

# Merry Christmas!!

Happy Holidays to everyone! DRC is happy to report that so far this year 61 precious souls have found new homes! Still a month left and several applications are in and still to be filled. Yay!

Christmas has traditionally been a great season for new homes; hopefully this season too.

We hope that this Christmas is wonderful for you, your family, and your new or old furry friend/s. Despite Covid!!

Here's to a Great 2021 too!!

Beth White, President  
Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado

## Holiday Pet Safety Tips

Christmas time is a joyous time for us. Lots of excitement and anticipation. But it can be a scary time for our pets. Avoid unnecessary problems and potential trips to the emergency veterinarian this holiday season by remembering these pet safety tips.

### Keep your dog away from the Christmas tree and other live plants!

The Christmas tree is one of the most anticipated traditions in many homes. It can also be one of the most dangerous things in your house for your dog. If you bring a live tree into your house this season, make sure your dog doesn't have access to the water used to keep the tree alive. Make sure the reservoir isn't accessible to your dog because the tree can release toxic sap into the water that may harm your pet. Some people add aspirin to the water to help keep the tree looking healthy as well. As we all (should) know, aspirin is not good for your dog either. Don't let your dog lick or eat the tree either. Many tree farms use chemicals, pesticides and fertilizer to keep the trees healthy and looking good. These can be harmful or fatal if ingested. Keep the area around the tree free and clear of any pine needles. While these may not seem dangerous, they can cause stomach upset or potentially puncture your dog's intestines if they eat them.

Watch out for other plants as well. Plants like poinsettias, mistletoe and holly can be poisonous to our pets. And if your dog has a chewing problem, they may start chomping on the plant without you knowing about it. Even if your dog doesn't typically chew on plants (consider yourself lucky if they don't), these are plants that are not in the home normally your dog might be tempted to chew on them. And there are so many things happening around this time of year that you might not notice if your dog decides to chew on them. Knowing that plants can be hazardous to your pups, it is best to keep them out of the home entirely or, if that's not possible, make sure to keep them in an area where your dog has no access to them at all, even accidentally.

Try to place the tree in a corner to limit access. We all know that cats love to climb into Christmas trees. Placing it in the corner helps to prevent the cat from getting into the tree - but it can't completely prevent it. If it is at all possible to anchor the tree to prevent it from falling over, do that!

### Keep your pup away from the Christmas lights and other decorations!

While it might seem like something our dogs would stay away from, that is not always the case. And it is important that our dogs avoid the strands of lights that can be potentially hazardous, as they can pose an electrocution risk if they chew on the cords while they are plugged in!! Pets may become tangled in the light strands and choke themselves or they could get burned, if you use older lights that emit heat.

DO NOT use edible decorations on your tree! These strings of popcorn and other edible items are just pet safety time bombs waiting to explode. These goodies are just too enticing, and your dog will surely tug at them, thus knocking down your beautifully decorated spruce! Not to mention they are also choking hazards.

Some people use glass ornaments on their trees. These are usually fragile (especially if they are old and family heirloom ornaments) and if knocked off the tree can break and then cut little paws if stepped on. If you use non-glass ornaments, they can still pose a threat to your pet. They could knock them off the tree and chew on them. If the ornament breaks, those shards could cause hazards of choking, intestinal blockage, injuries to mouths, paws or other body parts.

Tinsel adds a nice sparkling touch to the tree, but make sure you hang the tinsel up higher on the tree so that it is out of your pet's reach, or for the highest level of pet safety, simply don't use it. Ingesting tinsel can block their intestines which is generally only corrected through surgical intervention - and we all know how traumatic and expensive that can be.

If you like to burn candles at Christmas (or any other time of year), make sure they are placed up high and out of your pet's way. Wagging tails and curiosity can be deadly when combined with an open flame. Never leave candles unattended! If you have a fireplace and like a roaring fire, make sure that you use screens and do not allow your pet to get too close to the fire.

## Remember that candy and rich food is not good for our dogs!

The holidays mean candy, chocolate and rich foods aplenty. In order to protect our pups from getting sick, it is important to keep sweets out of reach. This is especially important if you are known for putting gifts under the Christmas tree. Keep those chocolates and candies off the floor and out of reach. Do not feed your dog lots of turkey. Turkey is a rich meat (especially the dark meat) and can lead to upset stomachs if they eat too much. Make sure your guests (if you have any) do not sneak food to your dog either. And ensure that the turkey carcass is disposed of properly so your dog **cannot** eat the bones!!

## Wrapping Gifts!

When gift wrapping, be sure to keep your pets away. Wrapping paper, string, ribbon, plastic tags or cloth could all cause intestinal blockages. Scissors are also a hazard to your pet if dropped while your dog is sitting near you. Shiny ribbons and bows on presents are very intriguing to curious pets, and should not be placed on the gifts that are to be placed under the tree on the floor if your dog can get near them. The dog could tear and ingest the paper, ribbons or bows (and ruin the surprise of what's inside!

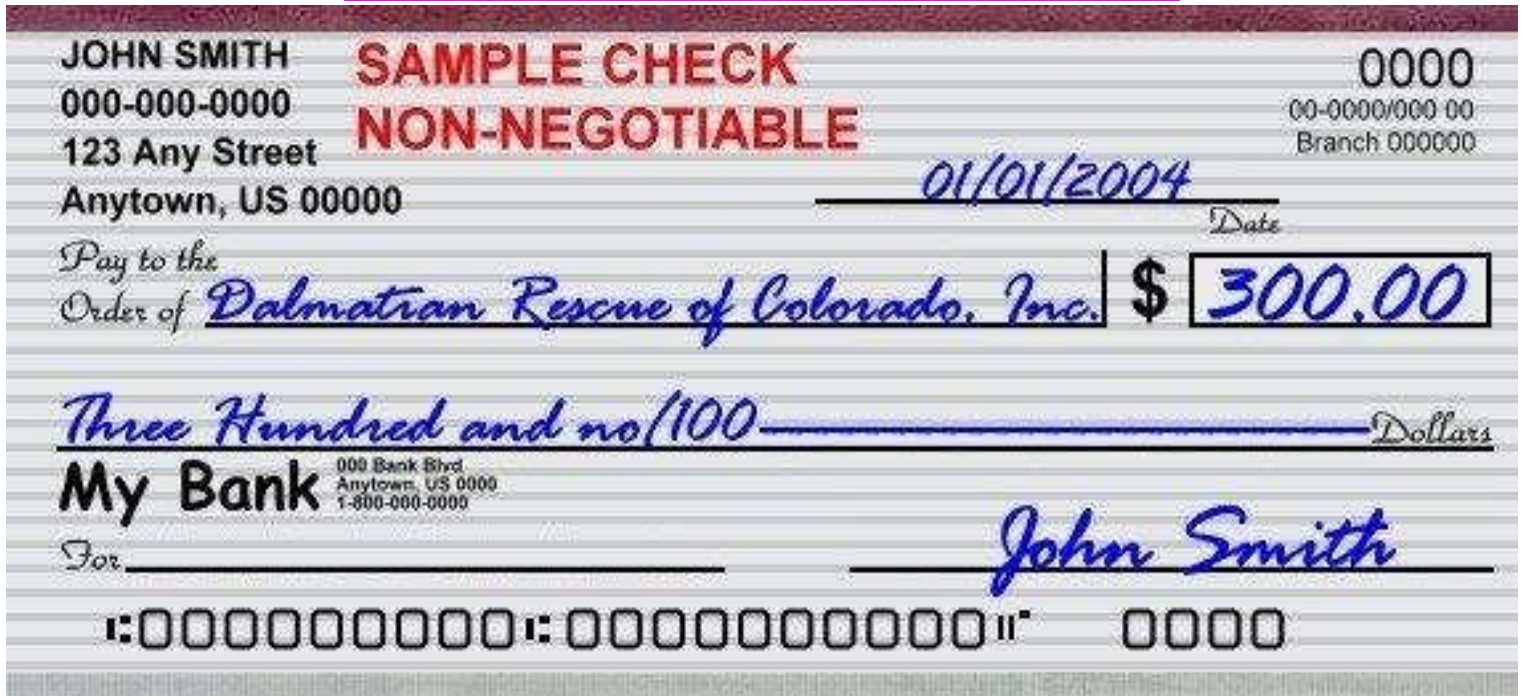


*Wishing you and yours the  
very best this Christmas!*

Our Annual Holiday Auction was a SUCCESS!! With the amazing talents of Jamie and MD, we held our annual online auction this past month. We set a goal of \$5,000.00 and we raised \$6,944.07!!! Our BIG thanks to everyone who participated in the auction this year. You folks are amazing!!!

As you might know, our operating costs keep rising along with the costs of everything else. These auctions help out immensely, but we still need donations as we spend about four or five times that amount on dogs annually. Without the generosity of our supporters, these wonderful dogs would not be able to be helped. So at this time, as people contemplate their end of year donations, I ask that you consider making a donation to Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado. Anything helps! You can make a donation right on the front page of our website at <http://www.dalmatianrescueco.org> using PayPal. If you prefer to send a check, it can be mailed to: Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado, 3428 CR 28, Loveland, CO. 80538.

Please Note that our official mailing address has changed!!!



There's nothing like the warmth of a new dog on Christmas morning... unless it is a rescue dog!  
~ Unknown Author

### Recent Adoptees!



**Bonnie (aka Tiva)**  
Bend, OR



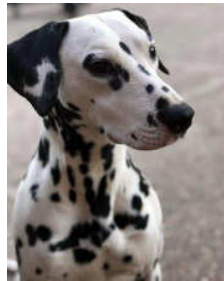
**Rocco**  
Rockwell, TX



**Rex Lee**  
Justin, TX

Photo  
Not  
Available

**Evey**  
Denver, CO



**Oakley**  
New Caney, TX



**Rico**  
Littleton, CO

### 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!  
[DalmatianRescueOfCO@comcast.net](mailto:DalmatianRescueOfCO@comcast.net)

We are still running drastically behind on Happy Beginnings Stories!! We have adopted more than 60 dogs already in 2020 and only have 9 Happy Beginnings Stories posted to the website. Even those of you who adopted in previous years, if you still haven't submitted your story, it's never too late!

So I am asking everyone, if you have adopted your dog or dogs from Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado and you haven't sent in your story yet...PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE send it in today! We would love to be able to post your story (with pictures) and show the world how your dog is doing in his or her new 'forever' home! Please check out the stories on our website if you need any ideas on what or how to write your dog's story. You can check them out by clicking this link:

[https://dalmatianrescueco.org/cgi-bin/dr\\_happy\\_beginnings.pl](https://dalmatianrescueco.org/cgi-bin/dr_happy_beginnings.pl)

Please submit your story to [karl@dalmatianrescueco.org](mailto:karl@dalmatianrescueco.org)



# And a very Happy New Year, too!!



# NATIONAL PET SUFFOCATION AWARENESS WEEK

## – Week After Thanksgiving

## NATIONAL PET SUFFOCATION AWARENESS WEEK

National Pet Suffocation Awareness Week reminds us of the risks food packaging poses to our pets. Each year during the week after Thanksgiving, take time to learn the preventative measures to keep your pets safe.

Most pet owners are unaware of the dangers of food packaging poses for their pets. That's why this day is so important. Any type of plastic wrapping or bags poses a danger. Our pets are drawn to the smell and flavor of our food as well as the lure of their snacks and kibble. We all do it. During a commercial, we leave a bag of popcorn on the coffee table. We set the groceries on the counter. The garbage can is also an easy target while we take a shower.

Our pets by nature wait for their opportunity to pounce. And it's dangerous! Regardless of the size or breed of animal, they can suffocate in 3-5 minutes. The average commercial break is 4 minutes. Our average shower is 8 minutes long.

Even the closed snack and cereal packaging left on countertops lure our pets while we are not at home.

Pet owners can protect their furry companions.

- Store packaged food in high cabinets or in pantries
- Use a locking garbage can or store under the sink
- Gates provide separation from food areas and pet areas during family gatherings
- Store snacks and cereals in plastic containers
- Eat snacks from bowls instead of from the bags
- Cut bags along both sides to prevent an animal from being trapped in the bag
- Become diligent about returning packaged foods to their storage areas
- Learn pet CPR
- While exercising our pets, watch for litter. This includes bags that may have blown into our yards as well.

The week is also an opportunity to share the stories of our pets – those we've lost due to suffocation and those who've been saved thanks to increased awareness. Our pets bring joy to our lives. They improve our health and are a part of our family.

## HOW TO OBSERVE #PetSuffocationAwarenessWeek

Take time this week to make your home pet safe. Share information with your pet-loving friends and family. Let your veterinarians know of these risks so they can share with their clients, too.

To learn more, visit [preventpetsuffocation.com](http://preventpetsuffocation.com) and use #PetSuffocationAwarenessWeek to share on social media.

## NATIONAL PET SUFFOCATION AWARENESS WEEK

In 2015, Prevent Pet Suffocation and [Prevent A Vet](#) founded National Pet Suffocation Awareness Week to bring awareness about this preventable issue for pets.

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# *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](https://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](https://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](https://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](https://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](https://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!



Love My Dog  
Training

## Trainer Tips “Door Darting”

© 2004-2020 The Light of Dog



### Question:

My dog has darted out the front door a few times and it takes me a while to get him back. How can I stop this?

### The Trainer Answers:

While you might or might not care if you have a well-trained dog, this is one training issue that is also a major safety issue. Dogs running loose can easily get hit by cars, attacked by other dogs, lost, or injured. While we certainly want your dog to come immediately when called, in this case, what we really want is for the dog not to run off in the first place. Then a reliable recall would not be needed.

First, we need to establish a rule in your household about doorways. In my household, the rule is that exiting through exterior doors is only permitted when I give the “Go!” release. Even if the front door is sitting wide open, dogs should not go through unless they have been

released to do so.

Begin by teaching your dog to Wait for permission to Go. If your dog is a serious door darter, I would begin this exercise someplace else like with the food bowl at dinner time. The concept of Wait is that the dog should not proceed forward until hearing the release word, which might be Go, OK, Free, Release, Break, or something else. Starting in a less exciting situation will often be easier for many dogs. Once the concept is understood, then you can transfer it to exterior doors, exiting vehicles, crossing streets, or any other place where you need your dog to control his impulse to go without first making sure it’s safe. Always work with your dog on a leash until it’s very reliable.

In addition to a strong Wait, you need a reliable Come if your dog does get out. Also, look at what your dog does when he gets out. Does he explore the neighborhood, go to visit neighbors, take off running, play a game of “you can’t catch me” or something else? If we can understand what your dog is getting from his escapes, you can work to provide those rewards in cooperation with you so he feels less of a need to do so on his own.

While all dogs should have some degree of training to produce a reliable Come when called, there are those times when even a well-trained Come can fail. Let’s look at a few options when you need an Emergency Come.

If your dog is at risk of darting out the door or escaping a collar or harness, be prepared in the case of an emergency. If your dog responds well to specific or unusual sounds, then you might want to have something you can pull out in that emergency situation. It might be a dog whistle (especially if you can’t whistle loudly with your mouth), a squawker, a loud squeaker, or any other sound that is loud and gets your dog’s attention enough to get him or her running back to the sound.

While our tendency is to run after our loose dog, what often works far better – but ONLY if you can get them to notice you first! – is to run in the opposite direction. Dogs will often run after us because they love to chase moving objects. If you are running toward your dog, the inclination will be to continue in the same direction you are headed which is away from you.

Another option is to essentially make a fool of yourself (also called the “Entertain Your Neighbors Strategy”) by rolling on the ground and making funny noises, pretend you found the most amazing discovery in the nearby bushes, or doing something else entirely out of character for you that will get the immediate curiosity of your dog.

The trick to these or similar techniques is to practice just often enough to ensure they work but are still novel to your dogs. If you over-use them, the novelty will wear off and not be as effective in an emergency. If you never try them until there is an emergency, then you won’t know if they will work or not until it might be too late.

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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/>).

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Advertisement for Crafty Mom Collection

*Crafty Mom Collection - Personalized Dalmatian Tumblers!*

My name is Kayla Fenton and I am the owner of Crafty Mom Collection. We make custom tumblers and personalized items. My biggest seller has been my Spot On Custom Dalmatian Tumbler. The Dalmatian tumbler is a 20 oz stainless steel tumbler that is coated in a beautiful white glitter or can be left a solid white and is sealed with FDA compliant epoxy. I use a picture of the owner's Dalmatian and turn it into a vinyl decal and apply that and any wording to the cup as well as generic Dalmatian spots all around. These are very unique and special because no two cups are the exact same and it's the owner's actual dog on the cup and is "spot on". I didn't expect these to ever blow up the way they have but the love I have received from these is truly amazing. I run my business from home alongside my 4 year old and 1 year old so the fact I have created these and they are known all over the country now is just amazing to me. I will donate a portion of each sale to Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado. I am a dog lover so the least I can do with these creations is pay forward to a rescue. You can check out my Facebook page Crafty Mom Collection and my Instagram @craftymomcollection.



Kayla Fenton  
Owner & Designer

Craftymomcollection@gmail.com  
Facebook: Crafty Mom Collection  
Instagram: @craftymomcollection

**When ordering, please mention Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado so that 15% of your purchase can be donated to Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado.**

**Prices: The 20 ounce tumbler is \$40.00 and the 30 ounce tumbler is \$50.00**

<https://www.facebook.com/craftymomcollection/>

Sincerely,  
Kayla Fenton  
Owner, Crafty Mom Collection



Your photo...



Turned into a vinyl application



And here's your Tumbler

## 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](mailto: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 \*\*\*\*\**

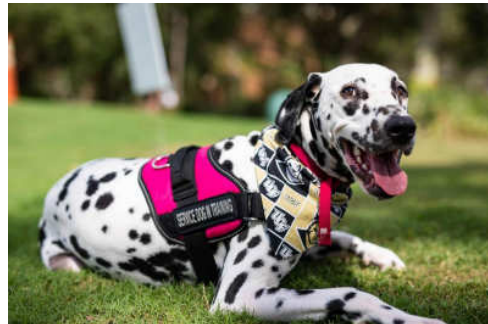
PLEASE – They need YOUR help!! Remember when your rescue Dalmatian came home with you, from the warmth of a loving foster family? If we hadn't had foster homes, you probably would not have gotten YOUR dog. PLEASE think about fostering a dog for the Dalmatian Rescue where you obtained your Dal, or the one 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](mailto:karl@dalmatianrescueco.org) for inclusion in the next issue.

*Sadly, There are no reader recommendations or tips this time around. If you have any that you think might be helpful or informative for our readers, please send them in and see your recommendations and tips in our next issue!*



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

## Bristol

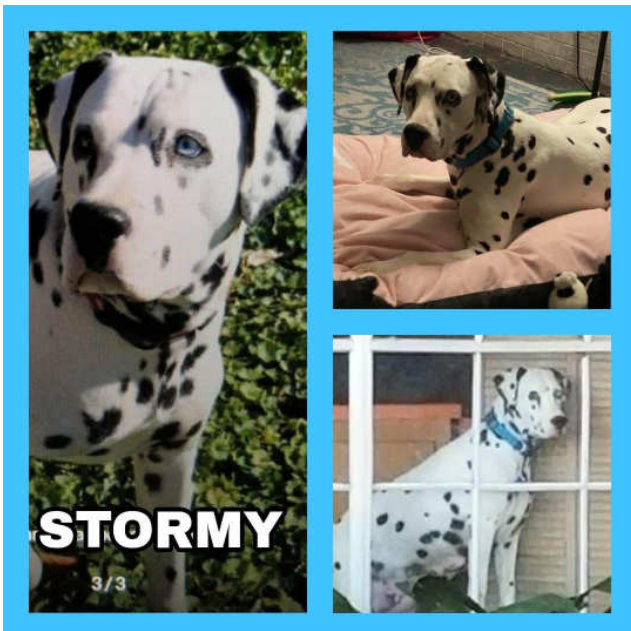
**8 Years Old, Black Spayed Female**  
**Reason Available: Owner Surrender**  
**Foster Home: Fort Wayne, IN**

Bristol Babe is in northeastern IN, waiting for that super duper home that she knows she deserves! Well, when you are as nice a dog as Bristol then you do deserve the best. Bristol is a bundle of curiosity and affection and she is an adorable 40# Dalmatian Wannabe. Bristol loves it when her belly is rubbed, lying quietly with her legs straight in the air. How cute!! She is generally fine with the foster dogs, but she does prefer the boy dogs. Probably best with only male dogs, although she can be okay with quiet female dogs. On walks she does love to meet new dogs coming along. The neighborhood girls (8-11 yrs) are her favorite young people and they love her too. Her fun time is going to the woods to run. She does have a naturally high prey drive when it comes to wildlife critters and with cats she is unknown. Bristol walks well on the leash and our queen prefers fluffy beds but all she really wants is to be with "mom". Bristol is a very smart girl with PERFECT house manners. She is not a dog toy fanatic and she does not chew what she shouldn't, but she does love tennis balls and will return with them! Our girl is vocal about things outside, as nothing gets by her guarding instinct. One hind leg was injured before we met Bristol but the vet said that it is healed now and it works just fine. Bristol sits for meals or whatever she might want. Good girl! For more information, contact Chris at [dalpal@rocketmail.com](mailto:dalpal@rocketmail.com). Adoption \$300.



## Stormy

**5 Years Old, Black Spayed Female**  
**Reason Available: Owner Surrender**  
**Foster Home: Denver, CO**



This beautiful lady is no storm! Sweet Stormy jumped her fence on the Fourth of July and apparently stepped on a firecracker. Not found for about four hours and totally traumatized, she retreated to her crate and wouldn't come out until forced. Stormy had been very lovable but became very stand-offish and nervous around the 5-yr-old in the home after her incident. Her mom decided to rehome her, and her world changed when she came to Colorado! After a brief anxious spell, she now loves her foster mom and her new four-legged sister. They play together for hours every day and watch TV together at night. Stormy is still a little shy around strangers but opens up quickly. She is doing well in the house although she still has a little bit of anxiety when her mom leaves. Stormy's perfect family would be Calm and loving and very active with a lot of walking and maybe even some hiking and heavy-duty snuggling! At least one doggy companion would be Stormy's choice although she has interacted with several dogs at one time, too. Stormy wants to settle down now in a permanent home with people who love and treasure her as she deserves. No small children due to her size and her obvious anxiety and no cats! For more information, contact Jeannine at [jeannine@dalmatianrescueco.org](mailto:jeannine@dalmatianrescueco.org). Adoption donation: \$350

## *Happy Beginnings Stories*

*We still need your Happy Beginnings Stories!!*

*Over 60 dogs have been adopted this year (2020) and we only have 9 stories!*

*Please help us to get the word out to all adopters from 2020 (or any year, since it's never too late!) to submit their Happy Beginnings Stories.*

**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 25<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:karl@dalmatianrescueco.org).

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

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