

Volunteer Sandy Meadows - First to reach 5,000 Hours

Written By Richard V. Simon

Within the next 30 days, Volunteer Sandy Meadows will have donated more than 5,000 hours of service to the NBPD. Based on what her salary would be today had she stayed employed in her original chosen profession of Registered Nurse, it amounts to the equivalent of more than \$300,000. She is a graduate of the department's first Volunteer in Policing class in 1999, and was among the debut volunteers in the VIP program.

It should be no surprise to anyone that Sandy affiliated with the PD: her father was for many years the commander of South Pasadena PD. In large part because of her respect for law enforcement, she became the medical liaison to the PD during the 15 years she worked in the ER at Huntington Memorial in Pasadena.

The PD is not Sandy's only volunteer mission. For the past 12 years, she has been the SCRIP coordinator at Waldorf School, where she heads fundraising. Her efforts have generated \$1 million in collections, which netted \$100,000 for the school – and that was just last year.

Additionally, Sandy is the Newport Beach chapter leader of the Joyful Foundation, whose volunteer members sew fleece blankets for cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy. Last year, the group made 339, 3' X 3' blankets that were distributed to individuals at Hoag, UCI and the Cordelia Knott Wellness Foundation in Orange.

Almost from the moment she wakes up, she says, she is on a mission to help. And that includes spending as much time as possible with her three children: Alexis, 17; Grant, 15; and Chandler (a girl), 14. After school, and on weekends, she and her husband, Rob (also a very charitable individual), drive the girls to horseback riding lessons and horse shows, while detouring to take Grant to his basketball games. As a family, they enjoy vacations to Maui, Hawaii, or skiing trips to Park City, Utah. The family, she says, is never bored.

“It has been – and is – my honor in my small way to help make our police officers' jobs easier. I try to make the most out of every day. As one person, I believe I can make a difference somewhere,” Sandy said.

Said Chief Robert Luman, “I have had the pleasure to become acquainted with Sandy over my short time here as Chief. I have found her to be among our most generous,

pleasant and helpful people. I see her as an obvious standout in an Organization where those qualities are widespread.”