Greyhound Gazette

A quarterly publication for Greyhound owners and other Dog lovers. March (Spring) 2011 – Issue 9

The Greyhound Supporters is proud to introduce the new arrivals



This handsome black hound is Darwin – a 3 year old boy who now calls Ottawa home.

Kellie and Andre are thrilled to welcome Darwin to their family, although Gilmour, their cat, is still rather dubious about the whole thing.



This handsome red fawn boy is Yarkko and he's shown here with his new mom Michelle.

Not only does Yarkko get a whole big family, he's got a new doggy buddy, a Chinese Crested named Ozzie.



Evan is very happy to share the news that he now has a new greyhound brother, so without further adieu, please say hi to Toulouse. Mom Diane and Dad Ralph are also happy to have Toulouse



We're very pleased to welcome Edyta to Ottawa where she joins Ann-Marie and Tom with their resident greyhound Freddie.
Edyta is a lovely dark brindle girl with incredibly expressive eyes – which she could hardly keep off her new mom once they

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We are introducing a "Letters to the Editor" Section. Please send your comments to solligrey@rogers.com

This Notification was first mentioned in the June 2009 edition of the Gazette. With Spring coming and more humans and hounds out walking we thought it would be a good idea to reprint it.

What to do in case a greyhound is lost?

call 613-216-8097 or 613-291-9025.

The Greyhound Supporters of the National Capital Region have in place an initiative titled "Find-A-Greyhound". It is a two-pronged approach for responding to instances of greyhounds becoming lost or missing in the general geographic region of the National Capital Region, ensuring their safe retrieval and return to their homes. For more information, click on http://www.gsncr.ca/findagrehound.htm.

The "Find-A-Greyhound" site also provides information on prevention measures greyhound owners can take to: A) minimize the chances of their pets getting lost and B) maximize the chances of their pets being found.

Lyme Disease and Tick Control

Dr. Diane Walker DVM Algonquin Animal Hospital



Lyme Disease, named for the small Connecticut town of Lyme, has actually been identified for over a century, but since the '80's public awareness due to media hype has left the general public with little basic knowledge and great misconception and

fear. This article is intended to help smooth out some of the information needed to understand canine Lyme disease and to provide information on tick control

Canine Lyme disease symptoms and presentation is very different than in humans. Although less than 30% of humans will remember a rash or tick bite, 80% of them will develop a rash and/or flu-like symptoms after being bit by a tick that carries the Borrelia burdorferi spirochete. Over the next few weeks, humans will develop joint pain, with 15% of patients developing neurologic disorders, and 5% developing a specific heart rhythm disorder called A-V block. At this same time of infection, dogs will still be asymptomatic. Weeks through to months after infection, roughly 60% of people will suffer from intermittent attacks of arthritis and 5% will develop chronic neurologic anifestations. It is a serious chronic long-term illness in humans.

In canines, weeks to months after infection, arthritis may be noticed. A fever can occur sometimes. Cardiac and neurological issues are extremely rare. For dogs, the symptoms respond rapidly to inexpensive antibiotics, such as doxycycline. Most exposed dogs never get sick but almost all of them will develop antibodies and these antibodies persist for years. It is difficult to separate the dogs that have active infection from those that have been exposed and are not sick from their exposure. The most serious potential problem for dogs is kidney damage that occurs by long term stimulus to a latent infectious organism or immune stimulus and not necessarily due to Borrelia itself. The most important factor to consider for dogs in endemic areas, ie the Northeastern USA, is to put Lyme disease on the list of rule outs for chronic joint pain. At the present time Lyme disease, Borrelia burgdorferi, is still rare in this area but is being diagnosed occasionally in dogs that have travelled to the Southern Great Lakes, upstate New York, Pennsylvania, the New England States or anywhere else endemic in the US and Canada. It is diagnosed with an antibody test. In a Lyme endemic area, as many as 90% of the dogs will have antibodies against the Lyme spirochete.

Treatment of Lyme disease utilizes a 2 to 4 week course of doxycycline, a medication that is inexpensive and has a very limited side effect profile. Amoxicillin can also be used. It is very similar in its safety profile. If Lyme is a consideration, most veterinarians will simply prescribe the medication. Obvious improvement is seen within 48 hours. Also most other tick borne infections capable of causing similar symptoms all share responsiveness to doxycycline so this also covers several types of infection.

Eradication of the Lyme spirochete is not a reasonable goal with medicating. It is too good at hiding. The goal is bring the patient to a premunitive state, which means to a level where the host (dog) is healthy enough to resist getting reinfected. This is why treatment is usually for 4 weeks.

Dogs with a positive infection will need to have their urine screened for significant protein loss. As the immune system actively tries to rid the body of the spirochete over the years, antibody complexes can be deposited on the kidney glomeruli cells and cause significant disease. This causes the kidneys to leak protein that the body needs. A urine protein/creatinine ratio test is needed to detect this problem. If this test is at a certain level the dog may need treatment for kidney disease.

There is a vaccine against Lyme disease available, it is only helpful for dogs not yet exposed, such as puppies and dogs from non-endemic areas traveling to endemic areas. Annual boosters continue the vaccine-based immunity. As Lyme disease is a regional problem, you need to discuss your travel plans with your veterinarian if you are planning on taking your dog with you on your holiday. There is controversy on whether the vaccine should be done. The argument against vaccine is that 90% of dogs will never get ill from infection and that 5-10% of dogs that do get sick are readily treated with an inexpensive, safe antibiotic. The vaccine may not be worth the expense. The kidney disease has not been proven to be caused by the Borrelia antigens and may simply be due to the immune stimulation. The argument for vaccination is that vaccination will help outrightly prevent infection in an animal before it travels to an endemic area. Also if we allow dogs to become infected do they not become a potential source for human infection (through their ticks) and this is a devestating disease in man. In endemic areas, the deer and mouse population is controlled in human vicinities, so should the canine reservoir not also be controlled? The bottom line is that ticks need to be controlled in endemic areas especially if you chose not to vaccinate.

Ticks are usually nothing more than a nuisance in the Ottawa area. The best approach is to prevent them from embedding and feeding, and once embedded, to remove them quickly. With frequent tick checks and control where needed, your pets should make it through the tick season with little problems. If information changes we will keep you updated at your annual health exam.

Ticks are skin parasites that feed on the blood of their hosts, they love motion, body heat, and exhaled carbon dioxide. This is why they are so attracted to dogs, cats, rodents, rabbits, cattle, and small mammals. The bite itself is seldom if ever painful but can transmit diseases. It can take several hours for an attached tick to transmit a disease so owners can generally prevent disease transmission by regularly checking their pet to identify and remove ticks.

Most ticks have a 3 host (blood meal), 2 year life cycle. Each stage requires a blood meal before it can reach the next larval stage. The stages are egg, larva, nymph, and adult. The adult female increases her weight by more than 100X during a blood meal and lays approximately 3,000 eggs.

The three best ways to deal with ticks are environmental control, attachment prevention and finding and removing ticks. Environmental control involves treating the yard and outdoor kennel area. Products containing fenvalerate are the best. This chemical is not harmful to the environment. During prime tick months in the (in this area June seems to prime lately) summer spraying every 1-2 weeks may be needed.

To prevent ticks from attaching topicals are generally used. Not all products that you may read about are available in Canada at this time. These are the current ones. Revolution(selamectin Pfizer) is labelled for one species of tick, Dermacentor. It may help with Ixodes but during high tick hatch it should be administered it every 2 weeks for the first 3 treatments to increase efficacy. K9 Advantix (Imidacloprid and permethrin Bayer) is another attachment preventive. It cannot be used on puppies younger than 7 weeks and also prevents fleas, mosquitoe bites, biting flies and lice. It is also a monthly product. It is waterproof. Some owners have reported bizarre behaviour after application as if it caused irritation or burning at the application site. It CANNOT be used on cats under any circumstance as it can be fatal due to the permethrin in it. Also a permethrin spray can be used on dogs. An Preventic (amitraz Virbac) collar also has some effectiveness against ticks, like the other products it cannot keep all the ticks off of your pet but it does help discourage implantation and feeding. It also may be more water resistant than a residual spray. Flea combs can also help to remove ticks. Frontline (fipronil Merial) is also a tick preventive but is not available in Canada at this time. However at this time there is not a perfect product. You still should do a search and remove check regularly. It is not recommended to use a topical spray at the same time as one of these other products. This may cause a toxicity problem. A spray labelled for clothing should not be used on a pet.

The best way to find ticks on your pet is run your hands over its entire body. Check every time your pet comes back from an area that is inhabited by ticks (ie dense vegetation). Ticks most commonly attach to the pets head, ears, neck, and feet, but can attach anywhere.

The safest way to remove a tick with rubbing alcohol and tweezers or a slotted tool. For tools, a curved-tip jeweler's forceps (\$25 to \$50) is probably the best, and well worth searching out and keeping on hand if you live in an area with lots of ticks, especially small ticks. Various tools with slots that fit under the parasite (such as the Ticked Off spoon) also work well. Some tick products also come with a slotted tool as a promotional item. Dab alcohol on the tick and with tweezers take hold of the tick as close to the pet's skin as you can. Pull steady and slowly. Do not twist it. Try not to leave the head embedded in the skin, and don't squeeze the tick as it can leave disease-causing bacteria and parasites behind. The risk of disease to you is low, but if your perfer wear gloves. Also if your pet has a topical permethrin spray on, remember to wash your hands well after checking your dog. Do not apply hot matches, gasoline, turpentine, nail polish or remover, or just rubbing alcohol alone to the tick. These do not remove the tick and are not safe for your pet. Once you have removed the tick place in rubbing alcohol or insecticide to kill it, do not place in trash as it may still hatch eggs. If you feel uncomfortable, queasy or unwilling to remove the tick or your pet will not let you, you should call your veterinarian to assist you.

Once the tick is removed the pet needs to be monitored for crusting and scabbing in the area of removal. The attachment can cause irritation. Luckily this is usually not too serious but occasionally antibiotic ointments or antiinflammatories are needed depending on the pet and the number of bites. If the site is crusty longer than 5-7 days a veterinary visit is recommended.

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Healthy Hound Treats - Tina Kelly

Apple Crunch Pupcakes

- 2-3/4 cups water
- 1/4 cup applesauce, unsweetened
- 1/4 teaspoon vanilla
- 4 cups whole wheat flour
- 1 cup dried apple chips (you can also use fresh fruit)
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- 1 egg, beaten slightly
- 4 tablespoons honey

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Spray muffin tin with cooking spray.

Mix all wet ingredients thoroughly. Combine dry ingredients in separate bowl. Add wet to dry slowly, scraping well to make sure no dry mixture is left. Pour into muffin tins. Bake for 1 1/4 hours or until a toothpick inserted into center comes out dry. Store in a sealed container. Makes around 12-14 pupcakes.



Our Vendor Spotlight - Gaetan Ladouceur

Bark & Fitz is a dog-inspired retail health food store for your dog. The franchise is well-known for its commitment to offering the finest in natural and holistic foods, baked shopping experience you'll not forget.

A family business founded in Oakville, Ontario by two dog-loving brothers remains authentic to its roots; continuously focusing on the health and well-being of your canine (and feline) companions with the constant addition of industry-leading foods, products, and accessories.

The Barrhaven store, located in the Cedarview Square plaza on Strandherd Drive is also family-owned and operated by me and my wife Rosi. We employ our two sons, Cory and Andrew, nephew Cole, good friends, Stephanie, Paula and Rebecca, and our own store-front greeter, our toy poodle named Pixie. We pride ourselves on possessing the knowledge required to provide our customers with sound advice on every product in the store and the right client care that keep them coming back.

Rosi, Paula and Stephanie, make up our experienced pet grooming team that can provide your dog (and cat) with expert personalized grooming care. The one on one experience not only minimizes the stress to your pet, but enables our team to alert you of potential health issues observed during the grooming appointment. They will spend the time with you to listen to your styling instruction and can offer you advice on style and care of your dog's coat.

As you'll agree, we view, treat and enjoy our dogs differently today. No longer is our best friend simply an animal that lives outside in a doghouse. Our dogs and cats are regarded and treated as members of the family. We care for them in a way never experienced before: we are concerned about their well-being and quality of life; share a closer relationship, and enjoy them like we do a child. They give us unconditional love and loyalty; they reduce the stress in our hectic lives; continuously admire us and give us purpose in life.

With that in mind, the Bark & Fitz philosophy is to only the best products like the top rated dry and canned foods Orijen, Acana, Go! Natural and Now, made right here in Canada and Fromm, Prairie, Wellness and Hollistic Select manufactured by our cousins south of our border. Our foods do not contain corn, soy or by-products and cater to the finickiest palate and the most sensitive stomach. We also carry a complete line of raw foods and bones in our Healthy Paws freezer that can give your dog the balanced variety and nutrition it needs to lead a vibrant, healthy and long life.

Enjoy our store's large variety of healthy treats; from our famous Bark & Fitz Sizzling Liver to our hand-made and baked "barkery" cookies and our pure Alberta beef and veal chews. Looking for a sweater, a coat, boots or a collar for your dog? Our team would be happy to assist you in fitting your canine to have them stroll the outdoors in high fashion.

Rosi and I invite you to visit our Barrhaven store and experience the Bark & Fitz philosophy. You will not be disappointed.

Bark & Fitz - For You and Your Dog.

Rosi and Gaetan Ladouceur (Owners), Bark & Fitz Barrhaven, Cedarview Square, 4100 Strandherd Drive, Nepean, ON K2J 3Y8

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IS OFFERING OUR READERS & 10% DISCOUNT ON ALL PRODUCTS AND SERVICES IN THE STORE INCLUDING GROOMING.

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A Greyhound Journey by Cathie & Bill Lambert, Jacksonville, Fla. <u>Follow that Hound</u> — Raise me, Race me, Retire Me.....

Race Me! -



Cathie & Lightning



The racing part of our business is Bill's area of expertise. However, I thought I would give you a run down of the typical day in a racer's life:

<u>6:00 a.m.</u> - We try to sneak into the kennel without waking any of the racers up, but when the car door closes, they know. For the next 10 minutes or so, it's very loud as most of the 68 racers jump up and loudly welcome us to their day. (Some prefer to snooze calmly for a few extra minutes.)

While the dogs are out, the guys clean the kennel. Crates are mopped, wet beds are replaced with new clean carpets. (Most greyhounds are very clean and don't wet their crate, but sometimes when they raced the day before, they will.) Bill turns on the roasting pan to cook his noodles so they will be done by feeding time. Racing muzzles are hung on crates for that day's racers, and the next day's racers get their muzzles turned sideways.

The dogs with sideways muzzles are the ones who get most excited about the next item on the schedule



<u>7:00 a.m.</u> - Walkies!!! Every day unless it is pouring rain, we walk the dogs on the next day's race schedule.

We also walk dogs who are returning from an injury or new pups who haven't started racing yet so they can get used to walking on leash. Some come to us not leash trained, and some just aren't as comfortable with it yet. We walk them almost a mile. If a dog races twice a week, they get two walks a week. The dogs who aren't walking might get to go to the sprint field. This is a fenced field that runs along the back side of the track and the dogs are put out 3-4 at a time to just run at their own pace. They usually run the length of the field 4-5 times. If it's a competitive group, this will tire them out!

8:00 a.m. - Breakfast is usually still being prepared, so this is the time to weigh the dogs. An important aspect of racing is that each racer must maintain their "set" weight. The weight is set when a dog weighs in for their first official qualifying race. As new pups begin their careers, that recorded weight usually goes up a bit as they build more muscle, and the kennel is allowed to adjust the set weight in 1/2 pound increments by filling out a form to submit to the racing secretary. The racing department keeps every single racer's weight on the computer, and if they weigh in either 1.5 pounds over or under that weight, that dog gets scratched (cannot race), and a penalty fine is imposed on the kennel. It's crucial to the business to maintain their athletic lean body. To help achieve the proper weight, each racer is weighed the day before a scheduled race, and also the day of the race. Bill adjusts the amount of food for each dog to account for any that are light or heavy. When they get to the track, they are weighed again and it is officially recorded.

We also hang the carpets on the line that were cleaned earlier in the morning, clean out the dog truck, clip toenails, clean ears, etc.

This is my favorite time of the morning. The first two hours are quite a buzz of activity and pretty loud. Now it's a quieter time and I have a chance to love on dogs, take pictures, or assist the guys doing weights, nails and ears.



FTH Tiger Lilly (aka) Georgia

This is FTH Tiger Lilly (aka Georgia) in the #7 racing silk, and that is her again in what I call the "Air Georgia" picture. In the fun picture, Georgia and I were playing one-on-one at the racing kennel in the turnout pen. She is a fierce competitor, and all business.



FTH Tiger Lilly (aka) Georgia

Race Me! - cont'd

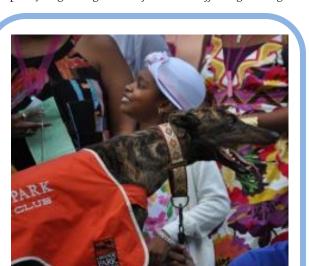
<u>8:30 a.m.</u> - BREAKFAST!!!! Most dogs get 2-3 lbs of food a day. It is a mixture of raw ground beef, cooked elbow macaroni, fish meal, peanut oil, dry kibble and whatever else Bill thinks they need. Sometimes he adds a huge can of spinach or pumpkin, other times he adds apple cider vinegar and brown sugar, and sometimes he adds buttermilk or yogurt for good probiotics. This is helpful especially after the dogs have been wormed. We worm religiously ever 4 weeks and rotate wormers to try to get them all. If you ever get a dog from a kennel, it's a very good idea to worm them after they've been with you for a month to get any new parasites that have hatched over the last month. Hookworms and tapeworms are persistent little buggers. (Note, the racers for the day only get a big "meatball" of the food - maybe ¼ lb), mixed with extra fluids and of dose of high calorie product that doesn't add much weight but gives them energy they need for the race. They will get their full meal when they return from the races.)

<u>9:00 a.m.</u> - 2nd potty break and then return to crates for a nap. Before the nap, we go over the dogs that are racing that day, and check out dogs who raced the day before to make sure they are sound. Racers might get a rubdown with a menthol-type liniment to loosen stiff muscles. On days where there is matinee racing (Wednesday, Saturday, Sunday), the racers will get to rest until about noon. On Tuesdays when there is no racing, they get an uninterrupted nap until 2 p.m.

<u>2:00 p.m.</u> - midday turnout. The dogs usually get about an hour outside unless the weather is bad, in which case they just go out to do their business and then come back inside. Before we leave, the food for the matinee racers is prepared and put above their crates so they can have a meal when they get back from racing.

<u>5:30 p.m.</u> - The night racers get loaded up to go to the track. They will be at the track all night, and won't return to the kennel until between 11 p.m. and midnight.

<u>7:00 p.m.</u> - Night turnout. Just like the midday turnout., except they all get a dog cookie before we turn off the lights and go home



Paddy



Enjoying a nice warm bath



Acupuncture helped this racer a lot. Our vet doesn't usually come to the kennel, but we wanted him to treat 5 dogs so he agreed to make a "house call"



The handsome boy in the green muzzle is Laura Simmermon's Shoshonee

Grandy's Journey Home - by Janet Shaffer

Our "Someday Girl" is one step closer to home!

24 months ago I fell in love with a little fawn girl with plenty of confidence and personality. Within 10 minutes of seeing Grandy - Craigie Grandy I knew I wanted her to be part of our family but that it would be many months before Grandy could come home. First she had to complete her racing career, then she had Mama duties to fulfill. So, the pre-adoption from Bill and Cathie Lambert founders of the *Follow That Hound* program was set in motion.

Grandy, owned by Henry Howe and raced for B & J RacingKennels; won the Orange Park Derby in March 2007. She gave up her racing silk for stuffies on April 4, 2009. We had no idea she would take her sweet time to become a Mama but I'm thinking it was, in part, being spoiled in her foster home. Grandy went to live with Cathie & Bill Lambert and their greyhounds Rosemary and Hope plus Stranger the dog who showed up and never left. It's been a long 2 years, but regular updates from Cathie, and 3 visits to Jacksonville helped me bond with her.

Our wait for puppies finally ended when Grandy gave birth to 4 large boys and one little girl on November $8^{th,2010}$. This was a very difficult birth for Grandy and sadly the 6^{th} puppy was a stillborn boy. To add to the complications Grandy developed a fever and by the end of the week it was clear she was very ill. After 2 different antibiotics were unsuccessful a specialist diagnosed Grandy with Metritis a serious uterine infection that could lead to sepsis. Grandy had a hysterectomy on the puppies' one week birthday.

Meanwhile the 5 surviving puppies Lightning, Tohr, Wellsie, Phury and Zee had to be hand fed by Cathie and Bill. They seemed to be thriving, but when they turned 2 weeks old Phury developed breathing problems, and within hours passed away. The vet said it was aspiration pneumonia and suggested that Cathie change the nipples they



Grandy & her pups

were using. 30 hours later Tohr started to struggle to breathe and Cathie made another breakneck trip to the vet with him and Lightning who she was also worried about. Tohr fought hard and it seemed he might have a chance, but 12 hours later Cathie made the difficult decision to let him go. Lightning, Wellsie and Zee were x-rayed and their lungs were clear, they seemed fine. In fact their eyes and ears were starting to open, and they were toddling on the carpet that evening. Even so, less than 12 hours later Wellsie was in severe respiratory distress. Cathie rushed her and her brothers to the vet where she died shortly after. A different vet examined them this time and said it was virtually impossible for three puppies to develop aspiration pneumonia. She put Lightning and Zee on an antiviral medication, plus they were on antibiotics for an eye infection. It turned out that the pups had contracted a bacterial infection from Grandy, likely right from or shortly after birth. I can't tell you how difficult that week was. It was such a relief to see our Mama Grandy and to hold Lightning and Zee 2 weeks later. From then on, they grew and grew!



Zee & Lightning

Our boys are a healthy 3 months and 2 weeks old now. As Follow That Hound pups, they both have pre-adoptive families;

FTH Lightning - Lightning will be heading to Michigan, and FTH Thunder - Zee will go to Miami. Of course we are hoping they have long and successful racing careers first. The best part is that I already know both families.

I will be at Sandy Paws on Jekyll Island Georgia with Peanut, who hasn't seen her Mama Caffie in 4 years! But the best part is we will officially be Grandy's family!

Our girl is coming home, almost two years to the day of her pre-adoption

Helpful Hints

Getting a Urine Sample for the Vet

We have been asked a number of times to bring in a sample but getting one especially from a female dog can be difficult. Many of my early efforts if filmed would have been "You Tube" material I'm sure.

Finally I mastered the Task

- Purchase a soup ladle from Dollar Store
- Bring dog walker, soup ladle, clean urine container (top loosened) and plastic bag on walk
- Follow the dog in question
- When she squats move in quietly and place ladle under tail to catch urine (low so it won't spook the dog)
- Place pee in container
- Either head home or place ladle and container in plastic bag especially if walking multiple dogs, sometimes I have repeated the process to get enough urine.
- Clean and store soup ladle with the dog stuff!!!!!!

My vet is always impressed with our samples and it saves me from paying for the cystoscopy they do if you can't get one. Hope this helps.

Carol Harkness with thanks to my old girl "Cleo"

If you have "Helpful Hints" you would like to share, please forward them to Carol Harkness at <u>CCH5V51@yahoo.ca</u>

Upcoming Events - Laura Simmermon

March 18th - B.A.R.K. at the Races - http://home.ican.net/~933435/UpcomingEvents.htm

March 20th - WAG Social - contact Laura Simmermon at info@gsncr.ca

April 2nd — Greyhound Indoor Playdate – contact Brandy Mallinson at <u>brandy834@hotmail.com</u>

April 16th - Crochet Workshop - contact Mel Begin at begin.mel@gsncr.ca

April 29th to May 1st - Greyhounds in Gettysburg - http://www.greyhoundsingettysburg.com/

May 14th - Card Making Workshop - contact Mel Begin at begin.mel@gsncr.ca

May 15th - WAG Social - contact Laura Simmermon at info@gsncr.ca

May 29th - Canadian Guide Dogs for the Blind - "Dollars for Dogs" - http://www.guidedogs.ca/EventsList.php

June 5th - 2nd Annual Greyhound BBQ & Fundraiser (Cambridge) - contact Tina Kelly at greyaddicted@hotmail.com

June 25th - NGA Annual Picnic and Reunion - contact Laura Simmermon at info@gsncr.ca

August 20th - Annual Greyhound Supporter's Picnic - contact Laura Simmermon at info@gsncr.ca

The Gazette committee encourages readers to share this newsletter with dog lovers of all kinds.

The next edition of the Gazette is scheduled for June (Summer issue), 2011. If you have any suggestions for articles or would like to submit one please send it to solligrey@rogers.com no later than May 15, 2011.

Enjoy

Your Gazette team.