

MTA's Barbara Trigg: Dedicated Volunteer at Metro Rail Openings

By ADRIENNE FIGUEROA

(June 11, 2003) The long-awaited opening of the Metro Gold Line this summer has attracted the interest of some 450 volunteers eager to offer help any way they can.

One of these individuals is MTA Records Clerk Barbara Trigg. She will be answering questions, handing out informational pamphlets and directing visitor traffic – all from the seat of her electric wheelchair.

As a child, Trigg was diagnosed with a genetic condition called osteopetrosis, a neurological muscular disorder that causes bones to be overly dense. The symptoms are opposite that of osteoporosis, which weakens the bones.

Despite the fact that she has been unable to walk for nearly 20 years, the wheelchair has not limited her interests and her ability to participate.

30 years of volunteering

Trigg discovered her fondness for volunteering about 30 years ago after donating some of her time at the Pasadena City Hall doing general office work.

"I just like helping people," she says.

Since joining MTA in 1984, Trigg also has volunteered for the Metro Green, Blue and Red Line openings. At the Metro Gold Line opening this summer, she will exchange her daily routine of handling employee files in order to handle the crowds of people expected to attend the event.

"It's a lot of fun," she says. "You get to meet a lot of people."

Trigg has enjoyed her past experiences as a volunteer and looks forward to seeing new faces at the Metro Gold Line opening. She also hopes that the other volunteers will share her joy in helping others.

"There's something we can all give to others," Trigg says. "Everybody needs something sometime. If we all volunteer, that's the best way to help people."

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