



The GREATvine

Greyhound Rescue & Adoptions of Tampa Bay, Inc.

Wrapping Success, But...

This holiday season, while a week shorter due to Thanksgiving being later, was a good one for GREAT! Our gift wrapping event definitely had a few challenges, including a new location within Barnes & Noble with far less space than we are used to. But, we did great, collecting over \$3900 in donations! This is not only better than last year, but it is our second highest year EVER! Fantastic job by all parties, including our hardworking wrappers, crafters and shoppers!

Two big reasons for our success - repeat customers and word of mouth! We were happy to see many of our old friends come back again this year, and several brought family and friends with them to have things wrapped! In addition, we were invited to take our wrapping show "on the road" to wrap for a marketing firm in Ybor City!

The funds we raised were a much needed shot in the arm for us. Things just don't get any cheaper and we are constantly looking for new ways to bring in income so that we can continue to provide excellent care while looking for forever homes.

Unfortunately, it seems that as soon as we make it, we need to spend it! We are actually already back down to pre-wrapping levels, between taking in several new dogs and dealing with some health problems. One of our new intakes, Buster, is heartworm positive, so we are treating him. And another of our new girls, Jazzy, was doing fine up until right after her spay, when her kidneys crashed. She was hospitalized for several days and had several tests done, but while she is doing much better and has been released from the hospital, we do not have any answers as to the cause of her illness. A major infection is the likely culprit, but we may never know.



Jazzy

Her kidney values are still high, but slowly decreasing. We will keep you updated on her condition and hopefully it will all be good news from here!

Jazzy's care, plus Buster's treatment, thus far has cost approximately \$3,800. Yep, for those of you doing the math, that pretty much wipes out what we made from gift wrapping. Since we count on those funds to get us through to summer time, 2014 isn't starting out so well for us! We are putting our heads together to figure out some fundraisers we can do to get us back into shape, but in the meantime, any help we can get will be most appreciated!

Stay tuned for more information on fundraising opportunities, and as difficult as things get for us sometimes, just remember, every happy greyhound going to a new forever home makes the struggle worth it!



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January 2014

Special points of interest:

- Animal Welfare Meeting
- Florida State Fair
- Greyhound Gatherings
- Jobs for Volunteers
- Downtown Market

Florida State Fair	2
Meet & Greet	2
Get Involved	3
Adoptions	4
Upcoming Events	4
Rainbow Bridge	5
New Event	6





Grassroots Animal Welfare Meeting

The Humane Society of the United States invites members and supporters to join Florida State Director Kate MacFall and GREY2K USA Executive Director Carey Theil to discuss current issues facing animals, including greyhound decoupling and injury reporting, and learn what you can do to help animals in your community.

If you are concerned about animal welfare and creating a more compassionate Florida, you should attend this informative and motivational meeting. Florida animals need you to speak up for them -- together we can be a strong unified voice for them.

If you have any additional questions, contact Kate MacFall at kmacfall@humanesociety.org.

Wednesday, January 29, 2014
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Humane Society of Tampa Bay
3607 North Armenia Ave
Tampa, FL 33607

If you'd like to attend this event you can RSVP online at <http://action.humanesociety.org/site/Calendar/996455752>



Monthly Meet & Greet

MUVICO – NEW TAMPA

Jean Mauser 813.971.5772
JoAnn Copertino 813.994.9825

PETCO - BRANDON

Susan O'Hara 813.643.7709

PETCO - ODESSA

Linda DePietto 727.848.2241

PETCO - PORT RICHEY

Burke Barnaby 727.697.2394

PETCO - WESLEY CHAPEL

JoAnn Copertino 813.994.9825

PETCO - WEST SHORE

Cyndi Rennick 727.417.0913
Buddy Holliday & Darryl Gilbert 727.323.6057

GROOVY CATS & DOGS - TAMPA

Jodi Frazier 813.969.1310

PETCO - PALM HARBOR

Karen Powers 727.786.4398

PET SUPERMARKET - LAKELAND

John Sprenkle 863.940.4065

Please see our event calendar at www.great-greyhound.org!





Wanna Get More Involved? *by Kelly Faircloth*

You do? Well, good, because we need you! It takes a village, or so they say, and lately the village seems to be shrinking!

As you have seen over the last year or so, GREAT has bid a sad farewell to some of our hardworking volunteers that have moved on to other regions of the country. We are happy for them, but we sure do miss them! They include BJ Vosburgh, Mary and Walt Postma, and Jordena and Ron Backnick. Others have stepped in to fill their shoes and we are very grateful! Many thanks to Linda DePietto for taking over the Odessa meet & greet, as well sending out condolence notices for GREAT - something she stays far too busy at, unfortunately. John and Candi Sprenkle took over the Lakeland Pet Supermarket for Norma Rogers, who is still a GREAT volunteer but spends the summer in gorgeous Seattle, and they have also taken on the Polk Fallfest from Pamela Wiseman, who is also still a GREAT volunteer but who had her hands too full with this one!

Don Goldstein is now checking our phone line to free Eva Sosnowska up to continue doing our application checks, and is also updating our Petfinder.com and 800-Save-A-Pet listings. Don also provides much assistance to Carol Chilton in transporting foster dogs - a huge thanks to both of them for this very important work!

Sharon Dippel recently joined GREAT and she hit the ground running! She has coordinated yappy hours, taught us how to make beaded greyhound necklaces, and is now coordinating a monthly meet & greet at the downtown Tampa Market (more on page 6 about that!) I'm giving her a new title... she is now Fundraising Coordinator, and she has some great new ideas that we will be telling you about very, very soon!

If I have left anyone out, PLEASE forgive me... it's because my brain no longer retains information!

It's time now to find some new folks to fill some very important roles that, due to my increased responsibility at work, I just don't have time to do anymore, or at least do well, and that's no good for anyone.

First, I'm looking for a newsletter editor. I've been doing the newsletter for a SCARY long time... about 13 years! But, it's time for some new blood! I will still be editor-in-chief and review all final content to be sure we are staying within the tenets of GREAT's philosophies, but the editor will be responsible for the theme of each issue, soliciting content, the layout - you name it! If you are interested in this job, please email me and let's talk about it!

I'm also looking for help with the State Fair. It's just too close to gift wrapping season for me to handle it well. The Fair requires someone to do the scheduling, make sure the tickets and parking passes get to the volunteers in time, set up the night before the fair opens and break down the night the fair closes, work with the foster coordinator to make sure everyone has a dog to take, and be ready for any last minute issues that crop up. If you can take on this event, please let me know - you can help me get it done this year and then next year, it is all yours!

Lastly for now, it's time we had a real bookkeeper again. I've been carrying on as best I can for the last couple of years, but it's a LOT of work. A LOT. We really do need an accountant in this role... but we need someone who will work for free. :(

If you have an accounting background or know someone who does and who would be available to work with us, please let me know. The biggest responsibilities will be to keep up with reconciling the bank account every month, calculating and paying our quarterly sales tax on a timely basis, doing the annual report, doing the annual budget, doing the annual 990, doing the annual filing of our Solicitation of Contributions renewal, and preparing a monthly financial report for our board.

If there are things you would like to do that no one has thought of or mentioned, tell us! We may not know we need it until we know what it is! And as always, thank you for being part of our village!





Adoptions

GREAT congratulates the following adopters on their new four-legged family members!

Connie & Gary Brown
Carol Chilton
Ashley & Bryan Cook
Ruth Crull
Susan Durrance
Eric Holland & Danielle Newberg
Shelly & Greg Hollingsworth
Thomas & Thalia Macri
Shay & Bryan Phillips

Kiowa BombTarget
Looney Tunes
Atascocita Booth
Atascocita Hosea
Hotfoot Malik
Atascocita Erika
Braska Wendy
Atascocita Azur
Atascocita Jove

Target
Luna
Booth
Hosea
Malik
Ruca
Wendy
Azur
Jove



Upcoming Events for Greyhounds & Their People *by Carol Chilton*

Since GREAT's first appearance in approximately 1995, visitors to the Purebred Dog Tent at the Florida State Fair have been learning all about retired racing greyhounds as pets. This year the Fair takes place from Thursday, February 6 through Monday, February 17; and once again, volunteers and hounds will be there to show the general public that greyhounds make great pets. There will be 2 shifts every day, from 9am - 1:30pm and 1:30pm until 6pm. We are always looking for help with this event, so let us know if you are available!

Next on the 2014 calendar is Sandy Paws at Jekyll Island, Georgia from March 27-30. See www.sandypaws.org for more information about activities, hotels, vendors, things to do and see. This is an enjoyable getaway for hounds and their people.



Some of the GREAT crew at Sandy Paws!



Mountain Hounds Headquarters!

Mountain Hounds in Gatlinburg, Tennessee is the home of another fun greyhound gathering. This event is organized by Greyhound Friends of North Carolina and is from May 29 - June 2. There is all kinds of fun things to do in Gatlinburg, and you never know when you might spot some local wildlife, including bears! You can read all about Mountain Hounds can be found at www.gfncmountainhounds.com.

Several GREAT members are already making plans to attend one or both gatherings this year, and would love to have you join them!



Forever in Our Hearts...

With Greyt sadness, we say goodbye to the following beloved pets:

Laura & Frank Calci

Carol Chilton

Susan Durrance

Sharon & Brian Dippel

GREAT & Joanie Huff

Gail & Jeff Guild

Rachael & TD Haines

Marilynn & Jerry Howell

Jennifer Lenhart

Janet & Larry Osalkowski

Laura Riess & Eric Bravick

Sue Sala

Michelle Simmons & Stephen Calabro

Hilary Snow

Willis Family

Ivan

Bette

Roxy

Basil

Bree

Eddie

Molly

Honey Bear

Caesar

Deal

Gir

Lacy Lassie

Grimmy

Murphy

Lauri



Beautiful Bree



Bree, 3/8/06 - 12/28/13

We are sad to report that long time foster Bree has gone to the Rainbow Bridge.

Bree had been having leg swelling and other issues that we could not find a cause for, until just after Christmas when the symptoms got much worse. An abdominal ultrasound showed signs of cancer, so we made the decision to let her go.

Our deepest sympathies to her foster mom Joanie Huff, who loved Bree as one of her own. Thank you so much for giving her a happy life, Joanie!

Run like the wind, sweet girl...



Greyhound Rescue & Adoptions of Tampa Bay, Inc.

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Kelly R. Faircloth
Brenda Hodges
Don Goldstein
Buddy Holliday
Liz Lynch
Karen Powers



The Tampa Downtown Sunday Market?

Our Newest Meet n Greet is the Last Sunday of the Month! Our Greyhounds are popular guests and always draw quite a bit of attention. Please come out and join us.

Everything is fresh and local at the Tampa Downtown Market. They operate on Sundays from 10am to 3pm in Downtown Tampa at 601 N. Ashley Drive, directly across from Curtis Hixon Waterfront Park.

Since 2008, the Market has served as a community-gathering site that activates public space and provides economic opportunities to small businesses. Products for sale include organic produce, dairy cheese, fresh breads, meats and fish, as well as locally made sweets, sauces and spices. Shoppers also find hand-made clothing, jewelry, home décor, and beautiful artistic creations. Seating is always available at the Market for shoppers to rest and take in a selection of local music and freshly brewed coffees and teas.

About The Downtown Tampa Sunday Market:

Located at 601 N. Ashley Drive, the Market is directly across from Curtis Hixon Waterfront Park, between Madison and Twiggs.

Begins October 13, 2013 and runs every Sunday through May, from 10am-3pm.

Free Parking on Sundays, North of Kennedy Boulevard Only

Dates that GREAT is signed up for:

1/26/14
2/23/14
3/30/14
4/27/14



If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please contact Sharon at sbdippel@earthlink.net.
