



Puppy Prints



North Carolina Puppy Raising Program Newsletter

Spring 2012

Congratulations to NCPRP's Most Recent Graduates: Amigo and Nigel!

Edwin Rolon and Amigo (From the profile of the January Graduating Class)

Ed Rolon is from Connecticut. This month, he was matched with his fifth guide dog from Guiding Eyes – Amigo, a male black Lab.

Ed lost his sight at the age of two due to his optic nerves never fully developing. He moved to Connecticut for the job opportunities and now works at a non-profit agency and volunteers with Meals on Wheels. His job coach is helping him learn the computer and Dolphin software. Ed is a sports fan, watching baseball (the Yankees) and football (Jets.) He enjoys reading mysteries and listening to satellite radio. He belongs to a hiking club that takes monthly trips to historical places.

His last dog, Amber, is retired and lives nearby. Amigo is fitting in wonderfully; he finds the obstacles a cane doesn't locate and provides much needed independence.

Amigo was raised by Danny and Walter Overcash. Amigo's vet sponsor was Lakewood Veterinary Hospital in Mooresville, and Danny and Walter were his food sponsors.



Edwin Rolon and Amigo

Nigel, a male GLAB (Golden Retriever/Labrador Retriever) raised by Alexander Waddell, graduated from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF). Nigel was raised as part of Alexander's Eagle Scout project. Nigel's vet sponsor was Sandhills Veterinary Hospital in Southern Pines, and the Waddell's were his food sponsors.

Meet the New Puppies!

Kenneth, a black male lab, was started by Katie Soost and Family; and is being raised by first time raisers, Valerie Metros and Matthew Bond. While with Katie, Kenneth's vet sponsor was Carpenter Animal Hospital in Cary. His current vet sponsor is Four Paws Animal Clinic in Chapel Hill. Kenneth's food sponsor is Kathie Rysanek of Raleigh. Valerie shared the following about their experience so far. "Kenneth is my first puppy I am raising and boy has it been fun. When Matthew, my boyfriend, and I got him we were amazed at how much Kenneth knew already. He is an energetic puppy and I am an energetic person so I had to learn how to control myself so that he can be more successful. Kenneth has taught me how to be very patient. He is also a very affectionate puppy. He follows us around and lies down to watch us. We have only had Kenneth for a little while, but he is already part of our family! We are honored to raise such a wonderful puppy."



Kenneth

Luster, a black female lab, is being raised by Kristen Shamblin. Luster is her 7th GEB puppy! Luster's vet sponsor is Neuse River Veterinary Hospital in Wendell and her food sponsor is Diversified Systems, Inc. in Knightdale. Kristen shared the following about Luster.



Luster

"Luster loves her treats, and is always thinking about how she can earn them. She used to sit beside the plant on the floor in my office and look at me with expectation in her eyes. If I didn't call her away and reward her, she would put her head behind the fronds, and look at me as if to say, "Hey don't you see me? I am in the plant." Once she realized that I was on to her, she stopped paying attention to the plant.

Last month, Luster stepped on a grate and her foot went through it, so I started rewarding heavily for walking on grates. Recently, I took her to a fenced play area that had a grate. She made a bee line for it, and stood on it hoping for a reward. She is a real testament to the adage, "You get what you pay for!"

Micah, a black male lab, is being raised by Amy Bryant and Aaron Andersen. Micah is their 1st GEB puppy! Micah was donated by Reville Dodson. Micah's vet sponsor is Northwoods Animal Hospital in Cary, and his food sponsor is Arthur Berger of New York, NY.



Micah (left) with his brother Magee



Micah

Puppy Updates: Where are they now?

Murphy, a male black lab, raised by Katie Soost and Family, recently passed his in-for-training test. Murphy's vet sponsor was Carpenter Animal Hospital in Cary, and the Soosts were his food sponsors.

Nina, a female black lab, initially raised by Laura Levitt, is now being raised by Irene Cucurullo. Nina's vet sponsor while with Laura was Westbrook Animal Hospital in Burlington, and Laura was her food sponsor. Nina's new vet sponsor is Bayleaf Veterinary Hospital and the Cucurullo family is her food sponsor.

Pilgrim, a male yellow lab, initially raised by Danny and Walt Overcash, is now being raised by Jim and Luan Harmeson. Pilgrim's vet sponsor while with the Overcash's was Lakewood Veterinary Hospital in Mooresville, and Danny and Walt were his food sponsors. Pilgrim's vet sponsor with the Harmesons is Jordan Lake Animal Hospital of Pittsboro and his food sponsors are the Harmesons.

Roger, a male black lab, raised by Vaughn Stewart and Meghan Lyon, recently passed his in-for-training test. Roger's vet sponsor was the Cornwallis Road Animal Hospital in Durham, and Vaughn and Meghan were his food sponsors.

Tosh, a male yellow lab, raised by Jo Anne and Brian Wiles, recently passed his in-for-training test. Tosh's vet sponsor was Neuse River Veterinary Hospital, and his food sponsors were the Wiles family.



Nina and Newton

Public Relations Events!

Irene and Maria Cucurullo visited second graders at Hillandale Elementary with Newton. Newton was presented with an array of dog goodies and toys. A room full of children and gifts to take home....What a day for Newton!



Tamara Flinchum and Fenwick, and Irene Cucurullo and Newton participated in the Wellness Fair at the North Carolina Administrative Offices of the Courts in Raleigh on April 29th. Fen and Newton were the stars of the Wellness Fair!



Upcoming Public Relations Event:

The SAS Annual Health Fair will be held on May 16th at SAS in Cary. If you are interested in participating, please contact Margot Bennett at mbqlbenn@bellsouth.net.



2012 GEB Released Dog Photo Contest



Vanilla at Douthat State Park in VA

Vanilla, adopted by Kristen Shamblin, was one of 12 winners!
See all the winning photos on the GEB website at: www.guidingeyes.org.

EVALUATION SCHEDULE

Thursday, April 26, Friday, April 27 & Saturday, April 28, 2012

Thursday evaluation - Location to be determined

Friday and Saturday evals are at Pittsboro Baptist Church,
121 West Salisbury Street, Pittsboro, NC 27312

Revised: April 11, 2012

DATE	PUPPY	RAISER
Thursday 4/26		TBD
5:30 PM	Luster **	Shamblin
Friday, 4/27	Pittsboro Baptist	Church, Pittsboro
1:00 PM	Nina **	Cucurullo
2:30 PM	MacBeth	Newcity
4:00 PM	Ryan	Haynes
5:30 PM	Parson	Huebner
7:00 PM	Meeting for Team	
Saturday, 4/28	Pittsboro Baptist	Church, Pittsboro
9:00 AM	Pilgrim **	Harmeson
10:30 AM	Kenneth **	Metros
12:00 PM	General Meeting	
1:00 PM	Gaffney	Pacious
2:30 PM	Micah **	Bryant

**** Beside Pup's name and Raiser's name indicates need for photograph Saturday morning or with someone on Friday. Please let Sherry know if you can't make it on Saturday if you need a photo.**

PLEASE REMEMBER to bring your evaluation DVDs

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

DIRECTIONS to the EVALUATIONS

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.

Please bring your DVD and an accurate reading of your puppy's weight to the next Evaluation (if you did not have it for the Quarterly Raiser Report) and don't forget to submit the Quarterly Raiser Report (www.guidingeyes.org)!

UPCOMING EVENTS: 2012

April 26-28, 2012

Evaluation, Pittsboro, NC
Pittsboro Baptist Church

July 26-28, 2012

Evaluation, Raleigh, NC
Raleigh Church of Christ

November 1-3, 2012

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
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WEBSITES: www.guidingeyes.org

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