

# Tagg's Waggs

Guide Dogs of America Puppy-In Training Sponsorship Newsletter

Hello Everyone,

We have had a very busy couple of months. Mom took my "sister" to a doggie dock diving event and I was able to meet a lot of new people and see other dogs who were noisier than I could EVER be! I spent some time away from home with Anne and Jim and visited the Del Mar Race track on a rainy day. We took the train down so I got experience on public transportation. I had my first birthday on August 10<sup>th</sup>! We went to the Sawdust Festival in Laguna Beach with the Orange County Puppy Raiser Group. It was so hard not eating the sawdust but I did my best (not to). We attended a special community even in Anaheim Hills called National Night out where I got to meet retired K9 officer, Bruno, who became famous after taking a bullet while on duty. We took a community obedience class in Yorba Linda. It was a proud moment when I got my score sheet and received 157 out of 160 points!

I went to two canine pool parties. I had so much fun swimming since we have had some very hot days. I was such a good boy playing with all the dogs.

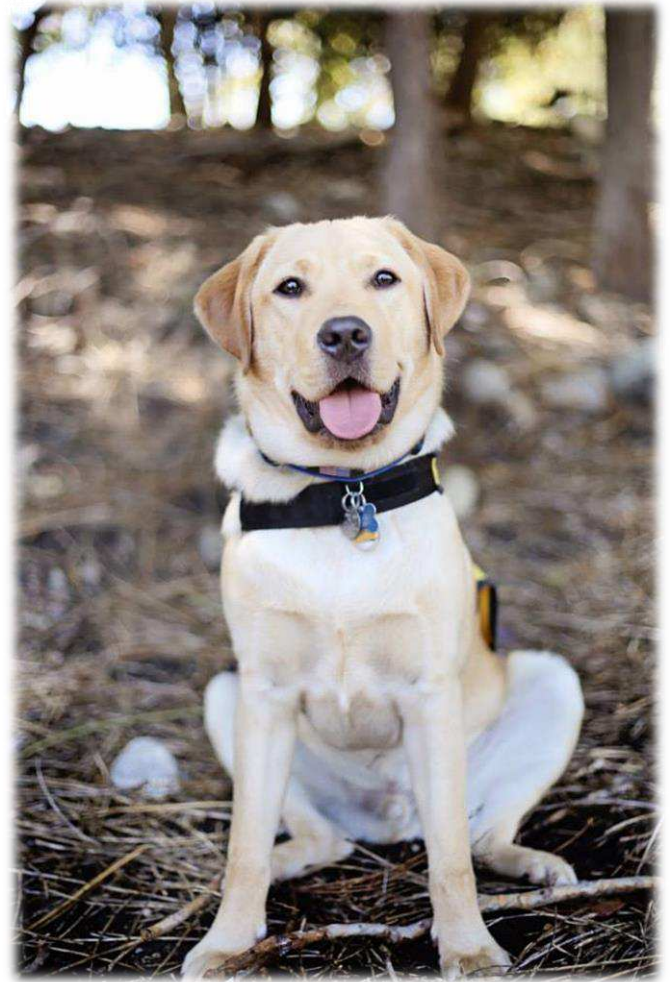
Sepulveda Building Materials hosted it's charity golf tournament and I got to go and meet everyone! We sat on a hole and got lots of pets from the golfers. It was so much fun!

The Ventura Puppy Raiser Group put together a GDA Amazing Race at the Ventura County Fair. It was truly an amazing day. We followed all the clues, did the road blocks and detours, and practiced our skills in a very distracting environment.

I experimented with painting when we went to a wine and canvas event. Mom's picture looked more like the example but my skill is more in the abstract. I actually had people want to buy my painting!

I had a two week long stays at the Guide Dogs of America kennels in Sept and October. We call it camp GDA because we get play with friends and on hot days, we get some baby pool play time.

We participated in the Susan G Komen Race for the Cure in Orange County. We raised enough for 10 mammograms!



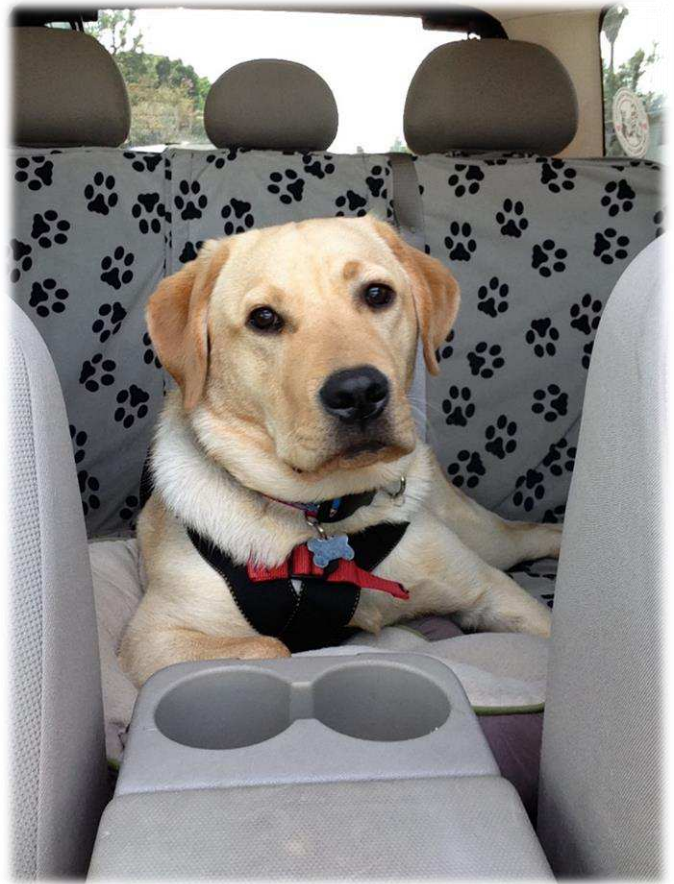
The Orange County Transportation Authority with Knott's Berry Farm conducts a service dog training day. We load the buses, stop, get off, listen to the bus when it leans down, get back on, tuck under the seat, all to practice for our future. Knott's lets us in to experience the people, smells and sounds of a theme park. It was a great day and I was a good boy!

We went to a pumpkin patch where I got to take some pictures and meet children. We also had a little GDA halloween party.

My puppy raiser joined Southern California Labrador Retriever Rescue and we went to a meeting at a restaurant where I was so well mannered they hardly knew I was there.



Waiting with Paisley for her Dock Diving Competition at the Dog Days of summer in La Habra.



Snug as a bug in a rug in my seatbelt.



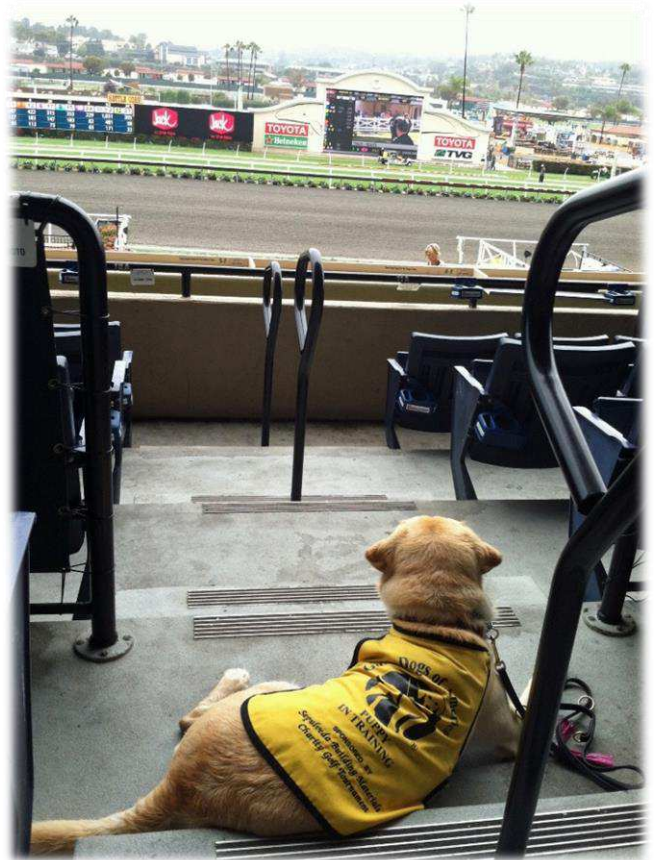
Enjoying the deck in Laguna with Anne and Jim!



Testing to see if my puppy sitters know the rules.



Trip to Del Mar on the Amtrak.



The horses are so fast they missed being in the picture!



It was a rainy day at the race track!



Group shot at Del Mar Race Track



I am the handsome one in the back in the middle.



Waiting for the train.



On the way back on the train, I was very tired and these kids loved me so I snuggled up with them.



I celebrated my First Birthday!



Graduating Community Obedience Class! We scored 157 out of 160 points.



Orange County puppy raisers enjoyed an outing at the Sawdust Festival in Laguna Beach.



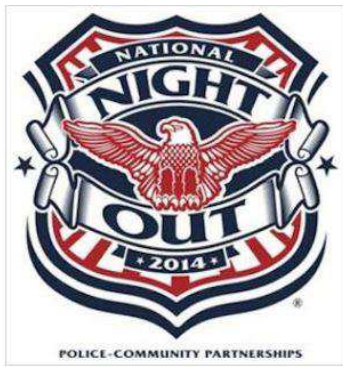
Water Wheel at the Sawdust Festival



Booth Duty at the Sawdust Festival, they will come in if I am here!



Tagg's Bag ~ A special gift from Kristie, Riley and Jasper that will be sent with me to my new partner when I graduate. I am sure it will be filled with all my favorite things!



The Anaheim Police Department hosted National Night Out in our neighborhood. It offered an opportunity to see the many facets of the Anaheim Police Department. Some of the highlights were seeing the now healthy retired K9 Officer Bruno, the mounted enforcement unit, K9 demonstrations, helicopter displays, crime scene units, fire units, and many other unique crime enforcement agencies.



Just about everyone took my picture in this hat.



Here I am with officer RJ and my hero, Retired K9 Officer Bruno, wounded during a gun fight. He is feeling very well.



This child tempted me with his colorful toys but I just watched him.



A very gentle fireman



Kissing a cop while seated on a police motorcycle! It was his idea!



Sepulveda  
Building Materials Charity Golf Tournament ~ I am looking good on the links!



On our way to hole 8 to meet the golfers! Fore!



Waiting patiently for our donors!



Laurel with Tagg, Nancy with Grant



This was the first year for the GDA Amazing Race at the Ventura County Fair.



Group shot of all the puppies who participated in the GDA Amazing Race



Boot Scootin' Puppy!



Detour, eating an ice cream cone in front of me! I was a good boy!



GDA Amazing Race Finished!



## What's In A Name?

How GDA's puppies-in-training get their names

Before GDA's volunteer puppy raisers receive their puppies, they are given the letters of the alphabet that was assigned to the litter by the Nursery Department the day the puppies were born and are asked to give the puppy a name that starts with that letter. All names are submitted to the Puppy Department for approval. A puppy cannot be given the same name as another puppy-in-training or of a working guide dog.

So what is in a name? We asked our puppy raisers to share with us how they choose the name of the puppy they are currently raising or most recently raised; here we share several of the many responses we received.

**We are all geeks! Our family is all in the field of science. All of our dogs have been and will be named after famous scientists. Our current puppy's name is "Pavlov."**

—Christy Binder

**We chose "Joia" because it means "happy." We were happy to foster her and we knew she would be happy living with us.**

—Jasnik and Judd Housader

**"Ser" is the lady's voice on the phone. You would trust her to get you safely to the nearest coffee shop or to a friend's house. We thought it was a great name for a guide dog.**

—The Tabor Family

**We happened to be having dinner at a Chinese restaurant. My wife, being a flight attendant, was flying to Tokyo and Shanghai. She looked across the table and saw me (I am of Korean descent). It all connected... we named her "Joia."**

—Rob and Aurora Kim

**I grew up with beads and the name "Sailor" seemed appropriate because it will represent that she will be "navigating" in uncharted territories for his partner should he become a guide dog.**

—Alison Adams

**We chose the name "Fara" because in Spanish the word is used for much things as: beautiful, bright, and lovely... all things that guide dogs need when you are in the dark.**

—Stacy Kink

**Since I am a children's librarian, my puppies are named after children's or teen book characters. Our last puppy, "Francie," was named after the main character in *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*.**

—Ann-Marie Eiden

**We are currently raising two puppies, "Bodie" and "Aurora." Bodie was chosen because we have visited the town of Bodie and thought it was a good strong male name. Aurora was picked because it is an Italian name meaning "heart," and we as puppy raisers raise these puppies from our hearts.**

—Lorry Randall

**I know I wanted an important name that would reflect her higher calling to life... it didn't seem right to me to give a guide dog a common dog name, so I went to Wikipedia and found "Polks," the Greek goddess of wisdom. Perfect.**

—Sybil White-Gallery

**"Roo" is named after the young kangaroo in the *Winnie the Pooh* stories. Our three young girls like any and all things Disney and they wanted to pick a Disney name. Roo seemed like the perfect fit.**

—The Ugoretz family

**When thinking of a "B" name, we all agreed that it had to be a common one. Decision. We all liked the simple name "Brie." We dropped the "e" to emphasize the "u" sound. She picked up on her name very quickly and when people comment on what a good looking dog she is we say, "Yes, she's a beautiful yellow. Her dog!"**

—The Helms family

**My current puppy's name is "Tagg." He was named after and in memory of one of Guide Dogs of America's stud dogs. The original Tagg sired many successful working guides and breeders and "little" Tagg is making him proud.**

—Laurel Schuman

**"Dora" is on a journey to become a guide dog.**

—Veda O'Leary

**We had a golden named "AJ" the symbol for "gold" in the periodic table of elements. Then we had a yellow lab we named "Mica," meaning "fool's gold." When we found out we were getting a yellow lab we needed a name to go with the theme, and we named her "Amber."**

—The Dilworth family

**The name "Pruce" came from one of my favorite vacation spots, and my two career change dogs at home have names that are beachwater themed. I thought it would be fun to have the ocean, an island and a beach at home.**

—Denise Brown

**We gave "Sherman" his name because we loved Peabody and Sherman when we were kids and we live in Sherman Oaks.**

—Denise Dexter Rockner

**We named our puppy "Heidi" because we are Star Trek fans, and the Heidi character is very resourceful and smart, and is always helping people (just like our puppy will be doing).**

—Lauri Paxson

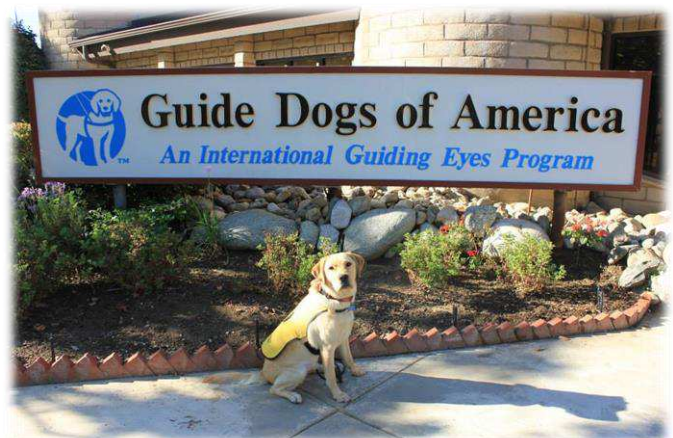
**We live by the beach. We love the water and water sports. "Felix" is named after a surfer from the '60s.**

—Georgiana Galt and Kelly Byrne

I was so interested in the training class we went to at a hotel for work.



My name made the "What's in a Name?" Partners Newsletter. "My current puppy's name is Tagg. He was named after and in memory of one of Guide Dogs of America's stud dogs. The original Tagg sired many successful working guides and breeders and 'little' Tagg is making him proud."



My photo opp before my one week kennel stay at Camp GDA.

Doggie Pool Party, who says 102 degrees is hot!?



Posing at the beautiful Guide Dogs of America Campus after my 1-week kennel stay.



Just a reminder of some of the hot HOT weather we have had.



I went to a Paws to Heal Therapy Dog meeting and met up with fellow sponsored puppy Quigley. We enjoyed playing together with many other dogs.



Weekly Saturday 7am at Weight Watchers.



Went to church to hear Morris play the harmonica. There were so many nice people and wonderful music and messages.



My fabulous Wine and Canvas painting at the Citrus Café in Tustin. I even had bids for my work but my mom wanted to keep it. 😊

Susan G Komen Race for the Cure of Breast Cancer. People were snapping lots of pictures of me.



We are ready to board the OCTA bus to Knott's Berry Farm.



One of the stops on the route was the Braille Institute in Buena Park.



Avoiding very playful puppy in the seat behind us from another agency.



Frog fountains outside Knott's Berry Farm.



Meeting Linus at the front gate!



Meeting some of the locals at Knott's. Tasty.



Meeting Snoopy and Woodstock at the front gate. I was pretty sure Snoopy was the biggest squeaky toy I had ever seen!



Waiting for the "train robbers".



Using fellow puppy-in-training, Abby, as a pillow to rest during lunch at the Knott's Chicken Restaurant.



Impromptu lixit on a hot day! Thanks, Bob!



Here we are at Tanaka Farms in Irvine checking out the pumpkins.



Ready for my close up!



Some loose lead walking in the corn maze.



This little sheep wanted to be friends with me. The rest of the flock just stood there and stared, but, this one wanted to kiss me.



My Halloween costume as a Rufferee. And who knew there would be two Wide Retrievers there too!



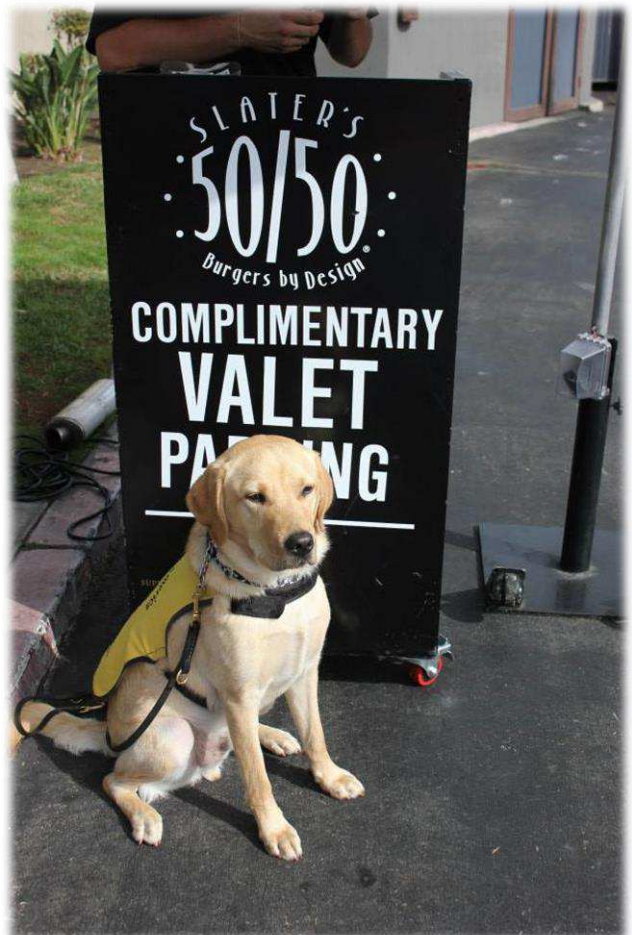
Looking forward to riding in the GDA vans when I go in for training!



Tucked in nicely and being a good boy at Slater 50/50.



Keeping fit by walking around the reservoir.



Waiting for our wheels.



Super Tagg! Pool party with 12 other dogs.



Bringing in the prize!



That's me on the left with three toys.



I am the one on the left with the orange collar sitting nicely and my sister, Paisley is right next to me.



As always I want to thank Sepulveda Building Materials for their generous sponsorship. I am so proud to wear their business name on my jacket when I am out and about being an awesome guide dog puppy-in-training for Guide Dogs of America.

