

# Puppy Prints



North Carolina Puppy Raising Program Newsletter

Winter 2008

## Congratulations to NCPRP's Most Recent Graduates: Louie and Wilbur

### About the Graduates:

**Jeffrey Shiffer and Louie** (from the profile of the October 2007 graduating class)

### A Dog To Provide Balance to a Businessman's Life



Jeffrey Shiffer and Louie

Fifty-two year old Jeff Shiffer came to Guiding Eyes for the Blind, for Louie, his second dog from the school. He is a survivor of brain surgery when he was three years old. Jeff searched for a school that would accommodate both his loss of sight and equilibrium. He needed a dog not only to guide, but to respond to his sporadic lack of balance as well. His acceptance at Guiding Eyes, Jeff said, was immediate and most reassuring. Jeff initially wanted to be a clinical psychologist and attended Edinboro State University towards that goal. Time and circumstances changed his plans. He has been happily married now for seven years and he, along with his wife (who is an artist), operate a successful furniture-finishing business in the basement of their home in Pennsylvania. He also enjoys walking two to three miles a day. Louie is young and laid back, and enjoys work as much as play. Waiting at home for Louis is Ink, Jeff's retired dog. Jeff is effusive in his praise for Guiding Eyes for the Blind. "This is a great school, where you train hard and have a lot of fun in the process. The staff members are friendly and go above and beyond to listen to each student and respond with gentle patience, understanding and educated expertise." Louie was raised by Abby Dickey and family of Mebane, NC. His vet sponsor was Mebane Mobile Veterinary Service and the Dickey's were his food sponsors.

**Amy Salmon and Wilbur** (from the profile of the October 2007 graduating class)

### City Training Key for Wife, Mother, and Teacher

Amy Salmon, from Oklahoma, has returned to Guiding Eyes for the Blind for her second dog, Wilbur. She was declared legally blind as a result of retinitis pigmentosa at the age of 24. Amy has been married for 14 years is a very proud mom of two youngsters, ages six and three. Amy investigated various programs for the blind through the "grapevine," and was specifically looking for a school that offered city training. Guiding Eyes was recommended to her by a consultant from the American Foundation for the Blind. Amy taught at the Hadley School for the Blind and now works from home instructing Microsoft Excel, Internet and business communication courses. Amy admits that there are not many things that once she sets her mind to, she cannot do. She enjoys swimming, water skiing, reading, writing and loves making 'no bake' chocolate chip peanut butter cookies with her son. She is especially grateful that with Wilbur at her side she will be able to walk her young son to school. Wilbur is an extremely friendly and perceptive Lab that can go from zero to six miles an hour in no time. Amy is enthusiastic about her return to Guiding



Amy Salmon and Wilbur

Eyes: "It's the very best school there is. The firm and important instruction is always administered with knowledge and care. Every student is made to feel special and we each have a private bedroom besides. What a luxury." Wilbur was raised by Maria and Irene Cucurullo, and family. Wilbur's vet sponsor was Bayleaf Veterinary Hospital and the Cucurullo's were his food sponsors.

## Meet NCPRP's Newest Puppies!

**Adonis**, a male yellow lab, is being raised by first time raiser, Christopher Waddell, and his family. Adonis' vet sponsor is Sandhills Veterinary Hospital in Southern Pines, NC, and his food sponsors are the Waddells. Adonis was started by Brenda and Jerry Quesenberry. He was their 12<sup>th</sup> GEB puppy! While with the Quesenberry's, Adonis' vet sponsor was Southampton Veterinary Clinic of Franklin, VA and the Quesenberry's were his food sponsors.

**Jody**, a female black lab, is being raised by Nicole Jewell and her family. Jody is Nicole's first GEB puppy. Jody's vet sponsor is pending, but her food sponsors will be the Jewell family.

**Teresa**, a female black lab, is being raised by Chris and Rick Echols, and their children Emily and Ryan of Raleigh, NC. Teresa is their 4th GEB puppy! Teresa's vet sponsor is Armadale Animal Hospital of Raleigh, and her food sponsors are the Echols family. Chris provided the following about Teresa. *The Echols family made a visit to VA Beach just before New Years to bring home Teresa. She is our first home change dog and we are thankful to her first raiser for giving her such a great start. It has been a fun challenge starting at 7 months instead of 9 weeks. She settles in more each day and is learning to enjoy the southern life instead of NYC life where she started. I am amazed at how fast she has fallen in love with Karo and Maggie, my 2 dogs at home. As you can see from the picture, they have decided that she is a great tug of war opponent! Please come meet her at evals as we can always use greeting practice!*



**Teresa playing in her new yard with Maggie and Karo!**

## Where are they now?

**Fresca**, a female black lab raised by Katie Filkins of Burlington and Jo Anne Farr of Raleigh, recently passed her in-for-training test. Fresca's vet sponsor while with Katie was Elon Animal Hospital and Katie was her food sponsor. Fresca's vet sponsor in Raleigh was Fisher Veterinary Hospital, and Jo Anne was her food sponsor.

**Will**, a male black lab raised by the Griffith family of La Grange, graduated from ATF on 12/19/07. He will be working in explosives detection in Indonesia. His vet sponsor was Riverbank Animal Hospital of Kinston and his food sponsor was the Griffith family.

**Winifred**, a female black lab raised by first time raiser, Heather Blackledge, of Waxhaw, NC, is in training for the SBI as an arson detection dog. Winifred's vet sponsor was Rea Road Animal Hospital of Charlotte and her food sponsors were the UPS Store, and Harold and Wanda Parks of West Jefferson, NC.

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## IN LOVING MEMORY



**Danny Overcash with Elmo**

**Elmo**  
**9/22/07 - 12/5/07**

Elmo was being raised by Danny and Walt Overcash of Mooresville. Elmo was their 10th GEB puppy. He was diagnosed with a devastating medical problem shortly after being placed with the Overcash's, and was mercifully euthanized. His vet sponsor was Lakewood Veterinary Hospital of Mooresville, and the Overcash's were his food sponsors.



**Diane Capps meets Elmo**

**Lloyd**  
**6/17/94 - 12/19/07**

Lloyd, raised by Brenda and Jerry Quesenberry, was a guide until he retired at age 9. Upon retirement, he was adopted by Brenda and Jerry. Lloyd's vet sponsor was Southampton Veterinary Clinic in Franklin, VA. The Quesenberry's were his food sponsors.

**Hudson**  
**7/12/94 - 7/3/07**

Hudson was raised by Jennifer Jorgenson and Bill Jenson. His vet sponsor was Oberlin Animal Hospital. His food sponsors were the late Jackie and Rae Goertz of Raleigh. Hudson was donated to Guiding Eyes by Denim Dodson and was released due to lack of confidence. He was adopted by Jennifer. Hudson was "Merlin" in the video from [Audrey to Merlin](#) which depicts the life of a guide dog from birth through retirement.

**Viva**  
**12/14/94 - 10/7/07**

Viva was raised by Jackie and Bob Schmidt of Oriental. She was released from Guiding Eyes for medical reasons. Viva was adopted by Jackie and Bob and became their beloved pet. Viva's vet sponsor was Craven Animal Hospital of New Bern, NC, and her food sponsors were the Schmidts.

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## A DAY AT LAKE GASTON

Brisco, Baldwin (GEB released), Lake, Karo (GEB released), Muggles, and Roz (GEB) stop swimming long enough to pose for a picture.



**“Roz and Friends” won WRAL TV’s Pet Picture of the Week!**

## **Donate to GEB When Shopping at Food Lion!**

### **It’s time to re-register your cards for 2008!**

LionShop & Share is the easiest, most convenient way to raise money for your local not-for-profit organization. Each time you shop at Food Lion and use your MVP card, a portion of your total grocery purchase will be donated to Guiding Eyes for the Blind.

If anyone is interested in participating, please go to the Food Lion website listed below and click the ‘Select an Organization’ button. In the pop up window, select NC as the State, Pittsboro the City, select Guiding Eyes for the Blind as the Organization and then follow the instructions to link your MVP card.

<https://www.foodlion.com/IntheCommunity/ShopandShare/secure/RegisterMVPCards.asp>

## **ATTENTION ALL PUPPY RAISERS:**

Please bring your DVD and an accurate reading of your puppy’s weight to the next Walk and Talk (if you did not have it for the Quarterly Raiser Report) and don’t forget to submit the Quarterly Raiser Report ([www.guidingeyesbcweb.org](http://www.guidingeyesbcweb.org))!

## WALK AND TALK SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, February 15 and SATURDAY, February 16  
Raleigh Church of Christ, Raleigh, NC

<b>Friday 2/15</b>	<b>PUPPY</b>	<b>RAISER</b>
2:45 PM	Ruffles	Cuddy
3:15 PM	Withers	Meek
4:00 PM	Justice	Geiner
4:45 PM	Parker	Haynes
5:30 PM	Wynett **	Wiles
6:30 PM	Visa	Harmeson
7:15 PM	Teresa **	Echols
8:00 PM	JW	Pendergraft
<b>Saturday 2/16</b>	<b>PUPPY</b>	<b>RAISER</b>
8:00 AM	Oz	Bierwirth
8:45 AM	Jody **	Jewell
9:45 AM	Adonis **	Waddell
10:45 AM	Oslo	Cucurullo
11:30 AM	Roz **	Shamblin
12:15 PM	<b>GENERAL MEETING</b>	
1:15 PM	Ocala	Ames
2:15 PM	Oberon **	Overcash
3:15 PM	Golden #1 **	Carey
4:15 PM	Golden #2 **	Neve
5:15 PM	Golden #3 **	Flinchum
6:15 PM	Paloma	Jackson

\*\* Beside Pup's name indicates photo needs to be taken by Rick Tanner before or after the General Meeting.

### DIRECTIONS to the WINTER WALK AND TALK

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

#### Driving Directions to Raleigh Church of Christ for the Summer 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.

## UPCOMING EVENTS: 2008

### February 15-16, 2008

Walk and Talk, Raleigh, NC  
Raleigh Church of Christ

### May 2-3, 2008

Walk and Talk, Pittsboro, NC  
Pittsboro Baptist Church

### August 8-9, 2008

Walk and Talk, Raleigh, NC  
Raleigh Church of Christ

### November 7-8, 2008

Walk and Talk, Apex, NC  
Prince of Peace Episcopal Church

## MISSION STATEMENT

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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.

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

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**WEBSITES:** [www.guidingeyes.org](http://www.guidingeyes.org)  
[www.guidingeyesnc.org](http://www.guidingeyesnc.org)



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