

# THE VOLUNTEER

A NEWSLETTER FOR RCRV MEMBERS

July 2003  
Volume 3, Issue 3

## Rockwell Collins Retiree Volunteers

If you can dream it,  
we can do it.

## Mission

Rockwell Collins retirees connecting to identify and support volunteer needs in our community and beyond, while enriching the lives of the volunteers.

## Officers

Mike Wilson – Chairman  
Jim Spencer – Vice Chairman  
Phyllis Brooks – Secretary  
Colleen Bickford - Treasurer

## Committee Chairs

John McDonough –  
Community Projects Team  
Ted Fuhrer – Recruiting/  
Retention/Recognition  
Rod Thorpe – Communications  
Pat Marshall – Agency Liaison  
Jim Klein – Data Base

## Web Site

[www.collinsclubs.com/rcrv](http://www.collinsclubs.com/rcrv)  
e-mail:  
[rcrv@collinsclubs.com](mailto:rcrv@collinsclubs.com)

RCRV  
927 N. Compton Drive  
Hiawatha, Iowa 52233  
319-393-9637 (voice mail)



## Community Projects Team meetings

The Community Projects Team meets every Thursday at 10:00 in our office in the REACT Center where we discuss future and current projects. Service agency representatives submit new project requests on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of the month. You are always welcome at any of the meetings.♦

## RCRV receives Heritage Agency Award

The Heritage Area Agency on Aging celebrated its finest volunteers during its annual luncheon May 22 at the Prairie Hill Pavilion in Marion.

RCRV, represented by RCRV Chairman, Mike Wilson, was awarded the Outstanding Business and Aging Partnership Award.

RCRV was honored for our many projects and individual volunteer efforts that have contributed to the senior assistance projects of the Heritage Agency.♦



Mike Wilson receives Heritage award

# SHIIP - Senior Health Insurance Information Program

RCRV has several active SHIIP counselors that have been trained by the Iowa State Insurance Department in Des Moines and are available to assist you in answering your Medicare/Medigap questions or insurance questions in general.

They can assist in resolving problems that you may have by writing appeals for you or act in general on your behalf when dealing with your provider, Medicare or Medicare supplemental insurance carrier. All information you provide to SHIIP counselors will remain strictly confidential.

SHIIP counselors can put your medical bills, Medicare paperwork and your supplemental insurance carrier's paperwork together so that you know by looking at this form where you stand regarding the bills, etc.

If you are about to turn 65 years of age, SHIIP can answer your questions on what and when you need to do to enroll in Medicare in order to make sure that your future medical needs are taken care of.

Please call one of our SHIIP counselors at the RCRV number, 393-9637. Since the phone is not always answered be sure to leave a voicemail message and your call will be returned promptly.

Future editions of this newsletter will provide additional information on this subject such as the finer details of enrollment procedures and periods, supplemental insurance enrollment procedures and your rights thereto as well as other pertinent related topics.♦

# TRIAD

The Linn County Seniors Against Crime TRIAD is a community-based partnership of community organizations, law enforcement agencies and individuals involved in elderly issues.

The goal of TRIAD is to reduce criminal victimization of the elderly through crime prevention education. They bring together community agencies to form a relationship of trust with the elderly, enabling them to jointly recognize and solve issues faced by the elderly. TRIAD is sponsored nationally by the National Sheriffs' Association and the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

Several RCRV members were involved in forming the Linn County TRIAD in January, 2002. They now serve as volunteers in the TRIAD program and assist by educating the elderly on issues such as identity theft, home repair scams and providing methods of communicating personal safety concerns.

TRIAD is actively looking for new members. If you would like to learn more about TRIAD please call Pat Marshall (363-9769) or Jim Spencer (393-7353).♦

# United Way Campaign

Collins Radio and Rockwell Collins retirees have a great history of helping those in need in the community through contributions to the United Way and their annual campaigns.

.In past years the retirees have been included in the company campaign and the results were included in the company totals. This year RCRV will be running the campaign for the retirees. Rockwell Collins ran their campaign early and it will be completed before the main United Way effort begins this fall.

Following the United Way time line RCRV will be getting information out to all retirees in our data base with a postage paid envelope that will be delivered to RCRV through the United Way.

There are many needs in our community and people and organizations that depend on the United Way for their ongoing support. Be on the lookout for the information describing how you can be part of this effort again this year.♦



TRIAD meeting

## Senior Law Forum

The Heritage Agency on Aging and The Center for Lifelong Learning of Kirkwood Community College will be sponsoring a series of seminars to assist seniors and their families in learning more about legal and financial issues. The seminars, formerly known as Senior Law Day, will be held at the Kirkwood Training and Outreach Center (KTOS) on Armar Drive in Marion on consecutive Friday mornings in October. Anyone may attend and thanks to the generosity of the Rockwell Collins Employees United Fund the cost for participating has been reduced from \$25 per person to \$9 per person. The sessions are:

### October 10 **Protecting Yourself from Crime and Fraud**

A discussion of common street scams, consumer fraud, charitable solicitation schemes and other financial exploitation crimes. *Debra Moore, Iowa Attorney General's Office and Alan Scholle, Iowa Department of Criminal Investigation*

### October 17 **A Tour of the Linn County Sheriff's Office**

Participants will tour the sheriff's office. There will be considerable walking on the tour.

### October 24 **Putting Your Affairs in Order**

A discussion of how to organize your legal and financial affairs to lessen the stress for your family in case of your death or incapacity. It will include an explanation of powers of attorney, living wills, as well as trusts, probate, and other estate concerns. *Todd Anderson, Attorney, Elderkin and Pirnie.*

### October 31 **Planning and Development in Cedar Rapids**

A timely discussion of how the City of Cedar Rapids makes decisions on city

development with historic aerial views showing the city's growth and changes. *Gary Hughes, Department of Development, City of Cedar Rapids.*

For further information, please contact Heather Willard at 398-1057.♦

## Survey

You will find enclosed a postage paid return postcard designed to let RCRV know what volunteer involvement you are willing to undertake or are already participating in. Please give serious consideration to filling it out and returning it to RCRV.

RCRV and the agencies we serve are greatly in need of additional volunteers for various important community projects. Information on many RCRV projects is available on the web at [www.collinsclubs.com/rcrv](http://www.collinsclubs.com/rcrv) and click on "Projects Needing a Volunteer". You may volunteer for one of these projects by contacting RCRV by voice mail at **393-9637**, email at [rcrv@collinsclubs.com](mailto:rcrv@collinsclubs.com) or by directly contacting the service agency involved. Remember our mission statement which is to support volunteer needs of the community, *while enriching the lives of the volunteers.*♦

## Greater Cedar Rapids Open

Twenty Five Rockwell Collins retirees participated as volunteers to help run the Greater Cedar Rapids Open Golf Tournament held July 25, 26 and 27. The tournament began five years ago and is rapidly becoming one of the premier golf competitions in the region. Two hundred and fifty professional and amateur golfers from around the world participated in the event. Proceeds go to area youth charities, most notably

the Boys and Girls Club of Cedar Rapids.♦

## Project news

### Bowling ball ramp

Les Haerther designed and built a ramp that can be set up on a bowling alley to launch a bowling ball or other sized ball down the alley. An electrical device that pushes the ball off the top of the ramp is activated from a low voltage switch so that persons with disabilities can cause the ball to roll. The Solenoid actuator, which runs off of 4 D cell batteries, is located at the top of the ramp.♦



Les with bowling ball ramp



Bowling ball ramp

**Science demonstration table**

John Wauer built a table for the 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers at Pierce Elementary School that allows the entire class to see science project demonstrations. It is a small table that can be easily moved from room to room with an adjustable mirror mounted above so that the students can look down on the table from their desks. ♦

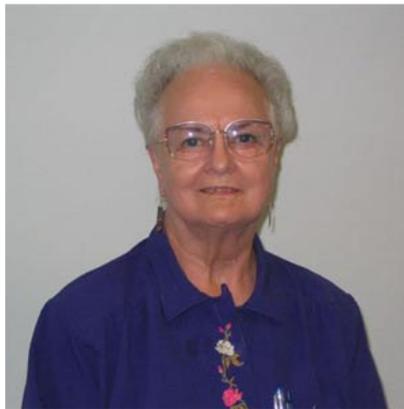


Science demonstration table

# Member Profile

**Pat Marshall**

Pat Marshall grew up on a dairy farm at Bagley, Minnesota near the headwaters of the Mississippi River. She moved to Cedar Rapids in 1953 and began her thirty-nine year career with the Collins Radio Company. Union leadership, Democratic Party politics and extensive community involvement characterize her life in Cedar Rapids. Her accomplishments in these three fields are extensive and would require a separate addition of this newsletter to describe.



Pat Marshall

Leadership in IBEW Local 1362, including an unprecedented nineteen year term as president, brought Pat recognition and involvement in local, state and national union activity. She served for twenty years as Vice President of the Iowa Federation of Labor AFL-CIO and participated in numerous national conventions, committees and ceremonies.

Pat's union leadership lead to involvement in grass roots political efforts and she eventually became active in local, state and national Democratic Party politics. Highlights include twenty years of membership in the Democratic National Committee,

delegate to several local, state and national conventions and active campaigning for many candidates and initiatives.

Pat is a charter member of RCRV, a member of the Board of Directors and has been very involved in many of our volunteer projects. She has also been very active in many other community organizations including board memberships on United Way, Family Service Agency, Collins Community Credit Union and the local AARP. She has served on the Foresight 20/20 Committee and as a member of the Linn County Regional Planning Commission.

Several personal recognition awards have resulted from her many activities and include Woman of the Year Equality Day Award (1984), AFL-CIO Community Service Award (1984), AFL-CIO Political Service Award (1991), Governor's Volunteer Award (1991), and induction into the Iowa Federation of Labor AFL-CIO Hall of Fame (1997).

Artist and gardener describe her leisure occupation which she still finds time for despite her numerous community activities and her artistic endeavors have lead to membership in Creative Artists an organization chartered to promote the work of local artists.

Pat credits her early life in rural Minnesota with providing the basis for the success she has had in life. She was able to honor that heritage in 1986 by nominating her mother to be the model representative farm women at the Agricultural Hall of Fame. Her mother won the selection and her likeness is now representing farm women on the sculpture entitled "The American Farmer" at the Agricultural Hall of Fame in Bonner Springs, Kansas. ♦

