



HOLIDAY CHEER - TIMES FIVE



Residents at the Bridgewater Assisted Living Facility in Phoenix got an early Holiday present in mid December when five of our CAAA teams stopped by for a visit. With bright colors and wagging tails each dog went from one resident to another bringing plenty of Holiday cheer. In return they received lots of hugs and petting along with a few kisses, many "Thank You's" and lots of appreciation.



Our Holiday Stars - Left to Right

Joy & Remi, April & Willo, Rick & Jake, Pam and Tanka, and Russell & Jessie

(More Bridgewater pictures on pages 2 & 3) →



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.

★

"Everyone thinks they
have the best dog
and none of them
are wrong"

- W R Purche -



Bridgewater Assisted Living Visit





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.



Board Member NANCY PARKER

17 years and counting.....

That's not a typing error. Nancy has been on our CAAA Board for over seventeen years! And her involvement with therapy teams and dog training goes back even farther. Before Nancy and her husband retired and moved to Arizona from Milwaukee in 1999, she was a dog trainer and instructor for ten years and also served on another Board of Directors The Milwaukee Dog Training Club. But wait..... that's not all.

Nancy has also been an evaluator for Therapy Dogs International. TDI is an all volunteer non for profit founded in 1976 with the mission to "Regulate, test and register therapy dogs and their volunteer handlers for the purpose of visiting nursing homes, hospitals and other institutions and wherever else therapy dogs are needed." Therapy Dogs International has over 25,000 registered therapy teams today.

Nancy says when she first arrived in Arizona there were only two or three other TDI Evaluators between Phoenix and Tucson. So besides covering the Phoenix area she also traveled several times each month to Southern Arizona to certify therapy dogs. It was this association with TDI that brought her to our organization. Some of the dogs she was evaluating came from CAAA. One dog led to another and it wasn't very long before she was

invited to join - so she did! Her husband, Barry, also joined, was on the Board and served as Treasurer for several years.

When asked what it was that started such a long term involvement and commitment she answered with just one word, "Bandit". Her little

mixed breed pup was one of the smartest she ever came across and was so much fun to train Nancy just got involved in more and more things; agility, obedience and of course therapy dogs. As a team in Milwaukee, Nancy loved seeing all the joy Bandit brought to residents in the facilities they visited. After relocating to AZ she and Bandit continued their visits as members of CAAA.



In addition to serving as

our current Vice President, Nancy also is the administrator the Margie Miller Memorial Fund. Named in honor of our first Secretary, this fund consists of all memorial donations made to CAAA. The funds are used to provide assistance with vet costs for the companion animals of low income elderly owners; 60 years and older. This can include costs for office calls, euthanasia and cremation, and illness.

Nancy screens all calls to determine if the person requesting assistance qualifies financially and also what the needs of the animal are. She will then make arrangements with a vet to

provide the needed services. She says it really makes you feel good to be able to help and adds, "So many people are alone and these animals are their constant companions. Many sacrifice what little they have to keep them. One lady I spoke with was on the same type of medication as her dog required. She couldn't afford both so she was cutting her own meds in half to provide for her dog". She adds "It's really wonderful to be able to help these folks and I'm so thankful we can."



Nancy has always liked to sew so when not involved with CAAA duties she enjoys sewing machine embroidery and attends meetings with several clubs. She has a daughter in Michigan and one here in Arizona who has two sons. Those grandsons along with her two Pembroke Welsh Corgis, Mozart and Chloe, keep her days full and very happy.

Thanks Nancy for your many years of dedication to CAAA.



ASU Awarded Grant to Test Cancer Vaccine

A \$6.4M grant has been awarded to Stephen Johnston and his ASU research team. The grant will support the largest interventional canine clinical trial ever. The purpose is to assess the effectiveness of Johnston's vaccine in preventing any type of cancer in dogs. The new vaccine has been in development for over ten years and has already been tested in mice and is shown to be safe in dogs. 800 healthy, middle-aged pet dogs will be enrolled and randomly chosen to receive the vaccine or a mock version. They will go home with their owners to their normal lives and receive biannual exams with a complete clinical pathology workup. Those receiving the mock version are expected to develop cancer at the normal rate while those given the vaccine hopefully will show significant rates of decline.

The researchers are fairly confident that if the vaccine works in dogs, it could work in people. To read the complete article on this topic "Google" - asu grant vaccine for dogs.



**DON'T
FORGET!**

OUR ANNUAL VOLUNTEER EVENT

March 10th 10:00 - Noon

Every annual event is special as we celebrate another year of providing so much happiness to the many residents we visit in facilities throughout the Valley. It's a time to thank all of you for your dedicated service and to also recognize teams who have reached various milestones along with the announcement of the Volunteer of the Year.

This year there is even more to celebrate because it's our 35th as a non for profit organization. Granted this status on April 1, 1983 we've been going strong ever since. As stated on our website "CAAA continues its commitment to elderly and disabled persons with special needs relating to companion animals and the Human/Animal Bond through the Social Pet Therapy and Pet Grief Support programs."

This year's event is again at the **Pyle Center, 655 East Southern Ave. in Tempe**. Special guest speakers will be from the **Maricopa County K9 Search & Rescue**; an all volunteer, non-profit canine search and rescue team located here in Phoenix. A Maricopa County Sheriff's Posse, they provide search and rescue services to law enforcement agencies throughout the state. One or more search and rescue dogs will be present to show what they are trained to do!



Many breeds are used in Search and Rescue



Safety harness used when transporting Canine teams by helicopter.



Ready, willing and able!

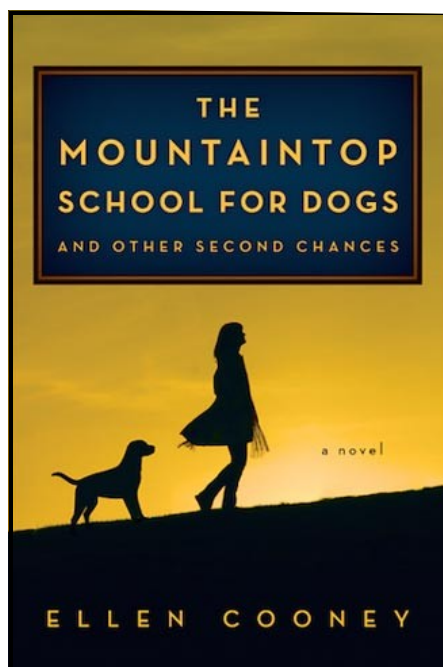
Join us and bring your therapy pet, family members and your appetite for lunch.

RSVP Please by March 1st to Pam at ppeet@cox.net

Read Any Good (Dog) Books Lately?

The Mountaintop School for Dogs And Other Second Chances

by Ellen Cooney



This book is a story that explores the incredible bond between humans and dogs. Evie is a 24-year-old troubled girl and narrator of this story. She answered an ad found on a website and winds up at the Sanctuary, a place which was built a hundred years ago as a ski resort that is now a dog rescue center.

Evie learns that, much like the dogs who end up at the Sanctuary with a last hope for a new life, she too can break free of her past and start a new life also. Getting there is the story and involves lots of twists, turns, and tail-wagging.

The Phoenix Public Library User Rating has given this book 5 out of 5 stars.

REMEMBER.....

It's time to send in last years' visit logs and your renewal forms.* Those 2017 logs are used to calculate milestone awards and we are always delighted to present teams with their new milestones at our annual event !

***Our forms are also available on-line at:**

http://www.caaainc.org/album1f_008.htm

COMPANION ANIMALS ASSOCIATION OF ARIZONA RECORD OF VISITATION LOG for the year _____				
NAME _____		DOG'S NAME _____		
PHONE _____	E-MAIL _____			
#	Name of Facility Visited	Date of Visit	Duration of Visit	Name of Facility Contact
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				
21				
22				
23				
24				
25				

If additional forms are needed, please contact the office.

COMPANION ANIMAL ASSOCIATION OF ARIZONA, INC.
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL
20__

PLEASE CONSIDER JOINING/RENEWING YOUR MEMBERSHIP AND CONTINUING YOUR SUPPORT OF OUR COMMUNITY BASED PROGRAM

Name(s) _____ E-Mail _____
Address _____
Home Phone _____ City _____ Zip _____
Work _____ Cell _____

If you and your pet are ready to become an active pet therapy team to visit one of our host facilities, check here to be contacted about getting started ☐

VOLUNTEERS ~~includes pet therapy teams~~ ARE NEEDED
If you would like to be contacted about participating, check here ☐

To join or renew your membership in CAAA complete this form and attach your check for the Dues Category you are supporting - payable to Companion Animal Association of Arizona.

DUES CATEGORIES (Check One) ☐ Supporting (\$200) ☐ Organization (\$ 75)
☐ Family (\$ 40) ☐ Individual (\$ 25) ☐ Disabled, Student, or Senior Citizen (\$ 10)

MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE
☐ I also wish to make a donation (\$ _____) In Memory or Honor of _____

\$ _____ TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED (Your check is your receipt)

Send to: CAAA, P.O. Box 5006, Scottsdale, AZ 85261-5006

Visit our website at: www.caaainc.org
Or call us at 602 258-3309

CAAA Form - GENERAL Membership Application/Renewal (Rev 12/2012 JC)



CORNER

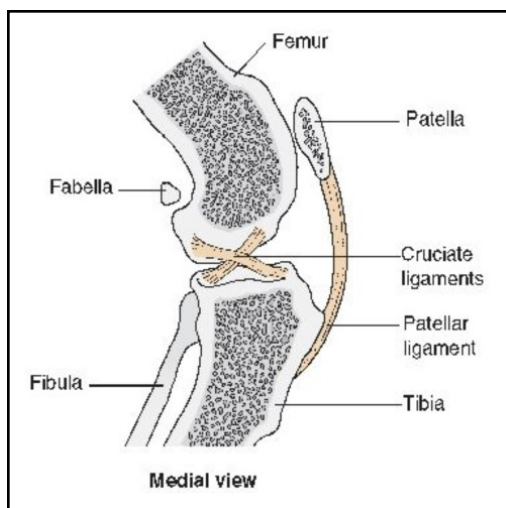
BY DR. MELANIE LOWRANCE

THE VET'S



Cranial Cruciate Ligament Injury

Now that the Super Bowl and football season are over I thought I would discuss a common injury to both dogs and human athletes, injury to the cranial cruciate ligament. Called the Anterior Cruciate Ligament in people, this ligament is in both the knee (rear leg) of the dog and the human. Rupture or injury occurs secondary to trauma and is common among athletic dogs and people.



If a dog injures this ligament it is usually very quick after a jump or running. Sometimes in older pets the ligament degenerates and it ruptures. It is painful and the dog will usually hold up the leg and not bear weight on limb. Veterinary attention is needed immediately to get the dog started on pain control and obtain the correct diagnosis.

Diagnosis: Rupture of the ligament causes the knee to become very unstable. The veterinarian can feel this instability with palpation. We can feel an

abnormal motion in the knee called the cranial drawer sign. Radiographs are taken and there is usually joint swelling and sometimes the meniscus can be injured and a clicking noise can be heard when the knee is moved.

Risk Factors and Genetic Predisposition: Large breed dogs are most commonly affected, especially the Labrador retriever, Newfoundland, Staffordshire Terrier and Boxer. Cats rarely have cruciate ligament injury. Any dog that is obese, has autoimmune disease or Cushing's disease is predisposed to rupture this ligament as well. Any pet that has a ruptured ligament has a 40-50% chance of rupturing the other knee.

Treatment:

Medical management: 50% of dogs and cats that weigh less than 30 pounds can be managed medically and have a good prognosis. Only 20% of larger dogs have a recovery rate without surgery. Medical management consists of exercise control, non-steroidal anti-inflammatories for pain, physical rehabilitation and joint



supplements.

Surgical management: Any patient that has surgical repair of the knee has a 85% success rate. There are many different surgical approaches of this joint and patients are usually referred to a veterinary orthopedic surgeon for this procedure.

Any time a pet gets injured and especially if he or she is not putting weight on a leg it should be seen by a veterinarian right away. With proper care and correct management or surgical stabilization we will see less osteoarthritis in these knees as the pet ages and increase quality of their life.





BULLETIN BOARD

In the January issue of the American Kennel Club's Gazette (pg 43) there is an article about Ray Ritchotte's "Blake" - what he does as a therapy dog and how Ray trained him to do this work. CAAA is mentioned in this write up. To read it, try the link below or just "Google" American Kennel Club Gazette and look for the January issue

<http://viewer.zmags.com/publication/211323a7#/211323a7/43>

**HAPPY
VALENTINES
DAY!**



Year of the Dog

2018 is the Chinese Year of the Brown Earth Dog. This lunar New Year starts from February 16th 2018 and ends on February 4th 2019.

**facebook
update**



**DON'T FORGET WE WANT TO HEAR FROM
YOU?**

Share your stories from pet therapy visits on Facebook. If you have a story to share, please send it to Bella at:
bellapanchmatia@gmail.com

**CAAA
2017**

**OFFICERS
&
BOARD
MEMBERS**

PRESIDENT

PAMELA PEET

VICE PRESIDENT

NANCY PARKER

SECRETARY

SYDNI TALLER

TREASURER

GEORGE MURNANE

BOARD MEMBERS

JANE CONROW

MELANIE LOWRANCE

BELLA PANCHMATIA

MARY ANNE REYMAN

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

SEND THEM TO:

JACKIE AT

TRNGPTST@COX.NET