
Rescue Report



GLIWA Rescue Starkeeper's Norma Bo and Owner Mark Bettin Compete at the Fun Match – by Mark Bettin

I am thankful to have had the opportunity to adopt the Irish Wolfhound Bo through the GLIWA rescue program. This year has been quite a change for Bo and me. I have been a member of GLIWA for some time and frequently attend events like picnics and parades. During this time, I have had the opportunity to walk some member's dogs in parades (Especially Bodhi while Debbie Greene takes photos) as well as spending time with my friends Scott and Diane Mortenson, who have two Irish Wolfhounds themselves. When Bo arrived at the Greene's the stars aligned.

I had the chance to meet Bo in May of 2018. I was renting an apartment at the time, so I wasn't a great candidate for receiving a rescue dog from GLIWA. The Greene's had to go out of town, so I volunteered to take Bo for the weekend. That weekend my sister and I travelled with Bo to a wedding in Wisconsin and we hit it off really well. So, I decided to buy a home to make a new home for Bo and myself and by July we both moved in! During the summer we marched in the 4th of July parade and attended the Irish American Heritage Center event. Bo has taken ownership of her new home and fenced in yard. I might as well put up a sign that no squirrels are allowed!

I decided to enter Bo in the GLIWA Fun Match in Wisconsin. In preparing for the fun match, I happened to meet trainer, Eve, at the Midwest Animal Hospital where Bo goes to *school*. She agreed to work with Bo and the message came back quickly that she was a natural in the ring (probably her Starkeeper roots!). So, Eve's focus quickly turned to me, as I had no experience, and with two quick lessons I decided to enter Bo in the altered bitch category. To my surprise Bo placed third! That was very exciting. Probably more so for me but Bo did enjoy the dehydrated chicken feet that she got as a treat from the event. At the fun match I also met Elissa who knew Bo as a pup and introduced me to Jocelyne who is the breeder and owner of Chloe. Next year I hope to take a road trip to Niagara Falls with Bo, so she has an opportunity to see her mother.

Since meeting Bo, I have learned how to howl and have been getting more exercise than ever. A special thank you goes out to Scott and Diane for introducing me to GLIWA and to Robert and Debbie in having the confidence in me to adopt Bo.

See photos on next page of Bo & Mark...

GREAT LAKES IRISH WOLFHOUND ASSOCIATION



GLORIA

Let me start this by saying there is no judgement on our part when someone gives up a dog. And in our experience, there hasn't been one yet that was gleefully given away. Surrendering a pet is usually due to a life changing situation such as a divorce or a work situation that doesn't allow an owner to keep their beloved pet. The owners releasing the dogs have always been sad and remorseful. The ones we have rehomed have always, in our opinion, been loved in their previous life. I am sure this was the case with Gloria. Except something went wrong there. She was not happy and eating at her first home.

Robert picked up Gloria and brought her back to our house for evaluation. She was quiet, very gentle and very weak. Her legs would shake when she stood up. I made Satin Balls and fed as many of them to her as she would eat. She was so skinny we weren't actually sure she was a wolfhound! Maybe a deerhound? Maybe a mix? We took her to another longtime GLIWA member's house to see what they thought. They even thought she was maybe a deerhound.

Then came the meet and greet with the prospective new family. LOVE at first sight! The children just laid on the dog bed with her. They snuggled her and petted her, and they left our house with a new family member. Gloria. It still took months of feeding and love to get her to be stronger and play with her new family both human and dogs. Robert and I have gotten updates over the last couple of years and each time I thought it was so sweet and heartwarming. So here are a couple of photos of Gloria today. She is a little rambunctious and is definitely lively and has a completely different personality. Please see her photos on the next page.

Thank YOU to her owners for their patience and love!

See photos on next page of Gloria...

Gloria...

