



TM

GUIDE DOGS OF AMERICA

Partners



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"MADDY REJUVENATES ME!"



GDA graduate Luella Knapp with her guide dog, Maddy.

Luella Knapp doesn't seem like the type to need rejuvenating. At 88 years old, she still leads a very active life. But when a combination of glaucoma and macular degeneration began to take her sight more than five years ago, she relied more and more on her husband, Kenneth. When Kenneth passed away in 2001, Luella suddenly found herself having to learn to get around without sight.

"I couldn't drive anymore, and I had a very hard time using a white cane. I like to go someplace every day, but I kept getting into trouble. I would find myself in the middle of a street when the light changed. I often tripped over curbs. One time, I fell and hit my head very badly. It took months for the bump to go away."

Luella remembers the exact date she and Maddy, a black lab, started a new life.

"It was October 28, 2004 that we graduated. I fell in love with her right away. She's small, only 51 pounds, and she's smart and patient. And she's a great friend. Very talkative. The white cane couldn't talk to me."

With Maddy's help, Luella has resumed an active lifestyle that seems more suited to someone half her age. She line dances once a week, and square dances twice each week. She volunteers at the Center for the Blind to help others who are blind learn how to cook safely. She

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Sandy's Favorite Charity



Mother and daughter duo Helen and Sandy Barnes enjoy an afternoon visiting GDA.

Because she has become such a great friend of Guide Dogs of America, we asked Sondra "Sandy" Bennett how GDA came to be her favorite charity.

"I saw a notice in the Doris Day Animal League newsletter about a golf event to support Guide Dogs of America, and I was intrigued. I have lived in Kentucky for 17

years, but before that, I was in California for 20 years, so I have a strong connection to the state. I was looking for a charity I could get close to, and everything I found out about

GDA made me think it was an exceptional charity. So I decided to become a donor."

Since she first contacted GDA five years ago, Sandy has become one of GDA's most consistent supporters. She sends monetary donations. She sends gifts of beds, toys, and other dog supplies. And since she and her husband Otto have written GDA into their wills, they are members of the "Partners in Trust Society." Not only that, but Sandy's mother, Helen Barnes, has also joined her in supporting GDA, and also recently added GDA to her will.

"When I was a college student, I was a reader for a blind student. Seeing what GDA's amaz-

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PARTNERS NEWSLETTER

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GDA supporter
Sandy Barnes with
GDA employee
Rhonda Bissell and
Andre.



"MADDY REJUVENATES ME!" continued from page 1

is taking computer classes at the Braille Institute. She goes to church every Sunday.

And everywhere she goes, Maddy goes with her.

"She's so good. When I go to line dancing, I just tell her to stay and she sits quietly, ignoring all the noise and activity. The first time I took her to church with me, the minister was amazed to discover after the service that there had been a dog in the building. Now, when we go, as soon as the organist plays the benediction, Maddy knows it's time to leave. She's so smart.

"My only problem is that everywhere I go, people want to pet her because she's so cute. One woman who is legally blind came up to me and asked me where I got Maddy and how much it

cost to get a guide dog. I told her I got her at Guide Dogs of America, and there's no cost to the blind student!

"I'm so grateful to all the people who make that possible. The breeders, the puppy raisers, the trainers, and the cook at the school. I gained 5 pounds before we graduated. I'm also grateful to all those who donate to GDA to help give me a guide dog. You've done a great service to me."

Maddy is Luella's first guide dog. The two have so quickly become such an efficient team you would think they'd been together forever. And for this very active woman, that has made an enormous difference in her life.

"Losing my sight aged me. But Maddy has rejuvenated me. I feel like she gave me back 10 years. Thank you!" 🐾

Sandy's Favorite Charity continued from page 1

ing dogs do for students is very satisfying. Watching them work is incredible. I've just become so convinced of the value of this organization to change people's lives. If I lived closer, I'd want to volunteer.

"One thing I like about GDA," Sandy says, "is that it's a relatively small organization, so we can have a real impact.

"When I went back to California for a doctor's appointment, my mother came with me and we made sure to visit the school. I was so impressed. On another trip, we attended a graduation. That was a very emotional day. Hearing the students talk about how their lives would be changed by having a guide dog just convinced me even more.

"Putting GDA in our will seems like the right thing to do. It will allow our support to keep going after we're gone."

Sandy and Otto have always been dog lovers, so supporting an organization that produces wonderful guide dogs interested them. They currently share their lives with two dogs, Gypsy, a ten year old Brittany Spaniel, and Cinder, a 6 month old Weimaraner.

Maybe it's because they are dog lovers that Sandy and Otto are excited about our newest sponsorship program opportunities. They contributed \$1,000 to sponsor a "newborn" puppy which covers the cost of breeding and delivery. They

have received a special certificate and photo of a newborn, yellow Labrador puppy.

"A while back, I was shopping and I saw a young woman with a guide dog. I told her I was a GDA supporter and asked her where she got her dog. She said it wasn't from GDA, but that she had a friend who had a GDA dog. The young woman said she was so impressed with GDA that she was hoping her next guide dog could be a GDA dog.

"That made me feel great. GDA has such a reputation for excellence."

We are thrilled to have Sandy's wholehearted endorsement, of course, and so grateful for her family's support. Sandy has some advice for anyone who supports GDA or is thinking about supporting guide dogs.

"Go by the campus. Take the tour. Go to a graduation, or the Open House. I guarantee you'll be impressed and you'll know, as I do, that your donation will be put to great use. These are amazing dogs, and they change people's lives. And the organization is first rate.

"That's why GDA is my favorite charity!" 🐾

**STAY UP-TO-DATE
WITH GDA**

www.guidedogsofamerica.org



GRADUATION

Class #347.5

Seated from left to right – Shari Main & **Diamond**; Rae Howell & **Annika**; Brenda Lakios & **Aspen**; Dominic Sposeto & **Lorax**; John Stiers & **Axel**; Alice Hackney & **Griffin**.

Instructors (standing left to right): Trina Began & Steve Burkman

Puppy Raisers (not pictured)

Diamond—The Lambert Family; **Annika**—Cindy & Carl Corbin; **Aspen**—Cecelia Horne; **Lorax** — Rayche Moldover; **Axel**—The Marfone Family; **Griffin**—Laura Uroff.



Class #348

Seated from left to right – John Geltermair and **Harrison**; Jim Frederick and **Gordy**; Pam Crabtree and **Shilo**; Yaeno White and **Caleb**; Tony Connett and **Jersey**; Bobbi LaChance & **Kaddy**; Olivia Ostergaard & **Fumi**.

Instructors (standing left to right): Bob Wendler, Kerri Georghiou, Trina Began

Puppy Raisers (not pictured)

Harrison—Jeannette & Blaine Humbert; **Gordy**—Diona & Alan Durham; **Shilo**— Suzanne & Jeff Breaw; **Caleb**—Cathy & Morris Makshanoff; **Jersey**—Amber Salway; **Kaddy**—Tess Atkinson; **Fumi**—Setsu Okada.



Class #347.5



Class #348

Parade of Partners

Our Fall 2005 issue of "Partners," which featured lists of our sponsors, volunteers and puppy raisers, was met with enthusiastic remarks from one and all. We regret a small number of oversights and offer corrections below.

- The Hawes Family were the puppy raisers for Takoda.
- Bari & Erwin Laner were the puppy raisers for Fergi.
- Judi Gomez & Miguel Ola are puppy raisers.
- Alix and Judith Billson are puppy raisers.

Cozy Quilt Benefits GDA

This year's quilt is the creative handiwork of the Santa Clarita Quilt Guild. They donated this masterpiece to GDA with the hope of raising \$5,000 or more. Tickets are \$2 each or 6 for \$10 and are available by calling GDA at (818) 362-5834, ext. 310. The drawing will be held at the GDA December puppy meeting on December 10th and the winner does not need to be present. **Good luck!**



**Raffle
Deadline
December 10th
Call Today!**





Responding to Heartbreak

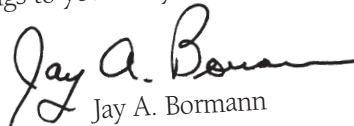
Helping our friends affected by Hurricane Katrina ...

A Message of Good Will and Good Cheer

Everyday, I am struck by the generosity of caring Americans.

Here at GDA, I am grateful for the support that we have come to rely on over the years. Thoughtful friends care almost as much about the puppies and dogs we raise and train as they do their own dogs. And they care about the blind men and women we serve as though they were their own family members and friends.

Thank you for your good will, belief in our work and kind gestures. Best wishes for good cheer and many blessings to you and your loved ones in 2006.


Jay A. Bormann
GDA President



Because the devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina was so widespread and so heartbreaking, GDA has tried to respond in some small way to help our two-footed and four-footed friends in need.

The International Association of Machinist and Aerospace Workers (IAM&AW) founded Guide Dogs of America more than 50 years ago. And though our two organizations are now separate, GDA has continued to be their favorite charity. In response to those decades of generosity and kindness, we helped the IAM&AW with supplies and support who, in turn, helped their fellow IAM&AW members, GDA graduates, and other friends who resided in the hurricane affected areas.

One of the great tragedies of the New Orleans disaster is that thousands of pets had to be abandoned when the city was evacuated. Many of these dogs won't be able to be reunited with their owners and are being sent to adoption centers all over the country. We're assisting Southern California Labrador Retriever Rescue by housing up to 18 dogs they have accepted. After medical and temperament check-ups, the dogs will be housed at our kennels until new homes can be found for them. If you are interested in adopting a dog rescued from New Orleans, please call (888) 554-2522, or visit www.sclrr.org.

Our hearts go out to all our friends, both human and canine, as they begin new lives after the terrible destruction of the hurricanes in early September. Please keep them in your prayers and thoughts. 🐾

WISH LIST

We're wishing and hoping that some of our friends will be able to donate some of the following items.

For our Dormitory:

- Braille Games (available at www.braillesuperstore.com)
- Talking Alarm Clocks with large number display
- Portable AM/FM/Cassette/CD players

For our Kennels:

- Toys (always needed!): Kongs, hard rubber toys, sterilized bones, compressed rawhide bones, Nylabones. (All in LARGE sizes)
- Crates--#200 size
- Exercise Pens: 24" and 36" sizes needed
- Pet Mate small size crates: 19" x 12 1/2" x 10" for pets up to 10 lbs.

For our Grooming needs:

- Trimming Blades #10 and Attachment Combs _", 1/3", _" (to fit Oster clipper #A-5)
- 7.2 Volt 2-speed Multi Pro Cordless Rotary Dremmel Kit and an extra battery pack (for trimming dogs' nails) Available at: www.dog.com

Special Wishes:

Please call us at (818) 362-5834, ext. 310 to make certain that another generous friend has not already donated one of these items.

- Industrial-size Coin Counter (for all the "Pennies for Puppies" we receive from school children)
- Portable Quilt Display Stand with carrying case (available at www.clotilde.com)

IN MEMORY

Guide Dogs of America has recently lost some wonderful guide dogs that we know will be missed.

- Pearl—Class #307
- Ursula—In-home training
- Rosie—In-home training
- Yosemite—In-home training

GDA WELCOMES its newest member of the kennel staff, Sarah Hamilton, who joins us as a Vet Tech.



2005 Holiday Cards

Inside message: Happy Holidays

Priced at \$15.00 for 15 cards and envelopes. See chart below for shipping & handling charges.

GDA 2006 Pin Lapel Pin

This 1" x 1" lapel pin of a handsome German Shepherd is fun to collect and wear. The cost is only \$8.00 and shipping & handling is free! (#4 in a series of 5. See order form for previous pins in the series.)



GDA's Official Cookbook "K-9s in the Kitchen"

Rave reviews from savvy cooks! 300 tasty recipes! \$20 each or two for \$35 -shipping & handling included!



GDA T-shirt

The perfect stocking stuffer for the dog lover in your life! This 100% cotton T-shirt is made in the U.S.A. Message under illustration of dogs: Support your local Guide Dog! See order form for sizes. Priced at \$18 and shipping & handling is included.



GDA HOLIDAY SHOPPING FORM

Mail this entire form with your payment in the enclosed envelope.

Orders **MUST BE** received by December 10 to ensure delivery by Christmas.

Item	QTY	Price	Subtotal
2005 Holiday Cards		\$8 ea.	
2006 GDA German Shepherd Lapel Pin		\$8 ea.	
2005 GDA Chocolate Lab Lapel Pin		\$8 ea.	
2004 GDA Golden Retriever Lapel Pin		\$8 ea.	
2003 GDA Black Lab Lapel Pin		\$8 ea.	
GDA's Official Cookbook		\$20 ea. or \$35 for 2	
GDA T-shirt	S M L XL XXL	\$18 ea.	

PAYMENT INFORMATION:

☐ Credit Card ☐ VISA ☐ Mastercard ☐ Discover Expiration Date: ____/____/____

Card Number: _____

Signature: _____

☐ Check (Please make your check payable to Guide Dogs of America.)

Name _____

Telephone Number (____) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Shipping and Handling

TOTAL ENCLOSED:

Your purchases help support the work of Guide Dogs of America. THANK YOU!

*Shipping & Handling CARDS

1 package	Add \$3
2-4 packages	Add \$6
5-10 packages	Add \$8
10 or more packages	Call GDA at (818) 362-5834, ext. 310 for custom rate.

QUESTIONS? CALL (818) 362-5834, EXT. 310.

Puppy Corner

We're proud to announce that this fall brought some new yellow and black Lab puppies to the GDA family who will soon be going home with puppy raisers. If you'd like to be a puppy raiser for one of these future guide dogs and live on the west coast, please call Louise Henderson at (818) 362-5834, ext. 234.

9/13/05—2 yellow Labrador puppies

9/12/05—12 yellow & black Labrador puppies

9/23/05--- 7 yellow & black Labrador puppies.



GUIDE DOGS OF AMERICA

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2006 Events at GDA

Visit our campus during 2006 and enjoy these special events.



Open House

- Saturday, June 10

held outdoors and begin promptly at 10:00 a.m.

Graduations

Watch our new teams of blind students and guide dogs begin their lives together. Graduations are

- Sunday, February 5
- Sunday, April 30
- Sunday, July 22

Ride for Guides

- Sunday, May 21

TAKING A PAWS FOR THANKS

- Rita Marchi is using her talent with knitting needles to raise money for GDA. The adorable sweaters she knits are for sale at the Three Dog Bakery in Phoenix, AZ. The owner of the bakery, Sandra Caldwell, and Rita agreed to send all the proceeds to GDA. Some dogs are enjoying their snuggly sweaters and GDA is grateful to these two creative women.
- Erin Powley, of Girl Scout Troop #54 presented us with 4 "GDA Speaker Kits" to help GDA representatives with the talks they give to classes of school children. Each small rolling suitcase contains: 4 harnesses for kids trust walks, 4 blindfolds, 4 simulation glasses, 25 Braille cards, GDA brochures, GDA Video, contents list, harness walk instructions and other suggested activities. With her 'good deed,' Erin earned her Girl Scout Silver Award.

Special Events

Hundreds of members of the IAM&AW and other puppy-loving friends sponsored some fun and successful fund raising events for GDA this past fall. Many thanks for their efforts and commitment to GDA!

August

- IAM&AW District Lodge #55—Darian, IL —Charitable Summer Slam Golf Tournament

September

- IAM&AW Local Lodge #1747—Connecticut Chapter—Hawgs For Dogs Motorcycle Ride
- IAM&AW District Lodge #24—Portland, OR—Golf Tournament
- NC Chapter —Hawgs For Dogs Motorcycle Ride
- IAM&AW District Lodge #15—New York—Servisair/GlobeGround Golf Tournament

In addition to the many friends who make regular contributions by mail and payroll deduction, GDA is grateful to those who conduct special events or donate goods or services to help us carry out our work.

- IAM&AW Eastern Territory Bike Show—Ocean City, MD
- Kentucky State Council of Machinists Golf Tournament and 1st Annual Skeet Shoot

October

- New Horizons Retirees Club—Folsom, CA —Sacramento Classic Car Show
- IAM&AW District Lodge #837—St. Louis, MO —Golf Tournament
- West Coast Hawgs for Dogs Motorcycle Ride—Bay Area, CA
- Guide Dogs of America Foundation Bowl-A-Thon—Canoga Park, CA



**Happy
Holidays!**
from GDA

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