

'Purple Paws' auction a success for Baark!



● **GOOD TIME:** Brass Monkey donated light and sound services to help make the event a success



● **HARD-WORKERS:** Some of the Baark! volunteers at the inaugural Baark! 'Purple Paws' auction event at the Ocean Club

★ **RAISING** over \$27,000 from a spirited live auction, raffle draw and "fund-a-need" donations, the inaugural Baark! (Bahamas Alliance for Animal Rights and Kindness) "Purple Paws" event was a resounding success.

The purple-themed evening at the Ocean Club Estates Beach Club, was a sell-out event. Upon arrival each guest was given a purple bidding paddle in the shape of a paw print. *Atlantis* singer *Alia Coley* serenaded guests as they enjoyed cocktails and tasty cuisine by sunset in the stunning location.

Attendees eagerly lined up to play the highly entertaining "Heads Or Tails" game where participants had to put their hands on their head or on their "tail" before a tossed coin landed. Benefit auctioneer "Gala Gal" *Jenelle Taylor* led the proceedings for the enthusiastic bidders. And happy auction winners came away with magnificent prizes ranging from a Pink Sands getaway, Michael Buble tickets, pampering spa packages and beautiful artwork specially painted for the event.

Over 40 items were generously donated by local businesses.

The event was presented by *Odyssey Aviation Bahamas* and sponsored by *Think Simple, Graham Real Estate, Asa H Pritchard and Happy Pets Animal Hospital. Steven Kelly*, Odyssey Aviation Bahamas President, said: "We always like to support organisations that make a tangible difference. And we can't say enough about the incredibly effective work Baark! does. The various community activities and education programs are all-encompassing, ongoing and vital to a healthy Bahamas."

Brass Monkey Bahamas also contributed. "We are always delighted to help Baark! by donating our light and sound services to enhance their events. As a team we

work together not only to produce a great fund-raiser but to make sure all guests have a good time and leave with a smile on their faces. We are honoured to support Baark! in their endeavours."

Shawn Sawyer, President of *Cacique International*, who provided chic décor for the occasion, added: "We are so proud and happy to have been a part of such a wonderful evening! We are already anticipating next year's event."

All proceeds from the event will go towards *Baark's spay/neuter and education programs* all over The Bahamas. Baark! volunteers have recently returned from *Tarpum Bay, Eleuthera and Cockburn Town, San Salvador*, where they carried out weekend spay/neuter clinics and *sterilized 108 and 74 animals respectively.*

Baark! has already provided over 400 free or subsidized spay and neuters for dogs and cats this year alone.

Laura Kimble, Baark! President, said: "Though we live in uncertain economic times, local businesses generously supported our cause with donations of terrific prizes. In return guests dug deep into their pockets to bid and came away with some great and original items."

"We are so grateful to all our donors and supporters. The success of the event is a great reflection of the hard work put in by the organising committee and volunteers. The money raised will be a huge boost to our continued work both in Nassau and the family islands."

Baark! encourages all pet owners to spay/neuter both their dogs and cats. Baark! can help with financing or transportation for low-income families. If you would like to learn more, volunteer or ask questions, visit their website www.baarkbahamas.org or call tel: 427-SPAY (7729).



● **BIDDERS:** Guests with paddles



● **TERRIFIC TRIO:** Baark! ladies with Shawn Sawyer of Cacique Int'l

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WAFFLE CONES

CHOCOLATE **NEW** VANILLA

Frosty SHAKES

STRAWBERRY CARMEL VANILLA CHOCOLATE