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- Lilly Morison 82-0176**
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- Dr. Hugo Lambrechts 822-0862**
- Dick Rasp 822-0369**
- Jeffery Perriott 822-2503**
- Efrain Aldana 822-3067**

**Welcome New Members**

- Cheers Restaurant
- Belize Jungle Dome
- Ian Anderson
- Lynwen Griffiths
- Joe Hensley
- Vicki Snaddon

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

Next Board Meeting  
 October 24  
 Venue to be announced

**BHS Acquires Land In Belmopan**



September 10<sup>th</sup> is a great historical date for the country of Belize and now also the Belmopan Humane Society. A small group gathered at Independence Plaza to commemorate the date in history and at this event a Memorandum Of Understanding was signed by the Deputy Mayor, Beverly Swasey and our BHS Chairman, James Saldivar granting the Society a 1 acre parcel of land. The property granted under this 99 year lease is in the Industrial section of Belmopan behind

the Builders Hardware property. This property will be the site of the BHS permanent facility as well as a shelter to be used to house pets in natural disasters such as hurricanes. Once the Society submits a mutually agreed upon development plan, a 99 year lease will be issued for the property. An excerpt from our Chairman's speech conveys our feelings. "We can all agree that Belize is a great nation as we often hear the

phrase, 'This Beautiful Jewel of Ours'. We can also agree that this nation has made great strides morally. Since we all agree with these statements our next step takes us to the old adage "Deeds Not Words". We show we love our animals, not just say we do. This is exactly what is being done here today, the beginning of a long working relationship between the Belmopan Humane Society and the City Council for the welfare of our animal population."

**Mobile Clinic**

by *Dewey Morison*

With the funds raised we have finally been able to put the Bus on the road with all systems working. While the interior has lots of work left to do we are now able to utilize it as our base. The recent Belmopan Day event and the Luau fundraiser took

advantage of the huge rollup awning which is a permanent attachment to the side of the bus and its use in the upcoming rabies clinics will certainly be appreciated. We are still in need of numerous items to complete the rebuilding so if you would like to help with a donation of supplies such as plywood, upholstery work, formica, stainless steel sheeting, or money, all will be

put to a good use.



**BELMOPAN DAY**

## Act of Kindness

His name is Stromer now ...by Peter Wolf

One week ago I saw him the 1st time outside of Eva's Restaurant in San Ignacio. It was not love on the first view, but he was funny with his white/black mouth and the tousled hairs. He limped on three legs in search of some food between. Nobody took note of him, nobody made a move to give him a little bit to eat.

I went, with the intention to order a sausage for the unfortunate dog inside the bar.

"Give me a sausage, please. There is a hungry dog outside."

The answer was a big laugh from the bar.

One man gave me a piece of fat.

When I fed the animal - started a malicious amusement at the tables outside Eva's.

I had to escape from this place. I asked my lovely wife Petra to open the door of our car, and under the unbelieving looks of the crowd I put the dog inside.

Because we did not know how our other two dogs might welcome the pal, we placed him for the first night with a bowl of water and some dog food into the garden of our McWolfs.

The next morning we cleaned him, treated him against fleas and ticks and then we drove to a vet.

She examined the poor boy, gave medicine against heartworm to him.

Then she explained to us that this dog is a real old guy, too old for an operation on the sick leg. The 4th leg was broken many years ago and did not heal properly. But, she told us, the dog is out of pain.

We made a quick decision: he should stay the last months, or hopefully years of his life with us, where he would get our love, food and medical treatment, probably for the first time in his life.

We called him Stromer, the German word for Hobo. The name should be a reference for his past life.

Today Stromer is a happy dog. We think so because we see how he dares every day a piece further out on our property. He walks with our other dogs Lady and Wolf, and this morning, a few minutes before I started to write this true short story, Stromer tried to jump with his three legs high on me. He started to play.

It is nice to know that he is happy now.

So are we.

*"Unfortunately since this story was written Stromer passed away due to his heartworms but in the months before his passing he had a good and loving family to care for him"*  
editor

## Members Outside Belize

Jan and Sharleen lost their beloved "Boo Boo" earlier this year which left a large hole in their life. We here applaud this Humane act of love

### Open letter to the Belmopan Humane Society

"I just wanted you to know we are getting a beautiful little boy September 24th! He is of course not a replacement but an addition to our family. Bubbles is a English bulldog puppy. It is a rescue since he has a heart murmur and pulmonic stenosis. He will be a joy for as long as we have him."

Sharleen

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## SPECIAL MENTION

A generous cash donation was made in the memory of "Puppy" who lived 14 happy years with Gloria Murgo, BCSL

Thanks to Dr. Jorge Alpuche and Dr. Hugo Lambrechts who are there for the Society every time we call on them.

David Ferrier who installed the air conditioner and outlets on the mobile clinic bus "gratis"

A very generous cash donation was made by the Jungle Dome. Thank you Simone for believing in and supporting the efforts of the Society.

Sharleen and Jan sent all kinds of good stuff for dogs and cats to be used as prizes at future events. Even though they are far away we are always close in their thoughts.

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## 2 STEPS FORWARD, 1 STEP BACK by Lilly Morison

To date the Humane Society office has dealt with the following:

Easter Long Weekend – No practicing vets in town, a member with an emergency was referred to Dr. Lambrechts who was able to give advice and comfort over the phone.

April/05 call from concerned citizen that a dog on a chain was being starved to death. Various members spoke with the dog's owner and after determining that the dog was

dying of advanced heartworm the BHS offered to have the dog put down at our expense but the owner decided to let the dog die on his own. A very sad conclusion.

May/05 call from Belmopan Hospital re a kitten stuck up a tree in 100 degree weather for 3 days. Although it seems no cats have been known to die while stuck in a tree it was decided that the mere fact that a report was made it should receive some response. 2 members went to the scene with a long ladder. Health Inspector went up the ladder, kitten jumped down and ran away.

Through our Web Page a number of pets have been advertised and found new homes.

June/05 A very sick kitten was given over to the BHS and a member volunteered to foster it back to health. It was too far gone and died a few days later.

July/05 A few weeks old kitten was given over the BHS and after much effort by a number of members to keep the kitten alive it died due to an accident.

July/05 A concerned citizen reported two dogs on short chains being starved to death. Members visited the owner who was clearly low on funds and awareness. He had been feeding his dogs on only vegetable scraps. Dr. Alpuche (as a free service to the BHS) checked the dogs, gave vitamin shots, worm pills and the Society bought a 25 lb. bag of high protein mash dog food. At first the owner was apprehensive that we were involving ourselves and refused to pay anything but on checking with him a few weeks later he could see the dogs improving and two weeks after that he was very grateful that we could supply him with another bag of dog food and worm pills and he was happy to pay. We will check on him once a month to continue our assistance. Good conclusion

July/05 call from Teakettle re a dog who is becoming too aggressive and the owner wants to avoid having him put down. A member visited the owner and gave suggestions.

August/05 call from a business in Belmopan that there is a very sick puppy laying in front of their establishment for 3 days, could we come and take it away.

After determining that the puppy needed to be put down and contacting Dr. Alpuche who went there, someone at the business decided to keep the puppy and nurse it back to health. He was advised to take it to a vet immediately. To our knowledge that was not done. Within 10 days the puppy died. *Cont. pg 4*

## Ask The Vet - by Dr. Lambrechts

Q...What is the most common type of mange?  
**Demodectic mange**

Demodecosis is an inflammatory parasitic skin disease of dogs, caused by the mite *Demodex canis*. This is a cigar-shaped mite with eight stumpy legs that lives in the hair follicles of the skin. Secondary bacterial and/or yeast skin infection is common.

Localized demodecosis occurs in young dogs and 90% heal spontaneously.

Generalized demodecosis is often very difficult to treat. Often it is associated with other disease conditions such as internal disease, neoplasia (cancer), and immunosuppression.

### Treatment:

Amitraz. (Mitaban, Taktic EC)

Dilute 5ml (half vial) in one gallon of water. Dip weekly, do not rinse, and let the dog air dry. Bath first to make sure skin is clean before dipping. Treatment is usually 2 – 8 weeks, but 11 – 30 % will not be cured.

Ivermectin. (Ivomec)

Dose at 0.3-0.6mg/kg body weight by mouth per day, is effective. Treatment should be continued 60 days beyond negative skin scrapings. (usually 3-8 months)

Remember to treat the whole dog – look for other disease conditions, e.g. bacterial skin infection, and treat that as well.

Individuals with immune suppression may not respond, or may relapse.

Do NOT use amitraz and ivermectin together. Do NOT use ivermectin on collies, shelties, Old English sheep dogs, or crosses of these breeds

## OF DOGS AND MEN—Jeffrey Perriott

My dog Spud gets me up every morning at 6:00 a.m. for his daily walk, rain or shine. During these walks it is interesting to observe the behavior of some dogs and to reflect on how far behind we are in our treatment and sensitivity to "man's best friend".

I pass a neighbor's yard that is fenced and where two dogs live. The bigger dog appears to be sleeping and shows total disinterest until we get right up to his fence. He then jumps up and races the entire length of the fence after Spud and I. He then sits there and looks at us until we are out of sight. Probably just enjoys the excitement in his otherwise boring life.

On another street a big friendly dog comes running to us wanting to play with Spud. Spud, who is very choosy in his friends, also wants to play with him, however, I don't allow them to play as this dog has "mange". The owner needs to do something about this before it spreads to the dogs he plays with. and it is too late to help him.

I pass another fenced yard also occupied by two dogs. These dogs get to the corner of their fence and start growling as soon as they see us. Their race along the fence is obstructed by several objects permanently in their path - an old car door, some bricks, pieces of lumber, etc.

As we continue, two medium sized dogs come running to us also wanting to play. One of them has terribly matted fur, undoubtedly infested with fleas and ticks. He is badly in need of bath and grooming. Owner, please, dogs also have feelings.

I want to encourage people to be more aware of the needs of their pets and to be more sensitive to their feelings. Do not abuse and neglect them. Let us show that we are worthy of being called the highest specie in the animal kingdom. Our domestic animals cannot take care of themselves. We must take care of them.

## Fundraising by Lilly Morison

In July we had the first ever **DOG WASH/BBQ/FOOTBALL GAME** at Mauveline Gordon Park. Even though Hurricane Emily threatened that weekend and preoccupied a number of people who were trying to get ready for extra guests, we still had a fun filled successful day with the people and dogs that turned out.

Peggy Rasp and Susan Shaffer not only washed and brushed 16 happy dogs but gave out information, made suggestions and answered questions all day long

Reimers Feed Mill set up a great display and gave out 20% off discount coupons on all their pet products.

Thanks to the generous donations by our members of all the food, drinks, equipment and their time we were able to raise \$300.00.

Your support by attending in one way or another makes everything worthwhile

**BELMOPAN DAY** – was a great success in more than one way.

Our Bake Sale brought in \$125.00 AND it was a successful educational/awareness day. Volunteers answered questions all day, helped children with their games and quizzes, and we welcomed a few new members.

In August we had a special night of **HAWAIIAN LUAU**. 30 people enjoyed Hawaiian music, traditional style food, and fun contests and entertainment. A huge thank you to all who gave of their time and extra effort to make the night a success. We raised \$800.00

## Chained Dog's Plea

I wish someone would tell me  
 What it is that I've done wrong.  
 Why do I have to stay chained up  
 And left alone so long?  
 They seemed so glad to have me  
 When I came here as a pup.  
 There were so many things we'd do  
 While I was growing up.  
 But now the Master "hasn't time"  
 The Mistress says I shed.  
 She doesn't want me in the house,  
 Not even to be fed.  
 The Children never walk me.  
 They always say, "Not now."  
 I wish that I could please them.  
 Won't someone tell me how?  
 All I had, you see, was love.  
 I wish they would explain  
 Why they said they wanted mine,  
 And then left it on a chain.

-- By Edith Lassen Johnson



*Life Sentence. No Parole*

**Reimers Feed Mill**  
 Constitution Drive  
 Belmopan



Cardinal Store



34/36 Cardinal St.  
 Belmopan

**bh BUILDERS' HARDWARE**  
**HOME IMPROVEMENT WAREHOUSE**  
 Constitution Drive Belmopan  
 Tel: 822-1071 & 822-0501 Fax: 822-1458

**2 Steps Forward** *continued*

August/05 A Belmopan resident rescued a kitten from the bush and socialized it but could not keep it and surrendered it to the BHS with the funds to have the kitten neutered, wormed and all shots given. This was done and the kitten stayed at the Humane office for a week when a home was found for him.

3 weeks later the new owners of the kitten decide they don't want him and stop feeding him without informing the BHS. The whereabouts of the kitten are unknown.

September/05 A 5 week old abandoned kitten was rescued on a rainy night on the Hummingbird Extension and was surrendered to the BHS. It was sheltered overnight and the next morning the neighbourhood that it was found in was canvassed for its mother or siblings. No luck. The kitten had been fending for himself for a while and was covered in fleas, ticks and very skinny. It was treated with flea spray, fed & kept at the Humane office for a few days when a loving family home was found for him. The rescuer has agreed to pay toward the kitten's neutering, worming and shots and the new owner has also paid something towards that end. His name is Nemo. Good story.

September/05 A report to the BHS office that a dog had been hit by a car on Hummingbird Extension. It seems his back was broken and he dragged himself off the road and accidentally slipped into a drainage ditch with about 10 inches of water and garbage in it. The children that witnessed this reported that the owner was called, she cried and left the dog there. No one knows where the owner lives! The poor dog stayed in that water for 24 hours during which time some older children reportedly shot at it with a pellet gun. A young lady attending UB walked by

and saw the dog and tried to pull him out with some rubber straps wrapped around him. No one came to her assistance until two members of BHS arrived. She left for her classes in tears and the BHS volunteers managed to get him out of the ditch and covered him with towels to warm him up. He trembled in shock and the nearby children and adults watched in awe as we petted his face and spoke to him. In his last hour the children were encouraged to pet him and to talk about what happened. Dr. Alpuche arrived and put the dog down. We put the dog in our car and he was buried in Mauveline Park by two members and a young man who had been witness from the beginning and was willing to help. A small amount of hands on education was spread around that afternoon. The dog did not die in vain.

**BENEFITS OF SPAYING AND NEUTERING**

*Extracted from ASPCA Keys to a Great Shelter*

“SPAYING – is the surgical removal of the reproductive organs of the female animal. NEUTERING OR CASTRATION – is the surgical removal of the reproductive organs of the male animal.

Females and males should be spayed or neutered by six months of age. Some clinics perform the surgery as early as eight weeks. Older animals can be spayed or neutered as long as they are in good health.

**HEAT CYCLES AND PREGNANCIES:**

\*Spaying before the first litter or heat cycle is usually a simpler procedure and is more beneficial to the animal's future health.

\*Gestation for both dogs and cats is about 63 days.

- Female cats can become pregnant again in

as little as ten days after giving birth (while still nursing).

\*The heat cycle for most dogs is twice a year starting as early as six months of age. Duration is about 3 weeks.

\* Heat cycles in cats can start at six months of age or earlier and occur every three to four weeks, usually from early spring until early fall.

**SOME FACTS**

\*Contrary to popular belief, spaying and neutering does not negatively affect the animal.

\*It protects females from breast, ovarian and uterine cancer, and males from prostate and testicular cancer.

\* It does not make the pet fat or lazy. Overeating and too little exercise does that.

\*It will reduce tendencies to roam, therefore reducing the likelihood of the pet being hit by a car, getting lost, or getting into fights.

\*Spaying and neutering can also alleviate territorial and sexual aggressive tendencies, and tend to result in a calmer, gentler, more family oriented pet – especially when done before sexual maturity.

\*Undesirable male behaviors, such as inappropriate urination or spraying are prevented. If they have already started they can be diminished by sterilization.

\*This is the giant step everyone can take to help reduce the short and long-term suffering of companion animals by reducing the overpopulation problem.”



**DOG WASH  
July, 2005**

**THE MENA GROUP OF COMPANIES**

**CHEERS RESTAURANT**

**BELIZE JUNGLE DOME**

Monkey Bay  
Wildlife Sanctuary



**CLASSIFIED**

Veterinary, Dr. Jorge Alpuche is offering a discount on his regular rates to Belmopan Humane Society members showing their ID card. Rates are posted at his clinic - 59 Orange St. Belmopan Telephone 605-4915

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REIMERS FEED MILL on Constitution Drive, Belmopan offer a 5% discount on all pet supplies to Belmopan Humane Society members showing their card. This offer is good until December 31, 2005

**Blackie Needs A Home**

He is very much a people dog and likes lots of attention. He is very sweet and good natured. He seems to get on well with other animals - dogs and cats. Approx. 9 months old.

I can be contacted by email at [lindyjeffery@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:lindyjeffery@yahoo.co.uk) or by telephone at 822-3009 (home) or 822-1546 (work)

