



Sara Ballard
Executive Director
Volunteer Center of Lewis, Mason, and Thurston Counties
517-388-1220
sara@volunteer.ws

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 1, 2010

RSVP Members Recognized for Service

CHEHALIS—100 RSVP members were honored for their community service at the 25th annual Retired and Senior Volunteer Program Recognition Lunch on May 17th, presented by the Volunteer Center of Lewis, Mason and Thurston Counties.

“We are grateful for the time and effort they put into the countless programs they provide service for and this was an opportunity for us to honor that service,” said Sara Ballard, the executive director of the Volunteer Center which manages RSVP.

This year’s event, held at Mary McCrank’s Restaurant, helped recognize over a dozen Presidential Volunteer Service Award (Gold Level) winners with a certificate and pin from the National RSVP program. These 55 and over volunteers qualified for the award by each donating over 500 hours of service to various organizations throughout the community in 2009.

“RSVP members have had a strong presence here and we look forward to honoring their service every year at these luncheons and to express our thanks for their efforts in the community,” said program coordinator Susan Lamoreaux who developed the program in Lewis County 25 years ago. Lamoreaux who will retire at the end of June was also thanked for her leadership and dedication to RSVP over the years.

Volunteers Robert Kraemer and Hugh Blurton, both received the Lifetime Service Award for donating more than 4,000 hours of service to community causes over the course of their lifetime.

Lewis County Presidential Volunteer Service Award (Gold Level) Winners:

Georgie Halphide, Eldene Collins, Donna Lyon, Gary Griffin, Arland Michel, Mary Goforth, Meg Paxton, Denice Donell, Austin Canady, Lucy Lewis, Elaine Truit, Joanne Clark, and Mickie West.

To find out more about the RSVP program and other volunteering opportunities, please visit www.volunteer.ws or call the Lewis County office at (360) 489-1423.

-MORE-

The mission of the Volunteer Center of Lewis, Mason and Thurston Counties is to support volunteer efforts to address community needs; and inspire, engage, and mobilize volunteers. The Center accomplishes this mission by connecting people with opportunities to serve, offering volunteer management training and the promotion of volunteerism. The Center also provides more than 3,000 volunteer referrals per year, works with more than 250 nonprofit and public agencies in its service area and offers more than 650 volunteer opportunities through its Web site at www.volunteer.ws

###