



**VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH**  
**September 2010**  
**Doug Odell**  
**Carson Valley Arts**  
**Council**



**How long have you lived here in Douglas County?**

6 years

**Town of residence**

Gardnerville

**Where did you live before moving here to Douglas County?**

Carson City

**Family**

Wife and a five year-old daughter

**Where do you currently volunteer?**

Carson Valley Arts Council

**How long have you been a volunteer there?**

4 years

**What are your duties?**

Events and Entertainment Committee which consists of all aspects of working with committee to promote and present a concert series, as well as other entertainment events in Douglas County

**How much time do you volunteer per month?**

15-20 hours

**Why and how did you become a volunteer?**

To further support and promote the arts in Carson Valley

**Favorite aspects of volunteering?**

Satisfaction, working with interesting people, pursuing a worthwhile goal

**What would you say to others to encourage others to volunteer?**

Join up with any organization to make a positive difference in our community

Just like a hand in a glove, volunteering is a perfect fit for Doug Odell. When recently asked about where and when he began to understand the importance of volunteering he is quick to respond, "I learned it first and foremost from my parents. But it was especially through the Scouting program that I latched onto the idea of service to others." Throughout his life he has volunteered in many capacities from either a compassionate point of view or simply lending a helping hand. When Odell was 16 years old he volunteered to work with a group of mentally challenged teens who were trying to form their own scout troop. Later on, in college, he volunteered with a horse therapy program for adults with a variety of disabilities. In the interceding years he worked at different ski resorts who offered handicapped skiing programs. But his volunteer efforts have not always been aimed towards those less fortunate. Many times during his life he has offered help with a variety of non profit groups. During a ten year span when he lived in Montana Odell worked with a local theater arts group. In addition he has served on the board of a variety of organizations.

So, when, four years ago, Odell jumped on board with the CVAC it was just one more step in a natural progression of volunteer work. As he tells it: "It has been a good fit. The CVAC was looking for volunteers on different committees and I immediately noticed an area of personal interest- special events. So, during the last four years that is where I have focused my volunteer efforts." Odell goes on to say that that while he does not have a lot of time to offer he believes that groups like the CVAC appreciate whatever time and skills he or others might have to offer. And that is the exact message he has for other potential volunteers. Odell says, "Groups like the CVAC and many others can not survive without the help of volunteers. Whatever skills, talents, or time you have to offer will be greatly valued. And along the way you meet some truly interesting and fascinating people. It is a win/win situation all the way around."

A.V.I.D. IS A NON-PROFIT GROUP THAT PROMOTES, MAINTAINS AND SUPPORTS VOLUNTEERISM IN DOUGLAS COUNTY AND PROVIDES AVENUES FOR RECOGNITION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF VOLUNTEERS.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT A.V.I.D. AT : 775-783-6450 OR WRITE: AVID P.O. Box 1057, MINDEN NV 89423