

June 2015 - John Wallace

Congratulations to John Wallace, our June 2015 Volunteer of the Month!

John is one of our All Star volunteers, who started volunteering with us 16 months ago. John joined Atlanta Track Club as an avid runner. When he had to take some time off running due to eye surgeries, he discovered volunteering with us, and has been volunteering AND running with us ever since! You're sure to see him either setting up or running our upcoming events!



1. What is your favorite Atlanta Track Club event and why?

The AJC Peachtree Road Race. All the spectators cheering you on, regardless of where you are in the pack. I especially like the high fives, and in particular the small children. Try to always get those high fives if I see them.

2. What is your favorite thing about volunteering with Atlanta Track Club? What brings you back?

The Atlanta Track Club staff, other volunteers, and the runners. Everyone is so pleasant and encouraging.

3. Do you have a favorite volunteer assignment?

Setup. I know all the assignments are important, but with setup I feel that I am contributing more than when I am working any of the other positions. I enjoy the exercise and it makes up a little for the cross training I don't do.

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

I also volunteer at the Clarkesville Public Library repairing damaged books, generally 2 mornings per week. The library needs to keep books on the shelves and they don't have the funds to replace books. In the 3 ½ years I've been doing this I've probably repaired between 900 and 1000 books. I've also volunteered for 65Roses/Miles for CF, which raises

money for Cystic Fibrosis research, and Hot Chocolate Races which benefits Ronald McDonald House.

5. What do you do for a living? Do you work? Are you retired?

Retired. Aerospace Technologist – NASA. I have no desire to be an engineer anymore.

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



My *signature* may be drifting thru outer space. I did some design work on a module that was tethered by cable to a spacecraft. When the experiment was finished the module was cut loose to drift away. Everyone who worked on the project had signed the instrumentation mounting plate. Another interesting fact is that I do pyrography (wood burning) and decorative acrylic painting (see artwork to right). Currently some of my artwork is on display at the Clarkesville library as the featured arts and crafts person from the local area. I think I'm better at pyrography. Finally, I had open heart surgery in 2004 and have 5 bypasses. (My cardiologist heartily approves my activities.) Like the Energizer Bunny, I just keep going and going.