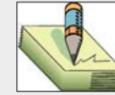


## Happy Anniversary

We congratulate our volunteers who celebrate their anniversaries in April.

<b>16 Years</b>	<b>Arthur Marthinsen</b> (San Rafael) Health Consultant, Community Development;
<b>15 Years</b>	<b>Charlotte Urban</b> (Novato) LBW Liaison, Library;
<b>13 Years</b>	<b>Gail Conover</b> (Novato) Clerk, Housing Authority; <b>Robert Isherwood</b> (San Rafael) Mediator, Probation;
<b>12 Years</b>	<b>Shirley Trimble</b> (San Rafael) Profiles Writer, Human Resources, and CCV of the Year 2008-2009.
<b>6 Years</b>	<b>Charles Acocella</b> (San Rafael) Clerical Aide, Human Resources; <b>John Adikes</b> (Marin City) Aide, Library; <b>Helen DeCarlo</b> (San Anselmo) Mailing Aide, Auditor - Controller;
<b>5 Years</b>	<b>Solveig Machnowski Flores</b> (San Rafael) Senior Peer Counselor, H&HS; <b>Nelly Mendoza</b> (Novato) Senior Peer Counselor, H&HS;
<b>4 Years</b>	<b>Rich Wallace</b> (Mill Valley) Mediator, Probation; <b>Linda Sisler</b> (Greenbrae) Mediator, Probation; <b>Anne Damiens</b> (Marin City) Aide, Marin City Library; <b>Mary Jones</b> (Novato) Driver, H&HS; <b>Maureen Gamma</b> (Mill Valley) Driver, H&HS; <b>Chris Wragg</b> (San Rafael) Data Entry Clerk, Assessor / Recorder;
<b>1 Year</b>	<b>Susan M. Bunker</b> (San Rafael) LBW Liaison, Library; <b>Pamela Marcus</b> (San Anselmo) Mediator, Probation; <b>Anne Hillsley</b> (Woodacre) Mediator, Probation; <b>Lani Jerman</b> (Mill Valley) Mediator, Probation; <b>Tamara Nance</b> (San Anselmo) Mediator, Probation; <b>David Zorensky</b> (Ross) Mediator, Probation; <b>Theresa Beale</b> (Novato) Advocate, Proj. Indep., H&HS; <b>Charles Wallace</b> (San Rafael) Mediation Asst., Probation; <b>Kelley Baer</b> (Mill Valley) Investigative Aide, Child Support Services.



### Volunteer Notes

#### Volunteers' Fiscal Impact Impressive

Civic Center Volunteers links county residents with local government by matching qualified volunteers with county departments that can use their talents and skills. The efforts add up! In 2008, the Civic Center Volunteers program was supported by 7,012 volunteers whose 204,588 hours provided more than **\$8.67 million** in services to augment and extend the efforts of County employees. Since CCV began in 1979, an amazing \$98.5 million in time has been contributed! How do we know this? The CCV office tallies time sheet totals each month. To make sure that your valuable effort is counted, remember to report your hours to your supervisor. Even if you work no hours in a month, we need to know that. Please get all your hours to us the last day you work in each month by email, phone, FAX or mail!

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**Volunteers:**  
**Shirley Trimble**, Profiles Writer;  
**Chirstina Delnevo**, **Joanne Elder**, **Vivienne Freeman**, **Marlene Gerbsman**, **Sherri Inenaga**, and **Bess Niemcewicz**, Administrative Aides.



## The Volunteer View

The Monthly Newsletter for Marin County Civic Center Volunteers

Volume 31, Issue 4

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### Nora Martinis uses nursing experience and listening skills as volunteer peer counselor

Retired three years ago from a lifetime nursing career, **Nora Maliepaard-Martinis** quickly found a way to remain involved in the health care field – she became a Senior Peer Counselor. “What a gift it has been,” she says.



*Nora Martinis's professional nursing background increases her effectiveness as a peer counselor.*

As a Peer Counselor, Nora has shared many hours listening and providing support for her frail elderly clients during her weekly visits. Her first client was at the end of her life with Parkinson's disease. “Because of my life experience I am not afraid to die or talk about death and the dying process. I was able to help my client in letting go of her fear of dying in the year we spent together,” explains Nora.

Recently, Nora has visited a woman with short-term memory loss. The client and her only living son have been estranged for 40 years (the death of two other children are ongoing sources of grief). Through the Internet, Nora found the son living in New York and was able to arrange communication and a 10-minute phone call between mother and son.

Senior Peer Counselor Coordinator **Nan Heflin**, LMHP, describes Nora as a “perfect example of how to keep life rich and meaningful at any age. She brings an incredible wealth of experience from her professional life, working in the area that addresses the long-term nursing care needs of patients in both the acute hospital and in skilled nursing facilities. She is deep, thoughtful, and has an incredible commitment to finding just the right key to open the door of intimate communication with her clients.”

As a young nurse, Nora practiced and taught 18 years in the area of neurological/ neurosurgical nursing: 10 years at Columbia University, five years at Bronx Community College, and three years as an Associate Professor of Nursing at the University of San Francisco. She also worked for six years with teenagers during their initial treatment for substance abuse. From 1994 to 2005, she worked for the California State Department of Health Services evaluating care in skilled nursing facilities. She investigated complaint charges and saw that the facilities submitted a plan to improve conditions for the residents.

Nora wants to write a book about end-of-life issues. In preparation, she's been doing a lot of reading in this area and has taken a writing course. “Having been involved in the professional field for so long, I have spent many an hour at the side of persons anticipating their own death or the death of a loved one,” she says.

This Corte Madera resident also gardens, cooks a lot, and attends opera and ballet performances.

- by Shirley Trimble

## Who's New & Welcome

<b>Marcia Martin</b> (Novato) Admin.Asst., Housing Authority	<b>Lindsay Bearer</b> (S..F.) Advocate, Proj. Indep., H&HS
<b>Dana Devereux</b> (Mill Valley) Shelver, Corte Madera Library	<b>Nicole Bores</b> (San Francisco) Intern, H&HS
<b>Idalia Alvis</b> (Larkspur) Centering Volunteer, H&HS	<b>Cara Wasden</b> (Petaluma) Reader, Novato Library
<b>Sheldon Morris</b> (Novato) Aide , Novato Library	<b>Rachel Quinn</b> (Burlingame) Advocate, Proj. Indep., H&HS
<b>Nancy Fleming</b> (Corte Madera) Resource Assisant, H&HS	<b>Claudia Ayala</b> (Vallejo) Clinical Support, H&HS
<b>Lesley Angelo</b> (Mill Valley) LBW Liason, Library	<b>Jeffrey Trenery</b> (Petaluma) Volunteer Firefighter, Fire
<b>Lyndsie Antoun</b> (San Rafael) Intern, H&HS	<b>Matthew Petty</b> (Novato) Trainee, Fire
<b>Chrissy Phillips</b> (San Rafael) Intern, H&HS	<b>David Hoey</b> (San Francisco) Advocate, Proj. Indep., H&HS
<b>Rossana Lambert</b> (San Rafael) Admin.Asst., H&HS	<b>Peter Rosel</b> (San Francisco) H.R. Asst., Human Resources
<b>Rob Spurzem</b> (Corte Madera) Intern, PD	<b>Jean Terribilini</b> (Santa Rosa) Admin.Asst., CDA
<b>Jasmine Castro</b> (San Rafael) Intern, PD	<b>Maurice Shawongonabe</b> (Novato) Janitorial Asst., DPW
<b>Stephanie Smith</b> (S.F.) Advocate, Proj. Indep., H&HS	<b>Shannon Bynum</b> (Marin City) Intern, CS
<b>Meghan Adelman</b> (Novato) Centering Volunteer & Clinical Support, H&HS	

## Christina Delnevo's can-do attitude and work ethic support ongoing projects for the Civic Center Volunteers community

During the last several years, **Christina Delnevo**, a 19-year-old sophomore at Sonoma State University, has learned a lot about time management.

Christina's a full time student at SSU, works 20-25 hours weekly as a shift manager at a San Rafael Starbucks, and volunteers as an administrative assistant in the Civic Center Volunteers (CCV) office.

A major in marketing/business with an emphasis on human resources, she began volunteering with a major file audit and purge in preparation of the CCV move to its current temporary quarters. **Joan Brown** commented, "We literally couldn't have gotten the project done in time for the move without her. She was invaluable with her efficiency and excellent judgment." Christina's work then focused on the highly detailed and on-going challenge of updating and auditing the volunteer data base. In addition, she contacts volunteers who have not turned in



*Christina Delnevo's efforts and initiative support the Civic Center Volunteers program.*

their time sheets, follows up with potential volunteers and supervisors who Joan has already interviewed, and does anything else that's needed. Christina says, "I really enjoy the experience I am getting by working in the volunteer office. I am learning how to effectively communicate with other professionals and present myself in the workplace while getting a feeling

of satisfaction that I am also helping a community of volunteers."

"Christina has demonstrated a strong work ethic and delightful can-do attitude, common sense, initiative, flexibility, and professionalism. She is fast, accurate, and always shows a curiosity to learn and contribute more," says Joan.

At SSU, Christina is part of a mentor program which pairs youth with business professionals. She has been matched with a marketing professional, with whom she meets once a week for advice on her resume.

A Terra Linda High grad, she lives at home with her family: her mother, a human resources manager for the Morrison & Foerster attorney firm; her father, formerly with Bechtel, who just completed his master's degree in business at Dominican University; and her sister, Angie, 23, a liberal arts graduate of Sonoma State University.

- by Shirley Trimble

## Carpenter Tony Coyle turns old wood into new projects at Stafford Lake and McNear's Beach county park sites



*Tony Coyle builds "green" picnic tables for park patrons using salvaged wood.*

Since last spring, Irish ex-pat **James "Tony" Coyle** has made a large contribution to helping the Marin County Parks & Open Space become as "green as possible."

A professional carpenter who now works mostly on remodels through

Coyle Bros. Construction, Tony has built three or four picnic tables from scratch for Stafford Lake using salvaged wood the Parks Department had from other projects. At McNear's Beach, he built six garbage can enclosures attached to the concrete and four eight-foot picnic tables using the shop in the barn at the park.

"Tony is a great guy. He really likes to work. He's personable and comes ready to go with the right knowledge. He says, 'Give me tools and supplies and I'll build it,'" says Tony's Stafford Lake supervisor Ranger **Mike Maraccini**. Tony worked with Ranger **Dan Sauter** at McNear's Beach.

Tony came to New York from Dublin, Ireland at the age of 24. Two years later, he drove cross-country, arriving in

California a year later in his aging Mercedes with \$10 in his pocket. "It was a wonderful trip," he says in his soft brogue. "I really saw the U.S. and experienced such great generous people." He has traveled widely to Australia, Cambodia, and Europe, staying in both hostels and castles. Much of the journeying has been with traveling rugby teams.

Tony played rugby for 40 years, most often with the then-amateur S.F. Rugby Club team. He's now attempting to revive his golf game. He is an avid birder and observer of animals on his frequent hikes near his Mill Valley home. This "typical" Irish bachelor lives with his talented cockatiel, Seamus. Seamus can do a fine wolf whistle and whistle "Happy Birthday."

- by Shirley Trimble

## Grad student Chris Johnson hones skills while serving county law library and public branches in Novato and Mill Valley

When single mom **Christine Johnson** turned 49 she enthusiastically enrolled in the Library Information Science School at San Jose State University from which she graduates next month. "I'm really motivated," says Chris, "as I've completed the program in two years instead of three."

Simultaneously, Chris has also done three stimulating library internships and worked full time at the Novato Trader Joe's grocery store as a demo lady, where she also devises menus and recipes for the store. She served a summer internship at the Mill Valley Library History Room and a fall internship at the Marin County Law Library, where she still volunteers. She now interns at the Novato Library reference desk, where she is setting up a job-hunting Internet course using PowerPoint.

At the Law Library, Chris helped Director **Hal Ainger** determine how California and the other 49 states fund law libraries. In Marin, the library is funded by a percentage of court filing fees. She found that some other law libraries are funded through both filing fees and from the general fund. She is now preparing a research paper to be published in the California Law Library Journal.

"Chris is absolutely an ace. She is a high card. She is a very quick study and likes to pitch in. Whoever hires her is going to get a good deal," says Hal. Chris says her law library internship was so terrific she has stayed on volunteering to complete her project. "Hal showed me great respect and has been a real advocate for me professionally."



*Chris Johnson serves several county libraries while preparing for new career.*

Chris previously was a lunch lady in the schools and had her own catering service. She has two children: Katie, 21, a personal banker for Wells Fargo in Redwood City; and Mark, 17, a Terra Linda High School junior and an Eagle Scout who has been accepted into the Explorer program.

- by Shirley Trimble