



"PARTNERS WITH PAWS FOR PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS"

# THE CIRCLE TAIL TIMES

## IN LOVING MEMORY - Abby

*November 1997 - April 27, 2006*



It is with a sad heart that Circle Tail wished Abby, faithful and much loved canine friend of Circle Tail, a safe journey across the Rainbow Bridge.

Circle Tail and Abby's life as the Circle Tail demo dog both began in 1997. As Circle Tail continued to grow and touch so many lives, so did Abby. Every assistance dog who passed through the Circle Tail training program was trained under Abby's silent but effective tutelage. Guards and handlers alike knew Abby when she walked through the prison gates to lend a paw with the dog program. Saturday training classes were held under her ever-watchful eye. Abby was and always will be Circle Tail. She will be greatly missed by all those whose lives she touched.

### Mission Statement:

Circle Tail's mission is to provide high quality Assistance Dogs to people with mobility, hearing, neurological, or psychiatric disabilities, and to promote the human-canine bond in the community by providing dog adoptions, obedience training, behavior management, and boarding services.

Some people are blessed with experiencing the unconditional love and absolute devotion of that true, once in a lifetime, canine soul mate - the dog that seems to become a part of who we are. Circle Tail's Director, Marlys, and Abby had such a relationship. The Friends of Circle Tail send our sincerest condolences to Marlys.

***A loved One is not gone, until they are forgotten. And to Live in the Hearts of those left behind is to Live Forever.***

Donations made in Abby's memory will go to provide Assistance Dog Team Starter Totes for newly partnered teams. As the new teams begin their exciting journey together, Abby's spirit will accompany them in their new life.

### ***A Message From The Executive Director...***



I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of my friends, Abby's friends and the friends of Circle Tail who have acted in such a warm and supportive manner over the past couple of weeks. I have received numerous e-mails, pictures, phone calls, cards and memorial donations. These thoughtful messages have helped ease my heartache and I am very fortunate to be surrounded by such

wonderful, truly understanding dog people, who can feel and share my pain, and thus make it easier to bear.

I would also like to thank Abby, for sharing her short, wonderful life with me: For being my partner and my strength, for acting as a true professional, for showing her enthusiasm for dressing up and going to work as much as to play and run and get muddy, for teaching me patience and the great value of loving and living in the present.

*Marlys*



## *Ask Dear Aztec*

**Dear Aztec:** I was hoping for some help. Our dog Ripley is a shepherd mix and she is very much part of the family. She is about 1 year old and we have had her since she was 6 weeks. I had her trained at 10 weeks (potty trained to ring a bell on the door and sit, lay down, most important to come, and stay) and many more fun tricks. We have been blessed to have such a good dog. We have been recently re-doing our family room with all new paint, carpet and furniture. Currently, the room has nothing in it except the old carpet while we are painting. Ripley, all of the sudden, after a week of re-doing the room, goes to the empty room at night and eliminates both #1 and #2. When we find it, we raise our voice a little and tell her no and take her right out side. She knows she did wrong as her ears are pulled back and she is hiding. At first we thought she was sick. She eats fine, plays and during the day still rings the bell to go potty. The only thing we have come up with is that she is angry about the room being re-done. What can we do? Our carpet comes today and new furniture tomorrow. How can we stop this habit?

Thanks,  
Theresa (from Ohio)

Dear Theresa:  
Sounds like Ripley is a smart dog (of course, she is a shepherd mix) and may just be reacting with stress to a change in the home. She may not be getting enough exercise because you are busy working on remodeling the family room. Make sure she gets exercise and plays with toys that she can chew to decrease stress and occupy her mind. There are now new strange scents replacing the familiar ones therefore, you need to limit Ripley's unsupervised access to the "new" room. That way she can't make a mistake. You can crate her when she isn't supervised, shut the door to the room or use a baby gate. And remember, if you don't catch her in the act, you can't reprimand. Her ears are back and she is hiding because of your tone of voice, not because she knows what she did wrong. Exercise and supervise and you will all enjoy your new family room together.

- Aztec



## *Why is your Dog muzzled?*

### *Clearing up the confusion of a Gentle Leader®*

You may have seen dogs walking around in what looks like a muzzle and thought, that dog must be vicious. But is it really a muzzle, or a Gentle Leader®?

The Gentle Leader® Headcollar, like the Halti Head Halter, is not a muzzle. When fitted properly, your dog is free to open his mouth to eat, drink, pant, fetch, bark and even bite - except when you close his mouth by pulling on the leash. Instead, the Gentle Leader® Headcollar is a very humane and effective training tool to teach your dog manners, like walking on a loose leash, without lunging or pulling, and without choking your dog as a traditional neck collar can - pressure is applied at the back of the neck instead of the front of the throat. The Gentle Leader® lets you establish that you are the "pack leader" without force, allowing your dog to feel more secure. Additionally, the pressure to the back of the neck works with your dog's natural relaxation instinct to provide a calming effect. It allows easier and more humane control of large, strong dogs, and provides people with limited strength and mobility, such as those confined to wheelchairs, to control their dogs. We at Circle Tail are big fans of the Gentle Leader®. If you are interested in purchasing one, visit Circle Tail for a wide array of colors and sizes. More questions? We're happy to answer them! You can also visit [www.gentleleader.com](http://www.gentleleader.com) to learn more.



**‘RUN, ROMP AND PLAY DAILY! EAT WITH GUSTO AND ENTHUSIASM.  
NEVER BITE WHEN A SIMPLE GROWL WILL DO.’**

## **FOSTER FAMILY FOCUS: MAUREEN MAY & JASON JONES**

Maureen writes, “My husband, Jason, and I began fostering dogs for Circle Tail in 2001. Until then, my experience with dogs was rather limited. Circle Tail showed me that dogs are bright animals who, with training and leadership, have the potential to become well-behaved members of society and in some cases, can go on to assist people with disabilities. After fostering our first dog, Derby, and watching him develop into a well-behaved assistance dog in training, I was hooked!

We’ve fostered a number of dogs since Derby. I’m so often asked ‘How can you give them up? I could never do it.’ I will admit, it sometimes isn’t easy, but it helps to know that the assistance dogs will go on to serve an important purpose. And, there’s always a new dog right behind the last.

In 2004, I attended National K-9 School for Dog Trainers in Columbus, Ohio. I’m now able to offer my training skills to Circle Tail to help further the organization’s mission. I’m also able to spend my time doing something I love! Fostering Circle Tail dogs has been a life-changing experience for me. I hope fostering dogs can impact others the same way. We always need loving foster families to join our program.

If you’re interested in fostering dogs or helping us in any way, please contact us at [volunteer@circletail.org](mailto:volunteer@circletail.org). You can also contact me directly at [maureen@circletail.org](mailto:maureen@circletail.org). I’d be happy to talk more about the foster program.”

## **VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT:**

**Marlene Wilson**, dedicated Circle Tail Volunteer and Foster Mom!

Marlene says, “I’ve spent a lifetime around animals, dogs, cats, rabbits, horses, even one pet chicken. When my sweet dog Tiara died at the age of 16 years, I had to think about taking on another 15-16 years of commitment of pet ownership. I decided to try volunteering at an animal shelter to see if that would satisfy my need to be with animals. I knew it would have to be a no-kill shelter. I sort of stumbled upon Circle Tail when I saw their brochures at a Wal-Mart pet supply department.

I started out just exercising the dogs, but just kept taking on more opportunities, and the more I take on, the more rewarding the experience has been for me. As a retired CPA, I joined the Grant Writing Committee, and what a high it was when the first grant proposal I wrote was approved! I also took the pet grooming classes at Live Oaks, and feel this makes a great contribution to the comfort of the pets that are groomed, plus making our shelter dogs more presentable to prospective adoptive ‘parents’. We received a grant for some professional grooming equipment so we can do a better, easier job of grooming.

Having various dogs in my home for a few days every so often is not the same as having my own pet, but it is working for me and will allow me to be free to take trips out of town without the worry or expense of kenneling my own dog.

All-in-all, volunteering at Circle Tail has been the most rewarding ‘job’ I have ever had and I enjoy meeting all the other dog lovers who are associated with Circle Tail.”

## **BOOK REVIEW**

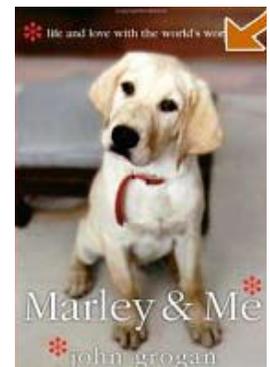
**BY JACKIE ORSI:**

*If Marley had Met Marlys...*

Marley and Me is a book about “The Worst Dog in the World”. It has been sitting on top of the best seller list for months now, for good reason. It’s rollicking good fun. Marley, a yellow Lab, spent his whole lifetime getting everything all wrong. He was the creator of predicaments, the source of embarrassments, and the cause for thousands

of dollars in repairs and vet bills. For all his naughtiness, however, he was a sweet, wagging boy whose family adored him, in spite of it all. Marley and his person, John Grogan, were booted out of one obedience school, and finally managed to graduate from another, albeit last in the class. Could Marlys, Circle Tail’s own wizard of dog training, have made a good dog out of Marley? I am skeptical. I am really glad that the Grogans didn’t give up on Marley, and that they never crushed his good spirits. Otherwise, we wouldn’t have this wonderful, laugh-out-loud book that everyone who has ever loved a dog can enjoy.

(Not for young readers, however, due to some spicy details about the Grogan’s and Marley’s love lives.)



## 54 Dogs Were Adopted Between February 1st & April 30th, 2006!



### ***Spotlight Dog for Adoption: Brighton***

Hi, I'm Brighton! If you're looking for a great family dog, I may fit the bill! I'm about 2 years old and 48 pounds. I was found hanging out at Xavier University (being the smart boy that I am!!). I enjoyed all the attention from the students and employees but would really like a home of my own. I'm fairly laid back for my breed, but will get excited if the occasion calls for it!! Dogs are OK when we're introduced properly (especially the ladies!), but people are the best - even the little kids! I don't get what all the hype is about cats - I basically ignore them. I'm house trained and know basic obedience, and I'm always up for learning more!

## **CIRCLE TAIL SERVICES**

Circle Tail provides a variety of additional services for the community. See our website at [www.circletail.org](http://www.circletail.org) for more details, or call (513) 877-3325.



Dog Training, including basic, remedial, and intermediate group classes, remote collar training, and private lessons. Check our website for upcoming dates and times.

⇒ AKC® Canine Good Citizen Testing

⇒ Training supplies and toys.

⇒ Boarding: Circle Tail emphasizes good manners, activity, and time for appropriate play with other dogs.

⇒ Assistance dog training and certification.

## **HAPPY BEGINNINGS**

Teddy's dad writes, "Things have been very good with Teddy (a.k.a. Bernie), and his personality has started to flourish & develop. He's a playful, very intelligent, at times stubborn, and extremely sweet St. Bernard that loves to be spoiled. Teddy enjoys his naps, loves to run across the property - we're not sure where he's running to or from but he does love to run. He has also blossomed into a confident personality who makes himself at home wherever we take him. He visits the doggie spa frequently to condition his hair and keep him looking his best."

In the photo are Teddy and his brothers; Teddy is second from the right, next to the Cocker Spaniel. From right to left - Rogue, Teddy, Guenther, and Bernie. Since we already had a Bernie, the new Bernie was renamed Teddy as in Teddy Bear.



## **VOLUNTEER**

### **CAPTAINS NEEDED!**

**Are You Interested in Becoming a Saturday Volunteer Captain?**

Saturdays are busy days at Circle Tail. We're looking for

energetic, people-oriented volunteers to supervise and manage our Saturday activities. Volunteer Captains will be able to devote approximately one Saturday a month to oversee volunteer activities at Circle Tail. Volunteer Captains will match volunteers with tasks and current needs. Ideally, five Volunteer Captains will be identified to rotate Saturdays and commit to approximately one Saturday per month.

Please contact [volunteer@circletail.org](mailto:volunteer@circletail.org) if you are interested becoming a VOLUNTEER CAPTAIN.



## Team Talk – Team Updates

**Public Access Test:** Congratulations to Mandy and her assistance dog, Lincoln and Christopher and his service dog, Guinness, on successfully



passing the Public Access Test in February 2006. The Public Access Test is conducted following the Assistance Dogs International, Inc. Public Access Test. The teams must demonstrate appropriate behavior and obedience during loading and unloading from a vehicle, around shopping carts, in a restaurant, and around strange adults and children. The teams



demonstrated their ability to work successfully as assistance dog teams.

**Georgia, and Service Dog, Dugan:** Georgia Roll received an award at the Concerned Citizens for the Handicapped's Handicap Awareness Dinner on Tuesday, May 9. She read a poem to Joy Cox in memory of her son, Officer Larry Cox. Georgia hand-stitched a quilt which will be given to Chillicothe officers to sign and hang in the Law Enforcement Complex. Georgia is described by her colleagues as assertive and inspiring and was responsible for bringing the first service dog to the VA, her partner Dugan. Together they started animal therapy visits and other animal activities.



### *“Tails” from the Inside...*

Hydro, a 20 pound Golden Retriever/Poodle mix, had the opportunity to show off his skills to some death row inmates at the Ohio Reformatory for Women, encouraging them to step outside and feel a little more “normal”. Here is what Hydro's inmate handler wrote about the experience:

“Dr. Hydro, who earned his Ph.D. at Circle Tail, and Queen Calvo, a hairless Chinese Crested / Boston Terrier mix who is an Educator at Circle Tail, got together to psycho-analyze the situation with hopes to come up with a therapeutic plan to alleviate some of the conditions of the death row inmates at the Ohio Reformatory for Women. They knew that their first line of action would be to arrange a meeting with the Warden. Since the Warden is a woman, Queen Calvo thought it would be best to elect Dr. Hydro to entertain the Warden with their plans. Of course Dr. Hydro knew he was ‘the man with the plan,’ but his job would be to convince the warden that he was the perfect candidate to get the job done!

The meeting was arranged and ideas were shared. Though impressed, the Warden was still a little apprehensive. Dr. Hydro was determined as he gave the Warden his leash and walked her to the living unit in which death row is housed.

The ladies on death row were instantly excited to meet Dr. Hydro. So much that he was invited to join them for dinner. Dr. Hydro challenged the ladies to a little outdoor activity. With all his charm, his plan unfolded as they all participated in a good game of fetch. One of the ladies lost her eye glasses, and unknowing of the Dr.'s skills, she asked Dr. Hydro to find her glasses. As the handler, I sat there proud to know that the Dr. would successfully oblige this lady in her endeavor. After searching high and low, there sat the Dr. next to the glasses awaiting further instructions. Everyone seemed amazed after searching the entire yard.

Both the Warden and Dr. Hydro felt accomplished and delighted. It has been approved and arranged that the Circle Tail Dog Program at O.R.W. provide continued “Pet Therapy” to the ladies on death row.

# THE CIRCLE TAIL TIMES

## News & Events

⇒ Trainers of Assistance Dogs in Ohio will now have the same access rights with their assistance dogs in training that Assistance Dog Teams have. This important change to the Ohio Assistance Dog Law was passed by both the House and Senate on March 29th, 2006, and will take effect at the end of June. The proposal was made by Representative Tom Raga (R – Ohio), who worked diligently for the amendment.

See [www.legislature.state.oh.us](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us), House Bill 476, for complete details.

⇒ The FACS Group held a work day on March 18, where they fixed and replaced fencing in the dog play area, cleaned the former goat barn, and of course walked, played with, and groomed the Circle Tail dogs.

⇒ Ann Trumm resigned from the Board of Directors in March 2006 due to time constraints. We thank Ann for her contributions as both a board member and volunteer!

⇒ Melissa Ferguson, a 5th Grade teacher at Waynesville Elementary, began a service learning unit with her class, teaching them about working for the common good. She invited Circle Tail volunteers to speak to her class about the importance of Assistance Dogs, what they do, and how they are trained. Debbie Willis and Therapy Dog, Mack, who regularly visit Otterbein Retirement Village, shared their experiences with the class. Thank you to Ms. Ferguson and her students for the invitation.

⇒ At its Inclusion Leadership Awards Event on March 8th, the Inclusion Network honored Transportation Security Administration (TSA) employees at the Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International and Dayton International airports for their work with people with disabilities who have Assistance Dogs. The TSA worked with the Assistance Dog Club (ADC) of Circle Tail last summer to learn from people who have Assistance Dogs, as well as help them be more comfortable when traveling.

## ASSISTANCE DOG CLUB OF CIRCLE TAIL

**The Assistance Dog Club (ADC) of Circle Tail held five meetings in February, March and April.**

• Circle Tail's Director, Marlys Staley, presented information from the joint International Association of Assistance Dog Partners (IAADP) and Assistance Dogs International (ADI) conference held in January. Benefits of IAADP membership, including free Advantage flea treatment and free Cosequin for joint health were presented.



• Many thanks to Harry Holbert, Jr., of HC Design Group, LTD, who presented architectural and construction solutions for homes and apartments that can help improve the quality of life for people with disabilities. More information on HC Design can be found at [www.hcdesigngroup.com](http://www.hcdesigngroup.com).

• Canine first aid, including CPR, normal vital signs, common dog dangers, and canine emergencies were presented in March.

• Also in March, ADC members enjoyed an outing at the Cincinnati Art Museum. Teams and foster families viewed the beautiful artwork and antiques on display. Dogs were exposed to elevators, imposing marble staircases, and life-like statues and sculptures.



ADC's mission is to enhance the relationship between persons with disabilities and their assistance dogs by providing an organized forum that encourages education, support and idea sharing between teams, trainers, and the community. More information about ADC can be found at [www.circletail.org/ADCofCT/About.htm](http://www.circletail.org/ADCofCT/About.htm), or contact at [adc@circletail.org](mailto:adc@circletail.org) or 513-877-3325.

# To All Our Generous Donors - Our Deepest Thanks!

## INDIVIDUAL DONORS

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## CELEBRATION GIFTS

Sarah & Paul Beswick  
*In honor of Potter's 4th Birthday*  
Christina & Samuel Field  
*In honor of Golden Boy Jack's 6th  
adoption anniversary.*

## MEMORIAL GIFTS

*In Loving Memory...*  
Bob & Julie Atkins  
*In loving memory of  
Popeye the Husky mix and Keagan the  
Irish Setter.*  
Kim Maul  
*In loving memory of Abby.*  
Dr. Lori Staley  
*In loving memory of  
"Sam" Kemmerer.*  
Melissa, Miriam, Bo, Precious, Jenny,  
Snaves, & Brocie Watson  
*In loving memory of  
Abby; a guide, companion, comfort,  
motivator and so much more. May all  
at Circle Tail find comfort and peace in  
the gift of Abby.*

## Grants / Special Donors:

Circle Tail was awarded two grants this spring! We received a **\$12,000 grant** from the **Build-A-Bear Workshop Foundation** for our transportation fund, which encompasses everything from maintenance, license, and registration on the vans to travel to prisons, vet, events, adoption follow-up, and more. To learn more about the **Build-A-Bear Workshop Foundation**, visit [www.buildabear.com](http://www.buildabear.com).

**The Helen Brach Foundation** awarded Circle Tail a \$12,000 grant for the training and partnering of an Assistance Dog Team, as well as for general equipment, including grooming supplies and a new dishwasher.



We are mostly in need of **Dry and Canned Puppy Food**, sponge mops, airline-style dog crates, a sound machine, Clorox, paper towels, and trash bags. See our website for our complete list.



**All Donations received from  
February 1st - April 30th, 2006**

**Our Goal is to provide trained assistance dogs at no cost to qualified recipients. Your support is vital to ensure this service continues!**

*We appreciate any size gift you can give, no matter how large or small. For a minimum annual contribution of \$15.00, you can become an official member of Circle Tail and receive our Newsletter along with a membership card.*

**Enclosed is my gift of:** (checks should be made payable to Circle Tail, Inc.)

\_\_\_\_\_ \$25      \_\_\_\_\_ \$50      \_\_\_\_\_ \$100

\_\_\_\_\_ \$500      \_\_\_\_\_ Other :\$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$2000-Inmate/puppy team sponsorship provides financial support for a puppy in training during his/her first year of life.

\_\_\_\_\_ \$8000-Assistance Dog Team Sponsorship.

Provides financial support for the entire course of an assistance dog's training through partnering with a person with a disability, and follow-up of the team.

**Please send me more information on:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Receiving an Assistance Dog
- \_\_\_\_\_ Fostering a Puppy or Dog
- \_\_\_\_\_ Volunteer Opportunities
- \_\_\_\_\_ Sponsoring an Inmate/Puppy Team
- \_\_\_\_\_ Sponsoring an Assistance Dog and Partner Team

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to view the newsletter online instead of hard copy.

**PLEASE PRINT or TYPE:**

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

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