

# BSTTW COMMUNITY NEWS

Volume 15 Issue 2

June 2018

## BSTTW REBUILDING LIVES

### BSTTW REBUILDING LIVES

#### BSTTW Online Community

By: Michael Appleman, CEO

**BSTTW** has been offering information, an internet site and a support team to the burn survivor community since August 2001. The **BSTTW Online Community (BOC)** is a private online community for burn survivors, caregivers, doctors, family members, firefighters, militaries, and volunteers.

Due to the fact that there are Hackers, Spam individuals and Sellers all membership applications must be reviewed. This will help **BSTTW** to weed out the majority of Hackers, Spammers and Sellers.

All members can enjoy the following:

- Articles
- Links
- Your Events
- Blogs
- Forums
- Downloads
- News
- Pictures
- Notebooks
- Groups
- Typing chat
- Audio/video chat
- Email other members
- **BSTTW's** Upcoming Events



- Members can create your own clubs and invite people, who share your interests
- Conferences with burn survivors, family members, surgeons, nurses, hospitals, burn units, actors, actresses, musicians and more
- Create friendships
- Share your stories and poems

**A BURN SURVIVOR'S LIFE DOES NOT END....**

All **BSTTW Online Community Members** are automatically added to the **BSTTW E-List**, **BSTTW Update E-List** and the **BSTTW News E-List**. **BOC** members are given the option to join the **BSTTW Online Burn Survivor & Family Member Sites (BSCS)**. The **BSCS** allows you to create four internet pages expressing your experiences.

The **BOC** is a great place to meet new and see old friends, chat, express your experiences and  
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enjoy being with individuals who understand and care about you.

To learn more about **BSTTW Online Community** and find out how to join go to <http://www.burnsurvivorsttw.org/community/membership.php>

If you have any questions do not hesitate to contact **BSTTW** by email at [michael@burnsurvivorsttw.org](mailto:michael@burnsurvivorsttw.org), by telephone at 936-483-9014 or fill out and submit the **BSTTW eForm** at <http://www.burnsurvivorsttw.org/eforms/emailform.html>

## DOG BEHAVIOR PROBLEMS

By: Cheryl Nichols

### BEHAVIOR PROBLEMS

My name is Cheryl. I am a Dog Obedience Trainer/Instructor. Today I want to speak to you about Behavior Problems. I'll begin with the story of Cosmo.

Cosmo, was a spunky little Maltese owned by a widowed, middle-aged woman. He was the apple of his owner's eye. He was pampered and lived in the lap of luxury. Cosmo was unable to be on his own for even small amounts of time without pitching a fit and damaging the house. As a solution he would often travel with his owner in a small tote bag. Little price to pay for a happy dog, she would reason. He had no obedience training, but he was a small dog, what harm could it cause to pamper him and allow him his freedom? Cosmo on the other hand, had other ideas about what this pampering meant. He'd soon start to place himself on his owner's lap anytime visitors would come to the house and growl viciously as they approached him. His owner would whisper soothing words and pet him softly, which

only made Cosmo growl louder at his oncoming victim. He was guarding his owner, and in his mind that was a perfectly reasonable thing to do. He was after all the boss, as he'd been shown as much throughout his entire life and he had a duty to keep his owner safe. Who knew what these strangers would do? Cosmo's owner brushed it off as an eccentric trait, something cute and not worthy of further thought. The day Cosmo bit a family friend and caused several puncture wounds she finally realized that her tiny pile of fluff was out of control!

How did this happen to Cosmo? Was he a typical, energetic, lovable puppy who suddenly turned into the dog equivalent of a raving lunatic? No, of course not. He was simply a product of too much affection at all the wrong times and too little training. His bad behavior was reinforced every time his owner would soothe him as he barked and snarled, and he was rewarded for being bossy each time also, as when he ran full tilt into someone he would get picked up as a result. He was never taught to be calm in the face of stress and relaxed alone. Instead, he was rewarded for his outbursts by being taken along on the trip. Cosmo was taught that he could do no wrong and that was his downfall. Cosmo's case is a shining example that this can happen to any dog, not just the Rottweilers or the Pit Bulls of the world. Aggression and disobedience show no preference to breed, age, color, or



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sex.

Now you may be thinking, but my dog is fine, he's pampered and showered with affection and he's never so much as grumbled at anyone. My dog is the exception! If you have a dog that is allowed to do as he pleases without any rules, boundaries or training and it hasn't resorted to showing aggression to achieve his goals, then you've got a dog with a good, solid temperament. BUT, a lack of leadership and training can bring out any form of aggression in your dog that lies below the surface. The truth is, aggression is not the only side effect due to a lack of leadership on the owner's part, it often has a ripple effect that can touch every aspect of your dog's behavior.

It's very common for owners to unconsciously behave in a way that allows their dog to take over the household without even realizing they're doing so. You no doubt treat your dog as part of the family, which in itself is not a bad thing, but those little actions we do everyday without even realizing it may be giving your dog the impression that he's the one running the house, not you. Dogs judge rank through daily interactions and simple behaviors, not big battles. Nose nudging is often the first attempt at moving up the ranks. This seemingly sweet behavior is not only annoying, it can give your dog the wrong idea about his place in your pack, and the idea that you live to serve him. Fawning over your dog for no reason, giving him excessive amounts of attention, allowing him to take over the furniture, pester you, push you around, and catering to his every whim are just a few of the ways your human behavior may be affecting your dog's behavior.

Each time your dog sits in front of you, places a paw on your knee or shoves a nose under your arm you think "He's just looking for some attention." Right? When you pet a dog who has nudged or pestered you, you are not saying "I love you", you are actually saying "I obey you." The dog gave you a clear command - "Pet me now!" and you obeyed. Complying with your dog's demands, no matter how sweet they may seem, is the first step toward dis-obedient behavior. A common response to this is "But he just wants love." "What harm could it do?" A simple behavior can make such a big impact on how your dog responds to you. By petting your dog each time he nudges you, you've actually trained him exactly how to get the attention he seeks. To correct this, when your dog comes over for attention, you pet him, he nudges you for more attention and you ignore him, he gets frustrated and lies down, THEN you pet your dog and tell him how wonderful he is. You've just told him in no un-certain terms that you'll no longer give in to his demands and the only way to get your affection is to **quit asking for it**. You rewarded him for calm behavior and ignored him for rude behavior.

Darting out ahead of you on walks or through doorways is another common way a dog will move up the ranks. It's often thought of as an excited dog, simply eager to get where you're going. But if you pay attention to how dogs behave with one another you'll notice that leaders go first and followers follow. By following behind your dog you're again telling him that he's running the show. Instead, your dog should wait for permission before going through doorways and walk next to or slightly behind you. Exceptions would be Service Dogs. These are just a few examples of

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how simple interactions you may be having with your dog could give him the wrong impression about who's in charge.

Does your dog ignore you? Maybe he knows a command yet chooses to go sniff that cute poodle instead? This is such a common problem that most owners figure it is just the way dogs are. Not so. Not only is ignoring commands a bad habit, but it can be a strong sign that your dog literally does not think you're worth listening to! You may have taught him to do so by constantly repeating your commands. Constantly repeating your commands simply teaches your dog that you're not serious and have no intention of following through on any command issued. Leaders are not inconsistent and they don't bluff. So your dog won't respect you as such if there is no follow through. Aggression, as well as many other behavior problems, most often comes from a dog that sees himself as the head of the household or ALPHA. As long as everything goes his way, he's peachy. Cross him, and you'll get growled at, snapped at, or worse.

**"If your dog ignores you or walks away when you issue a command, take it seriously!"**

Does your dog stop eating or chewing when approached? Let's set the scene. Fido is chewing his favorite toy. He's deep in the moment and having a grand time ripping it to shreds. You walk toward him, and he stops. If you make a move toward the toy, he tenses up, grumbles and moves

his head to block your hand. This is not good. Nothing in your house belongs to him. Toys, food, bowls, beds are all yours. You allow him the privilege of using them. He has absolutely no right to claim them as his own or warn you from them. Does he mark the house, demand attention and generally act disobedient? These are just a few of the common behaviors many dog's display. As owners it's up to us to give our dogs direction, to provide structure and proper training. Without those things it's nearly impossible to gain your dog's respect. Love, you can get. Respect is earned. It's that respect that will determine if your dog obeys your recall command or gets hit by a car, if he chooses to sit when you say so or plow over your guests. Dogs only obey who they respect, which means any work you put into establishing yourself as the leader of your pack is a worthwhile effort, whether you have an aggressive dog, or one that just needs some manners.

## **"TOP" Dog Problems**

### **Aggression**

Aggression toward humans rarely, if ever, goes away on it's own. Once you've got it you'd better take fast action or it will only get worse. If your dog is growling, snarling or snapping, address the problem now, don't wait. Please, seek qualified professional help immediately.

Try not to rationalize your dog's behavior:

"He doesn't like..."

"He was scared..."

"You shouldn't have..."

The reality is your dog could have chosen a different behavior to deal with the situation. He chose to threaten a human.

This is always a serious problem, even

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when your dog is wonderful and lovable 99% of the time. The test of an aggressive dog is not what he does when he's relaxed but how he handles stress. It's that 1% that's dangerous!

## Jumping

We've all seen it. The over excited dog barreling across the room and planting two paws on someone's chest in an unwanted greeting. Jumping is a common problem and one that can be annoying but also dangerous to those jumped on. Dogs are not born with the knowledge of how to greet humans, so it's up to us to teach them. Instead of scolding your dog for jumping up, try teaching him what behavior you DO want to see, then help him succeed by asking for that behavior before any jumping begins. Teaching a solid sit command is a great alternative. Make your point clear. Jumping gets him no attention, while sitting gets him plenty. Then practice and practice some more. He'll get it.

## Marking

Marking behavior in an adult dog can often be confused for a house-training issue when in reality it's a leadership issue. Marking is a dog's way of asserting himself as 'top dog'. He marks a space that he 'owns'. In some cases dogs have even gone so far as to mark people! A marking dog is a clear sign he may be confused about his place in your pack. Supervise your dog to prevent marking. If supervision is not possible, make good use of your crate or "doggy" diapers. Allowing him to practice this behavior will only make it harder to resolve.

## Leash Pulling

Hundreds of dogs are currently dragging their owners behind them as they chase after a squirrel, rush to greet another dog and pull like maniacs to get to some unknown destination. Leash pulling, aside from making your walks a nightmare can also be dangerous. Some dogs pull so forcefully they damage their throats. Many owners have hit the dirt hard when an untrained dog caught sight of something more interesting and decided to check it out. Not to mention the fact that a hard pulling dog can wrench the leash right out of an owner's hand and face the possibility of getting lost, hit by a car or stolen. Every dog, regardless of breed, is capable of having a solid recall. The dangers of having a dog that runs off are many. Dogs stick with the pack, and most importantly, the leader. Become that leader and you're on your way to having a Velcro Dog.

## Selective Hearing

If your dog ignores a command he already knows he has selective hearing. He's making the choice to ignore you and go about his business. That falling leaf or patch of grass is far more interesting than you and he's very clearly telling you so in dog language. You may wonder. "Maybe I didn't say it loud enough?" No, your dog can hear your whisper from across the room. He heard you say sit, he just didn't do it. "But he was so excited".....you say. Sorry, being happy to see you or eager to greet another dog is no excuse to ignore a command. That's what training is for. It's

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to control your dog when it really counts, not just in the living room when he's relaxed and focused.

### **Destructive behavior**

Have you come home to a tattered book, frayed rug or punctured sofa? You have a destructive dog. And what's worse is that he cowers when you find the evidence, he must know he's done something wrong, right? As much as we want to think our dogs know exactly what damage they're causing, your dog doesn't think like that. He's chewing your shoes because they have your scent on them, or ripping the sofa because it's fun. There's no malice or spite behind these actions. His cowering is in response to YOUR behavior. You're no doubt upset at the evidence you've found and your dog can pick up on that, that is what causes him to slink away and cower, not a sense of remorse. Destructive behavior is often the result of no exercise and a lack of training. A dog who is secure in his place in your pack and has had adequate exercise is less likely to re-decorate your home while you're away. If this behavior continues after training and exercise have been provided, then your dog may have Separation Anxiety which often requires further training to overcome.

### **Resource guarding**

This is the dog who resource guards, snaps, snarls or bites when someone tries to take away something of value. A Kleenex may be a high value item to your



dog. In general anything he has, and wants to keep is high value. If your dog is displaying this behavior, don't wait, get help now! This is not a behavior that will go away on it's own. "But he only growls around his favorite toy, can't I just keep it away from him?" You say. A true resource guarder will transfer his aggression to another object if the original item of desire is gone. Even if your dog truly only shows aggression when he has his green ball, who's to say someone else won't find that green ball and bring it out? The risks are too high to simply not give a certain toy or treat. The aggression needs to be treated at the source and that means altering the way you interact with your dog to change his behavior. Seek professional help.

### **Here Are Some Leadership Exercises You Can Use**

#### **Attention**

Showering your dog with affection for no apparent reason will only lower your rank in the pack. Submissive dogs fawn over their leaders. By fawning over your dog you're telling him that he's on top of the totem pole. You can easily combat this by simply asking your dog to do a command before giving him attention. We all appreciate what we have to work for more than what we get for free. Your dog thinks the same way.

#### **Play time**

All games should start and stop when you say so. If a ball finds its way into your lap, or a toy gets flung toward you, simply ignore it. Once your dog has given up, THEN you can call him over and initiate the

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game yourself. Be sure that all games also stop when you say so. A good rule of thumb is to leave the dog wanting more. So don't wait until he's tired of the game before you stop. This is a simple and effective way to assert your leadership. Feel free to play with you dog whenever you like, but be the one who starts it.

### Work for a living

Well mannered dogs 'work' for everything they want by doing commands first. Before going outside, ask him to sit, before petting or giving attention ask for a down. Every interaction with your dog is a chance to practice your training. Feel free to mix it up and keep him on his toes by asking for different commands through out the day. This gives you plenty of opportunities to work with your dog on obedience training without having to set aside thirty minutes each day to do so.

**But I don't want to be mean to him!** This is a common response from owners. Many feel that asking their dog to work for a living is cruel and that dogs should be allowed to 'just be dogs'. The fact is that you don't have to be a Drill Sergeant. A good leader is calm and fair, not a harsh dictator. It's up to you to be aware of your body language, tone of voice and to reward your dog for correct responses. Doing so will ensure that you both enjoy your time together.

### Exercise

We all know the saying "a tired dog is a good dog," and it's true. Exercise is an important factor to how well your dog behaves and obeys your commands. A dog with boundless energy and no outlet is like a coiled spring just waiting to explode

and they often do so at the most inopportune times. By providing plenty of exercise you're setting him up to succeed when you start training. A calm dog is one that is able to focus on his owner and provide quick responses. An overly excited dog becomes frustrated easily during training, which makes any responses to you slow if not non-existent.

### The down command

Laying down is a submissive position for your dog. Ideally he should lie down without a fuss as soon as you issue the command. If you're not getting this response then it's time to start to practice this more. If your dog refuses to lie down, snaps, grumbles or otherwise protests this is a clear sign that there's something lacking in your relationship. A dozen downs a day will get your dog back on the right track and make obedience second nature.

You never want to give a command you cannot enforce. Dogs are acutely aware of our body language, probably more so than we are, and each inflection of your voice, tip of your head and movement of your body has meaning to them. It's up to you to learn how to properly give commands, rewards and fair corrections. If you're willing to put in the time and effort the end result will be a well mannered dog who knows his place in your pack and is eager to obey your next command. The key is consistency and effort, and this one is no exception. Your dog's ability to change is directly linked to your ability to follow through and be consistent. Training



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is a lifelong commitment so get ready to enjoy the ride.

## Kidde Recalls More Than 40 Million Fire Extinguishers

Some recalled extinguishers date as far back as 1973; one death has been reported in the recall

By Mary H.J. Farrell  
November 02, 2017

Kidde has recalled more than 40 million fire extinguishers used in homes, vehicles, and boats because they can become clogged or fail to discharge during a fire.

The company has received one report of a related death in 2014, when a fire extinguisher failed to work during a car fire. There have been 16 injuries, 91 reports of property damage, and 391 reports of the extinguishers either not working at all or not working properly.

But the numbers don't stop there. The recall includes 134 models manufactured as far back as 1973 and as recently as August 2017. All the units have a plastic handle or plastic push button. Units with a metal handle or valve assembly are not included in the recall. The plastic handles and buttons can break or detach when force is applied.

The fire extinguishers were sold under dozens of different brand names, all listed on the Consumer Product Safety Commission recall notice.

This is the third time Kidde has issued a recall for this type of fire extinguisher, and it's by far the largest. The earlier recalls were made in March 2009 and February 2015.

"This recall raises very serious questions about how millions of defective products ended up in the marketplace and why it took the company years or even decades to find out about the problem or take it seriously," says William Wallace, policy analyst for Consumers Union, the policy and mobilization division of Consumer Reports. "Kidde owes the public an explanation—and the company shouldn't rest

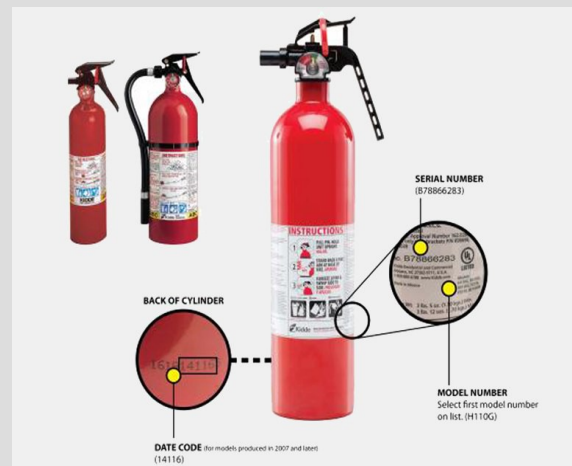
until it gets as many of these fire extinguishers returned as possible."

The recalled fire extinguishers came in red, silver, and white and were sold nationwide for \$12 to \$200 at department stores, hardware stores, and home improvement stores, as well as at online retailers, including Amazon and ShopKidde. The fire extinguishers were also sold with some commercial trucks, recreational vehicles, personal watercraft, and boats.

## What to Do

Kidde is offering free replacements to anyone who owns one or more of the recalled units. "Consumers with a recalled fire extinguisher should contact Kidde right away," Wallace says.

To claim a replacement, check the brand name and model number of your fire extinguisher against the CPSC recall notice. The model numbers are printed on the body of the fire extinguisher (see photos above and below). You can call Kidde at 855-271-0773 or visit the Kidde website, where you can fill out a form to get a new unit.



Kidde says it will ship the replacement within 10 to 15 days of getting your information. No receipt is required. The company is asking consumers to keep their current model until they get the new one. It will arrive with

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instructions on how to return the old one.

### How Old Is Your Fire Extinguisher?

Though the recall goes back 44 years, no one should keep a fire extinguisher that long. "If you have a rechargeable fire extinguisher of any age—regardless of whether it's covered by the recall—and you are not sure if it is in good working order, you should replace it immediately," says Don Huber, director of product safety for Consumer Reports. "If you have a nonrechargeable fire extinguisher in your home 12 years older than the date of manufacture, you should also replace it. That's because the fire retardant chemicals lose effectiveness over time."

### When to Use a Fire Extinguisher

If you are at home or in another building and a fire breaks out, the U.S. Fire Administration recommends that you first answer each of these questions before using a fire extinguisher.



- Has everyone been alerted that there's a fire?
- Has the fire department been called?
- Am I physically capable of properly using a fire extinguisher?

- Is the fire small and contained in a small area or in a single object (like a pan or a wastebasket)?
- Am I safe from toxic smoke that may be associated with the fire?
- Do I have an unobstructed escape route?

"If you've answered yes to all of these questions, you can use a fire extinguisher," Huber says. "If you're unsure if it's safe to use a fire extinguisher, get everyone out of building, then immediately dial 911 to alert the fire department."

### Psychological Trauma Due To A Burn Injury

By: Michael Appleman, M.S.

Major burn injuries can be very upsetting both physically and mentally. A burn survivor, family members and friends may have to deal with an upsetting situation for days, months and possibly years to come. Over fifty percent of burn survivors can deal with the psychological situations that come after surviving a major burn injury. In time a burn survivor, their family members and friends gradually advance to a successful long term emotional recovery.

Unfortunately during the recovery time and for months and even years after a burn survivor may have to deal many challenges due to the aftermath of the burn injury. Any depression or anxiety existing before the burn injury increases the chances and severity of those symptoms after the injury.

Psychological distress can occur several days or even several weeks after an injury. Common causes of psychological distress after burn injury include:

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- Reliving the event – how the injury happened and watching others who were badly injured or killed
- Physical discomfort pain while the wound is healing; itching
- Worries about the future
- Changes in appearance because of scars and contractures
- Financial concerns
- The impact of the injury of family members
- Difficulty with physical therapy exercises and regaining range of motion
- Loss of independence and dependence on others
- Limitations in physical abilities
- Loss of lifestyle
- Interruption of daily life activities and roles
- Challenges with intimacy

Burn survivors often report feeling: helpless, hopeless, sad, anxious, irritable, isolated, upset about needing help from others, jumpy, guarded, and alone. Even a physical reaction such as heart racing, trouble breathing or sweating, can occur when the patient is reminded of the injury.

Burn survivors often have trouble falling asleep, and staying asleep, due to thoughts about the way they were injured and worry about additional bad things that might happen. Burn survivors will go to great lengths to avoid thinking or talking about the injury and how it happened. In addition, they will avoid situations that remind them of the accident.

Psychological distress affects the way the mind works and the ways the body functions. This distress can worsen any preexisting medical conditions and can impede recovery from the burn in a number of ways by:

- Intensifying pain and itching
- Reducing diligence in participating in rehabilitation therapies and wound care
- Minimizing interest and joy in daily activities
- Interrupting sleep

- Making communication with others difficult

It is imperative for burn survivors to keep their medical team apprised of any and all challenges in their emotional recovery. Like sharing any problem, consulting with professionals and other survivors can relieve psychological distress. Burn survivors need to treat their recovery process slowly and carefully. It takes a while for anyone to accept an injury and the changes it has made to their life. Staying connected with friends and family is vital as is asking for support. Treatment suggestions include the following:

- Avoid napping during the day and focus on getting adequate sleep at night
- Eat healthy foods
- Keep active and exercise regularly
- Avoid tobacco, alcohol and illicit drugs all of which create anxiety and alter mood
- Focus on tasks that can be done now instead of on those that are currently not possible due to the injury
- Resume a normal routine as soon as possible
- Participate in one enjoyable, positive activity daily
- Do all the things enjoyed before the injury once medically cleared to do so

Support from peers can be very helpful. Get support from professionally led support groups, and participate in scheduled on-line discussions. Get help from other survivors. Health care providers can help identify these resources.

Burn survivors should seek professional help if their distress is severe and interferes with their quality of life. Psychiatrists, psychologists, and social workers who have experience in treating people with severe burn injuries may be very helpful. Some of the methods they may use to help alleviate distress include: cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT), stress management, coping strategies, and communication skills. Medications may be used to treat depression, anxiety and sleep disorders.

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Burn survivors may endure unimaginable physical and emotional trauma with long-term consequences. You can't always see the horrible psychological damage caused by a severe burn injury, but it is every bit as real and damaging as the physical manifestations. It is vital for the injured person to know that civil law exists to compensate an individual for injuries and losses which were caused by some other form of misconduct or failure to act.

Persons who are injured in accidents and their families are often reluctant to contact an attorney because they believe the accident or injury was caused by the injured individual in some way. This may not be the case. Even if the injured individual is partially at fault, it is still possible that more than one person or entity may have contributed to the cause of the accident or injury and a substantial monetary recovery is still possible.

Anyone who has sustained a serious burn injury should consult with an attorney experienced in this area of the law as soon as possible to determine whether a Personal Injury claim should be pursued. It is up to you, the burn survivor, to pursue your legal rights by choosing an attorney with all the qualifications, expertise, and a winning track record on behalf of burn survivors and their families.

## United States 2017 Fire Statistics

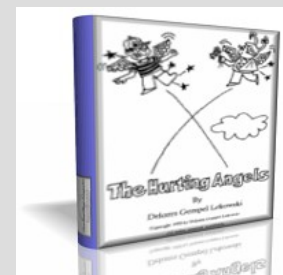
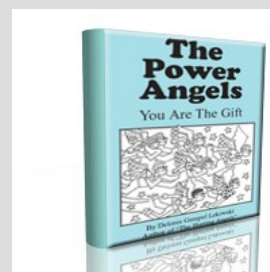
In 2017 the United States came close to breaking previous statistics. The acres burned in the 50 states, 9,781,062, was the second highest number since dependable records have been kept. That is 49 percent higher than the average over the last 10 years. Surprisingly since 1990 the acres that have burned has increased dramatically, the total number of fires has been slowly decreasing. In 2017, 66,131 fires were reported. That was 4 percent lower than the 10-year average.

Fires in Alaska are dealt with differently than the other 49 states in the USA. Most of them

are not fully suppressed due to the fact that the fires are less likely to jeopardize people or private property than what happens in the lower 49 states. The second reason is that the fire occurrence is extremely variable with the acres burned.

The average fire size in 1990 was approximately 22 acres in 1990. In 2017 the number increased over 170 acres. The average size in 2017 was 139 acres. There could be a number of reasons for this huge increase. The reasons are below:

- When weather is warmer and drier than usual this causes fires more difficult to control and put out.
- One hundred years of fire suppression has caused forests to become more dense. The fires burn with greater intensity.
- Usually due to safety reasons a less assertive strategy is being used on large fires.
- For environmental reasons many fires are permitted to burn naturally without full suppression.
- Possibly there might have been a change in the initial attack of new fires, initially responding with less equipment and personnel.



## Burned Children Need Your Help

Donate to the  
BSTTW World Wide Burned  
Children's Fund

At

[http://www.burnsurvivorsttw.org/  
donations/donationschild.html](http://www.burnsurvivorsttw.org/donations/donationschild.html)





In 2016 12,775 burn injuries occurred. Ten thousand seven hundred and fifty of those injuries occurred at residential fires. Worldwide every thirty seconds a burn injury occurs. That means that thousands of individuals worldwide suffer a burn injury every thirty seconds and so many of them contact **Burn Survivors Throughout The World, Inc. (BSTTW)**, for help. With your donations **BSTTW** can continue to take part in rebuilding the lives of the individuals and families who contact us.

To continue our work rebuilding lives, **BSTTW** is in need of automobiles, clothes, finances, food, furniture, homes, kitchen supplies, land, medications, medical supplies, music, televisions, stereo equipment and more.

If **Burn Survivors Throughout The Word, Inc.** can receive a new or an excellent working automobile and automobile insurance the **BSTTW Support Team** will be able to travel to burn survivor's homes, burn units, help burn survivors get to doctors, rehabilitation appointments, grocery stores, etc. So please if you have an automobile that you are willing to donate to **BSTTW** please contact us at 936-483-9014.

**You can mail your checks and other donations to Burn Survivors Throughout the World, Inc. at:**

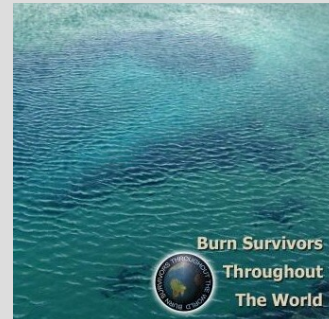
Burn Survivors Throughout The World, Inc.  
16193 Lone Star Ranch Drive #102  
Conroe, TX 77302

<http://www.burnsurvivorsttw.org/list/donations.html>

*NEVER GIVE UP, NEVER GIVE IN, NEVER  
QUIT...life IS TOO PRECIOUS*

*BURN SURVIVORS HELPING BURN  
SURVIVORS...THIS IS WHAT IT IS  
ALL ABOUT!*

*"Dwight Lunkley"*





### BSTTW POEMS

to I began writing poems during my recovery in order to not only help himself, but to offer support and positive thoughts to all burn survivors and family member who are going through a rough time. I ask you all to never give up and continue to do what I and so many others have done during and after recovery... find the support needed to work through the rough time and continue moving forward in your life.

If you would like to submit a poem or story to **BSTTW** you can do so by email at [poems@burnsurvivorsttw.org](mailto:poems@burnsurvivorsttw.org) or [stories@burnsurvivorsttw.org](mailto:stories@burnsurvivorsttw.org). **BSTTW** also has a program on our internet site that allows you to submit your stories and poems electronically. You can submit the full story at [www.burnsurvivorsttw.org/stories/storymaker.html](http://www.burnsurvivorsttw.org/stories/storymaker.html) and your full poem at [www.burnsurvivorsttw.org/poems/poemmaker.html](http://www.burnsurvivorsttw.org/poems/poemmaker.html)

*Michael Appleman, CEO*



*BSTTW  
Online  
Community*

#### Self

After the injury you changed a lot  
The look you see is not so hot

People may not see who you truly are  
That is due to the look of the scar

Spirits from others can show us all  
We suffered but they act as if they  
will fall

They do not see our inside  
For most the fear of our scars are  
their guide

The burn survivor community allows us  
to be  
The inner beauty for us all to see

When together in any way  
Our lives can show who we are each day

Others may not tell how they feel  
Our lives is not what they want to  
steel

*Michael Appleman*

You can contact the **BSTTW Support Team** by filling out the **BSTTW Support Team Eform** at [http://www.burnsurvivorsttw.org/eforms/support\\_email.html](http://www.burnsurvivorsttw.org/eforms/support_email.html) or by telephone 936-483-9014

**BSTTW  
Weekly Chat**

## Take Part in Rebuilding Lives

### Donate To BSTTW:

- All types of Services
  - Automobiles
- Credit Card Donations
  - Online or by Phone
  - Furniture
- Finances by Cash, Check or Credit Card
  - Homes
  - Medical Supplies
  - Medical Treatment
    - Medications
  - Permanent Cosmetics
    - Rehabilitation
    - Tattoos
- Using A Credit Card

Donate To BSTTW

### Donate On Line Using Any of the Following:



## DONATE TO BSTTW

As a 501 (c)(3) Non-Profit Organization, **BSTTW** depends on donations from corporations, organizations, families and individuals. All donations, big or small are tax deductible to the extent allowed by the United States government tax laws. **BSTTW** has several different funds that you can donate to. The **BSTTW General Fund**, the **BSTTW World Wide Burned Children's Fund, USA & Asian Burn Camp Funds, and The Asian Fund**.

Your donations will help **BSTTW** to do what is needed to help a burn survivor, family members rebuild their lives. It will also be used for public awareness on fire safety and how the community can help a burn survivor reenter their community.

**BSTTW** also offers people that donate \$30.00 or higher a free copy of the **BSTTW Music CD**. To learn more about this you should go to [www.burnsurvivorsttw.org/donations/donatecd.html](http://www.burnsurvivorsttw.org/donations/donatecd.html) or [www.burnsurvivorsttw.org/donations/donations.html](http://www.burnsurvivorsttw.org/donations/donations.html)

Remember your donations can be money, clothes, a bicycle etc.. All will help burn survivors and their family. Many families loose their homes and property. Please personally think about and talk to your family and friends about donating to **BSTTW**.

### MAKE DONATIONS PAYABLE TO & MAIL TO:

Burn Survivors Throughout The World, Inc.  
16193 Lone Star Ranch Drive #102  
Conroe, Texas 77302

## DONATE ONLINE

To learn more about donating on line go to:  
[www.burnsurvivorsttw.org/donations/donations.html](http://www.burnsurvivorsttw.org/donations/donations.html)

If you have any questions call us at 936-483-9014 or by email at:  
[donations@burnsurvivorsttw.org](mailto:donations@burnsurvivorsttw.org)

### **BSTTW Online Shop**

**Donate to BSTTW by purchasing the BSTTW E-Books, BSTTW Music CD, Skin Care Products and by going to the BSTTW Online Shop at**

[www.burnsurvivorsttw.org/bsttwshop/index.php](http://www.burnsurvivorsttw.org/bsttwshop/index.php)

or you can learn more by going to

[www.burnsurvivorsttw.org/sales/sales.html](http://www.burnsurvivorsttw.org/sales/sales.html)

### **VOLUNTEERING YOUR TIME**

There are many children, adults and families around the world who need support and other assistance. You do not have to be a burn survivor or family member to become a **BSTTW Volunteer**. All you need to do is become a **BSTTW Member** and then apply to become a **BSTTW Volunteer**. If you are a burn survivor or family member to become a **BSTTW Member**, fill out the **BSTTW Membership & Profile Registration E-Form** at:

[www.burnsurvivorsttw.org/membership/memform.html](http://www.burnsurvivorsttw.org/membership/memform.html)

Next fill out the **BSTTW Volunteer E-Form** at:  
[www.burnsurvivorsttw.org/volunteer/volunteer.html](http://www.burnsurvivorsttw.org/volunteer/volunteer.html)

If you are not a burn survivor or family member you can skip the **BSTTW Membership & Profile Registration E-Form** and go directly to the **BSTTW Volunteer E-Form**.

By volunteering with **BSTTW**, you will be taking part in rebuilding lives and helping burn survivors reenter their community.



If you have any questions, you should first review the **BSTTW Volunteer E-Form**, after that if your questions have not been answered, you can contact **BSTTW** by email at [volunteers@burnsurvivorsttw.org](mailto:volunteers@burnsurvivorsttw.org), and by telephone at 936-483-9014.

## **BSTTW CONTACT INFORMATION**

### **EMERGENCY CONTACTS**

**BSTTW** has a support team that is on call 24 hours a day 7 days a week to assist a burn survivor, family member, firefighter or friend deal with a burn injury and fire related issues. You can contact **BSTTW** on the internet at the **BSTTW Emergency Email E-Form** at [www.burnsurvivorsttw.org/eforms/emergemail.html](http://www.burnsurvivorsttw.org/eforms/emergemail.html) or the **BSTTW Support Team E-Form** at [www.burnsurvivorsttw.org/eforms/supportemail.html](http://www.burnsurvivorsttw.org/eforms/supportemail.html)

Contact **BSTTW** by telephone at 936-483-9014. If we are not in the office or it is after hours, you can leave us an emergency message and a support team member will respond to you within 24 hours.

### **BSTTW Directors**

Michael Appleman: **Executive Director**  
[michael@burnsurvivorsttw.org](mailto:michael@burnsurvivorsttw.org)

### **BSTTW ADDRESS & PHONE NUMBERS:**

Burn Survivors Throughout The World, Inc.  
16193 Lone Star Ranch Drive #102  
Conroe, Texas 77302  
(936) 483-9014  
Fax: (936) 570-1179

**Feel free to ask any questions or submit your comments by using the **BSTTW Comment & Question E-Form** at:**  
[www.burnsurvivorsttw.org/eforms/emailform.html](http://www.burnsurvivorsttw.org/eforms/emailform.html)

