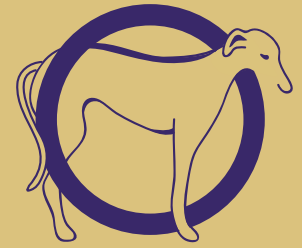


THE Skinny

on Greyhound Welfare



SPRING 2013

Missy & Mandalay: A Love Story

BY DON SPELLMANN

A gal and a guy, living separate but parallel lives. Both were born into the racing world, yet one year apart. Each competed in Florida, but in different seasons. Both retired to the Washington metropolitan area, arriving on different dates and haulers, but at the same Maryland Welcome Center. Both now seek their forever home, each perusing the same catalog of prospective adopters. At most, they only had a chance encounter, a fleeting glance, at a place likely called Bark or Wagg. They have shared a page on the Internet, under "adoptable animals," their listings often right next door to each other. Otherwise they have orbited in separate universes, distant and apart from each other. Until today, that is. Missy and Mandalay have just moved in together!

While Missy has lived alone on occasion, she prefers the companionship of another dog. But she has never tried it with a boy before, being more conventional, taking relationships slowly. Her latest girl roommate moved out, and she suddenly was in the market for a new one. Coincidentally, Mandalay was feeling restless, having lived with the same, tag-along guy dog for a long time, and was ready for a change of scenery. He had never tried living with a girl. So they both decided to give it a whirl.

They seem the unlikeliest of couples. She prefers the sleek and elegant look of dressing in all black, has a stunning smile, sits politely with her legs crossed, and likes to be pampered with pedicures. He goes for busy tiger stripes, has a toothy grin and silly smirk, hits the ground with a thud, and would rather do guy things with his paws, like dig in the dirt. She is more refined, he more mischievous. On a Saturday night, she is

just as content to curl up on her bed with her favorite blanket, the warm embers of the fireplace crackling nearby. He would rather be carousing around, running figure 8's in the yard or finding a delicious snack in the kitchen. Mind you, they both like to have a good time, squeaky toys being especially prized. She will contentedly pass the time playing fetch with herself, and practice her signature running slide into a sit a dozen times a day. He does better if a person adds some guidelines and boundaries (being known for tossing his toys over the fence). As for other occupants of the home, cats are not really her thing; he could care less if one passes by.

For now they are together, but for how long? The story remains untold. Will they become inseparable companions? Might romance bud between them? Or is their relationship just one of temporary cohabitation by convenience, sharing expenses while they each await their own true love? Perhaps you might be the one true love Missy or Mandalay has been waiting for all this

time. Just like the coincidence of Missy and Mandalay now living together, this might be your one and only opportunity to spend the rest of one (or both) of their lives with them. Why be shy or tentative, waiting for another chance encounter, at a hoped for future party, to ask one of them for a dance? Next time, they just might be taken. Today is the day to ask: Won't you be mine? ■

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Argos!

Noble Argos,
elegant boy,
your name whispers
ancient wanderings.

Gentle Argos,
faithful friend,
epic tales echo
your mythical roots.

With heroic courage
you face new adventures,
trusting and brave.

Greeting all you meet
with a twirling tail
and a regal grin --
a magic wake you weave.

Loving Argos,
your long journey
led you home
to me.

BY CHRISTINE PAYACK, FEBRUARY, 2013
(I adopted my dear Argos on November 29, 2012)



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The Skinny on Greyhound Welfare is a publication of Greyhound Welfare.

Greyhound Welfare is a greyhound rescue and placement group serving the metropolitan Washington D.C area (Maryland, Virginia and DC). Greyhound Welfare is a 100% foster home group, which means that all our greyhounds live in real homes until they are placed. This helps us teach the dogs about their new world, and learn more about the individual dogs. Knowing our dogs well helps us greatly with our placement success.

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To submit story and photo ideas, please send an email to newsletter@greyhoundwelfare.org

The Surprise and Joy of Fostering

BY SANDY HECKER

What can be better than seeing a happy greyhound face every morning? Seeing a DIFFERENT greyhound face every 6 weeks or so: some happy, some shy, some exuberant, some big, some small... because you're a GW foster!

After my second greyhound died, I was left with 7 years of understanding and fanatical devotion to greyhounds (despite, since childhood having many different breeds). I decided to put my experience and devotion to good use and become a foster parent: my schedule was up in the air, I was experienced with unique greyhound behavior (and GW provides a network to find out ANYTHING greyhound you don't know!) and I could help more greyhounds find homes. I would also get to know many more individual greyhounds. From participating in the early morning hauls, where with collar and leash, I waited for my new charge to come flying out of their compartment at the sound of their name, to watching that charge head out with their new family (leaving me feeling both happy and sad), I've enjoyed every minute.

My biggest surprise was the fear and curious reactions individual dogs have to ordinary things on their early walks in my neighborhood – "eek! I've never seen that!". For my first foster, a tiny Chinese Pagoda lawn ornament terrified her until she looked long enough. I approached it saying "look, it's just a lawn ornament," and patted it (confirming to my neighbors I really AM crazy). She finally approached it too, sniffed it... and was fine passing it ever after. For another foster, children en-route to school were frightening - "SO LOUD!" After my own greyhounds had walked quietly at my side for years, the new retirees' "wow! Look at THAT!!" behavior, darting wildly from side to side on initial walks, was a challenge. I would mutter to myself quietly, hoping I wouldn't trip as I worked to teach each dog to stay at my side instead of lunging at squirrels or cats.

The teaching aspect is the most fun; letting them know that ordinary things they encounter in their new lives are not to be feared, what's acceptable



Bath time! (photo courtesy of Sandy Hecker)

behavior and what it not. And then there are stairs. I've learned to start stair-training on my carpeted stairs to the basement rather than the wood stairs next to the crate. Several dogs have surprised me by initially panicking midway up or down the wood stairs, and I would have to help them up or down. Then, the very next time, they would bound up with me in pursuit of discovering whether my second floor was dog-safe or not. They see me go up the stairs each night, and I surmise want to see where I go. I've also learned *not to laugh* at greyhounds attempting to learn stairs. They WILL become hurt and offended; my first foster looked at me with such an extreme expression of hurt at my laughing, I immediately apologized to her.

I love seeing the range of personalities I've encountered so far, from the tiny shy female – "no, I don't want to go outside, can we please go right back home?!" to a huge exuberant female – "can we go hunting again? Please, please!!" She was part of an adventure that despite the odds, did actually end well; I didn't lose the dog or get hurt, but she did pull me down the sidewalk on my stomach.... Now I know to anticipate and prevent the – "I'm going to launch at that (whatever)!" posture. My current girl may be the world's most friendly greyhound—she greets every single person we encounter on walks as if that person is her long-lost family member. She spots them from miles away, eagerly awaits

their approach, and then hates to leave them, particularly if they're elementary school age children. Through her, I've advised dozens of people about greyhounds, and GW.

Once "adopter to dog" matches are made and we have read all their paperwork, we host the prospective adopters, answer questions, and assess whether it's a good fit. My last two placements could not have been better matches...while it's sad to see the dogs disappear into their new homes, later reports of "this is the best dog we've ever had!" and "She is perfect for our family and adjusting so well!" (with photos!) makes it all worthwhile.

If you're thinking about fostering, *come join us!* GW is encouraging new and former fosters to get involved. We're updating some of the things that have been puzzling to newbies, "foster documents," and building a group of GW foster friends who share information and hilarious stories about their charges. We often meet up at open houses.

Right now, we have more approved adopters than dogs; the more fosters we have, the more dogs we can take in!

If you have questions, e-mail or call me: sandy@hecker-associates.com; cell: (202) 297-7708; home: (703) 524-1927. ■

When you have to say good-bye

BY KATRINA MCRAINEY

In the past year, we've seen a number of our beloved greys pass on. Whether it's old age or a sudden illness, saying good-bye can be among the most challenging experiences we as pet owners go through. Unfortunately, our grief and reactions to losing a pet are often met with variable, sometimes dubious responses from others. A constellation of reactions from well-meaning friends and relatives can sometimes leave us feeling alone, trivialized or confused. There's no map to help you navigate through the grieving process, but sometimes just knowing there are others out there going through the same thing is enough to make it bearable.

IS THIS NORMAL? This past Fall, I had to say good-bye to my dear kitty Molly. She was only 10 years old, but had contracted an extremely aggressive form of cancer called squamous cell carcinoma. Within a matter of 2 weeks, she completely deteriorated; she couldn't eat, she had lost a lot of weight, and it was clear she was suffering. I had to put her down in August, and while I knew it was the right decision, I was still completely overwhelmed with the feeling that I had let her down.

The weeks during and after Molly's illness, my husband and I were both very down. In my case, I think for at least part of the time, I was still in

shock. This couldn't really be happening, could it? Obviously, for me, Molly's illness was completely out of the blue, but regardless of the circumstances of your pet's passing, emotions will most likely be overwhelming, and at some point may leave you wondering if you're going crazy.

Happily, the answer is no. Your loss lands squarely in the realm of losing a family member, and that is a deeply painful experience. This lovely creature has been in your life every single day since their Gotcha Day; in that time, you've most likely invested a great deal of emotional energy in maintaining and improving a positive relationship between you and your grey. Training, walks, vacations, get-togethers, endless pictures... all these little investments add up over the years to one hugely important relationship in your life. Intense feelings of loss are completely normal.

This is sometimes a troubling point; many often wonder about different types of loss. Some ungracious people may even ask you, hey, isn't losing a person *worse*? Shouldn't you be grieving *less* over a pet? Or the classic, *it's just a pet!* This was a question asked of me by an acquaintance that was very upsetting. First, the suggestion is that the grief you're experiencing is somehow less than, inappropriate, or even insulting in some way. Second, there is an inherent effort within that question to rank types of grief. There is no objective way to measure loss; as stated in *When Your Pet Dies*, no kind of death is "definitely the 'worst' for family and friends. You simply cannot 'rank' losses in this objective, overarching way, because each particular death, no matter the cause or circumstances, is colored by

infinite variables." Our relationships with our pets are personal and important in our lives; don't let someone make you feel guilty for hurting.

EUTHANASIA If your grey was ill, chances are you had to consider euthanasia. To be sure, this can be an extremely difficult decision to make. Questions about "am I doing the right thing? Is it the right time? What if she's not ready to go? How do I know?" are very common. How can you possibly determine whether your grey is ready to go? And yet that is what you must do. But I can tell you, you made the right choice. How do I know? Because the dedication and love you have for your grey is a given, because regardless of how hard you try or wish, you cannot take sickness away or stop the aging process, and because as hard as it is to say good-bye, it's infinitely harder to see your grey suffer.

Euthanasia adds another spin to grieving. You may find yourself battling with guilt, helplessness, betrayal, and reproach. Sometimes you may even feel a bit of relief. Don't panic! If your grey was sick, chances are you were watching them suffer in some way, perhaps you had tricky medications or other treatments to give multiple times a day. It's exhausting and natural to feel a sense of relief from that crushing responsibility. Too often emotions do not follow what the brain intellectually knows and understands. Sometimes acceptance is the most you can expect of yourself for awhile, and that's ok.

WHEN DOES IT STOP? Grief unfortunately does not come with a timeline. Your mourning will last as long as it takes you to accept the loss with a smile for the happy memories. Grief doesn't really seem to go away, not completely, it just changes into something less acute, something you can deal with.

There are steps you can take that may make you feel better. A number of activities can help you digest your emotions. First, you can cry. While not a huge revelation, some find emotional release a difficult thing to do, particularly when others are around. Again, other people in your life may not understand and find your emotions uncomfortable. Other strategies revolve around



(source: <http://petmedicalfresno.com>)

Good-bye, continued on page 5

Good-bye, continued from page 4

habits you already have - if you're a runner, take your sadness out on a run with you, if you write, keep a journal. For me, creating a memory book was very helpful. I collected all the pictures I had of Molly and designed a book around them. I stitched a portrait of her as the cover. Others even have little ceremonies for their pet. The point is, do something that helps you expend the challenging emotions.

WHEN IS IT RIGHT TO BRING IN A NEW FURRY FAMILY MEMBER? A big question many have is when to introduce a new grey after another has passed. There is no right answer. Some people are out the same week looking to adopt, others need several months. New fuzzy family members can actually help a great deal with grieving; they can be a wonderful source of distraction and affection. If the idea of a new animal causes you to feel completely overwhelmed, though, that's probably not the right step for you. If, however, the only thing stopping you is a sense of loyalty to your passed loved one, consider this; our animals want us to be happy, and if a new pet will help, that is most likely what they would want for you. Listen to yourself.

Mourning is another issue that may not be well understood by others. "That was months ago!" or "Shouldn't you be over it by now?" are both comments that we could probably all do without, but before you kick the speaker in the shins, realize they're speaking from a place of ignorance and you don't have to explain yourself. In my experience, people are uncomfortable with grief and sadness regardless of whether it's their own or someone else's. You are allowed to be sad. Mourning takes as long as it takes, and you gotta do what you gotta do.

IS IT POSSIBLE FOR MY GRIEF TO BE TOO MUCH? As discussed earlier, everyone reacts differently to loss, and sadness, feeling down, relief, reproach, etc. are all normal. Sometimes it's helpful to work through your grief with others. Particularly if you find your grief is paralyzing or you're experiencing loss of interest in things going on around you, it may be helpful to try other strategies to help you cope. Many humane societies offer bereavement programs, and they can be immensely soothing for participants. Volunteering at these organizations can also help, as you can enjoy the companionship of the animals without the commitment of bringing them home.

The more introverted may prefer seeking out a therapist.

It can be difficult to determine whether any of these avenues may be necessary steps for you. If you're concerned, try one out. Any sidebars from others (or yourself) about - this makes me weak, there's something wrong with me, does this make me a weirdo, am I going to be labeled or judged??? - are coming from a place of ignorance or lack of empathy, and you don't need to concern yourself with them. ■



(source: <http://zazzle.ca>)

Common Medical Conditions in Greyhounds

BY BEVERLY LARISON

Many Greyhounds experience common medical conditions. The following identifies some issues and suggests methods to address the problems. Please do **NOT** substitute any information in this article for a meaningful dialogue with your veterinarian.

Diarrhea is one of the most common Greyhound ailments. It can vary from slightly soft feces (the consistency of soft-serve ice cream) to frequent watery output. It can be a symptom of many different medical and behavioral situations, including, but not limited to: worms, food sensitivity, lack of fiber in the diet, ingestion of a foreign object, and stress. If the diarrhea is bloody, watery, frequent, urgent (meaning the

dog can't wait to go out), or is accompanied by vomiting, contact your veterinarian as soon as possible for guidance. Otherwise, diarrhea can often be treated by doing the following:

- Give the dog 2 Metamucil wafers and then withhold solid food for 12 hours. Make certain the dog gets plenty of liquids, adding low-sodium chicken broth or a small amount of milk to the water if necessary as an enticement to drink. Continue the extra fluids for at least a week. The stool with Metamucil should appear within 12-24 hours. It will look odd, and will be gelatinous. If you are looking for things, like bones/foreign bodies, they may show up at this time. After the 12 hours, use a bland diet for 3 days. A bland diet consists of a protein and a carbohydrate. Normally

boiled or baked chicken or hamburger is used. If feeding hamburger, drain well and rinse to reduce the grease. White rice is the usual carbohydrate, but pasta, oatmeal, or mashed potatoes can be used. Feed approximately 1.5 cups of protein and 4 cups of carbohydrates per day (divided into 2 - 4 meals). Low sodium chicken or beef broth (approximately ¼ cup per meal) can be added to up the fluid content. A spoonful of canned pumpkin can also be added to each meal. If the diarrhea subsides on the bland diet, transition the dog to Pro-Plan Sensitive Stomach (or another food suggested by your vet) over a 5-6 day period. If the diarrhea continues, stay with the bland diet and discuss further

Medical Conditions, continued on page 6

Medical Conditions, continued from page 5

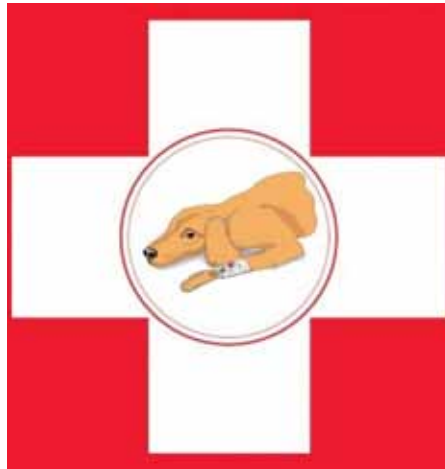
treatment with your veterinarian.

- It is wise to consult with your veterinarian before your dog experiences diarrhea. He or she may prescribe Flagyl (Metronidazole – available at human pharmacies as an inexpensive generic). If that is the case, try to keep some on hand, along with veterinary instructions in the event acute diarrhea happens in the evenings or on the weekend, when your vet may not be readily available.
- In cases of chronic soft stool in an otherwise healthy dog (not diarrhea), increasing the fiber intake with a sprinkling of Metamucil on food daily may help (about 1 Tbsp). Other good sources of daily fiber include canned pumpkin (1 Tbsp) and canned green beans (about ¼ cup).
- Some dogs do poorly on food that is well-tolerated by others. You may need to switch foods multiple times to find the right food for your dog.

Vomiting: If the dog is vomiting frequently or cannot keep food or water down, contact your vet as soon as possible to receive further instructions. For a minor case of vomiting, treat as follows:

- Withhold solid food for 12 hours. Make certain the dog gets plenty of liquids. Flavor the water with sodium-free broth or milk if necessary to get the dog to drink. Dehydration can happen suddenly and is serious. Continue the extra fluids throughout the treatment for vomiting. If the dog can't keep liquids down, contact your vet immediately.
- Use the bland diet (listed above) for 3 days.
- If the dog can tolerate solid food, transition to kibble over a 5 – 6 day period.
- If the dog is still having problems after being on the bland diet for 3 days, contact your veterinarian.

A Urinary Tract Infection (UTI) can manifest via many different symptoms including:



(image courtesy of <http://www.123rf.com>)

- The dog may need many more pee breaks than usual.
- The dog may pee in the crate.
- The dog may be drinking more than usual.
- The dog may pee very small amounts during his or her frequent trips outside.
- The dog may leak small amounts of urine.
- The dog's urine is dark, smelly, or has blood in it.

UTIs are painful. There are different causes of a UTI, from diet to water to a pH imbalance in the urine to physical deformity (discussed below) to temperament (if the dog is anxious, he may be too fearful to leave the house for a relief break, therefore holding it longer, resulting in a UTI). Treatment is by antibiotics. You may want to consult with your vet before a UTI to see if you can have an antibiotic on hand to get you through a night or weekend. Most UTIs can be successfully treated this way. However, there are some bacteria that do not respond to common antibiotics. In those cases, or where a UTI may not be the culprit, a vet visit is required to figure out whether or not bacteria is indeed present, and if it is, which bacteria is causing the issue. If bacteria is not present, the condition is being caused by something else, and a different treatment plan will be outlined. For dogs with frequent UTIs, you may consider giving a daily

cranberry pill, if your vet agrees.

While UTIs are more common in female dogs than in neutered males, it's worth noting that females who have either an inverted vulva or clitoral hypertrophy are particularly susceptible to getting UTIs since the urine can be entrapped. If you have a dog with either of these conditions, you'll need to cleanse the area after urination to prevent urine scald or UTIs. Unscented baby wipes do the trick nicely.

For more info on urinary tract infections, see: http://www.marvistavet.com/html/urinary_tract_infection.html

Behavioral Urination: Just because the dog is peeing a lot, doesn't necessarily mean he or she has a UTI. Some dogs are non-stop markers (and yes, this includes females), some dogs urinate submissively and if you give them a hard look, they'll "wet themselves" or they may just pee upon greeting you (or anybody). Then, of course, we also have the panic cases who pee when left alone (either without humans or without other dogs around – Separation Anxiety cases). If you're concerned about excessive urination by your dog, do take into account behavioral aspects. Your vet can assist you with resources if you suspect a behavioral issue.

Skin issues: If the dog has especially dry skin, fish oil supplements are often helpful. Bathe the dog with a sensitive skin shampoo (oatmeal formulas tend to be soothing). The dog should be brushed daily to stimulate the shedding of dead skin and hair. If the skin is extremely red or there is bleeding, there may be an infection: contact your veterinarian. Many dogs are allergic to fleas, so if you find fleas on your dog, you may see significant inflammation and the dog may chew/scratch constantly. See your vet for an antibiotic for any infection and treat the skin with a medicated shampoo.

Cuts: Most cuts will heal if simply washed with warm water and mild soap and dabbed with triple antibiotic (such as Neosporin). EMT gel may be used to help keep the cut together. Any cuts that will not stay closed and where muscle or other tissue is visible beneath the cut (i.e., a complete cut of the skin, not just a superficial cut) should be seen by a vet for sutures, as

Medical Conditions, continued from page 6

should any cut that bleeds excessively.

Corns are painful and can present themselves as limping, refusal to put weight on the affected foot, or refusal to walk on hard surfaces. Corns cannot be prevented, but keeping a dog's paw pads from drying or cracking can help lessen their severity. Any thick moisturizer will work for this purpose. The easiest way to moisturize: dampen the paw pads, apply moisturizer, wrap

the feet in Saran Wrap, wait about 15 minutes, and then wash the paws. If the dog tries to pull at the wrap, he or she can be muzzled. Your veterinarian should also be consulted to rule out more serious issues before treating a corn for the first time.

Here is an informative article about corns (complete with pictures): <http://www.grassmere-animal-hospital.com/corns.htm>

Awareness of potential problems, and a plan for treatment can be very effective in lessening the problem and the anxiety that can come from having your beautiful dog suffer. Again, you should discuss potential treatment plans with your vet, before a problem arises. Quick action is usually best. ■

Greyt Bites

Happy Valentine's Day!!

Love the treats on Valentine's Day? Chances are, your grey will love some, too! Why not ask for a doggie valentine? With these treats, there's no way your pup could say no.

Homemade Mini Heart Dog Cakes

YIELD: 10 mini cakes

ACTIVE TIME: 15 minutes

COOKING TIME: 20-30 minutes

TOTAL TIME: 45 minutes

INGREDIENTS

FOR THE CAKE

- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/4 cup peanut butter
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 2 1/2 tablespoons all-natural honey
- 1/3 cup butter (or 1/4 cup vegetable oil)
- 1/2 cup low-fat buttermilk
- 1 cup shredded carrots

FOR THE FROSTING

- 8 ounces low-fat cream cheese
- 1 1/2 tablespoons cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

DIRECTIONS

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. Spray mini heart-cake pan (or mini cupcake pan)

with non-stick cooking spray. Set aside.

Mix the flour and baking soda. Add the peanut butter, vanilla, honey and oil/butter. Stir to combine.

Add the buttermilk, 1/4 cup at a time, stirring between each addition. Stir in carrots.

Spoon the mixture into the prepared pan, filling each to about 3/4 full. Bake for 25 minutes, or until an inserted toothpick comes out clean. Let cool for 5 minutes, then flip the cake pan onto a cooling rack. Let the mini cakes cool completely.

While the cakes are cooking, prepare the frosting. Combine the cream cheese, vanilla and cinnamon in the bowl of a stand mixer



or a large bowl ideal for a hand mixer. Beat until a consistent frosting forms, about 1-2 minutes.

Once the cakes have cooled, frost them. To add a little extra pizzazz, melt 1/2 cup peanut butter over medium heat on the stove or in the microwave. Take a spoon, dip in the melted peanut butter, then drizzle over top the frosted cakes using a back and forth motion to create pretty zigzags.

Adapted from SheKnows Pets and Animals <http://www.sheknows.com/pets-and-animals/articles/947199/homemade-heart-shaped-mini-dog-cakes>

Pete the City Dog

BY PETE "FLYING KMART" FRAY (KERRY FRAY)

It's a strange life out here, off the track. Sure, I've been retired for two years and living in human houses for almost as long, but I'm still getting used to this concept that animals that don't look quite like me are just fine to get to know.

Let me start by telling you that my human and I live in a really giant kennel. We have a nice big crate covered in carpet and my human has sprinkled the floor with my beds. I added to this by sprinkling my toys and treats all over the place, so I don't have to go far to find something tasty to chew on. I've even trained my human to collect my toys and treats and put them in one place. Or, if she's being particularly obedient, she'll even bring them to me when I'm lounging.

My only complaint about my kennel is that there is this strange room with a slippery tile floor that my human goes in several times a day. I don't follow her in there often, except when I really, really, need her to attend to me. One of these days, I'm going to call the ASPCA about the few times she's dragged me in there. Just because my human likes to soak herself in water doesn't mean I have to. It's inhumane. A little mud never killed anyone.

The Great Kennel is full of animals that smell somewhat like my greyhound brethren. My human calls them "dogs" and sometimes calls me a "dog," too, but I fail to understand why some of them are the same as me. My human says that I am a breedist, but my vocabulary isn't that big. If I go along with this outrageous categorization, I'm pretty sure that there is a hierarchy to dogs-- 1) Fur length, 2) size, and 3) jumpy factor. I'm at the top, along with my two nieces, who live in the Great Kennel

Take for example, the Samoyed who lives in our Great Kennel. She has more energy than a greyhound puppy and jumps all over me, but her human carries around delicious treats. The treat-giving human attached to her leash seems excited with everything I do. The human squeals

something at me when I put my ears up and then gives me a different tasty treat from her pocket every time. I've gotten up to five in a two-minute period from this human. So I ignore being jumped upon by the Fluffy One. It feels so strange whenever she jumps on me. She doesn't weigh as much as you would think, and I can feel her coming for a few inches before her weight hits me.

Don't get me too wrong: I have made non-greyhound friends. I like the beagles, the calm dachshund who has a better wardrobe than me, the old mutt named Spaghetti who actually hated the stuff, the Wiemariener down the hall, the old Maltese (They say he's 17, so he just says hello and goes on his way), and even the Kaishund,

who is just as fluffy as the Samoyed but calm like me. We play by lying around on opposite sides of the crate while our humans talk. It's perfect.

Sometimes I even think I want a maltipoo puppy of my very own, because they're so fun to play with! Even if I have accidentally stepped on the neighbor while tumbling with him... But then I realize that I love having my human all to myself. I don't like to share her. So I'll just suck up the slippery room and the attention she gives the neighbor dogs, because when we're in our crate, it's all about me. ■



(source: www.cafepress.com)

Greyhound Welfare's Featured Friends

Thanks to everyone who emailed us photos!

Get out those cameras and watch your email for announcements about our next issue!



A gaggle of greys (courtesy of Eliza Selan)



Mandalay curls into the cat's bed (courtesy of Alyce Mckelvy)



Topaz & Hampton (courtesy of Don Spellmann)



Topaz (courtesy of Don Spellmann)



Missy (courtesy of Theresa O'Leary)