

October 2021 - Janice and Randy Stroud

Congratulations to Randy and Janice Stroud, our October Volunteers of the Month! Randy and Janice have been an integral part of Atlanta Track Club since the 1970's. They are "frequent flyers" of our organization, both participating in and/or volunteering at most of our events. This extraordinary couple volunteers with us 10 to 15 times per year, and another 25+ volunteer ventures outside of Atlanta Track Club. Keep an eye out for Randy and Janice! If you see them, please extend a heartfelt thank you for all they do for the community!

How long have you been volunteering with Atlanta Track Club?

Randy: I cannot even remember how long it's been. I have been a member of the track club since around 1973 and have been helping in various ways since then.

Janice: I have been volunteering since sometime in the 1970's. I helped with results at the AJC Peachtree Road Race when it finished in Central City Park near the old Trust Company Bank building.

Do you remember your first time volunteering with Atlanta Track Club?

Randy: I started volunteering sometime in the early to mid-70's when I helped as a course monitor.

Janice: I started helping in the 1970's at various races by collecting and counting the finish cards when they were placed in baskets by age group. No electronic timing then!



What is your favorite Atlanta Track Club event?

Randy: My favorite event to run is Peachtree. 2022 will be 50 in a row for me. My favorite volunteering events are the midweek kids' races and the Wingfoot Classic. I love watching young runners develop a love for running.

Janice: I too love Peachtree to race. Volunteering at the kids' races is something I really love. As a retired elementary teacher, it is exciting to see children work hard and experience fun while getting in better physical condition.



What is one of your best memories from volunteering at any race?

Randy and Janice: Hands down, it would be the



excitement of the Olympic Marathon Trials! What a privilege it was to help these gifted athletes as they competed in preparation to represent our nation at the Olympics.

Randy: Working the finish line at the Wingfoot Classic and catching exhausted runners as they completed their race is something I will never forget.

What is your favorite thing about volunteering with Atlanta Track Club?

Randy: Being a part of helping Atlanta Track Club put on great events is very satisfying.

Janice: I enjoy knowing that I am helping give back to the organization that has meant so much to my family and me for many, many years.

Do you have a favorite volunteer assignment?

Randy: I enjoy events where I can encourage younger runners as a course monitor or finish line helper.

Janice: I love cheering for young runners at our kids' events as I help them stay on course as a course monitor.

Do you do any volunteering in the community beyond Atlanta Track Club?

Randy: I am the treasurer of our HOA in our neighborhood. I have helped volunteer in various ways and places when our church does community service and outreach. We have led Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University classes for several years at our church. We also help with a ministry that plans and puts on events for our senior adults at our church.

Janice: I help by teaching in our ladies' ministry, and helping our quilt club, and book club at church. I have also volunteered in the school where my daughter teaches second grade. I volunteer in our community by delivering baked goods to our local firefighters.

What do you do for a living?

Randy: I am the facilities manager at Burnt Hickory Church of Christ in Marietta, GA, after retiring from AT&T/Lucent Technologies several years ago.

Janice- I retired a few years ago after teaching elementary school for 35 years at Greater Atlanta Christian School. I am now a professional grandmother of our five wonderful grandchildren!



Do you have any advice or words of wisdom for any new Atlanta Track club volunteers?

Randy: If you have never volunteered before or are having second thoughts about volunteering, just go for it! Take an opportunity to get involved. It is satisfying and is a great way to give back to our community and Atlanta Track Club.

Janice: You will be a very important part of making any race possible and more enjoyable and safe for the participants. They truly appreciate your help! I speak from experience as a participant who very much appreciates those who get out early and stay the course!

Tell us something interesting about yourself - an interesting fact or story that will help us get to know you.

Randy: I was honored to carry the Olympic Torch during the 1984 Olympic Torch Relay across the United States. I was on the team that carried the torch from near Indianapolis, Indiana through Atlanta to Tupelo, Mississippi. It was something I will never forget! I love watching sports of all kinds and playing with our five grandchildren. Janice: I love making quilts, reading, walking, and camping. Time spent with our children, grandchildren and extended family, are times that I treasure.

Fun Fact: We met while living down the street from each other when we were thirteen years old. Puppy love turned into real love!