-1418
Tucson, AZ 85749 paint@dakotacom.net

Jack E. Quick, D.V.M.

8333 E 22nd Street
Tucson, Arizona 85710
885-3594 • FAX 885-3531
e-mail: jquick0001@msn.com



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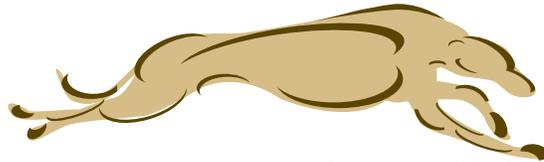


Illustration by Casey Jones

There are numerous resources for people interested in investigating the raw diet. Books such as "The Raw Diet" by Ian Billinghurst and "Switching to Raw" by Sue Johnson are excellent primers to help new raw feeders. Like all important decisions concerning your pet's well being, the decision to feed a raw diet should only be made after research and investigation. Make sure you understand the premise of the diet before embarking on this change to your dog's life and things will go much more smoothly.

By Sharon Hansen



Custom Portraits by Alexandra Jones



Volunteer Appreciation



Cont. from pg 5

DO YOU HAVE A CRATE THAT BELONGS TO US?

We had such a wonderful response from our last newsletter we thought we would ask again. If you borrowed a crate from AGR, we need it back so we can help new adoptees adjust to their homes. Please help us avoid the expense of purchasing new crates! To arrange a pickup call 886-7411

CHANGE OF ADDRESS OR MOVING?

Are you planning to move? Has your phone number changed? If we don't have your current information on file, we cannot notify you of upcoming events. But, most importantly, we can't contact you if your greyhound gets lost. It only takes a few minutes to let us know, so drop us a note or leave a message at 886-7411.

Thank You for Your Generous and Continued Support!

Because of special people like you, AGR is able to continue to place hounds in new homes! As we take more and more new hounds off the track, to care for hounds with special needs, and to cover our boarding and veterinary costs, we ask for your continued support. We are a non-profit, all volunteer organization, and our continued existence depends on your help and generosity. Every dollar translates into food, shelter or medical treatment for a greyhound and is tax-deductible. Please use the form below to indicate your level of support.

- _____ \$150 GREYHOUND SAINT Sponsors a new greyhound, from track to adoption
- _____ \$100 GREYHOUND GUARDIAN Funds a spay or neuter
- _____ \$75 GREYHOUND ANGEL Provides a much needed medical and dental treatment
- _____ \$50 A HOUND'S BEST FRIEND Kennels and feeds a hound for two weeks
- _____ \$ _____ I'd like to contribute for the purpose of _____
- _____ \$ _____ Please accept this donation in the name of _____

Hound Showcase

Please send pictures of your adorable hounds to Elaine Seasy at guzziboy_mzgirl@email.msn.com or to Arizona Greyhound Rescue, 8987 E. Tanque Verde Rd., Suite 309/153.

See these beautiful greyhounds, and the whole AGR newsletter, in full color on our website, www.azgreyhoundrescue.org



Bob and Micha



Eclipse



Ferrari



Maverick & Eric



Stephanie & her rabbit!



Toby



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