

The Life of Monty — November 2014-January 2015

Hello everyone!

Hope you had a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!! I'm back again with a new report in the life of Monty (me)!! So much has gone on since I last wrote to you. My family and I keep busy, but there's plenty of time for hanging out as well!

In the beginning of November, I got to go apple picking with the family in Oak Glen, CA. It's a family tradition and it was so much fun to be a part of it! The people there were so nice and there were so many new sights and smells!



As you can see, I got to watch them pick out the apples to make fresh apple cider with! It was fascinating!! I was a good boy, though, and didn't take any samples.

Can you believe they had miniature ponies there???!! They were as big as I was! Their names are 'Comet' and 'Star.' I got to sniff noses with them once, but mainly just had to watch from afar. I think they really liked me!



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Then there was the pig...do you see her in the background?? Her name is 'Blossom.' She was kinda grouchy and she would squeak her teeth together. Plus she was covered in mud and was really stinky! I wasn't so interested in her, so I just kept watching the horses!

Next, we had a photo session in the back of the tractor wagon. I'm not sure why Mom is so obsessed with taking photos of/with me, but I just go along with it! I get a lot of 'Awww's' from passersby and 'good boy' pettings from Mom if I cooperate. Besides, it sure makes it easy for me to write these letters to you!!



It looked like some of the leaves on the side of the wagon were a little out of place, so I decided to do a little rearranging (much to Mom's dismay!). I thought it would be okay, but Mom quickly told me that I can't touch anything unless it's mine or I've been given permission. I guess that's why I'm still in training to be a guide dog!

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Per usual, we took our classic 'selfie' and I was squashed in the middle...again.

Sometimes, I just take them on my own...hey, what's a dog to do when he's just lying around anyway? I took this one at a speech and debate meeting that I went to. It was a long night...



We play dress-up a lot! In the picture below, I'm trying to look like Gene Simmons from KISS! I'd never heard of that band, but when I looked him up, there was an uncanny resemblance!!



Some costumes are easier to wag about than others...



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For our December Guide Dogs of America monthly meeting, some of our group went to the Cheesecake Factory. It smelled so good! None of us pups got any of the food, but we got to practice behaving ourselves even with so much temptation!

I'm right in the middle with the shining eyes! ☺ Mom says it so hard to photograph the black labs because we're hard to see when it's dark!

I'm practicing a "down-stay" in this photo and rocking my 'Sepulveda Building Materials' jacket! I'm doing my best to become a great guide dog!



Also in December, I got to go to Logan's Candy Cane Factory for a tour! They hold the Guinness World Record for the world's largest candy cane!!!



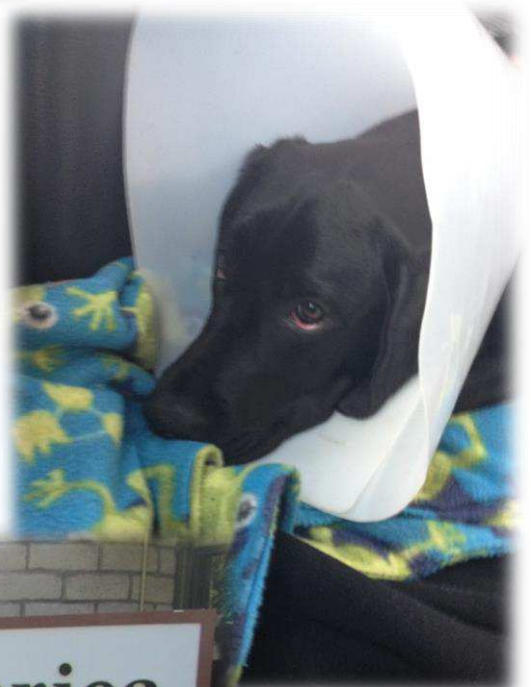
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We went to a Christmas concert and listened to a lot of singing!! I got to wear a big, red Christmas bow there and everyone thought it was really cute! There were so many people and it was so much fun even though I slept through most of it.

I had to make the trek to Guide Dogs of America to be neutered. Mom didn't tell me ahead of time that I was having surgery! I got to go to the kennels and see the other puppies in training during my visit.

This is me in front of the Guide Dogs of America sign. One day, I will represent this organization as a fully-trained guide dog!



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Mom and I take walks in the meadow by our house every day. On especially pretty days, we take a picture!



Sometimes, you just gotta
play it cool! →



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On the last day of 2014, it snowed!!!! I never have seen snow before and it was so exciting! Who knew all that cold, white stuff could be so fun!!

We got up super early to play in it and it lasted for a few days! This never happens in Southern California!



Mom and I took a walk in the meadow and all the hills were covered in this beautiful, white ice! It was sooo cool!

It took a bit for my paws to defrost, but all that fun in the snow was worth it! At first, I couldn't figure out where the snow would go when I ate it, but then I figured it out!



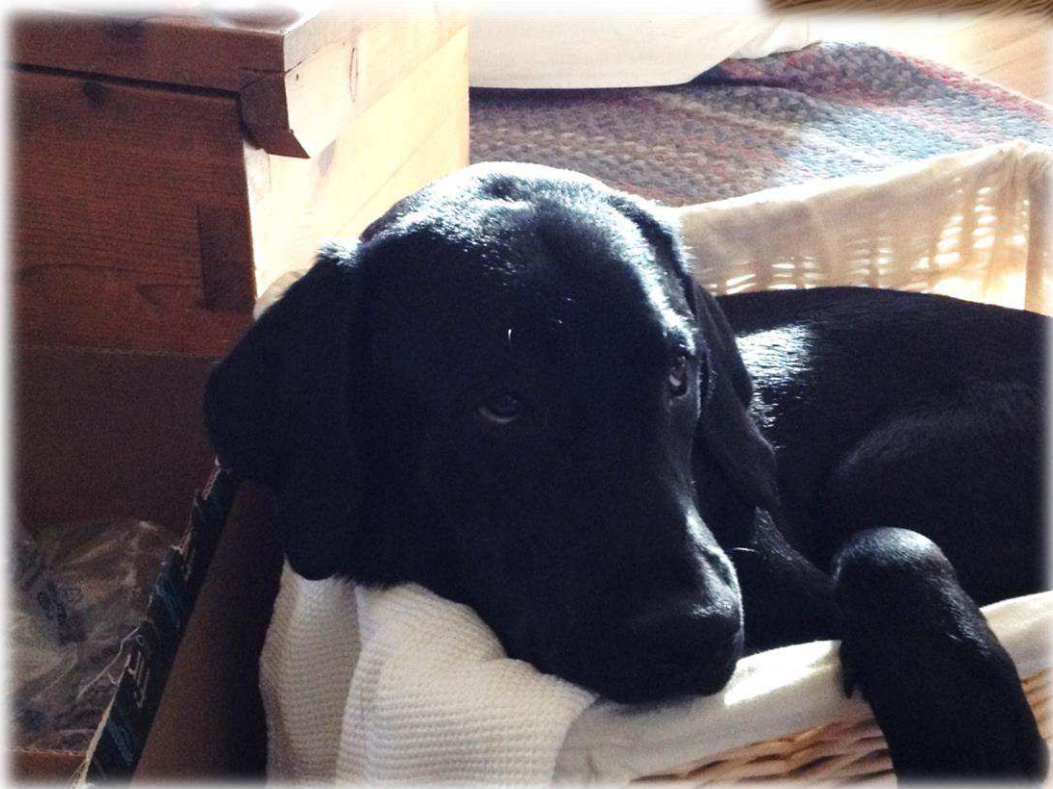
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Since I'm still a puppy, (I'm only 10 months... that counts as a puppy, right??) I try to fit into puppy-sized spaces. Unfortunately, I can't quite fit in them anymore! I guess that's what happens when you grow up! But don't worry about me growing up too fast. I'm still a puppy at heart!



I squeezed myself into this basket and took a nice, long nap! It sure was cozy!



Aren't I just adorable??



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In January, I got to go along to another speech and debate tournament. This one was held at Point Loma Nazarene University in San Diego, CA. Mom also was taking her high school senior pictures while we were there and I got to be in them!!

I was a very good boy and cooperated through the whole entire photo-shoot! It was actually more fun than I thought it would be!



I guess that's it for now in the life of Monty. Sepulveda Building Materials, I can't thank you enough for making my training through Guide Dogs of America possible! I'm doing my best to make you proud! Until next time!

Wags and wiggles,

MONTY

