



*Building a Better*

**BIDE AWHILE**

# ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

June 14, 2008, 10 - 12 noon  
Bide Awhile Animal Shelter  
67 Neptune Crescent, Dartmouth

## BIDE AWHILE ANIMAL SHELTER – SPRING 2008 ISSUE

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quantum  
COMMUNICATIONS

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

***"All you need  
is the plan, the  
road map, and  
the courage to  
press on to your  
destination."***

*– Eric Nightingale*



**Chris and Kendra**

through the new building for the first time. It truly was like being a kid in a candy shop!

Many dedicated people have been involved in making our dream become a reality. Over the course of the past 7 years, the various Boards pushed on, often in the face of uncertainty, with one goal in mind. Members of these Boards have all contributed their knowledge, time, skills and passion. But I would like to salute the dedication of the team that came together under the current Board.

Margaret Mead said "A small group of thoughtful people could change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has". Well, I can attest to the fact that Ms. Mead knew of what she spoke. Our small team was a powerhouse indeed and in all my years of working on projects, I have seldom worked with such a talented group. Considering we are all volunteers and most of us are gainfully employed, our work was done on weekends, evenings and the time we could steal from our employers. The results speak for themselves! A big thank you to each one of you – Charles Baxter, Louis-Pierre Francoeur, Debbie Gill, Melissa Grant, Cathy Greig, Carolyn Haddock, Helena MacIntyre, Flo MacLennan, Yvonne Melanson, Brenda Ruggles and Jaime Waterfield.

However, we as volunteers would not have arrived at this destination, at least not yet, had it not been for the hard work and double duty of our Executive Director. Darrold Gould lived and breathed this project day in and day out. His passion and that of our dedi-

**B**ack in 2001, we had all of that and the passion to top it off! We started down the road to a new facility with all the enthusiasm, wide-eyed wonder and naiveté of a young child. Seven years later, we have arrived at our destination – the building is constructed, it's functional, and the animals and people are all adjusting to the new environment. What an unbelievable thrill it was to walk

cated staff, Mary McBay, Holly Capstick and Alison Ferguson were huge motivators in bringing this project to a successful conclusion. Two paws up to Darrold, Mary, Holly and Alison.

I would like to end this column with a note about the importance of money! Our donors have supported this project from the moment our capital campaign started. They have shared our enthusiasm and excitement and have stepped up to the tune of \$480,000 to date.



**A dream come true**

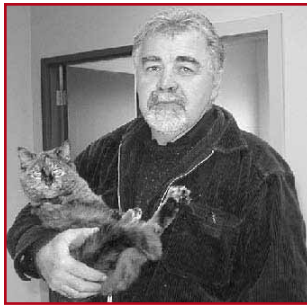
The fundraising professionals will tell you that in any large fundraising campaign, finding a lead donor is critical to the success of the campaign. Our lead donor emerged early in the campaign. donalee Moulton, a former Board member has generously donated \$100,000 and in return, the new building is dedicated to her parents, Fred and Myrtle Moulton. donalee and her parents have been long time supporters of the Shelter; they have appreciated the importance of our undertaking and decided to pull out all the stops. To say "Thank you" hardly seems like enough but donalee, on behalf of the Board and staff, our heartfelt thank you!

Lastly, while we have accomplished what we set out to do the job is far from finished. At time of writing, we are approximately \$170,000 short of our target of \$650,000. The fundraising will go on with the plan of achieving our goal before the end of this year. Our ongoing personal appeals along with the launch of our public campaign in September will hopefully allow us to achieve the end goal.

To all of our donors, please accept our thank you and appreciation for your generosity. We look forward to your ongoing support for many years to come.

HUMANE SHELTER FOR LOST AND HOMELESS ANIMALS

## FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



**Darrold and Trio**

I've been asked many times over the last several months if I'd feel sad leaving 12 Eaton Avenue. It's been an important part of my life and Bide Awhile's home since 1972. There's no doubt, Eaton Ave. has served us well. But when I think of 'Bide Awhile', I think of what's been accomplished

in the building, not the building itself. I think of the thousands of animals that have been given a second chance and the many kind people who made that possible. There have been many heart-breaking moments in that building but also a good many miracles

and a lot of laughs. Along the way we've made many new friends whose support allows us to continue our very important work.

When moving day finally arrived, we were all so busy there was little time to think about leaving Eaton Ave. behind. Before we knew it our doors were opening at 67 Neptune Crescent and we had a new home. Within the first week we were able to save 22 more animals than would have been possible in our old location.

Bide Awhile has never been just a building, Bide Awhile is people caring about animals and doing what they can to make their lives better. And because people care so much we're now doing this work from an incredible new building. We're proud of our new Shelter but more importantly we're looking forward to the wonderful things we'll accomplish in this building over the next 36 years and for many years to come.

***"Within the first week we were able to save 22 more animals than would have been possible in our old location."***

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## VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION EVENT

Following the Annual General Meeting on June 14th, members and volunteers will gather at the Shelter to celebrate the new building and the successes of the past year. At this time, the Supporter Relations Committee and Volunteer Committee will present the 2008 Volunteer of the Year award to a deserving volunteer.

Invitations will be sent to this event, but if you're a member or a volunteer, you're invited. To reduce costs, an "e-invitation" will

be sent out confirming the details of the event. So, now is a great time to make sure your contact information, including an e-mail address, is up-to-date and on file with the Shelter. Our new e-mail address (to go along with our wonderful new location) is [bideawhile@bideawhile.org](mailto:bideawhile@bideawhile.org).

Be sure to visit [www.bideawhile.org](http://www.bideawhile.org) for the latest news on upcoming events and, of course, to see our current animal guests.

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## KATIE'S STORY

It's probably not an honor she sought but Katie has the distinction of being the first cat taken into our new Shelter. Whoever used to care for her didn't seem to care any more. She was hungry, dirty and ready to deliver her kittens any day. A very kind lady kept her fed and warm in her shed until we had space at Bide Awhile.

On April 8th, Katie delivered five beautiful kittens. This gives Katie another honor – the first birth in our new maternity wing. She's a wonderful mom and a very loving cat who really deserves the special place she's made for herself in our memories and Bide Awhile history.



***Katie and her babies***

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## THANKS TO HRM

Bide Awhile would like to thank the Halifax Regional Municipality for a \$15,000 capital grant (for the year 2007-2008) towards the construction of its new facility. This grant money is awarded through the HRM Community Grants Program to assist community and charitable organizations with projects designed to enrich the HRM. Bide Awhile provides an invaluable service to the HRM, and we thank the Grants Committee for recognizing the importance of the new facility and our efforts to help homeless animals in the HRM.

**HALIFAX**  
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

## TOMMY'S STORY

*"Tommy was the very first adoption from our new Shelter!"*

There's a snow plow operator in HRM who has the gratitude of the Doherty family and a handsome orange tabby named Tommy. This plow operator was clearing a parking lot after a storm when he spotted Tommy in a snow bank. Quick reflexes kept him from actually running him over. A friend nearby took Tommy in and tried, without luck, to find his owner.

That's when he came to Bide Awhile and within a very short time he'd won the hearts of everyone with his sweet personality. When the Dohertys came looking for the right cat for their family - Tommy was waiting. Tommy and his new family are now a very special part of Bide Awhile history – Tommy was the very first adoption from our new Shelter! What a great new start for Tommy and what a great way to continue the Bide Awhile legacy (connecting people and animals) from our new home.



*Tommy and his family - Andrea & Jason Doherty with daughter Carlee*

## 2008 CALENDARS SALES – ANOTHER TERRIFIC YEAR!

*Make your Fluffy a Pet of the Day!*

We think our calendar just keeps getting better and better and with sales this year of more than \$36,000, it shows! That's a lot of people with our calendar on their wall. What better publicity for Bide Awhile than to have our name on thousands of walls every day of the year! We're fortunate to have many monthly sponsors who help reduce our printing costs; many of these even help sell our calendar. Thank you sponsors!

We hope you enjoy reading the stories and seeing some of the great pictures submitted through our Pet Photo Challenge contest. Yes we know you think your Fido or Fluffy is the most beautiful and should be on the cover but we can only pick so many winners. You can however guarantee that your favourite pet pictures hit the 2009 calendar by participating in the Pet of the Day promotion. We've extended the deadline to May 30th so look for details in our 2008 calendar or visit our website to find out how. Spaces are filling up so don't miss out!

## 5TH ANNUAL CEILIDH FOR CRITTERS

The 5th annual Ceilidh for Critters benefit is coming to the Westin Nova Scotia in Halifax on September 28th. All proceeds from this fun event go directly to Bide Awhile. The organizers have raised more than \$15,000 for homeless animals over the past 4 years and are aiming to match that amount in their 5th year. Your support can make it happen.

As an added bonus, discounted tickets will be available to anyone who purchases a Bide Awhile calendar in September. Watch [www.ceilidhforcritters.com](http://www.ceilidhforcritters.com) for details.

## THANK YOU!

We at Bide Awhile are privileged to have experienced the extraordinary kindness of many in this community as our new Shelter underwent construction. Building for a not-for-profit organization can never be easy – tight budgets and big dreams don't always fit together well. And we certainly dreamt of a modern facility that would provide the best possible environment for the animals whose lives we commit to improving.

Fortunately our construction managers, RCS Retail Construction Specialists, took our vision to heart and provided a level of assistance to this project that is likely unparalleled in the construction industry.

In addition to their superior work in the design and construction of our building, the RCS team of partners Doug Doucet and Bruce Mollins along with Project Coordinator Jennifer Judson-Wall and site manager Denis LeBlanc went to unbelievable lengths to secure the support of subcontractors and consultants. With their com-

mitment to our "Building a Better Bide Awhile" project we've been blessed with a building that far exceeds our expectations.



While words could never adequately express our appreciation, we do wish to extend our most heartfelt gratitude to our friends at RCS.

At every stage of construction we've been amazed by the generosity of the people associated with this industry and their tremendous community spirit.

Please know that your kindness and support will make a world of difference to the lives of homeless animals in our community. We could not have done this without you.



*Two new Apprentices for RCS*

## WHAT MATTERS MOST

by donalee Moulton

As a young child, I was taught that giving back is not merely an expectation, it is an obligation. For my father, Frederick James Moulton, the depth and the range of that giving knew no boundaries, and it certainly embraced animals. I learned by watching my father that caring for others, especially animals, was more than an act of charity, it was what made the measure of a person, and it was what defined us as a community. I also learned that the true recipients of our gifts were not the animals, but ourselves.

I remember my father coming home one Sunday after his weekly trek to the local flea market. He had discovered a dog covered in porcupine quills and was, understandably, moved by the pain the animal was in and the cruelty of people who would leave him, even temporarily, in this state.

For my father, being moved means being moved to action. Somehow he was able to get near the animal and tie him to a fence while he went to find a vet. Several hours later a quill-free pooch

emerged. Several more hours later, a very grateful owner appeared relieved that someone had found – and cared for – his beloved friend.

I remember people telling my father what a nice thing that was to have done. I remember even more vividly my father's somewhat confused look. This was not an exceptional act of kindness; this was simply how you lived your life. You looked out for others, all others.

Bide Awhile shares that inherent sense of responsibility, and the joy it brings. And our community is the richer for it. It is a privilege for my mother, Myrtle Moulton, and me to contribute in some small way to the work that Bide Awhile does and to remind ourselves that this work ultimately starts and ends with us.

It was a lesson we learned from my father, who continues to teach us what matters most.

***"Until one has loved an animal, a part of one's soul remains unawakened."***

***– Anatole France, Author***

## INVITATION TO JOIN BOARD OF DIRECTORS

This is a very exciting time in Bide Awhile's history! The opening of our new Shelter is an extraordinary milestone in our history and we believe a turning point in the course of animal welfare in this community! But we still have much work to do - operating and managing the new facility, setting our goals for the coming years and taking a leadership role in educating the public about animal welfare issues.

As we enter this new era, we are seeking energetic, talented and creative Board and Committee members. Specifically, we require volunteers with experience in marketing, public relations, law, accounting/finance and fundraising. Previous Board experience would be helpful but is not necessary.

If you're interested in making history, please contact us at 469-9578 for application information. The deadline for applications is May 23.

***"The best Shelter is a humane community"***

***– Robin Robertson Starr***

## GOLFING FOR CRITTERS 2008

Mark your calendars! On September 20th, 2008 Bide Awhile Animal Shelter will be holding its 4th Annual Golfing for Critters Tournament at Sherwood Golf & Country Club in Chester. You'll want to golf this fabulous course! Registration begins at 9:00 am, Shotgun start at 10:00 am, dinner and prize presentations at 3:30 pm. For more information contact Brenda Ruggles at 876-4663 or visit us at [www.bideawhile.org](http://www.bideawhile.org).



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

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