



# Circle Tail, Inc.

Partners with paws for people with special needs

## Service & Hearing Dog Teams

### Abigail & Service Dog Gainer:



"Gainer entered my life around November 2008. I had worked with several dogs, one that I grew attached to very quickly because I had a heart episode and he was with me; unfortunately he was unable to do the work and got adopted.

I was then partnered with Gainer, and my life changed! Out of all the dogs I worked with he was the only one who picked up on my pacemaker going off. Who would have thought that a service dog would be able to do that, you hear about seizures and diabetics, but helping a cardiac patient. I knew from that moment we were meant to be together. We have a communication between the two of us that is indescribable; we know what each other's needs are without even having to say a word.

With the help of Gainer I can live by myself with the ease of knowing that I always have someone that can get me help. Gainer will alert to when I am pacing, do what is called a pin, where if he feels it's unsafe for me, he will hold me down until he feels it's safe for me to get up. If I am walking while

this happens you can bet he is bear-hugging me till I sit down.

If I am here at the house and have a heart episode where I drop with out warning, he will nudge me, and if I don't respond, will go over to the phone and dial 911. He goes everywhere with me, and my doctors are amazed at how well he is in tune with my body.

We were up at Cleveland Clinic for routine heart tests, and in the middle of it I stroked out, and guess who was right at my side making sure I was okay: Gainer. He will ride in the ambulance with me; just the ease of coming out of a cardiac episode and seeing him there helps lessen the stress of the whole situation.

It brings me to tears to know how grateful I am to have him in my life; he has changed it drastically. Funny now if I am out with friends, they don't listen to me anymore – they go off Gainer's vibes of knowing if I am not doing well.

So thank you Circle Tail Inc for bringing Gainer to my life.

Remember that if you see a dog in vest always ask before you start talking to or petting the dog, and thanks to the parents who educate their kids on this matter. The more awareness that gets out about service dogs, the less stress there is on the partnered teams!

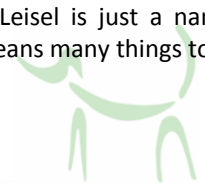
### Toni & Hearing Dog, Leisel



Leisel is a Black Lab who was partnered with Toni at the end of 2009. Toni writes, "The name Leisel is a name that means so many things to me. It means I can go to bed at night and remove my hearing aids and feel safe. I have had many sores in my ears from the pressure being applied by the hearing aids. Leisel means I can travel alone with my dog without anything to worry about and feel safe. Her name also shows that I can work in the yard, at the gym, around the house without thinking once of having to wear something in my ears and still feel safe.

It's nice not to have to wear them all the time and let my ears know the feeling a hearing person's ears know. Freedom. Before Leisel I would just stay home and not socialize with anyone. Now that I have her I am comfortable in many situations. Leisel not only helps me maintain my independence but she gives me companionship. Something my heart desperately needed.

So you see Leisel is just a name to you but it means many things to me."





# Circle Tail, Inc.

Partners with paws for people with special needs

## Ron, and Service Dog, Zeph:

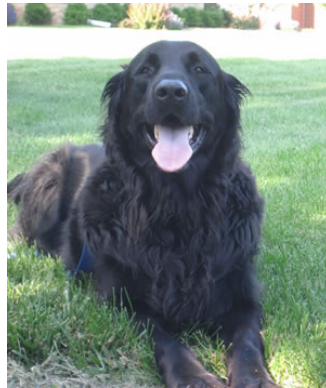


Zephyr, "Zeph", is 2-year-old Black Lab who was donated by a breeder as a pup. He received training at several of the correctional facilities and in a foster family. He was partnered with Ron in October 2009. Ron is a resident of Blanchester and a Veteran who served as a Corporal in the Marines. His first Service Dog passed away due to old age in July.

Ron writes, "In the Bible, God's word says: 'and my God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.' Phil.4:19. God is so good that He will not let believers experience anything for which He has not prepared them. He will give every believer the grace and power to endure. So Satan may have taken away the use of my hands and legs, but God has provided new hands and legs through one of His great creations, man's best friend: a dog named Zephyr. Thank you God and thank you Circle Tail for fulfilling a need and giving me a great friend."

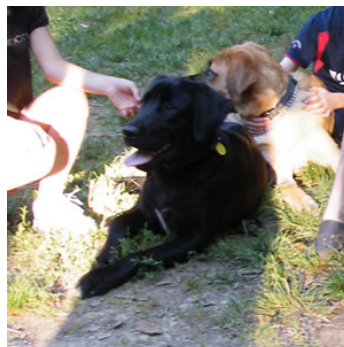
## Happy Beginnings

### Hayes



"We just want to drop you a note and a few pictures of Hayes. We adopted Hayes from Circle Tail approximately three years ago. He is doing great and we are fortunate to have him as part of our family. Hayes and I recently graduated from Dogtors Animal Assisted Therapy training. We are just now starting to make visits but Hayes is already a big hit! We have worked with Alzheimer's residents, Montgomery County Juvenile Detention Center and we have a children's camp lined up later this month. Please pass on our sincere thanks and gratitude to everyone involved and let them know their hard work is appreciated."

### Denali



"You might remember we adopted Argosy in March who we renamed Denali. She came from a great litter of lab mix pups who are so sweet. I had asked if you could send me contact info on to the families who adopted her litter- mates so we could arrange a play date and we did! Last week four of us got together at Symmes Township Park at the dog run and let the family play together. They all are doing well and look like they all remember each other. They played until they passed out and we vowed to get them together again!"

### Lydia



"True to your description, Lydia is sweet and lovey with everyone, loves to play fetch, chew (just about anything), carry and munch sticks and cuddle! She wakes up wagging her tail and is a joy to be around (most of the time)! She is very bright and playful. Would you please extend our thanks to the person who started her training. She does very well with sit, down and is trying hard with stay and leave it. Also, she is doing quite well with potty training. You really gave her a good start in life. Thank you for allowing us to adopt Lydia--we love her a lot!"





# Circle Tail, Inc.

Partners with paws for people with special needs

## Tails from the Inside

*Circle Tail's partnership with area prisons helps in many ways: it benefits the dogs, the people who will receive the dogs, and the inmates, who experience the responsibility, rewards, and unconditional love that a dog brings.*

### A Better Way For A Better Day

As I relax on my bed  
Thoughts of my dog stir through my head.

Peacefully he lays calmly on the floor  
His trouble free mind I enviously adore.

Watching and studying his tranquil way  
His thoughts linger no further than the day.

His mindful worries never last  
He makes them yesterday's forgotten past.

Living only in the moment at hand  
A fearless future lays at his command.

Living life like there is no tomorrow  
He gives his all - no regret, no sorrow.

He knows when he delivers his best  
The wage paid is a good night rest.

Though he lays there like a bump on a log  
Much can be learned from my meek ole dog.

Studying my dog's ways  
Inspired knowledge improves my days.

I have heard the wise saying, "Just for Today!"

It was my dog who showed me the way.

– The Humble Trainer

*Inspired by Syne, Golden Retriever, who was adopted as an in-home companion dog with a child who has autism.*

### Letter from Victor Addis, Jr., Former Inmate Handler

My name is Victor. I was sent to prison in 1999 for two charges of felonious assault where my victim was beaten severely. I was a very violent person and in prison I became involved in a white supremacy group and was very active. I got a lot of those types of tattoos covering my body in prison and I was mad at the world. I began serving time at the age of 14 in the department of youth services.

I always liked dogs and would bring strays home as a kid. I saw the dogs in the prison that Circle Tail brought in and wanted to be a part of the program. One night rolling the dice in my cell with God (I wasn't a Christian then) I said "get me in the program and I'll back out of the gang". The very next day the prison coordinator called me in his office and said "you're in, you're getting a dog, but mess up and you're headed to the hole".

I was very excited, and then I thought about what I said in my cell the night before. I received my dog and new cell and cell block location and got settled in.

Later that evening on the yard, I talked to the guys and told them I was done. I watched a lot of hardened

cons doing time for murder, robbery, etc. come out of their shells when the dogs were around. I watched them love on the dogs when they were cold as steel like I was and they would be on the yard waiting for us to bring our dogs out. I also noticed the fights were down when the dogs were around.

My best memory was when Circle Tail brought me a pregnant dog name Lena that I agreed to take and care for. Lena had 12 pups in my cell. It was the first time pups were born in that prison! It was a hot summer in that cell and I missed chow a lot but I wouldn't change the experience for anything!

Circle Tail helped change my life. I went from a violent man who could hurt you at a drop of a dime to a man who is now a Christian. My days are not all good but I deal with them with what I learned from the dogs. God put it in my heart to start Dogs Training Young Men Program where I pair up troubled youth with rescue dogs and teach the youth how to train them and I do this free of charge.

None of this would be possible if Circle Tail didn't take chances with guys like me. I am a Professional Obedience Trainer, certified canine trainer, 4000 hours apprenticed animal behavior therapist and former American Kennel Club Canine Good Citizen test evaluator.

Please support programs like Circle Tail because each time Ms. Staley goes into the prison she's saving two lives.

Victor E. Addis, Jr.  
[www.dogstrainingyouth.com](http://www.dogstrainingyouth.com)