

2008 March/April News

Delaware Association of Volunteer Administrators

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(DAVA)

“A Professional Organization for Leaders of Volunteers.”

DAVA MEETING DATES - MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- ✚ Tuesday, March 20, 2008 – Kent County – Speed Networking - Sorentino's Restaurant
- ✚ Friday May 16, 2008 – Sussex County
- ✚ Friday June 27, 2008 –Annual Awards Ceremony - Christiana Hilton

DAVA MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: *Jill Laroche-Wilson.*



Jill LaRoche Wilson is quickly approaching her one year anniversary as the Volunteer Coordinator for Christiana Hospital in Newark, Delaware. Christiana Hospital is one of two hospitals in the Christiana Care Health System, a nonprofit organization that seeks to improve the health of individuals in Delaware, as well as surrounding communities in Maryland, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey, through health care services, education, and research. However, Jill is not new to the field of volunteer management. Prior to joining the Volunteer Services Department for CCHS, Jill was the Volunteer Coordinator for Heartland Hospice in Philadelphia and worked for a church in Pennsylvania. In all, Jill has been supporting and managing volunteers for about six years.

A native of Massachusetts (and proud fourth generation Red Sox fan!), Jill graduated from Boston University in 1993 and, following college, spent a year in volunteer service in Los Angeles teaching special needs high school students. After graduate school in Cambridge, Massachusetts, Jill and her husband, Greg Wilson, moved south to the Philadelphia-area. Jill, Greg, and daughter Claire live in Media, Pennsylvania on a beautiful acre of woods with their two dogs, Toby and MoMo, and about a dozen salt-water fish.

Jill has a passion for improving the lives of people, serving them with dignity and respect. Her Master's degree comes from an institution known for its commitment to social justice and for forming leaders who can cast a vision, direct a comprehensive plan, and enact change in people's lives. Her philosophy of volunteer management moves outward from this desire to improve the quality of the life that people experience, knowing that all people have the abilities and skills to effectively and joyfully become a volunteer.

FUTURE DAVA MEMBER ARRIVES:

Congratulations to Kerry McElwee and husband for the early arrival of their son *Casey Ryan McElwee*. Casey made his grand entrance on Valentines Day. He spent 5 days in the NICU due to weight loss, but came home Tuesday the 19th and is doing very well.



Welcome Casey!

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2008 GRADUATES.

The Education Committee and Executive Board are very pleased to announce the following individuals have received their Delaware Certification in Volunteer Administration. Gayle Anthony



Donna Argo, Kathleen Aviles, Lisa Barrentine, Andrea Berger, Jennifer Bobel, Brice Calvin, Tracy Carpentyer, Janet Chin, Melina Coates, Gene Danneman, Teresa DePrima, Heather Detwiler, Samuel Dolgin-Garder, Shane Engrem, Alice Fatherree, Teresa Fredericks, Kristy Godfrey, Dorothy Godwin, Dan Gothie, Laurabeth Griffin, Jennifer Heiss, Jenni Jackson, Gayle King, Michelle Koppenhofer, Christina Marrow, Julie McCarthy, John-Paul Pelletier, Jessica Prayer, Kathy Rash, Lynne Robinson,

Cindy Schaap, Jessica Snow, Jason Spencer, Kathie Stamm, Tonia Tarsia, Dan Uncles, Lana Ward and Caroline Williams.

JURY DUTY SCAM, Submitted by Sally Wojcieszyn:

It is spreading fast so be prepared should you get this call. Most of us take those summonses for jury duty seriously, but enough people skip out on their civic duty, that a new and ominous kind of fraud has surfaced. The caller claims to be a jury coordinator. If you protest that you never received a summons for jury duty, the scammer asks you for your Social Security number and date of birth so he or she can verify the information and cancel the arrest warrant. Give out any of this information and bingo; your identity was just stolen.

The fraud has been reported so far in 11 states, including Oklahoma, Illinois, and Colorado. This (swindle) is particularly insidious because they use intimidation over the phone to try to bully people into giving information by pretending they are with the court system. The FBI and the federal court system have issued nationwide alerts on their web sites warning consumers about the fraud. **This has been verified by the FBI (their link is also included below).**

Check it out here: http://www.fbi.gov/page2/june06/jury_scams060206.htm

And here: <http://www.snopes.com/crime/fraud/juryduty.asp>

PERSONALIZE YOUR VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION, Submitted by Edie Banning

Tired of formal recognition banquets? Looking for a new way to honor your volunteers?

Edith Banning, Volunteer Services Administrator/Director for Kent/Sussex Adopt-a-Family located in Milford, Delaware, says "DON'T TAKE THE COOKIE CUTTER APPROACH TO RECOGNITION. IT IS BEST TO TAKE THE TIME TO KNOW EACH VOLUNTEER AND HONOR THEM YEARLY WITH RESPECT TO THEIR INDIVIDUALITY SO THEY ARE COMFORTABLE WITH BEING RECOGNIZED."

YEARLY RECOGNITION SHOULD NOT TAKE THE PLACE OF DAILY RECOGNITION FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTION REMINDS Banning, BUT A DEMONSTRATIVE RECOGNITION SHOULD BE PLANNED FOR ALL VOLUNTEERS ONCE A YEAR, POSSIBLY ON THEIR ANNIVERSARY WITH THE AGENCY, AND BE INDIVIDUALIZED BASED ON EACH VOLUNTEER'S NEEDS."

Banning says find out the volunteer's personal interests (e.g., photography, gardening, painting, the theatre, etc.) and then honor them with a personalized gift suiting those interests if possible. Don't forget the subtle recognition methods such as plaques in reception areas or public service announcements in local papers or other methods of telling the volunteer's friends, neighbors and family of their value to your agency. These can go a long way in recognizing the volunteer as well as promoting your agency.

SCAM ALERT, Submitted by Kerry McElwee

Described below is a very detailed scam that luckily was not successful, but certainly could be if the target is not skeptical. Pass this on to anyone you feel needs it.

If you would like to sign up for alerts like this go to www.scamnot.org it is a free service offered by California Sheriff's Dept.

The following incident occurred at a Police Department Fraud Office in Arizona. This is the first we have heard of this type of scam and are passing along the information as an advisory.

The victim is called at home and advised she has won the Publisher's Clearing House giveaway. The victim believed it may be a scam type of call and is leery that she is actually a winner, although she did enter the sweepstakes.

The caller asked the victim for the number to the local law enforcement fraud office so he can verify to the victim his identity and legitimacy. The Fraud secretary at the local law enforcement agency received a call on the following day, which is an inquiry type of call and transferred the call to one of their detectives.

The Detective stated that the caller indicated that his mother might be the victim of fraud. He begin to ask questions regarding how they proceed with investigations, such as do they fingerprint fraudulent checks and describes what probably is a Nigerian scheme. The Detective became suspicious after so many questions so he advised the caller to have his mother call and that she should have a police report taken. The detective believed he may have been talking to a suspect fishing for information. Prior to this person hanging up he asked the detective for his name and badge number and asked him to spell his name.

*A short time later, the daughter of the victim called the law enforcement agency wanting to verify that the Detective had spoken to her mother. The suspect had apparently called the victim and identified himself as Detective **** and told her that the giveaway was legitimate. Detective **** indicated to the daughter that he had not spoken to her mother regarding the Publisher's Clearing House giveaway. The mother, who was still suspicious decided to make an appointment to talk to detective **** in person.*

At this point it is discovered the entire series of phone calls was from a scammer attempting to defraud the victim.

Remember: even if the person tells you they are law enforcement over the phone, do not assume that to be true. Whenever in doubt, look up the phone number for the law enforcement agency on your own (do not trust the caller to give you the correct number) and call that agency and speak to the person who's name was given.

AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN WORKPLACE VOLUNTEERS – CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

If your company has an employee volunteer program, you probably have some great stories to share about the impact your volunteers have had in communities across the country. Maybe it's through large scale annual events or with smaller groups of volunteers in remote locations who have significantly impacted their community – the Points of Light & Hands On Network wants to hear about your stories. The awards are given out annually by the Points of Light & Hands On Network, as the most respected endorsement of businesses that demonstrate the values of corporate social responsibility through their employee volunteers. Companies of all sizes are encouraged to apply by visiting the website www.PointsofLight.org/Awards.

Nominations accepted through March 17, 2008 the awards will be presented at the 2008 National Conference on Volunteering and Service in Atlanta, GA, June 1-3. In collaboration with the Corporation for National & Community Service, the National Conference on Volunteering and Service is the premier gathering for nonprofit, corporate, national service and education leaders.

[PRESIDENT'S FY09 BUDGET REQUEST FOR NATIONAL SERVICE, Submitted by Sally Wojcieszyn](#)

On February 4, 2008, President Bush sent to Congress his Fiscal Year 2009 budget request which recommends \$829.7 million for the Corporation for National and Community Service and its three core programs - AmeriCorps, Senior Corps and Learn & Serve America. This request is \$26.6 million less than the agency received in FY08, continuing a five year decline in national service funding.

The President's budget proposes cuts to several service initiatives, the most significant being a 40% cut to the Foster Grandparent Program - a program that connects 19,000 volunteers age 60 and over with children and young people with exceptional needs. For more details about the budget please read below or [click here](#) to visit the Corporation for National and Community Service website.

- **AmeriCorps State and National Grants:** \$274 million includes a \$17.4 million increase over the FY 2008 enacted level. The additional funds will support the agency's congressionally mandated transition from two-year to one-year funding while maintaining the current level of service to communities across the nation.
- **National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC):** \$9.8 million, combined with \$6.3 million in available FY08 funding. The request for NCCC in FY09 is a \$14 million reduction in appropriated funds.
- **VISTA:** \$91.6 million, a \$2.2 million reduction from FY08.
- **Senior Corps:** \$174 million. While sustaining the federal investment in the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) and the Senior Companion Program, the President's budget cuts the Foster Grandparent program by more than \$40 million.
- **Learn and Serve America:** \$32.1 million, a \$5.3 million reduction from the FY08 enacted level.

The President's budget submission is just the first step in a lengthy appropriations process. Voices for National Service will remain engaged, reaching out to the Administration and the Congress, urging them to sustain and grow their investment.

This latest development does underscore how important it is for us to educate our nation's leaders about the indispensable value of national service as they head into a very difficult appropriations process. The pressure to produce more with less funding will be felt by nearly every federal program and agency in the coming year. We urge you to invite your elected officials to visit your program this year.

[PAWS NEWS Submitted by: Richard Phillips](#)

Lynne Robinson, Executive Director of PAWS for People, will be speaking at the Newark Women's Connection on Monday, March 10th. The event will be held at the Christiana Hilton near Newark. Her topic will be pet therapy.

PAWS for People will participate in this year's Living Well Expo. It will be held at the Chase Riverfront Center in Wilmington on April 30th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Again, Lynne will be speaking at the event around noon; her topic is pet therapy & wellness.

PAWS is in the planning stages of a special event for the First Annual Delaware Week for the Animals, which is April 19 through 27th. We are currently planning a special PAWS for Reading program at one of our New Castle County libraries. Also, we will be presenting what you & your pets can do to help the community. Additional details are not available at this time.

PAWS NEWS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

PAWS for People was on television 3 times in January. PAWS' teams were featured on the program "Windows on Wilmington" in early January.

As a result of the Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Celebration at the Chase Riverfront Center, PAWS made a short 10-second mention on WPVI-TV (Channel 6 in Philadelphia market). Two of our teams were shown talking with interested people & our mission statement was stated by Jim Gardner.

Paws' Lynne and her dog Boo Radley made a special visit to Delaware Elwyn in Wilmington to demonstrate PAWS' therapy. The visits and the interview were recorded featured on a "Wider Horizons" segment on WHYY-TV (channel 12 in the Wilmington/Philadelphia market).



*Respectfully submitted by:
Tracy Evans, DCVA
Lewes Rehoboth Meals on Wheels*

Please turn to the next page for Executive and Committee contact information.

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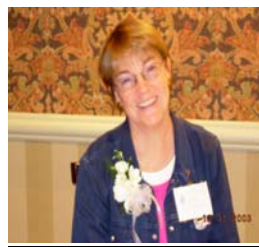
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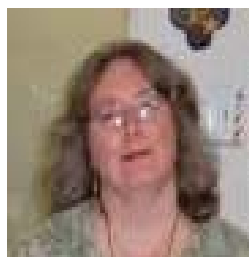
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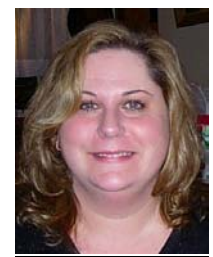
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