



October2012

DONATE NOW

Still Room to Golf in Bob Busse Tournament

Join us for the 17th Annual Bob Busse Golf Tournament Nov. 5 at the prestigious [Cherokee Town and Country Club](#). Enjoy a great game of golf along with golf-course prizes, prizes, a silent auction and wonderful golfers' reception all for the great cause of supporting Special Olympics Georgia athletes.

[Click here](#) to sign up for the tournament. Golfers receive a tournament golfer's bag, continental breakfast, lunch on course and a reception buffet. For more information, e-mail Rebecca.Surles@SpecialOlympicsGA.org.



Save the date: 4th Annual Polar Plunge Saturday, February 16th, 2013

Join us as we jump into icy waters of Lake Lanier Feb. 16th. All proceeds collected by "plungers" will benefit the athletes of Special Olympics Georgia. Prizes will be awarded for the best costume, highest fundraiser, highest fundraising team, and more! For those who do not love the Polar Bear habitat, we will have areas to keep you warm – such as heated areas, warm concessions, and fun souvenirs. Visit <http://www.PolarPlungeGA.com> for details!



In Lieu of the Scarves Project, Recycle Your Phone

We have a cell phone and printer/toner cartridge recycling project to benefit SOGA. After you collect 10, we will send you a label to mail them back to the recycling company for free. Contact Jennifer Daniell for more information at 770 414-9390 x 110 or Jennifer.Daniell@SpecialOlympicsGA.org. Thanks for your help!



Planned Giving

For most of us, our charitable giving helps us answer significant questions such as "Who am I?" and "What are my values?" Our giving might be something learned from our parents, based in faith, or driven



by a life-changing event. As a result, leaving a legacy is much more than a financial aspiration—it represents a chance to pass along our values. By establishing a planned or legacy gift, you will ensure that SOGA's work of empowering individuals with intellectual disabilities to become physically fit, productive and respected members of society through sports training and competition continues well into the future. For more information on making a planned or legacy gift to SOGA, please visit our [gift planning website](#) or contact Connie Grandmason, Director of Bequests & Estate Gifts, toll-free at 866-690-3951 or cgrandmason@specialolympics.org.

Vehicle Donations

Are you thinking of selling or trading in that old car, boat or RV? Why not donate it instead? As a charitable contribution, your donation will make a big difference. SOGA has partnered with Car Program, LLC to turn your old vehicle into much needed funds for our program. Just download [this form](#) and fax it in. Car Program LLC will make arrangements to conveniently and quickly pick up your vehicle at no cost to you. They handle the title transfer requirements and provide you with a tax deductible donation receipt at pick-up!



New Online Giving Website

In the next couple of days, we will be changing the processing of our online giving. As you will see, the giving page has a new and improved look. All of the online donation links at www.specialolympicsga.org will be changed to link to the new page. However, if you have stored/saved the direct online giving link as a favorite, please replace what you have with [SOGA Online Giving](#).



Athlete Profile: Corey Herndon

Corey Herndon is a member of the Coweta County adult athlete program. He is currently training for power lifting, but also trains and competes in bowling and track & field. Corey is the athlete representative on the Coweta County Special Olympics Management Team. He brings a lot of joy to each meeting and always has great input. He is employed by Rutledge Productions and trains under Coach Ronnie Schultz.

While in school, Corey was an active member of the Coweta County floor hockey team, equestrian team and competed in softball and basketball skills competitions. He competed in the Special Olympics World event hosted by Connecticut, years ago, as a member of the



Special Olympics Georgia Equestrian Team. Corey was also a member of the first equestrian team that provided the demonstration program at SOGA's state event in Brunswick in the early 1990's. The riders were given certificates rather than medals or ribbons. This demonstration by the Coweta riders provided SOGA the opportunity to sanction equestrian competitions as state events! SOGA's equestrian program was born!

Corey has been an active member of Special Olympics since he was old enough to register. While he has always been very competitive, his most importantly quality is his sportsmanship and the respect he shows for everyone in his life. Like the Special Olympics Athletes Oath, "Let me win; but if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt", Corey always personifies excellence and hard work. He is truly a perfect example of what being a true Special Olympics athlete is all about!

Sponsor Spotlight: The Rotary Club of Carpet City and Shaw Industries Group

We are pleased to announce that for the second consecutive year [Carpet City Rotary Club](#) will serve as the Presenting Sponsor of the 2012 State Fall Games!

"We are excited to work with Special Olympics Georgia and proud to host the 2012 State Fall Games," said Carpet City Rotary Club member Will Robison. "We look forward to showing our local community what a worthy cause Special Olympics Georgia is to support and what true champions all of these athletes represent."

Since 1995, [Carpet City Rotary Club](#) has been dedicated to positively impacting Dalton, Georgia by making local Special Olympics support their top priority. The Carpet City Rotary Club team work tirelessly during the Fall Games competition weekend to ensure the athletes experience high-quality competition.

Thank you [Carpet City Rotary Club](#) for your outstanding volunteer and financial support for the Fall Games!

Special Olympics Georgia is honored to have [Shaw Industries Group](#) serve as the Opening Ceremony and Awards Sponsor of the 2012 State Fall Games! Shaw Industries is a passionate supporter of Special Olympics Georgia athletes and the Dalton community, and is instrumental to the success of the Fall Games.

"For the past six decades, Shaw Industries has been a committed supporter of Georgia's community progress and growth," said Shaw CEO Vance Bell. "That continued dedication is evident today through this sponsorship of Special Olympics Georgia. This event gives us a chance as a community to give back in a meaningful way and on a local level. We're looking forward to exciting competitions."

[Shaw Industries](#) belief is that their success and that of their employees is based on the core values of honesty, integrity, and passion. They are dedicated to building a better future for their customers, their communities and their people.

Thank you Shaw Industries for your extraordinary work in the community and for making Special Olympics dreams come true!



Hey, Athletes! Take Part in the Shaw Design-A-Rug Challenge

As a proud sponsor of the Special Olympics Georgia 2012 State Fall Games, Shaw Industries is introducing the Shaw Design-A-Rug Challenge. All Special Olympics Georgia participants are invited to submit a creative rug design that could be chosen to appear on a real area rug. The winner will receive a 5'x8' area rug showcasing their creative design, and the same rug will also be donated to SOGA headquarters. [Click here for the Design-A-Rug Challenge form.](#)

Send your design in by mail or complete the form during Opening Ceremony, Friday, October 12 in Dalton. Questions? Email Christina.honkonen@shawinc.com or call her at 706.275.1710.

Thank you to Masters Bowling and Horse Show Sponsors

The **2012 State Masters Bowling Tournament** was a success! Special Olympics Georgia would like to thank the following sponsors for their outstanding support of the 2012 State Masters Bowling Tournament: Warner Robins Convention & Visitors Bureau, McDonald's of Warner Robins & Byron, Books-A-Million, Golden Key Realty, Balvaunuca Club, State Bank & Trust Company, Walmart #1367, and Women of the Moose Chapter 1288

The **2012 State Horse Show** was an amazing event! Special Olympics Georgia would like to thank the following sponsor for their support of the 2012 State Horse Show: Boeing, Central Georgia Ranch Horse Association, The Pritchett Family, Robins Federal Credit Union, Walmart #2733, Cobb County 4-H, Georgia Quarter Horse Youth Association, and Georgia Quarter Horse Association

Volunteer Opportunities

Bob Busse Golf Classic

Atlanta

Monday, November 5

SOGA will once again proudly host the annual Bob Busse golf tournament at the Cherokee Town and Country Club. Volunteers are needed to help with registration and set up the morning of November 5. All volunteers MUST be 21 years or older to volunteer.

State Indoor Winter Games

Marietta

January 25 - 27

Get out of the cold and volunteer for the State Indoor Winter Games. Over 1,500 SOGA athletes compete in basketball, bowling, power lifting, floor hockey, gymnastics, roller skating and ice skating.

Basketball Team Skills Volunteer Coordinator needed for the State Indoor Winter Games!

If you are a team leader and ready for a more significant volunteer role, SOGA is looking for two people to step into the role of volunteer coordinator. Volunteer coordinators will be in charge of the general volunteers at Basketball Team Skills and will need to be available all day Saturday, January 26.

If you are interested in volunteering for any of the above events/positions, please contact Leslie Anderson at

Leslie.Anderson@SpecialOlympicsGA.org.

October Volunteer of the Month

Mickey Vergara is being recognized as the October Volunteer of the Month as he, along with La Societa Italiana, have held a bocce fundraiser for Special Olympics Georgia for over six years raising in excess of \$10,800 since 2003. He has also volunteered, along with his wife, at State Fall Games as a bocce referee. Mickey has helped in various places around Atlanta – Piedmont Park and the Roswell Adult Recreation Center for example – getting new bocce courts built thus promoting the sport which has become very popular in the Atlanta.



Special Olympics Georgia now has hundreds of athletes that love bocce and are glad we have Mickey and La Societa Italiana (the Italian Club) to champion this sport which is fun for young and old, small or strong, and a great sport for families or new acquaintances.

Congratulations Mickey on being the October Volunteer of the Month and thank you for supporting SOGA through the bocce tournament and State Fall Games. Ciao!

Red Robin Restaurant Oct. 13

Support Special Olympics at any Red Robin Restaurant, one of SOGA's tastiest partnerships! Stop by Saturday, Oct. 13 for the Red Robin Tip-A-Cop for lunch or dinner from 11a.m. to 8 p.m. Local law enforcement will serve you as celebrity waiters! Local law enforcement will trade in their handcuffs to serve you all day on the 13th! All tips the officers receive will go straight back to Special Olympics Georgia.



Visit any of the 5 Georgia Restaurants and show your support!

Columbus – 5550-3 Whittlesey Blvd., Columbus 31909

Cumming – 370 Peachtree Parkway, Cumming 30041

Mullins Crossing – 4241 Washington Road, Evans, 30809

Lawrenceville -1250 Scenic Highway, Suite 1500, Lawrenceville, 30045

Newnan Crossing – 202 Newnan Crossing Bypass, Newnan, 30263

Have a meal at Chili's for SOGA October 11

Join SOGA in dining at any Chili's in Georgia any time October 11 for the Chili's Give Back Night. Be sure to bring [this flyer](#) and show it to your server. SOGA receives 10 percent of the amount purchased when you remember your flyer. [Click here](#) for the flyer.

Why don't you like us on Facebook?

Check out the latest updates and news, photos and inspiring videos by getting Special Olympics Georgia updates in your News Feed. [Click here](#) to get to us.

Forward this email to a friend



You know people-- family members, friends, work colleagues, just about everywhere you go there's someone you know. Will you introduce Special Olympics Georgia to them? Forward this e-newsletter and ask them to [click here](#) and then click on the Sign-up for the E-newsletter button.

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