

**In This Issue**  
**“Volunteerism in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: The First Decade”**

**Looking back . . . Looking Ahead**

I recently presented at an academic conference in Italy and was able to spend a couple days in Rome as a tourist. One of the more fascinating temple ruins I saw were those of the temple dedicated to Janus, the Roman God of gates, doors, doorways, beginnings and endings. His most prominent remnants in modern culture are his namesake, the month of January, which begins the new year. He is most often depicted as having two faces or heads, facing in opposite directions.

As the close of the first decade of the 21<sup>st</sup> century fast approaches, this third and final issue of Volume XXVI of *The International Journal of Volunteer Administration* seeks to both look behind us in the past nine years as well as forward into the decade ahead. Similar to the Romans' concept of Janus, however, it looks at volunteers as doorways to a stronger human condition, and volunteer resource managers as gatekeepers connecting dedicated individuals to volunteer opportunities.

The issue contains five excellent original *Feature Articles*. Nancy Franz opens the issue by discussing the emerging (and critical) role of volunteers in helping volunteer resource managers document impact and accountability for the use of funds and delivery of services. Next, Joy Turnheim Smith and Matthew Liao-Troth discuss psychological concepts held by volunteers and why they will be increasingly important to effective, efficient, and sustained volunteer engagement. Leadership development for volunteers from an adult education perspective is addressed by Eric K. Kaufman, Hannah S. Carter, Rick D. Rudd, and Donna Moore; Samantha Grant and Eric Vogel explore how volunteers have helped build quality programmatic experiences for 4-H youth in Minnesota. Finally, LaJuana J. Hector and Regina T.P. Aguirre discuss volunteers' motivations with a crisis helpline.

Maria J. D'Agostino offers a thought-provoking *Commentary* that examines an untapped resource – volunteers – as an underutilized source of well-qualified public servants. In *Ideas That Work*, Adrain Goh, Joseph Allen, Steven Rogelberg, and Anna Currie offer specific suggestions as to how volunteer resource managers may use the web effectively to attract volunteers, and Holly Nevarez describes a cross-age volunteer effort targeting the serious social issue of hunger. A *Tools of the Trade* by Benjamin J. Lough, Amanda Moore McBride, and Margaret S. Sherraden describes an exciting new resource available to volunteer resource managers – the International Volunteer Impacts Survey.

In *From the Annals*, we are also pleased to reprint four articles published previously in *The Journal of Volunteer Administration*: “The Volunteer Movement in the United States (first published in 1968); “Transition Strategies for the Volunteer World” (published in 1984); “Volunteering: Continuing Expansion of the Definition and a Practical Application of Altruistic Motivations” (published in 1991); and “Research Needs in Volunteer Activity” (published originally in 1967).

I join the entire Editorial Board and Reviewers of *The International Journal of Volunteer Administration* in sharing this issue so that managers of volunteer resources may better don the mask of Janus and both look at the years behind us and (more importantly) the years ahead.

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