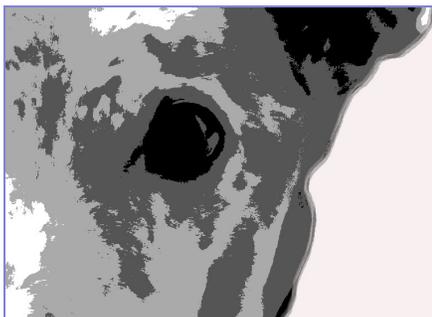


From The Heart

– Lori Haberman-Wilson



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Grey Tales

I always say ‘love is not enough.’ It’s one of the reasons why GREYlong was formed.

It began before Morris Animal Foundation announced their cure for canine cancer initiative in September 2006 and Lisa Leopold and I wanted to help. The reason behind GREYlong was for the love of a dog.

During the fall of 2006, Lisa experienced the pain all loving owners know awaits them.

Her beloved liver-colored ‘Germer’ Hannah had a nose bleed that couldn’t be stopped, even after several surgeries and days in the vet’s care.

Lisa learned that this breed was prone to rhino cancer. So, she and her husband made the hard decision.

My own experience came in the form of Rocky. For six years, I



Rocky ‘was the happiest of boys.’

volunteered to walk dogs for a local adoption group.

One of my favorite adoptees was Rocky, a Greyhound who was just doggone happy about life.

He had come to the kennel in December 2001 and was adopted that following March.

In January 2004, we lost our boy Magic. Muffin, our girl, pined for her boy-dog-friend.

As fate would have it, Rocky was meant to join our ‘pack.’ His adoption didn’t last; his adopters had a child and Rocky was returned in March 2004.

So, on July 17, Rocky became a permanent member of our household.

He was the happiest of boys. He could find joy in anything—a squeaky whale toy, Muffin’s large stuffed toy affectionately named ‘Lamb Bone.’ He managed to pry off its nose and eyes as he did my stuffed Christmas reindeers.

He was always ready to enjoy some form of entertainment, even if he had to write the game rules.

On Halloween, I would wait for the ‘goblins’ to visit while knitting BOAs. When the doorbell

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GREYlong Rockets into Cyber Space

GREYlong has tackled the cyber frontier with its newly designed Web site at www.greylong.org.

Our new Web home gives GREYlong a permanent presence online that’s easily identifiable with its domain name (greylong.org).

The site provides new friends with information about GREYlong, such its history and financial information.

For regular visitors, GREYlong founder Lori Haberman-Wilson has a regularly updated blog. Anyone who enjoys reading Lori’s occasional e-mailed stories will love her

blogs.

The site also includes a calendar, where you can see what volunteers have been doing and what is in future.

If you haven’t visited the site, check it out and be sure to bookmark it for frequent visits!

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Don’t forget...

- We collect Best Choice labels! Save your UPC labels and send them to us. 1,000 labels = \$60! It’s the easiest way to make a contribution without doing anything that you don’t ordinarily do. To see where you can purchase Best Choice products, visit <http://www.awgbrands.com/savealabel.html>.

Meet us—putting Names and Faces to GREYlong

When GREYlong was formed several years ago, no one knew what to expect. There was a burning desire to make a difference.

Founding member Lisa Leopold is a Kansas City native, born and bred. As a youth, she was involved in the fast and furious competition of barrel racing.

Lisa even-tually headed to nursing school, where she found her life's calling.

Lisa is a dedicated animal lover and has been active in many canine adoption programs throughout the area.

She lives in Stillwell, Kan., with her husband, Mike, six dogs, 10 heritage chickens and four goats. In June, she'll be a grandmother to a youngster goat!

Another face for GREYlong is Lori Haberman-Wilson. It's her passion and hard work that keep the fire burning. Born in Michigan, Lori has moved around the United States, before settling in Overland

Park, Kan. As many know, Lori's business, M&M Designs, contributes major funding toward GREYlong's causes.

Lori's sewing skills were cultivated early in life when she was 10 years old. Her mother enrolled her in a summer sewing class. She may have also been influenced by her grandmother, who was a seamstress for Marshall Fields. Lori is married to



Holidays are always fun with Lisa and her clan

British-born Chris and they have two loving Greyhound hound pups, Muffin and Murphy.

New to the board this year is Teresa Brown. Teresa is originally from New Mexico, but has lived in many states from coast to coast. Teresa is a writer and has worked for a newspaper as well as in public relations.

Teresa is an avid dog-lover and dabbles in

tracking and rally. She currently lives in upstate New York with her husband, Wayne, her youngest son and two dogs, Oni, a bossy little shiba, and Joji, an akita.

What's in the Name

Sometimes folks have asked about GREYlong... just how that name came about.

The story is Lisa Leopold and Lori Haberman-Wilson jointly founded GREYlong after they individually experienced the loss of a beloved canine to cancer. They chose the name GREYlong from the belief that dogs should live long lives, symbolized by grey fur, hence GREYlong.

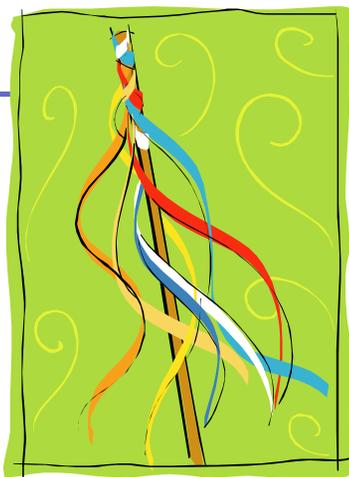
—Teresa C. Brown



Lori and Murphy take a break in front of M&M Designs' sewing station.



Teresa and her 7-year-old shiba inu, Oni.



'Maypoling 4 R Mutts'

It's was another fantastic fundraising day with our rummage sale held the first weekend in May. We made \$622 during the two-day sale.

GREYlong hats are tipped to our own Lisa and Lori for organizing the dual-day fundraiser. "It is always a little scary when you plan a rummage sale, and you only have four boxes of your own goods. We asked for help and you made it happen," Lori said.

Thanks also go to Jeannette and Ray Hinks, Greg and Sharon Loeser, Nancy Helvey, Susan Brou-

hard, Margie and Terry Hunter, and Lisa and Mike Leopold.

"Without your donation of your cherished collectibles, vintage school desk, farm implements, very cool bar ware, brand-new kitchen appliances, darling Christmas decorations... and we could go on, there would've been no sale," Lori said.

Setting the tempo was Frank Sinatra and gang, crooning in the background, and the sweet aroma of freshly baked cookies. Linda, Karen, Lisa and Lori manned the shop and "hounded" the visitors.

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'Walkies' For Our Pets

The British call it “walkies.” They grab the lead; the pup gets excited; and they take a tour about town on foot.

What fun! “‘Jasmine’ and foxy ‘Roxy,’ let’s go walkies.”

Let’s face it. It’s not a new idea, but it’s tried and true. The first thing renowned dog trainer Cesar Millan will tell you is for any animal to be content, it needs exercise.

Oh-oh. It’s that dreaded “E” word. That just doesn’t sound like fun for us, humans, does it?

But exercise is an important part of not only our lives, but the lives of our animals.

When we adopted a 12-year-old pup named Moonbeam, she was fairly pudgy, had bad teeth and had an arthritic wonky back leg. We worked on the diet – no table scraps. And we had her join us on our walking routine.

We would take her out in the morning and again in the afternoon to different parks and paths in the area. At first she looked at us like we were crazy. She would lift her right paw: “Hurt leg, I can’t walk.”

Then she got into the hang of it. My goodness did she enjoy her walks! She lost 10 pounds and that arthritic back leg was miraculously restored. Even our friends, who told us when we had brought her home that she looked like she was at death’s door, couldn’t believe what a change walking had made in her life.



So, the lesson is there. Maybe we package the big “E” a little differently.

Let’s grab that leash and take a stroll with your pups. It is good for you, as a stress reducer, and good for your canines.

But let’s just call it “walkies,” not exercise, please!

– Lori Haberman-Wilson

Roxy, the fox, and Jasmine love their ‘walkies.’

Photo courtesy of Stacey Nuneaton and Warwickshire Wildlife Sanctuary

From the Heart

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rang, I would set the knitting down and go to the door. Rocky had other plans.

He was fast; when I returned to my chair, the ball of yarn would be gone. A long trail would lead from my chair into the bedroom identifying the rapsallion. And there was Rocky, at the other end, smiling.

In our furnished basement, one couch faced the door. Rocky loved lying on that couch, with his head over the back, waiting for some-

one to enter the room.

A year to the month after Rocky joined our family, we noticed his right leg had a tender spot just above the knee. We took him to our vet who x-rayed it. Surely, it could be nothing serious. Rocky was only a youthful 6 years.

The x-ray showed what the vet guessed with some certainty was bone cancer. We were shocked and devastated.

By the time a bone biopsy confirmed suspicions, we had done our research. This breed of

dogs was one of five large dogs prone to bone cancer, which is extremely aggressive, metastasizing into the lungs.

Our next shock came when we looked toward modern treatments. There weren’t any, nothing new, no new options.

In 1973, Teddy Kennedy, diagnosed with bone cancer, had his leg amputated. Fast forward 32 years to 2005, amputation was still the protocol with the hope your dog might live

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Book the Date!



Mark your calendars for these upcoming GREYlong events!

- **Sept 19—Gallivantastia**

10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at Kill Creek Park, 11670 Homestead Lane, DeSoto. \$10 per person potluck and dog-swim day! Visit www.GREYlong.org for full details.

GREYlong is a 501(c)(3) organization established in 2006 devoted to raising funds to help support canine cancer studies. The money raised by GREYlong is donated to Morris Animal Foundation. All gifts are tax-deductible. We have no paid employees, so all gifts make an impact in finding a cure for cancer.

We are passionate about making a difference in our current and future pets' lives. Our name "GREYlong" is symbolic. It represents our goal that everyone's pets should live LONG lives in their senior-citizen GREY fur.

We are grateful for all of your support. Our year-end financial report is posted at www.greylong.org.

GREYLONG

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GreyTales is the official newsletter for GREYlong. It is published electronically in May, September and January. It is distributed by e-mail to a subscriber list. To receive the newsletter, send an e-mail with the word "SUBSCRIBE" in the subject line to lori@greylong.org. We welcome both editorial and photo submissions. Submissions may be e-mail to lori@greylong.org or shibas.rock@yahoo.com. Editorial submissions may be edited for space and style.

Maypolin' 4 R Mutts

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"Murphy," Chris' and Lori's dog, joined in as the "four-paws" greeter.

We had some generous folks who tucked in an extra dollar or two when paying for their purchases and some folks mentioned that they were return shoppers from last year's fun.

Next year, we'd like to try some new fundraisers. So anyone with a fresh idea, send it in. We want to hear from you!

Tracking the Treasurer

In our bank report, we have \$2,400 in the account, which includes the rummage sale deposit.

We had a pleasant—and generous—surprise in February. Nancy Singer honored us with her employer's (Verizon) charity program. Nancy's efforts raised \$750 for GREYlong.

Thimbles are selling! We have been auctioning thimbles via EBay. Thanks to Lisa and Mike, who donated the thimbles.

Dog collars, coats and bake-sales-at-work continue to add to our coffers.

Our goal is to raise \$6,000 this year. With that amount, we will be able to support two canine cancer studies.



From the Heart

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another 20-24 months. The alternative was radiation.

We were ready to try anything. We took Rocky to Kansas State University and had three radiation treatments. He didn't mind; he just trotted down the hall with the technician.

We tried some alternatives that were being studied, from artemisinin to Pamidronate – a three-hour IV injection. We altered his diet to lower carbohydrates so we weren't "feeding the cancer."

We searched the Internet and contacted folks who I didn't even know, but who had suggestions.

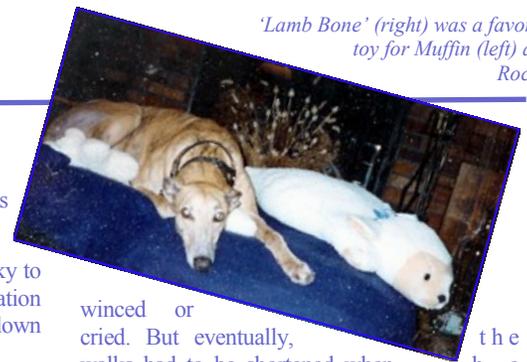
Our vet was wonderful. He called his colleagues and talked with one of the scientists involved in the Pamidronate study. He even called seven different hospitals, trying to find one that would release this medication to a canine.

In the meantime, Rocky was limping more. That limp didn't stop him from grabbing Lamb Bone and giving her a good thrashing from time to time. But his playful jousts would terrify us. We feared he would hurt his leg.

Even our vet was concerned about him breaking his leg, so he splinted it. Rocky hated it—he couldn't get on the couch or walk without dragging his leg. Eventually, we took it off.

We tried to keep him restrained, but Rocky would not have it. That rascal would leave the comfort of his favorite spot on the couch in the basement (after we had laboriously carried him down there). He would climb up four flights of stairs just to sit with me in my office. What could I say?

In spite of our worries and fears, we continued to act normal. We kept walking him and even took a little vacation. He was on pain meds, but rarely



'Lamb Bone' (right) was a favorite toy for Muffin (left) and Rocky.

wincing or cried. But eventually, walks had to be shortened when he told us he had had enough.

We thought it was going well as summer turned into fall and fall into winter. But in January, the lump started to grow. Larger and larger. By March 2006, his toes swelled.

I called the vet to ask if we could relieve some of the swelling. We scheduled an appointment... March 3—the third day of the third month—at 3 o'clock.

In spite of his efforts to drain the fluids, the vet gave us the news we've long dreaded would come. He said the tumor had most likely cut off the circulation to Rocky's paw.

It was then that we agreed, he had had enough. Rapsallion Rocky—happiest of boys—smiled at us and lay on his side, eating treats while the doctor gave him that last injection. Rocky flinched and stared at me. *Why are you doing this?*

Because love is not enough, Rocky. Love is not enough.

Not everyone believes in signs or fate, but you can call it what you will. GREYlong's tax-exempt number has a special significance to me. You see, the number begins with "03" and ends with "3."

We love you, Rocky.