

Fall 2018 | Volume 84, Number 2

The Seeing Eye®
GUIDE
A MAGAZINE FOR FRIENDS OF THE SEEING EYE

**Baby
Love!**



The Seeing Eye®

GUIDE

A MAGAZINE FOR FRIENDS OF THE SEEING EYE



A Seeing Eye Perspective

Contrary to popular belief, not everyone here spends all day playing with puppies.

It is true that most of our employees work directly with dogs, but with more than 150

employees, like every other large organization we have many other departments, including a human resources department, a facilities and maintenance staff, and accountants, and none of them have four legs. (Although I am starting to wonder about the one who advises we invest in tennis balls, assuring us they have a high rate of return.)

There's a story that the first time John F. Kennedy visited the NASA Space Center, he asked a man with a broom what he was doing. "Mr. President," the janitor replied, "I'm helping to put a man on the moon."

And so whether or not they work with dogs, every employee of The Seeing Eye can truthfully answer: "I'm helping someone get a Seeing Eye® dog."

That same goes for every volunteer, puppy raiser, and donor. All of us, directly or indirectly, are making it possible for people who are blind or visually impaired to pursue their dreams with the self-confidence, independence, and dignity enhanced by our amazing dogs.

When I was first matched with Sheba in 1970, my dreams were the same as any other 19-year-old college student: I wanted to graduate and get a job. At the time, few thought it was possible for a blind person to work in a technological field. But with Sheba, I obtained a Ph.D. in computer science, developing one of the first talking computers along the way, and would go on to become a professor. With a Seeing Eye dog at my side I held my newborn son – the doctor had insisted I change out of my clothes and into sterilized scrubs, but they didn't seem to mind as my dog licked the baby's foot – and would later start another career in the corporate world. At every one of life's milestone there was a Seeing Eye dog with me.

Each of those dogs came to me through the hard work and dedication of countless people, some I've met and some I'll never know. Every year, scores of people come from across the United States and Canada to our campus in Morristown, New Jersey, to be matched with these incredible dogs. The instructor who hands them the leash and teaches them the commands is just the final link in a chain that stretches back to every other person who made it possible... including you!

Thank you for doing your part. We truly could not do it without you.

Sincerely,
James A. Kutsch, Jr.
President & CEO
The Seeing Eye

CONTENTS

Fall 2018 | Volume 84, Number 2

1 Letters to The Seeing Eye

2 Cover Story:
Jessica Calvo-Varela

4 Puppy Power
Thank You to Our
Puppy Raisers!

6 Volunteer of the Year
Carol Henry

7 Donor Profile
Honoring a Hero

8 News Highlights

ON THE COVER:

Seeing Eye graduate Jessica Calvo-Varela strides through Goffle Brook Park in Hawthorne, New Jersey, with her Seeing Eye dog, a yellow Labrador retriever named Jaime, and her five-month-old son, Joshua. See story on Page 2!

Photo by Victoria Alfonzo.

letters

TO THE SEEING EYE

Dear Seeing Eye:

Members of the Georgia Council of the Blind held our annual conference and convention in May 2018 and collected contributions to honor Seeing Eye graduate Ann Sims, who passed away at her home in Hapeville, Georgia, on April 16, 2018.

She was a long-time, dedicated member of GCB who will always be missed. We know how much freedom and independence she gained over the years with her Seeing Eye dogs.

Ann was guided by five dogs from the Seeing Eye, beginning in 1970 when she was matched with Raisin in class with The Seeing Eye's President & CEO Jim Kutsch. There were four other matches, Paula, Obo, Vim and Nickie. Ann had nothing but praise for the work of the Seeing Eye and the dedication of its staff and especially the trainers.

As her daughter Susan recently wrote to me, "I think it is wonderful to hear about the contribution that was raised for Seeing Eye! Momma loved and counted on her 'four-legged eyes.' She told me how much of a difference her guide dogs made in her life. I remember her recounting what it was like the first time she went out with her dog. The independence she felt was life altering. I can't imagine what life would have been like without a guide dog in our home. Each one made as much of an impact in my life as they did in Momma's."

Please accept these contributions in memory of our beloved Ann Sims towards your continuing work to train Seeing Eye dogs for those of us who are blind.

Marj Schneider
Seeing Eye graduate

Dear Seeing Eye:

In our adoption application, we indicated that we were interested in a female German shepherd that possibly might be capable of being certified as a therapy dog to visit hospital patients. I am happy to report that Eiffel passed her therapy dog certification test on April 27, being one of six out of 25 dogs that applied to take the test at our hospital. As you can appreciate, the standards for working a dog in a hospital are extremely high. That environment holds unique dog training challenges, such as medical equipment, alarms, pills, stretchers, extremely sick patients, visitors of all ages... just to name a few.

Eiffel now works with me visiting patients in the Palos Health hospital therapy dog program known as WAGS and she is outstanding at it. The hospital is located in Palos Park, Illinois, and the WAGS program has about 50 active visiting dog teams. Eiffel is a quick learner, excellent with patients, very sensitive, affectionate, always wants to please, and is all business when we arrive at the hospital. I've also worked Eiffel in Chicago's downtown area exposing her to the sights and sounds of the city including sirens, hotels, and parking garages, and nothing seems to faze her except possibly pigeons. At home she's a normal dog and fits in perfectly with our family.

Eiffel is a real Seeing Eye adoption success story. She clearly has an affinity for hospital therapy work with a sighted handler. I again want to express my and my wife's deep appreciation and thanks to all involved on your staff as well as the puppy raisers for their part in bringing Eiffel to us. She is a true blessing to our family.

Tom Blanchfield

If you would like to submit a letter to The Seeing Eye, email us at news@SeeingEye.org or mail it to:
The Seeing Eye, attn: Craig Garretson, P.O. Box 375, Morristown, NJ 07963.

cover story

Baby Love!

**Seeing Eye Graduate
Jessica Calvo-Varela**



HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER JESSICA CALVO-VARELA JUST GOT A SECOND JOB...

BEING A MOTHER!

Jessica has the unusual experience of having had a Seeing Eye dog in the classroom... both as a student and as a teacher.

Jessica grew up wanting a Seeing Eye dog. "When I was 5, I went to The Seeing Eye with my parents, and I had a Juno walk," she said. In a Juno walk, an instructor holds one end of a harness and the student holds the other, and then guides the student. This not only gives the student an idea of what it's like to work with a Seeing Eye dog, but also lets the instructor know the student's preferred pace and pull – two of the factors that go into making the perfect match between student and dog.

"I loved how it felt," said Jessica, who lives in Wayne, New Jersey. "It was so liberating, just to be able to walk freely. I've always wanted to be on the move. I'm a fast-paced person and I knew a dog would fit my lifestyle better."

Jessica was matched with her first Seeing Eye dog, a yellow Labrador retriever named Hetty, between her junior and senior years in high school.

"It was a little hard," she said. "Your friends want to pet the dog. But they usually understand they can't when the dog is in harness. Sometimes the worst were the teachers! The kids, for the most part, will know and follow the rules, but often it was the adults who didn't. I had to remind them!"

Jessica is now back in school, as a Spanish language teacher at Verona High School. She teaches Spanish 3, Spanish 4, and AP Spanish.

"When I was little, I'd always thought about being a teacher. I was the little girl who liked to play teacher," she laughed. "My first thought was I would major in psychology, but I always liked teaching, and I kept going back to that idea. I just had a calling for it."

How does she do it?

"As a language teacher, a lot of the work involves either listening or speaking," she says. "For the writing, we are fortunate to have Chromebooks at our school, so the students are doing the written assignments and the assessments on the computer, and I can access them that way."

Like other teachers, she also has a teaching assistant in the room, and she can help with handwritten assignments or other situations where seeing is required. "That's not very frequent."

But what about when the students raise their hands?

"My classroom is the one where the students aren't allowed to raise their hands," she said. "I encourage them to speak up if they have a question or something to contribute. This is a language class, so we want them to speak up. It's also interesting because



in a professional setting, at a business meeting for example, you don't normally raise your hand. So this is preparing them for the real world."

In addition to her day job, Jessica also has a new one... being a mother to her son, Joshua, born on June 5!

"And at the same time I was graduating from Montclair State University with my master's degree," Jessica laughed. "I'm still not sure how I did it."

Jessica says she gets a lot of help from her husband, Gabriel, her family, and tips from an online parenting group for blind parents. But it mostly just takes practice, she says.

"I was most afraid of changing diapers. I probably use more wipes than a sighted parent would because I want to make sure every area is clean," she said. "Honestly, it's more about being a new mom than about being a blind mom."

Her first dog, Hetty, still lives with her but is now retired. Jessica was matched with her new dog, Jaime – also a yellow Labrador retriever – in August 2017. But Hetty stays busy – she has been certified as a therapy dog!

"Hetty is now 13 and in excellent health, and I think that's because Jaime keeps her playing every day," Jessica said. "It keeps her young!"



FAMILY DAY Puppy Power!

THANK YOU TO
OUR PUPPY RAISERS!

Seeing Eye instructor Brian O'Neal speaks to puppy raisers before a demonstration of Seeing Eye dog training.

Each year, more than 500 puppy raiser families dedicate their time, energy, and most importantly love, welcoming 7-week-old puppies into their homes and raising them to know good house manners, basic obedience, and to learn to trust and bond with people.

Spread out across three dozen counties – and two universities – in five states, these puppy raiser families are invited to come to The Seeing Eye campus in Morristown every summer for Family Day.

Here, they get a chance to meet each other, swap stories, and hear presentations from some of the graduates whose lives have been changed by their extraordinary service in helping to prepare these pups to become Seeing Eye dogs.

This year, 1,164 people came to The Seeing Eye's campus, where they attended workshops, graduate presentations, dog training demonstrations, and enjoyed frozen treats from a vintage ice cream truck!

In addition, 43 students were recognized with Puppy Raiser Scholarships. All the recipients are college-bound high school seniors who raised at least two puppies for The Seeing Eye, including one during their junior or senior year, and who attended at least 70 percent of their puppy club's meetings and activities.

Each applicant also must submit an essay about what being a puppy raiser meant to him or her. Linda Kabis was presented with a 20 Year Leader Award, and welcomed to the 21 Club – families that have raised at least 21 Seeing Eye puppies – were the Dougherty/Laverty Family and Barbara and Mark Chimel.

The Seeing Eye thanks Allergan Foundation and Helen Skiba-Powell for sponsoring Family Day 2018. Also making donations were Judy and Rich Dolinko, Demarest Farms, Best Provisions, Herr's Foods, Pechter's, Sysco, Kayser's Dairy, and Bella Faccia Painting LLC.

If you're interested in raising a puppy for The Seeing Eye, go to our website at <http://www.SeeingEye.org/raise> or call us at (800) 539-4425 and ask for Puppy Development.



Puppy raisers look for photos of their puppies.



Seeing Eye Puppy Raiser 2018 Service Scholarship Award Recipients

Mary Adams • West Virginia University
Edward A. Bragalone Scholarship

William (Will) Ashley • Gordon College
Aaron & Rachel Meyer Foundation Scholarship

Melody Chan • Gordon College
Anton and Augusta Birkel Foundation Scholarship

Kathryn Chenaille • Wilson College
Edward A. Bragalone Scholarship

Jessica (Jess) Christensen • Messiah College
Fludzinski Foundation Scholarship

Courtney Cook • Millersville University
Sally A. Jumper Scholarship

Maria Crilley • Centenary University
David M. Crowley Foundation Scholarship

Sydney Dejewski • University of Pittsburgh
Josephine Aresty Scholarship

Nicole Delp • Pratt Institute
William Heady Memorial Scholarship

Claire Dempsey • Wagner College
David M. Crowley Foundation Scholarship

Matthew (Matt) DiMarino
Atlantic Cape Community College
Fludzinski Foundation Scholarship

Dana Dragovits • West Chester University
Bruce J. Heim Foundation Scholarship

Olivia Dragovits • American University
Hermione Foundation Scholarship

Caleb Fornes • Rutgers University
Edward A. Bragalone Scholarship

Michelle Freitas • Kean University
David M. Crowley Foundation Scholarship

Claudia Glover • Eastern University
Sally A. Jumper Scholarship

Molly Granahan • UMass, Amherst
Michael J. Kosloski Foundation Scholarship

Krista Grassano • Virginia Tech
PETCO Foundation Scholarship

Jacqueline Griffith • West Chester University
Josephine Aresty Scholarship

Georgeanne (Georgie) Hess • Emerson College
Edward A. Bragalone Scholarship

Giovanni C. Kittaneh • New York University
Bernice Barbour Foundation Scholarship

Megan Labato • Rutgers University
Edward A. Bragalone Scholarship

Danielle Lange • University of Illinois
Aaron & Rachel Meyer Foundation Scholarship

Mary-Kate Linn • Warren County Community College
Sandy Hill Foundation Scholarship

Maryann Makosiej • University of Vermont
Fludzinski Foundation Scholarship

Sarah McIntyre • Rowan College at Burlington College
Emma Kate Brunskill Memorial Puppy Raiser Scholarship

Kaitlyn (Katie) Miller • YTI Career Institute
Aaron & Rachel Meyer Foundation Scholarship

Andrew Nash • Grove City College
David M. Crowley Foundation Scholarship

Alexa Peera • Rutgers University
Bernice Barbour Foundation Scholarship

David Petersen • Raritan Valley Community College
Bernice Delmont Memorial Puppy Raiser Scholarship

Abigail (Abby) Pietrak • Karen Pryor Academy
Aaron & Rachel Meyer Foundation Scholarship

Jaclyn (Jackie) Poshkus • Elizabethtown College
Sally A. Jumper Scholarship

Matthew Post • Bob Jones University
Anton and Augusta Birkel Foundation Scholarship

Rachel Randall • LeTourneau University
David M. Crowley Foundation Scholarship

Hannah Regal • Liberty University
Fludzinski Foundation Scholarship

Chloe Roberts • Penn State University –
Schreyer Honors College
Michael J. Kosloski Foundation Scholarship

Madelyn (Maddi) Service • West Chester University
Fludzinski Foundation Scholarship

Liam Stacy • Colorado School of Mines
Aaron & Rachel Meyer Foundation Scholarship

Robert (R. Joseph) Stephens
St. Charles Borromeo Seminary
Edward A. Bragalone Scholarship

Isabella Toyos • Penn State University
PETCO Foundation Scholarship

Seth (Seth A.M.) Turner • Raritan Valley Community College
Sandy Hill Foundation Scholarship

Margaret (Maggie) Welsh • University of Montana
Radcliff Family Memorial Scholarship

Shannon Williams • Misericordia University
Katherine Ann Engleking Scholarship



CAROL HENRY NAMED VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

The Seeing Eye thanks its volunteers!

The Seeing Eye has more on-campus volunteers than full-time employees – a fact that pleases Seeing Eye Chairman of the Board Thomas J. Duffy, who himself is a volunteer.

"We could not do all that we do without you," he said. "Your donation of time, talent, and treasure is of incalculable value to The Seeing Eye."

The many on-campus volunteers don't include our hundreds of puppy raisers (though many puppy raisers also are volunteers). Volunteers do a variety of duties, including walking dogs, driving vans, helping with office duties, or welcoming guests through The Seeing Eye's visit program. Volunteers work at the main campus in Washington Valley as well as at the Downtown Training Center in Morristown and the breeding station in Chester.

The Seeing Eye thanked those volunteers at a reception held on campus on Oct. 11. In particular, The Seeing Eye recognized volunteers celebrating one year, five years, 10 years, or 15 years of service, and also Carol Henry, who was named the 2018 Volunteer of the Year.

Carol started volunteering at The Seeing Eye nearly 20 years ago. "I saw an ad in the newspaper looking for a volunteer front desk receptionist," she said. "I had retired a year earlier from AT&T and was looking for a volunteer opportunity. I'm a dog person, so when I saw The Seeing Eye needed someone, I was very interested!"

Carol still volunteers as a receptionist in the Main House for The Seeing Eye's Washington Valley campus. She also has volunteered at Family Day and selling merchandise. "What this organization



*The Seeing Eye's
2018 Volunteer of the Year, Carol Henry.*

does is just fantastic," she said. "We are helping to give people independence."

She also is a Seeing Eye dog adopter, having welcomed home Max, a career change German shepherd.

Recognized at this year's reception for one year of service were Pauline Alexander, Victoria Alfonzo, Grace Banach, Leslie Banach, Howard Bell, Bert Cunliffe, Katie Essendorfer, Elise Falvey, Nora Fischer, Joan Flynn, Drew Gibbon, David Glicksman, Anne Hess, Raymond Hom, Kaitlyn Jackson, Rita LaBrutto, Vanessa Massuet, Carolyn Melcher, Karen Moran, Donna Mugisch, Tricia Nussenbaum, Judith Sandman, Kurt Schansinger, Nikki Slattery, and Frank Sweigart.

Those with five years of service were Marjorie Brandriss, Linda Chakrin, Claire Christjohn, Peter Gakos, Marjorie Kennedy, Kathleen Lederer, Leonard Lederer, Michele Loihle, Donna Mascia, Linda McConough, Margaret Meyer, Nadine

Sutcliffe, and Colleen White.

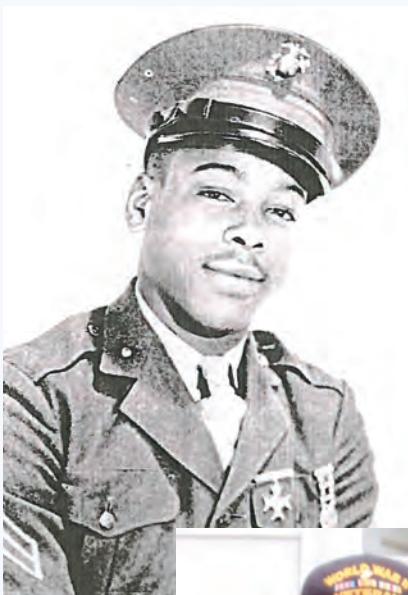
Johanna Ostar, Robert Parker, Bernie Schoenfeld, and Bob Swanson were recognized for 10 years of service, and John Kenney, Toula McEllen, and Joyce Novak have volunteered for 15 years.



Seeing Eye Board of Trustees Chairman Thomas J. Duffy thanks volunteers as The Seeing Eye's Linda Swanson, coordinator of volunteers, looks on.

donor profile

Honoring a Hero



ABOVE: Ryland Anderson as a U.S. Marine Corps sergeant in World War II.



RIGHT: Ryland Anderson today.



Candice Bolte began her career as a high school math teacher, then entered the corporate world, working at AT&T as a project manager. In 2001, she returned to teaching. Now retired, she continues to give back to the world.

Candice volunteers for Meals on Wheels, where she met a man named Ryland Anderson. In 1942, shortly after graduating from Morristown High School, Ryland enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps.

At the time, the U.S. military was segregated, and Ryland and other African-Americans were sent to a separate boot camp called Montford Point in Jacksonville, North Carolina. The "Montford Point Marines" were then assigned to the Pacific Theater, seeing action on Iwo Jima, Saipan, Okinawa, and Guam. They proved to be as tough, resourceful, and heroic as those trained in Parris Island or San Diego, and by 1949 the Marine Corps, along with the other military branches, was integrated. In 2017, Ryland was honored with a Congressional Gold Medal for his military service.

Candice – who always calls him Mr. Anderson – was so impressed with the 96-year-old retiree that she made a donation to The Seeing Eye to name a puppy in his honor. Ryland, a yellow Labrador retriever, was born Dec. 22, 2017.

"I've delivered meals to Mr. Anderson for over five years and I felt that this man is so extraordinary, and so humble, I wanted to do something for him and I knew this would mean a lot to him," Candice said.

If you know someone you would like to honor with a gift to The Seeing Eye, you can make a \$5,000 donation to name a puppy, or make a tribute gift in any amount. For more information, call the Donor & Public Relations Department at (800) 539-4425 or visit us online at www.SeeingEye.org/donate.



Ryland

news highlights

A New Puppy Every Month!

The 2019 Seeing Eye Puppy Raiser Calendar is here! This beautiful wall calendar features pictures of Seeing Eye puppies taken by Seeing Eye puppy raisers.

To order your calendar, go to www.SeeingEye.org/calendar, email us at PuppyCalendar@SeeingEye.org, or call us at (800) 539-4425 ext. 1802.



TSE, CFC... A-OK!

Are you, or is someone you know, an employee of the federal government? Then you might be looking for an organization to support in the annual Combined Federal Campaign (CFC), the U.S. government's workplace giving program under the authority of the Office of Personnel Management.

We have a suggestion!

The Seeing Eye is an eligible philanthropy under CFC guidelines. If your agency is participating, our CFC ID# is 10330. If you would like more information about CFC, go to <https://www.opm.gov/combined-federal-campaign/> or email cfc@opm.gov.

Holiday Shopping?

AmazonSmile allows you to use your existing Amazon.com account — same prices, same products — but Amazon will donate 0.5% of your purchase price, at no additional cost to you, to the non-profit organization of your choice. And we hope you will choose The Seeing Eye!

To date, Amazon has donated nearly \$10,000 to The Seeing Eye through this program... all those half-a-percents really add up!

To use AmazonSmile, just log in using smile.amazon.com. Be sure to designate Seeing Eye, Inc., as your beneficiary. Thank you!



The Seeing Eye thanks its corporate partners

We invest in bonds.
The human kind.

Giving back to the community is one of the most worthwhile investments we can make. We're proud to continue supporting our region. Now and for years to come.



travelers.com

© 2017 The Travelers Indemnity Company. All rights reserved. Travelers and the Travelers Umbrella logo are registered trademarks of The Travelers Indemnity Company in the U.S. and other countries. M-17706-12 Rev. 8-17



eone
DESIGNED FOR EVERYONE

eone-time.com



www.HealthyVisionAssociation.com





Washington Valley Road • P.O. Box 375
Morristown, NJ 07963-0375

Non Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
S. Hackensack, NJ
Permit No. 79

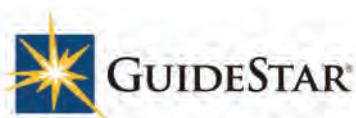
Spread Some Holiday Cheer!

The Seeing Eye is selling holiday cards to share with all your puppy-loving friends! We have many cards available this year, including this adorable yellow Labrador/golden retriever cross lying next to an ornament. If you order by December 1, cards can be customized with your name, additional message, and return address.

To order or for more information, please visit our online store at SeeingEye.org/store or call us at (800) 539-4425.



The Seeing Eye



President & CEO	James A. Kutsch, Jr.
Editor	Craig Garrelson

Visit our Website	www.SeeingEye.org
Email	info@SeeingEye.org
Phone	973-539-4425
Fax	973-539-0922
ISSN	0037-0819
Publication Number	488580

www.SeeingEye.org
info@SeeingEye.org
973-539-4425
973-539-0922
0037-0819
488580

The Seeing Eye produces The Guide® magazine in print, audio, Braille, and electronic versions. Copies are available by request. This issue and past issues also are available on our website. Permission to reprint may be obtained by contacting The Seeing Eye.

Seeing Eye® is a registered trademark for guide dogs of The Seeing Eye, Inc., and is its registered service mark for training dogs as guides and instructing visually impaired individuals in their use and care. The Seeing Eye admits and offers students of any race, color, religion, nationality, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation or ancestry all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students of the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, nationality, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation or ancestry in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and other school-administered programs.

The Seeing Eye follows the guidelines recommended by the Council of U.S. Dog Guide Schools for the humane care and training of dogs to be guides, and the instruction and graduate services offered to people who are blind or visually impaired.

The Seeing Eye is an accredited member of the International Guide Dog Federation. The mission of The Seeing Eye is to enhance the independence, dignity and self-confidence of people who are blind, through the use of specially trained Seeing Eye dogs.