

FROM CARDIS  
AND PEMS

*by Cindi Nicotera and Chris Vrba*



*...and now, for a slightly different look at the topic*

### IF CORGIS WERE...

The difference depends on the dog, of course; it's hard to make generalizations. Folks seem to agree that Cardis are more reserved and Pems more outgoing—and then you meet the bouncy, pouncy, “HEY-I'm-a-Cardi-glad-ta-meetcha-canI-lickyourface” and the Pem who eyes you from a respectful distance and says, “SO pleased to meet you, old chum.” But here's what I'd say. Keep in mind, I'm thinking mature corgis, not pups.

If corgis were...

#### CARS...

- a Cardi would be a stable late-model sedan, much loved for its steady reliability.
- a Pem would be a peppy little economy model, ready to vrrrrrooom.

#### BIRDS...

- a Cardi would be an owl, ever watchful, wise, and observant.
- a Pem would be a magpie, flitting here and there and storing away bright, interesting objects.

#### HOUSES...

- a Cardi would be a ranch-style dwelling in an established neighborhood, with a wide expanse of lawn and a charming deck (with a bar-b-que, of course).
- a Pem would be a loft apartment in the city, decorated in an eclectic blend of traditional and Bohemian styles.

### VACATION DESTINATIONS...

- a Cardi would be a national park like the Grand Canyon, or a Rocky Mountain ski resort.
- a Pem would be Walt Disney World or Las Vegas.

### CITIES...

- a Cardi would be Seattle, Madison, WI, or Washington, DC
- a Pem would be San Francisco, New York City, or Miami Beach.

### ISLANDS...

- a Cardi would be Martha's Vineyard or Nantucket.
- a Pem would be Key West.

### STORES...

- a Cardi would be Sears: plenty for the workman, but with a softer side, too.
- a Pem would be Wal-Mart: a bit more hype, a bit more busy, but carrying pretty much the same stuff.

### COLORS...

- a Cardi would be rich, constant earth-toned shades of brown, forest greens, and royal blues that speak of depth and thought.
- a Pem would be the color of springtime: fresh greens, sky blues or the colors of autumn foliage.

### SHAPES...

- a Cardi would be a rectangle: solid, useful, and ever present.
- a Pem would be the bouncing ball you follow in karaoke.

# FROM FIRST AID

*by Maenad Widdershins*



It is my fervent wish that you and your corgi never require any of the information in this chapter. It is, however, not a perfect world, and having some knowledge of rudimentary first aid will be helpful if your corgi needs your help one day.

If you are interested in learning CPR for your pet and other resuscitation techniques, which are beyond the scope of this small guide, some Red Cross chapters are now offering first aid classes for pet owners.

These tips are for educational purposes only and do not replace professional veterinary care; always consult your veterinarian.

### FINDING HELP IN AN EMERGENCY

Do you know if your vet is available 24 hours a day? Many veterinarians no longer provide 24-hour emergency service to their clients but, instead, refer you to an area emergency clinic. Do you know where it is and how to get there? Keep the number near the phone along with your regular vet's phone number, and make sure you know how to get to the emergency clinic. In larger metropolitan areas, it may be wise to know where the two closest clinics to you are, in case traffic becomes an issue. Try to make a point of driving by the emergency clinic sometime when you are out running errands. Then, when you need to find it in a hurry, you won't be trying to navigate to an unfamiliar place in the dark or during rush hour.

### FIRST AID KIT

Many dog supply catalogs carry versions of a good basic first aid kit. Make sure that yours includes, in addition to the

traditional bandages, the following: tweezers, blunt-tipped scissors, liquid antihistamine (i.e. Benadryl), hydrogen peroxide (replace frequently, as this breaks down over time), eye wash, syringe (without needle, for dosing medication), antibiotic ointment, and hydrocortisone cream. These are basic items; you can always add things. Also make sure that you have a muzzle, or a bandage long enough to wrap around your dog's muzzle and then back around the neck. I have even used a dog leash to muzzle a dog that was hit by a car.

### ALLERGIC REACTIONS

If your dog begins to swell up rapidly and have trouble breathing, he may have been stung by an insect or ingested something to which he is allergic. Some dogs will break out all over in hives as well. Antihistamine dosage is typically 3 milligrams per pound (please check with your veterinarian for the proper dosage for your corgi). If you will be outside with your dog and going a long distance from your car, be sure to carry some Benadryl with you, as you will want to administer it as soon as possible after you notice the reaction occur.

### BLEEDING

Use a clean dry cloth, towel, or bandage, and apply firm pressure to the wound. This will usually slow the bleeding. Do not remove the cloth, as you will disturb the clot that has begun to form. If the bleeding is on the limbs, you can apply pressure to the artery supplying that limb. Pressure should be applied to the upper inside of the leg. For those corgis with tails, you can apply pressure to the underside of the tail to help slow blood loss. The use of tourniquets is not recommended, as cutting off all blood supply to the limb will also cut off

FROM  
PERFORMANCE  
EVENTS

*by Lynda McKee*



Many people have trained dogs to titles solely from a book, but a class or the cost of private lessons will generally prod you into doing the suggested training. There are also practical considerations. For herding, you will need livestock, and for agility, you will need a lot of equipment. People will attend classes solely for those reasons, as most of us do not have livestock nor do we have the space for all the agility obstacles. (Many people will go on and at least acquire some of the items needed; one friend bought a small farm so she could have livestock!)

Attend a dog show, agility trial, obedience trial, or match and watch the performances of the dogs and handlers. When you see something that you like, once the team is done showing, ask for suggestions for classes. Keep in mind where you live and your weekly schedule. Some people drive two or more hours each way to attend a class, but a newcomer is not likely to devote that much energy. You will probably get several suggestions. Go watch a class or two and decide if the setting is right for you and your dog. You may be better off with private lessons at first before going into a group class. Again, time and economics will be major factors. Also remember that you get what you pay for. If several people recommend the same instructors to you, those people might be better choices than a class just down the street from you. For herding and tracking, you may need to rely on the grapevine. You can ask those same people at the shows who tracks or herds and get references that way.

## SELECTING YOUR ACTIVITIES

Many people and their dogs can handle training multiple activities, but others can only do one thing at a time. Your first goal might be a Companion Dog (CD) title in obedience, but you also work in agility at the same time. You might be really inter-

ested in herding, but the practicality of driving a long distance to work your dog who will tire very quickly in those initial stages of training may make you put herding aside for the time being.

People who tell you that you can't do (fill in the activity) because it will ruin your dog for (fill in another activity) have never done what they are telling you that you and your corgi can't do. Don't believe such naysayers for even one second! When you are training certain very selective exercises, or are getting ready to compete with your corgi for a title, you may, however, need to be careful. For example, tracking involves encouraging the dog to work well away from you. Fine for agility but not a good idea to start at the time you are getting ready to show in obedience, where the dog has been taught to watch you for directions. You can give multiple commands in herding, tracking, and agility, but not in obedience, where a second "come" command will result in a non-qualifying score. Dogs are situational and they respond to the situation as well as the command, but that is after you and your dog are somewhat experienced. Your dog may sit on the agility pause table but won't sit on command in an obedience class!

You might try attending a "fun day" or clinic and try the activity. Your corgi (or you) may fall in love with the activity and be a natural. Other times your corgi may need repeated exposures to the activity to learn that it is okay, especially herding. Just because your corgi doesn't turn on to sheep the first time it sees them does not mean that it is a dud in herding. If you have multiple dogs, ask for help in selecting the one that might be the easiest to train in the activity you want to pursue. If you and your corgi quickly progress in an activity, you will be more likely to continue with it than if you are dealing with a difficult to train dog.

FROM THE  
TELLING: HOW  
THE CORGI GOT  
A FAERY SADDLE

*by Peggy Neumeier*

## FROM THE TELLING: HOW THE CORGI GOT A FAERY SADDLE



"We will help you!" cried all three children, "but where is your pony?"

The shimmer of the little fairy brightened at the innocence of the child's question. "Oh, child, it's not a pony I've been riding, but my fairy steed—my corgi!" The children looked at each other in total confusion for they had never seen nor heard of a "corgi" before this day.



At just that very moment, a wee black button nose peeked its way out from a mossy blanket not three feet from where the children stood. The fairy made a clucking sound and out came two more little faces.

"They're puppies!" All three children cried in unison. The children had never seen puppies so soft with bright black eyes, red and white fur and stubby legs. "They have

no tails!" Dylan shouted gleefully as the pups bounded out from their hiding spot and covered the children with warm, wet kisses.

Now, every fairy knows that they can not care for more than one corgi, for each pup needs his own master to love and obey and devote their life to. Next to the fairy stood a larger version of the three pups, their mother. She watched her babies bounce and jump and roll and play with the three wide eyed humans. Isobelle looked at the mother dog and she nodded her head.

"I have a favor to ask of you now and if you can do it, your reward will be priceless." "Anything!" came the giggling reply. "If you can mend this harness for me, I shall be forever in your debt." The children looked at each other without saying a word and left the cave.

"Well my girl," Isobelle said, "it looks like we will have to wait a while longer." No more than an hour had passed when the three children came bursting into the cave, each with a small box in one tiny hand.

"I've been watching Ma when she mends the holes in our socks, and I think I can fix your harness" said Tay, barely able to get the words out before catching her breath.

"And I've brought the pot of dye that our Da rubs into Willy's saddle to make it soft and shiny. Once it's sewn, I'll stain the thread to match the harness so it will look like new again," Dylan spoke up, still clutching the small tin of dye.

And the third child had wrapped in her kerchief a few biscuits, fresh from the window sill where her mother placed them to cool just a few minutes before. "I know Ma wouldn't mind if we shared these with you," Meagan said, speaking to the fairy but secretly hoping there was enough for the puppies, too.

## INTERLUDE



## MOLLY

Last year, our rescued corgi, Molly, was in the den with us while we were watching Animal Planet. There was a program about polar bears on and, for some reason, Molly was mesmerized by them and watched the TV screen in rapt attention. Our TV happened to be sitting on an entertainment center, which we had placed inside an empty closet in the den. When the TV was not in use, we just closed the doors. Well, as the polar bears walked to the right side of the screen and disappeared off camera, Molly started barking and ran into the bathroom, which is directly behind the den, looking for the bears. She was sure they had left the TV and must have been in the bathroom. She continued to look for them for several minutes. Pretty astute corgi! ~Sue Cowan

---



## RYLIE

We brought our boy Rylie home when he was 12 weeks old. Potty training was initiated, and we were making some headway. One morning, my husband went into the bathroom and proceeded to take care of business. Rylie was intrigued by the sound of water hitting water and followed him in. He stood on his hind legs, put his two front paws up on the bowl to watch, caught the scent and promptly let go with a stream of his own. That kind of potty training was not exactly what we were aiming for. ~Kat Connor-Litchman

---