

Dear Family,

I am writing to update you on my progress in service dog training. This month, I primarily focused on learning... LEAVING STUFF ON THE GROUND AND THATS IT'S NOT SOMETHING THAT GOES IN MY MOUTH TO MY TUMMY, ALSO, TO GO STAND NEXT TO MY HANDLER'S SIDE LEFT AND RIGHT, WHEN ASKED TO. I SOMETIMES GET UP AND FOLLOW MY HANDLER WHEN HE WALKS AWAY SO I'VE BEEN LEARNING TO "WAIT" UNTIL I'M TOLD TO "COME."

Some other things that I am learning include... HOW TO KEEP EYE CONTACT WITH MY HANDLER AT ALL TIMES. I ALREADY KNOW THIS BUT SOMETIMES SOMETHING CATCHES MY ATTENTION AND I LOOK AWAY. I'M LEARNING TO NOT DO THAT. I'VE ALSO LEARNED THAT TO GO "UNDER" A CHAIR OR TABLE IT MEANS TO STAY UNDER THE OBJECT UNTIL I'M TOLD TO DO SOMETHING DIFFERENT.

I am good at... LIEING DOWN WHENEVER MY HANDLER STOPS. SOMETIMES I HAVE A HABIT OF GOING DOWN TOO SOON BUT I KNOW I'LL GET A RIBBLE IF I GO DOWN AND PUT MY HEAD ON MY PAWS. IT REMINDS ME OF SLEEPING WHICH IS MY MOST FAVORITE THING OF ALL.

I am still struggling with... LEAVING THINGS ON THE GROUND AND NOT PUTTING IT IN MY MOUTH. I USED TO DO THIS AND THEN I STOPPED BUT LATELY THE TEMPTATION TO EAT DROPPED KIBBLE AND GOOSE POOP IS OVERWHELMING BUT I AM WORKING HARD TO OVERCOME THIS PROBLEM. THE OTHER DOGS CALL ME POOPY MOUTH SO I KNOW I HAVE TO STOP.

I have the most fun when... MY HANDLER PUTS KIBBLE AND PEANUT BUTTER IN MY TOY BONE AND GIVES IT TO ME. I CAN SPEND HOURS FIGURING OUT HOW TO GET THE YUMMIES OUT!!

My favorite toy is... MY TOY KONG BONE! WELL TO BE HONEST IT'S ONLY MY FAVORITE WHEN THE YUMMIES ARE IN IT. WHEN IT'S EMPTY I WOULD RATHER HAVE MY SMALLER TOY BONE. IT'S EASIER TO HOLD IT IN MY MOUTH AND RUN WITH IT. OTHER THAN THAT MY THIRD CHOICE IS MY HANDLER! HE CAN BE FUN SOMETIMES. HE THINKS HE HAS ME TRAINED BUT IT'S JUST THE OPPOSITE! HA!!

Wags & Kisses,

Olivia



Guide Dogs
of America



Tender Loving
Canines