

A Special Fundraiser



Most of you know --or know of, Tena Price. We consider Tena to be a star volunteer for DRC, and her commitment to this volunteer work has saved hundreds of dogs over the many years she has volunteered with us. She regularly transports DRC animals from her home in Texas to Colorado and other states. And, if you know how big Texas is, that's a lot of driving!

Tena uses her personal vehicle for this work. She also has her own Dalmatians, Destiny and Hannah, and sadly, she recently lost her beloved Pongo to cancer. Shortly afterwards, Hannah was diagnosed with cancer, and now Tena has to drive the 200-mile round trip from her home in Waco, to College Station for daily treatments.

Tena and her husband are a one-car family. When she takes a multi-day trip to transport dogs, she leaves behind her family with no transportation backup in the event of an emergency.

In the past two years, during COVID, Tena has still driven more than 10,000 miles in her 1996 Chevy Blazer. It frequently breaks down while on transport, and she has to pay for towing, and repairs. In the last year, she had to replace the brakes and the wheel bearings, then the engine's head gasket blew. She had to borrow a friend's car to transport her own dog for cancer treatments while the Blazer was being rebuilt -- they found more problems in the engine. And now, it looks like the transmission lines are nearly shot. If you follow her on Facebook, you know how many times these breakdowns happen.

The Blazer has few safety features, other than seatbelts and safety glass. No air bags, no anti-lock brakes, and no onboard cameras, or GPS device.

What all this means is, Tena puts her life at risk every time she does a long haul transport for the sake of a Dalmatian, to ensure that they go to the best home possible. She will, and has, traveled thousands of miles to give us the dogs we love so much.

It's time that we honor Tena's incredible work, and help her buy a newer, SAFER rescue transport vehicle. This fundraiser will provide her with enough money to buy the vehicle of her choice -- one with modern safety features, heated and cooled cargo space for dogs, and which will not need to have every part replaced over time.

If you have even \$5, and you value Tena's work, and you have received a rescue dog through DRC, please consider donating now to this fundraiser for Tena. 100% of the money donated goes to her, as all GoFundMe fees are being covered by the organizer.

Thank you for your kindness!

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-tena-buy-a-safe-rescue-transport-vehicle>

February Is Pet Dental Health Month

Dental health in dogs and cats may sometimes be overlooked by pet owners

By Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences



Dental health in dogs and cats may sometimes be overlooked by pet owners. However, just like humans, pets need regular dental cleanings to keep their gums and teeth healthy.

As part of pet dental health month, Dr. J.R. "Bert" Dodd, a clinical professor at the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, explained some common dental hygiene issues in dogs and cats.

"Poor oral hygiene in dogs and cats can lead to excess tartar, swellings in the mouth, and severe wear of the teeth (or broken teeth) from chewing on inappropriate objects," he said.

In addition, neglected oral health can also lead to gum disease, which if left untreated, can make your pet more susceptible to other health complications. For example, bacteria in the mouth can spread to other parts of the body and cause infections.

Keeping your pet's mouth healthy is easier than you think. While your veterinarian can help through routine dental check-ups and treatments, most dental hygiene issues can be prevented at home.

"It is best to begin home care when your puppy or kitten is between 8 and 12 weeks old; however, it is never too late to start," Dodd said. "The first step is to train your pet to accept the brushing of their teeth. The best approach is to establish a routine of brushing your pet's teeth with gauze that is wrapped around your finger. It may be helpful to use beef or chicken broth with dogs or tuna water with cats to get them accustomed to the routine instead of using cleaning agents.

"Once your pet is familiar with the daily routine, you can switch out the gauze for a finger brush or a soft toothbrush," he said. "Then you can incorporate using veterinarian-approved pet toothpaste."

Even if you do regularly care for your pet's teeth, you should visit the veterinarian if your pet has persistent bad breath or experiences bleeding from the mouth or tooth, a change in eating behavior, and sensitivity to touch around the mouth; this may be a sign of a more serious dental health condition, Dodd said.

Keeping your pet's mouth healthy can help them live a longer, healthier life, so as part of pet dental health month, consider making a veterinary appointment to have your pet's teeth examined. Your pet will thank you with a smile.



February Is (also) Responsible Pet Owner Month



Owning a pet is a privilege, but the benefits of pet ownership come with responsibilities.

Be a responsible pet owner:

1. Commit

- Avoid impulsive decisions when selecting a pet.
- Select a pet that's suited to your home and lifestyle.
- Keep only the type and number of pets for which you can provide appropriate food, water, shelter, health care and companionship.
- Commit to the relationship for the life of your pet(s).
- Provide appropriate exercise and mental stimulation.
- Properly socialize and train your pet.

2. Invest

- Recognize that pet ownership requires an investment of time and money.
- Make sure your pet receives preventive health care (vaccinations, parasite control, etc.), as well as care for any illnesses or injuries.
- Budget for potential emergencies.

3. Obey

- Clean up after your pet.
- Obey all local ordinances, including licensing, leash requirements and noise control.
- Don't allow your pet to stray or become feral.

4. Identify

- Make sure your pet is properly identified (i.e., tags, microchips, or tattoos) and keep its registration up-to-date.

5. Limit

- Don't contribute to our nation's pet overpopulation problem: limit your pet's reproduction through spay/neuter, containment or managed breeding.

6. Prepare

- Prepare for an emergency or disaster, including assembling an evacuation kit.
- Make alternate arrangements if you can no longer provide care for your pet.
- Recognize any decline in your pet's quality of life and make timely decisions in consultation with a veterinarian.

Recent Adoptees!



ArsonA
Grand Rapids, MI



Bristol
Albion, IN



Allie (aka Alfie)
Seaside, OR

Attention Adopters!!!

If you haven't already submitted your Happy Beginnings story, PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE take some time to do it now!

Yes, I am begging. We really would like to have your stories on the website and make you a star here in the NewSpots!!

What are you waiting for? Submit your stories and a new photograph of your fur kid(s), and yourself if you want, to me today! Karl@dalmatianrescueco.org

In order to keep a true perspective of one's importance, everyone should have a dog

that will worship them and a cat that will ignore them.

A dog is one of the few things in life that is exactly as it seems.

For The Kids



Help Us Raise Money While You Shop!!

What's It All About?



AMAZON.SMILE

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado, every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado.

To shop at AmazonSmile, simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device and start your shopping at AmazonSmile. You will see eligible products marked "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" on their product detail pages. Recurring Subscribe-and-Save purchases and subscription renewals are not currently eligible.

You use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are also the same. On your first visit to AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), you need to select the charitable organization (Dalmatian Rescue) to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. Amazon will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation.

You can change your charity any time. Your AmazonSmile purchases after the change count towards your newly selected charity. To change your charity, sign in to smile.amazon.com on your desktop or mobile phone browser and simply select "Change your Charity" in "Your Account." You can choose from over one million eligible 501(c)(3) public charitable organizations. Look for Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado to make us your charity of choice!

KING SOOPERS/CITY MARKET COMMUNITY REWARDS



For Colorado supporters (or anywhere King Soopers or City Market operates), Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado has also enrolled in the King Soopers and City Market Community Rewards Program.

To Use the King Soopers or City Market Community Rewards Program, simply visit the appropriate link below.

For King Soopers Stores - go to <http://www.kingsoopers.com>

For City Market Stores - go to <http://www.citymarket.com>

Once logged in to your King Soopers or City Market account, search for Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado, Inc., either by name or FR415, and then click Enroll. New users will need to create an account which requires some basic information, a valid email address and a loyalty card.

*Customers must have a registered King Soopers or City Market loyalty card account to link to our organization. If you do not yet have a King Soopers or City Market loyalty card, they are available at the customer service desk at any King Soopers or City Market.

REMEMBER, purchases will not count for our organization until after you have registered your loyalty card (the same card that you use to build fuel points). You must swipe your registered King Soopers or City Market loyalty card or use the phone number that is related to the registered King Soopers or City Market loyalty card when shopping for each purchase to count. This does not affect your fuel points!



Trainer Tips

"When Does My Dog Move From Adolescence to Maturity?"

Question:

My dog just turned two years old and still acts like a puppy sometimes. I like that she's young at heart, but when can I expect her to mellow out and not be so rambunctious?

The Trainer Answers:

One of the reasons dogs and humans get along so well is that they are both among the few species that seem to make play such an important part of their adult lives. Many animals play during childhood but it usually fades during adulthood. Dogs and humans love to play long into adulthood. While some dogs play less and less as they get older, some will continue throughout their lives. That's part of what we love about dogs!

Play and other rambunctious "puppy-like" behaviors will often diminish as dogs get older. If you look at the demographics of dogs at dog parks and in daycares, the majority playing are adolescent dogs. What is an adolescent dog? Puppies are considered to become adolescents around the time they begin to mature in the sense that they are losing their puppy teeth and moving toward sexual maturity. This begins to happen somewhere between 4 and 6 months of age.

The tougher question is how long does adolescence last? There is no definitive answer to this question. There are no cut and dried dates for maturity. Think about the people you know. At what age would you say they were "mature" or "adults"? Maturity comes at different rates to everyone.

For dogs, maturity or adulthood comes somewhere between one, two, three or even four years old. Smaller dogs tend to mature faster, so you might see it closer to one to one-and-a-half years old. Large breed dogs tend to be slower to mature, so you might see it closer to two, three or even four years old. Giant breed dogs tend to be the slowest to mature. You can probably think of some dogs where it seems to take even longer than four years!

As with humans, maturity is a gradual process. You didn't go to sleep one night being an immature adolescent and wake up the next morning a mature, responsible adult. Neither will your dog.

Keep in mind that "young-at-heart" does not necessarily mean your dog does not know how to use self-control and make good choices or listen to you. Neither does maturity. If you are looking for your dog to mature in the sense that she will be less energetic, then you'll just have to wait and see. It will happen gradually, but your dog's size and breed will be factors.

However, if you are talking about a dog maturing in the sense that the dog listens to you and is not continuing obnoxious "puppy" behaviors such as jumping, nipping, pulling on leash, and not coming when called, then a mixture of age along with training will be needed. You shouldn't excuse your adolescent dog from good behavior, but you also need to understand that she is not going to make the best choices every time. With your help, she will gradually get better and better at listening and making good choices, but it wouldn't count on aging alone to resolve those issues. It might, but why take that chance?

Dogs aren't mind-readers, so you will need to do some training and learn to communicate clearly with your dog so she can begin to understand what you expect. Teaching her what you want her to do is the most effective way. While it's easy to revert to punishment when we get frustrated at obnoxious behaviors, it is not the most effective way for your dog to learn to "grow up" and behave in the way you want.

At two years old, your dog is on the way to maturing, but is likely still an adolescent to some degree if she is a large breed dog. Help your dog learn to make good choices and listen to you with some training, but also enjoy this "young-at-heart" stage because you never know how long it will last. You might have days you wish your dog were less energetic, but when she's older, you'll look back and fondly remember the fun you both had when she was a fun-loving adolescent!

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

 <https://thelightofdog.com/>

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(This "Ask The Trainer" article is reprinted with permission of Sue Brown, co-owner of The Light Of Dog, a Certified Dog Behavior Consultant. The Light of Dog Training is located in Sedalia, CO and services the Denver Metro Area. <https://thelightofdog.com>).

Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado **NewSpots! Newsletter**

Feb 2, 2022

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Bits & Pieces

Advertising in NewSpots! is FREE!!!

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 about 700 people of the new editions of NewSpots! That's a lot of word of mouth and print advertising for 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.

Foster Homes Needed!!

******* 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 closest 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!

Reader Recommendations and Tips

This is where we share recommendations and tips from and for our readers. Our newsletter is read by as many as 1800 people each month. That number constantly increases as we have more adopters and adopters recommend it to their friends and family as well. So, go ahead... share your tips and recommendations. Please send along any information you want to share with others, like products that you would recommend, dog toys, great pet insurance, good vets (or bad ones to avoid as well), etc. Is there anything you wish someone had told you about that you have found? Pass it along. Send your ideas, recommendations and tips to Karl at karl@dalmatianrescueco.org for inclusion in the next issue.

We NEED your participation to make the Reader Recommendations and Tips segment a successful segment. We finally received a couple recommendations. It is nice to be able to pass along information, tips and suggestions that you have found useful or helpful so that others can benefit as well, but without your participation it doesn't work! So please submit your ideas!!

SADLY, THERE ARE NO READER RECOMMENDATIONS AND TIPS THIS MONTH.

In The "Spot" Light... Our Featured Dalmatians

Xena

9 Years Old, Black Spayed Female
Reason Available: Owner Surrender
Foster Home: Concordia, MO

Xena Warrior Princess Dog, or Xena for short, was taken into animal control as a stray. Xena was severely underweight, covered in fleas and heartworm positive at that time. If you want a companion with lots of personality, this is the girl for you! Xena is good in the house, does like to sit on the furniture at times and will check out the countertops and she is crate trained. Xena gets along well with other dogs, but she has not been around cats. She could be okay but we just don't know. Xena also does well in the yard because she doesn't dig or try to climb or jump the fence. She enjoys the sun and the space. For more information contact Jon at js86bacon@gmail.com. Adoption \$300.



BaileyA



6 Years Old, Black Neutered Male
Reason Available: Owner Surrender
Foster Home: Colorado Springs, CO

THIS BOY NEEDS HIS OWN HOME! Originally from a rural shelter, and now in Colorado Springs, CO, living with a pack of dogs, Bailey is an active 6-7 year old neutered male dog with lots of love to give the right person or family. He loves to run and would like to run beside a bike or go running in the field. Bailey can be a little reserved when he first meets you, but doesn't take long to warm up. He enjoys his walks but, like most dogs, really needs to run for more exercise. Bailey can be independent; his new owner would do best to set boundaries at the start. Yet, Bailey is basically mellow, a cuddler and a kisser, and always wants to be by your side. He is a very sweet boy! He is crate trained, altho he has good house manners and loves car rides. There are no birds in the backyard, because he chases them off. No cats for Bailey. Bailey enjoys watching over his family and house from a deck or porch during the day and capturing your bed at

night. He needs a home with another dog for company and romping, and at least a 5 ft. fence for security. For more information, contact Jeannine at jeannine@dalmatianrescueco.org. Adoption \$250. You can submit an application for adoption at www.dalmatianrescueco.org.

Happy Beginnings Stories

Boomer and Flint



Boomer and Flint, like Abbott and Costello. It's hard to talk about one without the other. We adopted both Boomer and Flint at the same time and flew them from Colorado to Alaska. Like the comedic duos Abbott and Costello, Boomer and Flint are always together.

Boomer, the wannabe with fewer and lighter spots (except for the big black blotch at his butt), is a gentle giant weighing 80lbs. He is even tempered and basically just goes with the flow. He likes being near his new humans, sometimes sitting on them like a lap dog! He's heavy but as sweet as it gets!

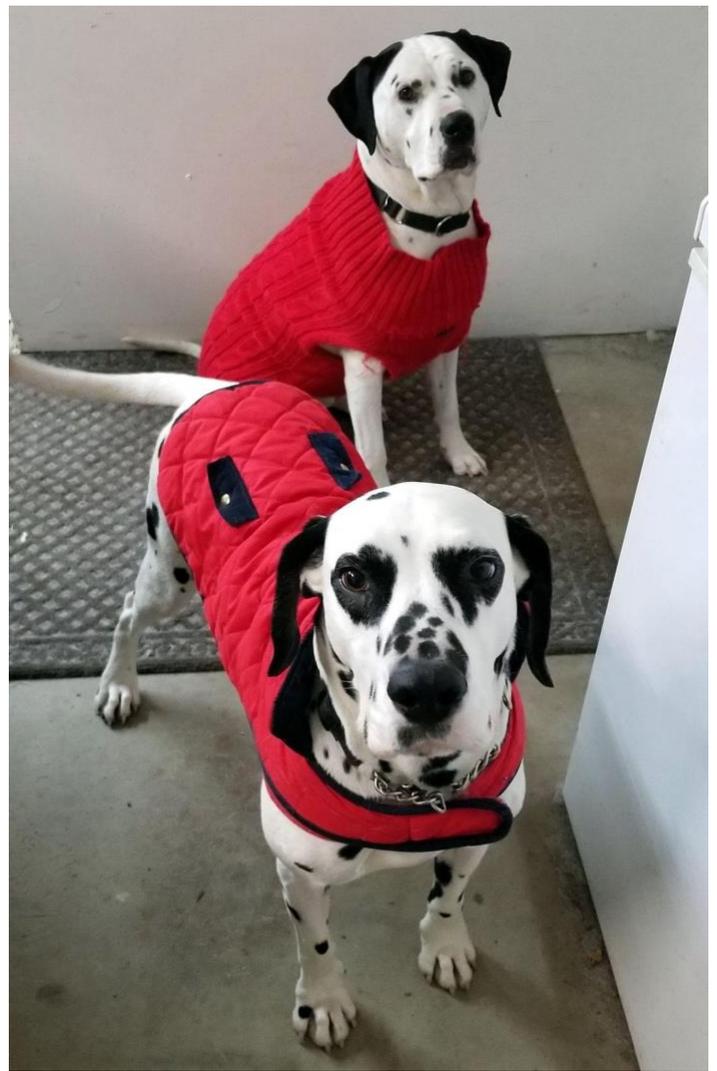
Flint is a sweetheart as well. The black spots around his eyes are heart shaped. He too loves his new humans and loves, loves, loves to be held and cuddled—all the time it seems. He has his naughty and mischievous moments, though, like running into a person at full speed instead of going around. Boy, he sure has a lot of speed and strength for being a 63lb dog!

We love Boomer and Flint so much. It was a blessing to be able to adopt them both at the same time. Since they were already canine buddies for more than 6 months at the same shelter, the transition to their new forever home was probably easier on them having that emotional support. They take care of each other. We love taking care of them.

Cici & Allen
Alaska



Will you open the door, please?



All dressed up and ready for the Alaskan winter!

It's never too late to see your story in print!

If you have adopted your pup from us, regardless of when, and have not submitted their Happy Beginnings story yet, please do it now while it's fresh on your mind.

These stories are the "pay" that fosters get for all their hard work!

About Us

NewSpots is published and released on the first calendar day of the month. The deadline for submissions for future issues of NewSpots is 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 karl@dalmatianrescueco.org.

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

3428 CR 27, Loveland, CO 80538

Rescue Hotline: 303-281-8963

Website: <http://www.dalmatianrescueco.org>