

February 2021 - Jeanette Arroyo

Congratulations to Jeanette Arroyo, our February 2021 Volunteer of the Month! Jeanette has been volunteering with us for two years, and is a fantastic asset to our volunteer team and organization! She volunteers at just about every event we host, and also provides unwavering, relentless support with our in-office projects. Jeanette is also a member and you'll find her participating in our events, as well! We extend a heartfelt thank you to Jeanette for volunteering with Atlanta Track Club and her 27 years of service with the Marine Corps!

Do you remember your first time volunteering with Atlanta Track Club?

Yes! I volunteered at the Publix Atlanta Marathon packet pickup in March 2019. The energy of everyone excited to get their bibs and run that weekend was amazing, and the Atlanta Track Club staff and other volunteers made me feel right at home even though I was not living in Georgia at the time. After that weekend, I knew this was an organization with which I wanted to continue to volunteer.

What is your favorite Atlanta Track Club event?

The Invesco QQQ Thanksgiving Day Half Marathon! The temperature is usually perfect; I love the course and who doesn't love getting a mini pie after a race!

What is one of your best memories from volunteering at any race?

My best memory so far is from Peachtree Junior. The sheer excitement of the kids as they crossed the finish line and listening to them happily tell their parents about it were the best things to witness.

What is your favorite thing about volunteering with Atlanta Track Club?

The other volunteers and staff make volunteering with Atlanta Track Club so rewarding and I want to continue to do my part to give back to an organization that does so much for so many.



Do you have a favorite volunteer assignment?

Packet pickup is my favorite. I love to see the excitement of everyone looking forward to running the race, especially those that are running that particular distance for the first time. I always get so excited for them because no matter their distance, it's a big milestone in their running journey!

Do you do any volunteering in the community beyond Atlanta Track Club?

I have been actively volunteering at the Georgia Aquarium for the past year and a half and with Brooks for the past three years. I am always looking for opportunities to volunteer and give back to organizations that work hard to promote good, and provide positive, meaningful contributions to their communities and beyond.

Do you have any advice or words of wisdom for any new Atlanta Track Club volunteers?

Jump right in! There are so many opportunities. You will meet an overwhelming number of great people and the impact you make by giving of your time and help is needed, and will always be appreciated and noticed by everyone who participates in an Atlanta Track Club event.

Tell us something interesting about yourself - an interesting fact or story that will help us get to know you...

I retired from the Marine Corps in 2019 after 27 years of service, which is when my husband and I moved to Georgia. While running is a regular activity and requirement, I didn't fall in love with running until my deployment to Afghanistan in 2013. During my year there, I decided to register for the Marine Corps Marathon (Forward) and during my marathon training, I ran my first shadow (meaning we ran it the same day, just in Afghanistan) AJC Peachtree Road Race. At some point during my training cycle, I realized that I really loved running and the feeling of freedom and clarity of mind that each run gave me. That was also my first marathon and I remember telling my training partner after we finished that I would not be running any more marathons. He laughed at me because he knew better. I've run six more since then.

