

## Happy Anniversary

We congratulate these volunteers who celebrate their anniversaries in December and thank them for their ongoing involvement.

- 13 years** **Pat Currier** (SR) Special Project Aide, Civic Center Library;
- 7 years** **Lynn Grant** (Nov) Shelver, Novato Library; **Flinn Moore Rauck** (Nov) Public Relations, Novato Library; **Sue Severin** (SA) Car Seat Technician, H&HS;
- 4 years** **Edward Mestre** (Nov) USAR Volunteer, DPW;
- 3 years** **Jennie Butler** (SR) Data Entry Clerk, Assessor/Recorder; **Bryan Galli** (Ptlma) Explorer Program Advisor, Fire; **Dolores Hahn** (Nov) Sr. Peer Counselor, H&HS;
- 2 years** **Alison Andrews** (Lkspr) Reader, Corte Madera Library; **Susanne Gollin** (Nov) Liaison, Library Beyond Walls; **Betty Obata** (SA) Med. Records Aide, H&HS; **Edith Stover** (SR) Reader, Corte Madera Library;
- 1 year** **Emily Brucia** (SR) Student Intern, STAR Program, H&HS; **Raquel Garcia-Ball** (SR) Centering Vol., H&HS; **David Gutierrez** (Nov) Website Designer, H&HS; **Ellen Leiva** (Ptlma) Admin. Asst., H&HS; **Serafin Magdaleno** (CM), **Piedad Mancilla** (Nov), **Susan Narvaez** (Saus), and **Maria Lastenia Reales** (Nov) Sr. Peer Counselors, H&HS; **Mary J. Richardson** (Saus) Legal Asst., Public Defender.

We regret the omission of volunteer **Sharon Clark's** congratulations for five years of service celebrated in October, and we thank her for her ongoing service as an Aide at the Civic Center and So. Novato Libraries!



### CONGRATULATIONS TO:

- **Katia Benthale**, who has been extra-hired in the Public Defender's office where she volunteered.
- **Sean Stephens**, who has been extra-hired in Veteran's Services, where he volunteered filling in behind retired **Mort Tallen**, who is now back as a CCV!
- **Sara Zerbib**, who has been hired as a Sheriff's Service Assistant for the Sheriff's Department where she interned.

CCV contributed \$10,923,960. in services to the County of Marin in 2009! 7,504 volunteers and interns logged 245,810 hours!

### Congratulations and thank you!

With the holidays upon us, please remember to send us your December hours, along with any others we may be missing this year, so we may close out 2010 effectively.

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# The Volunteer View

The Monthly Newsletter for Marin County Civic Center Volunteers

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## Melissa Ladrech counsels in three roles as a psychotherapist intern



When not on vacation, intern Melissa Ladrech supports those in need.

**Melissa Ladrech** volunteers as a psychotherapist intern with the Family Service Agency (FSA) of Marin, as a perinatal counselor with Women's Health Services, and as a group facilitator with the Marin Employment Connection, the latter two divisions of Health & Human Services.

Melissa volunteers 30 to 40 hours a week. She is a perinatal counselor for the Women's Health Services at the Wellness Clinic, counseling pre and postpartum women and also co-facilitates a weekly support group for unemployed individuals at Marin Employment Connections.

Melissa said, "As a volunteer psychotherapist intern, it is an honor and a privilege to facilitate positive change in the lives of individuals and families and to help people move forward in their lives. Additionally, the volunteer work provides a broad range of experience and an extensive training opportunity that more than fulfills the 3,000 hours of internship required for my licensure."

Melissa received her BA in psychology from the University of California at Santa Barbara

in 1986 and her MS in counseling psychology from Dominican University of California in 2009. She was an executive for ten years in the financial services industry prior to deciding to return to graduate school at the age of 42. She lives with her partner David in Kentfield and said, "I'm enjoying the process of getting to know his three high school-aged children."

She has trained in several fields within psychology and has many certificates and honors. She said, "I'm looking forward to completing the licensure process and growing my private practice while still giving back to the community."

Supervisor **Rachelle Averbach**, a marriage and family therapist and community programs director at Family Service Agency, said, "Melissa has been with FSA for over three years. She is a very talented psychotherapist intern who wears many hats here. Melissa runs a support group for the unemployed, facilitates a coping skills class for divorced parents, and specializes in trauma therapy for adults and children. Melissa began working as a perinatal counselor at Women's Health Services (WHS) in August and has gained much knowledge and insight into the needs of pregnant and postpartum families. Melissa is a dedicated, compassionate, skilled clinician, and we at FSA and WHS are thankful to have her on board!"

Melissa's H&HS supervisor, **Barbara Williamson**, a supervising midwife with Women's Health Services, said, "Melissa is a welcome addition to our efforts to support new mothers, depressed mothers, young mothers, and socially isolated families. She has a special interest in neurobiology and is a great asset to us."

by Barbara Webb

## Who's New & Welcome

**Kyle Marie King Amsler** (SA) Patient Asst., H&HS  
**Roxana Araujo** (Nov) Office Asst., DA  
**Satasuk Joy Bhosai** (SF) Med. Student Intern, H&HS  
**Drew Bollman** (SR) 211 Comm. Resource Spec., H&HS  
**Clarice Bridges** (Sac) Advocate Aging Div., H&HS  
**Jennie M. Butler** (SR) Clerk, H&HS  
**Alison Clemons** (SA) Nurse, H&HS  
**Joseph F. Ehrmann** (Lkspr) Nutrition Ed. Asst., H&HS  
**Melissa Elizarraraz** (Lemon Grove) CAPA Intern, H&HS  
**Catherine Engstrom** (Berk) Social Work Intern, H&HS  
**Tania I. Flores** (Ptlma) Dental Hygenist, H&HS  
**Megan Fontanilla** (Elk Grove) CAPA Intern, H&HS  
**Christel Haakmeester** (SF) CAPA Intern, H&HS

**Stephanie Karnavas** (SF) Deputy District Attorney, DA  
**Christiana Lopez** (Ptlma) CAPA Intern, H&HS  
**Alexis Merlas** (Brentwood) CAPA Intern, H&HS  
**Tess Palin** (SF) CAPA Student Intern, H&HS  
**Michael Petruolo** (Kensington) Social Work Intern, H&HS  
**Nicholas Rivera** (SR) 211 Comm. Resource Spec., H&HS  
**Dianne Rupp** (Ptlma) Dental Hygenist, H&HS  
**Melissa Shive** (SF) Med. Student Intern, H&HS  
**Montserrat Sthymmel** (SR) Aide, CC Library  
**Mort Tallen** (SR) Veteran's Services Consultant, H&HS  
**Catherine Taylor** (El Cerrito) CAPA Intern, H&HS  
**Krystal Wilson** (San Bruno) CAPA Intern, H&HS  
**Pearl Wilson** (San Bruno) CAPA Intern, H&HS

### Fall 2010 Recognition Event – Thanks to Volunteers!

Last month the Marin County Board of Supervisors honored 121 volunteers and interns who completed their service and had the recommendation of their supervisors for the honor. The chambers were packed with volunteers, their supervisors, high energy, and enthusiasm. Many commented on the depth and breadth of volunteer contributions across the county. The event would not be possible without the massive efforts of the Civic Center Volunteers volunteer team. Interns **Elena Carter** and **Kyle Amsler** wrote resolutions of commendation, along with volunteer **Sherri Inenaga** who wrote from the CCV office and from her home in Sacramento. Volunteers **Dolores Fiscalini** and **Vivienne (Vivi) Freeman** organized information supporting the production of the event, **Steve Sarhad** and **Vivi** produced the resolutions, **Marie Fitzgerald** made hundreds of phone calls to volunteers, and **Joanne Elder**, **Susan Levine**, **Marie**, and **Vivi** helped set up food, check in volunteers, and clean up after the event. Our team was supported and cheered on by our new HR Director, **Joanne Peterson**, who attended her first CCV volunteer recognition event. Thank you to our wonderful volunteer team!

### Susan Levine brings positive energy to the Civic Center Volunteers office team

**Susan Levine** volunteers an afternoon a week updating new volunteer and intern jobs for internal and external postings with the CCV office. Susan said, "I really feel strongly about giving back to the community where I live and thoroughly enjoy being part of the volunteer program working under the leadership of **Joan Brown**."



*Susan writes and posts volunteer and intern job openings.*

With a BS degree from Saint Mary's College in Moraga, Susan became a region controller at Xerox in San Francisco. She was then appointed major account operations manager. When asked what her favorite accomplishment was, Susan responded, "Retiring from Xerox after a successful 36-year career!"

Susan, who lives in San Rafael, is on the board of directors of World

ORT. ORT is a nonprofit education and training organization that raises funds to support students of all races and faiths and educates 300,000 students in 63 countries every year. ORT strives to change the fate and destiny of students, allowing them to embark on successful careers by attending ORT Technical Institutions

around the globe. Susan also volunteers with the Mill Valley Film Festival.

An avid traveler, Susan just returned from a three-week trip to Europe, visiting Zurich, Lucerne, Lake Geneva, Lugano, Zermatt, Gruyeres, Lake Como, Portofino, Santa Margherita, Cinque Terre, Florence, the Amalfi Coast, and Rome. Her previous travels have taken her to France, Spain, Portugal, Greece, Egypt, and the U.K.

**Joan Brown**, Volunteer and Employee Programs Manager, said, "Susan is a tremendous asset to our CCV team. She has good common sense, is a great writer, very smart, highly efficient, and computer-skilled. Her focus, sense of humor, and positive energy lift us all when she's in the office."

*by Barbara Webb*

## Structural engineer Ted Canon contributes construction expertise as a planning aide with Parks & Open Space

**Ted Canon** volunteered to work with landscape architect Jeff George, a private contractor, to conceive the design of the new Gateway Monument at the north entry to Greenbrae. Ted said, "I provided construction support by working with the construction team to ensure that the project was built in accordance with the design documents."



*Ted poses at the beautiful new Gateway Monument in Greenbrae.*

Ted, who is a structural engineer licensed in California, has been working pro bono on this project for several years. He said, "This project has developed slowly since 2005. This year we finally had construction documents and in July, I became a Marin County Civic Center Volunteer to work with the construction team." Ted's current focus is on Greenbrae, and he is chair of the County Services Area No. 16 Advisory Board.

With a Bachelor of Science degree in architectural engineering from

California State Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo, Ted has traveled within the U.S. to project meetings in Washington, D.C. and Texas. He also traveled on various projects to the Philippines, Canada, and Saudi Arabia. The Saudi Arabia trip led to a trip around the world with

stops in London, Amsterdam, and Hong Kong. Ted's accomplished career has given him the opportunity to be closely associated with earthquake design and evaluation. He has published many research documents and is affiliated with several engineering associations.

Ted is married with two grown children and five grandchildren. He and his wife, Jan, live in Greenbrae. His oldest son, James, lives in Maine and has three children. His younger son, Sean, lives in Greenbrae and has two children. Ted said, "I wanted to raise a family that turned out successful. Mission accomplished!"

Principal Park Planner **Steve Petterle**, Ted's supervisor, said, "Ted is a highly qualified retired engineer who offered to volunteer his time to coordinate the Greenbrae project. As a result of his efforts, a new entry monument is now in place."

*by Barbara Webb*

### Anmol Kaur volunteers as an Internet tutor at the Marin Civic Center Library



*Anmol inspires library technology students.*

**Anmol Kaur** volunteers ten hours a week to help people use the Civic Center library computers to fill out job applications, set up personal e-mail accounts, become familiar with Microsoft Office tools, gain familiarity

with and surf the Internet, and use library equipment to print and scan materials. She also answers a variety of computer and Internet questions and conducts computer labs.

Anmol, who was born in India, has a B.Sc. and an M.Sc. in biotechnology from Guru Nanak Dev University in Amritsar, India, and an M.Phil. in biotechnology from Lovely Professional University in Phagwara, India. She would like to complete a Ph.D. and become a lecturer in biotechnology.

"I like to volunteer because it makes me feel good about the fact that I am doing something for the community I live in," she

said. "I believe in helping others, particularly the needy. My husband Gagandeep Singh and I support The Smile Train, Sankara Eye Foundation, and the AIDS Walk San Francisco."

Anmol and her husband have been to Alleppey, Kovalam, and the Andaman and Nicobar islands in India. They have traveled all over the U.S. and to Europe including Belgium, Italy, Switzerland, France, and the Netherlands.

Supervisor **Elmer Jan**, Librarian II, said, "Anmol works two hours a day, Monday through Friday, assisting library patrons with various aspects of library technology. She is an inspiration to her students. We really appreciate her efforts."

*by Barbara Webb*