



CALIFORNIA COAST CLASSIC



Leigh Berg

I'm Leigh Berg and this is my fourth year to volunteer. All the people involved in this ride are so passionate about finding a cure for this disease. Many of them have arthritis. I look forward to supporting them all the way down the coast this year as a rest stop volunteer - ringing cow bells, making sure they each have the food and drink they need, and cheering them on to the next rest stop or to camp. Every night at camp there are amazing speakers who share their journey informing us about this disease and inspiring me to continue to support the Arthritis Foundation. I like to help kids have the opportunity to go to camp. I'm looking forward to seeing riders in person this year. YES! To finding a CURE.



Michelle Bombardier

Hi, Michelle here from Canada, but I live in Thousand Oaks now. After years of watching the kids run around the neighborhood; they grew up and I started biking. In 2018 I volunteered for ALC setting up the tent grid, setting up tables and chairs, checking trash and making sure no one ran out of TP, a crucial role! I rode ALC the following year. What an experience. I truly enjoy being a part of something greater than myself and meeting people from all walks of life and listening to their stories. I think that is why I like camping too. People, including myself, are more open to conversation. It is easy conversation. Aside from biking where I tend to write a lot of letters in my head) I teach yoga, travel the southwest and enjoy nighttime photography, kayaking, simple adventures and then, a good book.

Looking forward to meeting you all.



Katherine Franklin

My name is Katherine Franklin, I'm a retired 61 year old widow. I was married for 32 years and we have two beautiful adult daughters. I enjoy crafts, cooking and love to be surrounded by family and friends.

My brother did the ride a few years ago and I had a great time helping him with fundraising and seeing him off and being at the end of the ride. I was intrigued with learning about the whole foundation and hearing about the positive environment. So here I am joining in as a volunteer. Looking forward to a great adventure.

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Mary Gonser

2021 will mark my 14th year being a part of the Arthritis Foundation's California Coast Classic and my 1st year being retired! I had the honor of being a 1st Year Rider in 2019 and also rode the 2020 RR X CCC. This year I have returned as a volunteer to support our riders with all my enthusiasm and can you help me say... 'MORE COWBELL!'

I look forward to reuniting with my CCC 'family' and meeting the new riders, as well as working with all of this year's volunteers and AF staff. You will find me helping at the rest stops, making a few PB&J sandwich here and there, but mostly cheering our riders and giving them that extra support they may need to make it to the end of the day.

Be as a rider or a volunteer, I will continue supporting the Arthritis Foundation until a cure can found.



Carrie Gower

Hi, I'm Carrie from Oakland, and I'm jazzed to be a first-time CCC volunteer! I got the chance to hang out as a supporter on Day 1 of the 2019 tour and found my understanding of arthritis and the many ways it affects those living with it to be very limited, so I'm really looking forward to learning and growing as a volunteer for this ride. I can't wait to get to know the riders who have made this their cause and support them on this undertaking! And who knows, maybe I'll be back as a first-time rider in 2022?! Lastly, a handful of my favorite things are cats, science fiction, pasta, Halloween, snow sports, the ocean, gardening, nephews, and making lists.

Pictured here with second-time rider and super neat person Ames Register + our 3 cats."



Walt Gustafson

I'm Walt Gustafson. I'm retired from construction and the Coast Guard.

I became a volunteer for the CCC because of my girlfriend who suffers from arthritis. This will be my 4th year. The effort all the riders put into this cause amazes me. I look forward to congratulating each rider as they cross the finish line each day.



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Doug Hart

We live in Cincinnati though the attached pictures are from Breckenridge CO where we are staying with our daughter, her fiancé and their two Golden Retrievers. I spent the first 25 years of my career growing a family owned trade show company. For the last 12 years, I have been working as a trade show manager, co-published an annual "Green" magazine, launched a show and social media platform called DesignBuildCincy, both featuring local makers, craftsmen and designers. Over the last 18 months, I was part of the team that launched a Cincinnati food hall featuring 8 chef driven local restaurants, a bar, a marketplace and an event venue. We have 2 successful daughters in their late 20's and a son who will be starting his second year of college this fall.

My wife Polly will be riding in the Coast Classic so I hope to enjoy the experience of tagging along and meeting some other volunteers and riders!



Kendra Laguilles

The Arthritis Foundation and its programs have changed the trajectory of my life. I owe a huge part of my growth and becoming to the camps I've been to, the people I've met and the experiences I've had because of the Foundation. Being selected as a scholarship recipient is yet another way that the Foundation has solidified that my dreams are still possible despite being disabled. I cannot express how immensely honored to have been selected and recognized in this way. I am excited to continue my journey with the Foundation and help others to realize the power that they still hold despite living with Arthritis.



Janeene Lewis

My name is Janeene Lewis, "J-Lo". Arthritis is in my family "jeans"! I participated in the 2014 Jingle Bell Run which is where I found out about the CCC. I have volunteered every year since. I like to meet new people, cheer on riders and chat with friends from past CCC Tours.

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Peter McKay

I like poetry, yoga, and long walks on the beach..... No wait, I like riding my bicycle and playing the guitar. I love music. I rode in the CCC about 4 or 5 years ago. I was like the last person to finish every day, but I rode the whole way. Somebody told me I was a "Staff Favorite." I'm thinking it's cuz I never quit, even though I wanted to a lot.

It's a...

- Great ride
- With great people
- For a great cause



Jason Wold

My name is Jason Wold and I live in Tucson, Arizona. Several years back I was a rider on the CCC and had a wonderful time. Ever since, I've wanted to give back and support the riders on the CCC. This year I am able to support as a volunteer.

I look forward to supporting the riders as well as the Arthritis Foundation's goal to put an end to arthritis.



Tom Harvey

Hello, my name is Tom Harvey. I've been on this earth in So. Cal for 66.25 earth revolutions around the sun. I have been a joyful cyclist for most of those revolutions. In 2004 I received a flyer about this ride and because it was a "bucket list" route, I signed up. I knew no one and nothing about the Foundation nor its mission and went "on my own" and had an incredible time on the ride - I was hooked. Since then, I have done the ride 8 more times and this is my third year to volunteer as a support staff team member.

My career background is as varied as the colors of a fall change. I am a father, I have played music with several instruments and just recently picked up my ninth instrument - can you guess what it might be? I live with two cats in Burbank, CA and have been employed with the City of Los Angeles for the past 21 years.

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Robert Pendley

My name is Robert Pendley I am a retired Ironworker - Local 433. I am 58 years old and this will be my eighth tour down the coast of California. I am married to the love of my life Anneli Pendley and I have two kids, Zachary Pendley and Kendal Pendley. Next year I'll be a grandfather and am looking forward to it. Both my kids are married and are teachers like there Mom. So glad they didn't take after me.

The first year I did the CCC was in 2014, a year after my heart attack and two stents. I also have arthritis and take medication every day for it. In 2019 I volunteered because I could not ride due to that I had more heart issues. This year I'm not riding but volunteering. I want to make this ride the best ride ever as this is important to me. The California Coast Classic is like family - I wouldn't miss it.



Lynn Noritake

I'm excited to again be a volunteer for the 2021 arthritis ride. I love making those pb&j sandwiches!! My husband Dean is riding in his 5th ride and this will be my 3rd year as a volunteer. I'm Lynn Noritake and am looking forward to making more fun memories. We're from Altadena, CA and Dean's rheumatology practice is in Pasadena, CA. We have 2 great kids, Daren and Alison, along with Daren's wife, Tina, and Alison's fiancée, Terence. I'm an avid walker, enjoy tennis and love riding our tandem bike with Dean.

I'm happy to be able to volunteer for the ride. Over the years, I've seen the rewards from research that has been done for connective tissue disorders. When I initially started working in Dean's rheumatology office there were not many options for our patients. Now, we do infusions in our office, patient's have more avenues to navigate and treat their conditions because of the research done over the years. I'm glad the Arthritis Foundation is able to support patient education and research and hopefully contribute in eradicating the diseases and conditions that Dean sees on a daily basis.

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