

New Board Members Elected and Volunteers Recognized at 2007 Annual Meeting

The membership of the High Desert Chapter of the American Red Cross elected five new members to the Chapter's Board of Directors at the 2007 Annual Meeting held on May 24th at the Green Tree Inn in Victorville. New members elected to a three-year term are LaVaun Hulterstrom, Ward Relief Society President for the Apple Valley Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints; Louella Freeman, Assistant VP, In-Patient Nursing and Women & Children's Services for St. Mary Medical Center; Suzan Christianson, Relationship Banking Manager for Desert Community Bank; Joan Rowell, Customer Assistance Manager for Southwest Gas Corporation; and Bob Smith of Barstow, retired.

Elected to a second, three-year term were Robert Barton, Emergency Services Coordinator for the City of Victorville; Bob Diehl, Senior VP, Strategic Planning for St. Mary Medical Center; and Rosella Bernal, Branch Manager for Desert Community Bank. First District Supervisor, Brad Mitzelfelt, administered the Oath of Office to the board members after the election.

After the general election, the Board elected the following members to serve as officers during 2007-2008: Robert Barton, Chair of Board; Barbara DeGiuseppe, Vice-Chair; Rosella Bernal, Treasurer; and LaVaun Hulterstrom, Secretary.

Continuing Board members are Barbara DeGiuseppe, Human Resources Director for C&M Fine Pack; James Langley, Senior Associate with The Bradco Companies; Hank Hoehn, Broker Associate with Exit Realty Blaine Associates; Jon Gargan, Director of Community Services for the City of Victorville; and Bill Pyle, Disaster Services Chairman.

Retiring Board members, Dennis West and Paul Cleveland were recognized by the Chapter and the County of San Bernardino for their contributions to the Chapter during their tenure.



Board Members Doug Kleine, LaVaun Hulterstrom and Suzan Christianson enjoying their gift bags



Bob Smith with Supervisor Brad Mitzelfelt

The evening also recognized the contributions of the Chapter's volunteers during 2006-2007. Receiving pins for at least one year of volunteer service were: Lynn Aguilar, Shirlene Barnes, Robert Barton, Rosella Bernal, Dennis Coutts, Molly Coutts, Bob Diehl, Barbara DeGuiseppe, Shari Hoots, Doug Kleine, James Langley, Princess Perry, Joy Marie Roles, Ellen Sullivan, Yolanda Troutman, Phyllis Vandette and Melba White.



Shari Hoots with a "goodie" from her gift bag

Five year, ten year and twenty year pins were presented to Paul Cleveland, Dennis West and Richard Huffman respectively. A five year of staff service pin was presented to Lee Tucker, Community Relations Representative.

Certificates of Appreciation are awarded to volunteers, employees and/or businesses that have demonstrated outstanding service or support in any Chapter program. This year's recipients were: Phyllis Vandette, Melba White, Chris Hammond, Patrick "Lucky" Hamann, Shari Hoots, Richard Huffman, Sally Johnson, Lee Tucker, Hank Hoehn and Amanda Vazquez.

Both the Chapter and San Bernardino County recognized volunteers and supporters who went above and beyond in the administration of the Chapter's programs and services. The Administrative Services award was presented to Jim Fosse for his work on the Chapter website. The Disaster Services Preparedness and Response award went to Dennis and Molly Coutts for their leadership in preparedness and response programs. The Health and Safety Services award was given to Melanie Hodgkins for her work in managing and maintaining the Chapter's health and safety inventory. American Medical Response was named this year's Good Neighbor award recipient for their ongoing donation of classroom, meeting and storage space.



Award recipients Molly and Dennis Coutts

The Clara Barton Award, the highest honor the Chapter can bestow upon a volunteer, was presented to Paul Cleveland for his work as a disaster volunteer, health & safety instructor, service delivery committee chair and board member. Upon accepting the award, Paul graciously dedicated it to those who answer the call for help in the middle of the night.



Paul Cleveland with wife, Glenda