

VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE / SUMMER 2010



***No matter how little money and how few possessions you own,
having a dog makes you rich.***

- Louis Sabin

I joined this group in 2002 when I adopted my first greyhound.

Someone doesn't just go from getting a dog to joining the adoption group's board of directors. I began by helping out in little ways, like collecting product donations such as dog food and dog bedding from local retailers. Later, I went to a board meeting...and was elected to serve a few years after bringing my first grey home.

Once on the board, I continued to come up with new ideas and ways for the group to solicit product donations. I also began coordinating the events that we receive donations from. And you will find me at many of the weekend meet and greets.

Two years ago, in 2008, I was elected the vice president of Greyhound Pets of America/Tampa Bay. And today, I am the youngest GPA/TB vice president in the chapter's history.

We all have busy lives. That includes me. But in communities across the nation, young adults have a lot of energy, and many of us want to do things that make our world, our cities and our towns a better place to live.

Many of the current and past GPA/TB volunteers have been working to place former racing greyhounds in adoptive homes for several years, here in Tampa Bay and elsewhere. Because of their tireless efforts, countless greyhounds are happily coexisting with loving humans.

Now, it's our time. I'm personally inviting the younger generation to help make a difference in the lives of our four-legged furry friends. Think about it! You can help change the life of another being. (Check out our upcoming fundraising event with the Tampa Bay Storm on page 2.)

Remember, I started out collecting donations. You can do a variety of things to help, at many different times. Even an hour or two a month can make a difference. If you have any questions about our group or our mission, don't hesitate to contact me or any of the other Greyhound Pets of America/Tampa Bay board members. Let's get more dogs Homeward Bound.

Namaste,
Joe Muhrlin



Queen For a Day

How's this for cute?

It's Nancy Nessler's greyhound Meagan, a project PUP therapy dog, dressed up befitting a princess!

Where did Meagan wear this outfit? Go to the center photo spread and see if you can spot her!

GIVE A GREYHOUND A STARTING PLACE!

The need for foster homes is greater than ever. Our entire program centers around them, and chances are very good that your own grey's retirement began in one.

Please consider opening your heart and home to a hound in need. Call 727-595-7852 for more information.

Thank you!



FOOTBALL FANS FOR GPA TAMPA BAY @ TAMPA BAY STORM SATURDAY, JULY 31 ST. PETE TIMES FORUM

The Tampa Bay Storm arena football team has invited us to buy tickets to their July 31 game at the St. Pete Times Forum against the Orlando Predators.

For each ticket we buy, GPA/TB gets \$3!

To purchase your tickets, call Dan Schlindwein at 813.301.6511. Prices start at \$8. Be sure to tell Dan you are buying tickets on behalf of GPA Tampa Bay.

We will have a table and volunteers with greyhounds outside the Forum beginning at 5:30 p.m., two hours prior to the start of the game.

Hope to see you there!

For more info about the Storm, visit:
www.tampabaystorm.com

IMPORTANT HOUSEKEEPING ITEMS

GPA TAGS: Keep your GPA tag on your Greyhound — it is his ticket home if he gets out. You must tell GPA when you move so we can change your address in our database. We very often find lost Greyhounds that are 20 miles from where they live. Please keep your information up to date so we can help get your Greyhound back home to you.

LOST GREYHOUND PROCEDURES: If your Greyhound gets out, use the emergency procedures on your refrigerator magnet. If you need a magnet, email Bonnie Leazer at bunsy4gr@verizon.net, see your GPA rep, or call the pager at 727-595-7852.

DECEASED GREYHOUND DATA: If your Greyhound passes away, please contact Tonya Bader at tonya@greyhoundpets.com.

PERSONAL OWNER DATA: We constantly update our Adopters' mailing and email addresses and telephone numbers. If your contact information has recently changed, please email Tonya Bader at tonya@greyhoundpets.com.

GREYHOUND RETURNS: All Greyhounds adopted through GPA **MUST** be returned to us if you cannot keep them for whatever reason. This includes moving away, a change in lifestyle or the death of the owner. Call us at 727-595-7852 if you have any concerns on this issue. You **CANNOT** give your Greyhound away.

CRATES: If you have a plastic or wire crate you would like to donate, please call 727-595-7852. These can be any size. These are for use during hurricane season. We help Greyhound owners by taking in their Greyhound during an emergency. We often take in their non-Greyhound pets also.

MEET & GREET VOLUNTEERS: We are in need of volunteers to help with our MEET AND GREETS at various pet stores. If you have 3 hours once or twice a month, please call 727-595-7852 or visit our website to obtain a Volunteer Application and mail it to PO Box 8071, Madeira Beach, FL 33738.

CASH FOR CRITTERS: Cash for Critters is a recycling program that turns trash into cash. The program recycles used inkjet cartridges for cash. They also recycle old cell phones. This program does have some restrictions. They will not accept Epson or Toshiba cartridges. If the body of the cartridge is clear, white, or grey, it probably will not be recycled. They recycle only digital cell phones. You do not need to turn in any accessories. **You may bring these items to the Parade of Greys picnic Feb. 20, or give them to your GPA volunteer at your local meet and greet.**

KENNEL SUPPLIES NEEDED: We are in need of liquid laundry detergent, Lysol, paper towels, clear plastic cling wrap, toilet paper, aluminum foil and peanut butter to put in Kong dog toys. Or, you can donate a Target, Sam's Club or Wal-Mart gift card so we may purchase these items.

FOSTER, GRANTED

TAKING IN A GREYHOUND FOR 2 1/2 WEEKS IS AN EXERCISE IN PATIENCE FOR HUMAN AND DOG, NOT TO MENTION AN EDUCATION FOR ALL OF US

By Wendy Bourland

My boyfriend Pete Barton and I moved in together in May of 2009. One month later, we adopted Nero (TMC's Stormy, Filipelli Kennel) and became greyhound "parents".

At age 48, I became a first-time dog owner. As I have told a number of people, having a dog seems a lot like having a child (which I don't have). They require much more attention than cats, which I did have before I met Pete.

But it didn't take me long to fall in love with Nero. He's gentle, sweet, smart and mischievous. He's also gorgeous, with his light coloring and black eyeliner markings.

So when another couple, longtime GPA Tampa Bay volunteers, asked us to take in their foster dog Penske (Craigie Penske from Abernathy Kennel) while they went on vacation in June, we agreed.

My mother, who lives in Ocala, had finished six months of chemotherapy at Moffitt Cancer Center here in Tampa, and was no longer staying at my house every three weeks for four days. (One dog, Mom could handle, but she asked me to wait to get a second one.)

So we had room in our house now as well as our hearts. I was hoping both were enough.

A rocky start

We didn't get off on such a greyt footing. Two hours after arriving at our house, Penske promptly walked into the master bedroom, lifted a leg and peed on a floor rug at the foot of our bed.

Sigh.

Penske also peed on the living room carpet in

front of the television on day two and three. As you might imagine, I wasn't happy about this. But Pete, good-natured and laid back guy that he is, simply shrugged.

Together, we cleaned up the messes.

Fitting in

Penske is a very different dog than Nero. He is larger, for one thing, and probably five pounds heavier. He is also a brindle male, quiet, and not as expressive.

Though Nero is very animated and affectionate, he is, by nature, submissive.

In his "regular" foster home, Penske follows two other greys around. But he hadn't been in *our* house 15 minutes when he took over our dog's bed!

Fortunately, Nero didn't seem to care. He slept on Penske's bedding, or the Oriental rug in the foyer.

Warming trend

By day 10, Penske had settled down. Where one dog went, the other was at his side. He greeted me at the door, tail wagging, just like Nero. And, he began roaching in Nero's bed.

Penske and Nero romped in the backyard and did their business in the backyard. Once Pete had worked with Penske one-on-one, he walked them together around our West Tampa neighborhood.

With Nero, people crossed the street to get out of their way. With Nero and Penske, they went in another direction entirely.

Imposing? You bet.

Would Pete and I foster another dog? Yes, but not until I've had Stanley Steemer clean my carpet, and I get to enjoy it for a little while. 🐾



Penske (left) and Nero, in Nero's bed. Penske pretty much took over the bed during his 2 1/2 week stay at our house, but once or twice, they shared it—or Nero had it to himself. While Penske was the dominant dog in this relationship, he was never aggressive toward Nero, or us. And he never played with Nero's toys.

ST PETE TIMES FORUM

If you wish to attend an event held at the St. Pete Times Forum (Tampa Bay Lightning hockey games, concerts, family events, etc.) call Dan Schlindwein at 813.301.6511. Receive a "preferred donor discount" by mentioning Greyhound Pets of America. Feel free to contact Dan at any time with questions or to purchase tickets! *Subject to availability*

Visit the GPA/TB website
for the latest
chapter news,
a calendar of upcoming
events,
dogs up for adoption,
Photos from previous events,
and lots more!
www.greyhoundpets.com



"SUPPORT GREYHOUND ADOPTION" - PLAY BINGO AT OCEAN BINGO, 2150 EAST BAY DR, LARGO, FL. Wednesday and Friday are "Support Greyhound Adoption" days. If you love to play bingo and love the greyhounds, this is a GREYT way to support the cause. Doors open at 11 AM, play starts at noon and goes throughout the day. Call for more information, 727-586-0456.

GPA/TB 2010 Activities

*A Little Rain
(ok, a LOT)
Can't Stop
GPA/TB
From
Raising
Money
For The
Greyhounds!*



Over two inches of rain fell at Quaker Steak & Lube Restaurant in Pinellas Park on April 18, 2010, during the 9th Annual Run With The Big Dogs Motorcycle Ride and Poker Run. Some very dedicated volunteers, vendors, sponsors, donors and riders kept the GPA Tampa Bay's biggest yearly fundraiser from being a total washout. *Copyright 2010 ComputerBob.com. All Rights Reserved*

**Photogenic
Hounds
(and humans)
at a Trinity
PetSmart
Meet
and Greet**

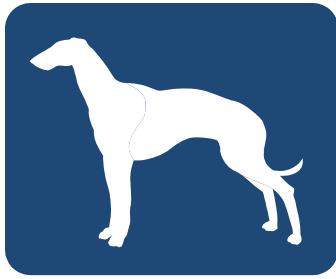


GPA/TB 2010 Activities



The 2010 Parade of Greys Picnic, co-presented with GREAT, was a big success thanks to volunteers and the many vendors who participated.





Greyhound Pets of America

Tampa Bay Chapter

Board of Directors

Officers

Maryann Tolliver – President

Joe Muhrlin – Vice President

Mary Haas – Treasurer

Brenda Hoch – Secretary

Board Members

Bonnie Leazer

Adam Horn

Susan Hendess

Rita Motzny

Dana Haverland - Alternate

Tonya Bader - Honorary Member

Greyhound Pets of America Tampa Bay

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