



# Year End Newsletter 2018

*Fall in LOVE, Change a LIFE, Adopt a PET*

## President's Report

You will see from this year's newsletter that 2018 has been a momentous year. For the first time in our shelter's history a part-time staff has been hired to ensure continuity and coverage. This is a reflection of the success of the shelter - adoptions up 30% each of the past two years.

You will read in the following reports all of the activities that keep the board fully engaged. The government re-writing of the Charities Act has meant that we had to focus on corporate responsibility, fiscal management and the documentation of procedures. We have to be compliant with the Act this coming January 2019. I am happy to report that we are, indeed, compliant.

Fundraising is an ongoing activity with everyone involved. Ideas from the membership are welcomed and encouraged.

David Long will take over the presidency next year. I look forward to supporting David as Past President.

Finally, and most importantly, our volunteers are the life blood and glue of GBAS and we value them immensely. Our primary focus is the health, care, comfort, and understanding of our cats and dogs, to assure successful adoptions of healthy pets. Our volunteers work tirelessly to assure the animals in our care receive the best opportunity for a happy life as they leave our shelter.

Joan Berta

## GBAS AGM set for Sat., May 11, 2019

The 2019 Annual General Meeting (AGM) for the Grey Bruce Animal shelter will be held on Saturday, May 11, 2019 at the Legion in Owen Sound (located at 1450 Second Avenue West) from 2 to 4 p.m.

The AGM provides an opportunity to:

- Highlight the accomplishments of the past year.
- Discuss plans for the next year.
- Field questions from the members in attendance.
- Elect Board members for positions that are vacant or expired as per the term of office outlined in the constitution.

The maximum number of Board members is 11, which means that up to six positions must be filled (five members have one more year left in their term). Any GBAS member in good standing is eligible to be nominated. Nominations must be submitted to the nominating committee no later than 45 days in advance of the AGM (**March 27, 2019**). Nominations approved by the nomination committee and the Board will be listed as being on the slate. If the committee doesn't approve a nomination, the name will be listed on the ballot as an independent.

Nomination forms are available:

- By downloading from the website ([www.grey-bruceanimalshelter.com](http://www.grey-bruceanimalshelter.com)), or
- Pickup from the Shelter.

Nominations should be either mailed to the Shelter clearly marked "CONFIDENTIAL NOMINATION", or emailed to : [greybruce\\_animalshelter@outlook.com](mailto:greybruce_animalshelter@outlook.com)

Memberships are for the calendar year and expire December 31 each year. To be eligible to vote at the AGM, you must be a member of GBAS by **February 11, 2019** (three months prior to the meeting). Memberships are \$10 for the calendar year. A membership renewal form is at the end of this newsletter.

## Shelter Manager's Report

I was hired late March and it has been a steep learning curve. Since being here, all position descriptions and office procedures have been re-written and we are on board with these new ways of working. I am very grateful for the co-operation of our wonderful volunteers to make this happen. My thanks, also, to our incoming President, David Long. He did the ground work to ensure that our protocols and procedures are in place at the shelter. This is essential to take us to the next level of governance.

So far this year 58 cats/kittens and 66 dogs have found new, loving homes. Outside lighting has been upgraded to allow for evening shifts. Construction has started on the dog kennel additions. This project will be completed by Spring 2019.

We have recently hired a weekend shelter office manager. Her name is Sidonie Bannon. She was a coop student and volunteer at the shelter for several years. We are delighted to welcome her. We will now have continuity in management at the shelter. Volunteers continue to be the base that keeps this together.

Kelly McKay  
Shelter Manager

## Community Outreach

16 community events have taken place this year. These events have included BBQs, the Hottest Street Sale, adoption days, art shows, a golf tournament, donut sales, family fun in the park and personal birthday parties. Put altogether, GBAS has been a very visible presence in the Grey and Bruce Counties. Every event is essential in creating awareness of the Shelter, recruiting volunteers and bringing in donations. My thanks to the 21 "outreach" volunteers who made these events happen. Thanks, also, for the support from our community partners: Canadian Pet Connection, Pet Feed Mill, Pet Valu, Owen Sound Downtown Improvement Association, Beautiful Joe Heritage Society, Marie Simpson (Keppel Croft Art In the Garden), Meaford Factory Outlet, Giant Tiger (Owen Sound), Laurel Cassolato (Sauble Beach Summer Festival) and all the generous individuals that donated items and their time. We got the word out.

To volunteer for this activity please call [519 372- 2267](tel:5193722267) and ask for Jan.

## Social Media

Our social media sites continue to grow with a newly designed website and creation of an *Instagram* account. *Facebook* continues to grow and we thank all of our followers for shares and likes of our page. This increases our exposure. We share our animals on *Petfinder*, and South Grey News continues to feature a dog or cat of the week for us on their website. We encourage adopters to send us a picture of their new family member. We love seeing the updates. It is so very rewarding to us, to know that our Shelter animals have moved on to a happy new home.

## Volunteer Corner

Here are a few words about some of our dedicated and talented volunteers:

Lauretta Ball has been with us for seven years, and works largely with cats. In her own words - "It is very rewarding being here for the animals!" Lauretta goes out of her way time and again to bring in special treats and foods for the cats and kittens in our care.

Gail Mills has been here as another team member for a year and a half. She works in our office and has great attention to detail. She is quick to keep our waiting lists up to date. She contacts potential adopters regularly to match up suitable animals. "The volunteers are the voices for the cats and dogs. I am proud to be a part of this facility and find it extremely rewarding!"

Rich Pierson has been a dog walker every Tuesday for almost ten years. Rich is retiring from the shelter mid-December. We are going to miss his smile and kind heart.

Thanks to Kim and Brian Hardy, we have been able to develop an evening dog walking team. This gives our dogs an opportunity to have some exercise before going to bed for the evening.

## Successful adoptions in 2018

Here are some of the lucky cats and dogs who were adopted this year:



Bandit



Beau



Cali



Charlie



Harold



Lenny



Lucy



Mojo



Sox



Steven

# GBAS 2019 Membership Renewal/Application Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone#: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

*Your e-mail address is very important to assist in controlling costs. Each mailing of the newsletter costs approximately \$4.00. Please provide an e-mail address and help us use that cost for animal care. Thank you.*

Payment for my 2019 membership*	\$ 10.00
Donation to help support the Shelter's operations (Optional) **	\$ _____
Total Paid	\$ _____

\* Valid to December 31, 2019

\*\*A charitable receipt will be issued for all donations \$20.00 or greater.

Amount is payable **by cheque only** to: Grey Bruce Animal Shelter

Please mail completed form along with your cheque to:

Attn: Membership  
Grey Bruce Animal Shelter  
PO Box 442,  
Owen Sound, Ontario N4K 5P7