

Greyhound Action League of Buffalo

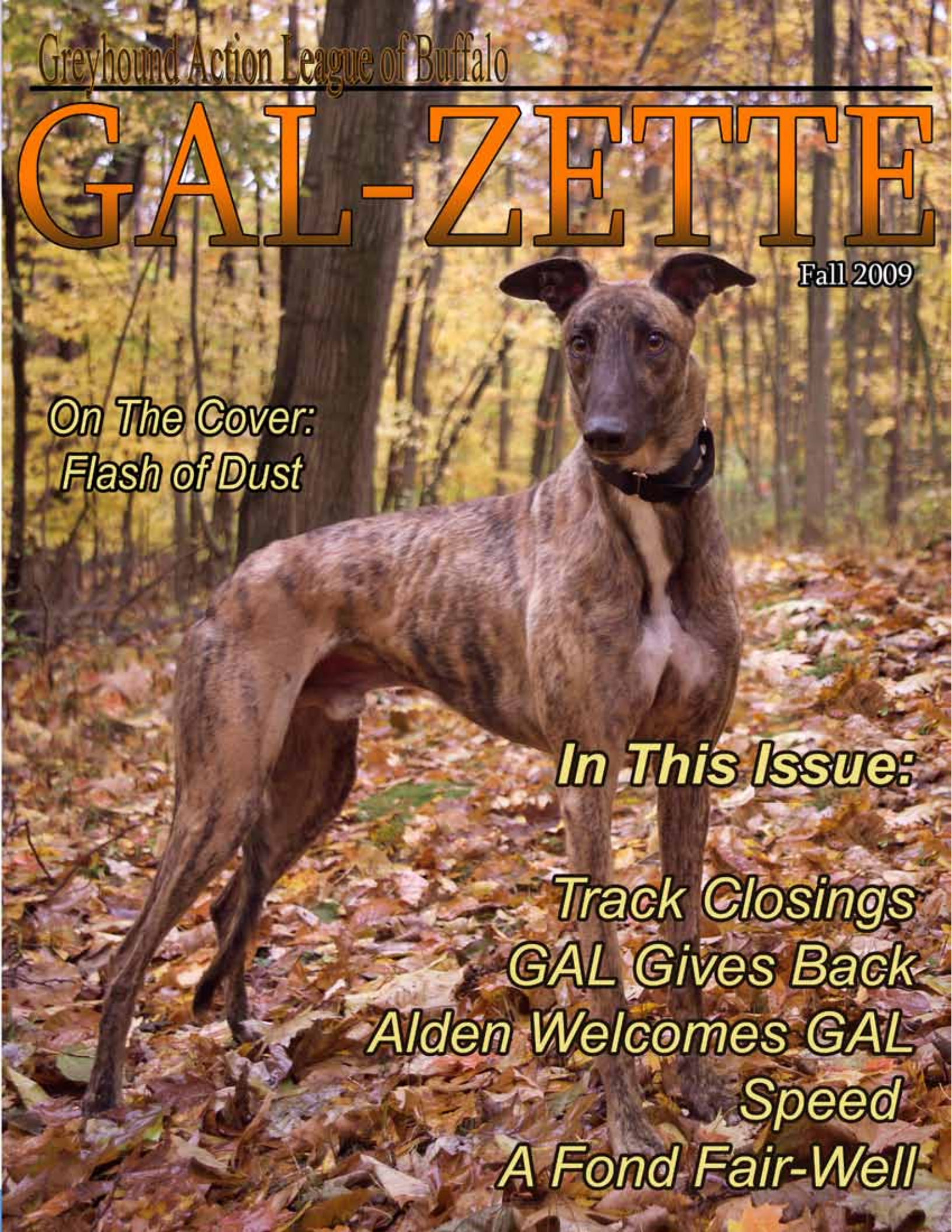
GAL-ZETTE

Fall 2009

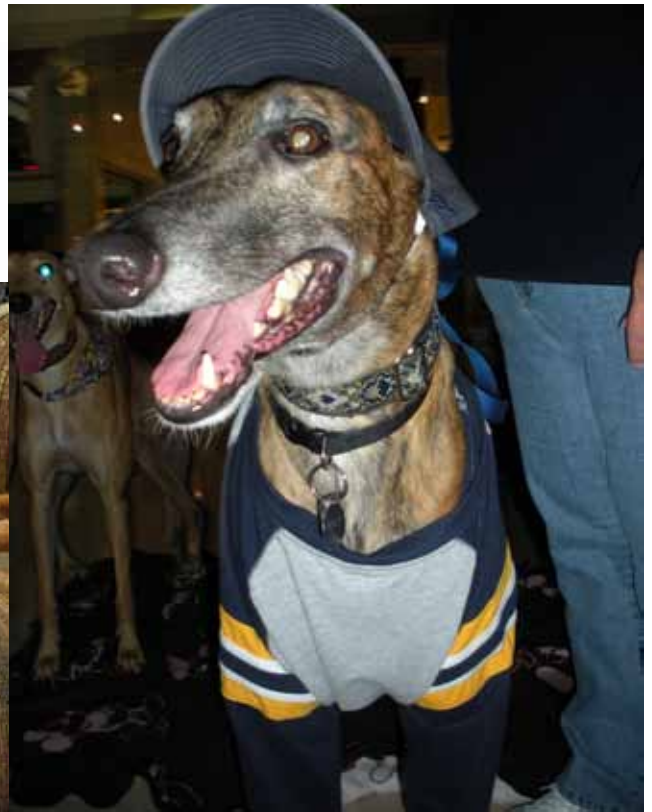
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GREYHOUND ACTION LEAGUE OF BUFFALO GAL-ZETTE

Published quarterly.

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At the end of this year, four greyhound racing tracks will cease operations permanently. These closings, combined with regular seasonal shut-downs, are testing the capacities of greyhound adoption groups across the country.

In Arizona, the Phoenix Greyhound Park will close after several years of declining revenue. One of three tracks remaining in the state, many of the greyhounds will be moved to other tracks, and efforts have been increased to try to accommodate the adoptions of the rest.

A Ballot Question (referendum) in 2008 put an end to racing in Massachusetts beginning in 2010. Two tracks, Raynham and Wonderland, will close in January. A number of these dogs will race elsewhere, many in Florida.

Most relevant to our organization is the closing of the Dairyland track in Kenosha, Wisconsin. Opened in 1991, it is the last of five tracks in the state. It also has experienced a drop in revenue, forcing the closure.

News of this type can set some folks in panic mode, posting inaccurate information and numbers causing more panic. Adoption organizations that have worked through other track closings were already in motion working on positive ways to move the greyhounds that will no longer race. Responsible owners and trainers are also planning ahead to move the pets into adoption groups, and other racers to different tracks.

A post on the Dairyland Web site states: "Wisconsin State law provides that the greyhounds are to be adopted to new homes, sent to another racetrack for racing purposes or returned to their owners. Our kennel compound will remain open until all greyhounds are properly placed."

In a more recent development, Dairyland Greyhound Track owners recently announced a plan in which each kennel operator would be given \$5,000 as a way of making sure every dog is safely removed after the track closes for good.

The cash offer to each kennel operator - there are twelve kennels at the Kenosha track housing hundreds of dogs - was made after negotiations between track owners and state regulators. The dogs must be moved out by February 5.



LUCKY CHARM- Charm awaits transport from Dairyland on December 5. He is currently in foster care.

This is an "all or nothing" offer, meaning *all* dogs from *all* kennels must be removed, or none will receive the money. With this sort of incentive in place, it seems likely all kennel owners will comply, but it also greatly reduces the window for adoptions.

Linda Cliffler is actively profiling the Dairyland dogs to provide their stats to groups. Linda and Sharon Palm already assembled a load of pets, and it made its way east on December 5.

Thanks to Sally Allen of USA Dog the thirty-three dogs traveled in style in a specially equipped bus. After stopping in Ohio for several groups, she was off to Erie Pennsylvania, where she met up with our Greyhound Action League volunteers. GAL then transported eleven dogs back to Buffalo. Four of those dogs are for GAL, five for GINA-Canada and two for GReAT-Buffalo. Volunteers from GAGR (Rochester) met in Erie and took eight dogs. Many groups are quickly trying to make room and raise funds for the unexpected extras, just trying to help out a Dairyland dog or two.

Despite GALs being a small organization the efforts of each volunteer is mighty. Their focus always remains first and foremost the dogs. Taking Action, one dog at a time, or in this case, four. If you'd like to help in any way, contact Laura at 867.9822.

The **Caring Paws** program of GAL involves a visit to a nursing home or health care facility where we and the hounds interact with the residents (and staff), sharing the rewards of greyhound ownership. If you are available during the daytime hours, please consider volunteering for an hour or two a month. The experience itself is very fulfilling and rewarding to bring a bit of joy to those who can no longer have and/or care for pets.

Our first “venue” is Lord of Life Adult Day Health Center located in Depew, NY which provides day care services for stroke recovery individuals, head trauma victims and frail elderly dementia clients. Volunteers from our program will be making a monthly visit on the second Wednesday of each month from 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm. I attended this facility with my two hounds, Bo & Marti on October 21st. The clients of the facility absolutely loved seeing and petting the dogs, some hugged them; yet others just stared with a far away look on their face as if they were remembering from a long, long time ago. The more able clients asked questions about the breed and owning them. Some of them told stories of their dogs from days



Sandy and Ox Forman are ambassadogs.

gone by. The staff of the facility took a high interest in the breed and ownership and asked a lot of questions. I handed out a few brochures to staff members and promised to bring more at my November visit. The Director also took a few pictures of some of the clients with the hounds to post in the activity room.

Our second “venue” has just been secured at The Courtyards Adult Home in Hamburg, NY, which is a residential assisted living facility for the aged. Volunteers from our program will be making a monthly visit on the last Wednesday of each month from 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm.

Upcoming dates for the next few months are 1/13/10, 2/10/10 and 3/10/10 at Lord of Life and 12/30/09 and 1/27/10 at The Courtyards. Please check our “Files” section of the digest in the near future as a third “venue” will be added.

Hounds coming to these types of facilities must not jump on people and not be bothered by wheelchairs or walkers or being the center of attention in a crowded room. Please also note that the floors in these two facilities are not carpeted; as such, your hound must not be “skiddish”.

Please call Jan @ 866-1543 or email at janl61957@aol.com for scheduling if you are interested in coming with a hound, either on a regular basis (once a month) or just a time or two, as we are limited in the number of people and hounds for each visit.



Bo Lingle

Dear MKB, I am a recent retiree having been adopted this past summer. It will be my first holiday as a pet. Do you have any tips or suggestions for making this exciting season a safe and happy one for me?

Signed – Erie

Dear Erie, as a grey-mom myself, and having experienced several holidays these past years I do have some suggestions for your humans to keep in mind:

Avoid eating holiday foods. People food is not part of your regular diet and therefore could cause digestive upset or even pancreatitis.

Keep your schedule the same, routine is what has always worked best for you so keep as close to it as possible. This is especially important if you are traveling over the holidays.

Limit your time socializing. Although the family and friends are visiting ask your owner to provide you with some quiet time, whether it is in your crate, or gated off in a room off limits to adults and/or children.

Be aware of open doors, and gates. With visitors in the house or coming and

going the chance of a door or gate left open increases. Ask visitors to use the same door in and out and use baby gates if necessary to keep you safe.

Christmas plants and decorations should be kept out of your line of sight and reach. You should be supervised around Christmas Trees so that you do not make the mistake of thinking it is indoor plumbing for dogs.

Also, decorations are not 'holiday toys' so take the time to work with your people and allowing them to redirect you to greyhound safe items.

Remember to make time for your people. Schedule a walk where you both can have some casual, relaxing time with each other.

It is the holidays, and it's about families...and you are a very important part of the family.

Lastly, be thankful. Be sure to bestow your people with a lot of extra love and attention, showing how grateful you are they are a part of your family.



A Tax Break for Pet Owners?

Animal Shelters nationwide have reported a sharp increase in abandoned or returned animals, many of which were cut loose by owners who can no longer afford their care. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter (R. Mich) has introduced a bill that would use the federal tax code to help.

Happy Act H.R.3501 – The Humanity and Pets Partnered Through the Years would allow pet owners to deduct the cost of food, veterinary care, and other pet-related expenses from their income taxes, up to \$3500.00 per year. McCotter says the bill would provide a tax relief for pet owners while at the same time strengthening “the human-animal bond.”

Leo Grillo, an animal-rights activist, says a tax break for the 60% of Americans who own pets will help keep pets in the home, where they contribute to the emotional well-being of families. “If Americans are happy and emotionally stable they are going to be more productive, and that helps the economy,” he says, adding that the bill also could ease the cost of local animal control services

For more information or to watch the progress of this bill, go to:

<http://www.opencongress.org/bill/111-h3501/show>”.

Greyhound Planet Day – Greyhounds and their owners were welcomed to the Spiritual Community of Lily Dale. It was a calm and relaxing day alongside Cassadaga Lake. GALs and folks from North Coast Greyhound Connection & Adoption in Ohio joined in strolling the beautiful grounds honoring Greyhound Planet Day. The blessing was given by Cara Seekings followed by an opportunity for questions and answers. We appreciate the warm welcome and look forward to going back in 2010.

Nail Trimming Fundraiser – another successful fundraiser hosted by the GALs. This is a popular venue and we look forward to our next opportunity thanks to Stapley Feeds.



FAIR PLAY: Greys and their people, working the Erie County Fair crowd.



GREY SKIES, GREYHOUNDS: Marchers at the Corn Festival Parade in Eden.

Erie County Fair – “A love Affair” was a “Greyhounds Love A Fair”, the lawns surrounding the Historical Building were scattered with volunteers and their hounds talking with Fair goers and answering the many questions bestowed upon them. Thank you to the seasoned volunteers and to Mark Caughel for designing the popular GAL Fair Logo. And our sincere appreciation to the Historical Society for their continued support.

Halloween – Greyhounds at the Galleria, or was it Bats, Fairies, Sabre Fans, Ballerinas, and Bees?? Our return appearance of volunteers and hounds dressing for the Halloween Holiday was well received with enthusiasm and smiles from the shoppers. We appreciate everyone’s creativity.

Sunday Strolls – The Sunday strolls will end until next spring. They were very popular for our adopters taking advantage of the

low-key social time for their dogs. I would like to thank Annie, Mark, Jen and Niks for hosting the various walks this year.

Corn Festival Parade – More than 14 dogs and their owners were on hand to march in this Parade in Eden. Many of the folks donned “Adopt A Greyhound” racing blankets made and donated by Nancy Argue. Their design helped bring attention to retired racers needing homes.

Caring Paws – The GALs Caring Paws program is off to an excellent beginning. Volunteers take their hounds to visit folks in Adult Day-Care and Residential Facilities. The visits bring smiles to those folks who are no longer able to have pets of their own. Thank you to Jan Lingle for Coordinating this worthwhile program. If you are interested in participating or know of a location that may welcome our visits please contact Jan at 716.866.1543.

Greyhound Action League has been graciously welcomed at the newest Tractor Supply Store in Alden. Store manager, Marken Codillo, was introduced to GAL's at the Hamburg store and was eager to have us do regular Meet & Greets at his new location in Alden.

We all waited for the grand opening to join the festivities of the latest Tractor Supply Store, only to find Marken was concerned about us getting lost in the crowd on Grand Opening Day. To our surprise, Marken asked us to join them for the first weekend of business on August 8, a week before the Grand Opening.

Our four volunteers and six dogs arrived at 10 AM and spent the next 3 hours introducing Grey-

hound Action League to the wonderful people of Alden.

Marken came out to visit a number of times and was very happy to have GAL there. Normally we set up at Tractor Supply Stores every 2 months, but Marken has invited us to visit monthly. With GAL's help, he would like set up monthly pet supply sales and/or pet adoption celebrations. Needless to say, the dogs were a big hit and did a great job, as always, winning the hearts of everyone that came over to say hi, ask questions and even take applications.

It is exciting to know that, thanks to Marken, Greyhound Action League will be a part of another Tractor Supply Store in WNY. Thanks, Marken!!!

Little did we know that while hosting a Meet & Greet at the new Alden Tractor Supply Store another opportunity would present itself.

Alden Councilwoman, Nancy Hughes, saw our beautiful greyhounds and excitedly came over to introduce herself. She was so happy to see the dogs and the enthusiastic volunteers. As it turned out, greyhounds used to regularly attend the Alden Farmers Market on Saturdays until this year. It seems another group found they were short on volunteers and could no longer attend this large community event. Being the true "can't turn down an opportunity" person that I am, jumped at the chance to join the fun.

On Saturday, August 22, GAL set up our first Meet & Greet table at the Alden's Farmers Market. We were welcomed with opened arms and microphone. As the Kickin' Rhythm Cloggers entertained the crowd, the announcer reminded everyone that Greyhound Action League of Buffalo was present with some beautiful retired racers. He asked the public to come on over, say hello and pick up an application or make a donation.

On Saturday, October 3, the Alden Farmers Market held their closing day for the season with a pet and costume parade. GAL's made a very impressive appearance and Jemma even took home a ribbon for her wonderful princess costume! Way to go, Jemma!

It is hard to believe the farmers market started the season without retired greyhounds and ended the season with nine wonderful representatives from Greyhound Action League of Buffalo!

Thank you to Councilwoman Nancy Hughes of Alden, for inviting us and we look forward to joining this fun venue again next year. Thank you, all of our tireless volunteers and their proud puppies. Hope to see you all here again next year as well as some new faces, even if you just come for the fresh produce!!



THE GIVING TREE: Tractor Supply of Hamburg graciously allowed the space for this greyhound themed gift tree.

Good clean fun was had by all who attended the semi-annual Glam Day Bubble Bath Fundraiser in October.

One by one, each unsuspecting pet was bathed, had nails trimmed and was generally buffed up for a nominal fee.

This year, and for the first time at this event, photographer Mark Caughel was on hand to take formal portraits of the freshly groomed pets. This proved to be a popular and profitable addition, as Mark returned ALL the proceeds back to the organization.

One of the benefits of this event is that we are able to reach out to pet owners outside of the group, and this time was no exception. We were able to include several new people and different breeds to our customer database.

Be it a seven pound Papillon or a seventy pound Greyhound, our volunteers put forth a fabulous effort all day long.

We'd like to sincerely thank everyone who joined us during the day, and of course every volunteer that made it so special.

In December, Greyhound Action League hosted its second annual Pet Photos with Santa fundraiser. In space generously provided by Stapley's Feed Center in Depew, this year was a two day event.

Much like our Glam Day, this event was characterized by the diversity in breeds that came out for photos. There was also a diversity in species represented, as Santa enjoyed the company of a King Snake and a chinchilla, among others.

Even though there are other similar events at this time of year, we were able to build on last year's success by offering another day of photos, a better price than others, and a better product. Every customer left extremely satisfied with the photos, and we expect this to be a profitable and reliable fundraiser for many more years.

Thanks to Patty, Nicole and Brandon from Stapley's for their generous support.

Thanks also to our Santas- Lee on day one and Doug on day two. Both performed admirably in a job that is much harder than it looks.



The Glam Gang: GAL volunteers Dianne and Doug Empringham work on a dog at the bubble bath fundraiser in October.



Happy Holl-Lee Days: Santa Lee with Bijou the Springer Spaniel.



Boc's McDreamy is a loyal and confident male born Oct 2005. He is looking for a home with one other dog or as a single pet. He is 'allergic' to cats and very small dogs so would be best to avoid them. He really enjoys romping in a fenced yard and has even been credited for catching a bird mid-flight!



Flash of Dust is a Nov 2005 pup. He is very easy going and well behaved. He gets along well with other greyhounds and is cat workable. He enjoys talking walks. Truly a gentleman in every sense.



Heber Springs is a Dec 2006 girl. She is very sweet and extremely playful with toys. Her etiquette lessons resulted in improvement. She is cat safe and good with other greyhounds. She would like a home where she can curl up on the couch with you. Fence preferred.



Rica Feliz is a 4 year old female with a racing history from Dubuque and Dairyland. She is calm and well mannered. She joins her litter-sister and Mom in the Buffalo area. She is looking for a nice quiet home as a single or perhaps another dog.



El Cine is a 3.5 year old black male. His racing career spanned 3 states, FL, IA and WI and he was given the gift of becoming a pet for the holidays. A gentle and nice fellow, please consider giving this boy a spot under your Christmas Tree.



Charms Pride is a strikingly handsome 3+ year old male. He raced at 2 tracks in IA and finished up in WI. His foster family describes him as a snuggler. A fun personality and a boy that loves his stuffed toys.



Ella Can Fly is a litter-sister to Charms Pride. She shares the good family looks. She is personable and sweet and doing well in her foster home. Thinking of adopting? Consider this Gal who raced at four different tracks during her 3+ years.

Greyhounds are fast- the fastest dogs on the planet. It is a universally accepted fact, even if I'm forced to admit that I *am* a greyhound and my only experience has ever been *with* greyhounds. That also being a fact, my own speed is really nothing more than a relative estimate. I'll never forget the day, though, that I learned that I was fast, too- really fast.

My littermates and I were removed from the care of our mother when we were almost four months old. We could already run, of course, but we were meant for racing at the track, which would require training, discipline, and nearly fourteen more months.

When we arrived at the Texas ranch, we were barely out of puppyhood, still growing into our bodies, uncoordinated, with paws too big for our legs. The ranch seemed to stretch on endlessly, offering limitless possibilities to run, chase and play. For now, though, we had to learn the basics.

To progress to the next level, we needed to master two things: to tolerate wearing a muzzle and to walk on a lead. The importance of these things was drilled into our heads for many weeks. The trainers and the track did not have time and therefore would not tolerate dogs that proved to be unmanageable at this phase. I'm sorry to say that there were a couple of dogs for which this was the case. For the most part, however, we were treated well as we were also required to trust our human handlers.

Eventually, we graduated to drag lure training. This involved a pair of dogs released at the same time to chase a tanned coyote pelt attached to a line being retracted from 1500 feet away. You could never actually catch it, as its speed was controlled by a man at the other end. It was always just slightly out of reach. I was performing extremely well at this exercise, never being outrun. I was gaining confidence, but never really knew if I'd be good enough to race at the track. Perhaps I was just with a weak group. One day, however, something unusual happened.

He was called Nucla. He was a tall, mostly white dog with long legs, a patch of black over his left eye and ear, and a large black spot on his back. We had been hearing the trainers talk about him for weeks. "Fastest dog I ever saw" said one. He was a couple of months older and was almost through the 'whirligig' portion of his

training. A whirligig was a thirty foot boom arm that could spin in a circle. A dog in this phase must chase a lure attached to the end of the arm while running in that circle. Nucla was apparently terrific at it. A few weeks more of straight track simulated racing, and he would be off to the big race track.

On this particular morning, I was about to be set loose to chase the coyote pelt. Just behind me, Nucla and several other dogs were being escorted to the whirligig for their daily session.

The lure started to pull away when suddenly a scuffle broke out between two dogs in Nucla's group. His handler let go of his collar to break up the fight, and my handler, in an attempt to help, let go of mine.

I looked at the lure, which was still being dragged steadily across the field. I looked at Nucla, and to my surprise, Nucla was looking at me. We must have had the same idea, because we both took off to pursue the lure at the same time.

He *was* fast. He had started about ten feet behind me, but in two of his long strides we were neck and neck.

The man retracting the lure must have finally realized what happened, because it stopped about 300 yards away. I was running as fast as I could, faster than I thought I could, and about halfway to the lure I was ahead. I needed to know where Nucla was, so I snuck a peek over my shoulder. He was just slightly behind on my right. His eyes were focused intently, his movement powerful yet remarkably fluid even at that speed.

We were almost to the lure, and I had nothing more in my tank. In the last ten strides Nucla passed me and got to the lure first. He knew he would before we even started. I was only half a stride away when he got there, and I was satisfied in being that close to a dog that fast. I also learned that day that speed alone would not be enough to be a great racer. I had a great deal more to learn.

I had heard later that Nucla indeed was a great racer, at least for a while. In his twenty-third race, another dog wiped out around the second turn, causing a terrible collision involving three other dogs. Nucla had broken his spine and was put down a short while later. I won't forget his extraordinary power and elegant stature. No one else may remember him, but at least I do.

Leap To The-front

spent her racing days in FL and IA. She was happy to retire to Buffalo this summer and enjoyed her foster experiences with the Anderson and Lingle Families. 'Honey' is now very fortunate to have become a permanent member of the O'Neil family.



Joese Procedure well, what can we say about this special Iowa boy? He is as smart as he is handsome and knew that good things come to those who wait. Many wanted him but only one special family would truly understand him. Fostered at the Pikes he is now a happy and spoiled member of the Paschen Pack.

Gable Tanzania, Big, Black and Beautiful he is now the sole apple of his new family's eye. Adopted as Stan Blaine-Harrigan he was a former Grade AA racer in WV and TX. Fostered by the Bagne-Hopper, Kendall-McCool and Johnson families



True Cause joins several of her siblings and first cousins here after a race career in Iowa. Sweet as can be, she was fortunate to be adopted into the Hodin family that includes a greyhound-mix brother Fred. Ginger, as she is now known completes the classic pair. She was fostered by the Lynch-Johnt family.



Cry Erie is a soulful and gentle boy. His long legs had him racing in both TX and WV. After stealing several hearts he came to Buffalo with high expectations and was not disappointed. Fostered and now adopted by the Mazur family.

Western Call headed East after racing in IA and WI. Poised and proper he wanted to be closer to his family. Smokey couldn't be any closer since being fostered and adopted by the Miller Family. He now resides with littermates Ozzie and Lily and has two other grey brothers Gus & Deacon.



Hoot was from Florida. She was in a home and retired for financial reasons. One of the many dogs from the Escarosa situation she found her way to GPAEC. We had a special family in mind that was waiting for such a sweet girl. After being fostered by the Lingle Family Dandy as she is now known has since become a member of the Bertrand family.



WW Blow mea Kiss retired from racing and mom duties. Destined to find just the right place she was fostered by the Knox, Pike and Kendall-McCool Families. She found her forever special home and is now Dolly Duewiger.



I'm Ticked

retired after her duties of racing and motherhood. She traveled here with her daughter. Ticki was fostered first by the Mazur's and then by the Munro family and never left. She is now a true princess of her own royal domain.



Wave Runner who had a race career in both IA and WI was adopted shortly after his arrival this October. One of the extra dogs arriving in Buffalo he quickly found his niche as a companion with the Merk Family. Now known as Rocky, this laid back fellow is now enjoying a comfortable living. Fostered by the Pikes.

Hi, my name is Sharon actually its O Ya Sharon. I was introduced in the last issue of the Galzette. I'm a young racing girl age 21 months. I've had quite a time since last you heard about me. If you remember I had my first schooling race August 2nd. What a learning experience but I came in second. Everyone was happy so I decided to give this job my best effort. I had three maiden races and I won I won my third race. Wow how exciting. My trainer was so happy and so was my owner.

And on to Grade E, guess what you'd be so proud of me **WON THE FIRST TIME!** Then I was moved up to Grade D, that's where I really met those huge boys that run over you at the turns, I got smart and decided best for me to run inside. Who wants one of those big guys to step on their toe or worse knock you out on the curves. They might roll on me. Got to be careful. So I got smart and figured out well – you just run inside of them because I'm smaller and they run out at the turns and that's when I slip inside.

Took me four races but on September 24th I won my D race. Oh dear, on to Grade C.

I have had the pleasure of attending the Erie County Fair with at least one greyhound for over 13 years. I remember being right outside the horse barns with my first "baby". He was a very large black male named Danger. It was so exciting to show him off and share the joy of greyhound adoption. I remember one person asking if greyhounds ever barked, at that moment the ponies came out of the barn for the parade and my sweet quiet boy started barking to beat the band!! Let me tell you, he created quite the stir and attracted an amazing crowd! Danger, the barking greyhound introduced barking to the general public at the Erie County Fair!

There were a number of years when the greyhounds were absent from the usual stand outside the horse barns. I missed the fun times and I believe my dogs missed it, too. Finally, we returned and I had the distinct pleasure of taking my next large black male, Ready, to show off. True to form my greyhound had to stand out from the crowd! Ready was not happy under the tent or strolling through the crowds, he had to be in the pool! Not only was he in the pool, but lying down in the pool! Another great crowd

The boys just keep getting bigger and I have to run smarter. I'm not tooting my own horn (well maybe I am) but I've sure moved up quickly for a young lady.

Dubuque will be closing Oct. 25th and I hear I'll be going somewhere called Bluffs Run clear across Iowa to race this winter.

Thank goodness I'm staying in Iowa think Florida would be too hot for me. I hear Bluffs Run is a harder track to win races. Boy hope I do okay. My dad, Gary Reicherts will be watching me this winter and make sure I'm ok.

Next chapter will be how I do with the big guys at Bluffs Run, hear this track is about as good as Wheeling in W. Virginia but don't worry I'm on my toes and ready to show them this little brindle girl will do okay. Bye, till next time.

Written for Sharon by Sharon. She isn't old enough to have learned how to write herself.



pleaser! I got used to the idea I had boys that had to steal the show.

Last year, I had the pleasure of attending the fair with my Sammy as a guest of the Historical Society. We were so welcomed and everyone who stopped was so very glad to have the greyhounds back at the fair!

This year, I was so excited to be back in front of the historical building! Yes, my Sammy was back for a return performance, but so was my latest large black boy! Erie was not a show stealer, but all the GAL's representative made a very impressive showing. On the second Friday we were there, I was watching in awe as dogs lounged on the lawn of the Historical Building and volunteers answered endless questions. It was during one of these moments that a worker from the Historical Society came up beside me and told me some of the board members had been watching the scene and said, "This is where the greyhounds belong, out on the lawn with people, not under a tent by the horses." I could only nod and smile as I blinked away the tears in my eyes. I can't wait for next year!

Mikey Drust (Outlaw Michael) was a beautiful brindle boy that was an important member of his greyhound family. He was with them for more than nine years before recently passing of cancer.

Major Johnstone (Panny Mead) after losing his first pet home at age seven, he was welcomed with open arms to become part of the Johnstone family. He hailed from MA, but once retired he never looked back. Major was a sweet and handsome brindle boy.

Grigio Donovan (Gable Reunite) raced in Wheeling. He retired to a very comfortable home and since he was such a gentleman he was soon followed by a greyhound - sister. This brindle boy passed away at the young age of 7.5 year.

Mystic Torrelli (Real Quality) raced in Ebro Fl. We were fortunate to bring her north for retirement. She lived spoiled and very happy with her litter brother. Mystic enjoyed her beautiful, large fenced yard. This seizure girl passed at a young age.



Mystic

JD's Private I - **Molly Roselli** - her retirement started as a quiet, timid young lady, who was adopted by a patient and caring family who allowed her to blossom at her own pace. The mohawk on the back of her head was a favorite spot for her mom to pet her. Molly enjoyed sharing her home with canine pals, Leo and Emily.



Grigio

On October 4th our boy **Cinnaburst** "Cinna" (Van Morgan) made his way to the Rainbow Bridge after a brave fight with bone cancer. Cinna came to us 2 years ago and we loved him from the first moment we saw him. Starting out a bit reserved, it was fun to watch him come out of his shell and become the playful boy that loved to teach his stuffies a lesson and tear around the house. Cinna loved when anyone came to visit and would whip your legs with his tail to prove it. He was loved by many and will be missed by all, especially his Mom and Dad, new hound sister Honey and kitty sisters Oreo and Prada. We will never forget our sweet Cinnaburst.



Cinnaburst



31 Dogs placed in Forever homes during 2009 thanks to our Foster Homes:

- Jan Lingle**
- Marianne & Joe Mazur**
- Rhonda & Brian Knox**
- John Wemple**
- Kim Merk**
- Toni & John Torrelli**
- Loretta & Dave Miller**
- Addie Wunz**
- Alli Kendall & Dale McCool**
- Brian & Diania Paschen**
- Marilyn Johnson**
- Brad Hornung**
- Barbara & Maddie Lynch-Johnt**
- Sarah Anderson**
- Laura & Greg Pike**
- Lori Bagne & Lee Hopper**
- Dianne & Doug Empringham**
- Vale Cole & Eric Jankowski**
- Kathy & Bob Fink**
- Steve Dominessy**
- Dorothy Anderson**
- Anne Weinert**
- Deanne & Tom Cross**
- Jane and Bob Munro**

Thank you Dee and Jolene for supporting GALs through the Historical Building.

Thanks for stopping by Diane & Loren Mc-Granahan...look forward to your help next year!



Lee at Christmas Party

The GALs 2nd Annual Christmas Gathering was hosted this year by Lorraine, Chuck and Jemma Caverno. They willingly offered when they heard we were in need of someplace to get together. When Greg and I arrived we were transported into a winter wonderland. Everything was over-the-top and done with such enthusiasm. Each person that followed in after was also wowed by their good spirited efforts. The food and drink were plenty and delicious. Thank you so much for giving us such a wonderful atmosphere and party!