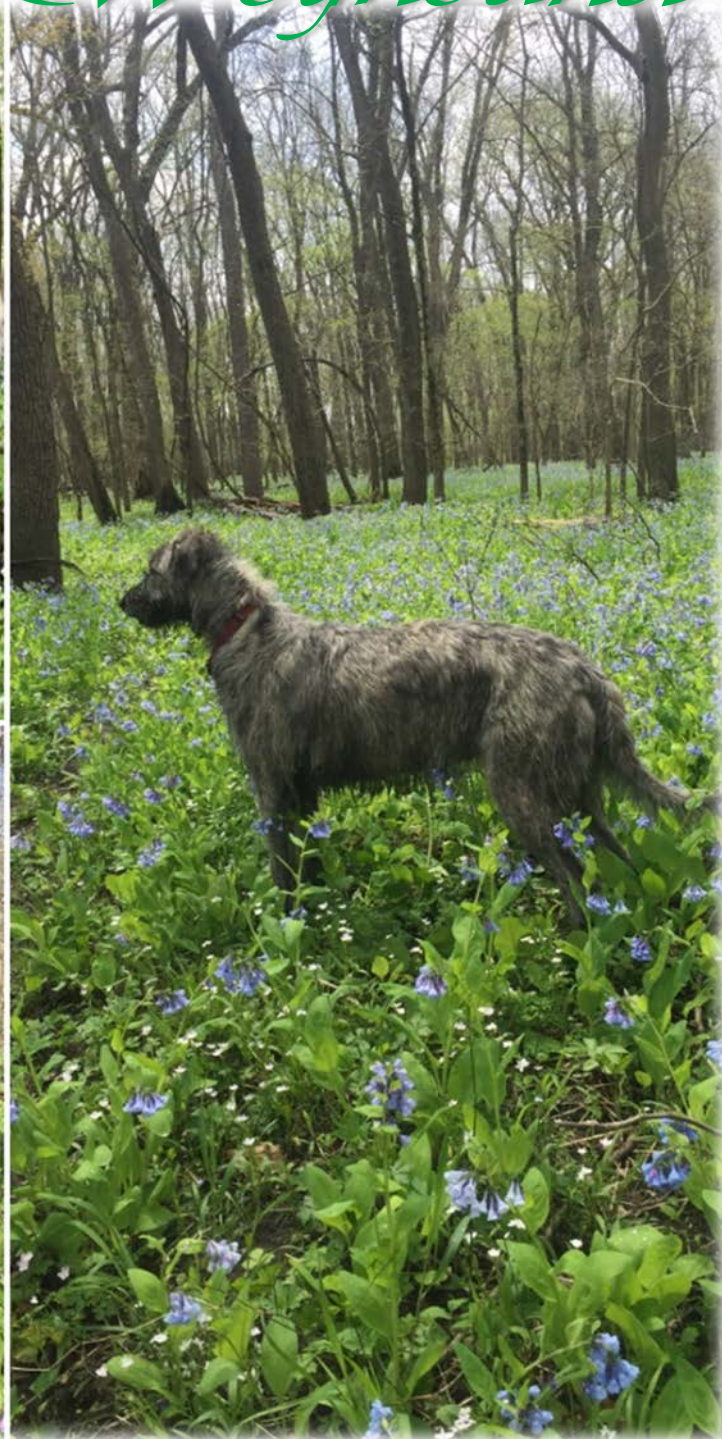


GREAT LAKES IRISH WOLFHOUND ASSOCIATION

# *Midwest Wolfhound*



*A quarterly newsletter for Irish Wolfhounds & their people*

*Volume LV  
Spring 2020*

## Secretary's Report

- Track progress of the club and view the official record of each board meeting
- February Meeting Minutes

## St. Patrick's Day During Coronavirus

- 2020 Manhattan Parade amidst the Coronavirus, by Debbie Greene

## Calendar of Events

- Find locations, dates, & details of events GLIWA is participating in. Please join us!

## Rescue Report

- The latest news on wolfhounds in need of support & rehoming via GLIWA rescue

## Spotlight on Health

- The health & wellbeing of our hounds is our highest priority. Here you will find articles on health care, behavior, training and nutrition
  - [Planning for Your Pet When You Can't Be There](#)
  - [Pet Safety in an Emergency](#)
  - [Caring For Pets During COVID-19](#)

## Member Veterinarian Recommendations

- Some of our members favorite vets for their hounds

## Therapy Work

- [IWCA Therapy Dog article](#)
- [Tipitina's Start as a Therapy Dog, by Dave Berzins](#)

## Quarterly Photos & Brags

- Please submit any photos or articles that best show our breed's multifaceted personality: "Gentle when stroked, fierce when provoked". Brags from shows, agility, therapy, & community events welcome too! Email RE: Midwest Wolfhound Quarterly Photos to editors.

**PRESIDENT**

Maria Lubera

**VICE-PRESIDENT**

Risha Cupit-Berzins

**TREASURER**

Joe Mahoney

**SECRETARY**

Claire Morrison

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Mark Bettin

Scott Mortensen

Elissa Culp

Debbie Greene

Michelle Whittenhall

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**Cover photo credit:**

Aile- Debbie Greene,

Daisy & Cella- Helen Philpott

## Secretary's Report

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### Great Lakes Irish Wolfhound Association Annual Members Meeting of February 8, 2020

GLIWA met at Parker's Restaurant before the Annual Dinner. Maria Lubera welcomed the group and called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM.

All in attendance except Claire Morrison. Quorum achieved.

Risha Cupit-Berzins moved that GLIWA approve the minutes as printed in the Midwest Wolfhound Newsletter. Debbie Greene seconded. All in favor.

President Maria Lubera discussed the **election of Officers and Board Members as follows:**

Nominations for 2020

**President - Maria Lubera**

**VP - Risha Berzins**

**Secretary - Claire Morrison**

**Treasurer - Joe Mahoney**

**Director - Mark Bettin**

**Director - Scott Mortenson**

**Completing their 2<sup>nd</sup> year Directorship is Elissa Culp, Debbie Greene and Michelle Whittenhall**

All agreed to this nomination slate. No other business requiring a vote of the Membership was put forward.

Pat Powers moved to table all discussion and committee reports and to end the meeting. Chris Krowzack Bernstein seconded the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:41 PM.

**Great Lakes Irish Wolfhound Association  
Annual Members Meeting of February 8, 2020  
Meeting Two**

The meeting was called to order by Maria Lubera at 9:45 p.m.

Debbie Greene motioned that all business, with the exception of the Match Committee, until the next board meeting, which will be held May 30 at the Annual Picnic in Joliet.

Joe Mahoney seconded. All in favor.

**Match Committee:**

Risha Cupit-Berzins discussed placing an ad in the Harp & Hound for GLIWA match. It will cost \$175 for a half page add. Mark Bettin motioned for placing add in Harp & Hound, Scott Mortenson seconded. All in favor.

At this time, Risha also passed out the GLIWA business cards to all board members for distribution at events.

Michelle Whittenhall gave the motion to adjourn the meeting. Debbie Greene seconded.

Maria Lubera adjourned the meeting at

## St. Patrick's Day During Coronavirus



### *2020 Manhattan Parade amidst the Coronavirus*

*By Debbie Greene*

March parade season approached and so did the news of a pandemic. The first parade of the season was the Manhattan, IL Parade. We all like this parade because it is one of the older, more traditional parades. It is also fairly short (compared to the Chicago South Side Parade) It is always well attended, deep with people on both sides, especially when you get downtown.

So, it was parade season and word of this terrible "flu-like" infection was spreading. Robert and I (and many GLIWA members) fall into that over 60, possible underlying conditions category. We talked a lot about whether to go to Manhattan this year. In the end we went. And I am so happy we did. Joining our GLIWA friends - Robert and I, Scott Mortensen, Mark Bettin, Pam Raft and a few others walked together on another cool but not cold or rainy day. I think mine and Robert's intention was to walk down the middle of the street away from the crowds but when we saw all the children on the sides of the street and our dogs just waiting to be showered with love we of course ended up going into the crowds on the sides of the street. After the parade we had to go check out the Oscar Meyer Weiner Mobile. Of course to the dogs it might have looked like a giant snack! We all posed with the crew and Mark was especially happy to meet the driver who had been on the news and all over social media for speeding in the Weiner Mobile. There was a picture circulating on the internet of him being pulled over by the state police. We got to go in and look around (very classy for a Weiner Mobile).

After the parade we went to lunch as we all usually do. For those of you that are members but don't attend many events we would like to have you join us someday! There are many members who don't do parades anymore, but they meet us for lunch or a drink. This is the best way to get to know people you can call and get advice about Wolfhounds. There is so much knowledge in this club. The camaraderie is wonderful, and we definitely invite you to join us!

Sadly, the rest of the parades were cancelled due to the pandemic. One by one. First Naperville and Plainfield. Then Milwaukee and the South Side Parade. St. Patrick's Day events were cancelled all over the country and throughout the world. There will be more events cancelled this year, I fear. Until we can all safely get together again please follow the Great Lakes Irish Wolfhound Group on Facebook. Post pictures of your hounds start a conversation with someone on the page to keep from going stir crazy and most of all stay healthy. Until then...enjoy some photos from the parade below.

# GREAT LAKES IRISH WOLFHOUND ASSOCIATION

2020 Manhattan Parade continued...



# GREAT LAKES IRISH WOLFHOUND ASSOCIATION

2020 Manhattan Parade continued...



A fun time was had by all! Please consider joining us next year.





## GLIWA Calendar 2020

Come join us and enjoy the day with your wolfhounds!

Summer/Fall Events:



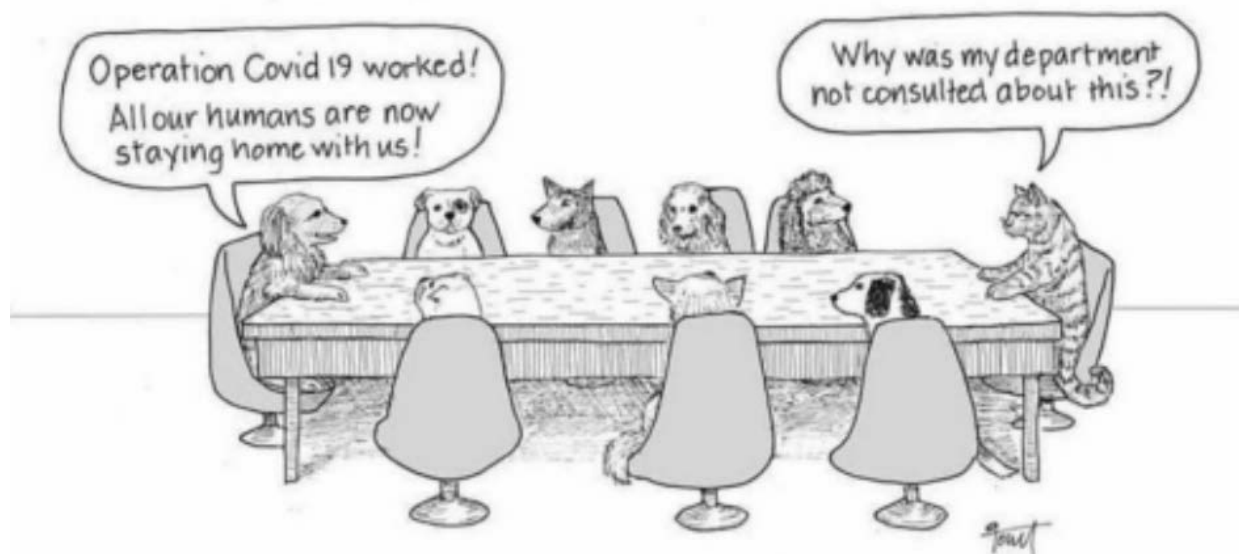
### ~~~~ GLIWA Annual Picnic ~~~~

Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 crisis our annual picnic has been postponed (originally set for May 30<sup>th</sup>).

GLIWA will be organizing some group walks, lure coursing seminar, & other fun activities once the shelter-in-place directive has been lifted. Please continue to check our website for details.

<https://www.gliwa.org/events>

Stay home & stay tuned...

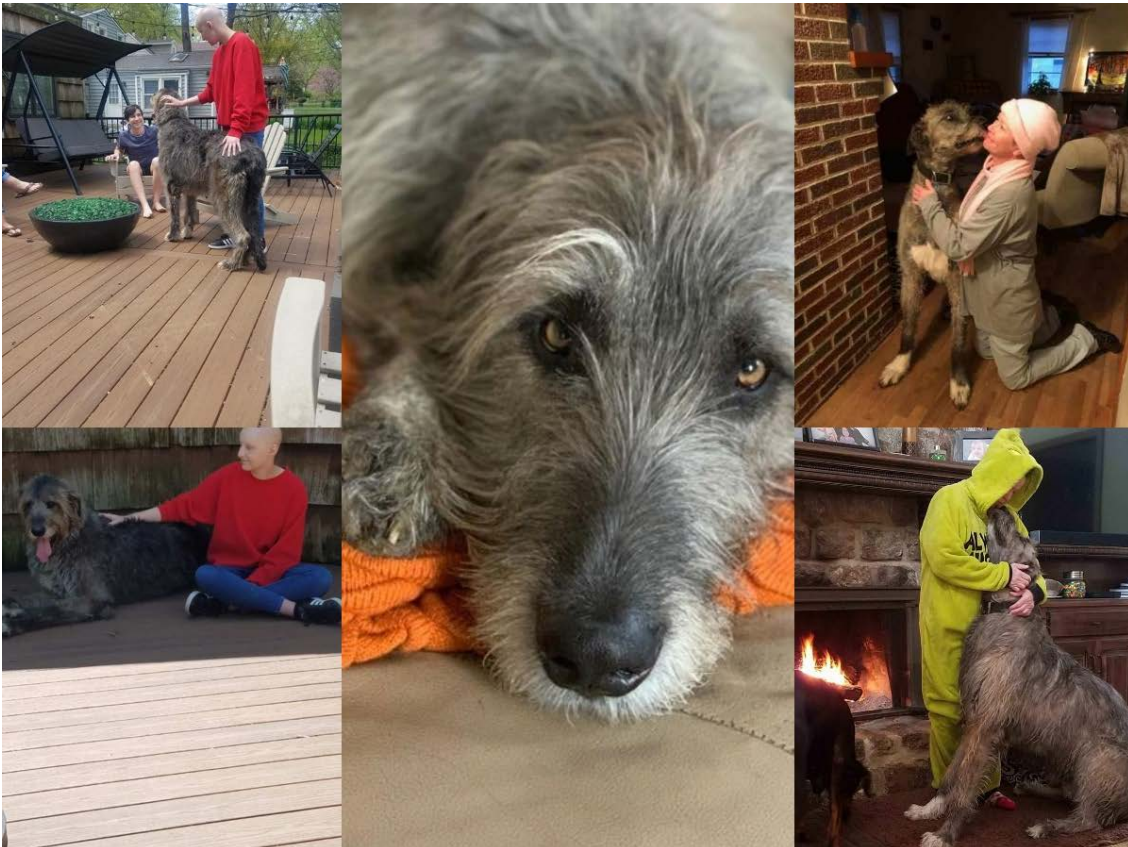


## Rescue Report



GLIWA Rescue has had two requests to visit hospice patients. The two requests were completely unrelated, so it is interesting that we got two requests in just a few months. Robert and Debbie Greene tried to do a visit early in the year, but the patient got so sick it was not possible to go see her. Then we received another request. Robert was contacted by Todd Luster a former Irish Wolfhound owner in Florida. His request was to find someone with an Irish Wolfhound to visit a close friend's daughter near Kansas City. We had been working with Ron Rutter to facilitate a rescue that did not come to fruition earlier in the year. Robert contacted him about this request for Todd's friend's daughter Logan, who has cancer and her prognosis is grim. Todd was hoping to give a moment of joy with a Wolfhound visit.

Through various Rescue contacts with Ron Rutter, Bev Stobart, Jenny Stratton and her dog "Jackson Browne", a meeting was finally accomplished on April 26th. The meeting was a great success for all. Logan has recently shown some improvement due to a new medication, but things are still dire. Logan and her family are very grateful to GLIWA for the visit and it went very well. Future visits between the two families are being scheduled. Rescue has been receiving more and more requests like this as of late & we are so thankful that our gentle hounds can put a smile on a deserving face!



## Spotlight on Health



### *Planning for Your Pet When You Can't Be There*



*Note: This general information is intended to help you think about options for your pet if/when you can no longer care for them. It is not intended to be financial or legal advice. Please consult an attorney or qualified adviser to make choices that best fit your situation. Credit: <https://www.laanimalservices.com/general-information/planningforpets/>*

#### **An illness, accident, hospitalization or death could leave your furry companion out in the cold.**

Companion animals may end up all alone with no one to care for them due to their owner's unexpected illness, accident, hospitalization, or death when no arrangements have been made for their care.

By planning for the unexpected, you can ensure that your furry family member has food, water, shelter, proper care and love if you are no longer able to provide for them. Proper planning can help guarantee your best friend is well cared for in the event that something unexpected happens to you. Here is some information to get you started.

#### **Prepare for the unexpected**

Because pets need care daily and will need immediate attention should you become incapacitated, making informal arrangements for temporary care is important.

- Identify two responsible individuals who are comfortable with your pet and agree to serve as temporary emergency caregiver for your pet.
- Provide these individuals with keys to your home, your veterinarian's contact information, your pet's medical information and any medications, feeding and basic care instruction and information pertaining to your arrangements for permanent care.
- Make sure your neighbors, friends, and relatives know how many pets you have and the names and contact numbers of the individuals who have agreed to be emergency caregivers. Emergency caregivers should also know how to contact each other.
- Carry a card in your wallet with the information about the number and type of pets you have as well as the contact information for your emergency caregivers.
- Post "In Case of Emergency" signs on your doors or windows with the number and type of animals inside. These signs will alert emergency responders during a fire or other home emergency. Stickers are not recommended because they are hard to remove and often left behind by past residents, so firefighters may assume that the sticker is outdated or, worse, risk their lives trying to find a pet no longer in the house.
- Attach to the inside of your front and back doors a removable notice listing the contact information for your pet's emergency caregivers.

## **Choose a long-term or permanent caregiver and make it official**

The best way to make sure your pet is cared for permanently should you become seriously ill or die is to make formal arrangements through a will, trust or another official document. It's not enough that long ago your friend verbally promised to take in your animal or even that you've decided to leave money to your friend for that purpose.

- Make official arrangements in your Will or Trust documents that outline your wishes for the care and security of your pet after you are gone. To do this, it is important that you seek advice from an attorney or professional who can help ensure that everything is in order to protect your pet's future. Your lawyer will work with you to draw up a special will, trust or other document to specify new ownership of your pet. You can also include the money to care for him or her.
- When choosing a home for your beloved pet, keep in mind that a new environment and being without you will be a stressful situation. Try to choose an individual that will provide your pet with comfort, security, and the level of care that you would want for your pet.
- If you have multiple pets, decide whether you want all of your pets to go to one person, or whether different pets should go to different people. If possible, try to keep pets that have bonded together.
- Choose one or two alternate caregivers in case your first choice becomes unable or unwilling to take your pet
- Discuss your wishes and expectations as well as the responsibilities of caring for your pet with potential caregivers. Keep in mind this individual will have full responsibility including choices about veterinary care and euthanasia.
- Stay in touch with the designated caregivers and alternates. . Sometimes life situations change and one person may no longer be able to provide care due to changes of their own.
- It can take days or weeks for your will to be legally recognized and acted upon, therefore it is important to provide your executor or personal representative with both your emergency caregiver's and permanent caregiver's contact information (the emergency and permanent caregiver may or may not be the same). This will ensure your pet will be cared for in the interim. You should also authorize your executor to be able to disperse funds (should your will have a provision for it) to both the emergency and permanent caregivers to help them pay for any transporting expenses to their new home if necessary and the added expenses of food and medicine for your pet.

## **Entrust an organization to care for your pet**

Most humane organizations do not have the space or resources to care for your companion animal indefinitely and cannot guarantee that someone will adopt your animal. There are some organizations that may be able to board and care for your pet temporarily until they can be adopted by a new caregiver. For a fee or donation, there are a few organizations that specialize in long-term care of pets of deceased owners and will find your pet a new home or care for your pet for the rest of their life. Before making any formal arrangements, visit the organization you have in mind to see how animals are cared for and what policies and procedures exist regarding placement with a new family. Also look at their financial records and make sure they will be in business when you need them. If you decide to entrust the care of your animal to an organization, choose a well-established organization that is successful in finding good homes for pets quickly.

## Set up a trust to help

When you create a trust for your pet, you set aside money to be used for your pet's care and you specify a trustee to control the funds. A trust created separately from the will carries certain benefits.

- You can determine ahead of time when the trust becomes effective. You may decide that the trust take effect on the day that you pass away or in the event that you become incapacitated for a certain number of days due to illness, an injury or accident.
- You may exclude certain assets from the probate process, typically enacted upon your death, guaranteeing that funds are available to take care of your pet in the short-term.
- It is enforceable in court if the trustee fails to abide by its terms unlike a bequest to an individual for the care of your pet, which is not enforceable if the beneficiary does not use it as intended.



## *Pet Safety in an Emergency*



Credit: <https://www.cdc.gov/healthypets/emergencies/index.html>

Emergencies come in many forms: fires, hurricanes, earthquakes, tornadoes, floods, violent storms and even terrorism. In the event of [extreme weather or a disaster](#), would you know what to do to protect your pet? Leaving pets out of evacuation plans can put pets, pet owners, and first responders in danger. Even if you try to create a safe place for them, pets left behind during a disaster are likely to be injured, lost, or worse. Be prepared: make a plan and prepare a disaster kit for your pet.

### Before an Emergency

#### Find Pet-Friendly Hotels

- [bringfido.comexternal icon](#) or call 877-411-FIDO
- [dogfriendly.comexternal icon](#) or call 888-281-5170
- [doginmysuitcase.comexternal icon](#) or call 8880254-0637
- [pet-friendly-hotels.netexternal icon](#) or call 866-966-3046
- [pets-allowed-hotels.comexternal icon](#) or call 800-250-1625
- [petswelcome.comexternal icon](#)
- [tripswithpets.comexternal icon](#)

To get started, familiarize yourself with the types of disasters that could affect your area and consider your options for providing care for your pet(s).

Disasters can happen without warning, so be prepared:

- Make sure your pet(s) wear collars and tags with up-to-date contact information and other identification.
- Microchip your pet(s) – this is one of the best ways to ensure that you and your pet are reunited if you are separated. Always be sure to register the microchip with the manufacturer and keep your contact information up to date with the microchip company.
- Keep a leash and/or carrier near the exit.
- Make sure you have proper equipment for pets to ride in the car (carriers, harnesses, pet seatbelts).
- Prepare a [Pet Disaster Kit](#) so evacuation will go smoothly for your entire family. Ask your veterinarian for help in putting together your pet's veterinary records.

### Make a Plan

- Plan where you and your pet will stay in case you need to evacuate your home. Pets may not be allowed in local shelters, unless they are service animals. Many disaster evacuation centers (such as Red Cross evacuation centers) do not accept pets and other animals.

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- Identify shelters or out-of-town friends or relatives where your pets and other animals can stay.
- Locate boarding facilities or animal hospitals near your evacuation shelter and in the case you are unable to return home right away.
- Create a buddy system in case you're not home during an emergency. Ask a trusted neighbor who can check on your animals and can evacuate your animals if necessary.
- Locate a veterinarian or animal hospital in the area where you may be seeking temporary shelter and add the veterinarian's contact information to your emergency kit. Sample below.

<https://www.cdc.gov/healthypets/resources/disaster-prep-Pet-Emergency-Checklist.pdf>



**PET DISASTER KIT CHECKLIST**

**DOCUMENTS**

- Photocopied veterinary records
  - Rabies certificate
  - Vaccinations
  - Medical summary
  - Prescriptions for medications
  - Most recent heartworm test result (dogs).
- Photocopied registration information (ex: proof of ownership or adoption records)
- Pet description(s) (ex: breed, sex, color, weight)
- Recent photographs for each of your pets
- Waterproof container for documents
- Microchip information (ex: microchip number, name and number of the microchip company)
- Your contact information (phone numbers and addresses for your family and friends or relatives you may be staying with)

**WATER, FOOD, MEDICATIONS**

- 2-week supply of food for each animal stored in waterproof containers
- 2-week supply of water for each animal
- Non-spill food and water dishes
- Manual can opener
- Feeding instructions for each animal
- 2-week supply of any medications (if applicable)
- Medication instructions (if applicable)
- One month supply of flea, tick, and heartworm preventative

**OTHER SUPPLIES**

- Leash, collar with ID, and harness
- Toys
- Appropriate-sized pet carrier with bedding, blanket, or towel
- Pet first aid book and first aid kit
- Cleaning supplies for accidents (paper towels, plastic bags, disinfectant)

 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

## Create an emergency kit for your pet

Prepare an [emergency kit](#) for your pet ahead of time.

- Purchase a pet carrier for each of your pets (write your pet's name, your name, and contact information on each carrier).
- Food and water for at least 2 weeks for each pet
- For cats: litter box and litter
- For dogs: plastic bags for poop
- Medications for at least 2 weeks
- Medical records, including record of vaccination for rabies and other diseases, prescription medications, and medical history.
- Sturdy leashes or harnesses
- Microchip number
- Contact information (cell phone, work phone, home phone) of owner and close relative or friends

## Practice evacuating your pet

- Train your pets to be in their carriers by making it a comfortable place.
- Practice transporting your pet by taking them for rides in a vehicle similar to one you would be evacuating in. If you do not have a car, make arrangements with neighbors, family, and friends. You can also contact your local government to learn about transportation options during a disaster.
- Know where your pet might hide when stressed or scared. Practice catching your pet, if needed.
- For cats, you can practice removing your cat from his/her hiding spot and using your cat's carrier, a pillowcase, a sturdy box – anything to get your cat quickly out of harm's way.
- Have your entire family practice evacuating with your pets so everyone knows what to take, where to find the pets, and where to meet.

## During an Emergency

If you don't have a plan and need information quickly in an emergency, contact:

### Local Animal Shelters

Search for local shelters and rescue groups on [Petfinder's Shelter Center external icon](#). Local animal shelters may be able to offer advice on what to do with your pets if you are asked to evacuate your home.

### Local Government

Local government animal control or service agencies can provide guidance on how to protect your pets in an emergency.

### Relief Organizations

RedRover shelters and cares for animals displaced by natural disasters and other crises in the United States and Canada. If you need sheltering assistance, please call RedRover at (800) 440-3277 or visit [RedRover.org external icon](#).

## Sheltering during an evacuation

- Remember, during a disaster, what is good for you is good for your pet. If you leave your pets behind, they may be lost, injured – or worse. Never leave a pet chained outdoors.
- Contact your local emergency management office and ask if they offer accommodations for owners and their pets. If accommodations are needed for your pet(s):
  - Contact local veterinary clinics, boarding facilities, local animal shelters, family or friends outside the evacuation area, or a pet-friendly hotel, particularly along evacuation routes.
  - Visit [the Humane Society website external icon external icon](#) to find a shelter in your area.
- Remember to take your pet's emergency kit with you.
- [Learn what to expect](#) if you take your pet to an evacuation center.

## Sheltering in place

When sheltering at home with your pet, make sure the room chosen is pet-friendly in the following ways:

- Select a safe room, preferably an interior room with no (or few) windows.
- Remove any toxic chemicals or plants.



- Close off small areas where frightened cats could get stuck in (such as vents or beneath heavy furniture)

### Diseases that can spread between pets and people during a natural disaster

Natural disasters can contribute to the transmission of some [diseases](#). Exposure to inclement weather conditions, stagnant water, wildlife or unfamiliar animals, and overcrowding can put your pet at risk for getting sick. Some of these illnesses can be transmitted between pets and people (also known as zoonotic diseases or zoonoses). Some common disaster-related diseases that pets can pass to people are the following: rabies, leptospirosis, and diseases spread by mosquitoes, fleas, and ticks.

- [Rabies](#) is a virus that affects the nervous system in both animals and people. Rabies is transmitted through bites from rabid animals or through contact with their saliva. To protect you and your pet: Report any bite wounds to medical personnel immediately. Practice safe handling of pets in a stressful situation. Keep your pet in a carrier or on a leash. Do not allow your pet to interact with other animals
- [Leptospirosis](#) is a bacterial disease found in the urine of infected animals that can cause kidney damage and affect other organs. It is transmitted through contact with infected urine or contaminated water, soil, and food. Wash your hands after coming in contact with urine. Avoid stagnant water, especially after flooding occurring after natural disasters. Don't allow pets to play in or drink contaminated water.
- **Diseases spread by mosquitoes, fleas, and ticks:** Mosquitoes, fleas, and ticks are common pests of stray animals and can be a problem immediately following a disaster situation. Their bites irritate the skin and may also spread a variety of diseases ([Lyme disease](#), [West Nile virus](#)) harmful to both people and animals. To help prevent illnesses associated with mosquitoes, fleas, and ticks: Keep your pet away from wildlife and stray animals. Talk to your veterinarian about the use of a regular preventative treatment for fleas, ticks, and parasites for your pet.

### How to Keep Yourself and Your Pets Healthy During a Disaster

- Wash your hands after handling your pet, its food, or its waste.
- Do not let your pet lick your face or hands.
- Keep your pet up-to-date on all vaccinations and heartworm, flea, and tick preventatives.
- Practice safe handling of your pet, because your pet may behave differently during a stressful situation.
- Keep your pet in a carrier or on a leash.
- Do not allow your pet to interact with other animals, especially wildlife and stray animals.
- Report any bite wounds to medical personnel immediately.
- Properly clean and disinfect cages and litterboxes. Wash your pet's bedding regularly.
- Avoid stagnant water, especially after flooding occurring after natural disasters.
- Don't allow pets to play in or drink contaminated water.

### After an Emergency

After an emergency, familiar scents and landmarks may have changed. Pets can become confused and lost, so it's important to keep pets on leash or in a carrier when they're being transported or when you go outside. Some hazards to be aware of for pets and people include snakes and other wildlife, especially after flooding, and downed power lines.

## Returning home

- Check your home for sharp objects, spilled chemicals, and exposed wiring to protect your family and your pets from injury.
- The behavior of animals may change dramatically after a flood, flash flood, thunderstorm, or hurricane. Normally quiet and friendly animals may become irritable.
- Monitor animals closely and only release them in a safe and secure environment.
- Contact a veterinarian if you notice any signs of stress, discomfort, or illness in your pets.

## Finding a lost pet

- Make sure that your family is in a safe location before you begin your search.
- If you are in a shelter that houses pets, inform one of the pet caretakers. Give the pet caretaker a missing pet flyer.
- Many shelters and organizations will house pets lost during disasters. Contact your local humane society, animal welfare organization, or county or state animal response team to find the shelters or organizations near you. . The [National Animal Rescue and Sheltering Coalitionexternal icon](#) may also be able to help find the right local response organization.
- In addition to shelters and rescue organizations, you can contact local animal control about your lost pet and post missing pet flyers in the area once conditions are safe.
- If your pet has a microchip, call the microchip company to let them know your pet is missing and make sure all the information about your pet including your current contact information is updated and current.

## Pet first aid

- Emergency treatment and first aid for pets should never be used as a substitute for veterinary care. But, it may save your pet's life before you can get your pet to a veterinarian.
- The [American Veterinary Medical Associationexternal icon](#) offers specific advice for basic first aid in the case of poisoning, seizures, fractures, external and internal bleeding, burns, choking, heatstroke, and what to do if your pet has no heartbeat or is not breathing.

## Tips for handling injured pets

- Never assume that even the gentlest pet will not bite or scratch if injured.
- Pain and fear can make animals unpredictable or even dangerous.
- Don't attempt to hug an injured pet, and always keep your face away from its mouth, which might scare the animal more or cause them pain.
- Perform any contact with your pet slowly and gently.
- Stop if your animal becomes more agitated or stressed.
- Try to get your pet to a veterinarian as quickly as possible without risking injury or illness to yourself or your family.

## Resources

### CDC

- [Pets in Evacuation Centers](#)
- [Pet Project: 5 Ways to Prep Your Pet for Emergencies](#)
- [Keep your pets safe in an emergency: 5 things to know](#)
- [Pet Disaster Preparedness Kit](#)
- [Pet Boarding Instructions pdf icon](#)[PDF - 2 pages]
- [Missing Pet Flyer Template word icon](#)[Doc - 1 page]
- [Interim Guidelines for Animal Health and Control of Disease Transmission in Pet Shelters](#)
- [Ready Wrigley](#)

### American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA)

AMVA offers a variety of resources to assist veterinarians, animal owners, and others interested in the well-being of animals to prepare for animal safety in the event of a disaster. Visit AVMA's [Disaster Preparedness Siteexternal icon](#)

### RedRover

Through its volunteer-driven RedRover Responders (formerly the Emergency Animal Rescue Service or EARS), RedRover shelters and cares for animals displaced by natural disasters and other crises in the United States and Canada. If you need sheltering assistance, please call RedRover at (800) 440-3277. Visit [redrover.orgexternal icon](#).

### Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

FEMA is the federal agency that leads the effort to prepare the nation for all hazards and effectively manage federal response and recovery efforts following any national incident. Visit ready gov: [Caring for Animalsexternal icon](#)

[Humane Society of the United States: Making a disaster plan for petsexternal icon](#)



## *Caring For Pets During COVID-19*



Credit: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/animals.html>

### Key Points

- Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses. Some cause illness in people, and others cause illness in certain types of animals.
- Some coronaviruses that infect animals can sometimes be spread to people, but this is rare.
- We do not know the exact source of the current outbreak of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). The first infections were thought to be linked to a live animal market, but the virus is now primarily spreading from person to person.
- At this time, there is no evidence that animals play a significant role in spreading the virus that causes COVID-19.
- Based on the limited information available to date, the risk of animals spreading COVID-19 to people is considered to be low.
- We are still learning about this virus, but it appears that it can spread from people to animals in some situations.
- The first case of an animal testing positive for the virus in the United States was in a tiger that had a respiratory illness at a zoo in New York City.
- CDC is aware of a small number of pets, including cats and dogs, [reported external icon](#) to be infected with the virus that causes COVID-19, mostly after close contact with people with COVID-19.
- Treat pets as you would other human family members – do not let pets interact with people or animals outside the household. If a person inside the household becomes sick, isolate that person from everyone else, including pets.
- Further studies are needed to understand if and how different animals could be affected by the virus that causes COVID-19 and the role animals may play in the spread of COVID-19.
- This is a rapidly evolving situation and information will be updated as it becomes available.
- For more information, see [COVID-19 and Animals Frequently Asked Questions](#).

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses. Some coronaviruses cause cold-like illnesses in people, while others cause illness in certain types of animals, such as cattle, camels, and bats. Some coronaviruses, such as canine and feline coronaviruses, infect only animals and do not infect humans.

### **Risk of animals spreading the virus that causes COVID-19 to people**

Some coronaviruses that infect animals can sometimes be spread to humans and then spread between people, but this is rare. Severe acute respiratory syndrome ([SARS](#)) and Middle East respiratory syndrome ([MERS](#)) are examples of diseases caused by coronaviruses that originated in animals and spread to people. This is what is suspected to have happened with the virus that caused the current outbreak of COVID-19. However, we do not know the exact source of this virus. Public health officials and partners are working hard to identify the source of COVID-19. The first infections were linked to a live animal market, but the virus is now spreading from person to person. The coronavirus most similar to the virus causing COVID-19

is the one that causes [SARS](#).

The virus that causes COVID-19 spreads mainly from person to person through respiratory droplets from coughing, sneezing, and talking. Recent studies show that people who are infected but do not have symptoms likely also play a role in the spread of COVID-19. At this time, there is no evidence that animals play a significant role in spreading the virus that causes COVID-19. Based on the limited information available to date, the risk of animals spreading COVID-19 to people is considered to be low.

## **Risk of people spreading the virus that causes COVID-19 to animals**

CDC is aware of a small number of pets, including dogs and cats, [reportedexternal icon](#) to be infected with the virus that causes COVID-19, mostly after close contact with people with COVID-19. Only a few of the animals reported to be positive showed signs of illness.

The [first caseexternal icon](#) in the United States of an animal testing positive for the virus that causes COVID-19 was a tiger with a respiratory illness at a zoo in New York City. Samples from this tiger were collected and tested after several lions and tigers at the zoo showed signs of respiratory illness. Public health officials believe these large cats became sick after being exposed to a zoo employee who was infected with the virus that causes COVID-19. This investigation is ongoing.

We are still learning about this virus, but we know that it originally came from an animal source and is primarily spreading from person-to-person, but it appears that it can spread from people to animals in some situations.

CDC is working with human and animal health partners to monitor this situation and will continue to provide updates as information becomes available. Further studies are needed to understand if and how different animals could be affected by COVID-19.

## **What to do if you own pets**

Until we learn more about how this virus affects animals, treat pets as you would other human family members to protect them from a possible infection.

- Do not let pets interact with people or other animals outside the household.
- Keep cats indoors when possible to prevent them from interacting with other animals or people.
- Walk dogs on a leash, maintaining at least 6 feet (2 meters) from other people and animals.
- Avoid dog parks or public places where a large number of people and dogs gather.

There is a small number of animals around the world reported to be infected with the virus that causes COVID-19, mostly after having contact with a person with COVID-19. Talk to your veterinarian if your pet gets sick or if you have any concerns about your pet's health.

## **Protect pets if you are sick**

If you are sick with COVID-19 (either suspected or confirmed by a test), you should restrict contact with your pets and other animals, just like you would with people. Until we know more about this virus, people sick with COVID-19 should **avoid contact with pets and other animals**.

- When possible, have another member of your household care for your pets while you are sick.
- Avoid contact with your pet including, petting, snuggling, being kissed or licked, and sharing food or bedding.
- If you must care for your pet or be around animals while you are sick, wear a cloth face covering and wash your hands before and after you interact with them.

If you are sick with COVID-19 and your pet becomes sick, **do not take your pet to the veterinary clinic yourself**. Call your veterinarian and let them know you have been sick with COVID-19. Some veterinarians may offer telemedicine consultations or other plans for seeing sick pets. Your veterinarian can evaluate your pet and determine the next steps for your pet's treatment and care.

For more information visit: [What to Do if You are Sick](#).

## Stay healthy around animals

In the United States, there is no evidence that animals are playing a significant role in the spread of COVID-19. Based on the limited information available to date, the risk of animals spreading COVID-19 to people is considered to be low. However, because all animals can carry germs that can make people sick, it's always a good idea to practice [healthy habits](#) around pets and other animals.

- Wash your hands after handling animals, their food, waste, or supplies.
- Practice good pet hygiene and clean up after pets properly.
- Talk to your veterinarian if you have questions about your pet's health.
- [Be aware that children 5 years of age and younger](#), people with weakened immune systems, and people 65 years of age and older are more likely to get sick from germs some animals can carry.

For more information, visit CDC's [Healthy Pets, Healthy People website](#).

- Guidance and Recommendations
- [Interim Guidance for Public Health Professionals Managing People with COVID-19 in Home Care and Isolation Who Have Pets or Other Animals](#)
- [Interim recommendations for intake of companion animals from households where humans with COVID-19 are present external icon](#)
- [Interim Infection Prevention and Control Guidance for Veterinary Clinics](#)

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## Veterinarian Recommendations by Members

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### Illinois

#### *Shorewood, IL*

##### **Shorewood Animal Hospital**

<http://www.shorewoodanimalhospital.net/>

Testimonial by Madeline and Joe Mahoney:

Dr. David Robinson at Shorewood Animal Hospital has been our vet for 10+ years. He has treated 6 of our Wolfhounds. One of our dogs was diagnosed with an undescended testicle. Dr. Robinson had a very difficult time finding it, but after taking Casey to VCA for an ultrasound, he located it and successfully removed it. He is aware of the anesthesia limitations in Irish Wolfhounds, and we have complete confidence in him as our vet.

Testimonial by Debbie and Robert Greene:

We have used Dr. David Robinson and Dr. Ken Overmyer for many years! They have treated all of our dogs, including Irish Wolfhounds Aile, Finn and Bodhi. They are wonderful with Wolfhounds and are used to seeing them since they have 6-10 Wolfhound patients / clients at all times.

Testimonial by Cheri Lyn Hauschild:

I have used Dr. David Robinson since I got Seamus. He is a wonderful, caring vet and he is so knowledgeable. We highly recommend him. He has much experience with Wolfhounds.

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##### **Animal Care Center of Shorewood – Emergency Vet**

189 Brook Forest Ave

Shorewood, IL 60404

Dr. Robert Buchanan III & Dr. Anthony Kremer

Testimonial by Debbie and Robert Greene:

GLIWA Rescue uses them for services because they are very rescue friendly and since that is part of their mission, they give us a GREAT deal. We use them for general checkups, shots etc. for rescues before they are sent to their forever home.

## *Palos Heights, IL*

### **Palos Animal Hospital**

122nd and Harlem, Palos Heights, IL  
Doctor Joel Mills or Doctor Sarah Turek

Testimonial by Claire Morrison:

I would recommend either one of these veterinarians to take care of my Irish wolfhound. They are knowledgeable about treating large breeds and are very companionate with your pets! I do suggest, if your hound is diagnosed with something serious, you should always seek out a specialist. I would also recommend the grooming salon in the same building. They love when my boy Baron comes in. They say he is their best client! Only downfall, they have to go down stairs.

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## *Woodstock, IL*

### **Animal Hospital of Woodstock**

Dr. Joanne Randall

Testimonial by Elissa Culp:

I went to see Dr. Joanne Randall 8 years ago for OFA xrays, then for repro services. I just like the practice, and all the vets, so much I travel 50 miles each way to go there for all my dog's needs. And, I get a senior citizen discount! ☺

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## *Aurora, IL*

### **Indian Prairie Animal Hospital**

Sam Ristich, DVM, Chief of Staff  
<https://www.ipahvet.com/>  
1195 S. Frontenac St., Aurora, IL 60504  
630-820-6999

Testimonial by Linda Long:

I recommend our vet for folks looking of someone experienced with IWHs. All of the doctors and staff at the clinic are awesome. Dr. Sam Ristich, in particular, is well versed on the unique features and needs of the IWH. He has been treating our hounds for the past 20 years (and we've had at least two that made it to 11/12 years before they crossed the rainbow bridge...). In addition to being a great vet, Sam is a personal friend.

In addition to providing treatment, Sam always explains what's happening with the dog, what he recommends and why, as well as other options. We also really like that he welcomes students into his clinic to shadow and learn about the field (he likes teaching). Dr. Sam also treats the animals at our local zoo. So you never know what zoo animal you might meet in the waiting room!



## *(Fox Valley Area) St. Charles-Geneva-Batavia, IL*

### **St. Charles Veterinary Clinic (Vet & 24 hr Emergency Care)**

Dr. Gail Novak

530 Dunham Rd, St. Charles, IL 60174

<https://stcharlesveterinaryclinic.com/>

Testimonial by Michelle Whittenhall:

We took our wolfhound there her entire life. I think any of the vets would be a good choice but we loved working with Dr. Gail Novak. She took her time and was always open to trying new things. When Rory was diagnosed with Osteosarcoma- Dr. Novak got on the phone with us and researched/provided her advice on all of the medicines that were suggested to us by other Wolfhound breeders. She viewed breeder advice as a learning opportunity rather than a threat. I'm not certain how well versed they were with Wolfhounds before Rory- but they are now!

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## *Wisconsin*

### **St. Francis Animal Hospital**

Amy Rossmiller

3805 S. Kinnickinnic Ave

St. Francis, WI 53235

414-744-2240

### **Pegasus Clinic for Chiropractic Work**

Dr. Anne Clary

W6744 Rogersville Rd

Fond du Lac, WI 54937

920-960-3044

### **Jackson Pet Hospital**

Amy Spaeth

3370 Jackson Dr

Jackson, WI 53037

262-677-3112

Testimonial by Risha Cupit-Berzins:

We love and completely trust all of these women veterinarians (above). They listen to concerns, guide you, but are open to things you'd like to try.

*Louisville, Kentucky/ Southern Indiana*

**Chenoweth Animal Hospital**

Michelle Mattingly DVM  
3624 Frankfort Avenue  
Louisville, KY 40207  
(502)893-5533

Testimonial by Caylin Spencer:

I only see Michelle Mattingly in this practice, but have heard wonderful things about the other vets too. Dr. Mattingly stays up to date on research and seeks out research specific to Irish Wolfhounds. She is flexible and not set in her ways and realizes they (Wolfhounds) may need different treatment protocol than another breed with the same ailment.

## Therapy Work



Credit: <https://www.iwclubofamerica.org/therapy-dog>

### Therapy Dogs

*by Veronica (Roni) Nienstedt (submitted by Donna Smith)*

Anyone who owns a Wolfhound knows that walking from Point A to Point B with a hound can take much longer than anticipated because of the reaction of people encountered along the way! Despite their commanding appearance, most people are drawn in, want to touch them and have many questions about the breed. It is undeniable that the Irish Wolfhound creates wonder. Newcomers petting the majestic hound experience their sweet, kind and generous temperament. For most, wonder turns to a deep respect and affection for the breed. This combination of physical presence and sensitivity is a fabulous foundation for a therapy dog.

At their 2013 specialty show, the Irish Wolfhound Association of the Delaware Valley highlighted therapy work being done by Irish Wolfhounds and included narratives written by owners and handlers in their show catalog. There was a constant thread of joy through all the contributions. Every owner expressed a sense of purpose and fulfillment as a result of their therapy visits. They all knew that their wonderful hounds were making a difference in peoples' lives, and they felt privileged to share the experience with their IW partners. To say that Irish Wolfhounds have a unique ability to connect with people would be an understatement.



The Irish Wolfhound can stand alongside a bed or a wheelchair and be at the perfect height for petting by a patient; their size makes them very effective in creating visual stimulation for a patient emerging from coma; post-surgical teenagers who were previously resistant will eagerly walk a hospital hallway with a large hound; patients who work with and walk with Irish

Wolfhounds truly gain a sense of confidence; a child patient who gives verbal or hand signals for sits, stands, stays, or drops to an IW develops a sense of self-esteem when their huge hound partner executes those movements at their request. The child's sense of achievement is in proportion to the majestic hound's size; and Irish Wolfhounds have also elicited comments like, "Now, THAT'S a therapy dog! That's MY therapy dog!" from adult male patients who might not necessarily connect with a smaller dog.

There are different types of therapy work; the most well-known is **Animal Assisted Activities**. Owners and their dogs visit hospitals, nursing homes, schools, rehabilitation facilities and have clients pet and talk about their dog. AAA decreases loneliness, encourages socialization, and verbalization, as well as simply making people smile! Animal Assisted Activities service more people per month than all the other therapies combined. Your hound needs to have good basic manners and training and to be tolerant of moderate levels of noise and contact.

**Animal Assisted Therapy** is therapy work in which you and your dog are assigned to work directly with a therapist and a patient. Therapy goals can be physical, cognitive, verbal and even social. Each dog brings a unique set of skills to their sessions that can achieve the desired goals: basketball, bowling, retrieving, Simon Says, building blocks, even card games like Uno. The entire process is documented and evaluated.



© Therapy Tails Ontario

**Animal Assisted Educational Support** is a broad category of therapy which includes education programs where a teacher is guiding the educational component. Library and school reading programs fall under this category. Many Irish Wolfhounds are perfect "listeners" as children read aloud to them.

**Animal Assisted Crisis Response** is a therapy in which teams are used to help people normalize the experience of a crisis, to ground them when events around them seem out of control or to act as a bridge to communication. Crisis Response teams were used to help people after 9/11 and Hurricane Katrina. Diversity of breeds in crisis response is valuable. Many first responders, fire fighters and police, connect with large animals such as the Irish Wolfhound better than a smaller breed.

In starting therapy work with your hound, it is important to observe what situations your IW enjoys the most. Does your hound respond best to children, to adults? Does he/she prefer to "do" or does he/she savor just "being" with patients? Every hound has different preferences, and being aware of those will enhance the opportunity for a long therapy career. Their likes and dislikes can change over time, so awareness of their reaction to varied environments is a constant responsibility.

In doing therapy work, hounds and their handlers get to practice their skills, spend time together, and help people in their own community. Therapy work with your canine companion is a partnership like no other. One person, with one dog, can make a difference in another human being's life. Could anything be more fulfilling?

Here is a sampling of therapy organizations:

- [Bright & Beautiful Therapy Dogs](#)
- [Pet Partners](#)
- [Therapy Dogs Inc.](#)
- [Therapy Dogs International](#)
- [Therapy Tails Ontario](#) (Canada)

## Tipitina's Start as a Therapy Dog

By David Berzins

We all know Irish Wolfhounds are wonderful companions and many of us “share” them with the public via parades, festivals, and other events. It is actually from these festivals that the seed was planted to explore having one of our IWs become a therapy dog. A past wolfhound of ours named Ursuline (or Ursy, for short) enjoyed greeting people at the Milwaukee and Oshkosh Irish Fests, but whenever someone with a disability approached, her face would light up and she would gently remain with them until they chose to leave, ignoring the rest of the crowd. Unfortunately, I never pursued therapy dog work with her; something I still regret to this day. So with our latest generation (Claude and Tipitina), I made it a priority to explore therapy dog work with one, provided I thought one was suited for it. All along, I thought Claude would be the one as he is the more outgoing of the two. He is a “never met a stranger” type of dog. However, at the 2018 Milwaukee Irish Fest, Tipitina changed my mind. We were in the middle of a crowd and Tipitina focused in on someone and squeezed between two people to approach a man in a wheelchair. He was accompanied by his family, but he was unable to talk or move his arms and legs. Tipitina gently approached and sat beside and facing him. His family placed his hand on Tipitina, and his expression changed to joy. Tipitina remained glued to him for roughly 10 minutes. His family was so appreciative. From that moment, I knew she might have a calling for it too, like her great Aunt Ursy.

Fast forward several months and our local kennel club hosted testing for Therapy Dogs International (TDI). TDI is the oldest and largest therapy dog organization. The TDI test consists of 13 steps that are geared to testing the confidence and control of the dog and is conducted by a certified TDI evaluator. I would characterize it as a fairly more difficult Canine Good Citizen test. Some steps were basic obedience, such as sit-stay, down-stay, and a recall, and some were CGC-like exercises of walking on leash between people, having the dog be petted and groomed by a stranger, and leaving the dog with a stranger. Additional exercises mimic a therapy like setting or experience: having volunteers with crutches, wheelchairs or other service equipment approach, having someone drop an object that creates noise, or having to walk past food/treats on the ground. Walking past food without trying to nab it was the one test I was worried about with Tipitina because she loves treats. But several days of teaching her the “leave it” command allowed us to pass.

After successfully completing the canine behavior/temperament test, we had to register with TDI to become a Therapy Dog with them. I was required to complete two separate exams that covered their policies, submit a yearly physical exam form from our veterinarian, and pay a yearly membership fee. Although I felt some of their policies and procedures were somewhat onerous and very strict, their requirements help to ensure the safety of the people we visit as well as the therapy dog. Further, they allow us to be covered by their liability and accident insurance on our visits. After we were finally given the go-ahead to start visits, our next task was to find a

## GREAT LAKES IRISH WOLFHOUND ASSOCIATION

facility. All facilities receiving TDI dog visits must have an agreement in place with TDI. Luckily, TDI has a list of facilities that are searchable by zip code or city. Among the facilities available for visits are nursing homes, hospices, hospitals, libraries, schools, shelters, and more. Of the options and in consideration with her past experience, we felt Tipitina would do best in a residential adult facility. After some introductory e-mails, we were able to connect with a nursing home several miles from our home.

The nursing home we visit has only one other therapy dog visit, so we were graciously welcomed. On our visits, the life program director takes us through the building, and we visit with residents either in their rooms or in common areas. Though our time with each resident is brief, I feel Tipitina helps brighten their day as many ask when she will visit again. Others are not able to communicate as well but the change in their expression is our reward. Tipitina seems to enjoy meeting her new friends too. Unfortunately, our visits are on a hiatus for a while due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but hopefully we will be back later this year.

For more information on Therapy Dogs International, visit: <https://www.tdi-dog.org/Default.aspx>

Tipitina outside the nursing home she visits



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## Quarterly Photos & Brags

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*This spring, our photos & brags are a bit different. We are utilizing our “shelter in place” time during the COVID-19 crisis to reconnect with people and our hounds in new ways. Long, quiet walks, couch snuggles, and extra love all around.*

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(Below) Nellye doing her share to pick up wood in the fields. Keeps herself very busy.

(Right) The Wolves in KY - Rulf and Nelly explore their new farm.

-- Leslye Sandberg





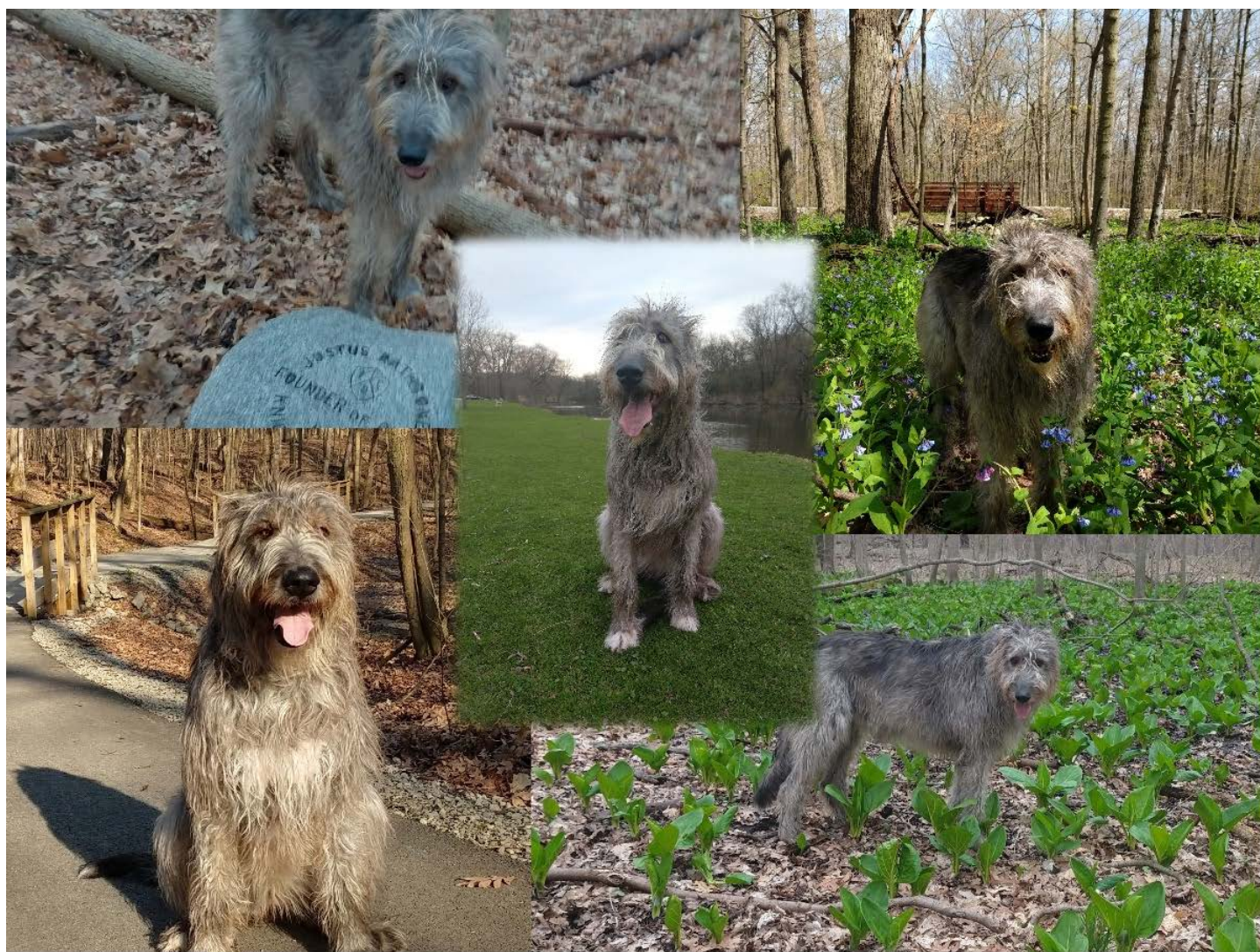
Resting after play, resting after eating, resting after going for a walk!  
-- Gail Kaplan



## Adventures with Bo -- Submitted by Mark Bettin:

### Pilcher Park

Here are a few pictures of Bo at Pilcher Park. We have been there a few times in April to check out the trails and spring flowers. Pilcher Park is part of the Hickory Creek watershed with Hickory Creek running along the southern edge of the park. Bo is in the Bluebells in one picture and Skunk Cabbage in the other. Pilcher is rich in history of which Debbie Greene is the leading, local expert!



## Hickory Creek LaPorte Rd Access

(Right) Bo joined me earlier this month to check out the Bluebird trail that is at this preserve. With the ticks starting up that will probably be one of the last off trail hikes that we will make there for a while.

## Midewin

(Below) Midewin is another good place to visit before the summer heat sets in. We only saw the bison from the distance but did enjoy one of the trails thru the prairie.. Between Midewin and Orland they are both peaceful expansive settings for a hike.



### Mt Baldy

We stopped by Mt Baldy this past weekend.. It was a rainy affair but managed to take in the trail thru the woods that goes around Mt Baldy which has been closed for a few years now.. From the picture with the car in it, you can see how trees could get engulfed by the dunes which is what has made Mt Baldy unsafe.

Same as with Midewin, there are Covid 19 restrictions. The facilities have been closed, parking lots and trails open, and they ask that you pack in pack out as there is no trash service.



Joyce & Fred enjoying some sunshine while staying safe with Rescue hound Dillon!

