

2011 Women of the Year Nominees

Julie Benson:

Nominated by the Michael Hoefflin Foundation for Children's Cancer

Michael Hoefflin Foundation

- Board Member
- Communications Committee Chair
- Committee Member on the 2011 Inaugural Pediatric Cancer Challenge Walk
- Vice Chair 2010 Gala
- Chair 2011 Gala

SCV Boys & Girls Club

- Governing Board
- Marketing Committee Member

SCV Chamber of Commerce

- Board Member

Repertory East Playhouse

- Board Member

Biography of Julie Benson

Julie Benson brings more than 25 years of experience in the cruise industry to her position as vice president, public relations for Princess Cruises, the third largest cruise line in the world.

She oversees a department with responsibility for media relations and publicity, issues management and crisis response, social channels, corporate communications, media events and ship launches, and community relations.

Prior to her current role, Benson was the company's director of public relations, a position she held since 1988. Before that she was director of corporate communications for Sitmar Cruises, a company she joined in 1983, and which later merged with Princess. From 2004 to 2006 Benson also had responsibility for overseeing the public relations function for sister company Cunard Line, which was merged into the Princess operations in 2004.

Before joining the cruise industry, Benson was an account executive for two public relations agencies in Los Angeles and represented travel, food and entertainment clients.

She serves on the grant committee for the Princess Cruises Community Foundation, and is on the board of directors for the Michael Hoefflin Foundation for Children's Cancer, the Public Relations Society of America/Los Angeles, the Boys and Girls Clubs of Santa Clarita, the Santa Clarita Valley Chamber of Commerce, and the Repertory East Playhouse. She is a member of the Society of American Travel Writers (SATW).

A native of Los Angeles, she holds a B.A. degree in journalism from San Diego State University. She and her husband have two sons.



Erica Betz:

Nominated by the Santa Clarita Valley Committee on Aging



SCVCOA: 13 Years

- VP Board of directors
- Board Member
- Planned and single-handedly conducted Board Retreat
- Co-Chaired Celebrity Waiter Dinner - 5 years

College of the Canyons

- Contributed to the success of the University Center capital campaign by bringing new awareness and supporters to the foundation in support of its mission.
- Supporter of the Santa Clarita Performing Arts Center at COC
- Advocates for K-12 Arts Education outreach programming
- Sponsor: Opening night events with Michael Bolton and Pat Benatar
- Served on steering committee for Dancing with Our Stars
- Serves on College of the Canyons Advisory Committee for the Canyon Country Campus

The Sand Canyon HOA

- Advocate

HMNMH

- Capital Campaign
- Member of various committees

Foundation for Children’s Dental Health

- Founding member

Membership in: Local animal rescue, Habitat for Humanity, Canyon Country Advisory Committee (4 years), SCV Boys & Girls Club, Carousel Ranch, and Sam Dixon Family Health Center.

Biography of Erica Betz

Sand Canyon resident and retired from entertainment business. Erica is currently a Real Estate investor. She is a supporter of the arts worldwide. She has no children, will possibly be married by the time of event (Bill Cloyd).

Erica has spent years helping local animal rescue and supported Habitat for Humanity for years. She served on the HMNMH Capital Campaign, plus on other hospital committees. Erica has been on the Foundation for Children’s Dental Health since inception, and a Canyon Country Advisory Committee supporter for four years. She is a COC supporter, dealing mostly on the financial side. She has also supported the Boys & Girls Club, Carousel Ranch, and the Sam Dixon Health Center. She stays involved in the Sand Canyon Home Owners Association.

Sue Endress:

Nominated by the Rotary Club of Santa Clarita Valley

Girl Scouts: 1980 - 1990

- Assistant Troop Leader
- Troop Leader

Hart High School Band Booster Club: 1993 - Present

- Volunteer planning and strategic partner for School Rampage competition
- Aide support to students and band director on traveling team
- Chaperone, Uniform repair
- Administrator of fund-raising scrip program



Newhall School PTA: 1984 - 1995

- Board member
- Event organizer
- Classroom assistance

Santa Clarita Valley Senior Center: 1983 - Present

- Trustee
- SCV Senior Center Foundation board member
- Secretary
- First V.P.

5K Magic Mountain Run for Kiwanis: 1992 - Present

- Co-creator with husband Bob
- Registration and Event Coordination

SCV Rotary Club: 2005 - Present

- Board member
- Youth Coordinator for Interact clubs at four high schools
- Leadership Trainer
- Fund-raising for international and community projects

College of the Canyons Cougar Football Program: 1978 - 1980

- Financial Support
- Started football transfer program for players to higher education opportunities

Biography of Sue Endress

A native of Southern California, Sue was born in Alhambra and raised in the San Gabriel Valley, the eldest of five children of Shirley and Jerry Davenport. She attended Arroyo High School and Rio Hondo Junior College. She accepted a position in Human Resources at University of Southern California Hospital in 1976, and met her husband, Bob, while working at USC.

Following their marriage, the couple moved to Newhall in 1978. Leaving the rich resources of the San Gabriel Valley for Newhall was a bit of a cultural shock – no mall, major restaurants, theaters, horse tracks or beach. After a few months the quaint community of Placerita Canyon grew on Sue and Bob and they knew they would live in the Newhall area for the rest of their lives. First daughter, Casandra, was born in 1979, with Nicole following in 1983. Rounding out the family is Sue’s step-son Bobby Endress and wife Melinda and grandson Jake; step-daughter Belinda Endress; and Casandra’s husband Matt and their daughter Avery.

Sue left the security of a full-time job in 1980 when Bob and she started Unicom Wireless on San Fernando Road, selling two-way radio systems and service, pagers, and cellular phones. They are now located on Lyons Avenue, working very closely on communication needs with the community, schools, and municipalities. The couple has been a strong supporter of athletic teams and band programs at the local schools throughout the years. In 2004, thinking she needed another challenge in her life, Sue opened Sue Endress Insurance Services.

Her volunteer spirit started back as a child accompanying her mother and father in volunteer projects at church and schools. They were always at some project in the community or helping a family needing assistance. Sue has tried to build that volunteer spirit that comes only from the heart into her children. She and her husband have spent their married lives of 33 years supporting the community in any way they could find.

The couple’s main support and dedication throughout the years has been the Santa Clarita Valley Senior Center, observing first-hand the many lives that the center touches on a daily basis. They have seen it grow from serving barely 2000 seniors a year to serving over 10,000 annually. Their main mission is to let no senior go hungry. They do this actively through Bob’s position on the Committee on Aging Board and Sue’s position on the SCV Senior Center Foundation Board. Sue’s Rotary Club also plays an active role.

After spending so many years in the elementary, junior high, and high school levels as a volunteer with her children Sue just naturally gravitated to the Youth coordinator position on the board of the SCV Rotary Noon club. She feels it allows her the opportunity to support, guide, and work with the exceptional students living in the Santa Clarita Valley. She hopes this work will help her instill the “volunteer bug” into the students in their future lives.

Cheryl Gray

Nominated by the Zonta Club of SCV

Zonta Club of Santa Clarita Valley: 1998 - Present

- Board Member, Secretary
- Co-chaired Status of Women 3 years and Healthy Women’s Day

Boys and Girls Club - 1988 – Present

- Co-Chair of Bid Board Committee and Finance
- Worked every auction since 1988
- Awarded Volunteer of the Year in 2007



Santa Clarita Valley Chamber of Commerce - 1988 – Present

- Membership Committee and Ambassador

Senior Center Wine Auction - 2002 – Present

- Registration, Silent Auction
- Auction Spotter, Auction Runner, etc.

Henry Mayo Newhall Memorial Hospital - 1995 – Present

- Volunteered for Golf Tournament wherever needed

American Heart Association - 1999 – 2001

- Board Member, Secretary
- Honored with the President's Award

Circle of Hope – 2010 to present

- Board member

ALS 2008 – Present: Volunteer for annual golf tournament

Michael Hoefflin Foundation – 2009: Solicitation Committee

Carousel Ranch - 2008 – Present: Volunteer for annual auction and Trap & Skeet Shoot

Senior Center Celebrity Waiter: Volunteer since 2000 – All areas

Henry Mayo Newhall Memorial Guild - 2009 – 2010: Involved in fund raising activities for neo-natal unit.

Taste of the Town/Child & Family Center: Volunteer at various events for many years and given donations for silent auctions.

Biography of Cheryl Gray

Cheryl Gray moved with her two daughters to Newhall in 1984 to provide them with wonderful schools and a small rural close-knit community. Being a single mother of a 14- and 4-year-old, she didn't have much time to volunteer other than in her daughters' schools, though in 1988 she became active in the SCV Boys' & Girls' Club annual auction.

Initially, she worked in the finance tent of the yearly auction, working long hours into the night to reconcile and deposit all the money raised for the evening of the auction. After several years, she also took on the job of co-chairing the Silent Auction Bid Board Committee. This consisted of long hours of volunteering time to prepare the bid boards, usually working right up to the day of the auction.

She was also on the Solicitation Committee for several year, helping to bring in donated items for the Boys' and Girls' Club Auction. She has given up the finance and most of the solicitation but still co-chairs the Bid Board Committee. The Boys' and Girls' Club awarded her "Volunteer of the Year" in 2007.

From 1999 to 2001, she was on the board of the American Heart Association which meant a great deal to her for she has had family members suffer from heart disease. The American Heart Association awarded her the President's Award.

Cheryl has volunteered for the Senior Center Wine Auction since 2002 helping with registration, set up, take down and wherever help was needed, along with the Senior Center Celebrity Waiter Dinner.

Henry Mayo Newhall Memorial Hospital has a special place in Cheryl's heart as well. She has helped raise funds for the emergency room by volunteering annually for the hospital golf tournament since 1995. She recently joined the Hospital Guild in 2009.

She has been a member of the Santa Clarita Valley Chamber of Commerce and has been an Ambassador since 2001, and has served on the membership committee.

Carousel Ranch is a new nonprofit that Cheryl has become passionate about volunteering. She has volunteered for the Heart of the West for the last two years and for their Skeet & Trap Shoot last April.

She worked on the Solicitation Committee for the Michael Hoefflin Foundation in 2009 and would like to also continue with this great organization. She has also volunteered for The Child & Family Center for many years and has given donations for their silent auction and raffle items.

Last, but not least, she has had the wonderful opportunity to work at the annual golf tournament for ALS Association (Lou Gehrig's Disease) in 2008 and 2009. This is another very deserving organization which Cheryl finds close to her heart, since her good friend Millie died of the disease and her daughter Christine's sorority sister is fighting it.

If and when Cheryl retires, she looks forward to volunteering 40 hours a week instead of her now 20. In the 27 years of living in this wonderful community there has never been a time she has not be involved in one organization or another. As the community has grown and expanded, so have her volunteer opportunities and she has embraced these opportunities with open arms. Her family knows that it may take up to six weeks to get scheduled on her calendar and so they plan way ahead of time to get married, plan birthday parties, etc.

Cheryl has been married to her husband, Ralph, since 1999. Between them they have her two daughters and his two sons and nine grandchildren. In Cheryl's spare time, she loves to visit with her children and grandbabies, go to the theatre, and travel.

Shelley Hann

Nominated by Henry Mayo Newhall Memorial Foundation

Henry Mayo Newhall Memorial Foundation

- Past President of the Henry Mayo Hospital Guild
- Created Shelley L. Hann Scholarship Fund for the Debutante program \$2500 each year
- Chair of Guild Fashion Show for four consecutive years.
- Home Tour League Board member

Soroptimist Intl of Greater SCV

- Produced events including Fashion Show (2 years)



Domestic Violence Center

- Created A Day in My Shoes benefit

Thalian Mental Health Center (22 years)

- Vice President
- Board Member

Betty Ferguson Foundation

- Past Board Member
- Instituted Endowment to benefit

Biography of Shelley Hann

Shelley Hann (and her identical twin sister, Noreen) was born in Hollywood the day before Disneyland's grand opening.

Shelley grew up in the San Fernando Valley and attended Polytechnic High School where Shelley and Noreen were baton twirlers for the Marching Band. Shelley attended Valley College and performed with the college jazz dancers at football games.

Shelley knew in her heart that she would enter the business of beauty following her aunt and uncle in the salon business. Shelley and Noreen worked as kids in the salon - cleaning brushes and acting as the Sunday receptionists. Shelley attended Newberry School of Beauty, and on completion and winning the top stylist award in her graduating class, attended Vidal Sassoon Academy in San Francisco and worked with the most famous stylists in the business, Jon Peters, Alan Edwards, etc. She opened her first salon on Ventura Blvd in Encino.

Shelley met the "man of her dreams" in 1989. They married and moved to Valencia in 1990. Shelley opened Shanelle Salon located at Margo's and sold the business five years later. Currently, Shelley can be found at Glo Salon in Bridgeport.

Shelley's daughter, Ashley 18, attends Vidal Sassoon Academy, following in her mother's footsteps. Her son, Aaron 26, recently graduated magna cum laude from the University of Pennsylvania. Shelley and her husband, Attorney G. Marshall Hann, enjoy living in Westridge along with their poodles, Paris and Bellagio, and donating their time to the various nonprofits in the SCV.

Kris Hough

Nominated by the Santa Clarita Facilities Foundation

Santa Clarita Valley Facilities Foundation

- Board of Directors (6 years)
- Communications and Constituent Relations, 2007 - 2011

SCV Chamber of Commerce

Board of Directors (12 years)

- President and Chairwoman of the Board, 2003
- Immediate Past Chairwoman, 2004
- President Elect, 2002
- Vice President Membership, 1999 -2001



- Vice Chair Membership, 2005 – 2009
Committee Positions (2 years)
- Marketing Committee, 2009 - 2010
- Economic Development Committee, 2002
- Legislative Advisory Committee, 2003
- Ambassador, 1993 - 2011

Soroptimist International of Greater Santa Clarita Valley

- Executive Board (4 years, active since club inception)
- President, 2010 - 2011
- Director of Membership, 2008 - 2009
- Regional Executive Board (18 chapters) (4 years)
- Violet Richardson Regional Chairwoman, 2008 - 2011

SCV Mayor's Committee for Employment of Individuals with Disabilities

- Founding Member and director
- Board of Directors (17 years)
- Treasurer, mid-1990s - 2007

Arthritis Foundation – SCV Arthritis Walk

SCV Child and Family Center

- Advisory Board
- Member, 2007 - 2011

KHTS 1220-AM Radio

- Advisory Board
- Member, 2006 - 2011

Biography of Kris Hough

Kris Hough knew early on in life that volunteering and making a difference in the lives of others would be a commitment woven into her personal and professional life. Alongside a banking career that spans 30 years, Kris has always devoted personal time and commitment to charitable causes, beginning with her commitment to Hart High School's Show Choir Booster Club during her two daughters' high school years.

Kris grew from her parent experience to take on the challenging roles of leadership in notable organizations, such as the SCV Chamber of Commerce and the Canyon Country Chamber of Commerce (prior to the merging of those two organizations), as well as the Chamber's Educational Foundation. She was at the helm of the SCV Chamber of Commerce as president the year the position transitioned to Chairwoman of the Board.

As a firm believer in the quality of service, Kris considers the community needs of her efforts, where her leadership has extended to the Soroptimist International of Santa Clarita Valley, as well as the new charter organization, Soroptimist International of Greater Santa Clarita Valley. Kris also gives service in the leadership ranks of the SCV Facilities Foundation and SCV Theater Project, which compliment her passion for education and the arts within the community. She also served as a founding director on the SCV Mayor's Committee for Employment of Individuals with Disabilities.

Quantifying the economic and charitable benefit of Kris' involvement and volunteerism

would be difficult. However, the far reaching effects of her charity are more easily defined. Locally, the Soroptimist organization supports the Betty Ferguson Foundation, Domestic Violence, Single Mothers Outreach, and many other charities. Kris served in a position as Violet Richardson Regional Chairwoman, which recognizes young girls ages 14 – 17 who demonstrate leadership in volunteerism. With her position, Kris oversaw the work of 18 chapters.

Kris and her husband, Tom, have lived and raised a family in the Santa Clarita Valley since 1984. She is regional vice president for SCV Bank, and held former management positions at Crocker Bank, Wells Fargo, Valencia Bank & Trust, and its successor, Union Bank of California.

Anna Ott

Nominated by the Boys and Girls Club of Santa Clarita Valley Foundation

Boys and Girls Club Foundation

- Founding Member Board of Directors
- Chair: Festival of Trees, 2004
- Committee Member Festival of Trees
- Committee Member Auction
- Committee Member Golf Tournament

Child & Family Center Foundation

- Philanthropist of the Decade Award
- Chair of Golf Tournament
- Board of Directors Member

Dancing With Our Stars

- Founder
- Committee Member

Henry Mayo Newhall Memorial Hospital Foundation

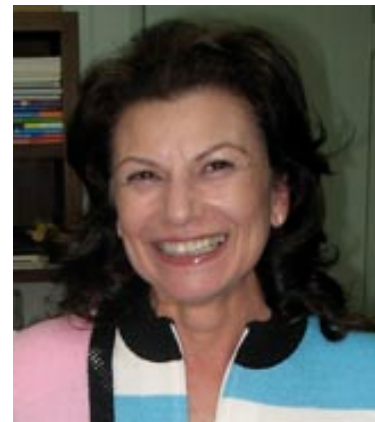
- Board Member
- President of Home Tour

Biography of Anna Ott

Anna Ott is the Founder and President of AVO, a premier woman's retailer of golf, tennis, fitness and casual wear. Anna is also an avid golfer and shopper.

Anna has just completed her term as the first woman President of the Foundation for the Boys and Girls Club of Santa Clarita Valley. Prior to serving on the Foundation Board she was a member of the Club's Governing Board of Directors. She also serves on the Executive Committee for the annual Festival of Trees fundraiser, held in November each year.

The Boys and Girls Club of Santa Clarita Valley Foundation was formed in 2002 and Anna was a founding member of the Foundation Board. She participates in the two other major fundraisers as a volunteer/participate: the Annual Benefit Auction in June, the Golf



Tournament in August, and the Festival of Trees, where she is on the Executive Committee, and chaired the event in 2004.

As a Founding member of the Foundation Board, Anna has always been available to recruit a foursome or two or three for the B&G Golf Tournament. She coordinates many processes as an active member of the Festival of Trees Executive Committee and still finds time to keep her hands in the Auction in some way.

The effect she has had in both leading or assisting in raising hundreds of thousands of dollars each year (while recruiting many other volunteers) to benefit the Club's three Clubhouses and the thousands of boys and girls throughout the Valley is immeasurable.

Anna does not miss meetings. She is always there for us. She never says no. The impact that the Foundation (providing funds) and the Club (providing services, programs, and facilities) have on this Valley is because of volunteers like Anna.

Anna is also involved with the Child & Family Center Foundation. She recently won the "Philanthropist of the Decade" award for well over 10 years of volunteer leadership service on the Foundation Board of Directors, is Chair for the Golf Tournament and other projects as well as truly outstanding philanthropic supporter. Anna is also one of the founders and is surely a driving force of "Dancing with our Stars", which supports dozens of local nonprofits.

Anna is also involved with the Henry Mayo Newhall Memorial Health Foundation. She serves on that Board and is President of the Home Tour project.

Mary Lina Schultz

Nominated by Friends of Hart Park

Friends of Hart Park

- Director
- Native American Pow Wow, year-round volunteer

Girl Scouts of America

Boy Scouts of America

Sheriff's Department Volunteer

Association Against Domestic Violence

American Youth Soccer Organization

Hillside Hospital

Biography of Mary Lina Schultz

Mary Lina Schultz was born in Indio. A member of the Navajo tribe, Mary Lina grew up during an age of open discrimination and suppression of the Native American, but she has always retained fierce pride in her culture and her roots.



Her peripatetic and impoverished youth gave her a deep sympathy for the underdog and fueled her volunteerism. She met her husband Ray when she was performing a Native American dance. He was in the Marines at the time. They have been married for 53 years. The wife and mother of three, and grandmother of five, she has primarily been a stay-at-home mom to give her children the sense of stability that was lacking in her childhood.

She has taught her children and grandchildren about their heritage and led by example. After the children were grown, Mary Lina became a tireless and devoted volunteer with the Friends of Hart Park.

Candy Spahr

Nominated by American Cancer Society

American Cancer Society (Over 20 Years)

- 2009 - 2010 American Cancer Society, Leadership Council president Santa Clarita Valley Unit
- Represent the SCV on the ACS LA Regional Council
- 2009 - 2010 chair of American Cancer Society Gala event.
- Daffodil Days committee
- Volunteer for Health Fairs handing out information about the free programs and services offered at the American Cancer Society
- Part of the Speakers Bureau representing the ACS on the radio non- profit spotlight hour and whenever needed at such events as the Chamber mixer
- Volunteer for ACS Survivor Tea 2011; past chair of Cancer Survivor Breakfast
- Five-time chair of Relay For Life one of the largest grossing non- profit fundraisers in the Santa Clarita Valley and the largest in LA County
- As a member of a group called Friendz, planned and coordinated a Gala event for the American Cancer Society led by Sheila Veloz
- Content creator and mentor for Relay Summit and Relay University volunteers
- Co-emcee for the American Cancer Society Volunteer Recognition dinner 2009, 2010



Food Pantry

- Volunteer helping to stock food and pick up food that was donated from grocery stores

Meals on Wheels program for homebound seniors: Driver

Project Angel Food: Food preparer for delivered meals to people with Aids.

SCV Homeless Shelter

Make-A-Wish Foundation

- Office and field volunteer
- Field interviewer

- Celebrity Wish chaperone on celebrity wishes
- Holiday Party volunteer

Children's Hospital Los Angeles

- Childcare Specialist in their playroom
- Teacher's aide to onsite
- Volunteer with a run/walk at the Rose Bowl for Children's Hospital LA.

Santa Clarita Boys and Girls Club

- Volunteer at Auction and Festival of Trees benefits

Michael Hoefflin Foundation

- Volunteer at auction
- Put together and delivered holiday baskets

Dancing With Our Stars, 2009-2010

- Planning Committee

Child & Family Center Foundation

- Board Member
- Taste of the Town past volunteer for the live and silent auction
- Taste of the Town volunteer set up
- Volunteer at Kids Expo.

Biography of Candy Spahr

My husband Brad and I have lived in the Santa Clarita Valley for 30 years. There was a brief period of time, a year and a half, when we moved to Long Beach for a job transfer but as soon as that job ended, we moved back to the SCV.

We have two grown sons, Bill and Chris, who spent most of their grade school, and all of their junior high and high school years in SCV public schools....go Canyon! While raising my two sons, I was everything with the word "mom" in it. From "mom, make him stop" to room mom, team mom and volunteer mom at all soccer, baseball, and football games.

Both sons swam on a club team at Sierra Hills with me as their coach. I also did some lifeguard duties at the club. Being a coach, and ever conscious of water safety, I taught the American Red Cross backyard swim program for a number of years.

At Canyon High School I was one of the parents who put together an earthquake preparedness bin for the school.

Both my sons are married; Chris lives here in CA with his wife and two children; My oldest son, Bill lives in VA. We don't hold that against him because he has four children. I have a total of six grandchildren.

Brad and I will be married for 42 years this June. He is part owner of Specialty Motors in the Industrial Center.

We are outdoor enthusiasts and enjoy long walks together and playing golf. He loves to run, I walk; he loves the winter and I loved every season, except the winter...come to think of it, that's probably why we stayed married so long. We are members of St.

Clare's Catholic Church where I have helped with their barbecues, fish fries and have served as a Eucharistic Minister.

Barbara Wampole

Nominated by Santa Clarita Organization for Planning and the Environment (SCOPE)

Santa Clarita Organization for Planning and the Environment (SCOPE)

- Member for 18 years
- Liaison between groups
- Volunteer at conferences, river tours, and press events

Friends of the Santa Clara River

- Vice-chair
- Newsletter designer and editor
- Coordinator board retreats, press conferences, tours for state and local officials
- Preparation and Review of comments for public hearings
- Presentations of educational programs at local schools and community

SCV Community Arts Facility (Courses a la Carte)

- Teacher

SoCal NonProfit Arts Guild

- Board member for 7 years

Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church

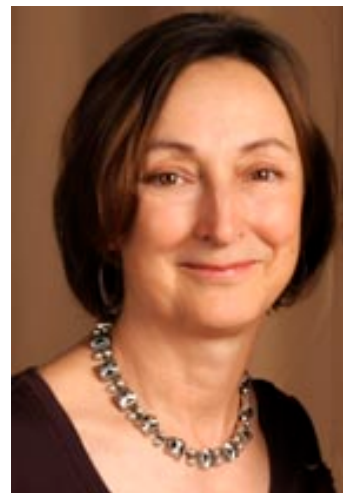
- Elected in 1999 to the vestry
- Board, 2001 - 2004
- "Stewardship of the Environment" coordinator
- Active Non-Violence Training coordinator for workshops

Biography of Barbara Wampole

Barbara was born in Queens, New York, and raised on Long Island, about 50 miles away. But she has been a resident of the Santa Clarita Valley area for 39 years. Her father, Carl, has retired from a fifty-year career as a high school math teacher in Hauppauge, NY, and college professor at Dowling College, Oakdale, NY. Her mother, Collette, is a homemaker, artist and naturalist.

A Girl Scout from eight to eighteen years old, her parents were both scout leaders. Her mother was the "Nature Lady" (aka the "Bug Lady") in the Suffolk County Girl Scout Council for many years.

After graduating from high school, she attended the Cooper Union for the Advancement of the Arts and Sciences in NYC on a full scholarship and received a Bachelor of Fine Arts. During the time she attended California Institute of the Arts on a one-year exchange program, she met her husband (of 38 years), Tom Barron who graduated from the Cal Arts Film School.



Since the mid-1970s she has been a partner in the special visual effects film production company that her husband founded. She has been an artist, homemaker, adopter of rescued dogs and cats, and has acted as neighborhood watch coordinator.

Barbara's local activities include teaching in an arts program at an early SCV community arts facility (Courses a la Carte), she was a volunteer and board member for 7 years for the SoCal non-profit arts guild (The Society for Calligraphy '87-'94), has been a member of numerous environmental organizations, and in 1993 was a co-founding member of Friends of the Santa Clara River where she has been on the board for nearly 18 years. She has, for decades, been a member of the Analytical Psychology Club of the C.G. Jung Institute in LA, a member of the Goschenhoppen Historical Society and the Pennsylvania German Society.

After joining Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church in 1999 she was elected to the vestry where she was on this board for three years (2001-04) and has been re-elected to that body recently. For much of the time since 1999 she has coordinated Stewardship of the Environment and has also coordinated Active Non-violence training workshops, which later produced several free music events for local high school age youths.

As Friends of the Santa Clara River's vice-chair, she has been involved in innumerable activities, from newsletter designer and editor, to coordinating board retreats, coordinating press conferences, tours for state and local officials, preparing and reviewing comments for public hearings, presenting educational programs at local schools and community events to name only a few.

And last but not least, she has also been a supportive member and volunteer for Santa Clarita Organization for Planning and the Environment (SCOPE) for the past 18 years where she acted as liaison between groups, has helped with conferences, river tours, press events, and many other volunteer activities.

Next to her husband, family, and friends, the arts and the environment continue to be her personal passions.