

The Ourplace

Number 39 - June 15, 2009

Bruce E. More - Editor

Our Place Society

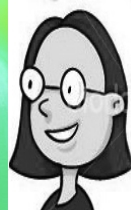
919 Pandora Ave. Victoria, BC V8V 3P4



Volunteer

Ask Vickie

When can I attend an orientation session?



Volunteers working in each of these program areas are invited (encouraged, even) to attend the session for their area.

Please let Antoinette know if it is your intention to attend one of these sessions. And please don't worry if these dates and times do not work for you. Future sessions will be scheduled on an ongoing (likely a bi-monthly) basis. Orientation sessions for volunteers are being held in each of our program areas, as follows:

Nutrition Bar	Wednesday, June 10	2 p.m.	Chapel
Dining Room	Friday, June 12	2 p.m.	Chapel
Clothing Room	Wednesday, June 24	2 p.m.	Chapel
Hygiene Area	Thursday, June 25	2:30 p.m.	Chapel

Next month's question: Why do I need to sign in at reception, especially when I am being asked to sign in, in the clothing room and hygiene area as well?

Sound familiar?

I work in one of the richest counties in the Country (Fairfax County, VA) and we have over 2000 homeless in the county. Right now the police in one of the jurisdictions are going through the woods and rousting the individuals who are sleeping in tents. They cut their tents rendering them useless so that the people won't come back to the woods again. We continue to build luxury townhomes and condos, but all some of these individuals want is a place to have over their head. It is worst for the homeless "singles" - there are programs that help families, but the singles are left out there to fend for themselves. The government is just not doing enough to help this population. The churches are stepping up in our area, but again in my opinion not enough. Homelessness could be stopped (granted there are a few "survivalist" types who will never go into any kind of housing no matter what for whatever reason), but there should not be 2000 homeless individuals in our area.

Barry

Donations

We are in need of new or lightly used basic adult clothing. **SOCKS**, underwear, more socks, fleece or heavyweight tops and jeans, socks again, seasonal jackets. Musical instruments and **art supplies**, board-games, alarm clocks, toiletries, sleeping bags, blankets and coffee mugs. Our library is in need of good **paperback fiction**. Please contact reception by phone at (250) 388-7112, extension 221 or by e-mail at admin@ourplacesociety.com for any questions regarding donations.

New Downtown Thrift Store

Beacon Community Services and the Victoria Cool Aid Society are looking for volunteers to assist with operations of a new thrift store downtown. They are looking for window and mannequin dressers, cashiers, pricers, cleaners, stockers, and book and music organizers. To participate in a volunteer information session or to learn more, please call Michael at (250) 595-8619 or visit www.coolaid.org.

How to reach your Volunteer Coordinator

antoinette@ourplacesociety.com
or 250-388-7112 Ext. 243

Please give Antoinette as much notice as possible if you are going to be away and need replacements.

Antoinette will be away on the following dates:

June 29 to July 3

July 7

July 21 to 24

July 27 to 31

August 3

Have a happy summer, Our Place volunteers!

We are always looking for volunteers

In addition to our ongoing efforts to recruit volunteers for the dining room and the nutrition bar in the drop-in centre, we are also currently looking for volunteers in the following areas: Hygiene Area; Clothing Room. If any of these current opportunities is of interest to you, please contact 388-7112, extension 243 or volunteer@ourplacesociety.com.

Baseball Games

Dates for baseball games this summer have now been set: June 26, July 10, July 24 and August 7. The drop-in centre will be closed on these dates — they are all Fridays — though we will be serving dinner on those days. Please feel free to come out and join us.



Chinese homeless man
Homelessness is everywhere!

Our Place: Hope and Belonging