



“Partners with Paws for People with Special Needs”

# The Circle Tail Times



## Assistance Dogs International Accredited Facility

In January, Circle Tail successfully met all the professional standards to achieve full accreditation from Assistance Dogs International (ADI). This represents a remarkable achievement, and demonstrates our ongoing commitment to upholding the highest standards of excellence within the assistance dog community.

### 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.

## A Message from the Executive Director...

Wikipedia defines **Volunteerism** as the willingness of people to work on behalf of others without being motivated by financial or material gain. People may volunteer for altruistic purposes, as community service, or to gain experience in a certain area. It's one of the most basic of all values: people helping people and, in the process, helping themselves. As the days get longer and the weather becomes more tolerable, Circle Tail is looking forward to the reemergence of our volunteer forces. Volunteers are the backbone of Circle Tail and our need is greater than ever now that our new Training/Education center is open. We have four main volunteer needs:

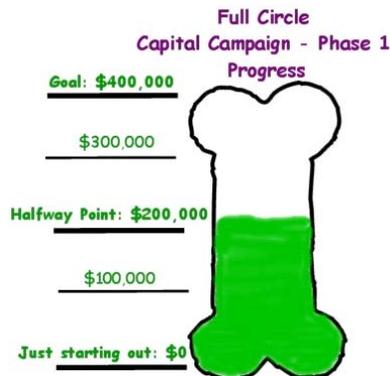
- 1. ON SITE:** Volunteers are needed to come to Circle Tail to exercise, socialize, train and groom the dogs on site. In addition, there are many other tasks to keep the Circle Tail trails open and the grounds and buildings safe and looking good. After orientation and 3 Saturdays of training, volunteers are also welcome on Sundays, and weekdays from 8:00-11:00 AM and 3:30-7:00 PM.
- 2. OFF SITE:** People are needed to staff information booths at various pet and health fairs around Cincinnati as well as off-site adoption events. We also need people to speak to various schools and businesses about the programs of Circle Tail.
- 3. FUNDRAISING/SPECIAL EVENTS:** If you are in sales or public relations in any field, we need volunteers to help with fundraising for our Annual Golf Classic, and to help lead and contribute time to various events throughout the year.
- 4. FOSTER FAMILIES:** For the shy dogs who do not do well in our prison program, foster families are needed to teach manners so that these dogs are more adoptable. In addition, foster families are needed for our service/hearing dog program in order to increase our success with training and placing these dogs with people with disabilities. The foster families house, reinforce commands, and take our dogs out to public places so that they are confident, well socialized and have impeccable public manners.

So, as you spring out of the winter doldrums, join the volunteer forces at Circle Tail and help people help dogs who help people. Contact us at [volunteer@circletail.org](mailto:volunteer@circletail.org) and start volunteering! You'll be glad you did!!

Warm wishes,  
- *Marlys, Tollan, & Aztec*

## Full Circle, The Campaign to Reach Circle Tail's Full Potential

Thanks to everyone who attended January's **Open House!**



### We're halfway there!

So far we've raised **\$243,720.91**  
Help us meet our goal – donate, participate in a fundraiser, or buy a commemorative tile. Visit [www.circletail.org](http://www.circletail.org) or call 513.877.3325 for all kinds of ways to help.

## Circle Tail Receives Grant from Cesar & Illusion Milan Foundation

This grant allows us to keep the costs down for the training classes we offer. It's important our services remain affordable to the members of our community.

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

## Happy Beginnings Toki

Golden Retriever Jack, formerly Toki (pictured with his brother Danny), was adopted in July 2007. Jack's mom reports he has a wonderful disposition and energy. She writes, "He is truly an incredible dog. He has shined in every situation he is in."



Recently our car broke down during a snow and ice storm and Jack stayed calm and rode in the tow truck and was wonderful in the dealership and restaurant and the ride we got home. The only little slip Jack did was in the lobby of the restaurant he was eyeing a stuffed animal and quickly grabbed it, to the delight of everyone."

## 83 Dogs Were Adopted Between December 1, 2008 & March 15, 2009!

### Hang Time!

Hang Time hours are extended to **5:00 - 8:00 p.m.** on Sundays. We've also added services you can take advantage of even if you don't want to stay for Hang Time.

**Hang Time:** \$5 per dog handler

**Nail clipping:** \$5 per dog

**Ear cleaning:** \$5 per dog

**Do-it-yourself Bathing:** \$10 per dog - bring your own shampoo and brush; use our bathing tub, towels, & blow dryer. Save your back and all the mess!

**Store is open** if you want to stock up on dog supplies

**Bonus:** On April 26 and May 31, our volunteer groomers will be available.

## Spotlight Dog for Adoption



Hi, I'm **Damian**, a VERY sweet 5-year-old Lab. I've got plenty of energy, love people, and crave all the attention I can get.

Learn all about me at [www.circletail.org](http://www.circletail.org)!

*Kenzie (formerly Kanzie) has a rough life! Her adoptive mom Lauren writes, "Kenzie is doing amazing and we are so happy she is with us. She comes to work with me and our other dog every day and is really enjoying it."*



**A little more about Hang Time:** Hang Time is a chance for well-mannered dogs and people to get some exercise and social time with each other: free-style playing with your dog, in a large, climate-controlled space. Have some fun, exercise, and bonding time with your dog. All proceeds support the programs of Circle Tail.

## Do-It-Yourself Dog Bathing

In addition to Hang Time hours, we're open the following times for nail trims, ear cleaning, and self-bathing:  
Tuesdays & Thursdays 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM  
Saturdays 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM



Member, Pet Care  
Services Association

## New Partnerships

**Partnering began in January for 3 new teams:**

### Jackie, and Service Dog, Pike:

"Pike is learning to be such a help for me. He is learning to turn off the alarm clock, get me medicine, and wake me up.



He is also learning to block me, so after I have a seizure he won't allow me to go through a doorway or go down stairs without me giving him a command. This summer Pike will learn to alert me when he smells a smell that could trigger a seizure. The best part is Pike makes me feel safe after I have had a seizure. I really appreciate having Pike around."

**Abigail, and Service Dog, Gainer:** Gainer helps Abigail with retrieving items and notifying others when she has a medical emergency. He provides comfort and security wherever they go.



**Angela, and Service Dog, Yen:** Yen is a mixed breed who will help Angela with her panic attacks. Angela writes, "I'd like to share the incredible impact Yen has had in my life so far. Yen and I have been in the bonding phase for many weeks now. This bonding phase is the most fun I have had in a long time. We are currently learning about each other and building activities we both enjoy.

*Continued on p. 6*



### In loving memory: Andrea Hope Macher

Andrea was partnered with service dog, **Aztec**, a German Shepherd, in December 2006. Andrea passed away on December 26, 2008. Aztec is now back at Circle Tail, serving as our "Demo Dog". Andrea's friend **Karia Gali** writes of the special bond between Andrea & Aztec:

"I met Andrea 3 ½ years ago, and we became fast friends. Our mutual love of dogs was our glue, and as time went on she became like a sister to me.

Andrea applied for a service dog from Circle Tail. Andrea's illness was taking its toll, and Marlys recognized Andrea's urgent need for a service dog. Marlys did what no one else I know would have done, and partnered Andrea with her own dog, Aztec, demo dog and ambassador for Circle Tail. Andrea was reticent to accept the gift she was offered, feeling that she would never have a strong bond with Aztec. With great trepidation, Andrea accepted Aztec as her partner to help her remain independent and not impose on her few friends and mother.

I drove Andrea home from Circle Tail on Dec.16, 2006 with what we called her Hanukah present: Aztec. What greater gift? Andrea and Aztec were required to spend 60 hours training, of which I became a part. As well as being her best friend, I am a certified master trainer. We spent our many hours training, Andrea learning the correct words for each behavior, watching training DVD's and bonding with her new partner.

We went to Wal-Mart, Home Depot, Borders, out to dinner, anywhere we could think to train. In the second month, we went to Wal-Mart and Andrea decided to shop for some sweatshirts. As she was looking at tags to find the right size, a man and his young son passed. The boy was very excited and said to his father--"Daddy, Daddy, there's a dog in the store." The father responded to his son saying "Yes, that's a guide dog --- the lady is blind", as Andrea was clearly reading the clothes label. Overhearing this, Andrea turned to Aztec and said, "Oh my God Aztec, we're blind!"

This was the beginning of our adventures and outings with Aztec. Andrea's humor always seemed to shine through in spite of her deteriorating health. We became ever closer.

In the last six months, Andrea had become homebound and then bed-bound. Aztec had routinely gone for grooming and Andrea, unable to take him herself, asked me to take him. She said she trusted no one else with her beloved partner, so of course I agreed. The day for grooming arrived, and I drove over to pick up Aztec. We went out the side door through the garage and Aztec loaded in my van, but before I could slide the door closed he jumped out. He ran to the front door of the house (in spite of my calling him to come back), opened the door, went inside and closed the door behind him. I followed and when I reached the door and tried to open it, Aztec closed it. Each time I pushed from the outside, Aztec pushed from the inside. Without words he made quite clear his point that he did not wish to leave his partner. In spite of his protests he did make his grooming appointment that day and returned home no worse for wear.

Andrea passed away on Dec. 26, 2008 with Aztec at her side. He stayed with her to the end and has now returned to Marlys and his Circle Tail family. I lost two friends that day.



### Amy & Cortez Impress at the Zonta Club of Cincinnati

Board Members Jane Schroer and Amy Hoh, with Service Dog, Cortez, were Roundtable Guest Speakers at the Zonta Club meeting in February. Amy demonstrated just a few of the many ways that assistance dogs and their owners work together as a team. This enables Amy to continue leading a busy and productive life while being wheelchair bound. Jane outlined the organization's fundraising programs and described the training process, housing, and care necessary for the dogs.

The Zonta Club of Cincinnati, part of Zonta International, is a service organization dedicated to advancing the status of women through service projects, advocacy, education, and program funding.



### 11 Years in the Making: Heat and Air Conditioning! Indoor Bathrooms!

Only 7 months after breaking ground, Circle Tail held an Open House the weekend of January 17&18 to celebrate the completion and grand opening of our Training & Education Center. The center is equipped with many features of a house so that assistance dogs in training can better navigate household chores. We can now offer more and better quality training and education to dogs and people for all purposes in a comfy and efficient environment. It features a large training floor, office, classroom, grooming room, "apartment" for training advanced service dog skills and providing Healing Touch for animals, several storage rooms and 2 bathrooms. The entire area is fenced in. And now that spring is here, we're excited to begin landscaping.



*During the Open House, service dog Cortez demonstrates how he helps his partner Amy Hoh with every day tasks, like placing things in the trash.*



*Nessa Schroer obeys the "sit" command during Circle Tail's first remedial obedience class in the new training center.*



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



Get the latest news, share photos and stories, and support the cause.

## Help raise money for Circle Tail just by buying at Whole Foods in Mason.

Join Whole Foods in supporting Circle Tail by participating in their Wooden Nickel program. Simply visit the Whole Foods store in **Mason**, use any re-usable shopping bag when checking out and the cashier will provide you with a wooden nickel. As you exit the store, deposit the wooden nickel into the Circle Tail Inc. jar and then we will receive 100% of the nickels contributed to our jar by generous shoppers! This program runs through June 2009.

### Eagle Scout Project

Thank you to **Devin Bachman** for making the puppy/small dog agility equipment for his Eagle Scout project. Devin says "This was a very fun and fulfilling project. I was immediately interested when I heard it involved helping animals and people with disabilities. I just love helping others and this was perfect. I had a great time working with all the people at Circle Tail, and it was a very memorable experience. I would love to do it again or get more Scouts involved with the organization."



### Mark Your Calendars!

Visit [www.circletail.org](http://www.circletail.org) or call 513.877.3325 for details

**2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Lose-A-Thon:** April 1 – July 4. Email [sarah@circletail.org](mailto:sarah@circletail.org) for details and a pledge form, or sponsor someone who's participating.

**BD's Mongolian Grill:** Wednesday, April 29. Enjoy fun, food, and raffle prizes with Circle Tail guest grillers. 10% of proceeds benefit Circle Tail.

**Canoe Trip:** Sunday, June 28. Cool off with your dog for a canoe trip along the little Miami River, and 20% of proceeds go to Circle Tail!

**2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Golf Classic:** September 18 at Sharon Woods. Don't golf? Join us for dinner & raffle prizes!

### Volunteer Dog Trainer

*Our spotlight shines on Judy Miller*

"I've been a trainer at Queen City Dog Training Club for 15+ years. When I retired from P&G as a market research manager, I was looking for volunteer work that would increase my learning of dog training. I first learned about Circle Tail while attending religious services! Our synagogue had an inclusion service: we invited a number of people with different disabilities to talk. I met a wonderful German Shepherd named Cortez and the rest was history! I quickly became the "weekday trainer" at Circle Tail, and work with potential assistance dogs. I've learned a great deal, and have fallen in love with most of the dogs I've worked with. I'm happy to contribute my talents to this great organization."



### Fundraisers & Events

Circle Tail volunteers are keeping busy raising awareness of our programs and services. Activities included bagging groceries at **Bigg's** for donations, marching with their dogs in the 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual **St. Patrick's Day Parade** in downtown Cincinnati, holding monthly **PetSmart** Adoption days, and doing presentations for area organizations and classrooms.

### Foster Family Focus



Gainer wants to help foster mom **Emily Kremer** with his nail trim. Emily is a Circle Tail kennel assistant and volunteer foster family. Contact us if you'd like to become a **foster family!**



*Service puppy in training, Mission, practices opening a cabinet.*

### Volunteer Spotlight: Anneke Stern & Jackie Noe *Better to Give*

**Jackie Noe** celebrated her 12<sup>th</sup> Birthday and asked for donations & dog supplies in lieu of gifts. Likewise, **Anneke Stern** celebrated her 11<sup>th</sup> birthday, and requested donations to Circle Tail in lieu of gifts. She writes, "I asked for donations for my birthday. My friends wrote checks and paid online to pay for facilities and necessities for the dogs"

## Trainer Tip

Lots of dog owners have watched in panic as their dog bolts out the door. To prevent it, put your dog on a leash or have someone hold him as you position yourself at the doorway. If your dog runs toward the door as you grab the knob to open it, correct him and tell him "wait". Repeat this process until your dog gets the point. When your dog waits as you open the door, praise him. Release him and tell him to "come" when it's OK to go out the door, calm and by your side.

## Circle Tail Selected in National Competition: Wins 2010 Ford Transit Connect!

We are absolutely thrilled to share the news that Circle Tail is one of only five winners of the national "Connect with Connect" competition sponsored by Ford Motor Company. The prize? A tricked-out, **2010 Ford Transit Connect** - Ford's versatile new van that debuted this month at the Chicago Auto Show. The van will be customized specifically for Circle Tail's unique needs for transporting dogs in secure carriers. Circle Tail's Executive Director, Marlys Staley, and President Jen Kiblinger, traveled with German Shepherd Aztec and Golden Retriever Tuck to the 2009 Chicago Auto Show for a ceremonial presentation. Check out our website for clips filmed at Circle Tail, including the Ford press conference that showcases the new Circle Tail van - with a shout-out to Tuck!



*Marlys & Aztec and Jen & Tuck at the 2009 Chicago Auto Show*

*Aztec checks out the model Ford Transit Connect in front at the 2009 Chicago Auto Show*



## Assistance Dog Club of Circle Tail

Visit the ADC website for information on joining the club and to learn about upcoming events and outings at [www.circletail.org](http://www.circletail.org).

Thanks to the addition of the new Circle Tail Training and Education Center, the ADC got off to a great start in 2009. The ADC held meetings in the new classroom during January and February. The January meeting was attended by 10 members and 3 guests, and the February meeting was attended by 10 members and 2 guests:

### January - Assistance Dogs and the Law

Marlys Staley led a roundtable where Teams discussed access rights, how to appropriately and effectively educate businesses on assistance dog laws, and alternatives on how to handle the situation if an assistance dog team is denied access. Marlys also presented updates on current state and federal access laws, and proposed Department of Justice changes to the ADA definition of a Service Animal. Information and Education packets for businesses were provided. For more info on these packets, please contact Circle Tail.

### February- Pet Loss

Cindy Huff led a discussion about the emotional and spiritual issues involved in assistance dog and pet loss. Attendees shared stories about the companion animals they've loved and lost. Coping strategies and resources for pet loss and grief were presented, as were contacts within the Circle Tail community for these unfortunate, but inevitable, times of transition.

### **Angela & Yen, continued from p.3** (full story available online)

"I live with constant fear because of my panic attacks. Yen is trained to prevent the cause that triggers the panic attacks. He feels the panic attack before I do and allows me to begin the steps to ease it. This is an amazing gift! When I get these big doses of adrenaline, my breathing stops and everything around me goes into a clouded fog. Yen has made it possible for me to have around 30% fewer attacks each day because he alerts me in the early stages. Yen brings me my medicine that helps to decrease the symptoms of a panic attack.

I also have rheumatoid arthritis and fibromyalgia. When my hands hurt too much to hold things, he swoops in and picks it up like 'no problem I got it'. I am beginning to see light at the end of the tunnel.

A couple days ago we ventured out to buy a toy for Yen. It had been years since I went out by choice. I was frustrated because nothing I did was working out. My hands hurt and I had another stupid panic attack. Yen jumped up on the couch and pawed on my arm, alerting to the aftershock. He leaned into me for hugs and even put his head on my shoulder. He tried to cheer me up and it worked. Yen and I are going to enjoy every minute we get together."



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

## 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 *December 1, 2008 – March 15, 2009*. Please let us know of any omissions or corrections.

### Individual Donors

Roxane Al-Fayez  
Marjolein Ancona, D.M.D.  
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# ***Your Generosity Makes it Possible!***

## **Memorial Gifts**

*In loving memory*

In loving memory of **Andrea Hope Macher**, by

Sharon & David Sheinbart  
Caroline Davenport  
Audrey Frank  
Linda & Anne Angart  
Ileen Berk  
Marilyn Brickman  
Mary Brooks  
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Edith Paller  
Ronnie & Jeff Weinstein  
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Sandra Lipman

In loving memory of **Ethyl Alexander**, by  
Linda & Rick Schmitts

In loving memory of **Maggie Nakrin**, by  
Melissa Watson

In loving memory of **Dooley**, by  
Hazel & Warren Rose

In loving memory of **Mack**, by  
Debbie Willis & Family

In loving memory of **Patrick Jenkins**, by  
Becky & Thomas Kremer  
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In loving memory of **Rascal**, by  
Ginger Gandy

In loving memory of **Shamus**, by  
Lori Heilman

In loving memory of **Kelsey**, by  
Cindy Parker

## **Celebration Gifts**

*In honor*

In honor of **Jackie Orsi**, by Caroline Orsi

In honor of **Anneke Stern's Birthday**, by  
Fredericka Stern

In honor of **Dorothy Stephens**, by  
John Stephens

In honor of **Ed & Barb Tucker**, by Cheryl & Ellery  
Savage

In honor of **Jackie Noe's 12<sup>th</sup> Birthday**, by  
Pam & Thomas Noe

In honor of **Daisy, Emma, Jasper, & Lily**, by  
Jen Kiblinger

In honor of **Aunt Anne**, by  
Jen Kiblinger

In honor of **Dusky**, by  
Douglas Hensley

In honor of **Barb & Jim Burton**, by Karen Pinsky

In honor of **Barb & Tim Juenke**, by  
Bethany & Josh Vanmeter

In honor of **Cousin Linda's Birthday**, by  
Melissa Watson

In honor of **Gayle Stanford**, by  
Frances Stanford, Denise, Jayden, & Jayson

In honor of **Grace**, by  
Jeanne & Charles Brandon

In honor of **Jennifer Duffey**, by  
Scott Brockman

In honor of **John Stephens**, by  
Renee Zimmerman & Nixa

In honor of **Kimberly Baranowski**, by  
Amy Snyder

In honor of **Mimi & Melissa Watson**, by  
Kim & Charlie Maul

In honor of **Madison**, by  
Jessica & Mitchell Killian

In honor of **Pat Watson's Birthday**, by  
Kim Maull & Melissa Watson

In honor of **Robyn Breiman's Birthday**, by  
Barbara Gray

In honor of **Sonny & Mason**, by  
Kevin, Erin, & Karlissa Wimmer

## **Commemorative Tiles**

*In celebration*

Mike & Kimberly Baranowski  
Jane M. Biehl, Ph.D.  
Melissa Cember  
Elaine Dickhoner  
Karen Friedman  
Betty & Bob High  
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Jill Kennon  
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Chris Zunic

A big tail wag to the

***Josephine Schell Russell  
Charitable Trust,***

***Louis & Louise Nippert Trust,***

***Jean Siemer No-Kill Animal  
Shelter Fund,***

and

***Scaife Family Foundation***

for their generous grants to support  
the new Training & Education Center!



## Circle Tail's Wall of Sharing

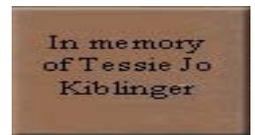
**Celebrate life or share a memory and invest in  
Circle Tail's new Training and Education Center!**

Donate a commemorative tile for a friend or loved one, and, of course, your dog!

Tiles can be customized with your name, and or/any message you'd like.

**Tiles are \$100**

(It's tax deductible!)



*Sample Inscription*

**Yes! I want a Tile!**

Please complete a separate form for each tile. Attach check for \$100 per tile payable to Circle Tail & mail form to: Circle Tail, 8834 Carey Lane, Pleasant Plain, OH 45162

Choose a message of 1, 2 or 3 lines in length (no difference in cost) and up to 20 characters per line. (Our engraver automatically centers each line.) Each box should contain no more than one letter or punctuation mark. Leave a blank box to indicate a space between words. You may use upper and lower case letters. Please print neatly.

Line 1																				
Line 2																				
Line 3																				

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_



Questions? Contact (513) 877-3325 or [info@circletail.org](mailto:info@circletail.org)

**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.*

**Enclosed is my gift of:**

\_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ – General Donation

\_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ – In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Send acknowledgement to \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ – In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Send acknowledgement to \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$2500 – Inmate/dog team sponsorship. Provides financial support for a dog/puppy in training during his/her first year with Circle Tail.

\_\_\_\_\_ \$8500 - Assistance Dog Team Sponsorship

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

**Full Circle:**

**The Campaign to Achieve Circle Tail's Full Potential**

*Enclosed is my donation of*

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

*I / we Pledge to give*

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ to be paid in annual installments of

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ over three years

**Please Print or Type:**

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Board Of Directors</b>	Jen Kiblinger, President Tracy Desch, Vice President Jay Fischbein, Treasurer Amy Hoh, Secretary Roxane Al-Fayez Elaine Dickhoner Ellen Dryer, DVM Mike Essig Jerri Goehler Guy Guckenberger Dave Mattheis Jane Schroer Cathy Snider Marlys Staley, Executive Director
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<b>Professional Advisory Panel</b>	Paul Beswick Brian Davis, Attorney at Law Liz Davis, PT Angie Del Greco Matt Hennessey, DVM Darsee Staley, Attorney at Law Joan Staley, CPA Lori Staley, DVM Larry Tillack Debbie Willis, CPA
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 Pleasant Plain, OH 45162  
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 www.circletail.org  
 info@circletail.org

**Nonprofit Public Charity**

