

# Tails of Aloha!



November 2009

Website: [www.tailsofaloha.com](http://www.tailsofaloha.com)

## Hale Nani

By: Lisa Oi

A few weeks ago a group of therapy dogs from Tails of Aloha visited Hale Nani Rehabilitation and Nursing Center to interact with the residents. The visit was an overwhelming success filled with smiles, hugs...even tears of joy!

The teams and their therapy dogs moved between several floors of residents throughout the Hale Nani campus. As we exited the elevator and walked into the hallways of residents we were always greeted by warm appreciative smiles and vocal expressions of joy. The power of our therapy dogs was amazing that day. We heard comments like "Thank you so much for visiting with me", "Ohhh, you so cute, you make me so happy", "How lucky we are to have this beautiful dog show here today", "I can hardly wait to see you next time".



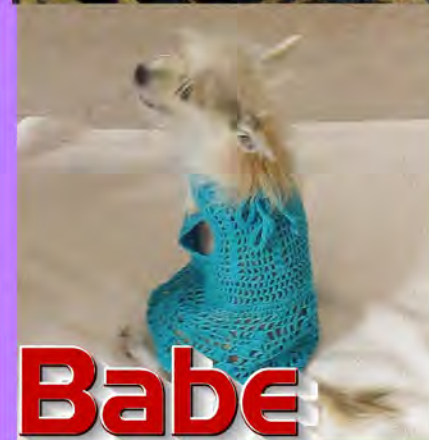
**No'e**

Our team members present were: Karen with Noe, Warren and Candy with Babe and Happy, and me with Mijo. They all expressed great satisfaction from the visit and agreed that regular visits should be scheduled. We are working towards a bi-monthly visiting schedule with Hale Nani.

Another successful Tails of Aloha project is now in progress! Thanks to our therapy dogs, all team members and the folks at Hale Nani helping us to make this a joyful experience for residents!



**Happy**



**Babe**



**Mijo**

Compelled by compassion,  
Driven by love,  
Inspired through hope

# Tails of Aloha - Yokohama

By: Ayako Imai

Our Yokohama Chapter would like to feature Max, a 12-year old, very handsome miniature dachshund. Max has been a volunteer for many years, and is one of the veteran members of Tails of Aloha - Yokohama. The following is Max's heartwarming story of his life.

It all happened twelve years ago when Max got a glimpse of his family to be...his Mom, Dad, and their children. He soon found out that this family had a dachshund 17 years earlier when they moved from Tokyo to Kyoto. A week after moving, a terrible tragedy occurred. Their beloved dachshund was killed in a car accident. The Mom and Dad were so heartbroken, they could not even think about getting another dog.

It too another five years before they could think about adding another dachshund into their family. They found a respectable breeder and there I was. The second I saw them, I knew they were the family for me. My brain kept saying, "This is your family"! Unfortunately, Mom didn't even notice me. She cuddled everyone else but me. I couldn't take the chance of my prospective Mother leaving without me. It was all or nothing! I dashed in front of her and began jumping on her. Then I'd run and jump on the mattress and quickly ran back to her. Now my Olympic feats were impressing her. And yes, I must have received the highest score as they took me home! Here was the beginning of my wonderful and happy life with the Imai's...my new family!

I was a good dog son most of the time. I do recall an incident where I sorta got into a little trouble. I was home alone one day, simply waiting for my Mom return home. Now, let me remind you, this happened when I was still a pup.



**Max**



# Tails of Aloha - Yokohama



**M**y human sister and I were home alone. She was knitting a sweater for her boyfriend. She wasn't playing with me and I became extremely bored. I wanted her attention. So I simply pulled the wool yarn off her knitting needle and ran like there was no tomorrow. I thought it was great fun. My sister on the other hand became very upset with me. She was so upset, she refused to prepare my dinner that evening!

**T**he human siblings have now all grown up and are married with children of their own. I really enjoy playing with my nieces and nephews, although it is getting difficult for me to keep up with them.

**T**he best thing I've been doing for several years now is volunteering with my mom. People tell my mom that I'm an expert! I have found my calling as therapy dog!

# What Constitutes a Good Growl?

**A**s an understanding owner, you need to understand your dog's behavior when it relates to growling. Growling is a warning sign that your dog is about to reach the next level of aggression. Don't punish your dog for growling. Instead, find out the reason for his behavior. Look at what caused your dog to growl. Were you grooming, taking a toy away, asking him to do something, etc. Think of a way to accomplish what you want from the dog by creating a positive environment for the dog. If he doesn't like being groomed, give him his favorite treat while you begin to groom him. Teach him that grooming is something positive that he should look forward to.

**R**emember that dogs will accumulate all the little stresses in their world, and it just builds, one upon the other. So the more things you are able to desensitize your dog to, the better they will be at coping with stressful or unfamiliar situations. Always redirect the dog to something they love. It may be food, a toy, or even a down command.

**A**nd please learn to distinguish between play growl and an attack growl. Never punish your dog for play growls. That's the way they communicate with other dogs.

Don't cry because it's over.  
Smile because it happened.

**Dr. Seuss**



## The Role of the Liver...

The function of the liver is to aid in the clearing of toxins from the body and help with digestion. Did you know that the liver is the largest organ in the body? It works together with the gall bladder, pancreas and stomach. Eating food containing chemicals and preservatives in addition to excessive vaccinations can affect the liver.

Some of the symptoms experienced with the liver and gallbladder are: vomiting, brittle nails, upper back pain, irritability, aggression, leg paralysis, tremors, lumps and swelling, lick granulomas, etc.

In Chinese medicine, the liver is associated with the eyes.

Some of the foods that help to support a healthy liver function are: leafy greens (particularly dandelions), radish, celery, carrots, romaine lettuce and asparagus. The herb used to assist the liver is Milk Thistle.

## Neko House



# Yuki

The fog may have been terrible on October 28, but it could not stop Chris from adopting Yuki, the part Siamese being fostered by Gail and Paul.

Chris will also be joining our Poop Crew at the Oahu SPCA and Cat Friends spay/neuter clinic.

Welcome Chris, and we are glad Yuki has found a wonderful owner and furr-ever friend!

## Toxic Plants

Cherry and Peach pits are cyanogenic. Think of cyanide when you think about cherry and peach pits. The mucous membranes become red, there is difficulty in breathing, the pupils become dilated, and they will go into shock and finally death.

Datura, also known as Jimson Weed. The entire plant is poisonous. There will be abnormal thirst, vision will be distorted, and delirium will occur. Dog will lapse into a coma by the alkaloids.

Onions and Garlic whether cooked or raw causes hemolysis (destruction of the red blood cells). Symptoms include difficulty in breathing, vomiting, diarrhea and discolored urine. Baby foods and snack foods can contain onion powder. Garlic is toxic if large quantities are consumed.

## Red Cross Certification

Gail Shiraishi and Gayle Igarashi attended the Red Cross certification for Pet first aid and CPR on October 27. They are now able to add another class for Tails of Aloha's Disaster Response program.

We can hold the workshop for Tails of Aloha if we have at least eight participants interested in attending.

For those of you interested in becoming members of the United Animal Nations Emergency Animal Rescue Services, this would be a good place to begin.

# Halloween Snackfest 2009

Halloween Snackfest was a great time for the teams to get together and meet with our Poop Crew. Babe was also surprised as we celebrated her birthday with cupcakes that Lisa purchased from Bark Avenue. Babe's smile says it all!

We also took the time to recognize our fantastic Poop Crew who have volunteered over 1,000 hours at the Oahu SPCA since they opened in July. The group still plans to volunteer on a monthly basis at the Oahu SPCA and to assist Cat Friends with their spay/neuter clinic.

It was also the first visit for James and Ryna since their wedding in October. As you can see below, James is practicing with Carlotta's son, Collin dressed in a monkey suit.



**Poop Crew**

# Animal Sanctuary Wish List

Wishlist items for our sanctuary:

32 gallon trash bags  
canned cat food  
clumping cat litter  
newspaper  
plastic grocery bags  
treated lumber  
carpenter  
solar garden lights  
solar motion detectors  
solar bug lights  
mosquito coils (King brand)  
Kit N Kaboodle cat food  
rain gutter  
folding metal dog crates  
plastic dog crates  
4 or 5 level plastic shelving  
wooden clothespins  
wet or dry dog food  
tarps  
baked banana chips  
unsalted almonds  
raisins

# Neko House Needs Your Help!

**H**untington, an orange tabby, and Koa, a black and grey striped cat, are in deperate need of a forever home!

**H**untington is three years old and loves to talk and is declawed on the front paws, and will need to reside in your home. He is current on all shots and his medical history can be provided.

**K**oa is two years old, but is half blind from being sick as a kitten. Koa does not require any special medical attention. Koa is also declawed on his front paws and will need to live as an indoor cat. He is current on all his shots and his medical records and history can also be provided.

**T**he cats have lived together and as we would like to keep them together as much as possible. If you are interested in adopting Huntington and Koa, please contact Carlota at (714) 350-5167.

The number is a mainland number, but not to worry, Carlotta resides on Oahu.

