

April 2024

Happy April, welcome to

# Spring with Sage!



Dear Sepulveda Building Materials Team,

Ah, Spring... when a young puppy's LEGS GET REALLY LONG! I'm growing like crazy and learning new things every day! Even with ALL the responsibilities of being almost 8 months old, I still find plenty of time to be a happy, bouncy puppy. All part of being a Service Dog in Training (to do *something*... still figuring that part out). I'll keep you posted!

Hope your Spring is filled with Growth and Adventures too!

(Controlled) Bounces and wags,

Sage

April 2024



I've been a busy puppy! Here I am hanging out with some Small Humans (Mom called them Girl Scouts, which confused me to no end because my sister is a girl and her name is Scout. Are there Girl Sages? I HAVE QUESTIONS.). My job was to sit quietly, be well-behaved and let the Small Humans learn how to brush me. Tough gig! I was a Very Good Dog.



I love my time with Dad (we both have long legs!). Here we are at a race in Seal Beach talking to people about puppy raising (they wouldn't let me race. What's up with that?) and on another outing, casting our vote.

I voted for more cookies.



April 2024



When we last checked in at the end of 2023, The Humans put something on my head they called, “a hat”. Now jackets I have finally grown to understand, but hats... what’s up with that?! I thought that was a one-time thing, but noooooo...

Turns out Humans like Hats. I’m not entirely sure why, but they have treats, so I comply.

Mom took one for the team and tried to make me feel better about the whole Hat Thing.

Paddy warned me to just smile and wag and get through it with my dignity at least somewhat intact.



“Oh my...it was just a St. Patrick’s Day scarf back when I was a puppy in training. So (ha ha ha) sorry!”



April 2024



It's all fun and games until the HAT POLICE COME AND GET YOU!! I tried to warn The Humans that no good would come of this, but did they listen to me? Nooooooo. Next time, LISTEN TO THE LABRADOR.

Okay, well, um... turns out that's not totally the truth. We actually met the Really Nice Humans with Badges at a run in Lakewood. But seriously, look at his hat—WAY more dignified.

Just sayin'.

I went off with another puppy raiser to The Shopping Place and was very relieved when it was all looking and no trying on.





April 2024



In March, I learned about something new... something very unfamiliar to my Fundamental Labradorness. I had heard the Humans mention it, but never really understood. And then... we had to say goodbye to my Best Buddy and Best Pillow Partner Ever, retired QDA breeder Ellie.

In March, I learned what "sad" is.

But everyone talked about What a Good Dog Ellie was (one of the many things we have in common), what a great long life she had, and how grateful we are for our time with her. And with that...

I felt happy again.



Ellie in HER first report from 2009. **2009**...is that even really a year?!





April 2024



It turns out puppy raisers love moving in packs as much as puppies do! Here we are on an outing with the Orange County Transit Authority with my brother Skip, sister Scout and the NotBlackDog, Reno. We had a great time, learned all about riding the bus and made lots of new friends!

It was all going great until...



OH, FOR THE LOVE OF DOG.  
ARE YOU KIDDING ME?



April 2024



I did great fitting underneath the bus seat (good thing these long legs are very flexible!), but Mom decided it was time for a New Experience (I love it when she does that!), so we took the train! I'm all about the upgrades!



Ahh...leg room! Nothing wrong with that! I loved the train—lots of room and feels like a massage!

If only those windows were full length...

April 2024



Wow, it's been a busy couple of months!

Even with the occasional Hat Trauma, I absolutely love being a Puppy in Training and experiencing the world alongside the Humans. And there's nothing better than a good Under the Table Nap with friends and family at the end of a long day of new adventures!

As I enjoy this time with My Team, I wanted to send extra special thanks to Your Team for making this Wonderful Life possible—there's no way I could do it without you! I can't wait to meet you and tell you this in person. I'll be the one without the Stupid Hat.

Love and wags,

Sage

Guide Dogs of America/Tender Loving Canines Puppy in Training