



Each month, the PTA Executive Board recognizes one parent as the **PTA Volunteer of the Month**. This parent goes above and beyond to make our PTA programs and events a success. The PTA Volunteer of the Month may use the Volunteer of the Month Parking Spot at the front of the school during their awarded month.

PTA thanks all of our volunteers for their time and effort and encourages every parent, grandparent, and guardian to keep volunteering; visit the [Volunteer Corner](#) for the latest volunteer opportunities.

APRIL – Stephani Anwar

Congratulations to our APRIL Volunteer of the Month, Stephani! Stephani was selected for her role with Yearbook dedications as well as lending a hand wherever and whenever she sees a need.

We asked Stephani to tell us a little about herself, and here's what she said.



*I've lived in Georgia my whole life.
My husband and I own a print finishing business in Chamblee.*

Kids:

Stepdaughter- Amrina 22

Stepson- Jahan 19

Son- Evan 14

Daughter- Ella 10

*I've always been involved in charity work so I always knew I'd
volunteer at my children's school.*

Roles/Committees I've volunteered for at RE:

-Room parent 4 years

-Fall Festival

-Spirit Wear chair

-5th grade yearbook dedication chair 3 years

-5th grade graduation committee

-End of year parties

-numerous other events or helping in the classroom

Hobbies: Painting, reading

MARCH – Dhari Rohrer

Congratulations to our MARCH Volunteer of the Month, Dhari Rohrer! Dhari was selected for her role with the Accelerated Reader and because she is a regular volunteer at PTA events and school activities.



We asked Dhari to tell us a little about herself, and here's what she said.

Wow, what an honor to be chosen for volunteer of the month! Most months I feel like I'm barely holding things together at home much less doing enough volunteer work to be chosen for this honor. But in all the chaos of raising a family of five and trying to keep up with all that life throws at us, I'm always happy to be able to give back to the wonderful elementary school that welcomed us with such open arms in January of 2012. We made a mid-semester move from another school that was not quite meeting our needs and from our first meeting with River Eves we knew we were walking into the best environment for our children. For those of you who don't know me, I am Dhari Rohrer. I have three kids, Holden 13 (8th grade at Holcomb Bridge Middle), Sloane 11 (5th grade) & Brooke 8 (2nd grade). I grew up in a teeny tiny country town south of Tallahassee in Wakulla County, FL. My parents were from Miami but had moved to Tallahassee to attend Florida State. After graduating they moved south of Tallahassee to get some space in the country and enjoy a quieter life, and they still live in the same house today! I had a wonderful time growing up, exploring our five acres in the middle of the national forest, enjoying the nearby ocean and without a doubt creating the building blocks of my lifelong and now somewhat obsessive love for hiking and the outdoors. You will know my van by the AT hiking tag on the back (and Coexist plate on the front). But it didn't take

long for me to feel the pull to bigger cities and adventure outside of the country. I took a trip with my cousin and Uncle to Europe when I was 15 and that was all she wrote. This is where my lifelong love for travel and seeing/experiencing other cultures and history began. I was ready to see the world! I left Wakulla for Florida State University (Go Noles!) and in my Junior year took a road trip with friends to the N. Georgia mountains and the love affair with the mountains began. That prompted my move to Atlanta to be near the mountains, so after graduation I moved here and started my career in Advertising. I lived and worked in Atlanta for 4 years and met my now husband at Music Midtown in Atlanta in 1998..but wouldn't you know it, he did not live in Atlanta! He was born and raised in the Midwest and he would soon be moving to Chicago! Hmmmm, bigger city, more adventure, sign me up! After dating long distance for a year I decided to job hunt in Chicago and got a job with one of the oldest ad agencies in the country (Leo Burnett). I made the move to Chicago in 1999. In 2001 we got married and before long the cold started to get to me and I made the call "take me back south or lose me forever" ;)! Not really, but he's a good guy and he realized I was not going to survive those Midwestern winters for much longer so he agreed. After four years in Chicago we were heading back to Atlanta. He was able to relocate with his company and I was able to get my old job back. One fateful day before we were set to house hunt in Atlanta I was in a Barnes & Noble and I picked up a book called "50 Great Places to Raise a Family" and I thought to myself nahhh, there won't be any listed from Georgia, but you know what, there was, only one...and it was Roswell! So here I am, living and loving it in Roswell, GA. River Eves has been a great school home to us for many years. We love all of the friends we have made here, the teachers and staff are wonderful and we even made a move recently but I insisted that we stay close to our friends and to our beloved schools! Through the years I have worked on Accelerated Reader, been a room parent several times, a copy parent, STEM parent, helped out on Reflections, The Spring Picnic, Bingo Night, Book Swap, Teacher Tailgate, International Night, and class parties. Basically if there is a need I try to help out. These days you are likely to see me in the halls up on

a ladder painting Eagles and decorating them with diamonds. And if not there, then maybe along Riverside training for my next half marathon, mud run or duathlon. Run, bike, run anyone? I also really enjoy collage art, photography and backpacking along the AT, but I don't get to do those things nearly as much as I would like..but there's a time for everything. Right now with three kids and next year three kids in three different schools it's probably not going to leave me with a lot of free time for those things any time soon! But I am thankful for every minute and every opportunity and all of the work that goes into being a full time parent to these three wonderful kids.

FEBRUARY – Marcela Rangel

Congratulations to our FEBRUARY Volunteer of the Month, Marcela Rangel! Marcela was selected because she is a frequent and reliable volunteer at STEM Days and in helping at the school with tasks such as making copies.



1. Tell us about yourself (where you are from, college, work history, kids names & ages, etc).

Well I'm from Houston, TX and graduated from Channelview High School. I'm a stay home mom and work from home. I have 3 kids, Sophia 5, Daniel 4 and Jesus 9 months all born in April just different days and years lol.

2. What brought your family to River Eves Elementary?

I began volunteering first in the copy room then became a room parent in my daughter's class room.

3. How did you begin volunteering at River Eves?

I have volunteered during every STEM day.

4. Why do you volunteer your time and resources to the school?

I volunteer because I love helping out every possible time I can plus I spend more time with my daughter.

5. What do you like to do with your free time (hobbies, activities, travel, etc)?

On my free time I love to bake and learn to make new desserts from scratch instead out the box . I also love to exercise from home and stay fit doing my home workout challenges because we have to stay fit and healthy for ourselves plus to keep up with our little one's.

JANUARY – Jane Reid

Congratulations to our JANUARY Volunteer of the Month, Jane Reid! Jane was selected for her role with the PTA Fun Run and Winter JAM.

1. Tell us about yourself (where you are from, college, work history, kids names & ages, etc).



From Marietta, Ga. I bleed red and black as I played tennis for THE University of Georgia. I was an education major, but after college went to work for Pfizer and then Johnson and Johnson in their spine division. That last 11 years, I have been blessed with the opportunity to help grow our family business, Square 1 Art, into a nationwide leader helping

advocate visual arts and fund vibrant art programs mostly in elementary schools.

2. What brought your family to River Eves Elementary?

To be closer to family. Plus, East Roswell and Horseshoe Bend offer an amazing neighborhood and school community to raise a family.

3. How did you begin volunteering at River Eves?

Being a mom of four boys, especially working full time, it's important for me to find as many ways to be present and visible to my boys while supporting the amazing teachers and administrators that are helping shape my boys' futures.

4. Tell us about the various roles/committees you have volunteered for at the school?

Coordinating the Square 1 Art fundraiser for Mrs. O'Hara's visual art program is where I'm focused most of my time over the last six years. I'm a huge advocate for arts in education and helping River Eves put the A in STEM for a more STEAM focus too. We are so fortunate to have a PTA that believes in this as well and I look forward to advocating for Music and the performing arts in the future as well. I enjoyed co-coordinating the Boosterthon Fun Run with Melissa Crean and loved playing a part in the first annual Winter Jam family event which exceeded our expectations in family participation! I currently serve on the REEF Board as well. REEF is a wonderful organization that allows River Eves to offer our students above and beyond the typical technology and STEM education that would normally exist.

5. Why do you volunteer your time and resources to the school?

I volunteer my time and support as many fundraisers and events as possible because without volunteers and financial support from families, our children and teachers wouldn't have even close to the enriched educational experience that

currently exists at River Eves. Volunteers and parent participation is CRITICAL to ensuring our students, families, teachers and staff are given every opportunity to experience the incredible events and programs that the PTA and administration bring to REES. The one thing I wish every REES parent would know is that there is no volunteer opportunity too small! Every little bit counts whether it's giving of your time in school or home, money or profession! Any level of giving in ANY capacity matters. Your children will see it and take pride in knowing their parents are active in supporting the school no matter what the level of giving.

6. What do you like to do with your free time (hobbies, activities, travel, etc)?

I love music, singing, family movie time, tennis and most of all spending as much family time with my boys as possible.

DECEMBER – Edita Tracey

Congratulations to our DECEMBER Volunteer of the Month, Edita Tracey! Edita was selected for her role with the PTA Reflections Program.



1. Tell us about yourself (where you are from, college, work history, kids names & ages, etc).

I am originally from Croatia. I was 13 when my family left my home country and moved to Norway, then to Germany where I finished high school. In 1999 we moved to Georgia and have been living here since. I graduated from Georgia State University with degrees in Accounting, Finance and Risk Management & Insurance. I worked as an International Tax Accountant, mostly with multi-national corporations. I enjoyed it and was able to use all three languages that I am fluent in. My husband Ken and I met 13 years ago and have two daughters: Savannah, 5 (will be 6 in December) and Arabella, 3.

2. What brought your family to River Eves Elementary?

When my husband and I started planning family we decided to move from the city to the suburbs. We have been living in Horseshoe Bend neighborhood for a little over 5 years. We heard great things about River Eves Elementary from other parents, magazines, social media, etc. We learned about the big parent involvement, STEM lab and various activities. We attended the kindergarten meeting and enrolled Savannah at River Eves.

3. How did you begin volunteering at River Eves?

When Savannah was about to start Kindergarten, I heard that help was needed at Open House. I came to the school with both of my daughters and helped out. Since then, I have continued to help out with different activities.

4. Tell us about the various roles/committees you have volunteered for at the school?

I am a co-chair of River Eves PTA-sponsored Reflections program. I am a room-mom for Savannah's Kindergarten class. I am also a kindergarten grade-level mom. In addition, I enjoy helping with monthly STEM labs and any other volunteering activities.

5. Why do you volunteer your time and resources to the school?

I enjoy volunteering at school for various reasons. It makes me happy knowing that I can contribute to children's experience. I love seeing my daughter at school and it makes both of us happy. I get to meet other parents and teachers, as well, and learn more about education and activities. Many research studies show that when parents get involved, students do better in school and the schools they go to are better.

6. What do you like to do with your free time (hobbies, activities, travel, etc)?

I love to relax with a great book. I enjoy anything outdoors: walking the trails, going to the park, have lunch on the patio, outdoor concerts and picnics. I love to cook and travel with my family. I am fortunate to be able to go back to Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina with my family every summer and spend a couple of weeks enjoying the Mediterranean.

NOVEMBER – Michelle Wetherill

Congratulations to our NOVEMBER Volunteer of the Month, Michelle Wetherill! Michelle was selected for her role in launching the new REES Electronic Directory.



1. Tell us about yourself.

I was born in Roanoke, VA but have lived in the area for most of my life as we moved here when I was in 2nd grade. I went to Dolvin, Barnwell, Holcomb Bridge MS and then the "old" Milton...before heading off to UGA. Go Dawgs! I work full time for a software company and I am also of course a full time mom...and boy do these kids keep me running! I have a 12 year old son in 6th grade, Ryan, and a 9 yr old daughter in 4th grade, Ella.

2. What brought your family to River Eves Elementary?

When we were starting our family we knew that we wanted to be in this area because a) it is where I grew up and b) we knew that the schools were good. We found the perfect starter home in Horseshoe Bend and moved in when I was 8 and a half months pregnant with Ryan! We loved having him go from Kindergarten all the way through 5th grade and having his sister follow in his footsteps. It was been a great experience and the teachers and staff are all so supportive and caring!

3. How did you begin volunteering at River Eves?

I started volunteering just in the classroom when Ryan was in Kindergarten. I wanted to be involved and visible to my child as he started in a new school. I helped out with the

different parties/events and found myself signing up for probably way too much. I then got pulled into helping with both REEF and PTA.

4. Tell us about the various roles/committees you have volunteered for at the school?

I feel like I have done a little bit of everything. I have been a room parent every year, I think...and many of those years for both children's classrooms. I was on the 5th grade party committee last year, I have help organized grade level parties, I have done field days and fall festivals and spring picnics. I have been a board member on REEF for I believe four years now, focusing on the silent auction. I have been helping out with the PTA on various committees as well, every year. I believe I started by helping with the Bruster's spirit nights. Then I co-chaired the Fun Run, tackled Spirit Wear and this year I got to move us into the 21st century with the electronic student and faculty directory.

5. Why do you volunteer your time and resources to the school?

I truly believe that in any situation you get out of it what you put into it. I also believe that every person CAN make a difference. I see the love and support that our teachers and faculty provide for our children every single day, and I want to be there to support them. If I can take things off of their plate or do something small to make their day better, then it allows them to focus on the education of my little one and give her the support and structure that she needs. I also see what we are able to provide for all of the students through our funds raised – both from PTA and REEF. The technology, the extra programs, the supplies and support for the teachers – all of that is done by volunteers – and I am just so proud to be a part of that. And bonus, I am setting a great example for my children!

6. What do you like to do with your free time (hobbies, activities, travel, etc)?

Free time? Is there such a thing as free time when you have two active children? Honestly, I just try and get into CrossFit a few times a week and get a good workout at home on the other days. Yes, I am the crazy lady that gets out of the car with my daughter in carpool line (my husband drives)

and runs home! I feel like staying active myself keeps me sane! Then I get to spend my “free” time being an unpaid Uber driver, as I shuttle my daughter to either gymnastics or cheer, or my son to soccer or tennis. Our weekends are filled with sports and friends and I wouldn’t change any of that!

7. Anything else you would like to tell us.

I would say to anyone that has considered getting involved, please just go ahead and take the plunge. No amount of time donated is too small and every little bit really does help.

I promise you will be greeted by smiling faces and welcoming arms – oh, and plenty of work to be done. ☐

OCTOBER – Melissa Crean

Congratulations to our OCTOBER Volunteer of the Month, Melissa Crean! Melissa was selected for her role in the REES Fun Run.



We asked Melissa to tell us a little about herself, and here’s what she said:

1. Tell us about yourself.

I am an Atlanta native...grew up in Peachtree Corners and went to Norcross High School. I attended UGA and graduated with a Finance degree. Before becoming a stay-at-home mom, I spent

10 years at Turner Broadcasting working for the TNT and TBS networks. My husband and I have two boys, Alex (12) and Ryan (9).

2. What brought your family to River Eves Elementary?

My husband and I were living downtown and decided we wanted to move to the suburbs before we had kids. He's an avid golfer, so we looked at every neighborhood in close proximity to a golf course and fell in love with Horseshoe Bend. We moved here in 2003 and then moved into our 2nd home in Horseshoe Bend in 2013. We heard great things about River Eves from neighbors and they were right! Its been a wonderful experience.

3. How did you begin volunteering at River Eves?

Seven years ago, my oldest son started Kindergarten and my 1st volunteer job was as Room Parent for his class.

4. Tell us about the various roles/committees you have volunteered for at the school?

I've been room parent multiple years. Also, co-chaired the AR program for 3 years and was PTA Co-President for 2 years. Most recently, I co-chaired the Fun Run.

5. Why do you volunteer your time and resources to the school?

River Eves is a great school, but like every public school there are limited budgets and resources. I've seen first hand how an active PTA enhances the experience for EVERY child. The teachers and staff have an incredibly full plate of responsibilities, so I felt obligated to help out where I can. And being involved at school keeps me much more aware of how my children are being educated. Also, my kids LOVE seeing me at school. I know that won't be the case much longer. 😊

6. What do you like to do with your free time (hobbies, activities, travel, etc)?

Tennis is definitely my favorite thing to do when I have free time! I also love to paint and play with my dogs.

SEPTEMBER – Manndi Iovino



Congratulations to our SEPTEMBER Volunteer of the Month, Manndi Iovino! Manndi was selected for her role with REES spirit wear.

We asked Manndi to tell us a little about herself, and here's what she said:

1. Tell us about yourself.

I am originally from upstate NY. I went to college at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. Up until last year, I was the Assistant Director of a childcare center for a law firm in Midtown. I have two daughters, Avery is 7 and Emily is 1-1/2.

2. What brought your family to River Eves Elementary?

We were drawn to River Eves because everyone we spoke with always had nothing but good things to say! We feel fortunate

to have our daughter attend River Eves.

3. How did you begin volunteering at River Eves?

I began volunteering on STEM days. Also, helped out within Avery's classroom, holiday parties, teacher appreciation, field trips and end of the year celebrations.

4. Tell us about the various roles/committees you have volunteered for at the school?

Most recently, I have been apart of the Spirit Wear committee and a 2nd grade room parent.

5. Why do you volunteer your time and resources to the school?

I enjoy volunteering my time at the school because it is a great way to support our community as well as and getting to know other families.

6. What do you like to do with your free time (hobbies, activities, travel, etc)?

In my spare time I enjoy traveling, reading and hanging out with my family.