



JENNIFER REESE

Closing in on 300 Visits!

It was while working in long term care facilities that Nurse Jennifer first saw how the presence of an animal helped calm patients and triggered the return of happy memories long forgotten. She saw similar effects also while working as a hospice nurse. These visits were so positive for her patients that she decided long ago when she retired, that was what she wanted to do. So she did! First with Nitro, then Willow and now Midnight her third certified pet therapy dog.

First, Jennifer did her homework by searching the internet and finding the various pet therapy groups throughout the valley, their requirements, certification processes and the type of facilities they visited. She chose CAAA based on their non for profit status and the fact they visited residential facilities for the elderly population with special needs; a group she knew through experience would benefit from more interaction with four legged friends. Jennifer also says CAAA's excellent reputation, long track record of thousands of visits made by an all volunteer membership and run by a volunteer Board of Directors also helped to made it easy to decide what organization to join.

Since joining in the 90's Jennifer has been visiting the residents every week at Fellowship Square a Christian Care Community in Phoenix. Her first dog was Willow, a large Black Lab mix. After a few years she certified another one of her dogs, Nitro, and added a second weekly visiting site, Life Care Center in Glendale. Nitro was a Shepherd mix with a red tint to his long coat. At 103 lbs. he was a big teddy bear and large enough to put his head into many laps of wheelchair bound residents.

Today and for the past five years Jennifer has only one dog, Midnight another Black Lab mix, and they have continued visiting. Life Care Center has still not reopened for visits, but they are still at Fellowship Square every Wednesday. On that total care campus they visit full care dementia and assisted living dementia patients.

"Midnight is not allowed to get on any of the patients beds with one exception – Cindy who was just too weak to interact with Midnight any other way", says Jennifer. "Midnight was



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A Social Pet Therapy Program

**THE COMPANION
ANIMAL
ASSOCIATION OF
ARIZONA, INC.**

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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.



"Some Angels choose fur instead of wings"



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not a 'cuddler', but she loved jumping up and getting close to Cindy who would always hold her tight. It was obvious the loving bond the two of them developed over time. On one of their visits Cindy was somewhat groggy and I had a hard time getting Midnight to leave, so I extended our visit until Cindy said she was tired and going to take a nap. She told us she had ordered cookies for Midnight that would arrive before our next time and then said goodbye. That night Cindy passed away in her sleep. I believe Midnight just wanted a little extra time to spend with her friend before saying goodbye for the last time.

For me there are many rewards in doing this type of volunteering. Like seeing dementia patient's faces light up when we walk in a room and hear one loudly proclaim 'Midnight's here!' All my dogs have loved visiting as much as I do. I think Midnight knows what day we go because she seems to just wait at the front door every Wednesday. She knows the order of the visits and goes from place to place with little direction from me.

We always end each visit with 'See you guys next Wednesday', something I hope to be saying at least another 300 times!"



**NEED TO REACH THE
PET THERAPY
COMMITTEE ?
HERE'S HOW.....**



PHONE:

(602) 258-3306

or

EMAIL TO:

info@caaainc.org





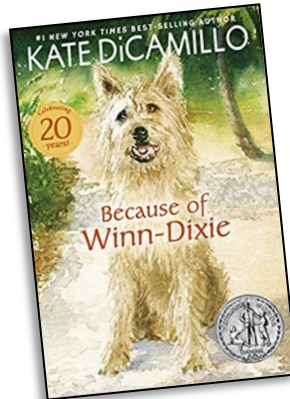
There are several ways you can help CAAA generate financial contributions by participating with our Community Partners.

- When shopping at **Amazon** on line, use : [SMILE.AMAZON.COM](https://www.smile.amazon.com)
- 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.




Read Any Good Dog Books Lately?

It's summer time. Grab a book, sit in the sun (only 'til about 7am), or go to the beach on a road trip (or any trip) and relax with a good read. Here are a few suggestions for dog lovers.



Because of Winn-Dixie by Kate DiCamillo (Fiction)

Ten-year-old India Opal Buloni has just moved to a fictional small town in Florida with her father who is preacher.

While at a Winn-Dixie food store, Opal encounters a scruffy Berger Picard that is wreaking havoc. She (not wanting the manager to send him to the pound)

claims that he is her dog and names him "Winn-Dixie". He becomes friends with everyone he encounters, and in the process Opal makes some new friends among the very interesting townspeople as her life changes. This book was also made into a movie and is still available in DVD format.

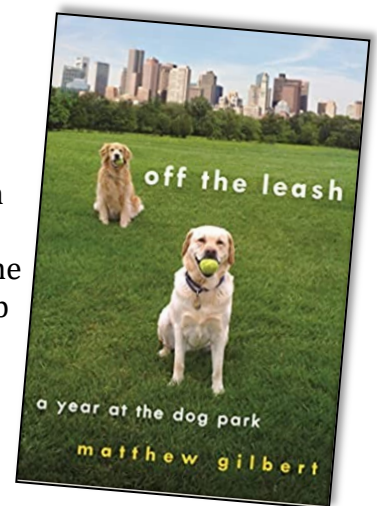
You can read the complete reviews of this book on Amazon where readers give it a 4.8 star rating.

Off the Leash: A Year in the Dog Park by Matthew Gilbert (Non Fiction)

Gilbert, longtime TV critic at the Boston Globe, describes his reluctant trip into the dog park subculture, as the first-time owner of a stubbornly social Yellow Lab puppy named Toby.

It's a group portrait of dog people, specifically the strange, wonderful, neurotic, and eccentric dog people who gather at Amory Park, overlooking Boston near Fenway Park. And it's about the author's transformation, after much fear and loathing of dogs and social groups, into one of those dog people with fur on their jackets, squeaky toys in their hands, and biscuits in their pockets.

This partial summary is from Amazon where readers rated this book 4 stars.



Dog Breeds

YOU MAY NEVER HAVE HEARD OF

Did you know that there are over 199 official dog breeds in the U.S.? Most of us are familiar with the popular ones like last year's top five; Labrador Retriever, French Bulldog, German Shepherd and Golden Retriever (in that order). But how about those rarer breeds? In each of the next several issues we'll be highlighting a few of them. Some are large, some small, long shaggy coats, sleek coats and several carry the country of their origin in the breed name. No matter how they look or where they originated, each is as unique and special as their more popular counterparts.



The Otterhound

Ranging from 80 (females) to 115 pounds (males), the Otterhound is believed to have originated in England over five hundred years ago. It's fairly certain that they descended from Bloodhounds. Otterhounds appear to have been brought to the United States in 1900 and were officially recognized by the American Kennel Club in 1909. It is estimated that currently there are less than 1,000 Otterhounds worldwide; about half within the U.S. It is considered the 20th rarest breed by the AKC.

As its name suggests, the Otterhound was bred to hunt otters; mammals which are found on land and in water. Having to be effective hunters in both situations, the breed has a rough, double coat, webbed feet, and an exceptionally powerful nose which can follow an underwater scent long distances. Their broad chest and powerful shoulders make them exceptional swimmers that will not tire quickly. On land, they are physically strong, with a long, striding gait.

The Otterhound is also known for their distinctive and almost musical bark of the hound. It's a deep, loud, extended bay. They have a wide range of vocalizations, from grunts to groans. Some are quiet while others even like to "sing" and vocalize with other dogs and people. Some owners claim they think their Otterhound loves the sound of their own voice.

The Otterhound is an excellent family pet and are easy to train, good with other dogs and great with kids. They are a boisterous inquisitive breed that is sometimes called the "class clown". They have a fun-loving, sweet, affectionate personality but are also independent and do not ask for a lot of attention.

To learn more about the Otterhound including health, grooming, exercise, training and nutrition information visit the three sources for this article and pictures:

[AKC](#)
[DogTime](#)
[Wikipedia](#)


Continued on the next page



The Bergamasco Sheepdog

An ancient breed, the Bergamasco Sheepdog originated in the harsh mountain climate of Persia; or depending on what source you read, the Alps located in the northern part of Italy. One thing all sources do agree on is that the Bergamasco is a herding breed of both sheep and cattle. They are considered to be natural herders and are said to easily learn how to herd a flock of sheep with little training and few directions.

Because of a demand for wool sharply reduced during the Great Depression few shepherds continued to roam mountainsides with flocks of sheep resulting in little need for herding dogs. The Bergamasco was on the road to extinction until an Italian scientist with knowledge of genetics got a Bergamasco puppy and fell in love with it.



Dr. Maria Andreoli is credited with collecting the few surviving Bergamascos and started her Dell'Albera Kennel. Through her efforts, other breeders became interested in the breed and today it is considered having been saved by the 1960's. In early 1990 the breed was brought to United States. Today the Bergamasco is rated the 19th rarest breed by the AKC.

They are large muscular dogs, 70-80 lbs. (males), 60 – 70 lbs. (females) with a life span of 13-15 years. The most distinguishing feature of a Bergamasco is their one-of-a-kind coat which protected them from the harsh environment where they originated. It contains hair of three different textures; the last two not appearing until the dog is about a year old. These will form into loose mats, called "flocks" that are woven together and create flat layers. These dogs don't shed, need to be brushed, or need to be bathed more than two or three times a year.



Bergamascos are bright, loyal, loving, trainable, independent yet sociable. Their owners say they are eager to please, patient but protective. These dogs require regular exercise if they are to be a family pet.

To read more about the Bergamasco Sheepdog click on the three websites below which are the source of the information and photos in this article:

[AKC](#)
[Wikipedia](#)
[Global Dog Breed](#)

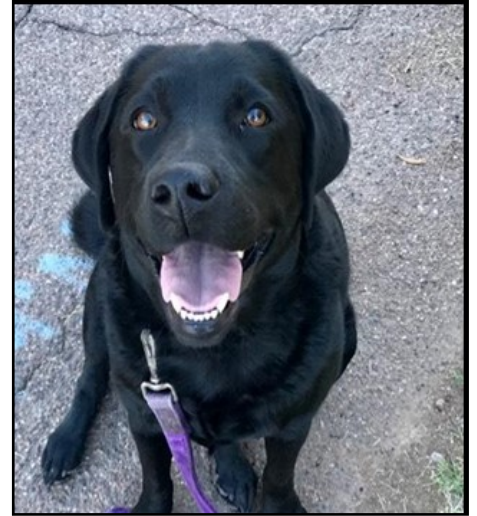
More A Few Lesser Known (But Very Interesting) Facts About Dogs

Did You Know?

Labrador and Newfoundland are provinces of Canada. The Labrador Retriever is not from Labrador but originally from Newfoundland.

(Source - AKC Website)

JONESY THE SMILING LAB



Do Dogs Have Better Senses Than We Do?

Yes - dogs are incredibly attuned to things we might not notice - like changes in barometric pressure; faraway, high-pitched noises; subtle smells; and even objects or movements beyond our field of vision. These senses enable dogs to notice activities we simply can't.

(Source - AKC Website)

MIDNIGHT FOCUSING THOSE SENSES

Do Dogs Only See in Black & White?

No - dogs are not colorblind. They also see blue and yellow

(Source - AKC Website)

TAKA SEEING IN ALL COLORS



Can Dogs be left or right "handed"?

Yes - dogs could be left or right-pawed. A few study results indicate that just like us, dogs have a preferred hand (well, paw) to lead with. To find out whether your dog is left or right-pawed give them their favorite toy or interactive game and see which paw they use to help them first.

DARLA IS AMBIDEXTROUS, SHE USES ALL PAWS TO PICK OUT HER TOYS

“BOW TIE” BOONE

2021 HERO DOG OF THE YEAR



The American Hero Dog Awards for 2021 were recently announced at American Humane's annual Gala in Palm Beach Florida. After 400+ contestants and a million votes, Boone, a four year old mix from Hookstown, PA., a shelter rescue and disabled pup, was named their Top Hero Dog!

After a cruel begging as a puppy which resulted in losing both back legs, Boone was adopted by a wonderful family and fitted with a wheelchair for mobility. Since then he has gone on to spread hope and inspiration to many others becoming the national Therapy Hero Dog of the Year before moving on to the next level finals and the #1 overall title.

Boone always wears a bow tie while carrying out his duties in his new professions as a therapy dog and ambassador for Joey's P.A.W. (Prosthetics and Wheels), a nonprofit providing mobility devices to over 700 dogs in need. His sweet nature and big smile makes him a perfect example of how to overcome any obstacle life bring us. He also promotes the adoptability of pets with special needs who reside in shelters and are not strong candidates for finding their forever homes. Children love him and light up when he enters a room.

American Humane (AH) is a nonprofit organization founded in 1877 and the first animal welfare organization in the nation. They are committed to ensuring the safety, welfare, and well-being of animals. In 1940, it became the sole monitoring body for the humane treatment of animals on the sets of Hollywood films and other broadcast productions. They have several additional programs including Emergency Services and the Farm Animal Services Program, an animal welfare label system for food products. Their Hero Dog Awards were created to celebrate the powerful relationship between dogs and people and recognize extraordinary acts of heroism performed by ordinary dogs.

For more information about American Humane and Boone, including a local newscast video, click below for the sources of this article:

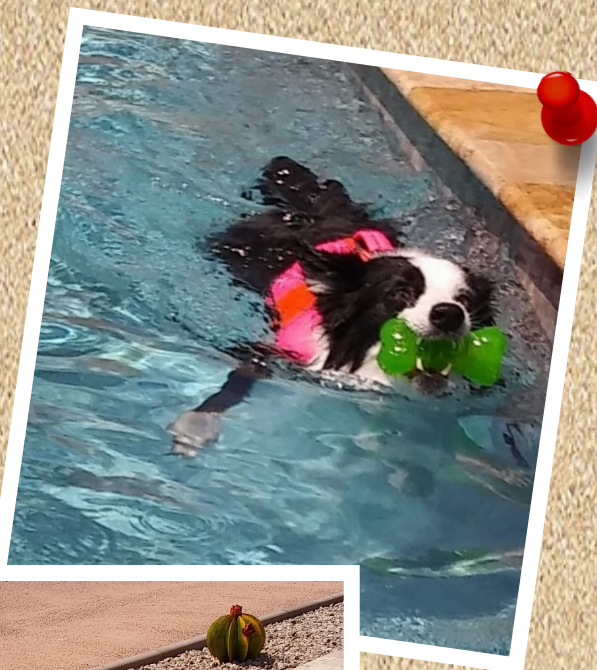
[American Humane
Organization](#)

[Bow Tie Boon's
Story](#)

[Boon's
Video](#)

CAAA

BULLETIN BOARD



From Debbie....
Porscha starting
the summer out
right by daily
swimming.

SAVE THE DATE
This year's picnic
will be at Hollis
Park on 10/22

Be sure to keep
your pets safe
during the
celebrations of
July 4th this
year.

Have a safe
Memorial Day
Weekend

CAAA
2022

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&
BOARD
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PAMELA PEET

VICE PRESIDENT

NANCY PARKER

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TREASURER

LEE KROLL

BOARD MEMBERS

MELANIE LOWRANCE

MARY ANNE REYMAN

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

SEND THEM TO:

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