

## BUILDING UPDATE

As anyone who's ever built a house can attest, it's a lot of work! Multiply that effort a hundredfold and you may have some idea of what's been going on behind the scenes at Bide Awhile these last several months. It's hard to be patient; we're so excited about building a new Shelter.

Our volunteers and staff have been working diligently to prepare us for this enormous undertaking. We anticipate resuming the design phase early in the new year and breaking ground in the fall of 2007!

We've had many discussions with the design team about what we'll need in our new building and in this issue we'd like to tell you about one of those features and how it will improve the comfort and well being of our adorable adoptables. We plan to heat our new shelter with in-floor radiant heat, which is the technical term for what Trio (our 3 legged resident) would call "nice warm floors". A series of pipes will be placed under the floor of the

shelter and a boiler will distribute hot water through these pipes. This hot water will warm the floors which in turn will heat the whole building. Our current shelter, heated by forced air, uses a fan on the furnace to blow warm air through the building and although this type of heating may work well in your house, it's not very desirable in an animal shelter. The forced air can help micro-organisms move through the building spreading disease. In-floor radiant heat will reduce the likelihood of disease transfer between different parts of the building and will provide a nice warm place for our cats and dogs to curl up for a snooze.

If you'd like to be a part of our New Building Project, we'd love to hear from you!

We're looking for organizational and planning skills, fundraising, marketing or public relations experience and a desire to get involved. Contact us at 469-9578.

4th annual and looking for ways to build on our successes.

Thank you to everyone in attendance and behind the scenes - our sponsors, auction donors, friends in the media, committee, and outside volunteers. We're thrilled to give the critters an early Christmas present.

(A special thanks to all of our Ceilidh for Critters friends from everyone here at Bide Awhile! We truly appreciate your hard work on our behalf)



## CEILIDH FOR CRITTERS

By Angela Grambelli

Community support was overwhelming for our 3rd Annual Ceilidh for Critters... we raised almost \$3000 each for Bide Awhile and the Animal Rescue Coalition. The Westin was a wonderful venue and we really look forward to returning there next year.

A special thank you to our Title Sponsor, Best Friends Pet Supplies and also to our performers and hosts: Auction City, Lisa Blackburn, Lietash Canine Academy, Dave Carmichael, Steven Bowers, Fuego Flamenco, and Ardyth and Jennifer.

Our auction was wildly successful...we're already planning our

## BELLE

Belle, this beautiful little red head, is blind. And because of this, she needed more attention than her previous owners were able to give her. Belle needed us - fortunately we had the space to take her.

As a "No-Kill Shelter" Bide Awhile believes in second chances. We know that older cats or cats, like Belle, with health problems are often difficult to adopt.

Our Executive Director, Darrold Gould says "A little patience and effort to understand her special needs made all the difference to Belle. We knew she could thrive in the right environment if we just gave her a chance".

Belle is now in her new home in the loving care of one of our members.



BIDE AWHILE ANIMAL SHELTER SOCIETY - FALL 2006 ISSUE  
12 EATON AVENUE, DARTMOUTH, NOVA SCOTIA, B2Y 2X5. PHONE 902. 469.9578  
www.bideawhile.org

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### Pets - Please Enjoy Responsibly!

I heard the following stories recently, and they made me stop and think:



Lisa and Cito

• A dog owner, walking her two dogs on leash, sees a man on a bicycle who's followed by his large off leash Labrador Retriever. The woman sits her two dogs and politely asks the man on the bicycle to control his dog while he passes by. The man refuses, and the Lab runs up to her two dogs. The woman's two dogs react, and a fight ensues. Luckily for everyone, no one (animal or human) is hurt.

• The superintendent of an apartment building finds a beautiful black and white cat wandering aimlessly in the hallway, abandoned there by owners who'd just moved out of their apartment.

• A two year old child left alone in a room with the crotchety family feline gets a little too up close and personal, and winds up with a nasty cat bite requiring a tetanus shot.

We all know that pets, whether feline, canine, or some other variety, bring endless joy into our lives. Seeing pictures of cute and cuddly kittens and puppies, or visiting an animal shelter and seeing those pleading eyes and wagging tails, it's difficult to resist the urge to bring one home.

Pet ownership however involves much more than cuddles and wet sloppy kisses (although these are the best part). Animals of any sort, no matter how lovable and friendly, require care, supervision, and training. Left unsupervised and untrained, they can cause harm not only to people and property, but to themselves. Just like

## CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE

TO BE HELD ON DECEMBER 10, 2006  
FROM 1 - 4 PM.  
12 EATON AVENUE, DARTMOUTH

children, they need varying degrees of work to keep them safe and happy.

As pet owners, we owe it to our beloved animals to keep them out of harm's way. We also have a responsibility to other people to make sure our pets do not cause them, or their pets, harm. When pets left to their own devices run into trouble, it's all too often the animal which pays the price for the owner's lack of care.

Pets also need to be spayed or neutered. They need yearly vaccinations, and from time to time they'll need medical care, just like people. All of this costs money.

Owning a pet is a commitment and a responsibility. As we like to say at Bide Awhile, "Pets are for Life". Animals are not toys that can be put away when we're finished playing with them for the day or discarded when they no longer amuse us.

At Bide Awhile, we're all too familiar with the consequences of people getting a pet on impulse. Animals arrive at the Shelter because they were too much work to train, didn't fit in with the owner's lifestyle, or simply because the owners could no longer be "bothered" to keep them. Almost every day we see kittens arrive at our door because someone somewhere didn't bother to get their cat spayed or neutered.

That's why Bide Awhile strives to promote responsible pet ownership, and we urge all our supporters to do the same. If we can help people to think carefully before bringing that cute little puppy or kitten home, we might have fewer unwanted animals coming through our doors.

Like so many other things in life, pets must be enjoyed responsibly!

Lisa Richards,  
President

## THANKS TO OUR VERY GOOD FRIENDS AT

Grant Thornton

Carsand-Mosher  
PHOTOGRAPHY

C 100  
TODAY'S BEST MUSIC

The Chronicle Herald

Lietash Canine Academy

TEEFT K9 CENTRE

EASTLINK ADVERTISING  
The Smart Money Medium.

WBLI

GLOBAL  
PET FOODS

HOMSBURG

HUMANE SHELTER FOR LOST AND HOMELESS ANIMALS

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS MESSAGE – DID YOU KNOW?

- One female cat and her offspring can produce 420,000 cats in 7 years
- One female dog and her offspring can produce 67,000 dogs in 6 years.
- Spaying or neutering your pet can help stop pet over population
- Responsibly owned dogs are a great value to any community
- Responsible dog owners consider their dogs to be canine citizens; they don't permit them to behave in any way that infringes on the rights of other citizens
- Companion dogs aren't just fun to be around; they bring us closer to nature and bring out the best in our natures.

### I didn't know that:

- The tallest dog was a Great Dane that stood 42" high at the shoulder
- The heaviest dog was a Mastiff that weighed 350lb.
- The smallest dog was a Yorkshire terrier that measured 2.5" in height
- The oldest dog on record (2003) was a 28 year old Border Collie

### My Top 10 Reasons why you'd want to get a pet from a shelter:

- You save a life and in return receive a lifetime of love.
- You help break the cycle of pet over population
- You help stop the cruelty of mass breeding operations.
- You help break the cycle of unwanted pets
- You'll have the advantage of getting pets that are spayed or neutered.

## PART 3 IN A SERIES

### Unleashing the truth about banned breeds: Cruel Intentions By Katherine and Karen McIntyre

Breed Specific Legislation (BSL), was introduced in Ontario on November 27th, 2005. Besides the outlawing of certain breeds this law states that any puppies of these banned breeds born on or after this date, and those in pounds, are to be euthanized or sold for research. As if this law wasn't cruel enough, it also stated that any dog that resembled or was thought to possess traits of any of these breeds would also fall under this legislation unless the owner of the animal could prove otherwise. BSL is not just Ontario's battle to fight. Every province in Canada could be subjected to implementation of this type of legislation if the ruling in Ontario is not overturned in the appeal process, which started in May of this year.

BSL is flawed legislation. It can't solve the problem of dog attacks when the source of the problem lies with irresponsible owners. BSL infringes on the rights of responsible owners and can easily spin out of control. Any municipality can bring in an additional law as long as it is more stringent than the existing law. The snowball effect is seen in London, Ontario where Bull Terriers and Boston Terriers have been added to the list. This list will keep growing until finally, ridiculously, all breeds are banned.

- You encourage others to adopt from shelters
- You'll free up space for the shelter to take in another unwanted pet
- You pay less and receive more.
- You have a choice from a great number of animals
- You become part of the solution not the problem



Darrold and Friend

### The Top 10 reasons I hear for why people give up a pet:

House soiling • Moving • Landlord not allowing pets • Owner having personal problems • Too many animals in household Inadequate space for a pet • Too busy, no time for a pet • Pet biting • Allergies in family • Incompatibility with other pets

### Did you know?

There are many countries where declawing cats is either banned or only performed under extreme circumstances.

England, Scotland, Wales, Italy, France, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Norway, Sweden, Netherlands, Northern Ireland, Ireland, Denmark, Finland, Slovenia, Portugal, Belgium, Spain, Brazil, Australia, New Zealand

There are a number of issues regarding BSL in the province of Nova Scotia. Guysborough is trying to bring the same BSL ruling as Ontario into their county. One of the proponents of this law has recently been appointed to the Union of Municipalities for the province of Nova Scotia. This is a group that discusses laws and other issues to be addressed provincially. This appointment could mean that BSL becomes a reality here.

Recently in Yarmouth County, there were problems with people not 'picking up' after their pets. The solution proposed - ban all dogs from the county of Yarmouth. Understandably, there were so many people opposed to the idea that it never did make it to council. An outrageous proposal you might think, but so is BSL.

We owe our canine companions the loyalty they show us. We must reject ineffective laws that are expensive, time consuming and offensive to dog owners and taxpayers. The solution to this dilemma - simply enforce existing laws, already in place, and hold pet owners accountable for their pet's behavior. People are the root of this problem, not specific breeds. Speak with your councilperson and see where they stand on this issue.



## CALENDAR 2006 AND PET PHOTO CHALLENGE

### Don't Wait Too Long!

Bide Awhile's annual calendar just keeps getting bigger and better! Last year's was a complete sell out and we see the same thing happening this year! Twelve months of beautiful photographs in a calendar you'll cherish and especially enjoy giving to that animal lover on your list. It's the gift that gives twice - supporting your local shelter is something we all feel good about. So don't be caught wishing you'd gotten yours sooner. Check our web site for a retail location near you. An enormous thank you goes to the entire calendar team for their considerable effort and talent.

And don't miss a chance to get your own great photos in our 2008 calendar! Our 2007 Pet Photo Challenge gets underway in early February. And to get the best pics of your photogenic critters, here are some helpful hints from our own experience with the contest over the years.

1. Be aware of the background setting in your pictures, a boldly coloured print may mask Fluffy or Fido's beautiful coat.
2. Try to shoot at eye-level.
3. Get close! Carsand Moshier tells us, the closer to your pet's face the better.
4. Make your pet the main focus of the picture and make sure it's in focus.
5. Keep your camera ready for those "right place/right time" opportunities.
6. Try to capture the unique beauty and personality of your friend

## SUPPORTER PROFILE

### Homburg Canada Incorporated

As the major sponsor of Bide Awhile's "Golfing for Critters" event, Homburg Canada shows a concern for the mostly invisible members of our community - abandoned and homeless animals and the devoted volunteers who work so hard to make a difference in their lives.

Homburg Canada is a multi-million dollar real estate investment and development company that owns and manages a diverse portfolio of residential, retail, commercial and warehouse real estate across Canada, the United States, and Europe. With such a wide range of interests, Bide Awhile is honored by the support given to us and our event.

Their 40 year reputation for secure, well-managed properties and real estate investment expertise somewhat parallels our own 37 year history of sound management and service.

A philosophy of dedicated team effort and the highest professional standards are values that we certainly understand and appreciate.

*"We don't see ourselves as investing only in land and buildings. We invest in our customers, our tenants, and our stakeholders. We invest in people, because it is people that make the future better than the present."*

For more information on our friends at Homburg Canada visit their website @ [www.homburg.com](http://www.homburg.com)

## GOLFING FOR CRITTERS - 2ND ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

On September 23rd, 2006 Bide Awhile Shelter held its 2nd Annual Golf Tournament. And what a tournament it was! Held at the Sherwood Golf & Country Club in Chester, it was a fabulous day on a superb course owned and operated by Homburg Canada. Homburg Canada generously donated the green fees and golf carts.

59 enthusiastic golfers ranging from novice to expert turned out for the tournament, many exercising their vocal chords and funny-bones as much as their drivers. (Hello!! Paul J, Paul P, Ryan, Darryl & Brad). Every golfer received a gift of golf balls with the Bide Awhile logo, was treated to a scrumptious dinner in the club house and stood a chance to win any of the terrific prizes available.



I would like to express our deepest gratitude to our major sponsor Homburg Canada. With their support and commitment our tournament raised \$7200.00 this year - quite an increase over last year's total of \$600.00! I would also like to thank All Stars Software Systems from Connecticut USA, HP, Burnside Dental, RCS, Zive Insurance, SECOR, Canon and Global Pet Foods for their very generous donations, and all the other companies that so kindly contributed to the prizes awarded that day.

Thanks also goes out to 4 great volunteers (Carla, Florrie, Ruth and Eric) who kept everything running so smoothly that Adam and I were able to enjoy a great day of golf. Congratulations to Paul Pitts from Connecticut, winner of the 4GB IPOD (donated by SECOR) and Ian Milley, winner of the Color Photo Printer (donated by Canon).

Watch our website for some great event pictures and if you're interested in helping us make this tournament even better we'd love to hear from you - just fill in the survey.

Mark your calendars to enjoy an outstanding day at the Sherwood Golf & Country Club! Wednesday, September 19th 2007 is our tentative date, but we'll keep you posted at [www.Bideawhile.org](http://www.Bideawhile.org). See you next year!

Brenda Ruggles, Bide Awhile Animal Shelter Chair Golfing for Critters

Bowling for Critters was an enormous success thanks to our dedicated supporters and sponsors – check our flyer for event highlights and pics.

*"The best Shelter is a humane community"* – Robin Starr

## BAKE AND CRAFT SALE

Don't miss Bide Awhile's Fall Bake and Craft Sale coming to City Centre on Dresden Row in Halifax, November 25th and 26th. Two great days of delicious treats and crafts