

February 2016 – Dennis Burgess

Congratulations to Dennis Burgess, our February 2016 Volunteer of the Month! Dennis was the 2012 Road Race Volunteer of the Year, and has been volunteering with Atlanta Track Club since 1990. Dennis, a U.S. Navy veteran, is an All-Star Volunteer, course monitor for all weekend events and crew chief for our four major events. Thank you Dennis for all you do for Atlanta Track Club!

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

My first volunteering event was the 1990 AJC Peachtree Road Race. The excitement of the event and being able to help runners and spectators is a big reason I kept coming back.

2. What is your favorite Atlanta Track Club event? Why?

I don't really have a favorite. Too many good memories to list here. There's even been a few less than desirable ones, but they don't count. I like the Peachtree because it was my first event. It's like a big street party with the excitement and energy. It's controlled chaos from start to finish. One of my favorite assignments is on the course as a monitor, cheering the runners and offering encouragement. I've been a starting line crew chief since 2004, and we have to make sure everything goes according to plan.

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

I would say the friendships and helping Atlanta Track Club become the premier organization it is and making sure the runners and spectators have an enjoyable time are what makes all of this worthwhile.

4. How many Atlanta Track Club events do you typically volunteer at during the year?

I try to volunteer for all of the races each year, including the water stop in June before the Peachtree. I usually miss the Decatur DeKalb 4-Miler in July; I'm busy that morning cooking breakfast and lunch for about 80+ relatives at a family reunion on West Point Lake.

5. What do you do for a living?

I'm the Atlanta Branch Manager for Automatic Ice & Beverage. We're a distributor for Ice-O-Matic ice machines. Plus, I'm a retired Chief Aviation Storekeeper from the Navy.

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

I was a Home Economics major my first time in college, I wanted to be a chef. I was a Boy Scout leader, before I was a parent. I was a Girl Scout leader and band parent when my daughter was

young. I believe in working hard and playing harder because life's too short not to enjoy yourself.

