



Spring Valley Lake Association

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Message from the Board President for August 2019

"Volunteering is the ultimate exercise in democracy. You vote in elections once a year, but when you volunteer, you vote every day about the kind of community you want to live in."

~ Author unknown.

I imagine you know what this article is about. Yes, volunteering. A community is by definition, "a social group of any size whose members reside in a specific locality, share government, and often have a common cultural and historical heritage". And that definition tells how a community is defined; but it does not tell or talk about the heart of a community or how others view us. That is usually shown by the members of that community that volunteer their time to serve their community and others outside of that community.

"Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart." ~Elizabeth Andrew. First, I would like to thank all those that have volunteered in our community over the years. Much of what makes our community function is all those volunteers that serve and give of their time. There are committees, social functions, coffee groups, biking, veteran volunteers and on and on. These people just have a passion to serve and help our community.

We're not just designed just to work all day and run a rat race. We're designed to be in community, to volunteer, to vote, to raise our kids. And I think the more inputs and investments we can give in people to do those things, the better off we are as a community." ~Michael Tubbs. Having thanked all those that have served, I now want to encourage the rest of us to get involved. Imagine how much more we can do here if we doubled or tripled the number of volunteers we had. You may look at the existing committees and such and not see anything you are passionate about. However, if you do see a need, think about how you can help fill that need; or maybe it is not even a need, but something that brings more value to the community.

"You make a living by what you get. You make a life by what you give." ~Winston Churchill Personally, I never had time to get involved, until I retired. I worked long hours, and any time left over was for family. Many share that same challenge. But I promise you, there are opportunities that take as little time as you like. Don't just make a living...make a difference. If you want to get involved, don't hesitate to call the association office for some guidance.

"Wherever you turn, you can find someone who needs you. Even if it is a little thing, do something for which there is no pay but the privilege of doing it. Remember, you don't live in the world all of your own." ~Albert Schweitzer

A big thank you again to all those that serve and have served our community.

Rory Shannon

SVLA Board President

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