

# The Ourplace Volunteer

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Our Place Society

919 Pandora Ave, Victoria, BC V8V 3P4



## Mark Your Calendars

Our Place will be hosting its annual Volunteer Holiday Gathering on Friday, December 2. Invitations will be sent to all active volunteers closer to that date. We look forward to sharing some fun and merriment — as well as a healthy dose of holiday cheer — with our valued volunteers. Hope you are able to join us!

## Holiday Special Events

We have a few special events coming up in December. The Family Christmas Party will be held at First Metropolitan United Church on Friday, December 9. Our annual Dickens Reading will be held at the Victoria Conservatory of Music on the evening of Tuesday, December 13. Finally, we will be hosting our Christmas Meal on Tuesday, December 20. We hope you will be able to join us for one or more of these special events. And if you would be interested in lending a helping hand, please let Antoinette know.

## Thanks(for)giving

Just as we always seem to do, we had a tremendous response to our call for volunteers for our annual Thanksgiving Meal on Thursday, October 6. We asked for your support, and you exceeded our hopes and expectations. Our family enjoyed turkey with all of the trimmings, including pumpkin pie, served by the many friendly, smiling faces who supported us on that day. We offer a heartfelt thank-you for giving so very generously of your time and for your service to our family. Our Place Volunteers — Simply the Best!

See the Youtube video at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N8GyjIH1IBU>

Happy Thanksgiving to Our Place Volunteers!

## Volunteer Absences

A friendly reminder that Antoinette appreciates knowing when you are going to be away, particularly for an extended period of time. And if you haven't already let her know, please take a moment to do so. Much appreciated!

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## Further thoughts on the homeless and their pets.

Who do you think are among the happiest, most emotionally stable dogs in America? This is my observation, and you may find it pretty hard to believe, but I think that dogs that live with homeless people often have the most fulfilling, balanced lives.

“Homeless people?” you ask. “How can their dogs be happier? They can't afford to feed them expensive organic dog food! They can't take them to the groomer twice a month or even to the vet”! How true, but remember dogs don't think about groomers; and in nature, there aren't any vets. Many times, homeless people don't even have goals in their lives -- not the way some type A achievers do, anyway.

Some of them seem to be content to walk from place to place and seek a meal and a warm place to sleep. For a dog, this is the ideal natural routine that nature created for him.

Cesar Millan (The Dog Whisperer)



From Spartacus to volunteer, Kirk Douglas serves Thanksgiving meal to the homeless.

# Ourplace: Hope and Belonging