

## Spina Bifida Association of Mississippi

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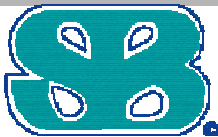
# THE ENABLER

Volume 3, Issue 4

November 2001

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"A resource for people in Mississippi living with Spina Bifida."

### Spina Bifida Assoc. of Mississippi

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[Position Available]

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[Position Available]

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## Enterprise Picks Us Up!



SBA members and Enterprise staff joined together to celebrate a successful Tournament!

For the second year in a row, Enterprise Rent-A-Car has successfully hosted a tremendous Golf Tournament. At the end of the October 4th Tournament, they presented our Association with a huge check for \$22,500!

On behalf of our families, we say "Thank you" to the golfers, sponsors and donors for your participation! Your support enables us to continue to provide information and referral services, recreational opportunities, and folic acid education regarding prevention of Spina Bifida to families throughout the state.

I would also like to thank Jeff Foster and his staff at Enterprise for their willingness to sponsor and staff this tournament. They have made a commitment to work and support the Spina Bifida community in MS.

Golfers were greeted by a breakfast of donuts and biscuits. A delicious catered catfish lunch concluded the day.

Thirty teams, with ninety players total, made the rounds at

Patrick Farms in Brandon. Nearly fifty corporations and individuals sponsored holes and many other companies donated door prizes. Pictures and a complete list can be found on page 6.

We would like to also recognize SBA members Angie Bradshaw, Jan Wilson, and Mark Roth for their extra effort in securing sponsors and door prizes.



### *Donations have become especially meaningful in light of our nation's recent tragedies!*

Everywhere we read of how Americans have risen to offer aid to their neighbors and Mississippi rises to the top, ranking #1 in charitable contributions!

We have heard from SBA chapters across the country who

are experiencing decreases in donations and have to adjust their planning for the coming year. Our Tournament, held one month after the attacks on 9/11, exceeded expectations and was a clear sign that supporting Spina Bifida is important.

Our Association will strive to continue offering programs and

services to its members.

Please remember Spina Bifida is a *life long* disability, and people affected by it will continue to have needs regardless of the political climate throughout the world. We hope you choose to continue to support our Association and the volunteer work we do.

The ENABLER is published quarterly by the SBA of Miss, 1511 Tracewood Drive, Jackson, MS 39211. Susan Branson, Editor. Newsletter items may be reproduced without permission, but with credit. Please send a copy of the re-printed material to the above address. Although every effort is made to ensure information is accurate at the time of publication, our readership is advised that the field of spina bifida is growing rapidly. The reader is advised to consult qualified medical professionals in his field. Views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the SBA of Miss.

## Upcoming Chapter Activities



**Christmas Party**  
Saturday, Dec. 8th,  
from 4:30-6:30 p.m.  
at Covenant Presby-  
terian Church in  
Jackson.

Friends and members are invited to our third annual Christmas Party and Pot Luck Dinner. During the past two years, this has been our chapter's biggest event of the year. Thanks to member Regina Files and her son Patrick, our Association will

have Country Music Star, Jayce Rogers, entertaining after dinner! Jayce is from Mississippi and has opened for Brad Paisley at his concerts!

Santa will also make his annual visit, bringing presents to children up to age 12. Please call our office no later than December 3rd with your children's names and ages, so we can be sure Santa is prepared!!

Each family is asked to bring a main

dish and a side dish to share. The SBA of Miss will provide drinks and desserts.

Please bring an unwrapped gift for a child, age 0-16, to be donated to patients at Blair Batson Children's Hospital. **Volunteers are needed to assist with gathering door prizes, greeting, set-up and clean-up.**

Featuring  
Country Music Star  
Jayce Rogers!



**Bowling Party** Satur-  
day, February 23rd,  
from 11:00 am-1:00 pm  
at Paradise Lanes in  
Jackson, MS. Join us  
for FREE bowling and

lunch at this alcohol and smoke free bowling facility. Paradise Lanes is fully acces-

sible and will provide ball ramps for people needing assistance. Wear tennis shoes or bowling shoes. Directions will be mailed in early February. RSVP to Susan Branson at (601) 957-2410 by February 20th.

*This event is funded by a donations raised at the Enterprise Rent-A-Car Charity Golf Tournament. Thanks again Enterprise!*



**First Aid and CPR Classes** will be offered again this spring. Call our office for details.

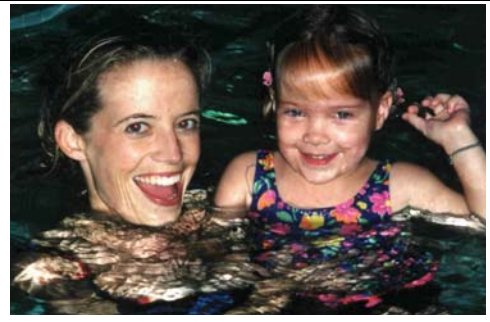
**Adaptive Swimming Classes** will be offered again this spring. Below are pictures of members from this past fall.



Abigail Branson and Chastity Bradshaw love to visit in the hot tub after their lessons.



Hannah Fitzhugh works with Bruce Beal, Recreational Therapist and dedicated instructor.



Whitney Middleton enjoyed watching Abigail Branson swim when she wasn't busy fixing her hair!

## Support Group Starting in Tupelo By Jan Wilson

**Chapter Meeting in Tupelo** "I am excited to share with you a new opportunity available for families living in northern Mississippi- a spina bifida support group meeting closer to home!

For several years families have benefited from meeting in Jackson for educational and social activities. Now, these same benefits are available to us! Families in the northern part of the state can get to know each other, offer support and encouragement and have an opportunity for our children and young adults to meet each other.

An initial meeting took place on Saturday, November 10 at the North Missis-

sippi Medical Center/Wellness Center. I would like to hear your suggestions about topics for future meetings. "

If you are interested in being on a Northern Mississippi mailing list, please call me at (662) 282-5004 or the SBA office at (601) 957-2410.

**\*\*Anyone interested in helping organize meetings in Hattiesburg or other central locations throughout the state should call the SBA office for details.**



Jan Wilson recently represented SBA of Miss. at the Coalition for Citizens with Disabilities Annual Conference.

## An Angelic Shower by Allen F. Johnson, Ph.D.

*Below is a true story sent to us by Dr. Allen Frank, Ph.D. This story won Honorable Mention in the Writer's Digest 1999 Writing Competition in the Inspirational Category. Readers may recognize Dr. Frank from his article, "When Rules Are Broken" in our Feb. 2001 Enabler. We thank Dr. Frank for this inspiring, personal story.*



Could what the doctor have said be true? Was immediate surgery on the infant's spine necessary? Could a baby less than a day old be so sick? Would Allen Frank die shortly, or did God choose the

Johnson family to raise a child with multiple disabilities?

On that September day in 1944 the hospital room was physically sterile and emotionally tense. The neurosurgeon just left Gustav and Alice Johnson in their despair and aloneness. Shocked by his words of helplessness and hopelessness, the new parents could hardly speak except in a prayer to their Jesus. As they bowed their heads, Gustav held his wife's hand gently but with a sense of affirmation of their Heavenly Father's love. The doctor's words were so foreign - "spina bifida," "an opening on the spine," "paralysis below the waist," "hydrocephalus," "water on the brain," "probable mental retardation," "infant death." Could it be?

The five-hour surgery to close the infant's spine seemed to the Johnsons like an endless day. Feeling very mortal, these new parents cried, agonized, and experienced such helplessness that they began to question their own faith in a loving God.

After the operation, the neurosurgeon explained that, although the infant survived the surgery, the couple should not take the baby home with them. He went on to say that babies born with this condition rarely live more than a few weeks, but if they do live longer, it is merely for a few months as "vegetables."

In the process of closing the opening on the spine, many nerves to the lower part of the body were severely damaged or completely severed. Hence, little hope remained that the child would move his legs or feet. And since the spine was so deformed, the spinal fluid could not circulate through the body naturally, so it would collect in the skull

cavity causing "water on the brain." Because of this condition, within three months the infant's skull would expand due to the fluid buildup. Then infection would set in, the spinal fluid would begin to ooze from the skull like sweat, and finally the child would die an agonizing death.

It was a day of joy mixed with pain when Allen Frank came home. He looked so sick with a larger-than-normal sized head, a lesion on the lower spine where the surgery was performed, and lifeless legs, feet and toes. It felt to them all like a household that was mourning the loss of a beloved friend. It was understandable why there were none of the typical "oos" and "ahs" that are made to an infant by admiring relatives and festive friends. Yet, in the Johnson's home there was a sense of hope and optimism that is known only by those in the center of Christ's will and love. There seemed to be an air of constant, unwavering trust in a miracle-working God.

Gustav and Alice Johnson had experienced a great deal of hardship in their lives. Arriving in America from Sweden and Norway, they had supported their families during the Great Depression, working as butler and maid. When they met at the Salvation Army's Scandinavian Corps in Cambridge, MA, they fell in love with each other, as well as with the purpose of the Swordless Army. Feeling compelled by Christ's love, they offered themselves in dedication to the well-being of men and women, boys and girls less fortunate than themselves. They joined hands and hearts in marriage and in commitment to the Christ they loved as officers in The Salvation Army.

Stationed at the time of Allen Frank's birth in Bridgeport, CT, Alice Johnson required help to care for her new infant so that she could continue her ministry to others. So, her widowed mother came to help care for Allen Frank.

Christmas at their corps had a holy bustle about it. Alice delivered The Salvation Army's Christmas magazine, "The War Cry", door-to-door and Gustav prepared the food baskets for the needy.

It happened on a Sunday morning in Advent. Adjutant - the rank they held at the time - and Mrs. Johnson and their four-year old son, Wesley, were on the corps platform singing and testifying of Christ's matchless love. Grandmother Nelsen, who was caring for Allen Frank in the apartment just above

the corps hall, came running toward the platform with tears in her eyes. Alice left her chair and the two mothers walked hand-in-hand comforting each other.

Allen Frank was laying on the sofa in the living room. Tears flowed from his mother's eyes as she saw a pool of liquid under his head. She recalled the doctor's words that within three months the spinal fluid would ooze from the infant's skull and the child would die shortly.

In the sadness of that moment, both mothers knelt in a prayer of thanksgiving to their Lord for allowing Allen Frank to live for these brief months, as well as a prayer of praise for taking him out of his pain to be forever in his eternal home.

Grieving the pending loss of her son, Alice felt a presence about her which she had not experienced before. That moment she believed that an angel was sent by God Himself commanding her to "lift up my eyes to the hills help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth (Psalm 121: 1-2, NIV)."

In her tears she looked up, and, to her amazement, she saw a new leak in the ceiling and the raindrops dripping right above Allen Frank's head. And so, the Johnsons took this leak as a sign from Christ Himself that their infant would grow and live and be a blessing to others even though he was physically disabled.

Allen Frank is now fifty-seven years old. At the age of forty-seven, he married Lori Suzanne Haak. And in 1994 he and Lori adopted a physically challenged two-year-old boy, Misha, from St. Petersburg, Russia.

Allen Frank, a child and family therapist in private practice, holds a Doctorate in Clinical Social Work from Smith College. He has published extensively on the psychological, social and spiritual development of the child with a disability.

And until her death, Alice spoke often about that angelic visit on that Advent Sunday.

*I know this story is true. My name is Allen Frank Johnson. I am an adult born with spina bifida, a Child and Family Therapist at the Auburn Family Institute, 6 South Terrace, Auburn, MA 01501. Comments and queries can be sent to me at the Institute or call (508)832-4297 or e-mail me at Drallenfrank@aol.com.*



## From the President's Desk By Susan Branson



Congressman Steve Largent (R-OK) and Susan Branson at the Spina Bifida Association of America Roast in Washington D.C. Both had been introduced 15 years ago by Susan's older brother, Michael Pohlman. Steve and his wife have a teenage son with spina bifida.

Life has offered lots of opportunities since the August issue of *The Enabler*; personally, for SBA of MS, and nationally!

The first opportunity began with the new school year as I became the teacher (again) for our son in the sixth grade. This rewarding job has stretched me to my limit! Balancing the needs of 5 children, volunteering for the SBA of MS from my home, and home schooling has been tricky!

Opportunities continue to present them-

selves to our chapter from around the state. **Nursing students from Co-Lin Community College in Wesson** volunteered to host fundraisers (Candle sales, car washes, rummage sales, donut sales, and an evening fundraiser at Natchez Bar and Grill) for our chapter. Their efforts are greatly appreciated!

Also the **Jackson Area Pan Hellenic Assoc.** has offered to donate funds from their Tennis Tournament on April 6th to our Association. We appreciate their generosity and look forward to increasing awareness about spina bifida and folic acid.

People from across the state assisted Enterprise in raising \$22,500 for their Golf Tournament. These funds will help our Association offer scholarships and programs.

On October 3rd, the night before our Golf Tournament, I was invited to participate in a national event in Washington D.C. Tony Kornheiser, columnist, author, television and radio personality was "roasted" to benefit the SBAA, raising over \$400,000. It was impressive to see hundreds of people attend a fundraiser for spina bifida.

The head table included **Mark Shields**, emcee, White House Legislative Affairs Director **Nicholas Calio**, Senator **Hillary Rodham Clinton** (D-NY), Congressman **Steve Largent** (R-OK), **Ted Leonsis**, Vice Chair & President of AOL Advanced Services and owner of the Washington Capitals and **Michael Wilbon**, Sports Columnist for *The Washington Post*.

According to the SBAA "One of the most moving moments of the evening was the premier viewing of SBAA's new video titled 'Living With Spina Bifida: A Family's Story'. The video features the Branson family, members of the SBA of Mississippi, and their story about their daughter Abigail who was born with spina bifida. Susan Branson, who is also the president of the Mississippi chapter, was present at the roast to say a few words after the video."

I stood before 500 people and felt very nervous with the past 4 years of my familie's life unfolding on a huge screen. What helped me relax was knowing these people were there because they cared about spina bifida. I felt privileged to be able to personally thank them for their donations.

I feel the same way with the outpouring of support shown on the local level. It is humbling to learn that students, who do not even know any of our members, are willing to host fundraisers for our Association. Likewise, it was awesome to watch employees of Enterprise make the Tournament a success.

I am thankful for the opportunities of these past few months. It has been rewarding to be able to witness first hand the generosity shown to our members and to the SBAA.

## Resources and News

- \* **Folic Acid in our foods—has it helped?** Yes, adding folic acid to our food supply has helped reduce the number of babies born with spina bifida by as much as 19%! Fortifying food with folic acid accounts for approximately one fourth of the required 400 micrograms to help prevent neural tube defects such as spina bifida. Women should receive the other 300 micrograms by taking a daily multi vitamin. Studies show adding folic acid to our food supply may be preventing almost 1 out of 5 cases of spina bifida! Reference: JAMA 2001; 285: 2981-2986.
- \* **Spanish Version of booklet titled "Respuestas A Sus Preguntas Sobre la Espina Bifida"** available from our office.

- \* **Lightning Handcycles** has sent us information on their hand-pedaled bicycles. If you would like to purchase a bike for yourself or your child, please contact our office at (601) 957-2410. We will send you their brochure. Children under 17 may possibly receive a free bike through their sponsor program. This sponsor program is totally separate from Lightning Handcycles and SBA of Mississippi. You can contact them directly at (888) 426-3292, email them at drfranks@handcycle.com, or write Lightning Handcycles, 360 N. Sepulveda Blvd., Suite 1005, El Segundo, CA 90245.
- \* **Free Assistance for Mississippians Denied CHIP and Medicaid—"MS Health Benefits"** is a program that provides medical coverage for children through

both CHIP and MS Medicaid. According to MS Dept. of Health "Many of the families who are eligible for benefits are those 'working poor', whose children do not have health insurance because it is not available or is cost-prohibitive." Individuals may call 1-877-KIDS NOW to obtain an application.

- \* **Families and Advocates Partnership for Education (FAPE)** is a project conducted by the PACER Center based on the concept of parents helping parents. Their aim is to inform and educate families and advocates about IDEA '97 and improve educational outcomes for children with disabilities. For more information call our office.

## Unconditional Love (For the Parents of kids with SB) By Hope Ratcliff



Hope Ratcliff is a senior at Mississippi College studying Elementary Education. She offers a first-hand look at life as an adult with Spina Bifida.

LOVE. Wars have been fought over it, friendships torn apart because of it, and marriages have endured constant trials because of its lasting power and mystery.

Study after study has been performed trying to understand the complex and mind bending definition and purpose for its existence. These studies indicate that babies who do not receive adequate amounts of love simply turn their heads to the wall and die. One of the most miraculous examples of love is that between parents and their children. A child must receive love in order to survive. It is not simply a medical issue or a decision left up to fate or chance. A child needs to be loved for his mind, soul, spirit, and BODY. This is the essence of unconditional love. It could very well be your choice to love unconditionally that allows your child to achieve greatness and live a full life.

I often refer to my own life when writing because it is the only example I have to give. My life reflects my writing or vice versa. So, I attempt again to share with you some examples of unconditional love of my mind, soul, spirit, and body that my parents have shown me. Their understanding and implementation of unconditional love has allowed me to shine through darknesses that have clouded my life.

My parents fought to get me into a regular education classroom. Back in the early 80's, it was generally assumed that if you had a physical impairment, you also had a mental one. But my parents knew my mind was fine and that if I was placed in Special Education that I wouldn't be happy and wouldn't achieve my full potential.

My family escorted me back and forth to singing and voice lessons for over 6 years because they saw inside my soul the need for expression. They knew that music would become the form my expression would take. I am still singing today and plan on one day making it a career.

My entire family is sports oriented. The sport of choice is basketball. Everyone in my family is deeply involved in sports. I had a spirit that wanted so badly to be a part of that. I was not always satisfied by sitting on the side and watching. So, my parents allowed to try out for cheerleading. A very physically demanding and dangerous sport for a person with SB. I cheered for 6 years and was voted most-spirited cheerleader and Best School Spirit my Junior and Senior years in high school.

My mom is a physical therapist. She made sure that I was taken care of when I was born and that I looked as much like everyone else as much as possible. She knew that would be important if I was to be accepted by the world. Also, she made certain that I experienced walking. I walked with the very first design of reciprocating braces in MS when I was 18 months old. I continued to walk until the age of 11 when changes began happening to my body and I decided to resort to a wheelchair full time. She kept me healthy and mobile and I am very grateful, as an adult, for the knowledge she had that has allowed me to become an independent adult.

You must love the whole child; mind, soul, spirit, and BODY. Your child must know that you accept and love everything he or she is. That child must understand that he or she can find solace in your eyes, because society is cruel and unloving to differences. Loving unconditionally is not easy for anyone. With a child who is disabled comes many burdens and it is easy to find fault and blame the child or yourself. But what you must understand is that things are just as they should be. GOD DOES NOT MAKE MISTAKES. He gave you the gift of parenting a child with SB because HE loves you unconditionally. It is our job to love others as he loves us. It is hard work but I know it can be done. I'm living proof.

Comments or suggestions?  
hotwhls@hotmail.com or (601) 833-1755

## Healthy Futures: Adolescent Transition in Mississippi

*Healthy Futures is a grant program funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.*

### Purpose-

The purpose of Healthy Futures is to establish a strong, responsive system of transition services for Mississippi adolescents with special health care needs, bringing together diverse groups and individuals, building community infrastructure, and resulting in successful transition to adult life.

### Goal-

Healthy Futures works to provide comprehensive, family-centered, culturally competent transition services, with a primary focus on health, which prepares adolescents

with special health care needs throughout Mississippi to make successful transitions to adult and community life including adult health care and related services, employment, and independent living.

### Objectives-

- ⇒ MS adolescents between the ages of 14-21 with special health care needs
- ⇒ Families of adolescents and children with special health care needs receive training and on-going support services to assist with transition
- ⇒ Health care professionals and service system agencies receive training and support equipping them to facilitate successful transitions

### Activities-

- \* Statewide services w/ Independent Living Transition Specialists located in Oxford, Jackson, and Hattiesburg
- \* Local Support Groups-Statewide
- \* Youth Leadership Conference
- \* Bi-Annual Retreats-Adolescents
- \* Bi-Annual Retreats for Parents
- \* On-Going Independent Living Services
- \* Mentoring and Employment Exploration Days

### Contact-

Healthy Futures Project Director  
Coalition for Citizens w/ Disabilities  
754 N. President St.  
Jackson, MS 39202  
(601) 748-9420 or 1-800-748-9420

## Just a Few of the Stars From the Tournament



Bob Dingus with Lloyd and Shirley Hocutt of Paul Moak Dealership in Ridgeland donated a new car for any golfer receiving a hole in one on the seventeenth hole. We appreciate their generosity and support! (Unfortunately, no one made it.)



Tournament Coordinators Ouida Alford and Teresa Graham prepare to distribute door prizes.



Abigail Branson, Jennie Robinson, Darryl Dunnaway and Chastity Bradshaw visit after Darryl's presentation on equipping vehicles for people with special needs. Darryl spoke to SBA members during the Tournament



Jackson Brace and Limb sent a team consisting of John Gordon, Russ Nowell and Justin Eaves. John Gordon won an Odyssey Putter for the longest drive.



SBA Members Janice Watson, Julie Williams and Betty Weston served desserts to the golfers at the Tournament. SBA of Miss. provided breakfast and desserts to thank golfers for their support.



Dr. Mark Barraza, Anna Buskirk, and Dr. James Keeton managed to squeeze in a round of golf before rushing off to see patients during a spina bifida clinic at Blake Clinic.

## Golf Hole Sponsors and Door Prize Donors

### Hole Sponsors

A & A Home Health Equipment  
Aamco Transmission  
Ann's Hair Designs  
Asbury Lane Village  
Bank Corp South  
Barnett's Body Shop, Inc. North  
Betsy Morrow Designers  
Blanche Branson for Abigail Branson  
Capitol Body Shop  
Cook-Coggin Engineers  
Crown Jewelers  
Daily Journal (Tupelo)  
Davis Ford Sales, Inc.  
Day-Brite Lighting  
East Lakeland Ob-Gyn Association  
Elda Roth Family for Gabriel Roth  
Enterprise Rent-A-Car  
Fowler Buick-GMC, Inc.  
Gerald Surratt  
Glass Master Group, LLC.  
Glen & Marilyn Graves  
Herrin-Gear Chevrolet  
Jackson Brace And Limb

Jackson Termite and Pest Control  
Mantachie Foods  
Mentor Corporation  
Merchants & Farmers Bank- Kosciusko  
Merchants & Farmers Mortgage Dept.  
Miles & Nicole Cook  
MS Band Of Choctaw Indians  
Mississippi Office Products  
Netherland Distributing Company  
Paul Moak of Ridgeland  
Penske Auto Center  
Richards, Sims & Iupe, PLLC  
Ridgeland Body Shop, Inc.  
Robinson's Catering  
Robot Coupe USA, Inc.  
Rogers Usry Body Shop  
Saxton's Inc.  
Smith Brothers Body Shop  
Stegall Body Shop  
Terminix In Honor Of Chastity Bradshaw  
The Tullos Family Of Gray Daniels Ford  
Tom Wimberley Auto World  
University Pediatrics Association  
Virginia & Ronald Green

### Door Prizes

American Lung Association  
Bank Corp South  
Black Cat Hand Knits  
Buffalo Peak Outfitters  
Cintas  
Dan D's Texaco - Puckett- Jeff Hawkins  
Enterprise Rent-A-Car  
H M Richards  
Heavenly Ham  
Hinds Community College  
M & F Bank Mortgage Department- Brandon  
McAllister's Deli  
Merchants & Farmers Bank  
Mississippi Bottled Water  
Play It Again Sports  
Smith & Company Outfitters  
Union Planter's Mortgage Dept.  
Vanderford Plumbing

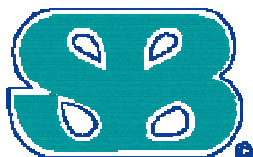


# Membership Info

It's always the right time to join the Spina Bifida Association of Mississippi (SBA of Miss.) and the Spina Bifida Association of America (SBAA). We invite you to complete the response section of the return envelope today!

If you have not yet made this commitment, please consider what impact your membership will have. The number of members joining determines our number of votes at the Annual Delegates meeting. Your membership to the SBAA will also allow you discounts on conference fees and publications. Educational scholarships are offered to current members of SBAA.

Your membership fees to the SBA of Miss. will enable us to continue providing programs and educational materials to over 200 families in Mississippi living with spina bifida. Membership dues are optional.



## Membership Levels:

- \$10 SBA of Miss. Member
- \$30 SBA of Miss & SBAA member (\$20 to Nat'l SBAA)
- \$50 Professional Member & SBAA (\$40 to Nat'l SBAA)
- \$250 Sponsoring Member\* (\$20 or \$40 to SBAA for membership)

\*Sponsoring Members will appear in The Enabler for one year.

## Valuable Services Available to Members:

1. Quarterly newsletter, The Enabler
2. Invitations to chapter meetings; both educational and social
3. Referrals to area service providers within their geographic region
4. Web Site posting current conferences, clinic information, facts about SB, email and contact information
5. "Goodie Bags" delivered to hospital when in the Jackson area
6. Free books and SB related materials
7. Contact with other families in the SB community.

## New Members and Renewals

### August-October

Stevie & Jennifer Lovelace\*  
Norbert & Rosemary Pohlman\*  
Bethany Brantley  
Dr. Melinda Ray\*  
Roxanne Harville

\*Indicates National SBAA Member

## Contributors (above Membership dues)

Cody and Gabriel Roth  
Dr. Melinda Ray  
Margaret Dowdall  
Market Place in Greenwood  
Big Star Market in Greenwood  
Margaret and Karen Bridges  
William And Kathy Hays



The National Information Center  
for Children and Youth  
with Disabilities

## New Publications!!

- ☆ Related Services, 2001 edition (\$4.00)
- ☆ Adaptations & Accommodations for Students with Disabilities  
(List of resources, \$2.00)
- ☆ Children's Literature & Disability  
(List of resources, \$2.00)

All our publications  
are FREE  
online!

1-800-695-0285  
www.nichcy.org

## Sponsoring Members:

(Each donating at least \$250 within the last 12 months)

Dr. Ron Kendig	Telepak, Inc./Cellular South
Ms. Sis Fakkema	University Neurosurgeons
Jackson Brace & Limb (2)	Pediatric Orthopedic Specialists of MS
Friends of Abby Branson	Dr. Mark Barraza
Enterprise Rent-A-Car Foundation	Scoots of Petal, MS
Enterprise Rent-A-Car	Duraline Medical
Mississippi Society for Disabilities	MS Band of Choctaw Indians

## Not To Be Forgotten

**Special Thanks** to Virginia Warren and friends of Covenant Presbyterian Church, Circle 4! They collected a wonderful supply of toothpaste, soap, granola bars, nabs, writing tab-

lets, pens, and other goodies for our Hospital Visitors to bring to members in the hospital. Please call Betty Weston if you know of a member in the hospital. (601-885-6143)

**Special Thanks** to Julie Williams for organizing an "Adopt A Ghost" fundraiser in Greenwood MS. Two local grocery stores sold ghosts for \$1 each with all proceeds donated to SBA of Miss. Total raised: \$132!

**SPINA BIFIDA ASSOCIATION OF MISSISSIPPI**

1511 Tracewood Drive  
Jackson, Mississippi 39211

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**HAPPY  
THANKSGIVING!**



**BLAKE CLINIC HAS MOVED!**



Blake Clinic and Children's Medical Program have just completed a move one mile down the street into new offices in the Jackson Medical Mall.

Drivers should enter on Bailey Avenue off Woodrow Wilson. Turn to the left after entering the main drive into the mall. Once inside the mall, Blake Clinic is located on the first floor near the First Steps Early Intervention Library.

**Nearly all of Mississippi's children with spina bifida, up to age 21, are treated at Blake Clinic.**



First Place Winners of the 2001 Golf Tournament from Ridgeland Body Shop: Robert Mason, Chip Mason, and Shane Chandler.



SBA member, Gabriel Roth, practices his putting skills on the terrace at Patrick Farms. Watch out, Tiger Woods!