

News From OurDogHouse

News from the Doghouse

If you dropped by OurDogHouse during the past few weeks, you were lucky enough to see some of our St. Petrick's Day pups decked out in green. If you missed them, make sure you stop by in April to see our Easter Parade, April 1 through April 12.

OurDogHouse Gives Back

OurDogHouse receives many requests for products for various charitable organizations and events throughout the year. We fulfill as many as these requests as we are able to. However, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your purchases at ourdoghouse.com and let you know that by supporting us, you are helping us to help others.

Feature Product

This month we are featuring our "When You Live With a Dog, Who Needs a Therapist" mug. Our furry friends are always happy to see us or lend an ear, no matter what kind of day we've had. A tail wag, and a sloppy kiss or two, can brighten up any day. Share the sentiment—it's available in all 39 breeds and on a variety of different products.



[Click here](#) to go to OurDogHouse online store.

Doggie Communities Benefits for You and Your Pup By Timothy Glass Copyright © OurDogHouse

From technology to spirituality, a good support system is vital to almost anything in life. It can be a lifeline, which helps you understand, celebrate, fix, help, and cope, just to name a few. However, for a pet owner, it can be an even greater asset than you realize.

For the proud parents of a new puppy, joining a community of other pet owners can provide a wealth of much needed information on topics from chewing to housebreaking. Let's face it, no one really understands a dog lover quite like another dog lover. We celebrate our dogs' milestones just as a proud parent would. Have you ever tried to explain how happy you are that your fur-baby no longer chews your best pair of pumps or no longer wets the carpet? Better yet, explain why the birthday invitations you're working on have puppy paws all over them. Chances are your co-workers may very well look at you like you're from another planet. While I am certainly not advocating not talking about your pet to non-pet owners, what I am saying is: think about joining a community of dog lovers.

Don't worry, there's no need for you and the pooch to pack your bags and travel off in search of a doggie community. They are as close as your computer system. If you enter the search string "dog forums" into your browser, you will be greeted with a literal smorgasbord of dog forums and groups on the web. Some are breed-specific; some are very general, while others have a universal area, which branches off into other groups that you may join if you wish. Best of all, almost all of them are free.

The benefit of being a member of a doggie community reaps many perks. As I said earlier, it can be a place to get advice or ask questions of other owners who may have gone through a similar experience as you are going through. You can celebrate your pooch's birthdays and milestones with others who understand why they are special. Some groups, like the one my wife and I belong to, have get-togethers for members who live in the same geographic area.

Most importantly, I believe these groups can be a source of understanding, prayer, and a virtual hug when experiencing difficult times such as a pet's illness or loss. This is why I feel it is so important to find a group that fits you and your pet before anything catastrophic happens.

With that said, I want to briefly talk about safety as well. The Internet is a vast array of people, be aware that there may be a mixture of good and bad. Try to find a group that has a moderator who monitors the posts. Nonetheless, always use the "least principle." The meaning of this is simple; give out only the minimum amount of information that is needed. Most times, these forums are set up so you can pick a nickname to use, and answers to your posts are sent to your message box on the forum. Furthermore, while people may give advice, always consult your veterinarian on medical issues.

Tag – You're It! **Copyright © OurDogHouse**

Responsible pet ownership goes beyond providing the basics of food, water, and shelter. It also includes tagging your pet with a form of identification. Unlike a child who can be taught to recite his name and address, your pet doesn't have a voice. Identification is your pet's ticket home if he or she gets lost.

According to the National Council on Pet Population Study and Policy, about one million dogs are found as strays and taken into U.S. animal shelters each year. Sadly, only 15 percent of those are reunited with their owners.

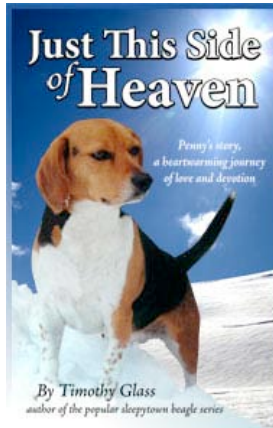
The American Humane Association kicks off their "Every Day is Tag Day" campaign on April 4th to remind people to keep their pets safe with either a nametag or a microchip. Even the most responsible pet owners can be accidentally or unexpectedly separated from their pets.

If you do opt for a nametag, check periodically to make sure that it is attached to your pet's collar and hasn't been lost. Also, check to make sure that it is still readable. Over time, the lettering can wear off, especially if your pet has a license or other tags on his collar.

Tag today and insure that your pup will always have a ticket home.

Just This Side of Heaven

See what people around the country are saying about Just This Side of Heaven, By Timothy Glass.



A must read, no matter what breed of dog you love. I found the chapter on the “Dash” to be powerful and meaningful; not only as a pet lover, but in my own life.

James Miller, Dallas. TX

I am a dog lover, and had lost my beloved bulldog. I came away after reading this book with a healing feeling; not only about my pet, but also the loss of my mother. Thank you for a wonderful book.

L. Paulson, White Plains, New York

Be prepared to laugh, cry, and look at the right of passage in a new and different way. A wonderful story told in a masterful way.

Albert Williams, Champaign, Illinois

[Click here](#) to learn more or purchase the book.

Until We Bark Again

For those of you who are new subscribers to our newsletter, we welcome you! To our long-time readers, we thank you for your continuing support! We hope you have enjoyed this month's newsletter and we welcome you to forward this issue to anyone else who might also enjoy it. If you have suggestions for future stories, we'd love to hear them! Please feel free to email your comments and suggestions to [OurDogHouse](#). You can follow our paw prints on [Twitter](#) or visit our Twitter update page on our [website](#).