



“Partners with Paws for People with Special Needs”

# The Circle Tail Times



**Assistance Dogs  
International  
Accredited  
Facility**

Circle Tail relies on your financial support to provide dogs that enrich the lives of their humans. Please send your generous tax-deductible donation today. Thanks, and have a wonderful and safe holiday, and a great 2010.

- **Circle Tail Board  
of Directors**

## 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...

The best way to deal with most dog problems is to prevent them in the first place. **Most behavior problems arise from lack of exercise and boredom.** If you help your dog meet his/her innate drives to move and interact with the environment, you will go a long way in preventing annoying or destructive behaviors. At Circle Tail we strive to provide opportunities for people in the community to interact with their dog in a safe, social, and stimulating environment.

Circle Tail routinely offers basic **obedience classes**, private lessons and board & train programs. Additionally, intermediate obedience and advanced obedience classes are offered periodically. We hope to offer those classes more frequently in 2010, and include more classes during the week.

We also provide **remote collar class** twice monthly, and **remedial obedience class** – where you can practice your dogs skills around distractions – the first and third Saturdays of the month. New this year we also have been offering **Fly Ball classes** through the local Fly Ball club Reeking Havoc. In 2010 we will offer beginning **Rally Obedience classes**.

If you board your dog with Circle Tail you can also request private training, one on one activity time, or **Healing Touch for Animals** sessions.

If you don't feel you need a class but would like the opportunity to socialize your dog with other dogs and people, as well as work out on our agility equipment, we offer **Hang Time** each Sunday from 3 – 6 p.m.

Help your dog to be the best dog s/he can be. Come out to Circle Tail.

If you have the time, we have the place!!

Warm wishes,  
– *Markys, Tollan, & Aztec*

## What Circle Tail Means To Our Volunteers

“Circle Tail saves lives - canine and human...Circle Tail makes for a win/win/win/win situation for everyone. The dogs and puppies are saved; the prisoners not only learn how to train dogs, something which might help them to find jobs on the outside, but they also learn about love from their dogs; the people with special needs get trained assistance dogs; and those of us, like me, who adopt dogs from Circle Tail get forever friends.”

- *Melissa Watson,*  
Circle Tail Volunteer



If you'd like the rewarding experience of **volunteering** or **becoming a foster family**, email [volunteer@circletail.org](mailto:volunteer@circletail.org) or call 513.877.3325.

## Happy Beginnings Hershey

Hershey, formerly, Sorrell, loves her new life. Her family writes that she has some strong mothering instincts: "After the boys went to bed, she saw Alex's chocolate lab Webkinz on my desk. She grabbed it by the scruff and took it into her cage and began to lick it and groom it like it was one of her pups. She carried it around and now won't take it out of her cage and moves it around with her. Ian gave Hershey his Webkinz puppy, and Hershey did the same with it. We believe we have the best dog in the world!"



## Foster Family Focus Chris & Alicia Wall

We started fostering in the fall of 2006 after buying an electric fence from a sales person who adopted a dog from Circle Tail. She told us all about the organization, so we went on the website and saw Circle Tail was looking for foster families. Our first foster dog was Zia. My wife, Alicia, got overly attached to Zia, and 9 months later, after being kicked out of the service program, we adopted her!! We've enjoyed watching all the pups grow over the last 3 years. Our favorite part is taking the service dogs in training out to stores, church, and restaurants. It allows us to spread the word about what Circle Tail is about and their role in helping those with disabilities.

Once we fostered a Greyhound named Weston. Alicia let him out to "hurry" (Circle Tail's word for "potty"), and he got out before being leashed up. Alicia, who just got out of the shower, went chasing him with a towel on her head through the neighborhood. After Alicia realized she couldn't keep up with a Greyhound she walked home, only to find Weston sitting by the back door to come inside.

## Anka

Anka is a mysterious doggie. He is wonderful, gentle, and friendly. One day, he moved his crate, in an hour and a half, from the back room down a short but narrow hall, to the family room.



This was despite a barricade of a tall stool on its side, and a file cabinet placed squarely next to the crate so it could not happen. Real trouble - we love him. And he knows it. Thanks again for helping Anka to come into our lives.

## Spotlight Dog for Adoption



Hi, I'm **Lumbee**, and I'm a real sweetheart. I'm almost a year old. I enjoy playing, and I can't wait to find a family to share all the love I have to give. Besides basic obedience, I know quite a few tricks, including bow, whisper, and I even say my prayers! I'm always up for learning more, which makes me lots of fun to be around! Learn all about me at [www.circletail.org](http://www.circletail.org)!



Zia (front) and foster dog, Mission (back)



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cause.

## TEAM TALK!

### New Partnerships

**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."



### Barb, and Hearing / Service Dog, Pierre:

Barb says, "Pierre has been a great ambassador for Assistance Dog teams. His goofy smile and big heart make him a hit wherever we go. His ability to retrieve and alert for me always wows people."



### Retired Service Dog begins new career as Therapy Dog!

Barb Burton was partnered with Hearing/Service Dog, Vickie, in April 2003. Vickie retired in the spring of 2009, and Barb was partnered with her new **Hearing/Service Dog Pierre**.

Not one to spend retirement laying around too much, Vickie has embarked on a part-time gig as a Therapy Dog with Barb's husband, **Jim Burton**. "Vickie is great company", says Jim. "Whenever it is safe to have her around, I make sure to take her with me. Since Vickie came to live with Barbara, I always thought it would be wonderful to cuddle Vickie, and get so relaxed I fell asleep. Now, I've done that once or twice and it is truly wonderful."

Jim and Vickie are certified through Louisiana State University's Human Animal Therapy Services (HATS) program.

Vickie is very intuitive and seems to understand when people need her for comfort. Jim says, "We have a friend whose previous cancer reappeared, and Vickie positioned herself in a way that made it easy for the friend to pet her, without forcing herself on the woman." "Thanks again for letting me be Vickie's person."

### 2009 Assistance Dog Partnerships

- ♿ Abigail & Service Dog, Gainer
- ♿ Angela & Service Dog, Yen
- ♿ Jackie & Service Dog, Pike
- ♿ Barb & Hearing/Service Dog, Pierre
- ♿ Ron & Service Dog, Zeph
- ♿ Toni & Hearing Dog, Liesel



### Partner Update: Gayle & Service Dog, Kedar

Gayle writes, "Kedar and I have been partnered for approximately four years. He goes to work with me at Vision & Vocational Services where I am the ADA Training Coordinator. He assists me by picking things up off the floor such as quarters, pens, papers and water bottles. Every Sunday, he goes out and gets the newspaper.

At home he helps with laundry and closing the door between the house and the garage so that I can go outside by myself. We also go out to eat and shop.

In the past four years that I have had Kedar, he gotten to be a better and better Service Dog. He's calmed down and been more focused on me.

Kedar and I like to take walks at the Park of Roses near our house. He has the most fun in his "off hours" playing with his dog friend Lexi at our friend's house, where there is lots of open space to play.



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

### **Girl Scout Troop 40570 Members Earn Junior Bronze Award**

Troop Leader Bev Swanson writes, "Nine girls earned the Junior Bronze Award on June 28, 2009, which included the completion of a minimum of 15 service project hours. Part of that involved collecting needed items (food, bath towels, trash bags, paper towels, treats, blankets, etc.) for the homeless dogs/puppies of Circle Tail. The girls also had the opportunity to visit with the dogs. The Finale of the project included a fun afternoon at "Hang Time" with their own dogs. The girls have moved on to Cadet Girl Scouts of Kings Junior High, but plan to continue helping Circle Tail. They have many fond memories of Circle Tail!



### **Owen Kelling Earns Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project by Helping Circle Tail**

Owen Kelling, a Boy Scout with Troop 53, planned and executed an Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project whose main goal was to benefit the dogs of Circle Tail through a material drive in the community. The donation drive was carried out with the assistance of several Troop 53 members, local veterinary offices, and churches. Over the course of the Leadership Project, Owen was really impressed by the community's willingness to give back. He was successful in getting a washer-dryer system donated from the Lebanon Home Depot, a refrigerator, and over 500 pounds of dog kibble donated by community members.

The total estimated value of all donations is \$2223.00! Owen is thankful to everyone that participated, and promises to learn from this experience and continue giving back.

He challenges the community to continue improving the neighborhood in the future. Thanks to people like Owen, Circle Tail can continue to aid others, one good dog at a time.



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

### **Tails from the Inside Wisdom of my Intelligent Dog**

Is not a creature that possesses an intelligent mind and imposes no limitations upon itself, a creation of potential, limited only to the creativeness of imagination?

I taught my dog to sit; his learning ability impressed me.

I taught my dog to lay down; that made me think he was quite smart.

I taught my dog to come when called; highly intelligent, he came to me.

Questions came to mind. Does my dog know he is limited? If not, then does that make him unlimited?

If he imposes no limits upon himself, then is it not my own limitations that impede the discovery of his full potential?

With my own limitations removed, my dog taught me he was capable of learning, performing, and achieving whatever my imagination was creative enough to teach him.

With a new, unlimited imagination, I taught my dog to retrieve my shoes, remote control, phone, and other objects. Inspired enthusiasm took over.

I taught him to open and close drawers and doors; to turn light switches on and off; to put trash into trash cans. He has even learned to become quite a showman of entertainment, performing his talent of tricks: like catching a treat off his nose to make it disappear, giving handshakes with his paws, and giving a bow after his performance.

I stand in awe, admiring my ordinary dog with the ongoing discovery of his extraordinary talents.

My humility confesses, it is from the intelligence of my dog that makes this truth: only when I make my limited mind unlimited like his, am I capable of discovering the possibilities of my full potential.

How nice to be like my dog and have a mind with no limits imposed upon itself. Only then, can the ordinary like myself, become extraordinary like my dog.

Thank you my furry four-legged friend for teaching me such wisdom.

*- Your Humbled Trainer*