# ALUMNI NEWS

Volume 28 – Number 1

Theresa Stern, Vice President of Outreach, Admissions and Alumni Services, Marcia Wick, AA Board, Amit Ahuja, AA Board, Editors

Audio version voiced by Michele Spitz, Woman of Her Word

We love your participation in this newsletter. Send submissions to the editor via phone, mail, or e-mail tstern@guidedogs.com or alumninews@guidedogs.com

Alumni Association Mission Statement

The Alumni Association will support the vision of GDB, “using our power of partnering to improve quality of life”, by building a strong sustainable community of support among our Alumni. We will work to support Alumni success with their guide, in building relationships with others, and actively participating in the greater GDB community.

Alumni Association Board of Directors Mission Statement

Connecting our community through leadership, advocacy, communication and outreach

Alumni News is available electronically, in Braille (upon request), and on audio CD (upon request). The audio version of this newsletter and Guide Dog News can be found on our website, guidedogs.com. If you are able to access email and would like future issues sent to you electronically, please let Theresa Stern know at tstern@guidedogs.com. Email allows us to get the news to you in a timely manner and is easy on the environment!

We'd like to send our very special thanks to all of our Alumni who, by their efforts and their examples, refer others to our program.

Interested in a career with GDB? Check out our opportunities at: <http://guidedogs.com/careers>

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. [From Your Alumni Association](#a)
	1. [What is Your AA Board Working On? By: Scott Wilcock and Marcia Wick](#b)
	2. [2020 Year of Service, By: Scott Wilcock](#c)
	3. [2020 Invitation To Join the Alumni Association Board](#d)
	4. [2019 Reunion Recap, By: Marcia Wick](#e)
	5. [Thank You Portland West Puppy Club, By: Danette Dixon](#f)
2. [Orientation and Mobility Update](#g)
	1. [GDB Orientation and Mobility Immersion Program Reaches Milestone, By: Marcia Wick](#g)
3. [News You Can Use](#h)
	1. [Emergency Preparedness Part 1, By Jack Heim](#i)
4. [In Our Own Words](#j)
	1. [A Well Behaved Mom, By: Shirley Manning](#k)
	2. [Thank You To Terrianne From O’Toole, By: Terrianne Straw](#l)
5. [Alumni Bulletin Board](#m)
6. [In Memory, In Tribute](#n)
7. [Gift Shop News](#o)
8. [Announcements](#p)
9. [Alumni Association Board of Directors](#q)

# FROM YOUR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

## What Is Your AA Board Working On? February 2020 Reports

By: Scott Wilcock, Board Chair with *Sailor*, and Marcia Wick, Vice Chair, with *Viviane*

The GDB Alumni Association Board met via teleconference Saturday, December 7, 2019. All board members were present.

The board discussed “lessons learned” from the October 2019 GDB Reunion in Portland. Suggestions from attendees will assist in planning future reunions.

Scott Wilcock, AA Board Chair, has challenged alumni to participate in “A Year of Service” during 2020. Many Alumni chapters are planning activities focusing on service to others. (See related article in this issue.)

The AA Board is working to strengthen communication between alumni, the Alumni Association Board, and GDB. To this end, the board has developed a new project team approach to replace the previous committee system. Project Teams focus on Awareness, Collaboration, and Enrichment (ACE).

“So far, the new approach to goal setting and execution is proving to have positive outcomes,” said the AA Board Chair.

The Project Team reports follow:

1. Survey: Lead, Amit Ahuja

The survey team is developing an interest survey of alumni to help guide future program development.

2. Post-Graduation Surveys: Lead, Jessica Naert Stone

The team is planning to conduct Post-Graduate Calls to welcome new graduates to the GDB family and introduce them to the Alumni Association.

3. Curriculum: Lead, Dorianne Pollack

The team is working to update curriculum and class materials to increase awareness of our Alumni Association.

4. Puppy Raisers and Handlers: Lead, Jack Heim

The team is developing goals to improve connections between puppy raisers and guide dog handlers.

5. Alumni News: lead, Marcia Wick

The team solicits, submits, and edits articles for the AA News, Content for AA News may be submitted to: alumninews@guidedogs.com

6. Speaker Series: Lead, Kelly Egan

The Team hosted a call in January focused on cold weather tips. The topic for the next Speaker Series Call Feb. 16 will be "Exploring Entrepreneurship.”

7. Paws and Remember: Lead, Deanna Lewis

The AA Board offers peer support to alumni faced with the death or retirement of a guide dog through monthly Paws and Remember conference calls. The Facilitators for these calls are GDB graduates

8. Self-Advocacy: Lead, Jason Mitschele

The team plans to create a how-to guide for alumni who wish to file discrimination complaints if they have been refused access to a public place with their guide dog. The team plans to create an information package to educate businesses and the public on “fake service dogs,” and to assist alumni to self-advocate if refused access.

9. Nominating: Lead: Amy Salgar/Marcia Wick

The team submitted an invitation to apply for open positions on the AA Board for publication in the February edition of AA News. The announcement will also be emailed to all alumni and circulated via social media. The Project Team will accept applications through March 10.

10. Town Hall Meetings: Lead, Bruce Gilmour

The team hosted our first Town Hall meeting Jan. 16, with More than 100 alumni participating via the Zoom platform, in a conversation on challenges with Emotional Support Animals (ESAs).

“The GDB alumni association is alive and well and doing amazing things. The leadership team knows 2020 will be an awesome year of collaboration, teamwork, continued bridge building, and service to others!” Wilcock said.

The AA Board welcomes your suggestions and involvement. Please contact us at:

## 2020 Year of Service: A Letter from Scott Wilcock, AA Board Chair, with *Sailor*

Dear Fellow Alumni,

As we begin the first year of a new decade, I want to reach out and let you know how grateful I am to be a part of such an awesome alumni family! I’ve been reflecting on how much my life has been blessed as a result of the amazing gifts I receive every day from GDB through my second guide Sailor and my retired guide Senator, and I’ve been searching for a way to express my gratitude to the GDB community.

Will you join me? If each one of us dedicates 2020 as an AWESOME YEAR OF SERVICE, our combined efforts can make a bigger difference! We have more than 2200 GDB alumni. If each one of us completes one act of service each month for someone else, together, we can give more than 26,000 acts of service back to our communities this year.

I know we often times become so accustomed to others helping us that it’s easy to forget that we ourselves have much to offer. We can lighten the load for others through simple acts of service – bake cookies, help with laundry, visit a nursing home, make a presentation at your child’s school, send a thank you note, call a friend. Little things can mean a lot. If you’re able, make a donation or ask others to donate time, services, or financial support to GDB.

 Think outside the box. Come up with your own innovative ways to help family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, puppy raisers, and others in our GDB community. Share your ideas with us to help inspire your fellow alumni.

Please keep track of your acts of service and report them to your local chapter president or an Alumni Association Board member, or send a note to alumninews@guidedogs.com each month. My hope is that together we will be able to provide at least 2020 acts of service each month during 2020! Thank you for joining me in this AWESOME YEAR OF SERVICE! When we work together to help others, our own lives will be enhanced and improve. Many of you are already doing great things in your community, thank you. If we all grab ahold of this “vision,” we can have fun as we provide service to others.

Best wishes for an awesome 2020!

Sincerely, Your Alumni Association Board Chair, Scott Wilcock & Sailor

## 2020 AA Board Candidate Invitation

Seeking Candidates for the Alumni Association Board of Directors

Attention All GDB Alumni!

The GDB Alumni Association Board of Directors (AA Board) is now accepting applications to fill upcoming openings on the AA Board.  We are searching for volunteers who are hardworking, dedicated, and focused to help represent the diverse range of views and experiences of GDB alumni. We work hard, and we have a terrific time doing it.

Additional information about the AA Board, and instructions on how to apply for an open position are outlined below.  If you have any questions, please direct them to the Nominations Committee at mwick@guidedogs.com or phone 719-651-2221.

Please note, we will accept applications through March 10, 2020. Interviews and evaluations will be completed by early May. New director terms begin July 1, 2020.

We look forward to hearing from you!

 AA Board Director Responsibilities:

 In support of our mission, each board member is expected to serve on several project teams and complete various tasks independently outside of meetings. The project teams focus on awareness, collaboration, and enrichment. Each team identifies specific goals and works throughout the year to achieve them.

Most communication occurs via e-mail and phone. Quarterly AA Board conference calls are typically held on Saturday mornings, and project teams communicate as often as required. Once a year, the AA Board meets in-person in San Rafael or Portland. (The cost of transportation and lodging for in person meetings is covered by GDB)

 Board members are elected to serve a three-year term which may be renewed for a second three-year term, with Board approval.

Eligibility:

 Any GDB Graduate with at least two years' experience working a Guide Dog is eligible to apply. Applications will be accepted through March 10, 2020. Any application received after the deadline will not be considered.

 How to Apply:

1. In an email, send your resume and an audio or video recording/ file, containing a brief description of yourself and your reasons for applying to the AA Board. Audio or Video files should not exceed one minute in length.
2. For the subject line of the email, use: "2020 AA Board app.”
3. Submit your resume and audio or video file as two separate attachments, (or 1 file for the resume and a web link for the audio or video). Each file should be titled with your name and the type of information it contains. For example, if your name is Jane Smith, your attached documents would be titled: “Smith,

Jane Resume” and “Smith, Jane Video”.

Send your application to the Nominations Committee at: mwick@guidedogs.com and also to Theresa Stern at: tstern@guidedogs.com .

Note: If you have applied for a position on the board in the past and were not selected, we encourage you to apply again. Each year, we receive many outstanding applications for a limited number of open positions. Please apply again if you are interested.

## 2019 GDB Reunion Recap

By: Marcia Wick w/ *Viviane*

A grand time was had by more than 150 Alumni, Puppy Raisers, staff, friends, and family who attended the October 2019 GDB Reunion in Portland, Oregon. GDB’s Alumni Association sends a huge “thank you” to Leanne Bremner and Theresa Stern for leading the effort to organize the event. We also express gratitude to the many volunteers who eased our way.

“The lively weekend was filled with many wonderful, heart-warming moments. There’s magic when the GDB family comes together,” said Theresa, Vice President of Outreach, Admissions, and Alumni Services at GDB. “We made new friends and reconnected with old ones. We enjoyed warm and professional service at the Marriott Waterfront Downtown. Their staff was amazing, and the location was great for exploring the city. Believe it or not,” she added, “we pretty much were able to avoid the rain!”

The reunion offered a diverse array of workshops including informative sessions on advocacy, technology, well-being, and chapter leadership, balanced with enlightening workshops on journal writing, travel, and bird songs. We also enjoyed exciting excursions including coffee tours, river boat cruises, a tactile art exhibit, a rock climbing wall, and a spectacular lunch outing with puppies and their raisers.

“What made this reunion special was the participation of so many of our amazing puppy raisers who share our bond to Guide Dogs for the Blind. Their dedication to the GDB mission makes us family. The positive energy was felt throughout the reunion,” Theresa said.

The gala banquet with a red carpet reception was enjoyed by more than 100 noisy guests and 90 dozing dogs. The meal was followed by a viewing of “Pick of the Litter” (complete with popcorn and candy). Check out photos of our event at:  <https://flic.kr/s/aHsmHWbeGD>.

Theresa thanked all those who answered our call for high quality workshop presenters: Bruce Gilmour, Cami Kahl, Chris Benninger, Chris Cooke, Danette, Dixon, Deanna Lewis, Dorianne Pollack, Jack Heim, Jason Mitschele, Jessica Stone, John NevilleKathryn Marxen-Simonson, Kelly Egan, Kim Samco, Maia Scott, Michael Hingson, Rabih Dow, Robin Keating,  Tom Horton, and Vickie Kennedy

You’re invited to help us plan our next reunion (likely sometime in 2022). Please complete a brief survey that will come your way in the next few months. We would greatly appreciate your ideas!

## Thank You Portland West Puppy Raising Club

By: Danette Dixon with *Mayor*

GDB Raisers and Handlers would like to sincerely thank the Portland West Puppy Raising Club for the fabulous idea and flawless execution in bringing handlers and raisers together at Paddy's Irish Pub during reunion weekend.  The lunch was an amazing opportunity to connect and build long-lasting relationships.

A special thank you goes to Jenny Collins for organizing the entire event, and to the club for the incredible surprise at the end.  When we received our checks and saw the beautiful note that the Portland West Club had paid for everyone's lunch, there were quite a few tears of gratitude throughout the restaurant.

Thank you, thank you. Your spirit and generosity was much appreciated and will long be remembered.

# ORIENTATION AND MOBILITY UPDATE

## GDB Orientation and Mobility Immersion Program Milestone

By: Marc Gillard, GDB’s O&M Program Manager

In late 2019, GDB’s O&M Immersion Program achieved a significant milestone. Five students graduated from the program at the San Francisco Lighthouse for the Blind, representing the 100th, 101st, 102nd, 103rd and 104th students to graduate since the program’s inception in September 2016! These 104 graduates include 50 individuals who had never worked with a guide dog before – they required O&M training to assist them on their journey to train with a guide dog; the other grads included GDB alumni who have experienced a loss in confidence, a decline in vision, or other challenges related to independence and mobility.

“It has been an honor to assist those facing an uncertain future to reacquire sufficient O&M skills through the GDB Orientation and Mobility Immersion (OMI) Program to requalify to work with a successor GDB guide dog,” said Marc Gillard, GDB’s O&M Services Manager.

As a testament to the program’s success, 12 of the 50 students who were 1st time guide dog applicants have since graduated with a guide dog.  Several more immersion graduates are in cue! Others continue to work on their O&M skills and travel routes at home prior to applying.  Many of the 54 retrain students have gone on to graduate with a new guide dog, while others continue to work their current guides with improved O&M skills and increased confidence, Gillard added.

“Achieving these results would not have been possible without the team of professionals banding together to evolve this program into what it is today,” said Gillard. In particular, he thanked Chris Benninger and GDB’s Board of Directors for their support and belief in the program.  He also directed a special thanks to Theresa Stern for her support, trust and guidance.

“It was Theresa who envisioned and championed this program,” said Gillard.

In addition, Danielle Velken, former O&M, Outreach and Alumni Coordinator, was credited as the architect of the processes, procedures, and communications for the program. Danielle recently transitioned to her new role in the IT Department. Danielle helped grow the program from 15 students in its first year to 50 graduates in its third year.

Gillard also acknowledged the Training Department including Darren Walsh and Jessica Drew; the supervisors and instructors who supplied dogs for experiential walks and welcomed our students at the downtown lounge; GDB’s dorm staff for their hospitality and lunches when immersion students and O&M instructors visited campus; our colleagues in the Admissions Department - Ryan, Megan, Heather, and Karen; our Field Managers and instructors from both campuses who have referred so many people to the program; and the Development Department for their interest and support!

Last but not least, GDB extends gratitude to the staff at our three partner agencies, especially the 12 talented and dedicated O&M Specialists listed below.

“You have changed many lives and have become part of the GDB mission,” Gillard said.

**San Francisco Lighthouse for the Blind**: Kathy, Katt, Robert, Jen, Sarah, Danette, Devin, Chris, and Marie.

**The Earle Baum Center**:  Kati, Regina, Maura, and the Client Services staff.

**Wayfinder Family Services:** Allison, Richard, and Adriana.

Note: ***The OMI program is available to all of our graduates and if you think you could benefit visit the GDB website for more information or to apply online.  You can also contact O&M Services directly at 800-295-4050 and ask to speak to an O&M services representative***

# NEWS YOU CAN USE

## Emergency Preparedness Part 1

By: Jack Heim with *Scout*

An emergency can happen to anyone at any time - with or without warning. As a guide dog handler, being prepared for an emergency will give you peace of mind even if you never need to take action. On the other hand, if you’re prepared to take action during a real emergency, it will be safer and less stressful for you and your dog.

Part 1 of this article deals with preparing for an emergency. Part 2, to be published in the next issue of the Alumni News, will cover what to do in the event of an actual emergency.

Part 1: Preparing For an Emergency

You’ll get more advanced warning with some emergencies than others. Accidents and earthquakes may occur with no notice. Only minutes may stand between you and a tornado. With wildfires, you could have minutes or hours. And with hurricanes, you may have days to prepare. Regardless of how much warning you have, there are some things you can do to prepare for a wide range of emergencies.

• Tell your local police department that you are blind and that you have a guide dog. You have the legal right to be evacuated with your service animal. Many police departments keep a list of people with mobility issues in their jurisdiction so they can check on them in an emergency and help in the event of an evacuation. Contact your local police to see if they keep such a list and keep your contact information up to date.

• Get connected. Download the Federal Emergency Management Administration’s (FEMA) app for IOS or Android. Enter ”FEMA” into the search bar in your download app. Also, sign up for alerts at: www.ready.gov/alerts.

• Work with friends and family to create an evacuation plan. Practice the plan in advance. Figure that it will take more time in an actual emergency.

• Create an emergency preparedness kit. General information on building a kit can be found on the FEMA web site, http://www.ready.gov. You will need to add special items to the kit for your guide dog.

1. A water-proof pouch with a photocopy of both sides of your dog’s GDB identification card, vaccination records, micro-chip records, and a recent photo of your dog.

2. Water-proof container to fill with food for 2 weeks.

3. Cleaning supplies including disinfectant for cleaning crates.

4. Extra collars, leashes, dishes, and toys.

5. Customized first aid kit (see below).

6. Drinking water for 2-3 days.

7. Your dog’s medications.

While it may not be practical to keep a special container filled with enough food for your dog for 2 weeks, keep the container handy and avoid running low on food. Always keep at least two weeks of food in your house. Keep a large filled jug of water. During an evacuation, you may or may not have time to fill food and water containers, and don’t wait until the last minute to make sure your documentation is up-to-date.

Custom First Aid Kit:

1. Tool or Tackle box (to hold supplies)

2. Regular and emergency Veterinary contact information and the poison control number

3. Bottle of saline eye flush (to wash out eyes and wounds)

4. Povidone iodine (dilute 1:10; to wash out wounds)

5. Kwik Stop Styptic Powder (to help stop minor bleeding)

6. 4x4 gauze pads (for wound cleaning)

7. Cotton balls and Q-tips (for wound cleaning)

8. Nonstick bandage pads (apply as first layer of wound bandage)

9. 2 inch and 4 inch Gauze roll (to wrap wound – layer number 2 of bandage)

10. Bandage Tape (to keep bandage from falling off/slipping)

11. Self-adhesive bandage cover (never pull tight - top layer of bandage)

12. Blunt tip bandage scissors

13. 3% Hydrogen Peroxide (to induce vomiting – ***call DVM before administering***)

14. Triple Antibacterial Ointment (individual packets are ideal)

15. Artificial Tears (after eye flushing, if eyes become irritated)

16. Benadryl (diphenhydramine) 25mg tablets (about 1mg per pound orally – for allergic reactions)

17. Battery-powered Beard Trimmer (to shave hair off wound or remove foreign objects in hair)

18. Digital Talking Thermometer (for rectal temperature only)

19. Water-based lubricant, individual packets are ideal (for taking temperature, or to apply to cuts before shaving around them)

20. Blankets or towels (to dry off or warm up a pet, also apply to bleeding wounds)

21. Instant cold packets (to cool off feverish or overheated dogs)

22. Muzzle (for dogs in severe pain, never apply if vomiting or having breathing distress)

23. Tweezers (to remove splinters, ticks, other foreign objects)

24. Syringes (6 cc, 12cc and 20 cc) (to flush wounds and administer water or hydrogen peroxide if needed)

25. Extra Leash (can be used as muzzle as well or if in-use leash breaks)

26. Gloves

27. Collapsible water bowl (for water or to mix iodine solution for wound cleaning)

28. Bottle of water (for drinking, cooling, or mixing with iodine for wound cleaning)

29. Extra food

30. Canine First Aid Manual

On the Go First Aid Kit:

1. Regular and emergency DVM information

2. Benadryl

3. Bottle of water

4. Collapsible water bowl

Watch for Part Two of this series in the next edition of the AA News.

# IN OUR OWN WORDS

## A Well Behaved Mom: In memory and loving tribute of Lois Jean Goss

By: Shirley Manning with *Muir*

Mom and I used to go shopping for clothes together often, along with my guide dog, Winnie. Although not always approving, Mom knew my tastes and was willing to keep an eye out for what I liked. Shopping has never been Winnie's favorite job, but she knew at the end she would get to play with Mom's dog, Ladybug, so she put up with a long day of being on the go.

On one shopping trip, I was looking for a dressy sweater to wear with a skirt I’d bought a while back. After spending most of the day looking, we were finally successful in a department store. As we approached the checkout counter, the cashier was bending down behind it digging in a box of hangers - she did not see Winnie by my side. From where she worked behind the counter she still could not see Winnie. Several people were ahead of us in line and the woman next to me began asking about Winnie and making comments. As she often would, my mom left me at the counter to look at something that caught her eye. The cashier was listening to the woman and me talking.

"She's really beautiful," the woman said.

"Thanks! I think so too. She's a lot of help and a great companion" I replied.

From behind the counter the cashier said, "It's so nice of you to feel that way. Does she go everywhere with you?”

“Oh yes. We’re together almost all the time,” I said.

Then the woman next to me said, "And she's so well behaved!"

At this point, the cashier could not help herself. In a perplexed tone she said, "Well behaved…?"

By this time, there were quite a few people in line at the register. It was obvious to all except the poor cashier what was going on. The cashier had not seen Winnie, but she had seen my mom. I and several other folks near by laughed aloud. I backed up a little allowing the cashier to view Winnie and said, “I believe you haven’t seen my trusted friend down here.”

My mom, noticing the commotion, came back. I informed her that she was, "Very well behaved!" Now it was her turn to be perplexed, so I explained. All within earshot had a good laugh, including the cashier.

## To Terrianne from guide dog O’Toole:

## “I love you my friend”

By: Terrianne Straw with

The ebbing and flooding of the tides

It’s a ceaseless rhythm

A rhythm that marks this passage of time

A passage of time that we can never have back again

We are helpless against this thief

And in this moment time just slips away

I’m so sorry

I’m so sorry but I have grown old

I never wanted this

And I never could stop it….

In my heart I always knew

Knew this time would come…

And in this moment my heart cries out

Cries out to you

Cries out in thanks for all that you gave me.

You gave me a gift

A beautiful gift

For I would become your eyes

And with this gift I would always

Always walk by your side…

I protected you and helped you navigate the obstacles in your pathway.

That was my job

And in a way we became one

every time you grasped the handle of my harness

I led the beautiful dance and you followed, placing your full trust in me.

Oh how I loved our adventures big and small. the best dance partner I ever had! And we were a team that everyone marveled at.

You never question my judgement

You believed in me

You trusted me

You made sure that all of my needs were taken care of.

You played with me and put up with my silliness which I so appreciated.

All of these, are gifts that only you

Only you could give to me…

I will miss being your guide

Retiring because I have grown old

And in growing old

Another will one day walk by your side

But in this moment

Can you tell my big brown eyes?

Shed a tear for us

Shed a tear as I thank you once again

Thank you once again

Because you gave me a gift

A beautiful gift

For I would become your eyes

# ALUMNI BULLETIN BOARD

Do you have travel plans for 2020? Here is a link to a great video from TSA Cares that highlights the security screening process for you and your guide. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ceDIBIQMUOg>

Calling all GDB college students – there is some interest in starting an alumni chapter for grads who are currently in college, if you are interested in taking the lead, please contact Theresa Stern at tstern@guidedogs.com

Fellow GDB Alumni Betty Nobel and Lovette Yewchan are looking for stories for an upcoming book, here’s their request! Do you wish sighted people understood us better? Do you wish you could tell a story to demonstrate who you are aside from blindness but using what you need to do to get things done? Do you wish people would see that you are not just amazing or a freak? But you are just trying to live your life like everyone else does.  Betty Nobel and I, Lovette Yewchan, are embarking on a project to write such a book. But we need your help. We need your stories two to three pages at the most, depicting your experiences in the following areas: Childhood: School Experiences: Going to College and University: Independent Travel: Finding a partner: Managing a home: Caring for children: Employment: Hobbies and Sports: Technology: How it helps and when it doesn’t: Dealing with professionals the public: Losing your sight. This is a book we hope will help sighted people understand our lives better and debunk some of the myths or stereotypes of blindness. If you would like to contribute your story, please contact: please contact or Betty Nobel at singerbettyn@outlook.com or Lovette Yewchan at lyewchan@telus.net Also we must state that we may not use all stories contributed due to similarities with other stories. There will be no paid compensation for these stories, but we hope that the desire for people to see into our lives more realistically will be reward enough. We’d like to have the stories in by the end of April, 2020..

# IN MEMORY, IN TRIBUTE

## IN Memory – Remembering Guides Who Have Died

*Marble,* female Black Lab guide for Carrie Muth of Coos Bay, OR (OR 305 – September 2015)

*Zeus,* male Black Lab guide for Susan Glass of Saratoga, CA (CA 680 – February 2008)

*Penelope*, female Yellow Lab guide for Kathleen Repan of Coeur D’Alene, ID (CA 688 – December 2008)

*Filby,* male Black Lab guide for Zach Bender of Lake Forest Park, WA (OR 172 – April 2010)

*Farnsworth*, male Black Lab guide for Hyram Thomas of Chattanooga, TN (OR 154 – Feb 2009)

*Justin,* male Yellow Lab guide for Jim East of Gainesville, FL (CA 664 – May 2006)

*Devinci*, male Yellow Lab guide for Mary Eleazer of Kansas City, MO (CA 663 – April 2006)

*Dolby*, male Black Lab guide for Robert Wilconsin of Calgary AB (CA 654 – May 2005)

*Hawk*, male Black Lab guide for Louise Johnson of Surry, BC (CA 728 – Sept 2011)

*Walter*, guide for Wayne Hind of Grand Forks

*Joanie*, female guide for George Griffin of Redwood City, CA (CA 689 – November 2008)

*Nike*, female Black Lab guide for Debbie Gillespie of Toronto, ON (CA 661 – April 2006)

*Leroy*, male Black Lab guide for Debbie Gillespie of Toronto, ON (CA 762 – May 2013)

## In Tribute – Honoring Guides Who Have Retired

*Valencia*, female Black Lab guide for Lindsay Tilden of Vista, CA (CA 626 – July 2008)

*Fave,* female Yellow Lab / Golden Cross guide for Suzanne Wilson of Lowell, MA (CA 738 – April 2012)

*Carlina*, female Black Lab guide for Natalie Martiniello of St. Leonard, QC (CA 725 – June 2011)

# GIFT SHOP NEWS

## GIFT SHOP NEWS – January 2020

By: Michelle McNew

Listed below are new items that have arrived in the gift shop recently:

Yellow Lab spiral notebook with pen - You will be popular at your next meeting or class with this adorable 5x7 spiral notebook with pen! So many fun details to list! The front cover is adorned with an adorable picture of a yellow labrador puppy wearing a green vest. A GDB logo is located at the top right corner in white. Including black spiral binding, inside are 80 lined sheets and back of sheets are blank. The GDB logo is in the upper right corner of each sheet, in black. Three calendars are located in the back of the notebook: 2020,2021 and 2022. A clear and silver colored pen is attached with a pen loop and an elastic bookmark is included. $9.00

GDB Socks - Who does not appreciate a great looking pair of socks? These GDB socks have a black background with a white GDB logo and colorful bubbles all around. The bubbles are yellow with a guide dog shape inside, blue with a puppy play bow shape inside, red with a young adult dog sitting and orange with a guide dog shape inslide. The heel, ankle and tow are green. Made of 80% cotton , 15% Nylon and 5% Spandex. Available in Youth and Adult sizes $10.00

GDB Cycle Jersey - Show your GDB spirit, while you are cycling this summer! The colors and design on this jersey are so much fun! This club cut jersey features a full zipper with 3 rear pockets. Each rear pocket is decorated with an illustration of a dog, left to right features a yellow labrador, a golden retriever with his tongue out and a black labrador. The words "Leader of the pack" are written in red,  under the dog illustrations. The sleeves are orange with a tone on tone pattern of paw prints and bones. The body of the jersey is blue, adorned with a GDB logo on the left chest in white and on the center of the back, in white.  $64.00

Men's Puffer Vest - Stay cozy this winter in this GDB puffer vest with a detachable hood.  Featuring a removable hood with draw cords and water resistant and wind resistant nylon shell.  Outer shell is 100% woven nylon and the lining is 100% polyester and the insulation is 100% polyester.  Available in charcoal in sizes Small thru XXL. $75.00

Women's Puffer Vest Stay cozy this winter in this GDB puffer vest with a detachable hood.  Featuring a removable hood with draw cords, water resistant and wind resistant nylon shell.  Outer shell is 100% woven nylon, the lining is 100% polyester and the insulation is 100% polyester.  Available in denim blue in sizes XS thru XXL$75.00

GDB Glass Water Bottle - Ditch the plastic bottles and upgrade to a glass one. Featuring an 18 oz glass bottle with threaded bamboo lid, and protective silicone sleeve . The white silicone sleeve features orange dots, Within each dot are different designs. Designs include: dogs in harness, puppies in play pose and sitting, along with the GDB logo in orange, as well. $20.00

Reusable Straw- Go green and bring your own straw!!! Featuring  10” tall, wide-mouth silicone straw coiled in a small plastic flip top container, with the GDB logo in black. The straw measures 2" Dia. x 3/4" . Available in blue, line green or red. $3.00

GDB Paw Print dog Collar - Featuring  navy collar with orange gdb logo and orange paw prints. Also available is an orange collar with navy gdb logo and navy paw prints. Both outfitted with a black plastic buckle and D ring. One size and fully adjustable- fits 19" to 32". Fits most medium to large adult dogs. $12.00

16.9 oz stainless steel tumbler – green - Go Green with this 16 oz double wall 18/8 stainless steel thermal tumbler. Featuring copper vacuum insulation, stainless steel rim and base and a threaded snap fit Tritan lid. Can be used for hot and cold and flexible wide silicone straw included. Adorned with a large paw print on each side of the tumber. The paw print has a GDB logo inside of it, along with guidedogs.com. Available in green with a tone on tone design. $20.00

Pom Beanie - Keep your melon warm this winter with this GDB beanie! Made of 100% acrylic with pom - approx 11" long. One size fits most. Adorned with the GDB logo, alongside a few paw prints in white. Available in blue or red $20.00

20oz insulated bottle with two lids and paw prints - 20 oz. narrow-mouth vacuum-insulated bottle. Also, features a wide mouth flip-top straw lid with ergonomic top finger loop. Straw lid is not leakproof and not intended for use with hot liquids. Keeps contents cold for 24 hours. Powder coat finish with copper lining, double wall 18/8 stainless steel,  BPA-free insulated lid. Featuring silver paw prints and the GDB logo on a blue bottle. $24.00

GDB Stemless Wine Flute - This glass GDB Stemless Wine flute will be perfect for your holiday parties or summer picnics! Measuring at  5 3/4 inches high and holding 8.5 ounces. Etched with the GDB logo vertically and one small paw print on the opposite side of the logo. Enjoy ! $8.00

Note Card Set – teal - 10 notecards per pack, 2 cards of each design. Envelopes included . All cards are blank inside. Pictures are from submissions from the GDB community and/or from our staff photographers. $12.00

Men's All Weather Jacket - This all weather jacket can handle it all! Made of 100% polyester with DWR finish and featuring a 7-ounce, polyester fleece inner body lining. It has a 3000MM fabric waterproof rating and 3000G/M2 fabric breathability rating. In addition to the above, it also features an adjustable hood with locking drawcord, to help customize the perfect hit, a waterproof chest pocket with locking zipper pull and front zippered pockets. With a full length exterior storm flap with snap closures, you will be sure to stay dry. Adorned with the GDB stacked logo in silver. Available in Black in Sizes Small through Extra Extra Large. $73.00

Women's All Weather Jacket - This all weather jacket can handle it all! Made of 100% polyester with DWR finish and featuring a 7-ounce, polyester fleece inner body lining. It has a 3000MM fabric waterproof rating and 3000G/M2 fabric breathability rating. In addition to the above, it also features an adjustable hood with locking drawcord, to help customize the perfect hit, a waterproof chest pocket with locking zipper pull and front zippered pockets. With a full length exterior storm flap with snap closures, you will be sure to stay dry. Adorned with the GDB stacked logo in silver. Available in Direct blue in sizes Small through Extra Extra Large. $73.00

Women's Rain Slicker - Stay dry this winter in this super soft rain slicker! With an attached hood, mesh lining and adjustable tab cuff sleeves. Featuring two front pockets and reflective detail on the front and back. No overheating in this jacket, as it has grommets under the arm to keep the air flowing thru your jacket. Adorned with and embroidered and sealed GDB Logo on the left chest. Available in island blue, sizes Extra Small through Extra Extra Large.$58.00

Men's Rain Slicker - Stay dry this winter in this super soft rain slicker! With an attached hood, mesh lining and adjustable tab cuff sleeves. Featuring two front pockets and reflective detail on the front and back. No overheating in this jacket, as it has grommets under the arm to keep the air flowing thru your jacket. Adorned with and embroidered and sealed GDB Logo on left chest. Available in gray, sizes Extra Small through Extra Extra Large.$58.00

Bottom of FormAll orders are subject to applicable tax and shipping fees.

You can order Gift Shop merchandise online 24/7 at www.guidedogs.com, or you may call 415-492-4151 and leave us a message. We return phone calls and ship online orders on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, only. For faster service, order 24/7 at [www.guidedogs.com/shop](http://www.guidedogs.com/shop).

Please check our website periodically for new merchandise updates.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

* The 2020 Holman Prize for Blind Ambition is requesting applications through March 15. Now in its 4th year, the LightHouse for the Blind in San Francisco’s Holman Prize for Blind Ambition is an international competition that is awarded annually to three blind individuals who wish to push their limits. It is named for James Holman, a nineteenth century blind explorer, who was the most prolific traveler before the era of modern transportation. Each winner will receive up to $25,000 to support their adventure. From traversing the Bosporus Straight via solo kayak, to hosting the first conference in Mexico for blind children and their families led by blind professionals, to creating an app to enable blind citizen scientists to participate in the search for exoplanets by listening to space, our nine winners so far (hailing from five countries on four continents), have each found unique ways to forever change the world’s perception of blindness. A big idea, a quick application form and a 90-second pitch video are all that is needed to apply. LightHouse is welcoming applications through March 15, at 5:00 p.m. Pacific Standard Time. Applications and information are available here: holmanprize.org/apply. If you have any questions, please contact us at holman@lighthouse-sf.org.
* Career Launch @ Perkins: Putting Young Adults on the Path to Professional Success - Perkins School for the Blind developed Career Launch @ Perkins with one goal: help blind and visually impaired young adults successfully navigate the path to full-time professional work. The innovative job training, internship, and career services program is helping high school and college graduates, ages 18 to 29, land their first career-track job. Career Launch comprises an eight-week training program – focused on customer success skills, foundational working skills, and assistive technology – followed by a two-month internship in the Boston area, and then a year of support from Perkins-based career services team once the graduate returns to their hometown. Equipped with the latest skills and experience gained through working with a strong network of employer partners, each graduate will leave Career Launch as a well-rounded problem solver with transferable skills in many areas including sales and marketing, transaction management, recruiting, client services and more. Perkins is currently accepting applications for the September 2020 session. To learn more, visit Perkins.Org/CareerLaunch.

**Alumni Association 2020 Board Meetings**

**Saturday, Feb 1, 2020: Saturday, June, 6: Saturday, Sept. 5: Saturday, Dec 5**

**Alumni Association Board of Directors**

Officers

Chair - Scott Wilcock / *Sailor*

Gilbert, AZ

stitchbert@gmail.com

Vice Chair - Marcia Wick / *Viviane*

Colorado Springs, CO

marciajwick@gmail.com

Secretary, Deanna Lewis / *Mambo*

Cincinnati, OH

dlewis@guidedogs.com

Members at Large

Amit Ahuja / *Tashi*

Santa Barbara, CA

aahuja@ucsb.edu

Kelly Egan / *Hope*

San Diego, CA

kegan@guidedogs.com

Bruce Gilmore / *Marley*

Vancouver, BC

brucegilmour@shaw.ca

Jack Heim / *Scout*

Madison, WI

jheim@guidedogs.com

Jason Mitschele / *Kailua*

Toronto, ON

 jmitschele@guidedogs.com

Jessica Naert Stone / *Genio*

Denton, TX

jnaert@guidedogs.com

Dorianne Pollack / *Dime*

Flagstaff, AZ

Dpollack@guidedogs.com

Amy Salger / *Marsala*

Vinton, IA

asalger@guidedogs.com

Ex-Officio members / board liaisons

Board Liaison:

Melissa Hudson / *Camry*

Los Angeles, CA 90013

mhudson@guidedogs.com