

Greyhound Action League of Buffalo

GAL-ZETTE

Winter 2015

On The Cover:

TMC's Go For It

In This Issue:

My Day At A Racing Kennel

The Year In Review

Running With Your Greyhound

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For inquiries, email to: gactionl@aol.com

For newsletter submissions, email to mcaughel@aol.com

Please visit our website: www.greyhoundactionleague.com

EDITOR:

Mark Caughel

PHOTOGRAPHY:

Greg Pike

Laura Pike

Gillian Lee

Nicole Argue

Mark Caughel

WWW MaskofZorro

He is a five year old male, Sep 2009. He retired due to age. After a long career this sweet boy needs a family of his own. He is on the larger size, and a beautiful fawn with expressive eyes.

“Mask” was known in the race kennel for shaking his muzzle off and carrying it around in his mouth. He likes to toss it around, or an empty plastic bottle. He is curious about cats, and most everything in the house, but we consider him cat workable.

“Mask” is currently in foster care in the Buffalo area.

**TMC's Ruffian**

Recently retired, he is a Nov 2010 boy. He was retired/graded off due to a sore ankle. His injury does not cause him any distress for being a pet.

Ruffian is a pretty easy going fellow. We have not cat tested him yet as he is still in the Race Kennel hoping for a long term Foster Home or an adoptive family. If you are interested in adopting, or can offer to be a long term foster home we would appreciate hearing from you.

**GF Thailand**

Feb 2015, this young lady is barely two years old. She is an average sized racer at 67 lbs. She has been at Tri State in WV. Her owner has opted to retire her since she is not showing a real desire to race competitively. “Ice Cream” will be transported to Wheeling very soon. We are in need of a temporary foster home, or if someone is interested in a younger female, please let us know. Thanks. Picture below is when she was a pup on the farm.



For many years, this newsletter was the product of compiling, editing, printing, folding, stamping, sorting and mailing. No so long ago and for a number of reasons, we decided to deliver the newsletter only (or mostly) electronically.

Around the same time, an effort was made to increase and improve our online presence as an organization. Considering our website, our Twitter feed and our Facebook pages, I'm proud to say that our little group is now active and ambitious both online and off. For better or worse, however, our daily and weekly interactions with each other make our newsletter seem somewhat redundant. As a result, we will be scaling back our production of the newsletter to a yearly or as needed basis. Are we losing something? Maybe so, but as a practical matter, our online avenues for delivering information are simply more efficient, with one exception: I feel strongly that the attempt we make to properly acknowledge the passing of our beloved friends is worthwhile and we will continue with that practice. It is the least we can do, it seems.

If you happen to be one of our online followers, you'll know that our last year was a busy and productive one. Above and beyond our usual booths and appearances, we enjoyed numerous successes while continuing to educate and inform. The top stories:

I Love A Parade

After years of marching at the Holland Tulip Festival parade, we built and displayed our very first float. Not only did we promote greyhound adoption to thousands of spectators, we won first prize for the float!



Speaking of Greyhounds

One of the most enjoyable things we do as an organization is our speaking engagements, and last year we were invited to speak about greyhound adoption to several groups, including a large number of curious and enthusiastic children.



Fair Weather Friends

Once again, our space at the Erie County Fair was generously provided by the good folks at the Historical Building. We were complimented on several occasions about the professional appearance of our booth, displays and Fair themed t-shirts. Our greyhounds got lots of attention also.



It's Not About the Money

We produced our calendar for the sixth year and sales were better than ever. It is a fundraiser, but more than that, it is a great tool to promote greyhound adoption all year long.

Santa Claus Is Comin' to a Different Town

We had a major upgrade in venue for our Pet Photos with Santa event. Thanks to Nickel City Animal Hospital for donating their premises for the day. Some customers were new, many we had seen before, but all left with an adorable keepsake.

Did I say we've been busy? We also had our annual trip to Wheeling, were sponsors of a car show at the Depew Polish Falcons, made several runs for dogs and completed a large online based auction. Oh, and we appeared at our regular booths at the Galleria and two Tractor Supply stores.

If that weren't enough, our picnic, regular walks with the hounds and drive-in nights exist simply because we enjoy each other's company. Ultimately, I feel it is the care and respect we have for one another that is critical in accomplishing what we're really here for- raising awareness of and finding homes for retired racing greyhounds. It was a very good year. Here's to many more.



Racing greyhounds' wake-ups start early in the kennel, normally by 6 am is when the trainer and kennel helpers are there. Laura and I were there at 6 am for Wayne and Cheryl to show me their daily routines. First turnout is when the racers get to do their business and stretch their legs for a bit. Laura went outside in the turnouts with the racers and had the best job of scooping poop! While that was going on, I was in the kitchen with Wayne, starting to work on breakfast for the racers. Breakfast includes ground beef, noodles, rice and other "trainer secret" ingredients, which are up to the trainer and will vary by individual. After the first turnout, the racers go back into their kennels for personal space, rest and a meal! For these racers to be amazing athletes (and they are), they need rest and relaxation as much as the activity. I never knew a greyhound could jump like a cat, but the female racers are housed on the upper cages

and will gracefully (like a cat) jump into their homes. While the dogs were going into their kennels, a select few racers were loaded into the hauler for the very short ride to the sprint yard. The sprint yard is used to rehab racers after injury or work on improvements.

After that, it was back to the compound for their meal. The greyhounds that are racing that day are given a snack and will receive their full meal after racing. During weigh-ins, if a racer is +/- 1.5 lbs of their declared weight, they can be scratched and the trainer gets fined \$100. Every racers meal is weighed in the kennel for the dog to maintain their ideal body condition. After the meal, the racers are back in the turnouts for



Racing tags at Seabrook, New Hampshire



A puppy turnout pen in Wheeling

their kennels to be cleaned and freshened with new shredded paper and a carpet. When their new digs are ready, it is time for the racer to come in and have a nap until the next turnout. The greyhounds that are racing in the afternoon matinee are loaded into the hauler for the official weigh-ins at the track.

In the afternoon is another turnout, this time I was the one in the turnouts with the racers and scooping poop. There are four turnout pens, two larger and two smaller ones and the racers that are in the smaller



Bailey Rose gets weighed at Raynham Taunton

pens are rotated into the larger ones as each greyhound has their potty and playtime break. You do not want to send all the dogs out at once and in the same pen. There are precautions taken when having the racers in turnout, since they have thin skin and mouthy playing can cause wounds. The racers can still drink and have their mouth open while wearing their muzzles.

In the early evening, it is nearly time for the evening racing and the loading of greyhounds into the hauler for their weigh ins.

When loading the dogs into the hauler it is better to lift them into the individual cage since the opening is not as wide as the kennel and they can be accidentally injured before racing. After the twenty minute ride to the track from the compound, the dogs are taken into the paddock for their official weigh-ins. Before they can be weighed each racer receives a tag on the collar, marking which race and box they are in. There are judges watching the weights and checking ear tattoos. When the time comes, you hand over the racer, you give leash, regular and racing muzzle to a handler as they are being weighed and that is the last time you have contact with that greyhound until they are finished with their race. From the weigh in, the racer is moved into a kennel room to rest until the race. Everthing that happens in the building is controlled as per racing regulations.

I have been inside two other tracks; Raynham-Taunton- now closed, and Seabrook, which also closed soon after my visit. At Rayham Taunton, in the early morning and before races started, we were able to take our greys through the routines that the dogs go through, including my own dog Bailey Rose.

It is a way of life for everyone that works in the greyhound racing industry. Yes, there are some that are not as conscientious about the dogs, but I have been lucky to meet (and start friendships with) so many caring people that work very hard in the dogs' best interests. I have also heard stories about the not so-nice people, but without this racing, I would have never been blessed to adopted my racer, make great new friends and go on amazing trips.



Racing jackets arranged at Wheeling

We want to congratulate all the Calendar Dogs and their families: Gabie Dunkle, Charger Argue, Evaline Wolffer, Raina Tarowski, Billy Lovett-Schaus, Dime & Sandy Forman, Tex Jankowski, Brady Paschen, Sonny & Spec Gallivan, Sammy Pike, Smokey, Ozzie & Lily Miller, Kita Bagne, Lexy Merk., George Johnstone.

Once again Mark Caughel has provided a beautiful keepsake to be enjoyed all year long. The GALs appreciate Mark's photography and editing used for this worthwhile project.

Sales for this year's calendar far exceeded previous years. The funds raised were used towards the vetting costs of our foster program. Thank you to all who purchased the GAL Wall Calendar and Calendar Magnet.



Do you shop on Amazon.com? Be sure to sign up for AmazonSmile, a simple and automatic way for you to support Greyhound Action League of Buffalo every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you will find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a 0.5% of the purchase price to Greyhound Action League of Buffalo.

You can use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are all the same. So – what are you waiting for?

It may not sound like a lot – 0.5% – but it's 0.5% MORE than Greyhound Action League of Buffalo would receive! And we all know every little bit counts.

**Remember to use Amazon Smile for Greyhound Action League of Buffalo if purchasing Lavien quality leather leashes and accessories! A portion of the purchase price will also be donated!*



Founded in February of 1995 Grey-Save of NW PA will be celebrating its 20th anniversary this year. Looking back it was a group of people who wanted to form a local adoption group so dogs wouldn't have to be flown in or people would have to travel hours to get a dog, that got it all started. And we are proud to still have two of those founding members on our board of directors today, Peggy and Alan Jordano. As an adoption group, Grey-Save remains neutral on the issue of greyhound racing. Grey-Save is very proud of the program we offer, and the services we provide. We believe that education about greyhounds as a breed, their life at the track, and being a responsible pet owner are all important ingredients of any adoption program.

From the beginning we have been fortunate to

be able to work with the GPA Wheeling staff at Wheeling Downs to acquire most of our dogs. And in recent years, for some of us, through GALs.

Grey-Save enjoys educating people on this wonderful breed by doing local meet and greets, parades, school programs, and monthly nursing home visits. We also offer Pet First Aide courses.

We would like to thank GALs for supporting us and co-sponsoring trips to Wheeling Downs and the puppy farm so our members, and yours, can see where their pups came from and to see them do what they do best, well that is next to sleeping (hehehehe).

We look forward to many years to come in finding forever homes for this very special breed and forging friend/partnerships with our fellow greyhound lovers.



This organization located in Salamanca NY was founded in 2011. An organization dedicated to rescuing abandoned, abused, neglected, and endangered animals.

Recently, Courtney from EARS contacted the GALs regarding a possible greyhound or sighthound mix in need. She was referred to us by GAL Adopter / Volunteer Diania Paschen.

Courtney was going to be investigating a dog in a less than desirable situation. The preliminary information she had was that the dog was greyhound. She reached out asking if the GALs would assist by taking the dog into our program.

After speaking to her, Courtney quickly obtained the dog and additional information. A couple of words and a text photograph was all it took for the GALs to take her in. That dog is now known as Lila.

We respect the work that EARS does on behalf of dogs, cats, etc. in need. Their job is not an easy one. Lucky for Lila they were there to help.

Please take a moment to "LIKE" their Face Book page. They are also on PetFinder.

My introduction to greyhounds was in 2005 through one of my dad's running friends. Chief knew when my dad came over they were going for a run and would start the vertical "Pepe Le Pew" jump at the front door. Be it only a mile – and usually the cool down mile for these veteran Boston-marathoners, Chief would keep pace and was SO thrilled to go for a run.

Taking up a bit of my dad's passion, I became a running coach at my local Running Room in 2006. I late August 2011, I was diagnosed with a stress fracture in my right ankle and for the first time, my running shoes were sidelined for at least four months.

In November 2011 I submitted my adoption application to GiNA – Greyhounds in Need of Adoption. In the "Why do you want a greyhound" I added that I would like a running partner. During my application follow-up phone call with GiNA's Director of Adoption, she addressed that greyhounds aren't distance runners. I knew that, and if a 'one miler' was available, that would be great. If not, a running partner wasn't my top priority in "my" greyhound.

On December 8, 2011 retired racer Teddy entered my life. "He may still want to run, but we can't guarantee it." Teddy was – and is – everything that I wanted in a greyhound. Even though I was sidelined with my stress fracture, I was still coaching and Teddy regularly joined the clinic at the sidelines. He would get SO excited when I put on my running clothes.

As a coach, I know a 'bit' about running and the physiological 'things' that happen as I take runners from learning how to run up to the marathon. For humans, we need to develop our bodies and muscles to meet the exercise induced stress. We need to ensure endurance is developed before speed to prevent injury. The heart must become stronger and more efficient at delivering oxygenated blood deep into our muscles, which need to become more efficient and resistant to muscular fatigue, and improve mitochondrial energy production. Too much? ;)

So – how does this physiological-stuff apply to greyhounds? They are sprinters, and thus already HAVE everything pointed out above – except for endurance. What they don't have is the ability to go pretty much farther than 550 yards - or 678 yards if they ran long course. They need to learn to trot for a long period of time – because even one kilometer is DOUBLE what they would run at the track. They need their hearts to beat at a slower rate than when they were racing, and for longer.

In January, I was given the go-ahead to start running again. I used the "Learn to Run" program designed



Teddy enjoys a good run.

by the Running Room to get back into running. I thought this would be a great opportunity to see how Teddy would fare at being a runner. Selfishly, he provided me the crutch I needed to get back into running. We tell our runners that even after 7 days without running, your performance starts to dwindle. Well, we're talking four months. Teddy would be my recovery running partner and mainly, my pace partner.

On Monday December 19, 2011, Teddy and I headed out for "1&1x7". That's one minute of walking, one minute of running, repeated seven times. 1.37K. A far cry from the weeks of 30+kms! But with every run, Teddy continued to enjoy it. He continued to bounce and had a glint in his eye when I would get dressed for running. And so we continued!

The Learn to Run program is built on building endurance – which is what both of us needed. Over a period of 10 weeks, running three times a week, we increased our distance to about 4K. During this phase, it's important to go SLOW. Distance and speed are not important.

1st week – 1 min. running, 2 min. walking 8 times
 2nd week – 1 min. running, 1 min. walking 10 times
 3rd week – 2 min. running, 1 min. walking 6 times
 4th week – 3 min. running, 1 min. walking 5 times
 5th week – 4 min. running, 1 min. walking 4 times
 6th week – 5 min. running, 1 min. walking 3 times
 7th week – 6 min. running, 1 min. walking 3 times
 8th week – 8 min. running, 1 min. walking 2 times
 9th week – 10 min. running, 1 min. walking 2 times
 10th week – 10 min. running, 1 min. walking 2 times

I use the Ultimate Leash for running, which has a waist attachment capability. At all times when we were in a run interval, Teddy had to be at my side. If he started to fall behind, I first checked my pace (yup – usually going a step too fast than I was prepared for!) and then slowed until Teddy was comfortably trotting beside me (yup – at the pace we were supposed to be going at!). During the walk breaks, Teddy could do whatever he wanted. Stop to smell the flowers, walk backwards, and even take care of business. But as soon as that watch beeped again, he quickly learned it was ‘go’ time.

After a run, Teddy’s needs came before mine. He would get a full body massage and rub down with an all-natural anti-inflammatory lotion. I made sure to check his pads for any signs of cracks, his nails for any rough edges, and generally just make sure there were no ouch-to-the-touch spots. We would then go through a range of passive stretching, which during Teddy usually promptly fell asleep!

As always, Teddy was sure to have a clear window of at least one-hour before and after a run before he could eat anything. Depending on the distance run, Teddy would get an extra small meal, usually ¼ cup of kibble watered down.

Teddy continued to run with me, usually a 5-6K run three times a week. He even ran an 8K! He was comfortable at a 6:00 min/km pace, which we slowly dropped from a 7:00+min/km pace. As the weather got warmer, Teddy started wearing his Cooling Coat by Tootlewear. My runners were jealous as this coat held water to keep Teddy cool while we sweated!

At the end of June 2012, Lee Lee joined my family. He was a 17 month old unconfident track school flunk out greyhound. After watching *The Dog Whisperer*, I figured – let’s give it a go. Lee Lee, who would normally shy away and

literally run backwards from people, could handle running in a crowd where no one was looking or paying any attention to him. This clinic had about 30 people in it – so we were definitely a crowd! I would take Lee Lee on the 1km warm-up & cool runs, and Teddy would continue on with the interval workout. The change in Lee Lee was pretty remarkable. As long as no one looked at him, he was literally lost in the crowd.

In the fall of 2012, Teddy began to show some discomfort in his hind end. The running stopped and Teddy started therapy. After various assessments, we concluded Teddy had a pulled iliopsoas – the equivalent of the human hip flexor (see notes, below). Teddy’s walks were shortened, and Lee Lee was doing alright with the shorter walks, but he had energy to burn.

On March 20, 2014, Lee Lee officially began running. He joined my 5K clinic, which started at 5&1x4 – five minutes of running and one minute of walking repeated four times. He had grown a level of confidence about him, and this was another way to increase his independence while Teddy snoozed on the couch at home. He happily trots along beside me at our 7:00 min/km pace. He is comfortable at the 5K distance – much more comfortable than he was at the 550 yard distance!

When potential adopters ask about running with their greyhound, they are often put into contact with me. With greyhounds, it’s not simply about attaching a leash and heading out like you would with a lab, per say. There are so many ‘things’ that need to happen within your greyhound to go from a sprinter to a REAL long distance runner – including most importantly the want to run.

Notes: As with any runner, your greyhound is no different. At the track, they are used to post-run massages by someone with a carefully trained eye to catch any slight offness. At some point, despite my valiant efforts at post-run care, Teddy suffered a pulled hip flexor – the iliopsoas. This is rare for your every-day hound, and many rehabilitationists may not know what they are looking at or how to treat. I am forever greytful for Tracy and Mishka at Animal Rehabilitation Centre, located at 920 Yonge Street in Toronto, who have been treating Teddy for the better part of nine months. Like a normal rehabbing runner, Teddy gets similar treatment. He walks on an underwater treadmill, gets massaged and passively stretched, and lasered. If you want to take up running with your greyhound, make sure that you can a) afford treatment if necessary and b) know a rehabilitationist who understands greyhound anatomy. When Lee Lee started running, we did a baseline assessment to ensure he was fit and biomechanically sound. He will be reassessed every six months, or if something changes.



Teddy with running partners Gillian & Elena



You walk your dog that you adopted your dog from your adoption group. Why not walk your dog to raise money for your adoption group?

The 'Walk for a Dog' program brought to you by WoofTrax is a dog-powered fundraising tool for your adoption group. You have to walk your dog, so why not put those paw-prints towards raising money? All you have to do is press 'Start Walking for..' and go for your walk! When your walk is

ended, the app will shut itself off and credit your adoption group with your distance walked. You have to walk your dog, so why not make it count?

We know every dollar helps our adoption groups run their day-to-day non-profit activities. Whether it's a quick walk around the block, or a 20K run, make every paw print count. Be sure to log who you're walking with, too! The more the merrier, and the more points your adoption group receives.

This smartphone application works on iPhone and Android phones, and can be downloaded from AppStore or GooglePlay. WoofTrax hardly uses any battery or data. To be on the safe side, though, go into your settings and turn off the app for cellular. Whenever you're back to a WiFi area, your walks will be uploaded and credited.

In December donations were sent to over 4,000 rescues & shelters – including Greyhound Action League of Buffalo! Donations are funded by sponsorship (thank you Trupanion and Lavien*), advertising and investors. Don't worry – you won't be solicited or end up with junk mail. There are offers at the bottom of app if you want to check them out.

It's a new year of resolutions! Let's all set a resolution to make every walk count with WoofTrax!

Coming Soon to a Theater Near You!

Last year, we tried something completely new for our group- theater advertising. We ran two ads that were shown several times before every movie at the East Aurora Theater. The number of people who viewed the ad is obviously hard to quantify, but we considered the venture a great success and will look to do more of this type of thing in the coming months. In the meantime, here is a peek at both of the ads we ran.



We would like to acknowledge the passing of GAL volunteer Christine Lovett-Schaus. Although I only met Christine a short time ago I can say that she will be remembered for her infectious smile, positive attitude, and compassion.

Christine and Billy and were a frequent walking team In Delaware Park. She volunteered helping the GALs at meet and greets, most recently at the Erie County Fair. She even joined the GALs on their trip to Wheeling.

Christine also created and donated some beautiful beaded greyhound bracelets as a fundraiser.

We have reprinted her obituary below.

Christine Lovett-Schaus, an avid gardener and community volunteer, died Thursday at St. John's Hospice after a two-year battle with cancer. She was 58.

Born in Leicester, United Kingdom, Lovett-Schaus moved to Montreal with her parents when she was a teenager and later to Toronto. She came to Buffalo in 2006 when she married Magilla Schaus, a Buffalo firefighter who died in 2009.

She was a clerk for the Canadian government from 1984 to last February. She started a community garden on her block in the City of Buffalo and was the vice president of the block club. Known as Chris Red for her enthusiasm and red curly hair, she taught a beading class called "Beading with Red" at the Life Transitions Center.

She also volunteered with the Greyhound Action League and the West Side Community Center.

A passionate scuba diver, she enjoyed many scuba trips to places such as New Guinea, and also locally in the Niagara River. She was a scuba instructor and taught first aid classes.

She is survived by her son, Jonathan, and daughter, Jesica Mikkila; and parents, William and Margaret Lovett.





Bailey Rose Argue (*Four Lightning*)
BR had a call named of "Huge" due to the size of her smile. Her career was from July 2003 to Jan of 2004 when she sustained a broken hock. A family in Buffalo adopted her, however was unable to keep her. In July 2005, we met and she greeted us with her infamous huge smile. Bailey Rose enjoyed traveling with us. She went to Gettysburg, Dewey Beach and even made a return trip to MA where she raced. We were fortunate to meet Jean, one of her trainers. "BR was an amazing first greyhound and we were so lucky to have had her in our lives. Without BR, we would have never have made great friends, taken fun vacations , or experienced greyhound racing. She had us at her very first smile."



Hailey Bagne (*Nitro Hailey*)
My Hailey, sweet, petite and sassy. Often her ears were up and tail wagging, ready to bounce. She was intuitive, always knew my moods and would snuggle so well. I did not consider her a 'return', however I prefer to say that their loss was my gain...truly she was a gift.



Boone Dinardo (*Solitary Boone*)
184 Races!! This boy deserved a wonderful family to call his own. He enjoyed pet life to the fullest. In his senior years he even got to enjoy life along the shores of Delaware. Boone is missed greatly.



Gus Dominessy (*Skidrow Gus*)
"RIP Gusser Man we are going to miss you"



Ramses Falkowski (*Iwannabeabigshot*)
This sweet boy was retired from MA. In loving memory of our beloved pal, companion and loyal family member, Ramses. "Grief is the price you pay for love"



Murphy Fedyshin (*Gable Proteus*)
It was Love at first sight, for Murphy's family. He retired out of WV and his forever loving home was in PA. He was very fortunate to have Staci and Mike and his canine siblings.



Dime Forman (*Nancy Knows Pups*)
Dime raced in both MA and WV. She retired to her name sakes home in Florida, until her owner passed away. She came to Buffalo where Linda opened her heart and home to her as a foster, The rest they say is history! She was a companion to her greyhound sister Sandy, and a playmate for angel cousin "Holly" Sobczak".

Pablo Gallivan (*DK's New Design*)
After a difficult decision Pablo was helped over the bridge to join his littermate sister Sweetie. Godspeed Pablo you were truly a gentle boy with an old soul. He was a former racer in both TX and IA.



Clyde Jankowski
(Unregistered)

Clyde came from rough beginnings. He and Bonny were found as strays in Salamanca area. Although his early days were unknown his family was going to make sure the rest of his days were part of a loving, caring family. He was one half of a very special pair of hounds.



Bonny Jankowski (Unregistered)

Bonny was definitely a daddy's girl. She helped him manage his PTSD. Bonny was very fortunate to be adopted along with Clyde, the two were truly a pair of survivors. She gave back as much love as she received. She and Clyde are missed greatly.



Jim (TMC's Slimm Jim)

Jim was a racer in Wheeling. He was loved and cared for by Trainers Wayne & Cheryl. He became afflicted with seizures. Despite medication, he eventually did succumb because of the disorder.



Ty Johnstone (Jerry Fingers)

Tiber moved in to our home in July 2010 when he was 8 years old. He was a very handsome boy and friendly fellow who loved people and always had a big smile on his face. Tiber quickly learned the joys of pet-hood and spent much of his retirement lying in the sun on his soft pillow in the company of his sister Barbie (Barbados Beach). Sadly, Tiber left us way too soon, having been recently diagnosed with osteosarcoma. Tiber was a true gentleman and we miss him very much.



Robin Lingle (Robin Ronin)

Robin was an excellent racer having 166 starts in Mardis Gras and Wheeling. She retired from racing and became mom to a litter of 8 pups. She then retired to become a beloved pet and greyhound ambassador in Buffalo.

Goldie Matyevich (Golden Yarrow)

Goldie passed away quite unexpectedly. We will miss Goldie's relentless pursuit of petting, her messy eating, her growling at other dogs, her incredible singing/howling, her joy in looking for squirrels in the backyard, and so much more. She was a loving, devoted pet that gave our family great joy in the short time we had her. We miss her already.



Erie Mazur (Cry Erie)

Elegantly beautiful, Erie retired from the Gable Kennel in Wheeling. This gentle soul enjoyed pet life being spoiled by his family and volunteering at Greyhound Events.



Cole McCool (Sendahl Cole)

The Best Day, when we met. The Worst Day was the morning when we sent you to rainbow bridge... We are so very grateful for every day we spent with you. You will be greatly missed but your unconditional love has left paw prints on our hearts that will last until we meet again. We love you Cole!





Zena McCool (*PW's Blitzen*)

Zena retired as a pet shortly after her maiden race. She really did not have the drive to race but certainly had a lot of love to give.....just as sweet as can be.



Gus Miller

"Gus" began his racing career in the Gulf then moved to Wheeling where he had 100+ starts. Retired, he waited for his own family in the GPA Kennel. He had the good fortune of being noticed by Loretta and Dave. "We will miss our little Gus. We are so glad he was part of our lives."



Boogie Paschen (*N's Boogiebyanoz*)

After being given up by his previous owner he was fortunate to be reunited with his littermate brother Easy. Although it was for a short time the recognition and bond was still there. "My Monster, he was an amazing boy with such a good and sweet soul."



Kazi Paschen (*GLS Komakazi*)

For Brian and Diania it was love at first sight. After meeting Kazi in the GPA Wheeling Kennel there was no question that he had to make the trip back to Buffalo. After being fostered, he quickly became a permanent member of their family.



Digger Pike (*N's Hotdignitydog*)

Digger was one of six special pups that came from the last breeding Nancy Duke did. She included us in the entire process. Greg could not resist Digs charms when he arrived in Buffalo for foster care. He and Foto were reunited, and all was good in the world. Mr Digs. Diggy Bear....such a beautiful smiler. Truly a gentlemen grey. Perfection. Forever Daddy.s boy. We loved you so much Digs.Take care of him Momma Duke.



Foto Pike (*N's Fotoinaction*)

Foto-Puppy. Guaranteed by Nancy to always be a mommas boy. Both Nancy and Foto kept that promise.. Sweet and genuine and just a touch spoiled. I miss you following me, and I miss your gentle Fo Kiss on my lips. You were perfect in my eyes. As the "F" dog in the litter, you were the last tattooed and the last of the litter to join Momma Duke. My heart has a whole in it. Love you so, Fo-P.



Gracie Pike (*Gracies Folly*)

Racer, Brood Mom, Ambassador, Sibling supporter and true loving friend. Gracie was sweet and had a wonderful enthusiasm for life. She enjoyed her retirement with littermates Hallie Jo and Sandy Paws, and her pup Red. She was mom to 16 offspring. Several of them she help foster and 13 of which she had a paw in their forever homes. Gracie was a true matriarch with the an amazing intuitive sense. Her passing came quickly and unexpectedly. We all love and miss you Gracie.



Allure Proctor (*Allure*)

We loved having “Little Momma”: in our lives, we miss her so. We know that Momma Duke welcomed her with open arms.



Whisper Torrelli (*Oya Pretty Girl*)

Whisper retired from Iowa. She came into Buffalo and was swept away the hearts of her adoptive family. She was a wonderful companion and family member. “ I am sad, but comforted by the thought of knowing John was waiting to see the girls again.”

Sandy Torrelli (*Hoot*)

Sandy had a bit of history before finding Toni and John. She had been bounced out of a home in Fl. Came to Buffalo, placed here and bounced again, neither situation her fault. The third time was truly a charm for her and she was blessed to be adopted and loved by the Torrelli family.



Smokey Wolffer Smokey was described by his family as ‘his own kind of dog’. He was a very good, boy. A wonderful part of their family. He retired at a young age from MA.



Spec Gallivan (*Special Moves*) – After racing at five different tracks in Iowa and Florida, Spec retired at age 3-1/2. She was adopted as a companion for Pablo.



Haley Vogler (*Hallo ICU Later*) – Haley retired from racing at the Steubenville Kennel in Wheeling. She was adopted by an experienced home and gets to go for casual strolls in Williamsville.



Daphne Gamard (*Salty Girl*) - Only sweet can describe this petite little girl. Quiet and calm, she was adopted by the perfect family in Clarence. She has an amazing yard to romp and play in.



Tommy Pike (*Ja's Al Pacino*) - Tommy retired at 8 months of age from the farm, and never had an opportunity to race. After many months of rehab and the strong bond developed between him and his foster dad he just had to stay!



Sonny Gallivan (*Sunset Star Dust*) - Sonny completed his final race at the end of June in 2013. He had an opportunity to join his sister Spec in Kenmore. Lots of love and attention – the rest they say is history.



Billy Lovett-Schaus (*Chill-billy*) - Billy finished racing in Florida and we were asked by his race owner to find him a special home. After seeing us at the Fair, Christine was quick to make him a part of her family. She and Billy enjoyed morning strolls in Delaware Park and even did some traveling together.



Brady Paschen (*Jax Brady*) - Brady originally came from a Farm in West Virginia. He was placed in Canada, but through no fault of his own, had to be rehomed. Diania with her big heart and just the right home environment, fostered then adopted him. He is a very lucky boy.



Eula Fedyshin (*Rs's Eula*) - We had the opportunity to find a home for Eula who is littermate to Mookie. An experienced couple in PA was looking for just the right girl to add to their family. Eula loves snuggling with her older grey brother and playing with her dalmation brother in a beautiful yard.



Sammy Pike (*Ain't Too Shabby*) - After 150 races in Iowa and Florida Sammy retired just before the age of 5. He was fostered by Sharon and Mike Palm of CIGA until he was transported to Buffalo. Not just another pretty face, he is smart and sweet and an active GAL volunteer.



Nakita Ray Bagne (*San Tan Cheater*) - Kita finished her racing career in Wheeling WV. Was it love at first sight, or just being in the right place at the right time? This playful little girl was adopted as a new little sister and volunteer with her brother Fanta.



Evie Wolffer (*Air Time Eva-line*) – Evie retired out of Iowa and came to Buffalo this past October. Chuck and Elaine wanted a young girl with personality. Evie is loving life as a spoiled only hound in Amherst.



George Johnstone (*M's Dar George*) - Although George raced in Arkansas and Florida he was waiting for his chance at love in the GPA Wheeling Kennel. Passed by so many times for being black, he would be just the right match for Becky and Bob. They were ready to open their hearts and home to another lucky boy.



Charger Argue (*TMC's Charger*) – Charger ran in both Wheeling and Derby Lane. After a long wait for his racing career to end, he was able to retire to the family that waited so patiently. This smiling boy is an active volunteer for GALs.



Lila Pike (*Greyhound-Mix*) - Lila was a victim of a poor living situation in Salamanca. Fortunately EARS came to her rescue and contacted GALs for assistance with placement. Although a bit timid and unsure she was still extremely sweet and playful. Lila quickly became part of an inseparable pair with Tommy.



Gabie Dunkle (*Boc's Lady Gaga*) - Lady retired as a racer and became a brood mom. She was offered as a pet and GALs opted to bring her into our program. A lovely couple from Cheektowaga came along searching for an alpha companion to their coon hound. This lucky girl is now showered with lots of love and a big basket of toys.



Rex Jankowski (*Kiowa TX Texas*) - Rex retired from the Steubenville kennel in Wheeling. She is young and energized and needed an experienced home who would appreciate her good energy. Krista and Eric in Depew were just the right match!



Randy Miller (*Kiowa Stone*) - Stoney was a kennel favorite at Steubenville. Hand selected by Loretta to join the rest of their Black Pack! This is one lucky boy.



Gofer Lee (*TMC's Go For It*) – Gofer recently retired from the Steubenville kennel. He was fostered with his brother Charger, and went forever home to be a member of the Lee family.



Believe it or not, not every photo that makes it into the annual calendar happens in one take. Sometimes it takes two...or twelve. Eventually we got it right, but not until these happened. Enjoy.

Kita was a bit new and wasn't sure what was expected. And the water was cold.



Sammy was deep in thought... about something...maybe.



Charger had "creative differences".



Smokey was still thinking about picnic burgers. Mmm...picnic burgers.



It would be easy to blame Sammy for the closed eye thing again, but this one is just a mess.

