



Hilton Head Regional Habitat for Humanity

February 2006

21 Brendan Lane
Bluffton, SC 29910
(843) 757-5864
(843) 757-5865 FAX
Resale Store
(843) 757-9995

Board of Directors

Chairman

J. Don Smith

Vice Chairman

Ron Clifford

Secretary

David Nelson

Treasurer

Jim Fisher

Board Members

Paul Brunelle

Roger Carlson

Henry Diercxsens

Linda Ferguson

Jon Heiliger

Mike Hellman

Ducky Loveless

Dick Patrick

Charles Perry

Larry Sanders

Immediate Past Chair

Michael Maloney

Staff

Executive Director

Patricia Carey Wirth

Associate Director

Dawn Edgington

Administrative Assistants

Stephanie Rathan

Jim Rathan

Construction Supervisor

Tuck Daniels

Volunteer Coordinator

Lois Wilkinson

Resale Store Manager

Lacreda Riley

Amerlcorps

Susan Sommer

Patricia Carey Wirth, Executive Director

What is Habitat for Humanity?

Founded in 1990, Habitat for Humanity is a nonprofit organization seeking to eliminate substandard housing and homelessness and breaking the cycle of poverty inadequate housing fosters.

How does Habitat work?

Through volunteer labor and tax-deductible donations of money and materials, Habitat for Humanity builds simple, decent houses with the help of homeowner families. Houses are sold at NO PROFIT and financed with affordable NO INTEREST loans. Homeowner's monthly mortgage payments go into a revolving building fund, which is used to build more houses. *Habitat is not a give away program.* In addition to paying closing costs and monthly mortgage payments, each homeowner family invests hundreds of hours of their own labor – sweat equity – into the building of their house and the houses of others.

What Does a Habitat House Cost?

A 1200 square foot four-bedroom Habitat house costs the homeowner an average of \$70,000. Prices will differ slightly depending on location and cost of land, labor, utilities and materials.

How are families selected?

Families are selected according to the following criteria:

Residency

Need for adequate shelter

Income between 20% - 50% of the Median Income for Beaufort County

Verification of Income

Willingness to perform "sweat equity"*

Attendance at ten mandatory educational workshops

Closing costs of 2% of the cost of the home.

Habitat maintains a ZERO tolerance for any suspected illegal activity. That includes drug use, drug sales, firearms possession, public disorderly conduct, or any behavior, which may be threatening to the children, adults, and general public safety of anyone living in or visiting Brendan Woods. Habitat will take legal action against any homeowner suspected of such activity in order to ensure the peace and safety of the community.

*"Sweat Equity" is the actual hands-on involvement of the future homeowners in the building of their home and other Habitat homes. One hundred hours must be completed before a specific house is assigned and a minimum of 300 hours must be completed for home ownership. Sweat equity hours may be earned through construction, site preparation, community service, education and helping with Habitat activities.

Where are Hilton Head Regional Habitat for Humanity houses built?

Currently, houses are being built in Brendan Woods in Bluffton. When complete, Brendan Woods will be home to sixty-one families. Twelve houses located in Phase I and twenty-eight houses in Phase II are presently complete and occupied. Seven houses are under construction in Phase III.

Americorps Update ... Susan Sommer Americorps Member

WomenBUILD 2006 kicked off to the sound of sixty-five women pounding nails on Saturday, January 14, 2006. From time to time, the hammering drowned out the Bette Midler's rendition of "I AM WOMAN". Three of the exterior walls were framed and raised, and several of the interior walls were built, as well. Earlier in the week, groups of women helped pre-build the walls. Several women learned how to use the skill saw and the chop saw, a new experience for them. Two of those women took home pieces of the 2x4s to show their husbands. This is great work because not only do we learn new skills, but we become empowered by them.

Melania Ramos and her two sons, Erick and Orlando, will move in to the house after the dedication of their home on May 13th, which is the day before Mother's Day. Women building with and for a woman – what an incredibly wonderful opportunity. We build Tuesday through Saturday, 8AM to Noon; and *WomenBUILD 2006* will continue until May 13, 2006. Come on out and join this mighty group of women!



ALL THAT JAZZ!

WomenBUILD 2006 presents *All That Jazz*, on Sunday, March 5th.
Swing along with Teri Rini Powers and The Alligator Dixieland Jazz Band
& Carole Galli, vocalist.

3 to 5 pm, 3/5/06, at the Jazz Corner at Wexford.

Doors open at 2:30 pm.

Limited reserved seating \$25.

Standing Room Only \$20.

Tickets at: Burke's Main Street Pharmacy, Habitat Office in Bluffton
and The Jazz Corner.

Information: 689-9495 or 757-5864.

(tax deductible checks may be made payable to Habitat for Humanity)