

VOLUNTEER

news

A Newsletter for the Shepherd Auxiliary & Volunteers

February
2010

Former patients and family members comfort and support peers

The Brain Injury Peer Visitor Association, a not-for-profit entity separate from Shepherd Center, was founded by Ann Boriskie in the fall of 2009. The association coordinates volunteer visitations that offer hope, support, empathy and educational information to those going through rehabilitation.

A survivor herself, Ann knows the uncertainty than an injury can bring to a family. Ann's goal is for peer visitors to be, "trained to assist the brain injury survivor and their family in navigating the confusing recovery process."

Survivors of brain injury, as well as their caretakers and family members, serve the Shepherd Center community through offering a listening ear and supportive shoulder to current patients and their loved ones as they begin rebuilding their lives.

While brain injury prognoses can often sound grim, the peer visitors share their own personal experiences of injury and recovery to provide inspiration to patients and families. The volunteers provide comfort while encouraging families to become advocates for their loved ones. The peer visitors' impact can be felt well outside the walls of Shepherd Center as they have inspired patients and family members to begin support groups in their own hometowns.

While Ann's team of volunteers often visits a variety of Georgia hospitals, many members are former patients who hold a special place in their hearts for Shepherd Center. These former patients continue to show their gratitude to the doctors, therapists and staff that gave them back their independence by helping others in similar circumstances.



Above: Ann Boriskie (far right), Founder and Program Coordinator of the Brain Injury Peer Visitor Association, conducts a training for new volunteers on peer support techniques and procedures on Jan. 16. Below (L-R): Jack Banbury, Ann Boriskie and Karen Deloria prepare ABI Peer Support volunteer paperwork.



To Do:

Volunteer in-service forms due Friday, March 5

If you are an "in-hospital" volunteer, please check your home mailbox for your annual volunteer in-service forms. It is **mandatory** that you carefully read, sign and return the following forms to Volunteer Services by **Friday, March 5, 2010**:

- *Yellow Safety Quiz*
- *Blue Volunteer Agreements*
- *Green Self-Evaluation and Survey*

Please contact Ivy Oxendine, Volunteer Services Manager, at 404-350-7316 with any questions or concerns you may have regarding your in-service requirements.

from the AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

Greetings Auxiliary members,
I have great news to share--while the final number is not yet confirmed, it appears that we have raised \$70,000 from Pecans on Peachtree! We are so blessed to have had such a successful pecan season. Surplus inventory was donated to the Georgia Avenue Co-op who was thrilled to receive these special treats.

I want to give a special thank you to Midge Tracy for her guidance, support and everything else she did to make this effort a success. I also cannot say enough good things about Candy Sugarman. Candy has worked tirelessly throughout this process, and we absolutely could not have operated without her. She and Midge are a joy to work with, and I am thankful we have them on our team.

I also would like to thank Karen Bennett and Doug Lindauer for facilitating pecan sales at CNN, and our Pecan Partner, CB Richard Ellis, Inc., for once again providing outstanding employees to help with this fundraiser. Additionally, we are grateful to The Atlanta Council of Younger Lawyers for volunteering to sell pecans on the weekends. All their help has made a big difference!

Special thanks to the following people for their tremendous contributions to Pecans on Peachtree:

Day captains: Diane Ashkouti, Bonnie Capsuto, Maureen Escott, Debbie Goot, Mary Sue Howard, Ann Kay, Molly Lanier and Jane Ulicny.

Special tasks: Jeannine Kirkland who scheduled all the volunteers; Molly Lanier who organized consignment sales; Tish Lanier who coordinated pecan parties; Lois Puckett who decorated our beautiful display table; Mary Kay Howard, Anne Jones, and Carol Olsen who led Coca-Cola and CNN sales; and Mary Sue Howard and Bart Marks who led Canterbury Court sales.

Shift volunteers who generously contributed one or more shifts: Carol Adams, Cookie Aftergut, Elizabeth Bennett, Polly Bowman, Ann Broussard, Ann & John Caldwell, Kathy Caputo, Cathy Compton, Betsy Cozine, Tom Escott, Lora Fishman, Libby Garrett, Jane Gibson, Barbara Greenblatt, Larry Greenberg, Roz Haber, Mary Kay Howard, Carol Jones, Mary Kesterton, Jane Kimbrell, Bart Marks, Barbara McArdle, Queen Noreiga, Gwin Oliver, Carol Olsen, Juli Owens, Shirley Rich, Mitzi Richardson, Bunny Rosenberg, Doris Shelton,

Valerie Sikes, Joan Sites, Eiren Steele, Linda Stephens, Gloria Stone, Janet Sunshine, Jennifer Tippet, Holly Tolbert, Sandy Unruh, June Weitnauer, Ginny Wolf and Masha Zweban.

A special note of thanks also goes to Emory Schwall for once again hosting a fabulous pecan party at his lovely home.


Thank you to everyone who worked or purchased Pecans on Peachtree. The Auxiliary will be able to make a generous contribution to Shepherd Center due to your efforts!


Do not forget that we also have Valentine Pecans available beginning February 3 through February 12. Contact Gloria Stone at 404-299-0775 or glorial-stone@aol.com to volunteer for a shift!

Please also save the date for our annual luncheon to be held April 22 at the Center.

Finally, I would like to extend a warm welcome to our new Auxiliary and Peach Corps members: Barbara Malone, Laura Smith, Linda Stephens and Brenda Wiggins. We are glad to have you as a part of the team!

Marla Bennett
bennettmarlatom@mac.com

**American
Red Cross**

**1 pint of blood can
save up to 3 lives**

BLOOD DRIVE
Tuesday, March 2
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
6th Floor Classrooms
Marcus-Woodruff Building

Schedule your blood donation appointment at
www.givelife.org using the code "shepcnt."
If you are interested in volunteering or have questions
about giving, please contact Katie Blair at 404-367-1351
or katie_blair@shepherd.org.

Use Goodsearch to donate funds

The next time you have the urge to “Google,” resist the temptation and redirect your web browser to www.goodsearch.com. Then enter “Shepherd Center Foundation” in the charity verification box. Just by searching for websites as you normally would, and at no cost to you, GoodSearch will donate money to Shepherd Center Foundation.

As GoodSearch is powered by Yahoo!, your search results will be just as reliable as before, only this time you’ll be raising money for your favorite charity. With each search you enter, a little over a penny will be donated. Although it seems insignificant, with 1000 people searching twice a day, an annual total of \$7,300

GoodSearch

would be donated to Shepherd Center. Every cent really adds up! You may check the funds raised by clicking on “Amount Raised.”

If you enjoy internet shopping, you will love using the powerful and generous search engine www.goodshop.com. An affiliate of GoodSearch, GoodShop directs you to world-class merchants dedicated to funding charitable causes. If you select “Shepherd Center Foundation” as your organization of choice, each purchase you make will generate funds for the hospital!

More searches and purchases raise more donations, so please tell your friends and family the good news about GoodSearch and GoodShop!

Valentine Pecans February 3rd to 12th



Show your sweetheart how much you care while also supporting
Shepherd Center!
First Floor Marcus-Woodruff Building
www.pecansonpeachtree.org

Easy ways to meet patient needs

Another meaningful way to give to Shepherd is to donate your **gently used and current fictional novels and mysteries**. The books are sold for a minimal donation to Shepherd Center patients, staff and visitors on the first floor of the Marcus Building. The funds raised go directly to the Auxiliary’s Patient Aid Fund which assists patients and families in financial need by purchasing meals, phone cards, and other necessities for them while at the hospital. The more recent the publication and more popular the book, the quicker it flies off the shelf. Spread the word to your “bookworm” friends!

If you received a **jacket or a swimsuit** that was not your size or style for the holidays, consider donating them to Shepherd Center’s clothes closet. New or gently used jackets and swim suits in a variety of adult sizes can be used. Occupational therapists from the SHARE military program have also borrowed the clothes to help patients practice independently dressing themselves again.

DVDs and childrens’ games in new or gently-used condition are needed for the Family Lounge. Games or puzzles with larger pieces are preferred so as to reduce safety hazards to small children. All your donations are meaningful and greatly appreciated.



Shepherd Center Disco Dance



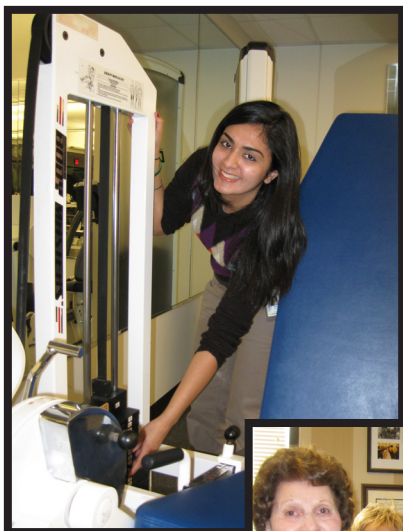
Wednesday, February 24

4:30 to 7:00 p.m.

Livingston Gym

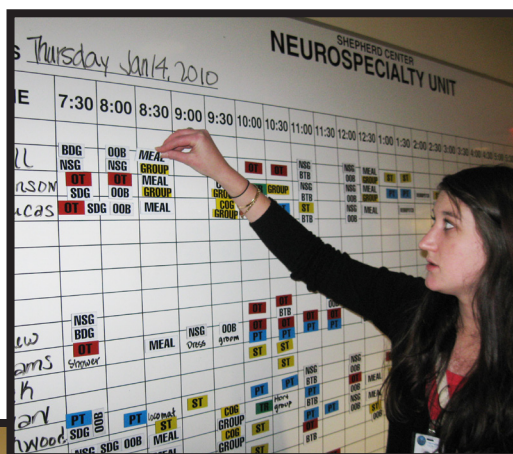
While volunteer needs have already been met for this event, you are welcome to attend the dance as a guest with the purchase of a \$5.00 ticket.

spotlight



ABOVE: New volunteer Raha Ostovar prepares Pro-Motion gym equipment for use by her fitness buddy client.

RIGHT: (L-R) Libby Garrett and Cathy Williams provide invaluable clerical support to the Volunteer Services office.



LEFT: Liz Knapp arranges the Neuro-Specialty Unit's patient schedule board.

BELOW: Doris Shelton ties pink bows on the Auxiliary's valentine pecan tins.



Shepherd Center

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VOLUNTEER *news*

Scott Sikes, Executive Director, Shepherd Center Foundation
Midge Tracy, Director, Volunteer Services
Ivy Oxendine, Volunteer Manager & Newsletter Co-editor
Katie Blair, Volunteer Services Assistant & Newsletter Co-editor

Membership in the Shepherd Center Auxiliary, Peach Corps, SCS, and Junior Committee is open to all volunteers. Members provide ongoing fundraising and volunteer support to Shepherd Center. For more information on becoming a member of one of these groups, contact Midge Tracy at (404) 350-7315 or visit www.shepherd.org.

Shepherd Center's mission is to help people with a temporary or permanent disability caused by injury or disease rebuild their lives with hope, independence, and dignity, advocating for their full inclusion in all aspects of community life while promoting safety and injury prevention.