**CREATIVE WAYS TO RECOGNIZE VOLUNTEERS**

(adapted from Betty Stallings, The Volunteerism Project, 1992)

*Giving volunteers recognition doesn’t need to be an expensive project.  Volunteer trainer Betty Stallings compiled the following list of creative and low-cost ways to show appreciation to volunteers.  Volunteers will appreciate a brief note written by you accompanying the object.*

What a bright idea! … note stuck to Christmas light bulb

A Cracker Jack idea … box of Crackerjacks

Your ideas are so exciting I could just pop … a balloon

Thanks for raisin’ the tough questions … a mini-box of raisins

Your great work has me wreathed in smiles … small grapevine wreath

I’m lucky to have you to help … a rabbit’s foot

No one holds a candle to you … scented votive or birthday candle

You are a lifesaver … roll of Lifesaver candy

You are the apple of my eye … real or artificial apple

What an angel!  Here’s your halo … two silver pipe cleaners twisted together in halo

Your vision is our guiding light … mini-flashlight

You’ve given our project the sweet smell of success … potpourri or sachet packet

Your presentation was right to the point … box of tacks of push-pins

Thanks for energizing us … batteries

By any measure, you’re a leader … tape measure or ruler

Sorry, I didn’t mean to hurt your feelings … band-aid

“Prescription” pep-up pills for tough jobs, cheering up … M&Ms in old medicine bottles

Thanks for your hard work; I know it has been a headache … aspirin or Tylenol packet

I’ll help you see this project through … goofy joke glasses

I know you’re feeling snowed under right now … inexpensive snow globe

Don’t worry, it will be fine OR You’re a doll … box of worry dolls

Many motivated and marvelous volunteers … M&Ms

You take the cake … cupcakes

Thanks for working your buns off … hot-cross buns or cinnamon rolls

A toast to a job well done … plastic wine glass filled with jellybeans

Let me know when I can come out … construction paper doghouse

A noteworthy accomplishment … memo or note pads

Let’s celebrate … party whistles

You are “berry” special … fresh berries or jam

Thanks to you we’ll soon have this project wrapped up … wrapping paper

Hugs and kisses … Hershey’s chocolate kisses

I’ll stick with you … stick of gum

Thanks for sharing your creative juices … box of juice

Thanks for rising to the expectations … packet of yeast