The pride of the county, Palm Beach County Sheriff’s Office volunteers shared an incredible amount of their time - 378,732.5 volunteer hours in 2014 - a most impressive number by anyone’s standard. To symbolize that number of service hours, Palm Beach County first presented a “check” to Volunteer Colonel Fahnoe in the amount of $8,540,417.88 during the Awards Ceremony for volunteers on April 17, 2015. Colonel Fahnoe then proudly handed that check to Sheriff Bradshaw. The Proclamation from the Palm Beach County Commissioners was read to the attendees declaring April 17, 2015 as PBSO Volunteer Day.

The stirring entrance by the PBSO Pipes & Drums followed by the presentation of colors by both the PBSO and Volunteer Honor Guards began the afternoon’s event. After the invocation by PBSO Lead Chaplain Michael Tobey, a solo rendition of the National Anthem was performed by Abby Bernstein of District 6. Captain Lindskoog welcomed the awardees and shared with them the definitive statement, claiming that if the volunteers did not do what they did, it would all fall to the deputies. Three honorees received special recognition: Dr. Lawrence D. Lampert, O.D., who has provided special training sessions for improved eye performance to the volunteers, Applebee’s Restaurants, and the PBSO Chaplain of the Year, Michael Tobey.
PROCLAMATION
OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

DECLARING APRIL 17, 2015 AS
PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE VOLUNTEER DAY

WHEREAS, the entire community can inspire, equip, and mobilize people to take action that changes the world, and;

WHEREAS, volunteers with the Palm Beach County Sheriff’s Office can connect with the local community by being the extra eyes and ears on our county roadways, and;

WHEREAS, Palm Beach County Sheriff’s Office volunteers assist in many division and district stations, thereby freeing up law enforcement to better perform their vital duties protecting the citizens of Palm Beach County, and;

WHEREAS, the Palm Beach County Sheriff’s Office Volunteers Unit contributed 378,732 hours of volunteer time in 2014, which equates to more than $8.5 million of value-added service, and;

WHEREAS, April 12-18, 2015, is National Volunteer Week, and volunteers are vital to our future as a caring and productive nation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, assembled in regular session this seventh day of April 2015, that April 17, 2015, in Palm Beach County, is hereby proclaimed

Palm Beach County Sheriff’s Office Volunteer Day

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, that this proclamation is duly sealed, ribbed and executed by the members of this Board. The foregoing proclamation was sponsored by Commissioner Priscilla A. Taylor, and upon unanimous consent of the Board, the Mayor declared the proclamation duly enacted.

ATTEST:
Sharon R. Bock,
Clerk & Comptroller

Sharon R. Bock

Mayo Shirley Vos

Vice Mayor Mary Lou Böjte

Commissioner Hal R. Valeche

Commissioner Steven L. Abrams

Commissioner Priscilla A. Taylor

As and Constituting the Board of County Commissioners of Palm Beach County, Florida
Each of the volunteers was asked what this award meant to them. They were each proud of the recognition they received; but, each one also humbly talked about their unit and their pride in being a part of something good and special. It was a pleasure to get to know each one of them a little better.

Volunteer Colonel Ned Reynolds
Award for Excellence
Volunteer Lieutenant Melvyn Wolff

By Jeff Goldman
There’s that old saying if you want something done give to someone who’s already busy. That could apply to Volunteer Lieutenant Melvyn Wolff, who is originally from, as he calls it, “the Great State of Brooklyn.” Melvyn is not only a lieutenant with Bike Unit #13, but also a lieutenant with Valencia Shores Unit #81, and a member of the VERT Auxiliary. All these units had him producing in excess of 1,500 volunteer hours for 2014. In his 10 years as a volunteer (started off as a snowbird), he has accumulated numerous unit awards and citations, including a Volunteer of the Month and a Top Producer Certificate of Appreciation. Perhaps it’s his background as a former business owner and teacher of people with special needs that gave him the drive and experience to achieve what he has. In addition to everything he does for the COP Program, he still finds time to SCUBA dive and play golf. This Award for Excellence is well deserved.

Volunteer Lou Schiff
Administrative Award for Excellence
Volunteer Daniel Josephson

By Bonnie Siegel
Daniel Josephson has been an administrative volunteer for the past seven years, first at District 4 and currently at District 6. He is the friendly face that one meets at the reception desk at the substation three days a week. He assists the deputies in whatever they need done. This past February-March, he spent eight weeks, sometimes 10 hours a day, to plan, coordinate, and set up the “Citizens Academy” for the district, where citizens learn different aspects of police work. During this academy, they learned forensics, about the bomb squad, canine and aviation units, and even took a trip to the jail. Daniel volunteered almost 1100 hours in 2014. He is the true meaning of volunteer. He is proud to go where there is a need and to give back, especially as a senior helping other seniors. Daniel is proud of his work and loves the “amazing” people he works with.
By Bonnie Siegel

It was through her membership with the Coast Guard Auxiliary that Kimberley Leyendecker found out about the Volunteer Marine Unit and joined it about three years ago. She soon became a member of the District 9 Rovers. While working full time as a nurse, she manages to volunteer about 15-20 hours a week along side of her husband Tim. Kim, the mother of four grown children, all of whom are in college or beyond, felt the need to “give back.”

She went above and beyond the performance of duty to be recognized as the Volunteer of the Year. On a night when she was scheduled to go for dinner with family, who was visiting from out of town, the call came in for volunteers to assist in the search for a nine year old boy missing for several hours. Kimberley was going to join the search, but first she decided to drop her daughter off at the family dinner.

While driving her daughter through the area where the boy disappeared, they began looking for him. Suddenly, out of the corner of her eye, Kimberley spotted the missing child. She immediately stopped her car and went to calmly speak with him. She explained to the missing child she was a volunteer with the Sherriff’s Office and a lot of people were looking for him, including the helicopter that was overhead. She called 911 and asked for a deputy to come respond to take the boy home.

Kimberley felt she was “at the right place at the right time.” Her daughter, who was with her, felt she learned why her parents volunteer as much as they do.

Kimberley is thrilled to have received this award. She is honored and proud to be a part of the volunteer team, she feels everyone deserves credit for the work they do.

Volunteer of the Year
Volunteer Kimberly Leyendecker

By Linda Solomon

Tim Leyendecker has embraced the Florida lifestyle he was brought to as a young teenager, developing a love especially for the water. This love of jet skiing with his wife Kim, led him to his avocation as a member of the Coast Guard Auxiliary working hand in hand with the PBSO Marine Unit. Not satisfied with just that, Tim also volunteers with the Royal Palm Beach District 9 Rovers - and he is still working! Tim is a known realtor in his area, now working for Remax. Yet he still finds time to save lives! He has literally been right in the middle of the action when trouble was brewing. More than once he has jumped into the water to save a life. He received this award for saving a young girl from drowning who had partied a little too much during a recent “Floatopia.” His alertness and swift action saved the young woman from becoming another tragic statistic. It wasn’t the first time nor would it turn out to be the last Tim put his life on the line to save someone else. As the Leyendecker’s four children left the nest, both Tim and Kim decided to give back to the community they love. We can all be truly grateful these two people decided to make PBSO the venue for their sense of service.

Tim is grateful for this special award. He is proud PBSO shows appreciation to the people who give of themselves to help others. He says it makes him feel good to be remembered by the Sheriff’s Office - knowing people are out there doing good deeds and then recognizing those efforts makes it all worthwhile.

Volunteer Life Saving Award
Volunteer Lieutenant Tim Leyendecker
By Bonnie Siegel

Stephen Tamber came to Volunteer Services in April 2009 with military experience. After becoming Captain of Unit #36 (Valencia Point), he soon became major in October 2010, and later, in March 2015, was promoted to the rank of commander. As a major, he was assigned several units, some of which were having difficulty and needed assistance in order to function properly. With Stephen’s leadership skills and guidance, they soon became self-sufficient and well respected units. He’s credited in rebuilding the Honor Guard which in the last year participated in 72 events. Stephen is also a member of the FTO Unit, VERT, and is a reserve dispatcher, as well as, sits on the board of Friends of Volunteers. Steve is thrilled to receive this award and to quote him, “It is an indication the PBSO recognizes hard work, effort, commitment, and attention to duty.”

Volunteer Major of the Year

Volunteer Major Stephen Tamber

By Jeff Goldman

What does it take to receive this award? Just take a look at the accomplishments of Richard (Rich) Pelletier and you see this is an honor not given lightly.

In 2009, Richard, who lives in Valencia Shores, joined not only the COP Unit #81, but also put on the helmet of the Volunteer Bike Unit. As if that didn’t keep him occupied, he became an FTO and was soon promoted to captain of that unit. In 2014, he took on more responsibility by joining Special Events and just recently became involved with VERT. That amounted to over 1,600 hours (most of it with FTO) during 2014. The Volunteer Captain of the Year Award can now be added to his numerous unit commendations and citations.

Rich exemplifies the high standards that our all our volunteers strive for.

Volunteer Captain of the Year

Volunteer Captain Richard Pelletier

By John Heidtke

Captain Donovan, a three year veteran of Palm Beach County Volunteer Services, was recognized at the April 17, 2015 Volunteer Awards Luncheon for outstanding service in the performance of her duty in recording monthly hours for all volunteers. She designed an effective reporting form for all the districts, which brought simplicity and effectiveness to an important administrative assignment. For her own part, she works at the office Monday through Friday, 10am - 4pm, accumulating over 30 hours a week of volunteer hours.

Her selfless efforts and technical competence reflect great credit on herself and Volunteer Services.

Volunteer Captain of the Year

Administrative Volunteer Captain Donna Donovan
RECOGNITION OF Awardees

Volunteer Units of the Year
Administrative Unit - VAST
Community Unit - Bellagio
Rover Unit - Royal Palm Beach

Bellagio
Photo: H. Rein

Royal Palm Beach Rovers

VAST Presentation
Left: Vol. Major Jeff Goldman
Rights: Vo. Capt. Herb Rein

Marine Unit

Sheriff's Office
Citizen Observer Patrol
Palm Beach County
C. O. P.
Although the COPs make up the largest portion of the Sheriff’s Volunteer organization, there’s also a smaller unit providing essential services to the PBSO community. These are the men and women of the PBSO Volunteer Clergy and one of their 34 members was honored at the Volunteer Awards Ceremony. Mike Tobey was named Volunteer Chaplain of the Year.

Chaplain Tobey is not only the lead chaplain of this PBSO unit, but in his “spare time” he also volunteers as a Palm Beach Gardens PD chaplain and does motivational speaking and training to the business community.

A proud father of 3 (he wanted me to mention his youngest just left for the Navy OCS), he makes himself available 24/7 to provide guidance and counsel to the men and women “in green.”
RECOGNITION OF Awardees

PBSO Staff who best exemplify support of the Volunteer Program

Deputy Scott Poritz, District 8 - Wellington

Deputy Michael Strine, District 6 - West Boynton Beach
RECOGNITION OF Awardees

Unit Commendations

V.E.R.T. - Volunteer Emergency Response Team
Emerald Pointe
Airport
Media Unit
Bike Unit
North Rovers
Courthouse

Inset: Vol. Capt. Solomon receives commendation from Sheriff Bradshaw

Media Unit

Members of the Bicycle Unit

North Rovers

V.E.R.T.

Courthouse

Airport Unit
Throughout the year, Volunteers perform outstanding acts within the scope of their duties or the Volunteer Services Unit. We present Certificates of Achievement to the following Volunteers:

Volunteer Lieutenant Rita Exizian
Volunteer Lieutenant Nancy Dicker
Volunteer Lieutenant Paul Duda
Volunteer Captain Larry Clements
Volunteer Major Robert Clements
Volunteer Sergeant Jay Kamm
Volunteer Kenneth Green
Volunteer Robert Richter
Volunteer Sergeant Paul Manski
Volunteer Kathryn Hilton-Lizza
Volunteer Captain David Hendrick
Volunteer Captain Paul Hirsch
Volunteer Captain John Zipp
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<td><strong>Jorge Betancur</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Norman Jeweler</strong></td>
<td><strong>Iris Ruis</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Robert Clements</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Morris Dassa</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Steven Weiner</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Richard Pelletier</strong></td>
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<td><strong>David Nathan</strong></td>
<td><strong>John Getzoff</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Dennis Alsgaard</strong></td>
<td><strong>Ronald Stux</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Rita Exizian</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Robert Thaden</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Larry Clements</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Gerard Coelsch</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Saundra Lanier</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Melvyn Wolff</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Erik Fanhoe</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Norman Lefkowitz</strong></td>
<td><strong>Paul Reiss</strong></td>
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RECOGNITION OF Awardees

Below is an array of photographs of the Awards Luncheon. All photos are available if requested from: D/S Eisenman. Apologies to those units whose photos did not make this page! Photos: members of the Media Unit.