



SPINA BIFIDA ASSOCIATION OF HOUSTON GULF COAST

THE WAVE

July 2009

Volume 1, Issue 4

Letter From the President

School is out and camp is around the corner. I hope all of you are ready to have a great time again this year. We have 109 children, adults, and volunteers attending. The Camp That Love Built Staff have a week full of activities and fun planned.

SBAHGC's 1st Bowl-a-Thon fundraiser is scheduled for Saturday, August 8th at DelMar Lanes. This fundraiser will help us to continue providing programs and services to all of you however, we need your support to make it successful. Please email Yvonne Horner at isthismimi@sbcglobal.net or call 832-453-7368 to get your pledge envelopes.

Plans are well under way for our "One Day Conference" set for Saturday, March 27, 2010. There will be sessions for all ages and interests. Information sheet and registration forms are included in the newsletter so you can reserve your spot. Don't wait till the last minute, make your plans now.

I would like to remind everyone that SBAHGC is an all volunteer organization that cannot function without our wonderful volunteers. To those of you who are giving SBAHGC your time and effort my heartfelt thanks. To those of you who haven't yet volunteered there is never a better time than now. Please call our office and let us know if you can help with the Bowl-a-Thon, the Conference, or the Christmas Party. There are always things that need to be done, don't wait, call now..

Respectfully, Yvonne Horner

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July August Birthdays

Evan Cruz	Rocio Cruz	Kaitlyn Eaton	Seth Edmunds
Jennifer Hernandez	Angela Morgan	Elissa Long	Alan Montross
Robert Maheshwari	Vianey Martinez	Trevor McCuiston	Abner Medrano
Kristen Munger	Tobey Pelzer	Tirsa Rodriguez	Matthew Swick
Charles B. Ward	Regis Wilson		



- Here is an easy way to help SBAHGC earn money.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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- Every time you search for something on the internet use GoodSearch instead of your usual search engine. For every search you perform GoodSearch donates a penny. Give it a try. It is so easy.

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- Another way to help SBAHGC raise money is to enroll in Kroger's share program. Go to www.krogerneighbortoneighbor.com and enter Spina Bifida Association of the Greater Houston Gulf Coast.

TURING POINTS DALLAS EXTRAVAGANZA

On Saturday, June 6, 2009, eight of our spina bifida young adults participated in the 19th annual Dallas Extravaganza. They are as follows: Wendy Bounds, Stephanie Cemino, Lizzie Cisneros, David Enderli, Clarissa Gonzalez, Alan Montross, Kristen Munger, and Susan Rea. There were over 20 different events to participate in including archery, jet skiing, water skiing, sailing, fencing, hand cycling, disc golf, and many others. There were also several booths to get information at as well as register to enter to win prizes. Prize winners from our association are Lizzie Cisneros, David Enderli, and Clarissa Gonzalez. Lizzie won a Bass Pro Shops gift certificate which she generously donated back to Turning Point. David won snorkeling gear and Clarissa won a fishing pole. Congratulations Lizzie, David, and Clarissa!

Kristen Munger was a first timer to this event. She bravely went water skiing, jet skiing, and horseback riding for the first time in her life. Way to go Kristen! Wendy Bounds also participated in fencing for the first time.

A special thanks goes out to Darlene and Donnis Collier for taking time out of their schedules to make the necessary plans to go on this trip with these eight young adults. Thanks to Darlene and Donnis, everyone got to and from this event safely and on time. They also made sure we stayed in the nicely accommodated MCM Elegante hotel on Friday night, just minutes away from our event the following day. Darlene and Donnis met our need for refreshment at Texas Burger and Burger King. Many thanks goes out to them for their part in making this trip a memorable experience the young adults will never forget.



SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Spina Bifida Association of Houston Gulf Coast Scholarship Program was established to enhance opportunities for persons born with Spina Bifida to achieve their full potential through higher education. Scholarships from SBAHGC help to make it possible for the student to choose educational pursuits that may otherwise be outside of their financial reach. Please remember that scholarships are competitive and funds are limited, making it impossible to grant every request. The Scholarship Committee evaluates each application on its merits based on the criteria set for the scholarship program. Applicants for the one-year scholarship must be a high school graduate or possess a G.E.D. Students will be granted up to \$1,000. for one year. This year we will be offering two (2) scholarships. Only completed applications will be considered. Applicants must submit their completed application to arrive at SBAHGC's office no later than Monday, June 1, 2009. If you are interested in applying please email sbahgc77@att.net or call the office at 281-447-2707.

DENTAL STUDY

Due to chronic dental difficulties, Erica Jones is working with Dr. Michael Chan to coordinate a local study about the connection between Spina Bifida and dental conditions. Dr. Chan needs 20 Spina Bifida adults, ages 21 and over to participate in the study. There will be no charge for the dental consultation, x-rays, and exams.

Please contact Erica at EricaJ1073@aol.com or call her at 832-692-8501 for more information and Dr. Chan's contact information.

TEXAS ADAPTIVE AQUATICS SKIING AT LAKE HOUSTON

WHAT—Texas Adaptive Aquatics Water Skiing

WHERE— Lake Houston

TIME—10:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

MORE INFO: - www.taasports.org

ASTROS TICKETS

The Spina Bifida Association Houston Gulf Coast has been awarded tickets for the following date(s):

Sunday, 1:05 p.m. August 9 vs. Brewers- 50 tickets + 10 wheel chair seats

Saturday, 6:05 p.m. September 12 vs. Pirates- 50 tickets + 10 wheel chair seats

Saturday, 6:05 p.m. September 26 vs. Reds- 50 tickets + 10 wheel chair seats

If you are interested in attending one of these games please call the Spina Bifida office at 281-447-2707 and leave a message on the voice mail or you can email us at sbahgc77@att.net. We need the following information:

Name

Address

Phone No.

How many tickets and please specify if you need wheel chair seats and how many

Which game or games you would like to attend.

You will be contacted to arrange for ticket pickup.

SUMMER IS ALMOST OVER BOWL-A-THON

Del Mar Lanes—3020 Mangum Road—Houston, Texas 77XXX

Date: August 8, 2009—**Time:** 11:00 am – 5:00 pm

Please join us for an afternoon of fun, socializing, and bowling. Your support is very important to us.

Information for Bowlers:

We request that bowlers gather at least \$100.00 in pledges. Any bowler who gathers at least \$100.00 in pledges will receive 2 hours of bowling, bowling shoe rental, 1 large 1 topping pizza per team, and 1 pitcher of soda. They will also be entered for a chance to win a door prize.

Bring all your pledge money to the bowl-a-thon

We especially encourage you to form a team of family, friends, or co-workers who want to have fun while raising money for SBAHGC.

Here are the details:

Teams: 4 bowlers. If you have a larger team, we will assign you to adjacent lanes

Individual bowlers: We will assign you to a team.

Before the Bowl-a-thon: Each bowler recruits pledges. You can ask your family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, etc. to pledge. Sponsors can pledge a minimum of \$10.00. Bowlers scores of less than 100 will be raised to 100. Checks should be made payable to SBAHGC.

Bowling: For those that need or would like to use them, bowling ramps will be available. There will be 3 squad times – 11 am to 1 pm; 1 pm to 3 pm; and 3 pm to 5 pm.

Contact Information: For questions or pledge envelopes contact Yvonne Horner @ isthismimi@sbcglobal.net or cell phone 832-453-7368.

**REMEMBER WE NEED YOUR HELP
WE CAN'T DO THIS WITHOUT YOU!!!!!!!**

SBAHGC CONFERENCE

Planning is well underway for our 2010 Spina Bifida Conference on Saturday, March 27th at the Houston Marriott at Greenspoint North Hotel located at 255 N. Sam Houston Parkway East.

Adults, teens, and families affected by Spina Bifida are invited to join together with medical professionals in the field to discuss treatments of care, review the latest industry products and knowledge, and, of course, socialize. Do not miss your opportunity to be a part of this experience!

SBAHGC's MISSION

To promote the prevention of Spina Bifida and enhance the lives of all affected.

TARGET AUDIENCE

Adults with Spina Bifida • Parents of Children with Spina Bifida • Children with Spina Bifida.

PARTICIPANTS

SBAHGC's Conference is focused directly on you — those affected by Spina Bifida and the medical professionals who oversee their care. **Sign up today to be a part of this amazing event.** During the conference you will be able to view products and services of companies or organizations you currently support as well as some you may not be familiar with.

The vendor display hours for the conference are 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Saturday

The cost to you is \$25.00 and includes lunch.

Please complete the registration form below and forward it with your check to:

Spina Bifida Association of Houston Gulf Coast
440 Benmar Suite 3052
Houston, Texas 77060

We look forward to seeing you!!

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

List of Attendees:

1	2
3	4
5	6

Will you need child care? (Circle One) Yes No Child's Name _____

NOTE: Parents are responsible for providing child's food/snacks. You must sign a release form upon arrival releasing the Marriott from any responsibility.

Registration fee is \$25.00 per attendee. This fee includes lunch.

Where: Houston Marriott at Greenspoint North
255 N. Sam Houston Parkway East
Houston, Texas 77060
281-875-4000

To reserve your hotel room please call 281-875-4000 and be sure to tell them you will be attending the Spina Bifida Conference. Guest room rates are \$75.00 per night without breakfast and \$89.00 per night with breakfast for 2.

Please return this form and payment by February 1, 2010 to:

**Spina Bifida Association of Houston Gulf Coast
440 Benmar Suite 3052
Houston, Texas 77060**



TEXAS TINY MISS—KENDALL NEFF

Our own Kendall Neff has been crowned “TEXAS TINY MISS”. Kendall completed with 15 other 4/5 year old young ladies. She will be competing in the “Cinderella State Scholarship Pageant the week of June 20th thru June 27th in College Station. Let’s all keep our fingers crossed for Kendall. There is an article in the Cy Fair Magazine about Kendall. Please visit [http://www.cyfairmagazine.com/pdf/Articles/2009/summer/Tragic Diagnosis.pdf](http://www.cyfairmagazine.com/pdf/Articles/2009/summer/Tragic%20Diagnosis.pdf) to read the article.



Kendall Neff with Miss Houston, Callie Peterson



Kendall Neff with her Texas Tiny Miss Crown and Trophy

HURRICANE SEASON—EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Now that we are in Hurricane Season I thought this would be a good time to list some Emergency Readiness information. The information listed below can be found on the City of Houston webpage - <http://www.houstontx.gov/disabilities/emergency.html>.

- www.readyhoustontx.gov – Regional Disaster Preparedness
- www.houstonoem.net – Office of Emergency Management
- www.disability911.com – Disaster Preparedness for People with Disabilities
- www.houstontx.gov/health/osphp - Public health preparedness
- www.hcoem.org – Harris County Homeland Security & Emergency Management
- www.governor.state.tx.us/divisions/disabilities/resources/ada/emergency—State of Texas Emergency Management Resources for People with Disabilities
- - State of Texas Emergency Management Resources for People with Disabilities
- www.fema.gov/areyouready - In-depth Guide to Citizen Preparedness
- www.redcross.org/services/disaster/beprepared/hsas.html - Red Cross

Please make sure you are prepared — It’s never too late.



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440 Benmar Suite 3052 Houston, Texas 77060 Phone 281-447-2707 Fax 281-447-2707 sbahgc77@att.net

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We are on the Web
sbahgc.org

Help us to cut costs and "GO GREEN" by receiving "THE WAVE" by email in pdf. Format.

Send your request to:
sbahgc77@att.net

Dates to Remember:

July 5th—10th—CAMP THAT LOVE BUILT
December 12th—Annual Christmas Party

August 8th—Summer is Almost Over Bowl-a-thon
March 27, 2010—SBAHGC One Day Conference

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For more information on how you can receive the medical supplies you received every day AND help raise money for SBAHGC call: Alan Montross @ 281-736-5671