



Spot News

Chicagoland Dalmatian Club
Volume 56 NO 11 Est. 1953

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NEXT MEETING
November 13, 2010
General Membership 7:00 p.m.
Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.
For Your Canine
NEW LOCATION
1975 Cornell
Melrose Park, IL

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The opinions expressed within do not necessarily reflect the views of the CDC or its officers.
SPOT NEWS DEADLINE
15TH OF THE MONTH
send to: **SPOT NEWS C/O Susan Buse**
739 Seminole Dr., Lowell IN 46356
spotnews@chicagodals.org
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Save the Dates:

Dec 4 – Christmas Party

Fun Match—TBA

Tracking Demonstration—TBA

There was no regular meeting of the Chicagoland Dalmatian Club on October 9 due to the lack of a quorum. Eleven members were present; fifteen are needed for a quorum to transact business. Because it was necessary to make a decision on a show site for the club's specialty in June, the Board was reconvened and voted to hold the specialty in Wheaton. We will also sponsor a supported entry and sweeps on Saturday at the IKC show in February, where we will also participate in the "Meet the Breed" booth.

A few members had brought Dal Halloween decorations. Gail Meyers and Rosie Flowers had brought the same item – a costumed Dalmatian carrying a trick or treat basket. They were declared winners.



GOT NEWS???

Forward it on to:
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"The first rule in successful dog training is to be smarter than the dog. Which is why some breeds are easier to train than others." ~ Unknown

THANKSGIVING DINNER FOR YOUR DOG: INCLUDE FIDO IN THE FEAST!

Undeniably my favorite time of the year is Autumn; the brilliant fire of the trees mixes with abundant fields of ripe apple trees and pumpkins, making those early evening strolls with my dogs in the crisp air a sensory delight. But whether one is surrounded by acres of woods or fresh produce stands on busy urban streets, there is no denying the exhilarating change of seasons in my part of the country. And along with the cooler air arrives a holiday steeped in tradition that so perfectly and completely helps us usher in the warmth of winter and the holiday season.

Thanksgiving, for me and my family, as for so many others, means an annual gathering of loved ones and a feast guaranteed to feed the soul, stretch the pants, and eventually lull you into an early evening snooze.

This is a day that we are all reminded of just what it is we have to be thankful for in our lives. And I'll be the first to admit that my dogs are at the top of that list; at times almost an extension of myself, giving love unconditionally and unfailingly, asking for very little in return. So it should come as no surprise that despite the preparation and general business that occurs during Thanksgiving (I always cook the dinner!) I am adamant about including my dogs in the festivities, right down to the dinner. By being careful and a bit creative, our dogs enjoy much of the same delights we feast on ourselves.

One of the biggest mistakes people make, especially during holidays, is to "treat" their dogs to foods they aren't used to eating - foods smothered in rich gravies, sugars, salt, etc. It may seem fun going in, but such a heavy diet, even for just a night, can wreak havoc coming out. If you want your dog to be able to enjoy a true Thanksgiving meal, yet still keep it healthy, read through the suggestions listed below that have worked for us through the years.

- Don't feed the dog turkey skin. As tempting as it is, the skin is not only high in fat and hard to digest, but also holds any marinade, butter and oils, or spices used in baking, which can cause stomach upset. Instead, peel the skin off a big slice of turkey (white meat is the most bland and usually the best tolerated), then cut into appropriate-sized pieces.
- As you prepare side dishes, set aside some of the good stuff before adding all of the cream, salt, butter, wine, etc. A scoop of plain mashed sweet potatoes, a cup of cooked carrots, broccoli or green beans, even a small biscuit without butter or some dressing without gravy will be a treasure for your dog, and is good for them in addition!

Continued on page 5

THE DOG DISH

Continued from page ___

- A good substitute for gravy for your dog is a little turkey broth. If you cook the giblets in water for stock, save a little to help moisten meat before you turn it into gravy. Or buy it canned!

- If your dog normally eats only "dog food" (i.e. kibble), don't offer up a big plate full of turkey, veggies and potatoes all at once. This can stress his system. Instead, try adding a slice of turkey and a few veggies to his kibble. Save some veggies for "treats" throughout the evening.

- If your dog is going to be planted under the table during dinner, denying him those irresistible flavors and sweet temptations may seem impossible, especially if your guests "mean well", but can't say no to that cute furry face! One way to help the off-limit food stay that way is to place a few "treat cups" around the table. Fill these with small pieces of plain sliced turkey, cooked veggies, pieces of bread - anything sensible. Guests will still get a kick out of feeding the dog, but it will be much healthier than what is on most people's plates. And once the bowls are empty, that's it! If your dog is used to a homemade diet, have fun and be creative as you indulge him in his Thanksgiving feast. Oh, and for dessert? Instead of apple pie a la mode, how about some sliced apples with a "scoop" of mashed potatoes, and maybe some applesauce on top? Pumpkin is also very good for a dog's diet, but make sure it's real pumpkin, and not the filling that is loaded with sugar and fat.

Thanksgiving dinner should be fun and fulfilling - a special treat on a special day. By carefully preparing your dog's meal, the holiday can be enjoyable for every member of the family, even the furry ones!

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!!



Until next month ... **Happy tails to you!**

JodyLynn

Let's Party

Sunday, December 4, 2010

Come One, Come All -

HOLIDAY INN WILLOWBROOK

7800 Kingery Highway

(Route 83, just north of Route 55)

Willowbrook, Illinois, 60521

11:00 AM - 3:00 PM

(Mark your calendar now)

Cost \$15.00 per person*

Send reservations and a check made payable to CDC to:

Gail Meyers

5902 Elm Avenue

Berkeley, Illinois 60163

daldog2@att.net

Reservations must be in no later than November 29, 2010.

Chicagoland Dalmatian Christmas Brunch.

Name: _____

How Many: _____ Amount Enclosed: _____

Cost is \$15.00 per person. Don't forget your grab bag gift. *CDC is subsidizing 50% of the dinner.

Merry Christmas!



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739 Seminole Dr.
Lowell, Indiana 46356

