

Finding Rover

The Newest, Hi-Tech Way To Find Your Lost Pet

By Dr. Becker

A new high-tech tool is now being used in the search for lost pets. It's called facial recognition technology, and you can check it out at <http://www.FindingRover.com>.

It's in the Eyes (and the Nose)

FindingRover.com is a website and app that uses pictures of dogs to help return them to their owners. Using a smartphone, a pet owner takes a front-facing shot of the dog that includes a clear view of the eyes and nose – the two most important features in facial recognition technology. The photo is uploaded to FindingRover.com, and once approved, it's kept in the website's database.

When a dog is found, the finder can take a photo and upload it to FindingRover.com as well. The site scans its database to see if there's a match. Matches generate a notice to the owner, who can then call the person who found their pet and arrange a pickup.



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San Diego County Makes Its First Match

The County of San Diego Department of Animal Services was the first county in the U.S. to incorporate facial recognition technology into their shelter intake process. Every dog that enters the San Diego county shelter system is photographed and checked against the FindingRover.com database. The technology attempts to match eight distinctive facial markers on dogs with images uploaded by users searching for lost pets. If there's a match, the owner gets a call.

The network continues to grow as more shelters, veterinarians, and rescue groups learn the benefits of facial recognition technology in matching missing pets with their owners. John Polimeno, founder of FindingRover.com plans to expand the photo database to improve the odds of more matches. He's showing the technology to shelters, rescues, veterinarians, and dog groups and is also visiting other countries.

The Finding Rover service is also available with apps for iPhones and Androids. Sign-up is free for users.

Finding Rover's first success story: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Feh6bDqbgk>

Tech Gurus Surprised by How Well Their Program Works

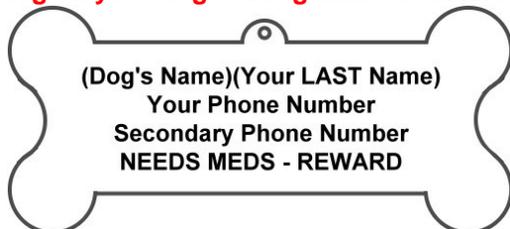
Steven Callahan and John Schreiner of the University of Utah's software development center created the technology that runs Finding Rover. Whereas there are only 8 facial markers for dogs, there are 128 in human facial recognition programs.

According to Callahan, "People are sort of uniform, the shape of their faces, skin tones, all their eyes, noses and mouths are in the same general location. But dog's eyes and snouts are in different places."

Callahan says he actually had low expectations for the program, but it works surprisingly well and better than he thought it would. "It would take off if you had all the shelters in an area [included]," he said.

Update Your Info!

If you move or change phone numbers, PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE make sure to notify Dalmatian Rescue of the changes in your address or phone numbers. We need to keep our records up to date so that we have a way to contact you should your dog become lost and is then found and we are contacted. And please keep the Dalmatian Rescue ID tag on your dog – along with YOUR ID tag, complete with current contact information. We recommend tags like this:



A Common Household Item That Could Kill Your Dog

By Dr. Becker

Just when you're sure you have a handle on all the many ways your canine buddy might manage to poison himself, along comes a new one.

Australian Shepherd Chews on AA Batteries

Recently, a one year-old Australian Shepherd was rushed to a veterinary clinic after her owner discovered she'd been sampling, of all things, batteries. The frightened owner discovered two AA alkaline batteries with small punctures in them. He also found a red blotch on the dog's tongue, and brought her to the clinic.

When the veterinarian examined the Aussie, her responses were normal, and she was bright and alert. The vet did notice a mild abrasion on the left side of the dog's tongue, but otherwise she appeared fine. She was given medications to protect her GI tract, and her owner was instructed to monitor her at home for worsening mouth lesions, excessive drooling, lethargy, anorexia, or vomiting. The reason for the continued monitoring was because the full extent of internal damage from alkaline battery exposure can take several hours to develop.

About 18 hours after the dog chewed the batteries, she became lethargic, was drooling more than normal, and refused to eat. Her owner brought her back to the clinic, where the vet noted that ulcers had formed on her tongue and inside her mouth. The dog's temperature was normal and she didn't seem to be in pain. Blood tests were normal. She was given Tramadol for pain, and an antibiotic.

After about four hours in the hospital, the Aussie began eating small amounts of canned dog food. She was discharged eight hours later, and her owner was instructed to continue her medications until they were finished, and to feed only canned food until the mouth sores were healed. Thankfully, the dog made a full recovery seven days after her AA battery taste test.

Why Alkaline Batteries Can Be Toxic

Dry cell batteries contain alkaline materials that can cause damage when they come in contact with living tissue in a process called liquefaction necrosis. The tissues soften, allowing the alkali to penetrate deeply.

When a dog chews and punctures a battery, the alkaline material can leak out and cause damage to tissues in and around the mouth, and occasionally in the esophagus and farther down the GI tract. Lesions to the esophagus, which is less protected by toxin-diluting secretions than the mouth and stomach, can lead to perforation and/or formation of scars that interfere with its function.

If a dog actually swallows a battery, it can cause an obstruction, and if it stays in the stomach long enough for the casing to dissolve, heavy metals (typically zinc or lead) can be released into the dog's system, leading to toxicosis.

Symptoms of Alkaline Battery Toxicosis

Symptoms of irritation in and around the mouth can occur within a few hours after a dog chews a battery, followed by ulceration that can take up to 12 hours to fully develop.

Other symptoms include lethargy, excessive salivation, difficulty swallowing, loss of appetite, vomiting (with or without blood), abdominal pain, increased body temperature, and black, tarry feces, which is a sign of bleeding in the upper GI tract. Often, there is also an elevated white blood cell count.

If the battery happens to be a disc or button battery (found in hearing aids, games, watches, calculators, greeting cards, etc.) and is swallowed, there are additional risks to the dog. Not only can alkaline liquid leak from damaged disc batteries, there is also the risk of injury to nearby tissues from the current flowing between the cathode and anode. If the battery lodges in the GI tract and produces corrosive sodium hydroxide, it can result in mucosal burns, necrosis, and perforation.

Obviously, alkaline batteries are another household hazard pet owners should be aware of. Many tech devices we use every day require batteries, and especially this time of year, small batteries are in plentiful supply in most households. If you share your home with a four-legged family member, please take care to insure your furry companion doesn't have access to alkaline batteries.



Recent Adoptees!



Emma



Jaxon
La Vista, NE



Evonna
Denver, CO



Owen
Tulsa, OK



Twinkle
Vaughn, MT



Daisy16
Denver, CO



Annabelle1
Fort Collins, CO



Attention Adopters!! – Yes, I'm talkin' to you!

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!! So, 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! dalmatianrescueofco@comcast.net

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!

2012 WINNER

2013 WINNER

2014 WINNER

I wanted to share this with the folks in the Denver area. I like her motto:
“Contact us FIRST for training so you won't need us later for rescue”

– Beth White

Need a Water Bottle for your hiking trips this spring and summer?

We have the perfect one just for you! The Liberty Bottleworks Aluminum Water Bottle... It comes in a 16, 24 or 32 ounce size.

Hydration never looked so good! Made of 100% super-strong recycled aluminum, this rugged water bottle features an easy quarter turn open/close cap (patent pending) and tapered neck for splash free drinking. Printed with a food-grade coating that's 100% BPA free, rest assured that this water bottle is as safe as it is beautiful. It is dishwasher safe, manufactured and printed in the USA. Available in a variety of colors.

Price: \$26.95 to 29.95 per bottle, and the best thing is Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado will get 5% of the purchase price per bottle as a donation!!!!

Buy it here:
http://www.zazzle.com/colorado_dalmatian_rescue_water_bottle-126517944067413521



Dalmatian Rescue of CO Adoption Event



MEET A FEW OF OUR FURRY FRIENDS LOOKING FOR THEIR FOREVER HOME!

- Saturday, January 31, 2015; 10 am – 1 pm
- Pet Club, 15022 E. Mississippi Ave, Aurora, CO
- Contact: Jamie Boening, 303-908-0495
- Foster and Forever Homes needed
- See website for Adoption and Foster Applications
- <http://www.dalmatianrescue.org>

Doggie Parenting

Tips and tricks on loving and living with dogs!

Miss Manners For Dogs

Victoria Rose (Formerly Canine Training Solutions)

Simple, gentle techniques - Quick results

Lessons In-home, By Phone or via Training Manual - Money-Back Guarantee!

503.688.7780 (Landline)

Website: www.MissMannersForDogs.com

Changed My Business Name!

OMG! Again?????

Yep... again! LOL

I never liked "Canine Training Solutions." Never! BORING.

I am now:

Miss Manners For Dogs

So succinct. I teach manners – to dogs. LOL

So... there ya go!

New website: www.MissMannersForDogs.com

New email address: MissManners@MissMannersForDogs.com

It's similar to my last name, Nanny 911 For Dogs. I LOVED THAT NAME!!!! BUT... when the TV show went off the air, many people missed the reference and thought I was a pet sitter, so I changed it. I just wish I'd picked something with more pizzazz.

In reference to "Canine Training Solutions," one of my girlfriends said it was too "tame" for my personality. I totally agree. Someone else recently called me "quirky." I am (and am proud of it). I hope "Miss Manners" fits me better.

'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.MissMannersForDogs.com



Trainer Tips

“Is Your Dog Earning Her Freedoms?”

© 2004-2015 Love My Dog Training



Zuzu usually (but not always!) makes good decisions on our off-leash walks

Just when you think your dog has a particular skill mastered... she gives you a reality check! Just when you think you can relax and let your guard down... he reminds you that you should never get TOO comfortable!

Our dogs are great at keeping us humble. Especially our adolescent dogs. Zuzu, our Greyhound mix, is now 14 months old. Still very much an adolescent and likes to demonstrate her juvenile delinquent side whenever we start thinking she's getting more mature.

We were on one of our twice daily off-leash walks the other day. Zuzu has been doing well the majority of the time, so she has mostly been off-leash for several months. Our dogs are boundary trained since our property is not fully securely fenced in. I can count the number of times Zuzu has made the choice to leave our property on one hand. And it has not happened for several months. Until the other day. I don't know what she saw, but she made the decision to go and off she went.

She did come back when I called her, though not as quickly as I would have liked. We leashed her back up for a while. Our dogs learn that freedom is not a right, it's earned. And when you demonstrate that you are not earning it, you lose it. At least temporarily, and then you will get a chance to redeem yourself.

Are your dogs earning their freedoms and privileges? Are they demonstrating they are capable of making good choices when given more opportunities? If not, they might be getting too much freedom too soon.

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!! **Below is an advertisement appearing for the first time in NewSpots!!**

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!

Reader Submitted Photos!

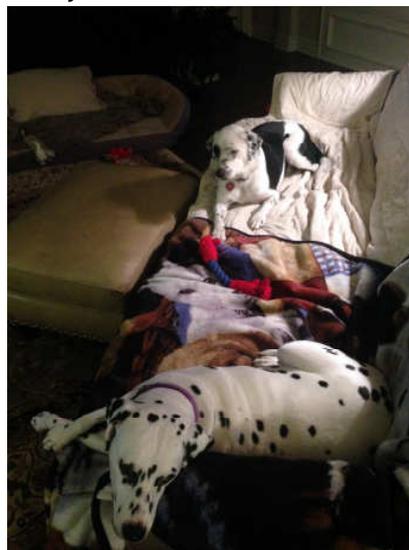


Morning Treats! Submitted by Patsy P.



Pooped Out Pals, Lucy and Owen

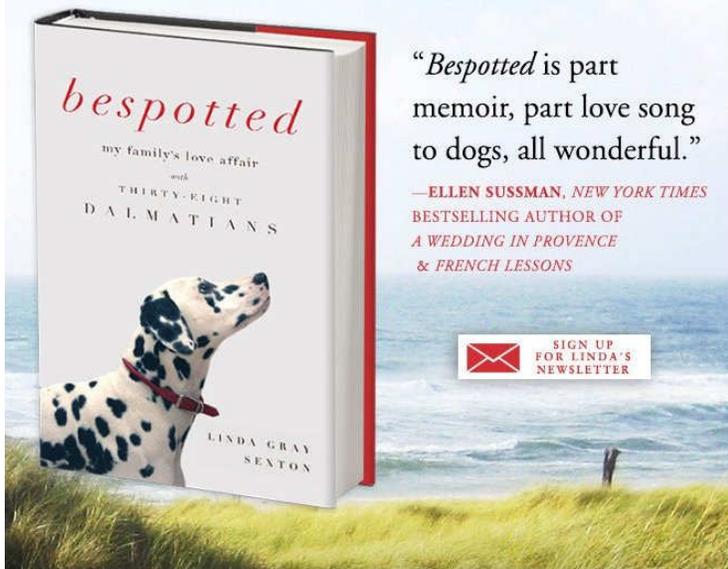
Submitted by Chris & John



Owen and Lucy Sharing the couch!

Submitted by Chris & John

LINDA GRAY SEXTON



"Bespotted is part memoir, part love song to dogs, all wonderful."

—ELLEN SUSSMAN, *NEW YORK TIMES*
BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF
A WEDDING IN PROVENCE
& *FRENCH LESSONS*



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(or two or three) now...

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"Bespotted is a love story and a testament to the special provenance of dogs to guide humans through the darkest moments in our lives."

- *Michelle Richmond, New York Times bestselling author of Golden State and The Year Of Fog*

"Bespotted is part memoir, part love song to dogs, all wonderful."

- *Ellen Sussman, New York Times Bestselling author of A Wedding In Provence and French Lessons*

"Bespotted is a brave and wonderful book."

- *Jeffrey Moussaieff Masson, Author of When Elephants Weep and Dogs Never Lie About Love*

*Bespotted is a page-turning and compelling look at the unique place dogs occupy in our lives. It captures another piece of this literary family's history, taps into the curious and fascinating world of dog showing/dog fancy. **Bespotted** is an upbeat and commercial memoir by one of the most critically acclaimed memoirists of our time.*

BESPOTTED
MY FAMILY'S LOVE AFFAIR
WITH THIRTY-EIGHT DALMATIANS

Dear Beth,

Marilyn Monroe once said: "Dogs never bite me. Just humans." My young stepdaughter informs me that dogs "rock." And my husband wisely opines: "When I die, I want to come back as one of Linda's Dals."

Do you know how many dogs live with owners today in the U.S.? The number is nothing short of amazing: 78.2 million. There are more dogs in American households than there are children. What is it, I wonder, that makes dogs so irresistible and special that we just don't seem to be able to live without them?

There are all sorts of interesting scientific reasons. For one, while gazing into our dogs' eyes, our oxytocin levels increase--oxytocin being the same hormone that floods our systems when we bond with our human babies at birth and later with our small fry. Another: dog owners recover at a faster rate from heart problems (among other health issues) than do non-pet owners. And I love this fact the best: eighty-four percent of dog owners consider their dog to be their child. I get that one, big time. And, when you have a very "special" dog in your life, he or she can get you through the greatest of difficulties.

Dogs have a strong sense of integrity and character. They never know what is coming and live joyfully in the moment. They savor the good, do their best to endure the bad, and, if we are smart, we learn from their example. Find out more about how our dogs come to be such pivotal mainstays in our lives by reading this fresh new piece, "Dogs Are Everyday Miracles."

Yours,



Sea Dals. 2014.



Breeze



Cody



Mac

Professional Pet Portraits by Colorado Artist, Mary Blichmann



Call to commission a portrait.
25% of proceeds go directly to
Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado.
All calls returned promptly.

970-319-0918

Mary Blichmann, Dal lover and artist, has created an original Christmas card perfect for Dalmatian lovers.

This card is printed from an oil painting she did. Cards are 4" x 6", blank on the inside.

Cards are \$2 each, or a 4-Pack for \$6. 25% of cards sold goes to Dal Rescue of CO!

To purchase these, please send an email to Mary at poco2@centurylink.net, and you can always call her at 970-319-0918. Mary is a pet portrait artist and would be happy to commission a painting or pencil drawing for your special spotty friend!



In The Doghouse... Our Featured Dalmatians

Gracie6

3 Years Old, Black Spayed Female
Reason Available: Stray
Foster Home: Longmont, CO

Gracie girl was found running the streets in New Mexico with her brother George. Gracie is microchipped, neutered, totally house trained, and knows commands of sit, stay, shake, lay down, and roll over. She uses a dog door as well. Gracie is fairly well behaved on a leash, but does get excited when she sees other dogs. Using a "gentle leader" has helped to improve her leash manners and running skills. This girl has incredible focus and could have fun in agility or other training. Gracie loves to look into your eyes, works for treats and be hugged cheek to cheek. She has a natural prey instinct, so a household with cats is not recommended. How she behaves with young children is unknown. She can be possessive of her food or food items and is best fed alone or in a crate. As a jogging partner, Gracie is the best, and she can probably go all day. She can easily leap a 4' fence so a 6' fence is recommended. Wouldn't you like a girl with yoga pants to be your running partner? How Chic! Currently fostered in Longmont, you can contact Denise for more information at apacheplume@aol.com. Adoption \$200.



MaddieA

1½ Years Old, Liver Spayed Female
Reason Available: Owner Surrender
Foster Home: Greeley, CO

*******URGENT*******

MaddieA is a young fawn colored pit mix. She was adopted as a 5-6 month old from DRC last year. Maddie lived with a male miniature doxie, happily, and a female lab, belonging to the adopter's girl friend, for 4 months. After Maddie and the lab got in a couple of fights the adopter decided to return Maddie to DRC. Who throws away a member of their family? This is a sweet dog who loves her people and gets along with most dogs. She is currently in foster in Greeley where she loves playing with her foster brother, Micah. Maddie was socialized quite a bit before her adoption. She is well behaved around horses and goats. Cannot be

trusted around cats. Should be in a home with no cats. For the most part, Maddie is medium energy and is a big couch potato. She would not mind being an only dog if she had plenty of time with her people. Maddie has wonderful crate manners and is house trained. For additional information on Maddie contact her foster mom, Barb Flores at: (970)302-0766. Adoption \$200.

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>
