THE DOG WHISPERER Answers Your Questions

THE MILLANS'
HOLIDAY ALBUM

Do you look like **YOUR PET?**



OF 2009
The SECRET of the
Missing Meatballs...and
the most MAGICAL
Christmas gift
of all!

MY DOG
IS OUT OF
CONTROL!
EVA MENDES

CALLS IN CESAR

WINTER

- ✓ HAZARDS in the house
- ✓ FORBIDDEN foods
- ✓ DANGER: Too cold to walk?



EXCLUSIVE!Food Network's

PAULA DEEN:

'My dogs led me straight to my husband!'

COUNTY OUR SSINGS



If a dog could make a wish, it wouldn't be for himself, it would be for his family.





Time to party!
Cesar and Ilusion
share photos
from their album
of holiday
celebrations
past.



off 26 of them," he says. "Like me, she remembers a Latino Christmas, where the big celebration is on December 24. That's when the kids are allowed to stay up until midnight and open one—just one—of their presents. Then they're sent up to bed and the adults celebrate. Maybe that's why in Ilusion's family they refer to Christmas Day as hangover day, complete with traditional menudo stew."

Cesar remembers the traditions growing up in Mexico.

"Christmas meant Los Posados, the nine days before Christmas, ending on Christmas Eve, when people enjoy the comfort of friends and family. It was a time to stay close to home."

In some ways, Christmas is different this year, now that the Millans have a beautiful new home and their successful careers. Still, at heart it remains the same. It is the love of family and friends—and, of course, dogs—that Cesar counts as the greatest blessing of Christmas. "I'm so grateful for all I have: my family, my dogs, my friends, my career. And my new country! I became a U.S. citizen this year," he says.

Of course Daddy won't be overlooked on Christmas. The grand old man of the family can look forward to "a big old bone," says Ilusion.

Cesar's wish?

"Don't wait until you have a lot to celebrate," he says. "The fact that you have a family and friends—or a dog—means you're not alone." •