

Museum Volunteers

The impact of volunteers exceeded all previous levels. Volunteers donated 2,887 hours, an equivalent of \$57,540 of service, more than double contributions in 2008.

The Volunteer Coordinator succeeded in growing the volunteer base between July and September 2009. At the beginning of his tenure in November 07, the Museum had six part time volunteers. By the end of FY-07-08 the number had grown to 18. Thirty-one dedicated volunteers participated in the program by the end of September 2009.

Volunteers share responsibility in every program area. They helped the Museum continue to provide services to the public in the face of budget and staff reductions this year. Volunteers greet visitors at the information desk to assist with questions about the Museum, the capitol complex and interesting places to go in Phoenix and around the state. They lead tours and work in the Museum store. Volunteers had the unique experience in 2008-2009 of helping move the Museum's collections to the Polly Rosenbaum Archives and History building safely and on time.

Retention is high at the Capitol because the Coordinator insures that volunteers have meaningful work and because staff acknowledges them as partners. Several individuals come two and three days a week because the Museum and its work are very important to them.

One of the volunteers said it best. "I don't do this for you. I do this for me."



Museum Guild volunteer officers L to R: Dee Steen, President. Seth Franzman, Treasurer. Julia Ayers, Secretary. Alice Duckworth, Vice President. (Chloe Kavanaugh, Newsletter Editor, not present). Photo by Taylor Arrazola

Guild members have many volunteer opportunities, including becoming a tour guide or working in the museum store.