



DOG PARTIES: A PASSIONATE FUN WARE FOR FOUR LEGGED FRIENDS!

By Jen Hines, Owner, BarkinDog Bakery

"Bark Mitzvahs? Dog parties? Really?" That's the first reaction I get from most people when I tell them that I cater dog parties through my bakery. Followed by, "Oh, what a great idea! My dog would love that!"

Dog parties are a fabulous way to honor the four-legged members of your family. For many, dogs are a crucial part of their lives, and they often share the same family status as the people! I can attest to this first hand—we refer to our dog and cat as the "kids" all the time. Honestly, I think our dog fares better than I do. She has the latest digital dog tag and collars, leads and accessories for every possible holiday or occasion. She has special food dishes, preferred status on both couches, a top



notch diet, great healthcare and a wide selection of rawhide chewies and toys. And let's not forget her incredibly important job - VP of "Quality Control" at BarkinDog Bakery! She's got it made, and in return she gives us unlimited unconditional love, wet nose kisses, and a presence in our home and lives that is priceless. To celebrate, you can bet she'll get one blowout party to honor her very first birthday in July!

People ask me, "So, what's involved in a dog party? What do they do, play party games? Pin the Tail on the Cat? Red Rover, Red Rover, send Fido right over?" As fun as that sounds, most dog parties actually consist of decadent treats and lots of playtime with their closest dog pals. We want to make the day easy, and just so that busy doggie moms and dads don't have to worry, BarkinDog Bakery will send out special party invitations to all the "Party Hounds" for them. We have yummy cakes and muffins, from Pumpkin Spice to Carob-Banana-Peanut Butter with Cream Cheese Frosting. We even have Sun-Dried Tomato and Herb Pizzas! We supply plates with different colors to choose from and a coordinating balloon centerpiece. We also design special take away party favors filled with decadent treats and doggie-candy for each guest. We have Shamrocks and Leprechauns for St. Pat's parties, Star of David treats for Bark Mitzvahs, and cute Hippy Hops for spring parties. For a Bark Mitzvah, families will often ask their Rabbi to attend and bless their dog during the celebration. We don't use any animal fat in our creations, so kosher and veggie dogs will have no worries.

In addition to fun for the dogs, these celebrations have become a time for dog parents to get together, socialize and have a great time too. Does your dog go to daycare and you want to meet their owners? Have a Pizza Party, and get to know them while your dog has FUN!

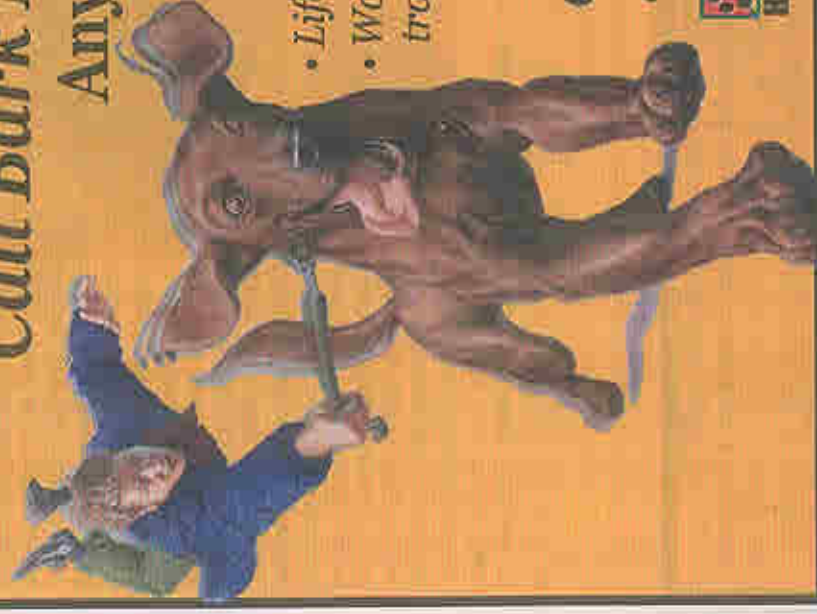
Amie and Steve Logan of Roeland Park recently decided to throw a St. Patrick's Day party for their dogs, (Chow-Pei) Sake and (Boxer) Millie. The family has strong Irish roots and it's one of their favorite holidays. For the people, Amie provided corned beef and cabbage (and Greyhounds as a tribute,) while BarkinDog Bakery catered to the dogs with matching green bandanas, green balloons and party plates, and special Lucky Hound PupCakes for each dog. All of the dogs had a fabulous time playing together and gobbled up their exclusive BarkinDog Bakery treats. Each dog received party favors with Lucky Leprechauns, BarkinDog Shamrocks and PB Cups to take home. We heard that some dogs just couldn't wait for more and had to dig into their favors right away!

In the end, both dogs and their parents alike finished the afternoon with the luck of the Irish, lots of playtime and fabulous treats. And while snapshots from the day will be lovingly placed into photo albums, the memories of a fun and fabulous day will remain fresh in everyone's mind. For a pawsitively creative way to have fun with your dog, we think dog parties are definitely the way to go. Woof!!

For more information on how to throw a party for your dog, log on to www.BarkinDogBakery.com for details!



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