



1441 Clifton Rd NE, #114A
Atlanta, GA 30322
404-712-5504
www.braininjurygeorgia.org
info@braininjurygeorgia.org

Brain Injury Association of Georgia

News You Can Use!

JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2008

Support Group Listing

Albany-Dougherty County

Tom Connelly - 229-883-3911
tom.connelly@dol.state.ga.us

Athens-Clark County

Floretta Johnson
706-353-1892
fbjohnson@mindspring.com
Janice/ Les Ward
706-548-4397
Billy Geiger
770-867-1356

Atlanta Buckhead

"Minor Brain Injury Support
Group"

Jean Kropa - 770-612-0612
Kropa@bellsouth.net
Jacques & Monique
Cappelle
770-663-8320
jhausscappelle@aol.com

Atlanta/Emory

Dr. Louise Cording
404-371-0497
lcording@mindspring.com
Pat Gar 404-24-6097
gar216@bellsouth.net

Atlanta/Shepherd Pathways

Susanna Rains
404-603-1476
susanna_rains@shepherd.org
Nancy Miller
nancy_miller@shepherd.org
Alan Roof
alan_roof@shepherd.org

Atlanta/VA Hospital

Dr. Inge Thomas
404-329-4654
Inge.Thomas@med.va.gov

Cobb County

Martha Leatherwood
770-428-0284
supportgroup@mindspring.com
Laura Coomes 770-924-7509
lauracoomes@bellsouth.net



VSA ARTS OF GEORGIA

VSA is a wonderful program that offers FREE tickets to both ongoing events and numerous Special Events throughout Georgia.

Your support group leader is emailed a weekly newsletter listing ongoing and current events which should be provided to you.

-Or-

Go to: www.vsaartsga.org

Select Community Events to Left,

.Select Calendar (to open Calendar

click on **Calendar of Events** at top),

.Ongoing Events or. Special Events

-Or-

Call the VSA Hotline System at 404-221-1270, then press 2, to get updates

Members obtain tickets by requesting them from their Support Group Leader. Be sure to list the name of the venue and not just the name of the exhibit when requesting tickets.

.There is only a limited number of tickets available because these tickets are provided to all nonprofit organizations throughout the state signed up with VSA.

.Ongoing events require 2 weeks' notice, this is FIRM.

.If you order a ticket, treat these free tickets as if you paid for them.

.There are extremely strict rules for cancellation, or not showing up, for tickets. All support group members in the state can be placed on probation for weeks or even lose our privileges entirely. Your support group leader has a copy of the rules and regulations.

BIAG wants our support group members to get out in the community and attend these free events!



STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

The philosophy of having stewards is essential to the mission of the Brain and Spinal Cord Injury Trust Fund Commission.

The Stewardship Program will:

- Broaden **our reach**, sustain the Trust Fund, and **enrich us with fresh perspectives and expertise**
- Assists with the **documentation and information** to move the application forward
- Create a **"user-friendly" environment** for those applying for funding.
- Enhance **outreach and advocacy** within the community.
- Change the **perceptions** about people with disabilities from the "cared-for" and "recipients" to educators and contributors.

"I am looking forward to the opportunity to spearhead such a program. I have worked with the Brain and Spinal Cord Injury Trust Fund Commission as the administrative assistant before being promoted to Stewardship Coordinator. My background in marketing and ability to interact with people gave me the drive to want to move this program to new heights. My goal for the Stewardship program is to uphold the program philosophy and to merge individuals with and without traumatic spinal cord and brain injuries to obtain one mission of success-full change!"

I can be reached at alanderson@dhr.state.ga.us or by calling 404-825-1466. I look forward to hearing from you.

**Ayanna Anderson,
Brain and Spinal Trust Fund
Commission**



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Clayton County

Pat Buice
770-473-7471
superhope@msn.com

Columbus-Muscogee County

Kay McCoy
706-565-9298
kaymccoy@hotmail.com
Shiloh Hendricks
706-507-4696
shiloh93@knology.net

Fannin County

Blue Ridge
Carolyn Stepp
706-492-5308

Griffin Barnesville

Thomaston

Sharon Huey
770-233-1660
sharonhuey@bellsouth.net

Gwinnett County

Dennis Stahl
770-965-9726
stahldennisj@bellsouth.net

Macon-Bibb County

Dr. Foster
Phyllis Dorn
478-960-2804
phyllisdorn@bellsouth.net

Newton Rockdale Counties

Tom Houchins
404-316-3193
hthouchins@yahoo.com

North Fulton

Stuart Hanzman
770-642-4236 X41
stuarthanzman@aol.com
Annie Boriskie
annie12549@aol.com

Rome – Floyd County

Kathy Adams-706-291-0168
Linda Studard-706-509-6623
lstudard@floyd.org

MEET OUR BOARD MEMBERS!

MARC DAVIS



For 33 years Marc has been a personal injury trial lawyer with a specialty in brain and spinal cord injuries.

He is the author of articles on TBI, and he has served as speaker, chair and co-chair of BI/SCI seminars.

Marc graduated from Duke University on a Lockheed scholarship and the University of GA law school.

Marc's hobbies include sailing, boating, motorcycling, reading, vacationing at the beach in Costa Rica where his son lives, antique car & boat restoration, taking care of his farm, and hanging out with his wife and their two kids, ages 26 and 11.

You can contact Marc at 404-688-2000 or marc@dzkl.com. You can view his website at www.emarcasdavis.com

VICKIE HODGE



Photo to follow

Vickie Hodge is the Executive Director for the **Jimmy Simpson Foundation** in Rock Spring, Georgia.

Vickie's mother, Carol Simpson, wanted to find a facility for traumatic brain injury that would provide quality care after her father had an anoxic brain injury from a fall out of a hospital bed after surgery.

The Jimmy Simpson Foundation is named for her father and currently runs two programs:

- . **Safehaven**, which is a 12 bed lifelong living traumatic brain injury facility and
- . **Dayhaven**, which is an Adult Daycare specializing in Alzheimer's and Brain Injury.

The Foundation is celebrating its 10 year anniversary in May of this year!!

Vickie has been involved with the Brain Injury Association of Georgia for the past 18 months and is currently acting as Interim Chair and Treasurer.

She is committed to helping the Brain Injury Association of Georgia become the State Organization it needs to be.

Vickie currently lives in Tennessee with her husband and has one daughter attending East Tennessee State University in the Nursing Program

You can contact Vickie 706-375-9520 or vickieh@mindspring.com. You can view her website at www.jimmysimpsonfoundation.org



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 404-712-5504
www.braininjurygeorgia.org
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Roswell – No. Fulton County

Seminole Spirit
 "Speech Listening Group"
 Mark N. Halverson
 404-434-7452
seekinmotion2005@yahoo.com

Savannah-Chatham County

George Maust - 912-927-7901
 Carla Johnson – 912-354-6611
cjohnson@goodwillsavannahga.org

Waycross – Ware County

Southeast Georgia
 Debra Gordon
 912-285-7994
debrag@wayxcable.com

Incorporated Groups:

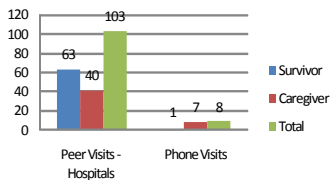
**Northeast Georgia
 (Ft. Oglethorpe)
 Catoosa County**

"Jimmy Simpson Foundation
 Group"
www.jimmysimpsonfoundation.org
 Kim Goodwin
 706-375-9520
kim_goodwin@mindspring.com

**Stone Mountain-
 DeKalb County**

"Side By Side Clubhouse"
 Fostering growth, employment, job
 search skills, etc.
 Cindi Johnson
 404-378-1139
info@sidebysideclubhouse.org
www.sidebysideclubhouse.org

Peer Visits January 2008



UPCOMING EVENT!

"What a Professional Needs to Know about Traumatic Brain Injury"

Seminar Institute of Continuing Legal Education in Georgia

March 31, 2208

State Bar of Georgia headquarters
 104 Marietta St., NW
 Atlanta, Ga

Co-sponsored by the Brain Injury Association of GA & the Shepherd Center

A portion of the fees of will benefit the Brain Injury Association of GA

For further information contact BIAG at 404-712-5504 or info@braininjurygeorgia.org





Veterans and Support Groups



Veterans with other group members



Newton/Rockdale Support Group



Athens Support Group



Seminole Spirit Support Group



Emory Support Group



Tom Connelly, Albany Group

Attended but not photographed:
Buckhead Support Group

DISABILITY DAY EVENT!



A little rain was not enough to dampen the spirits of the 40+ people from the BIAG Support Groups, Advocates, Veterans and supporters who met and gathered at the steps of the capitol in support of Disability Day for the TBI community!!

This was the largest, organized representation for the brain injury community to come together and support each other.

Special thanks go to everyone for coming and showing their willingness to stand out in a crowd of 2000 by banding together as a group, wearing the bandanas, carrying balloons and marching to the sounds of kazoos!

Support Group Members, friends, advocates who attended



Waring Jackson Event Coordinator
North Fulton Support Group



Jane Jackson, BIAG I&R



Gary Ulicny, Shepherd Center and
Tom Houchins, BIAG Board Member



Bill Lee, Anita P and Ann Boriskie, North Fulton Group



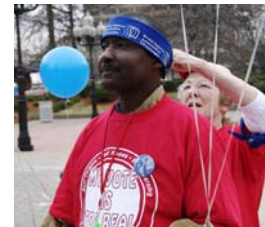
North Ga Support Group



Marching to event



Mark H making introductions



Dee helping with bandana



A mothers look of love



Kay McCoy, Columbus Group



Waring and Dee Houchins,
BIAG Board Member

BIAG has provided to each support group leader a DVD slide show of the event which can be played on a computer or tv. The DVD also contains over 100 photographs that can be printed. Contact BIAG for questions.