

The best index to a person's character is how he treats people who can't do him any good, and how he treats people who can't fight back. ~ Abigail Van Buren (Dear Abbey)

Welcome New Directors!

The Arc Annual Meeting took place, as required by the bylaws, in September. Many people do not pay any interest in the governing of The Arc. It is important though, because without strong leadership, policies, finance oversight and periodic reviews, the Arc could easily fall apart and no longer be a place where people receive support. Arc members will be pleased to know that The Arc of Blair County is in solid financial standing and has completed a 3-year strategic plan.

We welcome 5 new directors: Garran Burget, Harry Greg, Neil Hollander, Fred Miller and Gary Robinson. We hope you find your experience at The Arc a positive one and we welcome the knowledge and experience you add to our leadership.

The current board of directors consists of:

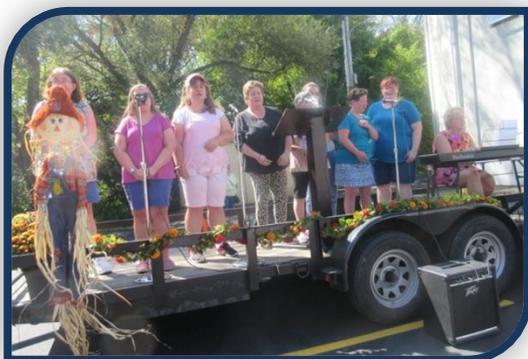
Michael Eardley - President; Joe Keller - Vice President; Secretary - Donna Messner; Treasurer- Chris Jancula. Other directors by year installed include Tom Forr, Brandon Traficante, Joel Hollander, Becky Good, Eileen Roberts, Georgina Sible, Becky Young, Katie Fiore, Meghan Farrell Irwin and Christina Polito. Emeritus Directors include: Colleen Montrella, JoEllen Steinbrunner and Tom Weimer.



We need to acknowledge and thank the directors who served 2 full terms for their unwavering loyalty & dedication and now are exiting the board: Sara Fiore-Gunnett and Marvin Walter.

Many of the directors are involved on committees such as the building committee or the fundraising committee. Everyone is asked to play a role, whether it is involvement in programs, educational advancement, marketing, or other involvement The Arc.

A report and listing of all records from the Annual Meeting may be obtained by contacting The Arc office.



Our Arc Angels performed at the Altoona Bible Church Festival in late September. We are so proud of our chorus who have such beautiful voices. Pat Forr and Darlene Wilt deserve Kudos for bringing the group



together and practicing for several weeks to be sure we knew the songs! Darlene was the person who was able to get us this 'gig' which was sweet as it was a festival and there was a lot to do! The nicest part was to witness choir members interacting in a natural, public setting.

The Arc Board of Directors put a fundraiser together to benefit our agency, a raffle drawing at Park Hills Country Club. Thank you so much! Because of their efforts, we have additional funds to support advocacy and educational programs that are offered. It is nice to know that people help others, even though they may not have any personal reason to be involved, other than just being nice. We can all learn a lesson about ownership and responsibility in giving back to our community. We can all do many things and do not need to let our disability define us. Thank you to the committee for their efforts in planning this: Michael Eardley, Becky Good, Meghan Irwin, Donna Messner, and Brandon Traficante. Also, special thanks to our ever faithful, go-to-girl, Connie Traficante, and to our square dance buddy, Cory Geishouser. Young Mary Irwin never ceases to disappoint by volunteering in a pinch. Keller Engineers deserves a shout-out for their donations to the auction as does Tommy Potopa for being a great caller. Enjoy some of the photos of the special evening.



FOLLOW THE RULES PLEASE

Every once in while The Arc finds it necessary to address policies. No one is permitted to take pictures at an Arc of Blair County program unless given permission beforehand. If staff or class instructors see anyone taking a picture with their cell phone or their personal camera, they will be asked to either leave the class or will have their camera/cell phone taken until the class is finished. The Arc only posts photos in the newsletter and on-line when written permission has been granted. We cannot run the risk of someone posting something on social media that another person did not want placed in the sometimes harrowing world known as the 'web'. Thank you for your understanding.

While we are on the safety subject, please drive slow down the lane leading into The Arc parking lot. Too many people fly around the corner of the building at the same time others are walking across the parking lot to cars.

Thanks for being cooperative and helpful as we try to make The Arc experience a positive one for all involved.

CLASS SCHEDULE for October 2017

Stay connected for the latest changes by visiting The Arc's homepage at www.thearcblair.org. If there is a change it is listed on the blog on the home page, in rectangle box to the right. Otherwise, it means the class is still on.

Halloween Dance - Get set for a frighteningly good time, See 3rd page for more info.

Craft Class – October 9 at 6:30 p.m. Limited to 20 people!

Cooking Class - On a delayed start. Will inform via website and social media when we start back up.

Acting Troupe - Welcome Back! Begin again Oct. 17

Line Dancing – 6:30 pm Wed. nights. Bring water.

Square Dancing – 6:15 pm Thursday Nights.

All are welcome to any activity but must pay \$5 per class if not an Arc member. This includes dance classes.

HELP! CHORAL DIRECTOR NEEDED

The Arc lost its long-time chorus director to cancer last year. We have been searching to find someone willing to lead group. Too many people enjoy the chorus for us not to keep trying to find a leader.



If you know of anyone who may be interested, please contact the office at 946-1011.

The amount of time needed will be dependent on the person who is interested in helping the group. Traditionally the group met twice per month for one-hour in the evening (2-hours per month), though that can be reevaluated.

A formal background in music is not necessary, just a love of singing. The ability to play the piano would be helpful, but again, not a requirement.



The Arc would be appreciative of any contacts you may be able to offer.

Programs Being Considered - What do YOU want to do?

The Arc is considering paying for folks to go ice-skating at Galactic Ice. Another idea was to take everyone to the Altoona planetarium to see a light show. Ogle Bay, West Virginia, is listed as one of the top 10 Christmas light shows in America. Does this sound like a bus trip you would like to take?

Please call The Arc office (946-1011) and let us know what you would like to do. List as many things that you would enjoy spending time doing. If you have another idea that we had not considered, share that with us so that we can explore the possibility.

The Arc wants the classes and activities you attend to have your stamp of approval. We want your suggestions and ideas!

SPOOKY... Let's Party!

It is time for one of the most popular dances - the HALLOWEEN Party!

The good times will roll on Saturday, October 28, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., with the doors opening at 5:45 p.m. The Arc is serving a full dinner so don't eat too much before you arrive!



DJ Smooth has been instructed to play only the most popular songs that gets everyone off their feet. If you have a favorite song, please call The Arc a few days before the dance so we can be sure and put it on

the list.

Not feeling the groove? We are going to set up spotlights in the backyard so that folks can make a craft. This will last until supplies run out.

The parade of costumes will take place at 8:30 p.m. There are so many clever and creative costumes at this big bash & The Arc does not want to have to decide a winner among the many great costumes. Instead, we are going to put everyone's name who dresses in a costume into a basket (agency staff excluded), and 5 lucky people will receive a \$25 gift card if their name is drawn (must be present). It is the luck of the draw. Join us for what is shaping to be a great night at The Arc's annual Halloween Extravaqanza!



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The woodworking students did such a phenomenal job making their bookshelves/wooden stands. Students used table saws, measured the pieces, poured and mixed cement, drilled, and painted their pieces during this 2-day project. Way to go! Each of your pieces ended up representing your personality. You should take pride that you weren't afraid and attempted each stage of the project. They turned out beautifully! Your disability didn't stop you from doing amazing stuff. Now onto the next challenge!

