

30 years
of harvesting and sharing



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The volunteer of the quarter is Jodi Visosky. Jodi was nominated by her team leader Cheri Gabler. Jodi is also a team leader for the east county. When she was a child, her father farmed her out to pick for the widowed neighbors. They also had Jamaican apple pickers in Vermont that she saw and thought they had the best job in the world. In her next life, she wanted to be one. Born in Vermont, she remained there until she got into the Navy in 1983. Her husband John stayed in the Navy so they followed the Navy assignments until John retired in 2011 in San Diego and they have been here ever since. With Vermont, comes lots of snow and they decided they couldn't do snow anymore and stayed in San Diego for warmer weather. Jodi is an avid picker with a personality that exudes happiness all the time. "I met Jodi through Geocaching", says Margaret Burton, "and I used to show up at caching events with a ladder and picker on my truck. Jodi always said when she retired, she wanted to do that." That's exactly what she did. Jodi loves plants, especially succulents and her new love is proteus. She brings gorgeous arrangements to the Volunteer Appreciation Potluck for the raffle. She also posts a picture of a plant blooming on her property every day on Facebook. She's a good photographer too! She tops that off with mosaics on round things like bowling balls and glass lamp shades. She'll happily take your old bowling ball off your hands! She also likes to go jeeping and hiking in the desert. She collects treadle sewing machines and her husband, John, collects and fixes clocks. He has a whole garage full of clocks and most of them run! He's working on the ones that don't run. Jodi has 111 gleans under her belt and has donated 337 hours of her time to Senior Gleaners. Job well done Jodi! Congratulations on

Volunteer of the Quarter.



Jodi's truck is either collecting rocks for her garden or collecting fruit for Gleaners.



Honoring all our volunteers



Save a little
← of this!

Keeping that extra car
running is expensive

Donate your vehicle



A huge thank you to the following priceless people who helped us exceed our goal of matching the grant funds from the City of San Diego. We raised \$22,000 which will help us purchase a van for fruit and grocery transportation to better serve the north and far north counties.

Platinum Level > \$4,000

Mitchell Chen



Gold Level \$1,000- \$4000

Joe Strasser

Linda Loehr

Margaret Burton

Charlie Burton



Silver Level \$500 - \$1000

J. Talbott

Jane Carlin

Christine S. Mara/Peter L. Winslow

Pradip Mistry

Jack Hoskin

Daryush Bastani



Bronze \$200 - \$500

Deborah Wismar

Monte Turner

Arthur Hurteau

Tracy Ream

Jayanti Menches

Cheri Gabler

Nancy H Chen

Tricia Pummill

Terence Dutton

Chula Vista Garden Club



Precious Metal \$20-\$200

Candice Kvigne

Lynn Murray

Camilla Kochenderfer

Marsha A. Rold

Marilyn R Sogo

Karen Brown

Janet McBride

Edward Brabants

L. A. Murray

G. Campbell

Jon Corcoran

Lauren Luhmann

M. Rold

Georgia - consider the Poor

Carlos Cortez

Judy Whitney

Leonard Scarpace

Shelly Benkaim

Kurt Erlandson

Trixxie Land

Barbara Gray

Steven Mannis

Norine J Davis

Precious Metal \$20-\$200

N. Dutton

Deborah Wismar

Erlene Johnson

Ernie & Linda Bjork

Robert Rodrigues

Jerry Smith

G. Campbell

Richard Schulte

Dwight C Rogers

Robert A. and Sheila J. Posey-Rodrigues

Trixxie Land -fundraiser

Arlene Hasegawa

Debra Lengyel

Anne Gero Stillwell

Marie Elaine Hiel

Kathleen Derzipilski

Lois Ruble

Camilla Kochenderfer

Chula Vista Garden Club

Beth L. Wright

Carol Murdock

Susan Brinchman

Apparel Shop



Hat \$10

T-shirt \$15

Polo shirt \$20

Hoodie \$35

A few women's poly
\$15

Add your name for \$5

To order Call Daryush
at 619-997-8177

Picked fruit and groceries 2023

| District | Pounds | Gleans | Hours |
|--------------|----------------|------------|--------------|
| South | 3,274 | 17 | 197 |
| East | 43,315 | 117 | 921 |
| Clairemont | 7,639 | 53 | 1,114 |
| North | 35,531 | 59 | 1,546 |
| Far North | 23,256 | 21 | 548 |
| Groceries | 36,256 | 47 | 79 |
| TOTAL | 149,141 | 311 | 4,127 |

Currently in 2024, we are maxed out with requests for picks.

| Previous years totals | Pounds gleaned |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| 2019 | 159,744 |
| 2020 | 141,270 |
| 2021 | 186,717 |
| 2022 | 185,647 |
| 2023 | 149,141 |

230 volunteers – 117 distinct individuals attending gleanings

The volume is down significantly from last year. We can only speculate why that is. It is also down for the other gleaning organizations.

Follow Us on LinkedIn-----Follow us on Facebook

Senior Gleaners has published its LinkedIn profile. Follow us and share our news with your friends and family. Visit: www.linkedin.com/company/seniorgleanerssd/

Follow us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=senior%20gleaners%20san%20diego%20co>

Not only does volunteering make us happier — it can also improve our mental health over time. One benefit to volunteering is the sense of social connection it provides. By helping even just one person, you play a role in bettering your whole community.
Healthdirect.gov

Outreach and Marketing

Senior Gleaners had a booth at “Walk to the Top of Mount Helix on January 6. Attendance was good and many brochures were passed out to interested attendees. Everyone attending got oranges for stopping by. Thank you to Daryush Bastani, Margaret Burton, Tracey Ream and Cheri Gabler for being Senior Gleaner ambassadors hosting the booth.

Daryush Bastani and Chris Mara spoke at a Salvation Army Women’s Auxiliary meeting in the south bay.

We also set up an information booth at the Mt. Helix Nature Day on March 2. in the cold, fog, and rain.

In March, Daryush and Alice Blake-Stalker will be speaking at an open meeting sponsored by the library.

This is a public meeting at the Del Mar library.



Outreach is also working with Angel Alvarez, a segment producer for an organization called Pace-tv productions. They have been producing shows in the San Diego area for over 40 years. She is interested in doing a show about our work.

News from the President of Senior Gleaners – Margaret Burton

As most of you know, my son died in November and I could not function or talk for weeks. Monte Turner, the past president and extraordinary board member graciously stepped up to do the necessary work of the President. I am forever grateful for him doing the duties of the President as I grieved.

I will be moving to Texas to be with my family in July so will be less available than ever. I will carry on those things that I can do from afar. What that will look like is yet to be determined.

The board will be holding strategic planning meetings in March to discuss the future of Senior Gleaners. Your input now would be appreciated. What are you willing to do to help with the transition? Just call or email Margaret Burton at 858-761-7475 with your ideas.

In the last newsletter, I provided a wish list. There was almost no response to this ask. Now, it’s critical and no longer a wish but a necessity. YOU need to step up!

1. Talk about Senior Gleaners to groups like garden clubs, service organizations such as Rotary, county supervisors, etc. We provide the talking points, PowerPoint, and handouts.
2. Provide space to securely park a Senior Gleaners van for use by North County crews. We need this same person or someone else to schedule use of the van, plus keep it clean, fueled and serviced. We cannot get a van unless someone is willing to do this or help find someone who will do this.
3. Drive your own vehicle or assist a van driver to pick up groceries and deliver to a food distribution agency.
4. Volunteer to be a van driver for groceries or picks. This could be every week or as a substitute occasionally.
5. Help prepare this newsletter quarterly by writing articles, interviewing volunteers and assembling text and photos in Word or a newsletter app.
6. Update the distribution list of about 50 agencies receiving produce and groceries by calling or emailing listed contacts.

We did get a volunteer to help plan a 30th anniversary celebration. Thank you to Nancy Chen! Now who is going to help her?

We put out a news release picked up and printed by several newspapers including the Union Tribune. We received more than 60 new gleaners. That is by far the best response ever and with it comes the responsibility to put them to work right away. We have ordered more pickers for those who may need them. Let me know if you need any other supplies.

Board Members and Special Volunteers Change

Board Members: Steve Wismer has resigned. He joined in 2021 and has provided legal advice to the board and also gleaned fruit and groceries. John Hewitt also joined in 2021 and served remotely from the eastern US. He compiled survey statistics. We thank them both for their service.

Special volunteer Calin Cionca served as web developer on a three-person group to create a new website for SG. We thank him for the many hours he contributed to this project. We also welcome a new web editor as Calin’s replacement – Robert Schacht. He will assist with the development of this newsletter and distribution of email messages to large groups of volunteers and resident donors.



Volunteer Appreciation Potluck

Now indoors!

When: Saturday April 13

Who: Senior Gleaners , family, friends, and prospective gleaners.

Where: Cathy Hopper Clairemont Friendship Center

4425 Bannock Ave

San Diego, CA 92117

Manitou Way & Genesee Ave

Clairemont

Time: 11 am -1 pm

What: Bring a dish to share

Speaker: Claudia Montenegro, Porchlight Community Services

If you happen to have something for the raffle, we would gladly accept your donation at the event.

“People who volunteer develop new skills, build their personal and professional networks, forge a deeper connection with their communities and service organizations, and experience the joy of serving a larger cause. The opportunities to volunteer are seemingly limitless. Students gain real world experience, workers apply their skills to organizations that benefit from their experience and often develop new skills in the process, and older Americans improve their health and longevity. At every age and stage in life, volunteers experience the profound joy of giving back.”

From The American Presidency Project, Proclamation 10370—National Volunteer Week