



Discover the fun!

# Discover Volunteerism

CHAMPAIGN PARK DISTRICT VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER | JAN/FEB 2010

## Volunteer Spotlight



**Carol Hendricks (right) 2009 Volunteer of the Year receives her award from Jane Solon, Park Commissioner and David Genty, Special Events Coordinator.**

### Carol Hendricks

Congratulations to Carol Hendricks for being the 2009 Volunteer of the Year! With 2009 wrapped up, we had many great candidates for Volunteer of the Year. We had sport officials, cultural arts, special events, and many more great volunteers in all of our programs. However, it was one person that stood out to the entire Champaign Park District that really stood out above everyone else. Carol Hendricks, our September Volunteer of the Month, contributed in so many ways. Carol first came to the Park District in early June and hasn't stopped volunteering since. She spent over 40 hours total volunteering at numerous events and programs in addition to working full time and volunteering at numerous organizations. Some of the events she volunteered for include Touch-a-Tractor, Summer Thrills at Garden Hills, the Taste of Champaign-Urbana, Downtown Festival of the Arts, Halloween Funfest, Parade of Lights, and helped to stay late and came early for set up and tear down. Numerous full time staff with the Champaign Park District commented during her volunteering about how great she is and how much she contributed. Carol was always reliable, showed up on time, and always gave it her all when it came to volunteering. Congratulations to Carol Hendricks for being the 2009 Volunteer of the Year!

## 2009 Volunteers

We are heading full force into 2010 and waving goodbye to 2009. But we need to take a moment and acknowledge how great our volunteers were this past year. Without them, the Champaign Park District would not be able to provide so many great programs and events. Our preschool, Prairie Farm, youth theatre, and dance programs have really started to utilize volunteers to help cut down on costs of staff. Youth Theatre is a prime example of how much their volunteer base has grown in the past year. A little over a year ago, there were only a handful of volunteers. In 2009, we were able to recruit over 50 volunteers totaling 608 hours! For the Taste of Champaign-Urbana, we had over 100 volunteers totaling over 400 hours, which does not include the volunteers we lost due to Friday night's cancellation. In total for 2009, the Champaign Park District had 2,674 volunteers totaling 22,495 hours! According to independentsector.org and the United Way, the value of volunteers is \$20.25. That comes to a staggering \$455,534! Needless to say, volunteers are of great importance to not only the Champaign Park District, but the community as a whole. Thank you to all of our 2009 volunteers and we are looking forward to an even better 2010!

*Everybody can be great.*

*Because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and your verb agree to serve. You don't have to know the second theory of thermodynamics in physics to serve.*

*You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love.*

*~Martin Luther King, Jr.*

#### Questions or Comments

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## Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities

### Special Events

- **Daddy Daughter Princess Ball – February 12**  
*(Female volunteers only please – formal dress requested)*  
Take part in this magical evening for little girls and their dads. Be a part of the event by taking tickets, helping with crafts, and assisting the photographer.
- **Battle of the Bands – February 27**  
Come rock out at the Virginia Theatre. Help is needed with ticket taking, ushering, crowd control, merchandise sales, and more!.
- **Mother Son Bash – March 19**  
Dads and daughters had their night and now it's time for mothers and sons! Help is needed with set-up, taking tickets, managing carnival games, and assisting with crafts.

### Looking Ahead

- **Nite Lite Egg Pursuit XVII – April 2**
- **Eggstravaganza – April 3**
- **Douglass Egg Hunt – April 3**
- **Boneyard Creek Community Day – April 10**
- **Ebertfest – April 21-25**

For more information contact [david.genty@cparkdistrict.com](mailto:david.genty@cparkdistrict.com)  
or 217-398-2550

### Virginia Theatre

Come volunteer at the historic Virginia Theatre! Help take tickets, usher, and more and then afterwards, see the show for free! Shows range from live comedy groups, Reel Deal Movies, live theatre, and more. Volunteer training dates for first-time volunteers are Jan. 13, Feb. 10, March. 10, Apr. 7 or May 12 at 6pm.

For more information contact [anthony.howell@cparkdistrict.com](mailto:anthony.howell@cparkdistrict.com)  
or 217-356-9053

### Volunteer Coaches

The foundation of our Youth Sports Programs is our Volunteer Coaches. We offer ASEP coaching courses free for interested volunteers. Please fill out a volunteer coaching application form available at [www.champaignparkdistrict.com](http://www.champaignparkdistrict.com).

For more information contact [hsiung.marler@cparkdistrict.com](mailto:hsiung.marler@cparkdistrict.com)  
or 217-398-2571

### Preschool

Preschool volunteers needed Monday-Friday this Spring. Build your own volunteer schedule between the hours 8am-5:30pm. Programs located at various facilities. Please fill out a volunteer application form available at [www.champaignparkdistrict.com](http://www.champaignparkdistrict.com).

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