

# As the Belly Bloats

A Chronicle of Rhonda Corkern's Pregnancy 12/31/87

## A Message from Rhonda

**H**ello everyone, it's been October since you received the first edition of "As the Belly Bloats". Hope all of you have had a Merry Christmas and hope your new year is a good one. Did everyone get what they wanted for Christmas?

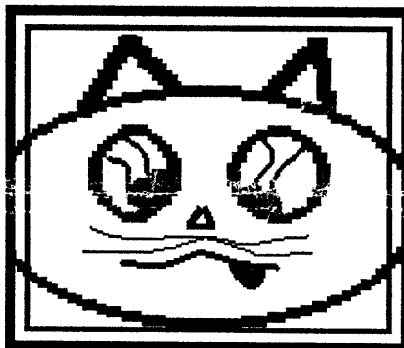
My pregnancy has been going well since sometime around the first of November, no sudden trips to the hospital or anything of that nature. It seems that just one day I woke up and felt much better and after that my stomach started pooching more and we started feeling the baby move. It all happened at once!

I had a sonogram around the 7th of November, just upon my request. We didn't see what sex the baby was because we really didn't want to. We saw him/her sucking his/her thumb and saw him/her scratching his/her neck. That was something Bruce and I will never forget. I may have another one around the first of February.

I've been steadily gaining weight. I've gained 2 pounds each visit, except for last visit I gained 3 1/2 pounds. I feel wonderful now, but where did my muscle tone go?! Everything is beginning to get mushy. Pregnancy does strange things to a body. My doctor seems pleased that I'm not gaining too much. Bruce has gained weight, too. I don't know what to do with him. Maybe he's nervous about something?

I talked to Carla not too long ago and she was looking forward to having their first Christmas with a new baby. Our baby (Otis) will be about 7 or 8 months old next Christmas. That's a good age, maybe he/she will know what's going on. We bought a Sony camcorder for Christmas so we'll have enough time to learn to operate it

well before the baby is born.



## Cat's Corner

I had an ad in the first edition of "As the Belly Bloats" to try to drum up some new parents, but my efforts were unsuccessful. Aunt Carolyn and Uncle Mark tried to call, but I was out mousing around and missed the call. They are not exactly the parents I want if I'm trying to avoid being around children, anyway.

I've had a few close calls in my short life and Mom and Dad are beginning to wonder if I'm suicidal. I heard them discussing whether they should take me to a "Catiarist" for some help. I think they just lay too many traps for me. I'm just a little clumsy at times.

A long time ago, I got caught under the kitchen cabinet. My flea collar was twisted around the cold water controls, and the more I struggled the tighter it got. Around 11:30 p.m. Mom heard me yelling up a storm and came to my rescue. She had to cut the collar off with scissors and in the process she cut my neck a little bit. I'm just thank-

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## Recipes

### Artichoke Something?

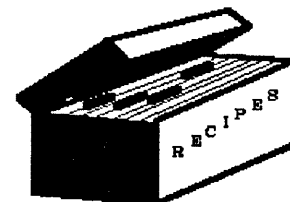
2 pkgs chicken Rice-a-Roni (cooked and cooled)  
3/4 cup bell pepper  
6-8 green onions, chopped  
1 6oz jar marinated artichoke hearts  
3/4 cup mayonaise  
1 teaspoon curry powder

- \* Add pepper, onion, and drained artichoke hearts (save some liquid).
- \* Mix liquid from artichokes, mayonaise, and curry powder
- \* Mix with other ingredients.
- \* Chill and eat.
- \* Very good and easy.
- \* From the kitchen of Rhonda Corkern

### Savory Supper

Chicken  
Water sufficient for processing  
Fish, Mackerel  
Liver, Liver digest  
Wheat flour  
Dried whole egg  
Caramel color  
Vitamin Supplements  
Artificial stink

- \* Process ingredients in large factory.
- \* Add artificial stink.
- \* Shove into a can.
- \* Open and eat.
- \* Very good and easy.
- \* From the kitchen of Caddo (the cat!)
- \* Hee Hee



# Name that Kid!

\* No rules!

\* No prizes!

\* No sense!

We're having a **NAME THAT KID CONTEST**. As you may have noticed, Otis is the only name we've come up with, due to the fact that Mom and Dad don't seem to agree on anything. Seriously, Otis is just a joke between us and you can take the **NAME THAT KID CONTEST** as a joke and send in more weird names like Otis, or you can take it seriously and send in some names that might be of some help to us.

I'm sure you're asking yourself, "**WHAT DO I NEED TO DO TO ENTER?!**" It's simple! Just choose one name for a boy and one name for a girl (don't spend a lot of time on the girl's name...we don't really need it! HA!). Fill out the entry form below and mail it back to us. The winner will be chosen completely at random, and the baby will go through life as the victim of a cruel joke. No, really, Rhonda and Bruce will choose the winning name, then we'll pretend we made it up and the winner will never hear from us again!

Boy	First	Middle
Girl	_____	_____
	_____	_____
Your name _____		
Address _____		
City, St Zip _____		
Planet _____		
* All entries must be postmarked by a certain date, but we're not going to tell you when.		
* Void where prohibited by good taste.		
* For a list of prior contest winners, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Contest Winners, P.O. Box 287, Bismarck, N.D. 99999. Enclose a \$3,000 processing fee.		

Cat's Corner (Continued from  
ful that she's a light sleeper. V If  
she wasn't, I would have been  
tender vittles!

Another time, the windows  
were up in the house and I  
spotted a bug at the top of the  
window. I leaped for the bug  
and missed. On the way back  
down I bumped the window and  
brought it down with me and  
onto my paws. OUCH! I  
looked the kitten in that poster  
that says "Hang in there!" Dad  
saved me that time.

A third time I was sitting in  
my favorite rocking chair and  
got the sudden urge to jump  
through the back of it. Some-  
how the chair caught my legs  
and left me hanging. Once  
again, Dad saved me. I limped a  
while, but was not hurt other-  
wise.

Mom and Dad think I do all  
this for the extra attention, but I  
swear I don't mean to. Things  
just happen to me...for instance,  
the other day I ate some stuff off  
the Christmas tree and excreted  
tinsel! Coulda happened to  
anybody. What the heck, I've  
got 6 more lives!

