Happy Anniversary

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

17 years
Steven Post (SF) Lookout, Fire

14 years
B. K. Cooper (Nov) Rigging Manager, Fire

13 years
Sid Emison (SR) Marine Patrol Volunteer; Sheriff Margaret Grosch (Ptlmu) Legal Librarian, PD; Paul Peterzell (SR) Consumer Mediator, DA

12 years
Margaret Binggeli (Nov) Sr. Peer Counselor, H&HS

10 years
Avery Goldman (PM) Docent, CS

9 years
Daniel Will-Harris (PtlrysSt) Internet Tutor, Pt. Reyes Library

8 years
Doris Allen (PtlrysSt) Aide, Pt. Reyes Library; Mary Mathews (RP) Ombudsman, H&HS

7 years
Karen Hawkins (CM) Office Aide, H&HS; Ruth Norstad (CM) Bookmender, CMLibrary

6 years
Cindy Daly (Lkspr) Ombudsman, H&HS

5 years
Martha Kassin (SA) Library BeyondWalls Liaison, Library

4 years
Jean Walker (SR) Library BeyondWalls Liaison, Library

3 years
Ingrid Rubin (SR) Clerical Aide, H&HS; Edward Sturm (SR) Library BeyondWalls Liaison, Library

2 years
Joanne Coates (Lkspr) Advocate, H&HS; Roberta English (Saus) STAR Program Family Liaison, H&HS; Roy Fidler (SR) Consumer Mediator, DA; Shae Irving (Frtks) Aide, Fairfax Library; Gerald O’Sullivan (SR) Aide, CC Library; Leila Lanctot and Carol Svetcov (Lksp) Connection Center Resource & Referral Assistants, H&HS

1 year
Dena G. Baer (MV), Carl Goodman, Richard Markes, Cathy Jo Spielman and Carl Goodman (Nov), and Paul Royle (Gmb) Ombudsman, H&HS; Charles Becker (Nov) Aide, Novato Library; Kathryn Dougherty (SR) Special Projects Tech., HR; Cynthia Hadley (Frtks) Advocate, H&HS; Patty Jasper (SF) Nurse, H&HS; Dori Organ (Frtks) Library BeyondWalls Liaison, Library; Randy Robertson (Nov) Aide, Novato Library; Breann Robowski (SF) Attorney, PD

Volunteer Notes

Hours, hours!

Every January the Civic Center Volunteer office teams compile data on volunteer service for an annual Financial Impact Analysis. Results will be reported to Marin County residents, the Board of Supervisors, and county departments. In 2009, 7,504 volunteers worked an impressive 245,810 hours with a total compensation equivalent of $10,923,960.29.

We’re eager to learn the 2010 numbers. Send in your December hours today plus any other unreported hours in 2010. Submit hours via email, phone, fax, interoffice mail, or U.S. mail. Contact info is on your timesheet and in the CCV Staff box below.

All the best to you and yours for a happy and healthy New Year!

Welcome back, Shirley!

Shirley Trimble, a volunteer profiles writer for more than 11 years and CCV’s 2008 Volunteer of the Year, is back from a break. See page 2 for her article on volunteer Jimmy Miller.

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Glenda Doran Borton volunteers as a paralegal in the Public Defender’s Office

Glenda Doran Borton has been volunteering three years with the Public Defender’s (PD) Office, handling post-conviction relief (expungements), doing legal research, and providing legal support for attorneys handling major felony cases.

Glenda said, “My hours vary from one or two days a week to 120 hours a month when I was helping on two cases. It’s fun. I’m constantly learning new things, expanding my knowledge, and getting to put some of my experience to good use. I work with a terrific bunch of people. It’s a really good feeling to help people who need and deserve it.”

Glenda worked in international banking for 25 years and has traveled extensively in Europe and Asia. She said, “In the 70s, I was sometimes the first woman banker the people had seen. I visited a British timber company in the jungles of Borneo; Hmong villages in northern Thailand; temples in Bali; went by car from New Delhi to the Taj Mahal; toured a rubber plantation in Malaysia; stayed in a seventeenth century fort near Lisbon; and visited beautiful places full of history such as Rome, Budapest, Prague, St. Petersburg, Venice, Florence, and Siena. I accompanied friends on their own wine label. Both are also talented artists, and their biggest collaboration is a second home in Bandon, Oregon that they’ve been working on for 20 years.

Her mentor is Chief Public Defender David Brown, who brought her into the Public Defender’s Office. “He’s a great guy with a good heart,” she said. “Fairness is very important to me. My husband sometimes calls me ‘Cruiser Rabbit’ because I get passionate about righting wrongs.”

In addition to her work in the PD Office, Glenda volunteered three years with Golden Gate Raptor Observatory, banding hawks in the Marin Headlands and doing avian taxidermy.

Public Defender Jose Varela said, “Glenda’s a real asset to the office; we couldn’t provide the services we do without our volunteers.”
Skateboard park steward Jimmy Miller promotes fun, safety, and enthusiasm for the sport

Recently James “Jimmy” Miller, a 35-year-old San Francisco banking professional, reclaimed his lifelong passion for skateboarding as a skate park steward for Parks & Open Space at McNnis Skate Park. From fourth through tenth grades, in San Rafael and Fairfax schools, skateboarding was his sport. Later he became a high school swimmer and a semiprofessional bike racer. “But I always kept in touch with skateboarding,” said Jimmy.

McNnis Skate Park attracts about 20 after-school kids on weekdays and around 50 skateboarders on weekends to its challenging dips, climbs, and swells. Jimmy volunteers three days a week, making sure that the young boarders pay attention to safety rules.

He operates the helmet loaner program, sweeps the concrete surfaces clean and free of hazards, and encourages all the boarders in developing their skills. “Jimmy Miller is providing a valuable service to the skate park users,” said Supervising Park Ranger Adam Craig.

“It’s a great sport and appeals to a nice mix of kids’ ages,” said Jimmy. “Skateboarding is a very positive activity; as the kids are out exercising and German. He spent one year in Berlin on a Fulbright Scholarship and worked for one year in a German bank, Jimmy returned to Marin in 2004 and became a Civic Center Volunteer in 2010 when he accepted the Skate Park Steward position.

Jimmy is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, where he studied economics and German. He spent one year in Berlin on a Fulbright Scholarship and worked for one year in a German bank, Jimmy returned to Marin in 2004 and became a Civic Center Volunteer in 2010 when he accepted the Skate Park Steward position.

Case Manager Monica Massini added that Neftali, who is bilingual, is very responsible and pleasant; always ready to help.”

“Helping others is very important to me,” Neftali said. “I enjoy not only working with members of the community; I also enjoy working with the staff at the clinic.”

Neftali, a College of Marin fresh-

Susan Orma welcomes clients at the self-help law center in Marin County Superior Court

Susan Orma welcomes clients at the self-help law center in Marin County Superior Court. She has been volunteering with the Legal Self-Help Services for several months and is immediately fit right in with our staff. She is friendly, kind, and dedicated. She has demonstrated compassion and patience in working with our customers, who, because of their unresolved legal issues, are often stressed. She enjoys working with Sue and feel very fortunate to have her on our team.

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by Barbara Webb