



Puppy Prints



North Carolina Puppy Raising Program Newsletter

Spring 2015

Congratulations to NCPRP's Most Recent Graduates: Brandy, Chaz and Jeremiah!

Brandy (by Gail Parrish)

Who would drive to New York, stay two hours, and drive home...all during a record-breaking cold and snowy weekend?! Gail and David Parrish, that's who.

When they received word on Tuesday, February 10, that Brandy had been designated as an ACTION dog (one whose handler has had previous guide dogs) Gail and David learned that she would be leaving the Guiding Eyes Training Center two weeks before the scheduled graduation. If Gail and David wanted to see Brandy again and meet her new partner, they had just a few days. So on Valentine's Day weekend they left Raleigh and drove north arriving at the Training Center about a half hour AFTER the snow started to fall. Gail said, "Graham Buck, Brandy's GEB trainer, gave us a capsule report on Brandy's training and then allowed us to meet Brandy and Barbara earlier than planned so that we could get back on the road."



Brandy with David, Barbara, and Gail

"Of course, Brandy knew us immediately. She went straight to David first, and then she looked at Barbara and me and seemed to be thinking, 'Hmmm, two mommies?' But she soon adjusted to having three parents and brought us all toy after toy after toy."



Barbara and Brandy

Barbara returned home to Boston with Brandy on February 20 where she lives in a third-story walk-up brownstone with record snowfall still everywhere. Barbara and the Parrishes have communicated; and apparently, Brandy is making Barbara's home her own, too. Barbara spoke of her regret about their inability to get out and get sufficient exercise. Snow is still everywhere, but hopefully spring will be there soon.

Brandy's vet sponsor is Dr. Chessie Green of Falls Village Veterinarian Clinic; her food sponsors are Doris Thompson and the late Dick Thompson. Mosquito Authority is also a sponsor who helps keep their yard mosquito free.

Chaz (by Glynis Tanner)

Guiding Eyes for the Blind Guide, Chaz graduated at the end of 2014 and was placed with a partner in New York. Chaz was the ninth dog raised by Glynis & Rick Tanner, and their first to graduate through the Home Training Program.

Jim Gardner, Director of Home Training, describes the program as follows: We train our string of dogs and then travel to clients' homes to conduct the training which is usually over a ten day period. Many of our clients are Guiding Eyes alumni – some simply prefer home training, and others would be unable to receive a guide dog if they had to attend the regular classes. ...dogs in the HT Program are usually in training a bit longer and are a little older when placed. This is a benefit for HT students because the dogs are more mature and have had a longer time to acclimate to the work.”



**Chaz
Loves Work and
Play!**



Jeremiah and Paul (From the Profile of the January Graduating Class)

Paul will be returning home to Kentucky where his wife is excited to meet his third guide dog – male black Lab Jeremiah.

Paul's vision loss is due to retinopathy of prematurity. He works full time and holds a part time position as an assistive technology specialist. Combining his love of baseball, football and basketball, Paul co-hosts a weekly Internet radio show known as The World of Sports. Music, playing drums and reading are amongst Paul's other hobbies.

Paul looks forward to working Jeremiah at home, sharing, “Jeremiah is smooth as he guides me around obstacles. I look forward to navigating our neighborhood.”

Jeremiah was raised by Jim and Luan Harmeson and Debra and Brian Davis. Jeremiah's vet sponsors were Jordan Lake Animal Hospital of Pittsboro and Mayfair Animal Hospital of Cary, and his food sponsors were the Harmeson's and Davis'.

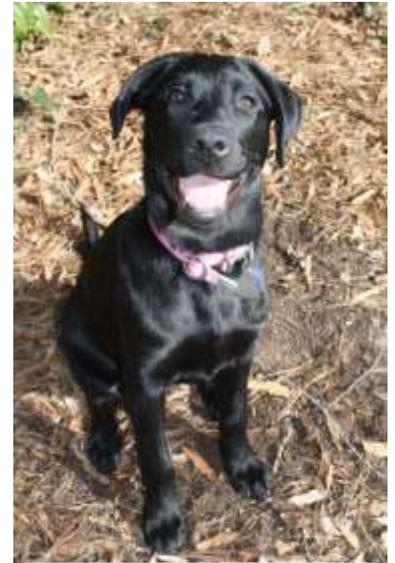
Meet the New Puppies!

Aria, a black female lab, is being raised by Hannah Matthews. Aria is Hannah's first Guiding Eyes for the Blind puppy. Aria's vet sponsor is Care First Animal Hospital in Raleigh, and her food sponsors C. Rich and Sheila Crabtree of Raleigh.

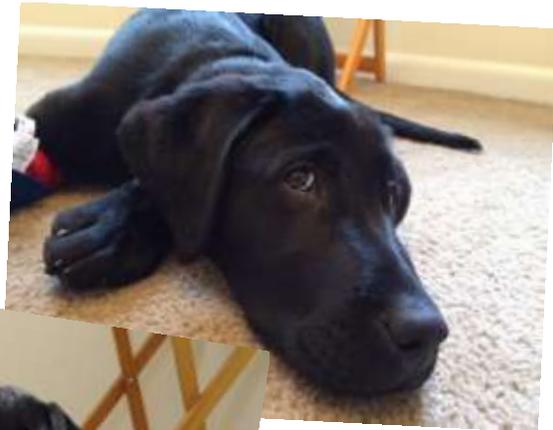
Binzel, a black male lab, is being raised by 1st time raiser, Dennis Evangelista. Binzel's vet sponsor is Hope Crossing Animal Hospital in Pittsboro, and his food and equipment sponsor is Daniella Evangelista of Freehold, NJ.

Dennis shared the following introduction to Binzel. "Binzel arrived last week. He is an amazingly skilled mouth with legs who loves touching everything with his mouth, treats and food, toys, checking in, and cuddles. Binzel spent part of his puppyhood in Massachusetts, and when given a medium Nylabone, he decided it would be a wicked good time to play hockey with it using the space under the fridge and stove. He loves the cat and is figuring out how to appropriately play with her.

He's pretty much awesome at all kinds of puppy skills, thanks entirely to the folks in Massachusetts. While at UNC, Binzel plans to study house manners, not chewing/mouthing/jumping, and settling in the crate when his raiser is around. He's been very excited to smell all the dogs who have visited before, and was ecstatic to make himself a yellow hipster goatee using a ball of Noble fur that he found near the Furminator."



Aria



Binzel making himself at home!

Dublin, a yellow male lab, is being raised by Stacey Hansen and family. Stacey shared the following about Dublin. “Dublin is a yellow male lab being raised by the Hansen Family, Stacey and Tom, Gavin (9), Brody (6), Kendra (4), and Kali (4). Dublin's food sponsor is the Hansen Family and his vet sponsor is Mayfair Animal Hospital in Cary. Dublin is the Hansen Family's first Guiding Eyes for the Blind puppy.

Dublin is super fun and sweet. He loves to play with his rope toys. He finds it great fun to go limp on the floor and tuck his front paws back like a seal and let you sweep him across the carpet. We all get a giggle out of this. At the rate he is growing this is taking more muscles to make this happen. Dublin is social and just loves people and other dogs. He loves to walk and has progressed quite nicely to longer walks. Overall I would describe Dublin as a very calm laid back puppy. Dublin just loves to chill in the front yard and listen and watch everything going on in the neighborhood. Even on walks he likes to stop when he sees something new or unfamiliar to him. He will just sit, watch, and listen. He brings great joy to our family and we all just look forward to seeing Dublin continue to grow.”



The Hansen Family and Dublin

Dublin loved the beach!

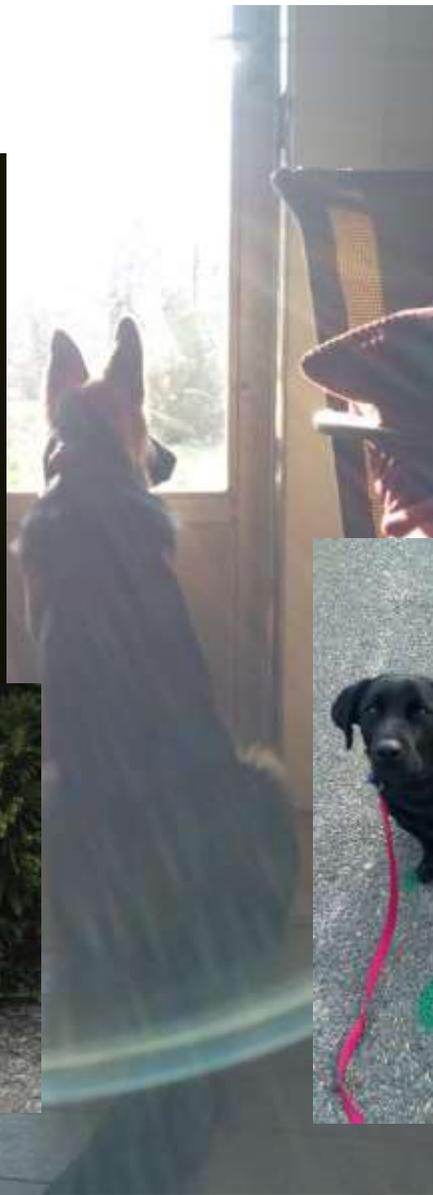
Floral, a yellow female lab, is being raised by Brian and Debra Davis. Floral is their 3rd Guiding Eyes for the Blind puppy. Floral's vet sponsor is Mayfair Animal Hospital in Cary and her food sponsor is the Davis family.

Phoenix, a yellow male lab, is being raised by Jim and Luan Harmeson. He is their 8th Guiding Eyes for the Blind puppy. His vet sponsor is Jordan Lake Animal Hospital in Pittsboro and his food sponsors are Jim and Luan Harmeson.

Russeen, Five month old female German Shepherd, is being raised by Rebecca Bierhoff. Russeen is being sponsored by Dr. Weston at Jordan Lake Animal Hospital. Rebecca is her food sponsor. Rebecca tells us,

“Russeen is the third puppy Rebecca has raised. The other two pups that Rebecca raised, lived on campus with her at Hartwick College in Upstate New York. Russeen and Rebecca ventured down past the mason dixon line, so that Rebecca could start her nursing career at the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Duke University Hospital.

Russeen is an energetic, brilliant, curious, sweet, cuddly girl who loves her tennis balls. During the day she loves walking down to the Haw River, and admiring the chickens next door. She also loves to play with her older "sister" released GEB Meghan (1MM11). The two of them like to curl up and take naps in the sun together. Rebecca and Russeen look forward to new adventures in North Carolina, and want to thank everyone for the warm welcome!”



Russeen, Rebecca and Meghan (black Lab)

Puppy Updates: Where are they now?

Coal, a black male lab, raised by Irene and Maria Cucurullo, recently passed his in-for-training test. His food sponsors were Doris and Dick Thompson of Leland, NC and his vet sponsor was Bayleaf Veterinary Hospital.

Landis, a black male lab, raised by Tamara Flinchum, recently passed his in-for-training test. Landis' vet sponsor was Northwoods Animal Hospital, and his food sponsor was Arthur Berger of New York, NY.

Nathan, a black male lab, raised by Yvette Neel and family, recently passed his in-for-training test. Nathan's vet sponsor was The Veterinary Hospital of Davidson. His food sponsor was the Neel Family.

Noel, a yellow female lab, raised by Daniel Mulcahy and family, recently passed her in-for-training test. She is currently in training for the Healing Autism program. The Mulcahys were her food sponsors and East Lincoln Animal Hospital was her vet sponsor.

In Loving Memory

Badger
2000 - 2014

Glynis & Rick Tanner are saddened to report that Trooper Badger passed away in November at 14 after retiring from a long and successful career with the Connecticut State Police as a drug detection officer. Badger was the first GEB dog they raised and by far the smartest. Badger became a known escape artist from both GEB kennels and from police kennels, often freeing fellow canine officers. Badger's vet sponsor was Timberlyne Animal Clinic in Chapel Hill, NC.



Trooper Badger

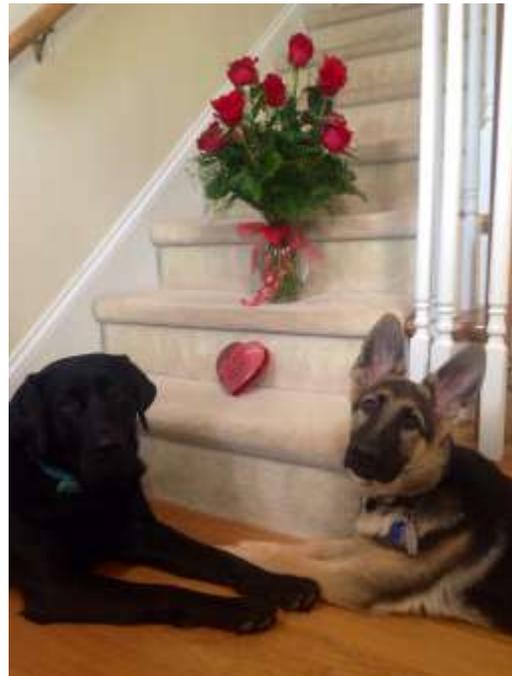
Other News

Glynis & Rick Tanner welcomed Paul and Connie Ellner, and Guiding Eyes for the Blind Guide Ray to their home as the Ellners travelled back to northern Connecticut. Ray got to step out of his harness and play in the yard with homeboy Scout, Guiding Eyes Omaha, and their favorite playmate, Skyler. He also got long rambles in his old stomping grounds in the woods nearby. The Ellners were grateful to have a tired puppy for their long journey home. Glynis said: "It is always a great joy to see one of the dogs you raised working and making a difference in the lives of their partner. It is even more rewarding when that dog comes home for a visit. It completes the circle."



Oleta Saying "Good Bye" to Coal

Posing by beautiful flowers sent by Food Sponsor, Doris Newsome Thompson, Organizing President of the Southport, NC Chapter of The National Society Southern Dames of America.



Wine and Design Fundraiser

All of the details for our next pet portrait painting fundraiser at Wine and Design Cary have been finalized. It is scheduled for 2:30-5:00 pm on Sunday, June 14. The cost per person is \$70.00; however, 25% of the fee is given to the NCPRP. The email link to register is below.

http://www.wineanddesign.com/calendar/view_event.php?eventID=47058&date=2015-06-14&calendarID=5.
The address is 483 James Jackson Avenue, Cary, NC 27153.

Many thanks to Jo Anne Wiles for making the arrangements!

Facebook Page for NC Region

We now have a page on Facebook for North Carolina raisers and helpers. Please let Teresa Mulcahy, Teresa.mulcahy@att.net, know if you have any information to share with our group: events that may be happening in your area, accomplishments, or really cute pictures.

Search out the page "Guiding Eyes North Carolina Puppy Raisers Region" on Facebook. "Like" the page and share it with your friends on your timeline, the more exposure the better.

It is really fun to see all our puppies and it will be great to get to know each other!

Many thanks to Teresa for setting up our page!

NC Puppies Hard at Work!



Kismet at the eye doctor



Oleta at work with puppy sitter



Aria at Foundation Class



Dublin helping at home

Public Relations



Taylor Tales Piano Event at Hopper Piano and Organ Company, Raleigh

Coal and Oleta with Irene and Maria Cucurullo

Heritage High School, Wake Forest Animal Science Class, Small Animals

Coal and Oleta with Irene and Maria Cucurullo



Cub Scout Pack 424, Durham

Oleta with Irene and Maria Cucurullo



Walk and Talk SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, April 30, FRIDAY, May 1 and SATURDAY, May 2, 2015
 Pittsboro Baptist Church, 121 West Salisbury Street, Pittsboro, NC 27312
 REVISED 4/16/15

Thursday 4/30	PUPPY	RAISER
11:00 AM	Phoenix**	Jim Harmeson
12:45 PM	Nettles	Laura Daniels
2:45 PM	Break	
3:00 PM	Omaha	Glynis Tanner
4:45 PM	Malley	Paul Huebner
6:30 PM	Oleta**	Irene Cucurullo
Friday 5/1		
10:30 AM	Kismet	Linda Mildwurf
12:15 PM	Dublin	Stacey Hansen
2:00 PM	Break	
2:30 PM	Russeen	Rebecca Bierhoff
4:15 PM	Noble	Eric Morrow
6:00 PM	Floral**	Brian Davis
Saturday, 5/2		
10:00 AM	Yeats	Kelly Coney Pacious
12:00 PM	General Meeting/Lunch	
1:00 PM	Aria	Hannah Matthews
2:30 PM	Binzel**	Dennis Evangelista

** Beside Pup's name indicates need for photograph if not already taken. Please let Sherry know if you need it at the eval.

PLEASE REMEMBER to bring your "empty" flash drive. If you can't find it, you need to bring one as we won't have extras for you. It needs to be at least 8 GB. New Pup's raisers will receive your flash drive at the eval. Please remember to download your eval video on your own computer if you want to keep it.

**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: 2015

April 30 - May 2, 2015

Evaluation, Pittsboro, NC
Pittsboro Baptist Church

July 30 - August 1, 2015

Evaluation, Raleigh, NC
Raleigh Church of Christ

November 5-7, 2015

Evaluation, Pittsboro, NC
Pittsboro Baptist Church

MISSION STATEMENT

"Guiding Eyes for the Blind provides guide dogs to people with vision loss, as well as service dogs for children with autism.

We are passionate about connecting exceptional dogs with individuals and families for greater independence."

CONTACT INFORMATION

Guiding Eyes for the Blind
North Carolina Puppy Raising Program
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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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