



**A LETTER from the PRESIDENT**

**Leonard Schollen**

In my last letter I told you we were struggling with Osteosarcoma. Well the battle was lost; on June 21 st Jackie went to the Rainbow Bridge. I liken it to sending a Ferrari to the scrapyard because it has a flat tire. It just doesn't make sense, but as they say, for every door that closes another will open. Well one did open and it let in a ray of sunshine we call Ember; you will read more about her in other parts of this newsletter.

As I am writing this my thoughts and prayers go out to the Greyhounds and their owners/handlers in Florida as they prepare to ride out hurricane Irma. I can't imagine what they are going through, thinking with each breath it could be their last. We have posted links to stories relating to Irma and the Greyhounds she is chasing on our website [www.ncgl.ca](http://www.ncgl.ca) and on the NCGL Facebook page. Check them out.

A medical issue affecting our Greys has come to my attention. When you look closely at their eyes get them to look to one side then the other. If you see a brown patch where it should be white (Sclera), talk to your vet. This brown covering will eventually grow large enough to cover the cornea & pupil causing blindness. It is easily treated with 1% Prednisolone Acetate eye drops if caught early; but you will need a prescription.

The NCGL Board of Directors has passed a Resolution to purchase Liability Insurance, a common practice for non-profit boards. During the process it was discovered insurance is available to not only cover the Board but all Volunteers as well. So anyone who wants to volunteer will be covered by this policy while on NCGL business. This includes M&G's, transportation, fostering; it covers such things as privacy issues, dog handling, financial matters and more. So if you were considering helping then rest assured your legal welfare is taken care of. Please be sure you have a Volunteer Application completed and on file with our secretary.



Our last scheduled dog haul for this year will see seven or more new arrivals in Alberta on or about September 17th. The next haul for BC will be in January unless Irma forces an evacuation from Florida due to loss of housing facilities. We are also in desperate need of short-term foster homes for the incoming dogs. This is a very rewarding experience and we hope you and/or your friends would consider taking one of these hounds into your care before they join their forever homes.

Have a wonderful Fall, and remember to freeze the turkey neck (raw) - a fantastic Thanksgiving treat for your hound(s).

Len Schollen  
[jackieepie@gmail.com](mailto:jackieepie@gmail.com)



**“It just occurred to me that if all humans had the temperament of a Greyhound world peace would be attainable.”**

Rainbow Bridge		Dogs We Have Said Goodbye To	
	Starz Mr. Cool (Jack) Form of Flattery (Keanna) Music Man (Banjo) Pat C Edition (Eddie)	Molly Yo Fran (Fran) LC's JiggyWithIt (Cooper) Persuasion (Loki)	
Happy Tails		Welcome to Our New Dogs	
	Maggie (Sasha) AJN Star Go Bon (Scout) Oaks Ariel (Ariel) Dalorian Kantok Larry Hero LK's Devils Due (Tyson) Monday Morning (Monday) Pfannys Teeparty (Teeparty) Roxy	AJN Black Beauty (Squirrel) Ln Peanut (Peanut) Turbo Daniel (Daniel) AMF Wild Burst (Blake) GF Huasca (Morty) LK's Slinger (Slinger) Oshkosh Preview (Preview) TR's Maggie (Maggie) Toodles Esko	

## EMBER'S JOURNEY

LEONARD SCHOLLEN and MICHELLE and JUSTIN in Penticton, BC

On **June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017** NCGL saw a posting on Facebook that the Penticton Animal Shelter had a lost unnamed Greyhound in their facility. NCGL immediately followed up by having one of our Kelowna volunteers contact the shelter to see if Ember (named for her ember-like brindle coat) was still there...she was, and her owner had never contacted them to get her back. Here is a summary of Ember's journey made possible by the wonderful NCGL volunteers who instantly jump into action for these wonderful hounds. Many thanks to everyone involved in **Ember's Journey**.

On **June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2017** our NCGL volunteer drove to Penticton to retrieve Ember and brought her back to Kelowna for the night. She reported that "Ember rode well in the car, did well going up open stairs, had a broken/chipped canine tooth, and walked well on leash. She met and got along well with another Greyhound, Italian Greyhound and other breeds at her boarding kennel. She does not get along with cats."

In addition, she reported that "Ember ate a good dinner, slept soundly through the night, and enjoyed a good breakfast in the morning. Ember needed a good bath to show off her beautiful coat. She is a really beautiful girl and wags her tail all the time you are talking to her. She is a very happy girl. Her brindle coat is stunning and her face is so dark it is almost black."

On **June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017** the NCGL President and his wife drove to Kelowna and brought Ember back to their home in Oak Harbour, Washington. They were smitten almost immediately and reported the following over the next few days:

### Foster Update 2017-07-04

"Ember will get her fifth bath tomorrow morning; hopefully we can kill the skunk odors with this one. Otherwise she is fitting in too nicely. We have never met the 'perfect' Greyhound before; she has done nothing wrong, yet!"

### Foster Update 2017-07-06

"Ember got all her shots today and the vet estimates her age to be 7 years. Apparently Ember is eager to get attention; even the shots and blood draw didn't faze her."

### Foster Update 2017-07-13

"Ember has had her spay surgery and is healing well. Her appetite is good and she has started to put on a bit of weight, presently 66.6 lbs. (30.21 Kg). She is a happy, confident girl and greets everyone with an enthusiastic tail wag. Gets along well with strange dogs large and small and we believe she could be cat trainable. Ember is learning her name, understands several commands like come, no, down, kennel. We are working on some others like leash, sit, and stay. She will retrieve a stuffies toy or ball." (Anyone see what's happening here?)



On **July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017** Ember's forever home was confirmed and she was adopted by her one and only foster home and will continue to live in Oak Harbour, WA

On July 29<sup>th</sup> 2017 NCGL rec'd the following e-mail message via our website [www.ncgl.ca](http://www.ncgl.ca)

"Hello,

*I have just stumbled across your website and saw "Ember" up for adoption. I found this beautiful girl in Osoyoos lost and wandering around the streets late at night. My fiancé and I were on a much needed night away from home when "Ember" darted out in front of our truck and we stopped to investigate. Apparently she had been following a stranger for more than an hour, she seemed very thirsty. We got her a big bowl of water and then we saw how dirty and smelly she was. She was so thin and her hind quarters seemed painful.*

*I decided then that we needed to try and help this girl out. Instead of staying at our hotel room that night we loaded up our new friend and took her back to our home in Penticton. "Ember" had a nice dinner when we got home and then had a nice night's sleep at the foot of our bed on a big fluffy blanket. I would have given her a bath to try and get some of the skunky smell out but I wasn't totally sure about how she would take to a bath.*

*In the morning we went for a beautiful walk and this girl is so great on the leash. She wanted to stop and smell all the bushes but would stay walking right beside me if I called her. This girl seems to have such a gentle personality and she is so great to have around. It was a tearful goodbye when we had to take her to the pound...I thought the owner would for sure find her and pick her up so I sadly left her there.*

*I am so happy to have found her on your website and to know that she is doing well, and doing even better than when I got to meet her. I am happy to know there are people and organizations like yours to help out animals in need. Thank you so much!!! Lots of love and hugs to you Ember!!*

Normally at the end of a story it is written "The End" – but in this case this is just "The Beginning" for Ember and her new family!



## PROVIDING CONSISTENT LEADERSHIP FOR YOUR GREYHOUND

Judy Miller

We need to provide consistent leadership! Dogs need a leader, be that leader. Here are just a few tips that have worked in my house. Some dogs require a very strong leader, others only need a mild leader, but they still need leading. Hope these tips help some of you!

- Do you go through doors first, or does your dog? You should be going first.  
Suggestion: Teach your dog the "wait" command and only allow your dog through the door once you release him from the command. I use "OK" as my release command.
- Do you follow your dog on walks or does your dog follow you? Your dog should be at your side or behind you - they must be able to see you, their leader. If you're having problems with your dog being aggressive to other dogs on walks or pulling on the leash, chances are your dog is walking out in front of you. Try having your dog walk at your side on a short, slack leash (don't tense up) - you'll be amazed at what a difference it makes.
- Are you calm, confident and in control? If not, chances are you're having some behaviour issues with your dog. Be calm, but firm when your dog does something wrong. Don't get nervous when another dog approaches you on a walk; if you do, so will your dog.
  - Do you yell at your dog when he is barking - leaders don't yell - use a squirt water bottle or calmly and quietly acknowledge what your dog is barking at and then remove him from the situation or tell him 'thank you' and 'that's enough'.
  - Do you give your dog consistent messages/rules? If not, chances are you're having some behaviour issues with your dog. For example: if your dog is not allowed in the kitchen, never allow him in the kitchen - don't sometimes allow him and sometimes not - your dog will be confused.
  - Does your dog like to play keep-away or do you have to chase him to get something back he has stolen? Leaders don't chase. Don't chase him. If you chase, he will keep the game up. If you don't chase, he will soon give up.
  - Does your dog sleep on your bed, on your couch or in your lap? Leaders always sleep in higher places. If you're having problems with your dog growling or snapping at you or your children or keeping you out of your place



on the couch/bed, get your dog off the furniture!! He thinks he's boss and I've seen this lead to some dangerous situations which have resulted in bites, scratches and frightened owners/children.

- Do you walk around or over your dog when he's lying in the hall or the middle of the floor? Leaders don't walk around other dogs - they make them move. Are there times when I walk over my dogs, sure, but most of the time I make them move. You'll be amazed at how they see you coming and will automatically move out of the way.
- Do you initiate interactions? Do you initiate petting or does your dog? You should initiate petting and you should be the one to stop. Don't let your dog demand attention from you. Are there times when one of my dogs walks up to me and I meet him/her, yes, but most of the time I am the one who initiates it.
- Does your dog determine when feeding time is or do you? You as the leader should be determining feeding time. Feeding time can be a great time to teach some lessons. All our dogs have had to shake a paw or sit and shake a paw in order to get their food. This means I am in control, not them. Having your child put your dog's food bowl down (supervised, of course) and then giving the commands can be a great way to reinforce to your dog that your child is higher in the pack ranking than they are.

## DEALING WITH DEAFNESS IN AN OLDER DOG

Marueen Nelms

My 13-year-old greyhound, Cajun, has begun to lose his hearing. Initially we weren't sure if it was a hearing problem or if he simply wasn't paying attention. He wouldn't always come when called especially if we were in another room. We began watching him more closely and realized that the reason he sometimes came when called was due to the fact that he saw our other greyhound leap from the couch and trot into the next room so he would follow. When we were in front of him he appeared to hear us but we realized he might just be reading our lips to a certain extent so we began to test him. We stood behind him and spoke to him. Providing we were no more than five feet behind him, he heard us. Any farther and there would be no reaction. Then we tried standing in front of him and speaking. His reactions to this were less conclusive as again we were unsure if his tail wagging was a result of his hearing us or of his assuming we were speaking to him because he could see our mouths moving.

We particularly noticed that when Cajun was sleeping he did not hear anything at all, even close at hand. Cajun appears to sleep much more soundly than previously. We are not sure whether this is due to old age or to the fact that he can no longer hear as well and therefore is not disturbed by outside noises. To avoid startling him, we wake him up by moving in front of him and speaking to him, first quietly, then louder until he finally responds. We also gently put weight on whatever he's lying on, usually the couch or bed, so he feels the movement without actually being touched. If he is touched while sleeping he leaps up frightened and as often as not, falls back down. This is something that has only begun to happen within the last six months.

We took Cajun to the vet to make sure his deafness wasn't being caused by an ear infection or a build up of dirt and wax in his ears. We do check them regularly and they looked fine, however the vet made a closer inspection using an otoscope. No infection was apparent.

Cajun should ideally have a Brainstem Auditory Evoked Response (BAER) test which is the only way to truly test a dog's hearing; however this test is not available to us within driving distance so we had to make do without it. Our vet clapped his hands loudly behind Cajun. Cajun reacted. But did this mean he could hear or did he feel the air vibrations? You can see this wasn't going to give us any definitive answers.

Our vet suspected arthritis in the tiny bones (see [Sidebar](#)) in Cajun's middle ear. Since he has arthritis throughout his spine this is certainly a possibility. The arthritis would cause the movement of these bones to be slow or non-existent, reducing his hearing and eventually perhaps causing total deafness. There is no cure for this problem.

The vet recommended that we purchase several different types of whistles, starting with the special dog whistle that is pitched above the range of human hearing. It's possible Cajun will be able to hear sounds in one range while being oblivious to others.

As his hearing diminishes we find that Cajun follows us more than ever. Owners of these dogs are well aware that greyhounds often shadow their people around the house, but Cajun's pursuit increased to the point where we are continually tripping over him when we turn around. Understanding why he is doing this does somewhat keep us from being annoyed about it.

We have started to teach Cajun hand signals as a way to communicate with him over a distance. When he is in the yard and much too far away to hear us, a wave of our hands will usually get his attention, after which we can give him the signal to come. This also works inside the house although it necessitates going into the room he is currently occupying. We have not yet been able to teach him a hand signal for stop and wait. He insists on running in our yard. As well as his deafness, Cajun has calcification of the spine that is causing decreased control of his hind limbs. As you can imagine, running when you do not have proper command of two of your four legs is not a good idea and causes mishaps. Occasionally Cajun loses control of one or both of his back legs, usually due to the speed he is travelling, and down he goes. Sometimes he can get up on his own, sometimes he can't. You would think he would slow down to minimize the chance of falling but apparently that hasn't occurred to him. This is why we needed to teach him the stop and wait hand signal.



The biggest hurdle we face is how to communicate with Cajun in the dark. We have a large acreage and every night he is let outside for his last potty at 10:00 p.m. My husband accompanies him but we do not keep him on leash as he usually goes only as far as the nearest bush. Since hubby is trying to keep track of two loose greyhounds, something was bound to happen and eventually it did. My husband raced into the house yelling that he couldn't find Cajun. We both grabbed flashlights and ran out to search for him. Fortunately it was only a few minutes, though it seemed much longer, when we found him merrily sniffing from bush to bush about 400 feet from the house. Good thing the gate was shut or who knows where he might have ended up. Since then we decided to have him wear a battery-operated collar that has small flashing lights on it. Now we can see where he's going. We are also trying to teach him to respond to a flashing porch light. We want him to know this is his signal to come. So far we aren't sure whether he is coming because he sees the flashing light or because he is finished his business and wants to come inside. Time will tell.

We'll continue to work with Cajun with hand signals and the porch light and a whistle if we can find one he is able to hear. Cajun seems comfortable with his deafness -- it's us who are scrambling to adapt to it.

**Sidebar:**

How ears work (generally):

A canine ear can be divided in three main parts - the external ear (pinna or auricle), the middle ear and the inner ear.

The external ear, which is many different shapes in different breeds, is the part of the ear that traps sound waves -- the beginning of the hearing process.

The middle ear focuses and processes those trapped sound waves. The middle ear consists of the tympanic cavity, the eardrum and the auditory ossicles that are a series of tiny bones -- the hammer (malleus), anvil or saddle (incus) and the stirrup (stapes). These tiny bones transmit the sound waves to the inner ear.

The inner ear is made up of the cochlea and of canals that are fluid filled tubes filled with tiny hairs. The cochlea converts sound vibrations into messages and the tiny hairs record movement in the canals. This information is passed to the brain via the auditory nerve. The brain then translates these messages into distinguishable sounds.

Ear problems and preventative care:

Untreated ear infections can cause deafness. You should visually inspect your dog's ears weekly. They should be free of dirt and wax and should not have a bad odor. The ears should not be overly sensitive to touch.

Infections of the outer ear often produce a discharge and a foul odor. There may be irritation, redness and heat. The dog may shake its head, scratch at its ears, or rub its ears with its front paws.

Middle and inner ear infections are generally the result of untreated outer ear infections. All ear infections require veterinary care to determine the cause and the correct medication to cure the problem.

To prevent infections check your dog's ear weekly and clean them regularly, wiping them out with a clean cotton ball dampened with mineral oil. DON'T use Q-tips as you could injure the ear if the dog moves suddenly. You may need several cotton balls and a helper to hold the dog if the ears are particularly dirty.

**GREYHOUND TERMINOLOGY QUIZ** Lynda Brennan

How well do you know your **Greyhound Terminology**?



Here is your chance to find out.  
Circle the correct answer in the left hand column.  
Check out the answers on the last page.

No peeking!

<b>B</b>	<b>CHATTERING</b>	Barking
<b>U</b>		Eating
<b>G</b>		Loving
<b>O</b>	<b>CHIPPING</b>	Balding
<b>A</b>		Tooth decay
<b>R</b>		One is not enough
<b>B</b>	<b>DOUBLE SUSPENSION GALLOP</b>	Two dog harness

E		Running style
G		Mirror image
Y	<b>ESCAPED TONGUE SYNDROME</b>	Sloppy tongue
E		Dental visit
S		Running off at the mouth
S	<b>HELICOPTER TAIL</b>	Muzzle manufacturer
H		Rotating wildly
E		Travel area
L	<b>NITTING</b>	Wool coat
O		Nibbling
B		Sneezing
O	<b>ROACHING</b>	Flea control
U		Upside down
R		Smoking
N	<b>ROOING</b>	Howling
O		Digging
D		Snoring
A	<b>SPHINX POSITION</b>	Begging
D		Sitting
O		Sleeping
H	<b>ZOOMIES</b>	Race track
A		Crate mates
S		Ziping about

Check out the answers on the last page.



Volunteers are always needed.

Why not join in the fun and lend a hand?

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

<b>QUESTION:</b>  What Goes Here ?	<b>ANSWER:</b>  Anything You Want To Contribute	Articles or Photos of Your Hound  (We need models!)	Please Send  To savethehounds @Gmail.com
--	---	---	--



**Many THANKS ... to our wonderful CONTRIBUTORS:**

**Judy Miller, Maureen Nelms, Leonard Schollen, Lynda Brennan**

Answer to Terminology Puzzle:

- GREYHOUNDS
- See photos and definitions here:
- <http://www.forevergreyhounds.org/greyhounds-and-their-unique-terminology>