



Meet Board Member Bella

I am thrilled to be part of CAAA. I've always loved dogs, and since getting married 23 years ago, have never been without a dog (or 2, or 3) for longer than 6 months. I spent time fostering dogs for the Arizona humane society, until I finally became a 'failed foster' when I adopted the last dog I fostered.

Today, my canine family includes 2 dogs: Lola, an 11 year old harrier-Dalmatian mix whose mother came to Arizona on a truck in the aftermath of hurricane Katrina. Lola was born the day after her mother arrived at a Phoenix shelter. Fluffy is a mastiff-boxer-pit bull-American bulldog mix who I found on my way to work one day. She was badly injured and needed some medical attention. I already had 3 dogs at home, so I dropped her off at the humane society, only to be called three weeks later and asked if I would adopt her because she was scheduled to be euthanized the next day. We had just euthanized one of our dogs, so we made the decision to adopt Fluffy. If you look up 'bleeding heart' in the dictionary, I'm pretty sure you'll find a picture of me. The kids named her after the dog in the Harry Potter series, since she looks so big and intimidating, but she is actually a pussycat.



I got involved with CAAA when my two older daughters left for college and I found myself with some spare time. Having always loved dogs, I knew I wanted to be in the service of dogs. I am a terrible canine disciplinarian, so CAAA affords me the opportunity to pay respect to those of you who take the time to train your dogs so that they can be trusted in public. My dogs are wonderful, but very exuberant, and generally badly behaved. I so admire what all the volunteers do with their dogs so that they can bring joy into other's lives.

My family and I moved to Arizona from the Chicago area in 1997. I now live in Scottsdale with my husband Patrick and our 14 year old daughter, Zara. We have 2 other daughters: Maia is 21 and Monica is 20. Both

(Continued on pg 2)



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.

★

"I think dogs are the most amazing creatures; they give unconditional love. For me, they are the role model for being alive."

Gilda Radner

VOL. 17 - NO. 04

are enjoying university life in their respective cities. I work as an operations manager at Mayo Clinic, where I manage educational programs for allied health professionals. I've been at Mayo Clinic for 11 years.

After family and dogs, my next love is travel. I suppose it's in my blood- I was born in England, and immigrated to Canada at the age of 6. I met my husband when he was a Peace Corps volunteer, and I was a volunteer nurse at a refugee camp in the Kingdom

of Swaziland. He was American and when we got married, we decided to settle in the US. We've traveled to many places, but my favorite country is Canada, which I still call home and where my parents and siblings live. My most recent trip was last February, when Patrick and I went to Nepal with Habitat for Humanity. It was life changing, to be sure.



WELCOME



Jennifer Rosane of Tempe and her dog Ricoh who are visiting at Brookdale-Tempe



Janet & Tim McClellan of Gilbert and their Labrador Retriever Jonesy who are visiting a new facility in Gilbert: Savanna House Assisted Living & Memory Care



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.



A New House & A New Donation



Richard Howell, Board President Pam Peet, Board Member Sydni Talleri, Ben Duguay, and Chi Chi. Richard can be reached at richard@northandco.com

Richard Howell, a strong CAAA supporter and Community Partner, has again made a generous donation to our agency. For some time now Richard, an agent of North and Co., Real Estate, has been donating a portion of his commission on real estate transactions to his client's charity of choice. He feels strongly about giving back to his community and has made this pledge because as he says, "It is the right thing to do".

So when board member Sydni and her boyfriend Ben were ready to buy their first house they contacted Richard. "We really liked how he gives back to the community", Sydni says "Which was a huge reason we decided to go with Richard when we were interviewing realtors."

They met with him every single weekend for about 6 weeks during their initial home search and continued during the next two and a half months to work through the many challenges they had to face in today's "crazy competitive home buying market". This included multiple offers, bidding wars, dealing with general contractors and closing deadlines. "Richard was always there whenever and wherever we needed him" Ben says "With Richard, you get someone who will be committed to keeping you happy and in the loop on everything, every step of the way. I can't think of a better quality in a realtor." Or a better Community Partner!

Congratulations Sydni and Ben and again, Thank You Richard!

YOU'RE INVITED

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION PICNIC

**Don't
Forget**

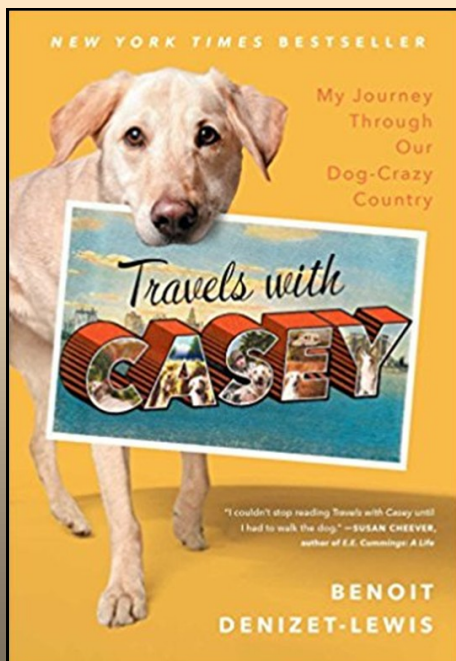
NOVEMBER 4TH
9:30 - 11:30
at

HOLLIS PARK

DORSEY LN & MALIBU, TEMPE

Halloween Costume Contest
Brunch Dog Games Prizes

RSVP by Oct 25th to Pam at ppeet@cox.net



Read Any Good Books Lately?

Try this NY Times bestseller and go on a road trip with Casey a nine year old Lab mix, and his human companion and driver (the author).

In a rented motor home they cover 32 states and 13,000 miles over a period of four months. Along the way you'll meet some unusual and wonderful dogs and dog obsessed people. These included show dogs, strays, police dogs, dog rescuers, trainers, groomers, whiserers, masseurs and healers .

Amazon readers gave *Travels with Casey* four stars



The members of RECOM (Retired Employees of the City of Mesa) welcomed some special guests to their September meeting; three of our therapy teams along with three Board Members. They were there to tell the CAAA story and hopefully recruit a few new people. And what better way to explain it all then with the "wet noses and smiling eyes" of our four legged members.

Using a slide presentation President Pam Peet discussed our history & organization's mission and explained just what pet therapy is; a guided interaction between a person and a well behaved animal. The many known benefits of therapy visits were pointed out by Pam and team members who shared their own personal stories as examples. Those members were: Melanie Lowrance our vet and Board Member with Daisy; Tawni McBee member and holistic dog trainer with Lark; and Ray Ritchotte long time CAAA member and a Volunteer of the Year with Blake. They told the group about their dogs, why they decided to become a pet therapy team and a few details of their many rewarding visits throughout the years with elderly dementia patients.

Pam also made clear the differences between pet therapy and service animals before covering the more specific details of CAAA such as requirements, what we do and where, and the many opportunities to get involved with our

organization. Treasurer George Murnane was also on hand and spoke about our two annual meetings, the solvency of our organization and more details on becoming a member.

Throughout the presentation Pam, George and the teams answered RECOM member's questions and discussed training, the location of visiting facilities and the importance of keeping both you and your dog safe. The meeting wrapped up as Daisy, Blake and Lark walked through the room meeting everyone while giving the RECOM members a firsthand experience of the magic in a wet nose and smiling eyes.



President Pam Peet addressing RECOM Members



Above - Melanie & Daisy visiting with RECOM members



***“DOGS ARE
THE BEST
LISTENERS,
THE GREATEST
KEEPER OF
SECRETS, AND
THE MOST
EFFECTIVE
THERAPY WE
CAN GET”***

Lark -just sayin' "Hi"

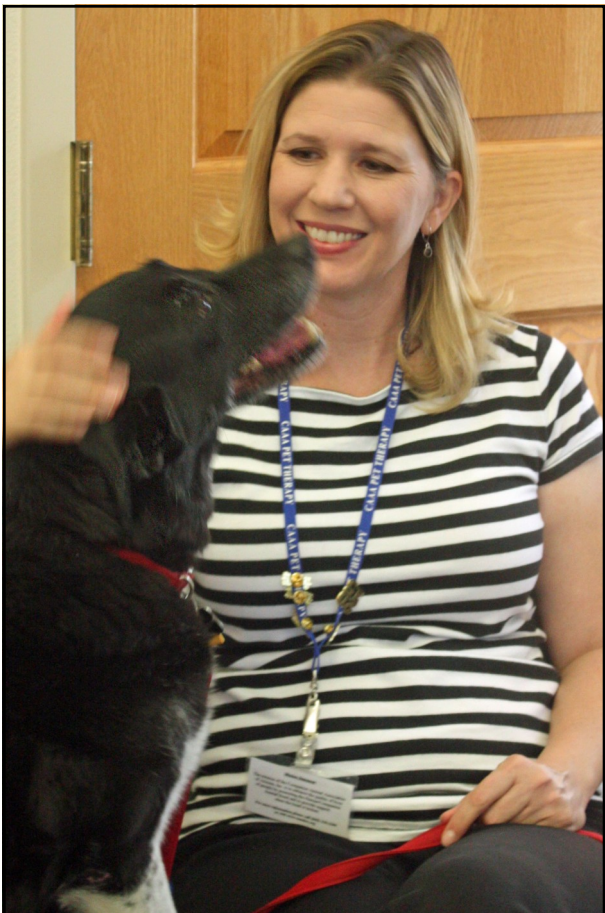


Above - RECOM members listening to Ray talking about some of the ways he trained Blake to be a therapy dog.



Left - Our Treasurer George talks about CAAA Membership

MEET AND GREET.....





CORNER

BY DR. MELANIE LOWRANCE

THE VET'S



Chocolate and Dogs: Warning!

Why is chocolate bad for dogs?

With fall comes cooler temperatures and all the great holidays. As a veterinarian, around the holidays I think about all the decorations and goodies that pets accidentally get into. One of the biggest accidental ingestions is chocolate.

Chocolate tastes so good, especially to dogs, but it is not something we should ever give them.

Not only is it full of fat, calories and caffeine, but

it also contains something called theobromine.

Theobromine is a bitter alkaloid of the cacao plant and is found in all kinds of chocolate and in different amounts. Milk chocolate contains the least amount of theobromine at 45-60 mg/oz where as unsweetened bakers chocolate contains 400-450 mg/oz. We get concerned about this because dogs will eat unsweetened chocolate in large quantities just like milk chocolate and get more toxicity. The toxic dose is around 100mg/kg, but every dog is different and some can be sensitive at a lower dose. This means that a 5 pound dog only needs to eat 4 oz of milk chocolate or 0.5 oz of unsweetened chocolate to have chocolate toxicosis.



What are the signs of chocolate toxicity?

Symptoms of theobromine/chocolate toxicity include hyperactivity, vomiting, diarrhea, restlessness, muscle tremors, hyperthermia (high temperature), too high or too low heart rate, seizures, coma and death. This toxicity is something similar to what we see with amphetamine, decongestant and cocaine toxicosis.

Treatment of chocolate toxicity

Chocolate toxicosis is an emergency and most patients recover with aggressive therapy and hospitalization. It is very helpful to tell the veterinarian what kind of chocolate the dog ate and bring the package if available. There is no antidote for chocolate. Most dogs are treated by inducing vomiting and are given activated charcoal by mouth to slow the absorption of more chocolate. Supportive care with IV fluids and valium are used to keep the pet calm. EKG is used to look for cardiac arrhythmias and are treated accordingly.



Make sure this Hall-O-Ween to keep your candy stored in a place your pet can't access. He will have to settle for a milk bone!





BULLETIN BOARD

A Bit of Trivia - Dog Days

The hottest time of the year is often referred to as *dog days* of summer. Contrary to common opinion, the dog days do not take their name from weather that "isn't fit for a dog". The *dog days*, in the most technical sense, refer to an interval in which a particularly bright star rises and sets with the sun, shining during the day light hours and staying hidden at night. It's the most prominent star in the constellation Canis Major (Latin for "Greater Dog"). One of three names this star is known as is, the Dog Star. Hence, the origin of the expression *dog days*. (From Webster's Dictionary)



April Crow & Willow

*Whoever said diamonds
are a girls' best friend
never owned a dog.*

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

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&
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ANY COMMENTS,
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NEWSLETTERS?

SEND THEM TO:

JACKIE AT

TRNGPTST@COX.NET