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# Tail-o-gram

## Spring 2014



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### Sticks and Stones couldn't break this Bones!

Just prior to Hallowe'en last year, a cat was found covered in fleas and his own feces, was horribly greasy, and was severely under weight. He was estimated to be around 6 years old, and he was not neutered. Because Hallowe'en was fast approaching, BHS affectionately named him Bones.

Although he was sneezing and sick, he always remained one of the nicest cats in our care. He was always waiting by his cage door for someone to visit with him, and kiss him.

Bones had a rough start at the shelter. For over two months he was very sick with an upper respiratory infection, and therefore could not get the dental surgery he desperately needed. And just as his health began to significantly improve, Bones formed a urinary blockage, which meant that he could no longer go to the bathroom on his own. He was rushed to Burgess Veterinary Emergency Hospital, where they immediately began to treat Bones and help him urinate before his bladder ruptured. Urinary blockages are truly a fight against time. By mid-January, Bones had a

total of 5 urinary catheters, and was on 11 medications! But he was improving and was ready to be transferred to Headon Forest Animal Hospital where his final care would take place. The staff at Burgess all said their goodbyes and wished him the best of luck. Bones was a true fighter.

After a few more weeks Bones was healthy enough to leave the hospital and enter a foster home. The vets informed us that Bones would need a surgery called a "perineal urethrostomy" or a P/U for short. This meant that Bones needed his genitals removed if Bones was ever to urinate fully on his own, and go on to live a normal healthy life.

Although this may sound horrific to some, this procedure is not that uncommon for male cats with chronic urinary issues. The surgery was performed by special veterinarian who had to be brought in from outside of Burlington. Bones recovered from his P/U, and within a month his dental

surgery was booked in! It was unfortunate for Bones that his dental could not be done at the same time as his P/U, but because dentals are a very "dirty" surgery filled with lots of bacteria and germs, we would be risking the safety and sterilization of the other procedure if they were done together.

His dental was performed beautifully by his foster mom, Dr. Tina Hall, and he had all of his teeth cleaned, and two teeth removed.

Bones is currently back with his foster family, and will be ready for adoption within the next little while. His recovery is going well, and I am sure he is eager to find his forever home after all these many months of sickness and illnesses keeping him down.



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE By: Jolene Regan

It took a long time coming, but finally Spring has arrived! The best indication is the arrival of a few kittens! We have so many in the summer and fall and then we have none through the winter, so it becomes a novelty again – much like leaves on trees!

Spring also brings more work – cleaning up from winter and starting new projects. New lighting, both outside and inside, has already been installed. The dog kennels need a few repairs and the dog playgrounds need attention. We lost some tree limbs during the ice storms in the winter, so that has to be cleaned up. The driveway needs cracks sealed and lines re-painted. Just like a house, there it is always something needing attention!

Spring also brings the “ARF” Mazing Race and Pooch Promenade – back by popular demand. Plans are in progress and hopefully the event will be even more fun for participants. The committee starts planning in September for the next year's event and we are hopeful that more supporters and their dogs will come out to help make the day a success.

This has traditionally been our largest fundraiser and we rely on proceeds for financial support.

April was Volunteer Appreciation Month and I want to extend a personal THANKS to all of our volunteers! We still rely on all of you giving your time looking after the animals, fundraising, visiting residents of long-term care facilities and educating the younger generation. I also want to say thanks to our Board of Directors for the dedication and leadership they provide. It is not always an easy job, sometimes making hard decisions, but we have to decide what is best for the future of the organization. A BBQ was held on April 27 in appreciation of all of you!

Thanks to all of our financial supporters also. With the popularity of Facebook, it has become easier for us to share the happy endings and the stories of the animals that need extra health care, long-term rehab, as well as ongoing reports on their progress. Thankfully, there are lots of caring people who, when they find injured animals, are kind enough to take

them to veterinarians for us.

This year is the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of BHS, formerly Animal Aid. I have been involved for 21 of those years and some on our board have been involved even longer! The work we have put in to build BHS to what it is today has been a labour of love. BHS now has a secure foundation for the future. With our hard-working staff we will continue to care for Burlington's stray and abandoned animals to ensure they have the humane and enduring future they deserve.



### BHS Directors

<b>President</b>	Jolene Regan
<b>Vice President</b>	Jenn Odorico
<b>Secretary</b>	Patricia Howard
<b>Treasurer</b>	Karen Hunter
<b>Donations &amp; Memberships</b>	Michelle Hand
<b>Promotions</b>	Bianca Chambers
<b>Education</b>	Mary Hopkins
<b>Special Events</b>	Wayne Kohlberger
<b>Community Relations</b>	Aida Finch
<b>Stores Liaison</b>	Carole McArthur
<b>Director</b>	Tim Regan
<b>Director</b>	Sue Tilley
<b>Shelter Manager</b>	Adrienne Gosse
<b>Administrative Assistant</b>	Megan DeGroote
<b>Adoption Counsellor</b>	Mary Anne Edwards
	Heather Ashcroft-Hill
<b>Animal Care Worker</b>	Gilda Theurer
	Melissa Shupak
	Julia Dickson

## SPRINGTIME PET HAZARDS



**Easter Baskets**—are full of hazards to your pet including chocolate, ribbons, plastic “grass”, bows and candy wrappers.

**Spring cleaning** - Most cleaning products are toxic to animals. And before you open your windows and doors to those warm spring breezes, make sure all your screens are well-secured and in good shape so your pets don't accidentally get out.

**Driving**—It is never a good idea to fully roll down the window of your moving car. And it's an even worse idea to put your pet in the bed of a pick-up truck for traveling. There is no guarantee a dog riding in the back of a truck will not either jump out of the vehicle while it's moving, or be thrown out during a quick stop.

**Flowers**—before purchasing flowers from your local nursery, find out which ones are toxic to your pets. Lilies are a classic example of a beautiful flower, of which every part (petal, stem, and the water they're kept in) is very toxic!

## LOW-COST MICROCHIP CLINIC— A GREAT SUCCESS!

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Burlington was very proud of the turnout to our first low-cost microchip clinic! For only \$20 BHS had a veterinarian and vet technician microchipping cats and dogs.



After 5 hours of intense work, we are happy to announce that 102 animals were microchipped!

If you missed this event—watch our website and Facebook page on the details for our second microchip clinic.

## NEW PARTNERSHIPS AT BHS

Burlington Humane would like to welcome Ren's Pet Depot in becoming one of our yearly sponsors! Your support will go a long way in helping our homeless pets. Thank you!



After almost a year at the shelter, she has finally found her home! It just goes to show that a senior cat with a corneal scar still has a great chance at finding someone that loves them. We'll miss you Thumbelina!

## TINY TIM UPDATE

"We will forever love our little miracle kitty."

Tiny Tim was Burlington Humane's Christmas miracle! Found after being hit by a car, and suffering from a severely broken pelvis, deep lacerations, and significant anemia; Tiny Tim found his new home at last! Here is an update from his new family:

"It has been almost two months and Tiny Tim is loving his forever home...especially when its feeding time! He needs his face wiped after every meal but we are happy to see him eating and gaining weight! Timmy and his brothers (Hugo & Tazz) love to chase each other and play in boxes... nothing holds this little guy back! He has become very loving and trusting of us. We will forever love our little miracle kitty!" - The Link Family



## Way to go girls!



Let's highlight some of the wonderful kids who love animals and work to make our shelter animals happy!

Lyta and her friend Sara organized a donation drive at their school, Paul A. Fisher Public School. Donations included 4 boxes of pet supplies, 1 new pet carrier, Canadian Tire money,

## BHS JUNIOR PHILANTHROPISTS



including monetary donations. Way to go Paul A. Fisher students!

Isabel invited her whole class to her birthday party, and asked for donations to the shelter! Isabel collected food,

toys, and enough money to pay for an animal's adoption fee!



## VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION By: Adrienne Gosse

I wonder what kind of a humane society would we be if it didn't have its legion of dedicated volunteers? More than 400 volunteers make up Burlington Humane, and each one strengthens the compassionate bond of this society.

Through my time in grad school I was often lectured on the "5 Freedoms". This is a checklist of the thought-to-be necessities for animals to live a good life. The freedoms include;

1. *Freedom from hunger and thirst*
2. *Freedom from pain, injury, and disease*
3. *Freedom from distress*
4. *Freedom from discomfort*
5. *Freedom to express behaviours to promote wellbeing*

These 5 freedoms are used all

throughout the animal industry; from animal shelters to farms to zoos and aquariums. But in my heart I have always felt there was a 6th freedom that was never mentioned—the freedom to express happiness or pleasure.

I know that Burlington Humane excels in the 5 freedoms for our shelter animals. We keep them well-fed, clean, provide them with toys and soft bedding, and treat them for any medical condition they might have. All of their physical needs are met. But does that mean they are happy? No. It is our volunteers that provide the happiness, love and attention our cats and dogs desperately need while they wait for someone to open their heart and take them home.

Their work is often reflective in the little things that touch the animals the



most; providing an extra blanket for an arthritic senior cat to lay upon, extra time spent with an animal suffering from depression, or a warm coat on a cold day for one of our shelter dogs. Together you all make BHS a home, and not just a shelter for our homeless animals. Volunteering takes time, energy, and a large serving of commitment. You give them the comfort during some of the most trying times in their lives, and you do it just because you care, and you ask for nothing in return.

To all of our volunteers—I salute you.



## PET THERAPY REPORT By: Aida Finch

I want to thank all the wonderful and special Pet Therapy volunteers who make a difference in the lives of the facility residents they visit. Your time, energy, enthusiasm and dedication to our program is an inspiration to all and it is a privilege to be working with you. I would also like to take a moment to remember one of our special furry volunteers, Sandy Winter, the Coton De Tulear, who recently passed away at the age of 18 years. With her "Daddy" Paul Winter, Sandy made over 250 visits to facilities in our community.

## FUNDRAISING REPORT By: Bianca Chambers

BHS is excited to be bringing back the Pets + Us Pooch Promenade to complement this year's "ARF" Mazing Race! On Sunday May 25th, come down to Spencer Smith Park to take part in the day's events- timed challenges with your dog, or a leisurely walk! There will also be vendors, BBQ, and games! Please ensure your dog remains on leash at all times.



Our 2nd annual **Fore the Animals** golf tournament and dinner, sponsored by Ren's Pet Depot, is booked for Friday August 22nd at Hidden Lake Golf Course. Registration details will be posted on the website soon!



## CALLING ALL FOSTERS!

By: Heather Ashcroft-Hill

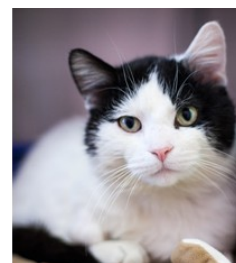
Kitten season is fast approaching and the Burlington Humane Society is once again looking to recruit foster parents for the 2014 season. We are currently looking for individuals that can take on pregnant cats, cats and their kittens as well as orphaned kittens. Mother cats and their kittens need a quiet space away from your own pets, in a guest room or large bathroom. They also need a foster parent able to socialize and clean up after kittens as well as transport them to the vet as needed. All veterinary care and supplies are provided by the Burlington Humane Society. On average a mother cat and her kittens may be residents in your home for approx 8-10 weeks. Orphaned kittens require regular hand feeding every 2-4 hours around the clock depending on their age. The Burlington Humane Society takes in hundreds of cats and kittens each year. Their lives depend on the generosity of people like you, people who are willing to take them into their homes and care for them until they are ready for adoption. You are the guardian angels of these stray and abandoned animals. If you would like to get involved with our foster program please call or come into the shelter to speak to someone and fill out our foster application.



## Spring Fling Kitties

By: Megan DeGroot

**Sparky** is our longest resident cat, living here since February 2013. Sparky is a 4 year old 'bachelor' with a lot of spunk. He has some food allergies that require an inexpensive medication to control. These allergies have the possibility of going away in a home and could be related to stress. Sometimes he picks fights with another cat and sometimes he sleeps right next to them. He would love to be your only furry friend but he is willing to share the spotlight if it means going home.



**Cookie Monster** is a sweet but sometimes shy 4 year old boy. He can be easily stressed and easy going at the same time. This little lover is as soft as bunny fur, inside and out. He is looking for quiet home. He doesn't mind another feline friend as long as they are calm and collected like himself.

**Chance** is a big 6 year old who has now spent some time at BHS, since September 2013. He is sweet and playful and has a lot of personality. He loves to play with the other cats and sometimes gives them a hard time. He is gentle and affectionate and just needs a new home with a loving family and a window to sit by.



**Peaches** is a big and sassy 4 year old gal who is ready for her new home. This beautiful, long-haired calico is looking to be someone's 'one and only'. She is sweet and loves attention. She would like someone to keep her on her 'bikini body' diet as summer is approaching and she is working hard to look her best.

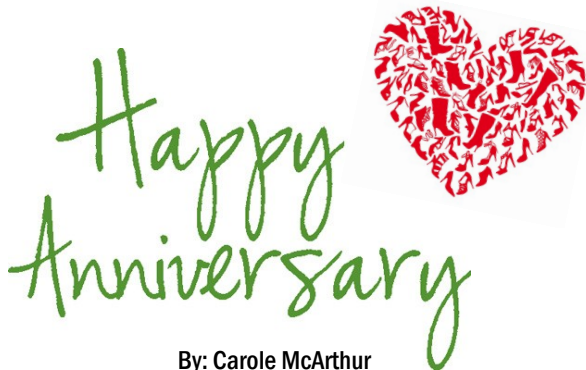


## A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A SHELTER VETERINARIAN

**W**hen I graduated veterinary school, my goal was to become a veterinarian in general practice, but I never would have imagined that I would have the honour of being the shelter veterinarian at the Burlington Humane Society. I visit Burlington Humane once a week and although no two days are alike, a typical day includes a balance of both medical care and compassionate support for the animals under our care. On my visits to Burlington Humane, Megan prepares a list of animals that need to be seen, and I go room to room to provide care. While there, I examine animals to ensure they are healthy. Most commonly I administer vaccinations, help manage outbreaks of common diseases among shelter animals (such as upper respiratory disease), and clear ill animals for adoption. I also provide nutritional consultation and long-term care for cats and dogs with chronic medical conditions. My duties go beyond simply providing medical care, however. I am blessed every day to be in a position where I can be, along with the entire hardworking staff of the Burlington Humane Society, a voice for these animals who have no owners to speak for them. They certainly speak to me: each animal is a unique individual to whom I provide the best care I can with love, respect, and admiration. Completing my rounds at Burlington Humane is the highlight of every week.



By: Dr. Tina Hall



By: Carole McArthur

## THE LOFT & THE ATTIC

2014 is the 30th anniversary of The Attic. No one could be more proud to see this store thrive in its business over the years, and even maintain some of its original volunteers! The severe cold weather from this past winter has had a negative impact on our sales at both The Attic and The Loft. And who could blame shoppers!? With temperatures feeling like  $-40^{\circ}\text{C}$ , no one wanted to leave the comfort of their warm homes.

Over the past few months our stores have welcomed a number of new volunteers. We hope they will love working at The Loft and The Attic as much as the rest of us, and stay on for many years to come! So many animals' lives have been saved with the money this store brings in, I will be excited to see the work Burlington Humane can accomplish in the next 30 years.

## STORIES OF STREET SURVIVAL

Each year BHS takes in dozens of dogs that were abandoned by the very people who once promised to love them forever. Read up on Wolfgang and Madison to learn their story of survival.

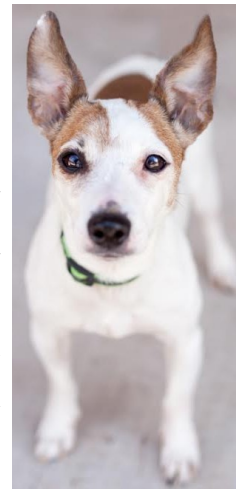


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Wolfgang was found severely emaciated, unneutered, and wandering the streets of Burlington. It took him 3 months at the shelter to gain enough weight to safely be neutered. This sweet and special boy is now ready for his new home!



## Madison



Madison was found dumped in Burlington. Her finders kept her for 2 weeks while they looked for her family...but no one came forward. This 7 year old girl needed some medical care and a good teeth cleaning. Madison has recently found her new home with a local resident.



# Donations November 1st, 2013– March 31st, 2014

**THANK YOU!**

**THANK YOU!**

**THANK YOU!**

Without all of your wonderful support for the homeless animals we could not do what we do. Knowing that our community cares so much about them is a true blessing. We hope that we continue to make you all proud!

**While every effort is made to ensure accuracy we apologize if omissions or errors have occurred.**

## In Memory of

Angie Couper  
Ann Morden  
Archie Brown  
Barbara Hennessey  
Biscuit, Socks, MacDuff & Charlie.  
Bogart  
Brenda Coleman  
Brett Hodgson  
Brett M. Stevenson  
Button  
Clarence Van Monsjou  
Ernest Stein  
Eva Dion  
Evelyn Carter  
Frank Schaffler  
Geoff Penney  
Gib Cunningham  
Gillian McKendrick  
Harold Leach  
Harvey Williams  
Jack Price  
John Krasevec  
John Robinson  
Kathleen Wall  
Ken Meeker  
Kenny Gold  
Len Wulfse  
Leslie Emmerson  
Linda Millman-Robertson  
Marjorie Vere  
Margaret Elizabeth "Betty" Soden  
Marjorie McLaughlin  
Meisha  
Norma Cargill  
Oliver Lamontagne  
Patchy  
Paula Pigeon  
Pearl Fleet  
Peg Cameron  
Rene Warne  
Riley Snider– the Wonder Dog  
Robert Smith  
Rose Morreale  
Susan Ruth McDowell  
Tanya Liste-Plath  
Tasha and Maxy  
The cat Amy Szelei  
The cat Bailey Powell  
The cat Chadwick Potter  
The cat Cleo

The cat Ford Baines  
The cat Georgia Rawlings  
The cat Hans Walton  
The cat Hepburn Robinson  
The cat Misha  
The cat Monty Rousell  
The cat Peanut Romanowski  
The cat Princess Weber  
The cat Rex  
The cat Soot  
The cat Sophie Hoffman  
The cat Sweetie  
The cat Elvis Sheppard  
The cat Meesha  
The cat Texas King  
The cat Tiger Danek  
The cats Chester and Penny  
The cats Sunny and Mindy  
The Coulson's beloved dog  
The dog Abbey Finch  
The dog Belle  
The dog Chester Snowden  
The dog Disney Sheridan  
The dog Homer Walker  
The dog Jenn  
The dog Katie Mackenzie  
The dog Katie Ramsey  
The dog Kayleigh Benko  
The dog Lexi Fitzrandolph  
The dog Maggie Boyd  
The dog Max Nyeste  
The dog Molly  
The dog Nugget Coppolino  
The dog Roxie Edwards  
The dog Sadie  
The dog Sammy McFaul  
The dog Sandy Winter  
The dog Toby Vaz  
The dog, Bailey Beers  
The dog Harley Muller  
The dog Kenny Robinson  
The family pets Skeeter, Boots, Libby, Cookie,  
The Nardi-Bell family cats  
The pet Caramel  
The pet Coby Campolongo  
The pet Hannah Hughes  
The pet Indy Davis  
The pet Luna Vince  
The pet Oscar Gatsos  
The pet Oscar Myers  
The pets Elliott & Mallory of Indiana

Tosca Kerr  
Wyatt

## In Honour of

Blair Gannon  
Brett Hartmann  
Brittany McCully  
Chris McLaughlin  
Christine Hawley  
Daisy  
Devyn Birchall's 12<sup>th</sup> birthday  
DJ & Karen Murphy  
Ginette Kew  
Jill Simpson  
Johanna deBoer  
Joanne & Brian Stewart  
Katrina Procyk's 90th birthday  
Kelly McLaughlin's mother  
Liz Hamid  
Lori Linkins & Darren Clark  
Michael Wilson  
Mike & Linda's pets  
Mr. Magoo  
Maxy Fraser  
Nate Drew  
Neo & Trinity Sidhu  
Owen Kaura  
The cat Peking  
Paula Pigeon  
Rio the cat  
Roy G. Taylor  
Rufus  
Sakura & Venezia Santorini  
Simba the cat  
Susan Ruth  
Sophia Zarco  
Teddy & Tilley Miller  
The cat Icey  
The cat Sylvester  
The dog Fergus  
The dog Koda  
The dog Wolfgang  
The dog Frankie  
The dog Buffy  
The DeLorey Pets  
The pets of Linda McCaig and Mike Evelyn  
The Hill Family  
The Moroz Family  
The pet Chyna  
The pets Anderly and Seven

Tiny Tim  
Vanessa Dinh  
Virginia Stegen  
Wally & Bella

## Bequests

The Estate of Elinor M. Smith  
The Estate of Susan Kruchuk

## Grants

TD Bank Financial Group  
Gift Funds Canada



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The Burlington Humane Society is a non-profit organization which operates solely on the generosity of donations from the public. We are dedicated to helping stray and abandoned animals in Burlington. Our mission is to improve the quality of life and welfare for animals in our community, to provide a safe haven while we find “forever homes” for the cats and dogs in our care, and to make Burlington a more humane city for all animals.

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

### Staff Fun Fact

When dogs kick after going to the bathroom, they are using the scent glands on their paws to further mark their territory.

## A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS



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