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[www.b-g-a.org](http://www.b-g-a.org)



# Off Track Pets

News from Buffalo Greyhound Adoption  
Established 1991

**Winter 2015**  
**In This Issue:**  
**Big Plans for BGA Going Forward**  
**Photos from our First Walk in the Park**

## BGA Elections Held

Mike Maciejewski has been elected president and Laurie Graziano has been reelected treasurer of Buffalo Greyhound Adoption (BGA). Elections were held in fall, 2014.

Mike and his wife, Julie, have been involved with BGA since 2007, when they adopted their



*BGA President  
Mike Maciejewski*

dog, Kandi. They began fostering greys in 2009. He joined the BGA Board of Directors as Communications Chair in 2011. Since that time, among his

numerous projects, he has spearheaded creation of the new BGA website.

Mike and Julie Maciejewski are booth captains and take the lead at Meet & Greets at Walden Galleria Mall on the fourth Saturday

of each month.

Mike is an inventory control/special grade group leader at a warehouse in Lockport. He is a member of Lockport's Navy Club – Ship 110, where he serves as Paymaster (treasurer). Mike and Julie also actively volunteer on various Taste of Buffalo committees. (See Mike's President's Message on page 2.)

Laurie is in her ninth year as BGA treasurer. She has been involved with BGA since 1996 when she and her family adopted their first greyhound, Mario. She is employed and attending graduate school at Buffalo State College. Laurie has a bachelor's degree in business and psychology.



*BGA Treasurer  
Laurie Graziano*

## BGA Awarded National Greyhound Association Grant

Buffalo Greyhound Adoption has been awarded a \$1,250 grant from the National Greyhound Association.

The funds came as the result of a recommendation of BGA by Pam Webb, adoption coordinator at Wheeling Island, Wheeling, West Virginia. Webb has worked with BGA for a number of years in transporting dogs from the Wheeling Downs track to Western New York.

Special thanks to **Gail Riggs** for submitting the grant request.

## From BGA President Mike Maciejewski Big Shoes to Fill Going Forward

We hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and we now look forward to the New Year. All the holiday trimmings have been put away, and as we settle down to wait out the rest of the winter, we look ahead to new beginnings and the coming of spring.

With that being said, I'm honored to have been nominated and elected as the next president of Buffalo Greyhound Adoption. While I am excited to face this new endeavor, I also know that, although **Debbie Doxey** is small in stature, I have some very big shoes to fill following in her footsteps. I want to thank Debbie for all her efforts as she guided BGA during her terms as president. I look forward to continuing to work with, and receiving counsel from her during my time as president. Besides, where else would we have the New Adopter Party every year?

Now moving forward, we are in the process of putting together a new web site for ourselves. It's still in the construction phase but what we do have can be viewed by going to [www.buffalogreyhound.org](http://www.buffalogreyhound.org).

We felt we needed to upgrade the old site and it was more expensive getting it hosted than a new one would. If you have any suggestions about what you'd like to see on the new site, please let us know.

We also tried our first Dog

Walk at the beginning of November, and those that participated thoroughly enjoyed it and agreed to continue the idea. With our hounds in tow we walked the Ring at Delaware Park. (See page 5.) It was a little bit chilly and windy, but the sun was shining brightly and the dogs seemed to enjoy the exercise. We'll be doing another one as we get closer to Spring. We may try a different location, but having at Delaware Park did get us a lot of attention by the people that were there.

Most of the events that we have participated in will continue as before. The Erie County Fair, our Greyhound Expo, the monthly Meet & Greets have been successful for us, and we will staff those as before. We would certainly welcome more volunteers at all our events. We like seeing fresh faces at these venues, with or without your "greyt"hound. If you're not sure how your fur friend will be, whether it's because of old age or a racing injury, come by for an hour or so.

A few months ago at a Galleria Meet & Greet, we had five dogs there for a period of time. More dogs meant more people stopping to talk and pet the dogs. More people meant more money being dropped into the donation jar, and that is what we need.

Funraising is key for our organization. This

(cont'd on p. 4)

### BGA Board of Directors

Mike Maciejewski  
*President*  
mrmski@msn.com  
716-517-5588

Debbie Doxey  
*Immediate Past President*  
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716-836-3426

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cgcotton@yahoo.com  
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Diane Zwirecki  
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716-983-2978



## Welcome to the Pack!

Welcome to these  
greyhounds, who are  
recent BGA adoptees:

Apollo Bendzel  
Lance Campoli  
Nyla Collins  
Vasco Donovan  
Homer Letourneau  
Dapple Priester



Kelly Donovan with Vasco,  
who was adopted on Dec. 19,  
2014.



*Dapple and Family: From left,  
Karla Priester and her children  
Anna, Mya and Scott with their  
newly-adopted greyhound, Dap-  
ple. For more information on  
adopting, contact Sue Murzyns-  
ki at 716-655-0819 or suehap-  
pytails.com.*

## Farewell My Friend ...

*Sasha (Run for the Gold Sasha) Dixon*

*Kenzi (Kelsos Charlady) Greig*

*Rayovac (NueYurkCity) Seibert*

### Do You Have a "Greyt" Story to Tell?

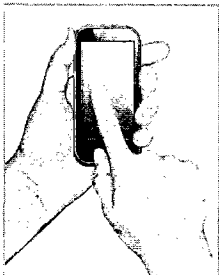
Please submit your stories or  
photos for possible use in the  
Spring 2015 issue of *Off Track*  
*Pets* to Diane Zwirecki by

**Monday, March 9.**

Contact Diane at 716-983-2978 or  
dzwirecki@  
communicatesucceed.com.

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.**

## Greyhound Fair & Expo Set for March 22

Buffalo Greyhound Adoption  
will hold its annual Greyhound  
Fair & Expo Sunday, March 22  
from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Big  
Tree Fire Hall, 4307 South Park  
Ave., Blasdell.

Bring family, friends and pets  
and come join the fun! Volun-  
teers also are needed, along  
with donations of gift baskets or  
items to include in baskets, as  
well as desserts and snacks.

To volunteer, please contact  
**Christine Cotton** at [cgcotton@  
yahoo.com](mailto:cgcotton@yahoo.com) or **Carolyn Pillard**  
at 716-681-7928. Baskets can be

dropped off at Christine's home  
at 20 Alsace, Buffalo, 14220  
(716-827-8347) or at the homes  
of **Debbie Doxy**, 40 Audley  
End, Amherst, 14226 (716-  
836-3426) or **Julie and Mike  
Maciejewski**, 6709 Minnck  
Rd., Lockport, 14904 (716-417-  
1648).

Donations also are being  
accepted starting March 1 for  
BGA's annual summer garage  
sale. Items should be delivered  
to **Carolyn Pillard** at 12 Lucy  
Lane, Cheektowaga. *Watch for  
further details!*

# Five People Foods That are Safe for Dogs

by VetDepot

Owners are often bombarded with information about people foods that are dangerous for dogs. It's certainly important to avoid these harmful foods (chocolate, grapes, etc.), but not all people foods are off-limits. In fact, some people foods are actually nutritious for dogs!

Below are five foods that are safe for canine tummies:

1. *Carrots*: Carrots are full of fiber and make a great low-cal treat! Be sure to choose baby

carrots or chop regular carrots up into manageable pieces.

2. *Salmon*: The omega 3 fatty acids in salmon are a major immune system booster and will help keep your dog's coat shiny and healthy.

3. *Eggs*: You may never have thought to scramble up a couple eggs for your canine companion, but protein rich eggs make a highly digestible snack!

4. *Pumpkin*: Pumpkin is a fantastic source of vitamin A and beta carotene. A little canned pumpkin (no spices or sugar) might help if your dog is having digestive issues.

5. *Apple slices*: As long as your dog doesn't have access to the seeds or the core, apples can be a healthy canine snack. Give your dog a few slices for an extra dose of vitamin A, vitamin B, and



fiber.

Remember, if you ever have any questions or concerns about your dog's diet, be sure to consult with your veterinarian.

## All Dogs Welcome ... BGA Bubble Bath!



Buffalo Greyhound Adoption's next Bubble Bath is set for Sunday, March 1 from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Camp Bow Wow, 31 North America Drive, West Seneca, 14224. Cost is just \$15 for a full "spa treatment."

For reservations, contact **Sue Murzynski** at 716-655-0819 or [suehappytails@aol.com](mailto:suehappytails@aol.com).

## From BGA President Mike Maciejewski (Continued from Page 2)

is probably where we need the most help. **Carolyn Pillard** has been doing great work in this area, but we need more help. We need people, and we need ideas. We are already selling candy bars, lottery tickets, and we've been having an annual garage sale. But we would like to do more. Our vet bills would blow your mind. Everyone is busy with all kinds of things, but to just give a little time to help these

regal animals would certainly be worth it. If you're interested, call our voice mail (716-873-1165), leave a note on our Facebook page (Buffalo Greyhound Adoption), or drop us an email at [beabgavolunteer@gmail.com](mailto:beabgavolunteer@gmail.com). Someone will definitely get back to you and give you more information. Thanks for your time. Until next time, hounds to you.

- Mike



# BGA Takes a Walk in the Park

## November 2 at Delaware Park

5

**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](mailto: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!

### Foster Homes Needed

As greyhounds continue to arrive in Western New York, foster homes are needed as they await permanent placement.

Can you help? Fostering is a "greyt" experience and a key step in ensuring the best possible homes for our new pets.

To learn more or get involved in fostering, please contact **Sue Murzynski**, 716-655-0819 or [suehappytails@aol.com](mailto:suehappytails@aol.com).

### BGA on Instagram

Check out Buffalo Greyhound Adoption on Instagram. You can send pictures and announcements of dogs, events and other items to **Caity Cotton** at [caitlinmary.cotton@gmail.com](mailto:caitlinmary.cotton@gmail.com). She will put them up right away. They also will be linked to BGA's Facebook account.



*Buffalo Greyhound Adoption's Walk in the Park on Nov. 2, 2014 at Buffalo's Delaware Park was a successful day in the sun and chance for BGA families to get to know one another better. Watch for information on an upcoming spring walk!*

## Upcoming BGA Meet & Greets

**First Saturday of the month:**  
McKinley Mall, Hamburg, 1 to 4 p.m.  
Contact [suehappytails@aol.com](mailto:suehappytails@aol.com).

**Second Saturday of the month:**  
Pet Supplies Plus, Niagara Falls Blvd. @ East Robinson Rd., Amherst  
11 a.m. to 1 p.m. - Contact [tarashorty@yahoo.com](mailto:tarashorty@yahoo.com).

**Fourth Saturday of the month:**  
Walden Galleria Mall, Cheektowaga, 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.  
Contact [mrmski@msn.com](mailto:mrmski@msn.com).



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U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
BUFFALO, NY  
PERMIT 4248

## ***So Many Ways to Support BGA ...***

If you'd like to get involved in supporting Buffalo Greyhound Adoption, get to know fellow hound lovers and make some 'greyt' new friends -your time, talent and skills are needed to help keep BGA strong.

The BGA lottery and other fund-raising activities help keep adoption costs low and further our mission of placing dogs in their forever homes. Please consider volunteering for an event.

Among the efforts you can become involved in are Meet & Greets (see below) and lottery ticket sales. The cost of each lottery ticket is \$5. Prizes are

\$25 per weekday and \$50 on weekends. If you would like to purchase or sell tickets, contact **Dave Heckmiller** at [theheckmillers@aol.com](mailto:theheckmillers@aol.com).

For just \$1, you can purchase mouth-watering Niagara Candy bars in a variety of flavors including milk and dark chocolate, mint, peanut butter, almond and more. BGA receives 100 percent of the proceeds.

For more information on buying and/or selling Niagara Candy, contact **Laurie Graziano** at [grazialm@buffalostate.edu](mailto:grazialm@buffalostate.edu) or 716-636-0971.

BGA also accepts donations of greyhound muzzles for use with new dogs as they are transported in from tracks across the country, and bags of Purina One Lamb 7 Rice food.

If you are interested in helping with trans-

porting greys from tracks to Buffalo, contact **Sue Murzynski** at 16-655-0819 or [suehappytails@aol.com](mailto:suehappytails@aol.com).

