

In the event of an accident or your death, what would happen to your pet?

This is the second of a two part article by Charlene Marvin and Donna Drabek.

If you cannot answer this question, the time has arrived to sit down and make provisions for your pet.

Designating a caretaker is the first and most important decision when pre-arranging for the care or placement of your pet if an emergency or death occurs. Everyone has a gathering of family and friends to select from, and hopefully one of them will accept the position.

Deciding on who will assume ownership and responsibility of your pet is not an easy undertaking. Choose wisely a person who has a connection with your pet or someone who has sole discretion to keep, place, or humanely euthanize on your behalf. It would not be extreme to name an alternate caretaker. In the event a caretaker cannot be found you may provide for euthanasia. Be aware that without a designated person you trust to carry out your wishes, this provision may be overturned in court.

Once a caretaker agrees and is in place, clearly written instructions for the period of time between your death and the admission of your will to probate need to be considered. Along with the caretaker, the executor of your will should be given copies of the instructions covering this interim period in advance. Indicate in your will dollars and cents to be set aside for pet care. No action can be taken by the executor to carry out these provisions until he or she receives authority to proceed. Therefore, your pet's caretaker may have to temporarily assume some financial burden until funds are released by your estate. Leave a reasonable amount of money to effectively provide comfort and care for

the remainder of your pet's life.

There are several different options available to customize your will. The most common mistake in leaving a bequest to an individual or organization is not using the legal name, therefore seek professional legal advice on your rights, the caretaker's rights and your pet's rights.

Note: My husband Bill and I have separate wills naming each other as executor and caretaker combined. Should anything happen to both of us at the same time we have each named alternate executors. Our alternate executors have specific instructions to be given to the caretaker immediately. We review these instructions periodically to update.

Through experience, Bill and I have found the caretaker position is not always a pleasant one. As such, we were instructed to euthanize two perfectly healthy dogs we played with and occasionally took care of. The dog's owner was relying on us to follow through, and somehow we did.

In emergency situations, such as

accidents and sudden hospitalization while at home or travelling, keeping copies of clearly labeled instructions in a conspicuous place is invaluable. For example, carry a wallet card indicating a contact person; post a 'pet inside' safety sticker visibly on your house; have instructions and documentation in an envelope attached to your dashboard, in your glove compartment, or on your refrigerator. This documentation should include:

- ◆ Name and description of pet
- ◆ Name, address and phone number of emergency contact person
- ◆ Health and vaccination records
- ◆ Details of any special conditions and medications (ie: seizures)
- ◆ Greyhound anesthesia requirements
- ◆ Veterinarian name, address and phone number

While this is not a pleasant subject, it is one that each of us needs to consider. Do make the effort to provide for the future welfare of your pet.



Our New Van!

Fund Raising Chairman Gary Woods accepts the keys to the new BGA van from Peggy Herr from West-Herr Ford. Thanks to all those whose contributions allowed us to purchase this much needed new vehicle.



From the Mailbox

Turner

by Nancy Butler

It all started normally enough. Donna called to say "dogs are coming in on Saturday; can you foster one?"

We arrived at Charlene's at 6 PM on Saturday, April 25. As usual, Jen went to look at the dogs that were crated and Jason and I went to see Charlene. She was just telling me that the dog we would be taking was Turner when Jen came in and asked if we could take the white and blue dog. Charlene told her that was Turner, the dog that had been chosen for us. Jen was delighted to say the least. She happily took his leash from Laura to put him into the car to go home.

When we got home we introduced Turner to Trigger, our greyhound, and Duke, our Boston Terrier. The three dogs got along right from the start. Trigger and Turner like to run and play together in the yard. Duke, as usual, let Turner know he is not a doggie toy, but will happily play if it doesn't get too rough.

By Monday, when we had to take Turner to Georgetown for his examination we were completely in love! When Jen and I walked into the building Laura greeted us with "Have you decided to adopt him yet?". I was surprised that she had picked up on our feelings so quickly, and readily admitted that there was a **great** chance that he would be adopted if Jen was hired for the job she was interviewed for earlier. Dr. Newman gave him a clean bill of health, which made us very happy.

On Friday, May 1st, Jen picked me up at work and immediately told me that she had gotten the job and was going to adopt Turner herself. I was delighted with **both** pieces of news!

After dinner I called Shirley Posner to get some information about another foster dog we had had, and I told that Turner found a home - ours. She was as happy as we were. At that time I asked

her if she thought we could take him to Pet Wise the next afternoon with us, as we were going to go anyway with Trigger. Shirley said that we would need Charlene's approval, and if necessary she could come over and sign Turner over to Jen officially. As it happens, it was necessary, and within fifteen minutes, Shirley was again signing the paper work to make a greyhound a member of our family!

We next found how quickly news travels in BGA as we received phone calls during the evening to congratulate us on our new family member. It was really nice to receive those calls and we thank everyone who called with their good wishes.

My 14 year old beagle terrier, Tammy, wanted me to submit this to the newsletter. They actually get along pretty well most of the time. I hate to admit it, but he likes her more than she likes him.

-Shirley E. Joslyn

The Other Side of Greyhounds by Tammy Martha Beagle Terrier

Much has been written about greyhounds - their calm, quiet, docile manner. They are considered couch potatoes- they love to sleep all day and take it easy. They do not get excited, they are laid back - God, the perfect dog!!!

This beagle has one thing to say- BULL! I have been living with a five year old puppy for the last two months. I have aged two years since he moved in.

He doesn't sleep much- he cat naps. (Oh, the horrible word Cat.) He eats like a growing elephant. He tears up the house like a tornado. as for his eyesight, I think he needs glasses the way he falls over me. He does have a hound nose- he can smell food a mile away. The back yard is gone- we have a mud hole. Flowers this summer will be non existent. On the bright side, the Committee will not have to cut the grass- there won't be any.

My folks think he is cool- the darn dog thinks a good slurp will melt them. Never underestimate the power of a wagging rope tail.

I am writing this to set the record straight and warn other beagles of the dangers that lie out there waiting for them. Please wish me luck- this big lug is making an old dog out of me!

How Men Are Like Dogs

- Both take up too much space on the bed.
- Both have irrational fears about vacuum cleaning.
- Both are threatened by their own kind.
- Both mark their territory.
- The smaller ones tend to be more nervous.
- Neither does any dishes.
- Neither of them notice when you get your hair cut.
- Both are suspicious of the postman.
- Neither knows how to talk on the telephone.
- Neither understands what you see in cats.

How Dogs Are Better Than Women

- Dogs love it when your friends come over.
- Dogs don't care if you use their shampoo.
- Dogs think you sing great.
- A dog's time in the bathroom is confined to a quick drink from the toilet.
- The later you are, the more excited dogs are to see you.
- Anyone can get a good looking dog.
- A dog's parents never visit.
- Dogs like it when you leave lots of things on the floor.
- Dogs understand that instincts are better than asking for directions.
- Dogs don't mind if you give their offspring away.
- Dogs don't shop.

-Todd S. Levine

Welcome to the Family

Beasley Adams
Merrily Adams
Fly Albanese
Kasha Alvarez
Jag Ball
Pot Bonarowski
Turner Butler
Jasper Christman
Willa Cultrara
Crystal Donnellan
Cinco Forney
Apollo Gustafson
Austin Hepburn

Lou Jones
Shelly Kellerman
Belly Loft
Battle Lyons
Megan Neal
Buttercup Oblatz
Husker Ortman
Racer Pelow
Winston Pena
Dante Plew
Rosa Pullano
Rory Raeke
Misty Jo Ray

Misty Reddish
Gambler Sager
Del Simpson
Trooper Smith
Knight Stachowski
Runner Uhrinek
Twister Stebbins
Denny Sturm
Merlin Walsh
Baby Weichmann
Chloe Wing
Chase Witt
Mercedes Wolinski



Dear Reader,

B.G.A. is preparing a cookbook featuring favorite recipes from members of our organization. Each recipe selected will show the name of the contributor

and be beautifully bound in a cookbook sure to be treasured for years.

We would like you to submit three of four of your favorite recipes. they should fit into one of the following categories:

- Appetizers and Beverages**
- Soups, Salads & Vegetables**
- Main Dishess & Casseroles**
- Breads & Rolls**
- Pies, Pastry & Desserts**
- Cakes, Cookies & Candy**
- Homemade Dog Treats**

Please send your recipes before Aug. 31 to:
Cookbook P.O. Box 1096
 Cheektowaga, N.Y. 14225

INSTRUCTIONS

- Keep your directions in paragraph form - not in steps.
- Spell out names of ingredients in the directions, ie., "Combine flour and sugar," DO NOT use statements like, "Combine first three ingredients."
- Spell your name the way you want it listed with your recipe, and be consistent with the spelling of your name on each recipe you contribute.

CATEGORY:
RECIPE TITLE:
SUBMITTED BY:

INGREDIENTS: Standard Abbreviations: pt. qt. pkg. c. tsp. T. oz. lb. gal. doz. sm.

DIRECTIONS:

A Tribute to Beamer

by Jane Firestone

My first contact with Greyhounds came on a summer day at the Erie County Fair. Being very tempted at the time to submit an application I questioned the ability to introduce one successfully to Shayna, our pet monkey, and our older schnauzer Dusty. I continued to question that for two years. Finally, I submitted our application and had a home visit with Sandy and Vicky. We visited for hours that night and we couldn't believe how well behaved and wonderful their dogs were.

Not long after that the call came. "We may have one for you", Sandy said. When she explained that he was a large older male that had been placed once in a home and returned to the organization, I became a bit nervous. Adopting off the track was one thing, but adopting not only a male, but a very large male that someone else had returned made me wonder what type of problems we would be taking on. I had visions of him coming to live with us with various neurotic problems from his past home and eventually eating our schnauzer and chasing the monkey like a rabbit until she dropped at which time he would destroy her. Against all these thoughts we agreed to meet him. We thought it could not hurt just to meet him and see what he was like. Once we had agreed I could hardly wait until the day came.

On November 2, 1994, he walked into our home and stole our hearts. The first night we attempted to crate him. For whatever reason, he did not accept that and would not stop crying. My husband Pete finally went down to let him out and they both slept on the kitchen floor that night. The next morning the crate was taken out and we put up a gate to keep him in the kitchen at night until we could trust him, which was very shortly thereafter.

We learned that in his previous home the female did not want him so he

would actually avoid me. He would walk in a different direction of where I was and did not freely come up to me. I won him over very quickly somehow, and by the end of the first week I couldn't imagine our lives without him.

Beamer appreciated us and our home and the soft couch and rugs he had to sleep on. In return for that he gave us his trust, love and devotion. He came to us at 75 lbs. and soon was up to 86lbs. and even more beautiful than the day we got him. He got along very well with our other dog and the monkey. In fact, when he had to stay at the hospital, she searched the whole house for him, even looking under his bed.

Just before Christmas of 1997 we lost our schnauzer. Returning home one day we found her gone. She was lying on her bed and Beamer was right next to her with his front leg around her. Within the next couple months Beamer began to act differently, maybe depressed we thought. We tried everything we knew to make him happier, but not much worked. We then noticed his energy was low and he was slowing down, not eating and then he began losing weight.

We tried changing foods, adding food and hand feeding but nothing worked. After a couple of days we took him to Dr. Wilson. Beamer immediately felt comfortable with him as well as Lisa and Betty, his staff. They were wonderful with him there and even when he had to stay for a few days they kept in touch with us on his progress.

Because of their compassion and sincere love for animals and people, I was able to make the choices I had to make.



After all was said and done, the tests did not lead us in any certain direction and we tried various treatments all to no avail. On April 10, 1998, I made the decision to let him go. I truly believe he was living just for us. He was tired and weak, down to 67 lbs. and we were unable to know if he was in any type of pain. Beamer was very stoic and proud. Even when he would cut his leg or slip and fall he would always stand tall and turn his head almost so we wouldn't see if he had pain. The pain of letting him go was much harder than I could imagine. The loss of love, the love he gave us and the loss of being able to love him is very painful. Beamer was a once in a lifetime companion.

When we took him at age five, we knew we would not have him as long as others have their greyhounds. The four years went by so fast and saying goodbye came all too soon for us. I will never regret having taken him in my home. We feel very lucky to have had the chance to have him. He came to us asking for nothing and appreciated each thing he received, and gave so much to us. He truly was a special and wonderful part of our family, an irreplaceable, once in a lifetime companion who will forever be missed in our lives.

Over The Rainbow Bridge

Angie
Asia
Beamer
Breughel
Callie
Cricket

Feather
Gabby
Huggie
Jake
Joanie
Kosha
Marco

Ollie
Patches
Sassy
Simon
Smokey
Tribby

Fostering

by Nancy Butler

Last August we decided to become a foster family. Actually, we had attended the foster seminar in April of 1996, but our application to do so had been misplaced and we had never been called. When we were called in August we decided it was still something we wanted to do so we said "okay" to our first foster dog.

We were warned that fostering could lead to a second dog of our own, but I said "Not to worry- we are just going to foster and we won't be keeping any of our foster dogs.

Then I met Dark Park and I found out that fostering is hard on the heart. I fell in love, but I knew this dog was going to be getting a home of her own very soon. I said good-bye to my first foster dog with tears in my eyes and a hurt deep in my heart.

We have since had other foster dogs - five to be exact. I have learned that it doesn't really get easier to say good-bye, you just have to do it for the sake of the greyhound you are caring for.

Recently we met foster dog number six, Turner, a three year old white and blue male. He is small for a male, but that balances out. Trigger, our four year old black male, is large for a greyhound.

We have had him for two and a half years.

Last night, my daughter Jennifer adopted Turner causing me to go back on my policy of not taking one of our foster dogs for our own. So now I have to say we will not be keeping ANOTHER foster dog, **this time I mean it.** (Read this carefully, Jen and Jason.)

Now we are looking forward to getting another foster dog in a few weeks. It should be interesting having three greyhounds and a Boston Terrier in the house!

Speaking Of Fostering...

Foster Seminar

Thursday, July 16, 1998
 7:30 P.M.

Location:
 799 Sherwood Court
 Depew, N.Y. 14043

Please R.S.V.P. to:
 Donna Drabek
 684-7658

And remember- Fair time is Foster time-
 we need new foster families!

Write On!

This newsletter relies on the contributions of all those with a greyhound (or two or three or four) in their lives.
 Keep those letters coming!

Write to:
Off Track Pets
 P.O. Box 1096
 Cheektowaga, N.Y. 14225

Or, if you prefer, email submissions to:
mcaughel@aol.com

The deadline for submissions to the Fall Newsletter is October 1.

BGA Classified

Congratulations

We would like to congratulate the winners of the Beanie Baby Drawing:
 Bev Preischel of Hamburg
 Marianne Mazur of Buffalo
 Thanks to everyone who participated in the drawings, and special thanks to MaryAnn Senchynne who generously donated the Beanies!

We Need Your Help!

Buffalo Greyhound Adoption will again hold a Chinese Auction at Christmas in the Country in November. If you are a business owner and would like to donate goods or services, please contact BGA at 873-1165.

Tops Receipts

Please continue to send your Tops receipts to:

Joan Grigg
 6387 Badger Dr.
 Lockport, N.Y. 14094

Every little bit helps!

B.G.A.'s Wheeling Downs Trip 1998

October 16 - 18, 1998
 Best Western, Wheeling, VA

Cost: 84.25 per/person
 double room occupancy

For more information
 and reservations contact:

Stephanie Uhrinek
948-8414

Space is limited. Please book early.

Event-Full

News

Help Wanted For Summer Fun!

Sanborn Days
 July 11th & 12th
 Call Laurel Guinther
 873-6235

Allegheny State Park
 August 1st
 Call Sharon Woods
 941-5265

Toyfest Parade
 August 29th
 Call Carolyn Pillard
 681-7928

Galleria Mall
 Call Sharon Smith
 839-9075

It's Fair Time Again!

Genesee County Fair
 Batavia N.Y.
 July 28th - August 1st
 Call Stephanie Uhrinek
 948-8414

Cattaraugus County Fair
 Little Valley, N.Y.
 August 3rd - 9th
 Call Kathy Graham
 938-6460

Niagara County Fair
 Lockport, N.Y.
 August 5th - 9th
 Call Shirley Posner
 693-9405

ERIE COUNTY FAIR
 Hamburg, N.Y.
 August 13th - 23rd
 Call Sharon Woods
 941-5265

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For every 'Greyhound Referral', Peggy will donate \$50 to BGA. Call her today!

PAWS FOR A PICNIC 7

Buffalo Greyhound Adoption's

Pot Luck Family Picnic

Bring Your Greyhounds

Saturday, July 25th

1P.M. - ?

Hickory Tree Park

in the

Erie County Fairgrounds, Hamburg N.Y.

Directions:

McKinley Parkway: Enter through gates 2 or 3

NYS Thruway: Exit 57, Rt 75N to Rt 20, turn right on 20
to McKinley Parkway, turn right and proceed to Fairgrounds.

FREE PARKING

Children's Entertainment provided by Fern Hilsinger

Vittles:

Bring a dish of your choice to share,
a cooler of your favorite beverage,
and a lawn chair

Hamburgers, hot dogs, rolls and
condiments provided by B.G.A.

WE NEED HELP!

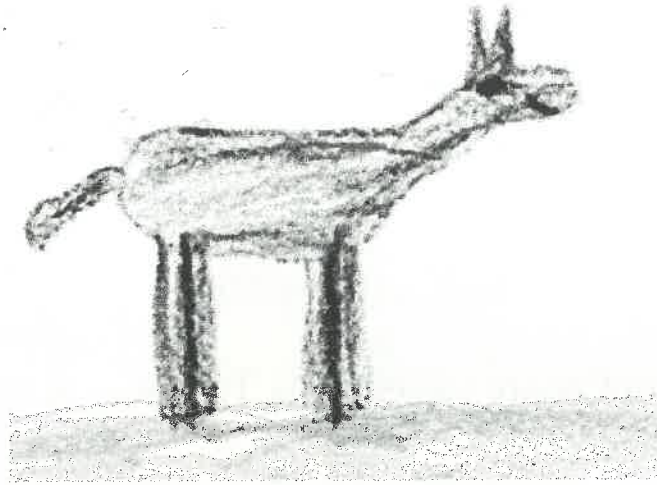
Please give me an hour of your time at
the picnic to help-

For questions or further information call

Betsy Schroeder at 695-9822

Paws For A Picnic 7

See Inside For Details



C.J. Moeller



P.O. Box 1096
Cheektowaga, N.Y. 14225

