



**American Red Cross**  
Piedmont Chapter

## Welcome New Volunteers!

We are delighted to welcome the following volunteers who joined our team during April, May, and June:

Rich Brown	Arielle Graybill	Sashenka Rodriguez
Toni Brown	Butch Greer	Margie Salters
Fred Bryson	Patty Hairston	Sid Shukla
Aisha Choudry	Stephanie Highsmith	
Emily Eaton	Dorothy Manning	
Olivia Gilmer	Ashley Puszert	

## Volunteer Needs

It's summer time and we know you're taking time to rest and relax, but the Red Cross still needs you! Contact us to help with any of the following volunteer needs:

- **Front Desk Support** – Spartanburg & Cherokee
- **Disaster Action Team (DAT) members** – Spartanburg, Cherokee, & Union
- **CPR/First Aid/AED Instructors** – Spartanburg, Cherokee, & Union
- **Community Educators** – Spartanburg, Cherokee, & Union
- **Blood Services Committee members** – Cherokee
- **Peach Festival Parade** in Gaffney: July 17<sup>th</sup>, volunteers needed to walk in the parade & donate candy (no chocolate)
- **Back to School Health Fair** in Spartanburg: July 24<sup>th</sup>, volunteers needed at the booth 9:30am – 2:00pm
- **Back to School Health Fair** in Gaffney: July 31<sup>st</sup>, volunteers needed at the booth 9:30am – 2:00pm
- **Blood Drive** in Cherokee: August 3<sup>rd</sup>, volunteers needed 10:00am – 7:30pm
- **Back to School Celebration & Wellness Day** in Spartanburg: August 7<sup>th</sup>, volunteers needed at the booth 9:30am – 2:00pm
- **Bike Rally** at BMW Zentrum: September 11th, 20 volunteers needed
- 8:30am—11:30am at the registration table. Contact Amy Foreman at 583-8000.

Contact the appropriate office to help with any of these volunteer needs:

Spartanburg: 583-8000

Cherokee: 489-6066

Union: 680-8406

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**American Red Cross**  
Piedmont Chapter

**PIEDMONT CHAPTER STAFF**

**Executive Director**  
Rochelle N. Brown

**Accounting**  
Elizabeth Amoroso

**Emergency Services**  
Kelly H. Stafford  
Jane Morris

**Health & Safety**  
Caryn Brock

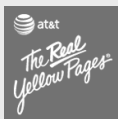
**Volunteer Office**  
Amy P. Foreman

**Cherokee Office**  
Shellie Wylie  
Becky Mullinax

**Union Office**  
Carol Willis

**Maintenance**  
Jaime Hernandez

**Community Partners**



# Volunteer Spotlight: Tracy Will

*By Gina Wright (Spartanburg)*

What could be more rewarding than being a mom and a grandmother? As a native of Montana, spending time with family is something that **Tracy Will** loves to do. She is married with three children and two grandchildren. One of her sons is a firefighter, the other is a musician, and Tracy's daughter works with her at the family-owned *Trackside Diner*. As busy as her family keeps her, time is something that Tracy always finds in order to give back to the community.

Tracy began volunteering with the Cherokee office of the Piedmont Chapter a year ago and has found it to be a rewarding job and very fulfilling. She decided to volunteer because she believed that the Red Cross was a great cause to support and ever since then she has stuck with it and given her all. Tracy is the *Taste of Cherokee* Auction Chair and as a DAT captain she and her team respond to fire calls throughout the community. To Tracy, the best thing about volunteering is simply helping those in need.

We at the American Red Cross thank Tracy for her kind acts of service in helping the community to prosper. Her dedication, time, and hard work do not go unnoticed. Tracy is truly an asset and we are glad to have her on our team.



*Tracy representing family-owned Trackside Diner at the Cherokee county blood drive on July 1st*

# Union Red Cross in the Community

## Union volunteers have been busy promoting Red Cross presence in Union county:

On May 20<sup>th</sup> **Lynn Crow** (Union) and **Mike Crocker** (Union) attended the Seniors Expo held at Tabernacle Baptist Church in Union. The event is held every year and is sponsored by WBCU Radio and Bojangles. Lynn & Mike shared information about Red Cross services and volunteer opportunities while handing out safety and preparedness brochures.



*Mike Crocker and Lynn Crow with the Red Cross display at the Seniors Expo*



*The Red Cross booth at Beach Blast*

On July 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Red Cross participated in Union's Beach Blast event. Attendance estimates were well over 3000 people. The Red Cross handed out free lemonade. The following people helped with the Red Cross booth: **Lynn Crow** (Union), **Ginny Braun** (Union) and family, **Blair Barber** (Union) and family, **Chasity Chandler** (Gaffney), **Barry Puszert** (Spartanburg), **Ashley Puszert** (Spartanburg), **Becky & Larry Mullinax**, and **Carol & Jeff Willis**.

# Cherokee Red Cross Hosts Blood Drive



Chasity Chandler, Mandy & Mike Ohler volunteered at the Blood Drive in Gaffney.

The Cherokee county office held a Blood Drive and Health & Safety Fair Thursday, July 1st at Buford Street Drugs in Gaffney. The blood drive honored Marion Patton, co-owner of Buford Street Drugs/Ace Hardware.

As a result of an accident on April 27th, Marion received several units of life-saving blood. The Patton family wanted to utilize this terrible accident to promote the importance of a healthy blood supply and the proper use of safety equipment while riding motorcycles, go-carts, and ATV's. They asked the American Red Cross to host a blood drive in honor of Marion in the parking lot of their business.



Blood donors register inside Buford Street Drugs. The Red Cross will have a second blood drive in August to accommodate the 69 additional individuals who showed up to donate.

Free hotdogs, provided by Trackside Diner, were given to all blood donors, as well as a Red Cross shopping bag. The event also featured free community education information including Bike Helmet Safety, Compression-only CPR, and the Cherokee County E911 simulator.

73 units of blood were collected from donors who had signed up in advance. At the event, 69 more people signed up to give blood at a later date, prompting the Cherokee office to schedule a second blood drive in honor of Marion Patton.

**2nd Blood Drive in Honor of Marion Patton**  
August 3rd ~ 2:30pm—7:00pm  
Buford Street Drugs/Ace Hardware, Gaffney  
Call 489-6066 for more information

# DAT & DA Teams Respond to Microburst Damage

On June 15th, DAT members responded to the storm damage that occurred as a result of a microburst. **Franca Meloncelli** (Moore), DAT volunteer, shares her experience:

## What is a microburst?

A microburst occurs when a thunderstorm collapses. As rain and air rush down from the cloud towards the ground, some of the rain evaporates. Evaporation takes energy, and the energy comes from the air itself. Removing energy from air makes it cooler.

Since cold air is heavier than warm air, the heavier air falls even faster. As the falling air reaches the ground, it spreads out in a fan-like pattern that can cause damage as serious as that from a tornado. This accelerated downdraft is called a microburst.

The size of a microburst is typically less than 2.5 miles across. Microbursts are capable of producing winds of more than 100 mph causing significant damage. The life span of a microburst is around 5-15 minutes.

“I was not on call that night, but I volunteered because there was a need for more caseworkers. When 911 called the Red Cross we were not aware of the scale of damage or how many families had been affected by the disaster. **Stephanie Horton** (Inman), **Jean Stafford** (Spartanburg) and I were there to handle casework. Members of the Damage Assessment (DA) Team, including **Barry Puszert** (Spartanburg), **Robert Russell** (Roebuck), **Lisa Garrett Russell** (Roebuck), **Adam Campbell** (Spartanburg) and **Lauren Fisher** (Woodruff), were present as well.

We found two houses had major damages and we were able to assist two families in need of sheltering, medications, food and clothing; the others had temporary power loss and the community got together to assist them by cutting down the trees and removing debris.

This is the main reason why I started volunteering at the Red Cross: to help our community in times of need. The DAT training and the response to 911 calls is very important in order to acquire knowledge. Most of what you learn is not in the books, you learn in the field every time you go out, because every time is a different experience!”



A tree uprooted by the microburst

# DAT Volunteers Respond to Request for Canteen



Red Cross volunteers, (l-r) Robert Russell, Glenda Hammond, Lisa Garrett Russell, and Chasity Chandler, respond with the ERV.

On Monday, July 5th an eight alarm fire call came down from Union 911 for the Mil-liken Gillespie plant. Seven fire departments responded to the blaze and were on scene for 5 hours. The Red Cross was asked to provide canteen services for emergency personnel.

**Robert Russell** (Roebuck), **Lisa Garrett Russell** (Roebuck), **Chasity Chandler** (Gaffney), and **Glenda Hammond** (Cowpens) responded and took the ERV to Union to provide food and water to approximately 80 emergency personnel. Carol Willis, Union Service Center Manager, also responded and was able to obtain local donations to sustain the canteen.

McDonalds of Union provided 80 burgers, Food Lion provided bottled water and ice, and an anonymous donor provided Gatorade.

“We were on scene for about 3 or 4 hours,” Carol said. “It was great to see the community work together with the Red Cross to support emergency personnel during this fire.”

# Piedmont Chapter Volunteers Deploy to Tennessee

We asked two of the Chapter volunteers who deployed to Tennessee in May in response to the flooding to share their experiences in their own words:

✦ “I went to the Tennessee Floods as a volunteer for DA (damage assessment). The area of middle Tennessee was hit with heavy rainfall - over 30 inches in two days - on the first few days of May. All of the rivers and streams overflowed their banks and a massive area of Tennessee was flooded. 30 people died as a result of the floods, 43 counties were declared national disasters, and there was over 1 billion dollars worth of damage. The Cumberland River flooded the city of Nashville and several interstate highways around Nashville and surrounding counties. There were complete neighborhoods, apartment complexes and mobile home parks totally destroyed by the flood waters that left thousands of people homeless. The Red Cross brought in over 3000 volunteers to assist the flood victims and thousands of local citizens volunteered to help in any way they could with the clean-up. Tennessee is a very beautiful state and it was an honor for me to assist the great people of Tennessee during my Red Cross deployment.”  
-**Deb Huffman** (Chesnee)



Deb with Red Cross volunteers she met on her deployment

✦ “I was able to deploy on the ERV to the floods in Tennessee. **Ray Broome** (Blacksburg) and I first went to Memphis, where we helped supply the shelter in Millington, TN with water. A few days later we found ourselves on our way to Jackson, TN where the Red Cross was setting up a second kitchen to serve the people between Nashville and Dyersburg, TN. When we first started this run we had no idea, other than the shelter in town, where the people were. On the south east side of town we found people in tents that would not leave their pets and go to the shelter. On the south west side of town, I met a man I will never forget. He was living with his daughter when the flood occurred and they evacuated. His daughter dropped him off at a local motel and for the next two weeks we took him lunch and supper. When I told him that our services would be ending he started to cry. I learned that he was left without any money, only had one leg, lost his wheelchair in the flood and had not seen or heard from any of his family since he was left at the motel. The motel had told everyone that they needed to move out in two days and the man had no idea what to do or who to ask for anything. I informed this gentleman that when I got back to Jackson, TN I would make some calls and let those that could help him further know about his situation. The local Jackson, TN Red Cross chapter relayed the information to FEMA and the next day I was informed that FEMA went to the motel and gave the man the help and assistance he needed. This is why I joined The Red Cross. When a disaster strikes I am now trained, educated, and prepared, with the resources of the Red Cross, to give assistance when there is a need.”



The ERV driving through Tennessee

-**Barry Puszert** (Spartanburg)

# Water Safety Tips

## A pool or hot tub is only as safe as its weakest link.

- Keep children under active supervision.
- Secure your pool or hot tub with appropriate barriers.
- Remove any structures that provide unsupervised access.
- Establish and enforce rules.
- Make sure everyone knows how to swim well.
- Know how to respond in an emergency.

*Swimming in lakes, rivers and streams can be safe at designated swimming areas that are protected by lifeguards. Swimming in a natural body of water is different from swimming in a pool.*

## Practice Water Safety:

- Ensure that everyone in your family learns to swim well by enrolling them in age-appropriate learn-to-swim courses.
- Swim only in areas that are designated for swimming with buoys and ropes and are supervised by lifeguards.
- Keep children under constant active supervision and remain free from distractions.
- Have weak swimmers wear U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jackets whenever they are in, on or around water.

## Set and Enforce Rules:

- Always swim with a buddy.
- Always enter unknown or shallow water cautiously, feet first.
- Dive only in water clearly marked as safe for diving.
- Do not enter the water from a height, such as a tree, ledge or bridge.
- Be careful when standing to prevent being knocked over by currents or waves.
- Do not use alcohol and/or drugs before or while swimming, diving or supervising swimmers.

## If Someone Is in Trouble in the Water:

- Reach out to the person using any available object that will extend your reach, such as a pole, an oar, a tree branch, a belt or a towel.
- Brace yourself to keep from losing your balance.
- Throw anything that will provide the victim support, such as a foam cooler or inner tube.
- A floating object with a line attached is best so you can pull the person to safety.
- If the water is shallow and calm, put on a life jacket, wade into the water and reach toward the person with a pole, branch, life jacket or other object.
- Do not enter the water if a current or waves make wading dangerous.
- Keep yourself safe. In most cases, only trained professionals should enter the water to perform a rescue.

## For more Preparedness Information, visit:

<http://www.redcross.org/portal/site/en/menuitem.86f46a12f382290517a8f210b80f78a0/?vgnextoid=92d51a53f1c37110VgnVCM100003481a10aRCRD&vgnnextfmt=default>



## Would you know how to respond if someone needed CPR or First Aid?

Get the training you need to save a life this summer.  
Upcoming classes are listed on the Calendar (page 6).

Call your local Red Cross office to register:

Spartanburg 583-8000

Cherokee 489-6066

Union 680-8406

# Piedmont Chapter Training and Event Calendar

You must **PRE-REGISTER** for all calendar events

Check our [online calendar](#) for an up-to-date schedule.

Spartanburg (864) 583-8000 Cherokee (864) 489-6066 Union (864) 680-8406

## HEALTH & SAFETY TRAINING

**Sat., Jul. 10: Babysitter's Training, Spartanburg,**  
9 am – 4 pm  
**Sat., Jul. 10: Standard First Aid with CPR Adult /AED,**  
Cherokee, 9 am – 4 pm  
**Sat., Jul. 10: Babysitter's Instructor Training, Cherokee,**  
9:00 am – 4:00 pm  
**Mon., Jul. 12: CPR/AED-Adult, Spartanburg,** 6 pm – 10 pm  
**Tue., Jul. 13: CPR Adult, Child and Infant Review,**  
Cherokee, 6 pm – 10 pm  
**Fri., Jul. 16: Standard First Aid, Cherokee,** 9 am – 12:30 pm  
**Sat., Jul. 17: Babysitter's Training, Cherokee,** 9 am - 4 pm  
**Mon., Jul. 19: Standard First Aid, Cherokee,** 6 pm - 9:30 pm  
**Thu., Jul. 22: Standard First-Aid with CPR/AED-Adult,**  
Spartanburg, 9 am – 4 pm  
**Sat., Jul. 24: CPR-Adult, Child and Infant, Spartanburg,**  
9 am – 2:30 pm  
**Sat., Jul. 24: CPR- Adult, Child and Infant, Cherokee,**  
9 am - 2:30 pm  
**Mon., Jul. 26: Fundamentals of Instructor Training,**  
Cherokee, 8:30 am - 1:pm  
**Tue., Jul. 27: Lay Responder Instructor Class, Cherokee,**  
9 am - 4 pm  
**Tue., Jul. 27: CPR/AED for the Professional Rescuer &  
Healthcare Provider, Spartanburg,** 5:30 pm  
**Wed., Jul. 28: Lay Responder Instructor Class, Cherokee,**  
9 am - 4 pm  
**Thu., Jul. 29: Lay Responder Instructor Class, Cherokee,**  
9 am - 4 pm  
**Mon., Aug. 2: Standard First Aid with CPR Adult, Cherokee,**  
6 pm – 9:30 pm  
**Tue., Aug. 3: Standard First Aid with CPR Adult, Cherokee,**  
6 pm – 9:30 pm  
**Thu., Aug. 5: CPR-Adult, Child and Infant Review,**  
Spartanburg, 9 am – 1 pm  
**Sat., Aug. 7: CPR/AED for the Professional Rescuer &  
Healthcare Provider, Spartanburg,** 9 am – 5 pm  
**Sat., Aug. 7: Standard First Aid with CPR Adult /AED,**  
Cherokee, 9 am – 4 pm  
**Mon., Aug. 9: CPR/AED-Adult, Spartanburg,** 6 pm – 10 pm  
**Mon., Aug. 9: CPR Adult, Child and Infant Review,**  
Cherokee, 6 pm – 10 pm  
**Tue., Aug. 10: Blood-borne Pathogens Training: Prevent-  
ing Disease Transmission, Spartanburg,** 9 am – 11 am  
**Tue., Aug. 10: Standard First Aid, Cherokee,** 6 pm – 9:30 pm  
**Thu., Aug. 12: Standard First-Aid with CPR/AED-Adult,**  
Spartanburg, 9 am – 4 pm  
**Thu., Aug. 12: Standard First-Aid, Spartanburg,** 6 pm – 9:30  
pm  
**Fri., Aug. 13: Standard First Aid, Cherokee,** 9 am – 12:30 pm  
**Sat., Aug. 14: Babysitter's Training, Spartanburg,**  
9:00 am – 4:00 pm  
**Sat., Aug. 14: Babysitter's Training, Cherokee,** 9 am - 4 pm  
**Tue., Aug. 17: CPR- Adult, Child and Infant, Cherokee,**  
9 am - 2:30 pm  
**Sat., Aug. 21: Babysitter's Training, Cherokee,** 9 am - 4 pm

**Tue., Aug. 24: CPR/AED for the Professional Rescuer &  
Healthcare Provider, Spartanburg,** 5:30 pm  
**Thu., Aug. 26: Standard First-Aid with CPR/AED-Adult,**  
Spartanburg, 9 am – 4 pm  
**Sat., Aug. 28: CPR-Adult, Child and Infant, Spartanburg,**  
9 am – 2:30 pm  
**Sat., Aug. 28: Babysitter's Instructor Bridge Class,**  
Cherokee, 9 am – 2:00 pm

## VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

**Wed., Jul. 7: Volunteer Orientation, Cherokee,** 10:00 am  
**Thu., Jul. 15: Volunteer Orientation, Spartanburg,** 6:00 pm  
**Thu., Jul. 15: Volunteer Orientation, Cherokee,** 10:00 am  
**Mon., Jul. 19: Volunteer Orientation, Union** (City of Union  
Municipal Bldg. downstairs meeting room), 6:00 pm  
**Tue., Jul. 20: Volunteer Orientation, Cherokee,** 5:30 pm  
**Sat., Jul. 24: Volunteer Orientation, Spartanburg,** 11:00 am  
**Mon., Jul. 26: Volunteer Orientation, Spartanburg,** 6:00 pm  
**Mon., Aug. 9: Volunteer Orientation, Union** (City of Union  
Municipal Bldg. downstairs meeting room), 6:00 pm

## DISASTER TRAINING

**Mon., Jul. 12: Fulfilling Our Mission - Mass Care: An  
Overview** (2 of the 3 pre-requisites for Disaster courses),  
Spartanburg, 6 pm - 8 pm  
**Tue., Jul. 13: Logistics: An Overview, Spartanburg,**  
6 pm - 9 pm  
**Thu., Jul. 15: Logistics Simulation, Spartanburg,**  
6 pm - 9 pm  
**Tue., Jul. 20: DAT Class, Spartanburg,** 6 pm - 10 pm  
**Tue., Jul. 27: Serving People with Disabilities  
Following a Disaster, Spartanburg,** 6 pm - 10 pm  
**Thu., Jul. 29: Serving People with Disabilities  
Following a Disaster, Spartanburg,** 6 pm - 10 pm  
**Sat., Aug 7: Shelter Operations & Simulation,**  
Woodruff 1st Baptist, 9 am-Noon; 1 pm - 4 pm

## MILITARY SERVICES

**Tue., Jul. 20: Blue Star Mothers Meeting, Spartanburg,**  
6 pm – 8 pm  
**Tue., Aug 17: Blue Star Mothers Meeting, Spartanburg,**  
6 pm - 8 pm

If you or someone you know would like to volunteer with the Piedmont Chapter, contact the appropriate office to sign up for Volunteer Orientation.

Spartanburg 583-8000  
Cherokee 489-6066 Union 427-7991