

From the President:

Wow! How time flies! I can't believe it's been two years already since Rooo Valley came into existence! We have come so far and have improved our property so much. It's almost hard to remember what it was like before!

We do a lot of communicating via e-mail so if you aren't on our listserv, then go to the home page to sign up because that's the way we get out insta-news, newsletters, events, and other immediate information. We send frequent subscription e-mails and if you're not getting them, then you're missing a lot. I do a frequent President's Log, which can also be found on our web site.

For those of you who don't already know, Millie and Jennie, our first kennel partner-volunteers, have left Rooo Valley for greener pastures. They got us going and were instrumental in making our first year a success and we are so grateful for that. We wish them the best in any new endeavors.

In the meantime, we have been looking for new kennel partners, and we think now we have rounded out our team. We've found two excellent Penn State students who will be taking on our daily duties around here. We've had lots of good help this summer, but by adding two more people, the pressure will be off and all of our hard-working volunteers can catch a break! Looking forward to that, although I can honestly say that I love it here and it's very rewarding--not at all like a job! We work hard but we also have lots of fun too.

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WINDCHIME MEMORIALS AVAILABLE

If any of you have ever visited the Best Friends Animal Sanctuary in Kanab, Utah, then you have undoubtedly seen their windchime memorial garden. It was one of the most beautiful and amazing things I've ever seen and I was taken by the idea of memorializing my dearly departed pets with windchimes. At Best Friends, they have hundreds of different chimes in their cemetery, all ringing lightly in the breeze. It gave me goosebumps and we decided we could do the same thing here at Rooo Valley.

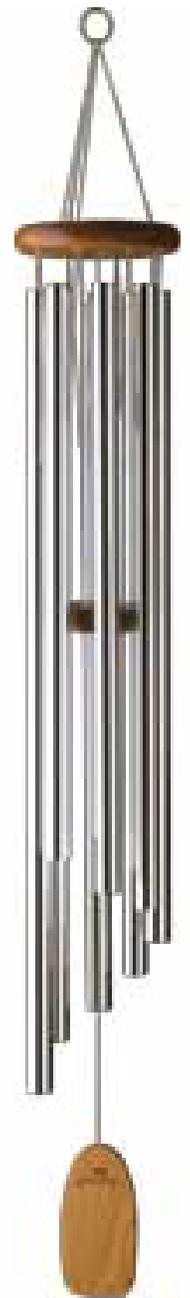
So here's how it will work. We have a selection of chimes available for purchase; small, medium, large, and extra-large, and we are offering them to you for a donation, the amount of which depends upon the size you choose. The chimes are high-quality, musically tuned, Woodstock chimes, made in Vermont, and we are offering two choices from each length. The chimes will be hung here on the Rooo Valley property, right now near the kennel but in the future, they'll be moved to our Tranquility Garden, to be built soon in the woods behind the house. Each chime you choose will be inscribed with your short memorial message. In addition, we'll be selling the chimes retail in our store as well -- we will be the only distributor of these beautiful chimes in the centre region. You may purchase them for your home (retail prices will appear on them in the store and on the website).

You can get more information at the picnic -- we'll be unveiling them there -- or call or e-mail Toni for more information about the program. We already have a number of them hanging and they are such a lovely addition to the paradise of Rooo Valley. Here is the breakdown:

- Small Chimes (15" to 20") - \$30.00 donation
- Medium Chimes (20" to 32") - \$50.00 donation
- Large Chimes (32" to 40") - \$100.00 donation
- Extra-Large Chimes (above 40") = \$150.00 donation

All chimes are made with hand-tuned metal tubes and they are beautiful as well as haunting to hear--like distant church bells or classical music. The inscriptions will be added to either the clappers or to the top, depending on the size and style of chimes. The messages should be fewer than 50 characters if possible.

We will be putting photos and more information on the web page very soon, but we will officially kick this off at the picnic. Honor your loved one with us.



Gregorian Baritone
 Windchimes, 58"
 length -- \$150
 donation (including
 inscription)

President's message continued...

In May, Ellen and I visited Kanab, Utah, where I was asked to speak about my book at the annual Greyhound Gang event. It was great fun and we got lots of good ideas from Claudia, the fund-raising goddess! You'll see some of her ideas reflected in our picnic planning this year.

If you've never come to a picnic before, come this year, because we're ramping up the entertainment and excitement. We're doing live music, a live auction, a speed run for dogs, games, and a lot of other surprises.

Also, at the picnic we'll be kicking off our memorial wind chime project. (See article on page 1). When we were in Utah, we visited the Best Friends Animal Sanctuary. Part of that visit was to their animal cemetery and it was incredible. There were hundreds of wind chimes, walkways, gazebos, benches, and memorial walls...we're stealing that idea too. See the details in the article.

I'm so looking forward to next year. If you haven't visited our kennel here, please do so. It's a magical place with lots of great things to offer. We always need more volunteer hands in service to these magnificent dogs. Our volunteers are so dedicated and loving, and we value every minute spent with us. Please make it part of your calendar this year!

Don't ever hesitate to e-mail or call me with any ideas you have or concerns or suggestions. We're open 24/7!

See you at the picnic!

TONI
tonijduchi@aol.com
814-883-1177

PS: If you know anyone who owns a business, ask them if they'd like to donate something for our picnic raffle or auction. It is an opportunity for a tax-deduction and we can provide a letter if needed. If you have a business and would like to be a sponsor, let me know. Thanks!

Your Grey's Teeth and Gums

Everyone knows that some greyhounds have real issues with their teeth and gums. It's a complaint we hear all the time. But, there are some things you can do to save money on those teeth cleanings.

Bones: If you haven't tried this yet, please do. Go to your grocery store and buy long marrow bones (about 4-5" in length). Don't cook them; give them to your dog raw. They'll chew for hours and this will really help to clean their teeth. The first time you give them one, they might get a little stomach distress, but if you keep it up, they'll soon get used to it and you'll have fewer teeth cleanings.

Bones + Meat: You can also use raw chicken wings or turkey necks. These bones are very soft and are easily chewed by your dog. Don't allow the dog to swallow them whole, as that defeats the purpose. If you have to, hold them -- slimy though they are -- and allow your dog to chew off pieces. This also will clean their teeth, plus you'll get the added benefit of giving them some raw meat.

New Product: If you just can't stomach the idea of raw bones or meat, then Dwight Smith gave me this tip from the vet. There's a product on the market called PERIO SUPPORT; it's a powder that you add to your dog's food and it is specially formulated to help maintain clean teeth. It controls plaque formation and supports gum health. It's about \$13.00 for a bottle of the powder, and you can get it at www.allivet.com (free shipping too). There are other products out there as well, some that you add to water, but this one is vet-approved and Dwight says it really works on his big boy, Hustle.



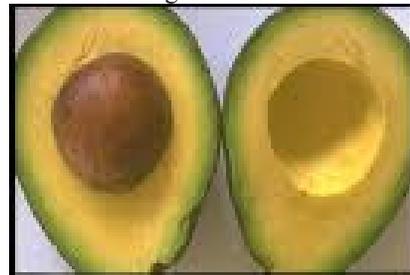
ARE AVOCADOS GOOD FOR YOUR DOG?

Avocados are really good for people. They have lots of great vitamins and minerals and fiber. Some people are now advocating feeding them to dogs for the same benefits...but before you do, consider these facts:

Avocados have a very high fat content, which can cause pancreatitis in some dogs, and possibly cause the dog to gain weight.

They have an element called persin, which can be toxic to an already compromised immune system. We don't know what the dose level is for toxicity in dogs.

The seeds can get stuck in the throat or digestive system--they do not pass easily.



Why chance it? Avocados should just remain a people food. Ah, guacamole anyone?!

Remember, if you haven't already signed up for our listserv, go to the website at www.nittanygreys.org and do it right away. Don't miss anything that's going on with Nittany Greyhounds!

Also, we'll be at Dewey Beach this year too...Friday night ice cream social...and we need volunteers! Let us know if you can help.

15th Annual

GATHERING OF THE GREYS

Sunday, September 12, 2010 • ROOO VALLEY • 11:00 A.M.

DON'T MISS THIS! -- LIVE MUSIC, LIVE AUCTION!

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

MasterCard/Visa will be accepted for all purchases, including raffle tickets.

- 11:15 a.m.** **Blessing of the Hounds**
Band begins playing (will play until approx. 2 p.m.)
Raffle ticket sales begin
Vendors Open for shopping
Bag Auction begins
Give-away gifts begin

- 1:00 p.m.** **Lunch is served -- We are working on donations of food so we can't tell you for sure what will be served just yet! It will be a delicious adventure smorgasbord! Bring a lawn chair and your beverages; we'll do the rest!**

- 1:30 p.m.** **LIVE AUCTION! (bring your bucks for some really nice gifts)**
Second Annual Greyt Greyhound Games!
 --Grey-Athalon (Olympic-style timed events)
 --Hot Dog Bob and Bag Lady Race
Speed Run (Think you've got the fastest dog? We'll find out!)

- 3:00 p.m.** **Doggie Ice Cream Social!**
 --Contests (longest tail, best kisser--you get the idea!)

- 4:00 p.m.** **Auction Tickets Pulled**

Note that other items and events will be added as time goes on. We're working on demonstrations, freebies, and more fun! Come on out! And remember to bring some cash for the great auctions and shopping this year!

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RETURN THIS FORM BY SEPTEMBER 9, 2010

Price per family: \$0 (free)
But a donation would be appreciated
(100% tax deductible--see below).

NAME (please print) _____

Number of people attending _____ Number of dogs attending _____

I would like to make a donation to Nittany Greyhounds (totally tax-deductible) in the amount of \$ _____ in memory/honor of _____.

If your dog has passed, please indicate so. Thanks.

Remember that every penny of your donation is used in service to our beloved greyhounds. Please send this form to Nittany Greyhounds, P.O. Box 602, Port Matilda, PA 16870.



P.O. Box 602
Port Matilda, PA 16870
www.nittanygreys.org

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INSIDE

PICNIC INFORMATION

Teeth Support for Greys

Avocados for Dogs?

Windchime Memorial Project now Available

**Note: Celebrating
Greyhounds calendars
will be available at the
picnic...or call to order.**