

Corporate partnerships and volunteerism from Vulcan Inc, its employees and affiliates.

## Welcome

to the inaugural issue of Vulcan in the Community, a newsletter devoted to highlighting the work of our non-profit and community partners, and the volunteerism of our employees and affiliates.

From event sponsorship to compassionate advocacy for charitable causes, we hope you'll be inspired to learn more about the great organizations we support!

### Volunteer Spotlight

#### Susan Hartland

Susan Hartland works as a senior field engineer at Vulcan Inc., integrating Vulcan's interactive multimedia, A/V, network, and telecommunications systems. She lives in Snohomish with her red heeler/Australian cattle dog, Tango, and her cats, Dots and Dolly.



#### What kind of volunteer work are you engaged in?

Animal rescue and advocacy. I work on everything from dog and cat rescue, rehabilitation and fostering, working with sanctuaries, advocating for legislation to improve animal cruelty laws, and educating people about animal cruelty.

#### How did you become interested in volunteering?

Growing up, animals have always been a part of our family. We've rescued almost every kind of animal (much to my mother's dismay, especially with the snakes). My dad had an incredible love for all creatures and he passed that on to us. He always taught that animals are a part of our world, they all deserve to live alongside us, and that we should care about them.

I started volunteering at a local shelter in Georgia and was horrified at the number of animals that were put down every week. I started fostering, training and working on programs to try to educate people about pet overpopulation. I help animals to show commitment to my belief that animals deserve to be treated with compassion.

#### Describe a memorable moment from your volunteer work.

There are ongoing memorable moments, both good and bad. You really try to hang onto the good moments, the ones where you win the cruelty case or when you find that perfect home for the animal you thought you would never place.

For those interested in animal welfare volunteer work, Susan Hartland recommends *Homeward Pet* ([www.homewardpet.org](http://www.homewardpet.org)) or *Volunteer Match* ([www.volunteermatch.org](http://www.volunteermatch.org)), which lists local organizations needing volunteers.

### Non-Profit Partnerships: El Centro de la Raza Gala

Guest writer: Tony White, Vulcan Inc.



On Saturday, September 27, over 400 people gathered in the Seattle Design Center for El Centro de la Raza's annual banquet and auction. Vulcan Inc. was a lead sponsor for the event, and Vulcanites Dennis Walcott, Morena Cortez, and Tony White were in attendance to honor El Centro for its 36 years of service to our community.

Besides sponsoring the banquet, Vulcan also donated items for El Centro to auction off to the highest bidder. A basket full of Seahawks gear (with tickets included) and a signed and framed jersey of the Trailblazers' Greg Oden went towards El Centro's bottom line for the event: fundraising to keep their programs going. The banquet was a great success, bringing in approximately \$180,000 for a great cause.

El Centro functions as a voice and hub for Seattle's Latino population, and works for social justice with the help of grants, individual donors, and businesses. By providing child development and afterschool programs, ESL and citizenship classes, low-income housing and homeownership counseling, El Centro effects positive change for its constituents on many fronts. ¡Viva la Raza!

[www.elcentrodelaraza.org](http://www.elcentrodelaraza.org)

### Vulcan's Holiday Charity Drive

During a season that is traditionally celebrated with festivities, gifts and feasting, many individuals and families in the Seattle area do well to simply stay sheltered. With that in mind, Vulcan Inc. selects a different nonprofit organization each December, eliciting gifts and contributions from its employees who strive to make the difference between a bleak holiday and a bountiful one for those in need.

Past recipients of Vulcan's charity drives have included: **Northwest Harvest**, the **Pike Market Senior Center**, the **International District Emergency Center**, the **Pike Market Medical Clinic**, **Childhaven**, the **Urban Rest Stop**, and the **Low Income Housing Institute**.

Area food banks cite greater need this year from their homeless and low-income constituents, while receiving fewer donations from the public – an unfortunate combination.

Accordingly, Vulcan chose three local food banks for its 2008 Holiday Charity Drive: **Cascade Immanuel Food Bank**, **Mary's Place** (both in South Lake Union) and **Rainier Valley Food Bank** in southeast Seattle.

Year after year, Vulcan staff and affiliates have been overwhelmingly generous to each holiday beneficiary, and we anticipate that this year will be no different. We'll report on the success of the charity drive with photos early next year, so stay tuned!



### ASTAR Dinner and Auction

Guest writer: Tammy Mitchel, ASTAR [www.astar.org](http://www.astar.org)

On September 27th, Autism Spectrum Treatment and Research (ASTAR) Center held its fourth annual charity dinner and auction, "Where the Sidewalk Ends," at the Grand Hyatt in Seattle. Vulcan was a corporate sponsor of the event, and was represented that evening by employees Mary Beckner (above left, in white) and Dawn Higbee (above right in black) and their guests.

*Evening Magazine* host John Curley (above, center) served as the event's auctioneer, inciting lively bidding wars and helping raise more than \$250,000 for ASTAR. These funds will allow the continuation and expansion of services for Northwest families affected by autism spectrum disorders.

Since opening in 2003 in South Lake Union, ASTAR has served nearly 2,300 families regionally, and with community and corporate support from companies such as Vulcan, we'll be able to continue providing these vital services. The ASTAR Center thanks Vulcan for their annual corporate support and generosity!