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Off Track Pets

News from Buffalo Greyhound Adoption
Established 1991

Fall/Winter 2012

In this issue:

**Holiday Safety for Your Pets ... Meet the BGA Board
Looking for Forever Homes: Teddy & Jackson ...
How You Can Help BGA**

From the President:

**The Holidays are Upon Us ...
As BGA Launches
Another Greyt Year!**

Like the traditional holiday carol reminds us, "It's been said many times, many ways ..." and it's time once again to wish all our greyt friends - and their pets - a happy holiday season.

As Buffalo Greyhound Adoption celebrates the holidays, we look with great anticipation to another exciting and successful year in 2013. I am honored to begin my third term as BGA President and to serve with such a talented and dedicated Board of Directors and team of volunteers. Together, we will take BGA to new heights during this new year.

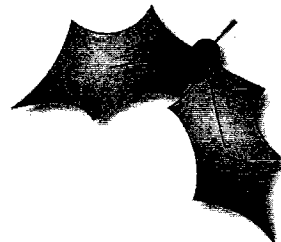
I'm happy to report that Laurie Graziano has been reelected BGA treasurer. Julie Maciejewski is our new BGA events chairperson and Sara Jones is our coordinator and contact person for ongoing sales of Niagara candy bars.

This and future issues of *Off Track Pets* - along with our BGA web site and *Digest* - will keep you informed of upcoming events and news.

We encourage you to share your stories with Diane Zwirecki, newsletter editor



(dzwirecki@communicate.succeed.com) for future publication.



Our signature events and meet and greets continue to be tremendously successful. For instance, record amounts were raised during the 10 days BGA spent at this year's Erie County Fair in August, as well as at our annual garage sale and Denny's days in September.

Watch for more information on upcoming BGA plans and events such as our annual Greyhound Expo, which will be held once again in April 2013.

So while BGA continues to evolve and improve, we do it all for our beloved hounds, because in helping to find them their forever homes, we truly do receive much more than we give.

I encourage you to make involvement in BGA your New Year's resolution. To those who already give so much, my heartfelt thanks. Please reach out to newcomers, as well, so we can garner new energy and ideas to keep our mission alive.

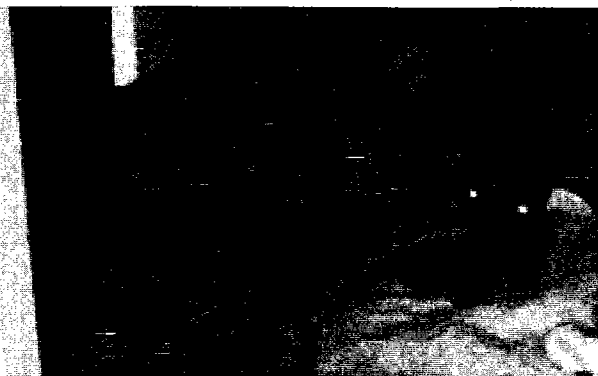
Take time this holiday season to appreciate and enjoy all those you love - family, friends and of course, your pets. Have a memorable, happy and safe season!

- Debbie Dosey, BGA President

Our Featured Foster Dogs: Looking for Their Forever Homes

Meet Teddy, a lovable four year old brindle boy from Alabama. He does stairs well and has no problem with bare floors. He is not small animal safe but gets along well with larger dogs and people – he especially likes to follow Mike, his foster “dad,” around the house.

Teddy *loves* to have a bone to gnaw on, toys to play with and a blanket to bunch up. Most

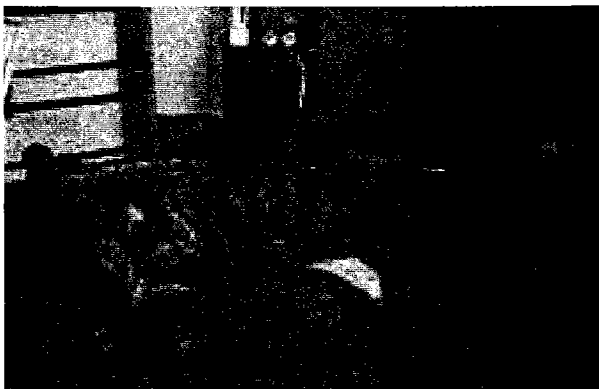


of the time after getting the blanket “just so,” he will lay next to it – go figure. He will also bring toys into the living room, just to have them where he can see them.

If you go outside with Teddy, he expects you

are there to play and will bounce around or start doing laps around you. He does like to play with his foster canine siblings, Kandi (a greyhound) and Sasha (a shepherd mix). That being said, when he is in the house and laying down, he doesn't want to move until you make him – only his eyes move to watch what you're doing.

Teddy (pictured above and at right) is waiting for a forever home to fully enjoy his retirement as a furry companion.



Also awaiting his “forever home” is

Jackson, another playful boy who lives to give hugs, take walks and jump in the car for a ride. Jackson has adapted very well to routine in his foster home and is a loving, devoted companion to both people and other greyhounds.

Jackson and Teddy have a special item on each of their Christmas lists: a forever home.

For more information on adopting Jackson, Teddy or another greyhound, please contact Sue Murzynski, 716-655-0819 or suehappytails@aol.com.

BGA Board of Directors

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

Christine Cotton
Vice President
cotton@yahoo.com
716-827-8347

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

Vince Moore
Secretary
Kobay614@yahoo.com
716-393-3268

Sue Murzynski
Adoptions
suehappytails@aol.com
716-655-0819

Carolyn Pillard
Fund Raising
lpillard@roadrunner.com
716-681-7928

Mike Maciejewski
Communications
mrmski@msn.com
716-517-5588

Julie Maciejewski
Events
handbellgal@msn.com
716-417-1648

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



Welcome to these greyhounds, who are recent BGA adoptees:

Kaytee Burtis
 Monty Claycomb
 Ginny Dodolak
 Exxon Flynn
 Steve Frothingham
 Rio Hammond
 Louie Janak
 Rudy Jones
 Braska Kmidowski
 Villa Leslie
 Haley Mancuso
 Dwight Murzynski
 Booker Ortiz
 Reba Paolini
 Lola Popiolkowski
 Roman Richey
 Morgan Thomas
 Saucy White



Next Bubble Bath Set for March 3



The next BGA Bubble Bath is scheduled for Sunday, March 3 at Camp Bow Wow, 231 Grand Island Boulevard, Tonawanda. Bring your dog for a bath, nail clipping, ear cleaning and free bandanna and treat! Cost is \$15 and proceeds benefit BGA. To volunteer or make an appointment, contact Sue Murzynski, 716-655-0819 or suehappytails@aol.com.

Welcome to the Pack



Zach Burtis is loving Zig, the greyhound his family adopted earlier this year. Zach's grandparents loved Zig, too, so they recently adopted their own dog, Kaytee.

Meet the BGA Board of Directors

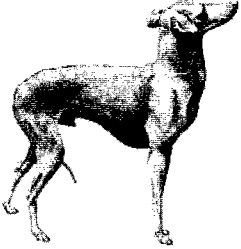


The current members of the Buffalo Greyhound Adoption Board of Directors are pictured at their November meeting. From left to right: Treasurer Laurie Graziano; President Debbie Doxey; Mike Maciejewski, Communications; Sue Murzynski, Adoptions; Julie Maciejewski, Events; Vice President Christine Cotton, and Carolyn Pillard, Fund Raising. Missing: Secretary Vince Moore.



So Many Ways to Support BGA

Please mark your calendar and support these upcoming Buffalo Greyhound Adoption events:



**Photos
With
Santa
Sunday,
Dec. 2**
10 a.m. -
2 p.m.

Lancaster Volunteer Ambulance Corp.

Thursday, Jan. 17
7 p.m.

Thirty One Home Party
40 Audley End, Amherst

Purchase awesome gifts, with all proceeds to benefit BGA. Enter to win the evening's door prize: a 28-inch ceramic greyhound statue.

ONGOING MEET & GREETS

First Saturday of the Month

12 - 4 p.m.

McKinley Mall

Blasdell, NY

Use the Food Court entrance.

BGA is located on the Barnes & Noble corridor.

To volunteer, please contact

Debbie, debdoxey@verizon.net.

Second Saturday of the Month

12 - 2 p.m.

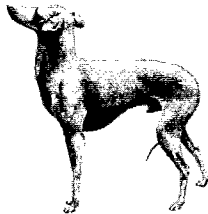
Pet Supplies Plus

Niagara Falls Blvd.

Tonawanda, NY

To volunteer, please contact

Kathy, tarashorty@yahoo.com.



Fourth (and Fifth) Saturday of the Month

10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Walden Galleria

Cheektowaga, NY

Enter on the lower level next to Lord & Taylor. BGA is located in front of Le Gourmet Chef.

To volunteer, please contact

Debbie, debdoxey@verizon.net.

Please note: Mall captains are needed for all mall events. To volunteer or for more information on any BGA event, please contact Julie, 716-417-1648 or handbellgal@msn.com.

BGA LOTTERY TICKETS

Remember, BGA lottery tickets make great stocking stuffers! Tickets will be on sale throughout December for January 2013 daily drawings. The cost of each ticket is just \$5.

Vote for BGA!

Election Day may be over, but Buffalo Greyhound Adoption can still use your vote.

Petfinder.com is awarding total of \$300,000 in grants to eligible rescue organizations. Visit the site to learn more. If selected, BGA would be awarded a \$5,000 grant to help further rescue efforts.

Voting deadline is Sunday, Dec. 16. Please go on line (you can link to Petfinder.com via the BGA web site at www.b-g-a.org) and vote now! *Thank you for your ongoing support of BGA.*



What Will Santa Bring Fido?

It's fun to include your pets in the holiday giving tradition, but make sure gifts are safe and appropriate for each one of them.

Make sure toys are the right size. A ball or chew toy, for instance, should be small enough to fit in a dog's mouth, but not so small that there is a risk of it being swallowed or lodged in the throat.

Give age-appropriate treats. Like pet food, dog biscuits and other edibles are available specifically for puppies and kittens, or older pets.

Another great gift idea is comfortable bedding. Pets love their beds even more during the holiday season as routines change, when they provide a safe respite from ongoing activity.

With just a little extra thought, you can find the holiday gift that's "just right" for every pet on your list!

(Source: Petco)

Keep Your Dog Safe This Holiday Season!

Safety comes first – for you and your pets – all year round. During the hectic hustle and bustle of the holidays, it's a good time for a reminder of how to keep your dog healthy and injury free. Here are some guidelines, based on advice from the American Kennel Club:

- Stick to routine as much as possible. Try to maintain your pet's normal feeding, walking, sleeping and playing schedule.
- Stay away from feeding your dog nibbles from your dining or buffet table.
- Some guests may be uncomfortable around dogs. Respect this, especially since your dog, in turn, may become frightened or agitated as a result. Confine your dog while you are entertaining guests, or keep him by your side or with another family member.
- Holly, mistletoe and poinsettia plants are poisonous. Keep them out of your pets' reach.
- Likewise, keep your dog away from your Christmas tree.

Lights may burn, ornaments may break, and both real and artificial tree needles are sharp and indigestible.



- Avoid edible decorations. Even if they are out of your dog's reach, she may knock down a tree, furniture or other item to get to them.
- Stay away from tinsel. It may be pretty, but it can obstruct your pet's circulation or block an intestine if swallowed.
- Keep lighted candles out of the way of wagging tails!

Using common sense and thinking first are the best ways for everyone, including our four-legged friends, to stay safe and healthy 365 days a year.

Lost Dog Pager: 888-615-7340

Please take a moment to save the Buffalo Greyhound Adoption Lost Dog Pager number on your phone.

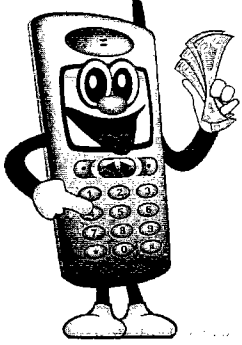
Enter your phone number followed by the # sign.

Remember: Never hesitate to call.

BGA will immediately dispatch a search team to help you out.

Donate Electronic Items to Benefit BGA

Would you like to help Buffalo Greyhound Adoption and the environment at the same time?



If you have an ink or toner cartridge, old cell phone, digital camera or select other electronics, you can donate them to be recycled according to EPA guidelines –

and proceeds will benefit BGA.

For more information, contact Belinda Brzezinski, 716-799-5168 or greyhound_adoptee@yahoo.com.

Acceptable ink jet cartridges include those manufactured by Cannon, Dell or HP. If you are donating a brand name toner cartridge, be sure it is not damaged or remanufactured and is not a refilled cartridge.

Cell phones must include batter-

ies and must be smaller than the palm of your hand, or approximately six ounces maximum weight. Analog phones, chargers, cords and accessories are not accepted.

You also can donate Apple M3 players and the following game system consoles: Nintendo DS Lite, Nintendo DS Original, Nintendo Game Boy Advance, Nintendo Game Boy Pocket or SONY PSP Handheld.

Farewell My Friend . . .

Layla
Raging Rachel
Brewster

Dixie
Chojnacki

Bounty
Hossier Bounty
Dodolak

Heidi
Hydra Claws
Faust

Sweetie
DK's Infinity
Gallivan

Sophie
Movealittle Over
Jankowski

Roxie
RB Sugar Pie
Laudenslager

Lucy
Ricarda's Lucy
Leslie

Jasper
Proper Admiral
Murzynski

Casey
Sas Casey Jones
Rautenstrach

Eli
Vaughan

Annie
Devie's Killeen
Ward

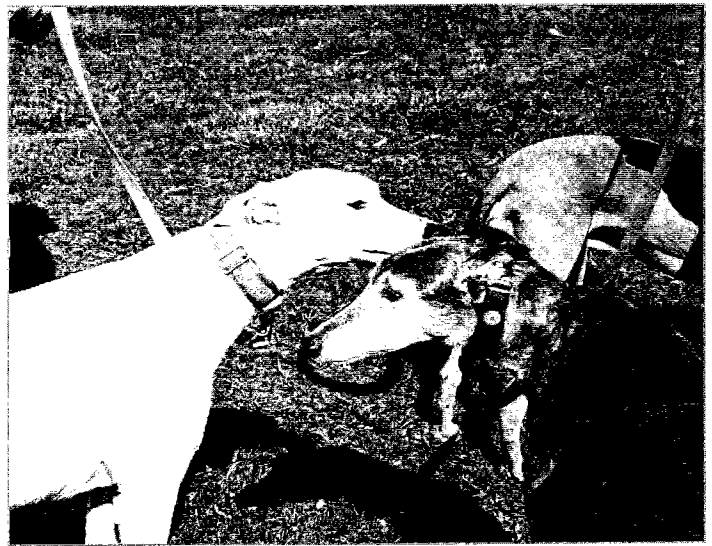
Get Your Free Issue Of *Celebrating Greyhounds*

If you or someone you know has adopted a senior (age 7 or older) or special medical needs greyhound, then he or she is eligible for a free copy of *Celebrating Greyhounds Magazine*. They simply need to email the editor at editor@adopt-a-greyhound.org with the following information: description of their dog's age and/or special need, name of their adoption group, and their name and mailing address.

Celebrating Greyhounds' purpose is to provide information about greyhounds as a breed. For more information, go to www.adopt-a-greyhound.org/magazine. Annual subscriptions are priced at \$25 for four (quarterly) issues.

Hounds Just Wanna Have Fun ...

Hanging out at the BGA Picnic Sept. 23 at
Como Lake Park ... and winning over the
crowds at this year's Erie County Fair



Watch for future issues of Off Track
Pets and visit www.b-g-a.org.
And like us on Facebook!

Buffalo Greyhound Adoption, Inc.

PO Box 1096
Cheektowaga, NY 14225

716-873-1165

info@b-g-a.org

www.b-g-a.org

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Do You Have a "Greyt" Story to Tell?

Please submit your stories or photos for possible use in the Spring 2013 issue of *Off Track Pets* to Diane Zwirecki, dzwirecki@communicatesucceed.com by **Friday, Feb. 1**. We welcome your contributions!

If you have any questions, contact Diane via email or at 716-983-2978.

Join Us!

... And Keep Your BGA Membership Up to Date

If you'd like to become a voting member of Buffalo Greyhound Adoption or have not recently updated your membership information, please notify BGA at your earliest convenience.

To become a voting member, apply on line at the BGA web site or contact us via email at info@b-g-a.org. Membership enables you to vote in BGA elections, run for office, and attend our Annual Meeting.

We welcome new active members. Please consider getting involved!

