



HOUND NEWS: FEBRUARY/MARCH, 2024

ADOPTIONS & NEW DOGS

- JANUARY AND FEBRUARY ADOPTIONS – Queen, Shaun, Troy (pictured), Niko and Rascal all found new homes.
- NEW DOGS – We welcomed eight retired racers from Ireland, scheduled on February 15. Of these, Benito, Grace and Bayou have already scored their forever homes.



THANKS TO OUR WINTER APPEAL DONORS

We greatly appreciate the many donations received during our December/January Winter Appeal, which totaled over \$26,000! Your generosity allowed us to transport the eight Irish hounds that just arrived in February and still have funds available to fly in more retired racers this Spring.



SEEKING PHOTOGENIC GREYHOUNDS!

We are excited to work with Lindsay Baca, a Portland-based pet photographer, to create our 2025 Greyhound Calendar. Most of her work is done outdoors in the beautiful Northwest; you can check out her work at <https://www.lindsaybaca.com>. Now all we need are gorgeous greyhound models for the upcoming photoshoots planned for April, May and June. Interested?



We are looking for a variety of coat colors and ages, greys that live in the same home and get along together, plus a galgo or two. Most finished photos will have multiple dogs in them, so we need more than twelve hounds. Greys that have not been in a previous calendar will have preference.

Here are the **tentative** dates and locations for the photo sessions. Lindsay prefers to shoot in late afternoon lighting, so the April dates will start around 6pm, May about 6:30pm and June starting around 7pm. One or more final shots will be taken at each location.

- Sat April 13 – Hoyt Arboretum or Mt. Tabor
- Thurs April 18 – Wooden Shoe Tulip Farm in Woodburn
- Thurs May 9 – Camas, WA
- Sat May 18 – Columbia Gorge
- Thurs June 20 – Northern Oregon Beach, location to be determined
- Thurs June 27 – Rose Test Garden, Portland

If you would like to volunteer your greyhound(s) and one or more of these tentative times would work for you, please respond to Janet Chandler, jvchandler@frontier.com. Indicate your name and home location, date preference, and names of your dog(s), color, age, and gender of each dog. Once we have a list of dog models, we will give you more details about the shooting schedules and location. These shooting sessions are sometimes hectic but fun and you get to see your dog become a calendar model.

GOOD NEWS ON THE MEDICAL FRONT



At the end of 2023 we learned of a couple of veterinary advancements which have made quite a difference for two of our special needs foster greyhounds. While investigating the possibility of an orthotic for **Batman's** damaged front leg, we learned that a once-a-month injection for osteo-arthritis was about to be made available in the US. **Librela** has been used in Europe and Canada for some time and as soon as it was available last November, we started Batman on a monthly injection. The difference in Batman's energy level and ability to move was noticeable within a few days. Batman has now received 4 injections and the effect has made it possible for us to cut his pain medications by a third. Last year at this time, Batman's movement was quite restricted. He now rolls around on the ground and chases other dogs just as if he was a year-old puppy.

Many of you have followed the developments of **Ringo** who had his tail amputated last year to remove a large tumor. At his November checkup, because Ringo was experiencing increased pain, x-rays were taken revealing another tumor in his pelvic region. At that time, Ringo's oncologist gave him an infusion of zoledronic acid, which is a drug used to combat osteoporosis. This drug has become used more and more for bone cancer patients. Amazingly, rather than having ever-increasing pain, Ringo was his happy-go-lucky self at both December and January's checkups. Despite some increased discomfort at his February checkup, Ringo's exam and bloodwork were still good. His oncologist recommended a newly-approved once-a-month injection that helps with pain – **Librela!** This same drug is being used with cancer patients. Much to the delight of everyone who knows Ringo, he is considered an amazing success and continues to enjoy a happy life months beyond our wildest expectations.

KEEP THOSE GREYT PHOTOS COMING!



Handsome Wilbur is roaring! He wants to make sure you heard we love getting new pics to share.

You can email us photos: socialmedianw@gpa-nw.org. Send us your cute, strange, goofy, elegant photos with your dog's name to post to our [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) pages.

We always love pics of newly-adopted greys settling into their forever homes. Photos of foster dogs with updates are most welcome so we can help find them a forever home.

By sending us a photo, you are giving us permission to use this for social media. We can provide credit to the photographer within the post, just let us know who to credit.

OREGONIANS - WE NEED YOUR HELP COMMENTING AGAINST PROPOSED NEW OREGON RULES THAT IMPACT

GPA NORTHWEST & OTHER ANIMAL WELFARE GROUPS – contact your state senator and representative by March 15.

Our Board of Directors is submitting comments against proposed changes to the Oregon Dept of Agriculture’s rules for “Animal Rescue Entity,” which we are subject to (though we are an adoption group rather than a “rescue” group). While the fee changes won’t have a huge burden on our finances, they will be onerous for animal welfare groups that have large foster facilities and bring on several hundred animals each year. You can find your state senator’s and representative’s emails and state addresses here:

<https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/senate/Pages/SenatorsAll.aspx>

<https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/house/Pages/RepresentativesAll.aspx>

Below is a sample letter for you to use; it gives an overview of the changes and why they are unnecessary. You can also send a message to Governor Kotek at this contact link, <https://www.oregon.gov/gov/Pages/share-your-opinion.aspx> and to the Oregon Department of Agriculture, Ryan Scholz 503-986-4680, ryan.scholz@oda.oregon.gov (be sure and bcc yourself so you have record of your public comment)

Date

Senator/Representative XXXXXX
State Address XXXXX
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Comments on OR Department of Agriculture Proposed Changes to Animal Rescue Entity Licensing Rules – Comments due on or before 3/15/2024

Dear Senator/Representative XXXXXXXX,

I reside in your district, and am a [donor/supporter/volunteer/adopter/ board member] of Greyhound Pet Adoption Northwest, a non-profit animal welfare organization.

Most legitimate Oregon animal rescue organizations accepted the new licensing requirements put in effect for Animal Rescue Entities (ARE’s) in 2020, administered by the Agriculture Department. The goals were to ensure the safety of the animals including rabies vaccination and provide confidence to individuals adopting animals that the animals were healthy.

Greyhound Pet Adoption Northwest is a small, all-volunteer, foster-based adoption group that finds permanent homes for retired racing greyhounds. We have no paid staff. Our income derives from adoption fees, donations, and fundraising activities, and our expenses are primarily for transportation and veterinary care.

The initial annual licensing cost for ARE’s was \$375, for both large organizations like the Oregon Humane Society and small ones like us. We readily complied with the licensing requirements, provided the necessary records for audits in 2021, 2022, and 2023 and were approved each of those years.

Now the state is proposing a new definition of foster facilities and a new licensing fee structure that will add costs for ARE’s yet will not result in any greater safety to the animals taken in by animal rescue groups. The new license fee is tiered, such that foster-based organizations with no separate physical facilities will pay an annual licensing fee of \$200; those with a physical location will pay \$300. *But*, a new fee, an animal transfer fee is proposed, which would “tax”

organizations based on the number of animals transferred into the ARE each year. The fees range from \$100 for 50 or less animals to \$2,200 for organizations taking in 501 to 1000 animals.

We have no foster facility with more than 10 dogs, so our annual licensing fee will go down from \$375 to \$200 under the proposed rules. We transfer in 50 to 60 greyhounds each year, so anticipate our annual transfer fee will be \$200. Thus, for us, our increase in costs to comply with the ARE requirements is manageable using available funds.

However, this new transfer fee is going to have a significant impact on other small animal rescue groups that bring in large numbers of animals, like cats and horses. They often have several physical facilities, as well as foster facilities with 10 or more animals, and will now pay \$75 for each location plus the licensing fee of \$300 plus the new transfer fee.

If rescue groups were getting any benefit from these additional fees, the new charges might be warranted, but that is not the case. Instead:

- Funds that would have been used for direct services like veterinary care and food will now go to the state.
- Donors want to support services that help the animals, not bureaucratic regulations.
- It appears that the new fee structure is a means of funding the Department of Agriculture staff who manage the ARE program. If the program was designed to assure animal safety and the adoption of healthy animals by the public, it should be funded from Oregon general funds.
- Fewer animals will be transferred in and adopted through ARE's due to this new, additional cost of doing business.
- More animal welfare groups will move their operations to Washington state or other surrounding states.

Oregon is the only state in the U.S. with the licensing, recordkeeping and auditing requirements animal rescue groups are subject to. Some states, like Kansas, Washington, and California require an annual license, like a business license. Many others have no specific requirements. Oregon already requires nonprofits to register with the Oregon Dept of State, submit an annual corporate report and pay \$50 per year. In addition, we are required to submit a CT-12 Annual report to the Oregon Dept of Justice and pay an annual fee based on revenue, which was \$161 in 2023.

Oregon should not consider putting more financial and administrative burdens on ARE's, or any nonprofit for that matter. Funds to pay state staff to administer this new program should come from general funds, not the backs of chronically strapped animal welfare organizations. A "few" hundred dollars many do not seem like much, but last year we spent \$6,400 on food, \$62,000 on transportation, and \$71,000 on veterinary care – from a total budget of \$168,000. That took a lot of fundraising, but we do it for the hounds.

We ask for your support to assure that these new rules *not* go in effect. According to the OR Dept of Agriculture, they are accepting written comments until March 15th . We need the help of our legislators.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours truly,

Name
Address
City, OR Zipcode
Email Address
Phone Number