



Puppy Prints



North Carolina Puppy Raising Program Newsletter

Summer 2013

Congratulations to NCPRP's Most Recent Graduates: Gaffney, Jax, and Pilgrim!

Brian and Gaffney (From the Profile of the April Graduating Class)

Brian traveled from Montana and was matched with male black Labrador Gaffney.

Brian lost his sight in a car accident. He works summers as a hard rock miner and winters as a cowboy. In addition, Brian is the referral person for blind and visually impaired people seeking services within Montana. Dancing has been his biggest passion, and Brian has won the Montana jitterbug championship for the last three years. He also enjoys spending time with his three children and four grandchildren.

Walking to work will be a very positive change for Brian; he knows Gaffney will make all of his travel significantly easier.

Gaffney was raised by Kelly Coney Pacious. Gaffney's vet sponsor was Poplar Animal Hospital in Concord. Kelly was his food sponsor. Kelly met Brian at Gaffney's graduation and shared the following about Gaffney's new adventure.

"What happens when hard work, dedication, lots of love and the Wild West comes together? A Guide Dog graduation of course! We are pleased to announce Gaffney, Kelly's 5th dog, has graduated. For those of you that knew him, he was a big dog and who better to match a big dog with than a cowboy? Gaffney has moved to Montana to assist a cowboy. While it is never smooth sailing, Gaffney worked very hard and did what he had to do to fulfill his dream of moving out west. He is loving life working and sharing his big heart with the tough cowboy and can be seen around the local saloon keeping the varmints in check and guiding his cowboy to the next watering hole."



Kelly with Gaffney on Graduation Day!



Kelly, Brian and Gaffney

Jax

Jax graduated from ATF in April. Jax is working in Detroit, Michigan as an ATF explosives detection agent. He was raised by Gordon Lyman. Gordon was Jax' food sponsor and Lakewood Veterinary Hospital of Mooresville was his vet sponsor.

Gordan was not able to attend his graduation, but he was able to visit with Jax and his handler in Front Royal, VA prior to his graduation, and learned that Jax would be living with a fine family with children who were looking forward to him joining the household.



Jax wearing his official ATF uniform

Dannie and Pilgrim (From the Profile of the June Graduating Class)

New Yorker Dannie received male yellow Labrador Pilgrim, his first guide dog. Dannie celebrated his 23rd birthday this month – Pilgrim has been the very best birthday present he could imagine.

Dannie was born with retinitis pigmentosa, which affected his sight at a very young age. He learned about guide dogs ten years ago during a trip to the library and has looked forward to having one ever since. Dannie works as the social director at a concert venue, collecting parking fees and keeping traffic moving. He has a passion for technology and loves Apple products for their accessibility. Dannie is a NASCAR fan and enjoys playing video games. He looks forward to this new adventure with Pilgrim and is already grateful for the mobility, independence and companionship.

Pilgrim was raised by Danny and Walt Overcash, and Jim and Luan Harmeson. Pilgrim's vet sponsor while with the Overcash family was Lakewood Veterinary Hospital in Mooresville, and Danny and Walt were his food sponsors. Pilgrim's vet sponsor with the Harmesons was Jordan Lake Animal Hospital of Pittsboro and his food sponsors were the Harmesons.



Dannie and Pilgrim



Meet the New Puppies!

Brandy, a black female lab, is being raised by Gail and David Parrish. Brandy is their 1st Guiding Eyes puppy. Gail introduced Brandy as follows.

“Brandy, a beautiful black lab, arrived on the doorstep of Gail and David Parrish on June 23 (thanks to Jim Harmeson’s transport from New York). First time puppy raisers, but eternal dog lovers, Gail and David were excited to start this new journey. The morning after her arrival, Brandy was “off to work” with Gail at Trinity UMC in Raleigh where everyone is glad to welcome this new ministry. She is settling in as the new Methodist mascot.

Gail and David are grateful for three sponsors. The Falls Village Veterinary Clinic of Raleigh is providing services as vet sponsor. Doris and Dick Thompson of Leland, NC are Brandy’s food sponsors. In addition, Mosquito Authority has given a discount for their services to help Brandy enjoy her previously mosquito-infested backyard.”



Brandy



Harpo

Harpo, a black male lab, is being raised by Kelly Coney Pacious. Harpo is her 7th Guiding Eyes puppy. Kelly and her husband, Paul, are Harpo’s food sponsors. His vet sponsor is Poplar Animal Hospital in Concord. Kelly shared the following introduction to Harpo.

“Welcome Ladies and Gentlemen! Tonight’s show is brought to you by the (soon to be) legendary Harpo Marx. Did I say Marx? I meant Bahama Dell. He’s a jokester alright, but he’s no Marx brother. Harpo is a lovable black lab who was too hot to handle for his first raiser. He is smart and catches on very quickly. Like a true comedian he is pushing the boundaries to see what he can get away with, but with his new troupe he will learn very quickly that there’s a time and place for everything from work to play.”

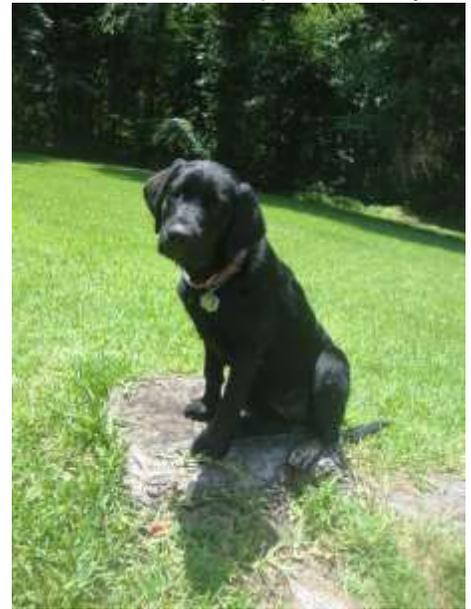


Jeremiah, a black male lab, is being raised by 1st time raisers, Debra and Brian Davis. Jeremiah's vet sponsor is Mayfair Animal Hospital in Cary, and the Davis' are his food sponsors.

Jewel, a black female lab, is being raised by 1st time raisers, Elizabeth Sulzbach and Drew Mickus. Liz and Drew are Jewel's food sponsors, and her vet sponsor is Armadale Animal Hospital in Raleigh. Liz provided the following introduction to their new puppy.

"Baby Jewel is our first GEB puppy. She looks up to our adopted mutts, Jesse and Layla, when learning her great house manners. Her easy going, confident nature makes outings a breeze. On top of her other wonderful characteristics, Jewel is also extremely affectionate and loves to give and receive kisses."

Quentin, a black male lab, is being raised by Irene and Maria Cucurullo. Quentin is their 10th Guiding Eyes puppy. Quentin's vet sponsor is Bayleaf Animal Hospital in Raleigh and his food sponsors are Doris and Dick Thompson of Leland. Irene shared the following introduction to Quentin. "The Cucurullo Household is excited to introduce Quentin who arrived May 1st. He enjoyed the company of Linus who returned to Guiding Eyes the end of June. Quentin is growing quickly and loves exploring the world around him. He also enjoys our weekly foundation classes where he works side by side with his buddies, Jewel and Jeremiah."



Jewel



Quentin with Linus



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Puppy Updates: Where are they now?

Denton, a black male lab, raised by the Wiles family, recently passed his in-for-training test. Denton was their 6th GEB Puppy. Denton's vet sponsor was Neuse River Veterinary Hospital of Wendell and the Wiles were his food sponsors.

Kenneth, a black male lab, raised by Irene and Maria Cucurullo, Valerie Metros and Matthew Bonds, and Katie Soost and family, recently passed his in-for-training test. His vet sponsors were Bayleaf Veterinary Hospital in Raleigh, Four Paws Animal Clinic in Chapel Hill, and Carpenter Animal Hospital in Cary. His food sponsors were Dick and Doris Thompson of Leland, NC and Kathie Rysanek of Raleigh.

Knight, a yellow male lab, raised by Kelly Coney Pacious was released from training and adopted through the Guiding Eyes Adoption Program. Knight's vet sponsor was Poplar Animal Hospital of Concord, and Kelly was his food sponsor.

Linus, a black male lab, raised by Irene and Maria Cucurullo, recently passed his in-for-training test. Linus' vet sponsor was Bayleaf Veterinary Hospital of Raleigh and his food sponsors were J. D. and Doris N. Thompson of Leland, NC.

Luster, a black female lab, raised by Kristen Shamblin recently passed her in-for-training test. Luster's vet sponsor was Neuse River Veterinary Hospital in Wendell and her food sponsor was Diversified Systems, Inc. in Knightdale.

Micah, a male black lab, raised by Tamara Flinchum, and Amy Bryant and Aaron Andersen, recently passed his in-for-training test. Micah was donated by Reveille Dodson. Micah's vet sponsor was Northwoods Animal Hospital in Cary, and his food sponsor was Arthur Berger of New York, NY.



**NC Puppies in Training
Pilgrim (left), Parson (top
right) and Macbeth (bottom
right)**



Quentin and the Cucurullo's received this beautiful 4th of July floral arrangement from his food sponsor, Doris N. Thompson, Organizing President of the Southport, N.C. Chapter of the National Society Southern Dames of America

We are very fortunate to have the Thompsons, and the Southport, N.C. Chapter of the National Society Southern Dames of America as sponsors for several puppies in the NC region. Mrs. Thompson told us, "My relationship with Guiding Eyes for the Blind is the most enjoyable & rewarding of anything I've ever been a part of. My heart is in it and I love and admire the Cucurullo family and appreciate so much their love & dedication to Guiding Eyes. They are truly an inspiration."

The Southport, N.C. Chapter of the National Society Southern Dames of America

The Purpose of this Society is to provide support for the entire Eye Program as follows:

- A.
 - 1. Contributions for Ophthalmic Research
 - 2. Donations to Eye Banks
 - 3. Signatures on Eye Bank Cards
 - 4. Assistance to the blind or those handicapped by eye deficiencies
- B.

The advancement of knowledge through the study of Southern culture which will include History, Literature, Art, Music, Creative Arts, and all phases of Southern life.

Please Join Us for Lunch and our General Meeting at Noon on Saturday, August 3!

Chris Gelpi and Janet Newcity are donating a lunch catered by "Baguettaboutit".

Forget about hot dog buns, these sausages come in a freshly baked French baguette along with your sauce of choice deliciously created from ingredients hand-picked from local farmers markets. Baguettaboutit features six flavors of NC-made sausage, choice of eight hand-crafted sauces as well as a vegetarian selection. Our goal is simple: to make a great tasting sandwich with a dedication to using local products as much as possible.

Many thanks to the Chris and Janet!

The Justice Fair



Linus (18 months) and Quentin (3 months) participated in the Justice Fair at The Franciscan School in Raleigh, N.C. Quentin practiced his obedience skills and had the opportunity to greet the students. The students were excited and amazed to watch such a small puppy follow hand signals and verbal commands. During the course of the event Quentin was given many breaks to chill out and watch Linus entertain the students with his advanced skills.

Janet Newcity provided this picture of Doris before their move to Ohio. She said, "Since we are having a house built in Columbus, I am spending a lot of time in Lowe's and Home Depot. As you can see, she is quite bored by all of the time I am spending picking out cabinet hardware. She certainly enjoys settling on the cool floors."

We hope Doris, and the rest of the family, are enjoying their new home!





Thanks to Guiding Eyes graduates DJ Robinson and Lea Williams for taking the time to visit one of our raiser classes, and allowing us the opportunity to meet your faithful guides.

IN LOVING MEMORY

Zeike

December 25, 1990 – July 1, 2013

Zeike was raised by Julie Haynes and family. He was released from training and adopted by Julie. Zeike's vet sponsor was Animal Care Hospital of Matthews, Matthews, NC. Julie shared the following. Our beloved Zeike passed away Monday, July 1. Our #1 GEB pup, he taught us much... about Labs, and Life, and Love.



EVALUATION SCHEDULE

Thursday, August 1, Friday, August 2, and Saturday, August 3, 2013
Raleigh Church of Christ, 911 Barringer Drive, Raleigh, NC 27606

| DATE | PUPPY | RAISER |
|-----------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| Thursday, 8/1/13 | | |
| 3:30 PM | SAS | Huebner |
| 5:30 PM | Jewel | Sulzbach/Mickus |
| 7:30 PM | Brandy ** | Parrish |
| Friday, 8/2/13 | | |
| 12:30 PM | Chaz | Tanner |
| 2:30 PM | Quentin | Cucurullo |
| 4:00 PM | Harrison | Haynes |
| 5:30 PM | Harpo ** | Coney-Pacious |
| 7:00 PM | Team meeting | |
| Saturday, 8/3/13 | | |
| 8:00 AM | Mackie | Hu and Yen |
| 10:00 AM | Jeremiah | Davis |
| 12:00 NOON | General Meeting and LUNCH for everyone | Donated by Janet Newcity |
| 2:45 PM | Jane leave | |

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

PLEASE REMEMBER to bring your evaluation DVDs. New puppies will get their new DVDs at the eval.

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

DIRECTIONS to the EVALUATIONS

**Raleigh Church of Christ
911 Barringer Dr.
Raleigh, NC 27606**

Driving Directions to Raleigh Church of Christ for the Evaluation:

From I-440:

- Take exit 1C, Jones Franklin Rd and drive North approximately 0.35 miles.
- Turn Left onto Barringer Dr and the church building will be on the Right about 0.11 miles.

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: 2013

November 17-16, 2013

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

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www.guidingeyesnc.org



North Carolina Puppy Raising Program

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