



2008 Candy Dance  
Volunteers are  
more often from  
out of the area...  
Although most are  
happy to help,  
Genoa is asking for  
more help from  
residents.

Bob Vibe, right,  
2008 Candy Dance  
Merchandise chair,  
lives outside Genoa  
at Genoa Lakes.



Bob displays Candy Dance shirt.

## LETTER TO GENOA RESIDENTS

*Yes, we understand that you are busy, but...*

### Genoa needs your help – ultimately you benefit!

How many people officially reside in Genoa?  
About 277.

How many of them actively help the town, as in doing volunteer work for Candy Dance or the July 4th Chicken Barbecue? Probably about 40 people, by our count. That is, 100% of the residents benefit from the efforts of 14% of the residents.

These Genoa volunteers are augmented by public-spirited neighbors from Genoa Lakes and the surrounding neighborhoods. But here's the point: Only residents of the Town of Genoa directly benefit from this volunteer work.

Every resident within the Genoa town limits—but not outside them—receives \$2,685 worth of services because of the yearly fund-raising activities made possible by all this donated labor. Yes, that's \$2,685 per resident that's not provided by the County. And the County probably wouldn't replace most of this per-person \$2,685 if our fund-raising efforts disappeared.

The money raised from volunteer events pays for the utilities and repairs for our historic buildings; the upkeep of the town park, streets, and drainage ditches; the snow-plowing of town roads; and such recreational events as the summer park concerts, the Easter Egg Hunt, and the Halloween Party. The money also supports the town staff — Town manager, two half-time office assistants, and a part-time maintenance assistant — enabling Genoa to keep

services local and remain relatively independent of central county government.

Candy Dance is particularly important because the money raised from this two-day event alone funds up to 75% of the town's annual budget.

So what happens when not enough volunteers show up to staff Candy Dance? We have to pay for extra help. And that means less revenue for the town.

So here's what we're urging Town of Genoa residents to do: Volunteer. In particular, volunteer for Candy Dance in September. Meet your neighbors; collaborate on a long-standing, distinctively Genoa experience; and help raise money for the town.

There are plenty of jobs to be done. Make candy. Sell candy. Sell Genoa shirts and hats. Judge vendor applications. Help vendors set up. Assist with the Candy Dance dinner/dance. Distribute ice. Collect trash.

And the Town can certainly use your volunteer help at other times as well, as with our events on St. Patrick's Day, Easter, July 4th, Halloween, and Christmastime.

How do you get involved? Drop by the Town Office or call, 782-8696. Sheryl, Kris, or Dorian will be happy to help. And Genoa will be grateful to you.

—  
Brian K. Williams,  
Chairman, Genoa Town Advisory Board