



Fetching Facts & Noseworthy Notes

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Upcoming Classes

Winter 2015

Puppy Class:

Wednesday Jan 14 – Feb 18

Doggy Manners:

Wednesday Jan 14 – Feb 18



Happy Holidays!!



@HappyTailsDogTraining
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Check out our blog:
www.htdogtraining.com

Tis the Season!

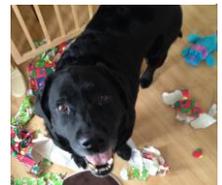
The holiday season! The time of year for gathering with family and friends, giving thanks and counting blessings, and reflecting on a year gone by as the New Year approaches. With this magical and joyous season also comes a busier schedule for most of us; fitting in shopping, baking, and celebrating into already full lives.

As events are being added to your calendar, remember to schedule time for you canine companion! Between blustery winter weather and holiday commitments, our dogs often get put last on the "to do" list. This pattern change can cause confusion, over-stimulation and even depression for your dog.

Dogs prefer and thrive on patterns. Even if each day is not exactly the same, there is predictability in their lives; walkies after dad gets home from work, fetch with the kids after dinner, or snuggles with mom before bed. When these events are forgotten or changed for several weeks, your dog does not understand why.

While it is not easy to include everything in the planning, there are ways to ensure fun and consistency for your dog on busier days. Consider what your dog's typical schedule is like for a week. Then, adjust the plan to ensure he

Koda enjoying Christmas morning!



is getting the exercise, time and attention needed to feel content and included during the holidays.

- 🐾 If your dog is used to attending doggy day care, it may be beneficial to send him to play on the day of or prior to a gathering at your home. That way, he will be tired out and happy to hang out in a quiet room with a chewy toy during the gathering.
- 🐾 Plan walks and games of fetch to occur each day, even if you have to move the time of day to accommodate the holiday schedule. If it is too cold to walk outside, consider a trip to the pet store to walk around the aisles for a bit, meet some new friends, and perhaps even pick up a special treat for your best canine pal!
- 🐾 For dog loving, trust worthy and willing house guests, include them in the exercise plan for your dog! If you are busy preparing the turkey, perhaps your brother-in-law visiting from out of town will be able to take your dog for a walk or out back for a game of fetch or tug.
- 🐾 When the kids are off from school, take your well trained, socialized dog along to the sledding hill or ice skating pond! Dogs often enjoy just being along for the ride and observing the kids at play. Please avoid this activity if your dog over-stimulates or is not comfortable near a crowd of children.

Dogs are a part of our families, and the holidays are about family! Whatever activities you chose, keep in mind your dog's training skill set, comfort level and usual patterns. The goal is to include him but not to overdo it! Happy Holidays from all of us at Happy Tails!

Q's Views...



Santa Paws is coming to town! This year Quincy is asking Santa Paws for another jumbler ball and squeaky ball from Kong. The reason Q loves these toys - they are tough like Q! I have one jumbler now, but it is always good to have a few of the jumbler's around for play time inside and out.

If you are looking for fun toys that last a long time under tough tugging and fetching, check out the Kong Squeez toys and the jumbler. Q can vouch for the fact they are FUN and tough! Momma says they cost a bit more than some of Kirby's toys, but they hold up to the toughness of the Q Dog!!

Angel Koda's Komments...



I always loved the winter snows! When the snow falls, I would roll and roll in it! Sometimes when it was super cold, my Momma would limit my outside time. Even though I was having fun, paws and noses are especially vulnerable to frost bite.

Labradors have a big thick coat, so we are protected somewhat from the cold. Even with thick coats, dogs should not be left outside for long periods in the cold. Remember: if your exposed skin can frost bite in under 15 minutes, so will your dog's paws and skin!

Get out and enjoy the winter but remember to be safe too!!

HAPPY TAILS: YEAR IN REVIEW 2014

Another year is coming to a close. We had a year with an amazing new experience, continued successful relationships, fun classes and a sad good-bye.

- 🐾 Our family had an exciting new opportunity this year! Takoda and Quincy were chosen to work on a movie set! And, I was hired as head trainer. We had a lot of fun, but it was also A LOT of work. Quincy was only 10 months old during filming, but his early training allowed him to be very successful. When we have permission to share more details, we will post on our Facebook page!
- 🐾 Our Advanced Manners class was offered for the first time this summer. Participants successfully accomplished very challenging real life exercises!
- 🐾 During our 2014 classes, ten dogs achieved the AKC Canine Good Citizen designation!
- 🐾 Our relationship with Great Lakes Hospital for Animals has continued for another successful year. We truly appreciate the supportive, caring staff and clients at GLHA!
- 🐾 Shaggy Pines Dog Park hosted some of our outdoor class offerings. Thank you to our friends at Shaggy for sharing your beautiful park with our class participants!
- 🐾 Classes were also hosted by our friends at Bridges Animal Hospital in Ada. Thank you to the staff for your continued support!
- 🐾 We said good-bye to our sweet Takoda Bean in September. Some of you knew Takoda from working with him. His calm demeanor allowed training with reactive dogs to be very successful. The many dogs and their people he helped are his legacy. He is missed beyond words...

Kirb's Blurb!



Christmas time is here again! I love Christmas morning because I am actually ALLOWED to rip up paper! The rest of the time, I am not allowed to make a paper mess. Momma tosses me the wrapping paper from her gifts AND my own presents have wrapping too!

When the ripping is done, then I enjoy my new toys that Santa Paws brings me. Because I am a good boy all year long, I always get some new toys! This year, I have been extra good because I helped my Momma with training appointments this year. I worked super hard and learned to focus on my handler.

I hope Momma and Santa Paws have made a note as to what a good boy Kirby was this year...