## **SUMMER FUN:**

## THE ADVENTURES OF

CALI

A GDA | TLC

## **PUPPY IN TRAINING**

As told to her Puppy Raisers Bob and Kathie Stegemann July - September 2024



I am so excited to say "Hello!" once again to my most generous Sepulveda Building Materials sponsors! I have had a grand time these last few months growing bigger, experiencing new places and activities, working on my social and obedience skills, and just having an all-around grand time. Sit down and let me tell you all about it!

My housemates Akira, Abby and Riley continue to show me the ropes and to have fun playing and relaxing with me. I have developed really reliable good house manners, both in my own Simi and Big Bear homes and when visiting others. I wait nicely for my meals, take my treats



gently, come instantly when called, love my kennel for night sleeps, don't countersurf, don't chew anything but my bones and toys, and love to play with whoever will play with me. Yes sometimes my folks have to send us back outside because we get too rambunctious for house-play, but hey a girl's got to have fun!

I try really hard to be friends with the cat. I am a bit too energetic and he is a bit too skittish, but we are trying to meet in the middle and have touched noses.

I absolutely LOVE to go out and about! When my folks call me to come "get dressed" (the verbal cue to put on my jacket and leash), I come racing over! I enjoy the physical exercise, the mental stimulation, and the social interactions. I ride well in the car, settle well in restaurants, walk nicely on a loose leash,





shop patiently, and love the challenge of working around traffic and through crowds. Give me more!

July Highlights: July started with almost a week up in Big Bear, so I had different stores and restaurants and parks to explore. I stayed at home and inside on the 4th. I was curious about the fireworks booms in the distance, but was not at all bothered or nervous. Back to Simi for a

week where I had a variety of restaurant outings, mall walks, and play dates, and aced my 6-month evaluation (Ta-Da!). Then I spent five days with Cathy and Phil and Johnny and Nitro at their Big Bear place, settling into their routines (including some home-office work-time) before rejoining my folks at their Big Bear place for several days.



By the time we got back down to Simi the summer heat was flaring up, so as well as enjoying air conditioning at several restaurants and office meetings, we spent a lovely day walking around a much cooler Ventura Harbor Village.

August Highlights: August also started with several days in Big Bear, though I didn't know this would prove

to be my last mountain visit until October. Back in Simi we continued our almost daily whirlwind



of restaurants and stores and malls -including my firstever foray into Costco (for some reason I didn't get any samples!). I spent a weekend with Cathy and Phil and Johnny and Nitro, including a really lovely stroll around Gardens of the World in Thousand Oaks. I also spent a long weekend with Sheri and Adam and

Adam's guide dog Ollie, including a lunch outing and a long beach walk in Marina Del Rey. We wrapped August up with a nice stroll at Descanso Gardens. My one regret for August is that we could not come meet you all at your annual golf tournament, darn. Hope you enjoyed my video.



**September** Highlights: While there were days we didn't go out at all because of the extreme heat, September was still a busy month with several firsts. I settled under lots of restaurant tables (I am getting pretty good at this!) and aced settling during an office meeting, shopped several malls and a variety of stores,

walked Old Town Ventura, investigated the Simi Valley Cops & Cruisers community fair, and strolled Descanso Gardens again. I went to my first movie, had a grand time with my first Downtown Disney visits, did my first presentation to a group of elementary school kids and their parents, and went to my first Halloween store (I



was startled at first, but ended up loving all the animated spooky figures). I had my 9-month evaluation! The evaluator was very pleased with my performance, skills, temperament and confidence.

So that is what I have been doing, now as to how I am doing. I have turned 9 months old and weigh over

50 pounds, so I am getting close to full grown. As you can tell from all my pictures, I am a very cute Lab. I am energetic so I can go all day long even in busy situations, but also have started maturing and developing self-control so that I can make good decisions. I am alert and attentive to my

surroundings, eager to please, and always happy, and my folks say I learn very quickly and am one of the smartest pups they have yet raised (and I am puppy #18!). I am very interactive with people, and just plain FUN. I just need more experiences, and time to mature.

As for what is coming up, we will continue



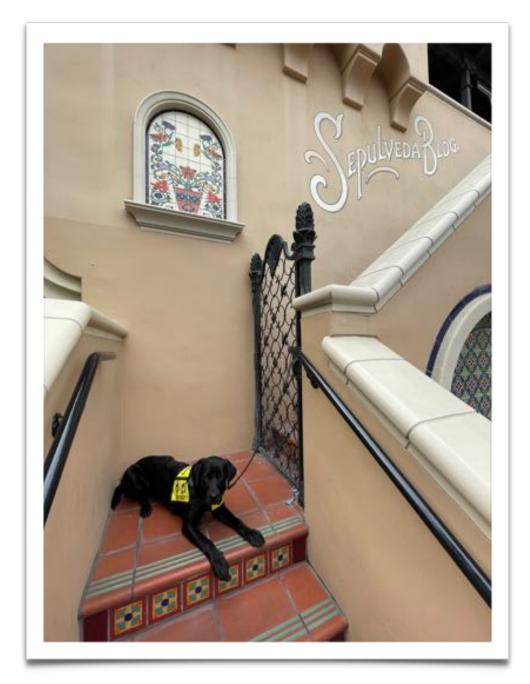
with our daily dining/shopping/walking outings to a large variety of locations. In addition, my folks tell me I will enroll in regular obedience classes, and should soon start spending time at Camp-GDA -- yay new experiences, bring it on! Then of course we will be rolling into the holiday season, with Fall harvest festivals, Thanksgiving, and Christmas, which will make shopping more interesting and challenging. And my birthday!!



The idea is to keep increasing the variety, complexity and level of distraction for me to work through. I am looking forward to the challenge!

Thanks again to you all for your generosity and support! Everywhere I go, I proudly wear my yellow GDA|TLC jacket proclaiming Sepulveda Building Materials Charity Golf Tournament to be my Sponsors!

I look forward to keeping in touch with you, and you can expect my October/November/December adventures report in January.



Wiggles and wags and puppy kisses to all!

## THANK YOU!

