

PAW PRINTS

The Newsletter from The Lucky Dog Complex



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Hello and Welcome to the Lucky Dog Complex newsletter, "Paw Prints". Our goal is to keep the clients, supporters, volunteers, and employees of our four entities up to date on the current happenings.

Lucky Dog Boarding and Training Center, Marshmallow Animal Shelter, Patriot Assistance Dogs, and Muddy Puppies have contributed to this month's newsletter. Be sure to read through to find holiday tips for boarding and daycare, a volunteer highlight, reports on the Open House success and changes for Marshmallow Animal Shelter, The Gift of Understanding by Paula Anderson for a way to give a gift to service dog teams everywhere, grooming advice for your dogs ears (you heard that right!), the latest competition winners from lucky dog classes, and holiday gift advice for the perfect present for your dog.

We welcome your comments and ideas as we grow this newsletter. **Be sure to scroll to the end of the letter, which is where you will find December's Special!**

Happy Holidays!

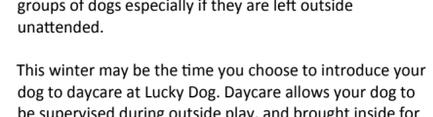


Calendar Events

- ⇒ December 24th
Christmas Eve
- ⇒ December 25th
Christmas



Lucky Dog Boarding and Training LLC



Holiday Tips for Boarding and Daycare

Written by Linda Wiedewitsch

Winter has arrived! My dogs are much happier to welcome the snow than I am. Although they may enjoy the snow and cooler temps, our short-coated dogs, very young dogs and senior dogs need extra attention from us. Cooling core temperatures and frost bite can happen quickly with these groups of dogs especially if they are left outside unattended.

This winter may be the time you choose to introduce your dog to daycare at Lucky Dog. Daycare allows your dog to be supervised during outside play, and brought inside for warmup play, a snack or lunch. Best of all they get to meet and play with new dog friends. Daycare is also a great way to help your shy pup become more relaxed around new people and in new places.

Daycare hours at Lucky Dog are Monday through Friday 7:00 AM to 5:30 PM, Saturday 8:00 to 4:00, and Sunday 10:00 to 4:00. Several options are available; full days, half days, single days or package plans, and coupled with boarding stays. Please see our website or call 218-847-4100 for details and pricing options. We prefer advance notice that your dog will be coming for daycare, but drop-ins are also welcome.

Speaking of boarding, our suites and 5 x 5 kennels are already being booked for Christmas and New Years. A phone call will hold the dates you need to board your pets. Consider boarding for the pets that don't enjoy the intrusion and extra activity of non-pack members in their homes. If your pet hides, won't eat, has accidents or becomes snippy when guests arrive, perhaps boarding and/or daycare is a better option for them.

Finally, refresh your memory regarding holiday hazards. A quick Google search will provide lists of foods, plants and decorations that can injure or sicken your pet. A trip to your veterinarian or the emergency clinic is a quick way to take the Merry out of Christmas.

Be safe, be joyful, Happy Holidays!

Volunteer of the Month

Written by Cassi Ohman

We are pleased to announce our volunteer of the month is Sam Cat! Sam began volunteering with Marshmallow around 8 yrs ago.

She also served on our board for a number of years, before moving down the Chanhassen area with her husband Nick. Sam is still very much involved with Marshmallow.

Even with her being hundreds of miles away she is still reviewing applications for cat adoptions, posting many of our social media posts, as well as running our website. You could say she is what keeps us going.

We are fortunate enough to have adopted 3 pets into her loving home. We are very grateful for all of Sam's efforts; she is truly one of a kind! Thank you Sam for all you & Nick have done to help Marshmallow, we are blessed to have you on our team.



Marshmallow Animal Shelter

The Open House Recap and Big Changes!

Written by Cassi Ohman

Marshmallow would like to send a big Thank You to everyone who purchased, attended, volunteered, donated, baked, vendors, & contestants for making this year's Holiday Open house a success! Congratulations to our contest winners:

Fudge: 1st Place— Paula Anderson 2nd Place— Susan Pizzaro

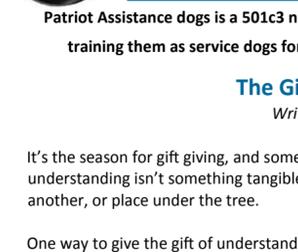
Chili: 1st Place— Eric Hatle 2nd Place— Tara Holland

We began pre-sales for our raffle calendars, and I am happy to announce we got our calendars in this last week. Calendars will be for sale until the end of the year, be sure to pick up yours before time runs out! These make great holiday gifts that can keep giving throughout the year, while also helping local homeless animals. Speaking of homeless animals, this year we offered microchipping. Pets who are microchipped have a much higher probability of being returned to their owner. We had a total of 14 microchips inserted. Thank you to those owners for protecting your pet from becoming lost! If you are still in need of your annual Marshmallow ornament, there are still quite a few for sale in our front lobby. Stop on by and grab yours, it makes a beautiful addition to your tree, and all proceeds support Marshmallow Animal Shelter.

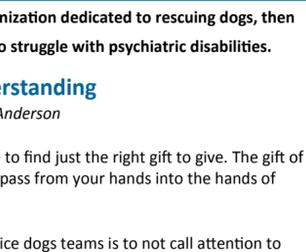
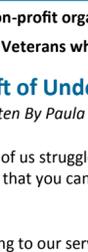
This year's Open House raised around \$2,000, which is absolutely amazing! This will help Marshmallow continue its mission of *improving our community by reuniting the lost and advocating for the unwanted*. We cannot thank everyone enough for your support. Without you, our efforts would be impossible.

We also announced our name change! We will officially be known as **Marshmallow Animal Shelter**. It does not mean our mission has changed. Our hope is to bring more awareness to our cause, by having a name that explains what we do. Thank you to DL Newspapers for covering this big announcement!

Some of Our Adoptable Pets



Chrome, 2yr old neutered male, Heeler Mix. Best suited for an active home



Desmond & Caymen are 2 bonded kitties. Desmond is about 1yr & Caymen is about 4yrs. They became instantly attached in the shelter and we have kept them together since. Desmond is more outgoing than Caymen. Caymen enjoys observing from afar. Both have been with shelter over 1yr.

Patriot Assistance Dogs

Patriot Assistance Dogs is a 501c3 non-profit organization dedicated to rescuing dogs, then training them as service dogs for Veterans who struggle with psychiatric disabilities.

The Gift of Understanding

Written By Paula Anderson

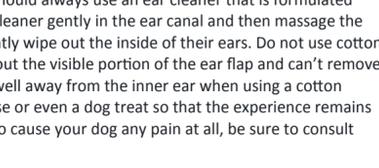
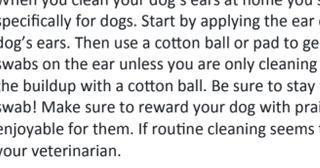
It's the season for gift giving, and some of us struggle to find just the right gift to give. The gift of understanding isn't something tangible that you can pass from your hands into the hands of another, or place under the tree.

One way to give the gift of understanding to our service dogs teams is to not call attention to them or distract them in public. A legitimate service dog is as imperative as a wheelchair, oxygen or a cane to the person who needs aids we're more familiar with. Would you call attention to a person using a cane or wheelchair by commenting on it or asking to touch it? Most likely not.

Yet, there is a service dog working in public and it's hard to not ask what type of dog, or comment on how beautiful and/or nice and well behaved the dog is. With the best of intentions, some say they know they are not supposed to pet the dog yet all the while they distract the dog by speaking to it.

Legitimate service dogs are trained to do work or perform tasks directly related to a person's *disability*; a medically diagnosed condition, many of which are not visible. You've probably heard the talk these days about fake service dogs. There is forward movement to hold those who misrepresent accountable by new laws and legislation. The ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) outlines federal rules pertaining to service dogs and access rights, and the challenge is for businesses and the public to gain the knowledge and understand.

Patriot Assistance Dogs believes that veterans and dogs are entitled to be treated with respect and care for their emotional and physical wellbeing. This results in highly trained, competent dogs and confident teams who continually improve their quality of lives. Your offer of understanding by not calling attention to the service dog lends a great deal of support to our service dog teams and will be greatly appreciated. It's a gift you can give any time of the year.



Muddy Puppies Dog Grooming

What About Those Ears?

Written by Dawn Hutmacher

Keeping your dog's ears clean is a very important part of the grooming process. If you notice excessive ear wax, inflammation or redness, reddish or brown discharge or a yeast smell from your dog's ears, it could be the sign of an ear infection. Your dog may also be frequently shaking its head or tilting it to one side frequently.

Some common causes of ear infections in dogs are bacteria, ear mites, yeast, allergies, or frequent water in the ears. Repetitive ear infections can require long term maintenance, but can usually be managed with diligent care. It is important to consult your veterinarian to help with clearing up any signs of infection, as untreated infections can quickly escalate and become painful. Your veterinarian may prescribe drops, a special cleaner and in some cases antibiotics to help clear up an infection.



When you clean your dog's ears at home you should always use an ear cleaner that is formulated specifically for dogs. Start by applying the ear cleaner gently in the ear canal and then massage the dog's ears. Then use a cotton ball or pad to gently wipe out the inside of their ears. Do not use cotton swabs on the ear unless you are only cleaning out the visible portion of the ear flap and can't remove the buildup with a cotton ball. Be sure to stay well away from the inner ear when using a cotton swab! Make sure to reward your dog with praise or even a dog treat so that the experience remains enjoyable for them. If routine cleaning seems to cause your dog any pain at all, be sure to consult your veterinarian.

How often you clean your dog's ears varies by breed, age, coat type, how much time they spend in the water and how active they are. Individual levels of ear wax may also vary.

Lucky Dog Rally Class Competes in Three Day Rally Trial

Written by Pam Jahnke; Lucky Dog Rally Trainer

The Rally class from Lucky Dog had three dogs that competed in a three day Rally Trial in Fargo, North Dakota, hosted by the Fargo Moorhead Kennel Club, November 15-17.

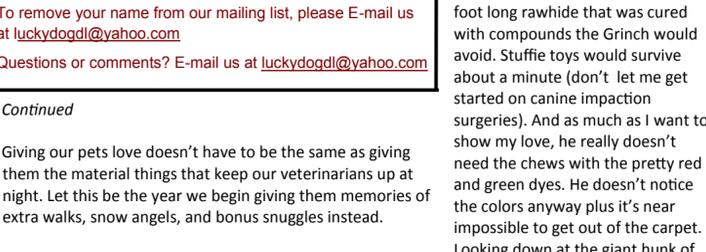
Paula Anderson competed with her own dog, "Bowie", a Yellow Labrador as well as Patriot Assistant Dog, "Honor", also a Yellow Lab. Julia Teiken competed with her dog, "Pride", a Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever. Both handlers and all three dogs qualified all three days, and received their Rally Novice titles! All dogs start with a perfect score of 100. A dog and handler team is awarded a qualifying score of at least 70 points after the course has been completed. There is only one team in the ring at a time. What a wonderful accomplishment! Congratulations!

Rally Obedience is a companion dog sport that builds upon basic obedience commands using voice commands and/or hand signals. The dog and handler complete a course at their own pace, designed by the Rally judge, consisting of 10-20 stations. There are five levels of Rally, from Novice, through Masters. You are allowed unlimited communication with your dog, although you may not touch or physically correct them. You can be your dogs cheerleader and most dogs love the sport! Whether you just train or decide to compete, Rally develops better teamwork between you and your dog. If you want to know more about Rally, contact Lucky Dog or go to www.AKC.org/companion_dogs.

Want to do something fun with your dog? Check out all the classes offered by Lucky Dog!



December Specials



Grandma Lucy's Organic Oven Baked Dog Treats
Holidays are here, and what a better way to celebrate than to receive 25% off your next purchase of Grandma Lucy's Organic Dog Treats Holiday Editions for your pup! Mention the newsletter at the time of purchase to receive the discount. *(While supplies last)*

Trainer's Corner
Written by Sara Dohrer
Happy Howlidays... The season of giving is here! For many of us that extends to our furry family members in addition to our beloved human companions and while I do stop to smile at the thought of my own dog pulled out in Santa gear, I have to tuck my fingers back from the soft fleecy material and acknowledge that some gifts cause more stress than they're worth. Much the same could be said for a good chunk of the products marketed to us as gifts for our pets during the holiday season. As adorable as it would be, my thick-coated dog does not need a Santa coat that would undoubtedly cause him to overheat. Neither does he need to gorge himself on a three-foot long rawhide that was cured with compounds the Grinch would avoid. Stuffed toys would survive about a minute (don't let me get started on canine impaction surgeries). And as much as I want to show my love, he really doesn't need the chews with the pretty red and green dyes. He doesn't notice the colors anyway plus it's near impossible to get out of the carpet. Looking down at the giant hunk of slightly smelly dog drooling on my knee however, it becomes easy to remember that all he really wants is my time and attention. *(Continued to the left)*



To remove your name from our mailing list, please E-mail us at luckydogdl@yahoo.com

Questions or comments? E-mail us at luckydogdl@yahoo.com

Continued

Giving our pets love doesn't have to be the same as giving them commands and/or hand signals. Let this be the year we begin giving them memories of extra walks, snow angels, and bonus snuggles instead.

