



# Volunteer Center OF SONOMA COUNTY

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## RSVP Newsletter

## An Invitation to Share a Lifetime of Experience

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**Issue:**

**April, May, June 2010**

### Volunteer Stories

#### **Quarryhill and Pat Brownlie, RSVP Volunteer**

Early in 2008, Pat Brownlie asked RSVP for assistance in finding a volunteer opportunity. She was seeking a project management volunteer opportunity and one wasn't available at that time. In a meeting with Pat, I learned that her avocation is photography. As Quarryhill was seeking a photography volunteer, a match was made.

Pat took on the job of pictorially recording Quarryhill's plants and trees to continually enhance Quarryhill's database of plants in the garden. Yearly seed-collecting expeditions add new plants to the garden, so the garden is always changing. Pat enjoys this effort tremendously because she gets to spend 2-3 hours many weeks each month just wandering through the 20-acre garden and photographing plants in their various stages of growth. Around Christmas 2008, she ran across an article online about a site which provided software to build and publish books. Since she already had a website for her photography which now includes a sample of her Quarryhill pictures, a book of photographs of Quarryhill seemed a natural evolution for both her own photography and as a way to help Quarryhill. Coincidentally, Quarryhill had also been considering having a book developed that could highlight many of the treasures of this unique garden. It took nine months to bring this project to fruition, but Pat's first photo book, "Quarryhill for All Seasons", which is a 112-page compilation of photographs of Quarryhill plants throughout the four seasons, was published in November. Quarryhill is in the process of preparing a visitor's center, and this book will be offered to visitors there.

#### **RSVP Volunteers in The News**

The annual Spring Art Show at the Petaluma Library featured RSVP volunteer **Jan Lee**. An article about Jan appeared in the Feb 25th issue of the Argus Courier and included a picture of her with one of her wonderful paintings.

**Teresa Froschl**, RSVP volunteer, is a dollmaker and sculpture artist whose work is shown at Petaluma Ecumenical Housing. A wonderful article, entitled, "No Age Limit on Talent", highlighted Teresa both as a artist and the show organizer. The article appeared on March 11th in the Petaluma Argus-Courier.

**O. Angelo Fazzi**, RSVP volunteer at Food for Thought recently won the prestigious Jefferson Award. He was honored by the County of Sonoma for the many hours of dedicated service he has provided and the many people he has helped

**Arlene Mandell**, who has been an RSVP volunteer for the past eight years, organized a "Why I Love the Library" contest for the 40,000 children in grades kindergarten through six throughout Sonoma County. Working with groups of volunteers at the library, the Sonoma County Office of Education, and RSVP, she coordinated the processing and judging of 1241 art and essay entries.

Twenty children will receive certificates and cash awards at a ceremony on April 10 at the Central Library. RSVP volunteers, Laurie and Mark Parish and Linda Heiser served as judges and advisors, and teams of RSVP volunteers from Varenna helped sort entries and mail free passes to the Charles M. Schulz Museum.

Exhibits of the winning entries will travel to the Museum and branches of the library. In the words of John, a second grader, "Thank you every one who makes the library possible." And thank you to all the volunteers who make Sonoma County a wonderful place to live.

### RSVP Partner Agency Stories

#### Quarryhill Botanical Garden

[www.quarryhillbg.org](http://www.quarryhillbg.org) is a unique and beautiful Asian woodland in the Valley of the Moon, on the rolling hills above Glen Ellen, California. Founded in 1987, Quarryhill is one of the pre-eminent Asian botanical gardens globally, featuring one of the largest collections of documented, wild-collected Asian plants in the world. As people continue to impinge on wild habitat, especially in Asia, botanical gardens like Quarryhill become a necessary repository of plants and trees that may shortly disappear from the wild.

### Volunteer Opportunities

New Volunteer Orientations will be held at the **Charles M. Schulz Museum and Research Center** from 5pm-6:30pm on the following dates: Friday, April 30, Wednesday, May 26, and Tuesday, June 29. Come to the Museum and find out how you can have fun serving as a volunteer, working for PEANUTS! Learn about the life and work of local hero, Charles M. Schulz, the man who invented one of the most successful cartoons of all time. Call Kristi Lucas-Hayden at 284-1271 to register and receive an application, or send email to [kristi@schulzmuseum.org](mailto:kristi@schulzmuseum.org).

**Hallberg Butterfly Gardens** is hosting five volunteer work days this spring 9AM - noon, Saturdays April 10th and 24th, May 8th and 22nd, and June 12th, weather permitting. Come create butterfly habitat in one of California's oldest butterfly gardens. Contact Leah (707) 591-4944 or [leahbro@yahoo.com](mailto:leahbro@yahoo.com).

### Free Movies

As you know **Kobrin Financial Services** has been a long time supporter of the RSVP Appreciation Luncheon. They along with Santa Rosa Memorial Park & Mortuary/Eggen & Lance Chapel and Synergy Medical Group sponsor a **free Seniors (60 years and older) Movie Series** on the 1st Thursday of every month through June. Movies presented by the Third Street Cinemas at 620 3rd St. Santa Rosa. Doors open at 9:30 am. For a list of films for each month call cinemas recording at 522-0330 x3#.

## General Interest

**Encore Careers** <http://www.encore.org> Many of you know people interested in employment issues in the second half of life. This website addresses a number of encore issues.

**Senior Games** in California Last summer, over 1300 California Senior Athletes competed in the 2009 National Senior Games - the most participants ever from the State of California. A complete list for all California Senior Games is available at [www.californiaseniorgames.org](http://www.californiaseniorgames.org)

**"...beautiful young people are accidents of nature, but beautiful old people are works of art." Eleanor Roosevelt**


**RSVP and the Literacy Program at the Volunteer Center conducted a book drive on MLK Day.** Over 1,500 books were collected, sorted and given to elementary and middle schools and local non-profits serving children. The books will be in school libraries, given as rewards and used to encourage reading over school breaks.

## Event Highlights

### **Friends of the Library Santa Rosa Book Fair April 16-19.**

Friday 3-7:30 pm is preview sale day, \$5 admission; Sat 10 am-5pm regular event day, Sun. is half price day 10 am-5 pm, Monday 2-7pm is bag day, all books \$4 a bag. Book Faire held at Finley Hall Co. Co. Fairgrounds in Santa Rosa. **The next event will be the FALL BOOK FAIRE - October 22 - 25, 2010**

**Friends of Sonoma Valley Library** will be having book sale: May 20, 21, 22 Preview for Members Only, Wednesday prior to sale, 11:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m., open to the public at 5:30 p.m.

 **FREE Event** April 17 -- Free Family Day at **Sonoma County Museum** hosts a Free Family Day. There will be arts and crafts for the family. 4 25 7th Street, Santa Rosa. The next Free Family Day will be **Sat. June 19 11:00am - 4:00pm**. Art & craft activities for the whole family! For more information call 579-1500

FREE walking tours of historic Petaluma led by costumed docents. Come hear the history of Petaluma from the mouths of early settlers of Petaluma. Most Saturdays, May through October, Meet on the steps of the **Petaluma Historical Library and Museum**, 20 Fourth St. at 10:30 a.m. to begin. If you are interested in history they are also seeking museum volunteer. Contact Kit Schlich 778-4398.

**West County Museum**, 261 S. Main Street, Sebastopol has a new Exhibit: Local Sports History opening in April, Thur - Sun, 1 - 4 pm. To volunteer at the museum, call Evelyn McClure at 829-6711.

**Santa Rosa Concert Association** presents San Francisco Girls Chorus Sunday April 25, 2010 at 3:30pm at Wells Fargo Center for the Arts. Purchase tickets at book office 546-3600 or online.

Join the **Sonoma Valley Chorale** in a concert of Complete Nonsense music that celebrates the whimsical, nonsensical and insignificant witticisms of Sir Walter Raleigh, Benjamin Franklin, Ogden Nash and others. They promise music that has absolutely no redeeming value, but can give you a good chuckle. Reservations recommended.

[http://www.sonomavalleychorale.org/buy\\_tickets.shtml](http://www.sonomavalleychorale.org/buy_tickets.shtml)

## RSVP

Reporting Hours! We count on hearing from you or the agency(s) you work If you are sure your agency reports hours for you or if you have already reported to us, thank you and please ignore this reminder.

Email hours to RSVP [lparish@volunteernow.org](mailto:lparish@volunteernow.org)

Call our message line at 573-3399 ext 118.

Fax to 573-3380 attention Laurie.

Mail in your hours to RSVP, 153 Stony Circle Ste. 100, Santa Rosa, CA 95401

Your contribution of time, energy and experience makes a critical difference to the people of our community.

**Thank you for being a member of RSVP. Laurie Parish**



**Leading with Experience**