

The Arc

of Jefferson County with
Services in Blount County

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NEWSLETTER

Fall 2009

The Arc of Jefferson County represented at The 2009 State Arc Convention

Each year The Arc of Alabama presents statewide awards to recognize outstanding contributions of individuals and organizations who are improving the quality of life for Alabama children and adults with cognitive, intellectual, and developmental disabilities. The 2009 awards were presented during their Annual Convention on September 11 in Pelham. The Arc of Jefferson County had three nominees receive awards this year, Bob Kracke, Lillie Vaughn, and the Robert Regulus and family. Bob Kracke was awarded The Sally Hershberger Award of Courage. The Arc of Jefferson County's current president, Robert Regulus, and family were awarded the Family of the Year Award. A group of our consumers known as "The Ya-Ya Sisterhood" who get together twice a month for lunches, shopping, and other ladies' outings, were able to attend this event to see fellow "Ya-Ya" member, Lillie Vaughn, accept the Bill Sackter Citizenship Award. Special thanks to the Alabama Council for Developmental Disabilities for sponsoring "The Ya-Ya Sisterhood" and making it possible for them to attend this event.

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Just enter "The Arc of Jefferson County" in the search box and become a fan!

Want to become a member or renew your annual membership? Contact Shannon Ashford at 323-6383 ext 100 or e-mail sashford@arcofjeff.com for more information.



Lillie Vaughn accepting The Bill Sackter Citizenship Award from State Arc President Tom Holmes.



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Bob Kracke accepting The Sally Hershberger Award from State Arc President Tom Holmes.



Robert and Gwen Regulus accepting The Family of the Year Award from State Arc President Tom Holmes.

"Aiming for Success": The Arc's Annual Sporting Clays Event to be held at Selwood Farm in December!

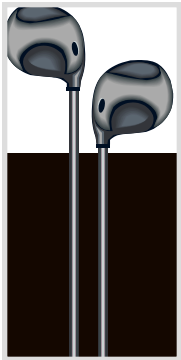


The "Aiming for Success" Annual Sporting Clays Event will be held on Friday, December 11. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and the tournament begins at 9:00 a.m.

How can you get involved? You can participate as a player in the tournament. Individual players are \$125.00 and corporate, four-man teams are \$485.00. Also, your company can participate through various sponsorship opportunities, cash donations, or by donating products or services for raffle, silent auction, door prizes, food, and beverages. Donations are tax deductible! To participate as a player, sponsor, make a cash donation, or donate items, please contact Breanna Bolton at 205-323-6383 ext. 104 or email at bbolton@arcofjeff.com or Michelle Creamer at ext. 102 or mcreamer@arcofjeff.com.

Come out and join us on this day of fun! There will be food, beverages, contests, prizes, and many exciting silent auction items for bidding!

10th Annual Golf Classic Raised Over \$6,000



The 10th Annual Golf Classic was held on Tuesday, September 1 at Highland Park Golf Course in Birmingham. This tournament raised over \$6,000 for our consumers and programs at The Arc of Jefferson County! We couldn't have done it without the following sponsors:

Alagasco, Barfield Murphy Shank & Smith PC, Birmingham Airport Authority, Brio's Tuscan Grille, Birmingham Barons, Birmingham Budweiser, Cobbs Allen & Hall, Fleming's Prime Steakhouse & Wine Bar, Haynes Downard, Jim N Nick's, Rojo, Sysco, Wachovia, The Wynfrey Hotel, Dr. John O. Bolton Family Dentistry, The Stewart Organization, Handy TV & Appliance, Bresco, Ruth's Chris, White Arnold & Dowd, Lincoln Financial, Bud's Best Cookies and Abacus IT Solutions

Thanks to everyone who came out and made this event a HUGE SUCCESS!

Also, a SPECIAL THANKS to Jim N Nick's who provided lunch for the tournament this year! Stop by Jim N Nick's and enjoy Taco Tuesday's and check out their new menu options!



Haynes Downard Team



Bryan Phflam, Chris Stewart & Cobbs, Allen, & Hall Team



Mike Coggin and Phillip Brantley

Planning a Vacation Anytime Soon?

The Arc has recently partnered with Adventure Travel and it's newest program, Adventures In Fellowship. The ADVENTURES IN FELLOWSHIP program creates a donation opportunity for members, simply by booking your individual or group travel with Adventure Travel. When a participating member books any of the reasonably priced vacations offered by Adventure Travel, a portion of the booking commission is returned to The Arc. There is potential to earn substantial revenue simply by being a part of the initiative. Reserving virtually any of the wide range of vacation or group travel options offered by Adventure Travel qualifies for the cash donation to The Arc. Members planning individual travel or a group can choose from cruises, trips to Disney, beach or ski vacations, charter bus trips, Mexico & Caribbean packages, and dozens of other getaways. So if you are planning a trip in the future, check out their website: www.adventuresinfellowship.com, choose "The Arc of Jefferson County", book your trip, and 10% of your trip's cost is donated to us! Please call Lisa McKinney, Business Development Manager at (205) 444-4833 ext. 3612 for more information.

Cars for Charity Program!

GREAT NEWS! THE ARC OF JEFFERSON IS NOW ABLE TO ACCEPT VEHICLE DONATIONS!

DONATE NOW FOR A 2009 TAX DEDUCTION!

We are working with a professional processing center that will make donating your car, truck, van, RV or boat a fast and easy process. Just give them a call at 888-433-6209 and they will make arrangements to get your vehicle or vessel picked up right away...and your donation qualifies as a tax deduction! The proceeds from your donation will help fund The Arc's local programs. We can also accept property and timeshare donations. The number to call is 888-433-6209 or visit the website: www.carsforarc.org

Search & Shop

GoodSearch
YOU SEARCH WE GIVE™

Please visit www.goodsearch.com or www.goodshop.com, select The Arc of Jefferson County from the list of organizations, and they will donate a percentage to us every time you search or shop on the internet.

GoodShop by GoodSearch
YOU SHOP WE GIVE™

"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams." -Eleanor Roosevelt

Foundation News

On March 1, The Arc of Jefferson County assumed full responsibility for the residential facilities previously owned or leased and operated by the Saint Andrew's Foundation. We are honored to serve these additional adults who have intellectual disabilities and we will strive to provide them with the best possible residential services. In meeting this goal, we are currently in the stages of securing funds for renovation and repair for four of these residences. We have currently received generous donations from the following supporters:

\$25,000 donation from The Wachovia Foundation
 \$12,500 donation from The Daniel Foundation
 \$10,000 donation from The Saint Andrew's Foundation Board

The Birmingham Race Course held it's Birmingham Race Commission Day on October 13 and will contribute a portion of the proceeds to us. A SPECIAL THANKS to all of our supporters and donors! Every donation contributes to enhancing the quality of life for our consumers at The Arc of Jefferson County.

Consumer's Corner



Frank E. excited about clown training!

Frank E. recently attended a clown training day with three professional clowns, Rita "Plum Cute" Case, Janette "Honeybee" Hutchins, and Bob "Cowboy Bob" McBryer from The Magic City Clown School. Frank E. first expressed an interest in clown school recently in one of his annual team meetings. Frank E. made the transformation into Freckles the Clown with a little help from his new friends. Freckles was a natural, grinning ear to ear, laughing, joking, and doing what clowns do best, having a great time! Freckles will be attending a face painting event in the future and will continue to develop skills as a professional clown.



Freckles the Clown and friends!

From the Executive Director's Desk

Dear Members & Supporters:

Wow, what tough financial times! The Arc is getting budget cuts from everywhere. Our main DMH contract was cut by 3% last year and it sounds like we will be lucky to get only a 3% cut this year. The city of Birmingham cut our funding and our State Special Educational Trust Funds decreased by 9.1% (about \$30,000) already this year. Three years ago, Jefferson County cut us completely (\$50,000). Some sources will come back in the future, such as our DMH, DVR, and Special Education Trust Fund, we hope. Some, for example, Jefferson County, will probably never be restored.

The Arc staff are working hard to reduce costs of services and programs. Our development staff is pursuing grants from stimulus funds and trying to secure donations from all other sources. I've worked hard to insure the Arc is ready for a rainy day. And it is now raining- at least figuratively- and we don't know how long it will last.

Please be aware of this and do what you can to help us through the difficult and trying times as The Arc tries to maintain all of its ongoing services and programs to individuals with intellectual disabilities and their families in Jefferson and Blount Counties.

Thanks very much for your support.

Sincerely,

Wm. F. Hoehle, II, Ph. D.



"The course of human history is determined, not only by what happens in the skies, but by what takes place in our hearts." -Arthur Kent