



Wrinkle Time

August 2006

mark your calendars!

upcoming gathering dates:

☼ August 27th

☼ October 1st (Halloween Party)

☼ November 19th

☼ January 7th, 2007 (belated holiday party)

Time: 1 pm

Location: Pet Supplies Plus in Burnsville MN



No Bull. Just fun

all about your bully

Welcome to the first in a monthly ongoing series, "All about your Bully". This first installment will be a 5 part series on feeding and foods. Part 1 Your bulldog's digestive system. Part 2 Vitamins, minerals, and nutrients. Part 3 Dog food labels. Part 4 Types of food. Part 5 Feeding schedules and obesity. All information is gathered from Bulldog specific sources and professionals. As with anything related to our beloved Bulldogs always consult your veterinarian to discuss any changes in your bully's lifestyle.

The Bulldog Digestive System

As you already know, what your bully eats will impact his/her well being. To better understand what and how often to feed your Bulldog, it is important to know how the digestive system works, and what nutrients will help keep that bully healthy.

Although we won't be taking a scientist's tour of the digestive system, we will gain a better understanding of what goes on in the alimentary canal.

Nose

It all starts with a scent. And as we all know, our dogs have a better sense of smell than we do. Yes even a Bulldog. Although the large nosed breeds have a better sense of smell than the short or small nosed breeds. Even the small nosed breeds (Bulldogs, Pugs, Pekingese, Boxers) possess more odor receptors than humans. We have about 40 million receptors lining the olfactory epithelium membrane; large nosed dogs may have about 200 million of them. Which is what makes dogs like the bloodhound so good at their job.

Tongue

The next step is taste. The tongue is a very complex muscular organ that helps your pup take in, chew, and swallow his food. They also use the tongue to take in water. And not always in a very efficient manner. As all of us bulldoggers know. Dogs also have taste buds on their tongues, just as we do. The difference is they just don't have as many. Here is where humans make up for our shortcomings in the smell department. The fewer taste buds help dogs in the wild to be more adventurous eaters, but tend to get our pets into trouble. As they will eat just about anything that fits into their mouth. Or anything they can compact down enough to get into their mouth.

Salivary Glands

Lets face it. There is nothing better after a day in the human world than a smooch from your pooch. But lets find out the other useful purposes for that golden slobber. Dogs have four pairs of salivary glands that produce the saliva that lubricates the inside of the mouth to help the food go down. The saliva also contains enzymes that kick start the digestive process.

Jaw Bones and Teeth

Like humans a dogs jaws are made up of two bones. The upper jaw (maxilla). And the lower jaw (mandible). Bulldogs are known as Brachycephalic, meaning they have a short, wide muzzle. Dogs, like most mammals have 28 deciduous (baby) teeth that fall out and are then replaced by 42 adult teeth. These teeth are made up of incisors for cutting, canines for holding and tearing, premolars for cutting, shearing, and holding, and molars for grinding. The tooth is made up of pulp in the center, consisting of tissue, nerves, and blood vessels. Surrounding the pulp is the bone-hard dentin that makes up the majority of the tooth, and surrounding it all is harder than bone enamel. Usually your bully will lose those razor sharp baby teeth around three to four months of age. Sometimes a baby tooth does not fall out when the adult tooth comes in behind it. This can cause permanent misalignment of the permanent teeth. A bulldog has enough problems chewing without crooked teeth. If this should happen a quick trip to the veterinarian to remove the errant baby tooth is in order.

Esophagus

Ahh yes, the wide, muscle lined, elastic tube that transfers all those yummy treats and food to your bulldog's tummy via peristalsis. In this process the muscles contract in a wave beginning at the top, down to the stomach. But beware, a dog's esophagus is able to pass much larger items to the stomach than can be comfortably digested. With a bully's curiosity combined with their never ending desire to eat EVERYTHING. That wide, elastic tube just may be the cause of the disappearance of your cell phone, digital camera, or padlock. These are just three documented examples of items swallowed by bulldogs in search of just one more treat. So if your bulldog starts playing the Nokia tune. Call, I mean take them to the vet quick.

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Stomach

The stomach is a complex storage and mixing area for the food taken in. The stomach has three different regions to process food. The cardiac region that delivers the food. The fundic region where acids are added along with a pepsin producing enzyme that start the digestion process by breaking down muscle and connective tissue. The gastric acids help to kill bacteria, viruses, and parasites that have been ingested with the food. Pepsin also helps with the absorption of vitamin b12, calcium, and iron.

The pyloric region contains glands that produce a mucus that protects the stomach wall from the acids and enzymes of the fundic region, as well as keeping the food moist. Once the chyme reaches the perfect level of sliminess (YUK) it heads off to the next station.

Small and Large Intestines

Many people think the stomach does most of the digestion work. It is actually the small intestine that bears the brunt of the digestion process. The walls of the intestine are loaded with villi, and the villi contain microvilli which absorb nutrients from food and pass it on to the bloodstream and lymph system. The small intestine also handles the transport of carbs and proteins. On to the large intestine. The most important job of the large intestine is to dry out the solid waste. That helps to conserve water. The large intestine then transports the waste out of the body.

That was a layman's walk through the digestive system of a dog. I hope I was able to give you some helpful information along the way. The information here can be found in more detail on the internet or in dog books everywhere.

Send a big thank you to Clyde for this submission! Thanks Clyde!

quick dog bath time tips

1. Groom your dog before the bath to prevent any tangles he has from worsening. Keeps more hair from clogging the drain too. Even better place a drain screen over the drain so that hair doesn't clog the drain and your pipes.
2. Put down a rubber mat to prevent slipping. If you don't have a mat you can use a wet towel to give your dog footing.
3. Check the water's temperature to make sure it's not too hot or cold.
4. Put cotton balls in each of your dog's ears so that water doesn't get into them. (But don't forget to take them out after!) We make sure we also clean ears after a bath and that helps dry them out too.
5. Close the bathroom door so there isn't an escape route!
6. Use a dog shampoo. There are many options. If your dog seems itchy, an oatmeal shampoo may be the answer. Consult your veterinarian for help choosing a shampoo.
7. Rinse, rinse, rinse! I cannot stress this thoroughly enough. Rinsing is critical so you don't leave residue on the dog's skin. Residue can cause irritation.
8. Dry him very well. Ours love the towel rub down part!





you wrote
the caption!

Tonka

My pool..na-na-na-na-naa-na.

Is my tongue wrinkly too?

Its a big water dish, right?

Yuck, this water tastes like bulldog.

I think I am getting sea sick.

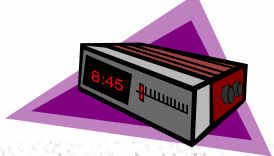
I am SURE I ordered beer NOT water.

This is NOTa margarita!

Now they tell me that buzzing yellow bug wouldn't appreciate my kiss.

I was afraid my tongue would give out before I drained this pool dry.

Its my pool and you can't have it!



To Sleep, Per Chance to Dream



By Dr. Bob Wilson Lopez Medical Clinic, From Dec 05 Bully Babler, Oregon State Bulldog Club

Thirsty, last night I awoke into a state of high quality stupor and found myself in the kitchen. A gurgling noise rumbled through the wooden door. Someone was dying and had dragged his crippled, bleeding body to our house seeking medical help. The sound was horrendous, probably a deep throat wound from running headlong into a barbed wire fence. I was jolted into wakefulness. As my hearing sharpened, the sound changed to resemble that of a snoring beluga whale, a noise which, in fact is ever present at our kitchen door... the sound of a bulldog sleeping.

Although it has not made much of a splash in the media, sleep apnea is a common condition. It affects approximately four percent of all Americans and approximately one hundred and fifty percent of all bulldogs. The term "sleep apnea" is translated literally as sleep without breath. The term bulldog is translated as "extremely noisy, smelly mutant."

There are four stages in a normal sleep cycle. Scientifically and technically these stages are known as (please read this carefully-it will not be repeated) stage one, stage two, stage three, and stage four. A normal human sleep cycle starts with light dozing, ends about ninety minutes later, and occurs about five times a night. A bulldog sleep cycle starts at birth, ends a few hours after complete rigor mortise has set in, and occurs about once. During sleep apnea, normal breathing is interrupted as the throat relaxes and the soft tissue collapses to close off the airway. The airway reopens, breathing starts again, and sleep is reinitiated. In the case of severe sleep apnea, this can literally happen hundreds of times a night. If you are familiar with suffocation you know that it evokes an extreme panic response. In humans. Bulldogs, on the other hand, consider suffocation as a sign of good health and just go with it. Anyway, suffocation releases adrenalin into the blood which causes the heart to race and the blood pressure to soar. That kind of experience a hundred times per night is pretty hard on the body. The bottom line is that sleep apnea destroys the normal sleep pattern and damages the cardiovascular system.



The classic picture of a person with sleep apnea is an overweight person with a short, thick neck, who snores, has difficulty staying awake during the day, and who looks and acts fatigued. This is also a perfectly good example of our bulldog, Austin. But research into the illness that most people with sleep apnea do not look like Austin, which is to say that I can no longer use his wallet-size photo as a diagnostic tool. Diagnosing sleep apnea requires a poly somnography test (poly. many, somno .sleep, graphy -to chart or draw, test -test)that monitors a variety of functions such as breathing, brain wave activity, heart rate, and oxygen content of the blood. If the test proves to be positive, the initial treatment is to have the patient eliminate alcohol and lose weight. If these kinds of measures fail, then CPAP can be used. This is basically a leaf blower that attaches to your face at night and uses air pressure to prevent the airway from closing.

Do you snore? Do you feel very tired? Does your breathing pause for long periods during sleep? Does your sleep mate awaken you to ask you if you are dead? Is there a bulldog looking back at you in the bathroom mirror in the morning? If so, consider the possibility of sleep apnea.



**you write
the caption!**

this crew owns sheryll

send submissions for next month

Halloween is coming!

Which means the first annual Wrinkle Time Costume Contest and Party!

Start planning your costumes now! Dogs in costume are requested - if the human dresses up too its just a bonus! :-)) We will have a costume contest and other fun on October 1st.

www.wrinkletime.org or karen@pantheonbulldogs.com or 507.835.5660

look what i found!

Pet Chime, the doorbell training device for your Pet

Tired of your pet scratching the door, barking, or howling when he wants to come inside? Want to teach your pet to tell you when they are ready to go outside? Introducing a former *Pet Age Magazine* product of the year, **Pet Chime**.

Pet Chime is a portable, wireless electronic doorbell that allows pets to tell you when they need to come in or go out. The wireless Paw is designed to look like a paw print and can sit on the floor or mount on the wall. When your pet pushes the Pet Chime paw, the chime tones to let you know your pet is ready. So you can get ready to take him out and ... *(Wait a minute, who's training whom?!)*

It's simple to train your pet. Easy-to-follow directions are included. *And, believe it or not, even a cat can learn to use it (if he wants to)!* The chime gives you two choices of tones — either a fun dog bark or a "ding-dong" chime.

- Battery-operated. Paw uses one 9-volt battery (not included).
- Chime takes three AA batteries. (not included)
- Add extra Paws to your chime — place one at every door.
- Remote control works up to 100 ft. away from the chime.
- Paws are weather-resistant.
- One-year warranty

Your Pets will Love it!



Pet Chime Doorbell Trainer...\$24.95

<http://www.petronic.com/petchime.htm>

www.wrinkletime.org or karen@pantheonbulldogs.com or 507.835.5660

brags!

ELIZA, our newest puppy, JUST ASKED TO GO OUTSIDE AND PEE!!!!!!!!!!!! until now she has only ever asked to poo!!!!!! she scratches at the door and rings the bells next to patio door. Doing the *happy dance* . Dana

Sophie is pointed out! Duluth earned her the last 2 single points she needs. Two majors and then she'll have her championship title. Dianne & Dana Huntington

good deeds

Ever wonder just what is a typical rescue dog? Every case is different, but there do seem to be some common denominators. They are surrendered because their owners, who for one reason or another, have decided that the dog is no longer a good "fit" for their family. The dogs are often six or seven years old. One common reason for surrendering a Bulldog is when children are added to the family unit. These new parents worry that the dog might hurt the kids. Usually it is because the dog is undisciplined, not because it is aggressive, that it is turned over to rescue. But to be on the safe side, a dog from this kind of home typically is placed in new homes without small children. Another common reason for surrender is that the Bulldog does not get along with another dog in the household. This can be a problem if both of the dogs are females, especially if both are Bulldogs.

Many rescue dogs need to go to homes without small children or other pets, and this can make them more difficult to place. Rescue workers try very hard to make sure they find "forever homes" for their rescue dogs, but it isn't always easy finding homes that are the perfect fit. However, the vast majority of rescue dogs do very well when rehomed and become great additions to their new families. Sometimes dogs need to go to foster homes before the perfect family can be found for them. All expenses for foster care are reimbursed, as long as proper documentation is provided. If you have ever thought that this might be something you would like to do, please contact a rescue worker for more information.

Love-a-Bull MN Bulldog Rescue would like to thank all who participated in the silent auction at the July Wrinkle Time. You are a great bunch of people. Thanks to all who donated and to those who bid. Your generosity raised \$50 to help Minnesota Bulldogs in need. Special thanks to Anne Burk and Dana & Dianne Huntington for donating some neat things for rescue silent auctions. Thanks also to Michael and Lyndsey. They donated a framed print of a Bulldog portrait done by Michael. They also said that they would donate \$20 to rescue if anyone commissioned to do a portrait of their own dog, any breed is OK. And thanks also to Clyde for donating some useful items for future rescue dogs due to his amazing bargain-hunting abilities. These are just a few ways that ordinary people can help Bulldogs in need. There are other ways that you can help. If you would like to know more about our rescue group or volunteering in any capacity, just let us know, we'd be happy to answer any questions you might have. Go to: www.mnbulldogrescue.org for contact information.

july's hot gathering

Despite a simply oppressive heat, we had bulldogs, a pug, a neo, and a pomeranian turn out for Wrinkle Time July 30th. We had close to 20 people and about a dozen dogs. Pretty good turn out considering it was 98 degrees and I don't even want to acknowledge the heat index! The space at Pet Supplies Plus is air conditioned, but just venturing out to the car was brutal! :-) Even though our next gathering is the end of August we hope mother nature will be a tad kinder. So thank you to everyone who come, with or without dogs, to chat and have a cool drink. We hope to see everyone August 27th! (just a couple pictures below--look for the rest on www.wrinkletime.org in about a week)



Anne and Andy's Pet Perspective

by Anne Burk



Once again there have been several reports in newspapers and on TV about the intelligence of dogs, and sheep and pigs. The paper had an article about the dog who knows 200 words and the TV reported that a sheep and a pig could perform a task repeatedly using a computer joystick to move a cursor that a Jack Russell could not.

Andy came into my life a few days after Christmas, in the middle of the Minnesota winter, after living in a home with at least 6 other dogs and 2 humans.

At 5 months old, I knew I needed to wear him out so I could get a good night's sleep. I read, probably in my "Caninestein: Unleashing the Genius in Your Dog" book by Betty Fisher and Suzanne Delzio, dedicated to "those exceptional dog owners who make a daily effort to provide their dogs with interesting lives", that intellectual stimulation helps tire a dog as much as physical stimulation. Some friends of mine have a Schnauzer who knows the names of her toys, so I thought I'd start with that.

Kong, Cone, Ball, Ring, Bone, Purple Bone, Bean, Rhino, Tire, Galileo.

With a bulldog puppy, you need to find the sturdiest, most indestructible toys possible, which is a challenge for the human, so some toys were eventually hidden for a while, hoping that as an older dog, Andy might not chew pieces off them:

Scrubber, Tumble, Bouncer, Ripple, Jack, Turtle, Wheels, Air Bone, Tube

We had Treat Ball that we used occasionally when I had to be able to perform a task seated with some level of concentration and while NOT throwing a toy for Andy to fetch at the same time. It dispenses small treats only if you roll it around a lot so they hit the small hole and exit to the outside. We hadn't used this for a few months, and I said "I think we should get Treat Ball" last week and Andy ran to the kitchen and looked on the counter where I usually fill it.

Christmas came. I saw "Four Paws Rough and Rugged Virtually Indestructible" toys at the store where we go for obedience... WITH a BULLDOG pictured on the backcard. It was like my name flashing in lights "JUST FOR YOU, ANNE AND ANDY!"... and I bought:

Jingle Ball, Pastel, Red Bone, Green Ring, Atom

(OK, I did have a few more, but classmates came by the counter while I was sorting my stash of toys, and they asked me if I was buying the whole store, so I put a few back.)



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(cont. from previous page) We also have Outside Bell, which Andy rings when he wants to go Outside... or when he wants me to get up and walk over to the door so he can get me to play with him.

Andy loves Obedience classes which involve: Sit, Stay, About Turn (which he likes to do when the instructor says it instead of waiting until I do it), Down, Wait, Come, etc.

And I got a purple-ish/blue rubber toy that was a bar with balls at both ends, kind of like a weight-lifting bar. I got it before a Vikings football game and pulled it out at the first touchdown in the first quarter and threw it for Andy;

Touchdown! Andy. This is Touchdown!

He played with it for a while, then went on to other things. In the third quarter, the Vikings scored another touchdown, so I yelled, "Touchdown!" and Andy ran and got the toy. My Vikings game-watching friend was impressed. This toy is out only during Vikings games. I put it away after they lost a play-off game, ending the season. A few weeks later, I was taking a yardwork break and watching a play-off game of some other teams. I was rooting for my favorite of the two teams, and they scored a touchdown. I yelled, "Touchdown!" and clapped. Andy was jumping around in circles. He knew the Touchdown toy wasn't out anywhere in the house -- he hadn't seen it for 2 weeks. What was he to do? Jump right, jump left, what should I do? So I got Touchdown out of the closet. I can hardly wait for Vikings games to start again so I can slip Touchdown into his basket and see what he does when I yell Touchdown! the first time.

I take photos of Andy's toys periodically and then write the name on the photo and hang it on the refrigerator, so other humans can look up the name when they visit. Last week, my son's girlfriend was standing in front of the refrigerator looking at the photos. She said, "I know there must be a story here somewhere, but I just can't think what it is." Ryan told her that Andy knows the names of his toys.

However, the photos would come in handy for ME once in a while. Andy and I travelled for a visit with my parents one weekend and I took a few toys with me. We were outside and I was taking a break from yardwork and was going to play fetch with Andy. I looked at the toy lying there in the grass and said, "Andy, where's?" That's right... I simply could NOT THINK of the NAME of that TOY!!! I tried for HOURS. I asked my son. It's Black, Rubbery, kind of like a bone. Nothing triggered the right Word...I looked at Andy, with his alert, excited face, expecting me to mouth the Word, which would send him trotting to the toy lying there in the grass, and I simply COULD NOT come up with it. If only ANDY could tell ME – I knew that HE knew the Word.... After several HOURS, it finally came to me: "RHINO! THAT'S IT! Like a rhinoceros bone". I said, "Andy, where's Rhino?" And off he trotted...before I even finished the word. And I knew, that

Andy knew the Word at
the very beginning.
And I wondered what he
was thinking when I
couldn't think of the
Word.

And the words of a friend came back to me, "You know, you're going to have to be careful, or he's going to become smarter than you."

