TO WIN

Make Sure to Buy A “WAD” of Tickets

Susan Renwick had never won anything before last year’s Open House raffle for A Day With The Trainers. But the idea of spending a day seeing how the puppies she has raised for GDA get trained was so exciting to her that she bought quite a few tickets. She won’t say just how many. “Let’s just say it was a ‘wad’” Susan insists.

It must have been a good size wad, or else Susan was simply destined to win because her name was picked not once, but twice. Since Susan couldn’t win twice, another ticket was pulled, which made Lori Montigel a winner, too.

Susan has previously raised three black lab puppies for GDA and is now sharing her home with a fourth, Emmet. She admits to having a thing for black labs, as proven by a house full of black lab knick knacks.

Like all Puppy Raisers, Susan has a hard time giving up her puppies, but she says the satisfaction of knowing that they will help people who are blind outweighs her loss. Still, she wanted to see, firsthand, how her puppies are treated, and how they get turned into guide dogs. That’s why she wanted so much to win A Day With The Trainers.

By the end of their special day in October, Susan and Lori had a new appreciation for what GDA does and the incredible talents and dedication of the dogs.

“I always wondered about the puppies I’ve raised. Are they happy? Are they getting the extra love I gave them? The answer is an absolute YES! The dogs have a blast!

“The trainers told me, ‘You can’t make the dogs do this job. They have to want to.’ The love and patience the trainers give to our pups is amazing. In a romping mix of 18 black and yellow labs that I couldn’t tell apart, the trainers knew each dog by sight.

“On the day we were there, we took five pups to be given their final blindfold test, where a trainer in a blindfold walks with the dog on city streets. We drove to Santa Monica and parked the vans in a shady spot. As the dogs were taken on their training, Lori and I walked about 15 feet behind with Bob Wendler, Director of Training. Each dog walked both sides of Wilshire Boulevard and crossed the street. Along the way, the pups were given lots of love and praise.

“One pup was clearly nervous about crossing Wilshire and needed a little reassurance at each curb. Bob told us that didn’t mean the dog wouldn’t be a great guide dog, but that he wouldn’t match it with someone who lived in a major city.

“When another dog was making the route, a car came speeding down an alley. The pup made a halt so fast that we all had to cheer. It gives me goosebumps just to remember.

“When the trainers offered me a chance to walk blindfolded with a dog, I jumped at it. I was

continued on page 2
amazed at how confident I felt moving with the dog. At one point, one of the trainers told me that I was about to be pulled to the left because the dog was going to clear a bush. The pull was so gradual I was barely aware of it. When we came to a curb, the dog stopped so solidly that I halted without hesitation.

“I find it hard to find the words to describe this experience. I felt so confident, trusting and secure. Our pups are capable of amazing things.”

“At the end of the day, we went back to GDA, where the hardworking puppies were given time to play on agility equipment and in pools of water. We and they had so much fun that we couldn’t even get the group together for a picture.

“Lori and I walked away from this day with a full heart, sore feet, and a greater appreciation of the Love and Patience our trainers give to these dogs day after day.

“It made me even prouder to be a part of the GDA family!”

Because this first Day With the Trainers was so successful, we are repeating it again this year. Be sure to enter the special raffle at our Open House on June 7 (see page 6). And if you want to win, Susan’s advice is to buy a “wad” of tickets. “It was worth it a hundred times over!”

Mothers and Daughters Team for GDA

The San Fernando Chapter of the National Charity League, an organization of mothers and daughters, held its 37th annual Charity Ball last November. Fourteen young women (pictured above) were honored for their philanthropic commitment to their community. The mothers and daughters, for the past 16 years, have generously raised funds and volunteered hours of their time for the benefit of GDA.

Congratulations to this year’s National Charity League debutantes and their proud mothers. We appreciate your support of GDA!
**WISH LIST**

We're wishing and hoping that some of our friends will be able to donate:

- **NEW FULL SIZE REFRIGERATOR** with an ice maker
- **THOMAS GUIDE** street map guides for San Diego, Ventura, Orange County, and San Bernadino
- **STERILIZED BONES**, small to large size, flavored and plain
- **LITTLE TYKES STEP 2 BIG SPLASH CENTER** swimming pool, need 4-8
- **PRIVACY TARPS**
- **SHADE COVERS** (Billet Barn)
- **DIGITAL CAMERA** and 128mg card
- **PORTABLE GENERATOR** to keep heaters operating in puppy nursery in an emergency
- **STORAGE SHED** (Tuff Shed)
- **LABRADOR WALL CLOCK**
- **TOY BOX FOR PUPPY TOYS**
- **THERAPET PIPE DREAMS** PET BED large size
- **4-TRACK TAPE PLAYERS** for the student dorm
- **ELECTRIC SLICER** for dorm kitchen
- **SMALL ENTERTAINMENT CENTER** for dorm lobby
- **NEW BLANKETS** for the kennel
- **LAMINATOR** for the puppy department
- **DOG TOYS** especially Jolly Balls with holes, rawhides

**SPECIAL WISH LIST FROM OUR VETERINARY DEPARTMENT**

- **SURGICAL PACKS** (5 needed)
- **ORTHOPEDIC BEDS** for recovery/surgery
- **HEATED SURGICAL TABLE**
- **CENTRIFUGE**
- **VETERINARY THERMOMETER**
- **OTOSCOPE**
- **XRAY PROCESSOR**

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**Guide Dog Calendar**

Your GDA dog could be featured in our 2004 Guide Dog Calendar. Just send us your favorite photo of your GDA dog (GDA puppies, working guide dogs, working teams, or retired dogs). The best photos tend to be dark dogs on light backgrounds, or light dogs on dark backgrounds. Photos must be in very sharp focus.

The deadline to turn in pictures is April 10, 2003. Please be sure to write the name of any dogs, puppies, and people in the photo and mail it to GDA, Attention: Photo Contest, 13445 Glenoaks Blvd., Sylmar, CA 91342. Call Rachel at (818) 362-5834, ext. 225 for more information. All photos become property of GDA and cannot be returned, so be sure to keep your favorite print and send us a duplicate. Please, prints from negatives only, no digital or scanned photos. If your dog was featured in the 2003 calendar, your photo for 2004 will be considered for the collage only.

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**Meeting A Puppy in Training**

Because it's so important that our future guide-dogs-to-be are exposed to many different situations, we encourage Puppy Raisers to take their pups with them wherever they go. So while you're out and about, you might see a GDA dog wearing a yellow puppy-in-training jacket. It's always fun to see the little guys at the mall or the bank or the supermarket, and it's important for the pups to learn how to greet people when they're on the job, so feel free to say hello. But please remember a few rules:

- Always ask the Puppy Raiser before approaching the dog, and don't interrupt if the Puppy Raiser is in the process of training.
- One of the most important rules our puppies have to learn is to remain calm when greeting new friends. This means sitting or lying down with all four paws on the floor. No jumping, licking, or nipping.
- Please don't feed a GDA puppy. Diet and feeding times are strictly monitored to maintain good health and reliable relieving schedules.

By following these few rules, you can avoid interference, and you just might help in training a future guide dog. Thanks!
Become A Walking Billboard For Your Favorite Breed And Help GDA

Show the world your favorite dogs, by buying one of our high-quality “favorite breed” tee-shirts. Each shirt is hand dyed and made of 100% minimal-shrinkage cotton.

Be sure to indicate the correct item, quantity, and size of shirt(s) desired. Shirts are available only in the color shown. Due to individual hand-dying, there may be slight variations in color and size. Adult sizes up to XL - $20. Sizes XXL and XXXL - $22. Children’s sizes - $13.

**BREED TEE-SHIRT ORDER FORM**

Name ___________________________________________ Phone (_____) _____________________

Address ________________________________________________________________________________

City ___________________________________________ State __________ ZIP __________

**Do Not Mail Your Order to GDA.**

Make checks payable to Teri Chang and mail them to her at:
19360 Rinaldi St, #229
Northridge, CA 91326

<table>
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*If ordering more than two shirts, please call Teri or Cherry at 818-362-5834, ext. 309 for special shipping rate.

Pick-up at GDA Yes No

Shipping (add $5 for one or two shirts)*

**TOTAL**
Graduation Day

Class #336
Front row, graduates and guide dogs from left to right: Gene O’Hearn and Nickel, Hector De Leon and Schooner, Paul Leung and Amber, Susie Halverson and Joy, Juan Pena and Doron, Debbie Kalfin and Mojo, Bill Schley and Benny, Ralph Botello and Dusty, Santiago Martinez and Fenix, Mark Hanohano and Houston. Instructors (back row) left to right: Steve Burkman, Kris Schmidt, Bob Wendler.

Puppy Raisers:
Nickel—The Schlitt Family
Schooner—Kathy & Jerry Zechmeister
Amber—The Sander Family
Joy—The Vaughan Family
Doron—The Muir Family
Mojo—The Grondahl Family
Benny—John Barletta
Dusty—Ann Close & Liz Caporelli
Fenix—Erika Sparks
Houston—Brett Loutensock

Class #337
Front row, graduates and guide dogs from left to right: Larry Barbee and Presley, Twyla Cruz and Lucas, Norma Reyes and Vickie, Carmen Woodyear and Cheyenne, Ed Elliott and Erin (refresher). Instructors (back row) left to right: Yvonne Martin, Jessica Alfenito.

Puppy Raisers: Presley—Jeanette & Blaine Humbert;
Lucas—Elin & Burt Pittler; Vickie—Laurie King;
Cheyenne—Sherry, Jim & Amy Miller

In-home Graduates (not pictured)
Bob Acosta and Arlo (puppy raiser—Kathy Tallant & Art Richardson); Christy Crespin and Fila (puppy raiser—The Snyder Family); Bob Humbert and Haven (puppy raiser—The Coyle Family)

Whether you want to see guide dogs in action up close, share good food and fun with other GDA supporters, or just get some great deals in our Silent Auction, you won’t want to miss our ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE, June 7th from 11 AM to 4 PM at the GDA campus in Sylmar, CA. Our theme this year is Safari, so if you’ve got a pith helmet and a Crocodile Hunter get-up, or just want to wear a pair of shorts and pretend, come and join us. And bring the family.

There will be guide dog demonstrations, our famous Puppy Trial competition, a great silent auction, craft displays, pet-related merchandise booths, great barbecue food, raffles, and more. And entry is free for all.

If you have items to donate for our Silent Auction, or if you want to volunteer to help out, please call Cherry Teter at 818-342-4952.
Your Chance To Join The Winners

When ticket #6558 was drawn last October, a wonderful quilt created and donated to GDA by the Orange County Quilt Guild found a new home with raffle winners Mr. & Mrs. Frieband of Oak Park, Calif.

If you want to enter this year’s quilt raffle, watch for information this summer. But if you’ve got that raffle itch, and can’t wait, we have two more for you.

Take a chance on this beautiful Cross-Stitched Portrait of beautiful GDA dogs, hand-made and donated by Kathie Stegemann. Tickets are $2 each or $6 for ten.

Take a chance on spending A Day With The Trainers and help us train a guide dog. The winner must be in the southern California area and be able to work with the trainers and dogs in the streets around the greater Los Angeles area. Tickets are $5 each or $20 for five.

Send your check (made payable to GDA) for your raffle tickets to the address below. Make sure you specify the raffle you’re entering and include your name, address and telephone number.

Rachel Utiger, Guide Dogs of America, 13445 Glenoaks Boulevard, Sylmar, CA 91342

A Star Is Born And Trained

Two years ago, Animal Planet’s show That’s My Baby filmed one of GDA’s litters being born. The pups were all instant celebrities, but one stood out from the rest. According to his Puppy Raiser, Sheila Harvey, yellow lab Vaughn was a perfect puppy. When he came back to GDA at 17 months, he aced all his guide dog training. In fact, he was so good, our trainers selected him to join our stud dogs. He truly was born to be a star!

In Memory

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

- Graduate Ray Cohen - Class #295
- Guide Dog “Taylor” - Class #296
- Guide Dog Zeus - Class #303
- Graduate Betty Pfeifer - Class #320
To have a good time in Las Vegas, you couldn’t have picked a surer bet than our Annual Winpisinger Charity Banquet and Golf Tournament in November. Nearly 1,000 guests spent a wonderful evening of fine dining and companionship. We also had a great day on the links with our Annual Golf Tournament. There were some great shots, and some not so great, but everyone had a good time and the competition was both friendly and fierce. The weekend also included a roaring Hawgs for Dogs Run that ended in Las Vegas. To top it all off, we broke our fundraising record set in 2001. Our sincere thanks to all who helped us hit the jackpot with this fabulous event!

Gift of Sight Award Winners

Jay Bormann, GDA President (far left) and Tom Buffenbarger, IAM International President (far right) congratulate the “Gift of Sight” award winners, Dan Sass (second from left) and Jeffrey Bleustein (second from right).

As always, a highlight of our Las Vegas weekend is the awarding of our “Gift of Sight” awards. This year’s winners were Jeffrey L. Bleustein and Dan Sass.

Jeffrey L. Bleustein

Since the first Hawgs for Dogs Run over 13 years ago, the connection between GDA and Harley-Davidson has been one of mutual affection. And half of Harley-Davidson's employees are members of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, the union that created GDA more than 50 years ago. So its fitting that one of this year’s “Gift of Sight” award winners is Jeffrey L. Bleustein, Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Harley-Davidson, Inc., headquartered in Milwaukee, WI. Under Jeffrey’s leadership, Harley-Davidson has not only revived and strengthened the mystique of the famed motorcycle, but also made major technological innovations that have brought the Harley tradi-

Annual Vegas Golf Tournament

Jay Bormann, GDA President (second from right) is joined by some fellow golfers and GDA supporters for an afternoon of camaraderie and friendly competition on the links to raise funds for GDA.

Jay Bormann, GDA President (far left) and Tom Buffenbarger, IAM International President (far right) congratulate the “Gift of Sight” award winners, Dan Sass (second from left) and Jeffrey Bleustein (second from right).

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR GOLF TOURNAMENT SPONSORS

McMorgan & Company
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Aeltus Investment Management

REFRESHMENT SPONSORS

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Excalibor Advisors

PRIZE SPONSORS

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IAM & AW Local 63
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IAM & AW Local 2740
Aetna Inc.
Trust Fund Advisors
Investment Performance Services

Las Vegas Hawgs for Dogs Run

To coincide with the annual GDA event in Las Vegas, Mark Browne, President of the GDA Nevada Chapter organized the very successful 3rd Annual Hawgs for Dogs Run. Sixty-one Harleys rode through the streets of Vegas (and beyond) to raise funds for GDA.
The Kids Are Gone  
But The Pups Remain

Dave and Sharon Majewski started raising puppies for GDA 20 years ago so they'd have dogs in the house for their kids, but wouldn't get left with a dog when the kids were grown. Well, 24 puppies later, the kids are grown and have kids of their own, but the puppies remain. In fact, Sharon and Dave have become so expert at raising GDA puppies that they lead not one but two Puppy Raiser groups for GDA. Their Sightseers group has recruited Puppy Raisers from Vancouver, WA and Portland, OR and currently is raising 10 puppies for GDA. Their Sea-Tac Guide Dog group, centered on Seattle, WA, has another 7 future guide dogs.

In addition to GDA puppies, Sharon and Dave share their home with dogs Neeka, Blaise, and Brolin. We want to express our special thanks to Sharon and Dave for all they’ve done for GDA.

**The Puppy Corner**

This winter brought three new litters to the GDA family. Congratulations to their parents, to the puppy breeding staff, and to the Puppy Raisers who'll soon be taking these beautiful babies home.

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<th>Breed</th>
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<tr>
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<td>4</td>
<td>11/5/02</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>11/18/02</td>
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If you’d like to be a Puppy Raiser to one of these future guide dogs and live on the west coast, please call Louise Henderson at (818) 362-5834, ext. 234.

**Staying Up-To-Date With What’s Happening At GDA**

For the most accurate, up-to-date information on upcoming events at GDA, including puppy raiser meetings, fundraising events, and graduations, you’ll find our calendar on the internet at www.guidedogsofamerica.org/calendar.html.

The puppy raisers of the Sea-Tac Group from Seattle, WA enjoy an outing with their future guide dogs.

*The Sightseers* of Vancouver, WA and Portland, OR with their GDA puppies-in-training.