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CHEERS!
CHEERS!
CHEERS!

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VOLUNTEERS

Three Cheers for Volunteers!

2003
VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR
AWARDS

Presented by
California Association of Health Facilities

Everyone who has been involved with long-term care knows what a positive impact volunteers have on the lives of the residents and clients. Whether they are organizing a special event, entertaining residents or taking a moment to share a hug, they make a positive difference in the lives of residents and staff alike – and they create smiles wherever they go.

YOUTH VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Matthew Garish



Unlike many other fourteen year-olds, Matthew Garish truly enjoys spending time with seniors – and they enjoy spending time with him. Matthew is a cheerful and reliable volunteer at Lincoln Glen Nursing Facility in San Jose. Whether he is encouraging residents to attend activities or helping with their transportation, he is always gentle and respectful. The residents at Lincoln Glen look forward to spending time with Matthew, and they love hearing stories about his baseball games and school activities.

*Volunteer
of the Year*

ADULT VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Mary Justl



Mary Justl is just plain impressive. She has been volunteering an average of 8 hours per week at Nob Hill Health Care Center in San Francisco for more than nine years. Although she's a senior citizen herself, she doesn't let the steep hills of San Francisco or stormy weather keep her from her duties. The residents love her visits, but it is her unique talent as a lip reader – and her ability to reach out to hearing- and cognitively-impaired residents – which makes her truly special. Mary leads group sessions which help hearing and/or cognitively-impaired residents learn to “listen” in new ways and better communicate with others. Mary learned her skills while raising her own deaf child, who went on to become Florida's first deaf counselor. The residents and staff love her Mary for her empathy, dedication and perseverance.

*Volunteer
of the Year*

ADULT VOLUNTEER
Special Recognition

Esther Jordan, Filmore Convalescent Center, Filmore

has been dedicated a volunteer and Auxiliary board member at Filmore Convalescent Center in Fillmore for more than 20 years. At 91 years young, she is an inspiration to everyone she meets. Over the years, she has given more than 6,958 hours of volunteer service to the residents at Fillmore Convalescent Center.

**Virginia Head, Walnut Whitney Convalescent Hospital,
Carmichael**

Every Tuesday afternoon for the past 27 years, Virginia Head has spent her time visiting with the residents at Walnut Whitney Convalescent Hospital in Carmichael. Virginia goes room to room, talking with residents, praying with them, sharing a laugh and sometimes a tear. Because of hip surgery 2 years ago, she spends much of her time now in a wheelchair, but she hasn't let it stop her from her weekly visits with residents.

GROUP VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR
“Hymns Thru the Ages” Musician’s Group



For more than 15 years, members of the “Hymns Thru the Ages” musical group have been sharing their time and talent with the staff and residents at Country Care Convalescent Hospital in Atascadero. Led by Lisa and Tony Wallace, this group consists of three talented families -- including their children -- who play a variety of musical instruments. They provide inspirational sing-a-long programs, as well as fellowship, prayer and one-on-one love to the residents and staff.

*Volunteer
of the Year*