



# A Helping Hand

*Marion County's Volunteer Newsletter*

*Fall* 2011

## Volunteers Critical For Sheriff's Office

Volunteers are a very important part of the Sheriff's Office and serve in many different roles. You can serve for just a few hours a month or take on a more in-depth role and volunteer several hours per week. We have opportunities including: clerical, receptionist, data and computer duties, community relations, (attending community events during the year), radar boards, traffic control, marine safety patrol and disabled parking patrol.

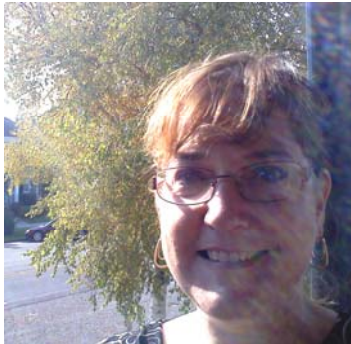
For more information on volunteer opportunities, contact Doc Nelson via email at [dnelson@co.marion.or.us](mailto:dnelson@co.marion.or.us) or phone at (503) 589-3250.



## Food For Thought

"Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it."

~William Arthur Ward Hem



### *Let me introduce myself...*

My name is Cathy Crocker, and I am the new volunteer services coordinator for Marion County. I have some BIG shoes to fill since Glenis Chapin retired. It's been a steep learning curve, and I love it!

I've been with Marion County for over 12 years with the Children and Families Department. In my years there, I lead the action team that launched the Volunteer and Mentor Center which is now HandsOn run by the United Way. It was also my pleasure to lead the *Reading for All* literacy initiative as well as the Youth Consortium for Marion County. I worked with volunteer groups throughout the county known as Community Progress Teams and assisted with the upcoming launching of the Community Resources Network. My time with the CFC was wonderful and meaningful!

Since joining the Business Services team, I've had the pleasure of broadening my understanding of the county. I've become aware of some amazing programs and services run by wonderful county staff. However,

it's what I'm learning about our volunteers that amazes me the most! Marion County could not provide the services we do without dedicated volunteers! Last year's volunteer report shows that collectively, over **1,500 volunteers** contributed **154,352 hours** of volunteer service which equals a leveraged value of **\$2,850,881!**

Please feel free to contact me anytime if I can be of assistance. I look forward to working with all of the departments of Marion County to fulfill their needs as well as assisting volunteers in having a positive experience. Thank you for your warm welcome!

I can be reached at (503) 588-7990 or by e-mail at [crocker@co.marion.or.us](mailto:crocker@co.marion.or.us)

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# Positioning Volunteer Experience on Your Resume

Whether your job seeking now or may look for a change in the future, it's always good to keep your resume current and reflective of your work and volunteer history. Placing volunteer experience on your resume is a way to demonstrate your full range of skills and capabilities, show productivity in employment gaps and to set yourself apart as an involved citizen, willing to take on new experiences and make things happen.

Now the tough question is where to place this experience on your resume. *Volunteer work should be presented with the same value, importance and level of achievement as paid work.*

There are a few different placement options that numerous people have taken note of:

## 1. Add a section to your resume called "Community Service"

- a. Shows interest outside of work experience.
- b. Shows accomplishments during gaps in employment.

## 2. Present volunteer experience along with paid work.

- a. Gives ongoing volunteer service same weight and importance as a paying job.
- b. With this approach, it is at the interview stage that you discuss how the experience was gained.

## 3. Do a combined resume that lists skills gained from related volunteer work along with paid work.

As with posting your paid work experience, try to include as many similarities between the prospective position and your experience. For instance, if you are applying for a management or lead position you could focus on your volunteer experience leading other volunteers or taking charge of a project.

It is recommended that you NOT use "volunteer" as a job title. It's an adjective and alone does not convey the work that you have accomplished. If you volunteered teaching children you could use the title "Tutor," or if you volunteered in an office setting, "Office Assistant." It is advised to focus on the volunteer experience most relevant to the position you are seeking, not list all volunteer experience if some of it does not relate. It is also recommended to not overstate what was gained in the volunteer experience. If the volunteer position was full-time or ongoing, clearly note that on the resume. Most employers will assume that volunteer work is very part-time, short-lived, and/or sporadic. A "Summary of Skills and Experience" is the area of the resume for volunteers to emphasize special skills, whether formally or informally learned.



This information was adapted from an article in the Minnesota Association of Volunteer Administration.

## Seeking Applications

Marion County District Attorney-Victim Assistance Division seeking applicants for sexual assault response advocates. Must be at least 18 years of age, have reliable transportation (not public transit), a valid driver's license, and a caring, compassionate demeanor with a non-judgmental attitude. Training will be provided, (once per year in January- training held over 2 weeks, 4 evenings and 1 Saturday). Candidates will have an interview for acceptance, criminal background check, and driving history check. If accepted, one 24-hour shift per month is required for a commitment of one year. Call Kathie Beach at 503-588-3571 or email [kbeach@co.marion.or.us](mailto:kbeach@co.marion.or.us) for an application or questions about the program.



The latest group of volunteers and interns to graduate and become advocates for crime victims through the Marion County District Attorney's Office - Victim Assistance Division.



## Spotlight On Volunteers

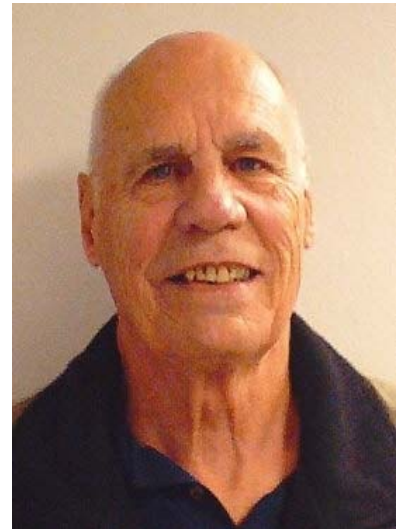
Ashley Poole has been a mentor for New Solutions since December 2010. Ashley was nominated by New Solutions staff for the Oregon Mentors Mentor and Match of the Year award.



**New Solutions Youth Mentors** provide support and encouragement by building a relationship through community activities with a child who is a client of New Solutions, a program within the Health Department. The minimum age is 18 and training is provided.

## And the Award Goes To...

Bill Foote has been named Volunteer of the Year from the Oregon State Marine Board. Bill has been a volunteer with the Marion County Sheriff for over three years. He has volunteered with the Sheriff's Marine Safety Patrol since the start of the program.



Bill's work takes place at Detroit Lake where he conducts boat safety inspections and helps tow disabled boats to shore. He also teaches classes in boating safety and assists others in obtaining boating certificate cards.

Some days are very rewarding. Bill was on the lake this past year when a sail boat overturned and he provided essential help to those on board.

So far this year, Bill has volunteered over 400 hours to Marion County. **Thank you, Bill!**

**Two Dog Shelter volunteers, Kat Pollan and Liz Stoener pose with dogs at the Salem Saturday Market. Volunteers are out most weekends at various locations to promote the shelter and our adoptable dogs. We also have volunteer opportunities for dog walkers to come visit, walk and play with our adoptable dogs. For more information, visit our website at [www.mcdogs.net](http://www.mcdogs.net) or call 503-588-5233.**

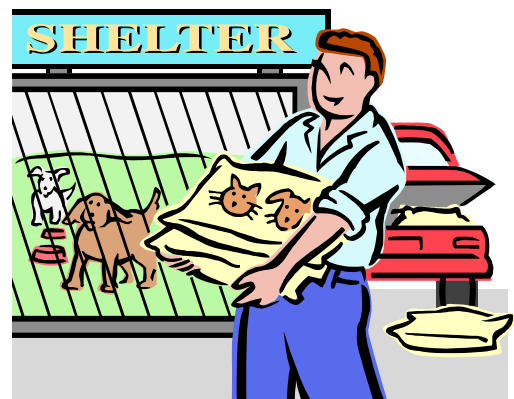


## Donate Your Time to the Marion County Dog Shelter Today!

Your generous gift of time to the dog shelter enables us to:

- Adopt dogs to loving, responsible new homes
- Reunite lost dogs with their owners
- Rescue stray and injured dogs
- Educate the community on responsible dog ownership
- Provide outreach to the community
- House and care for stray and adoptable dogs

If you would like to make a non-monetary donation to the shelter please call (503) 566-6966 for a list of our current needs.





Marion County  
volunteers—  
connecting the county  
to the community.



Business Services  
325 13th St NE, Suite #204  
PO Box 14500  
Salem, OR 97309-5036

Phone: 503-588-7990  
Fax: 503-588-5495  
Email:

volunteer@co.marion.or.us

oregonvolunteers!

**Civic Engagement  
Conference**

**November 3-4, 2011**

**&**

**2011 Governor's  
Volunteer Awards &**

**Friday, November 4,  
2011, in Salem, OR**

**At the**

**Salem Conference Center**

**For more information, go to:**

**[www.oregonvolunteers.org](http://www.oregonvolunteers.org)**



## OPPORTUNITIES

- **The Health Department** has an exciting volunteer opportunity for a creative person who likes history and writing. They would like to document the history of the Health Department since the 1980's by having an individual conduct interviews and talk with department staff, doctors, nurses and volunteers to compose a report.
- **The Weed Advisory Committee** is looking for an individual for an at large position. The Marion County Weed Advisory Committee was created to assist the Marion County Board of Commissioners in gathering information and making recommendations concerning the operation of the Weed District. It is a four-year appointed position, and the occupant may serve two terms.
- **New Solutions Youth Mentors** provide support and encouragement by building a relationship through community activities with a child who is a client of the Health Department. Fifteen youth are currently on the waiting list for a mentor. The minimum age is 18 and training is provided.
- **The Marion County Dog Shelter** needs 4 volunteers on Saturday, November 5th, 2011 from 2:15—5:00pm to staff the Raffle Prize Redemption Table at the Shopping Extravaganza event at the Woodburn Company Outlet Mall. The event benefits the Marion County Dog Shelter.