

Ripple

Your Invitation to Serve!
www.rsvpmc.org

Winter 2007 Volume 35 • Issue 1

RSVP Retired & Senior
Volunteer Program
of Montgomery County

published by RSVP – Retired & Senior Volunteer Program of Montgomery County, Inc.

The following story is written by Erin Johnson from the Schuylkill Center for Environmental Education. The Center has been an RSVP client for more than three years.

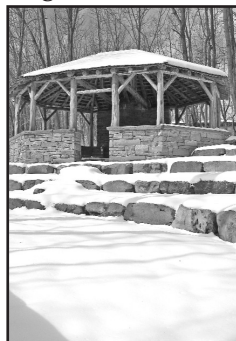


Craftmanship of
RSVP volunteer Frank Brosius

RSVP Volunteer Helps to Revitalize & Restore Nature Center!

Since July 1965, The Schuylkill Center for Environmental Education (originally named Schuylkill Valley Nature Center) has been a regional and national leader in urban environmental education. The Center began operation as one of the first environmental education facilities in the country located within the limits of a major metropolitan area.

The Center has recently been the beneficiary of the work of some wonderful RSVP volunteers! As part of its ongoing efforts to provide quality programming, The Center recently began work on the revitalization of one of its most important multi-use spaces: a large room containing a stone fireplace, library and views of the forested landscape. The room has been at the heart



of The Center's educational activities for over 40 years and is used daily for community-based programs.

RSVP volunteer Frank Brosius has been steadily assisting The Center with this revitalization process. Frank has been contributing his craftsmanship, experience, resourcefulness and creativity by recreating antiquated cabinetry and storage spaces, and by installing countertop spaces. Frank's assistance with this project has been invaluable, and we are very thankful to him and to RSVP for this contribution!

Additional RSVP volunteers have also come to The Center to support our annual fall community event, Halloween Hikes. Volunteers helped to facilitate pumpkin painting, and with the set-up and break down of the event.

For more information and to view our events calendar, please visit: www.schuylkillcenter.org. Join us for exciting new adult programs, or just go for a walk on our beautiful sylvan landscape of 360 acres.



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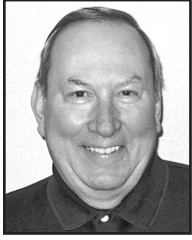
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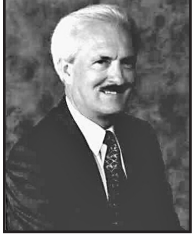
If you are interested in helping Frank or learning about other volunteer opportunities at The Schuylkill Center, please call Harriet Klein at (610) 834-1365 or visit your local RSVP field office.

www.rsvpmc.org

Welcome on Board!



President of the Board, Brian McGarvey was elected to his position on January 1, 2007 from the position of Vice President. His diverse background in strategic planning and executive management will prove invaluable as we continue to find challenging opportunities for our diverse and talented volunteers.



New Board member, Ron Gawel, joined the RSVP Board just prior to our Annual Leadership Conference, on October 26th. Recently retired as the Director of Facilities and Technical Support at Lockheed Martin Corporation, Ron's background in operations management brings a multitude of skills in technical planning, business systems and health and safety management to the current RSVP mix of board members. Ron lives in Limerick Township. We look forward to utilizing his enormous pool of knowledge and talent.



Staff member, Karen Blaine has taken on the coordination of the VEC (Volunteer Executive Consultant) Program. Her background in project management will provide critical organizational skills to the VEC program as Karen continues to provide support for the Apprise and Eldercare Programs.

RSVP Staff Directory

To contact a staff member, call 610/834-1040 and dial the correct extension or send us an email.

Karen Blaine VEC, Apprise & Eldercare Support, **ext. 25**
Lilibet Coe Executive Director, **ext. 14**
Arlene Dewalt Database Support, **ext. 22**
Barbara Finkelstein America Reads, **ext. 27**
Barbara Fitzgerald Development, **ext. 13**
Janis Glusman Literacy, **ext. 16**
Jessica Jester Office Administrator, **ext. 17**
Ruth Saks RESPONSE & Eldercare Support, **ext. 28**
Lynne Shepsman Protégé, **ext. 21**
Donna Uhler Apprise & Eldercare, **ext. 20**
Tina Weaver PR/Communications, **ext. 23**
Lorrie Zabudoff Speakers Bureau, SAGE & Homefriends, **ext.15**

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lynnes@rsvpmc.org
donnau@rsvpmc.org
tinaw@rsvpmc.org
lorriez@rsvpmc.org

Field Offices

Harriet Klein	Central/Plymouth Meeting	610/834-1365
Gail Vinikoor	Eastern/Willow Grove	267/518-0028
Sheryl Eisenhard	Main Line/Bryn Mawr	610/527-8806
Esna Carver	North Penn/Lansdale	215/855-9578
Dollie Walsh	Western/Pottstown,	610/326-9109
	Collegedale 610/489-1555 and Upper Perkiomen area	215/679-4112

rsvpcentral@rsvpmc.org
rsvpeastern@rsvpmc.org
rsvpmainline@rsvpmc.org
rsvpnorthpenn@rsvpmc.org
rsvpwestern@rsvpmc.org

Retired & Senior Volunteer Program of Montgomery County, Inc. promotes volunteer service among area residents age 55 and older and provides opportunities for these volunteers to fully employ their talents and experience to meet critical community needs.

RETIRED AND SENIOR
VOLUNTEER PROGRAM
OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, INC.

2007 OFFICERS

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VICE-PRESIDENT

Alan Kober

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William Walsh, Esq.

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Greetings from the Executive Director

The month of January has always held great significance for me as a time of rebirth, new beginnings and change. It is the time I reflect on the events of the previous year and resolve to redress or improve some aspect of my personal life or philosophy.

I try to do this in my career as well, because I don't think we can ever fully appreciate what we've accomplished, unless we take measure of where we began. Keeping this in mind, as I look back on 2006, I would gauge RSVP's journey as a very successful one. By the time this issue of Ripple goes to print, our volunteers will have contributed nearly 100,000 hours of volunteer time, providing support and services to nonprofit organizations that would not have been able to meet their goals without your efforts. Based on the value of a volunteer hour, established by *The Independent Sector*: 1,300 Montgomery County RSVP volunteers donated time and services to 300 regional organizations, representing a total savings of about \$1,800,000 to those organizations. What an extraordinary accomplishment!

As we look forward, 2007 brings the rewards and challenges that propel our agency into action. We are currently putting the finishing touches on a long-range strategic plan that will focus on innovative ways to engage and capture the newest and youngest potential volunteers — Baby Boomers!

We ask you, our loyal supporters, to assist us in our efforts to maintain our position on the cutting edge of civic engagement by helping us recruit new volunteers. There is so much more good work to be done. Won't you join us in this call to action? Become an ambassador for RSVP to help us build our volunteer base and our nonprofit agency pool by getting the word out about what we do and how we help the community.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your contributions to our annual appeal campaign. We know that you receive many worthwhile requests during the year and appreciate that you recognize our efforts to provide specific programs supporting the children and the elderly in our communities. You can still donate by mail or online by visiting www.rsvpmc.org, click on the "donate" menu and click on "Network for Good". We thank you for your generous gift!

Thank you for partnering with RSVP. Wishing you all a Happy and Healthy New Year!

Lilibet Coe

Executive Director

More Time – More Choices – More Friends
LIFE AT FOULKEWAYS

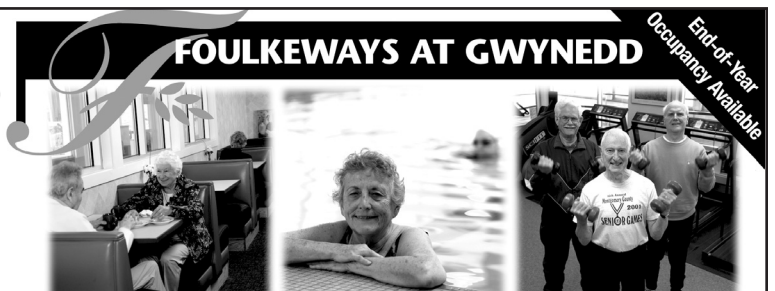
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End-of-Year
Occupancy Available

It Doesn't Take Much Time!

We know how valuable your time is, so we strive to create opportunities that fit into your busy schedules. Whether you can dedicate 8 hours a week or 8 hours a year to volunteering, there's a place that needs you right in your own neighborhood!

If you have one day a week or more:

- Work with schools to provide classroom support
- Make recordings for the visually impaired
- Become a docent at a local museum or historic site
- Join a group providing support to abused women

One day (or part of a day) a week:

- Help visually impaired people read their mail or pay their bills
- Deliver meals-on-wheels
- Prepare meals in a soup kitchen
- Read to pre-school children in school
- Mentor a child
- Help in an office setting
- Help a child to read

One day a month:

- Take a senior shopping or to a doctor appointment
- Visit with a homebound senior or a disabled, homebound child
- Tutor a child
- Perform small household repairs for homebound seniors
- Offer your executive level skills to a local nonprofit

One day a year:

- Volunteer at a nature center
- Wrap gift books for children
- Help local nonprofits with mailings
- Be a part of a special event

An hour a week from home:

- Make calls to homebound seniors to check in and add some sunshine to their day
- Create knitted items for hospice patients

Love Museums?

If you have a science or teaching background or if you love museum exhibits, volunteer as a greeter or presenter at an exciting upcoming exhibit, from February through September 2007.



**Call your local field office coordinator
and together find the perfect match for your time, talents and interests.**

Central Area (Plymouth Meeting)
Eastern Area (Willow Grove)
Main Line (Bryn Mawr)
*North Penn (Lansdale)
Pottstown/Collegeville

Harriet Klein (610) 834-1365
Gail Vinikoor (267) 518-0028
Sheryl Eisenhard (610) 527-8806
Esna Carver (215) 855-9578
Dollie Walsh (610) 326-9109 or (610) 489-1555

*Even though the North Penn Field Office recently moved to the Lansdale Peak Center at 315 N. Main Street, 2nd floor, Esna can still be found at the same phone number (215) 855-9578 and fax (215) 855-3451 or by the same email address: rsvpnorthpenn@rsvpmc.org.



Counselors & Partners!

Thank You

We

thank our Apprise Medicare Counselors and Partners who work tirelessly throughout our communities, assisting thousands of residents with their health care coverage options and for providing safe and warm meeting locations.

Today's Medicare is about Choice

With so many plans and options to choose from, many seniors wonder which plan, or combination of plans, will provide them with the best coverage to manage health care and expected or even unexpected prescription expenses.

Apprise Counselors attend training seminars regularly and are available for **free and confidential** individual or group sessions. There is no question too small or too big when it comes to being informed. Why not schedule a session with a counselor who can explain all of your options and which plan(s) would provide you with the kind of coverage you can afford and need? Call today to schedule your session (610) 834-1040, ext. 20.

Online resources for additional information

www.medicare.gov

www.MyMedicare.gov

www.NCOA.org

www.caregiver.com

www.cms.hhs.gov

www.accesstobenefits.org

www.benefitscheckup.org

www.aarp.org

www.shiptalk.org

www.medicarerxmatters.org

www.MyMedicareMatters.org

www.eldercare.gov

www.needymeds.com

www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/druginformation.html

www.ssa.gov

Official Medicare website

Access to your personal Medicare account

National Council on Aging

Tips for caregivers

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Access to Benefits Coalition

Service of National Council on Aging

Official AARP website, providing valuable links

State Health Insurance Assistance Program

Information on the Medicare Part D benefit

Sponsored by National Council on Aging

Regional senior services directory

Local resources for prescription drug discounts

Drug information site

Official Social Security website

I started volunteering at the Women's Center of Montgomery County more than twenty years ago, long before belonging to RSVP. Years later I decided to diversify my volunteering activities and by then I qualified as a "retired senior" so I joined RSVP where I did a variety of things such as mentoring school children, visiting and helping a blind person and using my knowledge of Spanish (my first language) in translations. But the most interesting and rewarding activity to me as a biologist interested in ecology and conservation is giving presentations about flowers and their pollinators. This subject became immensely interesting to me when I realized that without flying insects there would have never been any

Volunteer Spotlight

Meet Beatriz Moisset



flowers. I tried to imagine a world without flowers (and also without most fruits and vegetables) and I couldn't, it would be too awful, perhaps even unlivable to humans. Add this notion to the fact that most people hate and fear insects and I came to the conclusion that insect pollinators badly need a PR person to speak for them and I am that person.

RSVP has given me the opportunity to remain active during my retirement doing things that I love and keeping in touch with people that are also very active and willing to give back something of what they received through life to their communities.

We would love to hear about your volunteer experiences. Let us know about your endeavors, triumphs and even your frustrations.



Mark your Calendars

Volunteer Recognition Luncheons

Field Office

Main Line
Eastern
Central
North Penn
Western

Date/Location

April 12 at Waverly Heights
April 25 at Sorella Rose Restaurant in Flourtown
May 9 at Plymouth Meeting Country Club
May 10 at Marjeane's Caterers in Lansdale
May 17 at Frederick Mennonite Community

Celebrate Spring...



Stepping Out In Style during the 2006 Fashion Show

...with our Second Annual Fashion Show

Join us on Sunday April 29th for our 2nd Annual Spring Fashion Show. Coldwater Creek Fashions will be modeled at the Philadelphia Marriott West in Conshohocken by our stylish models. Fabulous door prizes, fun vendors and a delicious luncheon will be provided for the low ticket price of \$40.00. Invitations will be mailed out shortly. If you have any questions, please call Kit Racette, co-chair of the event at 215-646-6299.

Sponsorship levels and table sponsorships are being offered at varying amounts. If you would be interested, or know of a business that would, please call Kit at the number above. We look forward to seeing you!

Thank you! Thank you!

We are deeply grateful to the following foundations, corporations, government agencies and community organizations for their support of \$500 or more during 2006. We literally would not exist without you!

If we have omitted anyone who donated in 2006 please let us know and we will acknowledge you in a future RIPPLE.

Annual Funding of \$100,000+
Corporation for National and Community Service*
Montgomery County Office on Aging and Adult Services

\$20,000-30,000

Chestnut Hill Health Care Foundation
Pennsylvania Department of Education*

\$10,000-\$19,999

Annenberg Foundation*
IGN Foundation
Janus Foundation
Lenfest Foundation
Montgomery County - Development Corporation
Patricia Kind Family Foundation*
Pew Charitable Trusts*

\$5,000-\$9,999

Anonymous
BJ's Charitable Foundation
Bard Foundation
Child Development Foundation
Claneil Foundation*
Comcast Foundation
Fourjay Foundation
Garthwaite Foundation
Genuardi Foundation
John and Chara Haas
Musser Foundation
Nelson Foundation
North Penn Community - Health Foundation
North Penn United Way
State Senator Stewart J. Greenleaf
State Representative Daylin Leach
State Senator John C. Rafferty
State Representative Joshua Shapiro
State Senator LeAnna Washington
State Senator Connie Williams
State Senator Robert Wonderling

\$1,000-\$4,999
Barra Foundation

Cassett Foundation
Citizens Bank
Douty Foundation
Emergency Aid of Pennsylvania Foundation
Hartford Customer Services Group
Houghton-Carpenter Foundation
Paul Kelly Fund
Lawrence Saunders Fund
Lockheed Martin Employees Community Service Fund
Maxwell Strawbridge Charitable Trust
McNeil Consumer Products
Merck
Plymouth Township
Prudential Financial
Prudential Fox & Roach/Trident
Skillington Foundation
Target Foundation
United Way of Western Montgomery County
Verizon Foundation
Wachovia Foundation
Willow Grove Foundation
Wyeth

\$500-\$999

Driscoll Foundation
Engle Foundation
Independence Blue Cross
JDB Fund
Mandell Foundation
Montgomery County Medical Society
Upper Perkiomen Community Council
Wal-Mart

In-Kind Contributions

Aetna
Automobile Dealers Association of Greater Philadelphia
First Book
Hollywood Graphics
Montgomery Newspapers
North Montco Technical Career Center
Waverly Heights

**RSVP of Montgomery County is grateful to these funders for pledging multi-year grants at this level.*

We Gratefully Acknowledge the following Contributors to RSVP's Annual Appeal Donations made during the period of JANUARY 1 - DECEMBER 31, 2006

(Includes portions of two annual appeals- 2005-2006 and 2006-2007)

We thank the following RSVP volunteers and friends who helped

us sustain the high quality of our programming and services in 2006 through their generous contributions to our annual appeal. If we have omitted anyone who donated in 2006 please let us know and we will acknowledge you in a future RIPPLE.

Russell and Helen Ackoff, Richard Adams, Joe and Fran Alberstadt, Harvey Alter, Artman Lutheran Home, Franklin & Sharon Ash, Fred and Janet Azzara, Barbara Bailey, Bette Bailey, Theresa Baltz, Carol Bassman, Myrtle Anne Bauman, Lisa Becker, Stephanie Walsh Beilman, J. Robert Behrman, Linda Belinsky, Ann Berger, Lila Bittenbender, Don and Katherine Blenko, Barbara Blumenthal, Charlotte Bode, Elizabeth Bodine, Michelle Bondi, Eileen Boreth, B Griffith Borzell, Anthony Bove, Patricia Braucht, Cambridge Brightfield, Sylvia Brodsky, Ilene Brouda, Gordon Campbell, Mary Ann Campbell, Hilda Carter, Center School, Joan and Joel Chinitz, Birchard Clothier, Michael Codell, Perky Cohen, Ralph and Dora Cohen, Sherry Collins, Elizabeth Covelli, Marie Davies, Nancy Day, Arlene Dewalt, Charles and Delores Dutil, Eagleville Hospital, Barbara Earle, Lily Feinstein, Herb and Elinor Finkelstein, George Fischer, Sylvia Fishbein, Walt and Linda Fisher, Catherine Forrest, Rita Frank, Richard Freed, Al and Catherine Freeman, Rocco Gaudio, Linda Gedney, Peter and Ginger Genovese, Adele Gerber, Patricia Gerberding, Dennis Gerhart, Violet Gibson, Jeanette Gilbert, Winifred Gillespie, Bill and Louise Goldstein, Patricia Golomboski, Gene Grace, Neil Graham, Elaine Green, Jack Greenberg, Angela Guiliani, Michael and Florence Halbert, Mary Harbison, Mary Harper, Irwin and Cecile Haupt, Alma Henninger, Helen Henry, Nancy Hensler, Ellis Herman, Jeremy Heymsfeld, Mary Louise Hurwitz, Daniela Iizuka, Rosalie Jacobson, Jay Johnson, Harry M.K. Johnston, Edna Joffe, Dorothy Jones, Harry Kahn III, Doris Kalan, David Kasoff, Nancy and Shahir Kassam-Adams, Rose Kibrick Katz, Frances Kellogg, D.P. Kingsley, Joan and Alan Kober, Gloria Kraus, Joyce Krasnoff, Gordon and Ellen

Lawrence, Jeanne Lewis, Lou Ann Lewis, Betty S. Light, Eric Libnack, Patricia Lipps, Sy Listman, David Long, Francis Loughran, Elsie Mack, John and Loretta Madill, Gerhard Maerker, Ed Marsden, Jr., R.B. Marsh, Jerry Martindale, Beryl Masters, Francine Mellott, Andrea Merrick and Alan Gnessin, Judy Miller, Roger Mills Sr., Mary Moore, Helen Moran, Nina Morgenstern, Ellen Morrow, Mary Murphy, J. Margaret Ada Mutch, Violet Owens Myer, Elaine Nace, Don and Myrt Neiman, Gilbert Newman, Sheila Newman, William Norton, Eleanor Onimus, John and Dottie Oppenlander, Paradise Manor, Betty Parker, Frank Parry, Carol Phelan, Richard Pratt, Gene and Maripat Pressler, Norman Price, Martha Purchase, W.M. Pye, Kit and Paul Racette, Carol Randall, Muriel Reich, R.M. Reichley, Christina Rigerink, Don and Joan Robinson, Frances Rogalsky, Irene Rooney, Bernie and Betty Roseman, B. Fern Roth, Naomi Rubin, Joan Ryder, St. Mary Manor, Joe and Fran Salamone, Selma Savitz, Mary and Albert Scarcelli, Jr., Fred and Jane Schuetz, Melvin Schweiger, Thomas and Virginia Shank, Claire and Dennis Sharkey, Ruth E. Smith, Hal Smolinsky, Ron and Karen Steinbrecher, Ardelia and Ronald Stewart*, Winifred Sudler, Addy Sugarman and Marshall Greenberg, Dick Sundheim, Jim Sutor, Marie Tresslar, Alfred Toizer, Anita Udell, Dorothy Urban, Henry Vila, Herb and Shirley Volker, Jean and Milton Wachenheim, Phyllis Wagner, Emily Wallace, William T. Walsh, Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Walters, Hazel Warner, Frank and Barbara Wellock, Elaine Wolf, David and Constance Wolner, Doug Yingling, Mary Zulick, Nancy and Eli Zucker.

**In addition to their contributions, Ardelia and Ronald Stewart notified their employers, Merck and Glaxo Smith Kline, who will match their contributions. We hope that others will follow the lead of the Stewarts and double their gift by taking advantage of corporate matching gift programs offered to employees and retirees.*

Thank You!

Upcoming Events – Join Us!

Step Out in Style Fashion Show – April 29th

Come enjoy a Coldwater Creek Fashion Show modeled by our stylish volunteers and staff and shop from a variety of vendors. Join us at the Philadelphia West Marriott in Conshohocken at noon. See you there!

2nd Annual 5K Run/1 Mile Walk & Roll – Sunday, September 30, 2007,

8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Will be held on the Aetna Corporate Campus in Blue Bell on a marked, off-street

Your Shopping Dollars Add Up

Do you shop at Genuardi's, Macy's or Office Max? If you do, you can designate RSVP to receive a percentage of your purchase price through the [eScrip program](http://www.escrip.com). It's simple to sign up. Visit www.escrip.com and enter our ID# 150239909 or call us and we'll send you a form to fill out. If you registered last year, please be sure to renew your commitment to RSVP. Thank you!

course. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. and the race will begin at 9:00 a.m. Walkers will navigate a separate course. Healthy living tips will be offered by vendors. More details will follow in our next newsletter.

Volunteer Recognition Luncheons are coming up!

See page 6 for dates and locations. It's our opportunity to get all of our volunteers together and thank you for your incredible efforts!

Way to Go Ladies!



We congratulate and recognize the outstanding long-term contributions of the following RSVP Staff members:

(Left to Right)

Janis Glusman,

Literacy Coordinator for 20 years;

Donna Uhler,

Apprise and Eldercare

Coordinator for 15 years;

Esna Carver,

North Penn Field Office Coordinator

for 22 years and

Barbara Fitzgerald,

Development Coordinator for 20 years

In Memory & Honor of...

The following individuals have been honored:

Gordon & Ellen Lawrence in memory of Albert Finkel

In honor of Star Sitron from Paula Gill

In honor of Sharon Melcher from Reed Technology & Information Services

In memory of Gene Hoag from the North Penn Area Action Committee of RSVP

Do you want to honor or commemorate a special friend or family member in a unique way? Consider making a contribution in their memory or honor. Please send your contribution to RSVP, 531 Plymouth Rd., Suite 517, Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462 and indicate the name of the individual being honored.

RSVP Retired & Senior
Volunteer Program
of Montgomery County

531 Plymouth Road, Suite 517
Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462

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