

# OUR DOGS AND THEIR PEOPLE

We discovered **Casper**, our 'white as a ghost' collie, as a shaved and senior stray at Apache Junction Animal Control. We immediately moved to get him into our rescue. Next, we vigorously advertised his situation, in an ultimately unsuccessful bid to find his owner.

Once in foster care, Casper took a few months to stabilize, as he had suffered from intestinal problems and a mild case of pancreatitis. When he was well enough to show, Casper distinguished himself with a true collie temperament. Everyone was his friend. Nothing upset him. His favorite position at SWCSR PetSmart events was right inside the front door — a cheerful, hopeful PetSmart greeter.

Although his coat had come back nicely and his behavior was impeccable, Casper just did not seem to attract interest. So SWCSR began a social media blitz with a video. That's how the Dominguez family spotted this affable guy. After losing their last dog, Erin Dominguez thought they would never want to get another. But when she saw Casper, her heart instantly wanted to take him home and love him.

Now he is no longer the friendly ghost. He's Brodie, proudly guarding three little kids and a small grassy yard in suburban Arizona.

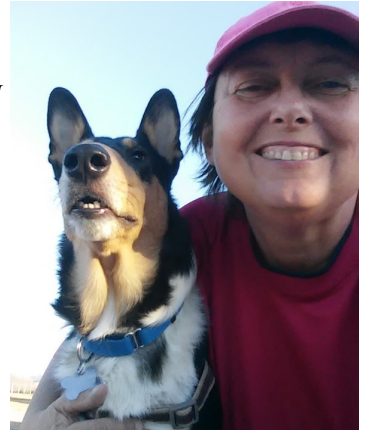


How many of us can relate to this sentence from our recent adopter? *"I've always wanted a Collie, ever since the first time I read Lad: A Dog in middle school."* Schelley waited many years for her special collie, waited for a lifetime but never gave up on her dream.

Finally, this year, Schel contacted a collie breeder in the Phoenix area to get on a list and wait some more. Then Akuma appeared, featured at the top of our website. This smooth-coated collie was young and healthy, and well-suited to living on acreage in the Prescott National Forest. Schelley contacted us quickly, because this dog was everything she had ever wanted. Now called **Ranger**, he hikes the forest, attends to the horses, and has easily adapted to his new life. You can even follow The Daily Ranger on Facebook.

*"Lad was the ideal I held up against all my dogs across my lifetime, and no matter the breed, rarely have they failed me. Lad may have truly been a real dog, but he was also an amalgamation of all the greatest real and fictional dogs in history. Sunnybank Lad is in every dog, waiting for someone to discover him."*

Schel finally discovered the collie who was waiting especially for her — at SWCSR.



Handsome **Benny** was timid and thin when we found him at the shelter. In his short life, he'd had several different homes. He warmed up quickly to his foster family though, and was soon adopted. Bravo Benny!

Meet **Suzy**, a 4-year-old rough collie. This lovely girl was living in a dysfunctional household and needed to be moved out. Suzy was highly stressed and having problems with diarrhea. Since being rescued, Suzy is doing much better! She has just been adopted by volunteers Brenda and Matias of Albuquerque.



In May, we took a senior rough collie from the Maricopa County Animal Control on a medical release. The dog had obvious eye issues as well as generalized muscle loss, dental disease, and a matted coat. An eye specialist confirmed that this dog had Collie Eye Anomaly; essentially, his eyes had never fully developed. At most he might only see light and shadows.

His foster mom, Amy, worked with him and actively helped to market this loyal and sweet guy.

Ultimately, we found a generous couple willing to adopt him and to continue his recovery. **Ranger** has moved to a loving home and adopters Laura and Steve say he is adjusting well.

She came to us in spring, a sorely neglected senior collie. **Tess** had an infection in her mouth that had spread throughout her head. There were other problems too, but we quickly addressed them. Soon Tess was adopted and thrilled to be on a morning walk each day. Her coat was coming back and she was making friends. By autumn she was gone - struck down by a sudden stroke. Though the loss was painful, we are proud we made her final months happy and comfortable.

