



GREYZETTE

2023 Recap & Looking Ahead in 2024

kcregap.org

A note from Julie Morrison, KCREGAP president



Julie & Midnight

Hello fellow Greyhound/Sighthound lovers. Some of you may know me and have for several years; others may not. So I thought I would introduce myself and I'm hopeful I'll get to know more of you as we meet at upcoming REGAP events!

My name is Julie Morrison and I have been a volunteer with Kansas City REGAP since 1995. My husband, Chris, and I fell in love with Greyhounds at a meet and greet in a pet store before we were married. We knew immediately that Greyhounds were the dogs for us. We adopted our first Greyhound and almost immediately began fostering. We have fostered to date close to 120 Greyhounds/Lurchers! The special needs dogs have always been close to my heart. We've taken care of 30 greyhounds with broken legs and several with other medical needs. Many shy or "spooky" Greyhounds have found their confidence in our home too. Lastly, we've nurtured and helped raise a dozen or more puppies. The joy of fostering quickly turned Greyhound/Lurcher rescue into my life long passion.

I've held a number of positions in REGAP through the years: assistant foster coordinator, foster coordinator and I was Cher Oliver's (KCREGAP's founder) "right hand woman" in my younger years.

This past year as president has been filled with so many joyful moments. Greyhounds have found their forever families and/or have overcome the effects of their living conditions before coming to KCREGAP. It's been a year of transition for the organization and I'm grateful for everyone's efforts in furthering our mission to place as many hounds as possible in loving, committed homes.

The rescue of Greyhounds has morphed from countless dogs being bred and abandoned by the racing industry into Greyhounds continuing to be bred and raced at the two functioning tracks in West Virginia. Alongside the track racing is the passing off of Greyhounds into other sports involving racing in fields and the hunting of coyotes in the plains states. In addition to receiving purebred Greyhounds into our rescue (many that are not tattooed) Greyhounds are being bred with other sighthounds and hunting breeds to "toughen" the dogs so they can better tolerate running loose in the countryside as racers and hunters. KCREGAP continues to be contacted by individuals and other organization partners of dogs in need of rescue.

My vision for KCREGAP in years to come is to continue every effort toward rescuing and placing these beautiful, soulful dogs with humans who appreciate all they have to offer as pets inside a home, as a family member. One dog at a time we will remain focused on their individual needs in front of us as they reach safety within our organization. The ultimate goal for each of these dogs is an indoor, warm, clean, comfortable environment where they are cared for and loved as they should be.

Please feel free to find me at one of our upcoming events. Introduce yourself and let's talk about how you can be a continued part of this lifesaving mission!!

- If you can't adopt, foster
- If you can't foster, volunteer
- If you can't volunteer, be a monthly benefactor
- If you can't be a benefactor, donate
- If you can't donate, educate, network and spread the word.

Please reach out to clubgreyhound@gmail.com TODAY to sign up for any of the above ways you can help the hounds!



2023 by the numbers

125 Total applications
(120 in 2022; 76 in 2021; 135 in 2020)

42 Total adoptions
(32 in 2022; 45 in 2021; 63 in 2020)

21 New families
(20 in 2022; 19 in 2021; 40 in 2020)

11 Return adopters
(6 in 2022; 10 in 2021; 10 in 2020)

10 Foster fails
(6 in 2022; 16 in 2021; 13 in 2020)

Midnight's Miracle

by Lisa Horn

The capture of Midnight, a Kansas City REGAP adoptable that Lawrence came to know and love during the summer of 2023, was a labor of love that wouldn't have been possible without the help of countless residents and KCREGAP volunteers.

People printed and hung flyers, shared her story by word of mouth and on social media, reported sightings, sent photos from their doorbell cameras, searched on foot, by car and drone and even barbecued yummy food in the hopes of luring her to safety.

Searching for a lost dog is like trying to find a needle in a haystack – even in a smaller city like Lawrence. And to add to the complexity, *Midnight* was recovering from being spayed and was unsure of people.

Short of crossing into north Lawrence, *Midnight* visited all four quadrants of the city after she got loose the evening of June 21. She was being delivered by a Kansas City REGAP volunteer to one of our foster families.

Having never been in a city and perhaps little experience traveling in a car, this beautiful black hound experienced a lot of change in a short time.

During the next three and a half weeks, she endured even more change — oppressive heat, storms (including 70- to 80-miles per hour winds), tornado sirens, traffic, (well meaning) people chasing her and fireworks.

She survived on food left out for her by residents and trackers, Rusty Holladay and Patty Reed Davis. Without the vigilance by them, helpers Larrie Ann Brown, Emily Fawcett and several key KCREGAP volunteers, *Midnight*'s story may not have been the miracle it was.



Midnight is learning the comforts of a warm bed and lots of love from her foster family.

Rusty set up a trap with a camera that would automatically trip the shutter if any motion was detected. *Midnight* teased us a few times when she got close to the trap, including a very cheeky photo where we all wondered if she decided to do a "photo bomb" near one of her safe spaces.

The goal was to always keep an area calm and quiet so that she would stay and feel comfortable enough to let her guard down and step into the baited cage.

As the days passed, we soon found that Miss *Midnight* has a discerning palate. Rusty and Patty tried raw liver, lunch meat and rotisserie chicken, but in the last few days as a fugitive, she especially enjoyed steak and bacon, walking (almost) all the way into the trap to get more. She was even spotted chasing rabbits in a field – perhaps she caught one... or two.

Her primary safe space was in a wooded area near a creek. She visited Old West Lawrence around the Fourth of July, the Pinkney neighborhood (part of her leash was found under a deck there), Dad Perry Park and KU. She even traveled as far south as Clinton Parkway and Inverness and the 31st and Kasold neighborhood.

It's estimated that in a single day she covered 25 miles (with lots of back and forth).



Captured! *Midnight*'s team of rescuers take a photo with their precious treasure. Pictured from the left are: Julie Morrison, Patty Davis, Rusty Holliday, Larrie Ann Brown and Cher Oliver.



Midnight's Miracle, continued

It was in east Lawrence where she would finally be captured. On Sunday, July 16, Moon on the Meadow Farm owner Jill's dog started barking.

Jill brought her dog inside and when she did so, she saw Midnight wandering near the vegetable beds. Jill and her visitors, Tabitha & Karen, stayed inside and watched quietly as Midnight walked into the garage.

When they saw her go through the "human" door into the garage, the trio quietly snuck out and peeked in to see Midnight curled up in a corner.

"Quietly, but quickly, they reached for the door knob and closed the door to the garage," said Julie Morrison, KCREGAP board president who coordinated the search with Rusty and Patty. "Like magic, she was safe."

Rusty, Patty, Larrie Ann, Julie and Cher Oliver (KCREGAP founder) arrived soon after.

They were amazed at Midnight's condition. Her spay incision had healed well. She melted into Julie's arms as Julie carried her to the crate.

When that door closed, it ended the worry and fear so many had about this beautiful dog whose new chapter in life had taken a bumpy detour.

Finally, the right place, the right time and the right people came together for Midnight's miracle. These days, Midnight is enjoying the comforts of a warm bed and lots of love in her foster home with Julie and Chris Morrison.

A special celebration for Midnight's safe return and the rescuers who made it possible was held Oct. 8 at Fields and Ivy Brewery in Lawrence.

Topeka TV station KSNT covered the event. [Watch the coverage.](#)

A HOWLING SUCCESS

KCREGAP's debut in the Great Global Greyhound Walk

by Lisa Horn

On Sept. 24, 60 hounds and their families descended on the Kansas City Plaza for KCREGAP's first time participating in the Great Global Greyhound Walk. Established as the Great British Greyhound Walk in 2010, the walk soon went "global" to bring hound owners together, create awareness of dogs in need and show the world how sighthounds make great pets.

The 2023 walks broke records with 11,818 sighthounds participating in 458 walks in 36 countries. Kansas City placed third in the top 10 American walks behind Safety Harbor, Florida's walk with 143 hounds and 78 hounds in Orlando. Prizes were given to the K.C. hounds who represented the flag theme with the most creativity and a group photo commemorating the walk was taken at the iconic horse fountain in Mill Creek Park. A special thanks to Woof's Play and Stay, which allowed for free parking for all the participants.

Kansas City's KCTV 5 covered the event also. [Watch the coverage.](#)

Mark your calendars — this year's walk will be **Sept. 29!**



In a perfect world, every home would have a dog,
and every dog would have a home.

SOME OF OUR 2023 ADOPTIONS



kcregap.org

email: information@kcregap.org

To become a volunteer (or stay in the loop),
email clubgreyhound@gmail.com

Click [here](#) to donate.

Lisa Horn, writer/editor • Holly Swayne, designer