



PEMBROKE WELSH CORGI PIPER

A BREED FAVORED BY BRITISH ROYALTY
AND DEE PLANT

Corgi is Welsh for "dwarf dog" and the Pembroke Welsh Corgi at only 10-12 inches and 27-30 pounds is one of the smallest breeds in the herding group. With short but very powerful legs and a wide chest a Corgi is often referred to as a "Big Dog in a Small Package". The AKC website describes them as built long and low, surprisingly quick, agile, fearless and independent, adding: Families who can meet their bold and kindly need for activity and togetherness will never have a more loyal, loving pet.



No one knows this better than Dee Plant who has had nine Corgis, four of which have been rescues. She says, "I believe I just may have a gift when it comes to Corgis. They're hyperactive and head strong with a strong herding instinct. I think people may not fully understand this breed before they get one and that's why many wind up in rescue." Dee adds "You have to just accept their personality and be willing to work with it. You'll learn a few short cuts as you go but be sure of your own way of teaching right from wrong."

Dee said she thinks Corgis are just "her breed" adding "They have all been delightful and each one always had something very special about them." Just before Piper there was Romy. He was named by Dee's grandson because, "Romy was found roaming on the streets in Wichita, Kansas and taken to a shelter." There Romy unfortunately wound up on the kill list. A rescue organization was notified, they took him, eventually made the connection with the Plant family and flew him to Arizona. As she waited anxiously for Romy at Sky Harbor, Dee said when she finally saw him her jaw dropped. "Even though he was very skinny you could still tell that he was just beautiful." She immediately started obedience training with Romy. "He turned out to be a real gentleman and was very respectful of Topaz our cat who absolutely loved him. Romy was over fifteen years old when we lost him. I believe Topaz still remembers and misses Romy."

After losing Romy, Dee returned to the breeder looking for another Corgi with obedience possibilities. A friend made a connection and before long six year old Piper came to the Plant household. That was two years ago and now she's an important part of the family. Topaz has accepted her too even though at times that herding instinct kicks in causing some loud cat yelling, but never fighting.

(Continued on page .2) →



A Social Pet Therapy Program

THE COMPANION ANIMAL ASSOCIATION OF ARIZONA, INC.

P.O. Box 5006

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<http://www.caaainc.org>

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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.

★

"What have you learned from the animals in your life? "

Since first arriving Dee and Piper have trained in both Rally and regular Obedience at CAAA member Jean Burton's Desert Dog Obedience. Dee said at the beginning Piper was known fondly by her nickname - Hyper. "I don't want her to be anxious so I work with her a lot; sticking with it really works. At home Piper listens very well but at times she has zero attention in class. That's when firm commands are really important."

She's a lot better now and has earned her novice Rally title and is on her way to the intermediate level. Piper likes going to class and gets excited the closer they get. Last January they participated in the obedience trials just for experience for the trials this fall. "Off lead may be an issue, we'll see" Dee says "I don't know what Piper is going to do but I'm just glad we are able to do it together."

It took two years of training to get to the point where Dee felt Piper had calmed down enough to start therapy visits. So on June 18th they started as one of our newest CAAA teams visiting twice a month at Cooper Village Memory Care in Mesa. Like most of our therapy dogs Piper was a little confused at first, especially about the "paws up" command which allows residents to reach her. As always, Dee again continued to work with Piper. "We kept practicing and every time we visited she got better. Now she's very very good and enjoys visiting. For now we are escorted through the facility's cottage environment but that won't last for long before we'll be on our own". "Most residents are very receptive to Piper especially when she gives lots of kisses on their hands. One patient sat on the floor with her and loved the visit. We both come home pretty happy."

With time, lots of hard work, patience and a strong dedication - what do you get? Just ask Dee:

"Piper is so sensitive at times I think she can read my mind and tell my moods and she'll give me a hug. I just love her. She makes me laugh."

So there you have it the recipe for a perfect therapy team.





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
- 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 Association 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.



Chi Chi & Willow

Brookdale's Special Visitors

Elizabeth Howell's Golden Retriever Chi Chi was rescued from Korea and is a quadruple amputee. She walks using specially fitted prosthetics and is an inspiration to others. Especially those Brookdale residents who may be facing their own physical challenges. Elizabeth says they became a therapy team "To use her story to make the lives of humans better. I think if we do that, we're doing something positive in the world."

April Crow's little Golden Wannabe Willow, a 13 pound Chiweenie, has gone from being a very sick street dog roaming Yuma to her current status as a Therapy Dog Extraordinaire. April sums it up and says "I have never seen anyone or anything bring reactions to people like Willow does. She truly radiates happiness and can't help but make everyone around her smile." With 41 outfits she's also CAAA's own Fashion Plate. "Everyone we visit really takes notice and comments on new outfits." Willow's favorite color? Pink!



DOGS' DAY AT PHOENIX BOTANICAL GARDENS

November 17th
8am - 2pm



By Jane Conrow

Nov 17th is Dogs' Day at the Desert Botanical Garden. It's a really fun semi-annual event. There are activities and vendors of all things "doggie". It's just fun to walk through the garden with your dog. One can buy a snack/lunch at the Patio Café, relax in the shade and watch everyone stroll by. It gets a 5 star rating from my Cavalier, Ty.

NOTE: The price is included with membership or paid Garden admission.

\$4 per dog with the proceeds benefiting the Arizona Humane Society. For more details:

<https://www.dbg.org/events/dogs-day-in-the-garden/>



- Enjoy breakfast goodies, dog games, prizes, welcoming new teams and sharing your visiting experiences!
- THERE WILL BE A PET HALLOWEEN COSTUME CONTEST!
- Bring your therapy pet and family!
- We are sponsoring donations for the non-profit: 'East Side Elves'. They assist local shelters by doing laundry (blankets used in the kennels), providing supplies and enrichment activities to help the animals while in their kennels. Items which would assist them are:
 - collars
 - treats
 - peanut butter
 - aerosol canned cheese

https://www.facebook.com/pg/EastSideElves/about/?ref=page_internal

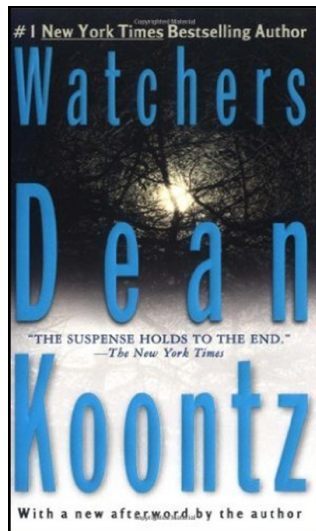
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Looking forward to seeing you all,
The CAAA Board:

Pam, Nancy, Sydni, Diane, Jane,
Mary Anne, Melanie, Bella



Read Any Good (Dog) Books Lately?

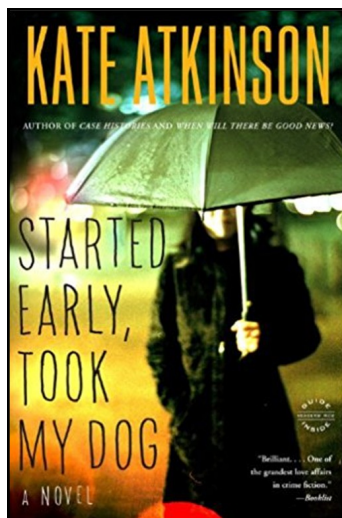


"Watchers" by Dean Koontz

Looking for a dark thriller to fill a Fall afternoon? Look no further than this suspenseful story by the infamous Dean Koontz. This twisted tale of a cursed young man and his encounter with a peculiar dog is bound to thrill and chill.

On his thirty-sixth birthday, Travis Cornell hikes into the foothills of the Santa Ana Mountains. But his path is soon blocked by a bedraggled Golden Retriever who will not let him go any further into the dark woods. He discovers that the dog, genetically engineered with enhanced intelligence, has escaped from a top-secret government lab.

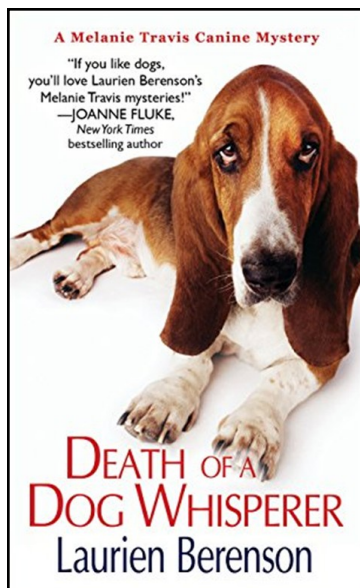
(Amazon review and a five star rating)



"Started Early, Took my Dog" by Kate Atkinson

The latest in Atkinson's popular Jackson Brodie series, this book finds our hero saving an abused dog—and running into all kinds of trouble. Retired detective Tracy Waterhouse makes a hasty decision one day that leads her into both new responsibilities, and danger. As her world collides with Jackson's, we see that the old saying "no good deed goes unpunished" has never rung more true. A Story by dog people, for dog people.

(Amazon review and a four star rating)



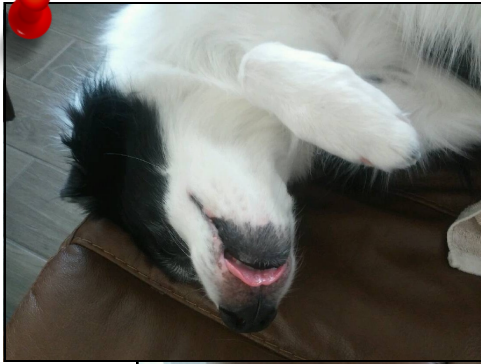
"Death of a Dog Whisperer" by Laurien Berenson

Six boisterous poodles and rowdy kids won't keep Melanie from solving the strange murder of the town's well-known "Dog Whisperer" with the uncanny gift for decoding dog-speak. The dog owners of Fairfield County are lapping up his alleged talents, anxious to discover exactly what their pampered pets are thinking--until the pooches start spilling their secrets. This book is packed with punchy language and a quirky cast of characters.

(Amazon review and a four star rating)

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Dog Days of
Summer in Arizona



Looking for a dog-friendly,
informal restaurant? OHSO
Brewery welcomes dogs with
diners at all 4 locations:
Paradise Valley,
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Arcadia
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Share your stories from pet therapy visits on Facebook. If
you have a story to share, please send it to Bella at:

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