

Shares, Inc. Travels to the "Show Me State"

167 staff and participants of Shares, Inc. participated in the 2014 Educational Trip to Branson, Missouri. The group departed on August 21, 2014 and returned on August 29, 2014.



G. National Tiger Sanctuary. H. Illusionist Rick Thomas. I. Haygoods Music Show. J. Acrobats of China, New Shanghai Circus. K. Grand Village Shops.

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CLIFF'S NOTES

REPORT FROM $Y \Re UR$ **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

We recently returned from our nine-day Annual Educational Trip to Branson, Missouri and Eureka Springs, Arkansas. All 170 travelers, including drivers, had a great time!

It is always exciting for the staff and me to interact with our participants in a different setting. Seeing the joy and excitement they experience learning about new places, trying different types of food, interacting with entertainers at many shows and learning more about the world around them is an inspiration.

Life at Shares, Inc. and WAP is always full of new developments and challenges. Our Fiscal Year ended on June 30, 2014 and gave us the opportunity to review our many program goals and objectives to see how we did in all our program areas. We are proud to see the many accomplishments our participants our Crane Naval Base contract

and employees achieved. Since then we have met with each program area to put together our directions for FiscalYear 2015, which were approved at our last Board of Directors meeting.

This past year presented some challenges with keeping all of our employees busy doing manufacturing, inspection, assembly and packaging tasks. However, recently we have secured some new contracts in the automotive and medical fields, greatly reducing our downtime. More customers are finding us on the Internet and giving us meaningful work.

Shares Shredding has received some new regular contracts, helping us to grow. Some of these new opportunities include the central Indiana Social Security office, the Census Bureau regional center, the expansion of

YMUR COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT AWARDS **EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER**

I am proud to announce that Rebecca Coffey has been selected as the Employee of the Quarter for Community Employment Services. She works as a Salon Assistant part-time at Hair-Tique Tan & Salon located on State Road 44 in Shelbyville.

Alfonso Andolz. Employment Specialist in Shelby County, as well as Ryan Ellis, Job Coach, works with Rebecca and

advocates for her in our Supported Employment Follow-Along program. Rebecca's job consists of maintaining the salon's cleanliness and professional look. She has been successfully employed at Hair-Tique Tan & Salon since March of this year.

Rebecca works enthusiastically and is a real asset according to her employer. Her coworkers often compliment her attitude and enjoy her great sense of humor. Rebecca has an excellent attendance record as she rarely misses any work. She always takes on any task with a positive attitude and is willing to help her coworkers whenever she is needed. Rebecca states, "I love my job!"

and several medical, legal and government center contracts.

Pureflow Airdog is working hard to release the



new and improved 4G fuel pump system this fall. Our engineering staff is always looking for ways to improve in our product lines.

Thanks to everyone on the Board of Directors for their guidance and support and to all the dedicated staff for their ability to look outside common practices to find innovative ways to make the participants in our agency successful.

We are also proud of the partners in our networking family who join with us to make our communities stronger.

Clifford Strachman

Rebecca is a good role model for others seeking community employment with her great attitude. positive work ethic, and ability

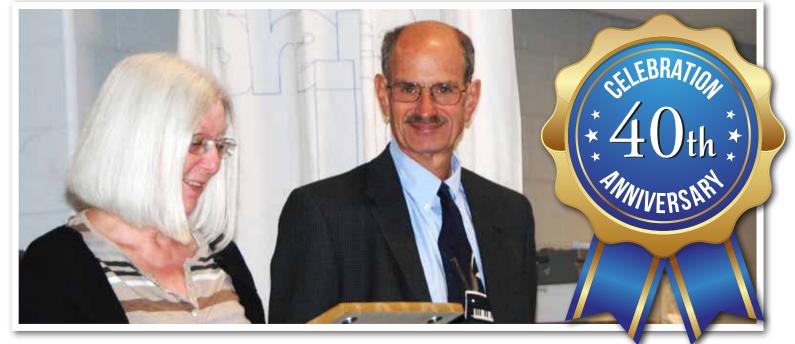


to cooperate with others.

We are all very proud of her and her accomplishments. Congratulations Rebecca and keep up the good work!

Brian Montgomery, **Director of Employment Services**

CONGRATULATIONS ON 40 YEARS



JO JURGENSEN

Director of Adult Services/ Assistant Executive Director

Franklin College, B.A. Physical Education and Health

Butler University, M.A. Education, Guidance/Counseling

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Larry Jones has known Cliff for 36 years. When asked about what he thought about Cliff's 40 years with Shares, Inc., with a big smile on his face Larry replied, "He's the boss you know!" "We have had good times together." "I have had great trips that Cliff has taken us on. We have had FUN times."



When asked his thoughts about Jo working for Shares for over 40 years, Henry Burris enthusiastically responded, "We have worked together for a long time. She is fun. I can go to her if I have a problem. She will always fix it. She is one of my favorite people. I feel safe when I am with her."



Jo and Cliff have been very supportive throughout my 33year career at Shares, through the many changes of my work position, and the many changes mandated by the State of Indiana. Cliff was extremely instrumental in preparing me to do the detailed job of work adjustment supervisor.

As I moved on to the more supportive role, now known as Program Manager, Jo was the foundation that I was able to build upon for my own work performance. She has taught me so much by her training and her actions. I am a better staff person because of her.

Congratulations to Cliff and Jo as their journey has reached this milestone of 40 years. I count it as a blessing to have been able to share so many of those years with you both.

Cindy Weisheit, Program Manager **Brandywine Center**

CLIFFORD STRACHMAN Executive Director Franklin College, B.S. Psychology, Butler University, M.S. -Educational Psychology

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Tom Cole responded to the anniversary by saying, "They are nice people to work with. They taught me how to work. I like the vacations they give us."

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Leroy Graves replied, "They are nice to me. I'm so glad they let me work here. I met Cliff and Jo for the first time when we went on a cruise. Cliff is one of my good friends because he plans parties and outings. Jo is awesome because she is really kind to people. She stands out."

Cathy Headlee said, "I enjoyed all the trips that Cliff planned. I've never missed one trip in 29 years. My goal is to hit my 30-year mark. I enjoy talking to Jo. I am so thankful to be able to work at Shares as long as I have."

OF SERVICE TO SHARES, INC.

EXCERPTS: 1986 SHARES NEWSLETTER

"My experiences at Shares, Inc. have been quite rewarding. I enjoy the opportunity to try new and innovative programming. I have also found great satisfaction in seeing many [participants] become successful both in the school programs for young children and the adult program." Cliff Strachman

"I have witnessed tremendous growth in the Shares programs within the past 12 years and have kept a 'scrapbook' of newspaper articles featuring Shares programs and personnel." Jo (Eck) Jurgensen

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I have always considered Shares Inc. to be the flagship of agencies that provide services to our participants. What has made the difference? My inclination is that the other agencies did not have the skillful, insightful and compassionate management that Shares Inc. has been fortunate to have.

Cliff and Jo have spent 40 years of their lives with Shares Inc. making differences in participant lives and affording participants and staff alike, opportunities we would most likely never had. More than 25 years ago I began my career at Shares, and I thank Cliff and Jo every day for the opportunity to work for such a wonderful agency with such wonderful people. You can change a life by changing an attitude, and with their patience and guidance, they have made a positive difference in many lives, mine included. Thank you so very much.

Janice Vanosdol, Program Manager Rush County



I started working at Shares, Inc. during the summer of 1980 while still in high school and in 1983 after graduation, began my career at Shares, Inc. I have so many memories of Cliff and Jo from the past 34 years.

Cliff has done so many things for the participants at Shares. I remember when one of the participants had to move, he sent the truck driver and some of the male employees to help her. He always tried to help the participants that he knew did not have family. If Cliff can't help you, he will find someone who can.

Because of the leadership that Cliff provides, Shares Inc.'s reputation has traveled to other counties in Indiana and we are often asked to provide services to these participants.

I will always remember Jo for being quiet and calm. She has a gift for being able to look at both sides of a situation whether it involves participants or staff. She has always provided me with ideas on how to handle tough situations with the participants. There is one thing I know for sure, if it was not for Jo, I would not still be working at Shares.



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Beth Duvall, Production Supervisor

When faced with the decision of where to place our daughter, Veronica, at age 22, many thoughts were running through our heads. What is the "best" place for her? What options, if any, were out there?

Someone suggested that I call Shares. I was unsure and reluctantly made the phone call and spoke with Jo Jurgensen. That call changed a life.

Jo spent a considerable amount of time telling me about the Living Skills Program for those with disabilities such as Veronica. She was thorough and patient as I listed the million reasons why I thought it wouldn't work for Veronica. Then she simply said, "Why not just give it a chance?"

Veronica started at Shares in March of 2008. It has been nonstop learning, excitement, fun, and new experiences for her ever since. Her face lights up when we turn into the parking lot!

The simplest of advice can change a life. Jo changed ours when she took the time to talk. listen and help us with one of the most difficult decisions we had for our daughter's future. Shares is a family. I am proud to be a part of this wonderful organization.

Terrie Vail-Lake, **Parent/Board Member**



YMUR LIVING SKILLS

Hancock Co.

Greenfield Living Skills was lucky to receive free tickets to an Indianapolis Fever basketball game on July 10th. There were 30 participants and staff who traveled to the game to see the Fever women win the game! The highlights of the game were the exciting start when the lights turned off, halftime show and the comeback at the end. Everyone was standing and cheering. It was an unanimous decision that we hope to attend a Fever game again next year. :)

A. Shelly, Tom, Jennifer, Brittany, Aaron, Heather waiting to go into the game. **B.** Stephanie Dunn watching the game. **C.** and **D.** - The group having fun and enjoying the game.





A. Randy Good from Goods Chocolate in Anderson Indiana, giving us a tour and free samples of chocolate and the best homemade ice cream in Indiana.

B. Minnetrista Center in Muncie Indiana learning about plants. Touring the gardens and nature center, planting our on seeds to watch flowers grow at home.

Rush Co.

Shares McGraw Center recently toured Victory Field...the locker room and weight room, the owner's suite, the ground's area and we even sat in the dugout. We were the first tour group EVER to be taken onto the playing field for a photo op. The Grounds Crew allowed us to pose with them and use their baseballs and mitts. One day, we hope to see a game at Victory Field. Until then, we'll watch the games on TV!

- **C.** Enjoying the clowns at the Murat Shrine Circus.
- **D.** The first tour group to be allowed to stand on the playing field at Victory Field. Really Cool!!!!

Shelby Co.

The Living Skills Day Program in Shelbyville has been delving into cultural studies through food. In July, we visited YATS in Columbus for Cajun Creole foods. Next, we tried Thai food at Thai Smile (2) in Muncie and then the Istanbul Café in Indianapolis to enjoy Mediterranean cuisine. Our next trip is to Shalimar in Broad Ripple for food from Northern India. Everyone is enjoying the journey and can't wait to see what's next!

- A. Travis Tucker, Jeff Crouch, Chris Irish, C. Tammy Griffith, Travis Tucker, Kim LeAnn Higdon @ Blue River Bowling. Webster & Hunter Smith @ Zaharako's.
- **B.** Devin Fix @ Shelbyville Fire Department.
- **D.** Donald Squires @ Bartholomew County water fountain



YMUR SOCIAL SERVICES



Shares, Inc. attended the annual Self Advocates of Indiana Picnic held on Friday, July 18, 2014 at Eagle Creek Park. The day was filled with dancing, games, food, and great friends.







Esther Mayhew

Hancock County

being a tower of

strength as she went

through her cancer

treatments, teaching us

how to see life to its end

with dignity and grace.



Tracy Hess Hancock County enthusiasm in participating in the VIP program, joy of working, and when asked how many parts you completed, you always replied with excitement "I did 144."

Benefits of Self Advocacy

✓ New Skills ✓ New Friends ✓ Independence ✓ Confidence ✓ Control



Lowell "Buddy" Armstrong Shelby County enthusiasm, love of playing monopoly and bingo, love of working in the workshop and making money, your endearing personality, and your close bond with Cliff Strachman and Rick Land.



Jane Ann Wheatley Shelby County willingness to always help others, your love and knowledge of animals, your contagious smile, and your favorite phrase "crazier than a coot."



BUR MISSION

"Shares, Inc. provides service and support for people with disabilities to enhance their successful inclusion in the community."

YMUR CURRENT EVENTS

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Board Meeting at 7:30 PM

November 10, 2014 Rushville January 12, 2015 Shelbyville

Aktion Club Meetings

2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month at 6:30 PM Trinity United Methodist Church Briley Family Center. 741 Fair Avenue, Shelbyville



Aktion Club Presents the "Bachelor of Hearts Degree" To Shares, Inc.

This certificate was presented to Shares for their support to the Aktion Club in helping their members become better and more effective citizens and to make it possible for the members to learn new team and leadership skills.

CONTACT US: SHELBY COUNTY 1-877-398-8218 or 317-398-8218 **HANCOCK COUNTY** 317-462-4824 **RUSH COUNTY** 765-938-5321

www.sharesinc.org