
Upcoming Training Seminars from Love My Dog Training

Love My Dog Training, located in Denver, will be holding the following seminars on Saturday, November 8th. You are encouraged to sign up and attend if you think you can benefit from them.

Body Language Seminar

For anyone who wants to learn to better read their own dogs and the other dogs your dog meets when out in public. Learn to read early signs of stress and arousal. Learn to better understand your dog so you can communicate more clearly in your daily interactions. Learn to read your dog's body language to properly interpret what your dog is saying. If you are currently training your dog, this seminar will help you to train more effectively.

Saturday, November 8, 2008

Location: Canine's Canyon off of I-70 via the Genesee or Lookout Mountain Road exits

Time: 8 am – 12 pm

Cost: \$45.00

Current fosters for rescue groups may audit for no charge (space is limited)

This is a NO DOG Seminar. We do need some dogs for demonstrations. Please contact us if you have a dog that you believe would benefit from participating as a demo dog.

Pre-registration is required. To register, please go to:

http://lovemydogtraining.com/html/seminars_and_events.html#Bodylanguage2

And...

Aggression Management Seminar

In this seminar, we will discuss various types of aggression and how to spot early warning signs. We will also be discussing kind, honest ways to help your dog who has a challenging time when near other dogs.

If you want to learn to better read your dog and spot the early warning signs, we highly recommend you also attend the morning session on Dog Body Language.

Saturday, November 8, 2008

Location: Canine's Canyon off of I-70 via the Genesee or Lookout Mountain Road exits

Time: 1:30pm – 5:30 pm

Cost: \$45.00

Current fosters for rescue groups may audit for no charge (space is limited)

This is a NO DOG Seminar. We do need some dogs for demonstrations. Please contact us if you have a dog that you believe would benefit from participating as a demo dog.

Pre-registration is required. To register, please go to:

http://lovemydogtraining.com/html/seminars_and_events.html#Aggressionmanagement

We are introducing a new segment that we hope to be able to continue with the kind help and assistance from Sue Brown, owner of Love My Dog Training... Ask The Trainer

Ask The Trainer

Possession Aggression

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Question: I reached down to take a bone away from my dog and he growled at me. I was told that is a sign of dominance and not to let him get away with it. What is the best way to handle this?

The Trainer Answers: Do NOT punish the dog nor reach in and take the bone away. Growling is unacceptable behavior, but when he has possession is not the time to address this issue or you could be bitten. From his perspective, he has given you fair warning for whatever happens next.

If you need to take a bone (or any other object) away, encourage your dog to leave it to do something else, such as go outside or play with a toy. Once he no longer has access to the bone, remove it. He should receive no more bones until you are able to overcome this issue.

Growling over a bone does not mean your dog wants to dominate you in his evil plot to take over the world. This is referred to as resource guarding or possession aggression. A dog might guard one particular thing or several things, such as food, bones, toys, beds and even people. (People often mistake possession aggression for a person as protection, which can be quite dangerous.)

The following are general guidelines and are not meant to be a complete course of treatment for possession aggression. First, your dog should not have free access to any items he guards. Next, place him on a strict Nothing in Life is Free Program. He must now earn access to all valuable resources, such as meals, playtime, walks and your attention. This will give your dog a different job to do so he can retire from his guarding duties. Your dog will learn you are a fair but firm leader who controls all valuable resources. Through a strict management and training program, your dog will learn to trust you to handle all situations. I also recommend object exchanges, starting with items of little or not value to the dog. Gradually, the dog will learn to readily give up items and not guard any resources. He will learn the resources are yours, and it is not his job to guard these objects. I also strongly recommend you learn to observe the many other signals dogs give to indicate they might bite. You and your dog will be less stressed and happier.

For everyone's safety, be cautious and seek professional assistance if you are not absolutely certain how to proceed. Find an experienced professional who understands dogs and will use dog-friendly positive reinforcement methods. Punishment-based training could potentially increase aggression and your chance of being bitten.

(This "Ask The Trainer" article is reprinted with permission of Sue Brown, owner of Love My Dog Training and a Certified Dog Behavior Consultant. Love My Dog Training is located in and services the Denver Metro Area. <http://www.lovedogtraining.com/index.html>.)

Radar Spreads Halloween Cheer

We are so happy to be able to continue to report on the good work being done by one of our 'own'. Radar was adopted through Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado and went on to a very fulfilling 'career' as a Certified Therapy Dog. He visits many places allowing people to feel better just by being there for them to talk to, pet, kiss, hug... whatever it takes. Recently Radar visited with the people at The Life Care Center, all decked out for Halloween! Ever the ham, Radar loved parading around in his pirate costume!



Bits & Pieces

Important Notice!!

We are getting ready for the annual PRINTED version of NewSpots! newsletter that will be delivered by US Mail. If you have moved or your mailing address has changed and you want to receive your copy of the December NewSpots! newsletter, please notify us as soon as possible of your new mailing address!! Please send all address corrections to: dalmatianrescueofco@comcast.net

As a result, this issue is a little smaller... but we hope you still enjoy it!

A Great Dog Story

Mary and her husband Jim had a dog named 'Lucky.' Lucky was a real character. Whenever Mary and Jim had company come for a weekend visit they would warn their friends to not leave their luggage open because Lucky would help himself to whatever struck his fancy. Inevitably, someone would forget and something would come up missing.

Mary or Jim would go to Lucky's toy box in the basement and there the treasure would be, amid all of Lucky's other favorite toys. Lucky always stashed his finds in his toy box and he was very particular that his toys stay in the box.

It happened that Mary found out she had breast cancer. Something told her she was going to die of this disease... in fact; she was just sure it was fatal.

She scheduled the double mastectomy, fear riding her shoulders. The night before she was to go to the hospital she cuddled with Lucky. A thought struck her...what would happen to Lucky? Although the three-year-old dog liked Jim, he was Mary's dog through and through. If I die, Lucky will be abandoned, Mary thought. He won't understand that I didn't want to leave him. The thought made her sadder than thinking of her own death.

The double mastectomy was harder on Mary than her doctors had anticipated and Mary was hospitalized for over two weeks. Jim took Lucky for his evening walk faithfully, but the little dog just drooped, whining and miserable.

Finally the day came for Mary to leave the hospital. When she arrived home, Mary was so exhausted she couldn't even make it up the steps to her bedroom. Jim made his wife comfortable on the couch and left her to nap. Lucky stood watching Mary but he didn't come to her when she called. It made Mary sad but sleep soon overcame her and she dozed.

When Mary woke for a second she couldn't understand what was wrong. She couldn't move her head and her body felt heavy and hot. But panic soon gave way to laughter when Mary realized the problem. She was covered, literally blanketed, with every treasure Lucky owned! While she had slept, the sorrowing dog had made trip after trip to the basement bringing his beloved mistress all his favorite things in life. He had covered her with his love.

Mary forgot about dying. Instead she and Lucky began living again, walking further and further together every day. It's been 12 years now and Mary is still cancer-free. Lucky? He still steals treasures and stashes them in his toy box but Mary remains his greatest treasure.

Something You Might Be Interested In...



Adopt A Spot is raffling off 2 round trip tickets on Southwest Airlines. The tickets are 2.00 each or 3 for 5.00. If you are interested please go to our website and purchase raffle tickets. The drawing will be held on 12/18/08 and the airline tickets are valid until Dec. 2009. Thanks in advance for your support.

You can visit their website and purchase your raffle tickers here:

www.adoptaspotdalrescue.com

Adopt A Spot is a Dalmatian Rescue in Virginia and they are a 501(c)(3).

Cats with Gratitude™ Cats with Gratitude™ for 2008!

Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado has decorated a cat for Tagawa Gardens Cats with Gratitude Project. All proceeds from the sale of this cat at the silent auction will go directly to Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado.

The **Cats with Gratitude™ Project for 2008** will focus on Animal Rescue/Shelter organizations. Tagawa Gardens provides a 12" tall, paper-mache cat statue to qualifying groups (animal-related, non-profit, non-religious), which then decorate the cat as imaginatively as possible.

The decorated cats will be on display at Tagawa Gardens from Sat., Nov. 1 through Sat., Nov. 8 at 2 PM. The **Silent Auction will be held on Sat., Nov. 8 from 11 AM-2 PM** during "Holiday Gifts for Pets & Their People" an event hosted by Tagawa Gardens in which at least 10% of the proceeds go to animal non-profits organizations. (In 2007, this event raised over \$5000 for the non-profit groups participating!).

The highest bid on each statue "wins" that cat! The "winners" keep the cat statue and writes a check directly to the non-profit organization that created their cat.



Tagawa Gardens is located at 7711 S. Parker Road, in Centennial, CO. See their website: www.tagawagardens.com, for directions.



*******Be A Pal, Save A Dal*******

PLEASE – They need YOUR help!! Remember when your rescue Dalmatian came home with you, from the warmth of a loving foster family? If we hadn't had foster homes, you probably would not have gotten YOUR dog. PLEASE think about fostering a dog for Rescue so we can save lives like we saved your dog's life!! PLEASE give a warm home to a dog who can relax, show his true personality, enjoy a thick bed rather than a concrete floor in a shelter and get ready for a new home. PLEASE help us and the dogs so that others might have a dog that is well socialized, trained and ready to love. PLEASE think about this... Dalmatians are everywhere and are literally dying to meet you or someone willing to give them a "spot" to LIVE until their forever home comes along. PLEASE be a spot for us... and for them?

We thank you and you know any dog you help us save will be eternally grateful! PLEASE submit a foster application if you can possibly help us and them! PLEASE take your cookie... good boy/girl!

In The Doghouse... Our Featured Dalmatians

(Okay, so they're mixes... but they're CUTE!)

Abba



3 Years Old, Black Spayed Female
Reason Available: Unknown
Albuquerque, NM

Hi there everyone. I am a scared little girl. The people here have named me Abba. I got lost but my family didn't try to find me so I have nowhere to go. I am not that great at counting yet but I think I may be two or three. And I am a Dalmatian for sure. So how did I get here with no one to love me? I don't even know! I try to be a good girl but it seems like I loved them but they didn't love me back. Maybe there is a new family for me who will give me ear rubs and tummy bubbles and let me inside, maybe even have a blanket for me to lie on. Other dogs tell me that if you have the best family, your life is wonderful. I don't

really know about that. I wasn't let in the house even when it was freezie cold or burney hot. Sometimes I didn't have water or even a blanket to lie on. But I still loved them better than they loved me. I have been here at this shelter place for a long time, since October 5th, and my time is running out! If you think you could foster me or maybe even fall in love with me, my number is 1544861. You can call the uprights at 505-768-1975 to tell them someone wants me!! That sounds so cool: someone who wants ME! The shelter isn't open on Mondays but I will be waiting and I promise you won't be sorry! Love, Abba. I'm in Albuquerque NM and I need out now!! Help, oh please help!!!

Pepper5

7 Years Old, Black Male
Reason Available: Stray
Santa Fe, NM

I am called Pepper where I live now. That isn't my name but I don't think I have one so that will do for now. In the Good Dalmatian Handbook it says that Dals are outgoing and friendly. I really do want to be but so many scary and bad things have happened to me that I don't quite trust that people are OK. The other dogs here tell me that the staff people are terrific and I am beginning to trust them, but I always brace for the hit or yell or kick. In the manual, it tells me that Dals like all kinds of people, short or tall, young or old, fluffy or skinny, so I think I will turn into a party boy if I find the mom and dad who can help me over my shyness. I am a handsome guy and am ALL Dalmatian. I really want a home where I will be loved and appreciated. I am dignified and think I would excel at warming your couch for you and pre-tasting dinner to make sure it is up to standard. So would you please call Santa Fe Animal Shelter at 505-983-4309 to ask for me. You could also dial extension 235 to talk to Sarah or MaryAnn and tell them that my ID is #A037507. You know, I am beginning to think they are OK. I may take some time to warm up but I promise that you won't have a more loyal and adoring boy after that. Lots of love (and fur) waiting for you....Pepper. You know, I've been told also that once I get outside the shelter walls that I sure could be a different dog! I'd really, really like to find out!!



Happy Beginning Story

Chance & Chelsea

In September 2007 I put my beloved 10 year old Dal to sleep because of an aggressive cancer in his lymph system. I was fortunate enough to realize that I could give back to him all of the love he had given me by making the last days of his life comfortable. Pete will always belong in my heart, and I knew I would always love Dals because of him.

In November that year, I was starting to really miss his spots. I decided that although I didn't think I was quite ready to adopt a Dal, I could foster one. So I got online and found Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado. I sent in my application, took pictures and talked with Beth about the layout of my house for fostering. She said to me that there weren't a lot of calls about Dals needing a foster home or adoption in Durango and my part of Colorado. But she would let me know.

Well, within the first two weeks she contacted me about four different dogs, three of which did not come through. The fourth was a lucky boy

named Chance that was at the shelter on the Flagstaff side of the Grand Canyon. Lots of people come and go in that area, and he was lucky enough to have been brought to the shelter. While at the shelter, he tore his ACL while running and playing. A wonderful worker there arranged to have surgery for this tear at the Best Friends Sanctuary in Kanab, UT with the help of a generous sponsor. He laid on the concrete floor for months, and was not adopted. He was scheduled to be euthanized unless a home could be found. The same worker that had gotten his surgery scheduled called Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado in desperation. I was contacted and made arrangements to pick him up in a little town in the Navajo Reservation called Tees Nos Pos. I adopted him within three weeks. He is such a happy, easy going, well-mannered dog I couldn't imagine why anyone would leave him behind. He has been such a blessing and such a good friend.



A couple months passed, and I fostered another dog named Penny who found her way eventually to a family in Grand Junction. She was a real sweetheart, and she and Chance loved to play. After Penny left, I started thinking about finding him a buddy. I was willing to foster another dog as long as it wasn't a fence jumper (I have a four foot fence around my property) and was good with cats.

Beth called me in May 2008 asking if I would be at all interested in fostering or adopting a deaf 14 year old Dalmatian named Chelsea. After finding out more of her story, I said yes. Chelsea's family had been going through some hard financial times, and needed to find a home for her. They would pass through Durango on their way to a new home. They brought her directly out to my house, and spent some time saying goodbye to her. It was an emotional goodbye for them, and for the next two weeks a real difficult time for Chelsea.

Those first two weeks she moped and wouldn't eat. I knew she'd do better once she learned more about her new world, but she would not get off of her bed without a struggle. She never bit, but would snap at me. She's also completely deaf, has a thyroid issue which causes weight gain, and not so good at seeing. I can't imagine how frightened she was. She was also obese. I could not see her elbow or her hocks, and when we did start moving around, she couldn't make it up any stairs. After she was feeling more comfortable, I started taking her on daily walks with me and Chance.

We walk daily now, and she even dances around at the front door if I haven't taken them with me. She's lost 20 pounds since she's been with me and I can see a waist starting! She's also stopped licking the hotspot on her leg, and loves Chance and my kitties. In the morning she dances and swings around me. She'll grab her stuffed animal and shake it roughly, then drops it to give me a big panting smile. She'll do this a couple times before breakfast, and then it's out for our morning poop stroll. At night she follows me up the stairs to her bed which is right next to mine. She'll watch me intently as I get ready for bed. Then she gets a snuggle and a kiss and a thank you from me for coming around.

I am forever grateful for Dalmatian Rescue's work to save animals and for bringing such wonderful pets into my life.

Julie Frank
Durango, CO

Please don't forget... if you haven't sent in your Happy Beginnings Story yet, why not do it right now while it's fresh in your mind! It's never too late to see your story in print!!

NewSpots is published and released on the first calendar day of the month. The deadline for submissions for future issues of NewSpots will be the 25th of the previous month. Submissions received after the deadline may be delayed in publication until the following month, subject to the Editor's discretion.

Send submissions to the Editor at: spotted-dog-designs@comcast.net

Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) Non-profit organization. Donations are tax deductible!!

6828 Rim Rock Trail, Fort Collins, CO 80526 **Rescue Hotline: 303-281-8963** Fax: 970-377-9509

<http://www.dalmatianrescue.org>
