

# needlenosenews

a publication of **Greyhound Adoption of Greater Cincinnati**

[www.cincigreyhounds.org](http://www.cincigreyhounds.org)

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Lost the Race



Won Our Hearts

Greyhound Adoption of  
Greater Cincinnati, Inc.

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*Formed in 2002, our mission is to strive for the best quality placements. We focus on being small and doing things right. We recognize that we cannot offer homes to an unlimited number of greyhounds, but we can make a difference to the ones we touch. That is why our focus is on quality of placements, not quantity of placements.*

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**Adopting a  
retired racer:**

**\$275 ...**

**Having a  
friend for life:  
Priceless!**

## From the President ...



In this 2021 photo, lots of pups are enjoying special treats from *Brenda*.

GAGC Families and Friends,

What gorgeous weather we have been having this month. My hounds love the cooler weather, lots of walks have been happening. The only negative is that now they expect it every day!

We have started planning and preparing for our Fall Family Event coming on Sunday, Sept. 25. We continue to celebrate 20 years finding greyt homes for these wonderful dogs! I'll send updated emails as the time gets closer. A brief summary is in this newsletter.

We have helped find 57 retired racers their forever homes so far this year! I

can't thank you enough for making this organization GREYT!

*Brenda*

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Bold and beautiful **Kelly** is settling in nicely with *Theresa* and *John*.

# Greyt health & safety

## Struggling with end-of-life pet care and grief is normal, and there are ways to cope with loss

*By Joelle Nielsen, MSW, LSW*

*Social Worker, Honoring the Bond Program  
Coordinator*

*[College of Veterinary Medicine, The Ohio  
State University](#)*

*June 29, 2022*

When a pet dies, it's not unusual to feel isolated or alone or find that others don't understand why you're so distraught. But it's perfectly normal to grieve when you lose a pet. Since 2009, the [Honoring the Bond](#) program has held an annual remembrance ceremony or provided an online remembrance for bereaved clients of The Ohio State University Veterinary Medical Center. The program honors the strong bond that exists between pets and their owners and recognizes

the need for support and guidance for clients facing the end of a pet's life. It's one of only about six dozen programs in North America that provide veterinary social work services to help clients work through the hard decisions and emotions that arise when a pet is sick or dying.

Read on for answers to common questions about grieving for pets and ways to cope with loss.

### **Why do we grieve when pets die?**

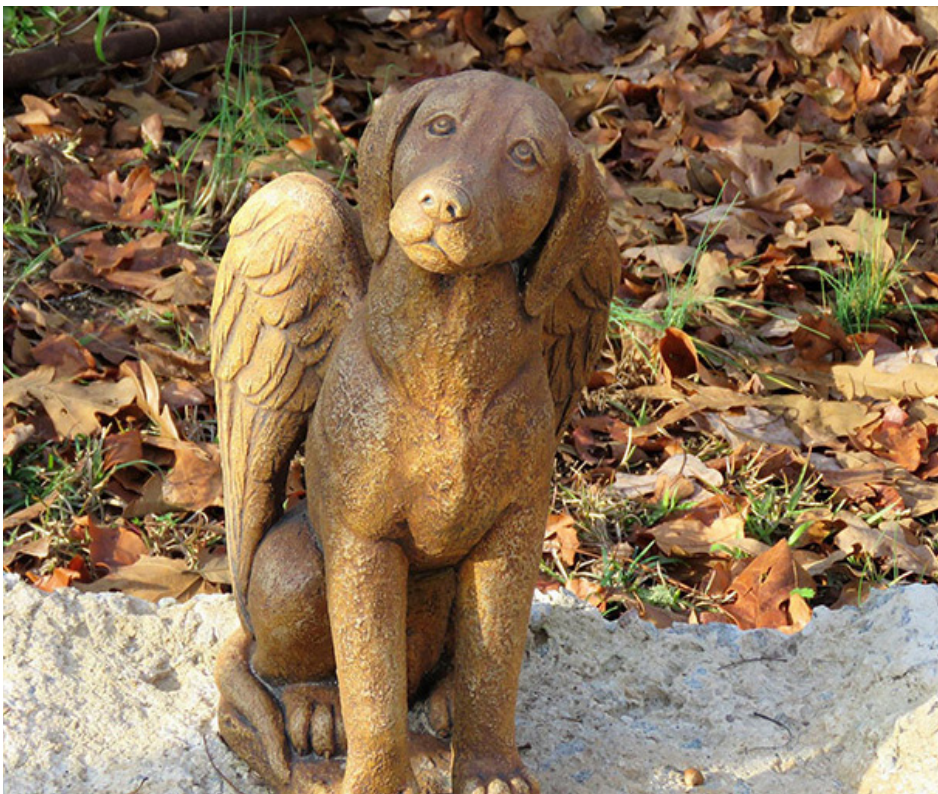
Pets give us something most people can't: complete, unconditional, nonjudgmental love. When they're gone, it leaves a hole and brings grief, much like the grief we feel when a human loved one dies. Pets are such a huge part of our lives, sometimes in places we don't share with most family members, including our beds, and the bond formed between owner and pet is incredibly strong.

### **How is the grief we experience with the loss of animals the same as the grief we experience with the loss of people?**

Just like with humans, the extent of the grief we feel is dependent on the type of relationship we had with the pet. We may not feel as strongly or grieve as deeply for one person compared with another, and the same holds true for pets. If a person has multiple pets, the grief experienced over the loss of one may be different from the grief experienced over the loss of another.

The emotions that people feel, the sadness, and maybe anger, are often very similar to the emotions felt when grieving the loss of a person.

Image by George from Pixabay.





### How is it different?

Circumstances can be different with pets, specifically when the pet dies through euthanasia. Often with pet loss, the reason we must make the euthanasia decision is because of finances — maybe we can't afford the surgery. And so that's not typically something that we encounter in human medicine.

But making a decision to euthanize a pet for any reason can sometimes cause guilt. In fact, I'd say guilt is the biggest emotion I see with pet loss, even if people know they've made the right decision. It's

Illustration courtesy of  
Simone Carter/Nellie Doodles.



still just an enormous burden for some people, and they have questions: Why should it be in my hands to make that decision?

### What should I consider when faced with a euthanasia decision?

#### 1. Quality of life

Consider using a [quality-of-life scale](#) to help focus on the pet's quality of life and also your own. There are times when humans are providing so much care for an animal that their own quality of life is suffering, they aren't able to leave the house, or they're not able to take vacations or have friends over. It's OK to look at those things.

#### 2. Consider the timing of the euthanasia and how you will decide when it's time

A pet's death is inevitable. We know it's coming, and we don't have any control over that. But we do have some control over what death will look like. Overwhelmingly, more people feel like they wait too long. Tap into resources that help you plan for the death that feels best for you and your pet.

#### 3. Explore additional resources

Find resources on the [Pet Loss Suggested Reading List](#).

### Tips for coping after a pet dies

#### 1. Don't stuff away or ignore feelings of sadness or guilt

Allow yourself to feel. People sometimes say, "You just need to keep busy, so you don't feel bad." The reality is that you need to feel those sad feelings, you need to feel upset, you need to feel angry. Those emotions need to come out, because that's how we get through our grief. Shoving it away or putting it up on a shelf

isn't usually effective. It's important to look at it straight on at some point.

*2. Focus on the positives, the good times, your love for your pet and the things you were able to do*

When you look at the whole scheme of things, the euthanasia or the period of death accounts for such a short time. Consider the balance. The death is really intense and really hard over a short period of time, but if you go back and think about your pet's whole life, the good times definitely outweigh the bad times. It's just that the intensity might be much harder right now. The hope is that you do progress in your grief, so you're not feeling as intensely over time.

*3. Memorialize your pet*

You may want to do something privately with your family, post something on social media, plant a tree or make a donation in your pet's name to a pet shelter or veterinary clinic. Write down funny stories. Make a photo collage or photo album. Journal about happy memories of your pet. Pet loss journals and other grief materials are available. Find additional suggestions at [Animal Remembrance Ideas](#).

*4. Find others you can talk to who really understand*

It's important to know not only who to talk to but also who you may want to avoid during those times. There might be people who don't really understand your grief.

*5. Consider extended therapy or counseling*

If you continue to have intense feeling and you feel stuck,

like you're not progressing or moving forward, reach out to a professional for extended therapy or counseling.

*6. Additional resources to help you cope*

Find additional guidance in the [Coping with the Loss of a Pet](#) brochure.

**Do other pets in the home grieve?**

It's hard to know, because they can't really tell us. But it's said that animals in general go through a grieving process. Just as for people, it's dependent on the relationship. We recommend that owners monitor how a surviving animal is doing. Is behavior changing? Is the pet eating less? If you see things that are concerning, call the veterinarian or try to connect with a veterinary behaviorist. Your pet may be going through a grief process and could potentially benefit from medications or other treatment.

**Should I get a new pet after a pet dies?**

When deciding whether to get a new pet, consider the feelings of each family member and try to make sure everyone is on the same page. The typical recommendation is to avoid making any rash decisions or rushing out to get another pet. Some owners may live alone, with pets as their only companions, and they feel a more urgent need to get another pet to help with loneliness. However, it's important to understand that you cannot replace the pet you lost.

And take care in making decisions for others: If a friend loses a pet, don't run out and get a new one as a gift. That may not be what your friend wants.

*Joelle Nielsen, MSW, LSW, is a social worker and an Honoring the Bond*

"Memory Lane" by NatalieMaynor is licensed under CC BY 2.0.





**The best therapy? Why, your  
pets, of course**  
***The mental health benefits that  
come with our beloved animals***

*from AARP The Ethel*

*August 22, 2022*

*By Dana Shavin*

Nursing home staff members  
were loving the visit from  
Brenda's and Irene's dogs.

When I think of my early childhood, I picture a lonely and insecure girl. I lived for books, watching the Monkees singing troupe on TV, and my weekly horseback riding lessons. At the age of 12, I began taking care of an acquaintance's backyard mare, Sheba, and my life improved immeasurably.

Whether cleaning stalls, riding or just watching Sheba quietly munch hay, I felt transported. No longer was I focused on my perceived shortcomings; I had found purpose and joy in caring for Sheba. Our bond was empowering and transformative, and it would set the stage for a lifetime of loving—and living with—animals.

It's no secret that companion animals are good for our mental health. Dogs can help with myriad challenges, from providing much needed companionship to acting as a catalyst for their owners to get more exercise—and meet other friendly dog owners—to helping persons struggling with depression and anxiety disorders. This is good news for the nearly 70 percent of Americans ages 50 to 59 who have pets, as well as for the 60 percent of those 60 to 69, and the 50 percent of those 70 and older.

"Research has shown that owning a pet provides an amazing array of health benefits," says Jeremy Barron, M.D., medical director of the Beacham Center for Geriatric Medicine at Johns Hopkins. "Simply petting a dog lowers the stress hormone cortisol, while the social interaction between people and their dogs actually increases levels of the feel-good hormone oxytocin" (the same hormone that bonds mothers to babies). Interacting with pets can lower our blood pressure and lead to better heart health, and those with pets report lower rates of loneliness.

Service animals—those specifically trained to help humans function independently—can perform many activities for sight- or mobility-impaired



owners. These include opening doors, retrieving medication or water, warning of obstacles in their owner's path, and alerting other people that their owner is in distress. Some animals are even trained to detect cancer or warn of an impending anxiety attack, cardiac event or seizure.

Therapy animals—usually dogs—also receive special training but their main function is to be a source of comfort and to spread happiness. You might see them in schools, retirement and nursing homes, or hospitals, and they are only cleared to go into these environments once they have been through manners and obedience training.

Animal assisted therapy (AAT), in which a specially trained animal is brought in as part of a team that might include registered nurses, nursing assistants, or occupational therapists, has also been shown to be beneficial to individuals with

dementia. Among other benefits, it can help improve short-term memory and communication skills.

Emotional support animals, on the other hand, need no specialized training. Dogs and cats are obvious choices, but people also find calming company in rabbits, birds, reptiles, llamas, and ponies. These animals are most helpful for people with a variety of anxiety disorders, but they can also be of comfort to people undergoing stressful events.

One friend who recently underwent a bone graft at her dentist's office was delighted to have the dentist's dog lie across her lap during the whole procedure.

Emotional support animals are protected under the Fair Housing Amendments Act, which upholds the right to have an emotional support animal without having to pay pet fees or deposits. In the past, all major airlines allowed emotional support animals to travel in the cabin of the airplane for free. Starting this year, many airlines have announced that service animals are restricted to dogs.

Lastly, there is an emerging field called veterinary social work, which trains social workers to work with pet owners who may need help or support coping with a pet's illness or death. Referrals typically come from vets themselves, who may not feel comfortable or have the time to offer extended support to pet owners.

Tom Favale, a social worker and veterinarian who practices at the University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine in Knoxville, says

PCHS-NJROTC, CC BY-SA 4.0 , via  
Wikimedia Commons.





their services can be a lifeline for pet owners who need the support of someone who understands the human-animal bond.

Annie Schoonover, whose beloved horse Justy, died in January, says the opportunity to work remotely with Favale was “a giant miracle, like a life raft thrown to me,” she says, adding that she emerged from her grief “more human, more compassionate and more present.”

Indeed, pets can distract us from our problems, help us feel more engaged, inspire us to move on from past struggles and even perform tasks that we might have lost the ability to perform ourselves.

In my life I have had the privilege of caring for 10 dogs, two cats and three horses, including my current two dogs, Jada and Zayde. My husband and I love to hike with them at a nearby nature preserve, which helps us bond with them, and ensures that we ourselves keep walking — and talking — every day.

Our beloved pets give us freedom, independence and love — and yes, are a lifeline to a better, safer, more joyful life.

# RECALL

## Pet food recalls

The FDA periodically updates their website with new pet food recalls. Don't take a chance with your pet's health. Please visit the [FDA website](#) to check the safety of your pet's food.

## Pet Sitters

Do you need a pet sitter for your greys while you're out of town? We keep a list of potential pet sitters and are always looking for more willing folks, both for the Dayton and the Cincinnati areas. Let *Brenda* or *Kathy* know if you're interested in being added to the list, or if you'd like to see who is available in your area to pet sit your greyhounds.





# Greyt goods & services

## Items for sale

*Kathy and Brenda* have a supply of belly bands, muzzles, and stool covers available if you are in need of any for your hound.

*Irene M.* makes custom fleece jackets for greyhounds. You can reach her at [misspickylene@yahoo.com](mailto:misspickylene@yahoo.com) for details about placing an order.

## Collars and belly bands

We really appreciate all of you who have returned your unwanted black combo leads and reflective tag collars to GAGC to reuse for future adoptions. Recycling these collar sets helps GAGC save money. If you no longer need yours, please return it to *Brenda* or *Kathy* for reuse.

Did we loan you a belly band when you adopted your male greyhound? If you still have it, please wash it if needed and return it to *Brenda* or *Kathy*. We like to keep some available for future loans and our supply tends to run out quickly.



## Find GAGC on Facebook



Have you visited the [GAGC Facebook](#) page?

Visit our website at [cincigreyhounds.org](http://cincigreyhounds.org) and

click at the top. Foster families add cute photos and comments about their fosters, proving fostering can be rewarding and fun! If you have cute stories about your hounds, please share them. Thanks to *Melissa*, *Heather*, and *Mike* for monitoring posts. We do monitor comments before posting and will not include negative or inappropriate items.

Note from *Brenda*: Thank you for posting on our Facebook member's page. Please be aware that some posts with questions and comments are NOT GAGC members or GAGC-related.

## GAGC on Instagram



Our [Instagram](#) manager *Melissa L.* would like your photos! Send them to

[MelissaLohman7@gmail.com](mailto:MelissaLohman7@gmail.com). Foster families are encouraged to send pictures of their fosters settling into home life, but anyone is welcome to send good photos of their greyhounds.

Miss **Nea** is so photogenic, but her tongue didn't get the memo.

# GAGC News

## Healing Touch

*Elaine Kerly* has been coming to our GAGC picnics for several years. She is a Healing Touch Certified Practitioner and a Healing Touch for Animals Practitioner. Healing Touch influences the client's energy system via a non-invasive and effective method to restore balance of the energy fields. What does that mean? *Elaine* works with both people and animals (including dogs and horses), reducing anxiety or stress, facilitating wound healing, reducing pain, supporting the immune system, trauma release, and aiding in behavior modification. She has offered her service to a number of our greyhounds who appeared to be helped significantly during a session with her. Senior hounds in particular might benefit from a Healing Touch session. *Elaine* can be contacted at (513) 227-3051 or [elaine.kerly@gmail.com](mailto:elaine.kerly@gmail.com) to schedule an appointment for you or your pet.

## Thank you

We are so grateful to *Alan Schrager*, our Nature's Select distributor, for his continued support of GAGC. *Alan* gives a discount on every order of foster food, and we thank him for his generosity.

## Webmaster

Thank you, *Mike*, for your continued support to maintain our very professional-looking website. We appreciate you!

## Newsletter photos or articles needed

If you have good photos of your hounds, send them in as we might use them for the newsletter.

Send to Kathy at [koe50gh@gmail.com](mailto:koe50gh@gmail.com) or Brenda at [gagcgreyhounds@gmail.com](mailto:gagcgreyhounds@gmail.com).



Greyhound **Mac** and  
Frenchie **King** are best buddies.



## A special life

Years ago, GAGC was notified by our dog source of a greyhound puppy that was very small, being bullied by her littermates, and would never race. She was offered to us for adoption. Long-time members *Debbie* and *Jami* said they would take the puppy and called her **Macy**. It wasn't until they got the puppy home that it was discovered she had extra feet on both of her back legs. The extra feet were eventually removed. Besides having the deformities on her

legs, **Macy** had never gone through the race training that makes these dogs such terrific pets, so she had a strong-willed lack of discipline. As she

grew older, other anomalies and health challenges emerged, yet she thrived with her family. *Debbie* and *Jami* learned to make accommodations for **Macy**, who ended up living a remarkably long life. Ten years! She was an outspoken, stubborn, vocal alpha of the pack her whole life, despite being the smallest. She was remarkably smart, sweet and affectionate, but GAGC learned from this experience that greyhound puppies that miss out on racing school require a lot of special attention, discipline, training, and not all make good pets. *Debbie* and *Jami* were lucky with **Macy**, and she evolved into a much-loved member of the family who lived a good life that she may not have otherwise had. Her physical problems finally caught up with her and her family had to let her go in early July. We are glad we were able to take **Macy**, and that her family was able to give her such a great life.



# Recent Events & Outreach

## Sharon Woods walk

The Sharon Woods walk on July 3 was greyt—the weather was cool, and the humidity was low. Everyone enjoyed socializing, especially the greyhounds. We had 18 dogs and their humans show up. *Jane* kept track of how far we walked: we did a huge loop which was 1.8 miles, and it took 40 minutes. Perfect length for us and the dogs. Let's do it again!

And we did do it again—on Aug. 7. Here's what *Brenda* wrote:

The Sharon Woods walk was a huge success. *Jane* counted almost 30 greyhounds in attendance and of course their humans. Several of our new families came which was nice. Foster dog **Arthur** got to see his littermate and walked, and then was adopted immediately afterward. It was a gorgeous morning, and most of us walked almost two miles! The dogs loved visiting with their old racing buddies and will probably sleep the next two days! Ha ha.

## Central Parke Memory Care Center

From *Brenda*:

*Irene* and I were invited to visit the Central Parke Memory Care Center in Mason on July 7. The residents were thrilled to visit with our three greyhounds. **Millie** laid on the floor and cockroached, which all the residents loved. **Maggie** and **Betsy** made friends with several of the residents; one lady was thrilled with meeting the girls and loved on them

for a long time. *Irene* and I felt so good to put joy into their day. The director wants to schedule more visits so if anyone would like to join us, let me know.

## Magazine Interview

From *Brenda*:

*Doug T.* and his family were approached by *City Lifestyle Magazine* to do an article about their four greyhounds. *Doug* suggested to *Tera Michelson*, the editor, to contact me for a phone interview. I was pleased with the article and, who knows, it might help get more retired racers into their forever homes! Thanks, *Doug*, for promoting GAGC!



## Ice Cream Social

What a gorgeous day on Aug. 13 to gather 10 hounds and their humans for ice cream at the TWIST in Liberty Township. Of course, the dogs loved the special treat and getting lots of attention by families visiting for ice cream also.



# Dog runs, fosters & adoptions

## Dog runs

On a very rainy July 17, *Ron, Mel, and Jon* drove to Jackson, Ohio, to pick up six new dogs: four males **Super C Authority**, **SNL Bestkindabad**, **KW Viper**, and **Vic Morrow (Pernell)**; and two females: **Oakland Rush** and **SNL Visionary**. From *Jon and Mel*:

Although it rained hard on the way, the rain stopped for the pickup. The dogs were very excited once on the road and tried many times to get in the front seat. *Mel* had to work hard to keep them in the back. They were all happy to get out once at *Ron and Brenda's*.

**SNL Bestkindabad** really connected with *Melina* who fostered his buddy **KW Viper**.



*Brenda* made the trip to Jackson, Ohio, on July 31 to pick up females **JS Doggun Lucky** and **JS Mood Swings**, and male **KS Acquittal**. Here's her account:

The day started off rainy but once I got to our meeting location, the sun came out. *Barb and Pam* pottied the dogs and loaded them into my car. Being by myself, I was concerned about the trip home because I had two girls and one boy together. Fortunately, **Moody** made it clear to **Acquittal** there would be no hanky panky. In fact, she decided to take up the entire middle of the floor and barked at the other two if they got too close to her area! Our greyt foster families were waiting when I arrived; thanks again to *Patti and Craig, Peg and Jason, and Jami*. We got photos of the newbies and off they went, starting the next chapter of their lives.

Four boys made the trip from West Virginia to Ohio on Aug. 14: **Marcus, Sigueme, Caldiero, and JA's Dillards**. Here's *Brenda's* report:

The drive started off with rain but by the time *Marianne* and I met the dog hauler, the rain had stopped. The four boys jumped out of the hauler with excitement, starting their retirement. *Marianne* drove **Cal** and **Marcus** back to my house. I had **Dillon** and **Sig** who were a bit restless but seemed to enjoy looking out the window. Hmm ... I wonder what they were thinking. Anyway, our greyt foster families were waiting for us to arrive and we handed the dogs over to them.

**Dillon** immediately went up to *Andrea* and gave her a big hug! I think he picked her for his human, so watch the website for his adoption to *Andrea* and *Nate*.

Here's *Marianne's* input:

After a quick tour around the shrubs to empty the tanks, we loaded the four boys into the two cars. At a little over a year old, **Marcus** was pretty much still a puppy, which made me think he would be a live wire. Nope. He curled up and dozed off before we got to the highway and didn't get up until the *Pennix's* driveway. **Caldiero** was up and down a few times but was very easygoing. It was the first dog run I have done when there was not one grumble or bark.

**Oakland Rush**, now called **Nova**, is heading home with her new buddy **Apollo**.



Both *Ron* and *Marianne* drove to Jackson on Aug. 28 to pick up males **VJ Roam the House**, **Lego Travis**, and **Speedy Taco**; and female **Atascocita Nexus**. *Ron* brought back **Lego Travis** and **Speedy Taco** and *Marianne* brought back **Atascocita Nexus** and **VJ Roam the House**. *Ron* said it was a nice drive, less traffic this time, and the two brindle boys laid down almost immediately and rode nicely. *Marianne's* two black pups did great. She wrote:

The male **VJ Roam the House** settled down immediately; he was really chill, which is exactly what adopters who met us at *Brenda* and *Ron's* were looking for. I think he might be in his forever home tomorrow evening. **Nexus** was more curious about the drive and stood for quite a bit of the drive. She wanted her muzzle off in the worst way, rubbing it on the barrier often. All four dogs were calmer than usual when we took them out of the vehicles, and they were all ready to jump back in cars to head out for cat testing, which I hear they all passed.

### Foster homes needed

Our biggest challenge in finding homes for retired racing greyhounds continues to be finding foster families to help with the dogs' transition into their forever homes. Would you like to be part of the process? We provide all food, medications, and guidance, and there is no expense to you. Can we add you to our list? **We particularly need short term fosters to fill in while our regular foster families are traveling this summer.**



## Foster a greyhound, get in the monthly drawing for a bag of Nature's Select or a \$50 gift card!

Alan and Leslie, our Nature's Select distributors, donate a 30-pound bag of Nature's Select every month to support our fostering program. Everyone who has fostered for at least a week in that month will be eligible to win either the bag of food or a \$50 gift card. Recent winners are:

### July

Food winner: Dana P., foster parent to **SNL Pegasus**

Gift card winner: Melina H. and Scotty H., foster parents to **KW Viper**

**Meeko** goes to work with mom *Melanie* and adores the horses.



Gift card winner: Patti B. and Craig O.: foster parents to **Orneryoldscudder**  
Gift card winner: Peg C. and Jason P., foster parents to **SNL Bestkindabad**

### August

Food winner: Melina H. and Scotty H., foster parents to **KW Viper**

Gift card winner: Ronda and Deron R.:

foster parents to **Super C Athority**

Gift card winner: Robin C., foster parent to **Marcus**

Gift card winner: Dana P., foster parent to **SNL Pegasus**

## Foster families

We are so appreciative of our foster families. They give us the option of having multiple dogs readily available for new applicants to meet and adopt. Thanks to:

Andrea R. and Nate S.: **JA's Dillards, Atascocita Nexus**

Breanna and Keith C.: **Janice Rule (Dolly), Lego Travis**

Brenda and Ron P.: **JS Big Showoff (Swagger)**

Chrissy G.: **SNL Pegasus (Herman)**

Dana P.: **SNL Pegasus (Herman)**

Gretchen D.: **Vic Morrow**

Jami B.: **Orneryoldscudder (Scudder), SNL Visionary, JS Doggun Lucky**

Jo and David M.: **Oakland Rush, Caldiero**

Megan and Josh S.: **JS Big Showoff (Swagger), Orneryoldscudder (Scudder)**

Melina H. and Scotty H.: **KW Viper**  
Patti B. and Craig O.:

**Orneryoldscudder (Scudder), JS Mood Swings, Sigueme**

Peg C. and Jason P.: **SNL Bestkindabad, KW Acquittal**



Robin C.: **Marcus, Speedy Taco**  
Ronda and Deron R.: **Super C Athority**

## Current foster dogs

Are you ready for another greyhound? We have the following dogs available:

**SNL Pegasus (Herman):** July 10, 2017; 4-year-old red male (adoption pending)

**Caldiero:** May 2, 2018; 4-year-old red male

**Lego Travis:** July 30, 2018; 4-year-old brindle male

**Speedy Taco:** April 13, 2018; 4-year-old brindle male

**Atascocita Nexus:** Oct. 23, 2018; 4-year-old black female

**Dolly** and her new roommate make a good-looking pair.



Did you know that the adoption fee for any dog after your first GAGC greyhound is only \$150? Please contact your local placement representative (*Brenda* or *Kathy*) if you are interested in adding one of these foster dogs to your family.

## Recent adoptions

- **Janice Rule (Luka):** July 5 to *Vicki W.* of Milford
- **JS Big Showoff (Fang):** July 16 to *Megan* and *Josh S.* of Cincinnati
- **SNL Bestkindabad (Meeko):** July 21 to *Melanie C.* and *Nick B.* of Florence, Ky.
- **Oakland Rush (Nova):** July 22 to *Amber* and *Nathan E.* of Independence, Ky.
- **SNL Visionary (Ginger):** July 23 to *Malgorzata K.* and *Santosh K.* of Maineville
- **Orneryoldscudder (Scudder):** July 27 to *Audrey P.* and *Brandon W.* of Dayton
- **Vic Morrow (Magnus):** July 31 to *Julia* and *Brian P.* of Maineville
- **Super C Athority:** Aug. 7 to *Ashleigh*, *Kaden*, and *Kohen S.* of Miamisburg
- **KW Viper:** Aug. 12 to *Ann N.* of Batavia
- **JS Doggun Lucky (Lucky):** Aug. 12 to *Allison* and *John M.* of West Chester
- **Sigueme (Ziggy):** Aug. 20 to *Patti B.* and *Craig O.* of Dayton
- **KW Acquittal (Quiddy):** Aug. 20 to *Carla* and *Gregg W.* of Cincinnati
- **Marcus (Rafael):** Aug. 21 to *Mark F.* of Kettering
- **JA's Dillards (Dylan):** Aug. 21 to *Andrea R.* and *Nate S.* of Villa Hills, Ky.
- **JS Mood Swings (Nutella):** Aug. 26 to *Tricia* and *Samuel L.* of Covington, Ky.
- **VJ Roam the House (Kwabs):** Aug. 29 to *Kaeden K.* and *Will B.* of Cincinnati



# Our Condolences



Illustration courtesy of  
Elspeth Rose /  
www.barkerandpaws.com.

providing him some comfort during this difficult time.

We received the sad news from GAGC board members *Mel* and *Jon R.* that their boy **Odin** had to be euthanized on July 2. **Odin** had been battling lymphoma for several months and let *Mel* and *Jon* know it was his time to go. We are so sorry that they've experienced this difficult loss.

Also a victim of lymphoma was **Zoey**. We heard from *Tal L.* and *Stephen Z.* that they had to let her go on July 1. Even though they moved to the Boston area several years ago, they have stayed in touch and continued to support GAGC. We send them our sincere condolences.



**Odin**

*Editor's Note: When we lose one of our greyhounds, GAGC makes a donation in that dog's memory to 4 Legs 4 Hounds which is a nonprofit program located at Ohio State University that helps greyhounds recover from racing injuries or health issues after they retire.*

*Tom and Jean S.* shared that their 12-year-old boy **JT** died earlier this year. **JT** was acting lethargic, so they took him to the vet, where they wanted to do tests and keep him overnight. The office called to say **JT** was dying from a urinary tract infection that went septic. It was a huge shock for *Tom* and *Jean* and completely unexpected. We send them our condolences.

Our heartfelt sympathy goes to *John K.* who lost his wife *Sue* in June after an extended illness and a bad fall. Hopefully his greyhounds **Sox**, **Toon**, and **Rentz** are

We were very sorry to hear that *Patti B.* and *Craig O.* lost their beloved **Nala** on July 7. She was gradually failing with kidney and liver issues plus muscle loss. From *Patti*: She laid down and I sat with her but not 30 minutes later she had a seizure, the first she'd ever had and within a minute she was gone. Our hearts are broken, but she was over 13 and loved so much by my family.

Long-time GAGC members *Jami B.* and *Debbie K.* let their very special girl **Macy** go also on July 7. **Macy** had always had physical challenges, but she had reached the point where she was no longer able to stand. We send *Jami* and *Debbie* our heartfelt sympathy.

Frequent foster family *Nate S.* and *Andrea R.* said goodbye to **Rusty** on July 21. He had been experiencing weight loss, and stomach surgery provided no good



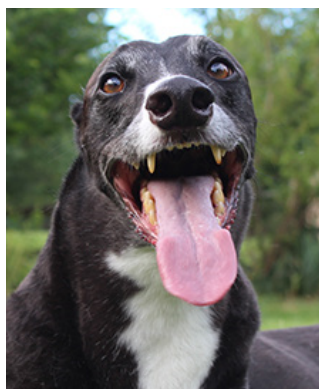
**Nala**



**Zoey**



**Thunder**



**Dobby**



**Raider**

results. We send them our condolences.

We received word on July 22 that *Stephanie S.* lost her beloved cat. She had to make the hard decision to say goodbye after the cat had major health issues. We're sorry to hear of this loss.

*Brenda and Jade B.* had to say goodbye to their little poodle **Zoey** on July 9. From *Jade*: "She was an incredibly intelligent girl. She was sweet and sassy but adored my wife so much. **Willow** smelled us up and down when we got home from the vet. She of course smelled the other dogs from the vet, but also could see our sorrow. **Zoey** accepted **Willow** into our home with no problems at all. That little girl will be a hard loss to get over!" We send them our condolences.

We were notified by *Kim and Nate A.* that **Thunder** passed away on Aug. 12. They wrote: "He suffered from heart failure and ended up with a blood clot in his hind legs. **Thunder** was a gentle giant and the sweetest dog. It is hard for us not to see his smile when he laid in the grass, walked the entire yard every time he was outside no matter what the temperature was, and his sweet disposition." We are very sorry for their loss.

We were sorry to hear that *Jayme S. and Matt H.* lost their sweet boy **Dobby** to osteosarcoma on Aug. 5. **Dobby** was much too young—only 7 years old. We send our heartfelt condolences to *Jayme and Matt* on this difficult loss.

*Alex T. and Sarah U.* lost their boy **Raider** to osteosarcoma at only 6 years old. **Raider** had a recurring limp which was eventually diagnosed as bone cancer.

Soon after the diagnosis, he made it clear to *Alex and Sarah* that he was in a lot of pain so they made that very difficult decision to let him go in early August. We send them our heartfelt condolences. Their other greyhound **Firebrand** is struggling with being an only dog, but friends and family are all helping him adjust to the new normal.

We received the sad news on Aug. 12 that *Amanda S. and Nathan N.* said goodbye to their 18-year-old Jack Russell **Mikka**.

*Lori B-C.* posted on Facebook that her **Penny** died on Aug. 11 of cancer. She wrote: "My sweet **Penny** has crossed the rainbow bridge this afternoon after an extremely short battle with the dreaded C word ... Six years ago this weekend we first met our sweet girl and today we had to say "see you real soon." Thank you for rescuing us, baby girl. I'll miss and love you always." We are sorry to hear this sad news.

We received the awful news that *Theresa and John F.*'s boy **Vlad** died very suddenly on Aug. 13, likely from a heart attack or aneurysm. **Vlad** gave out one cry and was gone. We are so sorry about this totally unexpected loss. *Theresa and John* are long-time GAGC members.

*Kaeden K. and Will B.* shared on Facebook that their boy **Cinnamon** lost a short battle with osteosarcoma on Aug. 13. From *Kaeden*: "Pain management just wasn't working, and **Cinnamon** would cry out in pain. **Cinnamon Bun** died in his home, on his favorite bed, eating his favorite treat, surrounded by the people he loves and who love him. I'll miss you, old boy. I love you more than you knew.





**Penny**

I'm so glad you're not in pain anymore." We send *Kaeden* and *Will* our heartfelt condolences.

We got the sad news from *Bev E.* that she lost her girl **Bonnie** on Aug. 16. **Bonnie** had an enlarged heart and fluid around her lungs. *Bev* would have had her 11 years in November. We send her our sympathy.

many years, died on Aug. 20 after a battle with bone cancer. We've lost way too many dogs to this terrible disease, and we send *Becky* and *Matt* our sympathy.

*Heidi* and *Michael M.* notified us that their boy **Bengal** crossed the rainbow bridge on Aug. 23. From *Heidi*: "**Bengal** crossed the rainbow bridge tonight. We are heartbroken but also thankful for the time we had with him and Angel Paws for making a bad situation tolerable." We're sorry to hear this sad news.



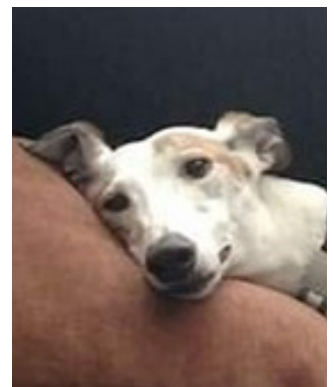
**Vlad**



**Cinnamon**



**Bonnie**



**Winona**

We saw on Facebook that **Winona**, who was part of *Becky* and *Matt S.*'s family for



# Tributes from our readers

*SPECIAL NOTE: If your beloved greyhound goes to Rainbow Bridge and you would like to share a tribute about him or her, please forward a picture and your memorial statement to us and we'll enter it in an upcoming newsletter. High-resolution photos are best.*



## Meera

We adopted **Meera** when she was 1½ years old. We lost her on May 20. She was 11.

She was a joy and so much fun. She had a great personality. She greeted us when we came home with an excitement like she hadn't seen us in weeks. She was a hunter (and small animal killer) outdoors and a Princess indoors.

**Meera** left us suddenly and unexpectedly. We are heartbroken and miss her terribly. We are grateful that we had as long as we did. Special thanks to *Brenda* and *Kathy* for letting us have her.

We love you and miss you, Princess **Meera**. Forever in our hearts.

—*Leslie and Alan S.*

## Odin

**Odin** joined our family about a month after our first greyhound, **Lily**. They hit it off immediately, and he'd stolen our hearts by day's end. **Odin** was a handsome, affectionate boy that never met a stranger. His eyes were soulful, and he felt no shame



about using them to get all the attention and treats he wanted. He was a big, clumsy boy we also fondly called our Bubba. **Odin** loved ice cream, doing zoomies, going for car rides, and napping with us while taking up most of the bed. Early on, he quickly earned the nickname "**Odin** the Destroyer." He enjoyed ripping up cardboard, shredding dog beds, and eating the inedible, so he was no stranger to emergency vet visits. He was happiest when he was with us, and a big fan of vocally expressing his displeasure when we were in another room or outside. He had perfected a shrill bark that could pierce the air and make you jump. He unleashed this weapon anytime he wasn't being given the amount of attention he clearly deserved. We'd always heard greyhounds don't bark much, but I guess no one ever told **Odin**. On July 2, he let us know it was time for him to cross the Rainbow Bridge. We were blessed to be able to embrace him as he passed peacefully. We miss him terribly but find



comfort in the eight years of wonderful memories we were able to make with him.

**Odin** made us better people, and the world a better place. We love you, Bubba!

—Mel and Jon R.

## Crusen Chucky (Vlad the Impaler)

June 5, 2014-Aug. 13, 2022



We got **Vlad** almost two years after we lost **Ares**, our first boy. Our son *Ian* adopted him as an anniversary gift for *Theresa* and me. He was born on June 5, 2014, and *Theresa* named him **Vlad**, although I thought D-Day suited him better for his birthday. He adjusted well with the three girls and our two little old men Iggys. He was a laid-back boy who would play with his toys every once and a while. One day he was laying on the couch with a toy. Our **Daisy** walked by him, picked it from him and then dropped it on the floor. She proceeded to get on a chair and then give the look: "Yeah, I did it, now what?" **Vlad** looked at me with that look of: "Dad, she took my toy."

He would get excited if we were getting under the counter as he always thought we were getting the container for watermelon. When it was cut, he had to be there and taste to make sure it passed. It reminded me of the Chewy commercial with the St. Bernard and the smaller dog. He would say that the peanut butter box was here. I could hear **Vlad** changing it to watermelon box.

He was a big boy and had one of the biggest heads I have ever seen on a greyhound, but he was gentle giant. When you were not feeling well, he would stay with you. At night he would have to be touching me and, in the morning, he would almost push me out of bed.

On Aug. 13, I left to go to St. Mary's and *Theresa* called me. She said **Vlad** had let out a scream and slumped over. There had been no indications of any issues.

Even though **Vlad** was only 8, he managed to do a lot in the five years we had him. I will miss you, big dude. You were our cuddle buddy.

—John and Theresa F.

# Support GAGC!

## How can YOU support GAGC?

GAGC can always use your support. Here's how you can help!



### Go Krogering!

Go Krogering! Do you shop at Kroger? The Kroger Reward program is one of GAGC's most reliable fundraisers. Our rewards are based on your use of your Kroger Plus card. We receive a \$200 donation from Kroger each time our group achieves \$5,000 in total purchases. We use these donations primarily to cover vetting expenses for new or rehomed greyhounds. Be sure to link your Kroger Plus card to GAGC and always use it at check-out. Thanks to all of you who are active in using your rewards cards. We typically earn between \$1,000 and \$1,500 each quarter from this Kroger reward program. Our latest reward was \$1,245.98. Please take a moment to link your Plus card to GAGC as shown below. Thanks!

**Robin Hood** sees the world from a slightly different angle.

### Kroger Reward Program

Please enroll in the Kroger Community



Rewards Program. Our Code Number is **#EP079**. Ask your family and friends to register GAGC as their favorite charity. It is easy money for our hounds and doesn't affect your fuel points! [www.krogercommunityrewards.com](http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com)

## Foster Dog Sponsors

Our program encouraging GAGC members to sponsor one of our foster dogs for \$20 has been very successful. The sponsorship fees go toward the cost of food and monthly medications for these greyhounds. The sponsors have their names on the website on the listing for the dog, plus we'll include it here. This is a nice way to support our foster program without actually bringing a grey into your home. Thanks to all of you! Our latest sponsors are:

*Marianne, James, and Nati:* **SNL Pegasus, JS Big Showoff, KW Viper, Super C Athority, JS Mood Swings, JS Doggun Lucky**  
*Mel, Jon, Odin, Lilly, Ace, and Chewie:* **SNL Pegasus, KW Aquittal, Atascocita Nexus**  
*Christa, Kim, Leo, Annabelle, Shadow, and Marley:* **Orneryoldscudder, JS Big Showoff, JS Mood Swings**

## Thanks for Your Support!

One of the reasons GAGC has experienced so much success is due to the support we receive from our families and friends. Month after month, you help us out in many ways, and we so appreciate all of our donors. Thank you!

### General Gifts to GAGC

*Marianne and James S.*  
*Mel and Jon R.*



*Christa and Kim S.*

*Mary S.*

*Terri and John B.*

*Allison M.*

*Annette D.*

*Emily P.*

*Patti B. and Craig O.*

*Bowen and Amber S.*

Amazon Smile

### **Gift in honor of Odin the Destroyer**

*Mary S.*

### **Gift in honor of Macy—a puppy forever!**

*Mary S.*

### **Gifts in-kind (not \$\$)**

- *Cora F.* donated multiple toys, a beautiful bed, a dog seat belt and a raised dog feeder
- *Kim and Nate A.* donated two bags of Nature's Select for our foster dogs
- *Robin C.* donated her gift card she won for fostering
- *Ronda and Deron R.* donated their winning gift card for the raffle at September's picnic
- *Melina H. and Scotty H.* donated a bag of Nature's Select for our foster dogs
- *Andrea R. and Nate S.* donated medications for foster dogs, two coats, a feeder, and several belly bands



Senior boy **Flash** has claimed the couch as his own.

# Mark your calendars

## Local events

### Ongoing **Walk in Sharon Woods**

*Sunday, Sept. 4, 9 a.m.*

You can walk the entire route or turn around anytime. Hope to see you there. The walk will be CANCELLED IF IT IS RAINING! Enter the park 11450 Lebanon Rd., go past the guard shack and turn left at the first road, there is a parking lot on the right. If you want to attend and walk, that's greyt. No need to confirm, just show up and enjoy walking with other greyhounds and their humans.

### September **GAGC Family Picnic**

*Keehner Park, West Chester*

*Sunday, Sept. 25, 11 a.m.–2 p.m.*



**Natalie** and her family recently moved to Utah; here she is accessorized for a bit of hiking.

We're celebrating 20 years of finding greyt homes for these greyt dogs! We welcome GAGC members plus any friend you have with a greyhound. We recommend NO little dogs attend our greyhound events, since not all greyhounds are friendly with little dogs. We'll have food, vendors, raffle/silent auction and much more:

- 2023 calendar order pick up and sales
- Free lunch
- Group photo (wear your blue 20-year t-shirt!)
- Free goody bag
- Nature's Select food
- Maria's shirts and collars
- Heather's shirts and The Pines Pet Cemetery information
- Care Center Blood drive information
- Raffle/silent auction
- Wine toss game
- Animal communicator
- Dog massages
- \$10 nail trims
- Free frosty paws
- GAGC sellables
- Senior dogs receive a bandana

### **Dog Days of Winter**

*Saturday, Jan. 28, 2023, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.*

After a two-year hiatus because of COVID, the Dog Days of Winter event is back at Bern's Garden Center, 825 Greentree Rd, Middletown. We hope you will be able to join us for this inside event.



# Support our supporters!



'Bye for now!

Look for the next **NeedleNoseNews** in October 2022!

Ahhh roo roo roo!