

GOOD NEWS

RSVP OF THE CENTRAL COAST

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RSVP—REMARKABLE SENIORS VOLUNTEER PROGRAM



A NATURAL RESOURCE IN THE COMMUNITIES WE SERVE!

THANKS TO INPUT FROM SEVERAL FOCUS GROUPS THROUGHOUT THE PAST YEAR WE HAVE BEGUN TO THINK OF OURSELVES AS REMARKABLE SENIORS VOLUNTEER PROGRAM—A CLEARER DEFINITION OF

US AND WHAT WE DO. WE MAKE A POWERFUL IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITIES IN WHICH WE SERVE—AND MANY OF OUR PARTNER AGENCIES SAY THEY COULD NOT ACCOMPLISH THEIR MISSIONS WITHOUT OUR VOLUNTEERS ASSISTANCE.

THE FOCUS GROUPS CAME ABOUT AS A RESULT OF OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR SENIOR VOLUNTEER SERVICES AND OUR PROJECT ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR THE RSVP PROJECT, WHO GATHERED FOR A WORKSHOP THAT INCLUDED OTHER COMMUNITY MEMBERS, VOLUNTEERS AND AGENCY MANAGERS. THE GROUPS DELVED INTO HOW RSVP IS PERCEIVED IN OUR COMMUNITIES AND WHAT WE MIGHT DO TO MORE ACCURATELY AND CLEARLY DESCRIBE OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH THE AGENCIES WE SERVE.

OUR SENIOR VOLUNTEERS ARE NOT ONLY REMARKABLE, BUT ALSO RELIABLE, RESPONSIBLE AND RESOURCEFUL, —AND WE DON'T WANT TO BE A WELL KEPT SECRET.

THE PURPOSE OF OUR "GOOD NEWS" INSERT IS TO HIGHLIGHT SOME OF THE MANY WAYS IN WHICH OUR VOLUNTEERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE. IT IS ALSO A WAY TO INTRODUCE THE PARTNER AGENCIES TO ONE ANOTHER.

I ASKED THE MANAGERS OF OUR AGENCIES AND OUR VOLUNTEERS TO SHARE THEIR STORIES WITH US. I BELIEVE THE STORIES ARE INSPIRING AND REFLECTIVE OF OUR MANY CONTRIBUTIONS AND WILL BE ENJOYED BY ALL WHO READ THEM.

PLEASE SHARE YOUR "GOOD NEWS" WITH US AND WE WILL SHARE IT WITH OUR MEMBERS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. THIS IS A SURE-FIRE WAY OF ENCOURAGING OTHERS TO JOIN US IN MAKING OUR COMMUNITIES SAFER AND OUR OWN LIVES RICHER AS A RESULT OF VOLUNTEERING. MORE THAN EVER VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED AND OUR SENIORS ARE IN HIGH DEMAND.



PLEASE LET ME KNOW WHAT YOU THINK OF OUR FIRST ISSUE AND IF YOU HAVE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT. ONCE MORE, THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO!

-Marie-

REMARKABLE AIRPORT VOLUNTEERS —FOR TWENTY-ONE YEARS OUR RSVP MEMBERS HAVE BEEN HELPING COUNTLESS AIRPORT PATRONS NAVIGATE THROUGH A MYRIAD OF TRAVEL RELATED QUESTIONS. WHETHER PERTAINING TO PARKING, AIRLINE SCHEDULES, LOST AND FOUND, DIRECTIONS, WINE TASTING, OTHER LOCAL EVENTS, OR A HOST OF OTHER TOPICS, OUR WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS HAVE CONSCIENTIOUSLY AND ENTHUSIASTICALLY PROVIDED ANSWERS.

THEIR COMMITMENT IS EVIDENCED BY SOME VERY LONG TENURES OF DEDICATED SERVICE. OUR INFORMATION HELP TEAM MEMBERS HAVE LOGGED ANYWHERE FROM 2 TO 21 YEARS, WITH AN AVERAGE LENGTH OF SERVICE OF 11.64 YEARS. THIS SELFLESS SERVICE TO OUR FLYING PUBLIC IS VERY MUCH APPRECIATED! AIRPORT MANAGEMENT APPLAUDS THESE VALUED AIRPORT TEAM MEMBERS.

Phil D'Acri, Airport Business Development Manager





REMARKABLE SILVER STREAKS—VIRGINIA KASPER LOOKED FORWARD TO SLEEPING LATE THE MORNING AFTER HER LONG DRIVE FROM INDIANA TO CALIFORNIA IN 1984. INSTEAD, HER MOTHER TOLD HER THEY WERE GETTING UP EARLY BECAUSE “IT’S THURSDAY. WE HAVE TO GO TO WORK.” LITTLE DID VIRGINIA IMAGINE THAT 28 YEARS LATER SHE WOULD STILL BE “GOING TO WORK” AS A MEMBER OF **SILVER STREAKS**, A SPECIAL GROUP OF INDIVIDUALS WHO PROVIDE AN IMPORTANT COMMUNITY SERVICE AND HAVE A GOOD TIME DOING IT.

IF YOU’VE EVER WONDERED ABOUT THAT NEWSLETTER, SPECIAL EVENT INVITATION, OR OTHER MAILING YOU RECEIVE, THERE’S A GOOD CHANCE IT WAS DUE IN PART TO THE WORK OF **SILVER STREAKS**, WHOSE PURPOSE IS TO ASSEMBLE BULK MAILINGS FOR LOCAL NON-PROFIT AGENCIES. TASKS RANGE FROM SIMPLY PUTTING ON AN ADDRESS LABEL TO FOLDING, COLLATING MULTIPLE INSERTS, SEALING, LABELING, AND STAMPING ANYWHERE FROM A FEW HUNDRED TO 6,500 INDIVIDUAL PIECES OF MAIL. THIS PROCESS REQUIRES CONCENTRATION, ORGANIZATIONAL SKILL, AND MANUAL DEXTERITY. SOUND BORING? IT DEFINITELY ISN’T. **SILVER STREAKS** MEETINGS ARE ABUZZ WITH CONVERSATION AS THE GROUP GOES ABOUT ITS TASKS. MEMBERS ENJOY **SILVER STREAKS** BECAUSE OF ITS TEAMWORK AND CAMARADERIE. LIKE VIRGINIA, SOME MEMBERS ARE THE SECOND GENERATION OF FAMILY TO VOLUNTEER WITH THE GROUP. OTHERS WERE URGED BY FRIENDS TO “GIVE IT A TRY” AND FOUND OUT HOW ENJOYABLE IT WAS. SOME READ ABOUT **SILVER STREAKS** AND DECIDED IT WAS A GOOD FIT FOR THEIR SKILLS AND INTERESTS.

SILVER STREAKS IS PROUD TO HAVE WORKED WITH MANY LOCAL NON-PROFITS SUCH AS ALPHA, ALZHEIMER’S ASSOCIATION, AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY, ARTS OBISPO, CASA, CO-OP EXTENSION, HABITAT FOR HUMANITY, HOSPICE OF SLO COUNTY, HOSPICE PARTNERS OF THE CENTRAL COAST, LAND CONSERVANCY, PACIFIC WILDLIFE, RSVP, SENIOR PEER COUNSELING, SIERRA CLUB, SLO SENIOR CENTER AND VOCAL ARTS ENSEMBLE. **SILVER STREAKS** HAS ALSO PACKED PARTICIPANT BAGS FOR FAMILY CARE NETWORK’S “MIRACLE MILES FOR KIDS” EVENT AND THE SLO PARKS AND RECREATION TRIATHLON. WE ARE ALWAYS HAPPY TO OFFER OUR SERVICES TO NEW AGENCIES.

REGULAR SCHEDULED WORK DAYS ARE THE 1ST, 4TH AND 5TH THURSDAYS AT THE SLO SENIOR CENTER. OCCASIONALLY, SPECIAL PROJECTS MAY BE SCHEDULED ON OTHER DAYS AT VARIOUS LOCAL VENUES. **SILVER STREAKS** WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS OF ALL AGES. PLEASE JOIN US! Mary Vandenberg, Silver Streaks Volunteer

SOME RSVP VOLUNTEERS ENJOYING A ONE DAY TRIP TO THE ELKHORN SLOUGH AT MOSS LANDING!



NEXT DAY TRIP WILL BE THE UNDERGROUND GARDENS IN FRESNO WITH A SURPRISE TOUR OF THE BLOSSOM TRAIL PLUS LUNCH. THE DATE IS SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 2012. MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND CALL US AT 544-8740 AFTER FEBRUARY 6TH TO RESERVE YOUR SEAT!