

Habitat for Humanity of Dane County

Hearthstone

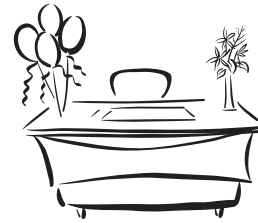
In partnership with God, In partnership with God's people

Fall 2003

P.O. Box 258128, Madison, WI 53725-8128 • 608.255.1549

www.habitatdane.org

Su Scheuerman Honored as Employee of the Year



Su accepts Habitat Employee of the Year Award from Bernie Treichel Volunteer Coordinator at the Annual Recognition Picnic on August 24th.

Su Scheuerman, Habitat's Financial Manager was recognized as the Employee of the Year at our annual picnic. Her quiet patience and diligent stewardship has been a steady force as the organization grew from building two or three houses per year to the completion of Harmony Park's 29 units and its current ten houses per year. Who pays the bills and collects the 70 mortgages? It's Su, our one person accounting department.

Su first came to Habitat as a volunteer back in 1997 at our old Park Street office above the grocery store. She started doing a "little bookkeeping" as the organization was about to expand. She was convinced to expand her time

and accepted a small salary as a half time employee beginning in late 1998. Later the job demanded more time and she expanded to four and a half days. But she is more than someone who records and pays the bills, collects the monthly mortgages and keeps donations properly acknowledged, she makes a visit or call to the office a pleasant experience.

For a time she staffed the office alone and then had to train new employees, new board members and new volunteers. Throughout the time at Habitat she has kept that award winning smile lighting up the room. It's a recognition that is well deserved. Congratulations Su, Habitat's Employee of the Year.

Welcome to Americorps Vista Volunteer Coordinator

Megan Kenney joined the Habitat office staff in August. She supports the growing numbers of concerned citizens that want to volunteer their time in a meaningful way. Habitat needs those volunteers and wants them to make an investment that brings value to our mission and to the volunteer experience. Bernie Treichel has done a masterful job balancing volunteer needs with construction realities. As we grow into 10 or more houses each year, she needs help. Bernie and Megan are a team making your volunteer experience all it can be. Welcome Megan.



Megan Kenney, Americorps Vista Volunteer Coordinator, (left) and Kathy Borkowski, Women's Build Coordinator, enjoyed the great food and fellowship at the Volunteer Recognition Picnic on August 24th.



HABITAT HAPPENS

October 5th

Two House Blessings:
Diayen & Underhill homes

Mid-October

Two Groundbreakings:
Blue Mounds & Sun Prairie

October 30th

House Blessing – 2249 Myrtle St.,
sponsored by Springs Window Fashions

November

Twin Oaks Development
Groundbreaking Ceremony
2nd Round of Twin Oaks Homeowner
Applications begins

December

Quizno's Hilldale Tree Walk

January 31st

4:00 to 8:00 pm Souper Bowl VIII
at West High, Regent St.

April 16th

Benefit Concert
Blitz Build – five houses at Twin Oaks

TOSSING EGGS & FLYING SHOES FOR HABITAT

Tossing eggs, guessing the number of nails in a bottle and flinging shoes into the air were just some of the games at a Family Partner picnic on Sunday, June 22, 2003 at Madison's Vilas Park. Habitat's Family Partners volunteers met the newly selected families and had some fun. No one left with egg on their face but there were a lot of smiles.

Getting to know and trust one another is a critical part of the Habitat experience. After the new partners followed clues to find their family partners among the 80 people, everyone enjoyed a pot luck meal with a distinctly international flavor. Beverages and food were donated by Copps Food Stores.

After meeting the partners who offer support and advocacy during the building and buying process of a Habitat home, many families took the opportunity to also meet their future Twin Oaks neighbors. It was a real community building experience. Five of the nine new Habitat families at the picnic will live in the Twin Oaks neighborhood. The picnic gave the children and adults opportunities to forge friendships with their future neighbors and schoolmates. The other four families are building their homes alongside one another on the eastside of Madison at Park Meadow.

The picnic was sponsored by Habitat's Family Support Committee. The committee recruits family partners, holds trainings for new partners, plans seminars for families on finances, and home and yard maintenance. The committee will continue to host events for families and their partners to meet each other. New family partners are needed as Habitat continues to plan additional homes in Twin Oaks and elsewhere.

If you are willing to consider joining the Family Support Committee or serving as a family partner, please contact the committee chair, Ann Eaves at aeaves@charter.net or by telephone at (608) 442-8768.



Family Partner and future Habitat homeowners enjoyed an Egg Toss game at their picnic on June 22nd.

McFarland Family Fest – A Culver's Treat



On one of the wettest weekends this summer, Habitat families,

volunteers and staff learned that the "float" booth at the McFarland Family Festival was intended to be a "root beer float" booth and not a flood. Despite the soggy atmosphere, it was an important introduction to the McFarland community. As our Twin Oaks project leaves the planning stage people had questions and the booth gave us a chance to answer them. Culver's Frozen Custard from McFarland donated the custard, cups and other materials. Megan Kenney, Volunteer Coordinator, organized a good opportunity for community building. Next year, we'll be back and hope to float more goodwill with our neighbors.

Building Updates

Volunteers have been busy this summer. Good planning, volunteer coordination and productive work days will put the finishing touches on five houses this fall. Two new houses are being started in Blue Mounds and Sun Prairie but the Twin Oaks houses are still a few months away.

Bulldozers are working toward a November goal to have water, sewers and streets completed. Prudent planning is balancing our volunteers' need to stay engaged and keep their commitments and muscles toned against the unpredictable nature of winter weather. Unfortunately, winter weather will delay most construction activity until next spring.

The good news is that we will start off the spring with a bang! The winter months will be spent planning and coordinating a Blitz Build for five homes in April and May. So, volunteers, we need your patience but stay limber; building activity will be as robust as ever. Our Volunteer Coordinator, Megan Kenney, wants to hear from you as she begins to build the schedules for next spring. You can reach her at 255-1549 ext. 104 or at hfh@chorus.net.



Letters We Received



From Woodstock, IL

Thank you for the great newsletter! We are former Habitat for Humanity of Oregon-Brooklyn homeowners and we were so happy to see some of the other "first" Habitat families doing so well and contributing to the community, too. Also congratulations to Bernie Treichel and her husband, we were really blessed to know them and are glad they are celebrating all their years together of love and service!
Mary Alice Howe

Note: Mary Alice and her family relocated to Woodstock IL, where her husband is teaching high school math. They lived in their Habitat house for 8 years but remain in touch with their lifelong friends in the Habitat family.

From Gliwice, Poland

Thank you for your meaningful gift. Your support means so much to the families going to move to their new flats, giving them new hope for a better life. This hope comes in time of deficit of hope in our country, with unemployment growing constantly. It is our joy that 22 families live happily in their Homes of Hope and pay their mortgage. We are busy finishing the building No. 5 for 11 families, preparing for No. 6 for 11 families and keep looking for ways to continue and improve helping other Polish families, including renovation possibilities. Thank you again for your thoughtful gift.
Adam Krol,
Executive Director HFH, Gliwice

Note: Habitat for Humanity of Dane County designated \$3000 of their tithe contribution to HFH Gliwice earlier this year.

"Street-wise" Volunteers Honored

During the annual HFHDC Volunteer Picnic on August 24th at Rennebohm Park, Brian Miller, Executive Director, told everyone about a unique recognition for six longtime volunteers. He announced that the City of Madison had approved the names for the new streets in the Twin Oaks subdivision. Future residents will be using some familiar names when they give out their new addresses. Names made familiar to them and many others in our community through their tireless commitments to helping families build a simple, decent place to live.

There is only one downside to the recognition. It seems longtime resident and Habitat leader Mel Schluter has a very popular "street name" in Madison. We could not name a street after him but a future park will bear a designation honoring his many years of unselfish giving to others.

Next time you see one of these folks, thank them for their gifts to others. We could not accomplish our Mission without their many sacrifices.



Henry Kanazawa (left), Mel Schluter (center) and Marzo Bliss (right) have made house building fun for many volunteers and families.

Brandenburg Way

(Herman Brandenburg – builder)

Kanazawa Circle

(Henry Kanazawa – architect and builder)

Buchner Court

(Warren Buchner – builder)

Bliss Street

(Marzo Bliss – builder)

Treichel Street

(Bernie Treichel – volunteer coordinator)

Freese Lane

(Gordon and Jean Freese – builder and lunch coordinator)



HAPPY BIRTHDAY ReSTORE - DANE COUNTY'S USED AND SURPLUS BUILDING MATERIALS CENTER

On September 20th, the ReStore celebrated its second anniversary. In just two years the ReStore has made a significant difference for Habitat for Humanity and the Dane County community. More than 970 tons of new and re-useable building materials have been redirected from the Dane County landfill and sold to homeowners fixing their homes, property managers maintaining rental properties and others looking for a good buy.

And that isn't the ReStore's only accomplishment. Profits from the ReStore have built eight Habitat homes in the last two years! Over \$440,000 has been raised after all the bills have been paid. Thank you to the staff and volunteers at the ReStore.

The lifeblood of the Habitat ReStore's operation are its volunteers. 2003 has brought us dozens of new volunteers. Although about 60 volunteers "work the ReStore" per week, an additional 20 individuals help with marketing efforts, grant-writing, computer and clerical help, event preparation and implementation. We are proud to say approximately 19,000 hours of volunteer effort has been given to this worthy cause since its inception. Your vision and dedication are making living in Dane County affordable and livable for many people. Happy Birthday.



THANK YOU

To our friends and Sponsors
"You make it work!"

Tool Chest Filled By Gifts

Kyle Weatherly, Habitat Site Supervisor noticed that volunteers need more tools to build houses faster and with more safety. He then started asking some very generous tool and equipment suppliers for some help and they responded. Thanks Kyle. Your requests have added tools and equipment worth about \$5000! That's \$5000 now available for house building. Thanks to staff at these companies; Pat, Tracy & Beth for facilitating these gifts.



- Two 21 ft., 375 lb. extension ladders
 - Two 5 ft., 300 lb. step ladders
 - Four 4 ft., 300 lb. step ladders
- donations facilitated by Pat Haggerty



- 6.5 amp power planer
 - 1" SDS-max rotary hammer
 - Top handle jigsaw
- donations facilitated by Beth Karkosak



Do volunteers come just to get Emian's Bakery donuts or is it the Ancora fair trade gourmet coffee? We think it's all about the fun, although donuts and coffee help.



- 30-degree, clipped-head framing hammers
 - 2 cordless, angled finish nailers
 - 2 cordless, straight finish nailers
- donations facilitated by Tracy Wilhelm



Support your community's United Way thru workplace giving

Contributions – Thank You

Nelson Division of Fleetguard in Stoughton Casual Fridays – \$1 per employee in July – Total \$855

Habitat for Humanity of Minnesota 500 bike ride – 5 riders designated HFHDC for \$1,116

Mary & Terry Kelly for Park Meadow homes – \$2,000

Richard & Elfrieda Koegel – \$1,000

Wells Fargo Home Mortgage – Pick of the Pros Event – \$2,000

Summertime Goldmine Helps Fill Tool Chest

Thanks to the Capital Newspapers, the Wisconsin State Journal and The Capital Times for supporting Habitat's Tool Chest Campaign during their subscription contest. More than \$1,300 of tools, \$1,200 cash and 23 volunteers signed on during their July 26th event at The Alliant Energy Center's coliseum.



Habitat for Humanity of Dane County
P.O. Box 258128
Madison, WI 53725-8128

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
36
OREGON, WI 53575

