

News and Roos

from

GPA/Three Rivers Greyhounds, Inc.



MARCH 2015

Issue #19



UPCOMING EVENTS

How many greyhounds and their owners can agree that this past winter's weather was neither hound nor people friendly? Raise your paws!

ICE, SNOW, COLD.....REPEAT! It was enough to make hounds and humans want to pack their bags and head for a warmer climate.

With warmer temperatures on the horizon, now is the time to check your calendar and get ready to have some GREYT times with your greyhounds and greyhound lovers like you.

TRG is sponsoring the following events, (more information on each activity is contained in the newsletter with the page number listed in the "Inside this Issue".)

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE! All events will benefit TRG's greyhound adoption.

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| Sunday, April 19 | Rock N' Roos Reunion, Blueberry Hill Community Park
Franklin Park, PA |
| Sunday, May 3 | FORE! The Hounds Charity Golf Outing
Olde Stonewall Golf Course, Ellwood City PA |
| Fri/Sat , May 15, 16 | TRG Garage & Yard Sale
705 Saxony Drive, Seven Fields, PA |
| Sunday, May 31 | TRG Bath-A-Thon
TanZar Kennels, Wexford, PA |

Inside this Issue.....

<i>Holiday Thank You</i>	<i>p.2</i>
<i>Donations/Sponsors</i>	<i>p.2</i>
<i>Rainbow Bridge</i>	<i>p.3</i>
<i>Rock N' Roos Reunion</i>	<i>p.3</i>
<i>Black Greyhounds</i>	<i>p.4</i>
<i>Golf Outing</i>	<i>p.5</i>
<i>Alaskan Greyhounds</i>	<i>p.5-6</i>
<i>Bath-a-Thon</i>	<i>p.7</i>
<i>TRG Garage Sale</i>	<i>p.7</i>
<i>Annie's Story</i>	<i>p.8</i>
<i>GPA/Canada</i>	<i>p.8</i>
<i>Wheeling Affiliate</i>	<i>p.9</i>
<i>M&G Help Needed</i>	<i>p.9</i>

EDITOR'S NOTE: Please take time to read the special story of greyhound Annie, and also the story of TRG greyhounds living in Alaska. Thanks to both the Flot family and the Marinchaks for their stories!

Thank You for your Holiday Donations!

Kayla Bowser & Erik Bylinowski
Kathy Sudiak ~ In memory of Rosie and Levi
Pauline Peters & Nick Gongolas ~ In honor of Louie
Hilary & Mike Snyder ~ In honor of Skeeter
The Laniewski Family
Larry & Renie Mistick ~ in honor of Smokey
Rich & Kim Pierce ~ In honor of Ruby
The Smocer Family
Fran Iafolla ~ In honor of Honey Girl
Bev Stulen
Michelle Pscolyar ~ In honor of Wolffy and in memory of Cameron & Capri
Sandi Pscolyar ~ In memory of Babe Blue & Matthew
Cecil & Suzanne Griffith ~ In honor of Cece
Leslie Rankin
Linda Kostka ~ In honor of Greycie
Patty & Sam Osche ~ In honor of Rocky & Zorro
Carla & Emmanuel DiNatale
Jane Fahringer ~ In memory of Bentley, Max, and Ginger
Cindy & Rich Losego ~ In honor of Tiamo
Jim Evans ~ In memory of Dolly
Jennifer Krandel ~ In honor of Sophie
Vince & Maryann Flot
Fred & Debbie Reetz ~ In honor of Abby
Paul & Diane Passantino ~ In honor Bella & Maz
Louise Evans ~ In honor of Rosie & Rummy
Bonnie Morell
Jeffrey & Patricia Smallwood
Alice & Steve Valentine ~ In memory of Pearl



Your generous donations are much appreciated and will be used for TRG greyhound adoption costs, including veterinary expenses and medical care.

~ The Officers and Board of GPA/Three Rivers Greyhounds

A special thank you to the following for their donations and sponsorships ~

Sponsors: Maryann & Vince Flot Emmi Voytek
 Jane Fahringer Kristen Schnur, Patrick Curan & Lucy
 Arno Pustel

Donations~ Bernard Antol
 In Memory of Monique Clark - Calgon Carbon Corp., Nancy Kulduski
 In Memory of William Stickel - Kathleen Kelly, Andrea Hergenroeder,
 Deborah Miller, Theresa Wubben





Running at the Rainbow Bridge....

We remember the following hounds that have recently crossed the bridge:

Jasper, loved by the Valentine family

Rock N' Roos Reunion is Back!

SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 2015
3 P.M. TO 7 P.M.



BLUEBERRY HILL PARK ACTIVITY CENTER



It's Three Rivers Greyhounds' annual event to celebrate with fun and fellowship for both humans and hounds!

Donation of \$10 per person includes food & drinks, door prizes, gift bags, greyhound games & fun run. There will be vendors with greyhound and human items to purchase. We will also have available adoptables at the event.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

3 p.m.	Registration
3:15 p.m.	Blessing of the Hounds
3:30-4:30 p.m.	Greyhound Fun Run
4:30 - ???	Food
5:30 p.m.	Greyhound Games & Canine Costume Walk
6 p.m.	50/50, Auction winners announced



New this year is the Canine Costume Walk. This will be a fun, slightly competitive (remember these hounds are retired!) **dress-up-your-hound** contest. We will have some prizes for participants. If a human chooses to compliment their hound's costume with their own, all the better!

So bring your hounds and be ready to enjoy good food, good times, and grey fellowship. Proceeds from this event will support GPA/TRG's mission of finding forever homes for retired racing greyhounds.

Please RSVP to info@gpathreeriversgreyhounds.org so we can have plenty of food for everyone.

Why are Black Greyhounds at the Bottom of the Adoption Barrel?
by Kyle Catanzarite

Every person who has devoted time and energy to finding forever homes for retired racers will agree that black greyhounds finish last in the race to the adoption finish line.

This trend of overlooking black greyhounds has prevailed throughout history and dates back to the Middle Ages, when only nobility had the privilege of owning this regal canine breed.

Despite the ownership ban, rebellious commoners owned and hunted with greyhounds, choosing the colors that were less conspicuous, including brindle, red and black. Conversely, lighter-colored hounds were preferred by the nobles since they were more visible and easier to find when lost.

The end result was that lighter greyhounds were associated with rank and wealth while their darker counterparts, particularly the darkest among them, were considered common and undesirable.

This ancient bias, favoring light over dark hounds based on a class distinction, is a thing of the past but even in today's world, black greyhounds are sadly at the bottom of the adoption barrel.

The reasons are numerous and varied, ranging from "black is boring" to "black is intimidating!" It never ceases to amaze me that people actually base their decision to adopt on color. However, with few exceptions, the more striking the appearance of the greyhound, the greater the amount of interest in adopting him or her.

As the owner of three black greyhounds, two past and one present, I can say without a doubt that black greyhounds are as beautiful and loving as any other greyhound that has occupied my heart and home. And because the number of black greyhounds is second only to the number of brindles, there are more black hounds than any other color waiting for the chance to race into your life!

MEET TRG'S TALL, DARK AND HANDSOME BLACK HOUNDS WHO ARE CURRENTLY AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION.

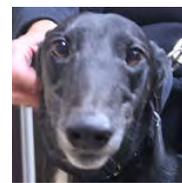
EACH OF THESE BOYS DESERVE A FOREVER HOME.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.GPATRG.ORG TO LEARN HOW YOU CAN ADOPT THEM!

VINNY



KRAMER



Deadline to Register



8th Annual FORE! The Hounds Charity Outing Sunday, May 3, 2015 – Olde Stonewall Golf Club 1495 Mercer Road, Ellwood City, PA 16117

Registration and Driving Range Use begins at 12:00 PM | Shotgun Start at 1:30 PM

Rain or Shine – Scramble Format – Space is limited to the first 120 players

COST: \$135 per player. Included - driving range use before golf, locker room use, 18 holes of golf at the well-manicured and prestigious Olde Stonewall Golf Club, riding cart w/GPS, snacks/drinks on the course, sit down dinner, cash bar at dinner, skill prizes*, team prizes, auction items, door prizes, and more!

Dinner choices are: Stuffed Chicken Breast (or) Shrimp and Penne Pasta (or) Salmon Teriyaki

Please register by April 15th by mailing the registration form with check to:

Three Rivers Greyhounds, P.O. Box 147, Greensburg, PA 15601.

Or, visit our website to register online and to pay by credit card: www.gpathreeriversgreyhounds.org

Golf attire required. Collared shirts & slacks for men. No steel spikes are allowed on the course. No jeans or jean shorts.

Everyone welcome....singles, twosomes, threesomes & foursomes. If you don't have a foursome, we'll put you with other fun golfers!

**This event is open to men and women.
Certain holes will have skill prizes for both**
Any questions, please contact Lisa Paulson at 412.956.5209 or lilipaulson@gmail.com



Retiring in the *Last Frontier*: A Greyhound Perspective By Marc and Christy Marinchak



For three to four years, "Natural Talent" and "Slaytex Dubai" spent their days racing around the country before retiring from Wheeling Downs in West Virginia.

After their final races, they spent their first year of retirement in the care of an adoption kennel, until finally Tawny and Slate, as we affectionately refer to them, found a forever home with us. We've had Slate and Tawny now for almost three years, and at the ages of seven and eight, they've had no problem transitioning to the life of a retired greyhound.

When the "boys" arrived to their forever home, we lived in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Then, about six months into a settled, retired life, a new job opportunity was presented. The only catch, it was in Anchorage, Alaska. This is the story of how Tawny and Slate retired in the *Last Frontier*...

On February 7, 2013, Tawny and Slate boarded a plane and headed to Anchorage, Alaska, and on February 8, 2013, at 12:30 a.m. they landed safely in their new home. There are approximately 300,000 people living in Anchorage, the largest 'city' in Alaska, and while we've heard that there is another greyhound in the area, our paths have yet to cross.

The move for Tawny and Slate was a bit arduous, but who wouldn't be a little tuckered out after moving 4,000 miles. Given the time of year, we were unable to make the two-week drive across country and up the ALCAN Highway from Pittsburgh to Anchorage. Instead of driving, we opted to fly our dogs to their new home. But given a greyhound's size, the logistics of flying weren't as direct as we had hoped. The only flight options for our boys went to Anchorage via Houston and Seattle, which was dictated by the size of their kennels. But after about 24 hours of travel our dogs made it safely to their new home. We plan to drive our dogs back with us when the time comes.



Once Tawny and Slate arrived, our next area of concern with relocating our hounds was the weather and the daylight.

On average, winter temperatures in Anchorage range from the negative teens to mid-20s ~ the boys have experienced -30 degrees ~ but when the cold days arrive, they get to sport their fashionable fleece-lined jackets. The jackets especially bode well on the short winter days when there is only 6 hours of daylight. The short days make it the perfect 'nap' environment, not that the boys have trouble napping.

In the summer, the average temperatures range from low 50s to low 70s. At the peak of the summer season, there is close to 23 hours of daylight, and the boys are able to take a stroll under the mid-night sun. Regardless of the weather and daylight or lack thereof, the boys

always look forward to taking car rides to new places.

In jest, the locals say "Anchorage is only 15 minutes from Alaska," but there is some truth in these words. In 15 minutes, the city lights are left behind and you've entered the last frontier ... a place filled with a vast array of unknown smells for them to explore.

So, where have Tawny and Slate traveled to in Alaska?

The boys have sniffed around the local trails, but the two they enjoy the most are Kincaid and Earthquake Parks. It's a sure thing a moose will be munching on tree buds along the walk; however, this does not seem to faze them. They continue on their way, looking for the next bush to make "theirs."



Tawny and Slate have gone northbound to Eagle River, Wasilla and Palmer, Matanuska, and Talkeetna. On these trips, they've walked a trail in the Chugach Mountains to Thunder Bird Falls, felt glacier water on their paws at Eklutna Lake, took in the views of the Matanuska and Knik Glaciers, investigated an old gold mine at Hatcher's Pass, and stood on the vast wilderness of the Talkeetna Mountains with her majesty, Denali, as the backdrop.



The boys have also enjoyed southbound trips down the Turnagain Arm to Girdwood, Portage, Whittier, and to land's end on the Seward Highway. Tawny and Slate have visited the Potter Marsh Bird Sanctuary, walked on the silty soil along Cook Inlet, hit the ski slopes in Girdwood, experienced the breathtaking view of Portage Glacier and its glacier laden peaks, trekked the rugged mountains and glacier terrain to Byron Glacier, ridden through the Whittier tunnel just to take in the splendor of the Prince William Sound, and gazed out at the panoramic view of Resurrection Bay, in Seward.

We think it is fair to say ... retirement life, for Tawny and Slate, in *Last Frontier*, has been good.

More Upcoming Events!!

Proceeds will benefit TRG adoption & Veterinary Expenses



TRG Yard Sale

Do you have unused or unwanted items cluttering up your garage, basement, etc.? Put them to good use and benefit greyhound adoption by donating them to our first ever yard sale hosted by Jane Fahringer!

When: Friday/Saturday
May 15 & 16
9 am to 3 pm

Where: 705 Saxony Drive, Seven
Fields, PA

Needed: Gently used treasures!
Items should be in good
condition.



No broken items, everything in working condition, no clothing or shoes. Items can be dropped off the weekend prior to sale.

Contact Jane at
jfahringer@phipps.conservatory.org

Volunteers are needed to help the days of the sale; Jane promises coffee and donuts! This is a neighborhood event, so there should be lots of interest. We will also have an information table so people can learn about greyhound adoption!

Greyhound Bath-A-Thon

After a long harsh winter, treat your hound to some pampering by participating in our bath-a-thon.

WHEN: Sunday, May 31
12 noon to 3 pm

WHERE: TanZar Kennels
Wexford, PA



WHAT: Your dog will be bathed and their nails clipped. Short coated dogs only. No small dogs please.

DONATION: \$20 per dog

While your greyhound is getting pampered with their bath/blow dry and nail clipping, TRG will have snacks and drinks for the humans PLUS we will have TRG merchandise available for purchase for humans and canines alike.

Hope to see you and your hound there!

Proceeds benefit TRG's mission of placing retired racers in forever homes.

GPA/Three Rivers Greyhounds Inc. is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Your contribution made to Three Rivers Greyhounds in 2015 will be fully tax deductible and 100% of your donation will be used to benefit the greyhounds.

GPA/Three Rivers Greyhounds, Inc., Pittsburgh
PO Box 147, Greensburg, PA 15601 Phone 724.216.5820
info@gpathreeriversgreyhounds.org

Annie's Story Just One More Dog

At five years of age Annie, formerly Endless Night, found her way into our hearts and our home. Now at almost 15 years old she would like to tell you her story . . .

In October of 2005, volunteers from the rescue group Going Home Greyhounds traveled to Wheeling to select several dogs for foster care and adoption. As they were leaving, a kennel employee asked them to please take one more dog because they were out of her medication.

That "one more dog" was Annie, a sweet, petite black female with an impressive racing career. As a last minute, unplanned addition to the group, she was now headed to a Pittsburgh foster home.

Just twelve hours later, there was a terrible fire at the Wheeling kennel and, sadly, 70 greyhounds perished. Annie was the very last dog to leave the kennel that fateful day and because of her luck, she is still enjoying a happy retirement with us.

Over the years Annie has been a greyt sister to several greyhounds: Mattie, Jake and Boe (and a black Lab named Morgan) and now resides with her sister, Sierra, and brother, Ollie.

In her golden years, Annie's health continues to be good—in fact, her vet calls her "Wonder Woman."

We are so grateful to have had Annie as part of our canine family for so many years. That October day so long ago was not only a lucky day for Annie, but for us as well. We have been blessed to know and love her for the past 10 years and thankful that she was that "one more dog" who got out that fateful day.

Vince & Maryann Flot



Greyhound Pets of America is Growing!



TRG would like to welcome GPA/Canada, located in Toronto, to the family!! GPA/Canada is an Affiliate chapter right now, but will become a full chapter soon. This is the first time GPA has expanded into Canada and is looking forward to a GREYT partnership with our Canadian neighbors. If you get the chance, check out their website at www.greyhoundpetscanada.com

~Susy Durso



Annie & foster coordinator Jean
2005



Annie and Jean
2015

GPA/Three Rivers Greyhoundsin Wheeling?

GPA/Three Rivers Greyhounds, with the approval of GPA National, has assumed responsibility for GPA operations at Wheeling Island. Jim Gartland, the President of Racing in Wheeling, has asked TRG to step in and oversee the adoption process there.

Effective March 14th, TRG is the official GPA presence in Wheeling. Wheeling is recognized as an affiliate chapter of TRG, and is formally known as GPA/Three Rivers Greyhounds, Inc. – Wheeling Affiliate. We will be working closely with Pam Webb, the adoption coordinator hired by the racetrack, and with Dr. Lori Bohenko, the track veterinarian. TRG will be handling all of the functions a GPA chapter is responsible for making sure that the hounds get everything they need as they approach their first step to being a retired racing greyhound!

Many of the greyhounds that are in the Wheeling Island kennel move onto other adoption groups in many states, WV, PA, VA, NY, OH, MI, just to name a few. Other greys are adopted right out of the kennel into their forever homes.

Wheeling Island also participates in The 4L4H – 4 legs 4 hounds – broken leg program. Dr. Bohenko, as track veterinarian, treats all greys as they come off the track after each race. If a dog has a broken leg and is determined to need more intensive treatment, they are sent to Ohio State University for care. Veterinary students at OSU repair the injuries and then frequently foster the greyhound until they can be adopted. Many end up being adopted by the students and their families!

TRG will be holding fundraisers to help with this 4L4H program! Look forward to some NEW items at our Rock N' Roos Reunion that are specifically being sold to fund this program. We are also looking for donations to help revamp the GPA office at the track. Needed are new office furniture, storage cabinets, a file cabinet, and a loveseat or sofa (gently used will do!) We want to make this office space welcoming to those who come to visit the hounds!

The ultimate goal is for the Wheeling Affiliate to become recognized as a stand-alone chapter of Greyhound Pets of America.

TRG is very excited to take this next step to helping retired racing greyhounds find their forever homes and comfy couches!!!



Meet & Greet Coordinator Needed!

TRG is partnered with Petco and does regular meet & greets at area Petco Stores. A coordinator is needed for the Gibsonia Petco. Several folks have offered to volunteer to work the meet & greets at the store, and that is wonderful! But, we still need a coordinator.

What does the coordinator do? This person will be the main contact for a particular store, a liaison with the store manager, notify TRG of dates and times that have been scheduled so we can get it on the website. This person would also coordinate the number of volunteers/dogs at the meet & greet, and handle all donations made during the meet n greet. Meet & greets are typically monthly and are generally 2-3 hours, but you are always more than welcome to hold more than that! TRG will provide you with a meet n greet bin, materials and donation jar. You will need to provide a table – often provided by Petco itself.

So, if you are interested in being the coordinator for the Gibsonia Petco, or any other Petco stores, please notify TRG at info@gpathreeriversgreyhounds.org