



Shelter Spotlight

By Kit Belcher, Executive Director

“Automatic Pet Feeders and Your Pets”

It’s been a long winter, and Bowser has enjoyed spending a lot more time in the house with you, while snacking in the family room and warming up by the fireplace on his nice soft blanket.

For those days that you have not been able to get home from work right on the button, he has also been able to enjoy his open dishes at which he can eat whenever he pleases all day long. That is because you have gone to work and won’t be home until late in the evening. Your trusted neighbor who normally will pop in and feed everyone for you has also been called into a late meeting tonight.

If any of these scenarios sound familiar, you and your pet may benefit from the use of an automatic pet feeder. It’s pretty much a “no-brainer” if you are going to be away overnight, you will have more peace of mind, and your animals won’t go hungry. Depending on your needs, you can get an automatic pet feeder which will dispense both dry and canned food. It can also be programmed via a timer to dispense exact amounts of food at pre-set times of the day. It indeed is a marvelous time saver for busy households and can make daily chores easier for elderly and handicapped pet owners as well.

Carrying extra poundage is hard on pets, and excess flesh can cause a variety of health problems. Try consulting with your pet’s vet for a custom-made diet and exercise regimen. Depending on your pet’s individual preferences, you can use an automatic pet feeder to divide her daily allowance into multiple portions – particularly if she’s a “free choice” eater and used to having a bowl of food available at all times.

If your pet companion is diabetic, you may want to not only use a standard regimen for his medication, but have him eat at the same time

on a daily basis to help regulate sugar levels. If you have a chow hound who chows down at a mealtime like he hasn't eaten in days, an automatic pet feeder can help give him and his stomach a little time to relax between his gulps which will otherwise cause stomach upset, vomiting or diarrhea. If it seems that he has vomiting and/or diarrhea more frequently than not, check with your vet in case there may be other underlying medical conditions. Finally, be sure your pet has adequate water throughout the day to protect him from dehydration. He will be comfortable while you are away, and live to see you come home for many days ahead.

At Beltrami Humane Society, our animals are fed twice a day during their morning and afternoon kennel cleaning. With our many volunteers that graciously come to walk and exercise our dogs, they accept happily biodegradable dog and puppy treats after their exercise along with fresh water. Sticking with a regular regimen allows animals to adjust much easier to their environment as they are waiting for their day of adoption when they can go to their new homes.

Featured dogs this week are “Jingles and Jangles”. These two puppies came to the humane society from the Clearwater County area. Their owner did not want them any longer and was going to throw them into a river with anchors around their necks. It is unfortunate that an owner can be this irresponsible, but these puppies were rescued, and now have a second chance at life. They are Papillon-Chihuahua cross littermates. They are beautiful black dogs that each have a hint of white on their chest/tummy areas. They each have soft brown eyes. They are approximately 9 months to one year old. “Jingles” is a spayed female who has a left hind leg abnormality causing her to carry her leg at times when she walks or runs. “Jangles” is a neutered male and very friendly. They are both wonderful dogs waiting to go to their new home. They get along well with most everybody to include dogs and cats.

See these adorable dogs and our many other animals up for adoption on our website photo gallery at www.beltramihumane.com or on www.petfinder.com. We are located at 1612 Carr Lake Rd SE, Bemidji, MN. Hours of operation are Tuesdays through Saturdays, 12-5:30 p.m. Our phone number is (218) 751-7910.

A special “thanks” to all who participated in the 2007 Furr Bowl! It was a blast! The pizza was great-trophies were won, and a good time was had by all who participated! Thank you “Bemidji Bowl!”

Shelter Wishes: Fleece Material Scraps to make kennel blankets, puppy chow, kitten chow, Medical \$\$ for vaccinations, Pools for Puppy Yards.