



FEB - MARCH 2023



# NEWSLETTER

## 40th Anniversary

### Organization History Edition

The mission of Companion Animal Association of AZ., Inc. (CAAA) is to enhance the quality of life for people by promoting the Human/Companion Animal Bond. Today, CAAA maintains a network of community volunteers and works cooperatively with several organizations and individuals with similar objectives.

The establishment of CAAA was the result of several early initiatives driven by Juana Lyon and other key individuals.

In 1981, the first International Conference on the Human/Companion Animal Bond was held in Philadelphia. The result of this conference led to legislation being passed in Congress enabling the elderly of federally assisted housing projects to keep their pets.

In 1982, a Task Force on Companion Animals for the Elderly was established in Arizona. With the co-sponsorship of 30 federal, state, and local agencies and organizations in the fields of aging, behavioral health, education, veterinary medicine, housing, social services, and the humane interests, the first Arizona conference on Companion Animals for the Elderly was created.

In 1983, community interest established at the conference led to incorporation (501(c)(3)) of the Task Force, as the Companion Animal Association of Arizona.

Since then, CAAA has continued to grow and expand its outreach in support of the human/companion animal bond. CAAA and its programs have thrived over the past 40 years because of the commitment and caring of its volunteers and supporters.

### **PET THERAPY PROGRAM PAST AND PRESENT:**

CAAA's most visible program, with hundreds of volunteers over the years, provides pet therapy teams throughout the valley. In the early years, our visiting program included the AZ State Hospital, the YWCA Shelter for Abused Women and Children, and the Phoenix Shanti Living Center, an HIV/Aids treatment and hospice facility. Now, our pet therapy visiting program is centered on elder care residential facilities.

A volunteer wishing to enter our program must complete a personal profile and be interviewed by a member of CAAA. The animal, or animals, belonging to the volunteer must pass a health and temperament screening by their veterinarian. The prospective volunteer then accompanies one of our experienced volunteers as an observer during one of our care center visits. If upon completion of the observer visit, the volunteer wants to continue they are observed while making a visit with their pet. Corrections and suggestions are made by the CAAA observer and the new volunteer is ready to be scheduled for solo visits.

Our visits to the facilities are scheduled in advance on a regular schedule for the convenience of volunteers and facilities. We consider each visit a team effort with the

*\* 40th Anniversary - Organization History Continued from pg 1 \**

CAAA volunteer responsible for having their pet well groomed, in good health, and well mannered during the visit. If the facility requires an Activities Director to accompany the visit, this staff member should know the patients, their desire for a pet visit, their temperament that day, and if there are any medical problems to be considered. A good escort can make the visit more pleasant for everyone and help us to take full advantage of the time allotted.

**MARGIE MILLER HELPING HAND FUND PAST AND PRESENT:**

Named in memory of a member of the original task force, and past Secretary and Treasurer of CAAA, donations (unless otherwise designated) are put in this special fund to help the low-income elderly and disabled with their pet related problems. CAAA has partnered with veterinarians who will administer assistance to the pet once the pet owner has been screened by a CAAA representative.

Neither the veterinarian nor CAAA can underwrite long-term illness, nor can this be applied to the owner of many pets. This is a one-time assistance per family which can include end of life care.

Calls seeking help are referred to the chairperson for screening, and when appropriate, necessary arrangements with a participating veterinarian are made.

**PET GRIEF SUPPORT SERVICE PAST AND PRESENT:**

For many years, CAAA's Pet Grief Support Service provided understanding, compassion and support to anyone anticipating or coping with the loss of a beloved companion animal. Staffed and operated entirely by trained volunteers, the Service offered a 24-hour a day telephone helpline, in-person support group meetings, information and reading lists on pet loss, and referral to appropriate resources. Ongoing consultation was provided by a dedicated veterinarian and a professional grief counselor who specialized in pet loss and bereavement. As support for pet loss became more widely available via telephone and the Internet, in 2012 sponsorship of the service was officially transferred to Hospice of the Valley, which proudly includes support for pet loss as part of its Bereavement Services.

**RETIRED CAAA PROGRAMS:**

**COMPANION ANIMALS IN HOUSING**

In the early days, this committee received and evaluated phone inquiries regarding the concerns of low-income elderly and disabled tenants of HUD (Housing and Urban Development) housing relating to their keeping pets, landlord requirements, and the application of legislation passed in 1983. This program attempted to ensure compliance of local and federal laws.

**ASSISTANCE DOG TRAINING PROGRAM**

Also, in the early days of CAAA, we had an Assistance Dog Training Program to train the dogs of disabled persons to assist them in their every day life. As time progressed and other programs focused directly on this issue, we eliminated this program.

**OTHER AREAS OF CAAA ASSISTANCE**

In the early years, CAAA provided pet food assistance to those in need, as our volunteers would personally deliver pet food to their homes. We also directed inquiries for animals to adopt to area programs, such as the Arizona Humane Society.



A Social Pet Therapy Program

THE COMPANION ANIMAL ASSOCIATION OF ARIZONA, INC.

P.O. Box 5006 Scottsdale, AZ. 85261- 5006

Phone (602) 258-3306

<http://www.caaainc.org>



OUR MISSION

To enhance the quality of lives of people by promoting the Human/Companion Animal Bond and to provide support when the bond is broken.



"Unconditional love is as close as your nearest animal shelter"

- Unknown -



# MEMBERS WHO MADE DONATIONS

IN HONOR OR IN MEMORY OF .....

*Catherine Costin in Memory of Maddy*



*Anne Jennings in Memory of Neal C. Jennings*



*Pat Gollum in Memory of Cinco and Tiga*



*Jan Peterson in Memory of Virginia Perkins*



*Charles Lewis in Memory of Johan*



*Jackie Redpath in Memory of Bear*



*April Crow in Memory of Willow*



*Jane Conrow in Memory of her Afghan Hounds*



*Rene Chaillie in Memory of Sophie*



*Jennifer Reese in Memory of Willow and Nitro*



*Gretchen Murnane in Memory of George Murnane*





*There are several ways you can help CAAA generate financial contributions by participating with our Community Partners.*

- When you enroll your **Fry's** VIP card in their Community Rewards Program
- Any real estate transactions with **Richard Howell, North & Co. Real Estate**. Email: richard@northandco.com
- **Making United Way Agency** Pledges using code: Companion Animal Assoc of Arizona TIN-94-2908620
- **Intel** encourages employees to pursue their passion to volunteer. The Intel Foundation matches the time they volunteer with a cash grant through the Intel Involved Matching Grant Program. CAAA is eligible to receive these cash grants.



# 40 Anniversary & Annual Event

Hollis Park

On March 11th at Hollis Park in Tempe CAAA celebrated 40 years of our pet therapy teams providing dedicated visits to elder care facilities across the valley. During four decades those visits have brought countless benefits to those who love animals. Residents are able to shift focus for part of their day to positive and happy thoughts due to the love and attention of a pet. It's a healthy distraction, especially for those who may be missing having a pet of their own.

President Pamela Peet read over our organization's history and 40th Anniversary journals which included pictures throughout the years were available to all members. Our amazing pet therapy volunteer teams were celebrated along with all of our membership who over the years continue to support CAAA and our mission - To enhance the quality of life for people by promoting the Human/Companion Animal Bond.

The four legged members participated in an Art Project while the other members shared stories of memorable visits and enjoyed box lunches. Several pictures of the event, including milestone visit recognitions are in the pages of this newsletter.

**THANKS AGAIN TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND PET THERAPY COORDINATORS FOR PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER AND GETTING CAAA ON IT'S WAY TO ANOTHER 40!!**



**EILEEN YURISH , NANCY PARKER, APRIL CROW, PAMELA PEET, MELANIE LOWRANCE , MARY ANNE REYMAN AND SYDNI TALLERI**

# Step Aside Picasso & Warhol.....

## THE MAKING OF A "MODERN ART" ARTIST

STEP #1 - EXPLAIN THE MODERN ART CREATIVE PROCESS BY APRIL CROW

STEP #2 - PLACE PAINT ON CANVAS; INSERT CANVAS INTO A ZIP LOCK BAGGIE

STEP #3 - APPLY SEVERAL TABLESPOONS OF PEANUT BUTTER TO THE TOP OF THE BAGGIE

STEP #4 - TADA!!.... MODERN ART ARTISTS AT WORK!



DARLA



McKEE

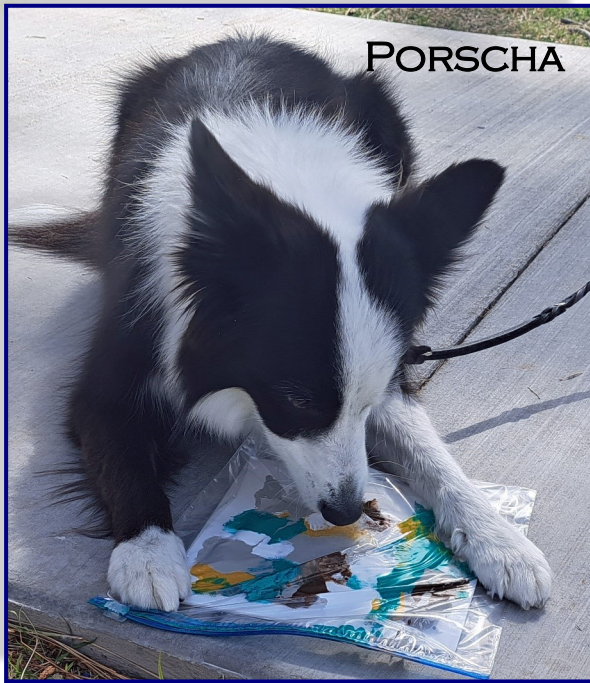


LADY



BLAKE

# The Making of a "MODERN ART" ARTIST.....CONTINUED



PORSCHA



ROSIE



PUPPET



JASMINE

# CURRENT EXHIBIT AT THE MUSEUM OF ART - PHOENIX

## "The Up and Coming Artists of the "Modern Era"



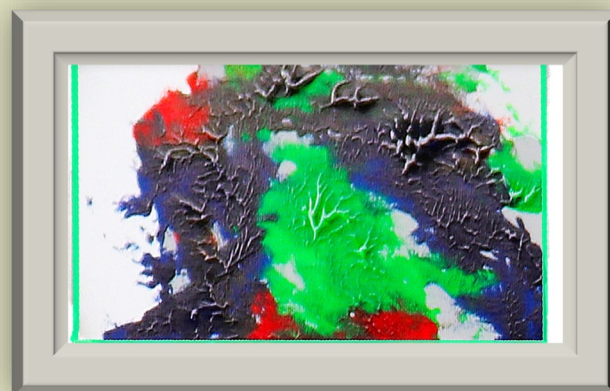
Rosie



Sinders



Lady



McKee



Darla



Blake



Porscha



Puppet

# 40 YEARS OF VISITING 2022 Milestone Visits



*Ray & Blake*  
**301 Visits**



*Jane & Ty*  
**131 Visits**



*Rene & Lady*  
**98 Visits**



*Sara & Madison*  
**36 Visits**





# 2022 Milestone Visits ... continued



*Ellen & Jasmine*  
**40 Visits**



*April & Darla*  
**28 Visits**

## **NOT PICTURED**

*Jodi Ferreira & Simon - 24 Visits*

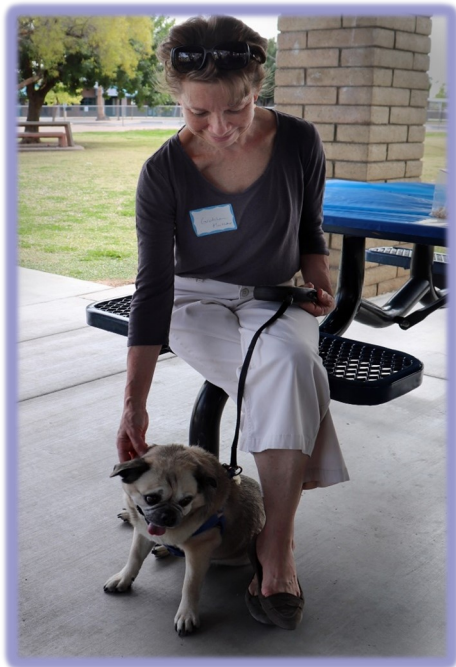
*Jennifer Reese & Midnight 298 visits*



*YEARS OF VISITING*

# WELCOME

## new CAAA teams



Gretchen & McKee



Deborah (not pictured) & Porscha who have already made two visits!

Not Pictured - Jason & Basic



### Therapy Animals Are Also Recognized in Other Countries

On the second floor of the Sakura Village in Yamashina Japan, residents can live together with dogs and cats. While some residents move in with their pets, others merely wish to live together with the cats and dogs that are not their own.

Bunpuku is one of the main therapy animals at Sakura Village. He is known as "The End-of-Life Care Dog". He has the unique ability to know when residents are approaching the end of life, and he stays by their side during their final hours.

Of the four units on the floor, two units are home to 10 dogs, and two units to nine cats. Most of these pets arrived together with their owners, but a handful were rescued by animal welfare groups.

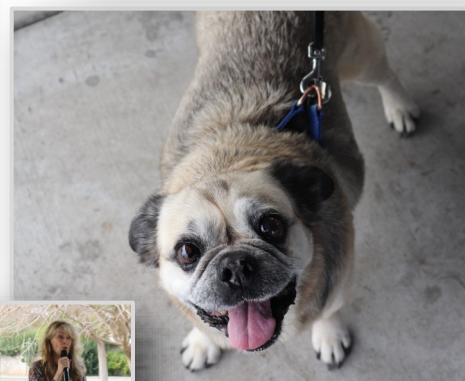
Read all about the pets and residents of Sakura Village and see Bunpuku's video by clicking on the link below.



Bunpuku and Friend



# Celebrating 40 years!



# CAAA

## BULLETIN BOARD



**CAAA  
2022**

**OFFICERS  
&  
BOARD  
MEMBERS**

**PRESIDENT**  
*PAMELA PEET*

**VICE PRESIDENT**  
*NANCY PARKER*

**SECRETARY**  
*SYDNI TALLERI*

**TREASURER**  
*EILEEN YURISH*

**BOARD MEMBERS**  
*MELANIE LOWRANCE*  
*MARY ANNE REYMAN*

ANY COMMENTS,  
PICTURES,  
SUGGESTIONS, OR  
INPUT FOR FUTURE  
NEWSLETTERS?

SEND THEM TO:  
JACKIE AT

[REDPATH808@GMAIL.COM](mailto:REDPATH808@GMAIL.COM)