

Fall 2010

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

FALL CALENDAR OF EVENTS
SUPPORTS BGA ... A BUSY SUMMER FOR A
"GREYT" TEAM ... COMING UP:
2ND ANNUAL MEAT RAFFLE ... AND MUCH MORE!



Off Track Pets

News from Buffalo Greyhound Adoption

Established 1991

From the President:
*Cheers to A Successful Year for BGA -
Thanks to a Great Volunteer Team!*

by Debbie Doxey



I hope all our readers had a wonderful summer. As always, I feel like time is just going by too quickly.

September often feels more like the start of a new year than does January. School starts, the new TV season begins, we change our closets and, soon, our clocks. And yes, I have another birthday ... Fall still makes me think of new shoes and fresh notebooks, both of which I confess to loving!

So, since I'm in a "new year" mode, I thought I'd take the opportunity to look back at the past 12 months and try to thank some of you who have contributed to BGA during this time. It's been fun and, at times, challenging. So many people have pitched in to help in so many ways - like one Sunday at my house when, while washing new dogs, one with a broken, infected hock caused the squeamish among us to grab Alice away from her mac-and-cheese preparation to consult Dr. T. via phone so we could perform pseudo-emergency vet procedures in my back yard ... alongside my neighbors' pool party. We simply couldn't do it without people like you!

I also want to thank the many volunteers who turned out to staff the BGA booth at this year's Erie County Fair. We had an amazing response and were able to fill every shift through the 13 days of the fair. I wish I could name each of you individually. A special thanks to Gail Riggs for organizing the schedule.

Likewise, thanks to all those who volunteered with their dogs for other "meet and greets" and summer fund-raising activities. Many events were a lot of fun, and many were a lot of work. Most were a combination of both. Special thanks to Laurie Graziano and Keith Gregoire, who stepped up to plan this year's picnic at Beaver Island State Park - right on top of the Expo! And, of course, thanks to our Fund Raising Committee, which continues to come up with new, creative and successful ideas.

On behalf of the many wonderful dogs we placed in "forever homes," I want to thank all those involved in bringing in and fostering new dogs. I'm going out on a limb here to try and name names, so if I miss yours, I apologize: Susan Ronald for arranging most of our runs, and all those who rode along or pitched in to help; Ray

(cont'd on p. 8)

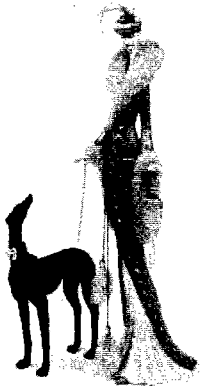
Visit us on
the Web at:
www.b-g-a.org

Mark Your Calendar ...

Upcoming Opportunities Support BGA



TLC Annual Fashion Show



Like dogs? Like fashion? Plan to enjoy Ten Lives Club's (TLC) annual fashion show Saturday, Oct. 16 from 12:30 to 3:15 p.m. at Michael's Banquet Facility, 4885 Southwestern Boulevard, Hamburg. Watch animal-loving models glide down the runway with canine or feline friends as their escorts! The latest fashions from Monroe's, Hamburg, will be featured.

A silent auction with theme baskets will be held, along with sales of outfits for both cats and dogs. Tickets cost \$20 pre-sale and \$23

at the door. Menu includes manicotti or vegetable lasagna, dessert and coffee. For tickets, call Gail at 574-0202. Proceeds benefit TLC and Buffalo Greyhound Adoption.

Win Big in BGA's Lottery

Buffalo Greyhound Adoption (BGA) will sponsor its next lottery, with tickets going on sale in December for January 2011 daily drawings. Tickets cost \$5 each. If you would like to help by buying and/or selling tickets, please contact Dave Heckmiller, theheckmillkers@aol.com.



For Your Favorite Four-Pawed Friend ... A Bubble Bath Spa Day

Bring your grey - or other dogs - to Buffalo Greyhound Adoption's (BGA's) next Bubble Bath on Sunday, Oct. 24 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Dennison residence, 912 Main St., West Seneca. Treat your pet to a gentle brushing, soothing bath, nail clipping and ear cleaning. Also included are a bandanna and a biscuit - and gentle volunteers are available if needed to help your dog up and down the stairs. Cost is \$15 with all proceeds benefiting BGA.

At the Bubble Bath, BGA will be selling "greyt" merchandise including shirts, decals, books, embroidered baseball caps, jewelry, fleece scarves and faux leather 4 Dog logo embroidered purses. To make an appointment or volunteer to help out, please contact Gail Vaughan, 634-9686 or tbvaughan@roadrunner.com.

Back This Fall: Rally to the Rescue

Due to an overwhelming response to the first annual Pro Plan Rally to the Rescue in 2009 (held at McKinley Mall), Purina Pro Plan will

BGA Board of Directors

Debbie Doxey, President
Debdoxey@verizon.net
716-836-3426

Gail Riggs, Vice President
tmcchm@gmail.com
716-667-0843

Laurie Graziano, Treasurer
grazialm@buffalostate.edu
716-636-0971

Marc Kotarski, Secretary
Marc.Kotarski@yahoo.com
716-912-7797

Mary Schreiner, Events
bgaevents@mac.com
716-627-7785

Gail Vaughan, Fund Raising
tbvaughan@roadrunner.com
716-634-9686

**Michelle Moore
Communications**
segogirl@yahoo.com
716-393-3268

**Diane Zwirecki
Newsletter Editor**
dzwirecki@roadrunner.com
716-983-2978

sponsor a second annual event this year. "Rally to the Rescue" will take place Saturday, Nov. 20 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the American Legion, 3740 North Buffalo Road, Orchard Park. Eleven not-for profit pet rescue organizations, including Buffalo Greyhound Adoption (BGA), will participate.



Admission is free and participating vendors include All Party Tattooz, Pet Pantry, Mexican Impressions, Paws Enterprise and Wholesale Pet Supplements and Outback Kettlekorn. Rescue groups, along with BGA, include Piece of Heaven Kitten Adoption, Growls, All for Snowflake, Precious Paws Rescue, Small Pets - Big Hearts, Buffalo Pug & Small Breed Rescue, HEART, Hope for Cats, Inc., Messinger Woods (with a variety of owl species) and Lakeview Animal Sanctuary. Weather permitting, a petting zoo will be part of the day's fun.

Rally to the Rescue will feature a Chinese auction, homemade baked goods and candy sales, a prize wheel, raffles, and the sale of tee shirts, holiday stocking stuffers, and unique gift items for family, friends and pets. Pizza, snacks and a cash bar will be available.

Celebrating Greyhounds

Do you know someone who has opened their home - and their heart - to adopt a senior (aged seven or older) or special needs greyhound? If so, they are eligible for one free copy of *Celebrating Greyhounds* magazine. To get this free issue, owners should send an e-mail to editor@adopt-a-greyhound.com and include a description of their greyhound with age and/or details of the dog's special need(s), the name of their adoption group, and their name and mailing address. The magazine's purpose is to provide information about greyhounds as a breed. A yearly subscription includes four (quarterly) issues and is priced at \$25.

Greyhound Planet Time ... October 23 at Chestnut Ridge

Buffalo Greyhound Adoption will hold an open walk as part of Greyhound Planet Day - a global celebration of greyhounds and greyhound rescue - which takes place Saturday, Oct. 23 at Chestnut Ridge Park. Bring you family and your dog and plan to enjoy the day! For more information, contact Gail Riggs, 667-0843 or tmcchm@gmail.com, or Debbie Doxey, 836-3426 or Debdoxey@verizon.net

Bling for BGA ... December 5 at Warehouse Accessorized

Buffalo Greyhound Adoption (BGA) will hold a Fashion Jewelry Party Sunday, Dec. 5 at 12 noon at Warehouse Accessorized in the Marshalls/Tops Plaza at Maple and Transit Roads, Williamsville. Accessories for sale will include purses, necklaces, rings, bracelets, earrings, scarves, jackets and shawls. If you're looking for a unique holiday gift, come join BGA at this unique fund raiser. BGA will receive 15 percent of sale proceeds. For more information, please contact Gail Riggs, 667-0843 or tmcchm@gmail.com.



BGA Needs You!

Buffalo Greyhound Adoption fund-raising activities help keep costs down ... They are critical to the ongoing success of the BGA mission. More volunteers are needed! If you are willing to help, please contact Gail Vaughan, 634-9686 or tbvaughan@roadrunner.com or Mary Schreiner, 627-7785 or bgaevents@mac.com.

Greyhounds Spend a Busy Summer At Western New York Events

The History of the Greyhound



It was a busy Summer of 2010 for Buffalo Greyhound Adoption (BGA) and its "grey" team.

During the Erie County Fair's recent 13-day run, BGA was on hand throughout - with a popular booth in the Bazaar Building that was a hit among greyhound lovers of all ages. More than \$1,400 was raised to benefit BGA and help find "forever homes" for retired racing hounds.

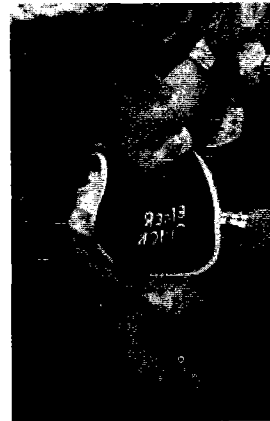
BGA's booth at the Erie County Fair had a "couch potato" feel ... much appreciated by many of the event's "grey" volunteers!

Also this summer, BGA was a visible presence at numerous other Western

New York events including Quaker Steak & Lube's Crusin' at the Lube nights in July, the Williamsville and Kenmore farmers' markets, Lewiston's Wildlife Festival and the fourth annual Dunlop Ride for Charity on Sept. 18 and 19. Also on Sept. 19, a garage sale was held to benefit BGA, at the Cheektowaga home of Carolyn and Larry Pillard. And, BGA President Debbie Doxey hosted a party at her Amherst home for new greyhound adoptive "parents" and their dogs. BGA also made an appearance at Fantasy Island.



The Buffalo Greyhound Adoption, Inc., banner has been spotted at an increasing number of Western New York events, as BGA continues to build awareness and education about greyhound rescue and adoption.



Greyhound lovers of all ages attended a party for new adoptive "parents" this summer at the home of BGA President Debbie Doxey. One of BGA's newest fans is Gabriella Gregoire, daughter of Laurie Graziano and Keith Gregoire.



BGA benefited from Quaker Steak & Lube's July Cruisin' at the Lube nights.

At Quaker Steak & Lube, BGA ran a dunk tank on two evenings - July 1 and July 29. The following volunteers braved the dunk tank: Debbie Dennison, Keith Gregoire, Jackie and Robert Miller, and Rachel Vaughan. 97 Rock's Carl Russo ran a 50/50 split to benefit BGA.

Thanks to all who participated in and supported this busy calendar of events!

George Washington didn't have a greyhound ... but one of his generals did.

While training troops at Valley Forge during the long winter of 1777-78, General Friedrich von Steuben kept a greyhound named Azor at his side.

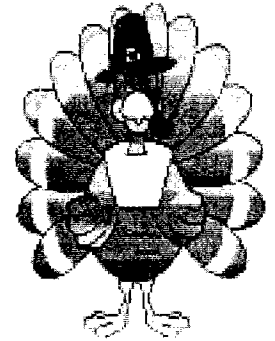
The German general had brought his dog with him from his native country and, upon his departure for America, was angry when his landlady charged him extra for Azor's room and board.

One of von Steuben's associates noted that the landlady was justified because Azor "ate as much as any of us." At the end of the Revolutionary War, the highly regarded though eccentric von Steuben retired to a town near Utica, NY and of course, took Azor with him.

(Source: The Reign of the Greyhound by Cynthia A. Branigan)

Second Annual BGA Meat Raffle Takes Place November 5th

Have you ever been to a meat raffle ??
If not, you're missing out on a great time!



Bring family & friends & join the fun as we raffle off delicious meats ... including turkeys, roasts, hams, seafood & more ... just in time for the holidays! Admission includes pizza, beer, soda & dessert.

All proceeds benefit Buffalo Greyhound Adoption, Inc.

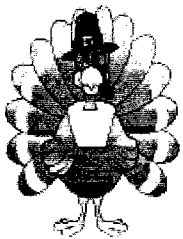
Friday, Nov. 5, 2010

Matthew Glab Post, 1965 Abbott Road, Lackawanna

Doors Open @ 6 p.m.

First Spin @ 7 p.m.

Admission: \$5 pre-sale or \$7 @ the door
(Purchase 8 tickets & have a table reserved!)



Meat raffles are the latest rage in fund raising! It's a mix of Bingo, Roulette & a Chinese auction. Purchase tickets for \$1 to \$3. Each raffle ticket has 3 numbers. If one of your numbers matches the number on the wheel, you win a great meat prize! Each round offers the opportunity to win 3 times (3 spins per round). Young or old ... it's a great event for you! Easy & fun to play. Also featured are bonus spins & raffles.

Pre-sale tickets may be purchased before Nov. 1 by contacting:

Carolyn Pickard @ 681-7938 (Cheektowaga/Midtown)

Sue Murzynski @ 655-0819 (Southtowns)

Christine Cotton @ 827-8437 (Buffalo/West Seneca)

Gail Vaughn @ 634-9686 (Northtowns)

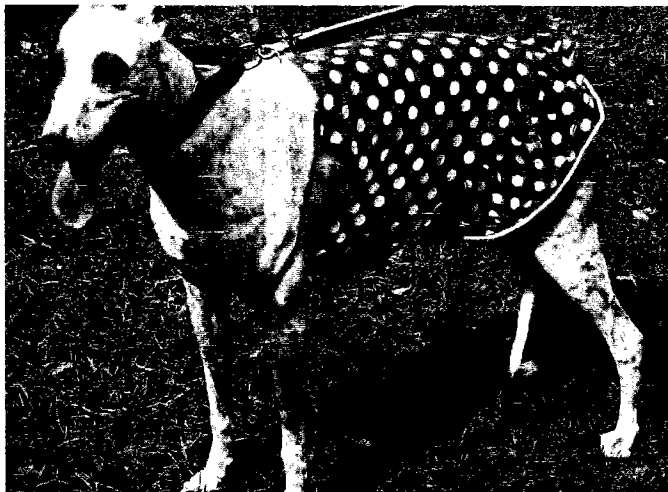
Or, make checks payable to "Buffalo Greyhound Adoption, Inc."
and mail them to: Christine Cotton, 20 Alsace Ave., Buffalo, NY. 14220.

BGA Holds Midsummer Picnic

This year, Buffalo Greyhound Adoption moved the location - and the date - of its annual picnic to Saturday, Sept. 11 at Beaver Island State Park, Grand Island. The event was held in a pavilion conveniently close to the playground and the beach and included games, raffles and a mouth-watering meal. A "greyt" time was had by all!



Tess finds time to relax at the BGA midsummer picnic. After all, isn't that what picnics are for ??



All dressed up and somewhere "greyt" to go: Bella, above left, and Gemma, above right, got all dolled up for the BGA midsummer picnic at Beaver Island State Park, Grand Island.



COMING SOON:

NEW MAGNETS TO HELP FIND LOST DOGS ...WATCH FOR MORE INFORMATION!

Memorial Donation Benefits BGA

Buffalo Greyhound Adoption recently received a \$1,000 donation in memory of Gretchen Snedeker, whose life was touched in a special way by animals in general and greys in particular ...

"Dear Friends at Buffalo Greyhound Adoption, Inc.,

I hope this letter finds you well. My aunt, Kathy Snedeker, asked me to write a letter to accompany her donation in hopes that you will better understand the reason behind it. She had asked me about a year ago if there were any worthy causes which I would want to donate money to in my late cousin's memory. After discussing it, your organization was one that we felt Gretchen would have supported.

Gretchen was killed in a car accident on April 10, 2008 on her way to Colgate University. Gretchen was a professional musician who was working on her master's degree at the time of the accident and, on top of her classes, she did a lot of traveling for performances and teaching her horn students. There was nothing that she could have done differently; the man in the other car was reckless and made a

*".. it is a wonderful thing
your organization does ...
I hope that it is a program
that will be around as long
as there is a need for it ..."*

mistake. Unfortunately, that mistake robbed me of one of the most important people in my life, her parents of their only child, and the world of someone with so much talent and a pure heart.

I loved my cousin very much and she always was more like an older sister to me. Even though we had our differences growing up, and drifted apart for a little while, it meant that much more to me when we met up a few years ago and realized just how similar we were. Gretchen took me on countless road trips, showed me how to cook, and introduced me to Tim Burton films. We bonded over horrible reality television, walked all over Rochester, and spent lazy days up at the St. Lawrence River.

One of my favorite memories with her, though, was a day at the animal shelter, which was one of her favorite escapes from her very busy schedule. Gretchen loved animals so much and animal rights were something we both believed very strongly in. My aunt told me a story of when they went to visit her for a performance in Buffalo and they came across your greyhound rescue at a local mall. If she had her way, Gretchen would have taken all those dogs home with her. She felt that if was a wonderful thing your organization does and knew that at least the greyhounds were in good hands as opposed to sitting alone in a shelter. I hope that it is a program that will be around as long as there is a need for it.

Giving this money is my aunt and uncle's way of passing on Gretchen's story in hopes that this donation will be put to good use. They have been through hell and back in the past few years, but being able to give this gift is their way of trying to bring some good out of a horrible situation. I'm glad that I have gotten this chance to tell others about my cousin because it's a way of keeping her alive. Please take this donation as a sign of our gratitude for the wonderful things that you've done for so many retired greyhounds and use it for anything you may need. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to share my cousin with you.

Best wishes,

Amanda Kraus

Farewell My Friend ...

Max (Reb's Bobby) Amato

Moilly (Fior of Eastern) Brennan

Rosie (Just Rosie) Claycomb

Potsy (RC Labelmegosdin)
Hammond

Cyrus (Broad Shoulders) Lynch-Johnt

Blue Velvet (Lauren's Blue Velvet)
Lanza

Citrine (MD Pirate) Swartzlander
Bloo

(Bloomington) Janiga

Galen (Tar Baby)
Zawacki



Buffalo Greyhound Adoption, Inc.



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716-873-1165
info@b-g-a.org
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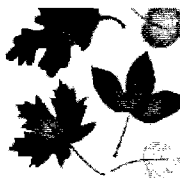
From the President *(cont'd from p. 1)*

and Debbie Dennison and Susan and her Mom for offering their homes for dog washes; and our "foster parents" including Joan Barry, Julie Macjiewski, Sue and Dick Murzynski, Alice Rohauer, Marianne Annibali, Gigi and Jeff Jankowski, Laurie and Keith, Larry and Carolyn Pillard, Jan Lingle, Connie Caputo, Joan Butler, Matt and Sandy Stock and Ray and Debbie, as well as everyone who helped with home visits and placements. Last but not least, thanks to all those who welcomed a retired racer into their homes. It's been a wonderful and rewarding "non year."

Of course, with fall come track closings and an increased need to open our homes and our hearts to more greyhounds who are otherwise left with nowhere to go. This is particularly true this year, as many tracks are closing permanently. With the continued support of BGA's outstanding volunteers, we will continue to move forward to help as many of these awesome, sweet dogs as we possibly can.

I wish all of you a very happy autumn and a wonderful, joyous holiday season to come!

- Debbie



Welcome to the Pack

Welcome to these
greyhounds who are
recent BGA adoptees:

Jerry Blain

Bella Caverno

**Jersey
Graziano/Gregoire**

DaVinci Hojnowski

Joey Pirson

Gypsie Zawacki