



RockySpot NEWS

The RockySpot News is dedicated to letting our volunteers, adopted families, and supporters know what the rescue is doing and what they can do to help. If you have an address correction, suggestions, ideas, and/or a story you would like to include in the RockySpot News you can email them to RockySpotNews@earthlink.net

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Looking Out for Older Dogs

Like people, dogs are individual in the way they age. Certain breeds, mixed breeds, and, in general, smaller dogs tend to live longer. A small dog of less than 20 pounds might not seem to show any signs of age until she is 12 or so. A 50-pound dog won't seem old until about 10. Larger dogs begin to show their age at 8 or 9.

It's encouraging that the average lifespan for dogs has increased from 7 years in the 1930's to more than 12 years today. With the right care, it's not uncommon for dogs to live to 14 or 15 these days.

What are the signs of aging and what should you do about them? One of the first signs of aging is slowing down. It will take your dog longer to get up and get started from a lying position, longer to climb stairs. Some of these changes are natural, but it is important not to overlook changes that may be symptoms of a condition needing treatment. Never assume that a change in behavior or habits are simply due to old age; it may be due to a treatable condition.

Important Tips for Keeping Your Older Dog Healthy

- Establish a relationship with the best veterinarian you can find. For most older dogs, it is advisable to make an appointment with the vet every six months
- Become informed about the conditions common to older dogs and the therapies used for them. Be alert to symptoms.
 - Sudden loss of weight
 - Serious loss of appetite
 - Increase in appetite without increase in weight
 - Diarrhea or vomiting
 - Increased thirst, without a change in activity level or increased urination
 - Tiring more quickly than when younger
 - Coughing and excessive panting
 - Difficulty in getting up from a lying position, or other problems with moving
- Feed your older dog the best food you can afford
- Don't overfeed your dog
- Consider the use of dietary supplements
- Give your dog adequate exercise
- Attend to your dog's dental health
- Be diligent in controlling fleas and ticks
- Make your senior dog as much a part of your life as possible

Provided in part by www.srdogs.com



Thank You

In rescue.. there are moments that literally take your breath away and put you to your knees with emotions. Every one of these moments I have had, have involved a beloved rescued animal.... that is until recently.

My dad, John Calfy, died December 27, 2003 of cancer. It was a very hard time for me yet it triggered a series of the most breathtaking, emotional moments in my life. Besides a wonderful arrangement of flowers from one of my closest volunteer families..which surprisingly seemed to live forever.. my office at OU presented me with two memorial bricks for our rescue sidewalk in "Memory of my Dad." I thought I would literally burst with emotion. NOTHING could have been more perfect... but that was not all. Upon opening a very FAT sympathy card from the RSR core volunteers .. checks and money literally FLEW out of the card.. endlessly it seemed.. not just from them.. but from all over the USA and even Australia.. all donated to the rescue in "Memory of my Dad!!!" .. I was totally speechless and on my knees.

Not many times in life do feelings this wonderful wash all over you and consume your whole body.. not many times in life can you honestly say you are blessed. I am truly BLESSED to have such a wonderful group of people who love not only this rescue and it's mission.. but me as well.

Thank you.. from the bottom of my soggy heart. I love you all.

Tee



We would like to extend our love and prayers to the following 4-legged companions that touched our hearts and that have crossed over the Rainbow Bridge.

Bud Madison
Meg Coale
Baci Newman
Tinker Bell Tucker

Nellie Dempsey
Tigger Tucker
Slow Han Watson
Rocky Hyatt

Happy Ending Story

Absolute most wonderful dog in OK/USA!

Bucky is truly the highlight of "our" lives. I'm not sure who loves him more . . . scary, huh? The neighborhood kiddos are even asking to take him to events, ha!



And, speaking of events, Mr. Bucky Dudley was the "guest" pet at Stone's show-'n-tell hour this morning. You both would have

been so proud. Bucky looked fabulous. He had on his new "red" collar & red "Love/Valentine" neckerchief. Red is definitely his color! Apparently, Bucky Dudley was a hit . . . of course! He was so adorable when he came back home. That shy little grin & a very noticeable tail wiggle that has stuck around most all day. Steve & I are convinced that he is the most tolerant, accepting animal we have yet been blessed to know, and we believe that he could quickly transition into a top-notch therapy dog for aging adults. To get the inside scoop on the "Daily Adventures of Bucky-Tane Dudley" you will just have to make it to his B-day bash . . .sometime later this spring/early summer. Will keep you posted, and will keep you in our prayers. We love you & thank God for Rocky Spot everyday. You can't imagine what Bucky brings to each of our lives . . . really, he is incredible. Thanks, Thanks, Thanks, and MORE Thanks!... Julie, Steve and Stone Dudley (AND BUCKY TOO!)

FUN FACTS

It is estimated that 38 percent of American Households have one or more dogs while only 35 percent have children.

One Person's Trash is Another Person's Treasure

Straight home from work, Just heard about possible pups and a dead mom at the dump.. change clothes and Amiee and I hit the road.. all evening.. cold.. wet.. muddy .. dirty .. smelly.. stinky.. AND SCARY. I honestly think we are flippin crazy.. CRAZY I SAY!!!! sigh

Had to nose dive head first to get the last little boy MUDDY out.. and lost my cell phone, as it was in my pocket.. dang it!

This mom is sooo dang sweet.. taking them all to the vet in the morning.. We are looking for some foster and permanent homes for the pups and the mom.

We are crazy.. truely crazy.. (I kept saying, as I would slid down a pile of trash and mud, on my ass, into a dark hole in the creek bank). PETA people are not THIS flippin nuts.

Ok.. they are cute cute cute.. and well worth saving.. I am sure mom had a lot more that the coyotes had gotten already.. she fought brave fights warding them off.

I would like to STRANGLE who ever drove down in there and dumped this poor sweet mom off when she was pregnant... grrrr.

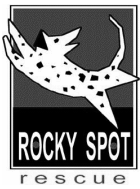
Tee



Wish List

RockySpot Rescue is compiled of a handful of volunteers that spend a lot of time and a lot of their own money keeping the organization running. We have compiled a "WISH LIST" of items that we use during the year that may be tax deductible to you and a huge help to RockySpot Rescue:

- **Stamps (any denomination)**
- **Envelopes**
- **Gift Certificates to KINKOS**
- **Gift certificates to PetsMart**
- **Dog beds in good condition**
- **Kennels and Crates**
- **Veterinary Services donations**
- **Cash**
- **Chewies: rawhides, bones etc. the bigger the better**
- **Leashes**
- **Stainless steel water buckets for drinking**
- **Stainless steel non-tipping food bowls**
- **Rope tug toys**
- **Blankets, old and stained are fine**
- **Tennis balls**
- **Durable toys**



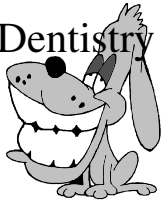
- **Heartworm medicine**
- **Vinyl sofa**

We hate to ask for assistance but our resources are running. Please call with any questions. Even the smallest donations will be much appreciated!

If you would like to donate, please contact the rescue at 405-699-7358.

Dentistry for Dogs?

Although shudder to vet for dental in on a regular



many of us hate the dentist and take our furry loved ones to the care it is imparative we drag them basis. It is estimated that about

85% of dogs and cats over the age of 4yrs. have periodontal disease. Why do we care? Peridontal disease is very painful and can lead to the death of your pet. Plaque builds up on the teeth of the animal and causes pockets to form between the teeth and the gums. This becomes a great place for the bacteria to enter your animals bloodstream headed for the lungs, liver, kidneys, heart, and brain. The bacteria can damage and eventually destroy all of these organs

So what do you look for to see if Fido has a problem?

- ✓ Bad breath
- ✓ A yellowish-brown crust of plaque on the teeth near the gum line
- ✓ Red and swollen gums
- ✓ Pain or bleeding when your pet eats or when you touch their gums
- ✓ Decreased appetite or difficulty eating
- ✓ Loose, missing, or broken teeth
- ✓ Sneezing more frequently
- ✓ Frequent licking
- ✓ Pawing at one side of the mouth
- ✓ Picking up, then immediately dropping a toy

If you see any of these signs consult your vet. It is easy to prevent disease from occurring. Regular brushing with special dog or cat

We would like to Thank Paul & Stephanie Oseland, and Tina Weber for their donations in the Sponsor-a-Dog program. Your donations are greatly appreciated

toothpast does wonders. Don't use human toothpast as it will upset their tummy. Whether or not you want to share a toothbrush with fido is up to you. Regular cleanings by your veterinarian is a must. You should take your loaved ones in every 6-18 months. As animals get older they are more prone to disease and need to be taken in more often. Chew toys and hard foods can help as well. Stick withing these guidelines and your pet should live a longer more enjoyable life.

-Holly Vestal

We want to hear from you.

Do you have a touching story about one of your foster dogs, or a dog that you have adopted from the RockySpot Rescue that has brought more joy and happiness to your family then you every imaged. We want to hear about it. Nothing makes our volunteers feel better about all the work they do than to find out it has been worth while.

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We would like to thank Bill & Lisa Hagstrom for their continued support of the RockySpot Rescue





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