

# Tails Of Aloha

Changing Lives, One Visit at a Time

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A nonprofit 501(c)3 organization

<http://www.tailsofaloha.com>

## Shamrock the Boxer

By Theresa Donnelly



Our Boxer Shamrock has been the light of our lives for the past three years. Before we got our first Boxer, Fiona, I did not even like the breed. In fact, I'm not sure I was what you would consider a "dog person." But that all changed when we brought Fiona home in 2006. Since having our dogs, my outlook on life has completely changed. Dogs have no hidden agenda, are nonjudgmental and their devotion to us is simply amazing.

It is so gratifying to see the love and dedication dogs have for us. Many of you might already know Shamrock, but I thought I would take a moment and tell you why he is so special to me and why we are truly blessed to have him volunteer with Tails of Aloha.

Fiona

Many people don't think Boxers can be good therapy dogs. They think they are too hyper, or would be too stubborn to listen to commands. I disagree, based on what I have observed in Shamrock. He is so eager to please us that he will do anything for attention, not a treat.



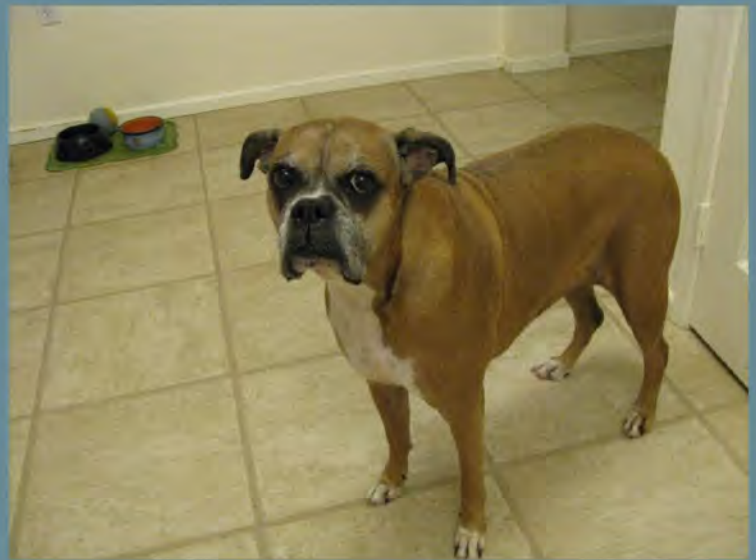
Shamrock

He has a unique sense about him in that when we visit Maluhia, he knows to be calm. I'm very aware of his behavior, and I try to the the body language of the residents, so that I know who wants to greet him, and who prefers the smaller dogs. It is always so moving to watch his connections with the other people. I pay close attention his his excitability around the other dogs, and make sure we all can enjoy the animals. I have also found that some residents especially like seeing Shamrock , which is a wonderful feeling.

Shamrock has this profound determination about him. I think that is why I identify so well with him, because I too tend to get "obsessive" about projects I am working on. When he knows someone is excited to see him, or when he wants a toy, he's stop at nothing to greet them and show his affected or grab his chew toy. I have seen him run out in water that he was terrified to get in just so he could grab his toy and get it back on the sand.

He is so free with his emotions. I think we can learn so much from dogs, especially Shamrock. When I take Shamrock to the beach, he is more focused on his toys that he is on harassing other dogs or people. It can be a great distraction.

I think I am a better person as a result of owning dogs. I honestly see them as members of our family and look forward to seeing them everyday when I come home from work. Seeing Shamrock as a therapy dog has been such a wonderful experience. It has given me more confidence as his handler and allowed others to enjoy him as much as I do.



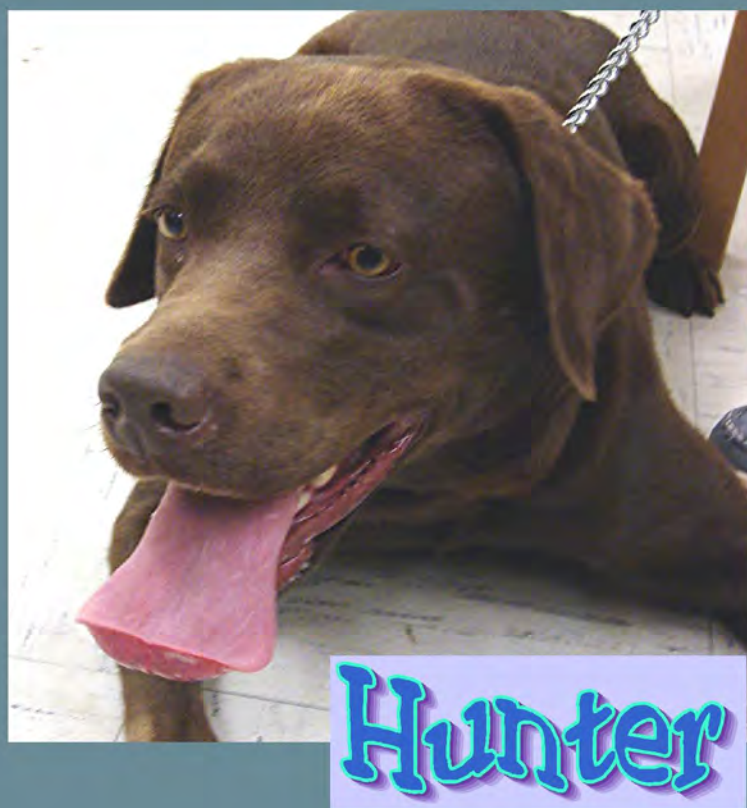
Whenever something doesn't work out the way you thought it would, instead of thinking something went wrong, see it as an event that went unexpectedly well for reasons that are not yet apparent...everything plays to your favor...Score! Keep on keeping on!

# Introducing, Hunter!

Hi, everyone! I'm Hunter and want to share something with you...I got my CGC and passed my therapy test! This is my mom beside me and she's so proud of me because she thought this would not happen, fooled her!

I'm three years old, going to be four, weighing in at 68 pounds, chocolate and amber eyes. My mom bought me when I was eight weeks old. I got into a lot of trouble at home, messing up my room, tearing up my diaper pads, spilling my water bowl, all that good stuff. My antics got me placed in an outside kennel during the day, but at night, I get to come into the house and sleep in my own room. I love chasing tennis balls, snooping around the house, and chasing lizards.

Well, now it's time to settle down and do some meaningful work with Tails of Aloha and we look forward to bringing smiles to people's faces, young and old! Thank you, Tails of Aloha for giving me this wonderful opportunity.



An important mineral for the immune system is zinc and selenium.

# New Team Members



## Nexy



## Leo

Congratulations to the new team members who passed their AKC Canine Good Citizen test as well as their therapy dog test!



## Halle



## Alliwishes

# Harry & Jeannete Weinberg Foundation



Through a donation received by the Harry and Jeannete Weinberg Foundation, Tails of Aloha purchased a water fountain that was requested by the residents of Maluhia for the outdoor lanai and purchased personal grooming items to be used for their BINGO prizes.

## Tails of Aloha Yokohama



Becky is a 10 year old female Cairn Terrier owned by Mrs. Shimoda. Mrs. Shimoda, being a life long lover of dogs owned a Golden Retriever and Siberian Huskie. After the passing of her two dogs, Mrs. Shimoda did not plan on getting another dog. One day her son arrived and presented her with a Cairn puppy as a gift. Mrs. Shimoda said, "Becky is smaller than my other dogs, but she has so much energy and she is such a character!"

Becky is a typical Cairn. She is independent, never startles when things happen around her, is very clever and cunning and loves being cuddled and adored. Becky loves to eat. On one particular autumn evening Mrs. Shimoda was about to have grilled fish for dinner when the phone rang. When she returned to the dining room, all she found was a plate of bones and Becky cleaning her muzzle. Another scary incident was on Christmas eve when Mrs. Shimoda baked two cakes and left them on the table to cool. That's right, Becky ate half of an entire cake! Off to the vet they went for shots.

When not eating, Becky loves walking, and when she walks she looks like "Marilyn Monroe"...she's just the cutest, sassiest dog around!

A good source of vitamin A for our 4-legged family members is liver, broccoli, and carrots.

# Hurting? Lick Your Wounds!

Are you having problems? Is there something that is not going the way you want it to? Does your world look gloomy and dark? You might not see it right now, but there is a way out of the darkness. Whatever setbacks you are experiencing...the most important thing is that you **BELIEVE** in yourself. That's the only way to succeed!

- \*Albert Einstein did not speak until the age of four
- \*Winston Churchill repeated a school year
- \*Beethoven was told he would never be a composer by his music teacher
- \*Thomas Edison was told he was "too stupid to learn" by his teacher
- \*Walt Disney was fired as a reporter because he wasn't creative enough

*No one can make you feel inferior without your consent.*

*Eleanor Roosevelt*

Do I hear you saying, "But I have so many problems right now and I am no Einstein!"

I can hear you...and my advice is to consider every setback as a temporary event. Treat it as such and take the label "permanent" away. Yes it is upsetting and hurtful and it's okay to lick our wounds but our most important focus should be that tomorrow is a new day with new possibilities. And this is true for every problem - personal disappointments, depressing thoughts, a business that doesn't do as well as we wanted it to do, problems with family or friends, and the list goes on and on. Time not only heals, it also opens a new window as long as you believe in yourself.

The key to success is to look ahead and to have confidence that you will solve the problem, however difficult it is. And most important: **The solution will follow your thinking!**

Peas, pumpkin, sunflower seeds, almonds, spinach, and tomato are some of the sources of vitamin E.