

Falling into the Season

The leaves are turning color, the days are growing shorter and you're probably thinking about heading south for the winter. Thanksgiving is just around the corner and there's plenty to do to get ready for the other upcoming holidays.

In this issue you'll find a wrap-up of our very successful fundraiser at Corner Brewery, tips for holiday pet safety, instructions on pet CPR, and some pup updates.



GEM members are already planning the 2014 Event! As you will read in the article below, there are many opportunities to help the event run smoothly, making it more enjoyable for you and your hounds. Please

consider giving your time for a very good cause.

You might want to check out the website www.greyhoundscansit.com for some lovely greyhound photography documenting the antics of hounds Beryl and Asher.

Christine Victor,
victoroo@comcast.net



The 2014 Greyhound Event of Michigan Needs YOU!

The 2014 Greyhound Event of Michigan will again be held May 16, 17, and 18, 2014, at the Holiday Inn--Livonia. 2014 will have expanded usage of the hotel with two additional ball rooms to be used as a hospitality room so everyone can fit in and the other will be for dining.

We will be building on last year's event with the return of speakers, mini-seminars, raffles, auctions, games and of course the vendors. We are still in the planning stages so if you have any ideas, suggestions or offerings for the event, please let the Event Committee know about them.

The Event is always in need of donations and 2014 is no exception. We are still looking for a door prize plus any number of donations from private parties, businesses and the community at large. Greyhound related donations are always welcome but so are other items of interest. You ordered something online and they sent you two of the same thing? Consider donating one of them to GEM for the Event. We also have pre-made packets with information regarding the 2014 Event, GEM's trifold and a Charitable Donation Letter. These can "break the ice" when soliciting donations for the Event. It gives a prospective donor the information they need to know where the money will be going and a receipt for their donation at the same time. These are available from anyone on the Event Committee.

We will also be needing volunteers for the myriad of jobs that need to be done. Several positions that have been covered in the past are being added to the list of coordinators needed going forward. We are currently in need of a Vendor Coordinator. We will also need coordinators for: Bake Sale, Saturday Night Dinner, Dog Sitting, Donations, Friday Night Activities (pizza, pop and games), the GEM Store, Goody Bags, Hospitality Room (which this year will be the Ontario Room), Live Auction, Silent Auction, Raffles, Memorial Tributes, Poop Patrol, Registration, Signs, Volunteers, and more.

As you can see this is a formidable list and one that is in need of filling as soon as possible, so we can move forward with plans for making 2014 the best Greyhound Event of Michigan yet!

The Event Committee:

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DOG DAZE AT THE CORNER BREWERY

by Pam Allion

Once again the Corner Brewery in Ypsilanti opened their beer garden and welcomed our group and eight of our foster dogs for an afternoon of beer and friends. The brewery offers a special brew appropriately called Dog Day Afternoon Ale. With each purchase of this ale, growler or mug club they donated a portion to GEM and we had an opportunity to introduce and educate the public about this wonderful breed.

It was such a beautiful day to sit outside, have a beer, talk with old friends, enjoy some yummy food and just have fun. Many took the opportunity to buy raffle tickets (who could say no to someone as bubbly as Beth Barnhart) and the 50/50. The raffle offered a Michigan basket, some different brews and mug, and some goodies for your best hound. We also had some very yummy homemade goodies that you could purchase. Of course our foster, Bozo

thought that he might just help himself so we had to explain how this works.

There was also a very special surprise this year from the TGIE program. Gaye and Ron Weaver were there with some awesome pumpkins that were painted by the trainers. The paintings were amazing and so hard to decide which one you wanted to purchase. Personally I wanted to buy them all but finally decided on one. Thanks Gaye, Ron and the guys for these one-of-a-kind pumpkins. The money raised from this goes back into TGIE to help support this greyt program.

Thanks to the Corner Brewery and all the wonderful people that came out they raised a total of \$561.94!

Hope to see you all next year and if you were not able to make it this year, I hope you really try to join us for a greyt time next year!



Be Mindful of Holiday Hazards

This is the time of year when pets can be exposed inadvertently to toxic substances or tempting taste treats that can be dangerous. One "toxic" plant you don't have to worry much about is the poinsettia, though.

These plants are either nontoxic or only slightly irritating to the gastrointestinal tract, depending on the reference source. On the other hand, mistletoe berries are poisonous and it is best to be very careful when hanging mistletoe so that pets are not exposed to the berries. Even one or two berries of this plant may be fatal. Even the products used to help plants make it through the holidays can be a problem. Some of the solutions used to make the Christmas tree last through a long holiday season can be pretty irritating to mouth or stomach tissues. If you add these to the water in your Christmas tree stand you should be sure that pets can not drink the water.

Plants are not the only problems. Holiday food treats and decorations can be dangerous to pets. It takes a fairly large amount of milk chocolate to cause poisoning problems in dogs and cats but a whole box of chocolates is likely to cause diarrhea at the least and may be toxic to smaller pets. Tinsel strands seem to be very attractive to cats and these will often cause severe problems, often requiring surgical removal to prevent the death of the cat if they are ingested.

For some reason, almost every season a dog or cat in our practice eats a Christmas tree ornament or even one of the light bulbs off the tree. Chewing on the extension cords to the tree lights or the electric train around the tree sometimes leads to problems, too.

The abundance of food found at holiday tables presents a danger even if it isn't cooked by your mother-in-law who believes in partially thawing the turkey then cook-

ing it a 200 degrees. We see a definite increase in pancreatitis around the holidays due to pets getting fat laden table scraps. At least one dog a year manages to eat the whole turkey carcass and has a major case of constipation in a day or so. Try to resist the urge to cover the pet's food with the extra gravy and put the trash out of reach of pets after an attractive meal!

Pets sometimes have a really hard time adjusting to the increases in family activity around the holidays. They may not handle the stress of house guests well. Often just scheduling a few minutes at approximately the same time each day to spend playing with your dog or reviewing those obedience exercises can make the holidays a lot easier for an anxious canine.

Cats are a little harder to reassure and it is sometimes best just to make sure they have a safe haven in the house where the guests can't find them, especially the very young guests. Make sure their litter pan is private, too.

If you are going to board your pet for the holidays make sure their vaccinations are current well before the time for boarding and check to see if there are special vaccination requirements at the boarding kennel, such as requiring Bordetella (kennel cough) vaccination. Make

sure you have all the contact numbers for wherever you will be written down for the kennel, pet sitter or veterinary hospital. You might even consider giving your vet written permission to treat your pets in your absence, especially if your relationship with your vet is not close enough to be sure he or she would be comfortable caring for

the pets without your permission.

Do not tranquilize pets for air travel if you are taking them with you, unless you are absolutely certain it is necessary. A recent review of pet deaths during airplane trips revealed that most of the pets who died had been sedated. The effects of sedatives are intensified at higher altitudes and even though cargo holds are pressurized they are at a lower atmospheric pressure than is found at ground level. If you do have to sedate a pet follow the veterinarian's directions EXACTLY. It could save your pet's life!

If you take a little time to prepare and think about the special risks holidays impose your pet should be safe. Just in case, make sure you know the number of the emergency veterinary hospitals in your area and can drive by it to be sure you can find it an emergency when you may not be thinking as clearly as on an ordinary day.

—Michael Richards, DVM

The abundance of food found at holiday tables presents a danger even if it isn't cooked by your mother-in-law...

— Greyhound Tales —

Wolfie

Wolfie, formerly Maurice, is adjusting nicely to South Dakota and really loves the cold weather. He bounces when he walks and likes to go much further than he did in the hot weather. He has more fur than the other greyhounds I've had, and really embraces the cold...but we'll see how he does when it really gets cold and snowy! On November 9, he will be tested to be a Therapy Dog with Therapy Dogs, Inc. (<http://www.therapydogs.com/>). I have to have owned him for three months and we will be at that point this week! He will make a fabulous Therapy Dog and I already have forged a relationship with Sanford Medical Center across the street from my home. Official pictures to come!



—Dr. Wendy van Gent, Aberdeen, SD

Jack (Fanatic Billee)

In February an email was sent out about two special needs dogs in Daytona that needed to be adopted. I read the email and forgot about it but it kept coming back to me. I finally emailed Beth to find out the ages of these dogs and a bit more information. I kept asking myself why I was doing this as I had three dogs, my age, a worn out back and my husband in a nursing home. Well Jack arrived in Port Colborne three days later. Chan, Dawn and I had Shelby, Haven and Coco in the school yard to meet Jack. When Jill took him out of her Honda the three of us said "oh my god". He was tall and long and made my girls look like puppies. Jack melted my heart when he looked at me with his soft brown eyes so much so you paid no attention to the scarring around his neck and down his chest. He had his bath, nails done and ears cleaned. Four days later

I knew why Jack was sent to me as my husband passed away. For two weeks I kept telling Jill how quiet he was for a dog not yet two, so perfect. WELL, three weeks later the fun started, he destroyed three pet beds, pulled night lights out of the wall and grabbed anything else he could; he was finally being a puppy and learning what



life is about. He even decided to pull my orchid plants off the table, oh well I had too many anyway. I think for awhile he thought his name was No Jack. Jack's coat is now shiny black, all the bald spots on his tail are gone, the wide scars are not as tight and he is a healthy 80 pounds.

Special needs dogs are truly special and I am so glad he is my boy.

Only In Canada

Two years ago I had something happen that was unbelievable. I had Shelby, Coco and Amy and I usually leash them in the house before going out. This night I did not and I have a rock garden just outside the back door. Little did I know there was a baby bunny right in the middle. It was sheer bedlam with me trying to get a hold of the dogs so they would do no harm. The bunny took off right in the back door and into the bedroom, thanks heavens it went under the bed. I got the dogs in the living room and tried for fifteen minutes to get the bunny out, no luck. I finally went next door and asked them if they would help me get a bunny out of the bedroom. They looked at me like I had lost my mind but came over. We had to get the lady on the other side of me over and after another twenty minutes the bunny hopped out the back door. The good news is it never came back. The neighbours just shook their heads and said it could only happen to you.

—Rosanne Richardson



ASK MS. FUGGLES!

Dear Ms. Fuggles,

I thought you and your legion of Fuggles Fans would be interested to hear an update on how things were going with that hunky Doberman I told you about in the last issue. Ms. Fuggles, how could I have doubted you! I didn't want to listen to your advice, but in hind(quarters) sight, I should have.

Things started out well. Whenever we ran into each other on our walks, our owners would stop to chat and we'd have a

few moments to gaze into each other's eyes. Unfortunately, not too long after we met, the Doberman showed up on one of our walks with a companion—another dog. A female Doberman! I could smell him all over her. Disgusting. I kept my dignity, but I sure wanted to pee on both of them. I'll stick to greys.

Ashamedly,
Not-so-Frantic Romantic

Dear Not-so-Frantic,

Well, I shouldn't say "I told you so," but "I TOLD YOU SO!"

If you have any burning questions about fashion, being cool or just life in general, send them to victoroo@comcast.net and include "Ask Ms. Fuggles" in the subject line!

Saving Your Pet with Pet CPR

With pets increasingly being treated like a member of the family, many owners are learning emergency techniques like CPR to keep their pet alive before bringing it to a veterinarian.

If there is no breathing and no pulse, begin CPR immediately.



Check for breathing and pulse

Check pulse using middle and index finger below the wrist, inner thigh (femoral artery), below the ankle, or where the elbow touches the chest.

Look for other warning signs

- Gums and lips will appear gray-colored.
- Pupils will be dilated and not responsive to light.

If not breathing, give breath to animal Cats and small dogs

Place your mouth over its nose and mouth to blow air in.

Medium-large dogs

Place your mouth over its nose to blow air in.

Heimlich maneuver

If breath won't go in, airway may be blocked. Turn dog upside down, with its back against your chest. Wrap your arms around the dog and clasp your hands together just below its rib cage (since you're holding the dog upside down, it's above the rib cage, in the abdomen). Using both arms, give five sharp thrusts to the abdomen. Then check its mouth or airway for the object. If you see it, remove it and give two more rescue breaths.

Start compressions if no pulse

Lay animal on right side and place hand over ribs where elbow touches the chest. Begin compressions. Do not give compressions if dog has pulse.

Repeat procedure

- Check pulse after 1 minute and then every few minutes
- Continue giving CPR until the animal has a pulse and is breathing
- Stop CPR after 20 minutes

Animal Size	Compress Chest	Compressions per Breath of Air
Cat/small dog (under 30 lbs.)	1/2–1 inch	5
Medium-large dog (30–90 lbs.)	1–3 inches	5
Giant dog (over 90 lbs.)	1–3 inches	10

Source: American Red Cross, www.redcross.org

The GEM Store Featured Items

GreytHounds of Eastern Michigan is proud to supply pet owners around the world with useful products at reasonable prices. Our motto is "We have what you need!" Visit our on-line store at

http://www.gemgreyhounds.net/gem_store/online_store.htm

Although many of our products are intended for use with sighthound breeds we also carry grooming and medical supplies, safety products, collars and leads, and of course some toys that will appeal to all breeds.

Greyhound Walking Stick Umbrella (Poppy Red/Grey) \$25.00



Identify yourself and your favorite dog breed with this beautiful walking stick rain umbrella featuring a Greyhound silhouette image. Take this stylish umbrella with you to the park, on walks, on errands...wherever it's raining. This umbrella shows your devotion to greyhounds!

It features a bright poppy red canopy, with a dashing grey silkscreen of a running greyhound silhouetted on each of the eight sections of the canopy.

About the Umbrella

- **SHAFT:** Brawny wide gauge (14 mm) steel shaft for extra strength and rigidity, coated black for rust resistance. This is the backbone of



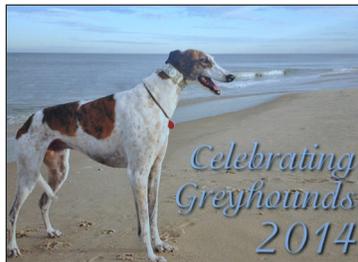
the umbrella that along with the matching black steel cap (that's the pointy end) gives it the robustness to be used as a walking stick.

- **CAP:** Wide gauge black steel as mentioned above for firmness and anti-chafe properties when used as a walking stick
- **HANDLE:** Wood
- **MECHANISM:** Automatic opening mechanism with wide gauge to match the shaft and heavy duty spring for added durability
- **RIBS:** Fiberglass ribs for an extraordinary degree of wind resistance not found on the typical umbrella made with metal ribs that tend to kink and break even from light use
- **TIPS:** Black plastic tips on the end of the ribs giving an attractive accent while dulling the effect of inadvertently poking other people or yourself with the open umbrella
- **CANOPY:** 100% 190 thread count Pongee, the finest quality polyester material available, with waterproof coating for waterproofing, opens to full 48" arc.
- **STRAP:** Velcro for easy opening and closing



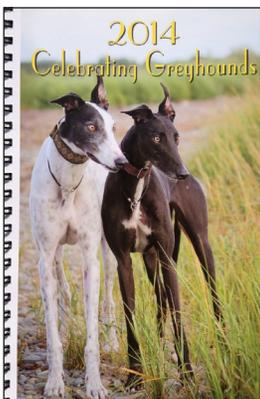
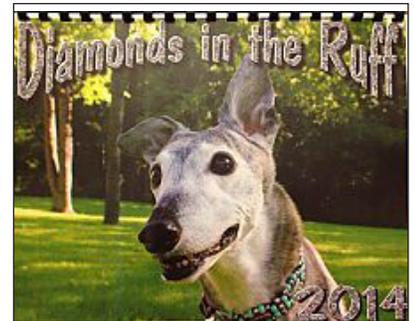
2014 Celebrating Greyhounds Calendar

2014 Celebrating Greyhounds Calendar with 14 months for your enjoyment. Greyhounds from all over the world are featured on this spacious 12" X 9" wall calendar. Also included are greyhound adoption group contacts from across the United States, Australia, Canada, Europe and the United Kingdom. **\$12.00**



"Diamonds in the Ruff 2014"—GEM's Annual Calendar

GEM's seventh annual calendar features over 60 full color photographs of GEM adopters' greyhounds. Edited and arranged by GEM's own Kathy Lazenby. **\$10.00**



The 2014 Celebrating Greyhounds Planner

Compact: 5.5" X 8.5" closed. 8.5" X 11" opened. Fifty-four weeks from December 22, 2013 through January 3, 2015. Every week features different adopted greyhounds from around the world. Included is a listing of adoption, referral and support contacts for greyhound groups in the United States, Australia, Canada, Europe and the United Kingdom. **\$15.00**

NEW FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

China Holiday Ornaments by Pipsqueak

Four different greyhounds:

Black Brindle Fawn White and Black

Ornaments are 2.75" round with a gold cord for hanging. The back has a space where your dog's name can be written in with a marker.

\$12.00 each



GreyHounds of Eastern Michigan

proudly presents:

5TH ANNUAL GREYHOUND EVENT OF MICHIGAN

May 16-18, 2014

Holiday Inn Hotel
Livonia, MI

**Online registration
begins
Jan 15, 2014.**



Join GEM for a 3-day conference that is bursting with activities:

- Mini Seminars
- Vendors
- Live Auction/Raffles
- Greyhound Activities

All proceeds from the event go toward further educating the public and finding forever homes for retired racers.

www.gemgreyhounds.org

"...greyhounds to me were no longer associated with hot-eyed gamblers and arc-lit tracks. They were creatures from Mallory, the gifts of chivalric kings, prized and gilded with jewelled collars. They were the mystic shapes in the tapestries I went to gaze at again and again in the Cluny Museum in Paris; they leapt across the exquisite margins of mediaeval Books of Hours; and they were there in the big print of Pisanello's 'Vision of St. Eustace' which went with me everywhere..."

—My Small Country Home, by Jeanine McMullen.

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR GEM

Mailing Address

GreyHounds of Eastern Michigan
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Committee Contacts

Helen Davanzo—Adoptions / Foster Coordinator
Beth Barnhart—Committee Member
Helen Davanzo—Applications Coordinator
Beth Barnhart—Committee Member
Merrie West—GEM Store
Susan Buza—Greyhound Procurement Coordinator
Helen Davanzo—Committee Member
Pam Allion / Christine Victor—*GreytTalk* Newsletter
Gary Hull—Committee Member
Gary and Fran Hull—GUR Team / Supplies
Helen Davanzo—Vetting Coordinator
Beth Barnhart—Committee Member
Susan Buza—Committee Member
Fran Hull—Volunteer Coordinator

Phone Numbers

(877)436-3647 / (877) GEM-DOGS
Lost / Found Dog Pager: (877) 567-8436

GEM Board

President: Beth Barnhart
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Vice President: Mike St. Pierre
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Secretary: Jill St. Pierre
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Treasurer: Kathy Helm
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Trustee: Helen Davanzo
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Trustee: Gary Hull
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Trustee: Pam Allion
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Odin, Duke, Lightning, Sydney, Karroo, Bean and Annie

GEM Snapshot!

This issue features.

GG: *What are the names of your hound(s)?*

KL: Greyhounds Karroo, Duke and Lightning. Wolfhound/
Greyhound Odin, Chinese Cresteds Bean and Sydney
and the newest addition to our pack Annie the Scottish
Deerhound.

You can learn more about Tom, his writing, and
photography at:

<http://thomaszimmerman.wordpress.com/>

*Do you know an interesting "GEM"? Please let us know who
you would like to see profiled in a GEM Snapshot!*

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