



# GUIDING EYES FOR THE BLIND MONTGOMERY REGION

Canine Development Center  
361 Route 164  
Patterson, NY 12563  
845- 878-3330  
[www.volunteer.guidingeyes.org](http://www.volunteer.guidingeyes.org)

Training Center & Offices  
611 Granite Springs Road  
Yorktown Heights, NY 10598  
800-942-0149  
[www.guidingeyes.org](http://www.guidingeyes.org)

GEB Veterinary Service  
845-230-6425  
[gebvet@guidingeyes.org](mailto:gebvet@guidingeyes.org)

GEB-Montgomery Region

**GEB Regional Manager**  
Roberta Huy  
**Class Coordinator/Instructor**  
Liz Neubaum  
301-977-8929

**Newsletter/Publicity**  
Margie Coccodrilli  
301-869-2216

**Website**  
Terry Cohen  
240-683-0332

[www.guidingeyes-md.org](http://www.guidingeyes-md.org)

## Feature Stories:

- Hildy Graduates
- Welcome Repeat Raiser
- Volunteer Taxable Deductions 2011
- Barnes and Noble Giftwrap
- Fun Places to Go
- Pups on the Move

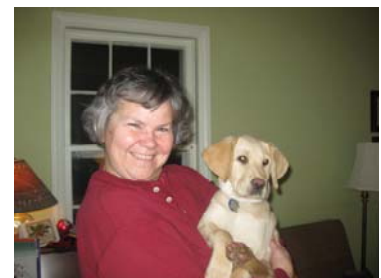
## Hildy Graduates

### Pamela Garde and Hildy

Pam Garde traveled from neighboring Connecticut and was matched with Hildy, a yellow female Lab. Pam received her bachelor's degree in sociology from Eastern Connecticut State University. She has been employed with Reminder Media, Inc. for over 22 years. She began as a telemarketer and now works as a liaison between the public and various internal departments to help resolve customer issues.

Pam has always enjoyed creative writing. In addition, she spends time on long walks with her dog, meeting with friends, watching movies, and reading books on tape. When she realized she could be even more independent, she reached out to Guiding Eyes for a guide dog.

Retinopathy of prematurity is the cause of Pam's sight loss. Hildy is her fifth guide dog, and Pam marvels over her skills – she finds her absolutely amazing. "She is fabulous!. I want to shout from the rooftops. A perfect match...like Goldilocks and the Three Bears."



From day one, Hildy was never mine. Other GEB raisers understand, but most of the rest of the world can't imagine giving up a beloved pup. *We don't give them up; we just move them along toward their mission.*

**CLASS DATES - Refer to Montgomery Region Website**

[www.guidingeyes-md.org](http://www.guidingeyes-md.org)

## Welcome Repeat Raisers

While Paul comes from a long-line of puppy raisers in the Van Nevel Family, this is the first pup he is raising by himself for GEB.

Welcome Langley...He will be in good hands with Paul as his raiser.

Langley and Louie are litter brothers



It won't be long before we will all need a second set of hands to count the number of GEB pups Jody McCain has raised.

Jody now welcomes pup #9, Louie, who has been named after Jody's beloved and missed family dog, Louie.



Brian Reed and Jen Cromwell welcome Fabri, their second pup in training.

Fabri is a litter mate with Fauna who is being raised by Claire and John Kennedy



Carol Lauer, having just seen her Hildy graduate, is wasting no time in getting back to raising her ....dog Jess.

Good luck to Jess and Carol!



## GEB Volunteer Activities Qualify as a Tax Deduction off your 2011 Taxes

One of the benefits of raising a guide dog puppy is that *certain* expenses incurred by any individual doing volunteer service *may* a tax deduction.

The following items are items that *can* be itemized and deducted from your 2011 tax submission:

- 🐕 Food, toys, mileage\*
- 🐕 Medical expenses paid by the raiser and not reimbursed by GEB
- 🐕 Training equipment such as collars, leashes and crates, that you may personally purchase

\*Keep track of mileage you incur for attending puppy classes, quarterly evaluations, extra training classes or workshops, manning volunteer tables, taking your pup to and from a puppy sitter's house, and **ALL** the trips you make to socialize your puppy during the week...*in a year's time, this mileage can really add up and, with gas prices on the continual increase, you should account for ALL the mileage possible.*

Does it include all expenses incurred such as a family vacation that you take and happen to bring along your GEB pup...probably not! It is best to consult with a tax specialist to ensure you receive appropriate credit for deductions.

Uncle Sam supports you in giving back to a great nation so **keep track of your mileage and save your receipts**...just in case Uncle Sam wants to audit you.



February 2, 2004

Dear Puppy Raiser:

Thank you for serving as a Guiding Eyes for the Blind puppy raiser. The puppy raising families provide an invaluable service to our organization in the socialization and pre-training of our pups. As a volunteer, you spend substantial time providing basic obedience training and socialization to our Guide Dog puppies.

In furtherance of these duties, you may incur certain out-of-pocket expenses which *may* qualify as a deductible expense on your individual income tax returns. Please refer to [IRS Tax Publication #526, Charitable Contributions](#) for more information. Guiding Eyes for the Blind recommends that you keep records and receipts to support the amount of your expenses that you incur as a puppy raiser and the subsequent deductions on your tax return. (Guiding Eyes does not need to receive a copy of these records).

Please consult your personal tax advisor for more details, and again, we thank you for your valuable support.

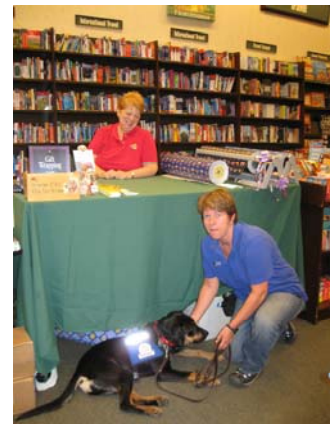
Sincerely,  
Puppy Program Department  
Guiding Eyes for the Blind

This letter is designed to comply with the "substantiation" requirements of IRS Regulation 1.170A-13(f)(10).

HEADQUARTERS AND TRAINING CENTER: 611 Granite Springs Rd., Yorktown Heights, NY 10598

## Barnes and Noble Giftwrap December 12

A special thanks to all our volunteers and pups who participated in the Barnes and Noble gift wrapping event. The evening's event yielded GEB-Montgomery \$60 dollars that will go towards helping raise our pups in training. *The pups had a great time.*





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

## Fun Places to Go

It doesn't get any better than this...watching the new pups having play time after their hour of puppy training classes.

Miss Fauna liked her Halloween costume so much she wanted to show it off to the new boys in the class!



## PUPS ON THE MOVE

*Deadline for submission  
of newsletter articles is the  
20<sup>th</sup> of each month*

In Training: Alma, Ambi, Arlo, Ballard, Felicity, Keller  
 Graduates: Hildy – November class  
 Connecticut: Ward transferred and being trained as a police dog



This newsletter is for everyone. Please contact me with your suggestions, ideas, and stories...**and send pictures**

*Your articles will be included in future n*

*Margie Coccodrilli*

*301-869-2216*

*[gebraiser@comcast.net](mailto:gebraiser@comcast.net)*