Guiding Eyes for the Blind Graduate Quarterly Call - April, 2020

Topic: Meet Your 2020-2021 Guiding Eyes Graduate Council

Moderator: Liz Bottner - Graduate Council President

Facilitator: Nicole Yarmolkevich - Graduate Council Corresponding Secretary

The 2020-2021 Guiding Eyes Graduate Council was introduced. In the members introducing themselves, they were asked to introduce their current guide dog along with an interesting fact about themselves.

President: Liz Bottner

Guide Dog: Ocala, Liz’s fourth dog

Interesting Fact: She is goalie for the Hartford Braillers, Connecticut's blind hockey team.

Vice President: Victoria Keatting

Guide Dog: Watson, Victoria's fourth dog from GEB.

Interesting Fact: She was a competitive gymnast as a child and also showed horses before she lost her sight and thought if she could work with a horse, then working with a guide dog would not be difficult.

Recording Secretary: Lin Hunnicutt

Guide Dog: Thermo, Lin's fourth guide dog overall and third dog from GEB.

Interesting Fact: Lin loves watching NASCAR and listening to Bach’s organ music.

Corresponding Secretary: Nicole Yarmolkevich

Guide Dog: Pat, Nicole's third dog from GEB. She further stated that she doesn’t plan on going to any other school.

Interesting Fact: Nicole loves playing Dungeons and Dragons.

Cindy Van Winkle

Guide Dog: Balsa (German Shepherd), her eight guide dog, but first from GEB. Cindy added that GEB is her fifth school. She also stated that she also plans on going to no other school.

Interesting Fact: When Cindy was fifteen, the LA Dodgers threw her a surprise birthday party.

Johna Gravitt

Guide Dog: Brea, Johna's third guide from GEB.

Interesting Fact: Johna loves cooking and reading, the scarier the better.

Rick Ross (one of our new Graduate Council members)

Guide Dog: Leon, Rick's first guide dog.

Interesting Fact: When Rick is in court and the bailiff says "All rise", Leon rises, too.

Deborah Groeber the second of our new Graduate Council members)

Guide Dog: Iris, her sixth guide dog from GEB.

Interesting Fact: In 1996, Reader’s Digest wrote an article about Deborah and her first guide dog called "A Perfect Match". It highlighted the process of when Deborah received her guide dog through the day the dog retired.

Abby Edwards the third of our new Graduate Council members)

Guide Dog: Kathy, Abby's first guide dog.

Interesting Fact: Kathy is pictured in Abby’s sorority album and Abby also believes that Pineapple belongs on pizza.

Outgoing Graduate Council Members:

Terry McCann

Guide Dog: Mac, his first guide dog from GEB.

Cindy Lou Altman (not present on the call)

Guide Dog: Jada, Cindy Lou’s second guide dog from GEB.