



Off Track Pets

Volume 1, Issue 3

Fall, 2005

Under the BGA Umbrella

By Laura Pike

Board of Directors

- Gary Woods, President
GHound97@aol.com, 941-5265
- Doug Empringham, Vice President
592-6123
- Ginny Ongley, Treasurer
GBrat33@aol.com, 824-0554
- Marianne Annibali, Treasurer
mannibali@webtv.net, 683-6333
- Gail Riggs, Communications
theriggs@adelphia.net, 667-0843
- Sharon Woods, Adoptions
GHound97@aol.com, 941-5265
- Sue Bobo, Events, 812-7794
SBOBO@rochester.rr.com

**Lost Dog Pager Number:
800-219-5758**

Inside this issue:

Spotlight on a Member	2
Special Needs Greyhound	2
Under the BGA Umbrella (continued)	3
Events	4
Election Results	5
New Dogs/Bridge Dogs Events	5
Donation Challenge	6

Umbrella – any comprehensive, protective organization, alliance or strategy device like an insurance policy. An Umbrella. That is the promise we make to every greyhound that steps its paw across the BGA Threshold.

BGA offers education about greyhounds to the public. BGA performs Home Visits to work towards the best match of greyhound to family. We foster greyhounds to help with their transition from racer to retired. Adopters have BGA's support throughout the life of their greyhound and after. However it is the Umbrella that we promise the greyhounds that is most important. We hope they never

need to use it, but things can happen.

When BGA receives a call to take back a greyhound the volunteers respond quickly. It can be an emotional experience for all the parties involved. Human nature has a tendency to question the situation, but who are we to judge? The welfare of the dog is most important and ultimately all that matters.

The greyhound enters into BGA's *Return *Rehabilitate*Re-home* Program. BGA Foster Homes care for their physical and emotional needs. The veterinarians

care for any medical needs. Adoptions work towards finding just the right home for the greyhound.

You would think that placement of this type of greyhound should be easy. They have lived in a home before, are usually well-rounded pets. However, folks may be hesitant thinking the greyhound is older, or has issues. In response to these misconceptions: First there are no guarantees on longevity. The quality of the life should take precedence. Secondly be open-minded. Please do not assume it's the greyhound's fault for

Continued on page 3

BGA Assists Hurricane Katrina Pets

BGA worked closely with Cattaraugus County SPCA and the Louisiana Shelter, Broken Down Dogs to bring much needed supplies to all the animals that were brought to the shelter. Some of these animals were just thrown over the fence of the shelter as the owners had no where to take them.

Many volunteers donated time, dog food, crates, biscuits, bedding, food bowls, money for transportation, etc.

Sharon and Gary Woods headed up this very large and successful project.

A greyt BIG thank you to everyone who supported this effort.



Spotlight on a Member

BGA is proud to announce Alice Rohauer as this newsletter's Spotlight on a Member.

Well, how do we begin to list all the things Alice has done for BGA?

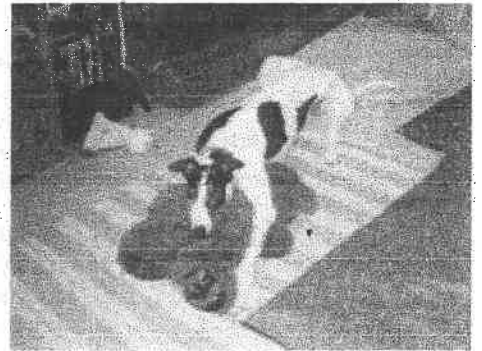
Let's start with the fact that Alice is BGA's resident medical expert due to her Vet Tech work. She assisted the Foster Program with developing a medical form for foster dogs on medications. She is also one of our best nail clippers. She takes on the even the spookiest of greyhounds

and gives the owners their money's worth.

Alice is on the Foster Dog Committee and always has the most interesting profiles on her foster dogs. She is on the fund raising committee and is continually more than generous in donating her beautiful, hand made greyhound jewelry to any and all BGA auctions. She is also on the Communications Committee and has handled BGA's voice mail.

Alice resides with her husband, her greyhound Joker, her rottweiler mix Diesel and several birds.

Volunteers like Alice are what make BGA the great organization that it is. On behalf of all the greyhounds, we thank you Alice.



Audrey Marshall—enjoying pet life.

"Ever Consider A Second or Third Greyhound – Why Not Consider a Special Needs Greyhound?" by Noreen Marshall

I am writing this to make people aware of the wonderful miracle it is to have a "Special Needs Greyhound" enter into your life. My husband Mike & I had just such a miracle happen to us when we adopted our second greyhound named Audrey (Canada's Gabby).

We went to see Audrey at her foster home where she was being re fostered after becoming a "Return". When we walked in the door to see her – my husband, Mike, my son, Jeffrey, my daughter, Lynn & myself knew it was definitely "Love At First Sight". We looked into her sad eyes & saw something special – we saw a frightened little girl who only wanted to be loved & have her "Forever Home" where she could live out her life happy & healthy to the ends of her days. We all as a family made the decision that moment to include Audrey into our lives but we also knew it would be a long road ahead for all of us. We were aware Audrey has numerous issues that she had to come to terms with before she would feel like a part of a "Forever Family" But we all agreed to give Audrey as much time as she needed. Our goal was to make her

happy & let her know she would never be a "Return" again.

Audrey was a very scared little lady when we first met her & she had the most sorrowful eyes we had ever seen. Those eyes for sure is what melted our hearts – Audrey came home to us a few days later. When Audrey walked into our house she went right to the crate & crawled as far back into it as she could get. Audrey refused to make any sort of eye contact with any of us. The only way we could get her out of her crate to go for a walk or to go potty was to put a leash on her. Once that leash was attached Audrey would come out of the crate. I still cannot explain the change in her once a leash was attached but she did change but she never let anyone get to close, always watchful. This went on for over 6 months. After about 6 months Audrey did start to emerge from the safety of her crate .

Audrey has changed all of us with her zest for life – her ability to love with all her heart is truly amazing!!!! I know we as a family have been truly blessed .

Misty (our first greyhound) has blossomed too from having Audrey join our family. We always thought Misty was happy being an "Only Child" but after Audrey entered the picture Misty opened up even more. Misty & Audrey are the best of friends, watch out for each other & worry about each other. They have taught each other a lot . When Serena (our third greyhound) came along Misty & Audrey were at first a little put out by a new addition but it wasn't long before they all become a "Three-Some" – loving each other & watching out for each other.

If anyone ever turned away from a "Special Needs Greyhound" thinking it just wasn't worth it – all we can say is DON'T, take the time & put your heart & soul into bringing out that wonderful personality that can sometimes be hidden so far inside a "Special Needs Greyhound". Hopefully you too will adopt a "Special Needs Greyhound". You will never regret it.



UNDER THE BGA UMBRELLA

continued from page 1

being returned.

When it rains it pours – Recently it has become very crowded under BGA's Umbrella. We continue to protect these greyhounds from the rainstorms that put them here. Even through the tears of our volunteers we can see the hope in the eyes of these special greyhounds. Hope that some loving, and caring family will offer them a ray of sunshine and a new home.

Please take a moment to read the short biographies below. If you have ever considered adding a greyhound to your family we ask that you remember one of these greyhounds waiting out of the rain, Under The BGA Umbrella.

Miss "P", this nine-year-old red beauty came from a home that did not keep her safe. Her body may show some of the traumas she has suffered, but her strong spirit continues to reflect her love and happiness for people. She desires a home with a fenced yard and lazy owners. No cats for this former outdoor hunter!

Miss "T" Loyalty for this eight-year-old fawn girl is long overdue. She lost her home due to family changes. "T" is very sweet and coming into her own. She is confident enough to live solo, but does very much enjoy the companionship of a

playmate.

Mr "K" This young and gentle soul was abandoned on a rural country road, left to fend for himself or to starve. When rescued by the dog catcher he weighed about 50 lbs. Despite his rough beginning, he is blossoming into a sweet and loving boy. "K" does well with medium and large dogs and would enjoy having a fenced yard.

Miss "E" At 13-1/2 years of age, Miss "E" likes to consider herself as a classic. She is a sweet and quiet girl that seeks out a soft place to lie. In the fenced yard she still has moments that she frolics about. This regal gal would be best in a home with a smaller pack, minimal stairs and the opportunity to go outside every 4-5 hours. Despite losing her home of nine years she remains optimistic while waiting under the BGA Umbrella.

She is Classic Red Brindle with white socks and is cat safe.

Mr. "S" is a smaller brindle boy and is 5-1/2 years of age. He is quiet and well mannered and gets along well with other greyhounds. He likes to go for walks with his people. "S" lost his home of several years due to family responsibilities and limitations on time. He is a gentle soul, but can be quite keen around cats and small dogs.

Miss "D" She is a pretty fawn girl who is 10 years of age. She walks well and eliminates on lead. Her male caretaker passed away and the rest of her family has to relocate. "D" will be on her own now, so please consider giving this sweet gal a soft place to lie and some love.

Mr. "C" Marshmallow Fluff comes to mind when you meet this 3-year-old boy. He is smart and alert but also very sweet. He is best in a home without cats or small children. "C" would be a terrific meet and greet volunteer. Consider adopting this youngster!

Ms. "M" Beauty and Brains is what this 5-year-old packs into her small white and brindle frame. But don't let her size fool you, she is strong of will and as loyal as they come. Routine and control are a must for this amazing lady. The weak minded, soft spoken, know it all types need not apply. She desires a confident in charge kind of owner that will listen to what she needs. She enjoys long walks, ball tossing and a basket full of her own stuffed toys. "M" should never share her space with cats.

Mr "H" has a Hankerin' for new digs. His owner relocated and felt it best for "H" to have a new family locally. This 7-1/2 year old is dressed to impress in his tuxedo and enjoys being around the ladies. This very male boy prefers to be the only four-legged man in your life.

If you have any questions regarding these dogs, please contact Sharon Woods, Adoptions at 941-5265 or email at ghound97@aol.com

Are you crafty? Do you like to organize? BGA could use your help! We are looking for a volunteer to handle the SENIOR HOPE PACKAGES project. This includes gathering blankets, dog beds, toys, collars, dog coats and anything else a senior greyhound adopted through BGA would enjoy.

If you are interested, please contact Gail Riggs at theriggs@adelphia.net or 667-0843 for more information.





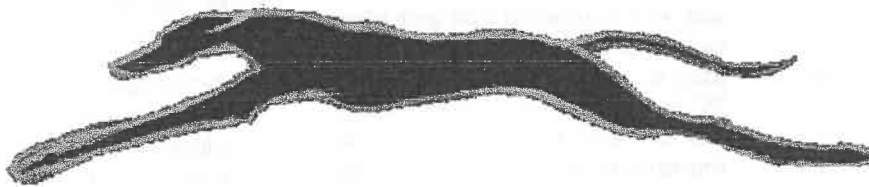
EVENTS—Mark your Calendars!

Saturday, December 3, 2005 from 10a.m. – 5 p.m. **Photos with Santa.** One photo for \$7.00 and 2 for \$10.00. Professional 5 X 7 photographs taken by Mark Caughel of Visual Works Studio at 1310 French Rd. Cheektowaga. Located between Borden and Transit Road. No appointment necessary. Just you and your pets and any appropriate, festive apparel. All pets are welcome. Visit www.visualworksstudio.com. If you have any questions, please contact Sue at 655-0819 or Suehappytails@aol.com.

Thursday, December 15, 2005 from 2—10 p.m. **Gift Wrapping at Borders.** All supplies are donated by Borders. It is a no dog event. Just willing volunteers to help wrap gifts for a donation to BGA. Contact Jackie Mikoley at 634-4610 or yelokim@verizon.net

Future Events for 2006—BGA's *15th Year Anniversary*

Walkathon—Sunday, May 21, 2006 at Como Park from 10 a.m.—noon. Detail and pledge forms to follow.
Spring Barn Sale— June 2006—Start putting aside your garage sale items to donate to BGA for our big barn sale. There will be several drop off sites throughout the area. Barn sale will be held in East Aurora.
Please be sure and visit our website, www.b-g-a.org often for updates on all the BGA happenings.



Calling all Cartridges and used Digital Cell Phones— the BGA is embarking on a new fund-raising program called “Cash for Critters”. We will be collecting used ink jet and toner cartridges along with used digital cell phones in exchange for funds. We accept all cartridges with the exception of any made by or for Epson jet printers. We also cannot accept any cartridges that have been tampered with or refilled.

Spread the word— Call all family, friends, friends of friends and businesses. E-mail everyone on your mail lists, post messages on all your on-line clubs. Put up a flyer at your local library or convenience store. The farther we reach out, the better the chances we have to get acceptable cartridges for return. Collection will be at BGA events and may also be sent to BGA Cartridge / Cell Phone Program, 1879 Torrey Hill Road, Java Center, NY 14082.

New Dogs

Four Lightning	Bailey Rose	Argue
Pa's Gill	Gill	Wieczorek
First And Goal	Harley	Kaczmarek
M's Fort Ida	Ida Rose	Janiga
Dbulls Harley	Harley	Malone
Kelton Lass	Lass	Anderson
Sal's Blackbook	Booker	Reid-McDonnell
Dbulls Fran		Kowalewski
Pa's Tali	Hanna	Cybulski
Pa's Aloha	Carlos	Taylor
Babarino	Babs	Vincent-Backer
Pool Boys	Anubis	Francis
BB's Mrs Caring	Cari	Claycomb
Quick Reaction	Brut	Makowski
PAT C SPORT	SPORT	PRINCE

Rainbow Bridge Dogs

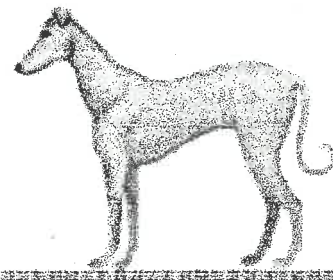
<i>Bear Butkus</i>	<i>Bear Arthur</i>
<i>Gina's Lori</i>	<i>Lori Aumer</i>
<i>Nubian Mistress</i>	<i>Cleo Cybulski</i>
<i>Craigie Wallace</i>	<i>Craig Empringham</i>
<i>Cate's Cheerio</i>	<i>Cate Furman/Zaffram</i>
<i>Keota Connie</i>	<i>Connie Howell</i>
<i>Rapido Randoff</i>	<i>Randy Krywcum</i>
<i>WW's Lone Dollar</i>	<i>Bloo Makowski</i>
<i>Jams Candace O</i>	<i>Candy Mazur</i>
<i>Khaki Lace</i>	<i>Lacey Pillard</i>
<i>TB Black Chief</i>	<i>Chief Prince</i>
<i>Ion Mr. Racer</i>	<i>Pharoah Thompson</i>
<i>Vibrations</i>	<i>Cleopatra Walker</i>
<i>Mabella</i>	<i>Bella Bella Zimmerman</i>

BGA is **STILL** looking for a hall to hold our various functions. If you know of any firehall or community center that would allow us to inexpensively rent it for a day at a time, please contact Sue Murzynski at 655-0819 or Suehappy-tails@aol.com

Did you know???

BGA has received a grant from the American Greyhound Council for \$1,250.00. This money will be used for vet bills, dog food, crates, leashes and collars for our foster dogs.

Election Results



On October 20, 2005 BGA held its general membership meeting at the Galleria Mall Community Room where the results of our annual election were tallied.

The positions of Vice President and Secretary were voted on for two year terms each. The results are as follows:

Marianne Annibali was re-elected for the position of Secretary.

Doug Empringham-was newly elected for the position of Vice-President.

- Welcome to the BGA Board of Directors!

BUFFALO GREYHOUND ADOPTION, INC.

P.O. Box 1096
Cheektowaga, NY 14225

Phone: (716)873-1165

Email: info@b-g-a.org

PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
BUFFALO, N.Y.
PERMIT #4248



Buffalo Greyhound Adoption.

We're on the Web!

www.b-g-a.org

Donation Challenge a GREYT Success!

BGA has been overwhelmed these past few weeks by the outpouring of support from our members.

This past month, long standing members of BGA, Karen and Tom Peffer, generously offered our membership a donation challenge of \$1,500.00. We are happy to report that the challenge has not only

been met but exceeded. The total donation is over \$3,900.00.

On behalf of BGA, we thank the Peffers, owners of Kasper, PJ and Dave for their kindness and compassion.

And thank you to all the members who have been so generous and supportive, on behalf of the greyhounds, who have

no voice and the volunteers who represent these wonderful creatures.



PHOTOS WANTED

As we approach the start of celebrating BGA's 15th year in adoptions we are in need of photos of your greyhounds, past & present for two special projects:

(1) *Memorial Album Online* Forward your photograph

to: BGA, PO Box 1096, Cheektowaga NY 14225, Attn: Album, or a clear digital picture to: webmaster@b-g-a.org. Be sure to include your dog's name and brief statement about your dog. If you want your photograph returned, kindly include a SASE along with

the photograph.

(2) *Collage Poster* Forward your clear photograph to BGA, Attn: Collage, PO Box 1096, Cheektowaga NY 14225. Include a SASE if you want the photograph returned. Sorry, no digital pictures for this project.