

# Go Play! December 2011 Newsletter

We have no changes in schedule for the Christmas or New Year's Holiday.

**Happy Holidays!**

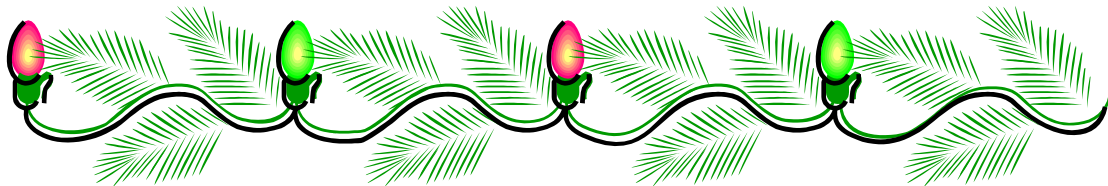
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**December 2011  
Pets of the Month!**



Lou Lou and Alex are two very special greyhounds that both came from rescue! This handsome brother / sister duo both have a sweet personality and enjoy going for long walks. Greyhounds make wonderful pets – they are calm, clean, and require very little exercise! Now that greyhound racing is banned in Massachusetts, there are some wonderful ex-racers now looking for a home! Consider a greyhound for your next dog!



## SIMON SAYS...

*What Simon is excited about this month!*



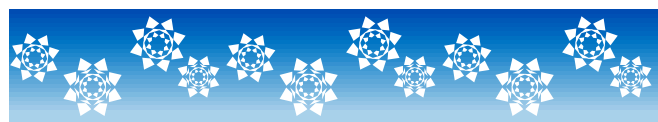
## I LOVE SNOW!

I am so excited that winter is here!!!! I know that not everyone likes winter, but it's something that most dogs really enjoy. ☺ The snow feels so funny on our feet when we run through it, feels extra good to roll in, and is so refreshing!! I love to play in the snow and dig big tunnels! Sometimes I have to wear a jacket to keep me warm, but I don't mind!

My parents remember some good cold weather safety tips to keep my doggie family and I safe. You can find these safety tips here:

<http://go-play.biz/SEASON.html>

Most importantly, enjoy this season with both your human family and furry family members. The holidays only come once a year and they go so fast. Make every moment count.



## Happy Holidays!

Lots of fun things happening this month! Besides all the new holiday collars, leashes, jackets, and toys that are in the store, we have some new and exciting products that will be arriving soon! Make sure you look for the dehydrated pumpkin and cranberry supplements we will be stocking to help your dog have a healthy digestive system!

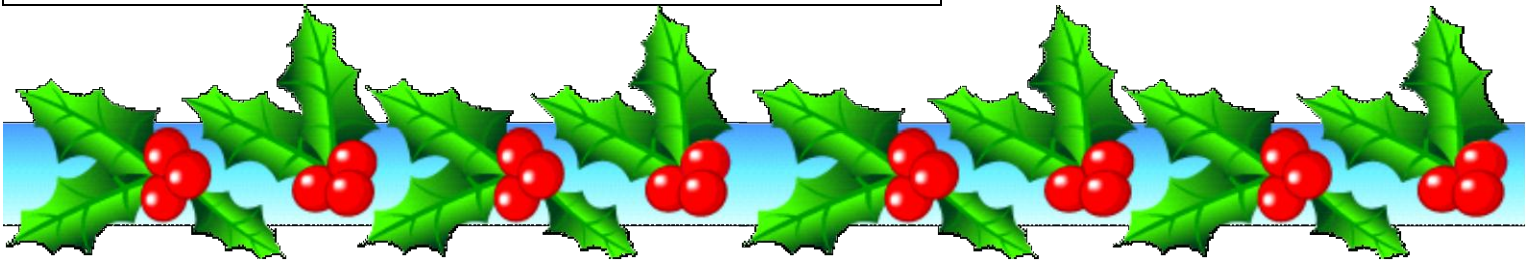
We will also be offering some NEW classes this winter! Teach your dog tricks, nose work / scent work, plus some different agility and 30/30 offerings. Should be pretty awesome! Winter can be a pretty boring time for most dogs – keeping us busy will keep us out of trouble!

And, since the spirit of giving is upon us, please consider helping out the Animal Rescue League by contributing to our “Lend a Helping Paw” – more information at the end of the newsletter!

Hope to see you around!

## Raven's Roundup

*What's going on around Go Play!*



## Calypso's Guide for Cuteness

*What every discriminating dog needs to wear!*

There are lots of ways for dogs to show our holiday spirit! I'm sporting a Holiday Neck Scrunchie that really shows off my eyes, I think.

Besides these festive necklaces, there are holiday collars and leashes as well as holiday bandanas that will let you fit right in with your humans in their holiday best. We have a brand new selection of holiday apparel that will match any holiday décor!





# Monty's Munchies

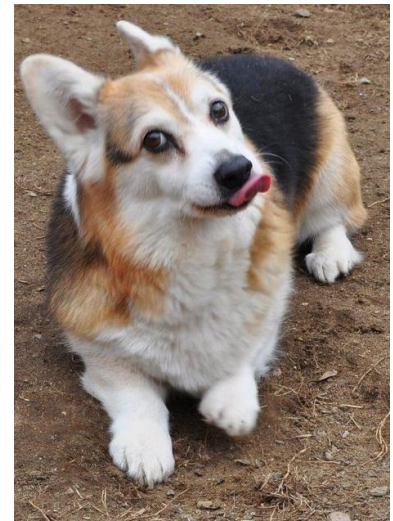
*My favorite treats this month!*

The holidays satisfy any appetite – even mine!

This holiday season I'm really enjoying the Kung Fu Fido fortune cookies! Besides being really tasty, they have a special fortune inside each one!

They are packaged in a cute little Chinese food take-out carton and the treats can be broken into smaller pieces for the smaller dogs.

They are a really fun little treat, and make a wonderful holiday gift!



# Jabber's Jumping for Joy about...

*A true "toy boy," Jabber gives his monthly toy review!*

See this thing at my feet?

The white thing that has feet itself?

It's called a CUZ. And it's awesome. It squeaks, bounces, floats, and is awesome to retrieve. It's basically the perfect toy.

They come in three sizes – I have the little one because I'm a little dog. But my brother who is a Corgi has a HUGE one. And that one is fun too!

They are either 'good' or 'bad.' The bad cuz have devil horns. I have a good cuz because I'm a good boy. ☺

Regardless of if you are good or bad, make sure to ask Santa for a cuz!



Dear Apollo,

*These holiday decorations look like FUN! Besides the LIVE TREE my family brought into the house, the things they put on it are shiny, make noise, and are super bright. I want to play with them but I'm not allowed. Additionally, there are all sorts of goodies wrapped in paper sitting under my new indoor potty....er....I mean the tree that's now in the house. These goodies smell like candy, sausages, cheese, and treats! It's torture!! What's a dog to do?*

Signed,

*The Nose Knows What's Inside Those Gifts*

## ASK APOLLO

*This is me as a puppy – wasn't I adorable?*



Dear Nose,

Wow – you sure have some predicament. As housebroken as I am, even I might want to lift my leg on an indoor tree! That sounds really fun! However, we have to remember that dogs drool, and humans rule. That means that if they are using the tree as a decoration then it's off-limits to us. That said, even the best trained doggie would find it hard to resist sausages and cheese wrapped up in a tidy little package!

But, Nose, listen to me. Put DOWN the Swiss Colony Beef Log. This type of human food is off-limits to us pooches. Besides it being waaaaay too high in fat, it will make us really sick. Our digestive tracks aren't formulated to handle that kind of food. Now, healthy table scraps such as mashed potatoes (my favorite), turkey, small amounts of cheese, and ham are fine in small amounts. But no dog should eat an excessive amount of rich cheese, candy, or sausages.

Because we dogs are the sneaky sort, we can't be trusted around these things. So tell your parents to put any packages containing these off-limit treats away in a drawer or closet until it's time to unwrap them. This goes for anything edible. As far as the decorations, now is the perfect time for your parents to refresh you on the "leave it" command. We teach this VERY important command in our beginner obedience classes! Here is a little refresher to get you started:

*LEAVE IT: This is an exercise to keep your dog safe and out of trouble! Your dog will never get an item that you deem as a "leave-it" item!*

*Place an item such as a tissue, paper towel, or other tempting forbidden thing to your dog under your shoe. (No open toed shoes for this exercise!) Wait for your dog to stop trying to get it and then reward! Toss the treat a short distance from your foot to give yourself time to pick it up.*

If you practice this exercise consistently, your parent will finally be able to put something down in front of you and tell you to "leave-it!" This works for all forbidden things (including holiday decorations!!!)

Happy Holidays!!!

-Apollo

# **NEW CLASSES FOR WINTER 2012!**

**Introduction to Scent Work – NEW CLASS! (For dogs who like to use their noses!):**

**6:15 – 6:45pm – 3 weeks for \$60.00**

**Puppy Kindergarten / Beginner Obedience: 7:00 – 8:00pm – 7 weeks for \$175.00**

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## **TUESDAY EVENING CLASSES – Starting January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

**Introduction to Agility (Beginner dogs only): 6:15 – 6:45pm – 4 weeks for \$80.00**

**Agility II (For dogs who have taken an Agility I or a Beginner 30/30 Class):**

**7:00 – 8:00pm – 3 weeks for \$90.00**

## **WEDNESDAY EVENING CLASSES – Starting January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

**Beginner 30/30 (For dogs working at a beginner stage in obedience and agility):**

**6:15 – 7:15pm – 5 weeks for \$150.00**

**Beginner Obedience II (For Dogs who have taken a Beginner Obedience Class):**

**7:30 – 8:00pm – 4 weeks for \$60.00**

## **THURSDAY EVENING CLASSES – Starting January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

**Canine Good Citizen / Therapy Dog Prep Class: 6:15 – 6:45pm – 4 weeks for \$60.00**

**Agility I (For Dogs who have taken an Intro to Agility or Beginner 30/30 Class):**

**7:00 – 8:00pm – 3 weeks for \$90.00**

## **SATURDAY DAY CLASSES – Starting January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

**Puppy Kindergarten / Beginner Obedience: 10:00 – 11:00am - 7 weeks for \$175.00**

**Advanced 30 / 30 (30 minutes of Agility, 30 minutes of Obedience – for dogs who have already taken a beginner agility class AND a beginner obedience class): 11:30 –**

**12:30pm – 4 weeks for \$120**

## **SATURDAY GO-TO-GROUND CLINICS – January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2012**

**Advanced Dogs (Dogs who have done GTG before): 2:00 – 2:30pm - \$20.00**

**Beginner Dogs (Dogs who have never done GTG before): 2:30 – 3:00pm - \$20.00**

**REGISTER NOW - STILL ROOM LEFT!**



**SAVE THE DATE:**  
**FREE PET FIRST AID SEMINAR**  
**Monday, December 12<sup>th</sup> - 6:30 – 8:00pm**  
**This seminar is open to our current clients (humans only.)**



**Register early – our previous first aid seminar filled in a matter of days!**

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### Go Play's! 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual - "Lend A Helping Paw"

This year Go Play! will be collecting items to donate to the Animal Rescue League of Boston. The ARL is a non-profit organization dedicated to rescuing domesticated animals and wildlife from suffering, cruelty, abandonment and neglect.

**Items will be collected until December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2011.**

Please note the items that cannot be used: Newspaper, Clothing, Stuffed Animals with beads or plastic eyes, Opened bags of Food.

**Below are some specific items desired:**

Cat Toys, Toys for Large birds, Puzzle toys, Dog-safe plush toys of all sizes, Durable rubber squeak toys, Nylabone –type toys and other dental chews, Big and small knotted rope toys, Extra large black Kongs, Large bones, Meaty training treats (no dry biscuits), Jars of peanut butter, Bleach, Dish and laundry detergent (High efficiency "HE" variety), Towels of all sizes.

**For more information the ARL of Boston visit: [www.arlboston.org](http://www.arlboston.org)**



**HAPPY HOLIDAYS**

**FROM GO PLAY!**



**Do you have a product review, informative article, pictures, or other news you'd like us to share in our monthly newsletters?**

**Would you like to submit a training or behavior question for our "Ask Apollo" column?**

**If so, please submit all material (including pictures) no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month for the following month's newsletter. (For example, all material for our January 2012 newsletter should be received by December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011)**