



A Natural Beauty



Volunteer Tyler Newsletter

Bob Lamont recognized by Police Department as Volunteer of the Year!

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The Tyler Police Department recognized VIP Bob Lamonte as the Department's Volunteer of the Year during its annual Awards Banquet held in February.

Bob received nominations from several different divisions for his contributions to the Department.

Since becoming a volunteer in 2005, he has been involved in many computer based projects including the computer aided mapping system for crime analysis, GIS mapping of the Lake Tyler area and the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) address file.

This CAD application was in need of attention as calls for police service were being dispatched to addresses with no correct match as much as 15 percent of the time.

He worked with many different agencies around the city, and volunteered over 800 hours to get the address information accurate on a street-by-street level for the entire city.

Because of this effort, the City's emergency services have better dispatch information, resulting in reduced response time on calls. His work in these areas has saved the City many man hours and thousands of dollars.



Police Chief Gary Swindle (l) congratulates Volunteer Bob Lamonte at the Awards Banquet last February.

Special points of interest:

- PD Volunteer of the Year.
- Library
- Volunteers reach out to overseas service members.
- Police Department gets a gift.
- Help Wanted — Gallery Main Street.

Library Volunteers act globally

Library Volunteer Nick Sciarini has a special spot in his heart for service men and women. He comes by it honestly — he has been there and done that with honor.

As part of his continuing support of our military members, Nick is carrying on a tradition that began about three years ago with a local restaurant.

The folks at the former Tyler restaurant, DeWaynes, collected about 25 boxes of books for the troops but didn't know where to send them or how to pay postage.

So, they contacted Tyler

Chapter 1935 of the Military Order of the Purple Heart.

Nick happens to be the Post Commander and he turned to the Post for approval to fund shipment of the books.

The books have found their way into the hands of troops and sailors deployed overseas. Those engaged in operations in Afghanistan and Iraq get priority for these books.

In his role as a volunteer at the Tyler Public Library and the Whitehouse Community Library, Nick has been able to carry on this mission by providing excess, withdrawn or donated (continued on page 2)



Library Volunteers support the troops—Nick Sciarini (above) and Harriet Gilbert, a great team!



Books for troops (cont. from page 1)

paperback books that are not available for sale.

The boxes are packed and stored by the Tyler Public Library and Nick, along with the help of Harriet Gilbert (another volunteer at the Library), get the boxes ready for shipment.

Harriet, who also works the paperback collection at the Library, has been getting more involved with this effort.

"We essentially send only paperbacks due to the cost of shipping and ease of use by the troops," Nick says. "We ask that donors try to tailor the boxes to the desired recipient if we know

who it is going to."

Since no one really wants old text books or reference books, donors are encouraged to send mysteries, science fiction, westerns, romance, humor, inspirational, biographies and classics.

To date, Nick estimates that in 16 mailings to 13 different military units, there have been a total of about 2,500 books sent overseas.

Recently, Nick says they sent four boxes to the hospital ship USNS Comfort off of Haiti.

"This isn't really a combat zone," Nick says, "but it's

close to it due to the devastation of the area."

The biggest problem Nick and Harriet have right now is getting names and addresses of individuals deployed and interested in receiving and distributing the books.

"We have plenty more to send. We just need some names and addresses," he said.

If you or anyone you know has books to donate, they can be dropped off at the Tyler Public Library with a note — "Books For Troops Attention Nick Sciarrini."

A gift from a friend

Trinity Mother Frances Hospital recently earmarked several units of a rolling shelving system for disposal.

Thanks to the quick actions of Police Department Volunteer Bob Lamonte, those cabinets found their way into a room at the Tyler Police Department.

Bob is a guy who gets around and volunteers for both Mother Frances Hospital and the Police Department just to name a couple of places.



(At right) Chief Gary Swindle and VIPs Sara Campbell, Bob Lamonte and Bill Kelldorf do the honors by cutting the ribbon officially opening the new file room at the Police Department.

So when Bob heard that these expensive units were headed for the scrap heap, he asked for a little time to check with the Police Department to see if they were needed there.

Bob went to Gary Lynch, volunteer services coordinator, and told him about the shelves.

Gary went to his supervisor, Assistant Chief Paula Riggle and she went to Chief Gary Swindle who said, "We'll take them."

An installer was called in and the floor rails and supporting mechanisms were installed.

Then, a bunch of strong backs got together and transported the pieces of the shelving units to the Police Department.

Once they were re-assembled, the units worked great.

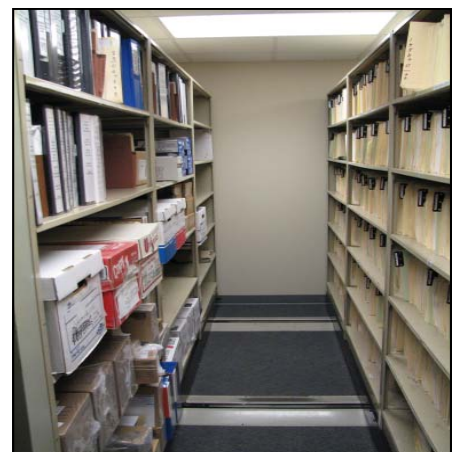
A group of Police Department volunteers including Mary Miner, Jan Smith, Robbie and Sara Campbell, Bill Kelldorf and Dona Stone went to work cleaning and scraping the many years of tape, labels and other gooey stuff from the shelves.

The files that used to occupy the boxes that had been stacked nearly to the ceiling in the room were unloaded and placed on the shelves.

After about three weeks of constant hard work, the finished product was unveiled.

At a ribbon cutting ceremony, members of the volunteer team and Police Department employees toured the new room.

In all the shelves that would have cost in the neighborhood of \$30,000-\$35,000 only cost the City of Tyler about \$1,500 worth of installation and cleaning supplies!



City volunteers at work and play!



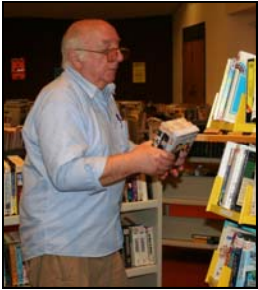
Library Book Sale helpers: (at left) volunteers Nick Sciarrini and youth volunteer Brian Eng restock books.



Library Volunteer Harriet Gilbert (left) keeping things neat at the sale.



Helping other departments — (from near right) VIPs Mary Gammell, Mary Miner, Ron Gammell and Bill Kelldorf helped out at name tag table for the Fire Department Awards Banquet.



Above left— Nick Sciarrini adds to the paperback shelves while Youth Volunteer Itaii Osorio makes change for a book sale customer.



Above — (l to r) VIPs Bill Kelldorf, Jennifer Watson, Mary Miner and Officer James McCraw passed out safety tips and home ID kits for kids at the MDA Stride and Ride. At left — Officer McCraw, VIPs Jennifer Watson and Mary Miner pause with McGruff at the Stride and Ride in Broadway Square Mall.

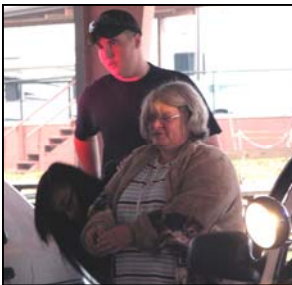


Making ready — (clockwise from upper left) Volunteers Jan Smith, Russ Korbol and Bill Kelldorf pack newly arrived riot gear at Tyler PD. Volunteers helped sort and create individual bags complete with helmets, gas masks and body padding.



VIPs Bill Kelldorf and Dona Stone team up to clean shelves.

Below — Bad Bill Kelldorf (in blue) is “hooked up by Explorer Post Sgt. Travis Baggett (dark colored cap) while Explorer Monica Mojica (near car) observes.



Above—VIP Wild Wanda Hornberger is cuffed by Explorer Post Sgt. Travis Baggett. VIP Mad Mary Miner (right) is led to a patrol car by Baggett and Explorer Heather Jordan as part of the day’s training.



Below: VIPs Bill Kelldorf (in blue shirt), Bobby Richardson, Mary Miner and Lisa Lynch get instructions from Explorer Advisors Officer Mark Lee (in dark shirt) and Officer Ken Caudle (in uniform).

Volunteer Tyler

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HELP WANTED: We now have positions open with Gallery Main Street! Beverly Abell needs friendly faced front desk folks who can work a computer, answer a phone and help gallery visitors. If you or anyone you know are interested, please contact by phone Gary Lynch, (903)531-1071 or e-mail: glynch@tylertexas.com. Check out the web page: www.volunteertyler.com.