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APRIL 2021 | ISSUE 5

# Joyce's Journal

A monthly dispatch from Joyce A. Miller, Writer

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## ADOPT-A-GREYHOUND MONTH!

April is National Adopt-A-Greyhound Month, a month to raise awareness and promote greyhound adoption. In 2019, Alabama and Texas closed their last tracks. Forty-one states, including Florida, have banned greyhound racing. The last track in Arkansas will close this year and that leaves only two states with tracks, West Virginia and Iowa. With the combination of the ban in Florida and Covid, 2000 dogs became available for adoption this past year. As a greyhound adopter myself, I have mixed emotions about the track closures. On the one hand, there are reports of scandals and abuse; but on the other hand, there are owners and trainers who loved their dogs and would do anything for them. And the dogs love to run. What makes a greyhound the fastest dog breed also makes them susceptible to injuries. Greyhounds are affectionate animals and not high strung as many believe.

Adopt-A-Greyhound month is a good time to tell you about my next writing project, a memoir of my own greyhound experiences. Over the course of twenty years, I have adopted six greyhounds and fostered many more. My story **Look, You're Dancing!** starts with the adoption of Kit, a black and white tuxedo greyhound that I trained to do canine freestyle, or dog dancing. It culminates with the adoption and training of a feisty greyhound puppy named Sammy Davis Jr.

A GLIMPSE OF  
WHAT'S INCLUDED:

**Coheed  
Paper Doll**

April 1 is also Opening Day for Major League Baseball. Last year the pandemic shut down spring training in March and delayed Opening Day. My son and I planned to attend the Pittsburgh Pirates Opening Day game but that never happened. This year a limited number of fans will be allowed to attend games. Joe Harris had to go through a similar situation when he played baseball during the 1918 Spanish Flu epidemic. Imagine a pandemic on top of opening day jitters. You can read about it in **Joe Harris, the Moon**.

As the bonus for the April newsletter, I'm enclosing a Coheed paper doll. Coheed is my current greyhound. He was named after the rock-and-roll band, CoheedandCambria. I thought another musically named dog must be a sign that someday he will be a dog dancer, too. In the meantime, you can make your paper doll dog dance. It's not as difficult as training a real greyhound to dance. Trust me.

I live in the Church Hill section of Richmond, VA with my husband and my retired racing greyhound. Before I started writing, I worked for 30 years at a nuclear physics research laboratory.

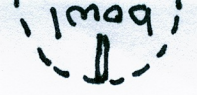
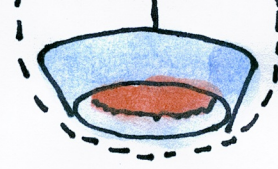
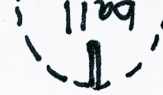
Show up and shine!



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# COINED PAPER DOLL

