



SPRING 2014

**Currently 91 Dedicated Volunteers**

Executive Director, *Jan Brewer*

Volunteer Coordinator, *Sherry Bryant*

**Board Members**

President, *Betsy Estopinal*

Vice-President, *Talitha Yokley*

Secretary, *Tina Greer*

Treasurer, *Greg Burgess*

*Carl Barton | Jim Daniel | Sallie Estes*

*Paulette Hamblin | Tiffany Noel*

*Jim Vann | Norm Wolstein*



*Who Will You Serve?*



## SHARING THE CARING



*In Huntsville and Madison County*

Everyone has a story and for many, Friends, Inc. becomes a part of that story. The first call to our office this morning came from an 80-year-old elderly mother who is the primary caregiver of her adult, mentally handicapped daughter who has just had her leg amputated due to untreated diabetes. She needs help with transportation to medical appointments.

Minutes later, a 70-year-old man calls. He is bedbound, and wants a friendly visit. Someone already comes in every morning and lifts him into a recliner and then comes back in the afternoon to put him to bed. All he wants is for someone to just stop by and say hello.

A paraplegic patient has lost his lease on the house he rents and has to move in two weeks. He has a long-time friend, his dog, Fred, who cannot move with him and needs our help. One of our very special volunteers has helped this patient take care of his dog for over a year now, even arranging for a vet to stop by his house to give Fred his rabies shot. With a few phone calls and the help of this same special volunteer, arrangements are made with The Ark and TLC Animal Organization to provide the best of care for his dear dog friend, Fred.

Another patient just called to tell me that she needs groceries this week. I asked her if she wanted someone to pick up her list and get the groceries for her, or did she want to go herself? She became so excited and said, "I'm dying in this house and I would love to get out!"

It's almost noon here at the Friends, Inc. office. Wednesday's appointments to be filled include a 7-year-old with leg braces needs to see his orthopedic surgeon; a breast cancer patient with complications needs to get to a physical therapy appointment for her lymphedema; a stem cell transplant patient needs to go to a follow-up doctor's appointment; and a stroke patient with no peripheral vision needs transportation to the VA clinic. And these are just a few of the many needs that will cross our desks today. Phone calls are made hourly to connect patients with volunteers who are willing to deliver diapers and medical supplies to those who desperately need them.

*Who Will You Serve?*



*Jan Brewer, Executive Director*

May you always have love to share, health to spare, and Friends that care.  
Jan

“No one is more cherished in this world than someone who lightens the burden of another.” That is exactly what our volunteers are busy doing every day. Our volunteers are truly cherished as they share their compassionate hearts, generosity, and selflessness to try to lighten the load of those in need through Friends, Inc.

In March, during our Volunteer In-Service entitled “Exercising the Golden Rule”, led by Julie Smith of Home Instead Senior Care, we were all reminded how important it is to treat others the same way that we would want to be treated ourselves; that love is a verb and there are many different ways to communicate it; to be mindful of our priorities; and the symptoms of over-extending ourselves. This presentation proved to be most informative and enjoyable.

In April we had the privilege of honoring our volunteers at our annual Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast. Friends, Inc. would never be able to accomplish the mission of providing support to the seriously ill and disabled without our volunteers. They truly are our heart and soul. During the breakfast, Bill Bodden was honored as our 2014 Volunteer of the Year. Bill Greer received the award for Most Hours Donated, while Mary Ann Bodden received the award for Most Miles Donated. The Outstanding Service Award was awarded to Mike Voisin, and the Above and Beyond Award went to Jo Ann Malcolm. Our volunteers provide their support, skills, talents, and abilities to give someone hope, strength, and the courage to face another day. And they do it without any expectation of reward. They give of themselves with their whole heart in order to make a positive difference in our community and in our patients’ lives. We are incredibly grateful to have them as Friends, Inc. volunteers!

Grace and peace,  
Sherry



*Sherry Bryant, Volunteer Coordinator*



**Volunteer In-Service**  
*Provided By Home Instead with  
speaker Julie Smith*

Topic: "Exercising the Golden Rule"

"Many People, Many Faiths, One  
Common Principle, The Golden Rule."



*The Golden Rule*

Do unto others as you would have them to unto you.

*Luke 6:31*

"With every word and action our volunteers *plant seeds of kindness* that *brighten the lives of others* and earn our highest praise!"

## VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION BREAKFAST

at the Huntsville Botanical Gardens



*Jo Ann Malcolm*

*Above & Beyond Award*



*Mary Ann Bodden*

*Most Donated Miles*



*Mike Voisin*

*Outstanding Service Award*



*Bill Bodden*

*Volunteer Of The Year*



*Bill Greer*

*Most Donated Hours*



In honor of Anne Walker  
Given By: Mrs. Kathy Albers

In memory of Anthony Smith  
Given By: Mrs. Kathy Albers

In memory of Dr. Dick Binger  
Given By: Mr. and Mrs. William Binger

In memory of Dr. Dick Binger  
Given By: Ms. Barbara Binger

In honor of Jan Brewer & Sherry Bryant  
Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Bill Bodden

In memory of Dr. Dick Binger  
Given by: Dr. and Mrs. Dick Finch

In memory of Ms. Jane Mabry  
Given By: Ms. Kathleen Gardner

In memory of Mrs. Laura Dinwiddie  
Given By: Mr. and Mrs. L. G. Herring

In memory of Dr. Dick Binger  
Given By: Mrs. Janet Moragues

In memory of Mrs. Helen Frances Duke  
Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Michael Patterson

In memory of Dr. Dick Binger  
Given By: Dr. and Mrs. R. E. Rice

In memory of Mr. Billy Max Duncan  
Given By: Mr. Thomas Robinson

In honor of Mr. Lew Ingalls  
Given By: Mr. Thomas Robinson

In memory of Mr. Marvin Brewer  
Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Walter Sentell

In memory of Dr. Dick Binger  
Given By: Mr. and Mrs. John Thomas

In memory of Dr. Dick Binger  
Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Robert Trouy



Donations: Ms. Janis Seraphine, Mrs. Sidney Bailey, Mrs. Winifred Beason, Mr. and Mrs. Austin Boyd, The Loving And Caring Animal Organization, Inc., Mrs. Claty Clark, Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Duerr, Mr. and Mrs. Buddy Guynes, Mr. Robert Hackenfort, Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Manary, Mr. Don Martin, Mr. and Mrs. A. O. Maynard, Mr. Lloyd McMurtrie, Mr. Seymour Peckins, Dr. and Mrs. Michael Powell, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Ragoza, Ms. Helen Rushing, Ms. Marlene Sinous, Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Smith, Spectrum Solutions, Strategic Communications, Mr. and Mrs. Heinrich Struck, Mr. and Mrs. John Thomas, Ms. Edith Toney, Ms. Sara Welch



*In Loving Memory*



Ilona Caylor, Joe Craft, Janet Milly, Forrest McCullough, and Robert Watson

Thank you for allowing Friends, Inc. to be a part of their lives.

SHARING THE CARING  
IN HUNTSVILLE AND  
MADISON COUNTY

*It is our mission to provide support to  
patients with serious illnesses or disabilities,  
enabling them to maintain their  
independence through caring volunteers.*



Friends, Inc.  
P.O. Box 608  
Huntsville, AL 35804  
[www.friendsinc.net](http://www.friendsinc.net)

RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED



*"The heart of a volunteer is not measured in size, but by the depth  
of the commitment to make a difference in the lives of others."*

Friends, Inc. provides an initial orientation and training to help you feel more knowledgeable and comfortable. If you are interested in this service or would like to attend our training to become a Friends, Inc. volunteer, please call:

**256-534-4079**

[www.friendsinc.net](http://www.friendsinc.net)



*Volunteers Needed*