

JW's Corner

"Being Open and Honest". Some people marvel at my openness and honesty. If I was not an open and honest person, people would become skeptical of me. I have nothing to hide so I do not have to worry about people misunderstanding my motives. I had to learn early in life that if I want people to feel comfortable around me and my handicap, then it is up to me to find a way to circumvent these barriers people put up. These attitudinal barriers are harder to overcome when they deal with all types of disabilities, be it physical, mental, emotional or spiritual. It is so important to be open and honest, and also to have a good sense of humor, be out going and personable. This is done through inviting people into your world by talking and joking with them, and sometimes you might even have to ask them to assist you in some way. It may take away some of your pride and some dignity to ask for and to accept help, but this allows the graciousness and kindness of those helping us to flow and to be received naturally. This makes us a little humble and a little humility never hurt a person. However, being open presents a state of vulnerability and a risk that is not easy to take. Once you get over the initial hump of being exposed, there is then a mutual playing field in which to build a loving and trusting relationship. "If God is for me than who can be against me" Rom 8:31. How else are you, the readers of this Newsletter, ever going to learn about me, and my wants and needs, if I don't tell you, either directly or indirectly? I took a big chance in the January Newsletter when I shared my aspirations and dreams. I received no repercussions from it, but the article did spark some inquiries. You will never know the outcome unless you are willing to step up to the plate, swing at the ball, run the bases and cross home plate before it can count. Being open and honest about my life, aspirations, dreams and needs bring others to me and creates the loving and trusting relationships that are necessary to remove attitudinal barriers. Honesty is liberating. Perhaps in the coming days someone else will be inspired to become a little more open and honest.

Your Smiling Johnny 😊



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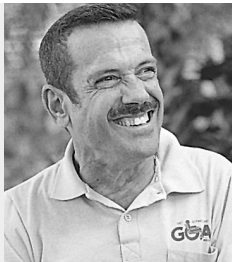


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GOALnews

John F. Winters, Executive Director • 305.895.6377 • fax 305.899.2067

MAY 2006



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| MAY 14 | HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY | |
| MAY 19 | South Dade Coffee House St. Louis Catholic Church – Family Center 7270 SW 120th Street – 33156 | 8:00 to 10:00pm |
| MAY 21 | GOAL Annual Picnic Elaine Gordon Enchanted Forest Park 1725 NE 135th Street - 33181 | 1:00 to 4:00pm |
| MAY 26 | Florida Marlins vs. New York Mets 2267 Dan Marino Boulevard - 33056 | 7:35 to 10:30pm |
| JUNE 2-4 | AIM #45 Retreat – Handicapped Meet Christ Duncan Center, Delray Beach | |



Activities

- The monthly South Dade Coffee House is held on the third Friday of each month, at St. Louis Catholic Church Family Center. The Spanish Community of the parish provides a delicious hot meal, recognizes monthly birthdays, and several games of Bingo are played with the winners going home with fabulous prizes. All disabled adults are welcome to socialize with us on Friday, May 19th.
- The Annual GOAL Picnic is going to be Sunday, May 21st, at 1:00 - 4:00pm, at the Elaine Gordon Enchanted Forest (just west of the railroad tracks.) Once again our Vice President, John Zynko, proprietor of Mama Jennies Italian Restaurant will savor our taste buds with a delicious barbeque buffet. All we need is you to be there and to enjoy a wonderful Sunday afternoon in the park. Please call Pamela Young by Monday the 15th to let her know the number of people in your party that will be attending. See you at the barbeque.
- Pamela Young will be in charge of this month baseball game; the Florida Marlins vs. New York Mets on Friday, May 26th, at 7:05pm. We will be contacting the clients to see which games you will like to attend.

Upcoming Events For JUNE

- June 2-4, AIM #45 – Handicapped Meet Christ Retreat at the Duncan Center in Delray Beach, contact Jo-Anne Allison at 561-432-0338.
- The GOAL Pool Parties for the summer months are scheduled for the 2nd Saturdays: June 10th, July 8th, and August 12th.
- Next month, the South Dade Coffee House will be meeting on Friday, June 16th.
- Here is the remainder schedule of the Florida Marlins games that we will be attending: Saturday, June 17th, Montreal Blue Jays at 6:05; Saturday, July 1st, Boston Red Sox at 6:05; Friday, Aug. 4th, Los Angeles Dodgers at 7:35 and Sunday, Sept. 10th, Philadelphia Phillies at 1:05. "GO MARLINS"!!!
- The Client Advisory Board representative is Pamela Young at 305.624.5790. If you know of anyone who is sick, hospitalized or in need of any assistance, please call Pamela so she can inform John Winters. She will let you know of any other upcoming activities that were not available in time for this Newsletter. Please respond quickly to her phone calls since time is of essence when it comes to filling reservations for different games and special events.

Happy Mother's Day

Potpourri

We were sorry to hear that Alan Cohen lost his mother on the 31st of March. Alan was ill with a virus and he was unable to attend her funeral in New York. We send our deepest sympathy to Alan and his family on the passing of their beloved mother. God bless you and may her soul rest in peace. ☺☺☺ Peter Bernardo, who hosts our Website, lost his much-love grandfather in Italy, on March 25th. We send our condolences to Peter and his mother, Lina on his passing and may his soul rest in peace. ☺☺☺ We are glad that the clients call Pamela Young or the GOAL office to let us know who among themselves need our prayers. Joanne Carswell called to tell us that she was staying with her dear friend and a GOAL client, Liza Smalls who recently lost her daughter. Thank you, Joanne, for taking time to letting us know where you will be and about your friend. Liza is very blessed to have a wonderful and caring friend like you at her side. We are praying and asking God to comfort you Liza, during your time of bereavement. We pray that your daughter's soul will rest in peace. ☺☺☺ We send our condolences to Alteneez Moss who lost her father the middle of April. Let's all keep her in our daily prayers, that the good Lord will comfort her during this time of bereavement. May the soul of your father, rest in peace. ☺☺☺ We learned that fifteen vision impaired GOAL clients attended a five day statewide convention at Camp Lake Yale in Florida. They all had a great time being together, having fun and carrying on business for the coming year. We hope someone will give us a brief synopsis of their week's activities so we can share it with our readers. ☺☺☺ Corrine Kendrick was hospitalized for awhile at North Shore Medical Center for a routine checkup. We hope you are feeling much better, the illness is resolved and you will resume your regular activities again. ☺☺☺ Nancy Chalfant's mother, Florence, has been hospitalized again with her hip. We are so sorry to hear this kind of news, but rest assured that we will keep Florence in our daily prayers for a complete recovery.

GOAL'S WEB PAGE

<http://www.goalinc.org>

Email address for John Winters is:
Johnny@goalinc.org

CAB Reps: Pamela Young – 305-624-5790 or Pamela Klusner – 305-261-6998

Newsletter Editor:
A & R EXECUTIVE PRINTING, INC.



Office News

THANK YOU's

We can see green again around the GOAL office and we want to thank our Charter President, George Bennett for taking time out of his schedule to have our sprinkler pump repaired. We are thankful to have it watering our brown grass. The yard is coming alive again and we are happy that Mr. Bennett could take care of this need for us. ☺☺☺ We were so glad to welcome Ernie Hinterkopf, GOAL's past Board President, who came by to do some minor repairs around the facility. He replaced the worn hoses, helped Mr. Bennett with the pump and hung an ornamental plate in the computer room. We appreciate all the time you give to help us around the office. We will miss you over the summer months. ☺☺☺ It is great to have a new committed volunteer who comes once a week to help us out with different projects. We received a phone call from Karen Walton who has her mornings free. She has been working on various jobs that we seem to never get around to doing. We really appreciate all of your hard work, Karen and we would like to say, "Welcome Aboard". Your hands and heart are very much needed. ☺☺☺ The Miami Shores-North Dade Kiwanis Club had another successful barbecue chicken dinner on March 23rd. Johnny would like to thank everyone who responded via mail in purchasing or donating their tickets through GOAL. We sold 211 tickets, 69 of which were given to clients and friends. Many more would have been sold if Johnny had not run out of steam. He is sorry that he couldn't get around to his regular customers. Thanks again for making us the top barbecue ticket seller. The Kiwanis Club really appreciates our efforts on their behalf.

THANKS GUYS

We want to send a big **THANK YOU** to our rough and tough North Miami High football players. They did an excellent job in keeping up with the **Get Out And Live** group. These guys legs were literally run off. Some of them even tried their best to keep up with our speed demon, Miguel Pauli and his super-duper, high-powered, electric wheelchair. We suggested to Coach Leonard that he should recruit Miguel on his team. Here are the names of the fine young men that assisted us on March 20th at The Fair: Jean-Gardy Fanor, Sterile St Juste, Ryan Nembhard, Evens Yoyo, Marc Cherfils, Winston Fredestin, Kamram Dad, Martin Cadet, Warren Wilson, Jean Jeanfaud, Philippe Jean, Jephre Cherenfant, Quency Pierre-Louis, Ralph Coquemar, Ricky Coquemar, Joseph Ramos, Owens Richard, Chadwick Pascal, Mike Zamor, Ralph Pierre, Wilfrance Pierre, Cruz Forbes, Joanel Gonzales, Terry Cioinpsor, and Coach Leonard. What a blessing you all were to our GOAL clients. Go Pioneers!

JUST A REMINDER

Hurricane season is right around the corner so let's start planning now and be ready early. Start picking up supplies now a little at a time when you are out and about. That way it won't take such a big bite out of your budget. Remember the basics – water, shelf stable foods, medicines, batteries or candles. And don't forget food for your pets. Plan ahead this year and don't wait until the last minute!

HURRICANE PROTECTION

GOAL needs your financial assistance at this time. We are in the process of securing the GOAL facilities with protective shutters, a walkway overhang and a generator before the Hurricane season begins. Last year we lost our big front awning and we were without power for 20 days. The Board of Directors has decided that we need to secure the facility in order to keep the operations up and running. GOAL has invested \$15,000 in this renovation and we are turning to our readers and asking you to help to recoup some of these funds. Please designate on your contributions **HURRICANE PROTECTION FUND**. Thank you all for your prayers and financial support.

Client News

Elena Hernandez writes:

On December 9, 2005, I went to visit Patti Williams. STS picked me up at 10:00 A.M. and I got there at 11:10. Patti was still in bed, so we talked for awhile and exchanged gifts. I told her that a lot of stores don't have the word Christmas and they want to call the Christmas tree a Holiday Tree. She was upset over this. Her C.N.A. came in so I went to the lobby and waited for her. We sat in the TV room for lunch. We had noodles, peas and carrots, chicken, apple juice, water, fruit cocktail and milk. We went back to her room to open my gift and talk for awhile. I began to get panicky thinking that John forgot that he was suppose to pick me up at 4:00. So I called him and he was not home. I asked a lady that works at The Plaza if she would take me to the parking lot when John came to pick me up. Meanwhile we played bingo, and Patti won twice. At 4:00 the lady took me to the parking lot and helped me to get in the van. John and I went to The Ark Restaurant in Davie for dinner. We got back to John's at 7:15. We got on the computer for awhile and at 8:30, I called mom and told her that STS is late. They finally arrived at 10:00 to pick me up and I got home at 11:00pm.