



# Hillcrest Tail Waggin' Times

## September 2008



Happy Birthday to these growin' pups!  
Lexi, Noel, Kelly Anne, & Lakota!!  
Join us for their celebration on  
September 13<sup>th</sup> at 11am!



### Announcing our upcoming events!

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS - PRINCESS LEA, ALI, DENALI, BLUE!



- 9/13: Animal Appeal Adopt-a-Pet 12-2pm
- 9/13: Doggie Birthday Party 11am-12pm
- 9/20: Club Pet: Senior Adopt-a-Pet 10am-2pm
- 9/24: Dog Member Social Hour 6:30-7:30pm

For members that like to play during the day, join us for our **Morning Doggy Play Group** on Thursdays & Tuesdays at 11:00am!!



Foods your pup should stay away from.....

**Garlic, Onions, and Powders**- The sulfoxides and disulfides can damage red blood cells and lead to anemia. Onions are more problematic than garlic.

**Macadamia Nuts**- These nuts are soft, light-colored nuts often used in cookie recipes. In dogs, they cause gastrointestinal upsets, lethargy, vomiting and muscle tremors or stiffness.



### Upcoming Community Dog Events:

- 9/6: Lyon's Den Canine Carnival  
Grove City Memorial Park, 10am-3pm  
[www.lyonsdenrescue.com](http://www.lyonsdenrescue.com)
- 9/6: Promises for Pets "Canines in the Cascades"  
Cascade Park, New Castle 724-657-5130
- 9/14: Club Pet Pasta Dinner & Chinese Auction  
American Legion - Sharon 2-6pm  
Call Kim for tickets or info 724-962-4544

### Fun Facts about man's best friend...

- Zorba, an English Mastiff, is the heaviest dog on record, weighing 343 lbs at the age of 8 in 1989.
- According to the Guinness Book of World Records, the smallest dog on record was a Yorkshire Terrier in Great Britain who, at the age of 2, weighed just 4 ounces.



Best Wishes to Stella and her Mom, Kellee...  
We'll miss you!!!!!!

The park won't be the same without you both!





## Hillcrest Tail Waggin' Times

September 2008



Pg 2 of 4

### **“Retirement – A Hound is a good Investment”**

**By Louise Lowrey (Blue’s Mom)**

I am a banker and have always been attracted to investments that paid a big return. Adopting a retired greyhound racer was one of the best investments I have ever made!

Fifty four years of my life never included a relationship with a dog. There were many times I had thought about it but the fast pace life I led never seemed to have enough hours left to share with an animal.

My husband and I discussed the addition of a dog to our family and decided that retirement was the right time to make it happen. There would be time to spend with a furry friend when days and hours were not confined to work, travel and the million other things that fit in between. I never dreamed that the retirement my husband and I discussed would not be ours but that of a four legged creature. I lost my husband to cancer and was devastated. In my grief I found myself thinking about our plans and was driven to research the plight of those greyhounds that are no longer needed for “the business”. I searched the internet and read many books on the subject. My favorite was “Adopting Greyhounds for Dummies”.

Most websites had pictures of available dogs and needless to say those big brown eyes and the thought of having some company in the house made me realize this was the appropriate course of action for me. There are two very good adoption groups in the Western Pennsylvania area; Going Home Greyhounds and Steel City Greyhounds. I settled on Steel City Greyhounds when I saw a stately beauty in a “Steeler” shirt. I completed the adoption form and hit “send” in the middle of the night. Within two days I had a phone call. Within seven days I had met my “forever hound”.

My friends at Steel City Greyhounds know how to close a deal. I found myself saying hello to this beautiful, graceful creature and the next thing I knew I was driving home with a new friend who filled up my back seat. I don’t know which of us had the most fear in our eyes, her or me! It was an early December Saturday and I found it appropriate that the Wilmington Greyhounds were playing a championship game that day. Boy was I hopeful that Greyhounds would be a winner!!

What a beautiful adventure we began with that initial drive home. I wish I could say it was like a fairy tale and things were perfect but they weren’t...Hey I was new at this gig and my Blue Baby wasn’t exactly a pro at living in a people house. Add to that the fact the both of us are what I call “Almost Senior” and you got some” pretty interesting moments to get through.

Blue was a sad lady and so was I. It was a therapeutic winter for both of us. I tell my friends she is better than any gym membership I ever purchased. Three walks a day no matter what the weather. Learning to “go in the snow” was just one of the challenges we faced. By the end of February we were both pros!!! No I still went in the house but I had at least figured out the best places to take her for the “snow goes”. Ten months into the flight she is my best friend. My family loves her, my friends love her and most importantly I believe she now loves her life. We have vacationed together, taken many long walks together, grieved together and laughed together. We have both learned to smile again and to enjoy small things like a soft spring evening or a moonlit walk on a warm summer night. We recently became part of the Hillcrest Dog Park family and Blue enjoys romping with the other dogs. She really does smile and sometimes they are the big toothy ones that make you laugh out loud! Whether you feel dog racing is a business that should continue or one that you wish would go away the fact of the matter is it does exist. The very unfortunate part of this business is the “throw away” animals when they are no longer needed. I am living proof that these animals can be a wonderful addition to someone’s life. They are sweet, gentle, loving and very athletic at the same time. I suggest the following websites if you are interested in checking out adoption of one of these loyal and graceful creatures. They are good with children and contrary to popular belief can live well with other pets including cats. It’s just a matter of finding the right fit.

I am looking forward to early October when Blue and I will head to Dewey Beach and meet many other greyhounds and their human friends. Check it out .... It just may be something that is right for you. It sure was right for me! No need to wait for “retirement”...you can enjoy it right now. I know I am and I’m still working 8 -10 hours a day. My “Blue’s” retirement was just what the doctor ordered. I remember my husband waiting at the door to greet me with a big grin on his face and a twinkle in his eye. I just can’t remember him racing around the dining room table because he was so glad to see me. I am sure he, too, is sharing a “toothy” smile with me and my hound!!!!

***Continued on next page....***



# Hillcrest Tail Waggin' Times

## September 2008



### Suggested Websites:

- steelcitygreyhounds.org
- goinghomegreyhounds.org
- adopt-a-greyhound.org



Blue relaxing by the fire



Blue all dressed up for a Saturday night dinner

### Fun Facts about Greyhounds

#### **Fast!**

At maximum acceleration, a greyhound reaches a full speed of 70 kmh within 30 meters or six strides from the boxes, traveling at almost 20 meters per second for the first 250 meters of a race.

#### **Couch Potato:**

Greyhounds require little exercise, are very quiet, and are ideal for suburban homes, unlike many other large breeds of dogs.

#### **History:**

Greyhounds are the oldest pure breed dog and date back to the Pharaohs in ancient Egypt. It's also the only dog to be mentioned in The Bible.

Scenes from this month's birthday party!  
"Lady"



"Allie"

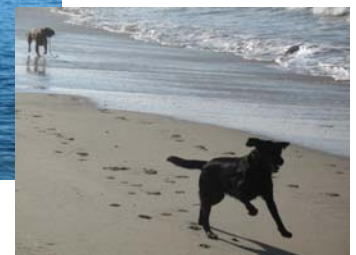


### **Update on Marika, Mark and Victor....**

After a very adventurous journey across the U.S., everyone has settled into their new home in sunny southern California. Marika loves the beach (as you can see) and I don't think Mark & Victor mind it either. Here are a couple great pictures....



"Now what?"  
Marika at Lake Tahoe



Marika's new dog park –  
Malibu Beach

Got an idea for the newsletter?  
Send it in to [jennyiapt@verizon.net](mailto:jennyiapt@verizon.net).  
We'd love to hear about it!



# Hillcrest Tail Waggin' Times

## September 2008



### Recipe of the month

#### Bacon Chicken Layer Cake



**Ingredients-** 3 cups flour, 1 T. baking powder, ½ cup margarine (softened), 6 eggs (beaten), ½ cup corn oil, 2 jars strained chicken baby food, 2 cups finely shredded carrots, plain or vanilla yogurt, 2 or 3 strips of bacon (fried crisp, then crumbled, or use bacon flavored jerky strips, cut into bits).

**Directions-** Grease and flour two 8" round cake pans; set aside. Combine flour and baking powder; set aside. Add strained chicken and shredded carrots and mix until smooth. Add flour mixture and mix thoroughly. Pour batter into the 2 prepared 8" cake pans. Bake at 324° for 60 minutes. Let cool for a few minutes before removing from pans. Cool on wire racks. Place on layer on a serving plate and spread yogurt over top. Place second layer on top, then spread yogurt on top and sides of entire cake. Sprinkle crumbled bacon (or bits of jerky) over top. Use "Pupperoni" sticks for candles.

Start thinking of a fun Halloween costume for your pup!!  
Hillcrest's Howl-O-Ween Party Is Oct. 25<sup>th</sup>!



### Just a reminder!!

If you are going to bring balls or toys when you come with your dog, please do NOT leave them in the park. Many of those are too small for the large dogs and can be swallowed.

### What's in a Name?

*We asked some of our dog park members to tell us why they chose the name they did for their furry friend.....*

**Amir Jordan-** From Jordan's Mom: "I was so broken hearted; I had just lost my male and female boxers. I was a basket case for weeks. My neighbor's daughter is a boxer breeder and knew what I was going thru. She had a litter of pups and 4 of the puppies were not spoken for. My friend and I set out for Willard Ohio to see the pups. We loaded the crate and toys and everything the puppy would need IF I decided to take one, my heart still not healed. The car broke down in Akron. I called my husband, he suggested that it was a sign to come back, but sent another vehicle and we continued on our journey. When we got there the pups were outside playing with their father. When we began to play with them, I began to cry. Jordan did every silly, adorable puppy move he could to get my attention, and then flopped in my lap upside down. I chose him. Now to get him home, the crate and toys were in the car back in Akron. There was a hardware store very close by so we a small crate. The closest thing we could get was a Rubbermaid stopped, took him in with us, to purchase container, a towel and a stuffed toy. The clerk waiting on us was petting him and said you must be the little prince.....so Amir, the little prince. My husband and I could not agree on the rest of the name. He liked a name, I didn't. I liked a name, he didn't. I was working and had my tool box out. On top of the box I had written East Jordan while taking a message on a job. My husband said Jordan sounded like a little prince. That's how Amir Jordan got his name. He is a great addition to our family."

**Cielo-** From Cielo's Mom: "Cielo's name is Spanish and it means HEAVEN. I felt he was sent from heaven and a very sweet little boy. His full name is Cielo Enterra Which means Heaven on Earth! That is Cielo!!"

**Derek:** So how did Derek get his name? Well, Derek's Dad will tell you - "From Bo Derek!"

**Mara Liasson-** From Maraliasson's Dad: "Mara Liasson is the Washington Correspondent for National Public Radio. She can be seen quite often on Fox News Channel Broadcasts such as Special Report with Brit Hume and Fox News Sunday with Chris Wallace. She has rather distinctive black hair and it resembles a dog's floppy ears. I have listened to and watched her for several years. She is pretty, intelligent and leans a little to the left which describes our Maraliasson to a "T"."