



GLOBETROTTER MARATHON PROGRAM

Palm Beach, Florida
2007 – 2008



The Achilles Track Club – Freedom Team of Wounded Veterans is a running program set up at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center in February 2004, for disabled Iraq and Afghanistan war veterans most of whom are amputees. With the support of coaches and volunteers, veterans learn how to wheelchair, to walk, to jog, and to eventually run. Their rehabilitation is enhanced through physical activity, goal setting and personal achievement all stressed in the marathon program.



Freedom Team on a cold rainy day at the Starting Line at the Moscow Marathon

The Achilles Track Club is a not-for-profit organization established in 1983 to encourage disabled people to participate in long-distance running with the general public. It has 60 chapters worldwide and is involved in many local and worldwide running events.



Practice runs around the Kremlin the day before the race

The Achilles Track Club established the **Freedom Team Program** and it has grown today to 240 recently wounded young men and women back from Afghanistan and Iraq.

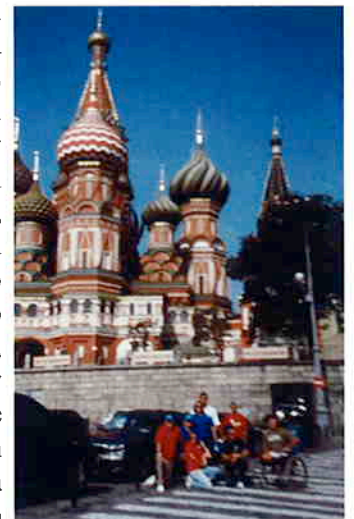
The **Globetrotter Marathon Program** is an extension of the domestic efforts of this worthwhile handcrank wheelchair program. It is an effort to extend this competitive rehabilitation to the four corners of the world, giving many more of our disabled veterans not only a chance to compete but to travel to places that will broaden their horizons and competitive spirit.

KRAKOW, POLAND MARATHON SUNDAY, MAY 4, 2008

The Globetrotter Marathon Program will send 5 athletes and a traveling team of supporters to the Cracovia Marathon. This will be our third marathon overseas. The Achilles Track Club has 5 clubs in Poland who will be assisting our efforts for lodging and interpretation. Krakow was the former capital of Poland, seat of ancient kings, and great scholars, rich in historical relics, a great treat for those to see who will be on our team. We will compete along the beautiful and mysterious streets of this ancient and well preserved town. Amputee **John J. Devine**, USMC, will be our Captain and Team Leader for Poland. He was recently awarded “Veteran of the Year” honors by the Disabled American Veterans.

MOSCOW MARATHON

The Globetrotter Marathon Program initiated its program by sending the Achilles Freedom Team of Wounded Veterans to The Moscow International Peace Marathon on Sunday, September 9, 2007. Our delegation consisted of four wounded veterans, two of their wives and two members of the Achilles Staff, Mary Bryant and Dan Daly and Charles Klotsche of the Globetrotter Marathon Program. The traveling team flew direct from Atlanta to Moscow, where the entire 6-day stay was hosted by McDonalds Russia, (the accommodations, meals and ground transportation).

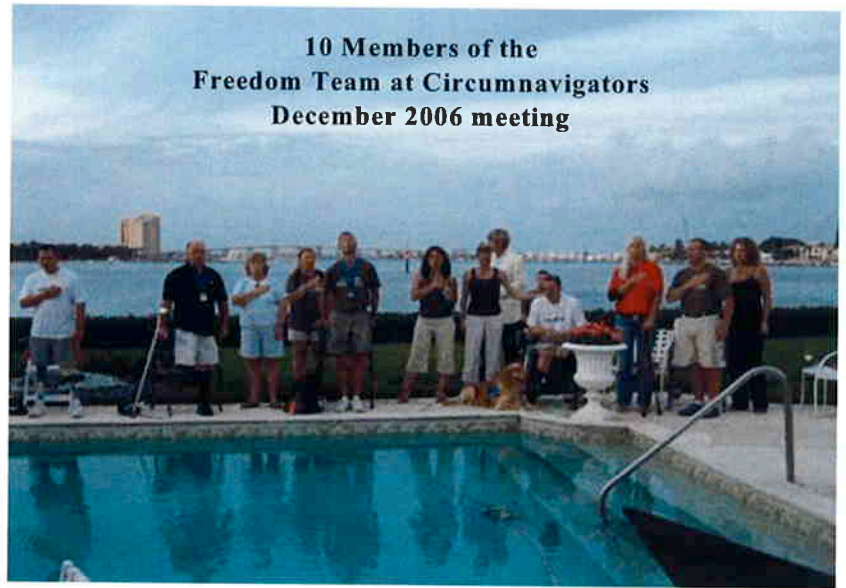


Achilles Freedom Team of wounded veterans in Moscow

We are delighted to be part of the Achilles Track Club, Inc. that is celebrating the 25th anniversary of its founding in 2008.



Charles Klotsche, President of Palm Beach Chapter of The Circumnavigators Club with Staff Sgt. Dustin Tuller



10 Members of the Freedom Team at Circumnavigators December 2006 meeting



Palm Beach Marathon Starting Line 2006



Mary Bryant, (far left) Vice President of Achilles Track Club, founder of Freedom Team Program.

Berlin Marathon Sunday, September 28, 2008

The Globetrotter Marathon Program will be sending 4 athletes and a traveling team of supporters to the 35th Berlin Marathon. This will be our fourth marathon overseas. We will compete in this high visibility event, with over 40,000 athletes that will run on one of the fastest courses in the world. We will be cheered on by over 1 million spectators and more than 40 bands, where the elite athletes and others will compete in this most beautiful of surroundings, finishing at the *Brandenburg Gate*. It will be a milestone event for our participants as well as the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Achilles Track Club.

Several prominent members of the Palm Beach Chapter of the Circumnavigators announced on December 3, 2006, their intention to form a partnership with the Achilles Track Club of New York, and the establishment of a program to sponsor and support disabled Iraq and Afghan military veterans' participation in international marathon races. **Chapter President Klotsche** presented the Freedom Team with a \$5,000 check to kick off the program. The new international program is an outgrowth of the domestic Achilles Track Club's "Freedom Team Program" launched 3 years ago that sponsors disabled veterans' participation in U.S. marathons. The international program is known as the **Globetrotter Marathon Program**. **The Circumnavigators Club** was founded in 1902 and has 13 national and international chapters. "We are very excited to be partnering with this group in this natural extension of our highly successful Freedom Team Program," said **Mary Bryant**, Vice President of Achilles Track Club who heads up the Organization's Freedom Team effort.

According to **Klotsche**, the wheelchair athletes will receive "high visibility in these worldwide marathons as they start a few minutes before the rest of the pack, including the elite runners." He also noted that, "their courage and stamina, combined with the high profile attached to the start and finish of these events will make them great ambassadors of good will for this country."

"These international trips will give Europeans, Africans, Asians and South Americans exposure to American armed forces members who have made major sacrifices while serving their country in these two on-going conflicts. They truly will become messengers of the price that is attached to freedom," **Klotsche** said.

“Globetrotter Marathon Program” for the Achilles Freedom Team of Wounded Veterans 2007-2008



L-R Dustin Tuller, Ramon Guitard, Latseen Bensen and Christian Rutter in Moscow

- September 9, 2007 — **Moscow** Marathon
- September 11, 2007 — **Hungarian** Marathon
- December 2, 2007 — **Palm Beach** Marathon
- May 4, 2008 — **Poland** Marathon
- September 28, 2008 — **Berlin** Marathon

GOALS: First Year (2007-2008)

Cash or like kind contributions

\$ 100,000

Frequent Flier Miles

2,000,000

For more information call:

561-803-0000



Ramon Guitard at the Finish Line, Moscow



Freedom Team at the Ronald McDonald Center, Moscow, Latseen Bensen playing goalie.

In support of:



Globetrotter Marathon



Double amputee Jake Kessler at the finish line, Palm Beach



Palm Beach Chapter

A special thanks to **Dr. Dick Traum, Ph.D.** who founded the **Achilles Track Club** in 1983, and who was the first amputee to run a marathon, including 12 times in NYC and to **Mary Bryant, Founder of the Freedom Team Program**, for their ongoing encouragement of our program. Visit their website at www.achillestrackclub.org. A special thanks to the late **George "Bud" Graves** and his family for providing 600,000 air transportation points to the Moscow Marathon. A special thanks to **George Cohon**, Founder of McDonalds Russia and his staff for providing the accommodations, meals, interpreters and ground transportation during our September 2007 stay in Moscow and to the **Ronald McDonald Center** for their hospitality. A special thanks to **Charles Klotsche** who founded the Global Marathon Program and who has taken on the responsibility for raising the necessary funds for the overseas marathons. A special thanks to **Mr. and Mrs. A. James Clark** and the **Clark Charitable Foundation, Inc.** in Bethesda, Maryland for their generous contribution that will go a long way in providing the necessary support for the Berlin and Krakow Marathons.

Since its inception, the Achilles Track Club has expanded to over 46 cities in the United States and in over 60 foreign countries where Achilles runners use crutches, braces and artificial limbs and wheelchairs, or often after extensive rehabilitation, run without aids. **The Globetrotter Marathon Program** was proud to have taken the Freedom Team beyond our borders for the first time, and hope that you will support our efforts.



Globetrotter Marathon

Make Check Payable to:

Achilles Track Club, Inc.
A 501(c)3 Organization
Fed Tax ID: 133318293

Mail to:

Charles Klotsche
Executive Director
Globetrotter Marathon Program
Post Office Box 2603
Palm Beach, Florida 33480
(561) 803-0000

HUNGARIAN MARATHON

Two of the traveling Moscow team (Daly and Tuller) went on to Budapest, Hungary to participate in the race at Kiskunfelegyhaza on September 11th in honor of the firefighters that died in the World Trade Center. Firefighters from 15 countries participated in the fourth annual marathon honoring those that fell in NYC. Daly (a retired captain in the NYFD) and Tuller made a presentation to the University of Defense in Budapest to a standing room only crowd. The subject matter was 911, Iraq and the Firefighters for Humanity Organization.



Executive Director Charles Klotsche with Elmer Dinglassan at the finish line in Palm Beach



Dustin Tuller, far right, and Dan Daly leading the 911 Candlelite Parade for the NYFD in Hatvan, Hungary