



# Wrinkle Time

February 2008

## Upcoming Gathering Date:

Date: March 9, 2008

Time: 1 pm

Location: Pet Supplies Plus

Date: May 4, 2008

Time: To Be Determined

Location: Shakopee  
Memorial Park

Picnic in the Park!



No Bull. Just fun.

Back issues of this newsletter are available on the web at:  
<http://www.wrinkletime.org/Newsletter.htm>

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# YOU WROTE THE CAPTION



## SMURF NORTON

Rapunzel, Rapunzel let down your tail...  
Let me read you the directions.  
If I was a little taller I could be king of the tree.  
I helped you up, now where's my treat.  
Cat tree? Where's the dog tree?  
You got food up there?  
No more jokes about the "cat bird seat."  
Rapunzel, Rapunzel let down your hair!  
Is that kitty hiding treats up there?  
Now if I can just get this thing to turn around.

Just because you are taller doesn't mean you are the leader.

Question: How many bulldogs does it take to tip over any object? Answer: One!

Jump, I will catch you (with my mouth, he he he).

This tag says up to 50 pounds, move over I'm coming up.

Darn! The sign says that the cat is not included.

So where exactly is the ladder for the tree house?

I double dare you!!

You aren't very good at this hide and seek thing.



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Check out pictures, gathering dates, and more at [www.wrinkletime.org](http://www.wrinkletime.org) ! Feb 08

# look what i found



## Orbee-Tuff® Orbo with Treat Spot™ 4 out of 5 Chompers

Our new Orbee-Tuff® Orbo was designed with a special Treat Spot for hiding kibble, spreads and other tasty treats dogs love, making it an interactive toy your dog can't play without.



# Stay Warm!

Check out pictures, gathering dates, and more at [www.wrinkletime.org](http://www.wrinkletime.org) ! Feb 08

# you write the caption



Submit your caption for next month's newsletter!

# good deeds

## Lost in Translation:

What we communicate to our dogs isn't necessary what we think we are saying.

Do you ever hug your dog and then wonder why he doesn't seem to enjoy it that much and tries to move away? Have you ever patted a dog on the head and noticed that he seems to flinch instead of looking happy to receive the attention? These are just two examples of the many things we do to our dogs that don't communicate effectively what we think we are telling them. You may think you are showing the dog affection, but your behavior is actually telling the dog that you are just lording yourself over him.

That pat on the head is interpreted by a dog as a show of dominance over him. Why would he enjoy that? Not only that, it isn't a pleasurable experience. Try it yourself sometime, ask someone to come up and pat you on the head exactly as if you were the family dog. Odds are you will not find the sensation all that pleasant. Far better to reach along the side of his head and scratch behind his ear...that he'll appreciate far more than the pat on the head. Just as you would appreciate a neck massage better than a clunk on the head, so does your dog.

Although our dogs are often smart enough to overlook what is rude behavior in their eyes, not all dogs are as willing to give you the benefit of the doubt. Hugging is also interpreted as an aggressive action. To a dog, we are forcing our dominance over them when we hug them. Young children often want to run up and hug unfamiliar dogs. It is no wonder that children sometimes get bit. In the dog's eyes, it is just disciplining a rude child.

Dogs are very adept at picking up clues from our behavior, but even so, we are often giving them mixed signals. So it is no wonder some dogs get confused and behavior problems develop. When you add more family members into the mix, odds increase that more confusion can develop as commands can be given in different ways. Not only that, some people are more likely to be more permissive with the dog than others, and mixed signals abound. It is amazing that our dogs obey us as well as they do, as they must think we are pretty crazy sometimes.

If you notice your dog picking up bad habits, first ask yourself if there is something that you are doing to encourage it. If you can't figure out the problem, contact a dog trainer for advice and sign up for some dog obedience classes. It is money well spent. Contact a certified animal behaviorist for more difficult problems. Often times, they can give suggestions to get things back on track and keep your dog a valued family member that will remain with you until he takes his last breath.

Many dogs come into rescue because of behavior problems. The majority of these issues could have been resolved with the proper training and professional assistance. It pays to educate yourself about animal behavior so that you can more easily understand how your dog thinks. This will allow you to communicate more effectively with your dog. No matter what your age or level of experience there is always something more that you can learn on a subject. One book that is highly recommended by many dog trainers is The Other End of the Leash – Why We Do What We Do Around Dogs by Patricia McConnell PhD. Our dogs do an incredible job of filtering through all the mixed signals we humans are constantly sending them and loving us anyway. Reading this book will give you a new appreciation for the wonder that is the domestic canine and your own beloved family pet.

by Rita, Love-a-Bull MN Bulldog Rescue

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# taking a poll

## What has your bulldog done that has embarrassed you?

- If you asked my bulldog she would tell you it's the other way around. I embarrass her more than she does me.
- Pretty much anytime someone comes to our house to visit, Sherman embarrasses us. He turns into the most hyper dog when someone comes to visit and it usually takes 30-60 minutes for him to calm down. While it is great that he loves people so much, it overwhelms a lot of our guests and embarrasses us. I'm always assuring our guest that he will settle down.
- Passing gas under the table during a dinner party, multiple times.
- Stuck his head in the bucket of biscuits at the pet store
- Have you seen me in the ring with Uma?????? I am suppose to know how to show a dog, and she has her own addenda. Play, don't miss what is going on in the next ring, kiss the judge, steal your neighbors treats, anything but behave.
- Norton would never do anything to embarrasses us. :-) I think I have done a good job of blocking those memories.
- What have my Bulldogs done that have embarrassed me? Let me count just a few of the ways. First there was the time that Skye has a suspicious looking blob on her x-ray when we took her in for her c-section. She obligingly solved the mystery when she deposited an entire leather glove at the feet of the clinic staff just before her surgery. (I wondered where that glove went!)

Then there was the time that RJ fell off the ramp at one of his first dog shows. He was so busy looking around at what was going on around him that he forgot to look where he put his feet and he walked right off of it. He landed upside down, but unhurt, in the grass. It was a lovely spring day, and I guess he thought that was a nice place to be, so rather than get up, he waved his feet at me and stayed firmly planted upside down. I rolled him over and he rolled himself right back upside down again. Although it was embarrassing, it was also pretty funny the way he insisted he wanted to enjoy himself a little longer. The crowd watching was laughing, as was the judge, and so was I. Which made it rather difficult to lift 45 pounds of Jell-o back up where he belonged.

And lets not forget the time when we had guests and somebody made a strong statement about something and Hannah obligingly put her 2 cents in by tooting a series of lady-like little farts during a pause in the conversation. Everyone burst out laughing at her perfect timing

# if i didn't have dogs...

I could walk around the yard barefoot in safety.

My house could be carpeted instead of tiled and laminated.

All flat surfaces, clothing, furniture, and cars would be free of hair.

When the doorbell rings, it wouldn't sound like a kennel.

When the doorbell rings, I could get to the door without wading through fuzzy bodies who beat me there.

I could sit on the couch and my bed the way I wanted, without taking into consideration how much space several fur bodies would need to get comfortable.

I would have money ....and no guilt to go on a real vacation.

I would not be on a first-name basis with 6 veterinarians, as I put their yet unborn grand kids through college.

The most used words in my vocabulary would not be: out, sit, down, come, no, stay, and leave him/her/it ALONE.

My house would not be cordoned off into zones with baby gates or barriers.

My house would not look like a day care center, toys everywhere.

My pockets would not contain things like poop bags, treats and an extra leash.

I would no longer have to Spell the words B-A-L-L, F-R-I-S-B-E- E, W-A-L-K, T-R-E-A-T, B-I-K-E, G-O, R-I-D-E

I would not have as many leaves INSIDE my house as outside.

I would not look strangely at people who think having ONE dog/cat ties them down too much.

I'd look forward to spring and the rainy season instead of dreading "mud" season.

I would not have to answer the question "Why do you have so many animals?" from people who will never have the joy in their lives of knowing they are loved unconditionally by someone as close to an angel as they will ever get.

How EMPTY my life would be!

*Thank you to Rita for this submission*



# stats

**In 2006, nearly half of pet owners, or 49.7%, considered their pets to be family members. There are more than 72 million pet dogs in the U.S. and nearly 82 million pet cats.**

<b>Percent of households owning dogs</b>	<b>37.2%</b>
<b>Number of households owning dogs</b>	<b>43,021,000</b>
<b>Average number of dogs owned per household</b>	<b>1.7</b>
<b>Total number of dogs in United States</b>	<b>72,114,000</b>
<b>Source: <a href="http://www.avma.org">www.avma.org</a></b>	



Courtesy of Reingold Bulldogs

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### The Happy Dog's Bedtime Prayer

Now I lay me down to sleep,  
The queen-size bed is soft and deep.  
I sleep right in the center groove  
My human being can hardly move!  
I've trapped her legs,  
she's tucked in tight,  
And here is where I pass the night.  
No one disturbs me or dares intrude  
Till morning comes and I want food!  
I sneak up slowly and it begins  
My nibbles on my human's chin.  
She wakes up slowly and smiles and shouts,  
"You darling beast! Just cut it out!"  
But morning's here and it's time to play  
I always seem to get my way.  
So thank you, Lord, for giving me  
This human person that I see  
The one who hugs and holds me tight  
and shares her bed with me at night!

- Author unknown -

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# bdays and brags

Sherman will be celebrating his 4th Birthday on Feb 11! His favorite birthday activity is running around the house popping the balloons that were blown up for him and eating his birthday cake from Lulu and Luigi's.



Reingolds My Fair Lady (Eliza) and West Oaks Doin it My Way (Bug) had 2 boys and 2 girls on Jan. 22nd

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If you pick up a starving dog and make him prosperous, he will not bite you; that is the principal difference between a dog and a man. Mark Twain

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A 3 year old boy went with his dad to see a new litter of bulldog puppies. On returning home, he excitedly informed his mother, "There were 3 boy bulldog puppies and 4 girl bulldog puppies!"

"How did you know that?" his mother asked, "Daddy picked them up and looked underneath," he replied. "I think it is printed on their bottoms."

Thanks to the California Bulldogge January 2008's edition

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# here in this house...

I will never know the loneliness I hear in the barks of the other dogs 'out there'.  
I can sleep soundly, assured that when I wake my world will not have changed.  
I will never know hunger, or the fear of not knowing if I'll eat.  
I will not shiver in the cold, or grow weary from the heat.  
I will feel the sun's heat, and the rain's coolness,  
and be allowed to smell all that can reach my nose.  
My fur will shine, and never be dirty or matted.  
Here in this house...

There will be an effort to communicate with me on my level.  
I will be talked to and, even if I don't understand,  
I can enjoy the warmth of the words.  
I will be given a name so that I may know who I am among many.  
My name will be used in joy, and I will love the sound of it!  
Here in this house...

I will never be a substitute for anything I am not.  
I will never be used to improve peoples' images of themselves. I will be loved because I am who I am, not someone's idea of who I should be.  
I will never suffer for someone's anger, impatience, or stupidity.  
I will be taught all the things I need to know to be loved by all.  
If I do not learn my lessons well, they will look to my teacher for blame.  
Here in this house...

I can trust arms that hold, hands that touch...  
knowing that, no matter what they do, they do it for the good of me.  
If I am ill, I will be doctored.  
If scared, I will be calmed.  
If sad, I will be cheered.  
No matter what I look like, I will be considered beautiful and thought to be of value.  
I will never be cast out because I am too old,  
too ill, too unruly, or not cute enough.  
My life is a responsibility, and not an after-thought.  
I will learn that humans can almost, sometimes, be as kind and as fair as dogs.

Here in this house...

I will belong.  
I will be home.  
(author unknown)

*Thanks to Darlene for this submission*

