



Hilton Head Regional
Habitat
for Humanity®

June, 2008

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(843) 757-5865 FAX

Resale Stores

Bluffton

(843) 757-9995

Ridgeland

(843) 645-6510

Web Site: www.habitathhi.org

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Hilton Head Regional Habitat for Humanity is a nonprofit, ecumenical Christian housing ministry. Since 1990, local Habitat volunteers have built seventy-seven simple, decent houses in the southern Beaufort/Jasper County area, providing affordable housing to over 350 people in need. Habitat's goal is to eliminate poverty housing and homelessness and to make decent, affordable housing a matter of conscience and action.

Habitat is not a give-away program. Houses are sold to partner families at no profit, financed with affordable, no interest mortgages. Habitat homeowners invest between 300-400 hours of their own labor, called sweat equity, into building their own and other Habitat houses.

Houses have been built by many communities in southern Beaufort County. Many churches, businesses and civic organizations have echoed that support and have provided both funding and labor to build the simple, decent houses Habitat sells at no profit to hard-working, deserving local families. Habitat grants a zero interest mortgage to each family that completes the requirements for homeownership. Homeowners' mortgage payments are then recycled into a revolving Fund for Humanity that is used to build more houses.

One of Habitat for Humanity's firmest beliefs is: *"With God's help and more people embracing this life saving mission, Habitat will keep on hammering until all of Humanity can proclaim that no one, no where, no child, no family, no grandparent any longer must live in unsafe, unhealthy housing."*

Habitat affords the opportunity to share in not only the tangible evidence of building houses, but also of building lives with hope. In addition to building safe, sturdy houses, Habitat for Humanity takes special care to ensure the success of each homebuying family. Support partners work with families to equip them with the skills and knowledge necessary for homeownership. Lasting friendships are created between volunteers and homeowners and the cycle of poverty is broken.

PGA TOUR Wives Association



During the Verizon Heritage Classic tournament, members of the PGA TOUR Wives Association got together once again to put in some (wo)man hours to help build a house alongside Habitat for Humanity in the Ridgeland area of South Carolina. Habitat staff was delighted to welcome back the Tour members who made a generous donation to the **WomenBUILD** house.

From the Volunteer Coordinator's Corner ... Lois Wilkinson

Thank-you Volunteers

During the third week of April, we recognized our volunteers for their continuing commitment to our mission. This year our construction volunteers rose to the challenge of longer commutes, higher gas prices, longer hours, and new and different house plans. Volunteers at the Restore faced the challenge of opening and staffing a second store in Ridgeland. We thank them all for their dedication to the work being done at Hilton Head Regional Habitat for Humanity.

The following volunteers worked 100 hours or more during the past year and were awarded a Golden Hammer in recognition:

H Dierxsens	J Gant	E Monroe	P Kelly	G Kawam
S Friedman	V Rodriguez	A Tripka	B Gregory	B Berger
R Carlson	F Bennett	L Morrison	M Fodor	J Holihan
R Czark	L Ozley	M Morganstern	A Harriot	E Lollis
P Kinzie	A Quigley	P Turner	J Cosgrove	M Chluda
K Emery	M Johnson	G Nachman	A Lauzon	B Berson
J Fisher	R Johnson	A Kelly	S Maviglia	B Loop
N Galli	S Hoffman	P Kelly	E Colman	D Nelson
J Keenan	C Cherwon	M Kuch	A Weed	J Katz
G Kelly	A Dierxsens	K Beverly	D Ameer	H O'Kane
P Rupprecht	J Fearon	J Crowley	L Lopp	G Thompson
B Nowakowski	G Peluso	S Solocheck	L Gilroy	C Eberly
D Armfield	C Ullery	M Gilroy	J Arnold	R Rymer
L Svoboda	J Kenny	T Demilia	J Nagle	J Pickney
		T Lapp		

Meet Henry Dierxsens who completed 521 volunteer hours this year.

Henry and his wife of 45 years, Ann, live in Callawassie, where he is active in several recreational activities. In addition to his interest in Hilton Head Regional Habitat for Humanity, Henry is very involved in the protection of the Low Country environment through the "Keep Chechessee Rural Alliance".

Henry was born in Antwerp, Belgium. He was educated at the University of Antwerp and the University of Wisconsin. He started a career in the ocean transportation business in Belgium and was transferred to the Belgian Line office in New York in 1965. He spent the next 25 years in the New York area. In 1991, he was transferred to Abidjan, Ivory Coast to promote the Belgian Line container vessels operation and remained there until his retirement in 1996. He and Ann have three married daughters and seven grandchildren.

Henry says, "I strongly believe in the Habitat for Humanity mission because there is such a need for affordable housing in this world. Having been blessed with a happy family and a successful career, I feel I have a moral obligation to share and commit myself to the improvement of the well-being of others. With Ann's involvement in Habitat for Humanity we enjoy sharing those moments of hard work and companionship."



Henry not only has worked with Habitat in SC, he and Ann have worked in Eagle Butte, South Dakota and Pearlinton, Biloxi and Bay Saint Louis, Mississippi. Henry serves on our Board of Directors and is Chairman of the Construction Committee.

Volunteering for Hilton Head Regional Habitat for Humanity is not limited to swinging a hammer. We are currently looking for volunteers in our ReStores and to work on a variety of committees. The work of our committees ranges from mentoring new home buyers, fostering relationships with local churches, fundraising, training to speak about our mission, and construction and long range planning. If you are interested in volunteering in any of these areas, call Lois Wilkinson, Volunteer Coordinator at 757-5864 or e-mail to fhfvolunteers@habitathhi.org

From the Family Services Corner ... Lynne Crenney

Opportunity for New Homeowners

There is a wonderful opportunity for people who would like to own their own home through Habitat for Humanity. Habitat for Humanity homes are new and well-constructed. They have three or four bedrooms depending on the size of the family and they have a new refrigerator, stove, washer and dryer.

In order to qualify Habitat homebuyers must have lived or worked in Jasper or Beaufort County for at least 6 months. There are income requirements. The minimum household income is \$20,000 per year for a family of four or less. There are maximum income requirements which depend on the size of the family.

Habitat homebuyers must do sweat equity of 300 hours for a one adult family or 400 hours for a two adult family. The sweat equity hours may include some work at other non-profits and work in the Habitat Re-Store. Some of the hours must be working on construction on one's own house and other Habitat houses. In addition the homebuyers must attend 20 hours of workshops designed to prepare them to be successful homeowners.

They must pay \$1200 in closing costs at their closing just before they move into their new home. Habitat does a credit report and a criminal background check on potential homebuyers. The credit must be reasonable and our homebuyers must not have a history of violent or drug related crimes.

Habitat for Humanity homes carry a 30 year mortgage at 0 % interest. The payments are less than \$400 per month and include real estate taxes, homeowners' insurance and pest control as well as payment on the mortgage.

We are currently building houses in Ridgeland. Those interested must attend a New Family Orientation meeting, which is the first step in the process. The next meeting will be held at the Boys & Girls Club of Ridgeland (located in the former Jasper County High School building) on Monday, July 28th at 6:30 pm. We close the doors right at 6:30, so it is important to come early. The meeting lasts about an hour and those in attendance will receive an application at the end of the meeting.

If you know someone who might be interested, please let them know about this wonderful opportunity. If you have questions, please call Lynne at 757-5864.

Habitat ReStore Thanks Its Donors ... L. Riley ReStore Manager

Daily the ReStore receives donations from all over Hilton Head, Bluffton, Callawassie, Sun City and the surrounding areas. Hotels, businesses and individuals generously donate their gently used items for resale in our store. We say "**Thank you, Thank you, Thank you**" to everyone who has donated to us and helped to make the store such a success.

With items coming from all of these different sources we are **sure** you will be able to find that **exact** treasure for which you have been looking! Our hours are 10-5 Mon-Fri, and 10-2 on Saturdays. Come in and browse, bring your own unused items for donation (or call us for a pickup at 757-9995), and volunteer a few hours a week. You will enjoy the experience.

Habitat for Humanity Volunteer Information Meeting

Wednesday, June 11
6:30 to 7:30 PM
Hilton Head Library
Beach City Road

Come and hear about **ALL** the opportunities to volunteer for Habitat
Including Construction, ReStore, Family Support, Fundraising, Church Relations, etc.