

2017 SCV Woman of the Year Nominees

Mary Ann Bennett

Nurse, Prime Healthcare Glendora Community Hospital
Nominated by SRD-Straightening Reins Foundation



SRD-Straightening Reins

- Weekly volunteer at the equine-enriched therapy ranch

Los Angeles Kings Santa Clarita Hockey Team

- Volunteer

Glendora Food Pantry for the Elderly

- Annual volunteer

Senior Flu Clinics

- Annual flu immunizations at retirement communities located in the San Gabriel Valley

Women's Health Volunteer

- Monthly lectures to various women's groups in the East Los Angeles

Dialysis at Sea

- Volunteer on annual cruises around the world for dialysis dependent adults

Organization Impact

Mary Ann's commitment to be at the ranch weekly has allowed for an increase in the number of both special needs and typical youth. She brings the knowledge of a trained medical expert to the ranch while also serving as a parent mentor. Mary Ann has a few young ladies that assist as she pulls wheelbarrows and shovels or rakes muck, while sharing words of encouragement. When Mary Ann is running the stall maintenance, she teaches the kids science and communications skills.

Mary Ann and her husband have three young adults at home and can often be found either at the SRD Ranch or the ice rink where both sons play hockey for the LA Kings Santa Clarita Team. Currently employed in Glendora, CA, Mary Ann is the chief nursing officer for Prime Healthcare Glendora Community Hospital. Her career in the healthcare field has been extensive from serving as the director of operations/director of Nursing Services with Acute Dialysis Services, Inc., to being responsible for nursing services and operations: Intensive Care, Medical-Surgical/Telemetry Unit, Emergency Services, Senior Mental Health, and Surgery for the 128-bed facility. In addition, Mary Ann has provided oversight to Social Services, Utilization Review, Cardiopulmonary Services, Dietary, Performance Improvement/Risk Management, Dialysis, Speech Therapy, Clinical Education, Infection Control, Physical Therapy, and Employee Health. She is often accompanied at SRD-Straightening Reins by her teenage daughter and her son Dan who is a high school senior.

Jane Bettencourt-Soto, CC,CL

Retired Logistics Planner

Nominated by Forged by Fire Foundation

Forged by Fire Foundation (3 years)

- Chief non-profit advisor

Betty Ferguson Foundation (4 years)

- Executive director

Toastmasters International Valencia (1 year)

- Competent communicator
- Competent leader



Other: Leadership Santa Clarita Valley, Community Emergency Response Training, Mental Health First Aid, Nonprofit Management, Monrovia

Organization Impact

Jane has served as primary consultant on nonprofit activities since the foundation's founding in 2014. She has been instrumental in setting realistic financial and operational goals and has consistently provided direction on grants, volunteer opportunities, and potential clientele for the foundation.

Jane is a third-generation volunteer, inspired by her grandmother who was a volunteer for the Red Cross. As a senior in high school, she became the first girl president of the Key Club (Kiwanis). She was recognized in 2016 as an Emerging Leader in The Signal newspaper's Top 51 Next Level. She describes the common threads in her life as passion, faith, family, and community. Jane and her family moved to the SCV in 1993.

Ann-Marie Bjorkman

Co-Owner, Homesmart Real Estate

Nominated by The Boys and Girls Club of Santa Clarita Valley

Boys & Girls Club of Santa Clarita Valley (3 years)

- Chairman of the annual auction
- Executive committee for Festival of Trees

Legacy Christian Academy

- Organizer of Auction Gala

Henry Mayo Golf Tournament

- Organizer of Gala dinner and auction

Senior Center (10 years)

- Volunteer

Other: Ambassador of the Year at SCV Chamber of Commerce, Single Mothers Outreach, 2020 MOM



Organization Impact

Ann-Marie is a volunteer who immerses herself into any event she is working on, willing to do whatever it takes to get the job done and jumping into the trenches with the staff. She puts her whole heart into giving back to this organization because she believes in its mission. Ann-Marie has been the standing chairman for the annual Boys & Girls Club Auction. Her efforts not only benefit the club, but the community as a whole, because she helps to provide a safe environment for all children in the valley.

Ann-Marie Bjorkman was born in Pomona, California to Gary and Linda Masterman and was 1 of 4 children. At the age of two, her family moved to Valencia. She is married to Realtor Mike Bjorkman, and has two sons, Andy, 20, and Maximus, 15. A resident of Placerita Canyon for over 15 years, she worked for Waste Management for almost a decade, which eventually led to community involvement and becoming an Ambassador of the Year at the Santa Clarita Valley Chamber of Commerce. Ann-Marie's sons are the reason behind everything she does and her husband is her guiding light. When the boys started to attend Legacy Christian Academy, Ann-Marie stepped up and helped put on the Auction and Gala at the school. She soon moved on to volunteering with the Single Mothers Outreach, was a member of the Jaycees, and was on the board of 2020 Mom. Ann-Marie has said that "being able to give back to this amazing community that we all live in is a blessing, and the more we are able to contribute, the better our home will be."

Marianne Cederlind

Senior Vice President/Chief Business Banking Officer, Mission Valley Bank

Nominated by Carousel Ranch

Carousel Ranch (6 years)

- Board President – serving third two-year term

Los Angeles Police Department's Foothill Advisory Booster Association

- Past president

Mission Community Police Council

- Founder and past director

Zonta Jane Klausman Women in Business Scholarship Committee (2 years)

- Chair

Other: Canyon Country Little League, Warrior Football, MEND, San Fernando Valley Boys & Girls Club,

Organization Impact

Marianne had been on the board of Carousel Ranch for a year and a half when elections came up, and she was asked to become our president. She is currently serving her second term as leader. Marianne has been instrumental in working with the board to increase participation and rally together as a team to accomplish the major tasks at hand. Right before she became president, Carousel Ranch was charged with the task of re-opening its capital campaign when given a lead gift of \$75,000 on the condition that needed to be matched. Marianne led the organization through the campaign resulting in the opening of covered arena. With the completion of this phase, Marianne began focusing on the program's future, leading the board through two Strategic Planning Processes, the results of which have caused a huge increase in the number of children served as well as the revenue to support the growth. Marianne is determined to bring Carousel Ranch to the next level, creating long-term sustainability and continued growth in the years to come.

Marianne Cederlind began her career in banking in 1979 at Manufacturer's Bank, serving in operational and lending functions. In 1981, she joined American Pacific State Bank through its acquisition of one of the banking branches of Manufacturer's Bank. Marianne served as a commercial lender prior to her promotion to branch manager of the Sun Valley office. In 1988, she was promoted to senior vice president and branch administrator, overseeing the eight branches of a \$450-million bank. She continued serving as senior vice president when City National Bank acquired American Pacific State Bank in 1999. An opportunity arose to open an independently owned community bank in Sun Valley, and Marianne became one of the founders and executive officers of Mission Valley Bank. During the early years, in addition to serving as a full-time commercial lender and business development officer, she oversaw the branch operations and marketing, as well as assisting in finance and credit administration responsibilities. Marianne currently serves as executive vice president/ chief business banking officer. She has a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from the University of Phoenix, and is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin's Graduate School of Banking.



Tami Edwards

Realtor, Homesmart Real Estate

Nominated by Rotary Club of Santa Clarita Valley

Rotary Club of Santa Clarita Valley (1 year)

- Cashier, Peach Cobbler booth at Hart Park Pow Wow
- Community Service Committee
- Club Service Committee

Circle of Hope (4 Years)

- Executive Board

SCV 4th of July Parade Committee (5 years)



Others: Dancing with Our Stars, Hart District Advisory Committee, “Harts of Gold” Special Achievement Award Recipient, 38th Assembly District Woman of the Year, 2016

Organization Impact

Although Tami has been a member of our Rotary Club less than one year, she began volunteering for service projects and committees as soon as she was inducted. She acted as cashier for two days at our Peach Cobbler Event at the Pow Wow at Hart Park, has helped with meeting set up and presentations, and has already committed to being our Community Service chairman for the coming year. In addition to her volunteer service, Tami has contributed financially to local Rotary service projects and to projects serving the global community through Rotary International. Her contributions were essential to our club receiving recognition from our Rotary District as a 100 percent “Paul Harris Club” and recognition for the “Every Rotarian Every Year” program. Tami’s lifetime of experience and knowledge of our community is an asset to our club serving others and exemplifying the Rotary Motto, Service Above Self.

Tami was born and raised in the Santa Clarita Valley and devotes much of her time and energy to our community. A mother of four and a Realtor with Homesmart, Tami is a leader in the Santa Clarita Valley community. She has offered her time over the years to numerous organizations such as the Circle of Hope, the Hart District Advisory Committee, the 4th of July Parade Committee, and SCVTV, a local nonprofit community television station through which she has created and produced a local talk show to promote all Santa Clarita nonprofits. Tami has taken an active role in promoting Rotary to the community. In 2016, Assemblyman Scott Wilk named Tami the 38th District Woman of the Year for her work with the SCV nonprofits through her television show, SCV Today.

Diane Green

Homemaker

Nominated by SCV Disaster Coalition

Santa Clarita Valley Disaster Coalition (13 years)

- Co-Founder
- Financial and medical advisor to affected families
- Agency liaison

Michael Hoefflin Foundation

- Volunteer
- Evening Under the Stars fundraising

Grace Resources

- Dental work

Others: Homeless Veterans, Ventura Sand Down, Beit ‘T Shiva Drug Rehab, Culver City



Organization Impact

Diane was one of the original creators of the coalition, when she and Jeri Seratti-Goldman came up with the idea 13 years ago during severe flooding in the Santa Clarita Valley. Diane was instrumental in the formation of the organization. She has been a steady volunteer through numerous disasters and projects. Over the years, Diane has been the organization’s lead to work with local families who are victims of disasters, particularly regional floods and fires. In many cases, this is working with families for many years as they try to rebuild their lives. Her work encompasses not just the emotional, medical and financial, she also assists with their navigation between agencies and the thousands of challenges that pop up. Diane has been a critical component to the Santa Clarita Disaster Coalition, devoting thousands of her personal hours to working directly with local victims. In addition to her efforts with the Santa Clarita Coalition, Diane has also volunteered for the Michael Hoefflin Foundation. She and her husband Neal also lead a program that provides free dental care to low-income families in Santa Clarita, and in the Antelope Valley. They also are part of an annual trip to Central America providing free dental care.

Sandra Ann Hardy
EMT, Universal Studios
*Nominated by Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles,
Santa Clarita*



Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles (16 years)

- Troop leader
- Service Unit training coordinator
- Outdoor Program Go Team leader
- Certified Red Cross trainer
- Gold Award Mentor
- Curriculum Go Team member
- Health & Safety Go Team member

Organization Impact

Sandra's passion to provide outdoor education for volunteers and girls motivates her work in consolidating a wide variety of perspectives while also developing the indoor Overnight and Camping Skills programs, manuals, and training power points. Additionally, Sandra spearheaded efforts to coordinate and ensure all sites used for camping skill training have the same and complete sets of training materials. She is an engaging instructor who keeps volunteers enthused and appreciative of their training experience..

Sandra is a married mother of two adult children and currently lives in Valencia with her husband Yves. She was born in Canada and grew up in and out of the foster care system. In early 2000, Sandra and her family immigrated to the United States, settling in the SCV. Sandra has volunteered in her children's school on a regular basis. She has been an executive board member of PTA and a Girl Scout troop leader from 2001 to 2014. She has remained highly involved and active volunteering at the service unit level assisting in a variety of tasks to provide support for other leaders in the area. Her passion for the outdoors provided her with the desire and drive to encourage other volunteers. When her children left for college, Sandra trained as an EMT so she could become a member of the Red Cross Disaster Response team.

Tracy Hauser
Broker Associate, Cobalt Realty
Nominated by SCV Senior Center

SCV Senior Center (15 years)

- Celebrity Waiter Committee and Co-Chair
- Touch-A-Truck Event Committee
- Canyon High School & SCV Senior Center Recycling Program

Single Mothers Outreach (20 years)

- Fund-raising volunteer

Zonta Club of Santa Clarita Valley (15 years)

- Fund-raising: sponsorships

Bark for Life (3 years)

- Fund-raising

Sulphur Springs Elementary School (6 years)

- Mommy and Me preschool volunteer

Pinetree Elementary School (7 years)

- Volunteer



SCV Education Foundation (2 years)

- Fundraising

Habitat for Humanity (5 years)

- Fundraising
- House building

Organization Impact

Tracy has significantly contributed to the success of the SCV Senior Center's mission of promoting quality of life for seniors. She is always eager to volunteer whenever needed at any event, fund-raiser, brainstorming session, or any additional need. She has been an active supporter of Celebrity Waiter, which raises operational funds to support programs and services for seniors; Touch-A-Truck which raises awareness about the SCV Senior Center and gives back to the community that support our organization annually; and Dancing with Our Stars, which allows for financial support and recognition within the Santa Clarita Valley. She was a supporter of Hurricane Katrina victims, feeding homeless, assisting those that lost their homes.

Tracy was born in Germany in 1958 where her dad was serving in the U.S. Army. Both parents are American citizens. She grew up in the west end of the San Fernando Valley in Woodlands Hills; graduated from El Camino High School in 1976; and attended Pierce College. She was 5 months pregnant with her son Kenny when she moved to SCV in 1982 with her first husband and daughter Ashley. Tracy started her real estate career in 1986 and had her third child, Bailey, in 1988. In 1990, she was a single mom of three young children and working in a 7-days-a-week business. In 1993, she married Lloyd Hauser. Their daughter Angela was born in 1994. Tracy will soon be the proud grandmother of six grandkids. In April of 2013, she started a new real estate company, Cobalt Realty Group, with a couple of partners.

Pam Ingram

Realtor, RE/MAX of Santa Clarita

Nominated by Soroptimist International of Greater Santa Clarita Valley

Soroptimist International GSV (17 years)

- President
- Chair, the Wine Affair
- Parliamentarian
- Vice president of programs
- Auction chair
- Co-chair fashion show and silent auction

Soroptimist International of Santa Clarita Valley

- President
- Chair, the Wine Affair
- Parliamentarian

Child and Family Center (2 years)

- Co Chair of Harvest Ride
- Advisory Board

Betty Ferguson Foundation

- President
- Co-Chair, Woman of the Year

Winter Task Force Shelter Committee

- Committee member

Santa Clarita Valley Chamber of Commerce (7 years)

- Board of Directors



- Chairman of the Board
- Vice Chair of Events
- Co-Chair of Membership

Henry Mayo Newhall Hospital

- Cultivation Committee

Organization Impact

Pam’s passion and commitment to the vision of the organization was the catalyst for one of the best presidential years with SIGSCV, having been awarded top honors at the yearly convention including the Prestigious Governor’s Award. Following that, Pam chaired The Wine Affair which was the largest fund-raiser to date, netting over \$52,000. She continues to support all committees with her volunteerism. Her enthusiasm has helped to bring our membership to over 75 members. Pam contributed monthly towards the Laurel Society program which gives back monetarily to its annual program awardees.

Pam and her husband Steve were married in 1972 and first moved to Santa Clarita Valley in 1974. They have one son, Christopher, born in 1976, married to wife Elise. They have 4 grandkids. Pam started volunteering back in the early ‘80s when Chris attended Chaminade College Preparatory where she was on the fund-raising committee and served as PTA president. She is one of the top Realtors working at RE/MAX of Santa Clarita and is a member of the RE/MAX Hall of Fame and the Lifetime Achievement Award. Pam embarked on a career in real estate in 1994. Pam is a member of Soroptimist International of Greater Santa Clarita Valley and a previous member of Soroptimist International of Santa Clarita Valley and has held many offices including president, 2014-2015. Pam attends most charitable events in the community and tries to participate whenever possible. She participates in local charities and civic associations and organizations such as Walk to End Alzheimer’s, Light the Night, Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, American Cancer Society Relay for Life, Boys & Girls Club of Santa Clarita Valley, Carousel Ranch, Helmer’s Elementary School Parents Association, Old Orchard PTSA, the Special Olympics, and the Senior Center. She was awarded the Carmen Sarro Award by Zonta International of Santa Clarita Valley in 2015. For many years, Pam owned a moving van that was used by her clients and was also used by nonprofits in Santa Clarita Valley such as American Cancer Society, Relay for Life, Betty Ferguson Foundation, Boys & Girls Club of SCV, Carousel Ranch, Helmer’s Elementary School Parents Association, Old Orchard PTSA, the Special Olympics, and the Senior Center.

Janine Jones

Licensed Cosmetologist

Nominated by American Cancer Society, Inc.

American Cancer Society (9 years)

- Leadership Council Volunteer Co-lead – 3 years
- Health Fair Facilitator
- Open House Committee
- Bark For Life Committee – 2 years
- Chair, Imagine More Birthday’s Gala 2011
- Relay Committee – 9 years
- Relay Recruitment Chair
- Luminaria Chair Relay – 4 years
- Creator of new Luminaria fund-raiser entitled Luminaria Art Contest – 2 years
- ACS CAN Activist – 8 years
- Bras for a Cause: Created 2016 entry
- ACS Representative Soroptimist International Bras For A Cause – featured speaker
- Host, 2015 Volunteer Recognition Awards Reception
- Cancer Prevention Study-3 (CPS-3) Facilitator and Committee Chair



- Look Good Feel Better (LGFB) Facilitator - 4 years
- Cancer Awareness & Resource Expo (C.A.R.E.) Committee (ACS booth)
- Caring/Sharing Christmas Festival/Donation Booth
- Represents ACS at community events, boutiques, fund-raisers, and health fairs
- Supports ACS wig program with cutting/styling wigs for patients
- Relay For Life Committee Volunteer Chair – 2 years
- Recipient Heather Warrick Legacy Award 2016
- Recipient Special Recognition Award 2011
- Recipient Rookie of the Year Award 2009

American Diabetes Association (5 years)

- 2015 Dancing With Our Stars American Diabetes Association (ADA) representative dancer.
- Fund-raising host
- Sixteen years as ADA advocate, team participant, and event volunteer for “Diabetes Walk.”

Soroptimist International of Greater SCV (13 years)

- 2017 Assistant, Fashion Show hair, make-up, costumes, and decorations
- 2016 Chair of the Hair and Make-Up committee for the Fashion Show fund raiser.
- Committee member, GO GIRLS
- Designer of a bra to be auctioned each year at “Bras for a Cause”

College of the Canyon Foundation (11 years)

- 2017 CARE committee member (Cancer Awareness Recourse Expo)
- 2006-2017 scholarship donor

Betty Ferguson Foundation (2 years)

- Board of Directors, two years.
- Fundraising committee member
- Facilitator, Vine 2 Wine fundraising event.
- Facilitator, Women of Honor dinner.
- Dancing with our Stars dancer
- Class instructor for teenage girls

L.A.R.C. Ranch (2 years)

- Volunteer Fund-raiser for the Annual L.A.R.C. Ranch’s Christmas show
- Teacher, tap and ballet.

St. Clare Catholic Church (5 years)

- Fifth- and sixth-grade teacher for CCD for two years.
- Founder, Mothers’ Play Group at Saint Kateri Catholic Church.
- Formed a weekly Prayer Group

Santa Clarita Ballet Academy (11 years)

- Parent Advisory Committee member
- Fund-raising
- Coordinator, silent auctions and associated responsibilities

Santa Clarita Elementary School PTC (5 years))

- Board member
- Co-assistant chair for the year-end carnival and auction.
- Teacher, The Great Works of Art

Other: HMNMH’s Women’s Philanthropy Advisory Council, Painted Turtle Camp, Henry Mayo Newhall Hospital Foundation, SCV Boys and Girls Club, SCV Senior Center, SCV Homeless Shelter, Saugus High Booster Club

Organization Impact

Janine Jones has made it a mission in her life to help educate individuals, businesses, schools, churches and other organizations. She strives to make a positive impact on the people and organizations in the Santa Clarita

Valley using her knowledge and passion to promote cancer awareness regarding health, wellness, and the free services that American Cancer Society provides in our community to cancer patients, survivors and their families. Janine is a veteran volunteer fighting for a cure on behalf of our organization. Janine instills a sense of community to all volunteers and leverages resources to benefit the mission of our organization.

Laina McFerren

Founder and Co-Owner, Wolf Creek Brewing Company

Nominated by Child & Family Center

Child & Family Center Foundation (12 years)

- Board of Directors; member (12 years)
- Board of Directors, Chair: 2012-2013
- Executive Committee (10 years)
- Taste of the Town Co-Chair (3 years)
- Taste of the Town Committee (12 years)
- Taste of the Town Exhibitor (19 years)
- Guardians of Hope Committee (1 year)
- Kid Expo Committee (9 years)
- Santa Clarita Jazz Festival Committee (3 years)
- Installation Committee (10 years)
- Golf Committee (5 years)
- Adopt-A-Family Project (3 years)
- Dancing with Our Stars Committee (2 years)
- Attendee, Annenberg Foundation Alchemy leadership workshops

Child & Family Center

- Board of Directors (1 year)
- 35th Anniversary Committee

SCV American Red Cross Foundation (3 years)

- Board member
- Volunteer of the Year, 2002

College of the Canyons Foundation (3 years)

- Board of Directors
- Culinary Advisory Board, 2005-present
- Patrons of the Performing Arts Committee – 2015 to present
- Social Committee for Outreach

United States Figure Skating Association – SCV Chapter (11 years)

Mountainview School Career Day (11 Years)

- Committee member

Los Angeles Brewers Guild 501(c)(3) (2 years)

- Member
- Board secretary

Others: Carousel Ranch, SRD-Straightening Reins, Circle of Hope, Betty Ferguson Foundation, Vine 2 Wine, Soroptimist International, SOAR Mardi Gras Madness race, Wine in the Pines, VIA – Connecting to Success Committee

Organization Impact

Laina McFerren has worked countless hours volunteering in a variety of different projects for Child & Family Center. In addition, she has donated products from her business to ensure success for other nonprofit organizations. In 2016, she created “Community Pints” at her Brewery, donating a portion of the proceeds from four nights each month to a different charity each month. Taste of the Town would not be the successful and popular



event without the wisdom and guidance Laina brings to the effort on an annual basis.

•••

Laina McFerren has a degree in communications from UCLA. She met her husband, Rob, while working at the Cheesecake Factory in Marina Del Rey. The couple married and moved to the SCV in 1992, where they live with their two daughters, Mandee, now 22 and a senior at UCSB, and Gillian, 17, a junior at Valencia High School. What began as a Christmas gift to her husband, a home brew beer-making machine, led to an incredible local business, Wolf Creek Brewing Company, opened in 1997. The couple recently added a brewery to create their popular beer. Laina has combined her entrepreneurial spirit for business and her belief and efforts in volunteerism to make Santa Clarita a better place to live and work.

•••

Gloria Mercado-Fortine

Chief Executive Officer, Global Education Solutions

Nominated by Samuel Dixon Family Health Centers, Inc.



Samuel Dixon Family Health Centers (10 years)

- Chair of Board of Directors
- Rubber Ducky Festival committee

SCV Boys & Girls Club (23 years)

- Board of directors
- Vice president, Programs
- Youth Scholarship committee
- Creating Great Futures Program volunteer

Child & Family Center (12 years)

- Chair, Client Services
- Board of Directors secretary

Valley Industry Association (3 years)

- Executive committee
- Board of Directors
- Co-chair VIA Bash
- Connecting to Success and Leadership Series volunteer

City of Santa Clarita Anti-Gang Task Force (19 years)

- Hero of Week volunteer
- Teens on Target
- Graffiti Removal

SCV Fourth of July Parade (19 years)

- Committee member
- Announcer

YMCA of Santa Clarita Valley (8 years)

- Board member
- Advisory Board

College of the Canyons (18 years)

- Friends of the College donor
- Culinary Arts Campaign
- Student Scholarships
- Library Associates
- Silver Spur committee

Providence Health System (12 years)

- Board member
- Medical Board member

Zonta Club of SCV (35 years)

- Past president
- Chair, Young Women in Public Affairs
- Chair, Healthy Kids Club of Val Verde
- Rent-a-Santa

SCV Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (5 years)

- Chair, Light the Night

SCV Latino Chamber of Commerce (4 years)

- Board of directors
- Co-Chair, Gala
- Student Scholarship

SCV American Cancer Society (12 years)

- Founding president
- Co-founder of SCV Unit
- Founder, Relay for Life Luminaria Ceremony

Aid to Victims of Domestic Violence (8 years)

- Board member
- New Year's Gala committee
- Programs

Hart High School District (16 years)

- Governing Board

Castaic Union School District (10 years)

- Governing Board

Castaic Town Council Founding Member (4 years)

Others: L.A. County Probation Dept. Volunteers, Flying Samaritans, SCV Youth Project, SCV Theatre Guild, SCV Chamber of Commerce, Measures M, V, and SA Bond committees, Girl Scouts, Veterans Advocacy Network, Michael Hoefflin Foundation, SCV Senior Center

Organization Impact

Gloria's passion and leadership at Samuel Dixon Family Health Centers have helped guide the organization in obtaining the designation of a Federally Qualified Health Center, securing both federal and local grants, and establishing collaborative relationships with other local nonprofits serving the disadvantaged community. She has also helped to expand accessibility and services at the Newhall and Canyon Country locations. With Gloria's leadership, SDFHC continues to provide quality comprehensive healthcare, dental, and mental health services to the uninsured and under-insured population of the Santa Clarita Valley serving over 4,000 patients and providing over 11,000 appointments annually.

As a life-long resident, Gloria's roots run deep in the SCV. She has been an active member of the community and has demonstrated a life-time commitment to public service and volunteerism. She has been a powerful advocate for education and a role model for young people in both her professional and personal life. Gloria is a graduate of the William S. Hart School District and holds a unique place in the district's history as the only alumna to have taught for the Hart district and been elected to the school board. Gloria served four terms as a publicly elected official of the district's governing board. Prior to serving there, she served on the Castaic Union School District board and was a founding member of the Castaic Town Council. Her 30-year career in education included positions as teacher, counselor, principal, and assistant superintendent including working in the second largest school district in the county, the LAUSD, where she supervised 125 schools and a budget of over \$200 million. Currently she is the chief executive of Global Education Solutions, Inc., working statewide to train future leaders, transform education, and improve school environments. Gloria holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Cal State Northridge, a Masters of Science Degree, School Administration and Management from Pepperdine University, and a Masters of Science from LaVerne University in educational psychology. She also holds

a Masters in Governance from the California School Boards Association. Gloria has taught as an adjunct professor at Cal State Los Angeles, Mission College, and College of the Canyons. She enjoys spending her leisure time with her family, friends, her husband Bruce, and their border collie, Lexi.

Janice Murray

Retired

Nominated by Circle of Hope, Inc.

Circle of Hope (6.5 years)

- Vice president
- Secretary
- Event chair
- Public Relations ambassador
- Vine2Wine auction fundraising
- Afternoon Tea volunteer for silent auction and raffle

Pinecrest School

- Field trip chaperon
- Fall Festival auction chair
- Jump for Heart and Hoops (American Heart Association)

Providence Holy Cross (5 years)

- Executive Board
- South Tower Expansion fund-raiser

SCV Disaster Preparedness Coalition

- Founding member

SCV Boys & Girls Club

- Board member
- Co-chair, Festival of Trees

Organization Impact

Janice adds ethics, loyalty, and compassion to her participation in Circle of Hope activities. She sits on every committee and is always the first to say, "Yes." She contributes hours of organization to the fund-raising involved in Vine2Wine and the Afternoon Tea. Janice also provides insight and common sense to strategic planning. She has been deeply affected by cancer and is committed to helping those in the community who need assistance while fighting the disease.

Janice left the corporate life in 1993 and moved to the Sand Canyon area to raise a family. By 1998, she was volunteering and chaperoning field trips at Pinecrest School Canyon Country campus where her daughters attended. In 2006, she was asked to chair the auction for the school's annual Fall Festive and managed the event until 2008, then volunteered to take over the administration of the finances of Jump for Heart and Hoops for the American Heart Association at that campus. In 2003, Janice began hosting a live radio show on KHTS to highlight local nonprofits. During and after her mother's and older sister's success in overcoming breast cancer, Janice became passionate about finding ways to give back and to help others battling the disease. Since joining the board of Circle of Hope, she has been dedicated to "making a difference today, for a brighter future tomorrow."



Susan Reynolds

Career Development, Hart High School District

***Nominated by Boy Scouts of America and
Domestic Violence Center of the Santa Clarita Valley***



Boy Scouts of America (30 years collectively, 7 years SCV)

- Den Founder
- Den Mother
- Cub master
- Merit Badge Coach
- Troop and District Committees
- Emcee
- Leaders of Character Committee

SCV Domestic Violence Center (5 years)

- Acting President
- Executive Board
- Events Committees
- Mentor
- Organizer, Dream It, Be It Conference for girls

State of California Office of Emergency Services (5 years)

- Civilian Search
- Dog Handler
- Demonstrator
- Exhibition Speaker

Valley Industry Association (11 years)

- Leadership Program Chair
- Chair, Students Teaming to Achieve
- Education Committee
- Leadership Speaker and Recruiter

Soroptimist Int'l. of the Americas (12 years)

- President
- Publicity Chair
- SIGSCV Club President
- Secretary
- Director
- Laurel Society member

SCV Chamber (10 years)

- Board member
- Ambassador
- Membership/Recruitment/Retention
- Leadership Program
- Special Recognition Award

Circle of Hope (2 years)

- Advisory Board
- Dancing with OurStars Fund-Raising Contestant

Zonta (6 years)

- Coach, hope and career skills for disadvantage women
- Life Forward speaker
- Carmen Sarro Women in Service Award

Others: 4H, Habitat for Humanity, Newhall Trail Riders, SCV Senior Center, Wiley Canyon Adult Day Care, SCV Education Foundation, College of the Canyons, Association of Women Entrepreneurs, Castaic Lake Water

Agency, HMNH, SCV Jaycees, First Lego League Robotics, City of Santa Clarita

Organization Impact

When she was Soroptimist president, Sue strongly advocated for the support of the Domestic Violence Center of Santa Clarita. She not only engages in awareness programs that enlighten and teach empowering strategies to vulnerable teen girls, but is one of the planners and speakers at the Dream It, Be It Conference for girls. As president she also has concern for prevention of violence through education and empowerment of women and men, girls and boys.

Sue shares her connections to help Scouts to raise funds and serve kids. She is a passionate “cheerleader” who believes that Scouts can save lives, help single-moms to find leadership for their sons, and keep aimless kids off the streets steering them to outdoor fun, adventure, learning and companionship. She teaches the kids about Search & Rescue, and hounds her community contacts for attendance at, and donations to, Scout events.

Soon after high school graduation, Susan’s work for large and small companies began with the Illinois Department of Corrections doing illustrations for prisoner-teaching materials. After studying communications and graphics at Indiana University, she moved into corporate marketing communications. She has been an executive speech writer, corporate trainer, executive image coach, and communications consultant. She has now managed the messages of executives as they’ve grown companies, closed plants, broken ground, and rallied the troops, while becoming a highly developed corporate trainer herself. She writes on the subjects of organizational and career development as well as corporate politics. Sue has been a part of the Santa Clarita Valley business and non-profit communities for over a decade with NewMarket Careers, and currently brings her career development skills to the Hart School District to assist SCV youth in productively enter the workforce. She has mentored and conducted presentations for area high school students, having participated in developing career curriculum for VIA Connect 2 Success that began with the SCV School & Business Alliance and Junior Achievement, as well as COC/Workforce. As a mother of an Eagle Scout, Sue is invested in the concept and values of Scouting -- for boys and girls. Graduating from den mother and cub master to champion of fund-raising, Sue also participates in social media efforts for the Scout District. In her spare time, Sue rides her palomino mare. Now a widow, her family includes son, Ransom, and grandson, Alexander, as well as a number of dogs and cats, including doberman Nüdel who is certified as a therapy dog and as a Cal-EMA Search and Rescue dog. Susan is a certified first-responder Wilderness First Aid / American Red Cross Emergency Medical Responder.

Christine Sarro Sexton

Realtor, Realty Executives of Valencia

Nominated by Zonta Club of Santa Clarita Valley

Zonta Club (25 years)

- Assisted in the development of LifeForward and served on committee for 10 years
- Served on every committee over the past 25 years
- Women in Service
- Nominating committee,
- Community Grants
- Chair, Healthy Women’s Day
- Chair, Sunshine
- Chair, Communications

Boys and Girls Club (41 years)

- Auction Volunteer

Henry Mayo Home Tour (25 years)

- Volunteer
- Helped staff homes

Senior Center (9 years)

- Golf Tournament



- Wine events
- Celebrity Waiter

City of Santa Clarita (17 years)

- River Rally
- Make a Difference Day
- Cowboy Festival

Child & Family Center (7 years)

- Taste of the Town, check in
- Child Expo

Grace Baptist Church (5 years)

- Bi-Monthly volunteer in food pantry
- Program/event planner, Hathaway Children Home

SCV Pregnancy Center – Walk for Life (16 years)

- Team Walker
- Fund-raiser

Others: Realtor sponsored Child Spree School Clothes Give Away, Realtor sponsored Burrito Bowl, DCFS Foster Care children clothing giveaway

Organization Impact

Christine is a member who gets things done, quickly and effectively. She always has a positive can-do attitude and is the ultimate team player. She truly loves this community and is always looking for ways to help, maintain and enhance the quality of life that we have in the Santa Clarita Valley. Christine is a dedicated volunteer to many diverse organizations over numerous years. She is dedicated, steadfast and consistent. Christine has led weekly women’s group at her church for over 10 years. She teaches life skills, “How to overcome Depression,” at the “Dave Ramsey Financial Peace University.” Christine is a huge supporter of the Canyon Theatre Guild and the Arts District where she has been volunteering and fundraising for since 1985.

Christine Sarro Sexton was born in New York City. When she was 10 years old, Christine moved to Valencia with her parents and three brothers. During the next 10 years she graduated from Hart High school, studied psychology at College of the Canyons, and got married. Starting in her early teen years Christine shadowed her mother Carmen in her efforts to make the Santa Clarita Valley a great place to live. She volunteered at her first Boys and Girls Club Auction when she was 16 years old. She helped fund-raise for the newly formed Canyon Theatre Guild, and continues to be involved today. Christine waitressed at “Build a New Hospital” events. Her daughter Katrina is a nurse at the very hospital where she was born and where her grandma volunteered for over 30 years. In 1988, Christine got her Real Estate license and has worked full time since then, continuing to serve both homeowners and non-profits. In 1992, Christine joined Zonta Club of Santa Clarita Valley – led by her mother’s example. In addition to being a long-time church member, Christine is involved with the Cancer Society Relay for Life, Bridge to Home and the SCV Pregnancy Center. While her partner, Ray has been home disabled for many years, he is a great supporter of her volunteer work. Christine says that she is blessed to live work, and play in the Santa Clarita Valley for 47 years, and that she will continue to serve as long as she is needed.

Doris Marie Zimmer

Retired

Nominated by College of the Canyons Foundation

College of the Canyons Foundation (12 years)

- Foundation Board Chair
- Co-chair of the Board Development Committee
- Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee
- Member of the Planned Giving Committee
- Member of the Executive Committee
- Member of Finance Committee
- Member of the Culinary Arts Campaign Committee
- Member of the Patrons of the Performing Arts Committee
- Member of the Early Childhood Circle of Friends
- Participant in the Dancing with Our Stars competition

Others: Betty Ferguson Foundation, Child & Family Center, National Charity League, Ventura Art Assn, PTA, Rural Health Assn, California-Mexico Border Health Assn, Clinicas de Salud de los Campesinos Unidos



Organization Impact

Doris Marie exemplifies what College of the Canyons is all about. She went back to school later in life, juggling the responsibilities of work and family to complete her Master's Degree through the University Center. She is an example of perseverance for students who find themselves in similar situations. Her willingness to help is evident in all that she does for College of the Canyons. She has provided leadership for the Foundation Board retreats, providing board members with the necessary training and skills they need to become effective volunteers. Her efforts have resulted in a more engaged, energized, and motivated group of volunteers reflecting the success the Foundation has experienced during her tenure as board chair. Under her leadership, the Foundation has generated substantial resources to support the campaign for the college's new Culinary Arts building as well as student scholarships. Her strategic thinking and vision has provided the leadership in the development of a new strategic plan allowing the Foundation to become more focused on fund-raising priorities. In addition, she raised over \$10,000 in the "Dancing with Our Stars" event in support of the college's K-12 Arts Education initiative.
