



The Gary Plumery Foundation

Enhancing the lives of people with developmental disabilities.

Newsletter

Summer 2010



Gary's Corner

Gary worked at the Parker McDonald's for over 15 years. He loved working there and was a very popular guy with the customers. His main job was cleaning the lobby – and he named himself “King of the Lobby” In fact the local paper put his picture on their front page with the “King of the Lobby” caption.

He worked with two senior ladies and they were a great team. One of the ladies still works there, though the other passed away several years ago. We were told by one of their relatives that Gary really brightened their days. He teased and kidded with them constantly.

He used to help the mothers with children by carrying their trays. Gary said he kissed some of the babies on the forehead and I told him that maybe that wasn't such a good idea, but he said the babies liked him.

Gary never wanted to miss work and when his health started deteriorating, he was very upset when we kept him home. When Gary passed away, we received many letters from customers about how they enjoyed Gary and how much they enjoyed receiving hugs from him.

—Sylvia Plumery

If you would like to submit stories for inclusion in Gary's Corner, email Rich at Plumery@aol.com.

2009 Annual Holiday Wish List Campaign

On Thursday, December 17, 2009, at the Gary Plumery Foundation Holiday Gift Giving Party, thirty five clients who would not otherwise have received gifts for the holidays gathered for a festive evening of good food, karaoke and great company. Following dinner, Santa and his helpers distributed personalized gifts to all of the clients in attendance. Much merriment ensued and the evening concluded with fond wishes for a happy holiday season.





Mardi Gras Dance

Sixty six clients attended the 2010 Mardi Gras Celebration on February 12. Everyone enjoyed dancing to the DJ dance music after feasting on a pancake meal.

Barracudas Bowling and Softball

The Barracudas Bowling League ended their six months of weekly games on February 27, 2010. There were 75 clients in the league who received t-shirts on the final pot luck bowling day. The participants look forward to this league every year and are dedicated bowlers!

The Barracudas Special Olympic softball team is busy practicing now and getting ready for the league competition with other teams in the Denver area every Friday starting June 25. The participants love this competition and look forward to the league every year.

Excursions and Adventures

The Plumery Foundation sponsored several outings for Developmental Pathways clients over the winter.

Twelve clients attended the 2010 National Western Stock Show and Rodeo in January.

On March 11, seven clients went dog sledding near Breckenridge, CO. None of the clients or their staff had ever been dog sledding before, and commented that they had a great time. They also had a chance to visit the dog housing area where 150 dogs are kept and were able to hold some puppies.

And on Friday, April 16, nine clients visited the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame at Coors Field in Denver. The highlight of the trip was a guided tour of Coors Field!



Classes Sponsored

Throughout the winter months, 24 clients attended weekly ceramics classes where they learned the skill of creating fine ceramics pieces. See the photo on page 3.

Special Olympics Banquet

The Special Olympic End of the Year Banquet was held on November 13, 2009. Nearly 100 Barracuda athletes and coaches were present to accept certificates of participation and enjoy an evening of spaghetti and music in their honor.

2010 GPF Golf Tournament Cancelled

We regret to have to report that our annual golf tournament had to be cancelled for this summer. We hope to be able to announce an alternate fundraising event for this fall.

Upcoming Events

* **Camping:**

Three camping trips are planned for this summer. The first is scheduled for June 25 - 27. Clients will be going to a ranch in Westcliffe, CO. On Friday evening, there will be a performance of Shakespeare in the Sangres' *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. There is a fishing clinic on Saturday. On the return trip on Sunday, clients will tour Mission Wolf, a wolf refuge and education facility near Gardner, CO.

The second camping trip is scheduled for July 8 - 10 to Wilderness on Wheels for two nights of fishing and fun.

The third trip will be to Snow Mountain Ranch near Granby, CO on July 17 - 19. We plan to attend the Buffalo BBQ in Grand Lake for the parade and fun.

* **Other Activities**

On Thursday, August 12, clients and staff will gather at Dixon Grove in Cherry Creek State Park for the annual picnic of the day and work programs of Developmental Pathways. This huge picnic has been going on for over ten

years and includes a scavenger hunt, crafts, games and dancing to DJ music plus great food.

The Harvest Moon Dance is scheduled for Friday, September 24 this year at the Knights of Columbus hall in Aurora.



Gary Plumery Foundation Contacts:

www.plumeryfoundation.org

Rich & Laura Plumery: (303) 471-0549

Carl & Sylvia Plumery: (303) 841-4896

Developmental Pathways, Inc.

Developmental Pathways is a non-profit agency created to serve persons with developmental disabilities and their families. Pathways provides a broad array of services so that participation in community life is attainable for every individual with a developmental disability.

Developmental Pathways, Inc.

325 Inverness Drive, South

Englewood, CO 80112

303-360-6600

developmentalpathways.org

The Gary Plumery Foundation
7119 Mountain Brush Circle
Highlands Ranch, CO 80130