



## Volunteer Spotlight

*"The breeze, the trees, the honey bees -  
All volunteers!"  
~Juliet Carinreap*

### Torrance Farmers' Market Volunteer: Jerry Herbers

When Jerry Herbers retired from United Airlines after forty-two years, he didn't immediately start volunteering at the Torrance Certified Farmers' Market - he waited one week and then started volunteering!

Having retired in 2002, he is now in his seventh year of retirement and is still very happy with his decision to volunteer there. So why did he start in the first place?

"I would come to the market and shop and Mary Lou kept asking me when I was going to start volunteering. I enjoyed coming to the market and enjoyed the vendors that I had come in contact with so I figured I would give it a try."

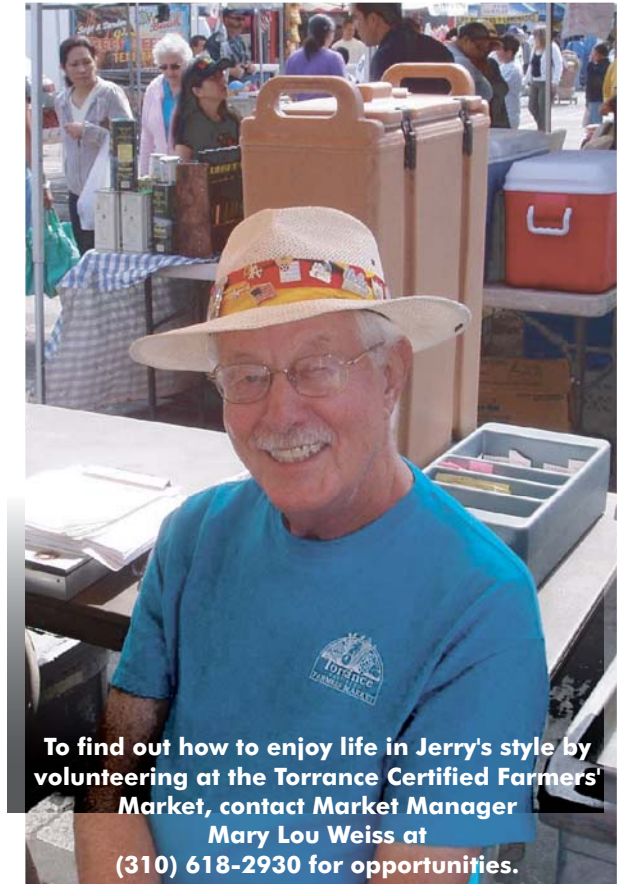
"Mary Lou" is Mary Lou Weiss, the Market Manager of the Torrance Certified Farmers' Market who says, volunteers can do a wide variety of tasks at the Farmers' Market ranging from working in the information booth to collecting fees. Jerry, however, has found his niche; "I relieve vendors when there is only one in the booth or they are by themselves and need to have a break. This means I sell the product, I do this for four of them on Saturday and as needed on Tuesday. I also hand out load sheets and communications from the Market Manager."

His most important job is the one he does first thing when he arrives. "I check for posted certificates first thing each market morning." The certificates are required for farmers to sell at a certified farmers' market; they can only sell what they grow and the posted certificate identifies those items and the amounts grown.

Jerry advises other people who might be interested in volunteering at the farmer's market to just go out and try it. He says, "They'd be surprised at how much they'll enjoy it, you get to see a lot of friends from the community and do something helpful."

Not only does Jerry enjoy his volunteer work, but those he works with enjoy having him there too. "Jerry is a good volunteer because he's so flexible. He's a very easy-going individual who I can say 'farmer so and so needs your help' and he's off to do it. He took his assignment that I gave him very readily," said Weiss. "If you look at Jerry, he is very well rounded, because he has been a professional in the airlines, he conducts himself as a professional. And, he also has a well-rounded and pleasant personality. He's a good meeter and a greeter."

As he says, the main reason he volunteers at the Torrance Farmers' Market, is because "It's fun, that's why, and it's not work, it's fun."



**To find out how to enjoy life in Jerry's style by volunteering at the Torrance Certified Farmers' Market, contact Market Manager Mary Lou Weiss at (310) 618-2930 for opportunities.**

Coordinating the Neighborhood Watch Program is one major opportunity TPD is targeting for volunteer involvement. Because its size-over 1,100 members-the program needs volunteers to help with meetings and to serve as liaisons with block captains. Other police department volunteer opportunities include working in fleet services helping to maintain police vehicles and they would also like someone with a public relations or marketing background to develop better ways to reach out to the community.

D'Anjou is also working on a new project that he says is only in need of the right volunteer. "We are hoping to do home security inspections."

D'Anjou also emphasized that the Torrance Police Department wants to make sure when they have qualified applicants that they create or place them in an area they are interested in so it not only helps the department, but the volunteer enjoys the experience too.

He is also open to listening to any and all ideas and says, "If anybody has a skill or has a desire to volunteer at the Torrance Police Department, we are open to just about anything, just let us know." For more information or to volunteer at the Torrance Police Department, contact Lt. Steve D'Anjou at (310) 618-5728, or via email at [CommunityAffairs@TorranceCA.gov](mailto:CommunityAffairs@TorranceCA.gov). Anyone that is interested can also apply online via the Police Department web site at [www.tpd.TorranceCA.gov](http://www.tpd.TorranceCA.gov) or [www.torrancepd.org](http://www.torrancepd.org). The application is listed under 'Online Services'.