



CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE

December 12, 2010 from 1 – 4 pm
67 Neptune Crescent, Dartmouth



BIDE AWHILE ANIMAL SHELTER – FALL 2010 ISSUE

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PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE



“It is often difficult to express just how much these animals give to us, and all they ask in return is to be loved and respected.”



Melissa and Darwin

Hello! My name is Melissa Grant, and I’m very excited to be taking on the role of President. As I begin my two year term I’d like to extend Bide Awhile’s heartfelt gratitude to our Past President, Brenda Ruggles for her commitment and effort over the last two years.

I can’t quite recall how I first heard about “Bide Awhile” but it stuck with me. I knew

it was an organization where I could bring my passion for helping the cats and dogs, kittens and puppies that uncaring people have cast aside. I joined the Board of Directors in June 2006 at a truly exciting time – Bide Awhile was embarking on a journey to ensure that we would be able to help lost and abandoned animals for years to come. It was wonderful to be a part of a group of devoted and enthusiastic individuals who, with the phenomenal support of the community, constructed a brand new, purpose-built, facility. It was a labour of love, and our building at 67 Neptune Crescent is a reflection of your continuing support for our furry friends who deserve a safe haven while they wait to find a forever home.

Those of us who have the fortune to share our lives with animals know that they bring us intense joy. They are our friends and our

family. “Ginger”, a saucy orange tabby, has, without exaggeration, provided my grandmother with a reason to get up in the morning. She has someone to care for, to talk to and to bring some light into her days that have been dark following the death of my grandfather. A friend of mine recently faced the painful and intensely difficult decision to say good-bye to her dog after many years where he was, in a very real sense, her only family.

A few weeks ago, I happened to walk by a young couple and was struck by the raw emotion they were experiencing. Arms wrapped around one another and tears falling freely, the young woman held an empty pet carrier. My heart ached for them, as I knew in that moment that they had just said good-bye to a cherished friend.

It is often difficult to express just how much these animals give to us, and all they ask in return is to be loved and respected. Those of us who have adopted an animal from Bide Awhile know that by giving an animal a second chance these special creatures will enrich our lives, and those of us who are proud supporters of Bide Awhile honour them for all they do for us.

I accepted the role of President of Bide Awhile Animal Shelter Society with humility and I’m looking forward to the opportunities ahead. During my tenure with the Society, our members will continue to educate the community on responsible pet ownership, the importance of spaying and neutering pets and on treating every animal with the respect it deserves.

Melissa Grant, President

CEILIDH FOR CRITTERS

The music was incredible and the silent auction items amazing at this years Ceilidh for Critters. Held at the Westin on Sept 26th, it raised more than \$6500 for Bide Awhile. Hats are off to our amazing team of volunteers led by Angela Granchelli, Melissa Grant, Cathy Greig and Nancy Mansfield.

Our gratitude to our Title Sponsor: Global Pet Foods; our “Fat Cat” Sponsors: Miller Tirecraft, The Westin Nova Scotian, Tour Tech East; our “Party Animal” Sponsors: Steele Hyundai, Full Circle

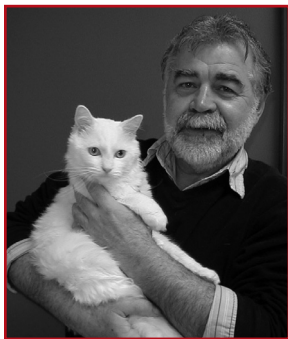
Veterinary Alternatives, O’Regans and Credit Union Atlantic and our Media Sponsor: C100. Our thanks also goes out to the more than 200 businesses and individuals who donated items for our silent auction.

A very special thank you to Ryan McGrath, Laura Merrimen, Laura Smith and Mike Trask for sharing their talents and enthusiasm for helping homeless animals.

Bide Awhile on Facebook:
facebook.com/bideawhile

Bide Awhile on Twitter:
twitter.com/bideawhile

FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, DARROLD GOULD



Darrold and Salty

Everyday we're working to get our cats and dogs placed in the right home. For some animals this can be a very long wait, maybe even months. And they're not the only ones waiting. Everyday there are dozens of calls from people hoping for a space to open up for the animal they're trying to rescue or the pet they're needing or wanting to give up.

It's always very sad when senior animals come into our shelter. In most cases they've had a loving home but now suddenly they're in a strange place with many other animals. It can be very frightening and confusing for them. And no matter how hard we work to make it happen, older animals are among the hardest pets to adopt.

When people are looking to adopt, senior animals are not their first choice because of age or health concerns. And these poor seniors have the added disadvantage of competing with all the energy, good health and charm of younger animals in the shelter. They're often overlooked. The sad reality - if we had only senior animals in our shelter, we would not adopt many animals. I say this after adopting animals on a daily basis for over 20 years.

And at least once a day, someone asks us to take in a senior animal; that either they or a family member can no longer care for. That senior dog or cat now has nowhere to go.

As owners of senior pets, shouldn't we plan ahead? If something happened to you, wouldn't you want to know that for the rest of their days, your faithful companions will be cared for in a loving home with a family member or friend?

Please think ahead for the sake of your pet. By making future arrangements for your own animals, you're also looking out for the many animals who, unlike yours, have never had the comfort of a loving family and are desperately in need of that shelter space.

I would like to thank everyone who supports Bide Awhile. You make it possible for us to do the work we do and with your support we will continue to improve the lives of our four legged friends.

"It's always very sad when senior animals come into our shelter... And no matter how hard we work to make it happen, older animals are among the hardest pets to adopt."

BOWLING FOR CRITTERS - A PURRFECT NIGHT OF FUN AND FUNDRAISING

Our 19th Annual Bowling for Critters, on October 23, was a purr-inducing good time. Over \$16,000 was raised this year, with all proceeds going to support shelter operations. Once again, the "Flea Bags" from The Cutting Zone were the top fundraising team, bringing in \$5,362. A big tail-wag of thanks for all your efforts and ongoing support. We couldn't do it without you!

This night of fun and fundraising wouldn't be possible without our dedicated volunteers, pledge-givers, and bowlers. And what's bowling without a team of outstanding bowling dogs and their trainers! Our thanks to all our two and four legged friends at Lie-tash Canine Academy.

Thank you all for your hard work and spirit of fun. Next year we celebrate 20 years of Bowling for Critters so get ready for something truly special!

Over the last several years the "Flea Bags" led by Dawn Clarke and Sherry Beatty, with the help of her Dad John Beatty, have raised more than \$15,000 for bowling. Their dedication to Bide Awhile and this event is astonishing, working all year to raise pledges and fundraise for their team. Sherry says they couldn't do it without the kindness and support of their many friends at The Cutting Zone in Dartmouth and she extends her thanks to all.



Nap time for Madonna's six babies



Is that a can opener?

**Congratulations
and thank you to
our good friend,
Christine Greene,
Bide Awhile's
incredibly
dedicated
2010 Volunteer
of the Year.**

LETTER FROM MAX

Max was about 4 months old when he was put out of a car at the ferry terminal by a man who then drove away. "His" letter:



Max

Hi Jennifer, Darrold & everybody,

Well, it has been 2 weeks now and I couldn't be happier in my new home. Jennifer didn't think I could talk but I made a few noises on the drive home to let the people know I wasn't thrilled. However, I must confess the drive wasn't half that bad so I settled down while my mommy talked to me about what to expect when we arrived home.

I discovered that I have a nice home with lots of places to play hide-and-peek, and best of all I have a brother and a sister and they are both Shelties!! Lucky me. They think I am just great and I talk to them and believe it or not, they talk back! We all share toys (except my toy mice) and cuddle time with mommy and daddy. There's times when all 3 of us kids sleep together on the big bed!

Don't worry about me. I'm so happy to be with my new family. Thank you for taking such good care of me while I waited for a new home. I'm going to go play with my mice now but will write and send more pictures again soon.

Bye for now, Max

2011 CALENDARS ARE READY!

**Help a furry friend...
BUY YOUR 2011
CALENDAR TODAY!**

\$10

2011 CALENDAR

Pet Photo Contest!

BEHIND THE SCENES WITH OUR FURRY FRIENDS

Recognize any of these faces? You just might! We've chosen a few of Bide Awhile's past adoptees for our calendar cover this year. Who better to promote the shelter's calendar than some of our very own success stories! As you can see the Pet of the Day feature has proven to be a big hit this year. Why not join in the fun and give a gift of one or two spaces to a friend – wouldn't they just love to find the spotlight on their own best friend(s)! Check out the centerfold story on Marvelous Marvin... marvelous indeed! With a new look, plenty of space to fill in those vet checkups and furry play dates; this calendar is a must have for home and office. Thirty gorgeous pages of adorable faces are now on sale at the shelter and more than 50 retailers around HRM – still a great buy at only \$10 each!

What is our Pet of the Day Contest? For every Pet of the Day space you buy in our calendar, that furry face is entered in

our contest to win Pet of the Month. You are guaranteed your purchased day plus you could win bragging rights to one of the 12 feature spots... all for only \$25 per space. Look for details on our website as the contest gears up – the deadline is April 30, 2011. But why not send us your entries now and make sure your preferred day has your pets name and face on it for 2012.

Just who helps us sell calendars? While retailers make up the largest share, personal sales often account for almost half of all calendars sold. That's a lot of work and we could really use your help. Commander your friends, co-workers, community group and family to help you sell 10 calendars. If that's not a challenge, sell 25 and we'll reward you with a free Pet of the Day spot in our 2012 calendar. Once you've sold 25, send an email to bawpetchotos@live.ca with your pet picture for processing.

Remember - no one can "sell" Bide Awhile like our volunteers and members.

Let's Not Forget Our Calendar Sponsors! Without the monetary help of our many sponsors, we would not be able to keep the cost so low. This helps in returning over 95% profit back to the shelter. A special thank you to our good friends at Global Pet Foods for top calendar sales last year and for sponsoring 12 months in this years calendar - what a "champion" sponsor! Thank you.

Check out www.Bideawhile.org for a detailed list of locations selling the calendar. This is Bide Awhile's biggest fundraiser, so please help make this a sell out year! Get out there and buy and sell those calendars – our furry friends will thank you.

KARMA CLASS

Every month the Sackville Stadium hosts an event to raise funds for local charities. On September 23rd, the Women's Gym held a Karma Class on behalf of Bide Awhile Animal Shelter. The instructor, Rona Mile, led the nine participants through a challenging and invigorating workout followed by a well-earned period of quiet meditation. The good karma and proceeds from the class, \$120, will certainly benefit the shelter cats and dogs. Thank you very much for your donation and thoughtfulness!

OUR WISH LIST

If you're thinking of donating animal care supplies or other items to the Shelter but not sure of what we need now, please visit www.Bideawhile.org and checkout our Wish List.

We're grateful for every donation and appreciate your kindness.

GOLFING FOR CRITTERS

Our 6th annual Golfing for Critters tournament was held at Sherwood Golf and Country Club on September 18, 2010. With temperatures in the high-teens and clear skies, it turned out to be a perfect day. The best-ball event got underway with a shotgun start at 10:00 a.m. and ended with a dinner and awards presentation in the clubhouse.

After a gruelling battle, the triple-time winners from IPS (Integrated Property Solutions) were defeated by the team of Mark McKenzie, George Khadra, Brad Ruggles and Mike MacKenzie.

Pictures taken by our roving photographers, Carla and Sheri attest to the good time had by all. Visit our website at www.bideawhile.org to see the photos.

The chip and putt contest, BBQ, raffle draw and meet/greet reg-

istration were a lot of fun and ran like clockwork thanks to our volunteers. "Woof" and "meow" (translation – "thank you so much") from the Bide Awhile clients to Lacy, Florrie, Heather, Carla and Sheri.

A special thanks to our corporate supporters: All Star Software Systems, Disaster Kleenup Canada, Halifax Global Management Consultants, Grant Thornton, Miller Tirecraft, Wellington West, and Quantum Communications. We would also like to extend our deepest gratitude to our Champion Sponsor Homburg Charitable Foundation.

Please remember to watch our website for details of next year's event.

Brenda Ruggles, Chair, Golfing for Critters



Gus

LETTER FROM ADOPTER

Hello! My family and I adopted Buddy last September. I just wanted to update all of you at Bide Awhile and thank you for letting us adopt this wonderful new addition to our family! He is now known as Gus and he has made our family complete. He is full of personality, loving and a tad bit crazy but that's why we love him! He now lives in a loving home where he gets more than enough attention. I thought that you might like to see a photo so I have attached a few for you! Once again, thank you so much!

Yours truly,
Gus's family!

BIDE AWHILE ON TV

Recently our good friends from EastLink TV visited our shelter to capture the animals & people that make Bide Awhile such a very special place.

The show aired from November 7th to the 14th on EastLink Magazine but don't worry if you missed it. You can still catch us On-Demand!

EASTLINKtv

Follow this link for information/directions on the EastLink TV On-Demand service and enjoy the show!

www.eastlink.ca/cable/ondemand/eastlinktv/index.asp

A very special thank you goes out to everyone at EastLink for this amazing profile and for always being so incredibly supportive of our efforts on behalf of homeless animals.

A THANK YOU FROM HELEN WATTS-HURLBURT

I am constantly amazed, at each and every Bake and Craft Sale, by the generosity of our Bide Awhile supporters in providing delicious baked goods and beautifully made crafts and knitted items.

I am continually in debt to the many volunteers who place the phone calls, do the pricing and work the actual sale. Everyone

seems to go that extra mile and it shows - whether it is in time, money or donated items it is all very much appreciated and we couldn't do it without you. Your hard work raised over \$4,000 from our October sale.

Thank you!

Thanks to our good friends for their continued support and generosity!

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