Tips For Motorists
The Top Ten Tips of What Motorists Shouldn’t Do When They See a Blind Person
Read more on pg. 14

“Bandit fills the sight gaps and makes me feel whole and confident.”
Read more on pg. 2
MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

GREETINGS FROM
GUIDE DOGS OF THE DESERT

“I said to the man who stood at the Gate of the Year, ‘Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown.’ And he replied, ‘Go out into the darkness, and put your hand into the Hand of God. That shall be to you better than a light, and safer than a known way.’” - Mary Louise Haskins

This quote is engraved on a plaque within St. George’s Chapel at Windsor Castle. When I reflected upon it, Guide Dogs of the Desert immediately came to mind - our mission and our students – trained to “grasp and trust the Harness of God” – the equipment a guide dog wears – that, in turn, gives the student the promised light for safe mobility, companionship and freedom.

The miraculous work that transpires from the time the guide dog puppies are born into the breeding program until graduation is attributable to three distinct groups that represent the hand of God:

Our Valued Donors. Guide Dogs of the Desert is totally reliant on private sector funding. It is by the most generous support from the many funders that makes every component of a successful guide dog team possible – from the breeding of the highest quality service dog, to Puppy Raiser classes, ongoing canine medical care, continued education and training for the staff who care and train the dogs for the blind... YOU are the hand of God that gives a safe known way for those we serve, like Robert and Bandit, John and Charlie.

Our Valued Volunteers. This publication holds the names of the volunteers who have given five or more years of service to Guide Dogs of the Desert. The Puppy Raisers, that foster and provide socializing and training the puppies; Area Coordinators who work with our trainers to coordinate the monthly puppy get-togethers; Breeder Keepers for caring for the breeding dogs; Ambassadors – give of their time representing Guide Dogs at events and speaking engagements; and the Administrative/Kennel Volunteers who serve around the campus in a variety of duties. They are the hand of God in the light they provide to the puppies and community.

Our Valued Staff. From Kennel Staff, to the Guide Dog Mobility Trainers, to Directors and Supervisors that oversee the Breeding, Canine Development and Client Training Programs – the Class Chef and Dorm Manager... Administrative and Fundraising Staff that ensures everything is operational and funds are secured for the mission... everyone plays a contributing role and, directly or indirectly, touches the success of each Guide Dog Team that graduates and “goes out into the darkness with their hand on the Harness of God, for light and safety.”

Thank YOU for being the hand of God and for the joy and renewed confidence of mobility that becomes a new way of life for the students when their guide dog safely walks them around unseen obstacles, crossing a busy intersection, and even in their quiet, reciprocal companionship at the end of a busy day. You make a life of mobility possible!

Sarah G. Clapp
Executive Director
As a special education teacher, Robert Roach is more than aware of the trials and tribulations life can offer. Robert is newly retired from teaching at La Quinta High School. After years of helping others throughout his career, Robert decided it was time to reach out for help himself.

Robert visited the Milauskas Eye Institute for one of his many optometry appointments and for the first time considered getting a guide dog of his own. “It was at the Milauskas Eye Institute that I first saw all the puppies they sponsored for Guide Dogs of the Desert, and I decided now is the time to get a guide dog.”

Robert graduated with the May 2018 Guide Dogs of the Desert Class; he was introduced to his new guide dog Bandit, and his life completely changed “Bandit is nicknamed “Heart Bandit,” because he stole my heart as soon as I met him. Bandit fills the sight gaps and makes me feel whole and confident.”

Robert and Bandit’s bond has quickly grown and has even spread to Robert’s horse, Diamond. With the help of Bandit, Robert is able to visit his horse more frequently. There have been new adventures too. Because of Bandit, Robert is now able to travel alone without assistance from family members.

Robert recently went to Texas to visit family. Robert was able to fly to Texas alone with the help of Bandit for the first time—all because of the freedom, confidence, and life-enhancing independence that Bandit, and support from donors like you can provide. Robert said that Bandit was able to navigate through the crowded airport with no problems. “Bandit has been a good model for Guide Dogs of the Desert, he was just awesome on the planes. Special thanks to the puppy raisers and sponsors – I am looking forward to Bandit’s and my many adventures.”
CONGRATULATIONS GRADS

Class of April 7, 2018

(Left to Right) Janet & Kenai, Danielle & Lehmer, Darnice & Gibbs, Anthony & Trish, Joseph & Cooper

Class of May 12, 2018

(Left to Right) Spencer & Wade, Robert & Bandit, Kate & Fosse, Lupe & Arman
SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

CONGRATULATIONS IN-HOME GRADS

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

OUR MOST POPULAR SPONSORSHIP

PUPPY SPONSOR – $5,000*
Covers the expenses for one puppy, from breeding up to 18-20 months old. Name a puppy, receive a certificate and photo, along with updates regarding the puppy’s progress. Invitation to attend Graduation Luncheon and Ceremony.

CARING CANINE FUND - $100
Your gift of $100 or more will help sustain the Canine Emergency Fund for emergency veterinary needs of future guide dogs.

EQUIPMENT SPONSOR – $600
This entry level sponsorship provides the essential equipment, including harness, necessary for a guide dog, throughout its formal training.

NEWBORN PUPPY SPONSOR – $1,000
GDD’s Choice - Receive a certificate and photo of a newborn puppy. Sponsorship covers the cost of breeding and delivery.

LITTER OF PUPPIES SPONSOR – $3,000
GDD’s Choice - Receive a certificate and photo of a mother with her litter of puppies. Sponsorship covers the cost of breeding, delivery and expenses, up to 12 weeks of age.

STUDENT ACCOMMODATION SPONSOR – $5,000*
GDD’s Choice - Provides room and board for one student attending in-residence training. For in-home training, the gift covers the expenses for one licensed trainer.

GUIDE DOG SPONSOR – $10,000*
(Includes Puppy Sponsor benefit of naming a puppy) through its formal training and graduation. Bi-annual updates continue through formal training to placement/graduation. Invitation to attend Graduation Luncheon and Ceremony.

STUDENT SPONSOR – $30,000*
GDD’s Choice - Covers all expenses of a student during their 28 day in-residence training program, including transportation to and from the school. Receive a certificate and photo of the student/guide dog team, and invitation to attend Graduation Luncheon and Ceremony.

TEAM SPONSOR – $40,000*
Includes Puppy, Guide Dog, and Student Sponsor benefits, covers all expenses for both the guide dog and the student, including equipment. Receive a certificate and photo of the student/guide dog team, and invitation to attend Graduation Luncheon, with special recognition given at Graduation Ceremony.

*Puppy, Guide Dog, Student and Team Sponsor opportunities can be pledged over a two-year period of time.
GUIDE DOGS OF THE DESERT BOARD MEMBERS

In June, the Board of Directors elected a new slate of officers to serve a two-year term: Gary Jeandron, Chair; Laurie Kettering, Vice-Chair; Cynthia Woods, Secretary; Darcy McNaboe, Treasurer. Words of appreciation were extended to Dr. Leonard Sigdestad who served as Board Chair from 2016-2018. Under his leadership the Wellness Center retrofit/construction was completed, along with the Puppy Development Center and the solar panel project installed. Special thanks are also extended to Raymond McLean, who served two three-year terms on the Guide Dogs of the Desert Board – 2012 - 2018. Upon joining the Board, Ray quickly became involved in the restructure of the organization and took an active role as chair of the Nominating Committee, served for two years on the Development Committee and provided valuable insight on the Quality Improvement Committee.

Kevin Foster

Kevin Foster is an experienced and innovative global leader frequently recognized by executives and peers for driving organizational performance to new levels. He has over 12 years of Human Resources Operations experience as well as 12 years of Diversity and Inclusion experience. He has a Master of Arts degree in Industrial Organizational Psychology – Cal State University, Sacramento. He is a certified Six Sigma Black Belt, has received the CEO Award for Diversity Council Leader of the Year and has served for eight years on the National United States Business Leadership Network Board, as well as served as a Board of Director for both Telluride Adaptive Sports Program and World Institute of Disability. Kevin is married with one adult son, enjoys the outdoors, also being a former member of the US Paralympics Alpine Ski Team.

Jackie Johnson

Jackie brings boundless energy to Guide Dogs of the Desert, having served as a volunteer Ambassador with Skipper, and as a donor to the organization since 1999. She has a strong background in marketing and public relations in various job roles. Jackie has served on the Beaumont Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and also on the committees for marketing and promotions. She is a member of several Chambers of Commerce throughout the Inland Empire and also a past active member of the Lions Clubs in the Inland Empire.

Jackie is also an advocate and volunteer for American Cancer Society/Relay For Life™ and the Discovery Shop.

Ann Thornton

An avid equestrian, golfer, and photography enthusiast, Ann was first introduced to Guide Dogs of the Desert as a member of the Development Committee and has already hosted a Friendraising event at Bighorn Country Club in Palm Desert. She is a former Account Executive for Orange Coast Magazine, serving in account management and Advertising Sales. Ann’s past volunteer experience includes Southern California Labrador Retriever Rescue, Assistance League of Newport Mesa and Friendship Shelter, Laguna Beach.

In addition to serving on the Development Committee, Ann volunteers at the Palm Springs Animal Shelter. A graduate of California State University, Fullerton, she and Jay have been married since 1984, and have two grown sons living and working in New York City and San Francisco. Ann and Jay share their time between their homes in Palm Desert and Laguna Beach.
FISCAL YEAR HIGHLIGHTS

JULY 1, 2017 - JUNE 30, 2018

- Conducted 5 training classes and graduated 28 guide dog teams
- 11 litters produced over 70 puppies, Labrador Retrievers, and Standard Poodles
- 7 Labrador Retrievers and 3 Standard Poodles were donated into the Breeding Program
- The Doyle Foundation Wellness Center retrofit construction was completed and re-dedicated in November
- Veterinary Medical Board inspected and approved operations for the Wellness Center
- Opened and dedicated the Puppy Development Center
- Solar Project completed, generating over 85% of electrical power, in addition to providing additional shaded parking
- Added new Canine Training Van – thank you RTS Foundation
- Added Canine Enrichment & Play Zones for dogs in-training – thank you Frank M. and Gertrude R. Doyle Foundation
- Turf and shade structure replacement – thank you Betty Evans and Carl Blue
- Ability to track all puppies from birth to graduation with Avi-Mark database – thank you Carl Wynn Foundation
- X-ray unit was upgraded to include digital-com capabilities allowing for timely transmission of films as needed – thank you McBeth Foundation
- Initiated on-campus Puppy Obedience Classes for Puppy Raisers

Jennifer Heggie grew up in the Coachella Valley. Following her graduation from Arizona State University, with a Broadcast Journalism Degree from the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism, Ms. Heggie went on to pursue a career in broadcasting. She first became affiliated with KNIX in Phoenix, Arizona. Her next career move took her to Baltimore, where she was affiliated with 93.1 WPOC, then she joined Sirius XM Radio in Washington, D.C. and WXCY in Delaware. Realizing she wanted to go back to her roots and be closer to her family, Ms. Heggie relocated back to the Coachella Valley in 2009. She joined the management team at the American Cancer Society in Palm Desert, where she was affiliated for 8 years. While there, Jennifer held such positions as Relay for Life Manager, and Senior Market Manager. In 2014, Jennifer won the American Cancer Society Innovation Award for the State of California for implementing a “Relay For Life” event at Wet n’ Wild in Palm Springs. As Senior Market Manager at American Cancer Society, Jennifer worked with the organization’s Board of Directors to develop two new fundraising events, including a “Climb to Conquer Cancer” event encompassing a hike at the Ritz-Carlton in Rancho Mirage, and a “RSVP For Research” event, where an American Cancer Society funded researcher presented the latest cancer breakthroughs to high-end donors within the Coachella Valley that their funds were supporting.

“I am excited to combine my experience in fundraising, sponsorship, and communications with my life-long passion for animals,” stated Heggie.
VALUED DONORS
DONORS OF FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2017 - JUNE 30, 2018

$150,000+
Audrey J. M. Blanchard Estate
Estate of Patricia Rootness

$100,000 - $149,999
Robert L. Armantrout Trust

$50,000 - $99,999
Roger J. and Margaret B. Harmon
The Frank M. and Gertrude R. Doyle Foundation, Inc
Carolyn M. Grimm
The Sharon D. Lund Foundation
Nesbitt Foundation
RTS Family Foundation

$25,000 - $49,000
Albert Agins
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians
The Auen Foundation
Constance Vivian Bowman Trust
Joseph Drown Foundation
The Frank M. and Gertrude R. Doyle Foundation, Inc
Carolyn M. Grimm
The Sharon D. Lund Foundation
The McBeth Foundation
Nesbitt Foundation

$10,000 - $24,999
Harry Allgauser Foundation
John T. and Ruth E. Carey
Desert Classic Charities, Inc.
Dennis M. AND Denise L. Gunnerson
Marilyn J. Gunther
Administrative Trust
Hi Desert Memorial Hospital, Inc.
Dwayne K. and Annette Y. Lewis
Lions Club of El Cajon Valley Host
Steven H. and Yvonne Maloney
Manilow Fund for Health & Hope
Harold B. Matzner and Shellie Reade
Dorothy Milauskas
Palm Springs Marathon Runners
Roadrunners Club
Mary Stuart Rogers Foundation
Salesforce.com, Inc.
E.J. Bill Simpson
Carol Jean Vanderpool Estate
Douglas P. and Sherry Veling
Raymond ‘Gary’ Wood

$5,000 - $9,999
ABS Foundation
Employees Community Fund of Boeing California
Boeing Employee Individual Giving Program
Sharyn R. Brackett
The Champions Volunteer Foundation
Charles and Mildren Schnurmacher Foundation
J. David and Sandi A. Coffer

Delta Gamma Foundation
Desert Regional Medical Center Auxiliary
The Desert Sun
Claudette A. Earl
Elizabeth L. Everett
John M. Gunby and Diana Rittenhouse
Steve and Cindy Harder
Heart of Gold Legacy Foundation, Inc.
Sterling 'Jack' F. Higgins
Jacqueline L. Johnson
Edward H. B. Little
John F. and Pattie Lowey
Stephen W. and Vicki L. Lynes
Shirley Gage Majors
Bill J. and Frances L. Muncy
Sally G. Phinny
David and Molly Pyott Foundation
Dana Nelson Rutledge
Yong Q. Tang
Dr. and Mrs. Charles H. Turner
Vanguard Charitable Endowment Program
Jo Ann Varco
Robert and Valeree Wahler
William E. and Cynthia B. Woods
Ronald A. and Grace Wright
Dr. and Mrs. Douglas A. Ziprick

$1,000 - $4,999
American Legion District 21
American Legion Squadron 519
Anonymous
Augustyn Foundation
Banning Police Department Dispatch
Jane Banta
Joan and Paul Barich
D. Vance Barse
Joy and Bill Beck
Ben & Jerry's/River Scoops
Beulah S. Birr'd
Nancy T. and William B. Blank
Carl A. Blue
Sharon and Frank J. Bouten
Anne and Mark Brady
Peter G. Bukiri and Marilyn Bergstrom
Lorna J. Burckel
Sarah G. and Richard R. Clapp
Hallie and Shannon Clark
Herbert and Darlene Cohen Trust
The Community Foundation
The Rita and Alfred Dann Foundation
Norma and Mike Davis
Desert Oasis Healthcare
Gail C. and Timothy Dick
Clifford F. Iljosa A. Dobler
Joan Dodge
Robert E. Doering
Sally G. and William B. Douglas
Phyllis J. and Wayne L. Duncan
Eisenhower Medical Center
Katherine A. and Eric Ellet
Betty Evans
Andrew Faas and Lee Wells
Eunice and Edgar Fiedler
Filsinger Gallery
Franchesa Forrer
Andre Fortin
Burke W. Francis
Major Rodney and Sylvia Gisi
Debra A. and Robert C. Glaser
Debbie Green
Kenneth Griffin
Marjorie Griffith
Kathleen C. and Patrick D. Guthrie
Michael E. Hamilton
Lisa D. Hansen
Hartnell Law Group
Irvin L. Hendrix
Pauline Barnes Hester
Michelle and Gregory W. Hintz
Brian Hodson and Sharon Romank
Midge E. and Richard A. Hood
Joan M. Ingle
Stacy and Jim Jacob
Ted C. Jarvis and Frederick Briggs
Amy and Gary M. Jeandron
Jewish Federation of Palm Springs
John T. and Suzanne S. Jacobus Family Foundation
Beverly A. and Dale Johnson
Carol J. Kocherhans
Kovler Family Foundation
Charles P. Lagerstrom
Dale C. and Carole Haes Landon
Lincoln Financial Foundation, Inc.
Lions Club of Calimesa Breakfast
Lions Club of Canyon Lake
Lions Club of Colorado Bingo Fnd
Lions Club of El Paso County Tri-Lakes
Lions Club of Grand Terrace
Lions Club of Hillcrest-Mission Valley
Lions Club of La Mesa
Lions Club of Prescott Pancake Breakfast
Lions Club of Spring Valley Lake
Lions Club of Sun Lakes Foundation
Lions Club of Sunset Big Bear Lake
Loma Linda Animal Hospital, Inc.
Lucky Seven Foundation
Carolyn M. and Norman W. Luker
Katherine and Judd Malkin
**DONORS OF FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2017 - JUNE 30, 2018 (CONT.)**

Michael Manning  
Karleen T. Marienthal  
Patricia and Robert M. Marshall  
Laura Mateo  
Bonnie J. and Darrell L. McBride  
Roberta McCall  
Skyler W. and Dawn Front  
McCormick  
Frances and A. James McGinnes  
Linda and Raymond M. McLean  
Rich Moline  
Multi-Pak Corporation  
Lori and Patrick A. Murphy  
Network for Good  
Corinne H. Nevinny  
Desmond Nugent  
Cathy L. and Steven J. Oldaker  
Outdoor Resorts Palm Springs  
L. Melanie Peterson  
Anthony Phillips  
Gay Phinny  
Stephen Phinny  
Laurie and Mike Pike  
Gary A. and Nancy Plotkin  
Prest Vuksic Architects  

The Printing Place  
Dean C. Rathbun, Jr.  
Renaissance Pet Resort and Spa  
Albert A. Robin Family Foundation  
Dr. Steven N. Rubinsky  
Kathryn and Andrew Salmond  
Barbara Sander  
Christina L. and Warren Schmidt  
Trisha and Richard Schmidt  
Midge (Mary) Seeley  
Yvonne C. Segerstrom  
G. Aubrey and Lori Serfling  
Dr. and Mrs. Charlie W. Shaefier  
Dr. Andrew P. and Mrs. Ellyn Siskind  
Mary Small  
Ruth Sokol  
Susan and Darry Sragow  
Joseph Stetser  
Robin and Carlyn Stonehill  
John & Bonnie Strauss Foundation  
Thagard Foundation  
Shaunna and Reid Thomas  
Anna and Gary Thomasson  
Tri Palms Womens Club  
Truiis  

Todd Underwood  
Rosemarie M. Vacano  
Anne Van De Mergel  
Donald W. Vandermeer Estate  
William Vaughan and Samantha Burton  
W.D. Fascination Ranch  
Dean and Simone Walsh  
Gary Wang and Marcia Ware  
Linda L. and Robert P. Wankel  
Mr. Stephen Welker and Dr. Kristina Welker  
Whitewater Energy Corporation  
Mary E. Williams  
WJ Real Estate #1 LLC  
Thomas M. Wolk and Minda Smythe  
Darcy A. Wong  
Woods Family Foundation  
G. J. and M. J. Wright  
Carl E. Wynn Foundation  
YourCause Corporate Employee Giving Programs  
Yucaipa Puppies & Pizza Puppy Raiser Group  
Renee and George Zukauckas

**SUSTAINER’S CLUB**

Reid Thomas  
Rosemarie M. Vacano  
Stephen Welker and Dr. Kristina Welker  

**Leader of the Pack**

Carol E. Gerlach  
Laurie and Mike Pike  
Steven V. Christ  
Joni L. Wede and Karl Rath  

**Tail Waggers**

Kimberly D. and Douglas C. Brickell  
Casey Carlson  
Jay F. Chancellor  
Sarah G. and Richard R. Clapp  
Ann M. and Michael P. Davis  
Patricia G. Evans  
Andrea and James K. Gutman  
Cheri K. and Kenneth Haarala  
Ilona and Lamonte Hatch  
Marilyn C. and Dale Hoffman  
Paula Kennedy  
Tonja Knight  
Teresa and Darrell Mealer  
Adrianus D. and Donald Ruygrok  
Mark R. Schroepfer  
Bond Shands, Jr.  
Joan A. Suter  
Robert T. and Pamela S. Withrow

**Top Dog**— With an increased monthly pledge of $45 or more, in addition to the recognition listed below, you will receive an exclusive invitation to meet with students training at the campus.

**Leader of the Pack**— For $30 or more per month, you will receive a post-it “Poodle Doodle” pad with the Sustainer’s Club pin and photo. You will also receive our annual Guide Dogs of the Desert calendar.

**Tail Waggers**— For as little as $10 per month, you will receive a photo of a puppy in training, along with a special Sustainer’s Club pin.

**HOW TO JOIN SUSTAINER’S CLUB**

Sustainer’s Club members choose the amount of their monthly gift. Dependable monthly income makes planning easier both for you and for Guide Dogs of the Desert. The Sustainer’s Club promises to become the pillar of support for Guide Dogs of the Desert along with other events, foundation grants, and support from hundreds of Lions Clubs around the country. We hope you will become part of this pillar of support.

**Top Dog**— With an increased monthly pledge of $45 or more, in addition to the recognition listed below, you will receive an exclusive invitation to meet with students training at the campus.

**Leader of the Pack**— For $30 or more per month, you will receive a post-it “Poodle Doodle” pad with the Sustainer’s Club pin and photo. You will also receive our annual Guide Dogs of the Desert calendar.

**Tail Waggers**— For as little as $10 per month, you will receive a photo of a puppy in training, along with a special Sustainer’s Club pin.
The Maynard Society recognizes individuals who have provided for Guide Dogs of the Desert in their estate plans. To become a member, simply let us know you have named Guide Dogs of the Desert as a beneficiary in your will, trust, gift annuity, life insurance policy, 401K or other similar tax-deferred retirement plan.

Whether you would like to put your donation to work today or benefit us after your lifetime, you can find a charitable plan that lets you provide for your family while also supporting Guide Dogs of the Desert.

If you would like to extend your support of Guide Dogs of the Desert to make a lasting impact, there are several gift arrangements to choose from.

Please contact Sarah Clapp, Executive Director for more information at sclapp@gddca.org or (760) 329-6257
THE TRAINING PROCESS (PART 1)

Guide Dogs of the Desert has a commitment to provide those who are blind or visually impaired with the opportunity to receive the benefit of safe mobility, loving companionship, and the miracle of freedom through the use of a guide dog. The skills the students learn and master in class are the foundation of the working partnership that will carry them through many years of safe and effective mobility. These are the highlights of the beginning 4-week training class for the student and their custom-matched guide dog.

1. **Students arrive** at the Whitewater campus and get settled into their dorm room – “home” for the next four weeks! There is much anticipation and excitement as they meet fellow classmates and learn about the schedule and training that will take place.

2. **Juno!** Before they can meet their new dogs, the students are introduced to “Juno.” Instructors hold an empty harness or the end of a leash so students can practice using commands and following the pull of a harness handle. Practicing on an imaginary dog prepares the students to communicate effectively with their new partner from the first meeting.

3. **Dog Day!** After three days of preparing for their new guide dogs, students finally meet their long-anticipated new working partners. This is a private and often emotional time. A kennel technician introduces the student's new dog to each of them and hands over the leash for the new team to begin their journey.

4. **First walk!** During the first walk with their new guide dog, the trainer maintains hold of the leash to make things go as smooth as possible. Even though the student has worked hard to learn the new commands and footwork, it takes a few weeks to master them. The first walk can be scary and exciting, but it’s the first steps of their new journey together.

5. **Destination route:** Students are taught a simple route that includes the basic components of guide work. This walk allows the team to work out the kinks of a new partnership and develop a much anticipated feeling of independence. The route concludes at a local coffee shop, giving the students and dogs a destination to work to, and a welcome dose of caffeine for all of our coffee lovers!

6. **Pictures!** Stacy Jacobs Photography donates her time to take beautiful, professional portraits of the students and their new guide dogs! These portraits are shown at the class graduation and are given to each student to keep.

7. **Pet Store!** The pet store offers a great training opportunity for our new teams! With tantalizing smells, exciting small animals in cages and even fellow canine shoppers, the team has to concentrate on working together and ignoring distractions. But, the route ends with our students bringing home a toy for some well-earned playtime!

The next issue of Guiding Paws will continue the four-week training journey of the student and their guide dog. Class sizes are held to a maximum of six students, and training routes are individualized, based on the student’s particular lifestyle needs.
VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

Guide Dogs of the Desert greatly appreciate all its Volunteers - Puppy Raisers, Ambassadors, Administrative, Kennel Support. Special thank you to those who have given of their time and talent to the organization for five or more years.

### 25+ YEARS OF SERVICE
- Patti Craine
- Bonnie & Darrel McBride
- Kay & Lee Nicodemus
- Mary & Philip Woody

### 20 - 24 YEARS OF SERVICE
- Carol Backus
- Cathleen Brant
- Ruth & Jack Carey
- Shirley & Tom Schott
- Gary Wood

### 15 - 19 YEARS OF SERVICE
- Penie Belger
- Sandy & Joe Esposito
- Jackie Johnson
- Lori & Patrick Murphy
- Joy Stadler
- Cynthia Woods

### 10 - 14 YEARS OF SERVICE
- Carl Blue
- Marilyn & Frank Blum
- Radine Boykin
- Katherine Butler
- Doug Calvin & Trudy Spencer
- Angel Coleman
- Donna & Larry Cutner
- Kerry Dugas
- Cheri Duncan
- Susan Hamel
- Terri Hess & Ruth Keniston
- Janet Houser
- Terri and Evan Hughes
- Stacyann & Dan Kaiser
- Cary & John Lacy
- Lisette & Paul Lind
- Carol & Stanley Manners
- Carol Meagher
- Tony Melum
- Susan & Steve Musson
- Alpha & Rick Nantker
- Ann Nevitz
- Jon Maureen
- Jane & Phil Moore
- Helen Morey
- Laura Myring
- Dan Obradovich & Jane MacDowall
- Jackie & Eric Pendery
- Vicki Shepherd
- Susan Steele
- Teri & Glenn Stull
- Leah & Patrick Swarthout
- Kari Weber
- Phil Weliky
- Patti & Dennis Wheeler

### 5 - 9 YEARS OF SERVICE
- Barbara Norman & Alan Franks
- Judy & Jim Northrup
- Terri & Dale Ondre
- Laurie & Mike Pike
- Jennifer Pinder
- Anne, Rebecca and Rob Poy
- Dee & Fred Reno
- Christina & Alex Robertson
- Robert Roblee & Ronald Johnson
- Dawn Rogers
- Jackie Soricic & Don McDonald
- Julie Stutz
- Patty Turner
- Noelle Vernon
- Christine Visyak
- Patricia Warner
- Char & Dave Weakley
- Tricia West
- Patti & Mike Whittle
- Audrey, Carolyn & Steve Wilcox
- Cyndi & Ted Yancu
- Bridget & Dominic Zappia
20+ YEAR VOLUNTEERS

Carol Backus

Gary Wood

Mary & Phil Woody

Welcome New Puppy Raisers!

Kay & Lee Nicodemus

Cathy Brant

Patti Craine

Ruth & Jack Carey

Bonnie & Darrel McBride

Shirley & Tom Schott

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION
Working for a large pharmaceutical company, Novartis, as a Population Genetics research scientist, I travel internationally for work. As my sight started to deteriorate, I realized that travel was going to become more and more challenging. Even in the workplace, with over 500 employees, getting through busy areas of the office was difficult. As the vision deteriorated I was confronted that the span of my working life was soon coming to an end.

I started exploring options and talked with my brother in France who has a guide dog. He inspired me to start researching guide dog schools and that is when I found Guide Dogs of the Desert. Not only were they close to my home in San Diego County, I learned they breed, raise and train Standard Poodles, which was just what I needed, since dog allergies were an issue in my household.

Training with Charlie has actually extended my working life and career. The transition of getting around on my own (pre-training and working with a cane) to now having ease, mobility and freedom with a guide dog, was truly an emotional experience for me. Before getting Charlie, the range of what I could do was rapidly narrowing... I avoided going to the mall and even night time outings with family. It was just too overwhelming to maneuver through crowds, people were everywhere, and airports were just terrible. I especially avoided going to any public place not at all familiar to me.

Most recently I was invited – and attended – a week-long research symposium and competition at Cambridge. With scientists from all over the world, Charlie and I stood out among the participants and he was quite the celebrity.

I have been fortunate to not be challenged about having a dog when I travel. The airports and airlines I utilize have always been helpful from the time I check in, getting through security, to being seated first on the plane. People are very helpful and accommodating. It helps that Charlie is a very friendly yet calm dog, and not intimidating. And Charlie is a good traveler. Besides Cambridge, we have traveled twice to Scotland on business and to visit family.

It is with deep gratitude to Guide Dogs of the Desert, Charlie’s sponsor, and puppy raiser... having him as my guide dog has reopened the whole world to me again.
THE TOP TEN TIPS OF WHAT MOTORISTS SHOULDN’T DO WHEN THEY SEE A BLIND PERSON

10. Don’t stop your car more than five feet from the crosswalk line. You may think that you are allowing plenty of room for the blind person to cross. Pull right up to the line and allow them to use the sound of your engine as a guide for walking a straight path across the street.

9. Don’t call out “it’s OK to cross.” The motorist may not have considered all the factors before giving the “all clear.”

8. Don’t engage the visually impaired traveler in conversation. Even if you know them. It requires skill and concentration to cross the intersection, you may distract them.

7. Don’t wait too long for the blind pedestrian to cross the street. The sound of an idling engine “waiting” at the intersection puts pressure on the blind people to cross the street when they are not ready. That will soon become evident that they aren’t going to cross, and we suggest that you “creep” slowly through the crossing. If the cane traveler takes a step back and pulls in the cane, that’s a definite “go” for the motorist.

6. Avoid split-second stops at stop signs. They are confusing to those who are dependent on traffic sounds. Often, motorists stop briefly at crosswalks noting they have time to pass before the pedestrian reaches that side of the street. Failing to wait for pedestrians is dangerous and if you come to a complete stop, you could even provide some assistance with the sound of your car’s engine. Come to a full stop and allow the blind pedestrian to cross in front of you.

5. Don’t turn right on red. In an ideal world that would be true. In this world, however, statistics show that the right turner is involved in frequent vehicle/pedestrian accidents. Often, the turn is made without ever checking the nearest corner, which is particularly dangerous for a blind individual who cannot see the turning traffic.

4. Don’t fail to stop for pedestrians at crosswalks without stop signs. Just a reminder, to ensure the safety of all pedestrians always come to a full stop if and when a pedestrian is anywhere in the crosswalk.

3. Don’t stop in the middle of the crosswalk! That forces the blind pedestrian to go around your car and often into traffic in order to cross the street. Also, the sound of the engine in the crosswalk may deceive the pedestrian into thinking they have veered out of the crosswalk. Try stopping directly by the line.

2. Don’t block the sidewalk at driveways. Creative parking solutions often create problems for the cane traveler. In this particular case, a path around the front or back of the car must be chosen, with no guarantees on outcome. Going around the front of the car is best, but may not be possible.

1. DO NOT HONK! Honking at the blind pedestrian to let them know they can cross usually results in scaring them. If you’re patient and follow these suggestions, they will get across the street...honest!
RECENT EVENTS

PINOT & PINTS FOR PAWS ARIZONA

Ryan Fox working his magic
ASU Delta Gamma
Megan Thompson ABC 15
Rachel DeMuro explaining her tactile painting
Ann Wallenmeyer-Krahman, Susan Hamel, Dawn Sylvester
Jane Williams and Mary Anne Lachenmeier

PINOT & PINTS FOR PAWS INLAND EMPIRE

Sponsors: Mike Reynolds and Todd Underwood
Barbara O’Keefe and Marti Christiansen
Sarah Clapp and Gary Jeandron
Anthony Phillips serving wine
Darcy McNaboe on a blindfold walk
Committee: Todd Underwood, Barbara O’Keefe, Jackie Johnson, Lynne Elwan, Marti Chistiansen, Darcy McNaboe, Anthony Phillips
RECENT EVENTS

DOG DAY AFTERNOON

Dog Day Afternoon Committee
Smoke Tree Ranch
Joe with Cooper’s Sponsors Yvonne and Steve Maloney

Patrick Mundt, Reid, Tristan and Melissa Milanovich, Sarah Clapp
Board Member Patti Craine snuggles with puppy
Sarah Clapp with Kevin and Joyce Foster

Joann Davis and Ann Thornton
Patrick Mundt and Gary Jeandron
Silent Auction

BEN & JERRY’S FREE CONE DAY

Ambassador Dog Skipper
Laurie Kettering with Skipper
Enjoying Free Cone Day
PUPPY RAISER EVENTS

Puppy Raisers are an integral component in preparing our puppies to become future guide dogs. They are responsible for care, socialization, and providing basic obedience training until the puppy is called back for formal training at 18 to 20 months of age.

Puppy Raisers provide a loving home and many tummy rubs as they help their puppy grow toward its future job as a guide dog.

Thank you Puppy Raisers!

BECOME A PUPPY RAISER!

URGENT NEED!

Volunteer puppy raisers are needed for new litters of puppies that will soon be ready to go to a good home for their initial raising and training! If you are interested in participating in our amazing Puppy Raising program, please check out the Guide Dogs of the Desert website at www.gddca.org and fill out a Puppy Raiser Application online or contact Trina Ver Vooren or Liz Hile at (760) 329-6257

NEW PUPPIES WERE JUST BORN AT OUR BREEDING FACILITIES!
SAV* THE DATE

Graduation
October 13, 2018

Graduation
November 17, 2018

Santa Paws
December 22, 2018

Dog Day Afternoon
February 6, 2019

Please check our website for more information: www.gddca.org

WISHLIST

Puppy Development Center

Groomer’s Best Walk-Through Grooming Tub: $1,349.99

Kennel Department

Medium Classic Dog Kennels (20) $150.00 ea.
Large Classic Dog Kennels (15) $150.00 ea.
Bulk Pressed Rawhide 6" (3) $86.99
4’x5/8” Black leash for puppies (40) $3.49 ea.
5/8” Collar for puppies (40) bright colors $2.49 ea.
ProSelect Empire Exercise Pen $169.99

Breeding Center

Nylabone Just for Puppies Ring Bone
Puppy Teething Chew Toy (20): $3.92
KONG Classic Dog Toy (20): $12.42

Training Department

Nylabone Dura Chew Knot (30) - for Training Vans: $14.21 ea.
Silicone Collapsible Water Bowls (30) - $9.25 ea.
Pro Select Cool Pup Crate Fans For Training Van Crates (30) - $35.68 ea.
Samsung StormWash 48-Decibel Built-In Dishwasher (Stainless Steel) (3)- $569.00 ea.

Please call Guide Dogs of the Desert and we will order items for you! Full or partial orders gratefully accepted. Check our website under Support Us for updated items on our Wish List. www.gddca.org

Memorial Tributes

With sadness we remember guide dogs Halo and Joli, that were so much a part of the family and will forever be cherished.

Halo, faithful guide dog to Kathleeya Meesri
Joli, faithful guide dog to Lucia Gobel Vega
Thank You to Our Sponsors

The Frank M. and Gertrude R. Doyle Foundation
The Karl Kirchgessner Foundation
The Sharon D. Lund Foundation
The McBeth Foundation
Nesbitt Foundation
RTS Family Foundation

EQUIPMENT SPONSORS NEEDED

Guide Dogs of the Desert’s puppies need your help to become guide dogs.
Your donation of $600.00 ensures that our trained dogs have the equipment necessary to become working guide dogs.