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February 2009

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## Volunteer San Diego Executive Director's Message

"We are the ones we've been waiting for." Alice Walker

This quote seemed particularly appropriate after an exciting month where no less than the President called us all to serve. I was especially encouraged that he asked Americans to consider making a long-term commitment to an organization or cause. He understands that some projects can be completed in a day and that healing the lives as a mentor or coach or leader needs relationships and service that endure.

So now what?

Post or update your volunteer listing with VSD. Sign up for one of our [orientations](#) to learn how to create a listing that is more likely to get filled. Talk with your supervisor and Executive Director about the importance of volunteers and how they can help your organization weather the economic downturn.

VSD had a 50% increase in its web visitors in January. We want to help you invite these would-be volunteers into rewarding volunteer positions at your organization.

Our waiting is over. Volunteer managers have never been as critical as they are now. I can't wait to see what we do as a community.

**Sue Carter, Executive Director**  
Volunteer San Diego

## DOVIA Program Updates



**D**irectors **O**f **V**olunteers **I**n **A**gencies (**DOVIA**) of San Diego County is a program of Volunteer San Diego. The DOVIA Program focuses on developing volunteer management skills and strengthening leadership through continuing education and support. [Learn more.](#)

As a reminder we have a volunteer manager discussion group on Google! You can continue networking that way. [Click here](#) to view the Google group.

## Trainings & Brown Bags

### Trainings

#### **Finding Fun in the Fundamentals**

The two day "Finding Fun in the Fundamentals" volunteer management training was held January 28-29. Thirty one people were registered and great information and sharing came out of the two days! Thank you to Ona Rita Yufe (consultant), Patty Zwolinski (San Diego LGBT Pride) and Jared McCannell (Hostelling International USA, San Diego Chapter), for volunteering their time and expertise to help make this training such a success.

#### **An Introduction to Service-Learning**

Date: Thursday, February 19, 2009

Time: 4:00 - 7:00PM

Cost: \$30

- \* Learn the fundamentals of service-learning and the elements of successful high-quality service-learning projects
- \* Learn 4 simple steps and practice easy-to-use tools for planning service projects with your students
- \* Leave with the practical tools, resources and support available for planning and implementing service-learning projects

For more information and to sign up click [here](#).

## Character Education Workshop

Date: Thursday, March 5, 2009

Time: 4:00 - 5:30PM

Cost: \$15

- \* Learn the nuts and bolts of character education
- \* Gain project ideas for in-school and afterschool
- \* Learn how to effectively use service-learning as a tool to teach character education

For more information and to sign up click [here](#).

## Brown Bags

### [Sticky Issues](#)

Join us February 19 at the Salvation Army Kroc Center for this open discussion of tough problems volunteer managers face: problems with volunteer, management issues and program challenges. Come join us for ideas, out of the box solutions and support. Facilitated by Jean Stein, Life Options/Volunteer Coordinator at The Salvation Army Kroc Center - San Diego. Click [here](#) to reserve your spot! [Download](#) a flyer today!

### [Recruitment of Skilled-Based Volunteers](#)

Save the date for the March 18 brown bag. Location to follow.

Bring your sack lunch, questions, and plenty of business cards for networking.

Cost: Free for DOVIA or Learn and Grow members. \$5 for non-members. Contact [dkrakauer@volunteersandiego.org](mailto:dkrakauer@volunteersandiego.org) if unsure of your membership status.

## Other Volunteer San Diego News

### What's New

### **Oscars Night 2009**

The 2009 Oscars are on February 22nd and you can celebrate Volunteer San Diego style. There will be food, games and celebrity viewings! Mark your calendars and walk the red carpet with Volunteer San Diego. For more information and to purchase tickets, click [here](#).

### **Apply now: Servapalooza is coming!**

Volunteer San Diego, eXcel Youth Zone and Kids for Peace are co-hosting Servapalooza to celebrate Global Youth Service Day. Over 3,000 young adults, youth, teens and families are celebrating in Balboa Park. Community organizations are invited to advocate their cause, recruit volunteers and most importantly provide fun service activities that help their cause. For more information and to apply for a booth, click [here](#) or [email](#) Jen Hamilton.

### **Group Projects Needed for 2009 - Let a Corporate Volunteer Group ADOPT Your Project**

What could a group of enthusiastic, motivated volunteers do for you? Do you have a group of children that volunteers can read with or a senior day center that would love visitors? Do you have a room or building that needs painting? Is your outdoor garden in need of some TLC? Use your imagination and come up with some creative project ideas.

For 2009, Volunteer San Diego already has over 20 corporate groups, with 100+ volunteers each, seeking volunteer projects all around the county.

Volunteer San Diego is asking our organization partners to submit group project ideas for 25+ volunteers. These group projects are fully managed and supported by Volunteer San Diego. Our staff will organize the volunteer projects, purchase and deliver any required supplies, and coordinate on-site logistics.

[Submit](#) your project today!

Please email or fax your corporate volunteer group project request to Jaci at [jfeinstein@volunteersandiego.org](mailto:jfeinstein@volunteersandiego.org) or 858-492-2016 so we can start our search for the right corporate partner to adopt your project. Projects submitted by members will be given first consideration.

### **Do you know a Deserving Bride?**

Do you have a client who is planning a wedding and needs financial help with their wedding expenses? DeservingBride.com is searching for San Diego's most Deserving Bride - a couple

which has experienced a genuine hardship and does not have the funds to pay for their wedding. Five finalists will be chosen and must be available for interviews on February 14, 2009. For more information or to nominate your client, visit [www.deservingbride.com](http://www.deservingbride.com).

### 10News Leadership Award



With Volunteer San Diego, Sempra Energy Foundation and LEAD San Diego, the 10News Leadership Award recognizes someone who provides leadership by making San Diego a better place to live, by standing up for those who need help, and improving the quality of life for all San Diegans. [Nominate](#) a leader for their work in the categories of Volunteerism, Environment, Diversity or Community Action.

## Superhero of the Month

This month we would like to recognize **Betty Gossett**, a volunteer with Alvarado Hospital. Alvarado Hospital's programs include cardiac services, emergency medicine services, neuroscience, orthopedics, oncology, rehabilitation, general surgical services, skull base surgery, vascular services and surgical weight reduction.

"Betty is the Gift Shop Chairperson. She not only volunteers in the gift shop 3 times a week but she also trains all the new gift shop volunteers. She actively participates in the Ways and Means committee helping with many fundraisers throughout the year. As the Gift Shop Chairperson, she is an active member of the Alvarado Hospital Auxiliary Board. Betty also gets donations and puts together gift bags for home health patients every Christmas." Stated by Holly Smith, Coordinator of Volunteer Services.

Each month, Betty volunteers about 100 hours and has been doing so for almost 18 years at Alvarado Hospital totaling over 19,800.

If you would like to nominate a volunteer, [please let us know!](#)

## Special Thank You

# LAS PATRONAS

Partnering with the San Diego Community since 1946

VSD recognizes Las Patronas for their generous donation. With their support, we were able to purchase a cargo van to support our Disaster and other Volunteer Programs. Their community contributions are invaluable. Additional thanks to Qualcomm for their funding and Kearny Pearson Ford for their excellent service.



**For more information on any of the above topics:**

**Debbie Krakauer of Volunteer San Diego**

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