

Hart Felt Ministries Spring 2008



Malcolm Luckin, center, with Hart Felt Volunteers Mike and Yvonne Appell.

Client Spotlight Malcolm Luckin

Malcolm Luckin is one of our youngest clients at age 60. His struggle with Parkinson's disease forced him into early retirement from a career as a documentary filmmaker and artist. It was while working on a film in collaboration with author Suzanne Arms three and a half years ago that he first realized he had Parkinson's.

While reviewing what he had filmed that day he saw "the footage was shaky." That led him to consult a neurologist since his mother had suffered from Parkinson's.

Malcolm came home to Jacksonville, and was put in touch with Hart Felt Ministries through a contact of Suzanne's, Chere Cain. He receives assistance from Yvonne and Mike Appell, who help him with laundry, picking up medications and lawn mowing.

Malcolm, who now resides in Jacksonville Beach, started out as a social worker but realized he could have more positive impact as a filmmaker documenting society's issues. He funded his documentary work by taking freelance commercial projects, working on accounts for Xerox and for car and energy companies in New York. His documentaries have had wide distribution, including airing on PBS.

He continued to have a heart for social work, and from 1992 to 1995 produced a call-in show in the Tampa area called "Open Air Recovery" that dealt with recovery from addictions. He also helped found an orphanage in India.

Parkinson's has robbed him of some motor capabilities but has not stifled his creativity. He still does his art, although he has switched from painting portraits to doing abstracts and montages.



Skip Attinger, left, with another Hart Felt Volunteer, Judy Welch, and their client, George Bush.

Volunteer Spotlight Skip Attinger

On the day after Christmas 24 years ago, Skip Attinger was electrocuted. He was checking on a catamaran in the side yard of his South Florida home when the mast touched a high power wire, sending 7,600 volts through his body.

His two little girls, ages 4 and 2, had just gone into the house and didn't see the accident. A passing runner saw what was happening and alerted his family to call 911. Skip's brother-in-law grabbed a wooden stool and was able to pry him away from the mast with it.

It was God's mercy, Skip said, that the girls had gone into the house when they did; otherwise, they might have run to him and been injured or killed; and that his brother-in-law, who didn't know what had happened—only that there had been an accident—knew to pick up the wooden stool.

Skip's foot was "blown off", he said, but he felt no pain. His heart stopped beating. He was clinically dead for about 15 minutes. He lost his right leg below the knee after enduring several surgeries to try to save it.

While in the hospital he was visited several times by a psychiatrist who told him, "one day you are going to wake up and say 'why me, God?'"

Skip did ask the "why" question, but not the one the psychiatrist proposed. "I ask, 'Why is it that I have been given a second chance at life?'" He felt incredibly grateful for the miracle that had saved his life.

The doctors warned him he would probably never

(Continued on page 2)

We are many, but in Christ we are all one body. Each one is a part of that body. Romans 12:5



Young at Heart

Ray Shaw received Volunteer Jacksonville's Heart of Gold "Young at Heart" Award on April 3, 2008, at the Times Union Center/Moran Theatre. To be eligible for this award, a volunteer must be over age 70. Ray, at age 88, is Hart Felt's oldest volunteer. He refers to himself as "volunteer emeritus". This is the third year in a row that a Hart Felt volunteer has received a Volunteer Jacksonville Heart of Gold award. Prior awardees are Joy Martin and Dean DeWall.

Pictured in the photo are Joy, Dean, and Ray with Lynn Weise-Mora of Volunteer Jacksonville.

(Attinger, continued from page 1)

be able to play tennis again or ride a bicycle. Naturally, he now does both regularly.

Skip had worked in the restaurant business and recently retired after 44 years. He and his wife, Judy, a massage therapist, were at a point in their lives where they wanted to give back. They had been very blessed, he said, with four daughters, all of whom are doing well in life. It was at Beach United Methodist Church that one of the pastors told them about Hart Felt Ministries.

Skip feels he has a special calling to work with recent amputees, because he can encourage them and provide a positive example. He was put in touch with 80-year-old client, George Bush, a diabetic who is a double amputee. George is soon to be fitted for prostheses which should allow him to drive again.

On a recent trip to the clinic with George, Skip was wearing shorts. Noticing his prosthetic, the other patients commented on his being able to drive and get around so well. That was an opportunity for Skip to tell his story and to encourage them that things will be better. His message is to be thankful to be alive and "don't let anybody tell you what you can't do!"

Presidential Volunteer Service Awards

Another year of growth and service was celebrated February 9, 2008, when Hart Felt Ministries held its annual meeting and volunteer appreciation breakfast at Beach United Methodist Church. The 73 volunteers, Board members and guests enjoyed a full breakfast and heard updates on the status of the ministry. But the highlight of the morning was the presentation of the President's Volunteer Service Awards to those who have donated 100 hours or more to serving others in a 12-month period.

The awards were inspired by President George W. Bush in his 2002 State of the Union Address, challenging all Americans to make time to help their neighbors, communities and nation. He called upon each person to dedicate at least 4000 hours—or two years—to service over the course of their lives. In 2003, President Bush created the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation to find ways to recognize volunteers. The award program is a way to thank and honor Americans who, by their demonstrated commitment and example, inspire others to engage in volunteer service.

Each award recipient receives an award lapel pin, a personalized certificate of achievement, a congratulatory letter from the President and a letter from the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation.

No volunteer exemplifies the spirit of this award better than Joy Martin, who with 662 hours of service, received a Gold Award. Hart Felt also honored three Silver Award and thirteen Bronze Award recipients. Award Winners and hours served are:

Gold Award Winner:
Joy Martin, 662

Bronze Award Winners:
Janet Gardiner, 234
Phyllis Luther, 207
Ray Shaw, 202

Silver Award Winners:
Dean DeWall, 308
Ann Cook, 287
Paul Larson, 251

Lew Ellen Rigdon, 200
Barbara Talton, 176
Rose Miller, 168
Justin Gabriel, 167
Francene Singleton, 146
Jim Talton, 145
Norma Horne, 122
Barbara Walker, 115
Bill Simon, 107
John McEvoy, 100



Welcome to Our New Volunteers:

Judy Welch
Skip Attinger
Paul Dixon
Phil Underwood
Laura Farris

Stephanie Haynes
Walter Haynes
June Koch
Cheryl Carson
Diana Hartley

Bill Edge
Patti Underwood
Stephanie Wells
Doug Davis
Cindi Mattox

Heather Fields
Lideh Yousefzadeh
Lynn Spence
Mike Hadaway

April is Florida Volunteer Month and April 27-May 3 is National Volunteer Week. Both celebrate and promote the spirit of volunteerism throughout our state and nation.

We believe the volunteers of Hart Felt Ministries exhibit this spirit every day, not just during a specific week or month. We have a great pool of volunteers serving hundreds of clients. As our pool of volunteers grows each month, so does our waiting list of people requesting our services. Many of these requestors live in areas of Duval County where we have no volunteers. We currently have a waiting list of 150 people. We have a special need for volunteers in zip codes 32244 and 32210.

Perhaps you know of someone who lives or works in these areas and who would like to become a Hart Felt volunteer. If so, please ask them to visit our website at www.hartfelt.org or contact us at 538-0306 or hart-felt@comcast.net, to request a volunteer application.



Happy Birthday, Hart Felt Ministries



Hart Felt Ministries, Inc. is celebrating its 5th birthday. We were incorporated on April 18, 2003. We want to share with you our 5-year history.

History of Hart Felt Ministries, Inc.	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003
Volunteers	137	85	49	15	0
Clients	246	152	97	18	0
Hours of Service	6,577	4,680	2,538	345	0
Value to Community @\$19.12/hr (wage equivalent per Volunteer Jax)	\$126,000				
Grants & Awards Received					
Robt. Wood Johnson-Faith in Action				✓	
United Way Life: Act 2			✓		
Mayor's Office of Faith & Comm Prtnrships			✓		
City of Jacksonville PSG (2 yrs)	✓	✓			
The Community Foundation (2 yrs)		✓	✓		
Male Sr Citizen of the Year - Dean DeWall		✓			
Vol Jax Heart of Gold - Joy Martin 2006		✓			
Vol Jax Heart of Gold - Dean DeWall 2007	✓				
Vol Jax Heart of Gold - Ray Shaw 2008					



Our mission is to provide, at no charge, through a network of community volunteers, non-medical support services and companionship to the frail elderly who require assistance in living independently.

Board of Directors: Dr. Paul Larson (Chairman), JoAnn Brooks (Vice-Chair), Bill Womble (Treasurer), Cecil White, Jr. (Secretary), Loree Reed, Ray Wotherly, Phyllis Luther, and Jane Hart (ExOfficio-President).