

Wrinkle Time

NOVEMBER 2011

Halloween Costume Contest Winners

Best Costume—Surly the Bull who owns Lyndsey

Runner Up—Mackenzie Wonder Woman who owns Jakki

Cutest—Smush and Emma as Hugh Hefner and his Playboy Bunny who own Jenny

Best Group—Billy, Betty, and Bubba the 3 Fishkateers who own Ryan and Gina

Most Creative—Willoughby the Motorcyclist who owns Gloria and Jane

Honorable Mention—Brutus the Bee who owns Hannah and John

Honorable Mention—Gracie the Pumpkin who owns Emily Honorable Mention—Spike the Sheriff who owns Lynette

You should be SO proud of your editor...costume pictures are up on Facebook AND the web site! Musta had enough coffee that morning! :-) Of course the newsletter is running late...can't have it all... (sigh)



On behalf of BCARN – MN I'd like to thank the people who participated in the silent auction at the November Wrinkle Time. Whether you donated items to the silent auction or bid on the items, all efforts are important. Thanks also to those who made a cash donation. Your contributions are very much appreciated!

Since many Bulldogs come into rescue needing considerable veterinary services, adoption fees rarely cover all expenses incurred on behalf of these dogs. Even though BCARN – MN is a part of a larger organization, all local "branches" are expected to fund their own local rescue operations. We do not receive any money from the national BCARN organization. Our operating revenue comes primarily from adoption donations supplemented by individual donations. So the reality is that we must do fundraising in order to continue to operate our rescue as adoption donations do not cover all of our expenses.

BCARN – MN is a small group of volunteers and with limited amounts of time or opportunity to do extensive fundraising, so the silent auctions at our Wrinkle Time get-togethers are the primary way we supplement adoption donations to keep our group functioning. Successful silent auctions at the Wrinkle Time meet-ups are important to rescue here in Minnesota. Thanks so much to those of you who participated. Because of your generosity \$133 was raised at the November silent auction to help Bulldogs in need.

We couldn't do it without you. :-)





Your support of rescue is needed and appreciated! -Karen



This is our second and final installment in the Olivia Therapy Story. We thank Sheryll deeply for this submission and sharing the bulldog love!

Olivia arrives at the hospital dressed for her day's work. She has bandanas for every holiday and every season. The workers can't wait to see what she will be wearing next. One time in the winter, it was really cold and there was so much salt in the parking lot that I put red boots on her and a jacket to match. Everyone just laughed when she came through the door. The news about Olivia's cold weather gear made it to the far side of the hospital before we even got there. The look on Olivia's face didn't help any. She was completely embarrassed by the boots and jacket but I do think she was glad to be walking in non-slip boots!

Sometimes there is a Teddy Bear Clinic. That is when preschoolers come to visit the hospital. Olivia loves children and will walk into their midst waiting for them all to pet her. We do have to be careful as each child brings their favorite stuffed Teddy. Olivia does try to check them out in case one might be a toy for her. I tell her to "leave it" as they aren't hers and she grudgingly obeys.

One time a volunteer's granddaughter came to the hospital. The girl was two years old and her name was also Olivia. This little girl talked as well as any five year old. She spoke to bull-dog Olivia like she was just another little person. The granddaughter Olivia told the bulldog Olivia that they both had the same name and that she was 2 years old. Then came the real test. The girl had a little bag of pretzels. I told therapy dog Olivia to "leave it" and the bulldog just sat next to the pretzel munching child and never even tried to take one. I was so proud of her.

Olivia has her favorite places to visit. She most looks forward to the Physical Therapy Department. Several years ago, Olivia had knee surgery and since then, everyone in that department fusses over her. They even bring her gifts for Christmas and write her thank-you cards for her service. Her second favorite area is the Oncology Department. The patients there are having chemo therapy treatments and have to stay for three to four hours. Some are nervous and worried and it seems to help ease their minds when they talk to Olivia and me. Many have their own dog stories to tell. Some have had to place their pets with other people because their illness makes it too difficult to care for their dogs. Seeing Olivia makes them especially happy. These people are sitting in recliners and unable to get close to the dog. While I am talking to a patient, Olivia lies next to them and waits for us to finish talking. Just last week, a man said that we had perfect timing. It was his first chemo treatment and Olivia was just what he needed. He was very thankful that we were visiting.

After these first two departments, we usually go to the surgical waiting room. Every week is different. Sometimes the people are too preoccupied to notice Olivia but other times there

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are people who just love to talk while they are waiting. The employees who work in the back checking people in and out always get called to come out front to see Olivia. Any new workers are ushered out to meet the star volunteer.

We always go to the emergency area as well. You can read the worry on the faces of these people. However, they look down at the bulldog and their expression changes to accommodate a smile.

A worker in this department once gave Olivia a tiny piece of apple. They are not supposed to treat the therapy dogs. Now every time Olivia arrives she goes behind the desk and checks to see if there is another apple piece waiting to be eaten. When we first started volunteering at the hospital, everyone had treats hiding in their desks. That quickly got out of hand. Olivia wasn't paying attention to me or to the patients. She was just going from desk to desk looking for those treats. The therapy dog rules state that only the owner can feed the dog and then only if the dog is doing something meriting a reward. The hospital finally had to post a note stating that the workers could not feed the dogs. At first, everyone was sad that they couldn't give treats, but now they understand and accept the rule.

Olivia does tricks for anyone willing to watch because she knows she will be rewarded with a treat. The people just love to see her do them. She will sit and put her paw in the air to say, "Hi!" to them. Next she will sit back with both paws up really high and I tell them that she is so big today.

One time when Olivia was at the hospital, a nurse had just taken a patient's blood pressure. After the lady talked to Olivia for a bit, the nurse said, "Let's take your blood pressure now." The patient's blood pressure had gone down. The lady was so surprised and as we went home, I felt that Olivia had done a good job that day.

Yet another time, there was a woman who was very old and very sick. She wanted to pet Olivia. Olivia got as close as she possibly could and stretched her neck to get even closer and then just stood so the elderly woman could pet her. Sometimes someone really wants to see her but they can't sit up so I pull a chair over and cover it with a towel. Olivia will get up in the chair so that they can see her. When she goes into a room where a lot of people happen to be, Olivia knows which person is sick and goes right to them. It is amazing to watch her use her instincts.

Don't think that a therapy dog is always perfect! Early in Olivia's career, we visited the hospital and she decided to be naughty. I had a thin lead on her. She wanted to go down a hallway that I had planned to avoid. She pulled so hard that she broke the lead! She ran into an unfamiliar place and I had no idea where she was going. I kept hoping that I could catch her before someone from the hospital turned down that hall. I was sure that Olivia would be fired

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before we even got started. Fortunately, she turned into a dead end and I was able to find her. To this day she will decide that she wants to go to a certain place and there is no stopping her. There have been times when I have been talking to someone and all of sudden she will pull me into a nearby room. She gives me no choice. Every time she has done this there has been a dog lover in that room. She has never gone into a room occupied by a person who doesn't want a visit from the therapy dog. Many times, when going from room to room, we encounter people who don't like dogs or who are just too sick to enjoy them. Once in a while, we will find someone who doesn't want to meet Olivia just because she is bulldog... they really don't know what they are missing!

We have also been invited to visit the hospital's administrative area. One of the workers has decorated her office with a lot of little stuffed animals. This is a very difficult place to visit. Olivia has a hard time leaving all of these toys alone. She doesn't touch them but I really have to hold her lead tightly as I am not convinced that she is paying any attention to the "leave it" command. The topper came when this person bought a toy for the dogs to play with when they visited her office. This particular toy squeaks and even a little dog could easily destroy it quickly. There is no other way to say this...Olivia is toy crazy. One of the therapy dog rules is, "No Barking." This toy obsessed therapy dog didn't care one bit about the rule and began barking and barking at that squeaky toy. We now stay away from that office as it is just too hard for Olivia to remain in control.

Olivia is definitely a bulldog with the kind of personality that has earned her the reputation



of "losing her brain" once in awhile. She runs and jumps and plays as though she were a much more agile breed. Somehow, when Olivia is working, she is so calm and quiet that people can't believe that she could ever be a wild woman. I would like to think that her role as therapy dog has been a calming influence but her current need for a surgical repair on her other knee confirms the opposite. Perhaps she is just determined to remain the favorite of the physical therapists!

You Write the Caption



Please send your captions to karen@pantheonbulldogs.com

Wrinkle Time







Party



Brags

Jenny and Smush got their RN tittle at TCOTC on the 23rd of Oct. Way to go!









Halloween
Party







Halloween Party



You Wrote the Caption

Just my snoring knocks him out; works every time!!

Thank god he stopped moving. I needed a nap!

I am the BEST babysitter!

Hey, he sleeps in my bed, he becomes my pillow.

Toddler-Pedic comfort

Tomorrow we sleep in his bed.

Football Sunday really takes it out of ya!

TOO MUCH TURKEY!

Visions of sugar plums danced in their head...

Friends make the best pillows.

This is the one for everyone! The Simply Perfect comfort pillow.

There is nothing better than a soft warm pillow.

Sometimes it is best to let sleeping dogs lie...even if it is on top of toddlers.



Household Hazards Checklist

Bathroom

Medications

In most homes, there is a wide variety of common items that are harmless to humans can be dangerous or even deadly to pets. The following is a list of items that should be either removed or stored out of the reach of pets.

Aspirin Vitamins Kitchen Foods Acetaminophen Naproxen Coffee grounds **Chewing Gum Cold Medicines Antihistamines** Macadamia Nuts Grapes/Raisins Prescription Drugs Antidepressants Avocado Alcohol lbuprofen Diet pills **Breath Fresheners** Rotten Food Soaps & Sundries Tea Yeast Dough ☐ Bath and hand soaps Garlic** Candy ☐ Toothpaste □ Sunblock Chocolate Onions Garage/Yard Fatty Foods Salt **Dangerous Chemical Products** Follow these rules for storage of cleaning products and Antifreeze ☐ Herbicides poisons: All cleaning products are in their original containers/ Fertilizers Deicing salts packages All cleaning products are in a secure cabinet or tight-Solvents **Paints** ly sealed container ☐ All poisons are completely inaccessible to pets Insecticides □ Gasoline Bedroom/Living Plants (Indoor or Outdoor) Miscellaneous Items Potpourri Products Lilly of the Valley Shamrock Loose Change Tobacco products Yew Philodendron Mothballs □ Alkaline Batteries Rhubarb Hibiscus PSCPets.com Certain Fungi Axalea Reproduced with permission. Rhododendron Castor bean Check out Oleander Certain Lilies www.probioticsmart.com □ Foxglove Corn plant **FYI, some people feed garlic Hydrangea

We are on Facebook!

No Bull...Just Fun!





www.wrinkletime.org

Watch Your Dog!

Just a reminder to keep an eye on your dogs when you are at our gatherings. You are responsible for their behavior when you are out in public. Wrinkle Time assumes no liability at gatherings. You assume the same liability you would at any other public event as Wrinkle Time does not screen attendees.

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You HAVE to check this place out! They are a HUGE supporter of bulldog rescues AND they have quality products and GOOD for your dog foods and treats! Plus they are super nice! -Karen

