

Olivia's Odyssey

THE EPIC JOURNEY OF AN ALMOST GROWN-UP GUIDE DOG PUPPY IN TRAINING



Happy Fall to All My Wonderful Friends at the
Sepulveda Building Materials Charity Golf Tournament!

Well, the time has come... time for my final report! Look at me, all grown up and writing my FINAL report!

Um... any hints on what that means?

Paddy and Ellie said when THEY stopped writing reports, they started getting up on the couch! Wonder if that's what's in store for me, but something tells me I'm on another path... Good thing I've been practicing all my obedience—I'm up for whatever it is I'm supposed to be doing (but hey, if anyone wants me to practice getting on the couch, I'm willing to take one for the team and do that too).

Here's to all treats and no tricks,
Olivia



This August was my second Sepulveda Building Materials Charity Golf Tournament—I'm an ol' pro now! I loved getting to help meet and greet all the golfers and cheer everyone on, but my favorite part was sneaking onto the golf cart. I suspect riding in the golf cart would be a distant second to swimming in the “water features”, but Mom and Dad said that was, well... discouraged.

Good thing I have my
own water feature
at home!



October 2021



I know the lengths I will go to for a treat, and on this day, I learned what Mom will go through to get cookies.



The American Red Cross ladies were very nice, but this was one of those times I was rather glad to be under the table and not on it!

Mom was a very good girl. You'll be happy to know she got her treat!

We had a great time at a surprise birthday party at "Taco Beach". I was a good girl and didn't spoil the surprise. We even had Air Force One fly over during the party—guess I must be a Very Important Puppy!



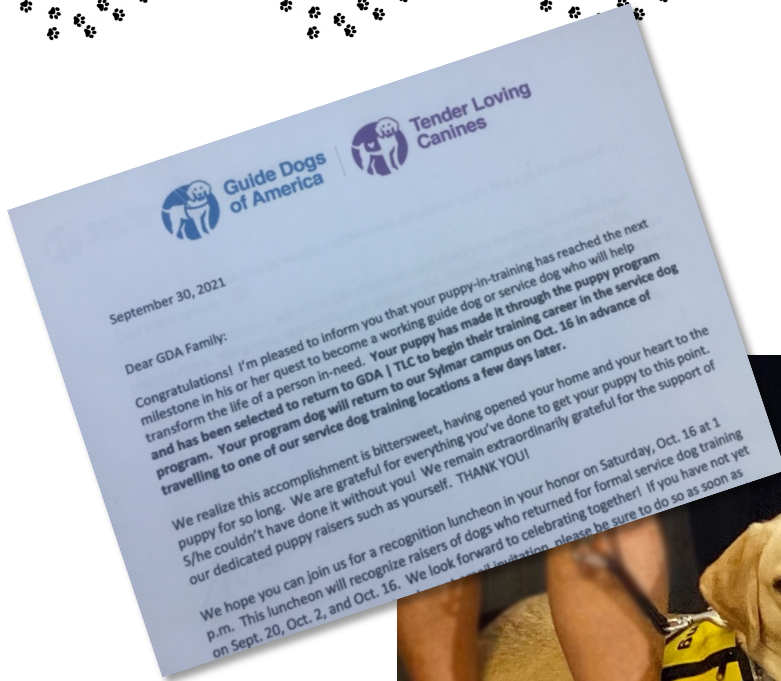


Now that we can move a little more freely about the cabin, we went to the Flight Path Museum at the Los Angeles International Airport and Dad introduced me to this lady who knew how to “stay” better than anyone I had ever met. I’m good, but man... she was incredible. I wish I knew her secret!

I’ve learned that it takes lots of generous people like you to make it possible for puppies like me to become guide dogs or service dogs. These nice optometrists did their part and helped raise money for GDA/TLC. I did MY part and grabbed some friends and their humans and we were all Very Good Dogs while Mom scored the check!



October 2021



Ever since the Humans got this letter, they've been extra clingy. They keep talking about "Turn In" and hugging me a lot. What am I missing? Am I Turning In-to something?

And should I be concerned that Paddy and Ellie are packing all my toys?

These things called "Graduations" seemed to make everyone feel better (even though they all cry. Humans confuse me ~~sometimes~~ a lot). Here I am with Dad at the first GDA/TLC graduation with guide dogs AND service dogs—that's a lot of helper dogs all in one place!

Good grief, no pressure or anything....



October 2021



Once The Humans got The Letter, I started to get a lot of invitations to come out from under the table and take pictures with everyone. This is when I really started to get suspicious that The Letter had something to do with me...

Here I am with Mom's quilting class. Funny, I only recognize their feet...



Here I am being very patient while a Really Nice Man cleans Dad's teeth.

I don't completely understand what's going on but I know enough to once again be glad I'm down here and he's up there.

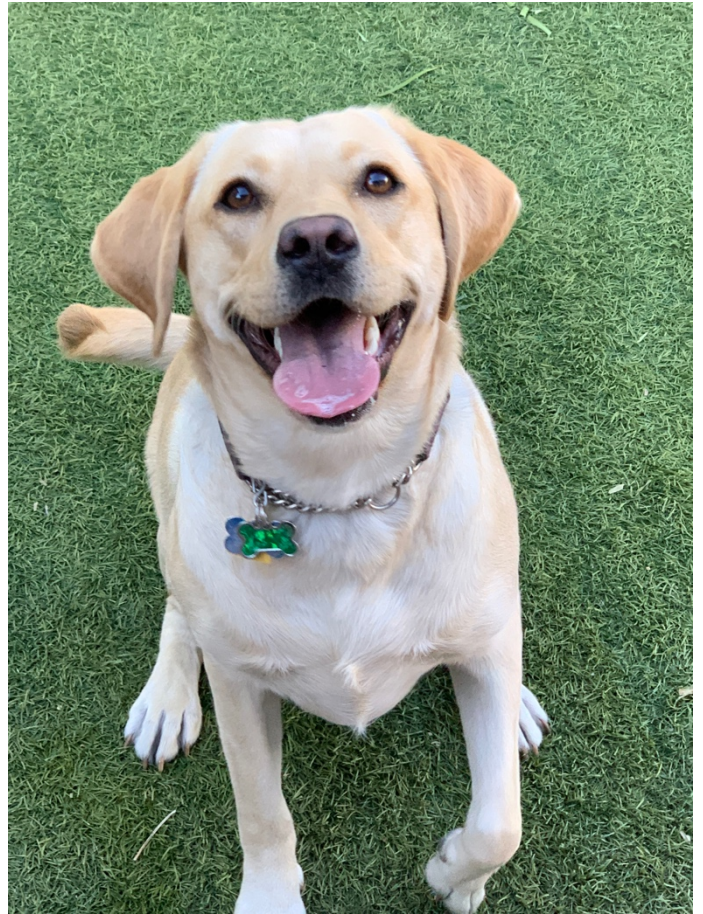


October 2021

HOW IT STARTED:



HOW IT'S GOING:





Oh, so THIS is what "Turn In" day is all about! I got fitted for a snazzy new purple harness (Dad and I matched), and we watched a demonstration of all the commands a service dog knows. You know that dream you have where you show up at the final exam and you forgot to go to class? That's kind of how I felt! Yowza! Turns out I still have a lot to learn, but that's okay. I'm up for the challenge!



And here we are! The GDA/TLC Class of 6-12 (ish) Months from Now!
Whoo-Hoo!!



Thankfully, no one has to worry about missing me next year, because guess who is Miss April in the 2022 South Bay Calendar?!



Here's a little family photo to close out my final report. That's me on the left (the one with the big smile!), Paddy is in the middle (she tells me you know her too), and sweet ol' Ellie on the right. They've taught me so much since I came home in April 2020, but for the life of me, I *still* can't figure out why they get to get up on the bed and I don't. One of lifes many mysteries, I suppose.

I promise to do my best at school and not stay out late partying or anything. I mean, unless that's part of the training, of course...

My dear Sepulveda Building Materials Charity Golf Tournament friends, I'll never be able to thank you enough for all you've done for me and for so many of my friends at GDA and TLC. You are Such Good Humans—I'm betting you were treat-trained like me!

With love and endless wags,

Olivia

Guide Dogs of America/Tender Loving Canines

Puppy (REALLY) in Training