



Experience the Unexpected Benefits of CVV Volunteering

By Chris Jones

The more I learned about the Conejo Valley Village social programs and the services they provide for members, I became curious how volunteers found the Village initially, and what prompted them to get involved. Was it because it's better than sitting around watching CNN or FOX, a desire to just get out of the house, or is there a spark or influence that prompts people to be so giving of themselves?

I had the privilege of speaking at length with Sandra C., a Village volunteer who is a Call Manager, a social member, and provides rides to members who no longer drive. A couple of years ago Sandra read about our Village in the Acorn. She decided to attend a 'meet and greet' event and while talking with some volunteers, decided to get involved as a social member and as a volunteer.

I asked Sandra if there was an event or influence that prompted her to be so giving of herself. She reflected back to other charities that she's volunteered for. Among other things Sandra volunteered at Zonta International, also for long-term care patients as an Ombudsman, as well as volunteering at the local Civic Arts Plaza for over a decade. Wow! I asked her how she started volunteering in the first place and Sandra paused, then mentioned "I think it was my mom", who was a long



Forming deeply-rooted relationships with people who are a lot like me

~ Sandra

term City of Hope volunteer. My impression... leadership by example!

My mom, Emerald, who is a Village member mentioned to me something I had not considered, nor will I forget. My mom said "after all of the rides from all of the different Village drivers, I have never had to get into a car with a stranger." Wow, that's huge! Something that Sandra mentioned also resonated within me: members express immense amounts of appreciation not only for being transported, that's just a ride; but members truly appreciate that the ride is from a vetted Conejo Valley Village volunteer who is most often on-time, and members know who is picking them up in advance. Even if it's a CVV volunteer who they haven't yet met, it won't really be a stranger. I asked Sandra a question that goes without saying: 'do you find it rewarding' to which she replied "yes".

A wonderful benefit that Sandra didn't expect by volunteer-

ing at the Village was meeting other villagers, and the deeply-rooted relationships she has formed with other people who are a lot like her. They take trips together, go to the theater, and do the other things that very close friends do together. Had she not joined the Village, the majority of the people in Sandra's life now would forever be strangers.

CVV needs drivers! If you know people who have the time to volunteer as drivers, not only will they feel a warm and rewarding sense of appreciation by our members, I'm confident they'll be rewarded with new friendships in a very caring and active social circle.

Bring a Friend to Learn About CVV at the TO Street Fair
(by Jack in the Box)
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20th



Volunteer at our booth! Call (805) 372-1826 to sign up for the few remaining 1-hr shifts.

Inside this issue:

Unexpected Benefits of CVV Volunteering	1
Events - CVV Out on the Town	2
Get Ready for REAL ID/Meet The Hansens	3
Volunteer Spotlight	4

See Insert for
Upcoming Events

A Village Out on the Town



As a Village, we love trying new places around town for our events, as well some of our old favorites. We enjoy visiting local eateries like Little Calf Creamery and Fusion Grill that welcome our happy, friendly and hungry group!



Members and volunteers were treated to an ice cream sundae at the Little Calf Creamery. Top row: Danny, Jenny, John, Mary Kay. Above: Yvette, Linda & Barbara.

SAVE THE DATE!!
Village
Thanksgiving
at
Country Harvest
Wednesday, Nov. 20,
2 pm



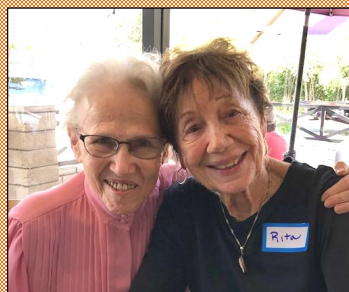
More details to come.



A whole crowd of Village members, volunteers and guests joined our Meet & Greet at Fusion Grill in the photos below.



Ice cream brings out the kid in everyone. Clockwise from top left: Maryann and Ann, Steve and Carr, Barbara and Rita, Karen and Fabienne, and Susan and Emerald.



Photos courtesy of Maryann Gitt



Do You Travel? What You Need to Know About REAL ID

By Loretta Allen

If you fly within the United States or enter secure federal buildings and military bases, **starting October 1, 2020**, you will need a valid passport or other federally approved document, such as a REAL ID driver license or identification card. It's not too early to learn about the REAL ID process and plan ahead. Here are the basic steps:



- 3) **Documents:** See the insert for a complete list of documents that are acceptable to apply for a REAL ID. You will need one document that proves your **identity**, one document that proves your **Social Security number*** and **two** documents that prove your **California residency**. (Note: Name change document(s) required if the name on your identity document is different than your current legal name.)
- 4) **DMV visit:** Bring your **original or certified, printed documents** (and your application confirmation number if you applied online) with you to your DMV visit. Be prepared to pay the application fee: \$36 for driver license or \$31 for identification card.

See Insert for
REAL ID documents
& info



*If you need a replacement Social Security card, learn how to order a replacement card at <https://faq.ssa.gov/en-us/Topic/article/KA-02017> or call the Social Security Administration at **1 (800) 772-1213**.

Meet Members - Karen and Steve Hansen

By Billie Sontag

Karen and Steve married three months after meeting in Iowa, where Karen grew up and Steve had come to live after graduating college. At the time, Karen was teaching and Steve worked for a radio company that had military contracts. They decided to move to Burbank, California, where Steve got a job as a maintenance engineer at NBC, keeping camera and video equipment working properly. He went on to Hughes Research Labs to work on Ion Propulsions Systems.

Karen enjoyed being a stay at home mom and continued to do so when they moved to Agoura in 1970 and until their son and daughter were in middle and high school. Then she went back to school at CSUN for a Master's Degree in reading and started a career in the Las Virgenes School District. She subbed for a while until she took a temporary position at Chaparral and then taught at Willow for sixteen years. She decided she could affect more children as an administrator and served as a principal for 12 years. Steve was interested in teaching too and became credentialed for high school physics. He taught in the valley and then in the Las Virgenes Independent Study Program.

In 2009 they both retired but have remained busy. Steve volunteered as a tutor at the Moorpark College Math Center through 2017. He also became an enrolled agent to help people with their taxes and volunteers at the Conejo Senior Volunteer Program.



He spends time investing and playing chess and Words With Friends and enjoys helping CVV members with computers and minor home repairs. Karen became involved with CVV in its early stages. She says CVV is an incredible organization with good people eager to help each other. She is proud of volunteering by scheduling the call managers, filling in for them when needed, writing for their handbook, and doing whatever she can to be helpful. She is on the Outreach Committee, spreading the word about CVV to potential members and volunteers. She loves to read, play mahjong and meet friends for lunch. Together they enjoy cooking, eating out, taking trips to casinos and being grandparents. They just celebrated their 53rd anniversary. Congratulations Karen and Steve!



P. O. Box 3162
Westlake Village, CA 91359

Phone: (805) 372-1826
Email: cvv@conejovalleyvillage.org
Website: www.conejovalleyvillage.org

The mission of Conejo Valley Village is to help seniors remain independent in their homes and stay active in our community.



**Join our OCTOBER POTLUCK
for Members & Volunteers!**



10/30 at 4 pm
*See insert and sign up at
(805) 372-1826*

Neighbors Helping Neighbors Stay Independent, Active and Connected



Conejo Valley Village is a nonprofit tax-exempt organization under IRS Code Section 501(c)(3). Donations are tax-deductible.

VILLAGE CONNECTIONS

Page 4

Volunteer Spotlight

Volunteers: Please email your total volunteer hours estimated through the end of the month by the **25th** to volunteerhours@conejovalleyvillage.org. Thanks for all you do for CVV!

CVV All Volunteer Meeting

TUES, OCTOBER 22
4 - 6 pm
Goebel Center

Join us to share your volunteer questions, experiences, and ideas and to meet fellow CVV volunteers!

Sign up online or call
(805) 372-1826

CVV Emergency Response Team Kicks Off



Thank you to everyone who joined us at the initial CVV Emergency Response Team meeting. If you missed it, our next meeting is **Thursday, Oct. 3rd, 4 pm** at Goebel and is open to members and volunteers.

The Team has identified three goals: 1) Everyone needs a plan; 2) Everyone needs to prepare a "Go Bag" and 3) the Village needs to have a comprehensive emergency communication plan.

Education will be the team's primary initiative and we will work on hosting speakers and workshops and providing materials to assist everyone in the Village to make a personal plan. Updates will be provided as our work progresses. **Join us and let's plan to be safe together!**