

# Konnnect to Komen

*A monthly e-newsletter for Komen OC Volunteers!*




## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: Diane Swintal

Diane Swintal's connection to Susan G. Komen for the Cure has been interesting from the start. She and her husband Jim did their first volunteer duty during Race for the Cure weekend in 2007 – working registration at Fashion Island on Saturday and handing out T-shirts on Race Day. At just about the same time, a family member was diagnosed with breast cancer. (She's doing fine now.)

Diane and Jim volunteered again, for the Pink Tie Ball in the spring of 2008. That fall, in the midst of the national economic earthquake, Diane was laid off from her job. With so much free time, Diane decided to volunteer on a grand scale for the Komen Orange County Affiliate. **For the 2009 Pink Tie Ball, she and Jim tried something new and, with training, volunteered with the catering staff preparing plates in the kitchen.** She became the liaison to the national sponsors for the 2009 Race for the Cure, a role that Diane describes as “great fun and busy the couple of months before the Race.” That wasn't all Diane did for Komen – she helped with the reception desk at the office and other numerous office projects She was appropriately honored in 2009 as the “Outstanding New Volunteer” for the Affiliate.

“It's been a wonderful experience – I've gained so much more than I think I've given,” Diane explains. “It's been really nice to go to an office every once in a while, to feel as though I'm making a contribution.” Diane continues to volunteer and continues to look for employment. “I've made some great friends. It's so great to see the commitment that every single person has, not only to finding a cure for breast cancer, but to women who have the disease who need assistance.” Komen OC appreciates Diane and other volunteers who, despite a challenging economic situation, have given more of their time to help others in Orange County. Thank you!

*“Volunteers are the only human beings on the face of the earth who reflect this nation's compassion, unselfish caring, patience and just plain love for one another.” Erma Bombeck*  
[volunteer@komenoc.org](mailto:volunteer@komenoc.org)



**Celebrating People in Action**  
 National Volunteer Week  
 April 18 – 24, 2010

National Volunteer Week honors those who dedicate themselves to taking action and bettering their communities. It's also about inspiring, recognizing and encouraging people to seek out imaginative ways to engage in their communities — to put themselves at the center of social change. We at Komen OC celebrate YOU, our volunteers! Thank you.



## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

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- \* **Pink Tie Ball:**  
**Saturday May 15**  
**Atlantic Aviation Private Hangar at John Wayne Airport**
- \* **Race for the Cure:**  
 Sunday September 26  
 Fashion Island, Newport Beach
- \* **WACOAL Fit for the Cure** April & May
- \* **Nordstrom Fits America** May 1st

Check the Komen OC website often for new updates on all volunteer opportunities.



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Wishing all of our special Komen OC volunteers whose birthdays are in April all the best as you celebrate your special day!  
*You are the heart of Komen OC!*

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