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Record Group/Collection: George H.W. Bush Presidential Records
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Series: Speech File Draft Files
Subseries: Chron File, 1989-1993

OA/ID Number: 13481
Folder ID Number: 13481-011

Folder Title:
National Volunteer Organizations, 4/10/89

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
G	25	6	2	1

**REMARKS: VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS
MONDAY, APRIL 10, 1989
ROSE GARDEN
11:00 A.M.**

THIS IS ONLY MY THIRD ROSE GARDEN EVENT. AND THE FIRST ONE, WELL, IT WENT TO THE DOGS. MILLIE RAN IT. SO EXCUSE ME IF I SEEM A LITTLE NERVOUS. THERE'S NOTHING HARDER TO FOLLOW THAN AN ANIMAL ACT.

- 2 -

WHAT A GREAT PRIVILEGE IT IS, TO HAVE YOU HERE. YOU ARE TAKING ON THE MOST DIFFICULT CHALLENGES WE FACE AS A NATION. YOU'RE FIGHTING POVERTY; DRUG ABUSE; ILLITERACY; TEEN PREGNANCY; THE ALIENATION OF YOUNG AND OLD. AND YOU'RE WINNING -- BECAUSE YOU REFUSE TO BELIEVE IT CAN'T BE DONE.

SO I AM HERE TO THANK YOU. YOU HAVE LIVED UP TO AN IDEAL, ONCE GIVEN VOICE BY HORACE MANN, THAT I HAVE ALWAYS ADMIRER: "BE ASHAMED TO DIE," HE SAID, "UNTIL YOU HAVE WON SOME VICTORY FOR HUMANITY."

RECENTLY, I RECEIVED A LETTER FROM A MAN IN INDIANA, WHO WAS FORCED TO RETIRE ON DISABILITY BECAUSE OF HEART PROBLEMS. HE WAS 45 YEARS OLD.

HE WROTE TO EXPLAIN THAT, WHILE HE COULDN'T TAKE A JOB, HE WAS GIVING HIS TIME TO A NEARBY MENTAL HEALTH CENTER; A LOCAL SCHOOL; AND HIS COUNTY ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT. HE WROTE, "I GUESS WHAT I AM TRYING TO SAY IS THIS. I AM DISABLED BUT NOT [AN] INVALID, AND I ENJOY BEING ABLE TO BE OF HELP."

- 5 -

HE SAID, "I HOPE, IN SOME SMALL WAY, THAT I AM STILL ABLE TO MAKE A CONTRIBUTION TO THIS GREAT NATION OF OURS, AND INDEED TO THE WORLD... AS A VOLUNTEER. I HOPE AND PRAY THAT YOU AND I AND INDEED MILLIONS OF OTHERS WILL STRIVE TO TRULY MAKE THIS A KINDER AND GENTLER NATION. WE NEED THAT... VERY MUCH."

THE GOOD THAT VOLUNTEERISM DOES IN THIS COUNTRY EVERY YEAR WINS COUNTLESS VICTORIES FOR HUMANITY, LARGE AND SMALL.

- 6 -

HERE AT THE WHITE HOUSE, WE BENEFIT FROM THE TIRELESS EFFORTS OF VOLUNTEERS. AND SEATED TO MY RIGHT ARE PEOPLE MOTIVATED MUCH THE WAY YOU ARE. AND THEN, THERE'S ELLA MILLER -- SITTING IN THE FRONT ROW -- WHO CONTINUES TO SERVE HER COMMUNITY, HER CHURCH, AND IN LOCAL SCHOOLS -- AND SHE'S 108 YEARS OLD.

- 7 -

I'M TOLD THAT OVER HALF OF ADULT AMERICANS -- 80 MILLION -- ACTIVELY VOLUNTEER IN SOME WAY IN THEIR COMMUNITIES. LAST YEAR, THAT WAS WORTH ALMOST 150 BILLION DOLLARS IN MAN- AND WOMAN-HOURS.

BUT WHAT YOU'RE DOING GOES ABOVE AND BEYOND DOLLARS AND CENTS.

- 8 -

YOUR WORK -- AND THE WORK OF MANY OTHERS AS MOTIVATED AS YOURSELVES -- IS A TESTAMENT TO A POWERFUL IDEA: THAT ALONG WITH THE MANY RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES THAT DISTINGUISH US AS AMERICANS, IS THE SHARED RESPONSIBILITY TO LOOK AFTER ONE ANOTHER. I ALWAYS LIKE TO REMEMBER THAT THERE IS NO EXERCISE BETTER FOR THE HUMAN HEART THAN REACHING DOWN, AND LIFTING SOMEONE ELSE UP.

YOU UNDERSTAND THAT HELPING THE LESS FORTUNATE IS IN EVERYONE'S BEST INTEREST. THAT THE MOST POWERFUL GIFT WE CAN OFFER ANYONE IS A SENSE OF PURPOSE -- A PATH TO SELF-ESTEEM. THAT THE FABRIC OF THE FAMILY -- LIKE THAT OF SOCIETY -- MUST FOREVER BE RENEWED AND RE-WOVEN.

AT THE INAUGURAL, I SPOKE OF A NEW ENGAGEMENT IN THE LIVES OF OTHERS. WE MUST SEEK COMMON POINTS WHERE THE PRACTICAL AND THE COMPASSIONATE CONVERGE.

YOURS IS AN EXAMPLE WE SEEK TO SPREAD ACROSS EVERY COMMUNITY, EVERY TOWN, EVERY CITY IN AMERICA.

THIS WEEK, I CHALLENGE EVERY AMERICAN WHO CARES ABOUT THE FUTURE OF THIS COUNTRY, TO GET INVOLVED. FIND A PLACE, OR AN ORGANIZATION, OR EVEN A SINGLE LIFE, WHERE YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR SOMEONE ELSE. FROM NOW ON, IN AMERICA, ANY DEFINITION OF A SUCCESSFUL LIFE MUST INCLUDE SERVING OTHERS.

- 11 -

IT IS NOT SIMPLY VOLUNTEERING, BUT THE PERSONAL ACT OF HELPING ANOTHER INDIVIDUAL IN NEED, WHICH GIVES US MEMBERSHIP IN A COMMUNITY. GIVING AND EXPECTING NOTHING IN RETURN IS WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A CITIZEN. WHEN YOU VOLUNTEER, YOU CONFIRM YOUR CITIZENSHIP.

VOLUNTEERING IS AN ACT OF HEROISM ON A HUMAN SCALE -- AND IT MATTERS PROFOUNDLY. IT DOES MORE THAN HELP PEOPLE BEAT THE ODDS -- IT CHANGES THE ODDS. YOU MIGHT SAY IT PUTS THE UNITY IN COMMUNITY.

- 12 -

TODAY, I'LL BE SIGNING A PROCLAMATION, TO MAKE THIS NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK. BUT WEEK IN AND WEEK OUT, IT WILL BE PEOPLE LIKE YOU WHO BRING THE "ERA OF THE OFFERED HAND" TO LIFE.

AND I WILL BE ESTABLISHING A PROGRAM ENCOURAGING YOUTH ENTERPRISE AND SERVICE TO AMERICA. BUT IT WILL BE YOUR CHALLENGE TO OPEN YOUR ORGANIZATIONS TO YOUNG PEOPLE SEEKING MEANINGFUL SERVICE TO THEIR COMMUNITIES.

TO MATCH NEED WITH NEED -- TO FIND A CALLING FOR EVERY VOLUNTEER -- AND TO KEEP REMINDING US, THAT EACH ONE OF US HAS A GIFT TO GIVE.

WHICH REMINDS ME OF AN OLD STORY THAT BAR LIKES TO TELL, ABOUT A MINISTER WHO WAS GIVEN A JAR OF PEACHES SOAKED IN BRANDY BY ONE OF HIS ADMIRING PARISHIONERS.

THE MINISTER OPENS THE JAR, TAKES A WHIFF, AND SAYS, "OH, DEAR LADY, YOU DON'T KNOW HOW GRATEFUL I AM FOR THIS GIFT." "REALLY," SAYS THE LADY, "IT'S SUCH A SMALL PRESENT."

"AH," SAYS THE MINISTER, "IT'S NOT THE GIFT THAT COUNTS. IT'S THE SPIRITS IN WHICH IT IS GIVEN."

WELL, THE SPIRIT OF VOLUNTEERISM IN AMERICA IS STRONGER THAN EVER.

- 15 -

YOU KNOW, ALFRED NORTH WHITEHEAD ONCE SAID, "WITH ALL ITS LIMITATIONS, LIFE IN AMERICA IS BETTER AND KINDER THAN ANYWHERE ON EARTH THAT I HAVE EVER HEARD OF."

THAT'S TRUE. BUT WE CAN MAKE IT BETTER STILL. WE MUST LIFT AWAY MORE OF THE LIMITATIONS THAT REMAIN -- AND TAP THE LIMITLESS POTENTIAL OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE -- THROUGH COUNTLESS SMALL VICTORIES FOR HUMANITY.

- 16 -

TOGETHER, LET US GIVE HONOR TO THE PHRASE: I VOLUNTEERED.

I'D LIKE TO ASK BARBARA -- AND THE GROUP OF KIDS AND VOLUNTEERS ON THE DAIS, HERE -- TO JOIN ME AS I SIGN THE PROCLAMATION MAKING THIS NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK.

#

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

APRIL 6, 1989

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: MARK LANGE *ML*
SUBJECT: REMARKS TO VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS

I. SUMMARY

Attached are brief remarks for the Rose Garden ceremony on Monday, April 10, with the leaders of 65 volunteer organizations.

II. DISCUSSION

This will be the first event of a week focused on volunteerism. About 120 leaders of volunteer organizations will attend.


Your remarks suggest the range of good that volunteerism does; commend those attending as examples of the spirit you seek to spread across the nation; and issue a challenge to every American to get involved.

After your remarks -- expected to last eight to ten minutes -- you will sign a proclamation making next week "National Volunteer Week."

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 6, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT
FOR COMMUNICATIONS

FROM: MICHAEL J. ASTRUE 
ASSOCIATE COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: Volunteer Organizations

Counsel's office has reviewed the above-referenced proposed Presidential remarks, and we have no legal objection to their delivery.

cc: James W. Cicconi

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

APRIL 6, 1989

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(Lange/Blessey)
April 7, 1989
10:15 a.m.
[VOLUNT.DOC]

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS
MONDAY, APRIL 10, 1989
ROSE GARDEN
11:00 A.M.

[[This is only my third Rose Garden event. And the first one, well, it went to the dogs. Millie pretty much ran it. So excuse me if I seem a little nervous. There's nothing harder to follow than an animal act.]]

What a great privilege it is, to have you here. You are taking on the most difficult challenges we face as a nation. You're fighting poverty; drug abuse; illiteracy; teen pregnancy; the alienation of young and old. And you're winning -- because you refuse to believe it can't be done.

So I am here to thank you. You have lived up to an ideal, once given voice by Horace Mann, that I have always admired: "Be ashamed to die," he said, "until you have won some victory for humanity."

Recently, I received a letter from a man in Indiana, who was forced to retire on disability because of heart problems. He was 45 years old. He wrote to explain that, while he couldn't take a job, he was giving his time to a nearby mental health center; a

local school; and his county environment department. He wrote, "I guess what I am trying to say is this. I am disabled but not [an] invalid, and I enjoy being able to be of help."

He said, "I hope, in some small way, that I am still able to make a contribution to this great nation of ours, and indeed to the world... as a volunteer. I hope and pray that you and I and indeed millions of others will strive to truly make this a kinder and gentler nation. We need that... very much."

The good that volunteerism does in this country every year wins countless victories for humanity, large and small. I'm told that over half of adult Americans -- 80 million -- actively volunteer in some way in their communities. Last year, that was worth almost 150 billion dollars in man- and woman-hours.

But what you're doing goes above and beyond dollars and cents. Your work -- and the work of many others as motivated as yourselves -- is a testament to a powerful idea: that along with the many rights and privileges that distinguish us as Americans, is the shared responsibility to look after one another. I always like to remember that there is no exercise better for the human heart than reaching down, and lifting someone else up.

You understand that helping the less fortunate is in everyone's best interest. That the most powerful gift we can

offer anyone is a sense of purpose -- a path to self-esteem. That the fabric of the family -- like that of society -- must forever be renewed and re-woven.

At the Inaugural, I spoke of a new engagement in the lives of others. We must seek common points where the practical and the compassionate converge. Yours is an example we seek to spread across every community, every town, every city in America.

This week, I challenge every American who cares about the future of this country, to get involved. Find a place, or an organization, or even a single life, where you can make a difference for someone else. From now on, in America, any definition of a successful life must include serving others.

It is not simply volunteering, but the personal act of helping another individual in need, which gives us membership in a community. Giving and expecting nothing in return is what it means to be a citizen. When you volunteer, you confirm your citizenship.

Volunteering is an act of heroism on a human scale -- and it matters profoundly. It does more than help people beat the odds -- it changes the odds. You might say it puts the unity in community.

Today, I'll be signing a proclamation, to make this National Volunteer Week. But week in and week out, it will be people like you who bring the "era of the offered hand" to life. And I will be establishing a program encouraging youth enterprise and service to America. But it will be your challenge to open your organizations to young people seeking meaningful service to their communities. To match need with need; a calling for every volunteer. And to keep reminding us, that each one of us has a gift to give.

Which reminds me of an old story that Bar likes to tell, about a minister who was given a jar of peaches soaked in brandy by one of his admiring parishioners. The minister opens the jar, takes a whiff, and says, "Oh, dear lady, you don't know how grateful I am for this gift." "Really," says the lady, "it's such a small present."

"Ah," says the minister, "it's not the gift that counts. It's the spirits in which it is given."

Well, the spirit of volunteerism in America is stronger than ever. You know, Alfred North Whitehead once said, "With all its limitations, life in America is better and kinder than anywhere on earth that I have ever heard of."

That's true. But we can make it better still. We must lift away more of the limitations that remain -- and tap the limitless potential of the American people -- through countless small victories for humanity.

Together, let us give honor to the phrase: I volunteered.

I will now sign the proclamation...

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 6, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON

FROM: ROGER B. PORTER *RBP*
SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: Volunteer Organizations

The draft remarks for the Rose Garden ceremony are well written and appropriate.

I only have one editorial suggestion. The third full paragraph on page two could probably be strengthened by adding the following sentence, "I always like to remember that there is no exercise better for the human heart than reaching down and lifting someone else up."

If you have any questions, or I can help in any other way, please let me know.

cc: James W. Cicconi



WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 4/6/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 4/6/89 6:00 PM

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	STUDDERT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BATES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BREEDEN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



REMARKS:

Please forward any comments to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 6:00 PM, TODAY, Thursday, April 6, 1989, with an info copy to my office. Sorry for the short turnaround. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

James W. Cicconi
Assistant to the President
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
Ext. 2702

(Lange/Blessey)
April 6, 1989
12:45 p.m.
[VOLUNT.DOC]

1989 APR -6 PM 2:5

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS
MONDAY, APRIL 10, 1989
ROSE GARDEN
[TIME]

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It is a pleasure, and a great privilege, to have you here. You've taken on the most difficult challenges we face as a nation. You're fighting poverty; substance abuse; illiteracy; teen pregnancy; the alienation of young and old. And you're winning.

So I am here to thank you. You have lived up to an ideal, once given voice by Horace Mann, that I have always admired: "Be ashamed to die," he said, "until you have won some victory for humanity."

I got a letter from ^aman in Indiana, who was forced to retire on disability because of heart problems. He was 45 years old. He wrote to explain that, while he couldn't take a job, he was

giving his time to a nearby mental health center; a well child clinic; a local school; and his county environment department. He wrote, "I guess what I am trying to say is this. I am disabled but not [an] invalid, and I enjoy being able to be of help."

He said, "I hope, in some small way, that I am still able to make a contribution to this great nation of ours, and indeed to the world... as a volunteer. I hope and pray that you and I and indeed millions of others will strive to truly make this a kinder and gentler nation. We need that... very much."

The good that volunteerism does in this country every year wins countless victories for humanity, large and small. I'm told that over half of adult Americans -- 89 million -- actively volunteer in some way in their communities. Last year, that was worth almost [80] billion dollars in man- and woman-hours.

But what you're doing goes above and beyond dollars and cents. Your work -- and the work of many others as motivated as yourselves -- is a testament to a powerful idea: that among the many rights and privileges we share as Americans, we share a responsibility to look after one another.

You understand that the empowerment of the less fortunate is in everyone's best interest. That the most powerful gift we can

Action
Nancy Grace
634-9106

offer anyone is a sense of purpose -- a path to self-esteem. That the fabric of the family -- like that of society -- must forever be renewed and re-woven.

At the Inaugural, I spoke of a new engagement in the lives of others. We must seek common points where the practical and the compassionate converge. Yours is an example we seek to spread across every community, every town, every city in America.

This week, I challenge every American who cares about the future of this country, to get involved. Find a place, or an organization, or even a single life, where you can make a difference for someone else. From now on, in America, our idea of a successful life must include serving others.

Volunteering is an act of heroism on a human scale -- and it matters profoundly. It does more than help people beat the odds -- it changes the odds. You might say it puts the unity in community.

Today, I'll be signing a proclamation, to make this National Volunteer Week. But week in and week out, it will be people like you who bring the "era of the offered hand" to life. And I will be establishing a program to encourage youth to enter service. But it will be your challenge to make room for these young people

in your organizations. To match need with need. And to keep reminding us, that all of us have gifts to give.

Which reminds me of an old story that Bar likes to tell, about a minister who was given a jar of peaches soaked in brandy by one of his admiring parishioners. The minister opens the jar, takes a whiff, and says, "Oh, dear lady, you don't know how grateful I am for this gift." "Really," says the lady, "it's such a small present."

"Ah," says the minister, "it's not the gift that counts. It's the spirits in which it is given."

Well, the spirit of volunteerism in America is stronger than ever. You know, Alfred North Whitehead once said, "With all its limitations, life in America is better and kinder than anywhere on earth that I have ever heard of."

That's true. But we can make it better still. We must lift away more of the limitations that remain -- and tap the limitless potential of the American people -- through countless small victories for humanity.

I will now sign the proclamation...

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 6, 1989

6:45 pm

Memorandum for Chriss Winston

From: Jim Pinkerton

Re: Volunteer Organizations Speech Draft

1,2,2 "Substance abuse" is an artificial neologism. We should say instead "drug abuse and alcoholism" if that is factually correct.

1,4,1 Add "a" between "from" and "man."

2,1,1 "...a well child clinic;" If this is a term of art, fine.

2,4,2 "...that among the many rights and privileges we share as Americans, we share a responsibility to look after one another." Since a responsibility cannot be grouped with rights and privileges, we should say: "...that besides the many rights" etc.

3,5,2 "era of the offered hand" -- Good riff on the President's themes.

4,1,2 "To match need with need." Not sure what this means. Do we mean "To match will [or "effort"] with need"?

4,3,1 Usual reluctance to criticize jokes aside, this is a weak joke.

4,5,2 "...through countless small victories for humanity." A solid ending phrase.

#

cc: Roger Porter
Bill Roper

J.P. — A few additional comments,
for your optional use, on the
speech. — A.

I wonder if we would be helped by inserting a coda, as it were, into this speech, which ties it in with the President's recent child care and education speeches, e.g.:

"Incidentally, volunteerism makes the volunteer a better person, too. One human is himself humanized when turns to help another. That is why I have spoken in the last few weeks about my programs -- for child care, for education, and now for volunteerism, that aim at fostering the human relation of caring for others."

Also, instead of "less fortunate" which is a bit coy and euphemistic, I'd say either "those who need help most" or (if you want alliteration) "the down cast, the downtrodden, the down and out," or (if you want literary) "We must help those who would also serve but are not even able enough to only stand and wait." -- a reference to Milton's famous line, used by throughout the Kennedy Administration about their poverty programs, "They also serve who only stand and wait."



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RESPONSE:

See changes

James W. Cicconi
Assistant to the President
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
Ext. 2702

(Lange/Blessey)
April 6, 1989
12:45 p.m.
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~~Handwritten signature~~
Murr
4864

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from Joe Shattan OVP



(Lange/Blessey)
April 6, 1989
12:45 p.m.
[VOLUNT.DOC]

1989 APR -0 PM 2:5

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS
MONDAY, APRIL 10, 1989
ROSE GARDEN
[TIME]

See p 4
for typo

[[This is only my third Rose Garden event. And the first one, well, it went to the dogs. Millie pretty much ran it. So excuse me if I seem a little nervous. There's nothing harder to follow than an animal act.]]

It is a pleasure, and a great privilege, to have you here. You've taken on the most difficult challenges we face as a nation. You're fighting poverty; substance abuse; illiteracy; teen pregnancy; the alienation of young and old. And you're winning.

So I am here to thank you. You have lived up to an ideal, once given voice by Horace Mann, that I have always admired: "Be ashamed to die," he said, "until you have won some victory for humanity."

I got a letter from man in Indiana, who was forced to retire on disability because of heart problems. He was 45 years old. He wrote to explain that, while he couldn't take a job, he was

giving his time to a nearby mental health center; a well child clinic; a local school; and his county environment department. He wrote, "I guess what I am trying to say is this. I am disabled but not [an] invalid, and I enjoy being able to be of help."

He said, "I hope, in some small way, that I am still able to make a contribution to this great nation of ours, and indeed to the world... as a volunteer. I hope and pray that you and I and indeed millions of others will strive to truly make this a kinder and gentler nation. We need that... very much."

The good that volunteerism does in this country every year wins countless victories for humanity, large and small. I'm told that over half of adult Americans -- 89 million -- actively volunteer in some way in their communities. Last year, that was worth almost [80] billion dollars in man- and woman-hours.

But what you're doing goes above and beyond dollars and cents. Your work -- and the work of many others as motivated as yourselves -- is a testament to a powerful idea: that among the many rights and privileges we share as Americans, we share a responsibility to look after one another.

You understand that the empowerment of the less fortunate is in everyone's best interest. That the most powerful gift we can

offer anyone is a sense of purpose -- a path to self-esteem. That the fabric of the family -- like that of society -- must forever be renewed and re-woven.

At the Inaugural, I spoke of a new engagement in the lives of others. We must seek common points where the practical and the compassionate converge. Yours is an example we seek to spread across every community, every town, every city in America.

This week, I challenge every American who cares about the future of this country, to get involved. Find a place, or an organization, or even a single life, where you can make a difference for someone else. From now on, in America, our idea of a successful life must include serving others.

Volunteering is an act of heroism on a human scale -- and it matters profoundly. It does more than help people beat the odds -- it changes the odds. You might say it puts the unity in community.

Today, I'll be signing a proclamation, to make this National Volunteer Week. But week in and week out, it will be people like you who bring the "era of the offered hand" to life. And I will be establishing a program to encourage youth to enter service. But it will be your challenge to make room for these young people

in your organizations. To match need with ^{deed} need. And to keep ✓
reminding us, that all of us have gifts to give.

Which reminds me of an old story that Bar likes to tell, about a minister who was given a jar of peaches soaked in brandy by one of his admiring parishioners. The minister opens the jar, takes a whiff, and says, "Oh, dear lady, you don't know how grateful I am for this gift." "Really," says the lady, "it's such a small present."

"Ah," says the minister, "it's not the gift that counts. It's the spirits in which it is given."

Well, the spirit of volunteerism in America is stronger than ever. You know, Alfred North Whitehead once said, "With all its limitations, life in America is better and kinder than anywhere on earth that I have ever heard of."

That's true. But we can make it better still. We must lift away more of the limitations that remain -- and tap the limitless potential of the American people -- through countless small victories for humanity.

I will now sign the proclamation...

April 6, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR JIM CICCONI

FROM; DENISE SCHWARZ
OFFICE OF CABINET AFFAIRS

SUBJECT; PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS; VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS

We have reviewed the remarks and have no comments.

Attachment

06 APR 1989



WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 4/6/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 4/6/89 6:00 PM

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	STUDDERT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BATES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BREEDEN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WINSTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PINKERTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward any comments to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 6:00 PM, TODAY, Thursday, April 6, 1989, with an info copy to my office. Sorry for the short turnaround. Thank you.

7750

RESPONSE:

James W. Cicconi
 Assistant to the President
 and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
 Ext. 2702

(Lange/Blessey)
April 6, 1989
12:45 p.m.
[VOLUNT.DOC]

1989 APR -0 PM 2:00

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS
MONDAY, APRIL 10, 1989
ROSE GARDEN
[TIME]

[[This is only my third Rose Garden event. And the first one, well, it went to the dogs. Millie pretty much ran it. So excuse me if I seem a little nervous. There's nothing harder to follow than an animal act.]]

(Too Abrupt a transition from lighter to serious.)

Start → *What a* *it is*
It is a pleasure, and a great privilege to have you here.

You've taken on the most difficult challenges we face as a

nation. You're fighting poverty; substance abuse; illiteracy;

teen pregnancy; the alienation of young and old. And you're

winning. *It is refreshing to meet people, like you believe, who refuse to believe it can't be done!*

So I am here to thank you. You have lived up to an ideal, once given voice by Horace Mann, that I have always admired: "Be ashamed to die," he said, "until you have won some victory for humanity."

Recently I received *a*
~~I got~~ a letter from man in Indiana, who was forced to retire on disability because of heart problems. He was 45 years old. He wrote to explain that, while he couldn't take a job, he was

giving his time to a nearby mental health center; a well child clinic; a local school; and his county environment department. He wrote, "I guess what I am trying to say is this. I am disabled but not [an] invalid, and I enjoy being able to be of help."

He said, "I hope, in some small way, that I am still able to make a contribution to this great nation of ours, and indeed to the world... as a volunteer. I hope and pray that you and I and indeed millions of others will strive to truly make this a kinder and gentler nation. We need that... very much."

The good that volunteerism does in this country every year wins countless victories for humanity, large and small. ~~I am told~~ ~~that~~ over half of adult Americans -- 89 million -- actively volunteer in some way in their communities. Last year, that was worth almost [80] billion dollars in man- and woman-hours.

necessary?
(I am worried about these statistics)

But what you're doing goes above and beyond dollars and cents. Your work -- and the work of many others as motivated as yourselves -- is a testament to a powerful idea: that among the many rights and privileges ^{that distinguish us} we share as Americans, ^{- is the shared} ~~we share a~~ responsibility to look after one another.

insert

You understand that the empowerment of the less fortunate is in everyone's best interest. That the most powerful gift we can

offer anyone is a sense of purpose -- a path to self-esteem. That the fabric of the family -- like that of society -- must forever be renewed and re-woven.

At the Inaugural, I spoke of a new engagement in the lives of others. We must seek common points where the practical and the compassionate converge. Yours is an example we seek to spread across every community, every town, every city in America.

This week, I challenge every American who cares about the future of this country, to get involved. Find a place, or an organization, or even a single life, where you can make a difference for someone else. From now on, in America, ^{definition} ~~any definition~~ ~~(our idea)~~ of a successful life must include serving others. ~~It is the personal act of helping another individual which makes no sense~~

Volunteering is an act of heroism on a human scale -- and it matters profoundly. It does more than help people beat the odds -- it changes the odds. You might say it puts the unity in community.

Today, I'll be signing a proclamation, to make this National Volunteer Week. But week in and week out, it will be people like you who bring the "era of the offered hand" to life. And I will be establishing a program ^{encouraging youth enterprise and service to America} ~~(to encourage youth to enter service.)~~ But it will be your challenge to ~~(make room for these young people)~~

something in return is what it means to be a citizen. When you volunteer, you confirm your

Open your organizations to young people seeking meaningful service to their community.

It is not simply volunteering, but the personal act of helping another individual in need, which gives us meaning in a community.

in your organizations To match need with need. And to keep reminding us, that ~~all of us have gifts to give.~~

Each one of us has a gift to give.

*a calling for every
Volunteer,*

Which reminds me of an old story that Bar likes to tell, about a minister who was given a jar of peaches soaked in brandy by one of his admiring parishioners. The minister opens the jar, takes a whiff, and says, "Oh, dear lady, you don't know how grateful I am for this gift." "Really," says the lady, "it's such a small present."

"Ah," says the minister, "it's not the gift that counts. It's the spirits in which it is given."

Well, the spirit of volunteerism in America is stronger than ever. You know, Alfred North Whitehead once said, "With all its limitations, life in America is better and kinder than anywhere on earth that I have ever heard of."

— That's true. But we can make it better still. We must lift away more of the limitations that remain -- and tap the limitless potential of the American people -- through countless small

victories for humanity. *Together, let's bring honor to the phrase —*

I Volunteered!

I will now sign the proclamation...

MASTERI**WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM**DATE: 4/6/89ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 4/6/89 6:00 PMSUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	STUDDERT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BATES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WINSTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward any comments to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 6:00 PM, TODAY, Thursday, April 6, 1989, with an info copy to my office. Sorry for the short turnaround. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

James W. Cicconi
 Assistant to the President
 and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
 Ext. 2702

(Lange/Blessey)
April 6, 1989
12:45 p.m.
[VOLUNT.DOC]

1989 APR -6 PM 2:5

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS
MONDAY, APRIL 10, 1989
ROSE GARDEN
[TIME]

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(Peter.)
What
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You've ~~take~~ taken on the most difficult challenges we face as a
nation. You're fighting poverty; *drug* substance abuse; illiteracy;
teen pregnancy; the alienation of young and old. And you're
winning, *because you refuse to believe it can't be done.*

So I am here to thank you. You have lived up to an ideal, once given voice by Horace Mann, that I have always admired: "Be ashamed to die," he said, "until you have won some victory for humanity."

Recently, I received
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giving his time to a nearby mental health center; a well child clinic; a local school; and his county environment department. He wrote, "I guess what I am trying to say is this. I am disabled but not [an] invalid, and I enjoy being able to be of help."

He said, "I hope, in some small way, that I am still able to make a contribution to this great nation of ours, and indeed to the world... as a volunteer. I hope and pray that you and I and indeed millions of others will strive to truly make this a kinder and gentler nation. We need that... very much."

The good that volunteerism does in this country every year wins countless victories for humanity, large and small. I'm told that over half of adult Americans -- 89⁰ million -- actively volunteer in some way in their communities. Last year, that was worth almost (150) billion dollars in man- and woman-hours.

But what you're doing goes above and beyond dollars and cents. Your work -- and the work of many others as motivated as yourselves -- is a testament to a powerful idea: that ^{besides} among the many rights and privileges ^(that distinguish us) we share as Americans, ^{is the} we share a responsibility to look after one another. ^{I always like to remember that there is no exercise better for the human heart than reaching down and lifting someone else up.}

You understand that the ^{helping} empowerment of the less fortunate is in everyone's best interest. That the most powerful gift we can

Aaron

check source

offer anyone is a sense of purpose -- a path to self-esteem. That the fabric of the family -- like that of society -- must forever be renewed and re-woven.

At the Inaugural, I spoke of a new engagement in the lives of others. We must seek common points where the practical and the compassionate converge. Yours is an example we seek to spread across every community, every town, every city in America.

This week, I challenge every American who cares about the future of this country, to get involved. Find a place, or an organization, or even a single life, where you can make a difference for someone else. From now on, in America, our idea ^{any definition} of a successful life must include serving others.

(Love)

Volunteering is an act of heroism on a human scale -- and it matters profoundly. It does more than help people beat the odds -- it changes the odds. You might say it puts the unity in community.

Today, I'll be signing a proclamation, to make this National Volunteer Week. But week in and week out, it will be people like you who bring the "era of the offered hand" to life. And I will be establishing a program ^{ing} to encourage youth ^{enterprise and} to enter service. ^{to America}

But it will be your challenge to ~~make room for these young people~~

open your organizations to young people seeking meaningful service do their communities.

It is not simply volunteering, but the personal act of helping another individual in need which gives us membership in a community. Giving and expecting nothing in return is what it means to be a citizen. When you volunteer, you confirm your citizenship.

*a calling for every
volunteer.*

~~in your organizations.~~ To match need with need. And to keep reminding us, that ~~all~~ ^{each one} of us have ^a ~~gifts~~ to give.

Which reminds me of an old story that Bar likes to tell, about a minister who was given a jar of peaches soaked in brandy by one of his admiring parishioners. The minister opens the jar, takes a whiff, and says, "Oh, dear lady, you don't know how grateful I am for this gift." "Really," says the lady, "it's such a small present."

"Ah," says the minister, "it's not the gift that counts. It's the spirits in which it is given."

Well, the spirit of volunteerism in America is stronger than ever. You know, Alfred North Whitehead once said, "With all its limitations, life in America is better and kinder than anywhere on earth that I have ever heard of."

That's true. But we can make it better still. We must lift away more of the limitations that remain -- and tap the limitless potential of the American people -- through countless small victories for humanity.

L Together, let's give honor to the phrase - I volunteered.

I will now sign the proclamation...

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

April 10, 1989

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO THE NATIONAL VOLUNTEER
ORGANIZATIONS

The Rose Garden

11:00 A.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Please, be seated. Well, what a great privilege it is to have you here in the Rose Garden. You're taking on the most difficult challenges that we face as a nation. You're fighting poverty, drug abuse, illiteracy, teen pregnancy, the alienation of young and old. And you're winning because you refuse to believe that it can't be done. And so I'm here to thank you. You've lived up to an ideal once given voice by Horace Mann that I've always admired. "Be ashamed to die," he said, "until you have won some victory for humanity."

Well, recently I received a letter from a man in Indiana who was forced to retire on disability because of heart problems. He was only 45 years old. And he wrote to explain that, while he couldn't take a job, he was giving his time to a nearby mental center -- mental health center, a local school and his county environment department. And he wrote this: "I guess what I'm trying to say is this -- I'm disabled, but not an invalid. And I enjoy being able to be of help." Then he went on, "I hope in some small way that I'm still able to make a contribution to this great nation of ours and, indeed, to the world as a volunteer. I hope and pray that you and I and, indeed, millions of others will strive to truly make this a kinder and gentler nation. We need that very much."

What an inspiration. The good that volunteerism does in this country every year wins countless victories for humanity, large and small. And here at the White House, we benefit from the tireless efforts of volunteers. And seated to my right are people motivated much the way you are. And I include my wife, Barbara, in that. And then there's Ella Miller sitting in the front row, who continues to serve her community, her church and in local schools. And she is 108 years old. (Applause.)

And I'm told that over half of adult Americans -- 80 million -- actively volunteer in some way in their communities. And last year that was worth almost \$150 billion in man- and woman-hours. But what you're doing goes above and beyond dollars and cents. Your work and the work of many others as motivated as yourselves is a testament to a powerful idea that, along with the many rights and privileges that distinguish us as Americans, is the shared responsibility to look after one another.

I always like to remember that there is no exercise

This week I challenge every American who cares about the future of this country to get involved. Find a place or an organization or even a single life where you can make a difference for someone else. From now on in America, any definition of a successful life must include serving others. It's not simply volunteering, but the personal act of helping another individual in need, which gives us membership in a community. Giving and expecting nothing in return is what it means to be a citizen. When you volunteer you confirm your citizenship. Volunteering is an act. It's an act of heroism on a grand scale. And it matters profoundly. It does more than help people beat the odds; it changes the odds. You might say it puts the unity in community.

And today I'll be signing a proclamation to make this National Volunteer Week. But week in and week out, it will be people like you who bring the era of the offered hand to life. And I'll be establishing a program encouraging youth enterprise and service to America. But it will be your challenge to open your organizations to young people seeking meaningful service to their communities; to match need with need; to find a calling for every volunteer; and to keep reminding us that each one of us has something to give, each one of us has a gift to give -- which reminds me of an old story that Barbara likes to tell about a minister who was given a jar of peaches soaked in brandy by one of his admiring parishioners.

The minister opens the jar, takes a whiff, and says, "Oh, dear lady, you don't know how grateful I am for this gift." "Really," says the lady, "it's such a small present." "Ah," says the minister, "it's not the gift that counts. It's the spirits in which it's given." (Laughter.)

Well, the spirit of volunteerism in America is stronger than ever -- stronger than it's ever been. You know, Alfred North Whitehead once said, "With all its limitations, life in America is better and kinder than anywhere on Earth that I've ever heard of." And that's true, but we can make it better still.

We must lift away more of the limitations that remain and tap the limitless potential of the American people, through countless small victories for humanity. Together, let us give honor to the phrase, "I volunteered."

And now I'd like to ask Barbara and the group of kids and volunteers on the dais here to join me as I sign the proclamation making this National Volunteer Week. And I do it with great respect for everybody here and gratitude in my heart, as well. Thank you. (Applause.)

END

11:09 A.M. EDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

April 11, 1989

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT VOLUNTEER ACTION AWARDS CEREMONY

The East Room

1:20 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Welcome, honored guests, ladies and gentlemen. (Applause.) First, I'm pleased to see so many members of our Cabinet present here today; members of the United States Congress; Senator. And welcome to all of you, our most honored guests.

Let me add that I have a slight confession to make. It's been said -- and I know this will shock you -- that sometimes I don't speak in very good English and that I have a hard time being understood. I'll admit it; it's true. And all I can say is that I'm in pretty good company, though. Look at Yogi Berra. (Laughter.) When asked if he had seen "Dr. Zhivago," he said, "No, I feel fine." (Laughter.)

And Danny Ozark, the baseball's master of the malaprop, once observed of his ballplayers, "Contrary to popular belief, I've always had a wonderful repertoire with them."

See what I mean? It's not just me. Everybody does it -- even these silver-tongued orators have the meaning blurred.

But today, this group here makes me realize the message isn't blurred -- certainly not the message that brings us together. Let it ring loud and clear. America is great because America is good. And America's greatest deeds come from the basic decency and compassion of her people -- each of you here today.

And we see that decency and compassion everywhere -- in a child care center, the Rotary, the Little League, synagogue or church. It means lending a hand, tending a wound, and helping the less fortunate.

And this is Volunteer Week, a time to celebrate those qualities. And it's my honor today to present the 1989 President's Volunteer Action Awards. These awards were first presented in 1982. And since then, 148 Americans have been recognized and honored.

And I have said that from now on, any definition of a successful life must include serving others. And today's award recipients embody that definition.

Chessie's 82 years -- 800 children -- sounds like a weekend with my grandkids in Kennebunkport, Maine, but nevertheless -- (Laughter.)

Allison Stieglitz -- 15 years old. Listening to her at lunch, sounds a little older than that. But nevertheless, she was only 12 when she asked her parents to use the money they had planned to spend on her Bat Mitzvah to provide Thanksgiving baskets for needy families. And that first year, she gave out 15; in 1980, she donated 75. And in Miami, Allison has begun a Sunday breakfast and bag lunch program in two local temples.

Rose and Chessie and Allison, and this year's 15 other President Award winners, were chosen from nearly 1,500 nominations. And let's face it -- the 15 just barely scratched the surface of people that are volunteering and helping all across the country. They -- you -- know that prosperity without purpose means nothing. Instead, you revere what matters: simple, fundamental values like decency, goodness, self-discipline, compassion, caring.

And as President, I want to promote those basic values because they form the heart of volunteerism and of these President's Awards. And that is why we have opened the Office of National Service, which is leading our administration's national service movement. This office will encourage partnerships between all levels of government, private enterprise, and the voluntary organizations. It's going to take things that work and carry them to the nation. And it will enlist new volunteers in community-based efforts to combat urgent social needs. And toward that end, soon I will announce our administration's Y-E-S or YES to America Program -- Youth Entering Service. Here, American youth can give of, not to, themselves. By saying "Yes" to America, they can define a successful life.

Of course, that's what you already have done. And you know that volunteerism never asks, "What can I do for myself?" It asks, "What can I do myself for others?" And, yes, government can and should be a catalyst of caring. Its role is critical. But we have surpassed -- far surpassed -- the limits of what government alone can do.

Volunteerism says that it is the private sector which has the responsibility, the understanding and, yes, the resources to confront issues like hunger, health care, homelessness, illiteracy, teen pregnancy, and drug abuse. Our challenge is to use that understanding and those resources to meet our responsibility. For we are a nation, and a family, helping, enriching, and caring for each other. And as a family, we are committed to a nationwide effort.

Volunteerism says that individuals, like communities, can join hands and exchange talents for the good of America. One person can tutor an inner-city student; that boy or girl can someday become an engineer or an artist. The child-turned-adult will then become a role model to others.

Fellow volunteers, each of you has been a role model. You have enriched the American spirit. And in that spirit, let me close on a personal note -- about a hero, if you will.

commissioner for the City of New York, he counseled and inspired kids. And they called him the Iron Horse, the Pride of the Yankees. And he was a hero.

To serve others, to enrich your community -- this truly defines a successful life. For success is personal, and it is charitable -- the sum not of our possessions, but of how we help our neighbors.

My friends, on that score, you all have hit a grand-slam home run. Congratulations to each of you, the award-winners, and thank you for coming today. And may your example inspire and uplift others.

And now, it is my distinct pleasure to present the 1980 awards. And to help me is another real volunteer -- certainly the lead one in our family -- Barbara Bush. (Applause.)

And I'd like to ask Donna Alvarado, the head of ACTION, and my dear friend, Mr. Volunteer himself, Governor George Romney to come forward to help Barbara with these presentations. And then to all of you, our most heartfelt thanks. (Applause.)

THE FIRST LADY: The United Auto Workers, Local #31, of Kansas City, Kansas. Bud Carroll, Local #31 president, accepting. (Applause.) The United Auto Workers, Local #31, of Kansas City, Kansas, joined forces with General Motors, the city council and other union locals to raise \$100,000 and remodel its former union hall into a facility for the homeless. UAW members and retirees now volunteer at the center. (Applause.)

Samuel and Nanette Evans. Samuel and Nanette Evans, of Arlington, Virginia, formed the Northern Virginia Patriots, an award-winning marching band whose 450 young members perform in colonial costumes at many nationally-known parades and events. (Applause.)

Senior Master Sergeant Apolonio E. (Ed) Garcia, of Enid, Oklahoma, tutors Spanish-speaking immigrants in English as a second language and has assisted over 50 Hispanics to get their temporary resident papers. (Applause.)

Chessie Harris. Chessie Harris, of Huntsville, Alabama, founded Harris Home for Children in 1958, a facility which has provided a home for over 800 abandoned children. She and Mr. Harris, who died in 1988 at the age of 93, raised the building and operating funds and managed the home. (Applause.)

The Judeo Christian Health Clinic; Rhea Herowitz accepting. The Judeo Christian Health Clinic, Tampa, Florida, organized in 1972 by a Presbyterian church and now managed by a group of local churches, involves over 400 volunteer physicians and other professionals in providing health care to low-income people who do not qualify for public assistance. (Applause.)

The Great American First Savings Bank, You Miss School-You Miss Out Program -- James Schmidt, Vice Chairman accepting. (Applause.) The Great American First Savings Bank You

training for members, advocacy at the national level on subjects of interest to women and children, and special programs emphasis on such topics as teen pregnancy and women and alcohol. (Applause.)

Habitat for Humanity, International; Amy Parsons accepting. Habitat for Humanity, International, based in Americus, Georgia, involves over 35,000 volunteers in 324 sites, who develop simple, decent, affordable housing for low income families. Habitat provides no-interest loans and the buyers provide sweat equity. (Applause.)

Inner City Development, Inc.; Patti and Rod Radle accepting. Inner City Development, Inc., organized to offer hope to the Hispanic residents of San Antonio's inner city, provides a food and clothing bank, a tutoring program, family counseling, the city's largest recreation program and a Christmas toy program that allows parents to purchase toys for 10 percent of their actual price. (Applause.)

The Virginia Power Volunteer Program; Dr. James T. Rhodes, President and Chief Executive Officer, accepting. The Virginia Power Volunteer Program provides an organized way for company employees and retirees to volunteer in community activities through 60 volunteer team councils. Employees participated in more than 1,500 projects, totaling over 100,000 hours of service in 1988. (Applause.)

Covenant House; Father Bruce Ritter accepting. Covenant House, founded in New York in 1968 by Father Bruce Ritter to provide shelter to runaway and abandoned children, involves over 300 volunteers a month as tutors, staffing, recreation programs, providing counseling and operating outreach programs. There are also Covenant Houses in Houston, Fort Lauderdale, New Orleans, and Rochester. (Applause.)

Compeer Inc.; M. Norton Rosner accepting. Compeer Inc., based in Rochester, New York, matches training caring volunteers in one-to-one relationships with over 10,000 mental health clients in 120 communities. (Applause.)

REACH; David Shaff, Vice President of REACH Program accepting. REACH -- Responsible, Educated Adolescents Can Help -- of Scotts Bluff, Nebraska, involves 30 junior and senior high school students who develop and deliver a strong drug and alcohol abuse message to elementary school students. (Applause.)

The California Marine Mammal Center; Mary Jane Scramm accepting. The California Marine Mammal Center, based in Sausalito, involves over 330 volunteers out of a staff of 350 in rescuing, rehabilitating and returning to their environment sick, injured, and distressed marine mammals. (Applause.)

The Clothing Bank -- New Clothes for the Homeless; Edward Shapiro accepting. The Clothing Bank -- New Clothes for the Homeless was developed in 1986 by the J.M. Kaplan Fund and New York City Mayor's Voluntary Action Center. The Clothing Bank has provided over 1.25 million items of new clothing worth over \$6 million to the

thanks for what you do to set this example in our great country.

But finally, we come to a man I'm pleased to honor now. Twenty-two years ago, having moved to the East Village in New York to help the urban poor, Father Ritter opened his door one night to see six children, and they were asking for a place to stay. And eventually, as you heard, Father Ritter founded Covenant House to provide a shelter for abandoned and runaway children.

Today, his program involves over 1200 volunteers each month, and it offers shelter to more than 25,000 children each year. My friends, because of Covenant House, a child has escaped heroin addiction; another no longer yearns for a decent meal; still another views the world as a warm, not sullen place. And it is an American success story almost without parallel.

Last year, a new award was created to honor the individual or organization whose contribution to volunteerism is greatest among those winning the Volunteer Action Awards.

And so I am pleased to announce Father Ritter as this administration's first recipient of an award named for a great President and our dear friend, the Ronald Reagan Award for Volunteer Excellence.

And to Father Ritter and all of you, our warmest congratulations. (Applause.)

Thank you all very much for coming. (Applause.)

END

1:42 P.M. EDT