

10 Guidelines for Recognizing Volunteers

In your personal experience, what keeps you returning to an organization and contributing many hours to special projects or ongoing tasks? A simple smile and a warm thank you may spur you to take on another task. But what happens when you work hard and get results, but nobody notices. Soon you begin to question whether you make a difference. There are as many ways to recognize the work of volunteers as there are people in the organization. On the Volunteer Canada website were the following ten guidelines for recognition:

1. give it or else
2. give it frequently
3. give it through a variety of methods
4. give it honestly
5. give it to the person, not to the work
6. give it appropriately to the achievement
7. give it consistently
8. give it on a timely basis

9. give it in an individualized fashion, and
10. give it for what you want more of.

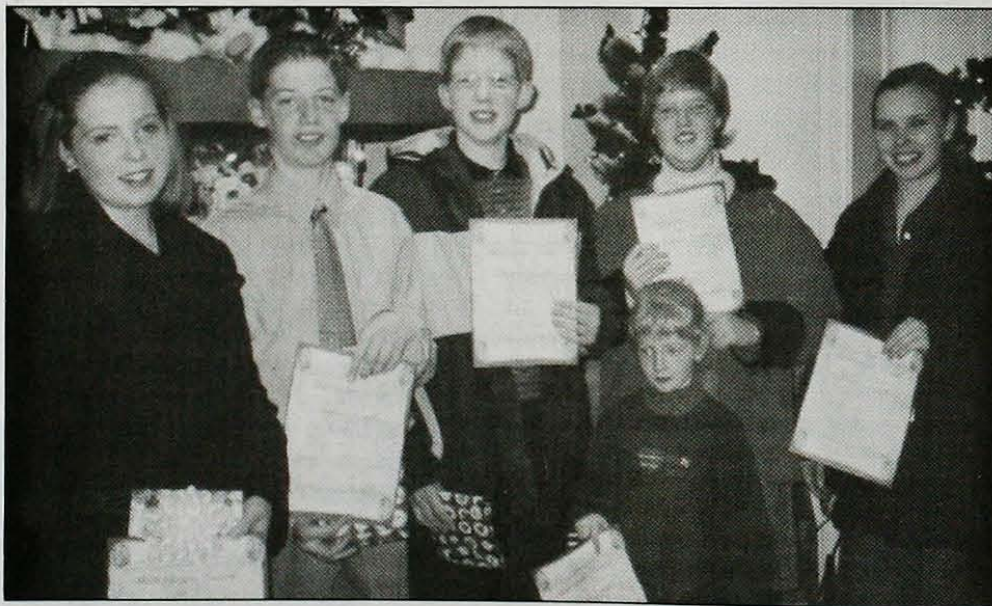
Let's think of four basic motivators – praise, affiliation, accomplishment and power or influence. If you are motivated by praise, you probably like public recognition at an event, in a newsletter or on the organization's website.

If your motivator is affiliation, you probably like recognition through social get-togethers and a name badge to show your membership, or a public listing of your organization's volunteers.

People who volunteer for a sense of accomplishment might appreciate receiving certificates for specific stages of their work, or having a special place to show off their completed projects. Finally, individuals who volunteer for power or influence might appreciate titles for their role or involvement as a speaker at a workshop.

Extracted from the presentation "Visions for Volunteers" by Lorraine Holding, Discussion Groups, ACWW Conference, June 2001.

Millennium Youth Volunteer Awards



Six Ridgetown and area youths were recognized by the Highgate, Beechwood, Palmyra and McKay's Corners Women's Institutes for their outstanding contributions to their community. The awards, a special WI millennium project, were presented to individuals in each of three categories: Emily Clark (standing in front) - 4 to 7 year olds, Matthew Ashton (second from left), Mark McLean (third from left) and Emily McLean (second from right) - 8 to 13 year olds, and Caitlin Littlejohn (far left) and Rebecca Leeson (far right) - 14 to 18 year olds. The children volunteered in a number of ways: helping with younger and developmentally delayed children, gathering garbage along roadsides, setting and clearing tables at community suppers, assisting in Sunday School lessons and in the nursery, participating on school committees, editing school newspapers and typing minutes.

Submitted by Marg Eberle, Palmyra WI, Kent.

Congratulations

Anniversaries

Laurentian View WI, Renfrew North . . .	50
Dewars WI, Renfrew South	60
Massey-Walford-Espanola WI, Sudbury	60
Renton WI, Norfolk	65
Hamilton Area WI	75
Burnstown WI, Renfrew South	90
Louise WI, Grey South	90
St. Pauls WI, Perth South	90
Crossland WI, Simcoe Centre	91
Alton WI, Peel	98

Life Memberships

Badenoch WI, Wellington South	- Jean Aubin	- Olga McCaw
Bethel WI, Lanark South	- Alison Meikle	
Bowen Road WI, Niagara	- Ellen Geake	
Braemar WI, Oxford	- Renny Hettinga	- Joan Hunt
Brigden WI, Lambton Centre	- Francis Stewart	
Centennial WI, Lennox & Addington	- Winifred Clarke	
Crossland WI, Simcoe Centre	- Leda Archer	- Shirley Robertson
	- Ida C. Dwinell	
Harrowsmith WI, Frontenac	- Inez Code	- Virginia Leonard
Ilderton WI, Middlesex Northwest	- Dora Butler	- Mary Chase
	- Marie Mohr	- Marion Ross
Morewood WI, Dundas	- Doreen Marcelus	
North Mornington, Perth North	- Barbara Elg	- Adeline DeBrouwer
	- Bernice Herrfort	
Parham WI, Frontenac	- Madeline Howes	- Adeline Jane Lowrey
Severn Bridge WI, Simcoe East	- Claire Corrigan	
St. Lawrence WI, Frontenac	- Maureen Lynch	
Thorndale WI, Middlesex East	- Dorothy Elliott	- Lucy Elliott
	- Shirley Elliott	- Jessie Hill
	- Marg Jones	- Irene McGuffin
	- Marilyn Smith	
Vittoria WI, Norfolk	- Marcene Marion Peat	
Washago WI, Simcoe East	- Sadie Joslin	
West End WI, Wellington South	- Joan Playle	