

# October 2017 - Susan Porteous

*Congratulations to our October Volunteer of the Month, Susan Porteous! Susan has been volunteering with Atlanta Track Club since 2007 at the AJC Peachtree Road Race and other events. She is a regular at Atlanta Track Club's office, working on the Club's archival project to preserve the history of Atlanta Track Club and the AJC Peachtree Road Race. The friendships, training, and events that Atlanta Track Club offers inspire Susan to keep giving back through volunteering.*

## **1. How long have you been volunteering with Atlanta Track Club?**

I've been volunteering regularly at the AJC Peachtree Road Race finish area and at the start waves of the Decatur/DeKalb 4 Miler. For about a year now, I've been working on the Atlanta Track Club archives project with Special Projects Coordinator Janet Monk. It's amazing how much Club history there is to catalog and organize!



## **2. Do you remember your first time volunteering with Atlanta Track Club? What event was it and what brought you back?**

My first time volunteering with Atlanta Track Club was in 2007 when I volunteered to help with race number pick-up for the Thanksgiving Day Marathon and Half Marathon. At that time, I thought that might be the closest I would come to a marathon. Thanks to the Club's In-Training program, I can actually run the half! What brought me back to the Club was my neighbor, Rob Welch, who talked the finish area set up for the AJC Peachtree Road Race and how much fun it was. I was sold and I have been volunteering every year since. Volunteering with the finish area setup helps to stretch the Peachtree experience over a few days up to July 4 and the big day!

## **3. What is your favorite Atlanta Track Club event? Why?**

I have to say the AJC Peachtree Road Race is my favorite event. It's the Peachtree – it's the Fourth of July – it's all that energy from the crowds of runners and onlookers – and it's that awesome flyover at the end of the national anthem. Exhilarating every time!

## **4. What your favorite thing about volunteering with Atlanta Track Club?**

I appreciate what my Atlanta Track Club membership gives to me – the friendships, the training, and the races. I enjoy giving back as much as I can. I feel like I'm a part of something really special and that keeps me coming back. It's always great to see the regulars each year at the Peachtree finish area setup. It's like a happy reunion!



**5. What is your favorite volunteer assignment?**

I enjoy working with Atlanta Track Club's archives. Janet Monk's passion for preserving the history of Atlanta Track Club and the AJC Peachtree Road Race is infectious!

**6. Do you do any volunteering in the community beyond Atlanta Track Club? What organizations?**

I usually volunteer my time as an accounting professional. I am a volunteer member of the City of Duluth Advisory Committee. I serve on the board of my neighborhood owners' association as treasurer.

After Hurricane Irma paid the Atlanta area a visit in September, I helped with the citywide storm debris removal. I was amazed how much debris there was and how many people turned out to help.

**7. What do you do for a living? Are you retired? Professional volunteer?**

I am Certified Public Accountant. I consider myself semi-retired – I work with a few clients with their accounting and tax needs. Professional volunteer? Not yet!

**8. Tell us something interesting about yourself – an interesting fact or a story that will help us get to know you...**

I love do-it-yourself renovation projects! My husband, Bob and I are huge HGTV fans and we love shows like 'Flip of Flop Atlanta' and 'Fixer Upper.'