

Puppy Prints



North Carolina Puppy Raising Program Newsletter

Winter 2018

Congratulations to NCPRP's Most Recent Graduates: Amie!

Amie Graduates! (by Gail Parrish, Puppy Raiser)



“Another snowy trip to Guiding Eyes Training Center for David and me...this time to see Amie graduate. As we looked forward to our trip, forecasters predicted snow in the Raleigh area, but not in New York. The closer the weekend came, the more the forecast changed and snow was on the way for us, too.

We arrived at Guiding Eyes just as the snow began; by the time we left three hours later, we had three inches on our car! The first part of our trip home was rather treacherous, but the next morning the sun was shining, and the roads were clear.

We enjoyed the GEB hospitality with coffee and snacks before the graduation ceremony. As we all settled into the hall, the slide show started... photos of all the graduates and pups during their training.

Then the procession began. The graduates and their dogs sat in the front of the hall...the pups in a “close and down” position. This was our first glimpse of our Amie. She was all business. After the ceremony and awarding of diplomas, we were able to see Amie and meet her partner Michael Grunze. She was momentarily very excited to see us; but within a couple of minutes, she was right back at work.

We enjoyed talking with Michael who is married and lives in DeKalb, Illinois, with their other dog. Amie is his second Guiding Eyes dog. He graduated from college with a music education degree and is a percussionist in a small band. He is also a massage therapist.

An article in **MidWeek**, a local DeKalb newspaper, featured an article on Michael. The author was Katrina J. E. Milton who asked Michael how Amie helps him. His response: "She helps me navigate, and she's quicker than a cane. Instead of running into items with a cane, she can immediately go around items. She makes walking around easier for me. She is trained to keep me out of dangerous situations, like traffic. With her around, I know that I will never walk off a ledge or fall down a flight of stairs."

He continued, "[Amie]... is my partner. She is not a pet. She is a working dog, a service animal. I am strict about not feeding her people food, and her purpose is to be my guide. We do obedience training every day, and she comes with me to work. I am a team with my dog, but unlike a regular team, there's more fur. I take her for walks to the bathroom, and I give her lots of pets and belly rubs. She loves to play."

Our trip was a long one...over a thousand miles in three days. But absolutely worth it.

We heard from Michael during the holidays. I was initially alarmed when he told me that Amie had decided to change the color of their carpet. What?! Then he clarified, and I remembered that Amie shed more than any dog we've ever had. I brushed her twice a day with her Fuminator, and still there was hair everywhere.

Good luck, Michael. Enjoy your golden carpet."

Amie was raised by Brian and Debra Davis and Gail and David Parrish. While with the Davis family, they were Floral's food sponsors and Mayfair Animal Hospital in Cary was her vet sponsor. While with the Parrish family, they were Floral's food sponsors and Falls Village Veterinary Hospital was her vet sponsor. Mosquito Authority and Trinity United Methodist Church were also sponsors for Amie.



Gail and David Parrish with Michael and Amie



Graduation Day!

In Loving Memory

Osage
9/24/05 - 11/21/17

Osage, started by Wendy Bierwirth of Raleigh. While with the Bierwirths, his vet sponsor was Pet House Calls in Raleigh, and the Bierwirth's were his food sponsor. Osage was finished by Jim and Luan Harmeson. While with Harmesons, Osage's vet sponsor was Jordan Lake Animal Hospital in Pittsboro, and the Harmeson's were his food sponsor. Osage was the first dog the Harmesons raised. Osage graduated as a guide dog!

Verna
10/16/05 – 1/17/18

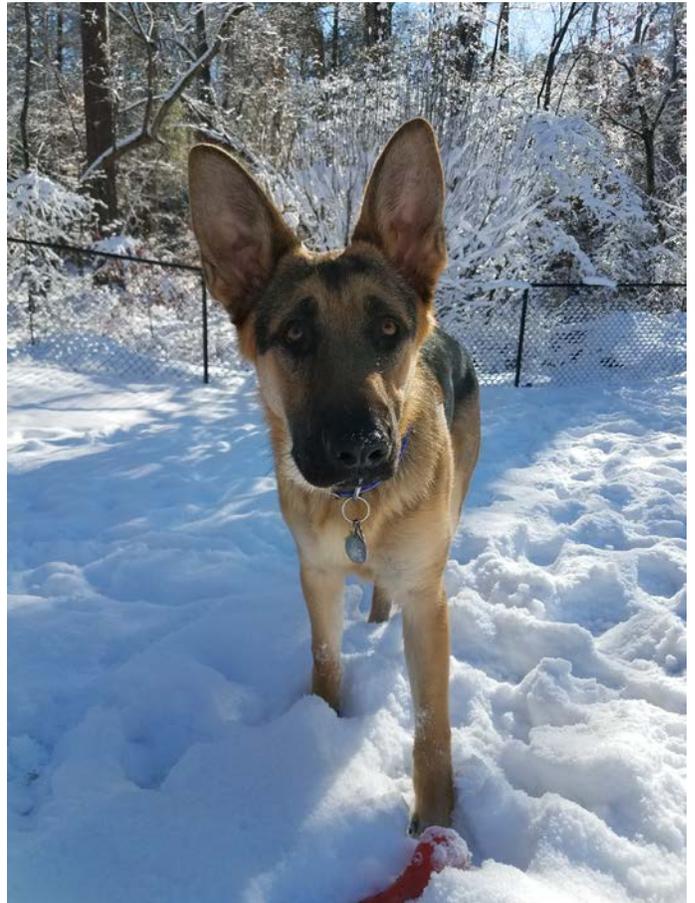
Verna, was raised by Kay and Glenn Jackson. Her Vet sponsor was Swift Creek Animal Hospital. The Jackson's were her food sponsor. Verna was their 7th pup and graduated as a guide dog!

Interesting fact: Jim Harmeson took both Osage and Verna to NY for their IFT's at the same time.

SnowDays



Fairlee



Hadley

EVALUATION SCHEDULE

Thursday, Feb. 8, Friday, Feb. 9 and Saturday, Feb. 10, 2018
Raleigh Church of Christ, 911 Barringer Drive, Raleigh, NC 27606

DATE	PUPPY	RAISER
Thursday, 2/8/18		
6:00 PM off site location	Pax	Jim Harmeson
7:30 PM off site location	Jed	Carol & Scott Kennedy
Friday, 2/9/18		
2:00 PM	Dahlia	Meghan Blanton
3:00 PM	Hadley	Paul Huebner
4:30 PM	Lunch/Break	
5:30 PM	Tag	Ainsley Smith
7:30 PM	Herbie	Elizabeth Soost
Saturday, 2/10/18		
8:30 AM	Jenga	Hannah Matthews
10:00 AM	Fairlee	Gail Parrish
12:00 NOON	General Meeting	For All Raisers & Team
1:30 PM	Danielle	Laura Daniels

**** Beside Pup's name and Raiser's name indicates possible need for photograph Saturday morning or with someone on Thursday or Friday.**

Please let Sherry know if you have not had your photo taken with your puppy.

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.

UPCOMING EVENTS: 2018

February 8-10

Evaluation, Raleigh, NC
Raleigh Church of Christ

May 31 - June 2

Evaluation, Pittsboro, NC
Pittsboro Baptist Church

August 9-11

Evaluation, Raleigh, NC
Raleigh Church of Christ

November 8-10

Evaluation, Pittsboro, NC
Pittsboro Baptist Church

MISSION STATEMENT

"Guiding Eyes for the Blind is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that provides guide dogs to people with vision loss. We are passionate about connecting exceptional dogs with individuals for greater independence."

CONTACT INFORMATION

Guiding Eyes for the Blind
North Carolina Puppy Raising Program
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WEBSITES: www.guidingeyes.org
www.guidingeyesnc.org



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