



*The Official GreySave Newsletter*

# SCOOP

[www.greysave.org](http://www.greysave.org)

275+ dogs saved

**Greyhound Adoptions**

**(866) Grey-Save**

- *Spring 2009* -

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

-Sierra Madre's Wistaria Vine Festival - Sunday, March 15.

-America's Family Pet Expo. Friday - Sunday, April 17th thru 19th.

-GreySave's 3rd annual "Race to the Park" picnic. Saturday, May 9th.

-Greyhound Gathering - Kanab 2009 - May 15 - 17<sup>th</sup>

(See Details on page 3)

...with a lot of Meet & Greets in between, visit [greysave.org](http://greysave.org) for a full listing and directions.

## Message from the GreySave Board

You may have heard that GreySave's last group of foster Greyhounds came from a kennel in Tucson, Arizona. This was not due to a change in our policy or focus, but from a change in the situation at Tijuana's Caliente track. From its inception, Grey-Save's focus has been to help Greyhounds from the Caliente racetrack find loving homes. This continues to be our focus.

Three or four Southern California groups regularly pull dogs from Caliente. However, high gas prices, the recession, and changes in wagering procedures have slowed the flow of dogs to the track. This means that fewer dogs are being retired.

Southern California Greyhound adoption groups have been able to save the dogs that the racing kennels send to the Caliente "Pet Kennel". GreySave basically emptied the pet kennel in January, as it frequently has in the past several months, and two other groups emptied it again this week. Meanwhile, adoption applications keep coming in—more applications than we have dogs available. This has allowed us to expand our focus to help Greyhounds from other tracks.

In January a kennel operator at the Tucson Greyhound track asked if we could help him find homes for some of his hounds. It's just one of several Tucson racing kennels that have been holding dogs for a number of months that they can't race or get rescue groups to take. The GreySave board decided to bring in some of these Tucson dogs in February, and return to the Caliente track in March.

However, as mentioned above, the Caliente pet kennel was emptied this week. So the board has decided to again take some Tucson dogs this month. Meanwhile, a track closing in Guam last year has left hundreds of Greyhounds abandoned and starving. We have been getting applications from people who saw a story on Channel 7 about the Guam dogs. So we may also take a couple of Guam Greyhounds this month. We expect to return to the Caliente track in April.

We all have a special place in our hearts for the Caliente Greyhounds, and Grey-Save's commitment to them is as strong as ever. These other sources of Greyhounds serve simply as backups when we cannot get the dogs we need from Caliente.

The Greyhound industry has been undergoing significant changes in recent years. Tracks are closing virtually every year, and it seems likely that the recession will accelerate this process. We continue to monitor the situation at Caliente on a weekly basis and will always do whatever we can to help these hounds find their way to their forever homes. Should Caliente suddenly experience influx of available dogs for whatever reason, GreySave will help lead the effort to place them in loving homes.

### Aston

### Featured Dog

Aston is an extremely handsome greyhound who has been off the track for most of his life. In fact, Aston never raced but somehow managed to hurt his leg. He now walks a bit stiff-legged, especially in cold weather. However, when it comes to running, he is faster than many a hound and can get to the soft dog bed faster than most! Aston spent his post track years in Hollywood until he ran afoul of a dastardly, white, fluffy, yapping dog, took a taste and lost his home. He gets along well with the greyhounds in his foster home and the medium-sized dogs he meets but does not like small fluffy critters whether canine or feline.



Aston is looking forward to finding a Forever Home that will give him lots of love, pets, good food, a soft bed and most importantly will keep all those small, annoying critters away from him. Aston is a good citizen out in public, including walking well on the leash, and is very well behaved at home. He is the perfect ready to roll up on the couch hound, easy to be around, and has that greyhound "go with the flow" attitude. He does need a human companion who will be in charge so he can rest assured that he will be well taken care of and never lose his home again.

## Adventures in Fostering

By Mark Spiegel

Why do I foster?

First, a little background. I've had my older greyhound for what will soon be 3 years and have two total. I have been taking in fosters for about 18 months now. The briefest guest has been 10 days. The longest has been around 2 months. To date, I haven't had a dog straight off the track. Instead, I usually get bounced dogs, dogs that are post spay/neuter, or dogs that just need a change of scenery.

*Each dog is like a Christmas present that we get to open ever so slowly.*

I foster because it has been a very rewarding experience. Even though my guests have not come right off the track, they are still getting used to their new world and all the new sights, sounds, and experiences. This ranges from handling wood floors and stairs to learning that the water is deeper than it looks. Some need to learn that the dog in the mirror is just that. As much as possible, I enjoy standing back to take it in. Even more rewarding is what my fosters have taught me. There is no magic formula. Some are outgoing and do better with the boisterous home. Others are shy and require an ever-so-gentle approach. I've tried to learn to read what our svelte friends are looking for and give them an environment that best suits their needs. Each dog is like a Christmas present that we get to open ever so slowly. As they spend time and get comfortable, they open up, showing us new habits and traits. It is a treat to see what any given foster is going to show me next.

At some point, the right forever home will come along. Yes, I get attached to every single one of them. It can be tough that day when they leave. That said, I'm glad to see them go. For me the payoff is sending the foster forth, seeing them matched with a good home, and placed there. If I'm lucky, I'll see them at a picnic, a spa day, or some other function. After a day or two, I get looking forward to the next one.

### Etna

### Featured Dog

By Jim and Bonnie Jeffers, foster parents



When Etna came off the track, she had all the exuberance of a puppy; as she has explored the new world around her and learned some manners, she has turned that exuberance into a more controlled love of life that is infectious. Her affectionate, playful, and intelligent personality captures hearts wherever she goes.

She gives kisses, loves to cuddle, and will sit on command. She can, however, be easily excited by noise and other animals around her and will take over a situation if allowed to do so. Etna needs a home where the humans know how to set boundaries and take leadership as part of showing love. In this type of home, she blossoms.

Etna has been a delightful foster. Daily she keeps us entertained as she pounces on toys, explores some new sight or sound, or "cockroaches" for one of her many naps. Sometimes she'll wag her tail so fully that she hits herself in the side. That starts her chasing her tail until she literally falls over and we erupt in laughter.

Etna should not live with small animals, but she fits in well with her four foster Greyhound siblings. Although she enjoys having children hug and pet her, small or active children can get her overly excited. She is a perfect lady in the house and rides well in a car.

Both Etna and Aston are ready to find their Forever Homes and will be wonderful greyhound companions. If you would like to know more about either of them contact Cathy Kiburtz at 626-354-8476.

**-Dogs are not our whole life, but they make our lives whole.**

## GreySave Adoptions - since August 2008

Dog name	location	Dog name	location
Wiamea	Rancho Cucamonga	Annette	Clairmont
Lucy	Buena Park	Curry	Northridge
Victoria	Valley Village	Columbia	Glendale
Quincy	Huntington Beach	Maple	Brentwood
Pepper	Sunland	Rhine	La Crescenta
Benny	Bradbury	Pine	Rancho Cucamonga
Quebec	West LA	Spruce	Sherman Oaks
Glacier	Glendale	Rosemary	Simi Valley
Quaker	Studio City	Oak	Upland
QT	Long Beach	Harvard	Whittier
Hudson	Huntington Beach	Cambridge	Silver Lake
Merced	Glassell Park	Julliard	Whittier
Kern	Winnetka	Birch	Thousand Oaks
Quick	Thousand Oaks	Princeton	Fontana
Thames	Sierra Madre	Vassar	Hawthorn
Nile	Glendora	Berkley	Rancho Mirage
Quigley	Huntington Beach	Cornell	Torrance
Kalamath	Studio City	Carolina	Altadena
Sequoia	Woodland Hills	Vail	Irvine
Parsley	Lancaster	Bavaria	Palmdale
Aunt Bea	Arrowhead	Niagara	West Hills
Allegheny	Chatsworth	Ann Arbor	Calabasas
Danube	Orange	Riviera	Altadena
Ginger	Long Beach	Nantucket	Alta Loma
Nutmeg	Los Angeles	Aruba	Glendale
Saffron	Chatsworth	Singapore	West Hollywood
Okie Smokering	Orange	Duke	Coto de Caza
Gracie	Chino Hills	Montreal	Altadena
Amazon	Glendora	Capri	Riverside
Paprika	Sierra Madre	Rushmore	Colton
Sage	Winnetka	Virginia	Laguna Nigel
Basil	Chino Hills	Stanford	Valencia
Walker	Los Feliz	AMF Butterfinger	Huntington Beach
Cinnamon	Garden Grove	Sunsands Doodles	Silver Lake
Mulberry	Carlsbad	Trinidad	Lakewood
Dogwood	Carlsbad	Odessa	Rancho Mirage
Dogwood	Carlsbad	Acacia	Hermosa Beach
Cedar	Hermosa Beach	Magnolia	Garden Grove
Yosemite	Woodland Hills	Cupid	Long Beach
Tarragon	Riverside	Casanova	Santa Monica
Redwood	Culver City	Tuscany	Santa Clarita
Willow	Studio City	Precious	Lancaster
Hickory	Winnetka	Sydney	Phoenix

## GreySave Events

### Sunday, March 15: Sierra Madre's Wistaria Vine Festival

9am-5pm, Sierra Madre Memorial Park, Sierra Madre. Last year's event provided GreySave with great visibility and generous donations. We need volunteers, so if you can help represent GreySave at this event, contact Cathy Kibburtz at 626-354-8476.

### Friday-Sunday, April 17-19: America's Family Pet Expo

Friday, 10AM-6PM; Saturday, 10AM-7PM; Sunday, 10AM-6PM. 88 Faire Drive, Costa Mesa. It's the big event of the year for pet lovers of all stripes, and GreySave will be there in full force. Our booth (above) celebrates the greyhound as a dog of medieval royalty. For more info, go to: [www.PetExpoOC.com](http://www.PetExpoOC.com).

### Saturday, May 9: GreySave's Third Annual Race to the Park! Picnic

Come celebrate Spring in style--that is, with your greyhound(s)! Meet all your GreySave friends (and their owners) at our third annual picnic. Outstanding food, games, shopping, raffles, auctions, Canine Good Citizen testing, and much more! This is in part a fundraiser, so by coming you're something good for GreySave. More info to come.

### May 15 - 17<sup>th</sup>

### Greyhound Gathering - Kanab 2009

Three days of Greyhound Love and Celebration. Parade, Costume Contest, Blur of Fur, Hikes, Talks & Demos, CGC Testing, Food, Shopping, Auctions.....

[www.greyhoundgang.org](http://www.greyhoundgang.org)

Be sure to check GreySave's website regularly for new events and updates on Meet & Greets as well:

[www.greysave.org](http://www.greysave.org)

### Greyt-News

**Congrats to Stacey's dog Romey! He passed his therapy dog evaluation test recently. Romey will be helping with a library reading program and will be making hospital visits. Greyt News indeed!**

**If you think your dog would be a good therapy dog candidate the first step would be the Canine Good Citizen Test that Priscilla from Liebre Air does at the GreySave Picnic. Her number is: 951-352-2402.**

### Be a GreySave Benefactor

As the number of greyhounds we save grows so do our costs. Despite the heroic efforts of our volunteers and veterinarians, and despite the fact that no one takes a dime in salary, GreySave's adoption fee only covers part of our costs. That's in part because a certain number of dogs we take in are sick or injured. GreySave only continues to function because of the over and above giving of wonderful folks like you. As a GreySave Benefactor, you will receive: everything from your name immortalized on our Benefactor Walk of Fame, free admission to our events, free raffle tickets, free spa treatments, to custom embroidered polo shirts and jackets. See our Benefactor page on the website (under the Help menu.) for the details.

The Greatest thing I've ever known,  
Someone came and took me home.  
Away from the track; hope I'll never go back!  
Like a nightmare in my memory, my future looked black.

Then I was adopted and my life spared.  
I thank God everyday that someone cared;  
'Cause this must be heaven, I'm a winner this time.  
Got a ball, a bone, and a bed all mine.

And I'm crazy 'bout my family;  
Devoted, you might say.  
Like a shadow beside them,  
You can bet I want to stay!

And I'm special too, they call me "Sweetheart",  
And they hug and kiss me and tell me I'm smart.  
Even dreams are peaceful now; no stress, no strife.  
And I run for fun, 'stead of running for my life!

-Lucky Dog

## **-Wanted-**

- Your greyt stories-**
- Your greyt jokes-**
- Your greyt input-**

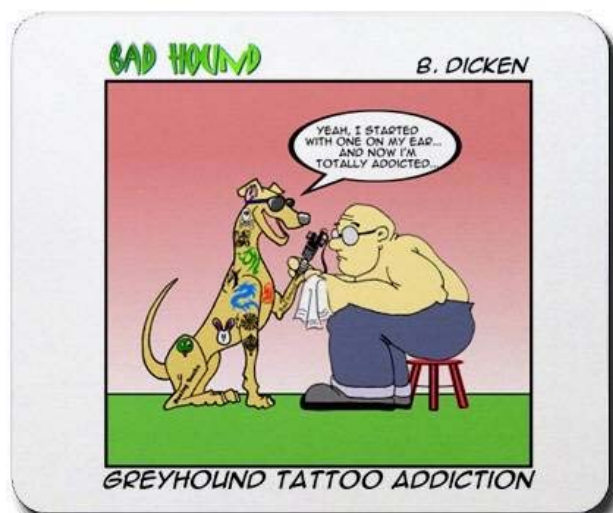
Send your "stuff" to Mike at  
Racing-heritage@roadrunner.com

## **Support GreySave**

.....and get some cool stuff.  
Check out the GreySave store.

- 2009 Celebrating Greyhounds Calendar (featuring one of our own)  
Now \$10.00 (including tax)
  - GreySave window decals \$9 - \$10
  - GreySave messenger bag \$24
  - GreySave cap \$13
  - Sweatshirts, T-shirts and more...
- Visit: [www.greysave.org](http://www.greysave.org)

## **GreySave *Funnies***



-If your dog is fat, YoU aren't getting enough exercise.

-My dog is worried about the economy because Alpo is up to \$3.00 a can. That's almost \$21.00 in dog money.

-My goal in life is to be as good a person as my dog thinks I am.

-on bumper-sticker...

Your Honor Student is merely a pawn in my ex-racing greyhound's quest for world domination.