

Roofraiser

February 2009

4th Annual Tool Box Bash



March 21, 2009 @ 6:30PM

Greenspoint Marriott Hotel

255 N. Sam Houston Pkwy E.

Houston, TX 77060

You are cordially invited to the biggest bash of the year—The 4th annual Tool Box Bash where we will celebrate 20 years of Habitat NWHC serving families in need. At this event we will take time to remember and recognize the service and leadership of past board presidents as well as Habitat NWHC's founder Richard Wall. Join us for an evening of dinner, dancing, construction themed games and auctions. This construction casual event serves as Habitat NWHC's largest fundraiser and we want you to be a part of it all.

Thank you to our 2009 Sponsors



Jim and Linda Nielson

Jack and M.J. Hardison

Ann and Paul Eschenfelder

Amegy Bank

Rob and Elizabeth Nixon

Caldwell Companies

Tickets are on sale now! Come have a good time for a great cause.

Red Hat Tickets—\$100/each or a Table for 10—\$1,000

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____

Payment Information

Check payable to Habitat NWHC Visa MC Discover Amex

Card # _____ Exp: _____

Signature: _____

Please Return Order form to: Habitat NWHC PO Box 682785 Houston, TX 77268

Closing Words From Our Executive Director

In a few weeks I will be stepping down from this position so bear with me as I share a few thoughts from my heart and hope they make some sense. For the past five years I have been blessed to have the opportunity to work with hundreds of great volunteers, outstanding staff members, and numerous wonderful community partners in carrying out a mission I believe truly makes a difference in people's lives. I have had the opportunity to help raise walls and then dedicate those homes when they were completed. I have seen us open two resell store locations and venture into the new area of deconstruction. I have been involved as we purchased land, secured financing, opened the Strudler Community Center, expanded family training and mentoring, revised our basic

house design, added to both our staff and core group of committed volunteers, started the ToolBox Bash and were able to accomplish all these things and more while staying in a solid financial position. However, great challenges lie ahead. The need for decent housing (this includes both new homes and the repair of existing homes) continues to grow rapidly. The availability of land will only get harder and the current economic conditions will make funding an on-going struggle. The challenge for each of us is to continue to live our lives in a positive fashion every day while getting others involved, especially our young people, in causes that we believe make a difference in the world we all share. I would ask each of you to seek ways to stretch yourself in your commitments of time, talents and funds in things you

believe in and to lead by your actions so that others will see and be motivated to follow your example. A few years ago my daughter gave me a card that contained a quote from Clarence Kellond. At his father's funeral Mr. Kellond tried to describe the influence his father had on him. He said "My Father did not try and tell me how to live--he just lived his life the best he could and let me watch him do it." If others are watching you, what message will they be receiving? Thanks to each and every one of you for all the support you have given me over the past five years.

Remember: "the difficult we do every day, the impossible just takes a little longer."

Lee Schnell

Volunteer of the Month

The driving force behind Habitat for Humanity NWHC is our volunteers—those who contribute a few hours a day, a week, a month, or more to give Habitat's vision tangible form. Every month our Board of Directors selects one of our 2,600+ volunteers to honor as the Affiliate Volunteer of the Month in recognition of all that they do for Habitat NWHC's partner families, staff members and other volunteers.

On behalf of everyone, thanks to:

December—**Ken Dinges**, Construction & Thrivent Builds

January—**Fran Pontesso**, Women Build & Construction

February—**Neil & Lynne Coles**, Family Selection Committee



Fran Pontesso, January's Volunteer of the month.

Worship Arts Festival

10AM –4PM

The MET, Truth Building

12851 Jones Rd.

Houston, TX 77070

Tickets \$5.00

Concessions will be available

Mark your calendars for this unique fundraising event where area church music groups will “raise the roof” for Habitat NWHC. Featured performances will include Cy Fair Christian Church, The Metropolitan Baptist, Tquan Moore, LifePath Church, and others. Come for one performance or come for the day. Tickets may be preordered or purchased at the door. To pre-order tickets call the Habitat office at (281) 820-2307 or mail a check for the desired number of tickets and write Worship Arts in the Memo. This event promises to be fun and uplifting while supporting our neighbors in need of affordable housing.



The following are a few of our volunteer needs:

Family Advisors

Family Advisors are our liaisons between the office and our Habitat partner families, communicating with the partner families on a weekly or bi-weekly basis (normally by phone). Family Advisors also help us empower, encourage and educate our partner families as all are first-time home buyers. We don't want to just build new houses; we also want to help our partner families to be successful homeowners. This volunteer opportunity can be very meaningful and rewarding as you get to interact one-on-one with the families we are building for.

The ReStore

This is Habitat NWHC's retail store which sells new or gently used building material, furniture and appliances. The idea behind the ReStore is 3-fold: it is a recycling program, helping to keep material out of our landfills, it offers material to the public at a discounted price for those who could not otherwise afford it, and it is another venue to raise money to build more Habitat NWHC houses. If you have an interest in recycling/Green activities, retail, or PR/marketing we could use your help on the ReStore committee. The ReStore committee meets once a month (on the 2nd Tuesday) to support and help direct the affiliate's ReStore, Deconstruction and Trader's Village operations.

Construction Crew Leaders

This is a unique volunteer opportunity and one with leadership responsibilities. We work on our construction site every Wednesday 8am-2:30pm, Thursday 8am-2:30pm and Saturday 8am-3pm. We schedule most groups for Saturdays and will have 30 to 120 volunteers onsite. Our construction crew leaders (or Red Hats) supervise groups of 5 to 10 volunteers working on one specific project: painting, landscaping, building a fence, roofing, framing, cabinet installation, tiling, to name a few. We do everything except plumbing, HV/AC, electrical and drywall.

To become a Red Hat Crew Leader we have individuals come out to the build site to work a few times with our construction manager and other Red Hat Crew Leaders to determine what you are interested in leading (even if you don't know specifically how to do it, we will train you), how many volunteers you feel comfortable working with, etc. We will start you out by pairing you with a Red Hat Mentor...a crew leader (who will be onsite each time you are out) who you will work with leading a group of volunteers. As you feel comfortable leading groups by yourself we will stop pairing you with your Red Hat Mentor and will start giving you tasks of your own to lead.

To help with any of these projects or for more information about volunteering with Habitat for Humanity NWHC, please contact our volunteer coordinator Mary-Grace Borisow at the affiliate office: (281) 820-2307 or volunteer@habitatnwhc.org

Lancaster Dedications

Over the past few months Habitat NWHC has dedicated six homes in the Lancaster subdivision in Cypress, TX. We are proud to celebrate with the following families as they realize their dream of homeownership: Reynard and Lois Mitchell, Aida Hernandez, Erika Tinoco, Corey Owens, LaShawn Kinniebrew and Sanjuanna Rangel.

Thank you to everyone who volunteered and/or donated to make these homes possible. Special recognition to the following lead partners: Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, area Lutheran Churches, area Catholic Parishes, the Medallion Foundation and the Women's Council of Realtors.



Corey Owens cutting the ribbon in front of his new home in Lancaster.

Hamill Ranch

If you drive along West Richey Road or Champions Forest Drive at the point they intersect, just north of Bammel-North Houston you will see dirt being moved and utility and street construction underway. These are the first steps in the development of NWHC's new sub-division: Hamill Ranch. When completed, along with its sister development on the north side of West Richey Road- Hamill Crossing, 92 low-income families, part of this countries

working-poor, who currently are living with housing problems will have an opportunity to purchase a home they have helped build.

Our goal is to raise walls on the first home on March 28th and after that you will find our volunteers working at this location most every week for the next four years.

Please make plans either as an individual or part of a group to come out and

join in our efforts to eliminate poverty housing in north and west Harris County. To make a donation to support our building efforts contact our Development Director Rachael Wright at develoment@habitatnwhc.org or for more information about volunteering please visit with MaryGrace Borisow our Volunteer Coordinator at volunteer@habitatnwhc.org.

Cy-Fair Construction Management Course

The Cy-Fair campus of Lone Star College has announced a new Construction Management Certificate program. This is a continuing

education program where the focus is construction project management.

For more information contact Janet Taber

at 281-290-5220 or janet.i.taber@lonestar.edu. Courses are evening and weekends and will include involvement with Habitat NWHC.

Habitat NWHC's 20th Anniversary

On February 21, 1989 Habitat for Humanity Northwest Harris County was incorporated as a 501-c-3 affiliate in partnership with Habitat for Humanity International. This year we will hold a number of events that will recognize our 20th Anniversary, look for future announcements. We hope you will enjoy some pictures from the earlier years of our history.



Board of Directors

The affairs of Northwest Harris County are overseen by a 15 member Board of Directors. These volunteers agree to serve a three year term and one-third of the positions are re-filled every year.

For 2009 Habitat NWHC is proud to announce these outstanding new members were added to our Board: Kerry Stucky, Scott Haddix, Trisha Armstrong, Bryce Boyd, & Steve Brunner. In addition; Ann Eschenfelder, Bob Young & Stephen Villa were re-elected to another term on the Board.

We owe a special and very appreciate 'Thank-You' to these out-going Board members: Jim Russ, Peter Barnhart, Laryssa Korduba, Sheila Zabrycki, & Ron Christ for all their hard work on behalf of families in need of decent housing. You have truly made a difference in the lives of your neighbors!

A special "Well Done" to Carla Ehlers for the two years of service contributed as the President of our Board of Directors. We appreciate all that you have done for our affiliate and those families in need of decent housing.



Habitat for Humanity NWHC's 2009 Board of Directors and Officers

Christmas Present Drive

After listening to many of the Habitat homeowners discuss current economic issues with Christmas quickly approaching, Christina Lowe (Habitat for Humanity NWHC's Accounting Coordinator) decided to organize a Christmas Present Drive. Christmas Trees filled with gift request cards were set up at two local Wal-Marts, Pure Fitness for Women and in the affiliate office.

Thank you to everyone who helped Christina with this project. Due to your support Christmas presents were provided to 168 children who live in Habitat NWHC homes.

Please enjoy a few pictures of the children's excitement upon receiving their gifts.



Volunteers In Action:



Carl Wunsche Sr. High School's Humanitarian Club raised \$350 for our annual Youth House Build. The club is also volunteering this Spring to help with the construction of this building project.

Sharon Spurlin along with other Family Advisor committee members teach a class about budgeting and home insurance to our current 22 partner families.





A heartfelt thank you to the many individuals, churches and corporations that make Habitat NWHC a success. Your financial gifts are appreciated by the volunteers, staff and Habitat homeowners. *Donations received between 11/30/08 and 1/28/09.

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 Leonard Bedke
 Patrick and Susannah Baker
 Tod and Sandra Benton
 Richard Berry
 Best Buy
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 Donald and Carol Blue
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 J. Allen Brown
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 By: Barbara Bowen Rollins

Ernestine Schleider Powers
 By: Benjamin Schleider Jr.

In Honor of

Christopher and Beverly Sirgis
 By: MK Griggs and CC Jenkins

Elizabeth Lockridge
 By: David Sloat

**HABITAT FOR HUMANITY
NORTHWEST HARRIS COUNTY**

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www.habitatnwhc.org/online-donations.php

or by sending your checks to PO Box 682785, Houston, TX 77268. Please make checks payable to Habitat NWHC. Credit Card Donations are also accepted by mail or call 281-820-2307.



It's almost time for "Spring Cleaning". If you have items that are in working condition, clean and useable, don't throw them away! Consider donating them to the Habitat resale shop, the ReStore!

13572 State Hwy 249

**Open to
the Public!**

**Open Monday-Saturday
9am-6pm**

**Selling Donated Building Materials,
Furniture and Appliances**

(832) 327-1120



Partner's With



Stein Mart will host a ticketed pre-grand opening store event on Tuesday, March 10 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. benefiting Habitat NWHC's Women Build House. Located in Lakewood Forest Shopping Center (21115 State Highway 249) the store will be the company's 10th in the Houston-area location.

Tickets are \$10 per person. All proceeds go towards the purchase of building materials for the Women Build House.

To purchase tickets or for more information, contact the affiliate office at 281-820-2307 or development@habitatnwhc.org.