

Finally...Gourmet Fine Dining for Dogs

By Jennifer M. Brauns

When Roy Stewart contacted *Mile High Dog* a few months ago to tell us that he was going to be opening a restaurant for dogs, we couldn't have been more surprised and excited. He is the owner of a fun family restaurant and for years has noticed that during the beautiful spring and summer days, his restaurant patio is filled with customers, while the parking lot is filled with vehicles with dogs inside.

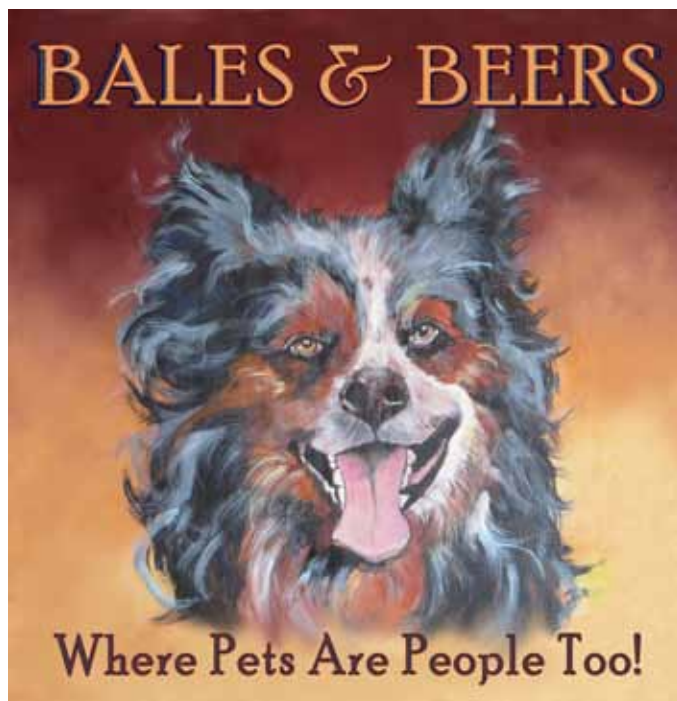
Roy contacted the health department and the county to see if he might be able to get their blessing to offer doggie dining on his patio. Having already received a *Leader in Food & Health Safety Award* from the county, he laid out his plans and got permission.

Roy is a man of big ideas and has been an animal lover his entire life. His desire is to treat the dogs right. So...this year, his customers' furry friends can come out of the car and onto the deck for Patio Pooch Fine Dining. What is that, you ask? It's a gourmet meal, complete with a bowl of Rocky Mountain water and an after-dinner bone. Roy is pulling out all the stops. The Patio Pooch menu includes your dog's choice of not one or two, but 19 different high-quality menu items for your dog to choose from. Ask your dog how Grammy's Pot Pie sounds. No? Then how about Smothered Comfort with whole chicken thighs smothered in gravy. A few of the other offerings include Steak Frites, Peking Ducken, Maui Chicken and North Shore Salmon. The featured dog food brands include Merrick's, HALO Purely for Pets, Weruva and Tiki Dog. If none of the 19 menu items appeals to your finicky friend, they will even prepare a meal from scratch just for your pooch in their kitchen.

Wanting to meet Roy and see his place, I recently took the beautiful and shorter-than-expected drive up Central City Parkway to Black Hawk for a Saturday afternoon visit and tour. Arriving outside Roy's Last Shot restaurant and Bales & Beers feed and pet supply store, I was excited to see what Roy's place was going to offer. Roy personally took me on a tour of the entire property which includes a large restaurant and bar, pool tables, gift shop and what Roy purports to be the world's largest shot glass collection. Next to the restaurant is Bales & Beers and right there in between the two is the Pooch Patio. It's where the magic will be happening beginning in May.

Day Trippin'

You know when the weather gets gorgeous and you get a yearning to load up the crew and take a day trip? Well, now we've got your perfect destination. The setting is fabulous, the beer is cold, the human food delicious, the kitchen so clean that you could dine off the floor, there's live music from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.



every Saturday and Sunday and beginning in May, this restaurant's patio is going to the dogs. To introduce people to Pooch Patio Fine Dining, Roy is making a special offer to dogs: bring your human to dine and you'll get your meal for free (a \$5 value). Please see page 21 for coupon and details.

For the humans, Roy's Last Shot offers a huge array of food options including breakfast all day, lunch and dinner. During my recent visit I sampled the Green Chili Stew, Hawaiian Pizza and a Bleu Cheese and Bacon Burger. They were all fantastic and at very reasonable prices. They also have a great selection of cold beer and the well-stocked bar has an impressive collection of tequila and single malt scotch.

Stay Out of the Dog House

There are a few rules that must be observed in order to bring your dog to the Pooch Patio at Roy's Last Shot and Bales & Beers. All dogs must be well-behaved, leashed and they must have a current rabies ID. Bad dogs will be asked to leave the premises.

Roy's Last Shot and Bales & Beers are located at 17268 Highway 119 in Black Hawk. For more information, please call 303-642-7870 or visit www.theroyslastshot.com. Do take your furry friends to Roy's where their motto is "Where dogs are people too" and tell them Mile High Dog sent you. It's a great way to spend a beautiful sunny day with your furry friend.