

## ROCKO'S STORY

*by Julie Lucas,  
Adoption Counsellor*

– Rocko Today

Rocko arrived at the adoption centre on the Saturday afternoon of the Sound of Music Festival.

It had been a quiet day when a young lady walked into the adoption centre and quietly approached the front desk in a manner that had me thinking she was there to adopt. With an embarrassed grin, she told me she had been at the Sound of Music Festival and had parked her car in the parking garage on Locust and she was awful at finding her car in garages.... So, while she was looking for her car she caught sight of a cat lying on the ground beside the building and went to investigate. She calmly told me the cat looked like it had been attacked by a dog and had maggots in its eye... and could I do anything for him? The cat was now in a box in her car with her mother watching it. I feel guilty to say I had made a snap judgment - this young lady did not appear to be the type of person who would pick up a mangled cat and carry it in her car, maggots and all. But, she had.... and Rocko was very lucky she had done so.

Thinking she must be exaggerating the situation, I went to the car to assess the cat. She wasn't... I didn't even get to the car before I could smell the blood and urine, and once I opened the box I had to fight back the urge to gag. At first, all I could see was a raw, bloody face and one pain-glazed eye, and I got the impression of tabby fur. Rocko looked up at us through that eye, made a mewling noise and promptly choked. From the way the skin was torn around his forehead and nose, I also guessed he had been mauled by a dog (jaws around the side of the head and shaken) as one side of his face was fairly intact; later the veterinarian believed he was hit by a car. What really bothered me was the maggots crawling in and out of his injured eye socket (the eye appeared to be pierced and deflated), but it didn't seem to bother him unduly. He was so thin and his breathing was very laboured, and for the most part he wasn't very responsive to the world in general. Throughout all this, the young lady was cooing over this mangled mess like he was one of her own.

Immediately, it was clear that Rocko needed medical attention ASAP, or between infection and possibly shock - his lack of response and extreme laboured breathing were pointing in that direction - he would not make it. I called a local veterinarian clinic to make sure they would be able to see the cat NOW, and told them to start treatment. The young lady and her mother left quickly for the clinic after receiving my assurance that we would not euthanize if he could be saved. I hoped that I was not being overly optimistic by telling them everything would be fine as I took her phone number and promised to call with an update, all the while believing that I would be getting a call from the veterinarian telling me Rocko could not be saved.

At the clinic, another veterinarian was called in and by 4 p.m., Rocko was in surgery. The wound, open from eye to ear, was cleaned and the eye removed. It was also determined that Rocko had a fractured skull, but through this all he was being a model patient. As soon as he was given food, he ate ravenously and loved attention. After a second surgery 10 days later to remove any remnants of the eye and to neuter Rocko, he was finally ready to be released to the Adoption Centre.



The new building is progressing rapidly, and we hope to be moved in by late Spring!

Please consider a donation - a donor wall in the main lobby will provide recognition for all those donations of \$500 and over. Naming opportunities are still available also.

Follow progress on the website at  
[burlingtonhumane.ca](http://burlingtonhumane.ca)

## 2007-2008 Board of Directors

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**Jolene Regan**

Vice-President/Volunteer Director

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Directors

**Sheila Morris**

**Carole McArthur**

**Colin Chapman**

Adoptions Counsellors

**Mary Anne Edwards**

**Julie Lucas**

**Michelle Swaine**

## Hours of Operation

**Adoption Centre** 905-637-7325

10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Monday – Saturday

**The Attic** 905-333-5885

10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Monday – Saturday

## OUR MISSION

Burlington Humane is an organization of volunteers dedicated to the care and protection of the stray and abandoned animals in the Burlington area, operating solely on the generosity of its community.

Burlington Humane is not affiliated with the Ontario SPCA or associated with the Hamilton/Burlington SPCA.

# President's Message

By Jolene Regan

It's hard to think back over the past year because of the exciting year we have ahead of us! However, we have had another successful year finding forever homes for hundreds of animals, and that is our ultimate goal. 2008 will bring many changes and with added capacity, even more animals will pass through our doors, offering a safe haven until they are adopted.

Many of you may have recently read the articles in the Toronto Star about charities that exaggerate their good deeds, spend 70% or more of their contributions on telemarketers and other expenses and contribute little to their "cause". While no animal charities were specifically identified, please be aware they do exist. When making your donations, be sure you know where your hard-earned money is going.

With only one paid position, Burlington Humane does not spend money on large salaries and our success can be directly contributed to our volunteers involved in the daily operations.

Some of you may remember my involvement with BHS started in 1992 when I found a feral mom (Madonna) with 4 8-week old kittens had moved under my deck. I made it my mission to catch all of them - the kittens were easy, the mom took 5 months! All the kittens were very different and the first one I caught was "Smudgie" - a little torti who would peek out from under the deck,



looking up at me with beautiful eyes, not trusting to come out. From the first, I knew I had to have her - and she was the easiest to catch. I caught her on a Thursday and by Saturday, she wasn't even frightened anymore. The next Monday, I caught her littermate, Tinkerbelle - an adorable little tabby - which I also kept. I thought Smudgie would be so happy to see Tinkerbelle, but she hissed at her like she wanted her gone! They did become friends again - but as they grew older, mostly just tolerated each other.

I had to have Tinkerbelle put down in Dec. 2005, and then on Dec. 27 2006 while I was away over Christmas, I received a call from Judy Coney (who came in to visit with my cats) and she had found Smudgie dead on the kitchen floor. She was shocked and so upset, as for the last year, Smudgie had become very friendly with her.

I have loved all my animals, but Smudgie held a special place in my heart. I don't know why, as she was not the most loving cat I ever had, and lived up to the reputation that torti's are stand-offish! I was also her favourite person. Always the comedian, she would roll around when I came into the room, act silly and couldn't get enough tummy-scratching! She was a beautiful torti - with markings that made her look mischievous and mysterious, even those times when she wasn't.

For years, her goal in life seemed to be to guard our deck - totally enclosed so she could go outside. She never tried to go away, and would spend hours hiding in the flowers, under the table in the winter, or just sitting at the door observing. Her inside perch was always the upstairs window so she could see her deck from above!

The last summer of her life, she would not go out, but seemed normal otherwise. Was it because Tinkerbelle was gone? Could she even think that? She also became more loving. I believe she would have been happiest being an only cat - we always had at least 2 or 3 others. For most of her life, she was the "boss" - a role she took over when she was about 5.

I will always feel guilty for not being home when she needed me, and not knowing if she showed any signs of distress. It appeared she had eaten, and there is likely nothing I could have done, but there is always that question. I'm sure anyone who has lost a beloved pet this way will understand that feeling.

It's hard to believe it is almost a year - I still miss her like it was yesterday, and wish so many times I could rub her belly or see her act silly for me again.

Tinkerbelle was so much more social than Smudge, but both were great cats with completely different personalities! We will cherish and remember them always.

Now it's another holiday season, and a time to look forward to a happy time. The Board and staff thank all of you for your continued support and wish you and your pets a happy and safe holiday season. Give them all a big kiss!

# Adoptions Report

By Judy Coney

I love this issue of the Tail-o-gram. It is the issue when we look back over the year and think of the most interesting, poignant stories of 2007. They are the ones that stand out. It could be a very sick animal we brought back to good health, or an animal that learned to trust people again, or maybe for the first time. A time to share the sad stories of Throw-Away-Animals and the Happy Tails of their being placed in their forever homes.

Each and every story is significant to the animal and the family they now call theirs. I hope you think of the new group of animals we will be helping in 2008 and make a donation at the end of 2007 to help the 2008 animals.

2008 I think is going to be our best year ever! We are so excited about the new building - I don't have the writing skills to put it into words. When I see the progress being made on the new building, I find it both thrilling and emotional when I think of all the animals that will pass through our doors for their brief time with us before going out into a safe, happy forever home. I am so proud of the Burlington Humane Building Committee. None of us had experience with designing buildings or construction, but we did have a passion for the animals and a vision for what we felt would make a good temporary home; and an inviting environment for volunteers and members. We, of course, had a lot of guidance from people who did have the knowledge. I would like to thank everyone who has guided us, especially Tim Regan. I would encourage everyone to drive by the new building. I think when you see it you will want to become a Member to show Burlington you care about the strays.

Michelle Swaine is going on maternity leave in November. We wish Justin, Michelle and their new little baby all the best; we look forward to hearing of her safe arrival. It certainly will be a wonderful Christmas for them!

From all of us in Burlington Humane Adoptions; Mary Anne, Julie and Michelle, we wish you all a wonderful Holiday Season. If you have always wanted to volunteer with animals, think about joining our Adoptions Team in 2008. That emotion you feel when you read Happy Tails is what we have the privilege of experiencing every week.

We wish everyone a Happy Year. Normally, I don't like to see another year passing, but I cannot wait for Spring 2008!

## THE THROWAWAY ANIMALS

**CATCHER** - 1yr/male/neutered, found in early September hopping around on three legs. Despite his 4th paw being deformed, Catcher, playful and loving, has found a new home.



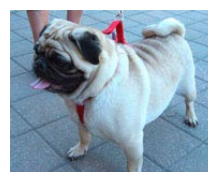
**BONITA** - 10 yrs/female/spayed In September, she was found living on the streets, declawed and deaf. Bonita is sweet and loving and has now found a new home to spend the rest of her days, gazing out the window! Adopted.

**PANDORA** was found sitting beside a sealed cardboard box. Wondering why the cat did not run, her saviour picked up the box to realize there were two little kittens inside. Despite escaping the box herself, Pandora would not leave her kittens. All adopted.



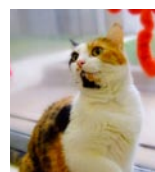
**BAMBAM** is a sweet 10 yrs/female/spayed who was found already spayed and declawed. She was anorexic, emaciated and arthritic when found. She has been with us for a while and after some tender love and care is healthy and waiting to go home.

**NOIR** - 2 yrs/male/neutered - found with one paw three times the size of his others. After 2 rounds of antibiotics, Noir is now healthy and waiting for a new home.



**PUGSLEY** - 4-5 yrs old, found abandoned, tied to a tree most of a day in Tansley Woods Park. Very friendly, but with skin problems. Adopted

**GWEN AND OAKLEY** came to us as tiny 6 week old kittens. They were left in a box where someone found them and brought them to us. Gwen has been adopted but Oakley still waits.



**NICKI** was found with a fractured lower jaw and what looked like a tumour behind her tooth. Nicki is back from the vets, with no obvious lasting effects.



# THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

## DONATIONS RECEIVED, AUGUST 2007 - OCTOBER 2007

Abbott, Donna	Edwards, Mary Anne	Laron, Betty	Otwine, Betty	Stitt, Faye
Aitken, Gloria & Bob	English, Mr.&Mrs. J.	Levett, Jude	Paolini, Betty	Stockton, Yvonne
Auckland, Kim	Farquhar, Jan	Long, Peter	Parrot Head Club of	Strecker, Philip
Ayton, Carol	Farquhar, Janice & Jim	Luckett, Gwen	Hamilton	Stuart, Grant
Baird, David	Farquhar, Sara	Lysitza, Dianna	Patterson, Ron	Sutton, Hazel
Baker, Marta & Rae	Feutl, Hans	MacDonald, Elisabeth	Pedicone, Mary Ann	Taylor, Dorothy
Barron, Jamie	Finlay, Maura	MacDonald, Rob	Pettigrew, Betty	Teufel, Pamela
Beckett, Willow & Ron	Foxall, Maxine	Macpherson, Geraldine	Pezze, Lloyd	Thomas, John
Birett, Vera	Germaine, Linda	Magas, Jacqueline	Powell, Cindy	Tilley, Susan
Bone, Janis	Gombert, Nel	Mason, Josephine	Powell, Gay	Tomlinson, Hilary
Boxall, Anita & Jim	Graham, Ann	Mbossert, Mitchell &	Prout, Myrtle	United Way - Burlington
Brechin, Maryon	Greenwood, Dorothy	Ryan	Ranahan, Margaret	& Hamilton
Bridger, Peter	Halls, Robin	McDowell, Cathy	Regan, Jolene & Tim	United Way - Greater
Brown, Adam	Hayes, Marina	McGregor, Sue	Reid, Gloria	Toronto
Brown, Jane	Hislop, Barbara	McKindley, Irene	Ridley, Jane	United Way - Peel
Burgham Sales Ltd.	Holden, Janice	Michaluk, Gary	Riverin, Lise	United Way - York
Bush-Harriss, Leslie	Horrax, Joyce	Moko, Lois	Robbins, Diane	Venne, Annette
Byrce, Corrine	Howard, Patricia &	Motosune, Dawn	Robbins, Evelyn	Vortman, Janette
Canada Post	Richard	Munro, Mary	Root, Robert	Walz, Gunter
Cayley, Marion	Howe, C.B.	Murray, Sherry Anne	Rust, Debbie	Webster, Allison
Coffin, James	Hryhorchuk, Elizabeth	Navarrette, Cheryl	Sakran & Associates	Wellings, Glenn
Craig, Doreen	Jones, Bob & Lug	Neary, M.	Scheepers, Correne	Weninger, Marilyn
Creighton, Judy	Joyce, Susan	Newton, Jane Ann	Smith, Dorothy	Williamson, Lois
Crossman, Maureen	Keighley, Joan	Newton, Eira	Spearin, Tara	Winfield-Paul, Georgina
Dutka, Bernard	Kotric, Edward	Nicholls, Frances	Stamers, Janet	
Dzierzawski, Katherine	Kowalczyk, Agnes	Ognoski, Marina	Stavnitzky, Angelica	



### IN MEMORY OF PEOPLE

<b>ANDREW ROW</b>	<b>JUDITH PATERSON</b>
Headon Forest Animal	Dr. Nancy Vivian
Hospital	<b>GAIL CSESSELL</b>
<b>AUDREY ROWSON</b>	Mary Carter
Penny Francis	Bette Sweatman
<b>BETTY IRVINE</b>	Margaret Kretz
Barbara Davies	Shirley Hokansson
<b>BILL WASHBURN</b>	John Crocco
Patricia & Richard Howard	Sherry Leaman
Steve & Michelle Hallmark	<b>GINA SMITH</b>
Jenn Odorico	Carol, Jim & Paige
Linda Vipond	Bennett
Janice & Jim Farquhar	<b>SANDRA MACLEAN</b>
<b>DR. RAYMOND</b>	Jeff & Heather Head
<b>WILSON DURHAM</b>	<b>SHIRL WHITE</b>
Mittal Canada Hamilton	Reta White
Inc.	<b>JOE BUCCI</b>
<b>BRETT HODGSON</b>	Nic & DeeAnn
Georgina Kovac	Djordjevic



### IN MEMORY OF PETS

<b>"BENJAMIN" HARE</b>	<b>"CASHMERE"</b>	<b>"BUDDY"</b>
Ellen Pefhany	Linda Vipond	John Powell
Roy & Doris Marshall	Cathy Benoit	<b>"KELTIE"</b>
Jooris Family	<b>"SPARKY"</b>	Barb & Rob MacDonald
<b>"T.J." LUCKETT</b>	Linda Vipond	<b>"BAXTER" LOUDON</b>
Mary Anne Edwards	<b>EZMARELDA "BELLA"</b>	Mary Hopkins
<b>"BOGIE" HAYES</b>	<b>ROBINS</b>	<b>"BUDDY"</b>
Helen Dodds	Valerie Wood	Mary Anne & Paul
Audrey Woods	Judy & Ted Cunningham	Edwards
Marina Hayes	<b>"ALLIE" TAYLOR</b>	<b>"NISKA"</b>
Mary Emerson	Kay Taylor	Jill Simpson
<b>"GEORGE"</b>	<b>"KODY" MACIVER</b>	<b>"CODY" SOVEREIGN</b>
Linda Vipond	Terri Ding	Stan, Val, Cynthia &
<b>HER BELOVED PETS</b>	<b>"COWBOY"</b>	Teagen Swann
Norma Agnew	<b>SEMPLE-SLACK</b>	Richard & Patricia Howard
<b>"MANGO"</b>	Tamra Dickson	<b>"JODY"</b>
Lynn Armstrong	<b>"MAXIE" JONES</b>	The Marchiony Family
<b>"OLIVER"</b>	Charlotte MacKay	
Doug & Maggie Smith	<b>"MIKA"</b>	
<b>"WAGGS"</b>	Kim & Raul Wright	
Reta White		



Rob DeBoer  
Pearce Surveying Inc.  
Pamela Tuffnell  
Mary Ann Pedicone

Margaret Forbes  
In Memory of Alice  
Laverdure from Doug  
& Val Bennett

In Honour of Ruth Graves  
from Erika Morton  
Nancy Bradshaw  
Shirley Corp

John Robinson  
In Memory of  
Randy Seedhouse

## BUILDING DONATIONS - SERVICES/PRODUCT

Branthaven Homes	Pearce Surveying Inc.
APCI Communications Inc.	Systems Solutions
Carillion Construction Canada	Tafcon Heating & Air Conditioning
Eaton Electric	The Stresscrete Group
Hanson Brick Ltd.	Turkstra Lumber Co. Ltd
LaFarge	Waddell Designs
Leisure Forest Products Ltd.	Wellings Planning Consultants Inc.
Nelson Aggregate Co.	

## IN HONOUR OF

"Murphy" Young  
Bob Miller's 60th Birthday

Gay Powell's Birthday

Donna Livermore  
Sidney & Norma Wood  
Julie Mathers

## FROM

AA Young  
Jan & Stan Pearce  
Cathy McDowell  
Lois Crawford  
Norma Bennets  
Ruth Roberts  
James & Bev Cooper  
David & Michelle Livermore  
Herb Heine  
Allison Roberts

## EMPLOYEE GROUPS AND TRUSTS

*Our sincere gratitude to those who designated gifts to Burlington Humane through their respective workplace giving campaigns and family trusts throughout the year.*

Lichen Foundation	United Way- Ottawa
The Phenix Fund for Animal Welfare	United Way-Burlington & Greater Hamilton
BMO Fountain of Hope	Hydro One Pensioner's Charity Trust
RBC Financial Group	United Way-Peel
United Way - Greater Toronto	Kathleen, Mary & Walter Barron Family foundation
United Way-Oakville	

## FLAMBORO DOWNS SPONSORS

Bay Cities Animal Hospital	MacKays Animal Clinic
Burlington Animal Hospital	Mr. Ron Inc
CAP Crane	Parkers of Burlington
Headon Forest Animal Hospital	

## BALLOON POP CONTRIBUTORS

Active Green+Ross	Dollarama	Jiffy Lube	Pete's Pepper Palace
Appleby Paint & Wallpaper	Donated Canadian Tire Money	Jim & Janice Farquhar	Richard & Patricia Howard
Arby's	First Choice Haircutters	Jolene & Tim Regan	RiverOaks Dental
Babeefunk	Foot Tools	Judy Guy	Rogers Video
Better Bitters	Fresco's	Kevin Farquhar	Roseland Bowl
Blockbuster - Appleby Line	Georgie Girl	Linda Vipond	Sol'Exotica
Blossom's	Goodlife Fitness	Living Lighting	Speedy
California Hair Works	Gord McArthur	Mamma's Pizza	Sunset Grill
Carlton Cards	Gymboree	Mane Attraction	Tim Horton's
Cedar Springs Sports club	Halton Honda	Orchard Children's Centre	Trinity Avalon Hair Studio
Core Link Wellness Centre	HBC Rewards Donations	Paradiso	Tucker's Marketplace
Cossimo's Salon	Jan Harrison	Parkers of Burlington	Xqisit Salon & Spa



David Harper, Shannon Depalo, Maciej Konkolowicz, Tatum Gunn, & Diane Bayes. Back row: Adoption Counsellor Mary Anne Edwards and Reception volunteer Lynn Armstrong

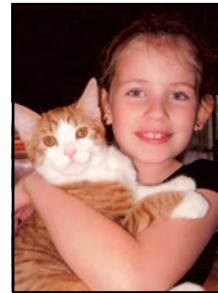
Deloitte & Touche Impact Day brought this team to Burlington Humane to volunteer for the day. They did a great job cleaning the Adoption Centre just in time for the Kitten Open House. Thanks for thinking of the animals!

## SPECIAL DONATIONS

**Elyse Peter** Donated food and toys for the animals for her 9th birthday

**In Memory of Linda Fox** Proceeds - Linda Fox Memorial Golf Tournament

**Sydney McNeill**



Thanks! to Sydney for donating proceeds from cookie and lemonade stand to help the animals. Sydney has shown her love of animals with past donations of birthday money in lieu of gifts.

## 2007 BEQUESTS

Merne Childs Estate	Irene Milada Falconer
Beatrice Margaurite Fletcher	Ethel Marie Griffith
Mae Broadbent	

*We are deeply honoured to be remembered by our friends in such a personal and significant way. These special gifts help ensure continued care for the animals who count on us for a second chance at life.*



## "AXEL" OUR DEAR FRIEND

**A Tribute on  
Axel's 13th  
Birthday, August  
2007**

*By Michael Barlett*

He's older now and so are we  
Some day our time must end,  
Till then we'll treasure every day  
We spend with our dear friend.

He waits at the door to greet us  
His lip curled in a grin,  
Forgetting he was left alone  
Each time that we came in.

He chases ducklings bravely  
But then cowers from the storm,  
He's a beast of contradictions  
With a heart that's sweet and warm.

He's widely known in his domain  
On the path and up the street,  
The neighbours call him out by name  
As they stop to smile and greet.

A handsome lad, he's Mommy's boy  
What more is there to say,  
The time we spend with our dear friend  
Brightens our each and every day.



## Pet Pics with Santa at PETSMAST

Brant Power Centre location,  
Brant St./North Service Rd.  
Time: 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Dates: Dec. 1 & 2, 8 & 9, 15 & 16  
Price: \$8.95 with Pet Perks Card  
(sign up in store)  
\$5 donated back to Burlington Humane

**PLEASE NOTE!** Bring your pet to  
this location **ONLY** to ensure support  
of Burlington Humane and to help  
Burlington's stray and abandoned animals.

*This location has been the leader for the past  
2 years among PETSMAST stores in Pet Pics  
with Santa - thanks to Burlington Humane  
volunteers who make it all possible.*

## A Tribute to "BUDDY"

*by Sally Hewitt*



It is with great sadness that I must tell you that my little Buddy passed away at home, on September 25, 2007. He was a few days shy of his 14th birthday. It was December 2004 when I received my Burlington Humane newsletter which contained a story about throwaway dogs. This little dog had gone from home to home (7 or 8 homes in all) in his 11 years and eventually found his way to Burlington Humane. He came in with a badly matted coat and some bad teeth and a story that he was found wandering the streets. I was the lucky person chosen to adopt him and I am forever grateful to Burlington Humane for the (almost) three wonderful years I shared with Buddy.

Buddy was the most amazing dog. He was loved by everyone who met him and I have never been able to understand why he had so many homes before mine. He made me smile every day with his antics and I was as devoted to him as he was to me. My life revolved around Buddy and if he couldn't be with me, he was with his Grandma. Everyone would agree Buddy was happiest at home curled up in his chair.

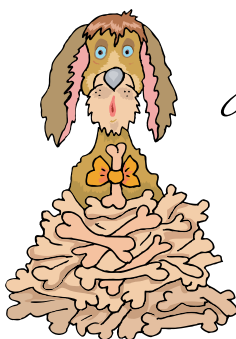
We had less than three years together, but I consider myself so blessed to have been able to give him a safe and loving home for the last few years of his life. Thank you to all of you at Burlington Humane for giving the "throwaway" pets, who are lucky enough to find their way to your door, the chance to find their forever homes and thank you for giving me the gift of Buddy.

## WISH LIST *(Please check our list for suggestions).*

Cat litter	Cat toys
Dry adult cat food	Laundry detergent
Dish & hand soap	All-purpose cleaner
Computer paper	Office supplies
Chlorine bleach	

Gift Certificates from Pet stores, grocery stores or any store where we can "buy" much-needed supplies as we need them. Storage remains a problem at this time.

***Very much appreciated!***



## *Gift Baskets*

Treat your pet to a gift basket full of surprises  
for Christmas!

Available at the Adoption Centre  
for your special dog or cat!

Your pet will love you for it!

# HAPPY TAILS



## Autumn

It wasn't long after starting to volunteer at Burlington Humane that I fell in love with Autumn, the 'mean' cat who didn't want her cage cleaned and hissed and swiped at people who dared to try. Having worked with feral cats before, I know many cats like that just need to know they can trust you. I started staying after feed & clean and just talking to her until one day she let me pet her, and a week later she let me brush her and purred while sitting next to me. She came home not long after and rules the house; our "boys" (cats) are no match for our little princess who gets what she wants when she wants. Surprisingly, she settled in really quickly, and six weeks later, already sleeps in the 'furniture' with the boys and is definitely part of the family.

Eithne Whaley



## Kola

Thank you so much for helping us find our newest family member. We've named her "Kola" after her beautiful brown and black fur. My husband and I had often talked about getting a puppy, however we didn't know when the time was right, until we met eight week old "Kola". We fell in love with her cute face and playful spirit. Our black lab/shepherd (adopted in early Aug.) has definitely settled into her new home and we're having tons of fun with her. She is extremely playful and absolutely loves being with people of all ages. She is a great enjoyment to us both and we can't imagine our home without her. Thank you to the Burlington Humane Society for all that you do everyday for the animals in need of a special home.

Sara & Kevin



## Charlotte

This is a story about a very special girl named Charlotte. On Oct. 10, 2007, I had my dearest cat Oliver put to rest at 15 yrs old. That day my heart was so broken and empty. I didn't think anything could fill it again. I searched other animal agencies and saw lots of beautiful cats and dogs that needed a special place. But, nothing that would fill my Oliver's paws. Then I clicked on the internet to Burlington Humane. There was a beautiful black cat named Charlotte. Her story tugged at my broken heart. She had been at the shelter for a year and had wondered when it was her turn to get a home of her own.

I adopted her immediately. She has adjusted so well to her new home. Her favourite activity is lying on her bed at the patio doors watching the birds and squirrels. She has become fond of the rest of new family - our dog Max and Zoe, another rescue kitten. She greets me every morning when I come home from night shift. She is seeing and experiencing things she hasn't seen for a long time. She has filled my heart again. We have been so blessed to have found each other and are going to spend many happy years together.

Thelma



## Dot

I just thought that you would like to know how Dot is doing in her new home. She settled in within the first twenty minutes from when we brought her home. We have had her for almost a month now and it seems weird thinking back on how we lived without her. She has become such a huge part of our lives and has improved the morale at our home so much. When I first met Dot she was very stressed out and she would hiss at everyone who tried to clean her cage. But after a few weeks she became my favorite cat at the shelter. She loves watching the squirrels outside the window and she plops herself down on the floor and shows us her tummy. She is so well behaved, and she even lets my sister and me pick her up and cuddle her everyday before and after school. Thank you so much for introducing me to this truly amazing cat.

Laura \*\*\*\*\*

## Congratulations



Christine Jeffrey with Oakley

Congratulations! To Chris for winning an Employee Volunteer Grant for 2007 from RBC Financial Group in recognition of her generous volunteer efforts at Burlington Humane. Chris is a valuable volunteer and gives her time and love to the animals by providing them with clean cages, food and attention on many Sunday's and holiday's.

Thank you, Chris.

## Thanks!

To all our volunteers who donate countless hours to fundraising. Every job is important in providing for a safe haven for the animals. Whether its working at events, counting grocery tapes, collecting donation tin monies, or attending events - your support is appreciated.

Working together, we can all make a difference in the lives of Burlington's stray and abandoned animals.



## Attic Report By Olwen Dews

The store is ready for the rush of Christmas with some great bargains - gently used and new items - clothing, shoes, books, household items and decorations!

There has been some confusion as to the future of the ATTIC when the new building is ready - as there will also be a second hand store located in the new building. We are pleased that The Attic, at its present location since 1984, will most definitely remain open for business. There will now be double the opportunity to find great bargains, as well as to drop off gently-used items for us to sell to help the animals in need. Our new store needs a name - see our Capital Campaign Brochure for details!

Thanks to all those who work so hard keeping the store well-stocked, decorated and staffed.

## "Rocko" continued from pg 1

*Rocko -  
After arriving  
at veterinary clinic*

"Rocko", approximately 2 years old, may have lost his eye, but his spirit remained intact. Rocko quickly became a favourite of the volunteers with his sweet personality and need to be cuddled, and was adopted by one of our volunteers.



## "Rocko's" Happy Ending *by Chris Jeffrey*

I am writing to let you know how it is now that Jack (Rocko) has come into our lives. I was thinking about getting another cat, having lost one of mine to illness in March, but I was always able to talk myself out of it. Being a Feed and Clean volunteer on Sundays, I have seen far too many cats coming through the shelter, but never just the right one. When Jack came in I felt so sorry for him because of his missing eye, but as I spent time with him, his wonderful personality won me over. He has settled in with very little problem. He loves to curl right up against me and turn on the charm. He still goes into his "Halloween Cat" stance when the dog comes near him, but he is not fooling anyone. My Old Girl is not fussy on him because he wants to play all the time and she's too old for that foolishness! I'm still thinking about getting another young cat as company and a playmate for Jack. I had forgotten how much fun having a young animal can be.

*Chris, Jack, Polly and Rufus*

*Thanks to your donations, we were able to save "Rocko" and all the stray and abandoned animals that come to us. At this special season of sharing, please say you care with a gift for these animals. An envelope is enclosed for your convenience.*

## WAYS TO HELP...

### NAIL CLIPPING

Ryan's Pet Foods - Walkers Line & Dundas - free with donation to Burlington Humane

### CANADIAN TIRE MONEY

Greatly appreciated - used to purchase prizes for fundraising and items for the animals

### GROCERY STORE TAPES

Sobey's - drop at the Adoption Centre or Attic

### ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS

Purchase your 2008 Entertainment Book at the Adoption Centre before Dec 30th - \$35

### HBC REWARDS

Used to purchase prizes for fundraising. HBC Community Public ID Number - 6005568

### ATTIC DONATIONS

Gently-used household items, antiques, china, glassware and clothing greatly appreciated. Drop off at 479 John St.

### MEMBERSHIP

Show your love and support for the animals. Become a member today, or give a gift membership to a friend who loves animals. Only \$30 adult or \$15 senior (65 & over) or student.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Mark Your Calendar Now!

#### Dec. 1-2, 8-9, 15-16

Pet Pics with Santa - 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

PETSMART at **Brant Power Centre only.**

#### Dec. 2 - Burlington Christmas Parade, 1 p.m.

Meet on South side of Burlington Mall.

#### Dec. 30 - Last day to purchase Entertainment Books at Adoption Centre.

#### May 25, 2008 - 15th Annual Pooch Promenade at Spencer Smith Park.

For updates, look for the Pet of the Week ad in the Burlington Post or visit our website at [www.burlingtonhumane.ca](http://www.burlingtonhumane.ca)

