



GUIDING EYES FOR THE BLIND MONTGOMERY REGION

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Featured Stories

A Memorial to Louie
Welcome New and Repeat Raisers
Fun Places to Go
Fund Raising in our Communities

A Memorial to Louie

July-August 2020

Louie was the 9th puppy I raised for Guiding Eyes and, like all my boys, he was special in his own way.



It was at his first Walk and Talk that he exhibited an issue we dealt with the whole time in training – the inability to self-modulate.

He would get excited like all Labs, but the shut off valve was delayed or broken. He continued through his training and at that time Jane R., from the national headquarters, was coming to the region to do our evaluations. She always made time to see Louie for a follow-up b/c; neither one of us wanted to give up on him as he was great in many ways. His obedience was pretty good and he was great at loose leash walking and house manners.

But, it wasn't long before Jane R. realized that she was seeing some things that even she hadn't seen before and would try out new training methods on him. It was around this time I realized that maybe his destiny wasn't in guiding people, but helping with training. He was being filmed, discussed up in NY with trainers and would come back with something else to try. Needless to say, we all were doubtful and he did not pass his IFT.

Thanks to everyone for supporting me through this difficult time; it has meant so much to me.
Jody

The good news was I was able to adopt him and I was thrilled – he was a wonderful pet and companion. Satchel, my first GEB puppy, had retired after 9 years of guiding and was the role model for my new puppies. As soon as Louie came back, Satchel made it clear and sat with Louie and Conway (my pup at the time) to tell them he was going to enjoy retirement and Louie was taking over the role of training the new pups.



Satchel, Louie and Omar

He showed the next several pups how to walk nicely, have good house manners, appropriate play, quiet crating, etc. He was very successful with the pups under his care which included Conway (ATF), Omar (guide), Andy (guide), Elton (guide), Fresno (in-training when he passed) and Saxon who has passed his IFT.

I have raised 17 black, lab males when you include 2 pets and I can say he was the most sensitive, loving, wonderful dog I have ever had. We made many memories together over the years that I treasure.

Unfortunately, Louie went from out-running Saxon in the backyard in March/April to deteriorating from what is thought to be stomach cancer by May and I had to make the heart breaking, but kindest, decision to let him go on June 10. Louie was surrounded by Dr. Greenblat and his staff who loved him and always looked forward to his visits.

Saxon looked for him for days and we supported each other through the sad loss of our best friend. I imagine since then that he and Fresno are reunited and Louie is making sure he remembered everything he taught him.



Welcome New and Repeat Raisers



Proud raiser Carson will be giving this little pup, Journey, the best "journey of his life".



First-time raiser Katy will be raising little Julie, sister to Journey and Juniper



The third "J" pup Juniper is being raised by repeat raisers Fred and Catherine



Jennifer, repeat raiser many times over, is loving her new pup Lolly



First-time raiser CJ will be giving Larson a good college education



Happy is "so happy" to being raised by repeat raiser Lauren

Fun Places to Go

Let us know where you like to take your pup for outings



Juniper chilling out on a hot day after a socialization visit to the grocery store



Navy isn't going to let a little C-19 get in the way of his training as he participated in a scavenger hunt and enjoyed the sounds of soothing water at Rockville Town Square



Napa will celebrate her 14th birthday on August 10



Napa is the 5th GEB dog we raised as full-time raisers. Sweet Napa was released and we were able to welcome her into our household as she also welcomed many pups passing through as puppy start or puppy sit experiences; always looking up at us with those big brown eyes wondering "will there be any more passing through"?

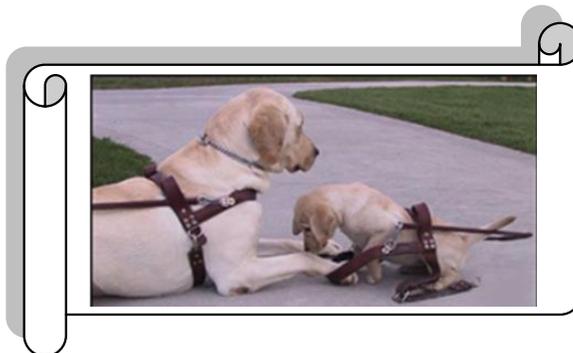
We are so fortunate to still have her with us and cherish each day.

We love you, Margie and Lou





Fundraising in our communities Will help me grow into this harness!



The Montgomery Region is highly dependent upon donations and the monies received support class space, crates, medications and other items for our pups in training. In order to maintain this support for our volunteers and pups in training, monetary contributions are always needed.

So, how can you help? Take the time to look around your community, or inquire at your place of work or worship. You may be able to identify a business, organization or individual looking to either sponsor or contribute to a worthwhile non-profit organization.

- Restaurants – Many local restaurants will partner and host a non-profit lunch/dinner
- Retail stores – Many stores will host a shopping event
- Place of work – Is your place of work looking to make a tax deductible contribution, or already has a matching charitable contribution program
- Financial organizations, grocery stores, sororities and fraternities...can they donate
- Yard sale –Is there a yard sale in your community in which we can participate
- GEB is on the national list of non-profit participating agencies for the Combined Federal Campaign #10248

Reach out to the Region’s management team, Jeanvne and Jean, with your ideas.

Listed are contributions to date for 2020

- Verizon

*Deadline for
submission of articles
and pictures is the 1st
of each month*



Your articles will be included in future issues
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