

The Circle Tail Times

Partners with Paws for People with Special Needs

Volume 8, I ssue 1

www.circletail.org

(513) 877-3325

Spring 2005



Members of Girl Scout Troop 788 braved the cold winter weather to come out to walk dogs and play with puppies. As you can see, the girls and dogs alike enjoyed their time! Thanks to all the volunteers, and to Holly Bader for organizing the event.





A Message From the Executive Director

An important part of Circle Tail's strategic plan for the next 3 years is to develop a large network of foster families for both our assistance dogs in training and dogs available for adoption. Our Inmate Training Program yields approximately 200 dogs annually, who can be trained as assistance dogs for people with disabilities or obedience-trained dogs suitable for adoption. But before such trained dogs can be partnered with a disabled individual the dog must also be trained and socialized in "the outside world." Our foster families will fulfill this second tier of our dog-training program by providing housing, training, and nurturing to assistance dogs-in-training. In addition, our shelter dogs/pups who are overwhelmed in the prison will get the second chance they deserve.

Foster families carefully socialize pups and dogs and reinforce basic and advanced obedience in the home and out in public. The countless hours of daily care these families provide enable Circle Tail to increase the number of dogs who develop the physical capability, confidence, and obedience to go on to become assistance dogs. Foster families also help to increase Circle Tail's adoption retention rate, since better trained shelter dogs who are adopted are less likely to be returned.

To achieve our goal of "fostering" 15 foster families each year for the next three years we have developed a training program and will be providing educational materials and training sessions to these people. We have applied for a grant to help us defray the cost of this program and we are committed to seeing that "fostering" the foster family is instituted and is an ongoing program.



We have a need for a stable and dependable means of training the dogs, whether it be for later pairing as an assistance dog, or for regular adoption by individuals/families. Our aim is to develop a core group of foster families (you singles are more than welcome also) on whom we can rely, and from whom the good word-of-mouth about value of fostering can be relayed to the community.

Please help us in this vital work to give dogs and humans that additional chance they deserve to be a great team!

- Marlys

Foster Family Focus:

Heather Fournier: "My family relocated to Ohio from Michigan about a year ago. Last September we saw the bright yellow Circle Tail flyer in the Mason Library. As I started researching Circle Tail, my interest in volunteering grew. I thought this was a great cause and would be a good fit for my family for several reasons. It is a great way to teach my 5 year old daughter, Brielynn, that there is more to this world than her! I wanted her to be exposed to how fulfilling helping people, and making a difference in someone else's life, could be. I wanted to do something useful.

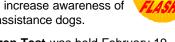
So far it has been a great experience! Each dog comes with its own personality, and I enjoy getting to know each one. I think about the potential in each one and it makes me proud to know that one day, some of these little helpers will greatly improve the quality of life for some lucky person. I know that if Brie had it her way we would be keeping ever dog we have fostered, she has enjoyed them all!

We usually take them everywhere with us. Two or three of them have taken trips to Michigan with us. I try to take them all jogging with me but it is a little depressing when even that little Hank the Dachshund can out run me! We are fortunate to have found Circle Tail. It truly has been a rewarding experience.



Circle Tail Winter/Spring Events & News

Circle Tail volunteers continued to increase awareness of Circle Tail and the importance of assistance dogs.



- The AKC[®] Canine Good Citizen Test was held February 19. Congrats to those who passed:
 - Gayle Stanford & Tango
 - Lena Sandlin & Wyatt Earp
 - Cathy Snider & Rookie

We will being a four week AKC® CGC training class in the beginning of May for anyone interested in working toward certification. Call or e-mail for date and time.

- Circle Tail volunteers gave presentations on the functions of Assistance Dogs to several groups, including the Cincinnati Council on Blindness, Morrow Elementary, Kings Mills Elementary, Diamond Oaks Vocational School,. We also had the opportunity to present at the Northeast Welcomer's Meeting and the Butlerville Elementary School Career Day.
- The FACS Group held a work day on March 19. About 25 people assisted with grounds maintenance, and walked, groomed, and socialized dogs. Thank you to all the dedicated volunteers!
- Thanks to Girl Scouts Troops 788, 5279, and 2447 for volunteering their time to socialize and exercise the Circle Tail dogs. The girls enjoyed their time with the dogs and puppies, and the canine crew certainly appreciated the extra attention!
- Derrick Hendricks helped organize a charity variety show and bake sale, with all different types of bands, from classic rock, to grunge, to ska, to punk. Entertainment also included a juggler and comedians. The event was catered by Donato's Pizza. Attendees paid \$5 to enter, and the funds went toward helping the programs of Circle Tail. Thanks to the following performers: Charles Egerton, Fletch LaLarge, Geezer, Mike Cody, Planet Awesome, Rye Bred, Shizer 9, The Kizmets, Toasty Grandpa.
- Circle Tail staff and volunteers strive to continually improve the organization. In January, they attended the IAADP/ADI Conference to further their education on selecting, training, and partnering assistance dogs.
- In March, we started a new liaison with Lebanon Correctional Institute, and currently have room for four dogs at that location. Our prison training program gives prisoners an opportunity to give back to the community and reform their lives, and allows for better quality training of more service dogs and dogs for adoption. We hope to soon increase the number of spaces available at LeCI.

Circle Tail Joins Constant Companions!

Constant Companions, a new animal-based Hattie Larlham program that serves adults with mental retardation and developmental disabilities (MR/DD), has teamed up with Circle Tail to provide volunteer opportunities for their participants. Constant Companions uses various animals as teaching aids to provide unique activities for people with MR/DD, and serves as a link to community animal rescue programs. Participants will be able to spend an entire day at Circle Tail, helping with a variety of tasks, including assisting with feeding and training the dogs to work with people with disabilities. We are excited to begin working with this group.

Foster Family Gathering



The first monthly Foster Family Gathering was held on Saturday, February 26, and another one followed on March 19. These gatherings are geared toward providing our foster families with the needed training and support, as well as toward providing a social setting to ask questions and share experiences and ideas. We hope to hold these events monthly, either at Circle Tail or other off-site locations. If you are interested in fostering, give us a

call or e-mail!

Board of Director News

Ralph Brinkmann resigned from the Board of Directors in January. He served for 2 years and has been responsible for most of the wonderful improvements with the Circle Tail facility. Ralph also fostered a number of shelter and service dogs in our program. We thank Ralph for his support and dedication to the programs of Circle Tail.

Mark Your Calendars!

M Obedience Training Classes

6-Week Basic: Saturday, April 30: 11:15 a.m.
Remedial Obedience: Saturdays from 12:30 – 1:30
Intermediate & Advanced: Call for next class.
AKC® Canine Good Citizen Test: Beginning May. Call for next class.

Solidarity 2005

May 11 – 13, Hyatt Regency hotel and Convention Center in Columbus, OH. Ohio's oldest and largest conference planned by and for people with disabilities. See www.dnos.org for more information.

M College Hill Pet Health Clinic

or e-mail for directions.

Sunday, May 15: 12:00 – 4:00 p.m. at College Hill Pet Clinic, 957 North Bend Road.

Rartners with Assistance Dogs (PAD) Network Meeting

Sunday, May 15: 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. at *Temple Sholom*. Call or e-mail for directions. Sunday, July 17: Outing at CVG. Call or e-mail for

First Annual (PAD) Network Inclusion Awards
Sunday, June 5: 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. at Temple Sholom,
to recognize Assistance Dog-friendly businesses. Call

Masters & Women's Open Tennis Tournament

Saturday, July 16 – Sunday, July 24 at the ATP in Mason. Circle Tail volunteers will staff the Puppy Park, providing dog sitting for the players. If you would like to volunteer your time, please call or e-mail with your availability.

P&G **Grant Received!**

Circle Tail received a generous grant from the Procter & Gamble Company, for a new projector and display board. With these funds, Circle Tail now has the tools to provide better education and training at presentations, demos, educational booths, and local events. Circle Tail extends a special thank you to the Procter and Gamble Company.

Fostering is Fun!

Because of our liaisons with four Ohio Correctional Facilities, we rely on foster families to provide short-term care, socialization, and training of the dogs on "furlough". We would like to welcome our new foster families and thank the "new" and "old" for all of the time, energy, patience, and love they have put into our pups/dogs:

Kari Bolling - Karat, Ponto Patty Daniels - Engel's Puppies, Blade Tracy Desch - Tango, Zeno, Schoen, Tazo, Seren, Asia, Caddy, Divot

Chris & Phyllis Frebis - Utz, Barry, Seren, Rumba Heather Fournier - Cortez, Barry, Tazo, Caddy, Aztec

Emily Garifalos - Calvo, various shelter and service puppies Guy Guckenberger – Reco, Asia, Aztec

Amy Kerrigan - Wren, Gizmo Alex Lattin - Mai, Salem

Maureen May & Jason Jones - Reco, Agni, Euchre

Tina McKee - Hydro, Scuba Janice Monroe - Euchre

Lila Polon - Haven, Sam, Mai, Kadja Barb Rose & Kids - Conway, Kadja

Lois Schrantz - Pugsley, Kort Tracy Schwing - Zarkos, Lars, Gillus



would like to become a foster family, please contact Circle Tail at (513) 877-3325 or complete the foster family application found on our website.



Health Corner

Dog Breath!

Bad breath in dogs and cats, as in humans, is caused by the build-up of plague and bacteria. The best solution is to have your pet's teeth cleaned on a regular basis. You can brush your dog's teeth with doggie tooth paste on a weekly basis. You can also schedule dental visits to your vet to remove the built-up plaque. Other lines of defense include giving your dog hard kibble instead of canned food, and things to chew, like natural bones (never cooked bones), dog and breath mints and odor absorbers.

If bad breath is new to your pet or the smell has become worse this can be an indication of illness or serious dental problems. Please check with your vet to be sure your pet is healthy.

Volunteer Spotlight



Our volunteer spotlight shines on Cathy Snider. Cathy writes, "I started volunteering at Circle Tail about 2 1/2 years ago after ending my career as a research scientist at P&G. I have always been interested in the many ways in which dogs help people, and wanted to learn more about assistance dogs, yet at the same time do something useful with my newfound time. Of course, I also wanted to satisfy my dog fix, as if living with 2 retrievers doesn't do that! At Circle Tail I enjoy walking the dogs and holding the new little puppies who come to the shelter. They are always so happy to have someone pet and love them and nothing beats the feeling you get from that love! Last summer I adopted Rookie, an 8 month old golden retriever, from Circle Tail and been very involved in following up on her obedience training at Circle Tail in hopes of certifying her as a therapy dog. She has passed her AKC Canine Good Citizen test and will be tested as a therapy dog in April. She recently made an appearance at the Deaf Health Fair and was quite comfortable soaking up all the attention! In anticipation of this new pursuit, I have started attending the PAD Network meetings at Circle Tail and look forward to bringing smiles to people old and young! "

Special Thanks to Our Volunteers

Circle Tail would like to extend a special thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers for their time and support. We welcome and thank our newest volunteers:

> Emily & Josh Allen Kari Bolling Pam & Tim Burton Patty & Christine Daniels Shelbie Ferone & Michelle Girl Scouts Troops 788, 159, and 2447 Anna Heinrich Hope Students from Mason High School Shauna Keane-Timberlake Amy Kerrigan Lois, Stan & Heather Lannigan Janet Lawson & Family Kris & Madeleine Loftis Jimmy McKee Debbie & Haley Poli Bill Smith Shellie Smith & Constant Companions Group

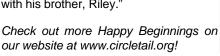
Volunteers are greatly needed for many different functions at Circle Tail. See www.circletail.org or call (513) 877-3325 to learn about all the various volunteer opportunities!

Mike Storms

Happy Beginnings

Jake (formerly known as Randi)

Jake was adopted in November 2004. His family writes, "Thank you for all of your wonderful work! Thank you, especially, for finding and taking care of our wonderful puppy, Jake (formerly Randi), before he joined our family. Jake is doing extremely well. He is healthy and happy and loves to cuddle and play with his brother, Riley."





Spotlight Dog

Hi, I'm **Salem**, and if you're looking for that always-happy, excellent family dog, I may be your match! I'm a 2 year old Black Lab. I'm fine with cats and prefer not to share the love with other dogs. I know which are my toys, so I won't destroy your house! For fun, I like taking walks, swimming, and especially playing ball — I could do that all day! I'm house trained and know basic obedience. Come meet me, and you'll see what a great dog I am!

Wish List

We are in urgent need of **metal folding chairs**, puppy toys and hard rubber chew toys for the adult dogs, Chlorox, paper towels, 13 and 33 gallon trash bags, hay for the llama and goats, and 6' leashes. See our website for our complete list. You can drop these items off at Circle Tail or we will be happy to send a volunteer to pick them up.

Safety Tip:



With the weather warming up, many folks like to take their dogs to the park, etc. It's important to remember that when you have your dog in the car, s/he needs to be kept safe. Using a **dog seat belt** or a **crate** eliminates driver distraction, keeps your dog from jumping out of the car, and minimizes risk of injury to your dog, you, and your family in case of an accident. When fitting a dog for a seat belt, read the instructions carefully and be sure s/he is fitted properly.

Animal Adoptions!

Following are the winter and spring adoptions, from December 1, 2004 – March 30, 2005:

Nina Maggie Parkke Raja Dyce Ulrica Cola Shiloh Berlin Tansy Camp Frankfurt Gurg Berlin Tex Haverhill Oio **Danvers** Dena Andover Dayle Wenham Tani Beverly Keir Doyle Kerran Tynan Kerry **Plymouth** Braxton Kerwin Kernit Switch Banya Rig Duane Jantar Glenna Zarkos Darcy Blizzard



Bosco Blizzard's Pups 1 – 4

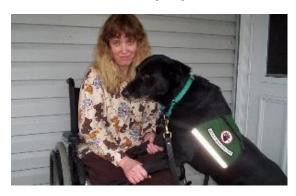
Gaz Lars Samhain Gizmo Zelda Euchre Hexe Ponto Tricks Mai Pumpkin **Jingles** Haunts **Tidings** Zucca Treats Gnat Rhone Smudge Engel Shaila Reco Salem's Pups Hero

Training Tip: Attention!

In order to communicate with your dog, you need to have his attention. Teach your dog to look at you when you say a word such as "look" or "attention". Start with your dog on leash near you in a quiet area. Get your dog's attention by taking a food lure from his nose up to your eyes. The moment your dog makes eye contact, say "good look" (or whatever word you have chosen). Give him a treat while he still has his eyes on you. After several days of training, repeat the procedure, but when the dog makes eye contact, keep quiet and slowly move the lure to your shoulder, away from your eyes. If your dogs eyes follow the lure, wait quietly until he looks back at your eyes. The moment he looks back to your eyes, say "good look", and reward. If he fails to look back in 4-5 seconds, make a noise to get his attention back on your face. This step will tell you whether your dog really understands that "look" means eye contact. When your dog is able to consistently give you eye contact with the "look" command, stop using the lure. Give the command, wait for your dog to make eye contact, praise then reward. Gradually reward intermittently.

TEAM TALK!

Partnership Update



Georgia, and Service Dog, Dugan: Dugan and Georgia go out daily and give out birthday cards to the veterans at the VA Medical Center. One day she and Dugan went to one of the wards, and the nurse told Georgia that the patient could not talk. Georgia went in and saw the patient, while Dugan sat without being told to. Before Georgia could say "good boy", the patient told Dugan "good boy".

Georgia and Dugan are working on a Goal Sharing Team at the VA Medical Center and are pursuing approval to bring some of the Circle Tail assistance dogs in training to come visit the patients.

She and Dugan go everywhere together, and are planning a trip to Washington, D.C. in July. Georgia takes comfort in Dugan and appreciates his help and company!

Facility Dog Update

Therapy Dog, Chaya: Chaya is a Yellow Lab who accompanies her handler, Frank Doberdruk, to work each weekday at the JFK Senior Center in Eastlake, Ohio. Chaya greets people when they come in and is a member of the "Red Hat Society" (but doesn't wear the red hat!!). One of the members even made her her very own bed. She visits a nursing home one day per week and enjoys hiking with the seniors. Chaya is one lucky dog – six different people take her for a walk each day. Frank says Chaya is a great addition to the Senior Center, and everyone loves her!



Team Training

The spring partnering session was held April 8-10. Two assistance dog teams were partnered, and 2 more attended training and will be partnered in the summer. One team was partnered in March.

Gayle, and Service Dog, Asia: Gayle and Asia were partnered on March 19. Gayle had previously fostered Asia while the 2-year-old Golden Retriever was in training. Gayle says Asia is a fantastic dog. So far, they

have gone to work, to stores and restaurants and to plays. Asia helps Gayle by picking things up off the floor, getting her own food cup off the counter, and turning off lights. Asia is environmentally even conscious she has learned to put newspapers together for recycling! She puts all Gayle's roommate's mail in one place so she can find it. For fun, Asia likes to take walks at the Park of Roses and sit on the front porch with Gayle to watch the cars go by.



P.A.D Network Update

The Partners of Assistance Dogs (PAD) Network has been busy! We are planning the Network's first awards event on June 5, where we will present awards to businesses who have been friendly to assistance dog teams. To date, ten businesses have been nominated by Network members. By raising awareness, we hope other business will follow their exceptional examples.

Meetings were held in January and March this year. At the January meeting, the group heard from Marlys Staley about some training tips she and trainer Maureen May learned at the IAADP/ADI conference in Arizona. We also discussed legislature regarding assistance dog team access rights, how they affect us, and how we can improve our laws. At the March meeting we talked about goals and growth for the group, as we seek to include more regional people who are partnered with working dogs.

We have also been busy out in the community; we talked with 5 groups about assistance dogs and held an education booth at the Lego Robotics Tournament. Additionally, we were honored to be invited by the Inclusion Network to attend their tenth annual awards banquet. It was a beautiful event that was completely accessible and inclusive for everyone.

In April, we begin training supervisors and managers at the Transportation Security Administration at the Greater Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport to help them understand how to work with assistance dog teams through airport security. We have established a wonderful relationship that will benefit us all.

Special Thanks!



Circle Tail is extremely grateful to all who have supported our programs though 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, facility dogs, therapy dogs, and the animals at the shelter. Below are contributions from *December 1, 2004 through March 31, 2005*. Please let us know of any omissions or corrections.



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Salt Run Veterinary Clinic **Holds Fund Drive**

The Salt Run Veterinary Clinic held their annual Stocking Donation to benefit Circle Tail. Clients and friends donated in honor of or in memory of their family members and pets. Thanks to the Salt Run Veterinary Hospital staff:

Donna Proffitt Judy Grosse Marlene Hixson Dr. Larry Smith Patty Hollowell Monica Wilson Kim Miller

And thanks to all who donated in honor and memory of their pets. Your generosity is much appreciated!

Memorial Gifts

In loving memory

Buster Magee Cline, by Sandi & Patrick Cline

Cassie Haney, by Jennifer Kiblinger

Brandi, by Evelyn, Gerry, & Heidi Sturn

Pam Ginely, by Kim Watson-Maull



Celebration Gifts

In honor

Jessie Rawlins, by Bob Bergholz

Owen Edwards, by Karen & Lon Bussell

LeAnne Hurst, by Judith Davis

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Lynn Bouchard, by Jill Kennon

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Abby, Saga, Mokie, Zugs, and Luke, by Marlys Staley

Paul & Denise Cameron, by Bob & Sue Trentman

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Kim, Charlie, Lady Bug, Sam, Ashley, & Chilles Maull, by Melissa Watson

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Foundation

- 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.

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