

April 2021

# Olivia's Odyssey

THE EPIC JOURNEY OF A VERY PATIENT GUIDE DOG PUPPY IN TRAINING



A Very Happy Spring to All My Wonderful Friends at the  
Sepulveda Building Materials Charity Golf Tournament!

Happy Easter! Happy Spring! Well, here I am, all dressed up and ready to go. Did you hear that? I AM READY TO GO! R-E-A-D-Y!

Hmm. Seems the humans aren't as ready to go as I am. Maybe they need more kibble to get motivated? I remain slightly confused by the two-legged ones, but they sure are nice. And they always have cookies, so I cut them a lot of slack.

I hope you and your families are well and happy and have lots of cookies too!

Love and wags,  
Olivia

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Since the Humans keep saying I'm going to give someone their Independence, I thought I'd better get a taste of that there Independence! So... I did a little traveling on my own since they don't seem big on it lately. Vive la France!



Next, headed off for a photoshoot with an astronaut buddy Leland so I could get ready for my next adventure...

Here I am in the International Space Station. I'm really good at all my commands, but no one taught me how to sit in zero gravity! Guess that's why I haven't been turned in yet.



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I was pretty tired after all that traveling, so I stopped at Bora Bora on the way home for a little relaxation. I highly recommend it.

wagwagwagwag  
wagwagwagwag

What's that? Not buying it? I thought I might be pushing it with the whole space travel thing, but Paddy said to try it. Now I know why she is sitting in the corner laughing at me. Sigh.

So here's what I've REALLY been up to. Please don't laugh as hard as Paddy. Thank you.



When the Wild and Crazy Humans aren't hanging out and eating at home, guess what they do? They leave the house and eat! Here I am, hanging out under a table, being good and waiting for them to... well, you know... eat.

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What's this? I spoke too soon! After we ate, we went into a store that didn't have food! Those Humans, always full of surprises. I was a little confused at first, but like I always do, just rolled with it. Turns out we were trying to pick out a flag, which, if I might say, is just a silly way to spend your time. And excuse me, but what's up with all the flowers? Where are the Labrador Flags?

Did I mention I was a Very Good Dog the whole time we were looking at random pieces of fabric strewn on the floor for no apparent reason (not that I have an opinion or anything, mind you) ?

I'm about as obedient as they get, but between you and me, sometimes the Tall Human gets a little unruly. I find that if I walk him a lot, give consistent commands and lots of praise, he's pretty darn reliable. I have high hopes for his future as a Service Human.

Who's a Good Boy?



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**WAIT A MINUTE!!!** Something is definitely not right here! Someone alert the authorities! Why does *everyone* get a spot on the couch but me? Is there a secret passcode?

Paddy and Ellie say the password is “RETIRED”, but I am putting that in the “Things I don’t really understand yet” file.



And while we’re on the topic of injustice...

**What the heck are these?**

Paddy and Ellie warned me this might happen, but did I believe them? I thought they were kidding!

Sigh. Maybe if I don’t look at the camera they will take these stupid things off.

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Well, NOW you're talking!

I **love** spending time with the Small Humans that Keep Getting Bigger. I am very gentle with them, and for the record, it has absolutely nothing to do with the fact that they might occasionally drop food on the floor.

I'm really going to miss them when they get turned in and go off to College.

Wait. What?!



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Mom and Dad volunteered to watch seven, seven-week old puppies while the GDA Humans were sprucing up the nursery up at GDA.

No one asked ME if this was a good idea!

(Spoiler alert: I did not think this was a good idea.)



I talked to the Nice Humans at GDA and they promised I wouldn't have to spend more time with puppies. THANK GOODNESS!!! To celebrate, I got to have my belly shaved and wear a cone for a little while.

Here I am enjoying the Happy Drugs, dreaming of a life of a Service Dog and NOT a breeder! HOORAY!!!!

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As you can see by my Big Yellow Dog Smile, I'm completely recovered from my shaving/drugging and am happily out with the Tall Human, scouting out a location for a South Bay Puppy Raiser outing this week.

Did you hear this? An OUTING! Not a Zooming, An OUTING!!!!

As for that thing in the background....one more thing for the aforementioned file of Things That Make Little Sense.

As always, my never ending gratitude and wishes for continued health to you and your 2- and 4-legged family and friends,

*Olivia*  
Guide Dogs of America, Puppy in Training