

# **GreyHeart Greyhound Adoption**

# **Newsletter - Spring 2020 Edition**

### The President "Speaks"

Hello GreyHeart Members. It has been a little while since my last writing and a lot has changed since. Our last haul on March 21st was referred to as "The Corona Haul". I'm not referring to the Mexican beer either. This epidemic that we are dealing with now will never be forgotten. It has affected everyone in different ways, some much worse than others. It has also affected the Greyhound situation in Florida in the most horrible way. Last week I believe four tracks just shut down early and will not be reopening for the season. It is believed that even more will be shutting down early. This is literally flooding Florida with hundreds of Greyhounds that will need to be placed into foster homes with adoption groups such as ours.

A quote from Linda Cliffel: "Last day of racing at Sanford Orlando Kennel Club. Heartbreaking. Almost 700 Florida greyhounds today and hundreds in the months to come need to be moved out of state. NOW is the time to volunteer, foster, adopt or donate to get them all home. The situation is urgent, the crisis for Florida racers is NOW."

The end of Florida greyhound racing is not going to wait for the end of the year....it's happening now. The situation is critical. **PLEASE help us step up and get these hounds home.** Right now, we as a group are in need of volunteers to open up their homes to fostering these pups! Please consider....

Everyone please take care. Stay healthy.

Art Zylka, GreyHeart President

## **January Greyhound Haul**

The January 18<sup>th</sup> haul was pretty challenging to say the least! None of this haul would have happened if it weren't for our courageous drivers: Jeff Henkel, Charles Makres and Dave Biliti (and rider Sarah). They braved a huge Michigan snowstorm to drive down to Indianapolis to pick up our hounds where Sunburst Kennels met them. A HUGE thank you to Stacie and her husband, Dorty from Sunburst Kennels who braved the trip from Florida and to Linda Cliffel for sending us 3 beautiful females and 2 handsome males. Also thanks to Art and Assi for hosting the haul and providing a huge pot of yummy chili.



**Lee Ona (Leona)** is a red brindle female fostered by Jeff Henkel



Super Grover (Grover) is a red male fostered by Leah Mourey



**Black Silk (Silky)** is a black female fostered by Dave Biliti & Sarah



AJN Tower of Power (Tower) is a white & black male fostered by Yvonne Warner





### **March Greyhound Haul**

Dunlap

**JS Glo Getter (Giddy)** is a red fawn female fostered by Amy

It will forever be known as the "Corona Haul"! On Saturday, March 21st, we brought in 7 beautiful gals. The haul differed a little because we had to limit the number of people that were able to participate. Thanks so much to the drivers (Jeff Henkel, Ed Pietrzak & Charles Mackres) and riders (Anna Pietrzak, Dawn Bombay, Pete Hymas & Monique LaBenne) who had to get up at the crack of dawn to drive down to the Indiana border to pick up our hounds. Thanks also to Cassie Oviatt, Vet Tech, who made sure our pups were in good shape. And a special thanks to Linda Cliffel and Sunburst Kennels for making all of this happen. And BIG thanks to Art & Assi for all their hard work!!!!



All Girl Glenda (Glenda) is a red fawn female fostered by Harriet Weiner **Hey Hey Mama (Mama)** is a white & black female fostered by Yvonne Warner **Go Go Morocco (Morocco)** is a brindle female fostered by Melanie Silva Atascocita Bash (Bash) is a red female fostered by Robin Wittner



When You Opening (Nina) is a red female fostered by Keith Warner



**FGF Friendly Gal (Gal)** is a black female fostered by Erin Ropes



**Black Coral (Reggie)** is a black female fostered by Vanessa Rowan



**Loco Life Style** (brought in from W VA) is a brindle female fostered by Carol Gilin







# Our next haul is tentatively set for Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup> !!

#### **Beaumont Commons Retirement Community**

A fun time was had by all during our visit to Beaumont Commons Retirement Community on Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup>. The residents loved being able to interact with our hounds and were very interested in learning more about them. And of course our hounds had a great time with all of the attention they were getting!





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

### **Love Letter**

The following is a letter we received from a gentleman who adopted a GreyHeart greyhound last year. His heartfelt words express his love for his hound...which I am sure we can all relate to!

"I just wanted to say what a marvelous animal Eldon has turned out to be. I could not be happier with a friend and companion such as Eldon has become. We do a lot of walking and he has been more than excellent in his behavior. He is social as can be, but does not like the fact that my neighbor's cat likes to curl up on the chair on my front porch. I wanted also to mention that I located an article in the Washington Post regarding the demise of greyhound racing in Florida and Eldon is the dog featured in the article. Thank goodness, Eldon was in full stride that day and the journalist was impressed by Eldon's speed and margin of victory in that race. There was also a photo included in the article that depicted Eldon literally flying down the track (below).

Should you ever need a testimonial to assist in bringing more people into the greyhound ownership group, I would be happy to volunteer my time to either author an article or bring Eldon to a place where people could go hands on with him. I often have him accompany me to the assisted living facility that my mother resides in. Eldon really enjoys the geriatric attention he receives there. He lavishes in being petted and being told how pretty he is. Eldon is very patient with the elderly and small children as I have socialized him with both and know that I can trust his behavior in those situations. I have kept his diet strict and careful, and he keeps his running weight in place from his racing days. The veterinarian lauds him with praise for his beautiful teeth, good health, and wonderful disposition. It's always a pleasure to take Eldon out for a walk as I never have to worry about anything we may meet on the street except for remote controlled cars. He will chase a remote controlled car and run it down. Once he catches it, he's not quite sure what to do with it. He usually flips it with his snout and then hustles back to my side. I am so content in having made the decision to adopt him. Eldon has even become adept at playing with toys. He loves large plush toys with squeakers or water bottle type crunchers in them. Eldon has been a wonderful experience for me and I look forward to many more years of his chatter and activity in my home.

My thanks to you and GreyHeart for a terrific opportunity,"



## **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!!

**WANTED - VOLUNTEERS!!** Please consider bringing your greyhound to one or more of these fun events. Not only are Meet N' Greets a wonderful opportunity to introduce our wonderful greyhounds to the public, it also gives us a great opportunity to educate possible greyhound adopters. It's a lot of fun to meet with other greyhound owners and share experiences !

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

 $\rightarrow$  Articles, photos and any items to be included in the next newsletter **must be submitted to Ginnie by May** 15th.

