

Tails of Aloha

October 2009

Website: www.tailsofaloha.com



Meet Sue and Henna Alden-Rudin!

My name is Henna and I am a small Labradoodle. I was born in Oregon and lived with my Liberty Labradoodle family until I was ten months old. I came to Hawaii to live with my new Mom and Dad. I miss my family on the mainland, snow days and all. My new Mom and Dad picked me up at the airport on Oahu and the journey began.

I live near a wonderful park near the ocean and I get to swim everyday. I didn't even know I could swim! My hair is red with blond highlights strewn throughout. My Mom and Dad think I'm beautiful. I have lots of dog friends in the park and now I have lots of friends at "Tails of Aloha." Mom has been working with me to become a Therapy Dog with Tails of Aloha. We had a great time at our first visit and testing with the program. We got to meet lots of nice residents at Maluhia and they were so happy to spend some time with us. Mom says we can "make a difference" in peoples lives when we visit them at the care facilities and hospitals. It is a "win, win" situation. Tails of Aloha Therapy Dogs bring joy to those we meet and that is a great feeling!

My favorite toys are sticks. I love to find and chew on sticks! I also think I'm cute when I nibble and paw Mom and Dad at 4:30 a.m. They need to get up! I'm looking forward to spending more time with my new friends at Tails of Aloha.



Compelled by compassion,
Driven by love,
Inspired by hope

Leeward Coast Project

Submitted by Kale Lyman

K9 Kokua has known and helped Rocco, and his owner, for a few years. He is even featured on one of our Pet Hui segments.

One night at about 11:00 p.m., we received a call from Rocco's papa saying that Rocco was gone! The day before was the day that the City and County closed that stretch of the beach to overnights. All the homeless had to pack up and move. His papa went to get something to eat and when he returned, Rocco was gone. K9 Kokua called the rescues in Waianae to find out if anyone had him. Another day went by before we found his location. Someone who had volunteered for a home rescue group, had picked Rocco up after being dispatched there without any investigation.

They had tied Rocco in the back of their truck and left the beach. Rocco is really a friendly dog and greets everyone he meets.

Rocco has endured, storms, thunder, intoxicated people passing through his camp, some who were mean to him, and even one person who was seen striking him on the head with a huge kiawe branch! (yes, there was a disgusting cruel lump on his head.) And yet Rocco trusts and loves humans.



Somehow while driving down the road, Rocco ended up outside of the truck bed...on the road. He was dragged for an eternity before the driver realized what had happened. Thank goodness for the harness placed on him a few months earlier. Otherwise he would have choked to death! We were called and called the vet, but the people had given him a pill, and not knowing what was given, Rocco had to endure the night without any pain medication. The next morning we were given an array of medications, creams and ointments. Poor Rocco had no front pad, no front nails! His dew claws were gone, and most of his back nails were filed off by the asphalt. He had wounds so severe there were about 1 1/2 inches deep! We hoped for a miracle...if he could just walk! The muscles in his front leg were badly damaged.

We let Rocco's Papa know what happened. You can imagine the anger and fury his Papa had for the people who removed Rocco from his camp.



Leeward Coast Project (continued)

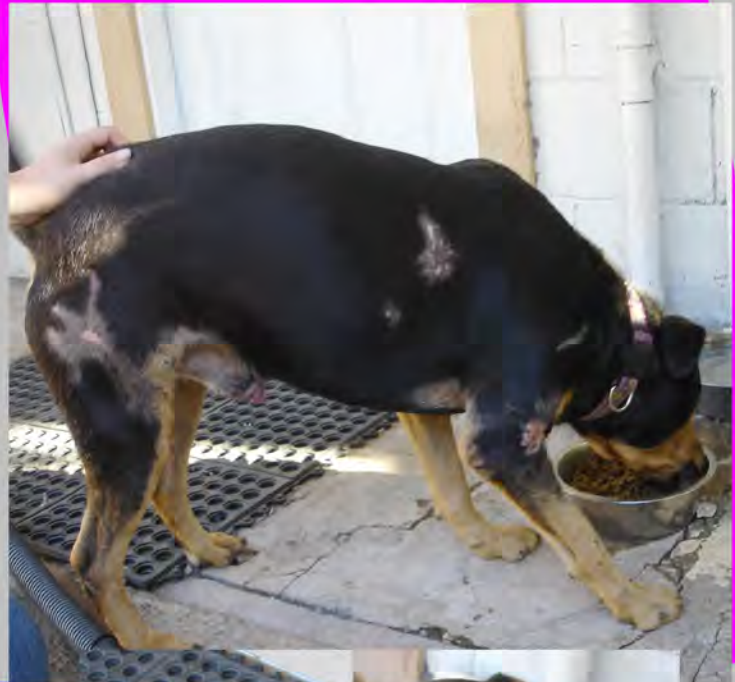
The other campers did not see anyone remove Rocco from his campsite. This action by the group could have jeopardize all the years K9 Kokua has been working with the individuals in the area. We took Rocco home and set him up in the spare room to begin the healing process. The booties were carefully placed on his paws following the creams, ointments and medicated powder. Rocco was carried outside at least four times a day for bathroom breaks. His food and water bowl had to be brought up to his face as he found it difficult and painful to move. We later found out that the person who took Rocco had him for 2 days before we found him. We had to wait seven days before we could begin giving him any pain pills because the person did not know what she gave Rocco! We were able to give Rocco natural, calming supplements until the vet felt it was safe to give Rocco the pain pills.

As the weeks progressed, Rocco got stronger. Being with us allowed him to do something he had never done. Play with toys! He soon realized that they were the best things in the world to have around!

The weeks turned into months. and the day suddenly arrived where Rocco did not need to wear booties. He could actually walk on his own! Rocco's pads will never grow back, some of the nails may grow out. He's now back to his old chipper self, wanting to run and play.

In August of 2009, Rocco's Papa transitioned into a shared home. In mid-September, Rocco went home with his Papa.

I knew returning Rocco would be difficult for me. But I never imagined how difficult it would be. Yes, I cried, and I felt empty. I cried a river! I'm truly happy for Rocco. My hubby gave Rocco and his Papa a new fluffy bed for Rocco to take home as well as his favorite new toys. Thank you Rocco, for showing me what true compassion is...**FORGIVENESS**



NEVER PLACE ANIMALS IN THE BACK OF TRUCKS, JEEPS OR ANY OPEN UTILITY VEHICLE UNLESS THEY ARE IN A SECURED CRATE OR IN A 4-POINT TIE DOWN.

Announcing!

Tails of Aloha Yokohama

We would like to officially welcome Collin Douglas Cox to our Tails of Aloha Ohana! Collin's Mom is Carlotta Cox who brings Bandit to therapy visits. Collin's stats: He was born on August 23, 2009 at 5:08 p.m. and weighed in at 7 pounds and 6 ounces. Colin was all of 18 inches long! Carlotta has already lost all that baby weight! An amazing feat! Did I forget to mention she was in labor for 23 hours?



A few of the members of our sister group in Yokohama. They are quite fortunate as a therapy group as they are allowed to take their dogs to cafes on their outings.

Many thanks to Midori Matsui and her group for all of the wonderful work they are doing in Japan!



Hawaii Foodbank

On October 7, Tails of Aloha received a check in the amount of \$700 which represented our total the Foodbank walk in August!

Many thanks to everyone who participated and donated on behalf of Tails of Aloha.

The dogs and cats on the Leeward Coast appreciate your kindness!



Our Therapy Team at Work

