

Division 34 Celebrates 40th Annual Special Games

Thanks to one man's vision, Walter Chronert, **Kiwanis Club of Los Altos member**, the Special Games were first organized in 1979 with two Adaptive PE teachers. This year marked the 40th annual event with 900 special needs athletes participating and 700 Kiwanis, Circle K and Key Club volunteers.

It takes 8-10 months of strategic planning every year to plan, fundraise, secure donations, etc.

Division 34 recently joined forces with Division 12 who recruited club members from the **Kiwanis Clubs of Willow Glen and Campbell** to serve in leadership roles. All of the clubs in Divisions 34 and 12 dedicated their time and efforts to ensure that all the games/event courses and races were fun and well supervised. Each club is a game sponsor for the day for each of the 18 events on May 18th. CNH Governor Joni Ackerman was a speaker at the event before the official start.

Peter Bergsman has been the driving force and strategic mastermind for 30 years and is great at helping all the 700 Kiwanians feel and share a special love for the Special Games Day! The love and special energy of the students was reflected by the smiles and beaming pride as they received achievement ribbons at ceremonies.

The response from the students is the reason why everyone works so hard to make the event happen. The rewards in human spirit and kindness is more than words can explain, from the job of the students to the teams of volunteers who work to deliver the well laid plans.

Any club that wants to put on their own Kiwanis Special Games can. There is a set-up plan and Division 34 and 12 are willing to share it. If your club or division is interested in starting your own Special Games event, contact one of the two Lieutenant Governors of Divisions 34 and 12.



Article/Photos Submitted by Nancy Whitney

