

Humane Society of Missouri

Tails

WINTER 2003

Mark Your
Calendar!
Barkitecture
Saturday, April 12
at Neiman Marcus



The Dogs of Barkitecture

Breaking the Chain of Neglect

Summer Pet Etc. Classes Are
Just Around the Corner!

Receive Missouri Tax Credits
When You Contribute to
Longmeadow Rescue Ranch



Max, a rescued puppy-mill dog, poses proudly next to his canine castle.



The Dogs of Barkitecture

By Brigid O'Brien

The first Barkitecture event for the Humane Society of Missouri was very exciting. We invited St. Louis architects and builders to create doghouses that would be displayed at **Plaza Frontenac** and auctioned at **Neiman Marcus** with proceeds benefiting the dogs and puppies rescued from Missouri's substandard puppy mills. However, we didn't know what to expect. Would professional architects take our request seriously? Would builders take time to create a structure a fraction of the size they were used to building?

To our delight, the doghouses began to arrive, each more fantastic than the one before. If your idea of a doghouse had ever been simply four walls and a roof, those notions went right out the window. The doghouses literally came in all shapes — square, round, octagon and semi-circular — and sizes, ranging from an indoor Bauhaus (make that *Bow Hows*) courtesy of **Killian Smith Architect & Assoc., P.C.** to a doggy mansion complete with an 800-pound slate roof donated by **Fischer & Frichtel**.

Tails caught up with some of the new residents of these fabulous canine castles to see how they liked their new digs.

Mighty Max — A Rags to Riches Tale

It's a warm fall day, and *Tails* is paying a visit to **Larry and Linda Lee** of West St. Louis County. We ring the doorbell and are greeted by Linda Lee and a robust Jack Russell Terrier named **Max**. Max sniffs the reporter's ankles and knees, inspects the camera bag and, finding all in order, allows the visitors inside and through the house, his little toenails clicking across the floor. We follow Lee and Max onto the back deck, then down the wooden stairs to the backyard. Max escorts us to his doghouse that looks as though it has come right out of a fairy tale — a castle-like structure designed and built by **Hayden Custom Homes**.



(left) Abby shares her life, not her house, with Bear.
(opposite bottom) Mackie relaxes next to the Country Cabin.

"We've been practicing for you," says Lee. "Sit, Max." Max proudly takes his place by the castle's entrance and doesn't budge an inch until all of the photos are taken. "Good boy, Max!" beams Lee proudly and the terrier finally releases his pose to run to his mom.

We retreat up the stairs to the Lees' back deck and have a seat at the patio table to learn more about Max. Although proud of his doghouse, Max doesn't use it much. "He prefers to be with us, up on the deck," says Lee. "He's very people-oriented," she says, patting her legs. Right on cue, the little guy jumps onto her lap. She gives him a hug. "He's turned out to be the greatest dog! You know," continues Lee, "Max came from the Humane Society of Missouri. He was a puppy-mill dog."

A Work of Art

Cathy and Michael Kohn of Clayton took one look at **Bob** and they were sold. No, "Bob" isn't a person. Bob is the name of the doghouse designed by **Arcturis** and built by **J. S. Alberici**. "The design was really unique and striking," says Cathy Kohn. "It's very sculptural. I just loved the lines of it. It

made such a design statement. Plus it was named 'Bob' and that's my dad's name!"

The Kohns weren't the only ones wowed by the unusual semi-circular doghouse with the galvanized metal roof. All of the doghouses from the first Barkitecture were featured on the Humane Society of Missouri's web site — www.hsmo.org — and web surfers were invited to vote for their favorite. Bob took home the Online Viewer's Choice Award, thereby garnering the cover of this issue of *Tails*. Shown relaxing inside her prize-winning doghouse is **Abby**, the Kohn's Longhaired Giant Malamute.

Abby shares her life — but not her house — with **Bear**, the Kohn's Chow Chow mix and Humane Society of Missouri alumnus. "Six years ago, our two youngest daughters, **Liza and Jessica**, were attending Kids for Critters Camp when they met Bear," explains Kohn. "Jessie fell in love and that was that."

Abby and Bear are both big dogs who needed a large doghouse with a big door. Bob fits the bill perfectly. Unfortunately, Abby, who has a tendency to boss Bear around, prefers her

privacy. "Abby gets in it, but I think Bear is scared Abby is going to trap him inside, so he steers clear," says Kohn. Perhaps the Kohns will be attending Barkitecture '03 to get Bear a place of his own.

What Could Be More Rewarding than a Compliment From Your Peers?

"That doghouse was far and away my personal favorite!" says **Steve Crowdus** of **Crowdus Custom Homes** referring, not to his own Barkitecture creation, the **Country Cabin**, but to Bob. "My house was a very good doghouse, but Bob was really cool!"

Indeed, the Country Cabin was a very good doghouse. Form followed function for Crowdus as he designed a canine cabin that would protect the dog from rain and snow with a cedar exterior and a professionally shingled roof courtesy of **Antler Roofing Services**. "I wanted to build a real, working doghouse. It even had vented soffits to keep the dog warm in

the winter and allow for proper ventilation in the summer."

The Country Cabin might not have been as cool as Bob, but the custom builder has fans of his own. "Would you believe I got a \$300,000 project from the doghouse?" says Crowdus. "A young couple spent some time walking around Plaza Frontenac inspecting all the doghouses. They liked my workmanship and offered me the job of remodeling their house. You bet I'm participating in the next Barkitecture!"

So Whatever Happened to the Country Cabin?

Humane Society of Missouri volunteer **Alexa Hull** of Olivette staffs the Behavior Helpline and volunteers at area mobile adoptions. In fact, it was at a pre-Barkitecture mobile adoption at Plaza Frontenac where Hull saw all the doghouses as they were being installed for the pre-gala display. "I was walking through the mall when I saw the Country Cabin," she says. "It had a pot of flowers sitting on its front porch and that sealed the deal. It was destined to be mine!"



Mark Your Calendar for Barkitecture on Saturday, April 12 at Neiman Marcus.

You'll be wowed by nearly 20 fabulous doghouses and cat condos and more unique items from our silent auction. Proceeds benefit puppies rescued and rehabilitated from substandard Missouri puppy mills. For tickets, phone (314) 951-1542. The animals send their thanks.

It would seem that Hull and her husband, **Robert**, have purchased the doghouse more for Alexa's benefit than that of their three Westies, **Amy, Mackie and Tassie**. "My dogs don't know what a doghouse is," Hull admits. "But I just love looking at it." Despite the dogs' disinterest in their doghouse, the Hulls have installed a lovely stone walkway leading up to it and keep pots of flowers on its front porch. Always the animal-lover, Hull looks on the bright side and smiles. "I think there are some rabbits living under it."



Prudence welcomes you to the Inu Zashiki.

Exotic Dogs Find Their Exotic Doghouse

Deirdre Gallagher of St. Louis has rescued her share of dogs. Her family consists mostly of Chinese Cresteds rescued by the Humane Society of Missouri from a substandard breeder in Reynolds County, Missouri. Chinese Crested dogs are not Chinese at all. The ancient breed is thought to hail from Mexico, Central America or Africa. Their bodies are nearly hairless except for a flowing mane on their heads and tails.

Tails paid a visit to the Gallagher home to meet her canine family. As we walked through her landscaped backyard, her dogs zipped past us and into their doghouse. When we caught up with them, Gallagher noticed a piece of aluminum foil inside the doghouse. "So that's what happened to my pizza shell," she says, with a sigh of disappointment. "I was thawing that for dinner."

In purchasing the **Inu Zashiki** doghouse by **Kuhlman Design Group**, Gallagher chose a doghouse that matched her eclectic taste, and she's proud of her purchase. "The doghouse is wonderful!" she smiles. "It's beautiful and durable." The word "inu" is Japanese for "dog" and "zashiki" means "private room farthest from the street." In keeping with the Japanese theme, Gallagher has designed a small Japanese garden around the doghouse with a weeping hydrangea planted by the entrance. "I also have a zen-type fountain that I am going to place there for the dogs to drink out of."

Since Gallagher's dogs are quite content with their "private room farthest from the street," there's probably no need for her to attend Barkitecture '03, right? Just try to keep her away. "I have to attend many fundraisers for work and various political campaigns and most of them are excruciating," confesses Gallagher. "This was, bar none, the best one I have ever been to! The food was great, the Neiman Marcus location was totally cool and the doghouses, each one of them, were superb. I can't wait for the next one!"

Hudson and Abby's Estate

While volunteering at the Humane Society of Missouri gift shop, **Sue Tilton** of Frontenac had a front row seat as the builders delivered their dwellings. She even decided on a favorite. What she didn't know was the doghouse designed and built by **Fischer & Frichtel** and aptly named **Caesar's Palace** was too big to fit through the Humane Society doors! Tilton and her husband, **Michael** didn't encounter the mansion until the Barkitecture gala. "Michael honed in on it right away," says Tilton. "He likes everything real big!" True to form, the Tilttons purchased the stately canine manor — complete with an 800-lb. slate roof — for their beloved Yorkies, **Hudson and Abby**. Tilton confesses that moving the doghouse home was quite the spectacle. "It took eleven moving men to get it off the truck!" The Tilttons also brought home a find from the silent auction — a portrait sitting courtesy of photographer **David Bentley**. The Tilttons opted for two portraits. One featuring their human family and one dedicated, of course, to Hudson and Abby.

Mark Your Calendar for Barkitecture on Saturday, April 12 at Neiman Marcus. You'll be wowed by nearly 20 fabulous doghouses and cat condos and more unique items from our silent auction. Proceeds benefit puppies rescued and rehabilitated from substandard Missouri puppy mills. For tickets, phone (314) 951-1542. The animals send their thanks. 🐾



(top) Hudson and Abby Tilton welcome you to their estate.

(bottom) It took eleven moving men to deliver Hudson and Abby's doghouse.

Barkitecture 2003
Saturday, April 12
at Neiman Marcus

Houses on display beginning April 3. To purchase tickets, call (314) 951-1542. To donate silent auction items, call (314) 951-1501.

Thank you to **Neiman Marcus** for graciously hosting and catering Barkitecture.