

#### **Upcoming Gathering Dates:**

March 25th

Gathering

Location: Pet Supplies Plus in Burnsville MN

Time: 1 pm

May 20th

Picnic in the Park

Location: Shakopee Memorial Park, Shakopee MN

Start time: 11 am Eat @ noon Games @ 1 pm



Pictures of your favorite "Easter Bully". Please send them by March 30th so I can put them in the April newsletter.

# you work the caption



Pucker up Baby

Do you think the colagen injections worked?

Don't hate me because I'm beautiful.

don't you dare move..i'm comfortable

I'm ready for my close up, Mr. Deville.

So if I close my eyes real tight, no one can see me. Right?

So squeezably soft, its irresistible.

Don't you wish you could do this 16 hours of the day just like me?

Ya, know, just because my eyes are closed does not mean I am sleeping, and just because my eyes are closed and I am snoring does not mean I am sleeping either. I am fully awake and ready to take on the world!

zzzzz....really good dream..zzzz...go away...zzzzz

Have a shy dog who is timid in new surroundings? Raise his confidence and comfort level with a little extra support and patience.

Sit on the floor and hold a treat in your hand. That way his coming to you is a positive thing. If he refuses to approach, use a REALLY good treat like cheese or hotdog or put some treats just out of his reach so he has to come out some to get them. Make the distance further and further. If he ignores them just go about your day. Give him time. He'll snap up those treats when he's ready. Make sure you reward him for any moves he does make or curiosity.

Check out pictures, gathering dates, and more at www.wrinkletime.org! Mar 07



If you can start the day without caffeine,

If you can get going without pep pills,

If you can always be cheerful, ignoring aches and pains,

If you can resist complaining and boring people with your troubles,

If you can eat the same food every day and be grateful for it,

If you can understand when your loved ones are too busy to give you any time,

If you can take criticism and blame without resentment

If you can ignore a friend's limited education and never correct him,

If you can resist treating a rich friend better than a poor friend,

If you can conquer tension without medical help,

If you can relax without liquor,

If you can sleep without the aid of drugs,



... Then You Are Probably The Family Dog!



On February 9th, Reingold English Ivy gave birth to six puppies. Three girls, three boys. The sire was Ch. Cherokee Happy Jack. Proud owners: Reiny Guthmiller & Rita Guthmiller. All are doing well.

## THE STORK



Ivy & Jack's babies
Just 3 hours old in this photo

#### Pancho & Lola

Pancho is a new addition to Caesar, Heidi, and Lola's home



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Bug likes snowdays...



Check out pictures, gathering dates, and more at www.wrinkletime.org ! Mar 07



Some of you might wonder, "Just what is a Rescue Bulldog?" This is what we've discovered.

#### Rescue Bulldogs are:

- Usually someone's pet that just didn't work out in their former home for one reason or another. Many Bulldogs that come into a rescue organization are not "rescue" dogs in the classic sense. Most aren't in immediate danger of being euthanized. They come from "average" homes, but had owners who couldn't provide the best home in their current situation for that particular dog.
- Bulldogs whose owners didn't feel adequately equipped to evaluate prospective new owners. They want their Bulldog to have the best chance at finding a "forever home" and feel a rescue organization has better resources at its disposal to find to the most suitable home for their Bulldog.
- Bulldogs surrendered to a rescue group who are worthy of a good home.
  They may have some minor health or temperament issues, but in the
  proper home, they will give their new family as much love as any other
  Bulldog would and deserve a chance to prove that.

A Rescue Bulldog is not a "trash" dog, or a "reject". In the vast majority of cases, they are family pets that need a better situation in order to thrive. In the "right" home with people who care enough to provide the conditions it needs to have a good life, it can again become a well-loved member of the family.







"Sophie" was rehomed by Love-a-Bull MN Bulldog Rescue

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#### Just a Brief Look at Some Canine Eye Problems

#### Glaucoma

Much like with humans, glaucoma is the build up of fluids inside the eye. This causes pressure and swelling. It can damage eye tissue and even cause blindness.

Possible Symptoms: Eye redness Excessive tearing Eye swelling Cloudy eyes Rubbing of eyes

Possible Treatment:

topical drops, ointments, or surgery

KCS: Keratoconjunctivitis

Often called "dry eye" this condition is when the dog's eye doesn't produce enough tears. This allows the bacteria to grow on the cornea. It can damage the eye with scarring and even cause blindness.

Possible Symptoms: yellowy-green mucus in the eye frequent eye infections

Possible Treatment:

medication, and sometimes surgery

Ectronion

Also known as droopy eyelids! The eyelids can become severely inflamed.

Possible Symptoms: Red eyes Exessive tearing

Possible Treatment: Eye drops, possibly surgery

#### Entropion

This is when the dog's eyelids "roll" inward. The lashes can irritate the eye. I dare say this is pretty common in bulldogs.

Possible Symptoms: Squinting Excessive tearing Rubbing of eyes

Possible Treatment:

Surgery is the most common treatment

As always, if you notice something different, strange, or irritating about your dog's eyes, consult a veterinarian for proper diagnosis and treatment.

"You enter into a certain amount of madness when you marry a person with pets"
---- Nora Ephron

"You may have a dog that won't sit up, roll over or even cook breakfast, not because he's too stupid to learn how but because he's too smart to bother." ---- Rick Horowitz

"Dogs are us, only innocent." ---- Cynthia Heimel

"People who keep dog (or cats for that matter) live longer on average that those who do not. This is not some kind of pro-canine campaigning fantasy. It is a simple medical fact that the calming influence of the company of a friendly pet animal reduces blood pressure and therefore the risk of heart attack."

---- Desmond Morris



SPRING IS COMING! Okay, I know, its difficult to think about while my back is stiff from shoveling but Picnic in the Park is just around the corner! Which means we need lots of help to make the picnic fun!

Right now we are looking for people to promise to bring

- -paper plates
- -plastic forks and spoons
- -ice

We also need about 3 people or teams to volunteer to run games. Last year we had the obstacle course, bobbing, and dress your bulldog. LOTS of fun! We can do the same ones this year or have new ones. This is your gathering its up to you!

Regards, Kris L. Christine, Founder, Co-Trustee, The Rabies Challenge Fund http://www.rabieschallengefund.org/
Donations can be sent to:
The Rabies Challenge Fund c/o Hemopet
11330 Markon Drive Garden Grove, CA 92841

Two world-renowned giants of veterinary vaccine research -- Dr. W. Jean Dodds of Hemopet and Co-Trustee of The Rabies Challenge Fund and Dr. Ronald Schultz of the University of Wisconsin School of Veterinary Medicine -- have volunteered their time to ensure that critical 5 and 7 year rabies challenge studies are conducted in the United States. The studies are to be financed by The Rabies Challenge Fund Charitable Trust, a tax-exemption organization founded by pet vaccine disclosure advocate Kris L. Christine of Maine in 2005, and will be performed by Dr. Schultz at the University of Wisconsin. The University has waived its usual 48% overhead fee for these studies. The concurrent challenge studies will determine the duration of immunity conveyed by the canine rabies vaccine, with the goal of extending the state-mandated interval for boosters to 5, and then to 7 years. According to Dr. Dodds, "This is one of the most important projects in veterinary medicine. It will benefit all dogs by providing evidence that protection from rabies vaccination lasts at least 5 years, thereby avoiding unnecessary revaccination with its attendant risk of debilitating adverse reactions."

Scientific data indicate that vaccinating dogs against rabies every three years, as most states require, is unnecessary. Studies have shown the duration of protective immunity as measured by serum antibody titers against rabies virus to persist for seven years post-vaccination, and results of a 1992 French challenge study led by Michel Aubert demonstrated dogs were immune to rabies five years after vaccination. Researchers believe the rabies vaccine causes the most and worst adverse reactions in animals and concur that it should not be given more often than is necessary to maintain immunity. Adverse reactions to rabies vaccination can include autoimmune diseases affecting the thyroid, joints, blood, eyes, skin, kidney, liver, bowel and central nervous system; anaphylactic shock; aggression; seizures; epilepsy; and fibrosarcomas at injection sites.

Dr. Šchultz states that "[s]howing that a vaccine for rabies can provide 5 or preferably 7 years of immunity would have great significance not only in controlling rabies but more importantly in reducing the adverse vaccine reactions that can occur in dogs and cats after vaccination."

For more information on The Rabies Challenge Fund and the concurrent 5 and 7 year challenge studies it will finance can be found at the fund's newly established website designed by volunteer Andrea Brin at: http://www.rabieschallengefund.org/

### look what I found



http://www.treatstik.com/

TreatStike is a treat dispensing toy that will offer your dog hours of mentally stimulating fun.

As your pet nudges & rolls the toy it randomly dispenses its hidden treats

Your dog can .......

Roll it..... Nudge it..... & much much more! It is a deterrent from destructive behavior & can stand up to strong chewers



Easy to clean, just place in your dishwasher
Great method to <u>control weight!</u>
Large (in blue & orange) & <u>small</u> (in pink & lime) size available



Some of you may know that our 14 year old dog, Abbey, died last month (10/23). The day after she died, my 4 year old daughter Meredith was crying and talking about how much she missed Abbey. She asked if we could write a letter to God so that when Abbey got to heaven, God would recognize her.

She dictated and I wrote: "Dear God, Will you please take special care of our dog, Abbey? She died yesterday and is in heaven. We miss her very much. We are happy that you let us have her as our dog even though she got sick. I hope that you will play with her. She likes to play with balls and swim before she got sick. I am sending some pictures of her so that when you see her in heaven you will know she is our special dog. But I really do miss her. Love,

Meredith Claire

ps: Mommy wrote the words after Mer told them to her"

We put that in an envelope with 2 pictures of Abbey, and addressed it to God/Heaven. We put our return address on it. (Then Mer stuck some stamps on the front because, as she said, it may take lots of stamps to get a letter all the way to heaven) and that afternoon I let her drop it into the letter box at the post office. For a few days, she would ask if God had gotten the letter yet. I told her that I thought He had. Yesterday, when we got home, there was a package wrapped in gold paper on our front porch.

Curious, I went to look at it. It had a gold star card on the front and said "To: Mer" in an unfamiliar hand. Meredith took it in and opened it. Inside was a book by Mr. Rogers, "When a Pet Dies." Taped to the inside front cover was the letter we had written to God, in its opened envelope (which was marked Return to Sender: Insufficient address). On the opposite page, one of the pictures of Abbey was taped under the words "For Meredith." We turned to the back cover, and there was the other picture of Abbey, and this handwritten note on pink paper:

#### "Dear Mer,

I know that you will be happy to know that Abbey arrived safely and soundly in Heaven! Having the pictures you sent to me was such a big help. I recognized Abbey right away. You know, Meredith, she isn't sick anymore. Her spirit is here with me--just like she stays in your heart--young and running and playing. Abbey loved being your dog, you know. Since we don't need our bodies in heaven, I don't have any pockets!-- so I can't keep your beautiful letter. I am sending it to you with the pictures so that you will have this book to keep and remember Abbey. One of my angels is taking care of this for me. I hope the little book helps. Thank you for the beautiful letter. Thank your mother for sending it. What a wonderful mother you have! I picked her especially for you. I send my blessings every day and remember that I love you very much. By the way, I am wherever there is love.

Love.

God, and the special angel who wrote this after God told her the words."

As a parent and a pet lover, this is one of the kindest things that I've ever experienced. I have no way to know who sent it, but there is some very kind soul working in the dead letter office of the US postal service. (Just wanted to share this act of compassion)