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**SUPPORT GROUPS
(Listed By County)**

Please visit our [website](http://www.braininjurygeorgia.org) for details on group meetings and contact information

BIBB COUNTY

Macon, GA
"Macon Support Group"

CATOOSA COUNTY

Ft. Oglethorpe, GA
"Jimmy Simpson Foundation"

CHATHAM COUNTY (2)

Savannah, GA

Goodwill "Advance Acquired Brain Injury"

Memorial Rehab Center
"Gray Matters"

CLARKE COUNTY

Athens, Ga
"Athens Support Group"

CLAYTON COUNTY

Riverdale, GA
"Miracles Happen"

COBB COUNTY

Marietta, GA
"Unlimited Possibilities"

DEKALB COUNTY (2)

Atlanta, GA

**"VA TBI Support Group"
For Veterans**

"Peer Visitor for Veterans Program"
VA Medical Center
Decatur, GA

"Emory Support Group"

Emory Rehab Center
Atlanta, GA

DOUGHERTY COUNTY

Albany, GA
"Albany Support Group"

FANNIN COUNTY

Blue Ridge, GA
"Blue Ridge Support Group"

*Happenings with "Unlimited Possibilities"
Cobb County Brain Injury Support Group*

One of the most satisfying times to socialize is during a hearty meal. Members of [Unlimited Possibilities](#) (Cobb County) Support Group started a get-together at a restaurant on Friday mornings and it has grown like wildfire. Now as many as twenty (20) show up for a hearty breakfast, enjoy the social networking and hanging out with good friends. As a result, some of the caregivers are now meeting for their own breakfast once a month. It gives this special group additional support and their own socialization during the month.

Laura Coomes, who is the Unlimited Possibilities Group Leader, and several members provide peer mentoring to survivors and families. Providing peer mentoring gives a sense of pride in helping others and provides a valuable contribution for the Support Group.

Waring Jackson joined us for breakfast and as a result 9 members from our Support Group attended the Disability Day at the Capital. We also have a bowling outing planned and we will host a cookout later this spring.

Kennestone hospital has been great to provide us with some outstanding speakers. We also have several members donating time at Must Ministries offices which they find enjoyable while helping others.

We invite you to attend our meetings or participate in any of our planned events or restaurant outings—or better yet start a social outing with your Support Group! It's fun, it's easy and helps to build a wonderful support system of friends.

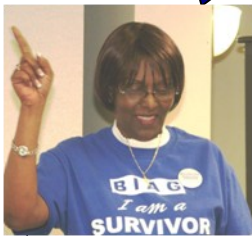


Meetings are held every
1st Tuesday @ 7:00
PM. Located in the
[Kennestone Hospital](#)
Outpatient Rehab
Center in Marietta, GA.



If you have news to share—an event, happening, article, story about someone in your group—contact jane@braininjurygeorgia.org

An Exciting New Path for...



MARSHA STILL

Marsha Still will be moving on to new opportunities and challenges in her life. Marsha tendered her resignation as Madam Chair of the Brain Injury Association of Georgia which is effective May 6, 2011.

"I appreciate the opportunities I have been given at BIAG and your professional guidance and support. We have a lot to be proud of by growing our membership base from a mere 80 members to 243 members in less than 4 months! We also implemented the Sports Concussion Awareness Program that I am sure will be a great success this year. We have attracted several extraordinary board members who have devoted their time and expertise to make our organization strong. A positive path has been created to reach out to the Hispanic brain injury survivors in Georgia and I am hopeful it will prove to be a successful partnership. The Board has worked hard at attempting to resolve the communication issues between them and the Support Groups and that effort has been noticed on all levels. I wish you and the organization continued success in the future with all programs for the brain injury survivors of Georgia. I consider just about everyone I have met here to be friends of mine now, and I will miss you all. ... my career focus has taken a different direction and I feel it is time to move on to new opportunities and challenges."

The Brain Injury Association of Georgia wants to thank Marsha and wishes her the best in her future endeavors!

WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS

BIAG welcomes new board members **Dr. Jeremy Hertz**, Psy.D. Dr. Hertz is Director of Behavioral Medicine with Walton Rehabilitation Hospital in Augusta, GA. Dr. Hertz looks forward to working with BIAG helping to guide and achieve common goals. **Dee Houchins** was appointed to serve as Interim Chair of the Support Group Steering Committee. Dee has a long and respected history with BIAG and within the brain injury community. Dee will be helping to grow and develop the Committee among our Support Groups leaders and will serve in this capacity until BIAG's next Leadership Summit in November.

Read more about our new board members in an upcoming newsletter!

Advisory Board News



David Goudelock has moved to our Advisory Board after serving as former Chair and Board member from 1993-1995 and again in 2005 to 2011. David is a Certified Life Care Planner and has been a case manager in the private sector specializing in brain and spinal cord injury.

BIAG thanks David for his many years of service to BIAG and the brain injury community.

Dan Vasquez, Board Member and Chair of Public Relations Committee, has moved to our Advisory Board. Dan is the Sr Account Sports Manager for the Atlanta Falcons media network. Dan was serving on our Public Relations Media committee but due limitations with the Falcons transfer he was unable to be an active board member.

David and Dan will continue to be involved in helping to support BIAG while serving on our Advisory Board.



The Brain and Spinal Injury Trust Fund Commission in partnership with The Sarah Jane Foundation held 2 Town Hall meetings celebrating 2011 National Pediatric Acquired Brain Injury Tour. April 5th meeting covered “Back to School After a Brain Injury-Re-entry and Long Term Planning Issues” and April 6th “How Do We Prevent, Identify and Treat Concussions In Youth?”. Both events spoke to the stifling number of cases reported each year and stories of concussion-related tragedies that have gripped recent news headlines.

Check out the Trust Fund’s Public Service Announcements in their [video library](#)— scroll to the bottom of the video lists under Library. www.gatrustfund.org



Become a [Trust Fund Facebook Fan](#) today!

Camp Hardgrove

in partnership with Camp Twin Lakes



When: September 8-11. **Deadline to apply is July 15!**

Where: Winder. GA

Go to www.braininjurygeorgia.org to read about and complete an application **Its Not Too Late!**

If you have not signed up to attend Camp Hardgrove, please do so TODAY.

Board of Directors

Diane Ohmann
Board Treasurer
PVVP Committee
Owner
[SAS Partners](#)

Kay Jones
Board Secretary
Education Committee
Survivor, Support Group Leader
Columbus, GA

Clint W. Sitton
Board Member
Public Policy & Relations, Legal &
Legislative Advisory Committee
[Kopelman Sitton Law Group](#)

Randy Babcock
Funding and Marketing Chair
Survivor and Retired Business

Dr. Stephen Macciocchi, Ph.D.
Board Member
Fundraising Committee
Medical Professional
[Shepherd Center](#)

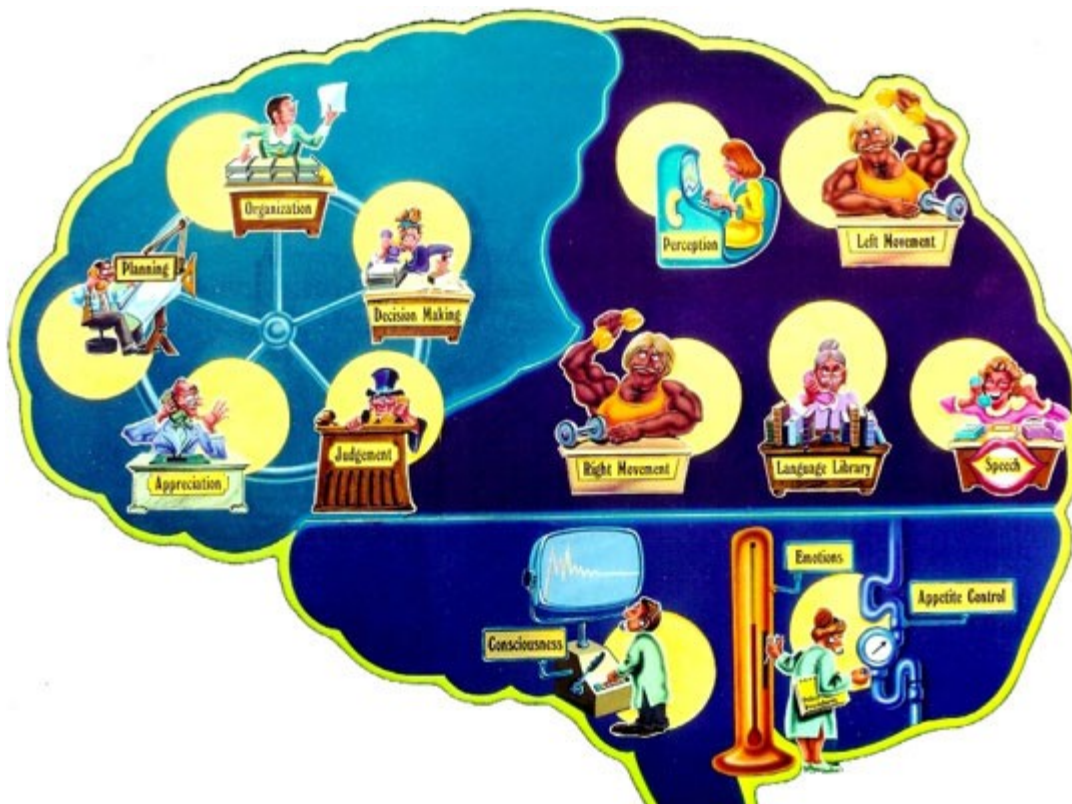
Carolyn Stepp
Board Member
Cookbook and Membership
Committee
Caregiver & Support Group Leader

Dr. Jeremy Hertz
Director of Behavioral Medicine/
Neuropsychologist
[Walton Rehabilitation Hospital](#)
Board Member

Dee Houchins
Board Member
Interim Chair Support Group
Steering Committee
Newton/Rockdale Support Group
Leader



The Anatomy of the Brain



Certain areas of the brain developed special functions. For example, the back of the brain, the occipital cortex, translates the retinal signals into a visual image. The temporal lobes interpret the meaning of sounds. The left temporal lobe translates sounds into speech. The parietal lobes handle incoming sensations while the frontal lobes, which constitute nearly half the brain, control important functions like reasoning, judgment, planning, proper social behavior, and so on. Memories are logged into the brain through the temporal lobes intermingled with smell and emotional centers, explaining why we remember things that have emotional significance and why animals use their nose so much.

SUPPORT GROUPS Cont. (Listed By County)

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FLOYD COUNTY

Rome, GA
"Rome Support Group"

FULTON COUNTY (4)

"Children & Adolescent Support Group"

Children's Healthcare of Atlanta at Scottish Rite
Atlanta, GA

"North Fulton Support Group"

Alpharetta/Roswell, GA
770-642-4236 x41

"Minor Brain Injury Support Group"

Atlanta/Buckhead

"The Seminole Spirit—A Speech Listening Group"

Roswell, GA

GORDON COUNTY

Calhoun, GA
"Divine Restoration Abounds"

GWINNETT COUNTY

Lawrenceville, GA
"The Gwinnett County Area Support Group"

MUSCOGEE COUNTY

Columbus, GA
"Columbus Support Group"

NEWTON/ROCKDALE COUNTY

Conyers, GA
"Brain Injury Support Group of Newton/Rockdale"

RICHMOND COUNTY

Augusta, GA
"Brain Injury Support Group" Walton West Transitional Living Center

SPALDING/LAMAR/UPSON COUNTY

Griffin, GA
"Lost and Found"

THOMAS COUNTY

Boston, GA
"Hope"

WARE COUNTY

Waycross, GA
"Southeast Georgia TBI Support Group"



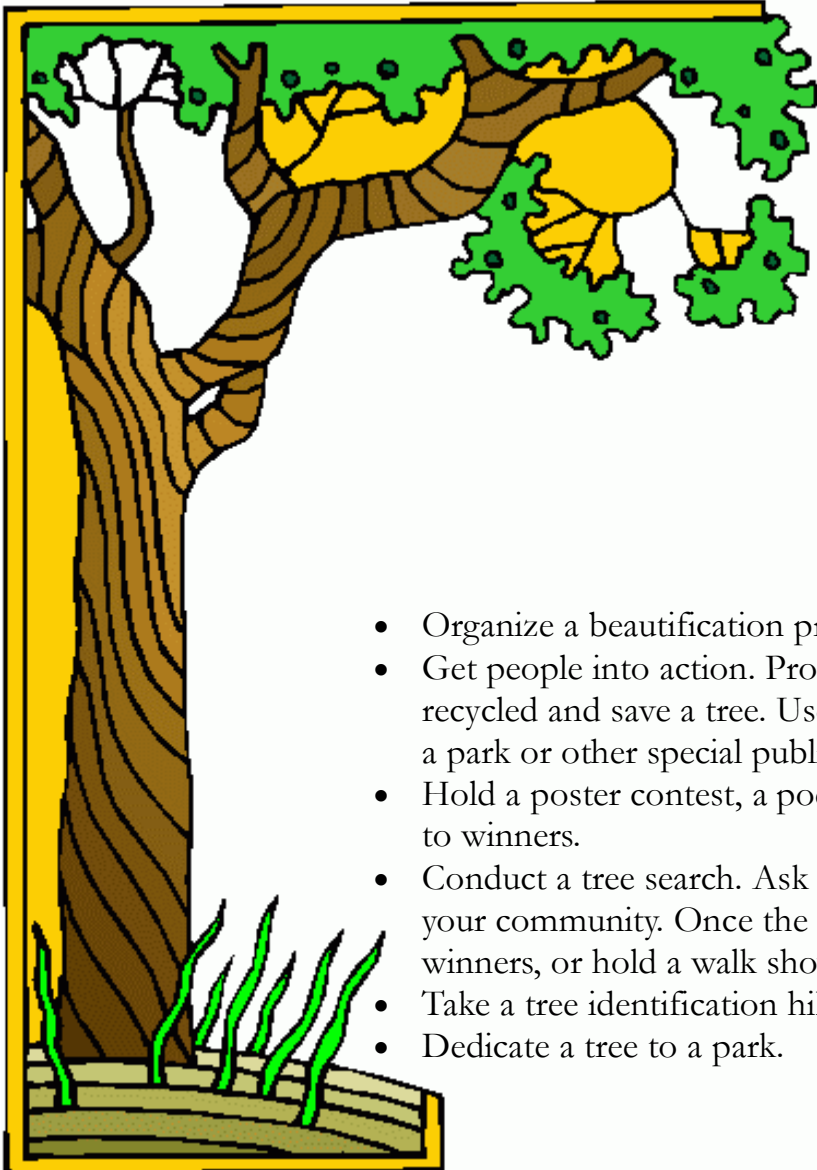
Support Our Cause! Do your shopping now through GoodSearch.
Designate Brain Injury Association—Georgia

It has been over 135 years since J. Sterling Morton founded Arbor Day. His simple idea of setting aside a special day for tree planting is now more important than ever.

An Arbor Day celebration can be as large or as small as you want to make it. Your Arbor Day can be a few Support Group Members gathering to plant trees in a park be-



*Arbor Day was
on April 29th*



Support Group Celebrations Ideas:

- Organize a beautification project in a public area.
- Get people into action. Promote a paper drive to gather paper to be recycled and save a tree. Use the proceeds to buy a special tree to plant in a park or other special public place.
- Hold a poster contest, a poetry contest or trivia contest. Give away trees to winners.
- Conduct a tree search. Ask people to find large, unusual or historic trees in your community. Once the results are in, publish a map that highlights the winners, or hold a walk showcasing them.
- Take a tree identification hike
- Dedicate a tree to a park.



Aligning your corporation or organization to BIAG demonstrates your commitment to raising awareness and linking more people to needed services. Your sponsorship on our website, or in our newsletter, brings visibility you can't get anywhere else!
Contact BIAG today to find out how to sponsor your corporation or organization!