Ah, the month of May… spring is beginning its full bloom and that includes a variety of house chores interrupted by the onset of winter.

This is also when the planning for summer events gets a little hectic. Many groups and organizations have been planning for this summer's season back last year, just after wrapping up that season's event.

Now, the organizing, planning, tweaking, etc., takes on a serious note, because, let's face it, time really is of the essence and the room to maneuver is closing in.

Many of these summer activities are voluminous in both hours spent in planning and hours spent in making sure the event goes smoothly and is enjoyed by those attending.

As you can imagine, this takes a concerted effort by the planners and their multitudes of volunteers.

Multitude of volunteers? Wouldn't that be lovely?

Summer in Iron County is a busy place. If you look at the calendar for June, July and August, there's hardly a free weekend available. Sometime is going on all the time.

Sometimes, there are more than a couple of things going on at the same time.

That takes planning and we have to give credit to all those clubs and organizations that put in all the time and effort, not to mention elbow grease, to make sure Iron County is the "greatest show on earth."

Without the work of these organizations and those who volunteer their time and effort to help out, we would be sorely lacking in activities to enjoy throughout the summer.

Yes, we have lakes and streams to enjoy our favorite places to fish or swim. Camping is another popular endeavor for both locals and visitors. But we also have some of the best entertainment available, and at very popular prices for everyone to enjoy.

Iron County may have a "small" population in terms of actual numbers, but if you counted all the work put in by these volunteers who help make Iron County to place to be, you could also most double or triple that number. At least, that's basically the effect of all their work.

But, there's always room for more volunteers. And that's where the rest of us come in.

No matter the organization, no matter how well organized its event, there's always room for one more, two more volunteers to help out.

It's nice to get involved and it's a real eye-opener to discover just how much planning goes in to make these events look like a piece of cake.

By volunteering, you not only help out your community, you get the opportunity to meet a lot of nice people, now new friends.

Some of us have a lot of time to donate to various activities, some of us don't.

But whether we can donate a lot of time or just a little, many of these organizations will welcome newcomers with open arms.

Try it, you'll like it, and don't be surprised if you find yourself on the volunteer list for next year.
--Allyce Westphal