



Featured Volunteer

Mahlon Gane is one of our most dedicated volunteers. He spends several hours each week working behind the scenes to maintain our ever-increasing stock of loaned medical equipment. Making sure that the average 80 items per month are in pristine condition and ready to go is a huge job. Many would find it a distasteful job. Cleaning and adjusting wheelchairs, bath seats, commodes and crutches would take the smile off some faces, but Mahlon not only remains cheerful; he cheers all those around him in the ECHHO office with his positive attitude and the song on his lips that invariably accompanies his work.



Mahlon has a passion for music. He describes himself as “a banjo picker gone mad” and makes “a joyful noise” in the choir of Port Townsend First Presbyterian Church. He and his wife, Janine, a semi-retired French teacher, have a blended family of seven biological children, as well as several other “social” children incorporated into their family. Mahlon’s academic background in sociology and Navy training in electronics led to a varied career in the engineering field in Michigan, New York, Washington, and points in between. Much of his work involved technical writing of engineering reports on everything from sparkplugs to missile guidance systems. The Boeing Company utilized his skills to research human factors such as the number of seats to be put in the cockpit of a 737 and the importance of the pilot’s depth perception in landing a large airplane. He worked with a group to produce the report on the satellite launch failure that resulted in three astronauts’ deaths. Mahlon says he likes volunteering for ECHHO because he knows the work he does benefits people who need it, he likes the ECHHO staff (the feeling is mutual!) and likes knowing that his work is appreciated.

Total Volunteer Hours for March	303
Transportation to Medical Appointments	164.5
Chores and Errands	88.5
Social Support/Visits	50
77 Pieces of Medical Equipment Loaned	
94 People Served	
3365 Miles Driven	

Thanks to all our volunteers and supporters who made all this service to the community possible.

The ECHHO Staff