

# THE POINT

ADVOCACY RESOURCE CENTER  
**ARC**  
MARION  
Helping People Develop Their Abilities Since 1959

## Summer 2012

Welcome to the latest edition of ARC Marion and The ARC Marion Foundation's newsletter "The Point!" Our publication is also available in an online format. If you would like to receive the e-newsletter, please let us know by emailing [Allison@arcmarionfoundation.com](mailto:Allison@arcmarionfoundation.com) or calling 352.351.2479. We hope you find the content helpful. As always, we welcome your feedback... Enjoy!

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### Calendar of Events

November 8, 2012– The Point Breakfast

November 18, 2012– Reds, Whites & Blues: Monte Carlo

May 31, 2013  
Hog for Hope™ Bikes, Brews & BBQ™

## Hog for Hope™ 2012 Nets \$80,000!

We had our best year ever during the 11th annual Hog for Hope™ that raised \$80,000. More than 400 guests came out to the Bikes, Brews, & BBQ™ and enjoyed BBQ from Outback, live music, raffle drawings, and for the first time ever, a craft beer festival. Featuring more than 70 beers to taste.

Congratulations to Lois Gruis of Ocala, the winner of the 2012 Harley-Davidson Street glide motorcycle. She received a very exciting phone call from ARC Marion Foundation Director, Allison Campbell, after ARC Marion client, Jerry Davis, drew the winning ticket. Lois came right away to check out her prize.

Lois had purchased the ticket for her boyfriend of four years, Dennis, as a Father's Day gift. He is definitely enjoying the bike more than the ticket!

Thank you to everyone who came out and supported us to help make this year's event such a success! Be sure to mark your calendars and save the date for the 12th annual Hog for Hope™ which will be held on May 31, 2013. We look forward to seeing everyone there!



## A New Twist to Fall Event Coming in November



This year's fall fundraising event will again have new and exciting offerings as we take guests into "Reds, Whites & Blues Monte Carlo." The popular wine tastings and food pairings, gaming and entertainment will occur on Sunday evening, November 18, in Downtown Ocala at Mark's Prime Steakhouse. Tickets are \$150 per person with limited availability. For more information visit: [www.FallforARCMarion.com](http://www.FallforARCMarion.com).

### ARC Marion Programs

Adult Day Training Early Intervention Residential Supported Employment Supported Independent Living

## Client Spotlight: Michael

Companion services are designed to give clients an opportunity to socialize in the community. This program is beneficial for anyone who needs more personal exposure to the community at large.

Companion Services client, Michael, turned 58-years-old last month. He would love to tell you all about it, because he really enjoys birthdays and holidays. Michael lives in a group home in Ocala. Most of the things he does during the day are scheduled and routine, but when he goes out on companion services he really has a blast.

Michael loves so many things that we all take for granted. He likes to order his “big drink” at McDonald’s, take walks in the park, shop for items in stores, take pictures with his camera, pet the dogs at the animal shelter, and especially talk to everyone he meets! When Michael has a really good day he might even pat you on the head.

Michael is a joy to be around and has an infectious laugh. He has “five girlfriends, you know”, so he is quite a busy man. If you see Michael while you’re out doing your shopping or running errands, stop and say hello. He’s sure to leave you with a smile on your face!



## Look At Me Now : Gerard

About six months ago, Gerard started the early intervention program, which he attends three days a week. When Gerard started, he frequently cried and had difficulty transitioning. He did not know how to interact with his peers and he threw toys rather than play with them. Gerard also had some feeding concerns, and his mom had great difficulty feeding him at home.

Now when Gerard comes in the door he is generally smiling and is eager to join in the activities and play with toys. Gerard happily interacts with other children, giggling as they roll a ball back and forth.

We are still working with Gerard on trying different foods and textures. However, he now sits at a table and will do some finger feeding with some of his favorite foods. His resistance is lessening as he comes to trust us, and he realizes he does like the taste of certain foods.

Gerard is presently receiving language therapy. He is vocalizing more and recently began signing “more please.” What a joy to our ears when his mom told us about one of his first words... then we heard it ourselves, “cook-ie”!

We are excited to watch how far Gerard has come, especially since he only comes on a part-time basis. It is a pleasure to see him blossom in the classroom!



## THANK YOU Donors!

### Appreciating Those Who Have Blessed Us This Year

Below is a list of those who have given gifts to ARC Marion or the ARC Marion Foundation in the past six months. Hog for Hope™ ticket purchasers are excluded. Thank you for your generosity! We couldn't do what we do without you!

ABC Body Shop	Cox Communications	Knights Of Columbus, Council 09649	Party Time Rentals	The Salvation Army
Jackie Albright	Keith Davis	Knights of Columbus, Council 13676	Pet Styles of Marion Co.	Barbara Timmington
Allergy & Asthma Care of	J.B & Melissa Dean	Lamar Advertising	Prestige Auto Sales	Trinity Ladies LWML
Allstate -Kevin McDonald	Lauren Delorio	Lockheed-Martin Ocala	Purvis Gray & Company	Chuck Trout
Carol Bailey	David & Jodie Desantis	Carmen Maines	Restoration Specialists	United Healthcare
Baycare Homecare	Detroit City Customs	Marion Dental Group	Amanda Robbins	Viking Cycle Art
Linda Bookbinder	Document Technologies	Mojo Grill	Larry Sauey	Webster University
Brown & Brown of FL Inc	Dr. David Elliott	Joyce Moran	Signature Brands, LLC	Wells Fargo Foundation
Carl & Sammie Candullo	Florida Express	Munroe Regional Health Systems	Silver Springs Bottled Water	Nancy Whittington
CenterState Bank of Ocala	Lois Gruis	Ocala Gran Prix	South Marion Auto Body	WIND FM
Centra RX, Inc.	Harley-Davidson of Ocala	Ocala Specialty Hardware & Install	Steven W. Wingo, PA	Women of Evangical Lutheran Church
City Collision of Ocala/Gville	Heritage Bank of the South	Ocala.com	Greg Stewart	
Climate Control Mech.	Diana Holder	Ocala4Sale.com	SME	
Rita Clymer	Holder Insurance	Outback Steakhouse	Suntrust Bank	
Combined Insurance Svcs.	JJ Fields, LLC	Margaret Parker	TD Bank	



Brad Nimmo of Marion County Building Industry Association presents check to Allison and Troy for nearly \$7,500 from King of the Wing profits.

## Special Thanks



Keller Williams associates donated art supplies, computers, diapers, cash and more for their annual "Red Day" campaign.



Nearly \$1,400 raised at the Hiers-Baxley Charity Picnic Pictured: Leah Craig (Adult Day Training Director), Allison, Troy and Frank Sofia (ARC Marion CFO)

## ARC Marion Foundation Gifts Scholarships

For the first time, the ARC Marion Foundation is providing annual scholarships for non-residential ARC Marion clients to receive services on the campus. From Adult Day Training to Supported Employment Coaching, Supported Living Assistance to Companion Services (see page 2 story of Michael), eight individuals will receive financial assistance in the form of scholarships from the Foundation.

"It was such a rewarding feeling to call the guardians of those we are helping this year," said Allison Campbell, APR, Executive Director of the Foundation. "We only hope to offer more scholarships to others throughout the year!" For more info about Scholarships visit [www.ARCMarionFoundation.com](http://www.ARCMarionFoundation.com).







2800 SE Maricamp Road  
Ocala, FL 34471

www.MCARC.com or 352-387-2210  
www.ARCMarionFoundation.com  
or 352-351-2479

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## **CEO's Corner:** **Troy Strawder, ARC Marion's Chief Executive Officer**



I hope everyone is having a great summer. I know we here at ARC certainly are! Even during these trying times our coaches have had great success in job placement and we've formed several new partnerships in the community recently. In our Adult Day Training people continue to meet and exceed their goals for work and life skills, but everyone needs a break occasionally. Several of our group homes have taken vacations to the beach and other "fun" locations just to get away from the daily grind, and boy do they come back refreshed.

The Hog for Hope™ fundraiser raised more money than ever before. Thanks to all the amazing volunteers on the ARC Marion Foundation Board and you, our loyal and faithful supporters! Yep, I'd say we're having a pretty great summer! Thank you all!

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## **Executive Direction:** **Allison Campbell, APR, ARC Marion Foundation's Executive Director**

In my five years serving as Executive Director of the ARC Marion Foundation, I have never had a more rewarding experience than when I placed phone calls to this year's non-residential scholarship recipients! In previous years, nearly all scholarship dollars have been reserved for clients living on the ARC Marion campus. However, with our new fiscal year, the Foundation set aside funds for those developmentally and/or intellectually disabled or delayed individuals who live with a parent or guardian or live independently so that they, too, can receive services at ARC Marion.



From the tears of joy to the overwhelming gratitude each guardian expressed, I know just how important a few dollars a week in assistance can mean for anyone in need. It also gives me greater resolve that there is so much work still to be done, and we want to serve so many others who lack the resources and support they need.

Thank you for your help in this mission. Whether you purchase a ticket or sponsorship for an event, offer goods or services in kind, or simply send us a financial donation from time to time, every dollar matters and is making a difference so that we can continue to put Clients First!

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