



NEWSLETTER

REMEMBER..... Your Dog Is Only Half The Team

By President Pamela Peet

YOU - as the Handler - are the Other Half!

You must not only work effectively with your dog, but you must also learn to interact effectively with whatever residents you are visiting. This means that you will be working at least as hard as your dog. In some facilities, the professional staff prefer to provide specific guidance; in others, you could be practically on your own. In March of 2001, the CAAA board voted to discontinue our long-standing policy of requiring a facility staff person to be present throughout the visit. The choice of whether or not to provide staff during the visit is in the hands of the facility. That is why YOU - as the Other Half - are so important to the therapy team equation.



What else should you do? PREVENTION - try and prevent any therapy-visit mishaps. Not every resident wants to interact with dogs, and it takes quite a while to develop a sense of how to encourage interaction without causing problems. Facility staff will often let you know which residents prefer dogs to those who do not. If a staff person is available - don't hesitate to ask; and if they are not available, always ask if the resident is up for a "pet visit" before entering the room. Some residents become very emotional when they recall the dogs of their childhood, or the dogs they will never be able to "play with" again now that they are disabled. It is important to consider possible scenarios like these before you encounter them. If you are visiting with a smaller dog, always ask the resident if it is okay with them before placing the dog on their bed.

Your dog is like you in the sense that some days are better than others. There may be times when they are more tired and not in the mood for visiting and it is your responsibility to be an advocate for your dog. One visit may be an hour and the next time it may only be 20 minutes because you or your dog are having an "off" day. That is totally normal and just being aware of what is best for your dog is most important.

If you have any questions or need additional guidance for your visits, please contact anyone on the Pet Therapy Committee at (602)258-3306 or email to info@caaaazinc.org.

Remember, you may be the only visitor that some of these residents have. Enjoy your visits and thanks for making a difference in so many lives.



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.



"Love is a four
legged word"
- Unknown -



VOL. 22 - No. 04

What Have You Been Up to Lately?

Jane Conrow's sweet Ty
<Cavalier King Charles
Spaniel> recently received
his Therapy Dog Excellent
Title (THDX) from the American
Kennel Club for completing
more than 200 pet therapy
visits (combined total of visits
in behalf of both CAAA and
Hospice of the Valley's pet
therapy program).

After being inspired by the
speaker at CAAA's March
annual event, Ty and Jane
have started scent work
classes. It's a great summer
time activity because it's easily
practiced inside right at home.



FALL PICNIC
OCTOBER 22, 2022
HOLLIS PARK, TEMPE, AZ.
WATCH FOR MORE
INFORMATION IN
FUTURE
NEWSLETTERS





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.



Looking for a Good Dog Movie? WATCH DOG

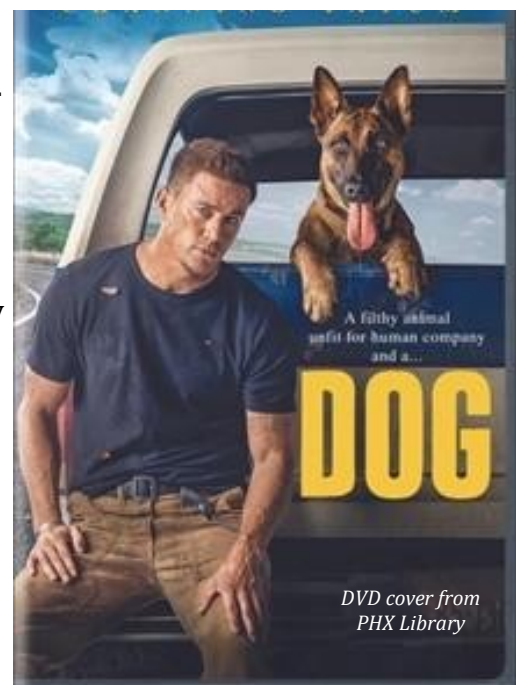
That's the title – "Dog". Unfortunately this 2022 film is already out of the theatres but you can still watch it on ROW8, Prime Video, Redbox, VUDU, Vudu Movie & TV Store or Apple TV on your Roku device. It is also available thru the Phoenix Public Library on DVD. It received 3-4 star ratings and from film critic Robert Ebert a "Thumbs Up".

The film stars two former Army Rangers, Briggs (Channing Tatum) who has serious physical and PTSD issues and Lulu who was a working military dog with some of those same issues of her own; she's so traumatized from being in a war zone that no one can go near her.

Briggs is tasked with driving cross country to get Lulu to a soldier's funeral on time. The soldier was a good friend of Briggs and also Lulu's; he was her handler. The family knows all about Lulu and has contacted the Dept of Defense as to how important it is to them that she be present. And so the adventure begins.

The two Rangers drive each other crazy as they run into a few mishaps along the way, but learn valuable lessons from each other; like trusting again and although carrying deep scars they still have to learn how to live in a civilian world outside a war zone.

The film has been called a buddy comedy. It is not. It is much more than that. There are some very funny parts but this is not a comedy. We have all heard of PTSD and how it affects our military personnel. But how about the dogs that have gone through the same experiences their handlers have? We seldom hear about those devastating results. This film highlights those effects on both.



Google "Dog the Movie" to watch the many trailers for this film

Dog Breeds

YOU MAY NEVER HAVE HEARD OF

As we continue our series of the 20 rarest dog breeds as identified by the AKC, this edition will focus on the **Polish Lowland Sheepdog** and the **Skye Terrier**; two of over 199 official dog breeds in the U.S.

The Polish Lowland Sheepdog

This breed is usually referred to by its nickname PON; an acronym for its Polish name Polski Owczarek Nizinny. PONs are confident and alert, have an excellent memory and are easy to train. They have a shaggy dense overcoat which covers a soft thick coat and can be in many colors; most are black and white. At 17-20 inches and 30-50 pounds they are a medium size hard working herding dog. These days, however they are more likely to be a loving companion and good watch dogs for their families.

PONs are thought to have originated in Central Asia as long ago as the 1500's. They became popular in Europe in the 1800 and 1900's. However by 1939, the year Poland was invaded by Germany during WWII, they almost became extinct. Through the efforts of breeders in that country they made a significant comeback and by 1957 PONs were officially recognized by the Polish Kennel Club. Recognition by the American Kennel Club did not follow until 2001 and today they are included on its rarest dog listing at #18.



These dogs are so loved by the people of Poland, they have been featured on several postage stamps of that country.

Want to learn more about PONs? Visit the sources for this article:

[AKC Website](#)

[Dogtime Website](#)

[A-Z Animals](#)



The Skye Terrier

#17 on the rare breed listing is a dog that is twice as long as it is tall – the Skye Terrier. They are said to have style, elegance and dignity but are also agile with strong sturdy bones and hard muscles. Originally bred for hunting foxes along the Isle of Skye of Scotland, Skye Terriers were also popular on farms where they hunted vermin and badger that preyed on farmer's livestock. The breed is over 400 years old and in 1887 it was one of the earliest registered with the AKC. Today it is estimated that there are less than 4,000 in the world.

Continued on the next page

The Skye is 9-10 inches high, should be approximately 20 inches long and weigh 30 - 40 pounds. They have a double coat with the undercoat short, soft and woolly and the outer coat hard, straight and flat. Their coats hang straight down from each side with a middle part from head to tail. They vary in color including fawn, blue, shades of grey and black with black points on their ears and muzzle.

During the Victorian era Skye's were popular among royalty, most likely due to Queen Victoria's fondness for them. They hold their heads high, have a smooth almost flowing gait and they are loyal and devoted; all traits that appealed to ladies during that time.

Today the Skye Terrier is listed as the most vulnerable native breed in the UK and may disappear completely within the next 40 years.

So why are they so rare now? Several writers attribute the interest and demand in designer breeds like the Labradoodle, Cockapoo and Puggle have just overtaken in popularity some of the more traditional breeds. Those looking to be a pet owner no longer hear about some of the older breeds like a Skye Terrier and they may just have been forgotten.

Read more about the Skye Terriers by visiting the sources for this article:

[AKC Website](#)

[Skye Terrier Club of America](#)

[Wikipedia](#)

[BBC News](#)



PASS IT ON.....

.....The CAAA Newsletter, that is

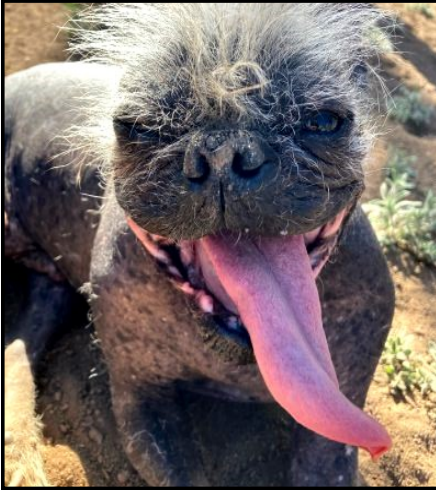
Feel free to pass them on to anyone you think might be interested. How about your visiting site? It could serve as a good way to inform others of what our organization does as well as serve as a recruiting tool. Just print a copy out or email the website link:

<https://www.caaainc.org/news.html>



WORLD'S UGLIEST DOG®

ADVOCATE * ADOPT * ADORE



Meet Mr. Happy Face our latest Arizona celebrity who was recently crowned *World's Ugliest Dog* at the Sonoma-Marin Fair in Petaluma, CA. But don't let that title and contest name fool you, both are somewhat of a misnomer. The Fair's website makes that clear stating - "It's not about making fun of 'ugly' dogs, but having fun with some wonderful characters and showing the world that these dogs are really beautiful!" The idea behind it all is to raise awareness for adoption of dogs, especially for ones that most likely would be overlooked. The contest highlights that their physical appearance may be a little different but the fact is that these animals can be loving companions. The organizers have been putting on this event for over 50 years and it's all summed up in their motto; advocate - adopt - adore. Most of the dogs that enter are rescues from shelters and puppy mills. The goal is to put them into forever loving homes. Many rescue groups are represented during the event and several dogs lucky enough to be adopted usually come back the following year as contestants.

The Story of Mr. Happy Face

by Jeneda Benally

Mr. Happy Face joined our family in August of 2021. He was adopted from a shelter in Arizona. During the pandemic, I had hoped to either have a baby or adopt a dog. Since having a baby would have been an act of God, I opted to adopt a dog. When I arrived at the shelter, I asked to see a particular dog that, fortunately for me, had just been adopted. I asked if there were any other dogs that were similar to that one. There was in fact, another dog there who was much older and had health issues and I was warned could be inbred because he was so ugly. The shelter staff tried to prepare me for what I was about to see. I saw a creature who was indeed old, needed a second chance and deserved to be loved. Mr. Happy Face was born into our family at the age of 17 years old.

The shelter had this particular dog for quite some time. He came from a hoarder's house where the conditions were deplorable. He was a survivor of abuse and neglect. I remember reading about the home where he had been rescued from. Dogs had survived off of anything that they could. Mr. Happy Face came to us with the veterinarian letting us know that adopting him would be an act of hospice for this decrepit old dog who would need life long medication. The veterinarian had suggested that because of his tumors and multiple conditions that we might only have him for a few weeks, maybe a month. When I first met him, he was the happiest creature that I had ever met. He hobbled up to me and chose me. I vowed that day, he would be so loved that he would never remember how awful his previous life had been. Love, kindness and mommy kisses have helped him defy the anticipated short life that we all expected him to have with our family.

His hobbies are being fearlessly adorable, invoking his elder privilege amongst his 4 legged and three legged fur siblings and eating stinky things. Mr. Happy Face's goals are to have a longer tongue than Gene Simmons and a more dashing snarl than Billy Idol.

He dislikes climbing stairs, wearing diapers, sharing a bed and not being the center of my universe. His hobbies include sleeping, snoring, woofing in his sleep and making odd sounds when he is happy. He sounds just like a Dodge Ram diesel truck revving an engine when he is elated. I believe that this humble soul is also being an example, in subtle ways, to help humans realize that even old dogs need love and a family too.

Mr. Happy Face won a \$1,500 prize and a trip to New York City to appear on the Today show. To see our Arizona Star's segment on that show, click here. →



← To read more about the World's Ugliest Dog Contest including the rules, how to enter, history and all 2022 winners, visit the source for this article, the Fairgrounds website.

CAAA

BULLETIN BOARD

Did You Know?

AUGUST 26 IS DOG
APPRECIATION DAY?



Top Dog Breeds in Arizona:

- 1) Labs
- 2) Siberian Husky
- 3) German Shepherd
- 4) English Bulldog
- 5) French Bulldog

The "unofficial"
state dog of
Arizona is the
Chihuahua

[Check it out](#)



Recent studies
have found that
dogs actually may
be smarter than
cats. Their brains
are bigger but
also have twice as
many neurons.

[Check it out](#)



Arizona is
ranked 3rd as
the most Pet
Friendly State?



[Check it out](#)

CAAA
2022

OFFICERS
&
BOARD
MEMBERS

PRESIDENT

PAMELA PEET

VICE PRESIDENT

NANCY PARKER

SECRETARY

SYDNI TALLERI

TREASURER

LEE KROLL

BOARD MEMBERS

MELANIE LOWRANCE

MARY ANNE REYMAN

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

SEND THEM TO:

JACKIE AT

REDPATH808@GMAIL.COM