

Dogs go crazy for candy carob treats

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Being a baker requires early and long hours, even if the treats you're baking are for dogs.

Roxann Gallagher of Dover has been an animal lover since she was a young child. She now is the owner and treat maker of Miss Lucy's Dog Treats, where she creates all-natural dog treats that make my dogs go crazy.

I met Gallagher at the state Farm Show in January where I bought some of her bone-shaped, solid carob and yogurt candy treats. Yeah, candy, that's what I said.

Sid is crazy about candy. He gets wacky over anything that even smells like candy. So when I saw these treats at Gallagher's stand, I thought the dogs would like them.

Boy, was I wrong — they LOVED them. Especially Sid, who went absolutely crazy over these bones.

At first glance, the treats look like bone-shaped Easter candies. They also smell sweet and alluring; you almost want to steal a bite for yourself.

The treats come in a white chocolate flavor, white chocolate with what looks like chocolate chips, and a chocolate flavor.

Now, we all know you can't feed your dogs chocolate, but you can fool them into thinking they are eating it with these bones.

The treats are made with carob, a chocolate substitute, that is in the form of a naturally sweet flour. It comes from the carob pod or locust bean and is low in fat and contains no caffeine. The bones also have yogurt, which is said to help dogs with digestion and may help dogs who have allergies.

I fed these to my dogs and watched them turn into sugar monsters right in front of me. Their eyes became large and



Product: Miss Lucy's Treats — solid yogurt bars

Where to buy: Call 717-292-6593 or e-mail
Misslucysdogtreats@yahoo.com

Product info: Homemade dog treats that contain natural ingredients.

they begged for more. They beg all the time, but not like this.

Hours later, when I walked into the kitchen, Sid would follow me, thinking he was getting another one. The expression on his face was like that of a hyper child addicted to sugar.

Gallagher began her home-based business out of her two loves: baking and animals.

"I have always rescued animals. My Dalmatian is Lucy and she is about 8 years old. That's where my business name came from. She is my angel and we purchased her from the SPCA. They rescued her from a really bad environment and neglect. I also have a 2-year-old American pit bull named Willie and a 9-month-old Staffordshire pit bull named Lilly. I have one cat named Ally who I found under my pine tree when she was a little baby," she said.

Gallagher said she bakes all week long and attends vendor, craft and street shows on the weekends to get her products out there.

"I also sell to groomers, retail stores, boarders and doggie day care centers. I also started home parties, which

has been very successful," she said. "I started in my home but rapidly out grew it. We converted our garage into a bakery. This increased my production and improved my processes. This is my full-time job and the business is growing faster than I could have ever imagined."

Miss Lucy's offers a line of baked bones, beef jerky, carob and yogurt candies, specialty ones like arthritis, dry skin, flea haters, bad breath and coat and skin bones, just to name a few. She features flavored treats like bacon and eggs and even a pumpkin cookie.

Her three dogs are her taste testers and help decide what flavors to create and sell.

"When I started my line, I wanted to have fruits, vegetables, health-related bones (specialty bones), meat is the jerky, I needed a dessert — that's where the carob and yogurt came from," she said.

Coming up for Valentine's Day, Miss Lucy's will offer themed decorative candies that look like regular candy.

"But (the candies) are perfectly safe for your dogs; lots of hearts and heart-shaped bones decorated with the

The panel



SID VICIOUS



ROGUE

carob and yogurt," she said.

Treats from Miss Lucy's Dog Treats may be ordered directly from Gallagher. She has a brochure that lists all her treat flavors and sizes.

All I know, is that if I don't order more of these bones soon, Sid may not last another day.

Rating:



Appliances • Bedding
Furniture • Sweepers
Sewing Machines • Tanning

APPLIANCES

• WASHERS / DRYERS
• RANGES
• REFRIGERATORS