ALUMNI NEWS

Volume 30 – Number 3

Pete Berg, Kelly Egan, Cheri Owen, and Theresa Stern, Editors

Audio version voiced by Michele Spitz, Woman of Her Word and Cliff Hahn, Cliff Hahn Sound

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!

NEW! Alumni News is now available as a podcast, you can find it at Apple Podcasts, search for Alumni Updates. Please note that the recording of the newsletter takes some time so issues will post at a later date than the email version.

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>

Browse all GDB’s newsletters, including back issues of Alumni News at [www.guidedogs.com/news](http://www.guidedogs.com/news)

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# FROM YOUR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

## The 2022 Virtual Reunion Starts with You.

Saturday October 15th – Saturday, October 22

You heard it right, folks. The forthcoming reunion is VIRTUAL. This means some traditions are being transformed, making room for new possibilities – and more of them.

The GDB Alumni Association welcomes alumni from our Guide Dog, OMI and K 9 Buddy programs, as well as our beloved Puppy Raisers, volunteers, and staff to participate in the GDB Eightieth Anniversary Reunion planned for October 15 – 22, 2022! Many of us are itching for a healthy dose of paws-itve vibes among our GDB family and plans are in motion.

Registration is FREE – register now to get agenda updates and announcements.

To register go to [www.guidedogs.com/reunion](http://www.guidedogs.com/reunion)

We have a wide range of workshops and activities planned for the week. Presenters will include, GDB alumni, staff, and puppy raisers, on topics from vet care to emergency preparedness, to advocacy, crafting, hiking, and even baking bread! We are also setting time aside for games and socials!

DRAFT SCHEDULE (Note, all times are Pacific Daylight Time)

Saturday, October 15 – Chapter in person events, or if you don’t have a chapter near you take Juno for a nice long walk in celebration of GDB’s 80th anniversary!

Virtual Activities and Workshops via Zoom

Sunday, October 16 – 11:00 AM – 6:00 PM

Monday, October 17 through Thursday, Oct. 20th - 4:00 PM – 7:30 PM

 Friday, October 21 – 3:30 PM – 8:30 PM

Saturday, October 22 – 9:00 AM – 4:30 PM

You will be sent a Zoom link and can come to as many activities as you have time for. We will be recording workshops for those of you who are unable to attend in person. (Please note, we are dealing with six, yes six time zones amongst our alumni so we have done our best to accommodate schedules)

We look forward to connecting with you in October!!!

Register Today!!!

# “BARK” TO SCHOOL

## Meet Professor Chad

By: Melba Valez Ortiz with Chad

Can a guide dog be a university Professor? In my experience, absolutely. My guide dog Chad has become known as Professor Chad at the Michigan college campus where we have been working together for 6 years. I am a Professor of Communication and on the first day of class I introduce Chad as Professor of Unconditional Love and Service. Think I’m just joking? Let me explain why.

As a professor who is also a Latina and a blind person, Professor Chad facilitates my presentation as a human being and not just an instructor. Chad humanizes me and puts into perspective that, as a human being, I too, have challenges and obstacles that I must overcome before I ever make it to class each day. Having Chad in the classroom has had a lasting and positive effect in every classroom we have taught in as his presence signals to the students at all levels: undergrad, graduate, returning, and presently in Honors, that we all (Chad, students, and myself) work together as a team to accomplish the course goals. This way of re-framing the student-teacher relationship is key to upturn the obsolete hierarchical way of understanding the role of professor as a “sage on stage”. Thus, by making the instructor a partner to the students, the classroom is infused with a collaborative dynamic that promotes accountability, compassion, and cooperation as foundational values of a college education. This is an important set of skills that students can easily translate into their individual work environments and career endeavors.

As my co-instructor, Chad has a unique talent for putting students who are often stressed and anxious as they juggle classes, jobs, and relationships in a relaxed and calm state of mind. Students report that once they arrive at our classroom just seeing Chad laying in a corner napping or playing with his toys, relaxes them and makes them smile. Chad’s ability to make students relax into the class is invaluable as a great number of students find it difficult to open up or speak publicly in college classrooms. Research shows that most people fear public speaking more than they fear death[[1]](#footnote-1) and thus what Chad does every class session is nothing short of extraordinary.

As a communication professor I also understand that the vast majority of communication among humans happens non-verbally. Scholars have found than more than 90% of communication is non-verbal.[[2]](#footnote-2) This is another area when Chad excels as a teacher. Remember when your parents told you do as I say not as I do? Well, Chad doesn’t have that problem. Chad exemplifies and embodies service and unconditional love like no other and get this . . .he doesn’t have to say a word to make his commitment and loyalty unquestionable. This is an indispensable lesson for students, instructors, administrators and the campus community at large: that a gesture, concrete action, and behavior speaks more than a thousand words. I could say this to students all day long but as an instructor, Chad has all the credibility in this regard, and he sets the example for the rest of us.

Chad’s role as an instructor is key to my success as a communication professor and his excellent work helps dispel the stereotype and long-standing cultural refrain of blind people as ignorant, foolish, and oblivious. With Professor Chad by my side, we are living proof that blind people are also knowers and experts with knowledge and wisdom that benefits our culture, universities, and the world at large.

Note: Our eternal gratitude and admiration to the puppy-raising family: Toni and Morgan Watson, whose idea it was to raise a puppy for GDB. We love you with all our hearts.

## Get Schooled About Your Dog: Inside of a Dog by Alexandra Horowitz

By Leigh Moss with Aviva

Have you ever wondered why your guide dog licks you emphatically? What about their need to turn around in small circles before they lie down? How do they see the world and why are their reflexes so keen that they can catch flying objects like a ball or frisbee or ice cube in mid-air?

In her book, “Inside of a Dog: What Dogs See, Smell and Know” Alexandra Horowitz, a cognitive scientist, explores how dogs perceive their world, other dogs and their close connections to us, the humans in their lives. After being partnered with my guide, Aviva I became intrigued with knowing more about how she sees the world around her and why she spends her days sleeping, showing off her favorite bone, smelling ALL kinds of things in her surroundings, and dedicated to working for me, her human.

In the spirit of the start of a new school year, I was inspired to learn more about who Aviva is and what makes her act like such a … dog. Horowitz writes in a way that is both scientific AND relatable. I learned so much about dogs and now feel like I know Aviva in a way I didn’t before, which also translates to the way I relate to her and respect her species even more than I did previously. I’d love to hear more from other GDB alumni who have read this book to learn more about if it changed the way you think about dogs or your guide. Enjoy!

## Martinez and Friends: Back to School Adventures

**By Cheri Owen and Martinez**

Cheri grabbed her bookbag and shoved her hand inside, feeling around for her Orcam in the top pocket, all while mumbling to herself. Martinez lay next to her, waiting patiently, paws crossed in front, like a little gentleman. His leash was on the chair with his harness, so he knew they were going somewhere. But, today was a Friday and on Fridays at this time, they usually went nowhere, lazing in the computer room. He relished napping on the rug in a patch of sunlight while Cheri would type furiously, listening and responding to her emails. He recognized the electronic computer voice. It was different in this room than in the other room with the couch and the big bright box, where many different voices came into the room.

Maria fluttered outside the patio window: “Where are you off to? It’s a Friday. Aren’t you usually napping right now?” Martinez side-eyed Maria and gave a nod and shrug of his head. “I don’t know” he whispered. “But, I’m going to find out soon.”

Cheri spoke triumphantly, “Found it!” and put the Orcam in her zipped side pocket. She picked up the leash and said loudly: “Martinez, come!” Ralph was looking in from the outside too, eating a mushy tomato from someone’s garden and smacking his lips, of course. He laughed hysterically. “You are right beside her. It is so funny she yells for you.”

Martinez looked sharply over at Ralph. “It’s not funny.” He admonished. “Remember? She’s blind?”

Martinez got up and put his head protectively on Cheri’s leg. If he could have put his arms around her he would have, the way she did to him when she gave him what she called “a hug.” Sometimes she put her face close to his, and he closed his eyes, waiting for the wetness that never came. She pressed her lips to his jowl, and his nose, but never once did she lick him the way he did her.

“There you are, my wonderful Boy!” Cheri said, touching his ears gently, as she put his leash on his collar and slipped his harness over his lean flanks. Ralph narrowed his eyes and watched. As they strolled down the suburban street, he scampered, following at a slight distance, hesitating every so often.

Cheri and Martinez walked to the bus stop, while Maria swooped in overhead. When the bus picked them up, Ralph jumped into the bottom of the wheel-well, onto the metal plate where he was protected for the ride. Maria fluttered above, following the bus. Martinez tucked himself in under Cheri’s legs under the seat. Martinez liked the bus. He liked that his friends were coming with them. The bus ride was smooth and their driver, Chad, always said hello, and winked at Martinez, confirming he was doing a great job.

After about thirty minutes, the bus pulled onto a campus. “Okay, Cheri. We are here. You and Martinez have a great day,” Chad said. Martinez jumped up and Ralph scurried out from under the bus, coughing. “Yuck, phooey,” he spit, as a cloud of grey smoke came out of Ralph’s throat.” Martinez guided Cheri up a set of stairs and Ralph scampered up them, while Maria fluttered above. “Oh, Martinez. It’s beautiful here. Where are we?”

Ralph heard Maria and he looked over his shoulder. There were trees, and grass and a beautiful ocean landscaping the back of the buildings. Ralph set about cleaning himself on a patch of nearby grass.

Students were biking on paths and others were skateboarding alongside of them. “I think this is the college.” Martinez said slowly. “Look at all this foot traffic.”

Ralph countered. “Look at all those M&M’s on the ground. I’m in heaven!” He lunged and ran toward a half-eaten bag of candy lying next to an empty can of soda. Maria buzzed and dive-bombed, she too was excited. Other than the grass, the landscaping was native, and brimming with tall nectar flowers that she could suckle.

Martinez looked side-to-side, familiarizing himself with the campus’s layout. He saw the crosswalk up ahead and waited for his command. Ralph yelled at him between bites, drooling and smiling: “You got this, Martinez! You are awesome!”

Martinez took a deep sigh and smiled. A thought came to him: “Betty Sue thought I was awesome.” Martinez heard Cheri give a command and he briskly guided her forward across the sidewalk, some left and right turns until they came to a large entrance door.

“Good Boy!” she reassured, giving Martinez one of his favorite treats.

Cheri opened the door and Martinez walked through, Cheri following closely behind him. Cheri had been here once before, with a friend and her cane, so she knew how to count how many doors down the hall she was going.

“Forward, forward,” she commanded, giving Martinez directions, until they landed at a ceramics classroom. The room was mostly full. Martinez looked around and saw so many students’ faces, smiling at him. “Do not pay attention to them, he thought. You must focus.” Students were heard oohing and aahing at him as he walked by. A student held out a piece of cookie for Martinez and he kept walking, not even sniffing to accept.

“Chair, Martinez,” Cheri said. Martinez guided her to an open chair and Cheri sat down. She pointed to the floor, and Martinez settled in beside her, still in harness. “She is really stressed, he thought. Cheri gently touched the top of his head and bent over. She rubbed one of his ears and whispered: “Thank you, my friend.” Martinez’s eyes welled up with happiness.

He enjoyed his work.

When class was over, they left the building. Maria had been fluttering, checking the classroom windows. She came back to the grass, to tell Ralph she had seen them. His cheeks bulged with food. He couldn’t speak. He had found a pizza crust, with just a touch of sauce left on it. Delightful! He regarded the underside while he chewed, stopping to flicked off some ants. No way were they going to eat his prize.

Maria could barely contain her disgust. “Don’t you ever stop eating?” She asked indignantly.

“No,” Ralph chomped unapologetically. “I’m always hungry.”

 “We need to make sure we don’t miss Cheri and Martinez, Ralph. Bring your pizza and follow me.” Ralph stuffed the last few bites into his mouth, bulging out his cheek pocket. He followed Maria to the curb near the entrance door, where there were some plants. Maria landed on a branch overhead.

When Martinez finally was outside, Ralph scampered up next to him, twitching his tail. Cheri had halted and was listening to her voiceover. Students were streaming out of the building. Martinez looked over and realized Ralph was covered from head to toe in dirt.

“What are you doing? Why are you so filthy?” Martinez demanded.

Ralph gleefully rose on his hind legs, and retrieved the pizza stored in his cheek.

“I love it here!” he chewed thoughtfully. “Look at all this grass and space for me to tunnel! And there is food that the kids drop. I think I’m going to stay.”

Martinez and Maria exchanged a meaningful look between them. “Really?” Maria asked incredulously. “Don’t you want to come home with us?”

Ralph stopped chewing, regarding them both. He got off his hind legs and sat as still as Ralph could, his whiskers twitching, deep in thought.

Martinez said: “I can’t believe I’m saying this, but I’d really like you to come home, too. We won’t see you every day if you stay here at the college.”

Ralph gulped hard, swallowing the last of his pizza without enjoying it. He wrapped his tail around his little body. He looked over at Martinez, and then Maria. His whiskers twitched rapidly and he blinked several times. “Really? You’d really miss me?” he asked, plaintively. “Nobody has ever really missed me.”

Maria fluttered, swooping in next to him: “We love you, you little pest. Home wouldn’t be the same without you, Ralphie.”

Ralph threw his paws in the air and looked at Martinez. “How many times are we coming back here?”

“Twice a week,” Martinez replied. Ralph breathed deeply in the fresh open air. “Okay, let me suck up some fresh air before I clog up my lungs again in that gas guzzler. I love you guys, too.” Martinez and Maria smiled.

Cheri gave Martinez a gentle pat on his head: “Come on, Boy, let’s go home.”

## List of Education Resources for Guide Dog Handlers

Service Animals

[Frequently Asked Questions about Service Animals and the ADA](https://www.ada.gov/regs2010/service_animal_qa.html#cert)

[Taking a Service Animal to School](https://adata.org/service-animal-resource-hub/school)

College

[ADA Requirements: Testing Accommodations](https://www.ada.gov/regs2014/testing_accommodations.html)

[Students with Disabilities Preparing for Postsecondary Education](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/transition.html)

[Auxiliary Aids and Services for Postsecondary Students with Disabilities](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/auxaids.html)

[U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights](https://adata.org/ocr-videos)

[An Introduction to Digital Accessibility](https://adata.org/ocr-videos)

[Postsecondary Institutions and Students With Disabilities](https://adata.org/factsheet/postsecondary)

Parents

[Frequently Asked Questions on Effective Communication for Students with Hearing, Vision, or Speech Disabilities in Public Elementary and Secondary Schools](https://www.ada.gov/doe_doj_eff_comm/doe_doj_eff_comm_faqs.htm)

Information, Legal and Advocacy Resources

[ADA National Network](http://www.adata.org)

(800) 949-4232

[National Disability Rights Network - P&A –](https://www.ndrn.org/)

[ILRU Directory of Centers for Independent Living (CILs) and Associations](https://www.ilru.org/projects/cil-net/cil-center-and-association-directory)

[PACER Center - Champions for Children with Disabilities](https://www.pacer.org/)

# Just For Fun – Tune into Fall

By: Pete Berg with Lloyd

What better way to swing into fall then with a new playlist! Here are some ideas for those back to school and other Fall favorites! Enjoy!

Teacher, Teacher - Rock Pile

Be True to Your School - Beach Boys

School - Nirvana

Smoking in the Boys Room - Brownsville Station

Rock n’ Roll High School - Ramones

School Days - Chuck Berry

Too Cool for School - Fountains Of Wayne

ABC -Jackson 5

You Belong with Me - Taylor Swift

Another Brick in the Wal Pt. 2 - Pink Floyd

 School - Supertramp

School’s Out - Alice Cooper

HALLOWEEN Theme - John Carpenter

Thriller - Michael Jackson

Dead Man’s Party - Oingo Boingo

Disturbia - Rihanna

Monster Mash - Bobby Pickett

Time of the Season - Zombies

Pet Cemetery - Ramones

# SNACK ATTACK

## “Back to School” Oatmeal Banana Peanut Butter Cookies (For Humans!)

By: Cheri Owen with Martinez

**This recipe will make approximately 30 cookies.**

**Ingredients**

1. 1.5 cups of mashed banana. (I like the overripe ones because they are sweeter)
2. 1/3 cup of smooth or crunchy peanut butter
3. ¾ cup of unsweetened applesauce
4. 1 teaspoon of vanilla
5. ¼ teaspoon salt
6. 1 teaspoon cinnamon
7. 1.5 cups of old-fashioned oats
8. ½ cup of shredded coconut
9. ½ cup of chopped pecans, cashews, or walnuts

**Instructions**

1. Take your 1.5 cups of mashed banana and mix in 1/3 cup of peanut butter, ¾ cup of your applesauce, your vanilla, salt, and your cinnamon. (I use a hand mixer when I do this until I feel a nice smooth consistency).
2. Blend in the 1.5 cups of oats and the coconut by folding the oats and coconut with a spatula within the mixture.
3. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
4. Once blended, drop tablespoons of the cookie mixture on your cookie sheet. (I line mine with parchment paper).
5. If you want a flatter cookie, flatten with a fork. These cookies will stay their shape when you bake them – they won’t spread when baked).
6. Bake for 12-15 minutes.
7. Allow 30 minutes to cool.

These are a great snack cookie to take with you back to school!

## Martinez’s Oatmeal Pumpkin Peanut Butter “Back to School” Snack for DOGS

**By Cheri and Martinez**Chapter Updates

**Ingredients**

1. 3 cups of old-fashioned slow cooking oats (or you can buy oat flour)
2. 2 eggs
3. 1 cup of pure pumpkin puree
4. 3 tablespoons of smooth all-natural peanut butter

**Instructions**

1. If you have oat flour, pour 3 cups into a bowl. If you don’t, add your oats to the bowl of a blender or food processor. (I prefer a blender because it’s easier for me – it’s one device with a button to turn on and one switch for different speeds). Blend the oats on a medium to high speed for 2-4 minutes. Turn off your blender and pour your oats into a bowl. They should feel like flour. If the oats don’t have the consistency of flour, put them back in the blender and blend another 1 to 2 minutes.
2. Add pumpkin puree, peanut butter and eggs to the blended oats or your oat flour and combine until the dough feels of a smooth consistency.
3. Preheat your oven to 350 degrees.
4. Scoop with a tablespoon and drop on a cookie sheet. I prefer to line mine with parchment paper so the treat will not stick once baked.
5. Once you drop the dough onto the cookie sheet, go back and flatten with a fork. I also spray my fork with canola oil so it doesn’t stick to the dough.
6. Once your oven reaches 350 degrees, bake 15-17 minutes.
7. Let cool for an hour. (During this time don’t be surprised if your dog waits under the counter while the baked goods are cooling – drooling of course!)

These are a great treat to pack in your lunch to take with you to school to give as a high value treat to your guide!!

# CHAPTER CHAT

## GDB Windy City Chapter Visits Wrigley Field

By: Pete Berg and Lloyd

On July 26th, the 32nd Anniversary of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), GDB Windy City Chapter members, family and friends attended the Chicago Cubs versus the Pittsburgh Pirates game. There were twenty attendees including six handlers with their guide dogs. Most were wearing their brand new GDB Alumni Association Windy City Chapter shirts.

Attendees had an opportunity to go on field prior to the game and take photos and record a video for the alumni reunion. Cubs staff were available to assist any handler that needed to exit the ballpark during the game to relieve their pup.

Guide Dogs for the Blind and the Windy City Chapter were mentioned during the second inning of the Cubs radio broadcast. Take a listen <https://on.soundcloud.com/f3yDp>

The Cubs staff were wonderful, everyone had a great time, and best of all the Cubs won! All are looking forward to another trip to the ballpark in 2023.

## Veteran’s Corner

By Cheri Owen and Martinez

Hi Veterans!

In our Veteran’s Corner of this newsletter, I wanted to let you all know, or remind you all, that we, as visually impaired/blind veterans have access to a Blind Rehabilitation Outpatient Specialist (BROS) through the Department of Veteran Affairs.

A BROS specialist is skilled to assist blind veterans at our homes or at a VA medical center. The BROS instructor can assist you with either orientation and mobility, living skills, and or manual skills.

Some of us are heading back to school. Maybe for the first time using our GI Bill, or perhaps much later in life for a second degree, but the BROS specialist can come meet you for a campus visit. The BROS will orient you to your classroom, cafeteria, bus stops, restrooms, and any other pathways or orientation you need for your back-to-school needs. You and your guide will be ready to go!

To schedule this, reach out to your VIST and request a campus visit from your BROS.

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to me at cheriowen@yahoo.com. You are welcome to join the Veteran’s Chapter, the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 6pm PST. Zoom link and One tap mobile are as follows:

Location: [Join via Zoom at this link](https://communications.guidedogs.com/e/896181/Q1MHNqOW5Xa2VvaGFLL1JienppZz09/fdqqn/942920833?h=N4k7K496ucxwIxZfykOoxMxR1MDRu687T4LgbJKnsik)

Meeting ID: 994 6485 5819

Passcode: 198677

One tap mobile

+16699009128,,99464855819# US (San Jose)

+13462487799,,99464855819# US (Houston)

# IN MEMORIAM, IN MEMORY, IN TRIBUTE

## In Memoriam – Remembering alumni who have passed

Sheri Riley of Austin, TX with Harley, female Golden Retriever

John James Humphrey of Phoenix, AZ with Noah, male Black Lab

Bill Landis of Turlock, CA with Nate, male Black Lab

## In Memory – Remembering guides who have passed

Jaycee, female Yellow Lab guide for Dawn Maxey of Downers Grove, IL (CA 723 – June 2011)

Bettina, female Yellow Lab guide for Stacy Lifesy of Houston, TX (OR 257 – August 2013)

## In Tribute – Honoring guides who have retired

Tansy, female Black Lab guide for Carin Hendrick of Kitchener, ON (CA 754 – April 2013)

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rideshare Denials – Take Action -A Note from Margie Donavan and Becky Davidson

Dear Guide Dog Handlers:
We are all aware that many, if not most of us have faced denials of rides from both Lyft and Uber due to our guide dogs travelling with us. We have recently learned from a Department of Justice (DOJ) representative that we should file ADA complaints when this happens. You can go to <https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.ada.gov%2F&amp;data=05%7C01%7C%7C19e1447aa494475e857808da81f33da1%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637965178956899109%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&amp;sdata=QWUVZz1PwCpjZBB4NHlLyuzTwN%2Fwq9IXit9fq8rdHCk%3D&amp;reserved=0> and type in the search box "file ada complaint". There are several options but you will want to file a civil rights complaint. (the link that refers to the Department of Transportation is only for airline complaints). The blank form is also attached here. It is an accessible PDF form that can be emailed to the address listed or printed and mailed.
Please note: Wee are only focusing on direct ride share denials in which you summoned a Lyft or Uber yourself. If you have faced denials through your paratransit service company those complaints should be reported directly to your transit agency's customer service number. Such complaints can also be submitted to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

We, Margie Donovan, and Becky Davidson, are available to help should you need assistance in completing the DOJ form. You may contact Margie at margie.donovan1@outlook.com or Becky  at beckyb1120@gmail.com. Once you submit your complaint online you will receive a receipt. Please then email that receipt to David Knight at the DOJ: David.Knight@usdoj.gov

We are undertaking this project because the DOJ has indicated that they have had no guide dog discrimination complaints filed against Uber and Lyft. We see many posts on e-mail lists and social media but it is now time to file your complaint directly with DOJ.  The more complaints they receive the more likely it is that they will take action.

Best
Margie Donovan and Becky Davidson

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**Vice President Interdisciplinary Client Services and Engagement**

**Theresa Stern / *Wills***

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**tstern@guidedogs.com**

Guide Dogs for the Blind Alumni Chapters

USA

Arizona

*Desert Dogs of Phoenix*

Location: Phoenix, Arizona

President: Scott Wilcock, stitchbert@gmail.com

Vice-president: Brian Mucyo, brianmucyo@gmail.com

*Northern Arizona High Country Walkers*

Location: Northern Arizona

President: Patricia Clingman, patriciaclingman@yahoo.com

Vice-president: Doug Reber, dougib4586@gmail.com

Secretary: Vicki Reber, vreber78@gmail.com

California

*GDB Alumni Foggy Doggies*

Location: San Francisco, California

Email: fogdog@groups.io

Co-president: Lauri Shay, laurishay@gmail.com

Co-president: Jan Robitscher, jbrobit@aol.com

Secretary: Alysa Chadow, chadowab@gmail.com

*OC Guide Dogsfor the Blind Alumni Chapter*

Location: Orange County, California

Web Site: ocguidedogs.com

President: Mindy Wulff, minwulff@gmail.com

Vice-president: Jeff Senge, jcsenge@outlook.com

Secretary: Carla Ross, info@ocguidedogs.com

*Paws of Fame Guide Dogs for the Blind Alumni Chapter*

Location: Los Angeles County, California

Web Site: [www.pawsoffamela.com](http://www.pawsoffamela.com)

President: Joseph Landau, jklandau@yahoo.com

*Sacramento GDB Alumni*

Location: Sacramento, California

Email: sacgdbalumni@gmail.com

Web Site: [www.sacgdbalumni.com](http://www.sacgdbalumni.com)

President: Christopher Pitcher, christopher.pitch@icloud.com

Vice-president: Debra Thompson, adrinamom@gmail.com

Secretary: Shelby Haines, Shelby-Haines@scusd.edu

*San Diego Alumni Chapter of Guide Dog Handlers*

Location: San Diego, California

President: Launa Hardy, Launahardy@gmail.com

Vice-president: Monique Fenton, Moniquegdb14@gmail.com

Colorado

*Colorado Rocky rovers*

Location: Denver, Colorado

Email: CoRockyrovers@gmail.com

President: Beth Gustin, bethglpc@gmail.com

Vice-president: Veronica Rodriguez, Veronicarodriguez1954@gmail.com

Secretary: Pat Hein

Florida

*Sunshine Guide Dog Teams of Florida*

Location: Florida

Description: We talk about our guide dogs and support each other with once a month calls and a once a year in person meeting.

Email: GDBSunshineGuideDogs@groups.io

President: Marcia Bukala, mjbukala@yahoo.com

Vice-president: Jim East, jim.east.mhs@gmail.com

Secretary: Reggie Alvarado, reggie.alvarado@gmail.com

Illinois

*Windy City GDB Alumni*

Location: Chicago, Illinois

Description: Chicago and Northern Illinois

President: Pete Berg, pberg55555@gmail.com

Vice-president: Terry Ann Saurman, saurmann@access4less.net

Secretary: Marian Roberts

Secretary: Maureen Reid.

Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio

*Guide Dog Handlers of the Midwest*

Email: GDB\_Midwest@groups.io

President: Deanna Lewis, Deannakay03@gmail.com

Vice-president: Paul Walker, herospaw2002@gmail.com

Secretary: LuAnn Bowers

Montana

*GDB of Montana Alumni Chapter*

Location: Montana

President: Ed Worrell, ed.worrell@icloud.com

Vice-president: Chandra Scheschy, kryodragon7@yahoo.com

Vice-president: Jeniffer Robinson, legacy\_eternaldragon@yahoo.com

Secretary: Aaron Page, ampage87@gmail.com

Oregon

*GDB HaRT of Oregon (Handlers and Raisers Together)*

Location: Portland, Oregon

Description: Join Oregon Handlers and Raisers as we learn, have fun, and strengthen our shared bonds.

Email: GDBHaRTofOregon@groups.io

Web Site: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/gdbhartoforegon>

Co-president: Chari Chauvin, finn986@gmail.com

Co-president: Jenny Collins, puppycruisedirector@gmail.com

Utah

*Greatest Paws on Earth GDB Alumni Chapter*

Location: Utah

President: Sandy Ruconich, sruconich@gmail.com

Vice-president: Patty Mueller, plmueller@q.com

Washington

*GDB Washington State Alumni*

Location: Washington State

Description: Supporting each other and keeping everyone up to date about GDB

Email: wagdbalumni@groups.io

Co-president: Holly Turri, holly.turri9@gmail.com

Co-president: Danette Dixon, danettedixon63@gmail.com

Canada

British Columbia

*BC Dogwoods GDB Alumni*

Location: British Columbia

Email: BC Dogwoods Alumni Group talkadvocacy@hooh.ca

President: Heather Walkus

Advocacy: Lisa Bentz

Outreach: Matt Salli

Quebec

*Isee Paws Guide Dogs*

Location: Montreal, Quebec

President: Kim Holdbrook, kimholdbrook3@gmail.com

Special Interest

*GDB Bibliodogs*

Description: The GDB book club. Meets on the third Thursday of each month at 4:00 pm Pacific.

Email: GDBBibliodogs@groups.io

President: Leigh Moss, lparkermoss@gmail.com

Vice-president: Sue Wilkening, smsw57@gmail.com

Secretary: Robin Gray, ms.gray@shaw.ca

*GDB Creative Tails writing group*

Description: Writing

Email: GDBCreativeTails@groups.io

President: Lisa Gilmartin, lsg1144.lg@gmail.com

Vice-president: Dorianne Pollack, Doriannepollack@gmail.com

Secretary: Launa Hardy, launahardy@gmail.com

*GDB Guide Dog Handlers All Ways*

Description: GDB grads and other guide dog handlers with multiple disabilities

Co-president: Kim Kilpatrick, kimjkilpatrick@gmail.com

Co-president: Jo Elizabeth Pinto, jopinto@msn.com

Vice-president: Sarah Gales

Secretary: Deanna Lewis, Deannakay03@gmail.com

*GDB Mommies with Guides*

Description: Focus on parenting

President: Tara Chavez, tmatzick06@gmail.com

*GDB Paws Around the World*

Description: Travel

President: Sue Wilkening, smsw57@gmail.com

Vice-president: Erika Wolf, wolf67120@gmail.com

Secretary: Lillian Goodman, lilliangoodman98@gmail.com

*GDB Raisers and Handlers*

Description: Bringing raisers and handlers together.

President: Danette Dixon, Danettedixon63@gmail.com

Vice-president: Paul Walker, herospaw2002@gmail.com

Secretary: Mary Flynn

Outreach: Andrea Barnhurst, atl\_braves1fan@yahoo.com

*GDB Tech Dogs*

Location: International, meets via Zoom

Description: Sharing tips, tricks, and techniques related to technology

Email: techdogs@groups.io

Web Site: [www.tech-dogs.net](http://www.tech-dogs.net)

President: Deborah Kendrick, Kendrick.deborah@gmail.com

Vice-president: Paul Walker, herospaw2002@gmail.com

*Gdb Stitch and Bitch*

Description: Needlecrafting of all types

Email: GDBStitchAndBitch@groups.io

President: Dorianne Pollack, Doriannepollack@gmail.com

Vice-president: Jack Heim, john@johnheim.com

Secretary: Deanna Lewis, Deannakay03@gmail.com

Please send updates to jheim@guidedogs.com. Last updated: Wednesday, March 02, 2022

# GIFT SHOP NEWS

By: Michelle McNew

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

3 Guides 10 inch Tablet Sleeve

$18.00

This Neoprene Laptop Sleeve features a Zipper Closure, Interior pocket & Padded Interior. Decorated on both sides with a photo of 3 guide dogs in harness. A golden retriever in harness, a black labrador in harness and a yellow labrador in harness sit side by side in a garden setting. The background is filled with green leaves while the dogs sit on a cement step. An orange GDB logo is located in the top left corner of the photo. This sleeve is made of soft 2.5 mm flexible, durable Neoprene material.

Fits 10 inch Tablet

Size: 11.22 inches by 8.66 inches

16.9 ounce Stainless Pint Tumbler

$20.00

Great for the summer to keep your drinks cold! This 16.9 oz double wall 18/8 stainless steel thermal pint with copper vacuum insulation, and high polish features a design from GDB Client, Eryn. The illustration is of a yellow lab guide dog in harness and a black lab puppy in a green puppy jacket on one side of this tumbler and the GDB logo in black is on the other side. Makes a great gift too!

80th Anniversary 16.9oz Stainless Steel Bottle

$18.00

This insulated 16.9 ounce stainless steel water bottle is here for a limited time! Featuring a carrying handle, threaded dual opening lid, stainless steel base and powder coat finish. Adorned with the GDB 80th Anniversary logo in white. Available in teal. Specs: 9.4 inches height x 2.8 inches width. care and use: hand wash recommended

Adult Contoured Paw Print V NeckTee

$25.00

This is such a fun design! The back of the shirt is adorned with a paw print filled in with neon colored pup and guide silhouettes. Underneath the design is a black GDB logo the GDB url. The front of the tee has a black GDB logo on the left chest. This Tee is made of 90/10 combed ring spun cotton/poly. Available in Heather Gray in sizes XS through 4XL.

Adult Relaxed Life is Better Tee

Yes! Life is Better with a Dog! The perfect shirt for this summer! The front of the shirt is adorned with a gray dog shape with the words Life is Better with a Dog in white and it is also spelled out in white braille underneath with the GDB logo under that in white. The back of the shirt is blank. This Tee is made of ring spun 52 percent cotton and 48 percent polyester. Available in Heather Maroon in sizes XS through 4XL. See size scale below to ensure a great fit!

Adult Relaxed Fit Paw Print Tee

$25.00

This is such a fun design! The back of the shirt is adorned with a paw print filled in with neon colored pup and guide silhouettes. Underneath the design is a black GDB logo the GDB url. The front of the tee has a black GDB logo on the left chest. This Tee is made of 52% airlume combed and ring spun cotton and 48% polyster.Available in Cornflower Blue in sizes XS through 4XL. See size scale below to ensure a great fit!

Adult Relaxed Fit Paw Print Pullover Hoodie

$35.00

This is such a fun design! The back of the pullover hoodie is adorned with a paw print filled in with neon colored pup and guide silhouettes. Underneath the design is a black GDB logo the GDB url. The front of the sweatshirt has a black GDB logo on the left chest. Made of 55/45 cotton poly and weighing 8.5 ounces. Available in Kelly Green in sizes XS through 3XL.

Adult Relaxed Fit 80th Anniversary Zip Hoodie

$36.00

We are celebrating all year! This is a Special Edition GDB 80th Anniversary sweatshirt! An incredibly soft and relaxed hoodie, spun from a poly-cotton blend of 10/90%. A hood with white drawstrings, full zip closure and ribbed cuffs and waistband. Adorned on the left chest with our 80th Anniversary logo in white and our URL on the back between the shoulders in white. Available in Sizes XS through 3XL in heather forest green.

Bamboo 4x6 Vertical Photo Frame

$22.00

The Eco Friendly Bamboo Photo Frame securely holds any standard 4" x 6" photo vertically. A GDB logo is imprinted underneath the photo.

Bamboo Utensil Set

$7.00

Ditch those single use utensils and straws for your summer picnics and grab this eco-friendly utensil set in a bag made of recycled water bottles (RPET). These utensils are made of bamboo and include a fork, knife, spoon, straw and plastic wire brush. Bamboo products have natural anti-microbial properties. These utensils are accompanied by a blue bag with the GDB logo in white.

Car Coaster Set- 2 pack

$8.00

Keep your car clean and tidy with this car coaster two pack. Made of naturally, Ceramic Stone that absorbs condensation from drinks. Featuring a design of a green labrador silhouette with the words Life is Better with a Dog in white with a white GDB logo underneath. Fits in most cup holders, finger notch for easy removal. Size:2.5 inches diameter.

Hydro Sling Bottle Carrier/Cooler

$15.00

The Hydro Sling Insulated Bottle Carrier has a 1" x 52 1/4" adjustable strap that makes it easy to carry crossbody or over your shoulder. The PEVA lining is heat sealed to prevent leaking and you can store small items in the front 6 3/4" x 4" zippered pocket (bottle curvature may restrict some pocket space). Perfect for long hikes or sightseeing, use the locking drawstring to ensure a tight closure. Fits standard 24oz./700ml water bottles, wine bottles as well as larger capacity bottles up to 3 9/16" in diameter. The Hydro Sling Insulated Bottle Carrier is a great gift for your friends, associates and business partners. Available in blue with a White GDB logo.

Life is Better Tote - Royal

$25.00

Life is Better with a Dog! This adorable tote is 100% cotton with white web handles with full sides and a bottom gusset. Adorned on the back with a gray dog silhouette with the words" Life is better with a dog" and paw print inside the dog silhouette in white. Measuring at 14 1/2"w x 11"h x 4"d . Available in Royal Blue.

Mini Popup Lantern

$10.00

This is a super fun and really bright light. It lights up automatically when opened and turns off when collapsed. Slide up or down to control the brightness. Convenient hook for easy hanging. Available in black with a white GDB logo. 3 aaa batteries included. An awesome addition to your camping gear! approximate size Closed: 2 ½ inches W x 3 ¾ inches H • Opened: 5 ¼ inches H

Waterproof Sticker - Life is Better

$2.00

Show your support with this cute waterproof sticker. Featuring a design of a labrador silhouette in green with the words " Life is Better with a dog" in white with a GDB logo and url underneath. Measuring 3 x 4 ish. Great for water bottles too!

Waterproof Sticker - Paw Print

$2.00

Show your support with this cute waterproof sticker. Featuring a design of a paw print and the design indie the paw print are many neoon colored guides and pups. Underneath the design is a black GDB logo and url underneath. Measuring 2 x 3. Great for water bottles too!

Show your support with this cute waterproof sticker. Featuring a design of a paw print and the design indie the paw print are many neoon colored guides and pups. Underneath the design is a black GDB logo and url underneath. Measuring 2 x 3. Great for water bottles too!

Waterproof Pride Sticker

$2.00

Guide with Pride! Celebrate Pride month with this limited edition waterproof sticker, featuring a custom illustration by GDB client Paul Castle, whose beloved guide dog, Maple, helped by being a handsome model. The artwork features three characters, two of whom are depicted with guide dogs, and the third with a guide dog puppy. All of the Pride rainbow colors, as well as the trans and inclusive flag colors, are represented in the design. The words "Guide with Pride" appear along with the GDB logo. Great for water bottles too!

Waterproof Sticker - Pup and Guide

$2.00

Show your support with this cute waterproof sticker. Featuring a black puppy in green jacket sitting down and looking at a yellow guide dog in harness in the standing position. Under the design in black is a GDB logo and url underneath. Measuring 4.5 x 3.5. Great for water bottles too!

Wireless Charging Pad

$12.00

Use this charging pad to charge your smart devices. Keep your pad plugged into your computer or other USB outlet and simply place your wireless charging enabled device on the pad. Input 5V/1A, output 5V/800mA . Features a charging indicator light, auto shut off overheating protection. measuring 2.75 inches width by .375 inches height by 2.75 inches in diameter. Adorned with a black outlined paw print shape filled in with neon colored pup and guide silhouettes, a black GDB logo under the design and an orange ring around the total design. USB provided, but an outlet power supply is not provided.

Youth Paw Print Tee

$20.00

GDB Youth can show their support for GDB with fun tee! The back of the shirt is adorned with a paw print filled in with neon colored pup and guide silhouettes. Underneath the design is a black GDB logo the GDB url. The front of the tee has a black GDB logo on the left chest. Available in yellow in sizes S through XL.

All 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 our new customer service number at 503-668-2115 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.

Gift cards can be purchased and redeemed online, as well as in person and over the phone.

Please check our website periodically for new merchandise updates.

1. Dwyer, Karen Kangas, and Marlina Davidson. "Take a Public Speaking Course and Conquer the Fear." *Journal of Education and Educational Development* 8.2 (2021). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. . Carol M. Lehman & Mark W. Lehman (1989) Effective Nonverbal Communication Techniques, Journal of Professional Services Marketing, 5:1, 17-28, DOI: [10.1300/J090v05n01\_03](https://doi.org/10.1300/J090v05n01_03) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)