

BIDE AWHILE PURR-LOUDLY CELEBRATES 35TH ANNIVERSARY

A Few Milestones from our Early Years...

"We had all agreed that evening that our one common wish was the erection of, or purchase of, a Shelter where stray animals might be housed, cared for, fed, receive medical attention when needed and homes found for them..."

... And so, on October 14, 1969 it all began!



Our doors opened for the first time in July 1970 and Moonbeam walks in! She gets a purr-fect home one year later!



Movin' on up! In August 1972 Bide Awhile relocates to 12 Eaton Ave, Dartmouth.



Trio— Bide Awhile's "official greeter" since 1990!

Bide Awhile's first official Open House in September 1973.

Overheard: "My, isn't this wonderful! Just think what these people have done for stray animals!"

New Spryfield home for stray cats, dogs

— The Dartmouth News, July 1970

"Stray cats and kittens are likely to get a fresh chance at living nine lives in Halifax/Dartmouth.

"A new animal shelter, the Bide Awhile has been opened at 1 Sussex St., Spryfield..."

Bide Awhile a unique refuge

— The Dartmouth News, January 1973

"...probably not another animal shelter in Canada that can boast equal or better care..."



SPECIAL SPRING 2005 35th ANNIVERSARY EDITION

BIDE AWHILE ANIMAL SHELTER SOCIETY – SPRING 2005 ISSUE
12 EATON AVENUE, DARTMOUTH, NOVA SCOTIA, B2Y 2X5. PHONE 902. 469.9578
www.bideawhile.org

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

TO BE HELD ON JUNE 11, 2005
FROM 10 – 12 NOON
AT THE FINDLAY CENTRE,
26 ELLIOTT STREET, DARTMOUTH

HUMAN SHELTER FOR LOST AND HOMELESS ANIMALS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Chris Hornberger and Kendra

We have 2 beautiful girls and a very handsome guy, all of whom are Bide Awhile alumni. Dutchess was the first one to enter our lives about 9 years ago, just after Ben had died. Ben was our first Rottweiler, a big handsome fellow who lived to the ripe old age of 12. We were heart broken when he died and swore we were never going to have another dog. So we adopted a pretty young grey polydactyl tabby. We named her 'Dutchess' after Fergie, the Duchess of Cornwall - they shared similar feisty qualities, we thought.

Life was full of surprises as Dutchess entertained us - day and night! One night, I awoke to a strange noise in the bedroom and in the dim moonlit room, I could see movement around my dresser. Imagine my surprise, when I turned on the light and there was Dutchess, hanging off the slightly open top dresser drawer with one paw, while flinging out my underwear with the other.

Several months later, I arrived at the Shelter one evening for a meeting. Darrold immediately directed me to the dog room and it was love at first sight! There was Kendra, a one year old rambunctious, beautiful and unbelievably friendly Rottweiler. All resolve to never adopt another dog went out the window.

Kendra has been a never ending source of love and frustration - love because she is unconditional in her love - she loves anyone who will give her a pet or a treat! And frustration, because she has an incredibly stubborn streak in

her which, as a young dog manifested itself in all manner of scoundrel behaviour. As she slides gracefully into her golden years, bowling is more her speed. Last year she participated in the Bowling for Critters event - one of two canine contestants. She won second prize, losing out to a young, athletic Jack Russell terrier.

Rusty is an extremely good looking and very talkative orange tabby with the biggest feet you ever saw! Rusty talks and talks and talks - at full volume! I adopted him after his first adoption didn't work out. Dutchess and Kendra were determined to make his life miserable when he first arrived and they teamed up to harass him at every opportunity. Early on, he made the mistake of wandering into the bedroom one night - into the girl's enclave. Imagine two felines under the bed growling and spitting at each other like a couple of wild cats - and Kendra bouncing around on top of the bed, barking at full volume.

Our 3 gorgeous Bide Awhile critters continuously amuse and entertain us. Life would be very boring indeed, without our beautiful four legged family! Thank You Bide Awhile for 35 years of bringing so much happiness to my home and many, many others!!

Chris Hornberger, *President*

PS As part of my contribution to the Shelter's special Anniversary Toonie Appeal, I'll be sending \$500.00. One toonie for every lick I ever got from Kendra.

CELEBRATE "BE KIND TO ANIMALS WEEK" MAY 1- 7, 2005.

"The greatness of a nation can be judged by the way its animals are treated"

— Gandhi

CARING, COMPASSION AND LOVE: 35 YEARS WITH BIDE AWHILE ANIMAL SHELTER

Heaven is a funny word. For some of us, heaven implies unrelenting beauty, relaxation and the peace of ever-lasting life with a higher power. That's some of us. For others heaven is far simpler; a deep purr, an enthusiastic wag of a tail or a wet, cold nose on the back of our hands.

For us, love is the privilege of having and sharing our lives with those wonderful creatures we call pets. Those wonderful creatures we call cats and dogs. Bide Awhile Animal Shelter's reason for being.

It has been 35 years since six women - Harriet Montgomery, Barbara Bell, Lorraine Kaplan, Rosalinde Warren, Ruth Chisholm and Grace Burfitt - made the decision to open Bide Awhile. These six founders shared one common dream: a society where animals were no longer abused, mistreated and unloved or cast aside for the sake of 'changing tastes'. Our founders wanted to create a safe haven for society's most vulnerable citizens. And we believe they achieved their goal.

Today, Bide Awhile Animal Shelter exists as a beacon of hope, peace, love and compassion for those tiny, unwanted creatures that some in HRM so easily throw aside. Today, Bide Awhile finds homes for almost 300 animals each year. We think our founders should be proud.

The next step for Bide Awhile is the erection of our new shelter. Like the original shelter in Spryfield where we had 2 small rooms, we have come to outgrow our current surroundings and, while we thank this old home and our neighbours for their support, its time to move on.

Securing a new site has not been an easy project. It's taken several years and many different "almost but not quite" locations to find just the right spot. But we have. Now the task of building the new shelter begins. It's an exciting time for all us at Bide Awhile. A new

IT ALL ADDS UP: 6, 35, 300

In the beginning there were 6, now there are 300. Six concerned citizens – our founding members – first met on October 14, 1969, united in their desire to help homeless animals in metro.

Without a penny or a plan and not content to just "talk" they went on to create the marvel that is today the Bide Awhile Animal Shelter. Thirty-five years of compassionate animal care is the legacy they've built for all of us.

INTERESTED IN SERVING ON OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS?

Any member interested in serving on our Board of Directors is invited to submit a volunteer application and resume to Darrold Gould, Executive Director.

We are seeking support in fundraising, marketing, public relations

facility means more space for us to do our work, more room for more of our four legged friends. The need for the new facility also makes us a little sad; however, because it reminds us that we've still not achieved the ultimate goal: the day when HRM is no longer home to stray, mistreated or unloved animals. But it's that ultimate goal that drives us, that ultimate goal that has kept volunteers and staff with us for decades.

Bide Awhile began with the contribution of an American five dollar bill, given to Miss Chisholm by an American friend after learning of Miss Chisholm's successful rescue of an abused German Shepherd. That bill resides in Bide Awhile today and will make the transition to our new home.

As Grace Burfitt once noted, "That five dollar bill was never spent...Today, framed, it hangs on the wall in the office at Bide Awhile, a reminder of our origin and our purpose. Oddly enough we have never been penniless while it has hung there and so we look upon it as a kind of talisman."

Bide Awhile is completely dependant upon our fundraising efforts, donations from private citizens, businesses and those wonderful individuals who visit us to adopt a furry friend. Sometimes it gets tight, especially following kitten season when those furry babies turn into adults and are deemed no longer loveable. We are here to take them in. We are here to find them a new home and to give them love.

Thank you to all the volunteers who have made the last 35 years possible. To our founders, no words can express the gratitude of the thousands of animals that owe their lives to your vision. And heaven...really it's just around the corner, in the main viewing room, waiting for you to scratch it between two fuzzy ears.

If you would like to show your support for their dream, please consider becoming a member or renewing a past membership. Visit us at www.Bideawhile.org for more information.

As we look ahead to another 35 years of service to the community we look back with respect and heartfelt thanks to our founders.

and human resources. If you can commit 10 -12 hours a month and have experience in any of the above, we'd love to hear from you.

Please mail or fax (463-6173) your application before the deadline, May 30, 2005.

DONOR PROFILE: BIDE AWHILE'S WELL-READ SUPPORTER

Read all about it: The Chronicle Herald is a major supporter of Bide Awhile's Annual Pet Photo Challenge.

Thanks to their donation of valuable advertising space, we're able to get Pet Photo Challenge entry forms into the hands of hundreds - and hundreds - of proud, snap-happy Nova Scotians. This year's contest was our best ever with more than 1000 photos entered. The Herald is also instrumental in helping us showcase the winning photographs to hundreds of thousands of animal lovers throughout Nova Scotia.

Our sincere thanks to The Chronicle Herald for helping us make the Pet Photo Challenge a successful fundraiser - and a visual reminder of what pets bring to our lives.

MANY THANKS TO

Lucie Larochelle of Global Pet Foods for the wonderful donation of dog and kitty gift baskets for our Pet Photo Challenge winners!



Kittens are adorable but adult cats make great companions too – they all need the TLC of a good home.

TOONIE CAMPAIGN

In honour of our milestone anniversary, we're launching the Toonie Campaign, an opportunity to help Bide Awhile – and share your story. If you are able, please donate a toonie for every year Bide Awhile has been established – 35 years. And please tell us of your connection to Bide Awhile.

We recognize that not everyone has \$70 to donate. Please be assured every toonie helps – and every story is important to us. Did your 15-year-old cat come from Bide Awhile as a tiny kitten who fell asleep in her milk? We'd be grateful to receive a toonie for every one of your pet's 15 birthdays.

Did you attend our Open House five years ago and spend two hours more than you planned cooing at cats? We'd be delighted to accept 5 toonies for the memories.



Winston – We're giving a toonie for every bath Winston has had since coming to Bide Awhile. He's now one clean and happy cat!

IT ALL ADDS UP FOR TWO OF BIDE AWHILE'S DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS

Bide Awhile volunteers are the cats meow! For 35 years, volunteers have been the starch in our whiskers and the wag in our tail. As two of our longest-serving volunteers **Riet Koetsier** and **George Thomson** can attest, volunteering is an act of love that is repaid a thousand times over.

It all adds up for Riet, who has been tallying our Sobey's grocery tapes for more years than anyone is counting. "There's a lot more to running an animal shelter than playing with the cats or cuddling the kittens. It takes a lot of people to keep the Shelter going and to make sure we're always doing our best for the animals," she notes.

Of course, adds Riet, "Not every job is as much fun as adding grocery tapes."

Riet remembers back to Bide Awhile's early days when litter boxes were cleaned by boiling water on a

small stove - because the first shelter, in Spryfield, had no running water!

George also appreciates the effort it takes to run a first-class Shelter – because he's helped with just about every job there is. The bottom line, he says, is simple. "You do it for the animals."

Times have changed since Riet and George first volunteered with Bide Awhile. But one thing hasn't: Volunteers like Riet and George continue to be the driving spirit behind every Shelter effort and every dollar raised.

We know that at the heart of Bide Awhile, beat a hundred other hearts – volunteers, adoptive owners, members and, of course, the animals that remind us with every lick and purr for the reason we have been here for 35 years. And will be around for another 35.

RUB-A-DUB-DUB – GET YOUR DOG IN THE TUB! Paws Ahoy! 'Tis time to pamper your pooch with a special spa treatment.

Vetcetera Animal Hospital is once again turning on the taps for its annual Dog Wash and BBQ to celebrate Bedford Days - and to support Bide Awhile.

Last year's event made a big splash: More than 60 dogs were spit and polished - and \$900 was raised for Bide Awhile.

Our heartfelt thanks to Vetcetera staff for their hard work and support. And our congratulations to the

team on their own anniversary year – celebrating 5 years of dedicated animal care in our community.

Please drop by and enjoy a treat (dogs and owners). You might even win a door prize!

June 25, 2005 – 10 am to 2 pm, 1440 Bedford Highway, Bedford, Nova Scotia, 832-4818