

Volunteer Awards Dinner Poem

Our city's problems are many
Solutions seem painfully few
It's so easy to find yourself wailing
"Where to start; there's too much to do."

Yet for one group the answer seems simple
Their direction is always quite clear
They reach out their hands when the need comes
They're first to volunteer.

The common vision they work for
Encompasses folks one and all
Peace, justice, freedom, and dignity
No matter how helpless or small.

They serve in a myriad of venues
That's the most essential piece of this pie
No matter how young or how worldly
No matter how educated or spry.

Some Support our 4th of July Parade
Some work in our Parks and Playgrounds
Some volunteer to serve in our community sports events and sports programs
Some help us serve food or raise money for our youth.

They work to provide jobs and opportunities for our community youth
so children will have a safe haven where they can have fun and just enjoy being
children
They help organize our Halloween Parties, Easter Egg Hunts, Christmas Tree
Lighting, Annual Kwanzaa Program, Fishing Derby, Community workshops, and
our Outdoor Festival of Art.
They see the world through the neediest eyes. They act instead of sitting idly by.

Some helped plant or donated tomato plants during our Summer Green Project.
While others did whatever they could to make our city a better place.
Some raised our conscience, encouraged our children to dream or
Lend a hand to help them grow

Whether working for one of our community sports teams, a non-profit organization, or the City of Plainfield through the Division of Parks and Recreation

Whether fund raising street to street or door to door
They willingly do with a smile what others might consider a chore

No talent too small or too simple
Each volunteer act increases all joys

They understand that the acts of just one person can make all the difference in the world

So tonight I acknowledge your efforts, we raise our glass,
and in your honor proudly raise cheers

On behalf of the City of Plainfield,
May God Bless you one and all
Our Wonderful VOLUNTEERS!

“The Heart of the Community” Thank you All

Taken from the Poem “Volunteers”

- by Barbara Armitage

(original)

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Some help sell the dumplings in August
Some work our correspondance or books

Some keep us apprised of legislation
Some help in the kitchen and cook

They work to keep women off welfare
And so children will have school supplies
They organize home tours and golf games
See the world through the most needy eyes.

Some organize bulbs with pink ribbons
While others drive meals on the go
Some raise our racial conscience
Lend a hand to Help Me Grow

Whether working for Appleseed Project
Fund raising street to street; door to door
They willingly do with a smile
What others might consider a bore

Some serve on the Board—on committees
Schedule classes for young girls and boys
No talent to small or too simple
Each volunteer act increases all joys.

So tonight I acknowledge your efforts
And in your honor proudly raise cheers
May God Bless you one and all
Our Wonderful V O L U N T E E R S !