



Puppy Prints



North Carolina Puppy Raising Program Newsletter

Fall 2015

Congratulations to NCPRP's Most Recent Graduate: Nathan!

Megan and Nathan (From the profile of the August graduating class)

Megan has been matched with black Labrador Nathan, her first guide dog. They will return home to Georgia where her sister and pet dog eagerly await.

Megan was born with glaucoma. She was fortunate to have had great teachers and a lot of support in school. Megan majored in Spanish and minored in music at Piedmont College and earned a master's degree in Spanish from Winthrop University. She works for Carmax Auto Finance in collections as an auto finance account manager specialist. Megan knew it was time to apply for a guide dog when she lost the vision in her left eye. She felt the cane was limiting and avoided traveling at night. She is looking forward to the opportunity to be much more independent with Nathan and to take advantage of the good public transportation in her neighborhood. Together, they will explore new opportunities.

Congratulations to Nathan's puppy raiser – The Neel Family!

Nathan's vet sponsor was The Veterinary Hospital of Davidson. His food sponsor was the Neel Family.



Yvette Neel with Megan and Nathan

Meet the New Puppies!

Henry, a male yellow lab, is being raised by Rachel Murrane. Henry is Rachel's 1st Guiding Eyes for the Blind puppy. His vet sponsor is pending, and his food sponsor is the Murrane Family.

How fast does a lab puppy grow?



Henry 1st day home (8/18/15)



Henry 1 month later (9/17/15)



After an exhausting trip from NY, Henry and Hilda arrive in NC!

Hilda, a female black lab, is being raised by the Walker Family. Hilda is their 1st Guiding Eyes for the Blind puppy. Her vet sponsor is Coats Veterinary Hospital in Rocky Mount NC, and the Walkers are her food sponsors. Tommy shared that, "Hilda is very smart and learns quickly. She loves to cuddle and have her back scratched. She goes to work with Tommy and enjoys meeting new people in the office. She is very food motivated and is particularly interested in squeaky toys and new toes/feet."



Hilda at work and play!

Puppy Updates: Where are they now?

Fletcher, a black male lab, raised by Will and Trudy Pendergraft, is retiring and staying with his graduate. His vet sponsor was Jordan Lake Animal Hospital in Pittsboro.

Floral, a yellow female lab, initially raised by Debra and Brian Davis is now being raised by Gail Parrish. Floral is Gail's 2nd Guiding Eyes for the Blind puppy. While with the Davis' they were Floral's food sponsors and Mayfair Animal Hospital in Cary was her vet sponsor. Doris Thompson of Leland, NC is her current food sponsor. Her vet sponsor is Falls Village Veterinary Hospital in Raleigh, NC. Gail shared the following, "Just wanted to let you know that Floral must be doing her job pretty well. I took her with me to vote, and the gentleman behind the desk offered to assist me with my ballot. That was great!"



Floral loves the monkey grass!

Landis, a black male lab raised by Tamara Flinchum, was released from training. He is currently in training with the Connecticut State Police Department. Landis' vet sponsor is Northwoods Animal Hospital and his food sponsor is Arthur Berger of New York, NY."

Nettles, a yellow female lab, raised by Debra and Brian Davis, and Laura Daniels recently passed her in for training test. The Davis' and the Daniels were her food sponsors. Mayfair Animal Hospital in Cary, Kittrell Animal Hospital in Kittrell and Brigadoon Animal Hospital in Cedar Point, NC were her vet sponsors.

Noble, a yellow male lab, raised by Carol Deeley and Eric Morrow was released from training and adopted by Eric. Eric and the Deeley's were Noble's food sponsors. His vet sponsor was Animal Kingdom in Cary.

Russeen, a female German Shepherd, raised by Rebecca Bierhoff has been release from training. She will be adopted by a loving family through the Guiding Eyes for the Blind adoption program. Russeen's vet sponsor was Jordan Lake Animal Hospital in Pittsboro. Rebecca was her food sponsor.

Visa, a female yellow lab, has been retired after working for 6.5 years. She is being adopted by her handler. Visa was raised in North Carolina by Jim and Luan Harmeson. She was in a starter home in Maine before her home change to the Harmesons. Her vet sponsor was Jordan Lake Animal Hospital of Pittsboro, and the Harmesons were her food sponsors.

A Celebration of Jane Russenberger's Contribution!

On August 1st, puppy raisers, sitters, past volunteers, a vet sponsor, a graduate, puppies, and even a guide dog were in attendance to connect or reconnect, share memories, and wish Jane success in her new role. Many thanks to Jane for her guidance over the years!



A Visit to the Fire Station



Public Relations

Irene Cucurullo and Oleta visit the Super Hero Camp at Preston-Chesterbrook Academy, Cary, NC.



Irene and Maria Cucurullo with Oleta and Quentin visit the Justice Fair 2015 at The Franciscan School, Raleigh, NC.



Irene and Maria Cucurullo, Oleta and Quentin were guest speakers at the Durham Lion's Club luncheon. Picture also includes "Lion Gene Lee".

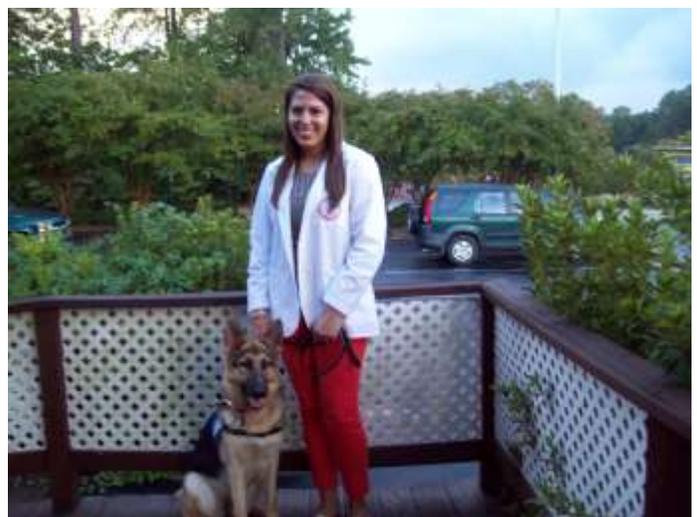


Campbell University Service Awareness Fair

Campbell University Pharmacy Students selected GEB as their project to promote awareness of our organization at the Universities Service Awareness Fair in November. We appreciate their support!



Irene, Jessica, Sierra, and Maria with GEB Micah (released), Oleta, and Quentin (released)



Sierra with Oleta

In the News....Wynett!

Manchester Deputy Fire Marshall Mitch Cady and his K-9 partner, Wynett, were recognized at the 24th Annual Fire Service and EMS Awards ceremony held in Concord, New Hampshire on September 28, 2015.

Mitch and Wynett were part of a team that spent more than a week piecing together what was eventually ruled an arson homicide. Their work eventually led to the indictment of a son for the murder of his parents.

Wynett has lived and worked with Mitch since her graduation from the ATF Training Center on September 18, 2009 as an accelerant detection dog. Since then, her bond with Mitch has only deepened. Wynett was raised in the North Carolina region by Laura, Jo Anne, and Brian Wiles.



All photos copyright Bob Pragoff.

Floral Makes New Friends



Gail Parrish shared this picture of Floral. She says, "This is Floral with a group of Appalachian State University student who are spending their fall break doing volunteer work in the Raleigh area. They are staying in my "work church" and spending time with Love Wins Ministries, a homeless outreach ministry, that is housed in Trinity UMC."

Holiday Puppy Sitting

If you are planning to travel over the holidays, please send your Puppy Sitting requests in as soon as possible.

Triangle Area: Jo Anne Wiles, [jabwiles@gmail.com](mailto:jawiles@gmail.com)

Triad Area: Kelly Coney Pacious, kellyconey@gmail.com

In Memory

Onslo

Onslo was raised by Sandy and Matthew Meeks. Sandy sent the following note: "Onslo, my black lab with the big beautiful head. He passed away in January after fighting lymphoma for 2 and a half years. He was a sweet goofy puppy until the end. I did let GEB know but I wanted to let you all in NC know."

Rocky

6/1/2004 - 9/30/2015

By Margot Bennett, Puppy Raiser

"I remember back in the day Mary Jane Gibbons telling me that out of all the dogs she'd raised, the ones you could hardly tell were around were the hardest to let go. That was Rocky. He was the easiest Lab I had ever trained and I had so many people see me in Target or church or the grocery store with Rocky and my 3 kids in tow, all under 7, and think I was amazing, wow, how could I manage all that? I wasn't amazing, Rocky was. He taught me the importance of raising a future guide dog as we navigated open back stairs, the mall, crowds and more. I truly understood what his role would be. He was so loved, and we were fortunate to be able to watch him go through training up in Peekskill, NY when we brought up Ulrika for her IFT. Rocky went through home training with a woman in upstate NY and we were so blessed to meet her when her family invited us to a reunion and we were the special guests. It's funny, Rocky greeted us as if it had been a day or 2 and not almost 2 years, and yet paid no attention to our newborn. I guess Schaefer just didn't have the Bennett smell at that point!

Things change and life goes on. I have not raised in a while but Rocky was the one dog who made me wish I could do it over and over again. He will be missed by many. God bless you, my RockyDecker, as Theresia used to call you.

We [the Bennett Family] were his food sponsors and Gentle Care Animal Hospital was his vet sponsor."



The Bennett Family with Rocky



Rocky with his graduate family and puppy raiser family

EVALUATION SCHEDULE

Thursday, Nov. 5, Friday, Nov. 6, Saturday, Nov. 7, 2015

Pittsboro Baptist Church, 121 West Salisbury Street, Pittsboro, NC 27312

THURSDAY evals will be at Diversified Systems, 1103 Great Falls Court, Knightdale, NC

DATE	PUPPY	RAISER
Thursday 11/5/15	At Diversified	Systems, Knightdale
4:15 PM	Phoenix **	Jim Harmeson
5:45 PM	Floral **	Gail Davis
7:15 PM	Hilda **	Tommy Walker
8:45 PM	Binzel **	Dennis Evangelista
Friday, 11/6/15	At Pittsboro Baptist	Church
3:15 PM	Gator **	Paul Huebner
5:00 PM	Henry **	Rachel Murrane
6:45 PM	TEAM MEETING	For Region Team
Saturday, 11/7/15	At Pittsboro Baptist	Church
10:00 AM	Dublin	Stacey Hansen
12:00 NOON	General Meeting/Lunch	
12:45 PM	Aria **	Hannah Matthews
2:30 PM	Jody	Kelly Coney-Pacious
4:00 PM	Oleta **	Irene Cucurullo

**** Beside Pup's name and Raiser's name indicates possible need for photograph.
Please let Sherry know if you have not had your photo taken with your puppy.**

PLEASE REMEMBER to bring your memory stick and transfer the last eval to your personal computer.

Raisers, please be a little early for your evaluation as we may be running ahead of schedule. Thanks!

DIRECTIONS to the EVALUATIONS

Thursday

**Diversified Systems, Inc.
1103 Great Falls Court
Knightdale, NC 27545**

Driving Directions to Diversified Systems, Inc. for the Evaluations:

From Burlington/Chapel Hill/Durham

Take 1-40 East to I-540 East. Travel approximately 24 miles to US-64 Business Route East/Knightdale Blvd. via exit 24B toward Knightdale. Travel 1.5 miles. Turn left onto Bozeman Dr. Take 2nd left onto Great Falls Court. 1103 Great Falls Court is on the left.

Friday and Saturday

**Pittsboro Baptist Church
121 West Salisbury Street
Pittsboro, NC 27312**

Driving Directions to Pittsboro Baptist Church for the Evaluations:

From Raleigh

Take 64 West across Jordan Lake and continue on 64 until you reach the 15/501 exit (Exit #383 – this is the exit after the 64 Business/Pittsboro exit). Turn left at the top of the exit ramp.

****** Travel about 2 miles into Pittsboro to the first traffic light.

Turn right at the light onto West Salisbury Street and go one block (note: the street sign for Salisbury street is a small white one on the far left corner. It is not easy to see but it is the first, and only, traffic light). The church is on the left at the next corner. Parking is across the street. The Fellowship Hall is on the ground floor on the far right of the church complex. The entrance is off the small parking lot to the side.

From Chapel Hill/Durham

Follow 15/501, cross over 64, and follow the ****** directions above.

From Siler City and West

Take 64 to the 15/501 exit (this is the exit after the Burlington/Spring Lake exit). Turn right at the top of the exit ramp and follow the ****** directions above.

UPCOMING EVENTS: 2016

February 4-6, 2016

Evaluation, Raleigh, NC
Raleigh Church of Christ

May 19-21, 2016

Evaluation, Pittsboro, NC
Pittsboro Baptist Church

August 4-6, 2016

Evaluation, Raleigh, NC
Raleigh Church of Christ

November 17-19, 2016

Evaluation, Pittsboro, NC
Pittsboro Baptist Church

MISSION STATEMENT

Guiding Eyes for the Blind is dedicated to enriching the lives of blind and visually impaired men and women by providing them with the freedom to travel safely, thereby assuring greater independence, dignity and new horizons of opportunity.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Guiding Eyes for the Blind

North Carolina Puppy Raising Program

P.O. Box 214, Pittsboro, NC 27312

Raleigh Area: Chris Echols 919-844-9323

Charlotte Area: Julie Haynes 704.821.6521

Area Coordinator: Sherry Dodson 919.642.0185

WEBSITES: www.guidingeyes.org

www.guidingeyesnc.org



North Carolina Puppy Raising Program

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