



Shelter Spotlight

By Kit Belcher, Executive Director

“Dynamic Dogs and Dining”

Your dog is a very important part of your family. What makes him so dynamic? Importantly enough, it's a nutritious, well balanced diet that produces your strong-boned, well-muscled, healthy-coated canine.

Just like us, dogs do love their food. Because of their poor sense of taste however, they are willing to eat almost anything. Some of our dogs often lead somewhat of a boring life, so they see mealtime as the highlight of the day.

In the wild, dogs tend to gorge themselves when any kind of food is available and then live off that nourishment for several days. This food sits in their stomach, where not much digestion takes place. It is passed into the intestines a little at a time. In domestic dogs however, this pattern will lead to obesity. Some dogs tend to be fussy and in that case, occasionally an owner will put out a full menu of selections for their dog to choose from. Feeding your dog twice a day is a norm. If your dog is overweight, reduce its calorie intake or increase its consumption of calories through extra activity. Although some dogs in the same household may be happy to eat together, you should always provide them with their own special dish.

Here are some general guidelines for feeding as recommended in the ASPCA Dog Care Manual.

1. Provide prepared foods from a reputable manufacturer.
2. Never offer spoiled or stale food to your dog.
3. A bowl of fresh water should always be available.
4. Never feed a dog cat food, it's too high in protein.
5. Always serve your dog's food at room temperatures.

6. Dispose of any canned or moist food that has been uneaten.
7. Discard leftover dry food at the end of each day.
8. Watch your dog's weight.
9. Never feed your dog brittle bones, such as chicken bones.
10. Consult a Vet if your dog refuses to eat for 24 hrs, this may indicate illness.

Beltrami Humane Society is featuring "Luke" & "Elektra" this week as our "dynamic dual".

"Luke" is a very large Chesapeake who was a surrender brought to our shelter along with his 3 cat buddy-friends. His owner is now deceased. He is a very large, handsome, 12-year-old. He is laid-back, and feels like a big Teddy Bear. He can sit, shake, heel and is house-trained. He has some broken teeth. He can spend hours at your side just taking in some loving. He would like very much to just spend the rest of his life at a home with some space to enjoy and a soft dog bed. "Elektra" is a Greyhound/Basenji-x. She is brindle in color and approximately 6-7 mos old. She came to us from our City Pound. She does like to climb up on top of her kennel, could be a real "escape artist". She not only loves to play, she's "electric". She enjoys all the attention she can get. She is somewhat timid around children, but is kennel trained. Her left ear tip is gone. She would like a home with a lot of space to run & play.

Visit "Luke & Elektra" at 1612 Carr Lake Rd SE, Bemidji, MN or check out our website photo gallery at www.beltramihumane.com. You will also see a number of our animals on www.petfinder.com or see a selection of pictures at the end of the pet aisles at Walmart. We are participants of the "Very Best Pet Network". To see our "Pets of the Month" stop in at your local Pamida. Listen to KKBj FM 103 (early show) for weekly animal features and updates. Hours of operation are Tuesdays through Saturdays, 12-5:30 p.m., our phone number is (218) 751-7910.

Upcoming Events: "Walk for Animals". This will be held on Saturday, October 20, 2007 at the Bemidji Waterfront. Walk a Shelter Animal or your very own animal companion. Pick up your sponsor packets at the shelter or area participating businesses. Enjoy special contests, prizes, food and fun! "See the sights and hear the sounds" as we

walk down the beautiful paved trail along Lake Bemidji. It is great exercise!

Shelter Wishes: Our Dog Yards are in dire need of “pea rock” to fill holes and smooth out the yard play areas before winter sets in. Can you help? Puppy Chow, Dog Food, Dog Non-chewable Toys, Treats and Leashes. Cleaning Supplies: Clorox, Laundry Soap, Bounce