

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!



Class #362

GRADUATES from LEFT to RIGHT
(Puppy Raisers in parentheses): Petr Kucheryavvy & Tiga (*The English Family*), Bonnie Lyon & Maverick (*The Johnson Family*), Kristi Stone & Noole (*Steve & Judi Hoppes*), Olivia Ostergaard & Fenway (*The Jarvis Family*), Don Sorensen & Garrett (*Katie Cooper*), Elizabeth Rene & Alvin (*Joan Webster*), Deb Solmonson & Jet (*The Monroe Family*), Kristi Kovach & Gus (*The Meyer Family*), Kathy McCullough & Whitney (*Don & Barbara Bixby*), Bobby Arnold & Nico (*Chuck & Kate Lancaster*)

IN-HOME GRADUATE (not pictured):
Vicky Bishop – Gigi (*Bob & Moira Wunderlich*)

INSTRUCTORS standing L to R: Linda Hawes,
Patty Elizondo, Joanna Wilkinson, Steve Burkman



GUIDE DOGS
OF AMERICA

13445 Glenoaks Blvd.
Sylmar, CA 91342

 113

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE

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VAN NUYS, CA
PERMIT NO. 190

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO LEND A PAW...

In this issue of the GDA newsletter we are committed to recognizing our "Partners" for the time, energy and resources they contribute to support GDA and its mission: *To provide loyal and loving guide dogs free of charge to blind and visually impaired individuals.* GDA does not receive any government funding, and could not continue to fulfill its mission without your generous support.

For more information about how you can become involved in our mission, please visit the "How to Help" section of the GDA website, www.guidedogsofamerica.org, or contact us via e-mail, mail@guidedogsofamerica.org, or by phone (818) 362-5834.

"I first took Venus' harness in January 2005. A myriad of emotions came over me: excitement, fear, trepidation. Finally, I felt independence and freedom! I felt that we could go anywhere together!"

— Jeannie Green

"I was scared, nervous, happy and excited all in the space of a heartbeat. Then I was feeling exhilarated over the sense of new found confidence as I let my guide dog, Escort, lead the way to greater independence."

— Adam Lawrence

"The day I put my dog in harness was joyful because of my new independence. At the same time it was a little frightening. I needed to put my trust in my new guide; I didn't trust my cane, so trusting my new guide was enlightening."

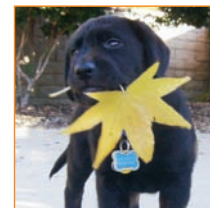
— Patty Sarchi

CFC PLEDGE CARD

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

Please designate #11873 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.



Partners
newsletter

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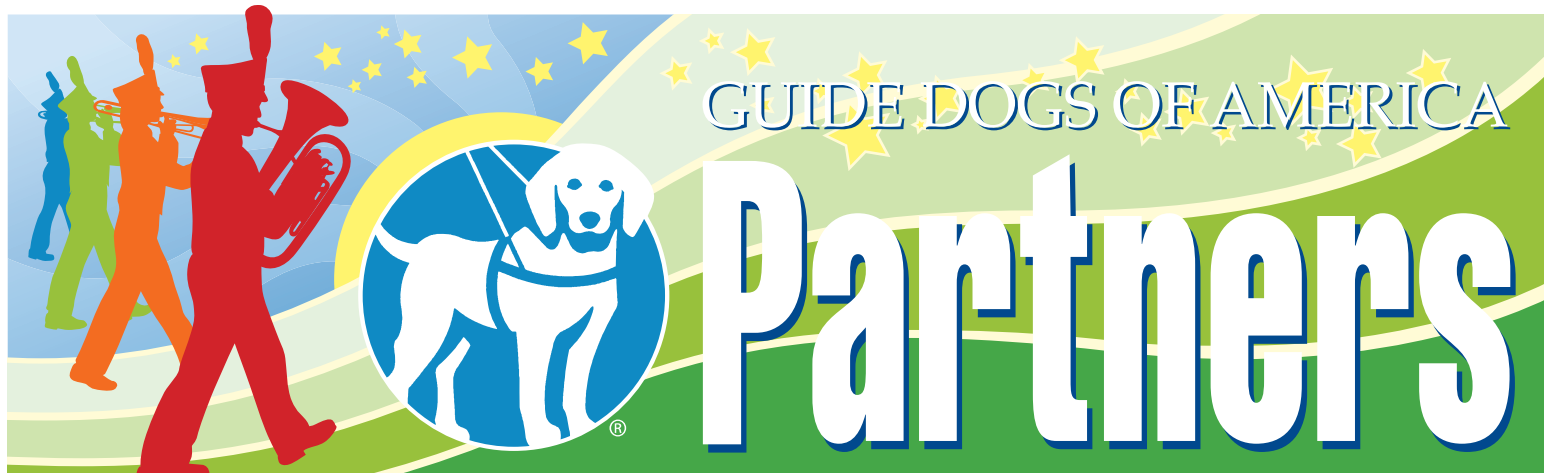
Jay Bormann

Rhonda Bissell

Meri Forman

Louise Henderson

Debbie Sands



GUIDE DOGS OF AMERICA

Partners

fall 2009 volume 24 number 3

STRIKE UP THE BAND AND START THE BIG PARADE

“Seventy six trombones led the big parade, with a hundred and ten cornets close at hand...” And so goes the familiar lyrics from “The Music Man.” This issue of Partners celebrates GDA’s “big” parade with our 5th Annual Parade of Partners, an annual tradition that gives us the opportunity to celebrate and thank the many donors and volunteers who give generously in support of our school.

Our “Parade” honors those individuals, families and organizations whose support during this past fiscal year (July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009) has helped GDA in countless ways. Every year GDA President Jay Bormann is struck with gratitude as he reads the hundreds of names on the lists and he feels incredibly fortunate to have so many generous and loyal supporters.

“We graduate approximately 50 guide dog teams a year at a cost of nearly \$40,000 per team or \$2 million a year. We do this at no cost to our graduates and without any government funding. This achievement is made possible only by the monetary donations we receive and the innumerable hours our dedicated volunteers spend, which we can only count as priceless,” said Bormann. “I continue to be overwhelmed by the generosity of those that donate their time, share their resources and make the decision to support GDA.”

Parade of Partners is our once-a-year opportunity to publicly thank all of our donors and volunteers and express our heartfelt gratitude. Throughout the year we have the opportunity to thank many of you in person, but not everyone. Whether you live close to the school and visit often or you are thousands of miles away, we hope that each issue brings you closer to GDA as you learn about the various departments within our school and the people that make our program so successful, news of on-campus improvements made possible by our donors and volunteers, helpful information about caring for your dog from our veterinary staff, and hear directly from the graduates about what their guide dogs mean to them... and much more!

In addition to the names included on the lists in this newsletter, we also would like to thank the numerous families, individuals and organizations that have made donations of money or time, or designated GDA in charitable giving programs.

If we have inadvertently left off your name from any of the lists or if you would like to find out how to be included in next year’s Parade of Partners, contact Lorri Bernson at lbarnson@guidedogsofamerica.org, or call (818) 833-6431.

“BIG Parade” listings begin on page 3 >

VET’S CORNER SEE SPOT RUN...AND WALK, FETCH AND PLAY Daily Exercise Will Keep Your Dog Healthy and Happy



Exercise is as important for your dog as it is for you and it is one of the best ways to spend time with your dog. Not only is it fun, it helps keep your pet and you healthy. Exercise offers the same benefits to canines as it does for people: tones muscles, helps prevent obesity, strengthens the cardiovascular system, strengthens bones, improves sleep, improves mood, enhances mental alertness and promotes health. Outdoor exercise also provides socialization opportunities for your dog and you.

At GDA we see how happy our dogs are when they are working and active. The same is

“Vet’s Corner” continued on page 3 >

Our students feel different emotions the first time they take harness in hand whether it is their first guide dog or their fifth. We asked our graduates to share with us what that moment was like by responding to the following question:
How did you feel the first time you walked with your new guide dog in harness?
Their answers appear throughout the newsletter.

OPEN HOUSE

Sports Day at GDA

It was a grand slam, hole-in-one, slam dunk, goal scoring, extra point great day as a record number of GDA fans gathered to celebrate "Sports Day at GDA" at this year's Open House.

Everyone had a sporting good time as they cheered on the puppies-in-training that competed in the puppy trials, took their "licks" at the kissing booth, or enjoyed a leisurely time-out on the grounds. Everyone – especially GDA – was a winner. We hope you enjoy the team photos on this page that captured the events of the day. Go Team GDA!



This puppy-in-training avoided a "penalty" by keeping his head in the game during the puppy trials.



Showing their "team work" – puppy raisers with their puppies-in-training.



A GDA All Star "strikes" a pose.



Fans took their "licks."



Sleepy pup goes "down for the count."



Taking "time out" for a team photo.

Mission Statement

Guide Dogs of America is dedicated to its mission to provide guide dogs and instruction in their use, free of charge, to blind and visually impaired men and women from the United States and Canada so that they may continue to pursue their goals with increased mobility and independence.

“Vet’s Corner” continued from page 1...

true for your family pet. Exactly how much exercise your dog needs will vary based on his age and breed. A two-year-old dog may need two daily walks while a ten-year-old dog may only need a stroll up the street.

If regular exercise is new to your dog or if you want to introduce him to a more high-energy form of exercise such as hiking hills, jogging or swimming, visit the vet first. If your dog is overweight it’s time for a doggy diet and more exercise. Before you get started, be sure to take the following into consideration:

Ease into it – It’s best to ease into any new activity to avoid injury or over-exertion that may sideline your dog. Start out easy and build up week by week.

Take the “Routine” out of Your Exercise Routine – There are many activities to do with your dog while getting your exercise at the same time. Try walking, running or hiking with your dog and see how much better you feel. Play fetch with a ball or disc. If you want to try something more challenging for both of you, consider agility classes.

Dog Tired – Your dog will try to keep up with you – it’s in their nature to do so – but it can lead to overexertion. Signs of overexertion include: heavy panting, wheezing, lameness and slowing or stopping to lie down during activities.

When the Weather Outside is Stormy – ...or hot, you will need to adjust your exercise routine. Take the weather seriously, especially in the heat when you should limit your dog’s exercise to early morning or evening. Throughout the day make sure fresh water is always available. Covering your dog’s paws with booties can protect his pads from pavement made too hot from the sun. In snowy weather, check your dog’s foot pads and between his toes for ice. You don’t want to be a fair-weather exerciser, so it’s important to be aware that weather conditions can affect your dog’s energy level and endurance.

Bone-us Benefit – A tired dog is a well-behaved dog. Making sure your dog has enough exercise every day is an effective way to prevent dogs from developing and engaging in destructive or hyperactive behaviors.

Involving your dog in different physical activities will ensure he works a wider range of muscles. Exercise also presents a daily opportunity for him to have a positive bonding experience with you.

“When the actual time came that I held Chanel’s harness the first time, I felt awe that she was really mine. I also felt proud to have been chosen and thankful for the gift of a guide dog. Each time I take her out now, I appreciate anew what she’s added to my life. Thank you, GDA!” — Mary Kay Heid

AN APPRENTICE “GRADUATES”



Join us in congratulating Patty Elizondo. Upon completing her three-year apprenticeship, Patty took and passed the State Board tests, officially “graduating” from apprentice to licensed guide dog instructor. Great job, Patty!

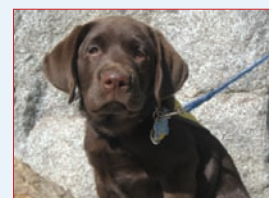
“That was so very long ago, but if memory serves me (as it usually does so well), the feeling was indescribably exhilarating; something along the line of walking on air and feeling confident about it.”

— Liz Daniels

“BIG Parade” continued from page 1...

PARTNERS IN TRUST

Putting Their “Trust” in GDA



By thoughtfully naming GDA in their wills, trusts and life insurance policies, the members of the Partners in Trust Society ensure that their support of GDA will continue for years to come. We are forever grateful to them for remembering GDA in their estate plans – in any amount – and we are honored 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, 2008 - June 30, 2009).

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Anonymous (4) | Gloria Trelles Ripple |
| Barbara Blake | Roberto G. & Mary Jane Rodriguez |
| Alfredo & Tamara Bon | Marilyn H. Rogers |
| Chuck & Debbie Dudley | Estate of Phyllis G. Rosenthal |
| Natalie Ferlisi | Bob & Kathie Stegemann |
| Cindee Marshall | Bobbie Weller |
| Jeffrey & Melissa Orenstein | Lisa M. Yeager |
| Lynn Pere | |

The following friends have left us, and long into the future their intentions will be at work helping GDA to breed, raise and train dogs:

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Harold Adler | Marie C. Gallo |
| Virginia J. Baptiste | George R. & Alyce M. Hook |
| The B.U.M. Trust | The Lander Family Trust |
| Howard W. Coan | Elizabeth McManigill |
| Mrs. D. Vernon Dillon | George D. & Ruth F. Ritter |
| Mary W. Ferges | Rosalie M. Shaffer |
| Ann Freeman | |

For additional information about becoming a Partner in Trust, call Rhonda Bissell at (818) 833-6432.

“BIG Parade” listings continue on page 4 >



PUPPY RAISERS

Praise and Thanks for the Puppy Raisers

Our puppy raisers take “paws” to praise their puppies-in-training when they do a “good job” and now it’s our turn to thank and praise them for the incredible job they do raising our future guide dogs. These volunteers take our puppies into their hearts and homes at eight-weeks of age when they are all paws and jaws. For the next 16–18 months they teach their puppies basic obedience and socialization. These remarkable individuals and families dedicate themselves to the GDA program with their commitment to the puppy raiser program. Even more remarkable is that they do so knowing that the puppy they have 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 thank – with the deepest gratitude – our many puppy raisers for providing an excellent foundation for our puppies before sending them “off to school.”



Richard Abrams & Cheryl Luman... Eli
 George & Delores Bandow Wyatt
 The Barger Family Bianca
 Steve & Ann Barklow Lojack
 The Behringer Family Cosmo
 Jeff & Rebecca Biging Troy
 Mary Bouvier Vonnie
 Jeff & Suzanne Breaw Kendra
 Laura Brennan Leila
 Patrice Brockway Tyler
 Jerry & Sydney Cain Thunder
 Carrie Carmichael Jenna
 Grace Casale Lily
 The Chavez Family Polo
 Ruth-Anna & Heidi Congrove... Charity
 Rachel Conway Cari
 Bill & Marcia Crandall Wailea
 Ray & Terry Crawford Harriet
 The Crizer Family Lena
 Chuck & Pat Czuleger Kip
 Joann Dallas & Frank Traficante ... Rico
 The Davis-Johnson Family Todd
 The Delgado Family Luka
 Jenny Dennis Nash
 Susie Edwards Victor
 Karlen English Jennarae
 Sonja Epstein & Lily Hessel Gemini
 David & Donna Fernandez Bridget
 Tom Fisher & Pax Tisdale Griff
 Melanie Frampton Harper
 The Fredriks Family Simba
 Joah Freiheit Val
 The Freiman Family Purdue
 The Fujishige Family Wheely
 Kay Fulton Amos
 Judi Gomez & Miguel Ola Teddy
 Grace Grindall Oreo
 Liz Grover Kai

The Guske Family Kenley
 Emily Guske Christy
 Lewis & Elizabeth Hall Watson
 Shelly & Sheila Harvey Loman
 The Hildebrand Family Cadence
 Dick & Nina Hirsch Ginger
 Barbara Hiser & Craig Ridenour... Wiki
 Chris Housel Mark
 Marty & Judy Husted Mandy
 The Jackson Family Moby
 Russ & Lee Jacobs Sydney
 Roger & Sheila James WayVer
 Steve & Cindy Jaquay Wrangler
 The Jarvis Family Jace
 The Jewell Family Colby
 Mike & Dawn Johnson Seuss
 Glyn Judson Jack
 Cheryl Koalska & Ken Price Prescott
 Rich & Peggy Kollen Blessing
 Steve & Carol Kopman Nora
 John & MaryLou Kozub Lyndi
 Cheri LaGrotta Hailey
 Chuck & Kate Lancaster Rio
 The Leffler Family Obi
 Dixie Lewis Anya
 Phil & Cathy Lichtenberger Joncee
 The Lockman Family Rusty
 Tina Lockwood Winter
 Brett Loutensock Truman
 The Loveman-Sherer Family ShyLee
 The Lusk Family Crusoe
 Thomas & Emalee MacKenzie .. Norman
 Morris & Cathy Makshanoff Brian
 The Manzer Family Lefty
 Michael & Ronnie Mayer Karson
 Dylan & Julie McHale Nugent
 Trish McKay Angus
 Dave & Pam McKenzie Brea

The McNamee Family April
 Cindy Miller George
 The Monroe Family Jenga
 Rick Muir Hercules
 Kasey Nash Carley
 Mark & Tammy New Palmer
 Sha Newman Bob
 The Niessen Family Josie
 Ken & Denise Nowack Ajax
 The O’Gorman Family Beacon
 Aki & Setsu Okada Biwa
 The Oppenheim Family Ryder
 Jeff & Melissa Orenstein Remington
 Joan Passovoy Kasen
 The Petersen Family Carbon
 The Prince Family Jaci
 David & Deborah Prough Vinca
 The Puntar Family Max
 The Rawding Family Crystal
 Roger & Luz Reyes Pax
 Art Richardson & Kathy Tallant... Brisco
 The Robb Family Suzy
 Gary & Stephanie Ruggerone... Ventana
 Anne Sanguinetti Viva
 Bill & Grace Scully Sulley
 Christine Shen Penny
 The Shibata Family Aragon
 Ele & Diana Snyder Viigo
 Sandy Steinblums Sammie
 The Stevens Family... Madison & Annie
 Gregg & Janet Strenk Aleigha
 Don & Rita Tayenaka Nellie
 Matt & Amy Toussaint Bronx
 Leonard & Barbara Tramonte... Mickey
 Chantelle Tucker Nickie
 Dale & Rachel Utiger Cricket
 Cindy Valancius Kendall
 Nancy Ward Trevor
 The Wette Family Mikah & Westin
 Brian & Tina White Naina
 Bob & Moira Wunderlich... Nika & Catlin
 The Yancosck Family Spock

For information about becoming a puppy raiser, visit the GDA website, 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, 2008 - June 30, 2009).

PUPPY SPONSORS

Puppy Patrons

We would like to thank all of our puppy loving families, individuals, businesses, schools and private organizations that make up our Puppy Sponsors list. Their generous donations help to support our puppies on their journey toward their life's work as guide dogs.

Guide Dog Team Sponsors have made a donation of \$38,000, which covers all expenses of both the guide dog and the student. By making a donation of \$19,000, our **Guide Dog Sponsors** have covered the cost of the formal training for one of our guide dogs. **Individual Puppy Sponsors** have each donated \$4,000 to support the breeding and care of one puppy until approximately 18 months of age. **Newborn Litter Sponsors** have made a donation of \$2,500. These funds cover the cost of breeding, delivery and additional expenses for one litter up to seven weeks of age. **Newborn Puppy Sponsors** cover the cost of the breeding and delivery of one puppy with their \$1,000 donation.

If you would like to become a GDA Puppy Sponsor, please call Debbie Sands at (818) 833-6433 or email her at dsands@guidedogsofamerica.org.

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, 2008 - June 30, 2009).

BREEDING DOG FAMILIES

A Rare Breed – GDA's Breeding Dog Families

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 guide dogs.

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, 2008 - June 30, 2009).

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------|
| Robert & Melinda Bernhardt..... | Velvet |
| Gary & Jan Brady | Kelly |
| Jack & Jacque Butler..... | Wish |
| Georgia Childs..... | Weeko |
| Charlie & Sally Coons..... | Wasabi |
| Mark & Andi Cupp..... | Jaeger |
| Nancy Feldman | Julie |
| Donna Giguere | Ella |
| Graham & Louise Henderson | Cassie |
| Brian & Joann Hulse | Tagg |
| Roxann Jay | Ella |
| Patricia Kampmann | Neva |
| Mike Maas | Winnie |
| Scott Mann | Woody |
| Scott & Lisa Ogden | Edison |
| Joanna Wilkinson | Camry |



Newborn Puppy Sponsors - \$1,000

Ms. Sharon Buck
 Mike & Kim Connors
 Encino Women's Club
 Mrs. Eleanor Hughes
 Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Kidushim
 The Massari Family
 Ms. Karly McKeeman
 Mr. Benny Russo
 Mrs. Minnie Russo
 Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Turner

Newborn Litter Sponsors - \$2,500

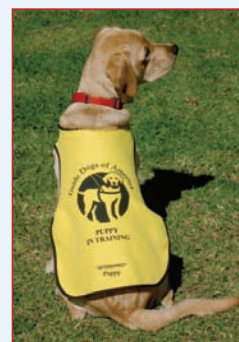
Mr. Richard Bencivengo
 Keith & Janice Bleuer
 Mr. Robert Brkich, Robert Brkich Construction Co.
 Ms. Connie Kling & Mr. Jim Barlett
 Casey Scott & Jennifer Scott, Scott Wealth Management Co.
 of Wachovia Securities

Individual Puppy Sponsors - \$4,000

| | |
|---|---------------------------|
| Accenture | Brisco |
| Ms. Connie Kling & Mr. Jim Barlett..... | Bridget |
| In Memory of Janice Bleuer | Karson |
| Culver City Rotary | Jack |
| Ms. Bernardine Daskoff..... | Teddy, Josie |
| Steve & Jackie Gettleman | Thunder, Remington, Colby |
| Mr. Drew Herron & Mr. Ryan Rhodes | Polo, Mickey |
| Ms. Judith Kaplan | Blessing |
| Dr. & Mrs. Joseph Sidikaro | Seuss |
| I.A.M. & A.W. District Lodge 8 | Aleigha |
| I.A.M. & A.W. Local 2297 | Joncee |
| I.A.M. & A.W. Local 912 | Kendra |
| La Canada Elementary School | Sammie |
| Mr. & Mrs. Phil Lichtenberger..... | Vonnie |
| Mr. & Mrs. Larry Klein | Ryder |
| Mr. & Mrs. Richard Mader..... | Lyndi |
| Mrs. Wally Milton | George |
| National Charity League, San Fernando Valley Chapter | Nellie |
| Mark & Tammy New | Truman |
| Ramona Rebekah Lodge #156 | Watson |
| Sepulveda Building Materials | Todd |
| Simi Valley Boots & Slippers Square Dance Club | Jenna |
| Mrs. Maxine Singer | Mikah |
| Vons Company | Vinca, Westin |
| The Zepezauer Family | Suzu |
| Anonymous..... | Kendall, Jaci |

Guide Dog Sponsor - \$19,000

Mr. Paul Morton, Morton Management, LLC



Guide Dog Team Sponsors - \$38,000

I.A.M. & A.W. Local 743 in partnership
 with Hamilton Sundstrand-UTC
 Harley Davidson Foundation
 Mrs. Olive Kemp
 LaFetra Foundation
 The Sharon D. Lund Foundation
 The Ray & Fran Stark Foundation
 Mr. & Mrs. Michael Tennenbaum,
 Tennenbaum Capital Partners, LLC

2009 GDA HOLIDAY CARDS

Come and get 'em!

Three adorable "haute" dogs in chef's hats have cooked up a special greeting for you to share with friends and family this holiday season. There are 15 (5 x 7) cards with envelopes in each pack. Cost is \$15 plus shipping & handling (\$4.95 for 1-3 packs); 4+ packs call GDA for current postal rate.



Inside message: "Our holiday dinner is ready the season for loving others"

MERCHANDISE ORDER FORM

Questions? Call (818) 833-6429.

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 2009 GDA Holiday Cards | \$15 per box (15 cards) |
| Quantity of box(es) | Subtotal \$ |
| Shipping & Handling | \$ |
| | Subtotal \$ |
| TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ | |

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
Phone _____

Credit Card (check one) VISA 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: *Holiday Card Order Form*
13445 Glenoaks Blvd., Sylmar, CA 91342 **Or use the enclosed envelope.**

"With my first guide dog, Vann, it was like being released to fly free. It was so very emotional. With my second guide dog, Houston, it was exactly the same. The joy is in getting to re-experience that wonderful feeling." — Stacey Dunton

EVERYDAY AND EASY WAYS TO MAKE A DONATION TO GDA

We thank all of you who choose to contribute to GDA by shopping at participating grocery stores with your club cards. By registering your cards (details follow) and designating GDA, a percentage of your total grocery bill is donated to the school every time you shop. The following provides important instructions about how to register your club card to begin or renew your commitment to GDA.

Ralphs rewards and Food 4 Less "Community Rewards"

To donate to GDA via Ralphs rewards or the Food 4 Less "Community Rewards" programs, call GDA at (818) 833-6438 to request a letter. On the letter there will be a "scanbar" code. Bring the letter and your rewards card to the store; present both items at check-out. When the cashier scans the letter along with your store rewards card you will be linked to GDA and a percentage of all future purchases will be donated to the school.

We will include a reminder to register your Ralphs rewards card again next year as the program requires that you re-register your card every September. The Food 4 Less program does not require re-registration.

Albertsons Preferred Savings Card

If Albertsons is your preferred grocery store you can obtain an Albertsons Preferred Savings Card at any of their stores. To enroll in the "Community Partners Program" and designate Guide Dogs of America as your charity of choice, call the Albertsons Preferred Savings phone number at (800) 696-6419. You will be asked for your card number and the GDA identification number: 49000120532. Show your card to the cashier every time you shop at Albertsons.

The amount of the purchase will be automatically recorded and a percentage of the sale credited to the GDA fund.

Journey to Independence Begins with a Round-trip Ticket

Our GDA students come from all over the United States and Canada, which means for many of them their 28-day training at the school begins and ends on an airplane. GDA is able to cover 100% of all students' travel expenses, including airline tickets, by purchasing their tickets using frequent flyer miles on United Airlines that have been donated to the school.

If you or someone you know have unused miles with United Airlines' Mileage Plus program, they can be donated directly to GDA to help support our program.

To donate your miles, have your account number ready and contact United Mileage Plus Customer Service at (800) 421-4655.

Call GDA at (818) 833-6432 for more information.

Amazon

Amazon.com isn't only for books and music – you can buy most anything, including items for your home and garden, clothing, toys and electronics. To purchase items, and give to GDA at the same time, log on to the GDA website (www.guidedogsofamerica.org), click on the Amazon logo, and start shopping! A percentage of your total purchase will be automatically donated to GDA. That's what we call a great deal!

ANNUAL BIKE RAFFLE – SUPPORT OUR DOGS FOR A CHANCE TO WIN A 2009 “HAWG”

Customized Harley-Davidson FLHX Street Glide



There will be no mistaking where your loyalty lies when you ride up on this one-of-a-kind customized GDA Harley-Davidson FLHX Street Glide. The vibrant GDA blue and black bike was custom painted by Donnie Smith and features a stunning collage of three breeds – Labrador Retriever, Golden Retriever and German Shepherd – on the fender. On the gas tank is an eye-catching rendering of the GDA logo stylized with added wings and our trademark “Hawgs for Dogs.” Visit www.guidedogsofamerica.org for more information and photos

Tickets are \$5.00 each or five tickets for \$20.00. Complete and return the order form on this page (postmarked by Nov. 1, 2009) to purchase tickets. Tickets also can be purchased at GDA or from our secure website (www.guidedogsofamerica.org) through Nov. 15, 2009. The winning ticket will be drawn on Nov. 21, 2009 at the Guide Dogs of America Annual Banquet in Las Vegas. (Winner need not be present to claim prize.)

PATCHWORK OF PUPPIES 2009 QUILT RAFFLE

A beautiful and colorful handmade, patchwork quilt has been donated to GDA by the Santa Clarita Valley Quilt Guild for our annual fundraising raffle. Every square is a work of art. The gorgeous quilt measures 93" X 104" and features playful puppies in every square. The quilt is accented with a paw print border.



Purchase tickets using the order form on this page and mailing it to GDA postmarked by Dec. 1, 2009. The cost per ticket is \$2.00 or \$10.00 for a book of six tickets. The drawing will be held at the GDA December Puppy Raiser meeting on Dec. 12, 2009. Winner does not need to be present. For more information contact Cag Granet at (818) 833-6447.



RAFFLE TICKETS Order Form

Questions? Call (818) 833-6429.

Mail this entire form with your payment. Please note the deadline dates for the raffle ticket purchases to ensure your eligibility.

QUILT RAFFLE

To be eligible entry must be postmarked by December 1, 2009.

Ticket Price: 1 ticket for \$2.00 or 6 tickets for \$10.00. QTY \$

CUSTOMIZED HARLEY-DAVIDSON FLHX STREET GLIDE

To be eligible entry must be postmarked by November 1, 2009.

Ticket Price: 1 ticket for \$5.00 or 5 tickets for \$20.00. QTY \$

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____

Credit Card (check one) VISA 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: Raffle Tickets Order Form
13445 Glenoaks Blvd., Sylmar, CA 91342 **Or use the enclosed envelope.**

NEW EMPLOYEES

Please join us in welcoming to the GDA staff:
Jennifer Woodward – Registered Vet Tech

And join us in congratulating:

Sean Chiles – Apprentice
Sean was working in the Kennel Department and began his apprenticeship this past May.

IN MEMORY

With sadness we note the passing of the following guide dogs for their dedication to ensuring the safety and independence of their partners:

Brandy – Class #333

Edith – Class #317

Embery – Class #305

Gidget — In-home training

Jazz — Class #315