



RSVP Is For Volunteers

RSVP
Lead. Inspire. Change the World. *Again.*
"We Connect Volunteers to Community Needs"

April is Volunteer Appreciation Month!

Vol 9 Issue 2 Mar-Apr 2011
Editor: Sherry Clark

Did you know that of students ages 6-17, 40% would like a mentor to visit with them at school one hour a week? Sadly, only 8% of these students get the chance. An hour a week is required to be a positive influence on children who are otherwise vulnerable to negative influences. Think about it. And then contact RSVP to be connected to a student in a school in your geographic area.

Girl Scouts Beyond Bars is a program designed to help support kids between ages 4 and 18 who have a mother in prison.

These kids are innocent victims who want and need a positive role model to meet with them one hour a week or two hours every two weeks. The Girl Scouts will train you on how to be a supportive mentor by taking the child to a park or fishing or to a baseball game...something fun. Right now there are kids on a waiting list waiting for a mentor, so consider this today. Background check and training provided at no charge.

OSU Medical Center volunteers provide comforting moments to patients and their visitors. If you have

ever visited a hospital or been a patient, you know how reassuring it is to receive a smile, hear words of encouragement or simply be given directions to the right location. Join our volunteer group to receive the satisfaction of helping others, continue learning and to make a difference in someone's life and in your own. Available positions include the information desk, waiting rooms, escort, hospitality and clerical. Flexible hours.

Infinity Care of Tulsa wants "Tuck In" volun-

is flexible. Good communication skills are very helpful for this assignment.

American Red Cross needs volunteers to serve as Greeters at one of two Tulsa blood centers at 11th/ hwy 169 or the south location near 71st/Memorial. If you would be willing to spend one day a week, 10am-6pm at one of these sites to welcome and register blood donors, you are needed now. Lunch will be provided to volunteers on duty.

UP WITH TREES continues to re-green Tulsa. You can help during a planting event. Upcoming events are 10am-Noon:

Sat March 5 at Robertson Elementary; Sat March 12 at Bunche Early Learning Center; Sat March 19 at Webster High School;

and Sat March 26 at Nimitz Middle School.

Bring your "ready to help attitude", and they will bring trees and supplies. Please RSVP with April at 610-8733 if you plan to help at a planting so they can look for you!!



RSVP Tropical Trivia volunteers had a blast! l to r: Brenda James, JeanE Bailey, Marcia Wertz, Donna Henry

teers to make courtesy phone calls to patient's families at the end of each week to see if their weekend needs are taken care of. The calls can be made from their office. The need is for Thurs or Fri morning; the time slot

Emergency Infant Services would love volunteers to help them as "Baby Item Processors" who help sort, hang and stock incoming baby items. There is an urgent need on Tues and/or Thurs 9am – 1pm. Location is 222 S. Houston. Call Marsha at 582-2469 ext 105.

Consider this important need. **Tulsa & Creek County Senior Nutrition Program** volunteer drivers deliver meals to homebound seniors in these areas: 11th & Memorial or 61st and 33rd West Ave. You will use your own car, pick the meals up at a designated site within the delivery area, and then deliver the meals to 10 individual homebound seniors who need this assistance. If you can do it every week day or just one day of the week, they need you!

Cancer Treatment Centers of America has added to their dining room a Sunday Brunch from 11-2:00 for patients and their families/caregivers. They would like a talented musical person to play the keyboard during the brunch each Sunday or as often as you can. If this sound like a fit for you, you will also be treated to brunch. Location is at 81st/hwy169.

RSVP Supplemental Accident & Liability Policy Insurance

All registered RSVP volunteers (collectively) of an organization are provided with Personal Liability Insurance at a limit of \$1,000,000 per occurrence subject to an annual aggregate per named organization. This policy provides protection for a personal injury or a property damage liability claim arising out of the performance of the registered volunteer's duties. This coverage is in excess of and non-contributing with any other valid or collectible insurance the volunteer may have.

Under the Personal Liability insurance coverage, the insurer will defend any covered suit against the volunteer seeking damages on account of personal injury, bodily injury or property damage which exceeds any other valid or collectible insurance available to the volunteer.

The Accident Insurance coverage will pay up to \$25,000 for covered medical treatment, hospitalization and licensed nursing care required as the result of a covered accident. Benefits are payable for injuries which result directly from an accident, and independently of all other causes, while coverage is in effect. The insurance applies while the volunteer is traveling directly to and from, and while participating in, volunteer assignments. Initial medical expenses must be incurred within 60 days of the accident. Expenses are then covered for a one-year period following the accident up to \$25,000. Other than X-rays, dental care is covered up to \$500 per tooth for accidental injury to sound, natural teeth and repair of dentures.

This coverage also provides up to \$50.00 for repair or replacement of eyeglass frames and up to \$50.00 for repair or replacement of eyeglass prescription lenses damaged as a result of a covered accident.

See Policy for further details and exclusions.

Injury Claim:

If you have an accident which results in bodily injury to yourself you can obtain a claim form from the RSVP executive director, Claudia Meiling. Follow the instructions carefully. When the form has been completed return it to the designated person at RSVP, with your itemized bills. That person will then sign the form and submit it to CIMA.

Liability Claim:

In the event of a liability claim, you should immediately contact your RSVP executive director, Claudia Meiling. Be sure to have information containing the time, place and circumstances, including the names and addresses of witnesses and the injured. RSVP personnel will continue the claim process for you.

RSVP Tulsa wants volunteers to stay safe in your volunteer work; however, it is a fact of nature that accidents sometimes happen. If you have an accident while you're volunteering, RSVP wants to help.

A Welcome Smile

SouthCrest Hospital at 91st and Mingo has a need for volunteers in all areas, but special needs include the front info desk and gift shop. All training is provided. Your volunteer shift will be a regular 4 hours on a scheduled day of the week. Volunteer benefits are provided.

Like positions are available at **Hillcrest Hospital, St. John's Hospital, Saint Francis and Saint Francis South Hospitals**, and **OSU Medical Center** in Tulsa. Also, medical centers in Broken Arrow, Sapulpa, and Owasso have requested volunteers.

Call RSVP to learn how you can serve as a hospital volunteer at a hospital or medical center in your area.



Call RSVP to learn where you can volunteer with our canine friends: 280-8656 or garyann@rsvptulsa.org.

RSVP Volunteers Give Here

From Cindy Roylance, Administrative Associate, **Tulsa Heart Walk:**

1-4-2011: "I just wanted to say thank you again so much for the wonderful people you sent to help us with all the folding and stuffing of our Tulsa Heart Walk Team Captain Bags. They were hard-working and delightful to be with. They folded and stuffed 10,000+ materials and literally saved my sanity. We will be calling on RSVP volunteers again."

From Patsy Reid volunteering at **Hillcrest Medical Center on 2-**

2011: "I had the most wonderful time today rockin', rockin', and rockin' a sweet baby girl who's been in the NICU for quite a while. It was awesome! I am so thankful for this [volunteer] opportunity. Thanks!

From the **Performing Arts Center Annual Volunteer Program Report:**

RSVP volunteers serving at the Performing Arts Center were recognized for 2010 volunteer service. Noted were RSVP volunteers **Glenna Johnson** who served 185 annual hours, and **Kay DeWitt** who served 143 hours.



First United Methodist Church of Jenks **"Loops of Love"** volunteers:

This group of RSVP volunteers have been meeting weekly since 2007 to knit and crochet together. Group members contributed more than 150 hat and scarf sets to RSVP's holiday project that gifts



Front Row from Left to Right - Margaret Carroll, Marge Parker, Nancy Sullenger, Judy Powell, Dorothy Goad, Betty Foster; Back Row from Left to Right - Janice Engel, Debbie Finn, Jeanneane Carter, Tine Cundiff, Donna Strand; Not pictured - Kaye Maclaskey, Jacque DeGraff, Renee Drake, Jackie Carter, Brenda McDonald

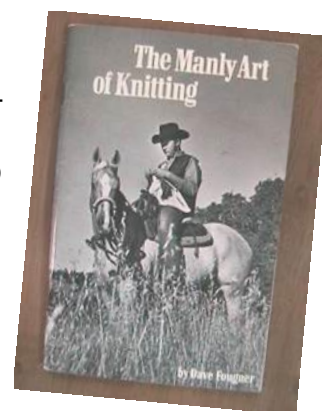
the handcrafted items to students at elementary schools each holiday season. That's a lot of merry needles making music at "Loops of Love"! If you have an interest in joining the group (shown in the photo above) at their south side Jenks location, please call RSVP for information.

RSVP Volunteer Referral Contest Update:

The RSVP referral contest was begun at the annual RSVP volunteer recognition luncheon in October 2010. To date, 11 new volunteers have been referred by 9 current RSVP members. Each member who refers a new volunteer has their name dropped into a hat. Winning names will be drawn at the annual luncheon this coming

October. Thanks to members who are actively participating! There are seven contest months remaining. There's plenty of time for each of us to put pencil to paper to make a list of our 55+ friends and relatives who have experience to share, retired or not; who want to make a difference for another; or to whom a regular schedule would be a welcome addition in a retired life. Call each person on your list and suggest they call RSVP for an appointment to talk about how a volunteer job might fit into their life.

Tell each to use your name so you have a chance to win prizes, too!



Men are ALWAYS invited and wanted at Knittin' Kittens!

RSVP Senior Seminars

Free for Members @ RSVP
rsvp at 280-8656: space is limited

- **March 16- "Basics of Estate Planning"**, Attorney William A. Bowles, 10 am-noon
- **March 29- "Wills and Trusts 101"**, Attorney William A. Bowles, 10am -noon
- **April 14- "Tulsa Trash Plan 2012 and ReCycling 101"**, Mary McIntyre Coley, City of Tulsa Communications Officer, 10am-noon

Snow Days!

It was so cold in February that even the squirrels bundled up!



Shown at right are three RSVP staff members in front of a pile of snow in the RSVP

parking lot that prevented business as usual for some scheduled meetings and appointments at the RSVP office.

As well, staff members loaded up their computer memory sticks to take files home to work with knowing it might be a spell before they could get back to the office. The work parking lot was plowed, and streets were finally clear enough to drive. We didn't miss much in the way of work and planning and business as usual, but we did miss seeing our daily volunteers, hearing

the phones ring with calls from volunteers reporting their monthly hours, or signing up to volunteer for an event, or inquiring about the next computer class.

At home, some of us worked in our pajamas—because we could—while cuddling our dogs. Some of us detested, abhorred, and resented the snow. Others of us loved the



peaceful calm that comes with snowfall, as well as the pure white light that reflects into our homes. How did you survive the Snowklahoma Blizzards of 2011? Share your stories to be included in our next newsletter!

City of Tulsa's Ann Patterson Dooley Family Safety Center

RSVP volunteers at the **Family Safety Center** support the agency's objective of *providing a safe place where families come first and professionals come together.*

Volunteers are wanted to train to learn to work with protective order applicants over the phone to advise them when the accused has been served with the warrant, and to assure that a safety plan for the victim and children is in place.

The time between filing for a protective order and the two-week period between that date and the full hearing date at the courthouse is a particularly dangerous time for a victim. Knowing when the abuser has been served will help them take safety action, if necessary.

As well, volunteers are needed to train to assist applicants in completing their protective orders.

Volunteers are trained by DVIS staff. **Training dates** are: 5:45pm each day on March 22nd, 24th, 29th, 31st, April 1st (noon-1pm), 5th, 7th, 12th and 21st. The training is a wonderful learning opportunity, and your volunteer service is needed. Call RSVP for info.

Volunteer Opportunities Around Town



Broken Arrow Seniors seeks an active volunteer to lead a women's low impact exercise class. This may include line dancing, stretching, aerobics, etc.....and you do not have to be licensed to teach. They would like to meet 2 or 3 mornings a week, but are flexible and will work with whatever time you have available. If you would enjoy leading this healthy activity, Call RSVP!

If you are an experienced **Cake Decorator**, please consider this volunteer opportunity to share your talent and expertise. Teach a one-hour weekly cake decorating class on March 4, 11, 18, and 25 from 9-10:00 am at **Rosa Parks Early Childhood Center** (13702 E 46 Pl S). Attendees will be mothers of students attending the Center. Supplies are provided.



The Center for Individuals with Physical Challenges would like an RSVP volunteer to teach a basic

wood carving class for their participants. If you have experience and enjoy the craft, this is one opportunity to share your enthusiasm with those who want to learn to whittle away their days—a good thing! Are you available during the summer? The Center will provide supplies and will work with your calendar schedule. The Center is located at 815 S. Utica.



WELCOME to new RSVP volunteers! Joseph Devito, Dorothy Powers, Frank Krukowski, Don Folkerth, Penny Pricer, Jeanneane Carter, Beth Schallo, Kathleen Wheeler, John Schmidt, Kathy Morgan, Chris Rainey, Terry

Finch, Phil Williams, Patrice Lott

We will miss our departed RSVP friends. John Baker, Jerry Clingan, Donald Collis, Ila Hicks, Jack Powell Ima Ryel



RSVP Family Safety Court Watch

From 1999-2009, nearly 300 RSVP volunteers observed 12,319 protective order cases at **Tulsa County Courthouse** over 32,295 hours. Volunteers contributed

560 case research hours at home, and 498 hours to enter court observation data.

As well, RSVP volunteers served 1,500 hours as Court Shepherds for victims of domestic violence applying for protective orders in the Family Division Courts, at the former Protective Order Office at the courthouse, and at the **Ann Patterson Dooley Family Safety Center** near 31st/Harvard.

Those documented RSVP volunteer service hours compute to a total of **\$704,842** volunteer dollars donated to the community to assist in the fight against family violence, and the quest for a safe community in which to live.

The volunteer service work is compelling in it's impact on community safety, for the opportunity to learn about the judicial system in a hands-on manner, and the healing the work brings to volunteers who themselves or a family member might be a survivor of adult or childhood violence and abuse and who want to help others stop the violence in their lives.



Legislative Update training from Tim Gray, JD, for RSVP Court Watch volunteers at the February monthly coffee meeting at RSVP.

Court Watch is a tool for the development of a coordinated community response to domestic violence. Our program objective is to assure that safety for victims and their children is provided by the system, and that abusers are held accountable.

RSVP volunteers go to the courthouse one-half morning each week, or as their schedules allow, to observe cases in the protective order court. Training is provided on-the-job by a seasoned volunteer, and volunteers are not assigned to work on their own until they feel ready to do so, usually a period of several weeks.

Parking is paid by RSVP, and if a docket requires that you stay over a lunch period, RSVP reimburses \$4.00 toward the cost of nourishment.

Court Watch always wants and needs new objective volunteers to keep our project fresh. Contact Sherry at RSVP.

Do you have just
one day to volunteer?

1. Call your **RSVP** office to ask if there are special projects to help with on the day you are available.
2. Ride to court with an **RSVP Court Watch** volunteer to observe Court proceedings for just one day. Serve and learn about our Courts.
3. Ride with staff one time to observe or assist students being taught technology job skills through **RSVP Power Up! Plus+** at **Redemption Ministries**.
4. Volunteer to take home articles created by **RSVP Knittin' Kitten** volunteers to attach tags. Or provide the service here at the RSVP office. Bring a friend!
5. Volunteer to attend an **RSVP** program development brainstorming meeting. Your objective thoughts and ideas about member services are wanted.
6. In July, help with RSVP's "fun"draiser event, **Denim to Diamonds**.
7. Visit an elementary school for one day with an **RSVP Grandfriends** volunteer.
8. Visit one day with a Veteran at the **Claremore Veterans Center**.
9. Shadow a volunteer at the **Family Safety Center** for one-half day.

RSVP

Retired Senior Volunteer Program of Tulsa, Inc.

5756 E 31st Street
Tulsa, OK 74135



SENIOR CORPS
Corporation for NATIONAL & COMMUNITY SERVICE

We're on the Web:
www.rsvptulsa.org
(918) 280-8656

*Please share your newsletter with another
55+ who may not know about the benefits of
RSVP free membership.*

Please Tell Us How We're Doing

RSVP wants to know if we are providing quality service to RSVP member volunteers and agency partners.

During March, we will send an email survey to each of you with email addresses and ask that you please participate. Your responses are very important to our board and staff.

The 2008 member and agency survey was helpful and important in setting programming and service priorities. And your responses helped us show the powerful positive impact that RSVP volunteer service has on community issues.

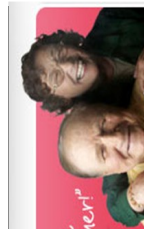
The survey will be user-friendly and will be available also to those of you who do not have email.

Thanks in advance for sharing your thoughts with RSVP of Tulsa, Inc., your volunteer connection agency!

"The best portion of a good man's life is the little, nameless, unremembered acts of kindness and love."

— William Wordsworth (1770-1850)
English Poet

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