

Our October spotlight might surprise many of you as she is truly "behind the scenes" yet an integral part of DREAM. Her name is **Greta Clingan, she is the production coordinator for KIT-TV in Tipp City, Ohio**. Greta grew up in Tipp City and now lives in Troy, Ohio. She has been married for 23 years.

Greta and her husband have a 5 year old dog they were given by friends and a 16 year old cat who was dumped at her door. Growing up, Greta's pets were mainly reptiles, not that she didn't want a dog or cat but her parents felt smaller creatures would be easier to care for and you still could love them. Once Greta became an adult and married, her home became a revolving door of dogs and cats. Greta refers to her home as a "mini no kill shelter". As so many of us, when an animal finds their way to our home, they also find their way into our hearts and so has been the case with Greta and her husband. Many dogs and cats found their way to Greta's home when they lived in Tipp City near the nature area. "Dumped" is how Greta describes what so many people did to their pets and once they came through her revolving door they were there until she found them a good home or until their lifetime was over. While many have passed away, the Clingan's gave them months and years of loving care. Greta says the dumping always increases during the Mum Festival maybe because people come from far away and feel if they dump their pet in the nature area near by the pet will not find their way back. But many of them did find their way to Gretas. The care Greta provided always included not only a warm bed and food but spaying or neutering the new pets as well as medical care. Greta and her husband are "true rescuers".

Greta's love of film making and film production (which she majored in at college) led her to her current job at KIT-TV where she has been for 22 years. She started at the bottom and worked her way to her current position. KIT-TV is a public access television (PAT) station (channel 5) that services Tipp City and Monroe Township. PAT began in this country between 1969 & 1971, with the main purpose being to provide programs for and about their community produced by people in the community. Thanks to the Internet, KIT-TV programming can now be accessed at KITTV.org and you can watch live or taped programs. Their archives retain airings from many years past in alphabetical order; it is easy to find something of interest.

A few years ago Greta produced a show called "Tipp's Critters" where she encouraged local people to bring their pets to the studios to show them off-maybe to show a trick they can do. She visited Brukner Nature Center in 1 episode to feature wildlife, like the deer. She says maybe she will bring the show back.

Greta's love of animals came through in her job-while she produces a wide variety of meetings and events, her focus is animals. That led her to DREAM. 5 years ago, before we were called DREAM, our originators held a community meeting (at the Tipp City Library) to present the idea of an animal rescue in Miami County. Greta saw the posting and decided to tape the meeting so those who couldn't come would still be able to go to the archive section and see our meeting. Her hope was by airing this meeting it would spark community interest. Since that time Greta has always been willing to help us showcase our dogs by bringing them into the studio or to a nearby park and taping one of our dogs with a volunteer. You could see how the dog acted and learn about him or her and where to go to learn more. She has also taped every PET FEST event DREAM has provided to the community.

Greta knows media coverage is a driving factor to build awareness of your brand. DREAM's brand of course is to rescue, rehome and rehabilitate animals in need. Along with creating awareness, TV creates enthusiasm and public support of the organization and their cause. Media coverage is a powerful tool, it puts the rescue in a favorable light by projecting our expertise and passion. Greta has continuously increased community awareness of DREAM via KIT-TV by promoting their adoptable pets AND scheduled events throughout the year; this support has certainly built the credibility of DREAM. We know Greta has given our dogs the exposure needed to help us find a forever home for them, and her presentation about our cause to "save the dogs who are lost in the world" is always awesome.

FROM THE DREAM VOLUNTEERS AND OUR DOGS WE THANK YOU GRETA!!