

It's definitely a challenge to balance the time I spend with library related activities and the other volunteer activities I am involved in along with finding time for my family that includes husband Rob and daughter Clare and part-time job. I have been the AFS Volunteer Hosting Coordinator for a three-county area for the last seven years having hosted six AFS international high school students with whom we remain in touch.

I am also very involved with HANDS in Nepal, a local NGO here in Santa Margarita, that builds schools in the most rural regions of Nepal, emphasizing bathroom facilities at each school and promoting the education of girls. By helping Nepal achieve a better standard of living for the poor, we can decrease problems associated with poverty-stricken countries. I have been to Nepal once with HANDS in Nepal and hope to go again. It was a life-changing journey. My most recent volunteerism is with I-Care International. I recently returned from a vision clinic in Santiago de Atitlán in Guatemala, working with high school students and community volunteers to prepare donated glasses for upcoming vision clinics.

My educational background is in Environmental and Occupational Health, however I have not worked full-time in the Environmental Health field since our daughter, Clare was born. I am currently working part-time at K-Jon's Fine Jewelers in Atascadero. I love working there—they truly treat their staff and customers like family.

I still love to read and fortunately so does our daughter. Books will always be a part of my life. No matter how popular e-books become, there is something special about holding a book, flipping through the pages, turning it over and reading the back and the inside jacket covers, etc. When Clare was young and I was telling her about the increased use of e-books and fewer paper books, she said, "No books?? That is like NO FOOD!"