

## Happy Anniversary

We congratulate these volunteers who celebrate their anniversaries this month and thank them for their ongoing involvement!

19 years	<b>Pat Currier</b> (SRafael), Special Project Aide, Civic Center Library
11 years	<b>Janet Schonbrun</b> (Lksp), Usher, Cultural Services
10 years	<b>Victoria Gonzalez</b> (SRafael), Juvenile Hall Arts and Crafts Instructor, Probation
8 years	<b>Suzanne Gollin</b> (Nov), Library Beyond Walls Liaison, Library
7 years	<b>Susana Narvaez</b> (Sau), Senior Peer Counselor, Health and Human Services (HHS)
5 years	<b>Kelley Litz</b> (SRafael), <i>Frankly Speaking</i> Proofreader, Human Resources
4 years	<b>Mary Bramblett</b> (Frfx), Investigative Aide, District Attorney's Office; <b>Suzanne Gollin</b> (Nov), Program Assistant, HHS; <b>Tim Graves</b> (Tomales), Firefighter, Fire Department
3 years	<b>Louise Berto</b> (SAnselmo), Patrol Volunteer, Parks
2 years	<b>Suzan Sharpley</b> (Nov), Volunteer Law Librarian, Law Library
1 year	<b>Catherine Kamins</b> (Nov), Spanish Tutor, Novato Library; <b>John Pierremont</b> (SRosa), Event Aide, Human Resources; <b>Dennis Whipp</b> (SRafael), Mediator, District Attorney's Office



### Volunteer Notes

#### We Remember

CCV's 2009 Volunteer of the Year, **Paul Peterzell**, died unexpectedly at home on November 7. An 18-year member of the District Attorney's mediation team, he loved helping disputants reach resolution. A *Marin IJ* retiree, volunteering kept him close to the community he'd served as a journalist. "He was an institution among the volunteer mediators," said his staff supervisor, **Kristina Warcholski**. "I admired Paul's *joie de vivre* and enjoyed his intellectual curiosity. We miss him."

#### Holidays

County offices will be closed on December 26 for the Christmas holiday.

#### CCV Staff

**Anne Starr**  
Coordinator of Volunteers  
Phone: 415-473-7167  
AStarr@marincounty.org

**Joy Fossett**  
Student Internships Coordinator  
415-473-7447  
JFossett@marincounty.org

**Robyn Madias** (formerly Nguyen)  
Administrative Assistant  
Phone: 415-473-7407  
RNguyen@marincounty.org

#### Volunteers:

**Shirley Trimble**, Writer  
**Barbara Webb**, Writer  
**Katherine Bonenti**, Writer  
**Emily Kesler**, Copy Editor Intern  
**Pam Ross**, Copy Editor  
**Tony Cresci**, Graphics Tech Asst.  
**Steve Sarhad**, Database Consultant  
**David Mandel**, Grant Consultant

**Administrative Volunteers:**  
**Joanne Elder**, **Deborah Gregor**,  
**Nancy Henderson**, **Annet Katan**,  
**Veronica Morino**, and **Linka Watridge**



# The Volunteer View

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## Former police captain supports fire team



Incident Management Team members (L to R): Jim Irving, Tom Jordan, Dave Jeffries, Jeff Davidson, and Rich Riechel. All are Civic Center Volunteers except staff member Jordan, the Sheriff's emergency services coordinator.

An officer with the Novato Police Department for 31 years, Civic Center Volunteer **Dave Jeffries** now spends up to 12 hours a week as team leader when the Fire Incident Management Team is deployed to support public safety agencies across the North Bay. He serves as an on-call team leader and coordinates the team's efforts, including organizing meetings, trainings, and exercises.

Dave, who retired as a captain in 2013, said, "This opportunity has allowed me to continue to serve the community during critical incidents. To understand the seriousness of our work, I led the team to support CAL FIRE (California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection) for the first two days of the Cold Fire at Lake Berryessa and the Clayton Fire at Lower Lake. Last year I worked the Rocky Fire in Lake County, and assisted Napa's Office of Emergency Services with shelter operations during the Valley Fire."

With a list of remarkable credentials, he also teaches as an adjunct faculty member at the Santa Rosa Junior College Police

Academy. He consults with local agencies on emergency and disaster planning and works with the Marin Emergency Radio Authority on the replacement for the public safety radio system. In addition, Dave has been on three television shows: two episodes of *I, Detective* and one episode of *Redrum*. All three involved re-creations of homicide cases in Novato. Meanwhile, he plans to get a new dog by year's end and resume K9 agility courses.

His staff supervisor is Marin County Deputy Fire Chief **Mark Brown**, who said, "Dave was not only one of the founding members of the multi-agency North Bay Incident Management Team (IMT), he also was one of the key forces behind its development. After Dave retired, he wished to continue his role as an incident commander for the IMT and joined the Civic Center Volunteers so he could contribute. Dave's experience in law enforcement as a first responder and as a leader of the Incident Command System has been a major contributor to the success of the IMT."

By Barbara Webb



## Who's New & Welcome

**Miranda Bane** (SRafael) Attorney, District Attorney's Office (DA)  
**Victoria Baptiste** (Cncrd) Community Mental Health Intern, Health and Human Services (HHS)  
**Laura Baquerizo** (SRafael) Environmental Health Program Intern, Community Development Agency  
**Andrew Beach** (Nov) High School Intern, Public Defender's Office  
**Andrew Goebel** (SRafael) Community Mental Health Intern, HHS

**Emma Grenier Selvig** (SAnselmo) Legal Support Intern, DA  
**Natasha Linssen** (Nov) Special Projects Intern, Novato Library  
**Estela Merida Godfrey** (SRafael) Spanish Tutor, Novato Library  
**Nathan Santos** (Nov) Teen Shelver, Novato Library  
**Malaha Smith** (Nov) Teen Shelver, Novato Library  
**Blanca Torres** (Millbrae) Nutrition Wellness Assistant, HHS

## Emily Kesler brings writing background to Volunteer View



Emily Kesler

**Emily Kesler** has enjoyed being creative since she was a child, and she often spends time writing and drawing. Her internship with the Human Resources Department as a copy editor and writer for the *Volunteer View* newsletter seems a perfect fit for her. She enjoys interviewing the diverse interns and

volunteers who are active in County of Marin departments, learning about them and the contributions they make. "There is a wealth of opportunity and talent here," she says.

Emily grew up in Novato and attended Marin School of the Arts at Novato High. It was there she found her niche as a writer and had several pieces published in the annual Creative Writing Class Book. "The book was a collaborative effort," she explained. "I would submit a story or poem and a visual arts student would produce a drawing or painting to accompany it."

She attended California State University at Monterey Bay and majored in human communications with a focus in creative writing and social action. A recent graduate now back in Marin, she keeps in close touch with the friends she

made at college. She enjoys spending time with family, hiking, listening to music, going to movies, visiting the city, and playing with her cockapoo, Nellie. In addition, Emily is proud of her blog, *Metaphoric Daydreams*, where she showcases her poems, short stories, and other creative pieces.

Emily believes her time is well spent as a Civic Center Volunteers intern. She is honing interview and writing skills, building her portfolio, and meeting new people. "This is a wonderful stepping stone toward my career in writing or publishing," she said.

"Emily brings passion for the written word and a calm, friendly presence to our office team," said her staff supervisor, **Anne Starr**. "She's a quick study and has good ideas. We enjoy having her here!"

By Katherine Bonenti

## 'Timely' reminder: Log your service hours now

Help show the true value of volunteer and intern contributions to the County of Marin by keeping your online record current. An annual impact report will be published in early winter. Please record the hours you have served in your personal Log Book by visiting the online portal at <https://ec.volunteernow.com/custom/1433>. Do you have questions or concerns? Forgotten your username or password? Call the Civic Center Volunteers office at 415-473-7407 or email Administrative Assistant **Robyn Madias** (formerly Nguyen) at [RNgyuen@marincounty.org](mailto:RNgyuen@marincounty.org).

## Volunteers catalog thousands of wildlife images



Rob Simon and Donna Lew

As wildlife-photo catalogers, Civic Center Volunteers **Rob Simon** and **Donna Lew** help organize thousands of pictures of animals taken on lands managed by the Marin County Parks Department. The project is part of a larger One Tam cataloging effort involving local, state, and federal agencies that manage public lands around Mt. Tamalpais. Together, Rob and Donna look at photos, identify types and numbers of animals, and log the details in a database. This first large-scale survey of wildlife on county preserves "will give us proof of the existence and abundance of



wildlife and will help guide future land-use decisions," said Parks Volunteer Coordinator **Greg Reza**.

Rob and Donna's current staff supervisor is Resource Specialist **Lisa Michl**, the Parks liaison to One Tam. She coordinates the photo indexing project and provides Rob and Donna with data needed for their part of the project. They process photos and in addition offer their technical skills to help with troubleshooting. The wildlife cameras average 133,000 pictures every few months, so "we are truly thankful for Rob and Donna's amazing dedication," Lisa said.

Rob said, "We decided to work on the cataloging project for the great opportunities to get more familiar with the range of wildlife in Marin and as an excuse to get outdoors when servicing cameras."

Rob and Donna have been maintaining yachts together for 20 years. They have lived on the boats they work on and have cruised the South Pacific, Mediterranean, and even the Arctic Circle. Both are computer science graduates of UC San Diego, and they previously worked for computer hardware manufacturers in Silicon Valley. The couple resides in Kentfield and Henderson, Nevada. In their spare time, they fly paragliders, hang gliders, sailplanes, and airplanes.

Readers inspired to volunteer with the One Tam project may contact Greg Reza at 415-473-3778 or [GReza@marincounty.org](mailto:GReza@marincounty.org).

By Emily Kesler

*Marin wildlife caught on camera (top left to bottom right): Gray fox (Urocyon cinereoargenteus), black-tailed doe and her fawn (Odocoileus hemionus), bobcat (lynx rufus), and juvenile coyote (canis latrans). Images are from the scores of motion-activated cameras on public grasslands and forests.*

