



Spotlight on Virginia Gaines, Dee Wilson--San Diego and Irvine

Broadcom employees at the San Diego and Irvine offices spearhead many fundraisers and events to help those in need or less fortunate. Such activities include Susan G. Komen 'Race for the Cure', blood drives, canned food drives and Toys for Tots drives. Virginia Gaines and Dee Wilson have gone above and beyond to insure success of such events. Here is their story.



Virginia Gaines



Dee Wilson

When Virginia Gaines joined Broadcom in June of 2008, she noticed that the Irvine campus was organizing philanthropic events like the Race for the Cure, but the San Diego office was in need of inspiration. She began organizing fundraisers and events with enthusiastic support from the San Diego administrative staff, including Christen Valentine, Ana Salas, Meagan Schmidt, Jeannie Bogart and Jona Ang.



Sunday, September 26, 2010 – Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure, Newport Beach, CA

Broadcom Employee Global Community Involvement



In short order, the group formed “Team Broadcom” and participated in its first run/walk in support of the American Diabetes Step Up for the Cure during October 2009. The team quickly surpassed its initial goal of \$1000 by raising \$5,000 through a variety of activities for all employees to enjoy.

“I started volunteering 6 years ago because I wanted to teach my sons the value of giving back to the community,” said Virginia. “My two sons and I started out volunteering at an orphanage in Tijuana. It was such a positive experience that we were hooked. The selfless acts of helping a person or a cause provides a spiritual boost and knowing you did something good brings emotional uplifting that money can’t match.”



Jona Ang, Christen Valentine, Meagan Schmidt, Ana Salas, Jeannie Bogart and Virginia Gaines

Broadcom offices in both San Diego and Irvine support the Susan G. Komen Foundation by volunteering and sponsoring the organization’s annual ‘Race for the Cure’ with the promise “to save lives and end breast cancer forever by empowering people, ensuring quality care for all and energizing the science to find cures.” Dee Wilson was instrumental with promoting the Race for the Cure in Irvine.

“Being involved with Susan G. Komen and the Race for the Cure has been such an uplifting and rewarding experience that words just cannot describe it,” said Dee. “The feeling that you get from working with such strong, inspirational women is just unforgettable.”

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“Several of my family members have been affected by various forms of cancer and being able to contribute to finding a cure is very important. If we can find a cure for breast cancer hopefully the puzzle piece to finding a cure for all cancers will shortly follow. If we can cure one, we can cure them all!”

Dee also organized donation barrels throughout the Irvine campus that were available for 2 months; these will be used for upcoming years.

Virginia plans to support a different organization each year that is meaningful to her co-workers.

“I would like to contribute to an organization that means something to each one of us on campus. Several co-workers lives have been affected by breast cancer, some of our moms, aunts and sisters. Being involved in the Komen organization has been so rewarding. I have learned a lot about breast cancer and the importance of early detection. And it feels good to know that we are taking care of the women and families in San Diego County who need help during this difficult time in their lives,” said Virginia.

“Over the years I have worked with various food banks, toys for tots, animal shelters and have sponsored families in need over the holiday seasons. The feeling that I get from helping others is something you just can’t compare to anything else. Being able to contribute to my community makes my life feel more valuable. Growing up my parents always told us that there are people in this world that don’t have roofs over their heads or food on their plates and that it is our job to fight and work hard so that no one has to go without a meal or a bed,” said Dee.



“I absolutely love my job here at Broadcom because I am supported to do something outside of my job description that I am passionate about while promoting team work and campus unity,” adds Virginia.