



A LETTER from the PRESIDENT

Eric Spencer

In September 2018 I was included in the haul of racing Greyhounds from the USA. This was my first time and the amazing volunteers at NCGL were so patient and funny teaching me about the logistics of getting through the border and why we need two people in every car.

Retired Greyhounds really want to help drive! One Grey found a way to press the button to open a window. Never occurred to me I would need to lock my car windows for dogs.

It was a bit of an adrenaline rush to see all our Greyhounds come off the truck. They were in a stressful situation and we got to see a small window into their unique personalities as they quickly adapted.

Even better, was dropping off our Greyhounds with fosters and an adoptive family that was so eager to meet their grey, they just had to see him before the foster took him for valuable transition assessment and training.

My recommendation to anyone who needs a little 'pickup' in their life, hang around Greyhound volunteers! These people are filled with so much joy and humour, you can't help but feel a little bit better after spending some time with them.

Eric Spencer
President

Rainbow Bridge	Dogs We Have Said Goodbye To	
	Garnette Detrdone (Cable)	
Happy Tails	Welcome to Our New Dogs	
	Waubun Zeus (Zeus)	Say Anything (Scotland)
	Hell's Belle (Belle)	O Ya Elizabeth (Josie)
	Seize The Latest (Willy)	Heza Sure Thing (Hank)
	Kesha (Celeste)	Barts Powerball
	Mamas Soldierboy (Flash)	KB's Wilbur
	Fly Judge Jeanine (Judge)	Turbo
	JNK Phamton (Finnigan)	Kiowa kay Fannie (Fannie)
	Cobi's Dinah (Lusy)	Easi Hercules (Hercules)
	Peter Griffin (Peter)	JNK Ms Sangria (Sangria)

Macau Dogs – Update 2018-09-12 Hello

Greyhound Lovers!

NCGL is letting you know that we have yet to receive any further updates from the officials in Macau regarding the Greyhounds who raced at Canindrome. If we are going to get Greyhounds from Macau we now know it will be later than the September 22, 2018 date that was floated before. The dogs are currently being moved from the racetrack to an off-site facility and many of them still require vet care and procedures before they are ready to head to adoption groups.

As mentioned before, NCGL is 100% committed to helping these dogs and are waiting with baited breath for any updates and news from the officials in China; but please keep in mind whether the dogs head to Canada or not, it is in their hands. We are really hoping that we are given the opportunity to show these pups how amazing life is in Canada!

NCGL would like to thank everyone who offered to foster these beauties and all of you that have sent your support along for these pooches! Keep those paws crossed that this will all happen...soon.

As soon as we get any info you will all be the first to know!

Thank you for your support and stay tuned for more!

The Board of Directors
Northwest Canadian Greyhound League

August 31, 2018

Greetings Greyhound Lovers!

You may be aware that the Greyhound Racing track Canidrome in Macau, China has closed for good. If you haven't heard here's a link to a recent news story by CTV:

<https://www.ctvnews.ca/world/hundreds-of-macau-greyhounds-up-for-adoption-after-dog-track-closure-1.4033184>

NCGL has been contacted by a group who are looking for Greyhound adoption agencies to take these dogs into their care and find loving forever families for them. Before organizations in China stepped in to help these dogs they had absolutely no option for retirement and their safety and welfare were in dire straights. We have enthusiastically informed them that we would love to help and take in as many hounds as we possibly can!

Our dilemma at this point is that we do not have a kennel and rely solely on our incredible foster homes whenever we need to take in dogs. We have some wonderful and dedicated foster families that will no doubt step up and take in some of these hounds, but with the number of dogs that are in need of care, we are even more driven to take in even more and welcome them as new Canadians! We are hoping we can find dedicated foster homes than we normally have available and that our awesome volunteers and adopters are as excited as we are to help these beautiful souls find a safe and happy landing!

We are contacting all of our previous and present Greyhound owners to see if there would be anyone willing to do some fostering for NCGL for these dogs, or maybe you've been thinking that you need another beautiful family member to welcome into your life – either way, we hope we can count on you to add a permanent or temporary skinny pup into your life. The hounds will come fully vetted with all of their vaccinations before they arrive in Canada, any on-going expenses and care

will be covered by NCGL while the dogs are in foster care. The expected date of arrival is September 22, 2018, at the airport in Vancouver, BC but this is a very fluid situation and is subject to change. NCGL will have a group of volunteers and transporters ready to move the hounds to their respective destinations, including Alberta.

We are hoping to hear from you as soon as possible if you think you can offer your home and help us out, but particularly to help these beautiful hounds begin the next journey in their lives right here in Canada. And maybe, just maybe, some of you have been considering the adoption of another beautiful Greyhound – this would be a wonderful gift to these hounds in need and your family!

If you are available to help these wonderful skinnies find a soft landing contact NCGL BC at vebenn@telus.net or NCGL Alberta at adopt@ncgl.ca as soon as possible. As you can see time is of the essence for these greyhounds and without the incredible work and dedication by the volunteers and staff on the ground in Macau and all of the other amazing groups around the world stepping up to take these beauties into their programs, they had no future – we are incredibly grateful for all of their hard work and love and will be more than honored if we are chosen to participate in this incredible endeavor.

Please remember that while NCGL is 100% on board to get these hounds, this is a very fluid situation and we may not receive any at all. We have been in contact with authorities in China regarding this situation and we feel that we will be receiving dogs in the near future from Macau but do not want to say that this is set in stone. If we are blessed enough to take in some of these dogs we want to make sure that we are prepared and can take in as many as needed be, the more the merrier! We need your help, so please open your heart to a beautiful skinny – even if it's only for a little while!

Many Thanks,
Board of Directors
Northwest Canadian Greyhound League

HUGS to our GR8 VOLUNTEERS



Volunteers are the key to success of any group.

All efforts, big and small, contribute to success.

Our latest event, Delta Animal Expo Booth was well supported and a big hit with young and old.

Thank you for your help in introducing your furry family members to our many visitors.

HARRY BESTON - QUOTES



"We need another and a wiser and perhaps a more mystical concept of animals. Remote from universal nature and living by complicated artifice, man in civilization surveys the creature through the glass of his knowledge and sees thereby a feather magnified and the whole image in distortion. We patronize them for their incompleteness, for their tragic fate for having taken form so far below ourselves. And therein do we err. For the animal shall not be measured by man. In a world older and more complete than ours, they move finished and complete, gifted with the extension of the senses we have lost or never attained, living by voices we shall never hear. They are not brethren, they are not underlings: they are other nations, caught with ourselves in the net of life and time, fellow prisoners of the splendour and travail of the earth."

RESCUE RAINBOW BRIDGE POEM (Author Unknown)

Unlike most days at Rainbow Bridge, this day dawned cold and gray, damp as a swamp and as dismal as could be imagined. All of the recent arrivals had no idea what to think, as they had never experienced a day like this before. But the animals who had been waiting for their beloved people knew exactly what was going on and started to gather at the pathway leading to The Bridge to watch.

It wasn't long before an elderly animal came into view, head hung low and tail dragging. The other animals, the ones who had been there for a while, knew what his story was right away, for they had seen this happen far too often. He approached slowly, obviously in great emotional pain, but with no sign of injury or illness. Unlike all of the other animals waiting at The Bridge, this animal had not been restored to youth and made healthy and vigorous again. As he walked toward The Bridge, he watched all of the other animals watching him. He knew he was out of place here and the sooner he could cross over, the happier he would be.

But, alas, as he approached The Bridge, his way was barred by the appearance of an Angel who apologized but told him that he would not be able to pass. Only those animals who were with their people could pass over Rainbow Bridge.

With no place else to turn to, the elderly animal turned towards the fields before The Bridge and saw a group of other animals like himself, also elderly and infirm. They weren't playing, but rather simply lying on the green grass, forlornly staring out at the pathway leading to The Bridge. And so, he took his place among them, watching the pathway and waiting.

One of the newest arrivals at The Bridge didn't understand what he had just witnessed and asked one of the animals that had been there for a while to explain it to him. You see, that poor animal was a rescue. He was turned in to rescue just as you see him now, an older animal with his fur graying and his eyes clouding. He never made it out of rescue and passed on with only the love of his rescuer to comfort him as he left his earthly existence. Because he had no family to give his love to, he has no one to escort him across The Bridge.

The first animal thought about this for a minute and then asked, "So what will happen now?" As he was about to receive his answer, the clouds suddenly parted and the gloom lifted. Approaching The Bridge could be seen a single person and among the older animals, a whole group was suddenly bathed in a golden light and they were all young and healthy again, just as they were in the prime of life. "Watch and see" said the second animal. A second group of animals from those waiting came to the pathway and bowed low as the person neared. At each bowed head, the person offered a pat on the head or a scratch behind the ears. The newly restored animals fell into line and followed him towards The Bridge. They all crossed The Bridge together.

"What happened?" "That was a rescuer." The animals you saw bowing in respect were those who found new homes because of his work. They will cross when their new families arrive. Those you saw restored were those who never found homes. When a rescuer arrives, they are allowed to perform one, final act of rescue. They are allowed to escort those poor animals that they couldn't place on earth, across The Rainbow Bridge.

"I think I like rescuers," said the first animal. "So does GOD," was the reply.

Just when you thought it was safe to venture forth into the social media jungle, and to assume that most of the natives understand a very simple concept---the fake dog protectors double and triple down on the dis-information, and again expose their pathetic and tragic lack of greyhound acumen...demonstrating once again, to the waiting greyhound world, that they have not ever done their due diligence.

I came across an interesting article today. The thrust of it is something breeders of sporting and working dogs have known for a long time: "New research from Emory University School of Medicine, in Atlanta, has shown that it is possible for some information to be inherited biologically through chemical changes that occur in DNA."

But of course, there is a heritable and collective consciousness within species and breeds of animals. Not all things they do are learned. Not all behaviors they exhibit are simply to please us, or in spite of us. Some things are just etched upon their DNA, and they couldn't care less what we think of it.

That's why Doberman Pinscher dogs warn and protect. It's why Huskies mush. It's why Shepherding dogs herd. It's why Labradors retrieve. And it's why Greyhounds race.

It's also why greyhound breeders, trainers, and others who are truly knowledgeable of the breed, take extreme exception to the oft-repeated fable and fallacy, that by some sinister spell of dark magic, greyhounds are "forced to run" by their breeders and handlers.

Like most of the popular mythology of the Racing Greyhound, nothing could be further from the truth. A greyhound who doesn't revel in the gifts of his own speed and grace, a greyhound who isn't inclined to compete with his littermates and pack mates, or a greyhound who does not choose to chase after game or lures—they are the anomalies.

For a breed of considerable antiquity, such as the greyhound, these things are self evident, to anyone who has even the slightest familiarity or experience with the modern, racing Greyhound.

I have no idea why it has taken science so long to catch up with what King Canute and his subjects knew in the 11th century (see: The Forest Laws by Martin Roper), and what rural, agrarian, wide-open-spaces America has known since pioneer times. Greyhounds are running, hunting dogs, who are furiously competitive when doing so, and who are completed -- made whole--by the very act of partaking in the chase.

Far from being "forced to run" or to race by humans, a greyhound's every nerve, fiber, sinew and cell demands that he run and race. He is compelled to do so, by voices so ancient and powerful that we, in our suburban idyll, cannot even imagine their resonance.

As a former professional greyhound trainer, I would love to be able to sit here and tell you all that each and every greyhound who was placed in my hands, owed all of his/her success to my consummate skills and intuition, as someone who trained them, impeccably, to run and compete. But that would be yet another myth to add to the litany of greyhound mythology already out there for public disinformation.

The truth is that the trainer's job is to give the greyhound ample opportunity, repetitions and time to hone the skills he already possesses, and to nurture the drives and desires the greyhound is born with. We merely allow them to express themselves. We don't teach them to race and to compete. They already know how to do that. We simply evaluate where they are, physically, mentally and competitively at any given time, and we try to maximize each greyhound's competitive potential and physical conditioning.

A greyhound who does not wish to race, simply doesn't race. They either refuse to break from the starting box, or they quit the chase shortly after the race begins. I have never known anyone who could "force a greyhound to run". Neither has anyone else. Once the starting box flips open, the greyhound is on his own. At that point, nothing you say or wish matters. He decides---you don't.

It might surprise you to learn that some great greyhounds, even breed icons like Rinaker and Dutch Bahama, declined to race at one point or another in their careers. And no one could force them to do it. They decided for themselves, if and when they would or wouldn't. Greyhounds are like that, as many of you may know.

So, contrary to insidious, popular mythology, greyhounds are not forced to run or to race. It is simply impossible for a handler to do that. Period. The greyhounds we see racing on tracks do so because they love to, and as the researchers from Emory University have surmised:

"... experiences are somehow transferred from the brain into the genome, allowing them to be passed on to later generations."

Inasmuch as that is certainly the case, by whatever mechanism, and after 100 years of highly selective race-breeding, and previously, for hundreds of generations of sporting Greyhounds, it behooves us to ask ourselves what the real "cruelty" is.

Breeding and enabling them to race? Or forcibly preventing them from doing so?

Facebook.com/dennis.mckeon. Copyright, 2018

HERO HAS SEIZURES

So much to cover but not enough time so here are the bullet points with respect to various options:

- Seizures in people and pets are the same and treated the same
- The cause and trigger for seizures is overwhelmingly numerous and so are the treatments
- Having a brain scan is more information but doesn't have any value unless you are considering brain surgery ☐ The common and cheap drugs work but are bad for other organs. You might think you are saving money, but you lose the savings with the required blood work.
- The burden of responsibility is the owners' alone! Vets and doctors care but limited by the time they can spend with each patient and the experience they personally have with seizures. Others project their own feelings and values about seizures and treatments so it's not always reliable information (so many people talked about CBD). We need to listen, read, and learn, then decide how this information best fits this person, pet, and situation.
- Most seizure solutions are a cocktail of drug prescribed by the Vet or doctor. Sometimes this is needed to smooth a transition between prescriptions because sudden changes are known to trigger seizures. ☐ There are new options coming to the market including medical marijuana ☐ After a seizure:
- They are blind for five minutes
- Keep them away from stairs and sharp edges for twenty minutes
- They really need water and food but not too much otherwise they will need to get up to go outside every hour
- Be mindful of the drug manufacturer. Pharmacies don't tell you that different manufacturers might not provide exactly the same medicine. How can two different assembly lines produce identical products? The pharmacy can have their own brand, which creates a conflict of interest. The pharmacist will not volunteer this information, you must ask.
- Don't give honey or sugar because it will raise their blood-sugar too high and they won't be able to get back to sleep
- Every muscle in their body was kicked into overdrive so they are exhausted
- Watch out for long or clustered seizures
- When they are having a seizure, their brain is not getting oxygen so if it goes on for too long they can get brain damage ☐ When they have several seizures in the same hour it could cause brain damage
- Vets and Doctors don't know everything about the drug they are prescribing. They don't know the cost and if there are generic alternatives. Your Pharmacist might help but you should do your research.

Many try medical marijuana CBD extract. Lots of antidotal evidence and some positive new research done with children having seizures using CBD. Here are the bullet points:

- Most doctors and Vets have limited or no experience prescribing CBD so there is no definitive dosage recommendation. Your guess is as good as theirs.
- Medical marijuana dispensaries require membership and proof of medical requirement. ☐ Medical marijuana dispensary staff is very knowledgeable about options but can't discuss quality and manufacturer procedures. There are no regulations that protect the consumer that they are getting what they paid for.
- CBD is expensive! Two or three times more expensive than pharmaceutical drugs.
- Marijuana has many different variations, and all are not safe for your pet. You need to have it divided into THC (this gets you high) and CBD (this is for seizures, pain and appetite management). Hero's prescriptions had to be CBD with 1% or less THC. Pets can't handle THC.
- Every medical marijuana dispensary provided dog treats with different levels of CBD.

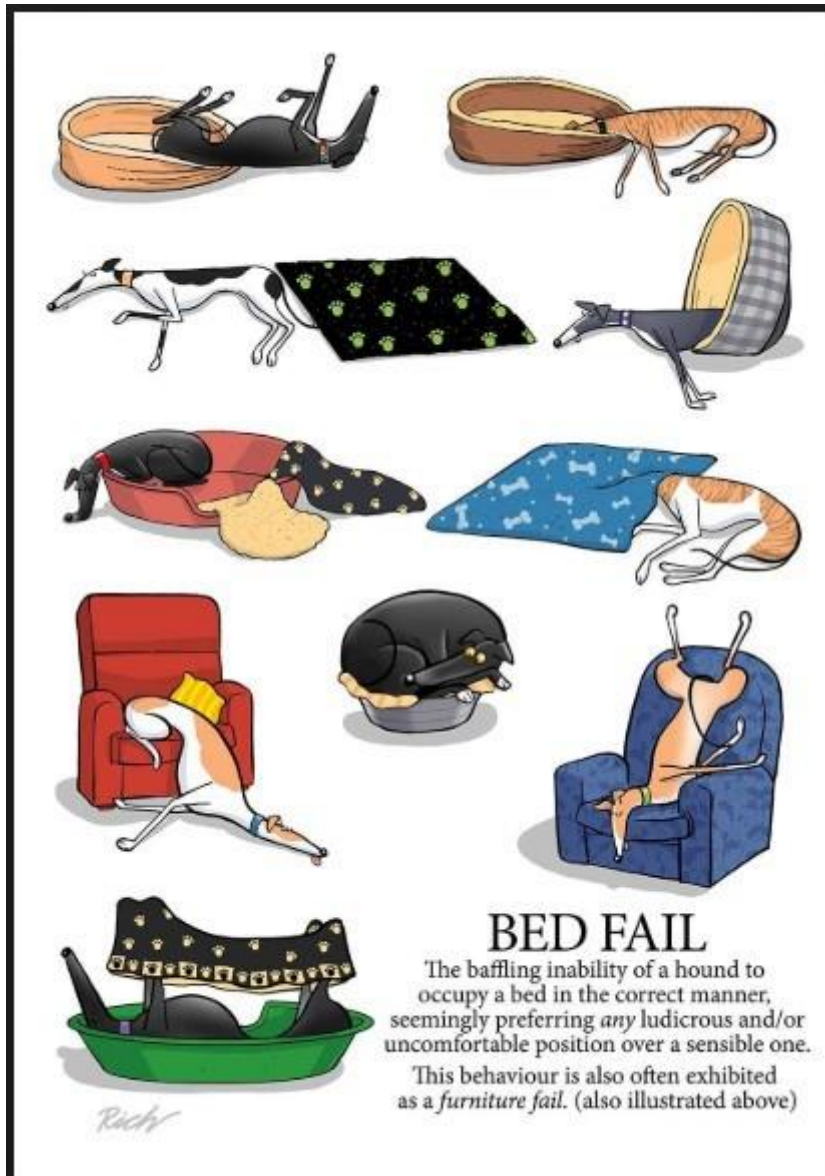
How to wrap up this story...

- First few months make lots of notes trying to learn a pattern and triggers
- First drug for Hero lasted two months before his body adapted and it slowly stopped working
- CBD changed Hero's seizures (more frequent and less violent)
- Second drug is a special order from the USA, but it's working, for now

If you find yourself in a comparable situation, talk about it with everyone and let your Vet or doctor know you are not expecting miracles that this is a 'trial and error' process. You will take the pressure off the Vet or Doctor so, hopefully, you can have a more honest conversation. Hero's Vet shared that she needed to go to a Vet Facebook group and ask others for advice. They deal with a lot of pressure to be a source of unrealistic expectations. You can learn from other people's experience or what they learned from their friends and family. Hope this helps. For further information, contact info@ncgl.ca

RICHARD SKIPWORTH'S BED FAILS

Rich Skipworth is a British artist who owns a magical greyhound named Magic. He is well known for his whimsical ability to translate his dog's quirks to paper. He also is involved in raising funds for greyhounds. Enjoy.



Volunteers are always needed.



Why not join in the fun and lend a hand?



<p>QUESTION:</p> <p>What Goes Here ?</p>	<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>Anything You Want To Contribute</p>	<p>Articles or Photos of Your Hound</p> <p>(We need models!)</p>	<p>Please Send To savethehounds @Gmail.com</p>
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Many THANKS ... to our wonderful CONTRIBUTORS:

Eric Spencer, Judy Miller, Lynda Brennan