

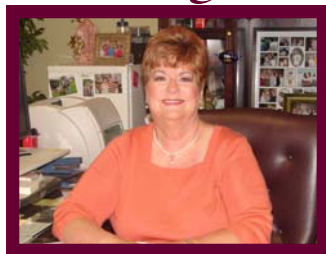
# Inspirations

September 2009



Terrebonne Association for Retarded Citizens

## Celebrating DSW (Direct Support Worker) Appreciation



### Executive Director's Corner

Dear TARC Supporters,

July, August, and September have whirled on by with such speed that it sometimes makes my head spin. Many wonderful things continue to take place on a daily basis along with many challenges to boot.

Right after the CARF survey for TARC's International Accreditation, TARC's first 25 hens arrived! Yes, TARC has HENS! The hens arrived in early June, even laying eggs on their maiden voyage to their new home. Thanks to many generous individuals in both Lafourche and Terrebonne, donations came in to support this project with money for food and to purchase more hens. At present, we have about 40 hens. The eggs sell out daily and the community support is outstanding.

September 14-18 was designated as National Direct Support Worker's Appreciation Week. All direct care staff were honored each day with some token of appreciation for their hard work and dedication to the care and training of the individuals served by TARC. Monday was "Beignet Day." Both staff and clients enjoyed TARC beignets in the morning. Tuesday was "Flower Day" with a bouquet of flowers presented to each area at TARC. Wednesday was "Lunch Day," provided by me, to all staff who wished to have lunch in the TARC administration building. Thursday was "Dessert Day." Every member of administration and management brought desserts for the entire facility. On Friday, I gave out certificates of apprecia-

tion to all DSW's. Also on Friday, Melissa Foret, Sweet Sensations, was voted TARC's Outstanding DSW by TARC staff. Melissa will be awarded a certificate at the ARC awards. Many positive comments were made regarding the weeklong event.

I have seen many clients come and go throughout the 25 years that I have been affiliated with TARC. I have been privileged to assist parents, siblings, and relatives plan for the future of many individuals. I have experienced births, death, and everything in between and still life goes on and changes occur. The one constant in the lives of most of these individuals is TARC. For almost 50 years, this organization has existed to relieve some of the stress associated with the turmoil of families dealing with a love one who does not meet the criteria of "normal" as well as how to cope with shattered dreams and visions for their child's life, etc. The DSW staff gives families hope, love, kindness, acceptance, and a routine to count on daily. The DSW staff are trusted, admired and revered by each participant and their families. They are to be commended for ALL that they do! Thank you for your commitment to providing outstanding service to TARC participants and families.

TARC made several nominations to the ARC of Louisiana for the 2009 Annual Awards Luncheon held at Drusilla Seafood Restaurant in Baton Rouge on Saturday, October 3rd. Once again, because of the outstanding participation by local businesses and groups in Terrebonne Parish, TARC's nominees were awarded State Awards. Those awards went to Weatherford for "Special Recognition" as a business supporting an enclave of individuals working in their plant on Highway 311. Jim and Shirley Crowley of Creole Lanes won the State award for the, "Outstanding Recreation Award" due

to their work with Special Olympics, Super Star Bowlers and a No-Tap League. The Houma Daily Courier won the State Award for "Outstanding News Media" for their outstanding coverage of TARC throughout the year! Maggie Zschiedrich was selected for the "Professional of the Year" award. Her efforts in growing "Sweet Sensations" to new heights are unprecedented in the field of disabilities. Last but not least, TARC won the "Outstanding Local Unit" award for the state.

All five of these awards are very coveted awards given out annually to one winner in each category throughout the State of Louisiana to chapters of the ARC. TARC is honored and privileged to have nominated these companies and individuals for these awards and even more grateful that the selection committee agreed with our nominations.

Thank you Terrebonne for your support and confidence in TARC!

Sincerely,  
Mary Lynn Bisland

TARC is now hiring  
the following:

PCA (Personal Care  
Attendant)

Residential Floater

CLS (Community Living  
Specialist)

CDL Driver

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# Let's Get Together Club



Let's Get Together had a blast this summer! In August, the club held their first Fire Safety Night, an educational meeting, in the TARC Cafeteria. Local firemen presented information on fire safety and precautions as well as equipment that firemen utilize. Afterwards, the club was able to view the different aspects and equipment on the fire truck. The firemen were very friendly and very helpful to the club. The club was honored to have these brave men teach our club new lessons.

In Addition, everyone is looking forward to the Let's Get Together 3rd Annual Halloween Dance! It will be held October 24th, from 6:30 PM until 9:00 PM, at the Woodmen of the World on S. Hollywood Road in Houma. Members and TARC staff will be in costume, and the dance will also have a costume contest! Music and dinner will also be served. TARC will not be providing transportation, so members and guests must arrange their own transportation. Members "get in" free, and their guests must pay \$5.00. We ask that parents do not stay at the dance.



Please note that the Christmas Gift Exchange/Party has been moved from Tuesday, December 8th to Friday, December 11th. Food will be provided by the Houma Terrebonne Jaycees, and we will have a small dance after the Gift Exchange in the TARC Cafeteria. Members who would like to participate may bring a gift (men bring men's gifts, and women bring women's gifts). The gift exchange requires a \$10.00 gift.

## Helping Hands



Helping Hands is the latest innovation at TARC through our Options Plus program. Beginning in November, members of the pilot program will be canvassing an area neighborhood near Oaklawn Junior High School to organize and pick up nonperishable items to donate to our community's food bank. This new program will ultimately support our individuals in volunteer employment, as well as contributing to feeding the needy and educating others that all people can meaningfully contribute. If you know anyone living in that area and is willing to participate, please call TARC at your earliest convenience. We hope that with the community's participation, it will provide both our individuals and our community with a great deal of fulfillment and enjoyment.



## Woodmen of the World Flag Donation



Thank You For Our New Flag!

# TARC Awards Galore – 2009 is a Winning Year!

## ARC of Louisiana Awards



Outstanding Local Unit

# TARC



Executive Director Mary Lynn Bisland, left, accepts the award for TARC.

### Professional of the Year

Maggie Zschiedrich



Maggie Zschiedrich, left, accepts the award.

### TARC Outstanding DSW

Melissa Foret



Melissa Foret accepts the award.

### Special Recognition Award



Weatherford

### News Media Award

The Houma Daily Courier

### Recreation Award

Creole Lanes



TARC is very proud of everyone's accomplishments and for the incredible community support through their hard work and dedication to the people we serve and to the organization. Congratulations to all Award Winners!

## Don't Forget!



TARC is always taking donations for *The Cedar Chest Boutique*. Donations can be delivered to the store at 6453 W. Main or at TARC. Larger donations can be picked up by TARC. Call 876-4465 for more details!

## Mardi Gras Beads Wanted!

Do you have beads that need to be sorted and packaged before Mardi Gras? Our **BUY-U-BEADS** business can do that for you! Call 876-4465 for more details.



## Upcoming Events

- ◆ October 24th— Let's Get Together Harvest/Halloween Dance
- ◆ October 30th—TARC Hayride & Hotdogs
- ◆ November 14 — TARC Holiday Open House
- ◆ November 23-27— Thanksgiving Holidays  
TARC Closed
- ◆ December 11— LGT Christmas Gift Exchange/Dance
- ◆ Dec. 23-Jan. 1st— Christmas Holidays.  
TARC Closed

## Residential Fishing Trip



Food, fun, and a “men-only” weekend was the only criteria to be held during the annual Residential fishing trip. Eight residents and two TARC staff embarked on a memorable Grand Isle trip during their Labor Day weekend. The first night, the men were fed with plenty barbeque, baked beans, potato salad, and green beans all supplied by TARC's Bon Appetit's Cafeteria.

Early the next morning, the crew went fishing. Resident Herman Boudreaux used the cast net to catch bait fish. Afterwards, they cut up the bait fish and used it to catch white trout, black mullet, croakers, oyster fish, and 1 flounder. They used this strategy all weekend. Throughout the weekend, they caught 2 1/2 dozen crabs, boiled shrimp with all of the “fixin's,” and utilized the left-overs in scrambled eggs for breakfast. “We caught fish, ate well, laughed and joked around. It was the best weekend yet,” said Director of Transportation Rodger Shelton.

Save the Date!

You're Invited To A  
**Holiday Open House**  
...from pumpkins to poinsettias...

**Saturday, November 14, 2009**

**1:00 PM to 4:00 PM**

**TARC Restaurant & Gift Shop and TARC Campus**