



“Partners with Paws for People with Special Needs”

The Circle Tail Times

Mark Your Calendar!



Circle Tail Volunteer Picnic & Ground-Breaking Ceremony

Sunday, Oct. 7th,
1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
at Circle Tail.
Well-mannered
dogs welcome.
Hope to see you
there!

Circle Tail's Mission

Our 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.



Full member of
Assistance Dogs
International

A Message from the Executive Director...

Much has changed since Circle Tail was founded in 1997. Through the generous support of businesses, foundations and individuals, and a team of dedicated volunteers, Circle Tail has grown and evolved into a respected assistance dog organization, limited-admission shelter, and dog training/boarding facility. With all of our day-to-day work for the animals and clients we serve, it can be difficult at times to focus on the future. But for Circle Tail, the future is beginning to happen now. The Board of Directors is busy finalizing plans for Phase I of “Full Circle: the campaign to achieve Circle Tail’s full potential”. The first phase will include the construction of a new 7200 square foot building that will house a large, open training floor, meeting room, office space, grooming facility and an accessible bathroom! The new training/education center will allow us to provide improved services as well as additional educational and training opportunities to our community. We hope that you are excited as we are about our plans and help Circle Tail come “Full Circle”.

- Marlys

*The Assistance Dog Club of Circle Tail headed to the Greater Cincinnati / Northern Kentucky International Airport in August.
Read the story on page 7!*



Did You Know?

All tail wags are not alike. Can you tell what your dog is saying?

Broad wags at a moderate pace means your dog is happy and he’s showing he likes you.

Holding the tail high or curved over the back with short fast wags says “Give Me Space”

The Circle Tail dogs will be riding in style, thanks to a grant for a new van from the Laura J. Niles Foundation!

“Tails From the Inside”: *Bonding with Sita*



To be a dependable companion, I needed to teach this sandy blonde how to develop a loyal and faithful bond. She became a dependable friend, one true to the end.

Wherever I'd go, she would follow, as if she was my sun-cast shadow. In a humble submit I had to admit, for I could not lie, this clever girl knew more about bonding than I!

----- A Humbled Trainer-----



Marlys Staley, our head trainer, is a professional member of the International Association of Canine Professionals (IACP).

Shed Pounds By Walking Homeless Hounds!

Come walk a dog on the trails at Circle Tail, and get fresh air and exercise – for you and a dog in need!

“Come to Circle Tail and take me for a walk – it’ll be good for both of us!”



Assistance Dog Stats

If a dog is going to work in public with a person with a disability, not only does the dog have to be task-trained, but s/he needs the right temperament to handle the life of an assistance dog. In fact, less than half of dogs bred by the large national organizations make it as working dogs. The rest either become pets or go into their breeding program. Since we do not have a breeding program, we have found that for about every 100 dogs taken in by Circle Tail, only one or two actually make it as full access, in-public service or hearing dogs.

AKC Canine Good Citizen tests were held April 21 and June 23rd at Circle Tail. Those that pledged to be responsible dog owners, and demonstrated that their dog is a good citizen through completing the 10 step test were:

-  Charlene Boerger and pet dog Fantasia
-  Bruce Brown and service dog in training Hannibal
-  Laura Eller and service dog Reebok
-  Ashley Foster and hearing dog in training Avi
-  Mary Havens and service dog Haven
-  Amy Hoh and service dog Cortez
-  Marlene Kyler and service dog Coda
-  Gayle Stanford and service dog Kedar
-  Guy Torres and service dog Zomer

Circle Tail Services

Circle Tail provides a variety of services for the community, including basic, intermediate, remedial, and remote collar group training, private lessons, board & train programs, assistance dog training & certification, AKC® Canine Good Citizen testing, training supplies and toys, and boarding. See our website or contact us for details.

Happy Beginnings Lucia

"Lucia continues to just melt the heart of every person she meets. Lucia is very diligent and obedient. She still very much likes to have a 'job' to do at the house. However, she has discovered the comfort of all of the beds and the couch, so when she is missing...we can always find her lounging in comfort! Thank you again - she has changed our lives, and I hope and pray she knows inside how much she is loved!"



LUCIA IS QUITE THE ELVIS FAN!



LUCIA THE FASHIONISTA!



LUCIA IS A DIE HARD UK FAN!

Spotlight Dog for Adoption



Hi, I'm Weston, a wonderful Greyhound who's going to make someone very happy. I'm quite the lover-boy! A bit shy with men, I'm more at ease with the ladies...but I quickly warm up to everyone! I'm great on a leash and have excellent house manner, plus I like other dogs and even love to play with puppies. I just can't resist chasing those cats!! I'm a very submissive, eager to please boy, plus I'm housetrained, crate trained and know some basic obedience. I promise, my ever-wagging tail will brighten your day!



Member, American
Boarding Kennel Association

Thanks and a great big dog biscuit to the Doris Day Foundation for the full sponsorship of an Assistance Dog Team!



Will you know what to do if your pet has an emergency medical need?

Pet First Aid Classes Offered at Circle Tail

Two Pet First Aid classes were held this summer, in June and August. If you missed them, look out for more opportunities to learn life-saving techniques. This 5-hour course includes pet CPR, Rescue Breathing, Injury and Wellness Assessment, Management of Choking, Shock, Bleeding, Heat/Cold Injuries, and more. A 45 page book is included.

Contact training@circletail.org for cost and/or to register.



Bow Wow Are We Happy!

Thanks to the

Helen Brach Foundation

for their generous sponsorship of 2 Assistance Dog Teams!

TEAM TALK!

New Partnerships

Ray & Hearing Dog, Tristen: Tristen is a Sheltie who was donated at 8 months old by a family. She was partnered with Ray in April 2007. Tristen helps by alerting Ray to sounds and retrieving dropped items. In her free time, she loves to play fetch with Ray!



Recipient of a Assistance Dog team scholarship!



Sarah and In-Home Service Dog, Flash:

Flash, a 2 year old Golden Retriever/Poodle mix who was donated by a breeder, was partnered with Sarah in July. He provides some balance support for Sarah, and also retrieves items for her. Best of all, his companionship helps prevent an emotional overload – what could be better stress relief than watching Flash's goofy antics!



Teams Pass Public Access Tests

Congrats to all our teams who passed their **Public Access Tests** this spring and summer: Gayle Stanford & Kedar, Amy Hoh & Cortez, Mikki Linscomb & Nestle, Colonel Jackson & Tank, Laura Eller & Reebok, Marjolein Ancona & Mingo, Cathrine Lamb & Isis



Marlene with Sita, Chris with Spirit, and Barb with Vickie pose in front of the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center

Anna and In-Home Service Dog, Hydro--Coming Through!

Anna Amend was born with only one arm and a stunted leg that has no knee joint. Though doctors predicted that she'd never be able to walk, today, at age 8, Anna walks with a five-inch lift on her shoe and her usual sunny determination.

Anna's parents, Deb and Rob Amend of Colerain Township, adopted her five years ago from an orphanage in the Former Soviet Union. The Amends expected that someday, in years to come, Anna might benefit from having a service dog. They decided to explore the option now, so that Anna could learn about it and look forward to that day.



Their contact with Circle Tail led to an unexpected result — a little Golden Retriever/Poodle mix named Hydro.

In August, Anna was paired with in-home service dog, Hydro. "He'll pick up things and carry things for me. He will help me with my chores, maybe. He'll help me with the laundry and cleaning my room." Best of all, she declared, "He'll help me, protect me, and love me."

"Normally, we don't match young children with service dogs," said Marlys Staley, Executive Director and Master Dog Trainer at Circle Tail. "Anna is so sharp that we believe this match will work now—and it will prepare her for the day when she will have a full public-access service dog."

Anna understands that she will have responsibility for taking care of Hydro. She lists her duties as, "Walking him, cleaning up after him, grooming him, clipping him, feeding him, exercising him, training him, and giving him work to do." Loving him will take no effort at all.

**Be a celebrity for Circle Tail! Visit www.sixdegrees.org
for a new and fun way to support the programs of Circle Tail!**

Assistance Dog Team Partner Update

Marlene & Coda:

On June 25, 2007, Marlene and Coda celebrated their one year "anniversary" as service team partners. Marlene and Coda have bonded well, with Coda definitely attentive to Marlene's needs and always happy for a treat.

For exercise and play time, Marlene throws a ball for Coda 60 times twice a day. Coda has learned to leap through the air to catch the ball, emulating "Air Bud"! Coda also gets to go for a 30-45 minute walk each day. Coda will go into the living room, up on the dresser and get the leash and run back into the bedroom to give it to Marlene. She then returns for her Halti head halter and brings it back as well.

Now Coda even anticipates what Marlene may ask her to do. Coda immediately goes into follow mode when Marlene goes through a doorway in her wheelchair. She is also able to put towels in the washer for Marlene and never misses: the laundry lands right in the washer.



A puppy look on Coda's face is often elicited whenever Marlene asks her to do something like getting Marlene's socks for her, turning on a light switch, picking up a pen, putting something in the trash, putting away her toys, or opening or closing a door or drawer. When bringing Marlene her pillow, Coda loves to hand it to Marlene only after shaking it and getting it perfectly positioned in front of Marlene. Admittedly, Coda sometimes does not want to give Marlene the pillow, preferring to give it plenty of good shakes.

Marlene and Coda look at each other with love and affection as Coda stands close to Marlene's wheelchair with head up, enjoying the affection Marlene bestows on her.

Retired

Hearing dog Zella: Zella, a stray, mixed breed dog, who arrived at Circle Tail pregnant, was partnered with Michelle in July of 2000 as a hearing dog. After serving Michelle well for 7 years, she is now retiring to a friend's house in the country.

While Michelle is waiting for her new dog, she is fostering in-home service dog in training, Klein. Klein is a mixed breed who was donated by another rescue for our service dog program. She had the alertness and willingness to please to be a hearing dog, but she has a fear of shiny floors.



So Klein gets to work as a hearing dog for Michelle in the interim. Klein goes to work with Michelle, and alerts her to the microwave, door, telephone, etc. at home. Klein also has retrieval skills, so she picks up her own leash and helps retrieve items that Michelle drops. Michelle is keeping Klein up to speed on her skills!



Service dog in training, Tollan (left) practices his skills by helping resident dog Saga (right) carry her toy in the Circle Tail pond.



*Circle Tail, Inc. is a member of
International Association of
Assistance Dog Partners (IAADP)*

102 Dogs Were Adopted Between April 1 & August 31!

Volunteer Spotlight

The Essig Family

Lisa Essig and her 11 year old daughter, Kristen, have been regulars at Circle Tail for about a year. Lisa says Kristen was the main reason they started volunteering – she loves dogs and wanted to do something to help them. She plans to be a vet when she grows up, but figures why wait until then to help animals?

Lisa is a member of our adoption committee, reviewing preadoption surveys and matching families with their new companions. She describes one of her “**goose-bump**” adoptions where she just knew it would work out: “My favorite adoption was one where the mom and dad were surprising their 16 year old son with a dog. He’d wanted one forever and I had to use a ‘code’ when calling or emailing the mom in case he got the messages. We were able to keep it a complete secret until they arrived at Circle Tail. The kid was in complete shock and had the biggest smile on his face even as they were driving away. I felt like a family member by the time we had all the details worked out with all the secret phone calls and emails!”

Kristen’s favorite thing to do is to walk the young puppies to expose them to new experiences like lights and sounds. She also handles service and hearing dogs in training at the mall and really loves that. **Kristen even has her own pet-sitting business and donates her fees to Circle Tail!**

Circle Tail has become a family affair, as husband and father **Mike Essig** became the Treasurer of the Board of Directors last year!



Joanna Lutes with Foster Dog, Hydro (Left) & Therapy Dog, Rojah (Right)

Foster Family Focus: Joanna Lutes

My relationship with Circle Tail began a number of years ago when I was looking into adopting a dog to use in coordination with AAT (animal assisted therapy). I was introduced to the organization from a fellow foster parent, Lois Schrantz. I remember going on Circle Tail’s website and falling in love with some of the dogs I thought may work, but I was steered in another direction by Marlys when she heard what I wanted to do. Boy was she right on the money! We adopted Rojah and she was a perfect fit for our family and for AAT. I had always wanted another dog, but fostering for Circle Tail had always been in the back of my mind. After going to a number of ADC meetings with Rojah I decided I wanted to foster for Circle Tail. Fostering has become one the best decisions in my life! I recently was given the privilege to foster Hydro. He was the perfect gentlemen and will make a wonderful assistance dog. He not only would work with me at home, but also in the community and in my classroom as well. The students and staff of my school loved the little guy and were amazed by his drive to please and his capability to do anything asked of him. Hydro also was a big help to me in some of the most difficult times in my life this past year. He was there for me and my father after our kidney surgeries not only to assist us, but as a morale booster as only this remarkable little guy could do for us during such a special time in our lives. His personality was one in which I will never forget and I will always truly feel blessed for having the honor of being his foster mom!

Thanks to P&G Pet Care, for their delicious grant to support 2 assistance dog teams and to provide Eukanuba food for the assistance dogs in training.

Did You Know?

-  We currently have about 15 **foster families**...and are always looking for more!
-  On average, we have about 90 dogs in our system. They are housed in 4 Ohio Correctional Facilities, at Circle Tail, and in foster families...did we mention we’re in need of more foster families?
-  Typically we adopt between 225 – 275 dogs per year!
-  In all, we’ve partnered 56 Service Dogs, 20 Facility Dogs, 4 Therapy Dogs, 14 In-Home Service Dogs, 5 In-Home Companion Dogs, and adopted over 1650 dogs to great homes.

Seen & Heard Around Circle Tail...

-  Volunteers gathered at **Moochie's**, an upscale pet supply store in Kenwood Mall, on May 13, June 24, and August 12 to promote the programs and services that Circle Tail offers.
-  In May, Circle Tail volunteer Deb Willis attended a meeting of the Interagency Council at **Workforce One of Warren County (formerly the OneStop)** and discussed the programs and services Circle Tail offers. She and her therapy dog, Mack, spoke to classes at her son's school about therapy dog visiting as well as assistance dogs.
-  Summer festivals spell fun for the Circle Tail dogs and volunteers! We held educational booths at the College Hill Pet Clinic's **Pet Health Fair**, the **West Chester Dog Fest**, and the **Mason Heritage Festival**.
-  Volunteers from **FACS** held a work day this spring to clear land for our new exercise areas and to give some attention to the Circle Tail dogs!
-  The GE **Elfun group** also held a work day this summer to paint agility equipment and continue clearing land. **Thanks to both these groups for their hard work!**
-  Circle Tail welcomed back Animal Communicator **Donetta Zimmerman**, who donated her services for an afternoon in June to raise funds for the programs of Circle Tail. Registrants got to find out what their pets were thinking, while helping the Circle Tail dogs!

Assistance Dog Club of Circle Tail

*Membership to the **Assistance Dog Club (ADC)** of Circle Tail is open to Assistance Dog Teams in the tri-state area, whether trained through Circle Tail or not. Visit the ADC website for information on joining the club and to learn about upcoming events and outings at www.circletail.org.*

The ADC held several meetings this spring and summer:

Healing Touch Practitioner Cindy Huff spoke at the April meeting about Pet Massage and Healing Touch.

Reading and understanding **canine body language** was discussed at the June ADC meeting.

The ADC went to the **Cincinnati Art Museum** in May. 16 people and 14 dogs had the opportunity to experience Cincinnati's cultural offerings as well as provide socialization for the dogs and evaluate some of the new kids on the block who just started their training. As a result of our visit, the Manager of Docents at the Museum has asked us to bring some Service Dogs and give a training session in the fall to the docents. Thanks to Anna Hope Kerwood in the Education Department, Anita Sherer, Tour Chairperson, who arranged the tours, and Anita Sherer & Terry Rasch, who conducted the tours.

ADC members also took their dogs to **Bass Pro Shops**, a pet-friendly store in Cincinnati Mills. Nine foster families and seven Assistance Dog Teams shopped and socialized. The Assistance Dog Teams were able to take their Public Access Tests.



July presented the opportunity for two outings. We had a **picnic** July 22nd at Symmes Park in Loveland. The area is accessible, has some trails, picnic tables, and a fenced dog park, which allowed us to let the dogs interact and just enjoy each others company for an hour or two.

3 Assistance Dog Teams and 3 Foster Families also attended the **Freedom Center's Daylong Freedom Fest** on Saturday July 28. We enjoyed free admission, live music, food and re-enactors, all while training and socializing the dogs.

Airport Outing

The August ADC Outing was held at the Greater Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky Airport on August 18th. TSA and Delta / Comair agents took Assistance Dog Teams and Foster Families through the airport to practice moving sidewalks, escalators, crowds and even board a docked airplane! The group of 28 people and 13 dogs made quite a presence at the airport! 7 Assistance Dog teams, 6 foster families, and 4 others from Circle Tail learned helpful hints to make air travel with an assistance dog as smooth as possible.

Our thanks to all the TSA, Delta, and Comair representatives, many of whom came in on their day off to participate:

Tom Helmis,
Lead Agent / GSC / CRO
Angela Bertelsen
Dave Bertis
Jeannie Bretschneider
Bob Burns
Dave Callahan

Michelle Curiel
Misty Rogers
Alan Russell
Holly Spanagel
Paul Versteeg

To All Our Generous Donors – Our Deepest Thanks!

Circle Tail is extremely grateful to all who have supported our programs through their generous contributions. Whether it is through an individual donation, gift in kind, or memorial gift, all contributions are important to Circle Tail so we can continue our work with assistance dogs, and all the dogs and puppies at our facility. Below are contributions from *April 1, 2007 through August 31, 2007*. Please let us know of any omissions or corrections.



Individual Donors

Anonymous
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Pet Health Tip

You notice your perfectly house trained dog is suddenly constantly peeing in the house...and straining too. S/he may have a urinary tract infection (UTI) – ouch! A UTI occurs when bacteria multiply in the urinary tract. To diagnose, your vet will culture a sample of your pet's urine. If confirmed, antibiotics are the first line of defense. To prevent a UTI, provide plenty of water, evaluate your pet's diet and make adjustments if recommended by your vet, exercise and walk your dog regularly to encourage more frequent urination. Also, for cats, be sure to provide easy access to their clean litter box.

Your Generosity Makes It All Possible!

Memorial Gifts

In loving memory

In loving memory of **Sadie Hill**, by
Emily Shiverski
Tiann Keesling
Stacy Schuler

In loving memory of **Anton**, by
Ginger Gandy & Pam Jacobson
Jean Pavlakos, BS, CCRP, Our
Hearts Canine Rehab, LLC
Laura Smith

In loving memory of **Rick Bailey**, by
Jean Pavlakos, BS, CCRP, Our
Hearts Canine Rehab, LLC

In loving memory of **Mrs. Patricia
Brown**, by
Beverly Macher

In loving memory of **Kelsey**, by
Andrea Macher & Aztec

In loving memory of **Rose
Menyhert**, by
George Menyhert

In loving memory of **Dooley Rose**,
beloved dog of Barb Rose
Hazel & Warren Rose
Warren Rose
Mary Schramm

In loving memory of **Abby**, beloved
dog of Marlys Staley, by
Lena Sandlin

In loving memory of **My Abby Girl**,
beloved dog of Marlys Staley, by
Marlys Staley

In loving memory of **Mary Beall**, by
Pam R. Sams

In loving memory of **Beau Watson**,
beloved cat of Miriam Watson, by
Melissa Watson

In loving memory of **Autumn**,
beloved dog of the Yaksic Family,
by
Ray Yaksic

Celebration Gifts

In honor

In honor of **Potter's 5th Birthday**, by
Sarah & Paul Beswick & Family

In honor of **Bruce Brown &
Hannibal**, by
Hilda & Norman Brown

In honor of **Eagle**, by
Lori Heilman

In honor of **Mary Ann Lennon's
Birthday**, by
Patricia A. O'Brien

In honor of **Dr. Susan Rogers-
Swaney**
In honor of **Carmen Kolz, Canine
Underwater Treadmill**
In honor of **Jean Pavlakos, Our
Hearts Canine Rehab**, by
Laura Smith



Kroger Neighborhood Rewards Update

Thank you to our supporters who've been using your **Kroger Neighborhood Rewards Program** cards to help the dogs of Circle Tail. We want to notify you of a precaution Kroger has recently instated for your protection. There will be a 5 minute delay before funds are available on gift cards when they are reloaded at the customer service desk or a different register from where the groceries are being scanned. Kroger recommends you add funds to your card before shopping, or at the same register where your groceries are being scanned. Remember cards must be reloaded in a separate transaction before the cashier scans your order. And if you don't yet have a Kroger Neighborhood Rewards card, contact us today to get one!

Gifts In Kind

Jill Baker
Kathy Collier
Denise Dalton
Mary Beth Davis
Tracy Desch
Kerri Eggleston
Fairbanks Family
Girl Scout Troop 5828
Kelly Haas
Sonya Hall
Hopperton Family
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Mike Ludovici
Joanna Lutes
Mikolanis Family
Denise Murray
Nancy Nathan & Bryan Sweeney
Debra Robinson
Stacey Pitman
Larry Roberts
Angela Smiddy
Marlys Staley
Gayle Stanford
Wilhelm Family
Winterhalter Family



Wish List

We have an urgent need for **dry puppy food** and conditioning **dog shampoo** for gentle bathing. We are also in need of **trash bags** and **paper towels**. The dogs would also LOVE some treats (small hard biscuits as well as soft training treats). With all the cleaning that is done, we could also use Clorox wipes and bleach! Other items include **canned dog / puppy food** and Dry and Canned Cat Food for our resident cats. See our website for our complete list.

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:

_____ \$ _____ – Full Circle, the Campaign to Achieve Circle Tail’s Full Potential

_____ \$ _____ – General Donation

_____ \$2000 – Inmate/dog team sponsorship. Provides financial support for a dog/puppy in training during his/her first year with Circle Tail.

_____ \$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.

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