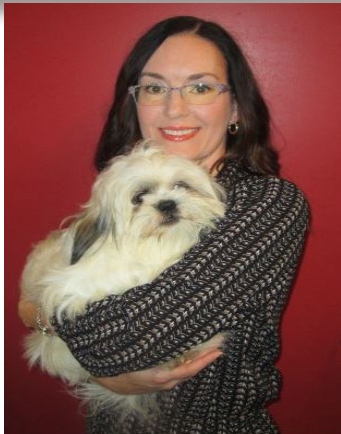




BIDE AWHILE ANIMAL SHELTER NEWS

FALL 2016 ISSUE



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Having recently lost a beloved pet, I find myself discussing the passing of pets quite frequently with people as of late and I have noticed a similar thread with everyone I come across who has also lost a pet; we all feel the same deep sadness that never really leaves us. Male, female, old, young, it does not matter. If you have lost a pet whom you loved, you are familiar with that very particular, acute pain which accompanies that loss and the grief that never really abates. I have often wondered why you can bring tears to an elderly person's eyes by talking about a pet they lost as a child or why someone will cry when looking at an old photo of a family pet. What is it about these special creatures that taps into our emotions so keenly?

I think there is great insight in this quote by Robert Brault: "The difference between friends and pets is that friends we allow into our company, pets we allow into our solitude."

This is so very true. We allow our pets into every aspect of our emotional lives and are the better for it. They do not judge us or say "I told you so". They do not make cruel remarks or mock our choices. They lie by our side and comfort us when we are sick or sad and they rejoice with us in our happiest

moments. They love us unconditionally. No other relationship asks so little and returns so much.

One of the hardest things is trying to connect with others during our time of grief. Trying to explain how you feel to someone who has not been through the awful loss of a dearly-loved pet is like trying to explain tax law to a six year old. They may understand the individual words you are saying; however, the entire concept is completely lost on them. No one can truly empathize until they have experienced it themselves, so it is important not to let others dictate how you should grieve. We all do it differently and in our own time.

There are many resources to help those experiencing grief from the loss of a pet. You can find information online, comfort in support groups and advice in books. Or you may choose to honour your pet with a donation to an animal charity in their name or plant a tree in their favourite spot in your yard. Personally, I chose to place a flowering bush and engraved stone in Bide Awhile's Memorial Garden. I also volunteer at the Shelter in homage to my sweet boys, Jake and Murphy, who found their way to me through rescue groups like Bide Awhile.

And yes, adopting another pet may also help your heart to heal. Just remember that everyone in the family should be ready to accept another pet into the home. Statistically, 35% of people are still grieving the loss of a pet after six months, and 22% are still struggling a year later. A new pet will never replace your departed one, but the love and bond you will eventually share with the new pet will slowly start to heal the wounds left behind by the one who passed, and the loneliness will be replaced by new adventures, laughs and snuggles.

*Stephanie Willan,
President*

SEASON'S GREETINGS



Bide Awhile Animal Shelter Society, its Board of Directors and staff warmly invite you - our members, supporters, donors, volunteers & friends - to attend our annual

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

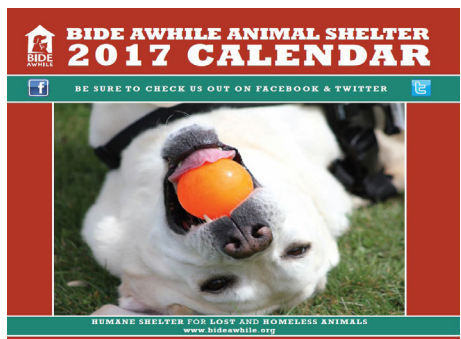
**Sunday, December 11, 2016
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

67 Neptune Crescent, Dartmouth

Share in some holiday cheer and raise a glass to great things for Bide Awhile in 2017.

This is a wonderful opportunity to visit our animal guests, including our 12 Strays of Christmas, tour our facility and meet friends: old, new and furry!

WE HOPE YOU CAN JOIN US!



Now available at select outlets

Our 2017 Annual Pet Calendar is now available at Bide Awhile and at several retail outlets and vet clinics in Metro. This is a great stocking stuffer!

67 Neptune Crescent, P.O. Box 50029, RPO Southdale, Dartmouth, NS B2Y 4S2
Tel: (902) 469-9578 | Fax (902) 463-6173 | Email: bideawhile@bideawhile.org



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

I am sad to report that Bide Awhile's last surviving founding member, Miss Grace Burfitt, passed away in August.

Back in 1969, Grace Burfitt joined with Mrs. Harriet Montgomery, Miss Barbara Bell, Mrs. Lorraine Kaplan, Miss Ruth Chisholm, and Miss Rosalinde Warren to launch the Bide Awhile Animal Shelter Society.

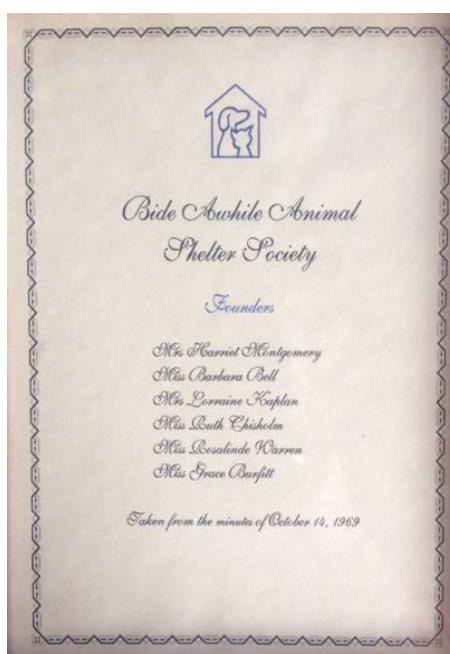
With very few resources but no end of determination, Grace and the other founding members set out to make a difference in the lives of stray and abandoned animals. And what a difference they ultimately made!

Bide Awhile began operating out of one room in Spryfield. In 1972, a mortgage was secured on a house in Dartmouth. The founding members started what is now an organization that helps at least a thousand cats, dogs, and people every year from our current shelter which was specifically built for the purpose in 2008.

An idea is just an idea unless someone decides to take action and it was the founding members that had the vision, made a plan, and then made it happen. Many other caring and dedicated individuals have contributed along the way – hence we are here 47 years later, still doing the important work that they began.

I have the utmost respect and gratitude for the founding members. May they rest in peace and may we at Bide Awhile Animal Shelter Society never forget our roots.

Darrold R. Gould
Executive Director



EDUCATION UPDATE

As many of you know, Bide Awhile is about more than adopting animals. We also strive to raise awareness, respect, and appreciation for our furry friends. The best part about working with the Education Committee is brainstorming interesting and creative ways to accomplish these goals.

In the new year we will be launching the first (of hopefully many) children's book! At the Annual General Meeting in June, we were in the infancy stage of this project. We have since paired with award-winning, local author, Donna Morrissey; we now have a manuscript, and are ready and excited to start the publishing process!

We are also working with the Department of Education to have these books donated to local schools. After all, doesn't the best education start at a young age?

In 2017 and going forward, we plan to host events at the shelter that speak to the important subjects related to the animals in our lives such as, "Why should I have my dog spayed/neutered?" or "How can I make my cat more comfortable now that she is getting older?". The answers to some of these questions may surprise any experienced pet owner!

Keep an eye out on our Facebook/Twitter/Instagram pages for updates, or feel free to stop by the shelter to hear about the exciting projects we have on the go.

Kate Peddle,
Education Chair



Join us April 23 at Grafton Street Dinner Theatre! Check our website for ticket details in January.



Pet of the Month Contest

Honour Your Pet

**Buy a monthly spot
in our 2018 Calendar.**
And you can have your
pet's photo featured on one
of the monthly pages!

**Send your photo by May 3 and you'll
be entered in a draw to win a \$300
Gift Card.**

Final Deadline: May 31

**\$20
Per Entry**

download an entry form at:
www.bideawhile.org

ADOPTION STORIES



Our baby is HOME!

Unfortunately Sunshine's life has not always been sunny. She was rescued from a dog pound in Japan where her future was uncertain, and brought to Nova Scotia. Due to life changes her rescue family had to surrender her to Bide Awhile.

While at Bide Awhile Sunshine patiently waited for her forever home she found that when Bob and Barbara took her home.

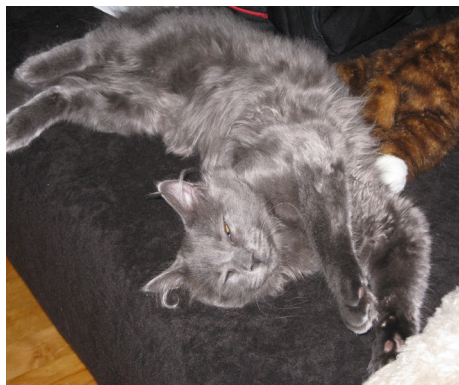
We picked up Sunshine this afternoon and had a lovely drive back, the LONG way around (because I missed my turn) from Dartmouth to home. She sat in the back with Barbara all the way, taking in all the sights.

As soon as we stopped she went crazy running all over the yard, smelling, investigating...just like Lassie did but with more energy of a younger (7 years old) dog! We've only been home for about 2 hours and already: 3 long walks around the acreage and in the bush, 6 movies, 18 photos, and two big bowls of water drunk down in no time (uh.. drunk by the DOG.)

She is very much at home, investigating all the rooms, watching me through the window when I go outside or downstairs. She doesn't like watermelon like Lassie did, but loves dried beef lung.

She knows how and when to sit. Needs some lead training though and she might settle down once she realizes we are taking her out 5-6 times a day.

Bob and Barbara




Bentley brings joy to his forever family

It only took him a day or so once we brought him home for him to explore the house and find his favorite places. It took a couple more days before our resident cat, Miss Molly, stopped hissing at him every time he came near. Now they seem to be good friends and playmates and if Bentley gets out of line, she gives him a smack.

This little cat has a big personality! He is very talkative and extremely snuggly, especially at four o'clock in the morning! He is a wonderful addition to our household and we are truly enjoying him.

Thank you for the great work that you do.

Sandy and Bob



Low Cost Spay/Neuter Program

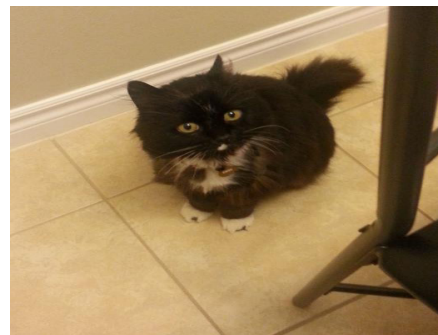
BIDE AWHILE

Does your cat need to be spayed or neutered?

If you can't afford the operation you probably can't afford to deal with a litter of kittens every year or so. We may be able to help if you qualify. Your cat will be healthier, happier and you will save money overall. Call us today.

Please contact us for more information.

Bide Awhile Animal Shelter
902-469-9578
www.bideawhile.org



Friendly Gwen

Just sending you a little update on Gwen and how she's doing in her new home!

She has settled in quite comfortably, that's for sure.

When we first let her out of the carrier we tried to get her to the litter box but she refused to go in. We didn't want to stress her out and force her. We let her do her own thing; she wandered the apartment and rubbed herself on everything and was purring from the moment we let her go off exploring her new surroundings.

She soon found a place on my bed to curl up and beg for attention and petting. She likes to curl up on her blanket on my bed beside me with her head on my pillow.

She is not shy, she's very vocal and likes to meet everyone, and she's extremely curious and friendly.

She's had no issues so far (other than learning where to and not to scratch haha, she's stubborn on that one) and seems pretty content overall! :)

She is an amazing cat and I couldn't have adopted a better companion.

Thank you!

Cassandra



for more information see our events listing

Scotiabank BLUE NOSE MARATHON

Scotiabank Charity Challenge

Support Bide Awhile by
Running or Walking in the Bluenose Marathon

AWESOME FUNDRAISERS

On an ongoing basis we often get donations from employees and individuals who organize fundraising activities on our behalf. These are just a few of the interesting projects:

- Companies such as Scotiabank and Encana have donation match programs. Employees have raised money on our behalf that was matched.
- J.A. Snow Funeral Home hosted an antique car show and BBQ and donated the proceeds!
- Krave Burger donated \$1 for every Chef's Choice Burger sold in July. We raised \$783!
- Companies have raised money for us through casual days, bake sales, 50/50 draws and other creative means.

- Over the years, Atlantic News's cat bank has raised over \$10,000.
- Children have asked for donations and money for Bide Awhile when having a birthday party.
- Employee donations through United Way are an excellent way to donate to Bide Awhile - just give them our bus. #:889459095RR0001

FUNDRAISING UPDATE

At Bide Awhile things are always busy with animals coming in, being cared for, then going home with their new families. Running a Shelter is not cheap; we spend over \$400,000 per year to provide the best care we can for our furry guests. Every dollar raised from our fundraising efforts goes directly toward the costs of keeping the Shelter running. When you throw the bowling ball, purchase a calendar, bake some cupcakes or spend a night with us at Grafton Street Dinner Theatre you are helping to save animals.

Here are just a few of the things we have on the go at the moment;

Thank you to everyone that has participated in our **Chase the Ace**. Watch our website and social media for an update on the next game.

The **2017 Bide Awhile Calendars** are on sale now at the Shelter and various locations around HRM. For only \$10 these make a great addition to your office wall and make fantastic stocking stuffers for the animal lovers in your life.

Nov 29th is Giving Tuesday; Giving Tuesday is a global day of giving. After the sales of Black Friday and Cyber Monday, Giving Tuesday is a time to celebrate and encourage activities that support charities and non-profits.

Dec 11th please stop by our **Bake Sale** at the Open House. Homemade treats are the best thing about the holidays and they are even better when you don't have to do all the baking!

Want to walk off those treats after the holidays? Why not join our **Blue Nose team, Tails in Motion**. We will be looking for team members early in the new year.

Join us in April 23 for an evening of great food and laughs while we let the crew from **Grafton Street Dinner Theatre** entertain us.

Want to know more about our fundraisers or help out with events? Find up to date information on our Facebook page and website and make sure to sign up for our email list.

Our events would not be successful without your support so on behalf of the fundraising committee and all the lucky animals who get a second chance, I extend a great big **THANK YOU** to all of you.

Stacey Chisholm,
Fundraising Chair



Bide Awhile and #GivingTuesdayCA

invite you to join a movement to celebrate giving and encourage more, better and smarter giving during the Holiday Season. How will you give back on November 29?

GivingTuesday.ca

Bide Awhile Craft and Bake Sale

Will be held downstairs at Bide Awhile Animal Shelter during our Open House on December 11, 2016.



We require people with backgrounds in:

- law
- human resources
- education
- marketing
- public relations
- fundraising
- social media
- project management

Deadline for Board Member applications:
April 30, 2017

Note: Volunteer applications can be submitted anytime.

We are Seeking New Board Members

Have You Ever Wanted to Make a Difference in the Lives of Animals?

If you have the following qualities, we'd like to hear from you:

- * Enthusiasm * Trustworthy and honest
- * Ability to meet commitments
- * Demonstrated leadership abilities
- * Time commitment 5 to 10 hrs/mo
- * Previous board/committee experience an asset



Call or email for more information:
Darrold Gould, Executive Director
(902) 469-9578 darroldgould@bideawhile.org

Put your energy, passion and creativity to work by contributing on our working board or by volunteering.
www.bideawhile.org

THANKS TO OUR SPONSOR

quantum
COMMUNICATIONS

www.bideawhile.org

