

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA VOLUNTEER



**American
Red Cross**



2019



AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD SERVICES



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

PHILLIPPINE ADDINGTON

- san joaquin county



Phillippine has been generously donating blood for 25 years. She donates every 56 days and looks forward to it; appreciating the American Red Cross E-mail she receives, informing her where her blood was sent – “*That*

is so encouraging. Everyone is very friendly and helpful. The Collection staffs do a great job.”

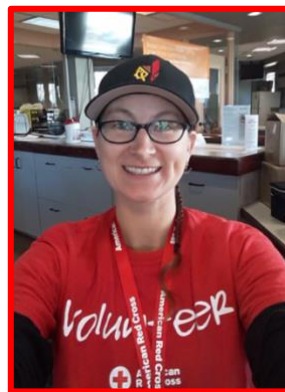
Close friends and former high school mates, Pat and Rickie, volunteered at Lodi blood drives for many years. So; upon Phillippine’s retirement three years ago, they felt it was a perfect match and invited her to join them. All three maintain recurring shifts, month after month. Before their volunteer shifts, Pat, Rickie and Phillippine gather with other life-long friends and share a meal. Pat states, “I have known Phillippine for 55+ years and she is a great friend. She is very friendly and encouraging to others, which is certainly helpful with the donors!” Rickie chimes in; “We go back a *long* way. I love

her and she loves people. She is a great person and a wonderful friend.”

Phillippine is a delight to know. She is upbeat and positive, pitching in whenever she can. “I enjoy doing it very much. I love talking to the donors and believe they love talking to us as well. It makes me feel good to support my community.”

DESARAE EMERICK

- stanislaus county



Before deciding to sign up as a volunteer with the American Red Cross, I was a Budget Analyst at a local school district. I unexpectedly lost my job and was thrown into a deep depression. I didn’t want to leave the house, or even be awake, and my sense of self was completely lost.

After about six months, I built up the courage to start volunteering. I believed it would help me gain my confidence back, while being able to help others. It would be a win-win!

My expectations were met with the American Red Cross. As a Biomedical Ambassador, I am the first face the donors see and/or the last person they interact with. It is very important to give the donor the best experience possible so they continue to return to donate. A constant smile is imperative, just as it is with any customer service-oriented



position. Knowing what was expected of me, made me put my big girl pants on and face my depression head-on. I couldn't be depressed while volunteering, because that would affect the donors, my fellow volunteers and the staff around me. Being a volunteer has helped heal me in ways I've never expected. It is for that reason, I will continue to volunteer at the American Red Cross for as long as I possibly can (and as often as I possibly can).

In addition to helping myself, my volunteer experience has helped donors as well. I treat every donor with kindness and respect. I am enthusiastic and helpful. I have received such comments as, "You are the best quarterback this place has ever had, EVER!" I believe the American Red Cross brings out the best in everyone involved. I have met such amazing people, with very unique stories. I've also met people, with stories similar to mine, who I've been able to suggest Volunteering.

For me, volunteering with the American Red Cross has led to healing: healing myself, donors, volunteers, staff, and of course the people receiving our blood, platelets and plasma. The American Red Cross is an amazing place where miracles happen and lives are saved on a daily basis. I am both honored and thankful to be a volunteer with the American Red Cross.

MARIAN PISTOCHINI & MARY LINGENFELTER

- *san joaquin county*



Longtime St. Paul's United Methodist Church volunteers (supporting blood drives, the first Monday every month) **Marian**



Pistochini and Mary Lingenfelter, share smiles and coffee-cake at the Veterans of Foreign Wars

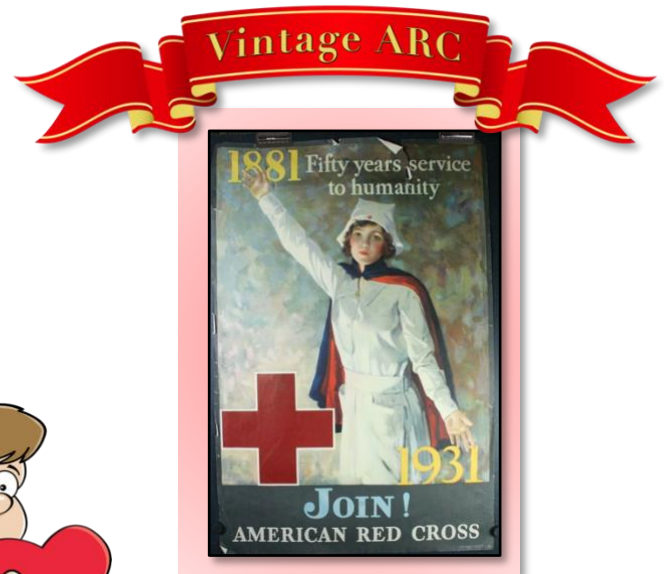
center in Manteca, CA. *Thank you for your commitment to our Manteca donors!*

New San Joaquin County Volunteer THOMASINA HERNANDEZ wins the Trifecta !



Thomasina completed her Donor Ambassador training while working at her very first mobile drive in Stockton CA. As if that wasn't enough of an

accomplishment, Thomasina donated at this drive for the very first time! It doesn't get better than this!



APHERESIS HERO - ART MAXWELL



be great at the blood bank. So, after a few years of whole blood donations, it was all good. Doing a good deed is its own reward and that is all the motivation I needed.

The larger apheresis machines and process intrigued me, but I was ineligible at the time. So, I was asked to please try again. In the meantime, I had a very young son, who would come with me as I donated whole blood and watched the whole show with big eyes! Later, he came on his 16th birthday to donate for the first time - the first day he was eligible.

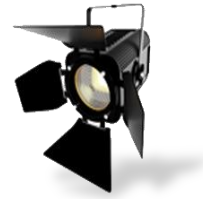
Overall, the sense of duty comes down to feeling like there is meaning to having a CALLING and hearing it, then answering it. All of us have blessings and adversities in our lives - it is how we respond that counts. After making the cut for apheresis with another try- the plasma and platelets added up and I got the call recently that totals had hit 25 gallons. My goal is to hit 30 gallons in a month or two. Could not be doing this without the support of my wonderful wife, who makes the great meals that sustain this. She and I met when we were 12 years old almost 50 years ago. Also having a hand is the best apheresis recruiter in the west- Karen Crawford who has encouraged me, even when I have faltered. Kudos to the technicians at Oakland Blood Center who do their jobs like the professionals they are.

In addition to regularly saving lives, Mr. Maxwell is a lifelong bicycle mechanic and cycling enthusiast. He also performs regularly on the flute and saxophone in the Bay Area and across the country with legendary guitarist Calvin Keys.



STAFF SPOTLIGHT

MARI BRETTHAUER, - volunteer engagement representative



It's dark outside. I'm standing at the bus stop wondering what to expect when I walk into a lobby full of strangers. What are they saying? Who are they? What do they expect? Am I overdressed? As all these thoughts run through my brain, I am off the bus and walking towards the answer to my questions. A vague building in a city in which I grew up, seems so foreign on a foggy Monday morning. What's next?

I am met with smiles and hellos as I enter the building. An introduction session starts with three other new faces, a sigh of relief: I am no longer alone.

My name is Mari Bretthauer and I am the new Volunteer Engagement Representative for Alameda, San Francisco, Marin, Solano, Sonoma, and Napa counties. I was an AmeriCorps last year, at the chapter office in Oakland, working as a Youth Services Coordinator. I worked with over 40 high schools around the Bay Area, working on leadership, collaborating with different lines of

business, and maintaining the East Bay Youth Executive Board. I also deployed for four different fires in our region starting my first week as an AmeriCorps at the North Bay fires and then ending as a volunteer up at Camp Fire in Chico.

I am deeply passionate about the Red Cross and the Red Cross mission. For as long as I can remember, all I wanted to do was to help people and "save the world". Every day since the start of my AmeriCorps term, I felt that I have been doing just that. WE are saving people's lives and I will never take that for granted. Thank you for all you have done and what you continue to do on a daily basis. I am so grateful to be serving with all of you.

How has a month gone by already? It feels like just yesterday I walked through the front door into this new position. But so much has happened. I've met so many wonderful volunteers and I cannot wait to meet more of you. I am excited to have started this job and have seen the great impact YOU make every day, saving people's lives, and being there for the donors. I am deeply grateful for the opportunity and experience. I can't wait to see what the coming year brings.

Please always feel free to come by and say hi or contact me. I am always available!

Mari Bretthauer - Mari.Bretthauer@redcross.org



VOLUNTEER RAFFLE



Every month we will be selecting 3 lucky volunteers, who have acquired hours through their volunteer participation, to receive a small thank you prize. It doesn't matter if it's 5 or 50 hours! Every volunteer will get a chance to win! You don't even have to enter your hours. They are automatically added to your volunteer profile when you sign up and complete a shift through Volunteer Connection.

Sign up and complete a shift every month and you can win too! Your Volunteer Management team.

JANUARY HOURS RAFFLE WINNERS

Nolan Crua, Contra Costa County
Michael Wedl, Contra Costa County
Carol Hoskins, Santa Clara County

A HUGE thank you to everyone who volunteered in January! We could not do what we do **WITHOUT YOU!**



SUPPORT YOUR COMMUNITY
Educate others about Blood Services



BECOME A VOLUNTEER HEALTH EDUCATOR

Please join our mission to increase blood donation awareness to help the nation's blood supply by becoming an American Red Cross Volunteer Health Educator.

**Put your professional medical background
& skills to lifesaving practice.**

Contribute by providing presentations to local schools, businesses and community partners. Help create awareness of various blood donation types and processes.
You can make a world of difference in someone's life.

American Red Cross | Northern California Blood Services
San Jose | 2731 N. 1st St., San Jose, CA 95134
Oakland | 6230 Claremont Ave., Oakland, CA 94618

Please contact **Rhonda Davis**, Volunteer Management
925-285-4355 or rhonda.davis@redcross.org



High School and College Students are Encouraged to Participate in: Leaders Save Lives



All high school and college students are encouraged to participate in the [Leaders Save Lives Scholarship Program](#) by hosting a Summer 2019 blood drive. They will earn volunteer hours and become eligible to earn gift cards and possibly win a scholarship. Encourage students you know to [sign up to participate for this wonderful opportunity.](#)



WE NEED DRIVERS!



Are you interested in a meaningful volunteer opportunity that will

make a real impact in the community? Become a volunteer driver!

➔ We need drivers in Oakland, San Francisco and San Jose.

➔ What to know: You will drive small Red Cross branded vehicles and use small hand trucks to deliver blood to local hospitals. Training is provided and there are flexible shifts offered 7 days a week.

➔ What You Need: Valid driver's license with and safe driving record and the ability to lift boxes of up to 45 pounds a short distance.

For more Information, contact:

➔ Alameda & San Francisco opportunities:
Julie Mucilli at: Julie.Mucilli@redcross.org

➔ Santa Clara County opportunities: Romina Cervantes at:
Romina.Cervantes@redcross.org

Refer a Friend to Volunteer!

Win a \$50 swag package!

February 1st – April 30th

Help the American Red Cross build our volunteer community by referring your friends, family, and neighbors to our organization.

Encourage others to give back to our community like you do!

The individual to refer the most people as new volunteers will receive a **Red Cross swag package (worth over \$50)** and recognition in their May chapter newsletter!

One winner from each county will be identified on May 1st.



To count as a referred friend, the new volunteer must register on Volunteer Connection (www.redcross.org/volunteer).

Contact Julie with the name of the individual you are referring:
Julie Mucilli, Volunteer & Youth Services Recruitment Manager
Julie.Mucilli@redcross.org or 510-421-4527

Questions? Concerns? Feedback? Contact Julie!

LAUGHTER IS THE BEST MEDICINE





VOLUNTEER ANNIVERSARIES



77 Year Anniversary - Norma Perlstein

Norma - Your commitment to the American Red Cross and the spirit of Volunteerism is unprecedented. We are so appreciative and honored to have you on the Northern California Team. Thank you for your generosity!

19 Year Anniversary - Louise Diskerud

16 Year Anniversary - Pablo Ochoa

13 Year Anniversary

Patricia Montmorency

Barry Gruber

10 Year Anniversary - Patricia Finch

8 Year Anniversary - Mary Sandkohl

7 Year Anniversary - Virginia Perkins

5 Year Anniversary

Mark Foote

Anthony Fung

Shawn Glenn

4 Year Anniversary - Candice Shaub

3 Year Anniversary

Fernando Morales

Supriyanka Addimulam

Mary Bender

2 Year Anniversary

Joven Hundal

Lee Jordan

Annette Wahlgren

Harold Isaac Licas

Donna Beck

Nandita Ravi

Richelle Molina

Matthew Doyle

Sylvia Herrera

Satnam Singh

Maritza Sanchez

Richard Lu

Kailash Maddula

1 Year Anniversary

Winston Lee

Vaishnavi Himakunthala

MaryAnn Trujillo

Monica Manmadkar

Isaac Barajas

Lisa DeMeyere

Srilatha P

Terry Kalahar

Tamara Rychkov

Gale Van de Roovaart

Angela Mak

Jaskaran Mohem

Lateefah Al-Wosifer

Darin Boyes

Virginia Nelson

David Allen

Esteban Oropeza

Marcus Gay

Martha White

Jaime Smith

Carol Morris

Christianna Louie

Debbie Ritchie

Eamon Jahouach

Katherine Lewis

Ahmed Abumustafa

Carol Long

Hyunsung Youn

Reyna Montalvo

Khristille De Leon

Sumedha Goyal

Kaila Bimemiller

Yugandher Ganapa

Liang Zhao

*Please Note: **Your Opinion Matters!** On your anniversary, Volunteer Connection will automatically send a survey to you regarding your volunteering experience. Please take a few minutes to fill it out so we can applaud what we do well and work to better areas that need improvement. Thank you!

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST VOLUNTEERS!!!

Kerry Lee	Eduardo Coronel	Pooja Gada
Kamal Randhawa	Kristy Tran	Amy Yoshihara
Harry Dhillon	Joanna Zhu	Uma Maveli
Juan Carmona	Ashley Gray	Nasim Zeighami
Essence Hickman	James Freschi	Patricia Liem
Andrew McEldowney	Kristina Reyes	Kyuyoung Kim
Karina Bhavsar	Nolan Crua	Samira Smith



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in the E-mail Subject line. Also, please give the same
title to any PICTURES you send. Thank you.