

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

**Final Adoption numbers are in... we
adopted 103 dogs in 2011!!!**



Does your dog suffer from stress?

There's a product that may help your dog to calm down in several situations. It's called the "Thundershirt" which is available from <http://www.thundershirt.com/lpc2/>. The Thundershirt has been receiving accolades from rescues, shelters and veterinarians across the country for uses to help calm dogs that stress over things like thunderstorms, fireworks, loud noises, travel and separation anxiety, problem barking, leash pulling, hyperactivity and more! The Thundershirt uses gentle, constant pressure to calm your dog, effectively aiding in reducing the effects of anxiety, fearfulness, barking and more. If your dog suffers from any of these stressors, you should definitely check them out. Below are several recommendations that were submitted to us.

"I have been hearing good things about the thunder shirts lately and wanted to share my good news. The owner of a young pubescent male we adopted, who suddenly became quite spooky and untrusting, even though neutered, gained real confidence when wearing the Thunder Shirt. I know that nothing is 100% effective but in this case it sure has made a huge difference. Many people are reporting this and I'm thrilled to add our story. The pup was coming back to rescue, but this one last attempt worked. They are keeping him!" - Beth White, President, Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado

"I would like to add my success story to Beth's. My LanieAnne has always been terrified of thunderstorms and fireworks and this summer I got one for her. It has worked wonders. Even if a storm is already on us and she is cowering in the closet, I can just put it on her and within a few minutes she is as calm as can be. I really think these work well and I would recommend them to anyone." - Ariel O'Brien, President, Spotted Dog Dalmatian Rescue

"The Thunder shirt is being used with epileptic dogs with great success. Many dog owners on the Epil-K9 list have reported that it makes a huge difference. Basically it is the same idea as swaddling a baby." - Marion

"This has been discussed on our Rescue Agility list every year around the Fourth of July. Our members have used the shirts for fireworks, for vet visits, for clipping nails, for thunderstorms, for riding in cars... for any situation that provokes a fear-response in their dogs. Even as I type, there is a discussion about the noises of New Year's Eve and how TS (Thundershirt) helps." - Leslie (a previous Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado adopter in PA).

"I have one of these I bought for a nervous flighty Chihuahua, but the weather was so hot when I bought it I didn't use it. In the meantime his demeanor has improved on its own and I forgot about the shirt. But I have another Chi/Beagle mix that I have had for 4 months that for most of that time I had to keep a leash on his collar so I could step on it to catch him when it was time for him to come in the house. He has gradually improved over the months, but I still have to pry him out of his crate in the mornings and out of the doghouse at night when time to come in. And he would never come into the house on his own. So, I found the shirt and put it on him this morning. I put him back in his crate for a while and then went in and opened the crate and he trotted right out. He is now running in the back door every time I open it! These things are amazing... wish I had thought of it in October!" - Donna Jones, Garden City, KS.

Recent Adoptees!



Cookie2
Evergreen, CO



Wyatt2
Sweetwater, TX



Kalli
Loveland, CO



Bow Wow
Fort Collins, CO



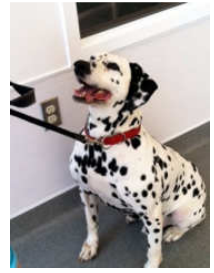
Tandy
Summerland, British Columbia, Canada



Bailey6
Parker, CO



Sparky4
Casper, WY



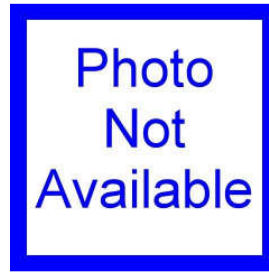
Bert
Keensburg, CO



Zoey2
Thornton, CO



Leeza
Fort Collins, CO



Ian
Fort Collins, CO



Nellie2
Littleton, CO

This Trendy Pet Dental Procedure May Do More Harm than Good

Nonprofessional dental scaling (NPDS), also known as anesthesia-free dentistry, is gaining popularity with an increasing number of dog and cat owners.

These are well-meaning pet guardians who may be fearful of anesthesia or may not be able to afford professional veterinary dental care.

They want to provide some form of oral care for their pets, so they opt for NPDS.

However, anesthesia-free dentistry is essentially a cosmetic procedure that addresses only the parts of your pet's teeth you can see.

The question many pet healthcare professionals are asking is whether NPDS procedures are doing more harm than good.

One of the biggest concerns many veterinarians have with just scrapping teeth is that the mouth is full of blood vessels, which can launch oral bacteria into the bloodstream.

Once the bacteria is in the bloodstream it can infect other organs like the valves of the heart, resulting in a disease known as vegetative valvular endocarditis.

To read the rest of this IMPORTANT article, please go to:

<http://healthypets.mercola.com/sites/healthypets/archive/2011/11/24/anesthesia-free-dentistry-risks.aspx>

FDA Continues to Caution Dog Owners About Chicken Jerky Products

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is again cautioning consumers that chicken jerky products for dogs (also sold as chicken tenders, strips, or treats) may be associated with illness in dogs. In the last 12 months, FDA has seen an increase in the number of complaints it received of dog illnesses associated with consumption of chicken jerky products imported from China. These complaints have been reported to FDA by dog owners and veterinarians.

FDA issued a cautionary warning regarding chicken jerky products to consumers in September 2007 and a Preliminary Animal Health Notification in December of 2008. After seeing the number of complaints received drop off during the latter part of 2009 and most of 2010, the FDA is once again seeing the number of complaints rise to the levels of concern that prompted release of our earlier warnings.

Chicken jerky products should not be substituted for a balanced diet and are intended to be fed occasionally in small quantities.

FDA is advising consumers who choose to feed their dogs chicken jerky products to watch their dogs closely for any or all of the following signs that may occur within hours to days of feeding the products: decreased appetite; decreased activity; vomiting; diarrhea, sometimes with blood; increased water consumption and/or increased urination. If the dog shows any of these signs, stop feeding the chicken jerky product. Owners should consult their veterinarian if signs are severe or persist for more than 24 hours. Blood tests may indicate kidney failure (increased urea nitrogen and creatinine). Urine tests may indicate Fanconi syndrome (increased glucose). Although most dogs appear to recover, some reports to the FDA have involved dogs that have died.

FDA, in addition to several animal health diagnostic laboratories in the US, is working to determine why these products are associated with illness in dogs. FDA's Veterinary Laboratory Response Network (VLRN) is now available to support these animal health diagnostic laboratories. To date, scientists have not been able to determine a definitive cause for the reported illnesses. FDA continues extensive chemical and microbial testing but has not identified a contaminant.

The FDA continues to actively investigate the problem and its origin. Many of the illnesses reported may be the result of causes other than eating chicken jerky. Veterinarians and consumers alike should report cases of animal illness associated with pet foods to the FDA Consumer Complaint Coordinator in their state or go to <http://www.fda.gov/petfoodcomplaints>.

Donations and Taxes

With the coming of the New Year, there's something else coming along fast... tax time. So we thought that we would take this opportunity to remind you about claiming your tax-deductible donations and what you need to have in order to claim them.

First off... charitable contributions are deductible only if you itemize deductions on Form 1040, Schedule A. To be deductible, charitable contributions must be made to qualified organizations (like Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado!). Payments to individuals are NEVER deductible.

If your contribution entitles you to merchandise, goods, or services, including admission to a charity ball, banquet, theatrical performance, or sporting event, you can deduct only the amount that exceeds the fair market value of the benefit received.

For a contribution of cash, check or other monetary gift (regardless of amount), you must maintain as a record of the contribution a bank record (cancelled check, money order receipt, confirmation page from a paypal transaction, etc.) or a written communication from the qualified organization containing the name of the organization, date of the contribution, and the amount of the contribution. In addition to deducting your cash contributions, you generally can deduct the fair market value of any other property (non-cash donations) you donate to qualified organizations.

For any contributions of \$250 or more (including contributions of cash or property), you must obtain and keep in your records a contemporaneous written acknowledgment from the qualified organization indicating the amount of the cash and a description of any property contributed. The acknowledgment must say whether the organization provided any goods or services in exchange for the gift and, if so, must provide a description and a good faith estimate of the value of those goods or services. One document from the qualified organization may satisfy both the written communication requirement for monetary gifts and the contemporaneous written acknowledgment requirement for all contributions of \$250 or more.

For noncash contributions you must fill out IRS Form 8283 and attach it to your return, if your deduction for a noncash contribution is more than \$500. For more information on this topic please go to: <http://www.irs.gov/taxtopics/tc506.html> and <http://www.irs.gov/publications/p526/index.html>.

Doggie Parenting

Tips and tricks on loving and living with dogs!

Does Fido Need A Massage Therapist? You May Be Surprised By The Benefits

By Victoria Rose
Nanny 911 For Dogs
Training and Behavior Modification

Recently I went to watch the USDAA regional agility trial in the Portland area. There were many top competitors there, and some had hired a local doggie massage therapist to go out there to work on their dogs between runs. Smart! Those lucky dogs are running hard and fast and could use the professional assistance. It's not "just pampering." Massage for dogs – just as for humans – has great health benefits and can help dogs stay active and pain-free longer than without.

Jetta got a massage a few months ago from a doggie massage therapist I had come to my home. She was totally in HEAVEN!

Here's more info, from Beth Whitehouse, K9 Kind Animal Massage in Portland:

“Why in the world would I massage my dog?”

If you think about it, dogs are pretty much made up of the same things as people: bones, muscles, ligaments and tendons, along with the same kinds of nervous systems we have. Many people go to massage therapists for sore necks or backs, or as part of physical therapy after an injury or surgery. These are some of the same reasons dogs may also need massage.

Unfortunately, dogs can't always tell us when they hurt but they do give us subtle clues. If your dog is favoring one side, or has a slight “hitch” in his gait or is slow to rise in the morning, he or she may benefit greatly from massage. Certainly after a veterinary diagnosis of a muscle tear or the onset of arthritis, you may want to consider massage as a part of your dog's treatment.

Massage can help alleviate pain, loosen tight muscles and help rid the body of toxins. It can also bring synovial fluid back into the joints of arthritic dogs, which helps to keep them “well-oiled” and pain-free (and off medications!)

Perhaps you have a canine athlete in your family and want to keep him in top condition, or help him move to the next level of competition. Doggy sports massage (or “Performance Massage”) is becoming a more popular tool to help condition Speedy Spot.

If a dog takes a punishing turn during competition (or just playing out in the yard!) and tears a ligament, massage can be used before, during and after (or INSTEAD OF) surgery to help him heal faster and get back on course!

Sessions can last anywhere from 15 minutes to an hour, depending on the size of the dog and the focus of the treatment. Rates are \$1.00 per minute. If you think your dog could benefit from massage, please contact me. I'd love to help!

Here's to a happy and healthy pup!

Beth Whitehouse
K9 Kind Animal Massage

Pet Emergency Stickers - Free

Get free "Rescue My Pet" stickers for house windows and doors from Associated Humane Societies by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to 124 Evergreen Ave., Newark, NJ 07114. You'll also receive a sample copy of *Humane News*.

'Til next time, "kiss the kids"
Tori (Mom of Jetta WAC, CGC)

Want more Doggie Parenting tips and tricks? Visit my website below to subscribe to my free 4,000-subscriber e-newsletter. I have *hundreds* of tips to help living with dogs easier and more enjoyable.

Victoria Rose/Nanny 911 For Dogs Training and Behavior Modification offers dog training/behavior modification in-home, by phone and via her “Baby Steps” training manual. All services are guaranteed; payments accepted. Visit www.Nanny911ForDogs.com



Ask The Trainer

“Safely Breaking Up A Dog Fight”

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If your dog has ever been involved in a fight with another dog, you know what a scary and stressful situation it can be. Professionals often recommend not trying to break up a fight simply to avoid people being injured. For most of us, that's hard to do if we fear for the safety of our dog.



Romeo with his buddy Moose – just playing!!

People are often bitten when trying to break up a dog fight, not because the dog intended to bite the person but because the dog lashes out defensively at anything. Bites often occur when someone tries to grab a dog's collar. While I understand the desire to break up a fight, if you do decide to intervene, you are always putting yourself at risk. However, there are ways to minimize your risk.

A client recently asked how to best break up fights between household dogs. Two of their three dogs get into fights on occasion. Neither has been seriously injured, but when my client ended up with a painful bite to her own hand when reaching in to grab collars, she decided it was time to ask my advice on a better way to break things up.

The very same day I sent her a list of possible ways to more safely break up a fight, I received a reply that she had the opportunity to put it to the test. Here's the email:

“Wanted to let you know that we actually got to practice your techniques last night. The dogs were in a heightened sense because of trick-or-treaters knocking at the door. I had just finished reading your email to [my husband]. R & S got into it. I realized, “Oh, this is an opportunity to practice” so I took a second. [My husband], however, starts to reach down and I'm thinking, “Hello?? That's the very thing she told us not to do”. Before I could say something he pulled back and then reached down and grabbed R's tail and I followed suit and grabbed S's tail. Had [my husband] not kept ahold of R's tail, I think he might have gone “back in”. I let go of S's tail and could tell he was, like you said, relieved that he wasn't fighting. We put R. in time-out. It was so much nicer reacting calm-headed. I'm actually glad that I got a chance to practice so quickly so that it was fresh in my mind.”

Rather than grabbing collars, one of the methods I suggested was to grab a body part away from mouths (tails or torsos) and pulling dogs off balance and then away from each other once they release their grips on each other. I have used this method myself and it has worked well for me.

Other options, depending on what you have available, is dousing dogs with water (bucket or hose), shoving an object (board, chair, etc.) in between if there's enough space between dogs to do so, or throwing heavy blankets over the dogs so they hopefully stop momentarily and you can pull them apart. There is no one method that will work in every situation, so the more options you have thought about in advance, the easier it will be to remain calm and break up the fight as quickly as you can without getting yourself hurt in the process.

Hopefully, you will never have the need to try any of these methods. Preventing your dog from getting into a fight is always the best choice!

If you have an issue you would like addressed in a future installment of Ask the Trainer, please send your question to: sbrown@lovemydogtraining.com or Sue Brown, Love My Dog Training, 1494 S Perry Park Road, Sedalia, CO 80135.

For additional training tips and information, you can read our blog at <http://www.lovemydogtraining.com/wp/> or find us on Facebook and Twitter.

Please send questions to: sbrown@lovemydogtraining.com



www.lovemydogtraining.com

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(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.lovemydogtraining.com>).

Bits & Pieces

Do you have a business or a hobby that other adopters, fosters, and volunteers might be interested in? Let us help you spread the word by 'advertising' in Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado's monthly newsletter – NewSpots! We currently notify a little over 450 people of the new editions of NewSpots! That's a lot of word of mouth and print advertising for FREE!!

Advertising in NewSpots! is free!!

Simply contact the editor, Karl Schill, at dalmatianrescueofco@comcast.net and he will work with you to provide your ad and place it prominently within the newsletter.

*******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 the Dalmatian Rescue where you obtained your Dal, or the one closet to where you now live, so they can save lives like they 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 rescues 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 rescue and for them?

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

Links Of Interest

<http://healthypets.mercola.com/sites/healthypets/archive/2011/12/06/coprophagia-repulsive-pet-habits.aspx>

<http://healthypets.mercola.com/sites/healthypets/archive/2011/12/08/pet-friendly-household-cleaning.aspx>

<http://www.youtube.com/embed/U1WrT2719yo?rel=0> - Video on bloat in dogs

<http://www.oprah.com/relationships/10-Ways-To-Help-Homeless-Pets>

<http://gma.yahoo.com/video/pets-26594274/best-of-2011-guilty-dog-on-gma-27579716.html>

Want to see your dog in print?

(Or on our website or advertising flyers, etc.)??

We are seeking reader submitted photos! So get busy with your camera and start sending the photos in today. We prefer either TIF or JPG format and sized no smaller than 640 x 480 pixels. Please include some descriptive text to help identify what's happening in the photo(s) and be sure to include your dog's name(s), your name, city and state (so that I can give you credit for the photo). Send photos to me at spotted-dog-designs@comcast.net. I cannot guarantee that we will use all photos submitted. The more interesting and unusual the photo, the better the chance of it being used. ☺ Some ideas of photos could be your dog 'reading' a newspaper (hint, hint) – even better if he'll wear glasses while doing so; your dog watching television; sitting in the driver's seat; wearing a harness (this one could be used for a safety article); costumed up ready for Halloween. So there you have it... time to get busy with the camera and submit your photos today! See below for a few sample reader submitted photos – three of them have already appeared in NewSpots!



This reader submission shows Radar "smiling" BIG for the camera... it got us to thinking. We want to see YOUR dog showing his or her pearly whites for the camera. Send them in to spotted-dog-designs@comcast.net and I will publish them all in the next issue of NewSpots! Be sure to get them submitted by Nov 25th so that they make the deadline!

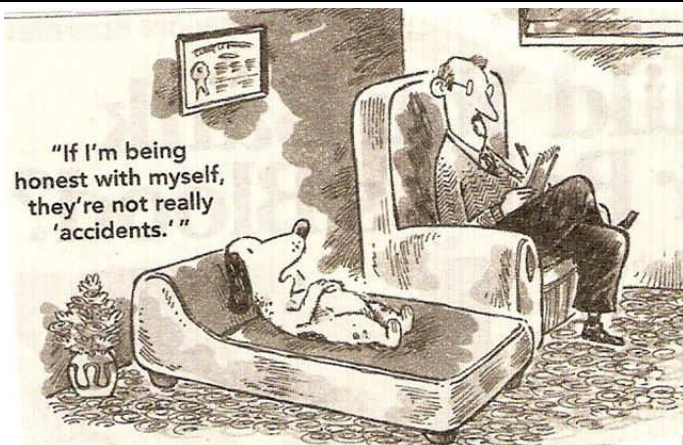
Photo: Radar

Reader Submitted Photos!



Here is Madison bearing a big, spooky Halloween smile for the camera. She is camera shy and it was hard to catch her in the act! The picture makes her look quite spooky and the way she moved, it left a ghost-like shadow above her head. SCARY! This would even frighten a vampire!!!!

- Debbie S.



Happy Beginning Stories

Lilley

We would like to thank you again for helping us adopt Lilley. She is such a wonderful addition to our family. She now follows Nate around the house like he is her long lost daddy and her and Dakota are having a great time playing and wrestling. She also likes to lay on my feet when I get home from work, which is good because they are always freezing by then so it warms them up, and as long as I rub her tummy for her she is happy to do it :). We took her on a road trip so that we could take the girls hiking and she used Dakota as a sitting stool the whole way there, Dakota didn't seem to mind :). We found out that she loves peanut butter, raw hides, elk jerky chews, and denta chew bones and squeaky toys that we get from the local doggie store across the street from us. She is a very spoiled little girl and we are very lucky to have her with us. I am going to call Carol back about the training that you guys mentioned. We would like to give Lilley a little time to get used to the change of things before we enroll her, but our hope is that we can get her and Dakota felling a little more relaxed around people and to come back when we call. Thank you again for letting us be Lilley's forever home. I don't know what we would ever do without her.



Lilley is checking you out!

Shannon & Nate M.
Lakewood, CO

Manny (aka Wyatt2)



Manny sitting on a bin

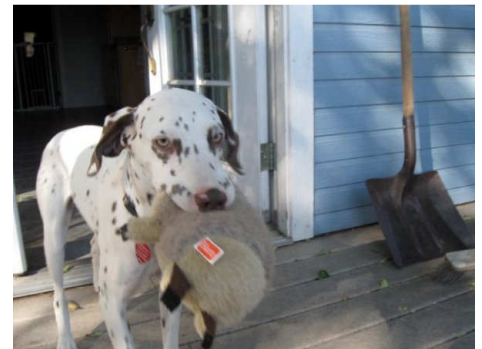
Manny was found in the Sweetwater, Texas animal shelter. He was a stray that was picked up. We have no information about his short life prior to the shelter. He is about three months old. After having him for just a couple of hours I could not understand why someone wasn't looking for this little guy. He is very intelligent and eager to please. Potty training has been a breeze. He wasn't crazy about a collar or leash in the beginning, but we have had him for just over a month and he is doing wonderful. Recall (come) is not his strong point at the moment. He is still just a puppy and it will take some time and work. He loves playing with his new big brother, Waldo. We got Waldo a couple years ago from Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado also. Waldo is three years old and still has a lot of energy to put up with a puppy. They love to romp and play out in the yard and under your feet. Manny will never have to worry about being on a hard cold floor of a shelter ever again. He has found his forever home!

Tabitha M.
Sweetwater, TX

Kori (aka Courie)

October 2011

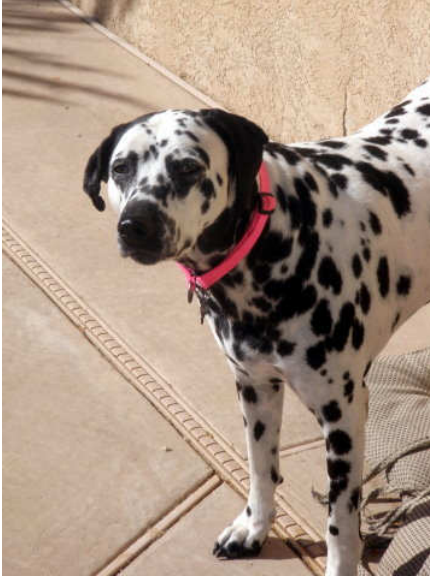
Finally the sweetest companion puppy (seven months old) for Jake (a February 2005 rescue). I have been bothering Beth since August. Kori is my first liver colored Dal and a puppy, which I haven't had in quite a while. She will run the pounds off my old hound. They play all the time. I am glad Jake can handle Kori's energy. Kori and I are going to basic obedience class at the Longmont Humane Society. Kori is my happy beginnings story.



Rich B.
Lyons, CO

In The Doghouse... Our Featured Dalmatians

Dede



7 Year Old, Black Spayed Female
Reason Available: Owner Surrender
Foster Home, Albuquerque, NM

Hi, Dede here, short for Perdita. I am a lovely, fluffy Dalmatian female who may be as much as 7 years old, although I act much younger. My owner lost her home, and I lost mine too. Yes, I'm a little portly and I enjoyed my fine cuisine a bit much, but that means there is more of me to love! My foster mama has cut me down to starvation rations with a few measly beans and some pumpkin to keep me alive. She says I need to lose 20 POUNDS!!!! I will be a mere shadow of my former self. I need to be rescued!!!!!!!!!!!! When I come to your house, my whole focus in life will be YOU. I am joyful and grateful to have someone around and will bounce around like a Kong when you come home. I love to sit right next to you so you are sure not to miss me. I am quiet inside the house and love to snooze on the fluffiest, softest bed I can find. My mama thinks I will be more energetic once I am at a more comfortable weight but for now, I am a comfort seeking girl. I love walks and to go sniffing around the yard and I will occasionally chase another of the 101 Dalmatians here, usually when I completely forget myself. I don't get on the furniture and I am, in

every way, a lady. You can't have too many people who love you unconditionally, can you? So have your people call my people and we'll talk. I am spayed, microchipped, UTD on vaccines, and HW negative. Call Lyn @ 505-857-0012 or write cnsptz101@q.com. I'm currently in Albuquerque but can usually catch ride to CO pretty easily.

Betty

6-12 Months Old, Black Spayed Female
Reason Available: Owner Surrender
Foster Home, Longmont, CO

Okay, Miss Betty needs a new home! She's been patiently waiting but even though she is first in the lineup, she is not being seen. So, she's now Dog of the Week, so she is noticed we hope. What a cute girl she is and what a joyful friend. Betty was rescued by a vacationer who found abandoned puppies in Mexico and brought Betty and her sister home to CO. Unfortunately, the woman could not keep the sisters and Betty was within 24 hours of being euthanized at the shelter. Betty is very compatible with her two Dalmatian buddies at home and is fine toward other dogs while on walks. She is loaded with puppy love and happy enthusiasm. If you are looking for a way to get up in the morning (especially Mondays) with a big smile, you found her. She loves to cuddle, especially if you return the favor with a tummy rub. She sleeps at night in a crate and is house trained. She is a puppy in training and likes to chew, but chewies (bones or toys) are a wonderful solution. She play nips, but a big hug is an effective deterrent. She needs a buddy now that she is without her sister. Betty is in Longmont and we ask....Could Betty Boop to Be Yours?



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>
