



GreyHeart Greyhound Adoption Newsletter - August 2020 Edition

The President “Speaks”

Well Happy Summer!

I hope the whole GreyHeart Family is doing just fine. GreyHeart is doing really well with a record number of hounds going into forever homes this calendar year. I believe we have adopted out almost 60 pups already and still moving onward. I'm not sure how much longer this will last but I can pretty safely say that next year's numbers will be significantly less. We will still continue to bring hounds from other sources when Florida dries up.

As you all probably know already, our annual picnic has been cancelled due to Covid. We hope to have it in the springtime if all is well.

In July a GreyHeart greyhound accidentally got loose. The dog is safe now but this was a frightening experience for not only the owner but all who participated in the search and rescue. The massive search had culminated into a huge task that required some tricky moves. After hours of scouring the area, a young hero who found, chased down and captured this poor, scared pup was rewarded with much praise and a huge thank you. I can wish all day long that there never be any lost or runaway greyhounds in our group. There's not even the slightest possibility that those wishes will always come true. I will, however, tell you that the members of this group have your back and will come through for you ten-fold..... TOGETHER.

I have seen time and time again, people gather together and do everything they can to bring a greyhound home safe and sound. Unfortunately, there is not always a happy ending, so PLEASE do your part and put the safety measures in place to keep your greyhound protected and contained.

They take such good care of us, we are obligated to return that care and love..... Right?

Art Zylka, GreyHeart President

July Greyhound Haul

Our haul on Saturday, July 25th continued to follow safety precautions due to COVID-19. We brought in 4 handsome males and 3 gorgeous females. The haul went very smoothly and the hounds were in good shape despite the high temperatures.

The hauler left Florida a little later than planned but they made it to the Indiana border in a timely manner. Thanks so much to the drivers: Stephanie Knight, Jim Bartlett, Ed Pietrzak and Jeff Henkel and the riders: Jonathan Luke, Pete Hymas, Keith Warner, Francie Bonham and Ann Pietrzak.

A big thank you to Linda Cliffel and the Sunburst Kennels for sending these good looking hounds.



Bumpa Larry (Bumpa) is a fawn male fostered by Keith Warner



Cimarron City (Aiden) is a brindle male fostered by Yvonne Warner



Amazing Arleen (Arleen) is a brindle female fostered by Vanessa Rowan



Wilma is a female cow dog fostered by Stephanie Knight



PJ Bounce Back (Jerald) is a black male fostered by Karen Deren



BL Buttercup (Buttercup) is a red fawn female fostered by Chris & Morgan Cox



Aspen Grove (Aspen) is a red male fostered by Codilyn Johnson

Hounds from Wheeling W Virginia



Pearly Mae is a fawn roman-nosed brood fostered by Keri Nugent and adopted by Monika Beuerle (brought in on 6/23)



Peggy Pants is a fawn brood fostered by Vanessa Rowan and adopted by Cindy Harns (brought in on 6/23)



Loco Camero (Bolt) is a male cow dog fostered by Scott Prior (brought in on 8/6)

August Greyhound Haul

We brought in 3 beautiful broods on our haul of Sunday, August 9th. The hounds were brought up from Florida by Greyhounds In Motion and were delivered directly to Art & Assi's home.

Once again, thank you Linda Cliffler and Sunburst Kennels for these amazing hounds.



WV's Eden (Eden) is a female cow dog fostered by Keith Brown



Pat C Deception (Dee) is a brindle female fostered by Jeff Henkel



That Away (Wendy) is a fawn female fostered by Sally West



HEARTFELT STORY

Gideon (racing name Flying Vian) came to GreyHeart on the haul of 4/6/14. He was fostered and then adopted on 4/17/14. Unfortunately, Gideon was returned to GreyHeart on 1/5/20. He was then fostered in 3 different homes until he was finally adopted on 5/5/20 by Francine Bonham. This is Francine's story.

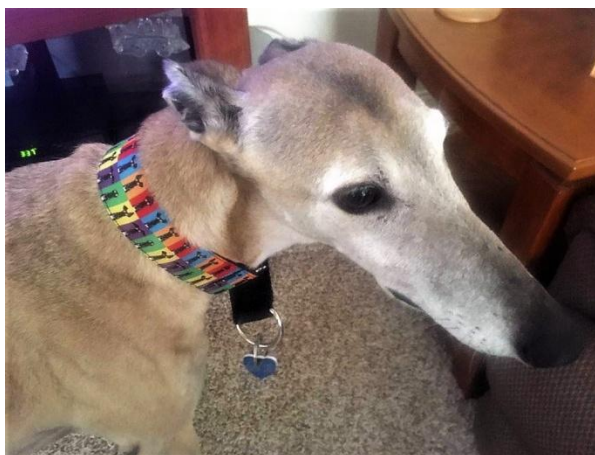
The story of my intent to adopt a greyhound started 10 years ago. My husband and I both worked for Ford Motor Company. We wanted to adopt a greyhound and did months of research on them. We knew we had to wait until we retired because we worked such long hours and would never leave a pet alone for that length of time. Six months later the time for retirement had finally come for both of us. We each had 30 years seniority and qualified for full pension and lifetime health benefits. We applied for our retirement and knew within a month we would be retired. Two days after we applied for retirement I received a call from Ford telling me that my husband had collapsed at work and I needed to go to the hospital immediately because it did not look good for him. When I got to the hospital I told them who I was and who I was looking for. The nurse led me into a side office and told me the doctor would be right in to talk to me. Four doctors, a priest and two security guards came into the room. I knew by the look on their faces that he was already gone. They told me he had passed instantly. His aortic valve had pulled away from his heart and it was immediate death. I was devastated. My whole world came crashing down around me. After his burial I was lost. Both our children were married and had families of their own. I was lost into a world of total loss and depression. I couldn't retire, I couldn't bear to be home alone without him. I continued to work for another ten years. Finally in February of this year I reached 40 years seniority at Ford and I turned 61. I knew it was time to retire. I knew that all the plans my husband and I had for retirement would never come to be. But there was one dream that I prayed would come to be. That was to adopt a greyhound. I went on line and found GreyHeart Greyhound Adoption and sent in an application.

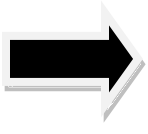
I received a call from Art two days later saying my application had been approved. All that was needed was a home check. He said with the virus going on it would be a while before he could do a home check. So I was ready for a wait praying the time would come soon. The next night I received a call from Art telling me he had an emergency situation with a greyhound. He explained to me that the greyhound was a senior dog with many issues that was causing adoptees to return him. He wanted to know if I would be willing to take the dog, Gideon, and see how it worked out. I told him I absolutely would! A couple days later he sent John Mryzglod over to do a home check. John brought Gideon with him to see how we reacted to each other. I could see from the first time I looked in his eyes he had the same look of sorrow that was in my eyes. But to our surprise Gideon came straight to me and stayed by my side during the entire home check. Gideon was terrified of stairs. I have a ranch home and the only stairs he would have to learn to use was the three steps to the back yard. With some treats and gentle coaxing I taught Gideon to use the stairs. He was shaky with them but I knew with some practice he would be fine with them. John got ready to leave and Gideon stayed by my side and did not want to go with him. John asked me if I felt comfortable with him leaving Gideon with me. I told him absolutely.

For the first week all Gideon did was lie on his bed, sleep, eat and go out to the bathroom. Then suddenly one morning I woke up to Gideon at the side of my bed with his nose laying on my face and his tail wagging madly. I knew we had finally made a real connection. After that Gideon has been my shadow. Where I go he is by my side. One of his issues was that he never warmed up to people and had no interest in playing with toys. Within the next few days Gideon was playing with all his toys and bringing them to me to play with him.

For ten years I had been on two antidepressants daily just to be able to function. I started feeling alive again with my sweet Gideon by my side. I talked with my doctor and he agreed with me that I could start weaning myself off of the medications. Within a month I had totally stopped taking both medications and I feel wonderful and very happy for the first time since my husband had passed. My sweet boy Gideon has done that for me. We are both totally happy and healthy since finding each other. He is the love of my life and I can hardly remember what my life was like before he came into my life. It is always said how much we do for our hounds by adopting them, loving them and giving them a forever home. What I want the world to know is what Gideon has done for me. He has made me a whole person again, happy, healthy and back in the world living again. I love Gideon so much and would never give him up. He makes me want to get up in the morning and nothing is better than a sloppy greyhound kiss!

Thank you Art and GreyHeart Greyhound for giving me my sweet boy Gideon. Life has never been so good and I am so happy to be alive every day to take care of my sweet Gideon!! The love he gives me keeps me smiling everyday!!!





Our next haul is tentatively set for September!!

If You Open Your Heart To Them, They Will Open Your Eyes.

Upcoming Events

► **Meet & Greets** (Specific maps/locations can be found on the GreyHeart website)

There are no Meet & Greets scheduled at this time due to the CoronaVirus. Hopefully, we will see you all soon!!

Stay tuned for impromptu fun walks & other events. Check Facebook for announcements of dates & times when we will walk our hounds (i.e. Hines Park, Downtown River Walk, etc.) or organize play dates. This is a wonderful opportunity to showcase our amazing hounds and solicit potential adopters. If you have any other fun ideas, let us know!!

If you have any suggestions for future newsletters, please let us know. These articles can be about information you believe will be useful to all greyhound owners or stories you would like to share.

→ Please forward all newsletter inquiries, suggestions and photos to: Ginnie Bondy at bond0011@aol.com

→ Articles, photos and any items to be included in the next newsletter **must be submitted to Ginnie by September 15th.**

