



Governor's Medallion Award for Volunteer Service 2012

The Governor's Award for Volunteer Service program is an important part of the proud history and tradition of volunteerism and community service in North Carolina. For thirty-four years, this statewide awards program has honored the true spirit of volunteerism in our state by recognizing individuals, families, groups and businesses that make a significant contribution to their community through volunteer service.

Created in 2006, the Governor's Medallion Award is presented annually to the state's top twenty volunteers and one paid Director of Volunteers.

On behalf of Governor Beverly Eaves Perdue, it is the pleasure of the NC Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service to announce the recipients of the 2012 Medallion Award.

2012 Award Recipients

Alamance County	Dixie Stafford
Beaufort County	Jane Alligood
Columbus County	Marguerite Lennon
Craven County	Ethel Belle Sampson
Dare County	Marsha Riibner-Cady (<i>paid Director of Volunteers</i>)
Durham County	Perry Colwell
Forsyth County	Dr. James Sifford
Gates County	Bonnie Alford
Guilford County	Charles (Charlie) Routh
Haywood County	Judy Vail
Jackson County	Charles McConnell
Lee County	Donn Otte
McDowell County	Jaime Rankin Stone
Mecklenburg County	Colin Pinkney
Moore County	Brenda Sue Burt
New Hanover County	Carryl R. Tinsley
Orange County	Daniel Toth
Scotland County	Dr. William James Loftus
Union County	Teresa and Jeff Weis
Wayne County	Nettie J. Twigg
Yancey County	Yancey EMS and Yancey Rescue Squad

Volunteer Service Categories

The 2012 Governor's Medallion Awards are presented in the following categories.

Individual: An individual volunteer.

Youth Volunteer: A person (age 18 or younger) who volunteers.

Senior Volunteer: A person (age 55 or older) who volunteers.

Outstanding Mentor: An individual volunteer who has demonstrated a commitment to working with children (age 18 and younger) in a mentoring capacity and/or been actively engaged in other activities that support a mentoring program.

Faith-Based Volunteerism: An individual, group or team that volunteers through a faith-based community organization.

Family: A family that volunteers together on the same project(s).

Group/Team: A group or team of two or more people who volunteer together on the same project(s) under a group or team name.

Perseverance in Volunteerism: An individual volunteer who has overcome significant personal obstacles (mental or physical) in order to engage in service to others.

Lifetime Achievement: An individual who has exhibited a lifelong commitment to volunteerism and community service. Nominees must have made a substantial and sustained impact in the community as a result of their service efforts.

Non-Volunteer Service Category

Director of Volunteers: A paid staff member who exceeds expectations of good management skills in volunteer recruitment, training, coordination, risk management, evaluation, retention and recognition.

The description of volunteer service on the following pages was created from information provided in each recipient's nomination form.

Service Category: Individual

Dixie Stafford

For all 22 years the program has existed, Dixie has volunteered sixty hours a week for the Burlington Police Department's Victim/Witness Assistance Program. In addition to victim advocacy, she also volunteers with at-risk youth and families in crisis, contacting more than 500 victims in a year's time. At the age of 78, Dixie is continuing her education and maintaining her nursing license to be ready to volunteer in the event of a disaster. (*Alamance County*)

Perry Colwell

Perry has served more than 20 years as a volunteer consultant for nonprofits. Through his work on the boards of Executive Service Corps of the Triangle, Triangle Community Foundation, Museum of Life and Science, and Planned Parenthood he has made those nonprofits, and the state, better. Perry's sense of humor, knowledge, and ability to bring divergent people together are a gift, and he is widely recognized as an expert who willingly shares his knowledge to enhance the experiences of others. (*Durham County*)

Donn Otte

Donn's many volunteer hours over 15 years have resulted in premier trails for hiking and mountain biking at San Lee Park. His own love and knowledge of mountain biking are evident. Starting from scratch and often working alone, Donn has made what is considered one of the best such trails in the country, bringing visitors from as far away as Alaska. Donn's perseverance shows that if you don't give up, one person can achieve just about anything. (*Lee County*)

Brenda Sue Burt

Brenda donates at least 70 hours each week helping the homeless and poor in Moore and surrounding counties. When she learned there were over 200 homeless children in Moore County, she started GodSent Angels Mission, which provides food, clothing, blankets, furnishings, free haircuts and showers to help those families. She has certainly made an impact by helping to solve one of society's most pressing needs. (*Moore County*)

Bonnie Alford

Bonnie has been volunteering about 30 hours a week, 8 months a year, for 19 years as the head coach for the Hurricane Cheerleaders, who support the Hurricane Little League Football team. Under her guidance, hundreds of girls have been provided the opportunity for quality recreation and developing lifelong skills of teamwork, leadership and commitment. The girls look to Bonnie as another Mom that looks out for their well being. (*Gates County*)

Service Category: Youth Volunteer

Carryl R. Tinsley

For her 17th birthday, Carryl unveiled her dream of a nonprofit, Clothed in Love, so young women and girls of little means could “shop” for clothes in a boutique setting. She initiated the project, secured donations, produced an inventory system and developed community partnerships. Carryl donates 10-15 hours weekly and engages volunteers of all ages and backgrounds at the nonprofit. Clothed in Love is an inspiration of what one dedicated, hard working individual with the ability to lead and inspire can accomplish. (*New Hanover County*)

Service Category: Senior Volunteer

Ethel Belle Sampson

Ethel has volunteered over 40 hours a week for the Concerned Citizens of New Bern and Surrounding Areas for 30 years. She helps feed the hungry, find shelter for the homeless, and provide transportation for those in need of medical attention. Ethel has a volunteer ministry for the sick, shut-in and prisoners. She actively volunteers in crime prevention activities. Her pure and giving nature are an example for all to follow, and she is called “Mother Teresa” by those who love and admire her. (*Craven County*)

Charles McConnell

Charlie has been volunteering in Jackson County for 20 years. Beginning as “just a volunteer”, he is now the chief fund raiser for Jackson County Neighbors in Need Program. This program helps to weatherize and make homes safer for those who can not afford to do so themselves. Charlie started the New Century Scholars Program, which has helped 750 deserving low-income students see their dreams of college come true. He continues to raise money for college students who are in particular need. Charlie “uplifts us all by his great example.” (*Jackson County*)

Nettie J. Twiggs

Known as “Miss Twiggy,” Nettie volunteers 16 hours a week at the 4th FW/JA Seymour Johnson AFB, helping air men and women and others in service to our country prepare for deployment. She assists with the preparation of required legal documents, so they can be deployed with peace of mind that their legal affairs are in order. She has saved them hundreds of thousands of dollars in legal fees. Miss Twiggy is a dedicated volunteer and is a selfless contributor the community. (*Wayne County*)

Service Category: Outstanding Mentor

Colin Pinkney

For the past seven years, Colin has served as a mentor to at-risk youth through the Communities in Schools program, helping students stay in school and learn that dreams, and their achievement, are possible. Colin started the Young Male Book Club, which focuses on keeping club members in school. Beginning three years ago, the club has had 85 participants, all of whom graduated. Colin's actions exemplify the dedicated volunteer whose passion for youth drives his desire to serve above and beyond what is expected. (*Mecklenburg County*)

Daniel Toth

Dan has spent 12 hours weekly for the past 10 years working with the Augustine Literacy Project to help economically and academically disadvantaged children reach potential they did not know they had. Dan has inspired children that he once mentored who are now mentoring others. He also encourages the parents of the mentees to get involved in their children's education. At the age of 77, Dan is a wonderful inspiration, always willing to give of his time, energy and expertise to help a struggling student. (*Orange County*)

Service Category: Faith-Based Volunteerism

Jane Alligood

Since 2003, Jane has served as a volunteer at Camp Caroline, a haven for members of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Rallying volunteers in the aftermath of Hurricane Irene, Jane found no task too small or large. Donating 6-10 hours weekly, she has helped to guide and advance the ministry and mission of the Camp. Through her leadership and guidance of other volunteers, Camp Caroline has sown seeds to reap a harvest of volunteers to fulfill a shared vision for the 21st Century. (*Beaufort County*)

Service Category: Family

Teresa and Jeff Weis

For the past two years, Teresa and Jeff Weis have donated more than 120 hours a month as Rape Crisis Companions at United Family Services, helping victims of rape and sexual assault. As volunteers, they staff the 24-hour rape crisis hotline, and are always on call. Together, they assist the victim and their family in recovery, and then later support them as they navigate the justice system. Teresa and Jeff are an integral part of the mission at United Family Services as they work “providing hope and support to people in crisis.” (*Union County*)

Service Category: Group/Team

Yancey EMS and Yancey Rescue Squad

In addition to their service as volunteer first-responders, members of the Yancey EMS and Yancey Rescue Squad volunteer to teach first aid and emergency preparedness to elementary school students. Through a partnership with Yancey County 4-H and Cooperative Extension, more than 170 fifth graders have also been taught lifelong skills – to think critically and act responsibly during emergencies or disasters. The EMS and Rescue Squad volunteers are great role models for the young students. (*Yancey County*)

Service Category: Perseverance in Volunteerism

Judy Vail

Judy has volunteered at the “Save the Animals Rescue Ranch” since 2007. While the Ranch is primarily focused on horse rescue, Judy created a cat rescue program and has placed more than 250 cats over the past three years. Not only does her volunteer service including feeding and caring for the cats, she also maintains files and ensures vaccinations are current. Despite her health obstacles, she volunteers about 10 hours each week. Judy is often heard around the barns talking to “her” cats knowing that they are not “just cats.” (*Haywood County*)

Jaime Rankin Stone

Jaime’s volunteer service at the Good Samaritan Clinic of McDowell County has made a tremendous difference for many who suffer from chronic disease. Even though she has significant health issues herself, she volunteers 60-80 hours a week, inspiring all who work with her to give just a bit more. Jaime also helps provide transportation for those who do not have their own. Because of her commitment and service to the clinic patients, hundreds of people are receiving essential, and in many cases life saving, medical care that would not be provided otherwise. (*McDowell County*)

Service Category: Lifetime Achievement

Marguerite Lennon

Marguerite has been volunteering with NC Cooperative Extension Service since 1938 – that's 74 years! She first began volunteering as a child – “tagging along” with her mother. Marguerite's efforts as a volunteer helped bring Southeastern Community College to Columbus County 47 years ago; she also helped to establish the Columbus County Literacy Council. She has been instrumental in the creation of several statewide highway safety programs. At the age of 90, Marguerite still volunteers to make our state a better and safer place. (*Columbus County*)

Dr. James Sifford

Dr. Sifford has been a volunteer for the Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwestern North Carolina for more than 21 years. He is the longest serving volunteer with the organization where he assists with processing invoices for agencies who receive product from the Food Bank. Beginning before records were computerized and every invoice was hand-written, James has been a stalwart volunteer whose contributions are immeasurable. At age 84, Dr. Sifford says volunteering helps keep him young. (*Forsyth County*)

Charles (Charlie) Routh

Charlie has volunteered in the Guilford Friends Meeting community for more than 43 years. Charlie serves at The Shepherds Center, where he is a Handy Hands Volunteer and an integral part of The Shepherd's Center Golf Tournament Committee. He has donated countless hours to the NC Friends Disaster Service, Friends Pioneers and Camp Carefree, a free summer camp for children with chronic illnesses. At 83, Charlie continues to volunteer and shows no signs of slowing down. (*Guilford County*)

Dr. William James Loftus

Since coming to Scotland County in 1974 to serve on staff at St. Andrews Presbyterian College, Dr. Loftus has been an important part of the Arts and non-profit community. He serves on the boards of United Way, Laurinburg Chamber of Commerce, and Hospice of Scotland County. He has served Scotland County Schools as a member of the Job Ready Partnership Council, partnering business with schools to give students opportunities for internships. Dr. Loftus is engaged and giving, and never hesitates to share his many talents to champion his many causes. (*Scotland County*)

Category: Director of Volunteers (Paid)

Marsha Riibner-Cady

Marsha has been serving the Girl Scout Council of Colonial Coast as Membership Specialist for six years. She is responsible for supervising adult volunteers in a four-county area including Dare, Hyde, Tyrrell and Washington counties. Through her efforts, adult volunteer numbers have grown. By increasing volunteer membership, Marsha has ensured that more girls are able to experience the values and ideals of the Girl Scout Promise and Law. Her true passion for scouting shows every day in her work. (*Dare County*)

Volunteer Awards County Coordinators

Alamance County	Ruth Pruitt
Beaufort County	Carolyn Burke
Columbus County	Dr. Melody Prevatte
Craven County	Tharesa Lee
Dare County	Bonnie Bennett
Durham County	Lynn Odom
Forsyth County	Amy Lytle
Gates County	Reba Green-Holley
Guilford County	Hollie Rose-Galli
Haywood County	John Chicoine
Jackson County	John Chicoine
Lee County	Janice Holmes
McDowell County	Gloria Burrow
Mecklenburg County	Leslie Rink/Sarah Degnan
Moore County	Shiela Klein/Terri Prots
New Hanover County	Annie Anthony
Orange County	Lynn Odom
Scotland County	Howard Whitehurst
Union County	Ivy Allen
Wayne County	Tanya Rollins
Yancey County	Linda Semon



*This awards program is administered by the
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