

TAGG'S WAGGS

Guide Dogs of America
Puppy-In Training Sponsorship Newsletter

Tagg's Update

Hello Everyone,

We are so busy these days. There is so much going on in the summer!

I was able to spend time with other puppy raisers as well as getting in some important kennel time because my puppy raiser had to go out of town to a wedding and for business. I had a lot of fun at Camp GDA and I always have fun staying with new people.

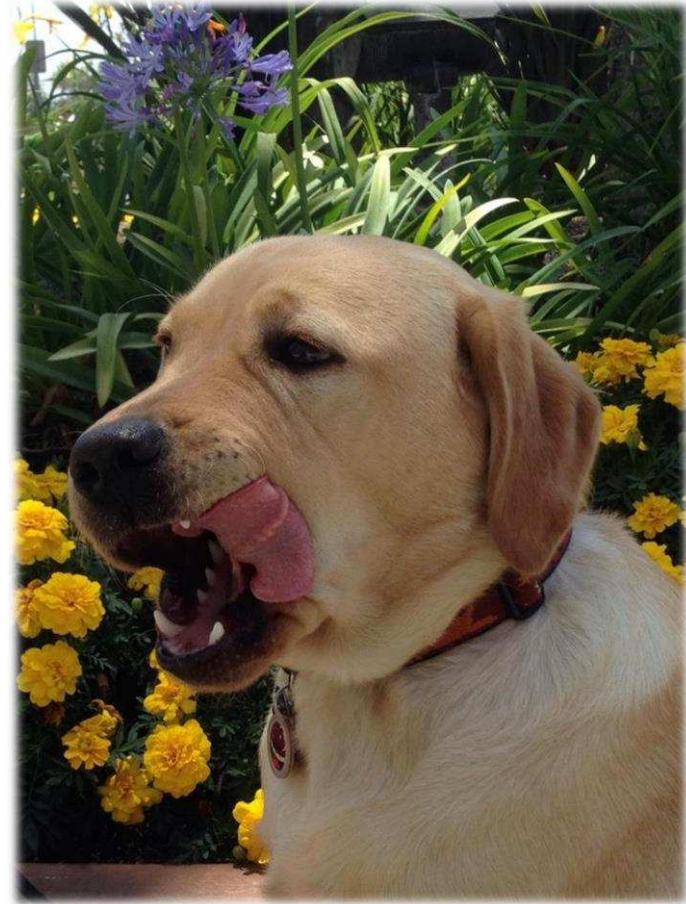
I started a skills class offered by GDA and did a wonderful job being a good boy and learning new things and perfecting skills I already knew. We need to keep working on things but I am progressing nicely toward the goal. We started a new obedience class in the community so I can get used to being around other breeds of dogs.

I was called in for my evaluation in July. My puppy raiser was pleased with the report and is working on the areas recommended.

What we will be working on:

- Proofing and improving on basic skills with distractions.
- Working on stairs (I like to run up and down them).
- Ignoring birds, reptiles, bunnies and squirrels (not fair)!

As always we want to thank Sepulveda Building Materials for their continued generosity and support for Guide Dogs of America!



MAY



My puppy raiser had a vacation in Miami, Florida but she didn't take me because she was going to something called Universal Studios and a wedding.

I didn't mind my stay in Laguna Hills. I am surveying my view of the ocean.



My visit to Aegis of Laguna Niguel Assisted Living to provide some comfort while my puppy raiser was gone.



This was my face when my puppy raiser picked me up and I was riding in our car going home. She still calls me "pure sugar!"



We started a skills class offered by GDA. One of the skills is being able to stay on a down stay with another handler. Here I am being a good boy with Barbara.





And here I am again with Dave. This is important to learn because we will be with different people while in for formal training and then when we are placed with our partners. We need to listen to everyone.



I went to an Angel's game with other puppy raisers and I was so happy to sit with my mentor and fellow sponsored pup, Titan.



Fireworks during Angel Game, something good is happening.



I am getting my fifteen minutes of fame at the Angel Game. Not sure where it was broadcast, but, I was awesome!



I seem to be irresistible to the little girl Angel Fans!



They wanted to dress me up.



They came in droves to pet me!



The boys loved me, too. This little guy with a blue mouth wanted to be just like me.



Happy Mother's Day to my mom who had 11 other puppies on the same day she had me. Now that is motherhood!



I still go to Weight Watcher meetings and sometimes I like to get comfortable.



I went to a Paws To Heal Therapy Dog meeting. I took a nap as did fellow puppy in training in the background, Quigley.



My bed gets smaller and smaller but I still love it. I am 64# now. I had to go on a little diet but I am in fabulous shape now!



While visiting Target I spotted a kernel of popcorn.
I wanted it but left it alone!



On Memorial Day I went to Riverside National Cemetery for a celebration and remembrance of our military.



It was really something to see all the flags, many of which were placed by the children of Anaheim where I live.



My puppy raiser thought I needed some play time because I am such a good boy. She took me to the park on a long line to play in the grass and chase a toy.



My older (way older) sister, Paisley, is a PetPartner Therapy Dog. She helps children feel confident reading. I was able to sit behind the desk with a friend's daughter and be quiet.



Learning to ignore distractions at a softball tournament!



These girls all thought I was adorable but went about their business to help me learn.

JUNE



Our June meeting was at a park with Chuck Jordan speaking about the history of guide dogs. I was paying really good attention.



Paisley and I went to a sporting event, Dock Dogs, which she loves to do. Mom put me on a long line and I got to swim in the muddy pond ~ FUN!



We participated in VisionWalk 2014 at the Anaheim Stadium with the Orange County Group. We manned (puppyed?) the booth and walked a 5k.



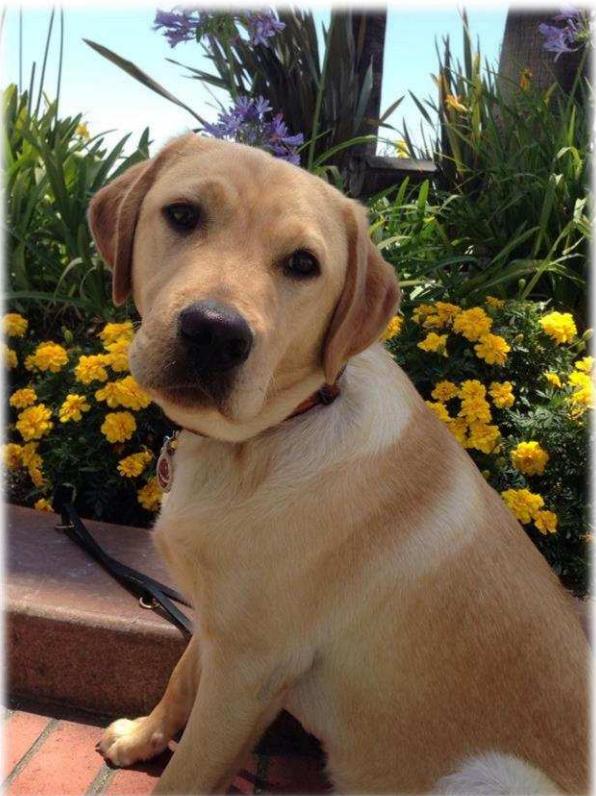
During VisionWalk we went into the stadium. We took photo break because it was HOT!



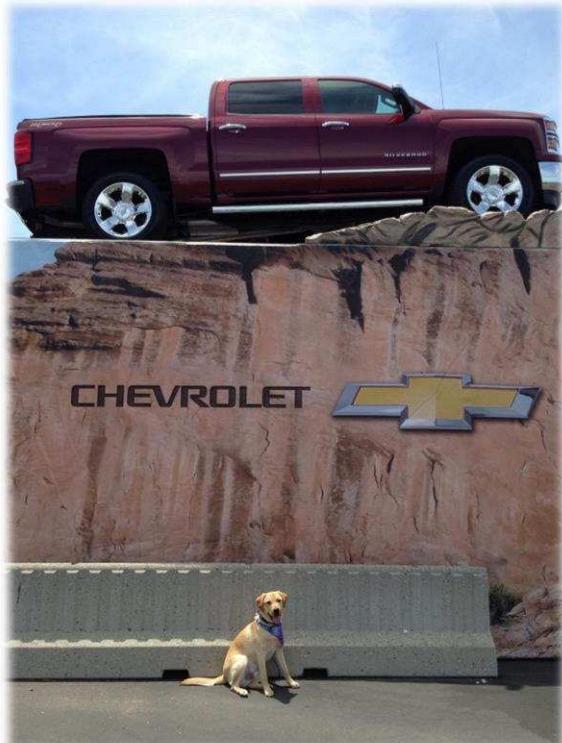
Many people were snapping pictures of me here. I must be famous!



We met a little boy who has been blind since birth at VisionWalk from under-developed eyes and detached retinas. At first he was a little afraid of me but when he touched me he had an instant smile. My puppy raiser decided to hold this photo handy because so many people ask how we can give our puppies up. This is how, for people like Trevor ~ to give him Independence when he grows up. What greater gift? Walks like VisionWalk help raise funds for the Foundation Fighting Blindness to help combat blindness.



Making the stadium flowers look great!



Everyone thought I was getting so big until they saw this picture of me!



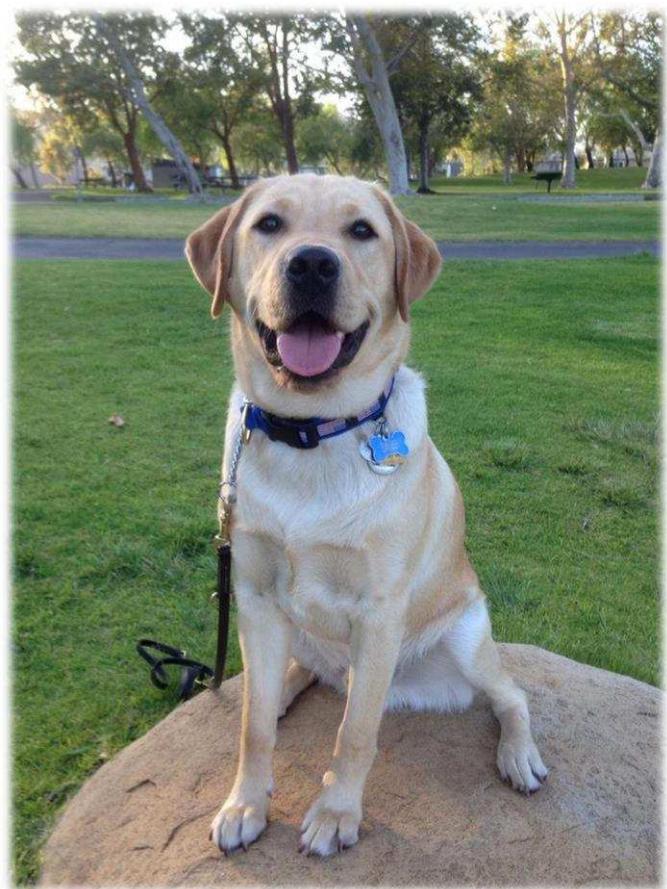
My puppy raiser keeps telling me not to jump in the back seat. Uh, maybe this is why?



I learned how to ride a raft while having another visit in Laguna Hills. I am sure this will have some value when I am a guide dog.



And I am a natural swimmer, too!



We live close to a lovely park, Yorba Regional, and I thought I would flash a nice smile for the camera from this rock.



Ducks are friends not food, are you sure?



Chillin' using Paisley as a pillow at the Orange County Puppy Raiser Meeting.



Christmas at the stadium! The game that night was 6 months before Christmas.



Amazement! Look at all those colorful fish at the Aquarium of the Pacific!



This creature spotted me before I spotted him!



Enjoying The Pike area of Long Beach



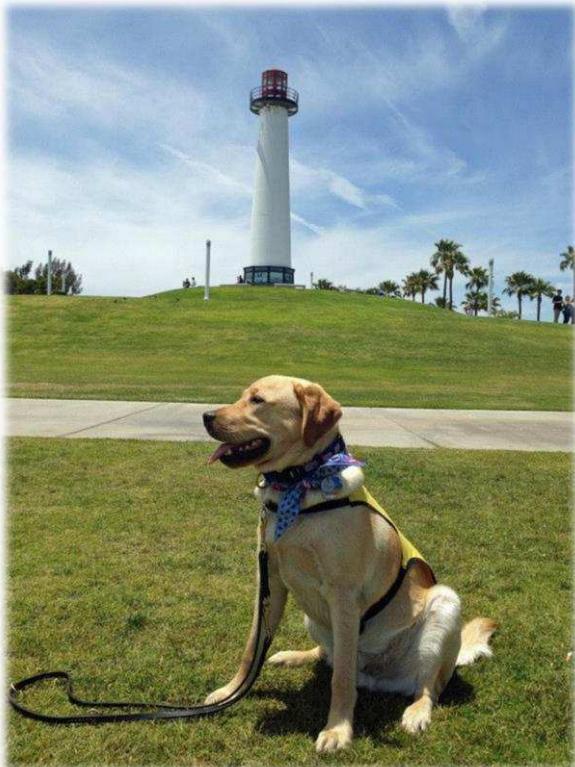
Beautiful child offered me cookies from that baggie.
I didn't take any! Yay for me!



Chilling at
Tequila Jack's, Shoreline Village.



Veteran's Park, Long Beach with the Queen Mary in the distance.



Veteran's Park, Long Beach.



Handsome Tagg ready to meet his sponsor.



Tagg, Kate (Working Guide), Janie Connors head of Sepulveda Building Materials, Duncan, and Titan at the Mutts and Members Chamber of Commerce Event in Laguna Niguel.

JULY



Anaheim Hills Firecracker 5k on the 4th of July! It was a cool morning ... for a while.



Finish line is just blocks away ~ we did it!



Handsome and ready to walk.



Getting my puppy raisers glasses repaired after she sat on them. Oops! They always think I am so well behaved at the optometrist!



The folks at Disneyland let me do a round trip on the parking tram!



Downtown Disney was hot so we were searching for shade. This young man was playing with his yo-yo. I was a good boy and left it alone.



Downtown Disney Fountain.



Making a Silly Face at the park!



This fountain is at Fashion Island. Crazy thing kept making lots of noises.



birds did not like me and kept dive bombing me. I didn't notice but my puppy raiser was nervous.

There were many Koi in the pond at Fashion Island. We couldn't stay long because one of the local nesting



Little Girls just love me! They are so gentle when they pet me.



Getting ready for Chuck Jordan's retirement party at Guide Dogs of America.



The stage was all set up for the retirement party so we took a chance to practice for my graduation as a guide dog. ☺



Chuck Jordan in his Harley flame shirt for his Harley themed retirement party ... with me!



This is one of many of the fountains at Irvine Spectrum. I met some kids, passed some little dogs, and hung around the outdoor eateries to learn how to ignore the birds flying in for French fries dropped as snacks.



Be sure to check back in the fall for my next adventurous update! Love, TAGG