

— WINTER 2011 —

# A.G. RHODES Health & Rehab

ATLANTA COBB WESLEY WOODS

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- A History of Caring
- Enhancing Services, Expanding Spaces
- By the Numbers
- Visit with U.S. Senator Johnny Isakson

# A LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

One hundred and six years ago, my great, great grandfather, Amos Giles Rhodes, was "invited" by the ladies who ran the Hospital of the Atlanta Circle of the King's Daughters and Sons in downtown Atlanta to help replace the roof on their "Home for Incurables."

Legend says he told them, "I would not put a penny toward replacing the roof on that falling down building!" After a pause, he said, "But I will help you build a new building."

Thus was born what became the A.G. Rhodes Health & Rehab flagship location at Boulevard and Woodward. Today, we stand on the shoulders of the giants who have invested so much money and time into the mission to which we still adhere: to provide the highest level of compassionate care to all residents regardless of their ability to pay.

The foundations, families, residents and individuals who have volunteered their time and resources to this fine charity for the past century have ensured that proper facilities and funds provide quality, compassionate care to our residents. It is, however, the staff that provides the daily care and love that nurtures our residents. My spirits are always lifted when I walk the halls of the Atlanta, Cobb or Wesley Woods communities and see the sea of smiling faces. A.G. Rhodes Health & Rehab is a good place to work and a good place to mend.

I am humbled to be a part of the fabric that creates A.G. Rhodes Health & Rehab. With the ability to care for 418 residents at any given time, we have proudly served thousands of residents and look forward to caring for many more. We are on a very firm foundation and see a bright future. Thousands of similar healthcare facilities have come and gone while we have improved and adapted over the last 106 years. The Board of Trustees, the Board of Managers, the excellent management and administration of our communities provide the support our staff need to do their jobs as well as they do.

I am the fifth generation of my family to serve as Chairman of the Board of Trustees, but so many others have served for decades. In 2010, we named six outstanding men as Honorary Trustees for the first time in our history. I am grateful to all who came before me, but let us all thank the many staff members who provide such compassionate care every day at A.G. Rhodes Health & Rehab.



David L. Perdue  
Chairman, Board of Trustees  
A.G. Rhodes Health & Rehab

**OUR MISSION:** The mission of A.G. Rhodes Health & Rehab is to provide the highest possible standard of quality care to our elderly patients while preserving their dignity, independence and quality of life. We commit ourselves to care for all who need our services, regardless of their economic status. We believe the primary purpose of our work is to serve our patients, while striving to maintain open lines of communication with their families. We are proud to be caring people caring for people.

## A.G. RHODES Health & Rehab

ATLANTA  
COBB  
WESLEY WOODS

### A.G. RHODES HEALTH & REHAB COMMUNITIES

#### ATLANTA

350 Boulevard SE  
Atlanta, GA 30312

TEL: 404.688.6731

FAX: 404.522.1676

WEB: [www.agrhodes.org](http://www.agrhodes.org)

**Administrator:** Deke Cateau  
E-MAIL: [dcateau@agrghodes.org](mailto:dcateau@agrghodes.org)

**Admissions Director:** Melissa Matlach  
E-MAIL: [mmatlach@agrghodes.org](mailto:mmatlach@agrghodes.org)

#### COBB

900 Wylie Road  
Marietta, GA 30067

TEL: 770.427.8727

FAX: 770.427.3937

WEB: [www.agrhodes.org](http://www.agrhodes.org)

**Administrator:** Angela Daugherty  
E-MAIL: [adaugherty@agrghodes.org](mailto:adaugherty@agrghodes.org)

**Admissions Director:** Natalie MacArthur  
E-MAIL: [nmacarthur@agrghodes.org](mailto:nmacarthur@agrghodes.org)

#### WESLEY WOODS

1819 Clifton Road, N.E.  
Atlanta, GA 30329

TEL: 404.315.0900

FAX: 678.420.2027

Hearing Impaired: 1.800.255.0135

WEB: [www.agrhodes.org](http://www.agrhodes.org)

**Administrator:** Greg Heath  
E-MAIL: [gheath@agrghodes.org](mailto:gheath@agrghodes.org)

**Admissions Director:** Jornette Malone  
E-MAIL: [jmalone@agrghodes.org](mailto:jmalone@agrghodes.org)

### PUBLICATION MANAGEMENT

**Director of Public Relations:** Kellee Chassner  
TEL: 404.949.3830

E-MAIL: [kchassner@agrghodes.org](mailto:kchassner@agrghodes.org)

**Editor:** Brooke Schmidt

**Art Director:** Solveig White

Rhodes Review is published quarterly by  
A.G. Rhodes Health & Rehab.  
Printed in U.S.A.



## A.G. RHODES ANGELS

Where is the line that defines a person's professional "on the clock" life versus their personal life? That line is often blurred for countless people who work in fields that serve others. The line is completely transparent if you love what you do, who you work with, and the people you serve.

The men and women we work with become part of the fabric of our lives – tightly woven into our routines and memories, overlapping and becoming part of our family tapestry. In fact, you spend so much time with your coworkers, you come to know how they like their coffee, the names and ages of their children and "four-legged" kids, favorite foods and what really gets under their skin.

Within the A.G. Rhodes organization, employees find a career, not just a job, with the added bonus of an extended family so rich in love and support that no amount of money could come close to matching it. It is in the spirit of family and love that we reflect on our very own Angels of A.G. Rhodes. Each of them will continue to live on in the hearts and lives of those they touched at A.G. Rhodes.

Christine K. Peterson, CPA;  
Peterson, Coleman & Maret, LLC

Anita Head,  
A.G. Rhodes Wesley Woods nursing and dietary departments

Joanne Lawton,  
A.G. Rhodes Wesley Woods nursing department

Annette Smith Parrish,  
A.G. Rhodes Cobb business office

Caroline Mugo,  
A.G. Rhodes Cobb nursing department

Willie Mae Gilmore,  
A.G. Rhodes Atlanta retired dietary department

James Deadwyler,  
A.G. Rhodes Atlanta nursing department

Camilla Hill,  
A.G. Rhodes Atlanta nursing department

Charles Mc Pherson, Jr.,  
A.G. Rhodes Atlanta nursing department

Lula Maddox,  
A.G. Rhodes Atlanta nursing department

## A.G. RHODES' HISTORY

- 1850** Our founder, Amos Giles Rhodes, was born in Henderson, Ky.
- 
- 1875** Mr. Rhodes came to Atlanta while laying crossties for the L & N Railroad.
- 
- 1876** Amos Giles Rhodes and Amanda Dougherty were married.
- 
- 1879** While living in the space above his small store, Amos began the furniture company that would make him a very successful, affluent businessman and pillar of the community.
- 
- 1897** The Hospital of the Atlanta Circle of the King's Daughters and Sons is founded.
- 
- 1900** The Hospital of the Atlanta Circle of the King's Daughters and Sons is incorporated as a benevolent association and designated as a hospital for patients suffering from incurable diseases. Patients were housed in a wooden building located at 42 Church Street (now Carnegie Way) in Atlanta. The building was in terrible disrepair and Hospital officials approached Mr. Rhodes requesting that he fund roofing repairs. Instead, Mr. Rhodes provided the land and funds needed for a new building.
- 
- 1904** The new building provided by Mr. Rhodes was completed at the corner of Boulevard and Woodward Avenue (our current Atlanta location), and all patients were moved on July 11, 1904.
- 
- 1911** The organization's name was changed to The Home for Incurables Association.
- 
- 1928** Amos Giles Rhodes died, leaving a substantial endowment to the organization. The name of the organization was changed to honor his dedication to the institution.
- 
- 1992** In April, the second Rhodes' Home opened in Marietta, Ga., and was incorporated as The A. G. Rhodes Home – Cobb, with a total of 130 beds.
- 
- 1997** A third home with 150 beds was opened in September at the Emory – Wesley Woods campus and was incorporated as The A. G. Rhodes Home at Wesley Woods.
- 
- 2010** The A.G. Rhodes Homes changed its name to A.G. Rhodes Health & Rehab to better reflect the available services. The Atlanta location was renovated with the addition of a state-of-the-art rehab gym specializing in sub-acute care.
- 
- 2011** Renovation and expansion projects are planned for the Cobb and Wesley Woods campuses.



## SUCCESSFUL EVENTS

Priming for Politics. Residents and staff members enjoyed dinner, dancing and live entertainment at the **Mayor's Ball** at the Hyatt Regency Hotel-Downtown, hosted by Mayor Kasim Reed.

Get Involved. Employees, representing all departments of the A.G. Rhodes, participated in the Glenda J. Black **5K Run/Walk**. More than \$760 was donated toward breast cancer organizations. These funds were raised during our annual Silent Auction.

A Dream Come True. Due to the generosity of the Margaret Perdue Fund, six residents and employees attended the amazing **Broadway production of Dreamgirls at the Fox Theater**.

Veteran's Day Observance Program. Four resident **veterans were honored** including 2010 Ms. A.G. Rhodes, Mary Piersawl; Mr. Hoves Howard; Mr. Judge Daniel; and Mr. Eddie Beasley. Family member Rodney Fant spoke at the event.

Styling and Profiling. The **Red Hat Society** hosted a stylish Second Annual Thanksgiving Celebration.

Party with a Purpose. Residents and staff attended **The Southern Christian Leadership Conference's Annual Christmas Party** at the Georgia International Convention and Trade Center.

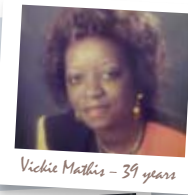
APD in the House. The **Atlanta Police Department Honor Guard** visited residents in December. They spread Christmas cheer throughout our community with resident gifts and Christmas carols.

Delicious and Delightful. Our **Resident & Family Annual Christmas Dinner** was a success with more than 300 people enjoying dancing and entertainment from the A.G. Rhodes Choir and Beverly Guitar Watkins.

**B.I.N.G.O.** AT&T employees made their visit a screaming success with games of bingo and 40 resident gifts.

## STAFF DEDICATION BY THE NUMBERS

Employees with 5+ years of services: 34  
 10-14 years of services: 11  
 15-19 years of services: 8  
 20-24 years of services: 11  
 25+ years of services: 6



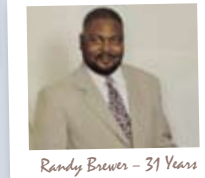
Vickie Mathis - 39 years



Angela Johnson - 25 Years



Louise Shepherd - 28 Years



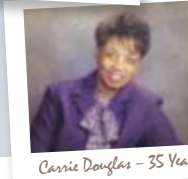
Randy Brewer - 31 Years



Diane Wheat - 30 years



Jessie Evans - 33 Years



Carrie Douglas - 35 Years



Cheerful Children. **Kingdom Academy School and Ebenezer Baptist Church Choir** spread joy and cheer with their wonderful Christmas programs.

**Little Miracles.** United Way 211 and Centennial Park Daycare teamed up to give residents the gift of little children visiting, complete with presents and lovely musical entertainment.

Angels Among Us. The Turner Broadcasting Network **Elderly Angels program** visited and provided gifts to 12 residents who have limited family support.

Magic of Children. **Neighborhood Charter School** visited for their annual Christmas program.

Shared Excitement. Paidia School students worked on **Christmas crafts and treats** with residents.

Something for Everyone. Every resident was overjoyed during the Annual Christmas Party with a **visit from Santa Claus** and his big bag of gifts!

Reason for the Season. Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church presented a lovely **Christmas Eve program** with singing, gifts and worship.

## VOLUNTEERS

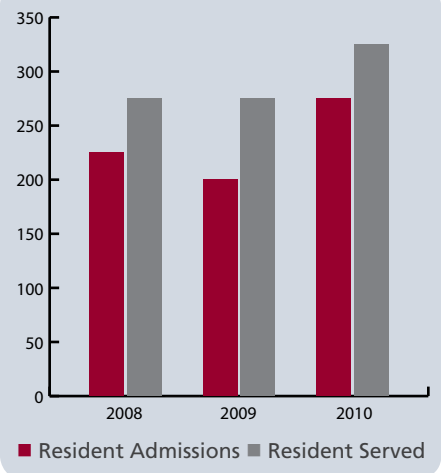
Thank you to the 175 individuals and group members who volunteered their time with us!

## ACHIEVEMENTS

- Paige Barlow, Licensed Physical Therapist Assistant in our therapy department, has completed training with the Aquatic Therapy Rehab Institute, Inc., in Washington, D.C., and received her Ortho and Neuro Treatment Progressions Specialty Certificate.
- Kristie Davis, Assistant Administrator, completed her Administrator in Training program and licensing exam and received her Georgia Nursing Home Administrator's License in December 2010.
- James Nairobi, LPN, completed his education to become a Registered Nurse.

• 2010 deficiency-free annual survey.

## BY THE NUMBERS



## STAFF DEDICATION BY THE NUMBERS

- Employees with 5+ years of services: 45
- 10-14 years of services: 21
- 15-19 years of services: 8
- 25+ years of services: 1



**VOLUNTEERS**  
 Thank you to the 220 individuals and group members who volunteer their time with us!

## EXTREME MAKEOVER, A.G. RHODES ADDITION

A.G. Rhodes Health & Rehab Cobb is looking forward to an exciting 2011 as we expand our existing therapy area to provide additional therapy treatment space and accommodate new equipment. Some of the highlights include a speech therapy treatment room, a section for individual therapy treatments and Life Skills area. Over 1,400 square feet will be added to complement our current therapy component. We are delighted to announce that a “Family Pavilion” is included in the construction plans. This 640-square-foot room will be used to host activities, religious services as well as a space for residents to visit with each other and their visitors. Construction is anticipated to begin soon with an estimated six month completion time frame. If you would like to get involved or donate to this commendable project, please contact Administrator, Angela Daugherty.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

- Paul Jerkins was named the 2010 Activities Director of the Year by the Georgia Health Care Association.
- Kristin Blackwelder, RN, DON, received her Aging Services NEXT Certification through Aging Services of Georgia. The Leadership Next certification educates aging services professionals by cultivating and developing their leadership qualities. Kristin also received her Resident Assessment Coordinator Certification.
- Shavawn Boyer, LPN, in our nursing department successfully completed her education to become a Registered Nurse.
- Karla Jarvenpaa, SLP, received her VitalStim certification for treatment in our therapy department.
- Sharonda Lewis, LPN; and Elaine Panke, LPN, obtained MDS 3.0 certification.
- Monique Young received her Activity Director certification.
- **2010 deficiency-free newly instituted QIS annual survey.**
- Received *MyInnerview Award of Excellence in Action* for superior commitment to customer and workforce satisfaction based on independent 2009 *MyInnerview* survey results.
- Increased Certified Nursing Assistant stability by 10% and decreased employee turnover by 7% in 2010!

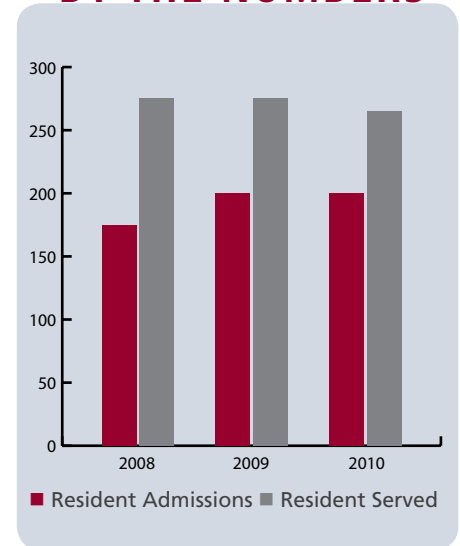
## SUCCESSFUL EVENTS

We've been busy having fun with:

- Employee Chili Cook-off
- Resident and Family Thanksgiving Dinner
- Angel Giving Tree
- Resident Holiday Party and visits with Santa
- Activity Professionals Week Celebration
- On-going staff training including monthly manager-focused round tables
- Live Jazz in the Courtyard
- Resident Tailgate Party



## BY THE NUMBERS



## SUCCESSFUL EVENTS

Our **Thanksgiving dinner** continues to grow. Families had a lovely dining experience and enjoyed having those memories captured in family portraits taken by the Activity Department.

The **Christmas holiday** was filled with musical performances of all genres including the famous Seed & Feed Marching Abominable Band. Their energetic musical numbers filled the dining room with excitement and rhythmic dancing.

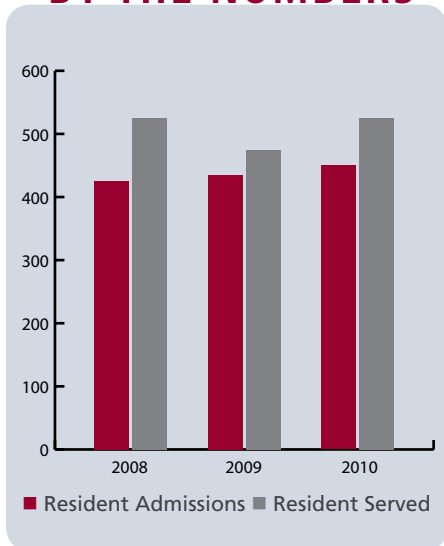
**Sewing Club** meets twice weekly and residents are currently working on heart shaped pillows to give to the children at Children's Hospital of Atlanta.

**Crocheting Club** has residents and staff discovering new skills together. Many residents who crocheted in the past have found it easy to pick up the skill again.

**Book Club** has residents, family members and staff reading, sharing and engaging with one another. Mobile Book Carts are located on every unit. Residents can chose from an array of titles, from classics to current NYT bestsellers.

**Adopt-a-Resident Program** provides an opportunity for staff to adopt residents who have made A.G. Rhodes their home. This four-year-old program is going strong with 55 staff member participants and 57 resident adoptees.

## BY THE NUMBERS



## STAFF DEDICATION BY THE NUMBERS

- Employees with 5+ years of services: 67
- Employees with 10-14 years of services: 42
- Employees with 15-19 years of services: 1
- Employees with 20-24 years of services: 1



Linda Smith - 13 Years



Mary Burns - 13 Years

## MORE SPACE, BETTER PACE

Our Wesley Woods campus is anticipating the start of an exciting addition and renovation. This project will expand our therapy department to allow space for additional physical, occupational and speech therapy treatments and rehab equipment. Plans also include the addition of a Life Skills area to help residents prepare for returning back to their independent lifestyles. Project plans call for more than 1,600 square feet of new space and remodeling approximately 500 square feet of current space. We are looking forward to enhancing our campus to provide better space for therapy treatments and updating resident accommodations. Construction is anticipated to last approximately six months. For additional information or to find out how you can get involved or donate to this or other projects, please contact Administrator Greg Heath.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

- Lisa Pinnock, LPN, successfully completed her education to become a Registered Nurse.
- Ivory Shields, OTR, received her Georgia Physical Agent Modality Certification to supplement resident treatments in our therapy department.
- Taylor Pilat, SLP, received her VitalStim certification for treatment in our therapy department.
- The Activity Department gained four new long-term volunteers who dedicate varying weekly schedules to the residents of A.G. Rhodes. Each volunteer has their own talent and hobby to share. We are so pleased and thankful to welcome these newest volunteers into our hearts and residents' home!

## VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to the 210 individuals and group members who volunteer their time with us!



## TO HONOR AND LOVE

On February 11, 2011, A.G. Rhodes Health & Rehab Wesley Woods welcomed U.S. Georgia State Senator Johnny Isakson for a ceremony honoring the late PFC Howard A. Washington. Mrs. Pauline Washington, a resident of the A.G. Rhodes Wesley Woods community, accepted a Bronze Star Medal and Combat Infantryman's Badge on behalf of her husband for his service during WWII. Mr. Washington was a member of the all black 369th Infantry Regiment. These medals are for his participation as a machine gunner, with his company of approximately 75 men who were actively engaged in ground combat against a German force estimated at over 1,000 on December 26, 1944, in the village of Sommocolonia, Italy.

The ceremony filled our Eventide room with residents, family, staff and visitors. One resident was in attendance to support and honor her friend, Mrs. Washington. However, Mrs. Maebell Reeves kept mum about her

knowledge of and relationship with the featured guest, Senator Isakson. She had been his nanny and babysitter from his birth until he was a young man. This unexpected reunion for the Senator and Mrs. Reeves

was a moment they both would treasure. Following the ceremony, Mrs. Reeves told the Senator, "I am 99 years old. I told you one day we would be together again. Today is that day."

A.G. Rhodes is grateful to Senator Isakson for his time honoring the Washington family and visiting with every resident in attendance before and after the event. Residents, staff and visitors who served our country in the armed forces were proud to be included and acknowledged during the Senator's visit.



*"Miss Maebelle taught me everything I know. I wouldn't be in the U.S. Senate without her."  
- U.S. Senator Johnny Isakson*



SIMPLY THE BEST

A.G. Rhodes Health & Rehab Cobb has been named one of the best by *U.S. News & World Report*. Of the 16,000 plus nursing homes in the United States and more than 360 in Georgia, only 38 Georgia nursing homes were named in the Best Nursing Homes 2011 list.

*U.S. News* ranks and displays data quarterly, relying on data from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) which sets and enforces Medicare and Medicaid nursing home standards. According to government definitions, a nursing home is a Medicare or Medicaid certified facility that provides 24-hour nursing care and other medical services.

Using regular state agency inspections and facility-provided information, CMS assigns facility ratings in three areas: health inspections, nurse staffing, and quality of medical care. All of the "Best in Georgia" received 5 stars, the highest overall rating from the federal government's Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

For a complete listing of the *U.S. News* Nursing Home Rankings as well as additional data ranking information visit <http://health.usnews.com/senior-housing>.



# CARING FOR BABY BOOMERS

**A.G.RHODES**  
Health & Rehab  
ATLANTA  
COBB  
WESLEY WOODS



Baby Boomers began turning 65 January 1, 2011 – one every 8 seconds, making them eligible for Medicare. Officials are anxious of how this generation may shape the healthcare industry and overall economy as they retire, downsize, spend less and demand more as they age. A record 2.8 million boomers will turn 65 in 2011.

This booming generation of 76 million babies began post-World War II in 1946 and continued until 1964. The children of this generation have been credited with social, educational and economic reforms that have afforded enhanced opportunities for subsequent generations but their lasting legacy may rest on their expected consumption of Medicare benefits.

Medicare currently covers 46 million elderly and disabled people, costing the government about \$500 billion a year. When the last of the boomers reaches age 65 in about two decades, Medicare will be covering more than 80 million people while the ratio of workers paying taxes to support the program is expected to plunge.

A century ago, geriatric patients' health was mainly affected by infectious diseases. Today, health complications are due to chronic, lingering conditions such as Alzheimer's disease, heart disease, diabetes and cancer. Many new recipients are arriving at Medicare's door with more health problems and more expectations than their parents and other generations before them.

Health care costs are projected to outpace inflation and medical advances will extend life expectancies, further straining the program's finances and sustainability. Medicare's expected costs are estimated to reach \$929 billion by 2020, an 80% increase over 10 years. This dramatic increase could force the administration and Congress to come up with a plan to reduce costs, either by cutting benefits or raising taxes.

Learn more about Medicare at [www.Medicare.gov](http://www.Medicare.gov) or visit [www.healthcare.gov](http://www.healthcare.gov) to explore healthcare reform information related to Medicare including the Affordable Care Act.

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Marietta, GA  
Permit No. 675

A.G. Rhodes Health & Rehab  
3715 Northside Parkway  
Building 400, Suite 305  
Atlanta, GA 30327

