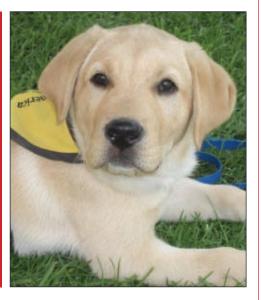
# CFC PLEDGE CARD



GUIDE DOGS OF AMERICA

13445 Glenoaks Blvd. Sylmar, CA 91342 NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID

VAN NUYS, CA
PERMIT NO. 190

You know what your pet means to you; now imagine what this future guide dog will mean to a blind person.

Please designate #1807 on your CFC pledge card. Your CFC contribution helps us breed, raise, and train extraordinary guide dogs. These intelligent dogs are provided free-of-charge and offer trustworthy assistance and companionship to visually-impaired men and women as they strive to live their lives to the fullest.

"I would like you all to know how you have changed my life. I have had my guide dog for two years and in that short period of time I have accomplished so many things I might not have been able to do without him. I lived in another state for four months, I travel independently, I work full time, and live a very happy, independent, and successful life thanks to all of you!" MELISSA BARRY, GRADUATE



HO-HO-HO-HOLIDAY CARDS FROM GDA

Start your Christmas shopping early by purchasing GDA's cards. These full-color cards (5" x 7") feature a holiday lights border, an adorable original photo, and a clever greeting on the front of the card. Price for this year's GDA Christmas card is \$20 for a pack of 15 cards with envelopes. See "Order Form" to the right for additional information.

Outside message: Merry Chris-Moose and Hoppy New Year

**Inside message:** Seasons Greeting

## **GDA Christmas Cards ORDER FORM**

Pack of 15 cards with envelopes \$20 \$

**Shipping & Handling:** 1 pack is \$4.00, 2-4 packs is \$5.00, 5 or more, please call GDA at (818) 833-6429

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$

Credit Card (check one) UISA MasterCard Discover

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_
Card Number:

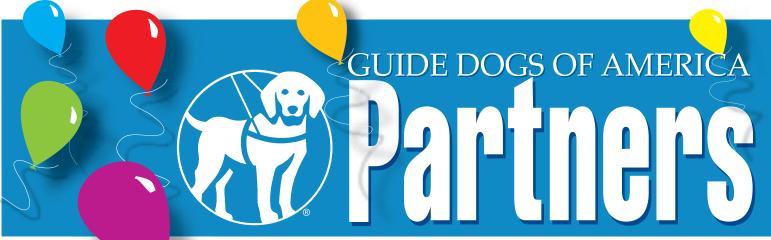
Signature: (required for credit card purchase)

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

Mail to: Guide Dogs of America , ATTN: Fall Order Form

13445 Glenoaks Blvd., Sylmar, CA 91342

Or use the enclosed envelope.



fall 2007 volume 22 number 3

## GDA STAYS IN STEP WITH 3<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL PARABE OF PARTNERS

## FRIENDS OF GDA ARE THE FEATURE STORY IN THIS SPECIAL ISSUE OF PARTNERS



Throughout the year in our newsletter we often mention how it would not be possible for GDA to carry out its mission without the dedication and generosity of our many volunteers and supporters. And, as you will read in the pages of this very special issue of Partners honoring the friends of GDA, their numbers are many. In fact, we wish that we could name them all. In addition to the names listed here, we would also like to thank the numerous families, individuals, and organizations that have volunteered their time, made monetary donations, or designated GDA in charitable giving programs.

In our 3rd Annual Parade of Partners we again honor those whose commitment during the past fiscal year (July 1, 2006 - June 30, 2007) has helped support GDA in many ways. There are those of you we see regularly at GDA and our events whom we have the opportunity to thank in person; and others who keep us close in their hearts even though they live far away. This edition of the newsletter is our way of expressing our deep appreciation to each and every one of you.

"Without your generous donations of time, sharing of resources, and decisions to choose GDA as the recipient of your financial contributions, the school could not exist," said GDA President Jay Bormann. "Every year we graduate between 40 and 50 guide dog teams at an approximate cost of \$40,000 per team. We do this without any government support and at no cost to our graduates. It is an achievement of which I am both very proud and very grateful."

For many of you this newsletter may be the only regular contact you have with GDA. Therefore, with each issue, it is our goal to bring the spirit of the school to you through feature articles, profiles, and updates that we hope you find informative, educational, and interesting.

When we updated the look of our newsletter last Fall,

"Parade of Partners" continued on the next page >



The Kovaric Pavilion, built in loving memory of the work of Puppy Raiser Brian Kovaric, is just one example of how GDA benefits from the generosity of our extended family. The new facility was dedicated at our Open House on June 9. See the story on page 2.

## LAND HO! GDA DROPS ANCHOR FOR PIRATES AND PUPPIES AT 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE With All Hands (and Paws) On Deck It Was Smooth Sailing at the Day-long Event

Nearly one thousand guests, more than 140 puppies and puppy raisers, and our many wonderful volunteers set sail on a fun-filled day of "Puppies & Pirates" — the theme of this year's Open House, which was held on June 9.

Puppies-in-training navigated a treacherous sea of distractions in the puppy trials. Landlubbers sought treasure at the silent auction. And several brave souls climbed about the "ARRRF," a pirate ship that had run aground on the GDA campus, to have their photo taken.

By day's end there was a new captain at the helm of the ARRRF, which was part of the silent auction. Mark New and his wife Tammy were named Captain and First Mate, respectively, and took home the ultimate Pirate's "boaty" as the successful bidders. The couple, who also are puppy raisers for GDA, should have no problem keeping the ARRRF ship-shape as they are certainly accustomed to swabbing the poop deck.

During the day, a "paws" was taken from the festivities to dedicate a new structure on the GDA campus - The Kovaric Pavilion. Built in loving memory of the work of Puppy Raiser Brian Kovaric by his parents, The Kovaric Pavilion fills a great need on our campus. The beautiful new Pavilion provides a covered, outdoor area for our students to enjoy while in class and also serves as an additional area to use during GDA on-campus events.

Open House is an adventure every year and this year was no different. We hope to see you all again next year when GDA celebrates its 60th anniversary!









## PARADE OF PARTNERS continued from pg. 1...

we also looked at ways to give you a greater understanding of how much your support means to our school and, ultimately, to our graduates. Now, as we begin to plan each issue we pose a question to the graduates, giving them the opportunity to tell you in their own words what having a guide dog means to them. In preparing this issue, we invited our graduates to help us honor you and encouraged them to take this opportunity to share with all those who support GDA something special he or she would like to tell you by answering the following, "I would like you all to know that..." Some of their heartfelt responses appear throughout this newsletter.

It is with great pride and sincere gratitude that we present our 3rd Annual Parade of Partners to express how thankful we are to our many friends.

If we have inadvertently left off your name from any of the lists or you would like to know how to be included in next year's Parade of Partners issue, contact Lorri Bernson at (818) 833-6431 or e-mail lmbernson@guidedogsofamerica.org.



## IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO LEND A PAW...

This issue of the GDA newsletter is dedicated to thanking our "Partners" for their generous donations of time, energy, and resources. Without receiving government funding, it is your gifts that support and enable the fulfillment of our mission to provide loyal and loving guide dogs free-of-charge to blind and visually impaired individuals to help them live more independently.

To learn how you can become involved in our mission, please visit the "How to Help" section of the GDA homepage, www.guidedogsofamerica.org, send an e-mail to mail@guidedogsofamerica.org, or contact GDA at (818)362-5834 for more information.





Published by:

## **Guide Dogs of America**

13445 Glenoaks Blvd. Sylmar, CA 91342 (818) 362-5834 • FAX: (818) 362-6870

### E-MAIL

mail@guidedogsofamerica.org

### WEBSITE

www.guidedogsofamerica.org

## **EDITOR**

Lorri Bernson

## **CONTRIBUTORS**

Jay Bormann Rhonda Bissell Meri Forman Louise Henderson Debbie Sands

## **NEW EMPLOYEES**

Please join us in welcoming to the GDA staff:

**Chuck Jordan** - Director of Programs (We are delighted to welcome Chuck as a returning employee of GDA.)

**Annmarie Esposito -** Apprentice Trainer (*Annmarie was previously a Full-time Kennel Tech, and has recently joined the Training Department.*)

## **CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!**



## **Class #355**

GRADUATES from LEFT to RIGHT (Puppy Raiser in parenthesis): Marc Alpern & Kamran (MaryEvelyn Deets), Kiyo Molkentine & Raisin (Cara Candish), Diane Bettencourt & Danica (The Muir Family), Suzanne Allee & Ciarra (Judith & Alix Billson), Tiffany Kim & Lara (Mary Watts), Lora Ray & Farisi (The Houchen Family), Gary Simmons & Tango (Kate & Chuck Lancaster)

IN-HOME GRADUATE (NOT PICTURED) Riley Williams & **Nevada** (Laura & Katie Christiansen)

INSTRUCTORS standing LEFT to RIGHT: Chuck Jordan, Dave Ponce, Patty Elizondo, Annmarie Esposito

"When I started using a guide dog for mobility, I felt confident enough to travel all across the country and in the city. I was hesitant to travel on my own at first, but once I had a helping paw I felt ready to travel the world! I love having a guide dog! Thank you!" SUSIE HALVERSON, GRADUATE

"I want you all to know that my 8-year-old guide dog has taken on another job. She now considers herself my low blood sugar warning dog. When my sugar gets low she jumps on me and runs back and forth to my husband. Amazing what these dogs pick up!" PATRICIA LA FRANCE-WOLF, GRADUATE

## IN MEMORY

We note with sadness the passing of the following members of the GDA family:

## **Guide Dogs**

Josie – Class #310 Kirsi – Class #313 Odyssey – Class #307 Pismo – Class #332 Vince – In-home Training

> Breeder Hannah

"I would like you to know that the puppy raiser couple who raised my guide dog did a remarkable job. They continue to work unselfishly, raising puppies and giving their time, energy, and hearts to GDA. I love and thank them both for all that they have done for me and continue to do for GDA."

JEANNIE GREEN, GRADUATE

"I would like for you to know that I appreciate all you've done for the school, the dogs and for me! This team is truly grateful...'cause without you, it just ain't happening."

LIZ CONEJO DANIELS, GRADUATE

## **EVERYDAY WAYS TO GIVE TO GDA**

Our thanks to all of you who make a donation to GDA when you shop at participating grocery stores and use your club card. By registering your card (details follow) and designating GDA, a percentage of your total grocery bill is donated to the school every time you shop. Important information about renewing your commitment to GDA, as well as how to register your club card, is provided below.

## Renew Your Ralph's Club Card Retail Partnership as of September 1, 2007

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you that a change was made to the Ralph's Club Card program. This change requires annual renewal of your card and GDA as your designated charity. The next one-year term begins September 1, 2007. Those of you who previously registered your card, as well as anyone wishing to participate in the program, will need to register your Ralph's Club Card online (www.ralphs.com). From the Ralph's home page, click on "Community Contributions," then click "Sign Up" in the participant box and provide the requested information. We will remind you again next year when it's time to re-register your card.

## **New This Year! Food 4 Less**

You can also support GDA when you shop at Food 4 Less. To participate in the Food 4 Less Community Rewards program, register your Food 4 Less Rewards card online at www.food4less1.com and click on "Community Rewards," then click "Sign Up" in the participant box and provide the requested information. This is a one-time registration and does not require annual renewal.

## And, If You "Prefer" Shopping at Albertsons...

...you can register your Albertsons Preferred Savings Card (available at any local Albertsons) and designate GDA as your charity of choice. GDA will continue as your designated charity for as long as you have the card. There are two ways to register: online or by telephone. To register online: From the GDA home page (www.guidedogsofamerica.org) click on "Albertsons Community Partners," and fill out the registration form. For registration by telephone, call GDA at (818) 833-6438. You will be asked to leave a voice message with the following information: your name, telephone number, and the 11 digit number on the back of the card, beginning with "42." Once you register your card, every time you shop at Albertsons show your card to the cashier before the order is tendered. The amount of the purchase is automatically recorded and a percentage of the sale is credited to our fund.

If you've been "searching" for a new way to give to GDA, look no further than Goodsearch.com and Amazon.com. Read on to learn how easy it is to get started.

## With Goodsearch.Com Your Donation to GDA is Just a Click Away

By simply setting your internet search engine to GoodSearch.com, every time you search online you will be making a donation to GDA. It's powered by Yahoo!, so you are guaranteed high-quality results. To get started, visit: www.goodsearch.com. On the home page you will be asked, "Who do you GoodSearch for?" Fill in "Guide Dogs of America" and click the "Verify" box. (The search engine will automatically fill in your information for future use following this initial set up.) Next, type in your search request and begin earning money for GDA. We hope you will use GoodSearch.com as your main search engine and share this information with your friends and family.

## An Amazon-ly Easy Way to Support GDA

Amazon makes it incredibly easy to shop for yourself and others, while simultaneously contributing to GDA. Simply log on to our site (www.guidedogsofamerica.org), click on the Amazon logo, and shop away! A percentage of your purchase will automatically be donated to GDA.

## TAKING A PAWS FOR THANKS.

While much of the work that goes into the making of a guide dog team takes place at the GDA campus, our work would not be possible without the many individuals and organizations that generously support the school as well as the continuous support of the IAM&AW and its dedicated members. Every donation we receive—whether it's a payroll deduction, regular contribution, or fundraising event—helps to fund the costs associated with the day-to-day operation of the school. We are exceptionally grateful to all of you.

**SPECIAL EVENTS** Fundraising events from which all proceeds are donated to GDA are held throughout the year and around the country. We extend a very special thank you to all those who organized these events as well as to those who contributed to the events' success as volunteers or participants.

## **JANUARY**

ullet Shi Town Teardown — Local Lodge 701- **Chicago, IL** 

## **APRII**

- Annual Spring "Fun" Car Show Los Angeles, CA
- Local F Solidarity Bowl Seattle, WA
- Guide Dog Golf Tournament Cleveland, TN

## MAY

- Annual Flight for Sight Fun Run and Walk Everett, WA
- 2nd Annual Four Man Scramble Golf Tournament York, PA
- Pennsylvania State Council of Machinists Golf Tournament

## HINF

- Iowa Hawgs for Dogs **Dubuque**, **Iowa**
- Local 1297 16th Annual Ride for the Guides **Ashland, OH**
- District Lodge 751 5th Annual Puppy Putt Seattle, WA
- 1st Annual Guide Dog Dash Portland, OR

## JULY

- Kansas City 1st Annual Local Lodge 778 Ride for GDA
- Local C 16th Annual Golf Tournament Maple Valley, WA
- Local E 4th Annual Horseshoe Tournament Seattle, WA
- District Lodge 160 Run for the Dog **Tacoma, WA**
- Local 63 Annual Picnic Portland, OR

## **AUGUST**

- GDAF Annual Golf Tournament Calabasas, CA
- 7th Annual Minnesota Chapter John Massetti Memorial Golf Tournament
- IAM&AW District 15 Local Lodge 447
   Charles W. Foley Memorial Golf Tournament Northborough, MA
- Connecticut, Rhode Island and West Massachusetts Chapter Annual Golf Tournament
- 23rd Annual Michael J. Day Memorial Golf Tournament Oakland, CA



## OF PARTNER





## PUPPY SPONSORS A Priceless Gift

Families, individuals, businesses, schools, and private organizations that have generously donated \$4,000 make up our list of Puppy Sponsors. Their donations provide for the care of a dog from breeding until approximately 18 months of age. Quarterly updates from the school as well as the puppy raiser keep the sponsors apprised of their puppies' progress.

We also would like to thank our Newborn Litter Sponsors, each of which has donated \$2,500 to cover the cost of breeding, delivery, and all expenses for one litter up to seven weeks of age as well as our Newborn Puppy Sponsors, whose donation of \$1,000 covers the cost of breeding and delivery for one puppy. In addition to being presented with a certificate acknowledging their donation, Newborn Litter Sponsors receive a photo of the mother and her litter and Newborn Puppy Sponsors receive a photo of their puppy. An enthusiastic wag of the puppy tail to all our Puppy Sponsors for their role in providing the resources to support our puppies on their journey toward their life's work as guide dogs.

If you would like to become a GDA Puppy Sponsor, please call Debbie Sands at (818) 833-6433.

Please note: The names that appear on this list indicate those individuals, families, and organizations who became Puppy Sponsors during this past GDA fiscal year (July 1, 2006 - June 30, 2007).

GDA PUPPY SPONSORS	DOG
Accenture	Brisco
Daughters of Penelope	Ella
Steve & Jackie Gettleman	Harley, Blitz
IAM&AW – District Lodge 8	Nightly
Judith A. Kaplan	Nidia
Lilia Kogan	Virtue
Ron McCue	
Mike's Tree & Spray Service	
D. Max Reid	
Run for the Dogs Assn	
Sepulveda Building Materials	Epcot
Hayley Sherer	MacGyver
Mr. & Mrs. Greg Shortell Dal	las, Brandon
Simi Boots & Slippers	
Square Dance Club	
Macki Singer	Phoebe
Stephen S. Wise Temple Elementar	y
School - Class of '06	
Beau W. & Wendy J. Ward Sa	alem, Rincon
Anonymous Sponsored Puppies:	
Boone, Stuart, Sawyer, Memphis,	Tori, Oceana,
Rocco, Biscuit	,



## NEWBORN PUPPY **SPONSORS**

R. Brooks E. Callahan Encino Women's Club Judith A. Kaplan B. Kaufman C. Mertens Mr. & Mrs. M. Miller Sepulveda Building Materials B. Starr World Savings

## **NEWBORN LITTER SPONSOR**

Anonymous Donor (1)



## **BREEDING DOG FAMILIES**

## A Breed Apart

GDA's breeding dogs directly contribute to the future of our school by continuing blood lines that breed the physical and mental characteristics best suited to the work of a guide dog. We thank our breeding dog families whose commitment to our program and dedication to keeping our breeder dogs healthy, happy, and safe ensures future generations of guides.

For information about our Breeding Program, please contact Meri Forman at (818) 833-6461.

*Please note: The names that appear on this list indicate those* families with newly-designated breeding dogs during this past GDA fiscal year (July 1, 2006 - June 30, 2007).

BREEDING DOG FAMILIES	DOG
Terry & Ray Crawford	Beacon
Maggie Domico	Malibu
JoAnn & Brian Hulse	Sawyer
Nancy Joyce	Tucker
Tammy & Mark New	Darla
Lissa Primack	

Wende, Tom & Alyssa Roy	Maci
Karen & Joe Ruiz	Kandy
Melanie Ruiz	. Winicka
Mindy & Nick Sharp	Roxy
Tracy & Jeff Stansfield	Willa
Karen & Byron Warloe	Molly



## PARADE OF PARTNERS



## **PUPPY RAISERS**

## Pawsitive Praise!

Even though our puppy raisers don't think of what they do as a job, we recognize that raising a puppy is a lot of work. It takes tremendous dedication to the program, a commitment of their time, and can be a test of patience and perseverance. Finally, puppy raisers exhibit an enormous amount of selflessness that can only be attributed to loving what they do and knowing they are making a difference. Opening their homes and their lives for a year-and-ahalf to our puppies-in-training, our puppy raisers know that the dog they have been committed to and grown to love will return to GDA to begin formal training for the job it was born to do. We would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge our puppy raisers and extend our most sincere gratitude to the many individuals and families who take our puppies into their homes and their hearts.

For information about becoming a puppy raiser, visit the GDA web site, www.guidedogsofamerica.org, and click on "Puppy Raising" or call Louise Henderson at (818) 833-6441.

Please note: The names that appear on this list include only those puppy raisers with whom a puppy-in-training was placed in their home during this past GDA fiscal year (July 1, 2006 - June 30, 2007).

PUPPY RAISER	DOG
Alan & Beverly Adams	Mac
Theresa Arriola	Georgia
August Attalla	
Nancy Ayers	
Linda Barber	
Steve & Ann Barklow	
Dawn Beckley	
The Behringer Family	
Paul & Ann Benya	
Carolyn Berger	
The Beydler Family	
Dave & Barbara Bixby	
Mary Bouvier	
Nadine Braudaway	
The Brimberry Family	
Denise Brown	
Jim & Teri Buch	
Jamie & Lynnell Caldwell	
Dana Carter	
Rick & Kathy Chavez	
Georgia Childs	Weeko
Laura & Katie Christensen	Epcot
Clint & Gail Clover	
The Cody Family	
Anita Cohen	
The Collins Family	
)	

## **PARTNERS IN TRUST**

## Leaving a Legacy of Love

When members of the Partners in Trust Society place GDA in their wills, trusts, and life insurance policies, they ensure that their support of GDA reaches beyond their lifetime. We are deeply grateful to all those who have thoughtfully named GDA in their estate plans, in any amount, and honored that they have chosen GDA to be a part of their legacy.

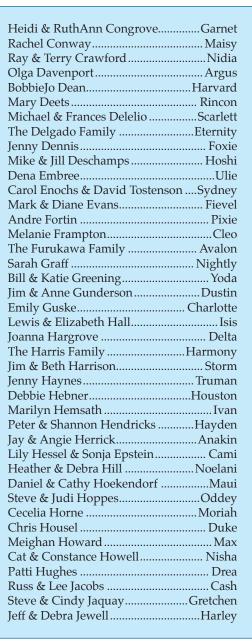
Please note: The names that appear on this list indicate those individuals who have included GDA in their estate plans during this past GDA fiscal year (July 1, 2006 - June 30, 2007).

Anonymous (7) Margo Adams Janice Baxter Irene Brown Living Trust Diane D. Bruce Lynn Buckley Carole Horton Anastasia Maniskas Matthiessen Family Trust Vicki McGill Virginia Quintana John & Lin Riggs Eugene C. Schneider Karen Q. Smith Dr. Jonathan Wilson Mark and Sharon Winters The following friends have left us, and long into the future their intentions will be at work helping GDA to breed, raise, and train guide dogs:

The Buzun Trust
Lorne DeBeau
Jo Gilbert Living Trust
Dolores Martin Trust
McKnight Living Trust
Barbara J. Mignone Estate
Ruth H. Person Trust
Kathy Phillips
Mary K. Phillips
Judith A. Schmidt
Vera C. Seiler Trust
Margaret Straw Living Trust
Norma C. Strohmeier







Amy Johnson	Scylla
Naomi Jost	
Glyn Judson	
Bill & Judy Kerler	Kendric
Jennifer & Catelyn Kindred	Marlo
Chuck & Pat King	
Laurie King	Yasmin
Cheryl Koalska & Ken Price	Pace
Judy Kovaric	
Cheri LaGrotta	
Gail Leonard	
Cara Levin	
Juliana Lima & Louis Galdino	
Lily Lo	
Mike Maas	
Ellen Makenna	
Morris & Kathy Makshanoff	
Scott Mann	Woody
Judy & Jacqueline Manzer	
Erika Martinson	Dakarai
Christina McDonald & Blake P	into Hessa
Emalee McKenzie	Tia
Jeff & Karen McKenzie	Kosmo
Lisa & Sue Miller	Nala
The Miller Family	Litany
Lori Montigel	Keely
Colby Morita	Stetson
Doug & Chandra Morton	Koko
Rick Muir	
Tammy Muir	Circe
Debra & Shannon Murphy	Unity
Kasey & Kristie NashJ	aylie & Blitz
The Nath Family	DeeJay
Mark & Tammy New	
Gene & Monique Newman	
Paul & Diane Niesen	
Ken & Tina Nilsson	
The O'Gorman Family	
The Oppenheim Family	Ringo
Jeff & Melissa Orenstein	
	Hazel

Connie & Rachel Peters	Dallas
Kristin PittSawyer	& Memphis
Nancy Polites	Naomi
David & Deborah Prough	Pilar
Tom & Judy Reilly	Rica
Butch & Karen Reyburn	Biff
The Riggall Family	Pascal
Nancy & Lindsay Robb	Phoebe
Carrie Robinson	Hayes
Steve & Beth Rogers	Lazlo
Renee Salvatore	
Kayla Sample	Yoshi
Joe & Janet Scavo	
Gunther & Jo Schiff	
Michael & Vicki Shea	
Bob & Yvette Sheehan	
Linda Simpson	
Katie Smith	
Andrea Staudinger	
Bob & Kathy Stegemann	Ella
Sandy Steinblums	Tori
Kimi Stultz	
Peter & Sarah Sutro	
Peter & Jane Szondy	
Kimi Tanji	
Don & Rita Tayenaka	Izzy
John & Elise Thompson	Orlando
Matt & Amy Toussaint	Tai
Sherry & Laura Uroff	Suki
Cindy Valancius	
Alan & Alyson Verchick	
Kim Vohs & Betsy Daglish	
Monique Waddell	
Emily Wallace	
Cory & Kari Weber	
Joan Webster	
Joanna Wilkinson	
Wendy Wolf	
Autumn Wren	Billow
Robin Wynslow	
John Yee	Lennie

## Become a Member of the Partners in Trust Society

Just as blind men and women partner with GDA's remarkable dogs for more independence and mobility, generous friends and supporters partner with GDA to help us carry out our work. Become a member of the Partners in Trust Society by naming GDA in your will or trust and receive this beautiful, crystal biscuit jar.



Please call Rhonda Bissell at (818) 833-6432 for more information.



Partners in Trust Society member Mary Dumont with "Tyler."

