

# GREYHOUND ACTION LEAGUE



OF BUFFALO

Helping Greyhounds  
one dog at a time ...

## Special points of interest:

- GALs FUNDRAISER Motorcycle Dice Run
- GALs Networks with NY groups for displaced dog
- GALs Lost Dog 2.0
- Upcoming Events
- Fan Fiction Story

## Inside this issue:

Networking	2
Helping a Hauler	
Adoptees	3
Retirees	
Safety Tip	4
May is Senior Month	
Running Free ....	5
Roodie Graduates	
Event Reviews	6
Upcoming	
Sadies Jewelry	
Fundraising, etc	7
Sadies Recovery	
Lost Dog 2..0	8
Mystic's Diploma	9
Mother Knows Best	
Fan Fiction Story pt I	10
Roo's & Thank You's	11
Mission Statement	12
Greyhound Hero	

# Buffalo GAL-zette



Spring 2009



## Motorcycle DICE RUN

**Saturday, June 27th**  
at 12pm. The First Annual Greyt Ride is hosted by the GALs and begins at [Springville Travelers Motorcycle Club, 14340 Scoby Hill Road, Springville NY.](#)

Registration starts at 10am and the ride departs at 12pm. Along with the scenic dice run there will be several stops including Gowanda Harley to 'roll dice'.

Door prizes (winners need not be present), raffles a 50/50 split and there will be food available. Mark Caughel, professional photographer will be on hand to take

pictures of the riders and their bikes.

Presale tickets are \$8 per person or you may pay \$10 per person at registration time. To purchase tickets or if you would like to assist in selling presale tickets and more info, contact Laura at 867.9822.

This unique fundraising event is the first of its kind in the WNY area for greyhounds. All the proceeds from the ticket sales, raffles and 50/50 split will benefit our 501c3 not for profit organization and the retired racers we assist.

If you would like to help promote this event and

have places to hang posters please let us know. This will be a successful fundraiser through appropriate promotion and communication.

Are you interested in participating but do not own a motorcycle? You can purchase tickets and follow the route in a car. Also volunteers are needed at the various stops along the way to manage the rolling of the dice, etc.

We look forward to this fun activity and appreciate the support of the motorcycle community and greyhound supporters throughout WNY.

**Info @ 716.867.9822**

## NETWORKING



**Networking includes working together with the volunteers.**

*By: Laura Pike*



Part of networking is the ability to work with your volunteers. It should never be you and them, it should always be "us".

Any 'them' in the equation should be in reference to the greyhounds that are the groups focus.

So a wonderful exercise in working together was taking a day trip to the race track. Specifically stopping in for a visit at the Wheeling GPA Kennel.

Now we all know these dogs were 'safe' they have their spot, waiting for a turn at adoption. Picture the row of crates

containing the potential adoptee's waiting for their chance. The soulful brown eyes each speaking out to a different volunteer.

Know that the volunteers just finished watching live racing, some for the first time. Their emotions running in all sorts of directions from all they've seen.

Now stand in the kennel and remind the 19 volunteers that we had already committed to taking two other dogs.

Explain that you Never back out from taking the dogs you already promised a spot too. Mention that there needs to be

funds to care for 'extra dogs', along with foster homes at the ready.

Remind them again and stand firm, you've done this before you've left others behind in safe care.

Now watch as the volunteers work together. Offers of foster homes willing to care for the dog until the right home comes along. Innovative ideas for extra fundraisers to cover the costs.

Be grateful that the volunteers now really understand past pleas for help so the 'extra' dog could make the journey home.

And so, two more did just that. Nice job volunteers!

## GALs & Others respond to hauler in a pinch

On a quiet Sunday afternoon, Mothers Day to be exact the phone rings and it is a hauler, Perry Jackson caught at the Border with a load of dogs heading to Canada.

Seems that the paperwork for a few of the dogs was not signed, thus preventing them from crossing.

Their option was to turn and head back to Wheeling with all of the dogs. Or find a place to hold the four dogs in question so the remain-

ing hounds could make their way to the intended adoption group.

So they came by to temporarily drop off the four dogs. They told us the dogs would be picked up on their way back through and taken to a farm in Wheeling.

After Perry and Mike Castells continued on, I got to thinking. Wonder if they would leave the dogs here if we had groups to sponsor their adoption/placement? So a quick call to Perry and yes, he would be

very appreciative if there were groups for the dogs. Now we have just a few short hours to locate groups for these dogs.

Unfortunately the GALs was not in a position to take in four middle-aged hounds. So we started to make some urgent phone calls and emails. As time passed my hope for finding these dogs an adoption group was fading. Then almost as the time had run out the phone calls started coming in with offers of

help. Original responses of 'no' turned into 'yes', folks networking on behalf of keeping these hounds bound for adoption vs. waiting again on a farm to be someone's pet.

On behalf of Prince, Dazzle, Angela and Robin we'd like to thank Forever Home Greyhound Adoption, Kindred Spirits, Keystone Greyhounds, GRaT and David Wolfe of NGAP for also offering to take in all four dogs.

And a final thank you to Perry Jackson for trusting GAL to network on behalf of these dogs.

## SNAP SHOTS

## CONGRATULATIONS ADOPTEES

**CRY HUTCH** raced in WV with his brother Starsky. He was fostered by the **Mazur's** and happily adopted by the **Gigante Family**.

**GABLE HEMP** named after fabric was fostered by the **Lingle** family after retiring from WV. He has been fortunate to become **Gabriel Smith**.

**GREERS FOLLY** retired from racing in both IA and WI. Fostered by the **Pikes** she has been adopted as a 2<sup>nd</sup> greyhound by the **Thrun's**.

**BW's JUSTADREAM** raced at IA prior to racing and breaking her left rear leg at WI. She was fostered by the **Anderson's** and **Pike's** and happily adopted as **Dream Wemple**.

**GABLE GUTS** raced at both TX and WV. It was love at first sight for the **Miller** family and he was fostered and adopted by them and is now called **Gus**.

**GABLE HOLD** raced at TX and WV, He was fostered by the **Kendall**

**-McCool's** and **Lynch-Johnt's** before being adopted as **Blaze Obie**. He enjoys his 2 new little brothers!

**CLYDE** was found abandoned. His medical care was provided by GREAT and then he was cared for by the **Kendall-McCool's, Pike & Hornung Families**. He now has a family of his very own and goes for walks every day. His new name is known **Clyde-Cole -Jankowski**.

## RETIREES

**Joos Procedure**, 4.5 year old male, raced in Iowa and has retired due to his age. He is confident and fun. Will make a wonderful companion as a single pet. He knows he is charismatic. Pro needs a fenced yard and would like someone who goes for regular walks. What a real treasure!

**Bonnie**, is approx. 3 years of age. She is a greyhound-mix that was abandoned and became emaciated. She has come a long way and her story and personality would be very much appreciated by a true dog person. She would be best in a

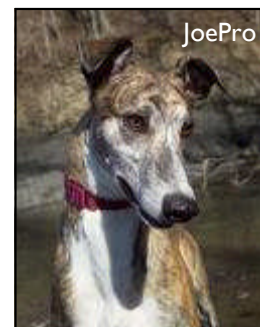
small pack, she can be a bit needy. Requires a fenced yard to romp in with a patient owner to use a soft voice to avoid her cowering.

**Gable Scoop**, will be 5 at the end of May. He is a smart boy who is also quite sweet. He is personable and his favorite position the cockroach. He gets along well with others and may also be a candidate to be a single pet. Wayne his trainer who enjoys all the racers picked Scoop as one of his favorites and hopes for an exceptional home.

**Gable Silk** is a sweet as they get. She loves to roll over to have her

belly rubbed. She gets along well with the other greyhounds. No Kitties for this little gal! She was a favorite of her trainer Cheryl. This brindle girl will be 5 at the end of the month.

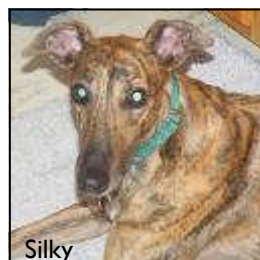
**GLS Komakazi** turned 6 years old in January waiting for more than a year to be selected. Big, black, male and labeled cat keen those words held him back. He is a gentle giant, who would be best with other greys. He loves to play. We feel in the right home he may be cat workable. He gets along with other dogs too. Help us find the right home to justify his very long wait for a family.



JoePro



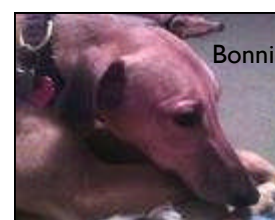
Kazi



Silky



Scoop



Bonnie

**SAFETY TIPS**

*Flowers and bushes and mulch oh my!*



With Spring upon us so is the time of year we will be sprucing up the yard after the long winter.

Along with yard clean up it's a good time to remember to use pet safe products.

Be sure to read labels and do your research to find out if the product is safe for pets if you use it in the garden and yards.

If you are fertilizing the grass really consider is it important to do the backyard or can you keep it chemical free for your dog?

Our philosophy is front yard is for appearances and the backyard is for our dogs.

Your dog certainly does not judge you by the

appearance of its yard. Rather is it clean, safe fun to romp in and rest.; does it include a wading pool?

Remember that Pets tend to explore their world by putting everything in their mouth. This may help them learn about their environment, but it can also be harmful.

Many plants can be dangerous. Some may cause vomiting or diarrhea while others cause organ failure and death.

As a pet owner you should seriously take responsibility of learning what type of plants you have in your yard.

Also consider other items you use in the garden such as cocoa mulch. Some can contain an ingredient

known as Theobromine which can be lethal to both cats and dogs.

Prevention is always the best solution, but just in case remember to have the phone number to poison control readily available along with your vet and emergency clinic numbers.

There are several good web sites with lists of poisonous plants and shrubs, and humane backyards.

[http://www.hsus.org/pets/pet\\_care/pro-protect\\_your\\_pet\\_from\\_common\\_household\\_dangers/common\\_poisonous\\_plants.html](http://www.hsus.org/pets/pet_care/pro-protect_your_pet_from_common_household_dangers/common_poisonous_plants.html)

[http://www.hsus.org/wildlife/urban\\_wildlife\\_our\\_wild\\_neighbors/humane\\_backyard/](http://www.hsus.org/wildlife/urban_wildlife_our_wild_neighbors/humane_backyard/)

**Remember to check gates & screen doors!**

**May is Adopt a Senior Month**



May is designated as Adopt a Senior Month. It gives groups that work with senior greyhounds an opportunity to focus on the chal-

lenges of finding a home for an older dog. It is also a nice way to highlight the wonderful reasons to consider adopting an older dog.

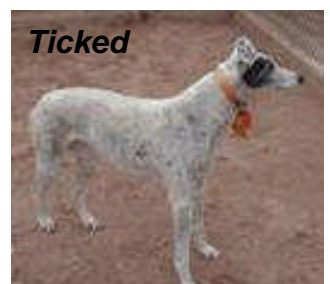
Since we currently do not have a senior in foster care, we will be honoring May with bringing a pair of brood moms into our GAL Foster Program.

Both ladies will be celebrating birthdays in June. **WW Blow Mea Kiss** will turn 7 and **I'm Ticked** will turn 8.

Several volunteers in our organization have adopted seniors and/or brood mom's and can attest to their special endearing qualities.

Their arrival is on May 30th! Consider joining us at the dog wash to

meet Kiss, Tick and the others. Call Laura at 867-9822 for more information regarding the dog wash. Hope to see you there!



## Running Free ...

**Crystal Palm**  
(Crystal Ivalee)

**Knight Stachowski**  
(Yield to Knight)

**Davey Oswald**  
(Hallo Thruway)

**Momma Mia Bagne-Hopper**  
(Gable Unique)

**Hank Torrelli**  
(No Lemmon)

**Ward Mills**  
(Shannon Award)

**Harry Mills**  
(Shannon Harold)



*“All the animals who had been ill and old are restored to health and vigor; those who were hurt or maimed are made whole and strong again, just as we remember them in our dreams of days and times gone by ....”*

**Tom Johnson**  
(GAL Volunteer)

Tom was a very active foster parent. Although he and his wife Marilyn did not own their own greyhound, he enjoyed greatly helping newly retired racers transition from the track to home life. In memory of Tom many of his family and friends made generous donations to GALs. We will miss Tom's big smile and all his enthusiasm.

**Margaret Quagliano**  
(GAL Supporter)

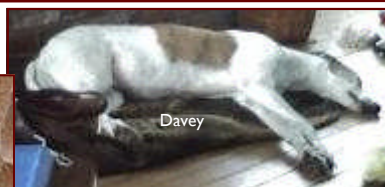
Margaret loved greyhounds and had several as a part of her family for many years. She was determined to help the GALs and did so by making annual donations to assist with the feeding of foster dogs. Her greyhound Dante has been taken in by her brother. We will miss Margaret, and the very special emails of encouragement.



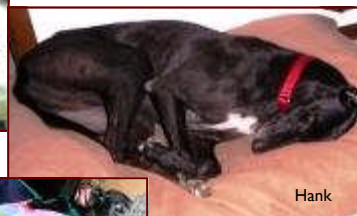
Crystal



Knight



Davey



Hank

## Roodie Graduates!

Roodie Roick (Rutt Roh) Not only did he receive his doctorate in "Litter Box Management" but he managed to ace a minor in "Food Preparation" and "Kitchen and Garbage Can Maintenance".

Additionally he somehow managed to finally finish, at long last, his five month crate training program. He said it

was intense but well worth it. He was out of his crate all day yesterday and not one thing was disturbed!

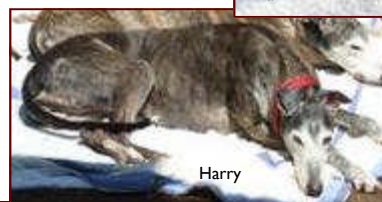
Roodie Roick  
LBM, FPM, KGC, CT



Momma Mia



Ward



Harry

## EVENT REVIEWS

**GALs at the McKinley Mall!** The past few months we've enjoyed the opportunity to host meet & greets at the McKinley Mall on Sunday afternoon. Our volunteers were very excited to be there and the response from the shoppers was very positive. Additional dates that we will be there are: Oct 18th, Nov 29th, Dec 20th.

**1st Annual Winter Wrap Up & Weenie Roast** we were able to host the party at Jan's Townhome in Hamburg. Thank you Jan! We had an excellent turnout and appreciate folks coming and hanging out for a short time. Good food and greyhound talk—its always worthwhile!

**GALs Walk with Mason Winfield Haunted History Ghost Walk.** A calm and comfortable Thursday evening in May and 17 people and their hounds gathered to enjoy a historical and fun filled time taking a casual stroll and pausing to hear interesting tales and history about different areas in East Aurora. Although none of us spotted a ghost it sure was a very interesting time. We look

forward to taking a Ghost Walk next year in another area of WNY. To learn more go to: [www.masonwinfield.com](http://www.masonwinfield.com)

### **Boulevard Mall Welcomes the GALs.**

Early in May was the first opportunity for a greyhound organization to host an information table. We spent three days staffing the table with literature regarding Greyhound Adoption. It was a terrific chance in a well traveled location. We appreciated the hospitality of Ms Betsey Bonvissuto, Marketing Director.

### **Holland Tulip Festival Parade & Craft Show**

the GALs were chosen to represent retired racers at this annual spring event. We received a warm welcome to this long standing celebration despite mother nature deciding to add a bit of wet to the parade. Even in the rain our 13 hounds and 15 walkers kept going with good humor and big smiles. The onlookers responded in kind with huge rounds of applause and cheers for our efforts. We'd like to thank the Kiwanis, Mr. Hilton and Mr. Martin for this opportunity.

**Wheeling Greets the GALs.** This trip was nothing short of WOW. 20 GALs carpoled and arrived at the track late morning. We were able to watch the weigh-in's enjoy lunch and catch some of the live racing. A tour of the GPA Kennel courtesy of Marylou netted us two retired racers. We were able to have 5 of our volunteers get an inside peek at the Gable Race Kennel, then off to the puppy farm to play with pups of all different ages, sizes and colors. Two hounds from the Gable Kennel were also selected to shuffle off to Buffalo. Our sincere gratitude to Kim Hawkins, Wayne & Cheryl Piquette for their kindness, and hospitality and for sharing their stories and experiences with GAL Volunteers.

### **Sadies Jewelry**

We have Handmade Jewelry made by Sadies mom to help recover some of the medical costs incurred with her broken leg. Many assorted beautiful pieces bracelets, pendants and earrings. Standard and also greyhound & pet themed. Contact Laura for more Info.

## UPCOMING

**New Arrivals** on Sat May 30th approx 9pm, want to meet some of the new GALs Fosterers and help out with bathing? Call 2-3 hours ahead of time for exact eta, 867.9822, location 214 Dean Rd, Depew

**Fantasy Island Adopt A Pet Weekend** June 13-14th from 12-3pm if you are able to volunteer at this event please let us know 867.9822

**GALs Picnic** - note date change Sunday-July 19th from 1-5pm at 6008 Thomas Corners Rd, West Valley, Hot Dogs & Burgers provided BYOB and dish to share call Alli for more info, 597.7529 Hounds are welcome, fenced yard & tent provided.

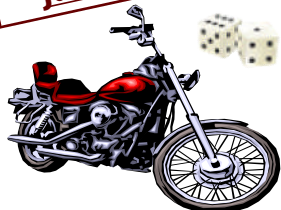
**GALs at GrapeHounds** July 24 & 25th visit: [www.grapehounds.com](http://www.grapehounds.com)

**St Casimir Festival** July 25-26th / 1-3pm call for info 867.9822

**America's Fair / GALs** we will need volunteers for the Fair again this year which runs from August 12-23, 2009. If you are interested in participating call Laura at 716.867.9822. This is a great opportunity to showcase the hounds!

## Fundraising, Etc...

**June 27th**



### 1st Annual Greyt Ride!

Saturday, JUNE 27th -  
The Dice Run begins at  
[Springville Travelers  
MC Club, 13140 Scoby  
Hill Rd, Springville.](#)

This Fundraiser will benefit the GALs. Motorcycle enthusiasts and animal lovers helping retired racers. Pre-sale tickets are \$8 and \$10 the day of the event. A fun filled day including photographs and Door Prizes for the participants. If you are able to volunteer help for this event, call Alli at 597-7529. For pre-sale Tickets call 867-9822.



### Grey-Glamour Days

**Sun, Jun 14th  
Sun, Oct 25th**

Bring your greyhound or other dog for a shampoo, towel dry, nail trim, and ear cleaning. All in a relaxed environment. Ap-

pointments generously spaced to allow ample attention to your pooch's needs for minimal stress. Stair aides to prevent slipping or panic. **Cost is \$12** / all proceeds to benefit the GALs. **Call Jan now for your appointment @ 866-1543**  
Hours: 10am/4pm each day, please consider supporting this effort!



### NAIL TRIMMING!

At Stapley Feed Center, 6447 Transit Rd, Depew. GALs will be offering nail trimming for pets. The cost is \$10 per pet and we ask that you provide proof of rabies for each animal requiring a trim. The times are from 11am-1pm on the following days: **Sat Jun 6, Sat Sep 5, Sat Dec 5**



### HOT DOG SALE @ TS

4484 Southwestern Blvd in Hamburg the GALs will be hosting a **Hot Dog Sale** on Sunday June 7th between 11am-2pm - be sure to stop by and grab a bite! Grillmaster wanted.....



### COFFEE!

We have a few bags remaining of Finger Lakes Coffee. Flavors are: Jamaican Me Crazy & Moose Crossing, if you are interested in purchasing some, please call 867.9822 Proceeds benefit the GALs. \$8.00/12oz bag or two bags for \$15.00, makes approx 8 pots.

### COLLARS



2" martin-gale collars for sale. Our buyer Jan has secured a beautiful selection of well made designer collars. Cost is \$25 and proceeds to benefit GAL. Photos in Album on Yahoo Digest **Call Jan at 866-1543.**



GALs is part of the EBay Giving Works—Mission Fish as a not-for-profit seller. Be sure to check us out. Our seller ID is: GreyhoundActionLeagueBufalo (no hyphen). If you have something you would like to donate for us to list please contact us. If you are an Ebayer and like to sell items, please consider donating a portion of your sales to the GALs, through Mission Fish.

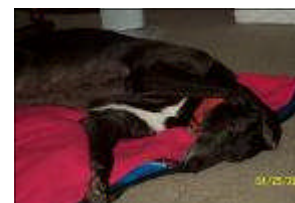


GALs now is part of iGive, when you shop you can help raise \$\$ funds also consider using iSearchIGive. Each penny adds up to help us help the hounds! Tell your friends too.

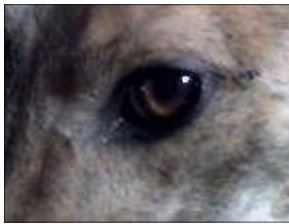
## Sadies Recovery

Well its been a long a slow process, but as time passes Sadie is gradually making progress in the right direction. She is currently at 80% healed since her accident (slipping & sliding on kitchen floor) on Feb 6th which resulted in her right rear leg breaking. After extensive and expensive surgery, time heals so will her leg.

The next x-rays are at the end of June and her family hopes she will be 100% healed. While recovering she has mastered the fine art of cockroaching! Sadie appreciates the well wishes you've sent.



## LOST DOG COMMITTEE 2.0



Zena

**“The key to a successful resolution of a lost dog event is a rapid response”**

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

**Need a GAL ID Tag? Call Laura at 867.9822**



**Ozzie, Lily, Jackie  
Littermates**

If you've never had to call the GAL Lost Dog Pager number, it may be easy to underestimate the importance of the system currently in place.

Greyhounds, perhaps more than any other breed, are more likely to get away and the most at risk when they are away. It is for that reason that our organization provides this extra level of protection to the dogs we bring to the area. At the other end of the pager number, a dedicated team of volunteers patiently waits for a call, hoping it never comes but ready when it does.

Many years and lost greyhounds have taught us that the key to a successful resolution of a lost dog event is a rapid response. Quickly mobilizing volunteers into the dog's area is crucial when every minute counts.

Very recently, two greyhounds escaped from a home in our area. Even though our pager number wasn't the first call made, we are pleased to report that GAL volunteers were on the scene in minutes and

the dogs were returned safely home.

While relieved at the outcome, the event prompted us to wonder if the system couldn't be better still. Advancements in telephone and software now allow us to create an enhanced lost greyhound notification system. Similar to alerts one might receive from a school district or a town, our system will alert a targeted area of participating greyhound owners to a lost dog in their area. This system will make volunteer mobilization easier and much faster, hopefully reducing the dog's time away from home. Other things you need to know about the system include:

- Participation in the system is and will remain free of charge as **an extension of the Lost Dog Pager system already in use.** Participation is voluntary, and how you choose to act upon a notification is at your discretion.
- The system, as always, does not represent a promise to locate, but to notify others of a missing dog.
- Please choose one

number at which you would like to be notified. Automated alerts will go out from 8AM to 10PM only. A second call will be placed to that number when the incident is resolved.

- If you would like to be part of our **Elite Dog Recovery Team, calls may periodically be placed outside of the hours listed above.** Please choose an appropriate phone number for this. **(24/7)**
- Because GAL is concerned about the welfare of **ALL** retired greyhounds in our area, we will open participation to greyhound owners from other organizations. This will also add breed savvy volunteers to the system, further increasing the odds for a speedy recovery.
- The current Lost Dog Pager number will remain the same. Please continue to call that number in a lost dog event. **(GAL will respond 24/7)**

If you would like to be included in the **Greyhound Alert List**, please send an email with your preferred contact information to: **[info@greyhoundactionleague.org](mailto:info@greyhoundactionleague.org)**



## MYSTIC COMPLETES SCHOOLING

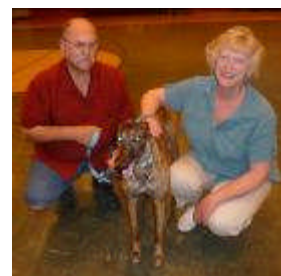
Gracie received an email from one of her pups, Mystic aka. Real Quality regarding an obedience class she was taking, it read as follows:

Dear Mother Gracie, I wanted to let you know that I graduated this week. I received a diploma and everything. Additionally me and another dog , some

little thing with very little legs were voted the "Most Improved" in the class. I was really excited. I worked really hard in class and knew you'd be proud of me. I plan on continuing my education in September. The people here have started calling me Dr Mystic, but I don't know what that means, perhaps they're just

joking or something? I hope everyone there is well and miss you all. Hope to see you soon. Licks & Slurps your pup, Mystic.

*On behalf of Gracie and myself, we'd like to congratulate Mystic for her success and wish her much luck with her continued education plans! Aunt Laura xox*



**Adoptive parents  
John & Toni  
posing with  
diploma recipient  
Mystic**

## MOTHER KNOWS BEST

Dear GBL,

My name is Mystic and I am three years old. Even though I am a recent graduate of obedience class there is one thing that I was required to do that seemed somewhat awkward or uncomfortable.

That would be the 'sitting'. The down, stay, and come, those things I mastered quickly but the sitting...well it took a bit of time.

My Sit position once mastered was quite lovely I must say, but I just could not hold the sit as long as the other dogs.

Is there a reason why greyhounds aren't natural at sitting?

Thanks for any information.

Dear Mystic,

Greyhounds, especially those retired from the track are able to learn to sit, as most dogs can.

A common misconception is that their race training includes teaching them Not to Sit...well that just isn't so, nor if you think about it, does not make any sense.

Rather the fact is retired racers did not have a human teaching them too sit on command.

Their muscles and body build are made for running and laying down in an usual position known as the Sphinx were as their buttocks are not touching the ground. In this

position, they are ready as most sight hounds are to push off and run in a flash when seeing something.

Sitting does take place in their crates and such, they may shift their hip to the side to be more comfortable.

An owner can work patiently with their greyhound with treats and help them understand sitting on command. Never push down on their back, gently fold their hind legs under, a 2nd person coaxing with a treat held immediately in front of them tilting their head backwards aiding them into a sit position.

One question I like to ask is how important is it to sit? A nice alternative and more comfortable solution would be to stand calmly or down



**'MKB'  
By:  
GoBlackLady**

**"Is it true that  
greyhounds can  
learn to sit?"**

## Fan Fiction

By

Mark Caughel

Part 1 of 5

*"I loved running then, the pursuit, the freedom"*



RedBabyBrindle

Aka

Baby Momma

## MY LAST RACE

Two seconds. Hardly any time at all, barely worth mentioning. I knew, though, that those two seconds would be the difference between first and last place, between earning money and disappointing my owner, and maybe even living or dying.

The fact was, I hadn't won a race since July, and as I sized up my competition on that exceptionally clear night in October, I began to feel more worried than encouraged. I recognized most of the other dogs in the holding pen, my opponents for tonight's race. The big fawn male was from my kennel, a few crates down. I had raced against the two brindle females before, and the black female and I started racing at the same time. We even shared a hot, choking ride in a dog hauler from the training ranches in Texas to the track in Iowa, where we were now.

I wanted to get a look at the other three dogs, but just as I was nosing my way around the end of the tiny pen, the door sprang open and the handler walked in. It was time to go.

Our muzzles and racing jackets on, we

filed up the ramp to the stadium. I thought back to my first race. I won my very first time here, in my first real race ever. That was only eight months but forty-one races ago. I loved running then, the pursuit, the freedom, the break from the tedium of life in the kennel. I still loved running, but by this time I knew of too many dogs that hadn't returned from race day, and it had me pressing too hard for a win.

The voice on the loudspeaker was announcing the winners of the race that had just ended, and the crowd was still humming. Just then, that familiar, tingly feeling of excitement and anticipation began to eclipse my own fear and doubt.

We were lined up in front of the grandstand for the introductions. *"In the number one position, at seventy five pounds, it's Buy Rolex."*

The clubhouse looked full. People were having dinner, some were still placing bets and some spilled onto the mezzanine to watch the race.

*"In the number five position, at sixty eight pounds, it's Sendahl Goodby."*

I wondered how many people had put money on me. Did any-

one still believe in me? *"And out of box number eight, at sixty one pounds, it's Red Baby Brindle."*

Ugh. Box number eight. The furthest from the rail. Too easy to get caught outside. I'd need a little extra to-night.

The starting boxes are just that, boxes. Once the rear door closes behind you, there is only one way to go- forward. Very soon, a mechanical lure will come around the inside rail, and the front gate doors will open. About thirty seconds after that, the race will be decided.

I was the last one shoved into the starting box. It was dark, but the lure emits a high pitched whine and I could hear it leave its start position. It would make one lap around on the inside rail, and when it got back to this end, the race would begin.

Some of the other dogs were barking, bumping the gate, getting ready to run. In my head I could hear the voice of my trainer from all those months ago.

"Get a good start."

"Don't get boxed in."

"Don't get caught outside."

"Don't peak too soon." The lure was coming. The crowd grew silent,



### Web Site

[www.greyhoundactionleague.org](http://www.greyhoundactionleague.org)

### FaceBook

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Greyhound-Action-League/40297633332#/pages/Greyhound-Action-League/40297633332>

### MySpace

<http://www.myspace.com/greyhoundactionleague>

### YouTube

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YsR2l-nBKY8>

### GOING GREEN!

**Please notify us of your email address for future GAL-Zette Newsletters!**

## My Last Race (cont)

and soon the announcer would say,

*"Here comes Lucky!"*

The gates opened, and I was out. I started well. At 100 feet, I was still on the outside but with the pack, in a tornado of legs and claws and dirt.

I pulled ahead of the brindle male to my left, and a pocket began to open ahead of him. Risky, I thought. Don't want to be boxed in. On the other hand, if I'm still on the outside at the first turn I could lose the pack.

I slid in towards the rail, leaving one dog to my left and two to the front. We were nearing the turn, and the big male directly ahead of me was starting to surge ahead. I formulated a new plan. He was clearly the fastest dog in the pack, so I would drift off of him until after the first turn, and then it should be just the two of us to the finish line. He might still be able to outrun me, but I had plenty left and I was hoping he made his move too early.

We began the turn, gradually gaining on the inside dog. A little more, and the dog ahead of me could move to the inside rail. I was right where I wanted to be, just a few more strides...no! He

cut in too soon. In a fraction of a second, the dog on the inside was forced to the rail. He recovered, bounced off of the rail and into the dog that had been behind him, which had since moved up. That dog, in turn, bumped into me, clipping my front leg. I stumbled, regained my balance, but my front foot landed poorly. I was hurt.

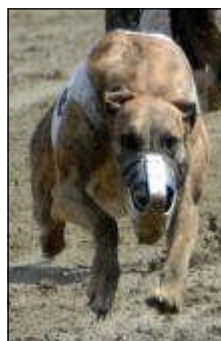
Every stride I took from then on was agony, but I wasn't going to quit. I was back in seventh place by the fourth turn, but couldn't hang on. I had finished last, yet less than two seconds away from the winner.

I could no longer put weight on that foot and had a very obvious limp. While the other dogs went to the post race pen for a cool down and drug testing, I was off to the track vet office.

"It's a broken hock, she'll never race again", the vet told my trainer. My blood went cold. I knew what that could mean. Not only could I not earn any more, I would need my leg repaired and rehabilitated. Who was going to pay for that? It was very possible that I could be put down right there.

I must have had a look of fear or sorrow or

both, because at that moment the vet stood up and said, "Let me check one more thing." He went behind his desk and began to leaf through a very large book. After what seemed an eternity, he finally said, "She's got great bloodlines- have you considered breeding her?"



**"Part 2—Bloodlines"**

## ROO's & THANK YOU's

### Thank You:

Mr. Jimmy Black  
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Lynne Perry  
James Jackson

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Kathy Walbrun  
Jane Horvath

### **CONGRATULATIONS to our new GAL Foster Homes:**

Rhonda & Bryan Knox  
Val Cole &  
Eric Jankowski  
Katherine & David Smith  
Sarah Anderson

*Our sincere thanks to  
all our Foster Parents  
for the care and dedi-  
cation to retired racers*



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Phone: 716-867-9822  
Lost Dog Pager: 800-219-5758  
**GAL ID Tags Available**  
Laura Pike .Founder

## MISSION STATEMENT

**Greyhound Action League (GAL) of Buffalo, Inc.** is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization located in Western New York. The organization is fully staffed by volunteers and is funded by donations and sales.

As an adoption organization, we work with the racing industry on the national level, coordinating our efforts with other adoption groups to move ex-racers and other industry greyhounds into foster care until they are placed into appropriate, responsible and loving homes.

We are a Pro-Greyhound community, focused on the many positive attributes of ex-racing greyhounds as pets. We promote adoption through education, public appearances and community work.

We are dedicated to helping all retired greyhounds that come into our program. We are here to support adopting individuals and families and to serve as lifelong advocates for each greyhound that comes through the organization and transitions into pet life.

## GREY-HERO

A hero isn't always the fastest dog on the track...

Angus is a young Greyhound who didn't run many races. He wasn't the fastest or the smartest dog on the track, and just didn't seem to have the attention span to make it around even one lap at the tracks. An ungainly hulk weighing in at 100 pounds, he is awkward and always bumping into things. When he tries to do something as simple as recline in dying cockroach position, he just flops over to the other side. Poor Angus is usually mistaken for a Great Dane, and if it wasn't for his well defined features, most people would not even believe he is a majestic full-bred Greyhound.

But while Angus may not have won many races on the track, he recently helped Dr. Tribble to win a race against time in saving the life of another dog. Belle, a sweet, elderly Black Labrador, was fighting for her life when she was brought in to see her veterinarian. She was so weak she could not walk, stand, or even lift her head. Tests showed that she was critically anemic, and her spleen needed to be removed if her life was to be saved. But how could she survive surgery and blood loss? She received a blood transfusion from Angus.

Over 60% of Greyhounds are universal blood donors. Greyhounds as a breed are the most valuable blood donor dogs of all. They have a higher percentage of red blood cells and can carry more oxygen in their blood than

other breeds, and combined with the fact that they are largely universal donors, many veterinary hospitals use them for that purpose.

Dr. Tribble proclaimed Angus a hero and praised his sweet disposition during the procedure. "All he cared about was how much love we were giving him, not that we were taking his blood through a needle in his neck," said Becky, his owner. Within minutes of receiving her Greyhound blood, Belle perked up and was prepped for surgery.

We are all very pleased to report that both Angus and Belle are doing great. Belle was up walking around the next day and went back home to her family, who can now boast that she is Lab and one pint Greyhound!



Angus The Giant

*Submitted by:  
Becky Swope*



Belle