

## A Message From The Top Dog...

As I sit here to write this copy of the "Urban Barker" it amazes me how quickly a year can go by. The Christmas season is once again upon us, we have watched spring, summer and fall all roll past like a steam roller and here we sit to write the annual Christmas addition.

This time of year we often reflect on all that has occurred over the previous 12 months, whether that is within our personal lives, business or world events, and what a year it has been. We here at The Urban Puppy Shop have had a busy challenging year, I have personally gained another four legged companion, "Hobes" a Boston Terrier, and of course we have added many new customers to our growing family of fellow dog owners. During this Holiday season please make sure you take a bit of time out of your hectic schedules to just sit and hug your dog and recognize how fortunate we all are to have what we have and live where we live.

We are happy to say that we will be holding our annual "Pictures with Santa" for charity on Saturday December 3 and Sunday December 4<sup>th</sup>. I look forward to seeing as many of you and your companions as possible on those days. (I of course will be the skinny Santa)

From our family to yours we would like to extend best wishes to you for a Happy Holiday Season, one filled with peace and tidings of good will. We look forward to continuing to contribute to you and your puppy's health and happiness in the New Year!

Best Wishes,  
Philip

## Upcoming Events

**Santa Claus is coming to Town...** Want to have your dog's photo taken with Santa? The Urban Puppy Shop is pleased to announce its 3<sup>rd</sup>



annual "Pooch Portraits with Santa" event. Santa and his Little Helpers will be visiting our store on December 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> between 11:00am and 4pm. With a minimum donation of \$10, you can have a professional photograph taken of your dog with Santa. Sponsored by Gallo Creative, The Vancouver Courier, RC Pets, Wellness, and Burgham. All proceeds benefiting BC Pets and Friends, a not-for-profit society that places dogs in eldercare and children's hospice facilities.

## Favorite Bark-toon



## Canine Communications...

For those of you who are going to travel during the Christmas season there are a few things to keep in mind if you are considering taking your companion (dog) with you. First and foremost make sure you contact your travel agent or airline and insure that you are allowed to take your companion with you. For those of you with smaller dogs wishing to take them in the cabin with you, air lines restrict the number of carry on dogs in the cabin per flight. So it is extremely important that you book this at the same time you book your ticket. Most airlines restrict or decline dogs booked into cargo during the

holiday rush do to the sheer volume of cargo the plains already carry.

Dogs being carried as carry on luggage must be in a approved bag. Sherpa carriers, which we do have in stock are one of the few that are fully approved by most airlines. The pet kennel is part of the carry-on baggage allowance and must conform to the carry-on size limitations of LxWxH - 55 cm x 40 cm x 23 cm maximum or 21 1/2 in x 15 1/2 in x 9 in maximum; and a weight limit of 22lbs / 10 Kg same as carry on. Dogs must stay inside the carriers under the seat at all times. You are allowed only 1 dog per carrier and maximum of only 2 dogs per family.

*As I said it is extremely important that you insure you have booked your companion prior to going to the airport.*

Like some people dogs may experience stress from traveling on air crafts I would recommend that you only give a very small feeding prior to leaving for the airport. Insure that you have a empty water container with you that you can place some water into, either on the aircraft or while waiting. Using disposable absorbent pee pads inside the kennel may also relieve some of the stress from worrying about accidents happening. If you are concerned about the amount of stress that your dog will incur, you might want to see your veterinarian prior to your day of travel for a sedative. (of course remember it is for your dog).

*Gravol often used for motion sickness also acts as a mild sedative, the general acceptable dosage is 2-4 mg per pound orally taken. I suggest that you be cautious around using Gravol, again I do recommend that you speak with your vet prior to administering anything.*

Once you have arrived at your location be aware that your dog is in a new environment and may be out of sorts. Packing along his bed or favorite blanket will insure that there is some continuity for him. Make sure that he is wearing a collar with all his necessary emergency contact information. If you are traveling out of the country insure that you take all his necessary medical information required by the country of destination.

If all of this scares you and you wish to board your dog over the Christmas holiday's we will be boarding during the season. Please do call in advance to insure you reserve. I have a feeling I will be sharing my turkey with more then just one dog.

Christmas Wish List

Can't find that perfect gift for your companion or a friends companion, give us a call we will be happy to make a gift basket that will be sure to please the finikeast of dogs. Gift certificates are also available.

**Book Early! Christmas is Coming...**

Present this coupon and

**SAVE 15%**

**On Your Next Dog Grooming**

(Valid until January 31, 2005)

**The Urban Puppy Shop**

2173 West 4<sup>th</sup> Ave., Vancouver

604.736.0557

## Product Review

### *Product Profile*

Each breed of dog has specific nutritional requirements, depending upon their unique physiological characteristics. Royal Canin is pleased to introduce breed specific lines of dog food, designed to meet the particular nutritional requirements of your breed of dog. The Urban Puppy Shop is pleased to supply the following:

- Yorkie
- Chihuahua
- Pomeranian
- Shepherd
- Labrador

### *New Product*

Heard of Square Pants Sponge Bob and his friends? They're cute, they're lovable, and they're here!! Check out the new plush and vinyl Sponge Bob toys for your dog.