

Kitten Emergency

Orphaned Kittens Need Help!



One of our members has 6 kittens, days old, eyes not yet open, orphaned by a tragic accident. They have been placed with a nursing mother cat who already has 4 of her own that she is feeding. If anyone knows of a nursing mother cat that could take on an extra one or two it would give this "mother of the year" a necessary break. At the moment the older kittens are being bottle fed off and on, but you can just imagine the tremendous time commitment this involves. Please ask around and lend a hand to our newest "foster mum". Call the office 822-0176 or 602-7947.



Belmopan Humane Society

BARKS

Vol.1, Issue 17
September 2009

Dog training classes at the BHS property.

A 5-week Dog Training program with Mr. Mac was held at the BHS property in August and September. Those interested in future classes, please email belmopanhumane@yahoo.com or call 822-0176.



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Why Train Your Dog

by Karin Westdyk

Sadly, too many pets are given up each year, and all too often "put down", due to uncontrolled behavior problems -- problems that could have been easily solved with a little obedience training.

Your dog does not know instinctively how you want him to behave, but he does want to please you. Obedience training provides a strong foundation for establishing an effective way to communicate with your dog which is important to teaching your dog about what you want him/her to do. You can teach "Fido" any command such as 'stay', 'sit' or 'off' so that he doesn't run away when

you open the door, doesn't jump on your friends and relatives, and doesn't destroy your favorite chair.

Training is not only critical to having a good relationship with your dog, but it is key to your dog's safety, your safety, and the safety of others.

Dogs are animals and will behave like animals unless they are trained to be around humans and to comply with rules that protect them and others. Until we domesticated dogs, they contentedly ran wild in packs. We took them into our hearts and homes and now part of the array of responsibilities we have as dog owners/domesticators is to insure that they do not chase the boy on a bicycle whose father is around the corner with a machete ready to defend his son. Even though Fido might be simply playing, his intentions can be easily misconstrued and he would be in harm's way.

When you own a dog, you commit to feeding and caring for it. But, it is no less of a responsibility to train your dog to insure that he stays put when he hears the command "stay", or knows not to leave the yard and run out in traffic.

Dogs, like people, are always learning. The problem is - how do you get your

A Message from the Chairman

Greetings Animal Lovers,

The summer break is over for the schools and we prepare for the annual September Independence celebrations but we also come into our hurricane season. Yes, I know this season officially is well underway but in this part of the Caribbean, September, October and now into November have become the months we must be most vigilant in. We all, I hope, have the much needed supplies required for weathering these storms but have we provided for our pets? When a

hurricane or natural disaster threatens, the shops quickly run out of pet food supplies so I advise everyone to stock up now and have a plan formulated.

Perhaps, if possible, have a little extra to share in case pets are evacuated to the Cayo area. Belmopan Humane Society was initially formed with the idea of a Hurricane refuge for animals and this goal is still a priority, and in my property report I will bring you up to date on the progress to date. Please take care and be prepared

.....Dewey Morison, Chairman

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Welcome New Members

Katherine Woodye

Melanie Quigley

Armeid Thompson

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Mary Smith

Board meetings are held on the 2nd
Wednesday of the month at the BHS
Resource Center - 5:00 p.m.

Please share your newsletter with
non-members in the hope that
some may care to join or help.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RATES

Junior - \$10.00 Adult - \$20.00

Family - 40.00 Patron - 150.00

Corporate - \$150.00 +

Call 822-0176

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Rescue & Adoptions



Gypsy then

Gypsy was rescued after 2 years of being chained to her dog house and barely fed.

Six weeks later, with foster care, food & love, we have a happy, healthy, friendly companion for adoption.



Gypsy now

Adoptable!
Spread the word.



Leila

After recovering from TVT and building up her strength in a foster home she has found her permanent home. Look at her smile!

5 kittens were rescued from CARDINAL SHOPPING CENTER. They were fostered, neutered/spayed, and all have found homes.



5 Kittens



Flash

now

Jack

After a very rough start in life, this 3 legged wonder found a perfect home and a playful sister here in Belmopan.

How You Can Help

Interested in helping your community, but don't have lots of time? Are you an animal lover, but can't possibly give a home to every dog or cat in need? Not sure how you can make a difference? The Belmopan Humane Society Rescue Committee needs you! It's simple. If interested in rescue work, please email Marla Dwyer at marla_dwyer@yahoo.com. Your animal friends will thank you.

BHS Property Report



by Dewey Morison

BHS continues with constant improvements to our property. I spoke in our last newsletter about work we hoped to complete and I am happy to report that most is now done. A super strong steel reinforced concrete water tank stand has been completed and now awaits the 650 gallon tank donated by Judith Ferrier placed on it. The tower was constructed to hold 2 tanks, but at this time we only possess 1, so anyone who would like to donate the 2nd please contact me. Also completed was a septic tank which is large enough to provide for future expansion. After meeting with the CEO of Ministry of Works our long awaited toilet module from the Lupp site is confirmed and all we await now is the Ministry truck to haul it. Ron Sutherland generously donated 15 yards of rock for our driveway and Roy Tripp kindly spread it out for us with his bobcat. We are moving forward with the property and when these last projects are complete the property will have come a long way towards our goals of completing a disaster shelter for animals.

Why Train Your Dog

continued from page 1

dog to learn good behavior. The answer is practice and repetition. In much the same way that a child learns the A, B, C's or multiplication tables, your dog can learn any command you wish to teach him - with repetition and practice, the latter of which requires a commitment of time on your part.

There are many different methods and versions of methods used for training dogs. The internet and libraries are filled with resources and reading material. Choose the method that is most comfortable for you, but one most certainly that is based on using praise as reward - never punishment or scolding. But, the most important component to the success of whichever program you choose is your commitment to spending time with your dog every day -- repeating the practices and commands that you are teaching him. Remember that a well trained dog is your friend for life, and may one day save yours, or another's.



Fund Raising

by Lilly Morison

The "Alice in Wonderland" Tea Party fund raiser was a financial success and raised \$6,000. Without

the generosity and commitment of the following sponsors, we could not have achieved the level of success that we did. Thank you also to all the wonderful people who so generously donated their time, cakes for the bake sale, and all the odds and ends that made the party a lot of fun.

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Dog Fighting • Animal Cruelty • Dog Theft -- Call Corporal Patt 661-9214

**Animal, sick or badly injured on streets of Belmopan
Call Belmopan City Council
Mrs. Chun 822-2271**

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7392 George Price Blvd., Belmopan



Not Just a Pretty Polly

by Nikki Buxton



Parrot numbers in Belize are declining rapidly. Ask anyone their recollections from even just 5 years ago and they will tell you morning and evenings, the sky was black with parrots, their clatter unmistakable. Nowadays, we are lucky to see 2 or 3 pairs at one time. We can make complicated excuses about climate change and deforestation, but the simple truth is that Belize's parrots cannot breed fast enough to keep the country supplied with their favorite disposable pet.

Belizeans have always kept parrots, and in the days when there were many parrots and few people, the human impact on populations was minimal. Not so today. The yellow-head, once a common sight throughout the country is now classed as an endangered species. The Mealy blue-head and the scarlet macaw are not far behind them and the white-fronted is already extinct in El Salvador. And yet the chicks of all of these birds are still being heavily poached to satisfy the local pet trade.

Every season baby birds removed from the nest are bought on a whim for a few dollars. They are often mistreated, malnourished and eventually forgotten, often dying within a year of capture, by



Polly wants her wing back

which time it's nesting season again and the 'owner' just gets a new Polly. The standard reply to our question 'how long should a wild Polly live?' is anything from 100 days to 5 years. Imagine the amazed looks when we tell habitual parrot-owners that a healthy captive red lored should live up to 80 years, and at 5 years old they are not even fully mature. Other parrot misconceptions we hear are that parrots only eat white corn and they don't drink water, that removing all of its wing and tail feathers will make it tame, and that if one day a bird 'just dies' it is not because he was starving, but because a 'drunk man looked at him'.

We aim for change through education. Even though it is illegal to keep

parrots, people will always want them as pets, we know that we alone will never change that. But, if we can make a parrot owner understand their bird - its nutritional, emotional and physical needs, the reasons behind its behaviour and its desire to be a loving member of the family, if we can improve the life of the bird, then maybe we can improve its lifespan, and then maybe, just maybe, that will mean one less wild bird is traded next year.

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Useful Links on Our Website

- WSPA • BELIZE BIRD RESCUE
- CASA AVIAN SUPPORT ALLIANCE
- "ANIMAL" LAWS OF BELIZE
- BELMOPAN CITY ONLINE

Pets Remembered

They will not go quietly,
The cats who've shared our lives.
In subtle ways they let us know
Their spirit still survives.
Old habits still make us think
We hear a meow at the door,
Or step back when we drop
A tasty morsel on the floor.
Our feet still go around the place
The food dish used to be,
And, sometimes, coming home at night,
We miss them terribly.
And although time may bring new friends
And a new food dish to fill,
That one place in our hearts
Belongs to them.....
And always will.

In loving memory of "kitty boy Peevi"

Constitution Dr., Belmopan

bh BUILDERS' HARDWARE 822-0501

Home Improvement Warehouse

Doggie Data

- If never spayed or neutered, a female dog, her mate, and their puppies could produce over 66,000 dogs in 6 years!
- Dog's nose prints are as unique as a human's finger prints and can be used to accurately identify them.

UNIQUE Co., LTD 3.



If you love your pets, don't lose them.

If you haven't yet done so, it is most important to get an identification tag for your dog.

The Belmopan Humane Society has available, ID tags that provide the phone number of our office.

Your name and the description of the animal is kept in our database.

Anyone finding your pet will contact the office and we immediately contact you.

This great service is available for

only \$5.⁰⁰.

Neem, a Dog's Other Best Friend

by Karin Westdyk

Neem is a tree that flourishes in Belize, though few know about its medicinal properties, except that it keeps mosquitoes at bay wherever it grows and burning the dried leaves keeps them off your porch.

Neem is a lush, fast growing shade tree and in India, where neem has been used safely and effectively for thousands of years, it is most well known as "the village pharmacy."

All parts of the neem tree are used for a variety of conditions. Though it has many medical references for humans from skin conditions, such as acne and psoriasis, to diabetes, to serving as an effective anti-malarial, -fungal, -bacterial, -parasite remedy, it is also a valuable pet remedy and safe insecticide to use on pets and plants.

Ticks: We have found that dabbing a small amount of neem oil in our dogs' ears prevents ticks from "digging in". They may go into the ears, but are easily removed without painful extractions as they do not latch on. This is true also when the oil is used on plants as a non-toxic insecticide. The insects may go to the leaf, but will not eat it.

Mange: In addition to keeping ticks and fleas from infesting your pet, neem oil shampoo safely keeps mange and scabies mites away, promoting a healthy coat and skin without using toxic chemicals. You can make your own doggie neem shampoo by adding neem seed oil 4.



to any mild dog shampoo. Bathe your dog with the shampoo a few times a week and leave the shampoo on for as long as possible before rinsing.

A method long used for treating problem areas or "hot spots" is to make a paste from fresh neem leaves and turmeric (4 to 1) by pounding the leaves, as with a pestal and mortar.

Another way to use neem leaves on dogs and cats to protect and maintain healthy skin and coat is to make a strong neem leaf tea or extract, and simply spray it on.

Parasites/Immune system booster:

The neem leaf is a powerful herb that strengthens the immune system, supports liver function, purifies the blood and can eliminate intestinal parasites (all, except tapeworm). Neem has also been shown to inhibit viruses and prevent them from entering and infecting cells, and suppresses the fungus that causes ringworm to thrive in dogs.

Although neem is documented as very safe for use, as with any plant medicine, it is recommended that you do your own investigation regarding traditional use, dose, preparation, history, and current research as well as clinical results.

Recommended readings:

Neem : A Tree for Solving Global Problems, Board of Science and Technology for International Development, National Research Council, National Academy Press .

Neem, India's Miraculous Natural Healing Plant, by Ellen Norton

Neem The Ultimate Herb by John Conrick

For a list of websites about neem, email nirakenna@yahoo.com.



Foster a dog Give one a chance You won't regret it, and you will enhance the life of a dog, who didn't ask to be born and whose life without help would be doomed and forlorn 822-0176



Belmopan Humane Society Helps Humans Too with the gift of life!!!

On Saturday the 29th of August, the BHS provided the Bus/Mobile Clinic to launch the first Blood Donor Donation Drive sponsored by the Rotary Club of Belmopan.

BHS also supplied tables, chairs & power cords, for the event.

I am happy to report that the turnout was great and much needed blood collected from the 19 acceptable donors will greatly increase the stocks.

Many people came to donate but with the in-depth screening process were eliminated for various reasons but they learned such very important things as their blood type, blood sugar levels, blood pressure, weight, and HIV status.

Our society believes involvement in all things humane is a benefit to animals and humans. Hope to see you when the next blood drive takes place.

.....Dewey Morison, Chairman

