

Tail - O - Gram

WINTER 2017

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www.burlingtonhumane.ca

Charlie and Oscar; Change of Plans

By Lori-Ann Linkins



*Helping People &
Animals Since 1974*

*Registered charity number
119254498RR0001*



Charlie

We went to BHS to adopt two orange kittens. That was the plan.

Two months after losing our beloved cat Merlin at age 18, my husband and I saw a post from BHS showing a room filled with orange kittens looking for a home. We decided it was a sign that it was time for us to open up our house and our hearts to new furry family members (we wanted to get two to keep each other company as we suspected our senior cat Zoe would not be much of a playmate).

When we arrived at the Adoption event in July 2012, the number of kittens looking for homes was overwhelming. As much as we wanted to adopt them all, we knew we couldn't, but how to choose?

As we walked through the rooms, a white and black tuxedo cat with half a Charlie Chaplin mustache stretched his arm out of his cage to touch me. "That one," I said. "Let me hold that one." Seconds later, one of his siblings, a tiny more black than white one, leapt over two others to land on top of his bigger brother. "And that one, too," my husband said. And that was that. Charlie picked me and Oscar picked Charlie. The four of us left BHS together.

It is now 5 years later and those tiny 3-month old kittens that fit together in one cat carrier are full-grown adults. They are sweet, happy cats that still wrestle with each other like they did in their cage the day we met them. Charlie is loud, large and loves food and paper balls equally. Oscar is small, but thinks he is a giant. He is more rambunctious than his brother and also more likely to cuddle (on his terms only).

We have since lost our beloved Zoe at age 16, and adopted another tuxedo cat, Tango, from another animal rescue organization. Merlin and Zoe will always be in our hearts, but having our 3 tuxedo cats has brought laughter and chaos back into our home. We will always be grateful to BHS for rescuing Charlie and Oscar and to Charlie and Oscar for rescuing us.



Oscar

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President's Message

By Jenn Merritt

As we prepare to move into the busy holiday season, it is an ideal time to give thanks to our hard working staff, our dedicated league of volunteers and those who support Burlington Humane with financial donations. Every contribution makes it possible to provide comfort, care and an opportunity for a better life for the animals in need.

Because we recently received a grant to prepare a Strategic Plan, we formed a Strategic Planning committee. Coincidentally, a professional strategic planner attended an Orientation meeting and is now working with us in preparing a Five Year Strategic Plan. BHS has accomplished so much over the past five years but we found we

needed guidance in planning for the future. A strategic plan will guide us in deciding how we can play an increased role in the community along with continuing our most important goal of caring for the animals.

Burlington Humane was formed in 1974, which sounds like a long time ago, but actually is not compared to other humane organizations. We have proudly accomplished most of our success with the dedication of volunteers. Not many would know we had a Five year plan about 10 years ago and were able to accomplish our main goal of building a shelter!

During this busy season, I hope you have the opportunity to stop by the Open

House on December 9. You will be able to visit with the animals as well as pick up a few items for your own furry friends.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I wish everyone and their animal companions a safe and wonderful holiday season!!



BHS Directors and Staff

President	Jenn Merritt
Vice President	Jolene Regan
Secretary	Patricia Howard
Treasurer	Karen Hunter
Stores Liaison	Carole McArthur
Education,	
Membership & Donations	Mary Hopkins
Pet Therapy Liaison	Regula Mueller
Directors:	Bianca Chambers
	Karen Fowler
	Andrew Mack
	David Rosati
Executive Director	Doug Shirton
Animal Care Manager	Megan DeGroot
Adoption Counsellor	Justine Stephan
	Kaitlin Ellis
	Janet Cappus
Animal Care Workers	Gilda Theurer
	Chelsea Rodrigues
	Sarah Cwynar
	Cindy Lupien
	Sue Tilley
Admin. Assistant	Julian Holland
Volunteer & Events	Alex Zych



**Burlington
Humane
Society**

**2018
Calendar**

IMAGES BY HAPPY TAILS PET PHOTOGRAPHY

Start the new year off right with our
2018 Burlington Humane Calendar.

Makes a great gift.

Available at Burlington Humane for just
\$20.00

Adoption Report

By Doug Shirton



It has been a busy year with kittens, cats, puppies and dogs. So far this year we have brought in many more dogs and cats than last year during the same period.

The majority of these animals were strays that were found in the community. The second most common reason that animals arrive at the shelter are pet surrenders. Surrendering a pet is often a heartbreaking situation for owners but life changing events prevent them from continuing to care for their animals; these owners are very thankful that Burlington Humane exists to find forever homes for their pets.

We have also been able to help other communities by taking in animals that they could not accommodate.

We have been hard at work to ensure that all these

animals are healthy and can be adopted out. Our adoption numbers are also up from last year. We are very thankful to the new pet owners who are providing forever homes for our animals.

Some of our animals spend time in foster homes, thanks to our wonderful group of foster parents. Pregnant moms, moms with kittens, orphan kittens, and when required, those animals needing medical attention all receive love, care and socialization before coming to the shelter for adoption.

We still have a number of animals looking for their forever home. As the end of the year approaches, many of these animals have special needs and have been passed over for months. All of them have love to give and would be very grateful to be home for the holidays.

Xena – Feline Survivor

By Doug Shirton



Xena

On a very hot day at the end of August, a garbage bag was dropped off at the front door of Burlington Humane. Because it was a Monday and we were closed, it was almost an hour before someone brought it to our attention. When the bag was discovered by BHS staff, they found a box with a very bedraggled cat inside. As soon as the cat was removed from the box, it collapsed. BHS staff immediately put cold packs on it to cool it down while rushing it to the local veterinary clinic.

It was discovered that the cat was a senior long haired female cat. She was at least 14 years old, was severely matted, had a lump under her left arm, a heart murmur, periodontal disease and had a kidney

infection. After a few days at the clinic, she was returned to Burlington Humane, shaved and ready to recover. Cameras outside BHS caught images of the man who dropped off the garbage bag. A getaway car was waiting on the street but unfortunately cameras were not able to pick up the licence plate. The Ontario Society for the Prevention of the Cruelty to Animals was called and they began an investigation, however they have not been able to locate the perpetrator.

Because of all she had been through, the staff named her Xena (the warrior). Despite her ordeal, she is very friendly and sociable. She quickly became the favorite around BHS. But she was on a long road to recovery. Her appetite occasionally waned; she drank excessive amounts of water and urinated frequently; although not always making it to her litter box.

Due to her many conditions, she made frequent trips to MacKay's Animal Hospital, where she quickly melted the hearts of the caring staff. She stole the heart of one particular clinician who officially adopted Xena and took her home to be a part of her family.

Happy Holidays to our Volunteers

By Alex Zych

Burlington Humane has stepped into the 21st century and is using fantastic new online volunteer shift scheduling software. Volunteers may now view and schedule their volunteer shifts for our Reception, Dog Walking and Feed and Clean shifts online!

Shifts can be scheduled months in advance and changes can be made on their home computers, tablets or phones anywhere and anytime, all without stepping into the shelter. We've had some great feedback from volunteers on the ease of use of this new system, making it easy for them to work around their own busy schedules.

On behalf of Burlington Humane I want to thank all of our volunteers. You exhibit the true meaning of the holidays with the selfless giving of your time and talents. From all the thousands of animals that you have helped, from the Board and the Staff, Thank You!!

THANK YOU
Volunteers!
We couldn't do it without you

BHS Receives Conservation Award

It was a great honour for Burlington Humane to be inducted into the Burlington Hydro Conservation Hall of Fame. Due to our energy saving initiatives, Burlington Humane serves as an example to other shelters and rescue organizations. Last year we retrofitted all our lights to high energy efficient lighting and have saved around 7,000 kWh since. This is equivalent to saving 14 trees and thousands of dollars.

Burlington Humane was honoured at a luncheon on Thursday, November 16 at the Holiday Inn along with other trailblazing companies and organizations who have also made conservation a priority. President Jenn Merritt was there to accept the beautiful plaque that will proudly hang in our Community Room.



The Loft and The Attic

Burlington Humane's second hand stores.

Christmas decorations, table centre pieces, candles and crockery and clothing - everything you need to get you ready for the season.

The Attic
479 John Street

The Loft
At BHS;
740 Griffith Court

BHS Clothes Available

Greet the winter holidays in style with our t-shirts, hoodies, sweaters, and hats. Available at the shelter.



Open House

December 9th 2017

Open House: 11:00 am - 2:00 pm
Gift Baskets, Bake Sale, Silent Auction

Visit our shelter to meet our cats, dogs and staff!
Enjoy our delicious goodies and buy some great gifts for your furry friends.

Stocking Stuffer Ideas

Lottery Tickets, Catnip mice, Gift Membership or In Honour donation for that hard-to-buy for animal lover, Items from the Loft and the Attic, our second hand shops, Walkers Chocolates



Love the Animals Lottery

Early Bird Draw: \$500, Dec. 21, 2017

Daily Draws : \$100, Jan 1–Jan 30, 2018

Grand Prize Draw: \$3,000, January 31, 2018

Tickets are \$5.00 each or 5 for \$20.00

Tickets are available at Burlington Humane

There's no Place like home For the Holidays



Cheetoh

Cheetoh is a 1-year-old male cat. He is very friendly, outgoing, and affectionate. He enjoys gentle petting and LOVES chin scratches. This beautiful cat loves to play! He is often seen playing with his cat-toys. He really likes to roll the plastic ball toys on the floor and chase after them. Cheetoh has hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (HCM), which is a serious heart condition. He is currently receiving daily medication for his condition. Check out our website for his treatment plan. He gets easily stressed in new situations and would do best in a home where he doesn't have to travel much.



Bubbles

Bubbles is a striking two-and-a-half-year-old domestic short-hair mix. She is looking for someone who respects her independence and has the patience to build a long-term relationship. She will feel most at home in a house without children and other cats.



Calvin

Calvin is shy and takes some time to adapt to his surroundings. He needs a calm, loving, and patient family. Calvin enjoys having other cats in his household and would do well with another feline in the house!

Cider

Cider is a frisky, active, and affectionate kitten. This 4 month-old is looking to start a lifelong adventure with your family.



Oliver

Oliver is a handsome mix looking for a loving family.

This sweet and energetic guy is looking for an active family as he has a LOT of energy to burn! He does need a family who will take him to training and help him learn how to be a good boy. He knows how to sit and is treat-motivated to learn more so with some consistency and dedication, he should have all the basic tricks down in no time.

December is [Home for the Holidays](#) month. We will be open on all Mondays in December except Christmas Day.

Ways to Help

Have you ever wondered how you could support your local shelter without necessarily giving a donation?

- **Gift Baskets for your pet** - Don't forget your four-legged friends this Christmas. Shop early for the best selection of great gift baskets for cats and dogs.
- **BHS Calendars** - Purchase your 2018 Burlington Humane calendar featuring shelter animals from 2017 along with inspirational quotes and sayings.
- **Love the Animals Lottery** - Our annual lottery is back! All funds raised support Burlington's stray and abandoned animals. Call us at 905-637-7325 and place your order, or cut out the order form provided on the back of this newsletter and mail it in.
- **BHS Christmas Cards** - Purchase your Christmas cards at the shelter. All proceeds go toward food, housing, and medical care for the animals.

Burlington Humane Wish List

Durable Dog and Cat Toys

Cat Crates/Carriers

Cardboard Scratch Pads for Cats

Facial Tissues

Healthy Cat and Dog Treats

1/4 Measuring cups

Unscented Dryer Sheets

8.5 x 11 Printer Paper

Canada & U.S. Stamps

Gift Certificates from Pet Food or Grocery Stores

Royal Canin Kitten/Cat and Puppy/Dog Food

We are a Royal Canin sponsored shelter and ideally like to feed all of our animals Royal Canin food. However, from time to time we get 'picky' cats and therefore like to have other options in case such as: Purina Kitten Chow, PVD Kitten (canned), Hills Science Diet Pate, Friskies, Whiskas & Snappy Tom

Forever Homes Found All Year Long



Tuppy

Our first adoption of 2017, Tuesday January 3rd, was "Tuppy", a Golden Doodle who had been hit by a car and required months of rehabilitation. Then, just a few days after, we celebrated our first cat adoption of the year, Marnie, a 10 year-old calico with special needs. BHS provided her with quality medical care and her in-house sheltercare included rehabilitation, socialization and most important, personal attention from staff and volunteers.

Not every animal requires the dedicated care that Tuppy and Marnie received, but almost every animal requires some health care even if it is just vaccinations or a spay/neuter.

There are many ways to help BHS provide quality care for the animals. Monthly donors provide BHS with a stable income and help plan for the future. Whatever the amount, pre-authorized monthly donations work 365 days per year. Perhaps your employer has a charitable giving program where you can designate your donation to help the animals at BHS.

With your generosity, BHS can continue to provide a safe place for the stray and abandoned animals of Burlington, from the first "meow" of January 1st to the last "bark" of December 31st! Each of our animals deserves to be healthy and in a warm and happy home where they will be loved and cared for.



Marnie

Donations - August, 2017 to November 2017



THANK YOU!

THANK YOU!

THANK YOU!

Thank you everyone for all of your wonderful support! With your generosity we can continue to provide aid and care to homeless and abandoned animals. Knowing that our community cares is a true blessing. We hope to continue to make you all proud!

In Memory of People

Betty Ashton
Joe Babel
Justina Baumann
Victor Bell
Lynne Byers
Joan Cox
Tim Creery
Jean Dunham
Hugh J. Dunlop
Jerry Gregory Jr.
Janet Hogan
Rita Kazemekas
Carolyn Lamb
Alan MacIntyre
Josh Martin (from friends at Corus Entertainment)
Dorothy McClure
Marion Nash

Mary Plumb
Annika Pocock
Doreen Ramsay
Josie Tomson
Carol Quinn
Clayton Warner
Kaitlyn Wathier
Paul Wolfe
Ren Wulfse

In Memory of Pets

Baby & Anis
Blackie
Boy Lawson
Cindy
Clea Lis
Diego
Izaiah
Jack & Sam
Kelsie

Nicolas
Nimbus
Noel
Odis
Otis
Patch
Penny
Pilot
Piper
Pretty
Riley
Rocky
Rufus
Sadie Demerling
Sophie
Tippy
Willow
Zoe
Zoey

In Honour of People

Sarah Cox
Annelise Groen (Happy Birthday)
Linda Climie & Peter Fortuna
Liam
Sebastian Karachi (Happy Birthday)
Tiuu & Jeff (wedding)
Reeve, Bennet, & Connor (Lemonade Stand)
Kerry Jay (Retirement)
Lee Ann & Paul (Wedding)
Marjorie Hiley (Wedding)
Carla Puglia-Ribeiro (40th Birthday)
Malia Tekavic
Margie Warriner

In Honour of Pets

Lucky, Pumpkin, & Honey
John Wayne

Junior Philanthropists



Thank you for the donation and happy 8th birthday Alex! The cats really enjoyed all the attention from Alex, Eric, and Cali.

Carleigh and K.C. Niles raised money by selling water and snacks at a local horse show. Their hard work and generosity is going to help many animals here at Burlington Humane!



This is Thomas and our kittens! He collected donations and many useful items for the BHS at his birthday party!



This is Joshua. He saved his money to donate to BHS! He is pictured here with Ferris who has since been adopted!





ORDER FORM - Love the Animals Raffle

- ☐ I would like to purchase one ticket for \$5
☐ I would like to purchase five tickets for \$20
☐ I would like to purchase _____ tickets for _____

Your tickets will be mailed to you.

For more information call 905-637-7325
or visit www.burlingtonhumane.ca

ORDER INFORMATION

PAYMENT METHOD

- ☐ Visa
☐ Mastercard
☐ Cash
☐ Cheque
☐ Debit (in shelter only)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City & Province: _____

Postal Code: _____

Contact Number: _____

Email: _____

Credit Card #:

----- Exp: ____/____ Signature: _____

May we contact you regarding other Burlington Humane Society Events? YES / NO

Fun Feline Fact

About 40% of all cats are either left or right pawed.
This means that the majority of cats are ambidextrous.

WE ARE PROUDLY INDEPENDENT! Burlington Humane is a member of the
Canadian Confederation of Humane Societies.
We are not associated with the Hamilton/Burlington SPCA.



A Special Thanks to Our Sponsors

