

Habitat Happenings

A monthly newsletter for our volunteers, families, donors and friends

Affiliate News

Power Women Power Tools 2008

by Janell McKane

On July 18th and 19th, it was a sea of pink hard hats as 300 power women raised the walls of three new homes in the city of Lynwood at our 4th annual Power Women, Power Tools build sponsored by Home Interiors and Gifts.

Power Women, Power Tools, hosted by Hollywood for Habitat for Humanity, is an invitation-only, all women build event. Every year the event attracts an amazing group of women who come out to make a difference by building homes and leave feeling inspired and empowered.



Launched as an entertainment industry event, this year we expanded to a two-day, four-shift build and included Power Women from other sectors.

By lunchtime, the morning shift was ready for a break in the shade as the afternoon shift was arriving. Both groups shared a delicious meal provided by California Pizza Kitchen, at the Pike in Rainbow Harbor, and heard moving speeches by Randall Wallace, founder of Hollywood for Habitat for Humanity and our partner families.

Actress Julie Bowen returned for her 3rd time leading the list of hundreds of power women including entertainment industry's Tia Carrere, Sarah Carter, Sarah Chalke, Judge Mablean Ephriam, Rachael Harris, Sarah Lancaster, Pauley Perrette, Andrea Schroder, Kirsten Vangsness and Marissa Jaret Winokur to name a few.

These powerful women put up the first floor walls on three homes in two days. The build was led by Site Supervisor Billy Gifford aka "Mary Ann" (to fit in), donning pastel plaid shorts and his hair in pig tails. Also, on hand wrapping up their service year were our AmeriCorps Crew Leaders Bethy Davis, Kate Wright, Jacky Arellano, Imani Robinson and Michael (Michelle) Meadows, also sporting pig tails and cut-offs in keeping with the theme of the day. Other AmeriCorps spending their last day of service at the site were Nicole Kunzik and Shoshana Daniels.

In addition to the construction, The Home Depot sponsored a children's activity tent providing kits for the kids to build various items such as small wooden houses. A Power Women Store, sponsored by City National Bank was a popular hangout and provided some relief from the sun!

Volunteer Appreciation

Our 2008 Volunteer Appreciation Ceremony was held in conjunction with our JCWP Harborside Terrace block party. This seemed a most appropriate and special venue for thanking the many volunteers who helped to make JCWP, and all our work, possible. We were excited to be able to honor them in front of the homeowner families, their fellow volunteers and the many Habitat staff and supporters who were in attendance.

In addition to an engraved hammer, each volunteer of the year was presented with a

special Certificate of Appreciation from Delores Canizales, Office of Councilmember Janice Hahn, City of Los Angeles, CD-15.

Department Award Honorees

Administrative: John Sullivan
Advocacy & Comm. Part.: Tony Cordero
Board of Directors: Cheryl Perkey
Construction: "Electric" Bob Johnson
Development & Marketing: Rich Siegmund
Family Services: Steve Sferrino
Hollywood for Habitat for Humanity: Leigh Urbaniak
Home Improvement Store: Patsy Payne
Programs & Volunteer Services: Pat Carroll



Back row, l-r: Steve Sferrino, Bob Johnson, Tony Cordero, Rich Siegmund, David Lin, Randall Wallace. Front row, l-r: Delores Canizales, Leigh Urbaniak, Patsy Payne, Pat Carroll, Cheryl Perkey and Erin Rank

Off the Site

AmeriCorps Farewell

By: Deborah Lewis, Programs Manager

Thursday evening July 10th was a bittersweet time for Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles as partner families, volunteers, and staff gathered to celebrate our AmeriCorps member's end of service. At the barbeque we thanked them with food, words of appreciation and gifts.

This year's AmeriCorps team has been

amazing. They have done it all from hosting the Jimmy Carter Work Project 2007 to building in the Gulf Coast, recruiting thousands of volunteers, and establishing our Youth Programs. All nine members never backed down to anything that was asked of them, all the while serving our communities on a small living allowance. Their dedication and hard work is commendable. We are excited to see them complete their term, but sorry to see them leave us.

Members Bethy Davis and Ian Hammond were hired after their terms ended and are working in our Construction Department. Jacqueline Arellano is working temporarily in the Programs Department. We are thrilled to have them staying on as part of the Habitat team and wish the best to the others who are moving on. We have been fortunate to have all of them work with us and are sure of their future success.



Back row l-r

Michael Meadows – 1st Year Member, Construction Crew Leader

Bethy Davis – 2nd Year Member, Construction Crew Leader

Nicole Kunzik – 1st Year Member, Volunteer Coordinator

Imani Robinson – 2nd Year Member, ABWK Project Coordinator

David Johansing – 2nd Year Member, ABWK Construction Crew Leader

Front Row l-r

Kate Wright – 2nd Year Member, Construction Crew Leader

Shoshana Daniels – 1st Year Member, Youth Program Coordinator

Jacqueline Arellano – 1st Year Member, Construction Crew Leader

Ian Hammond – 1st Year Member, Construction Crew Leader

Mark Your Calendar

Dates to Remember and Upcoming Events

August

Saturday, 23rd - 12:00 noon

Habitat 101 Info Session

Contact Deborah Lewis

dlewis@habitatla.org or ext. 119 for information and location.

Thursday 28th - Friday 29th

Fannie Mae Golf & Tennis Classic
Ritz Carlton, Dana Point

September

Wednesday, 3rd

Site Lunch

Week of the 14th

Building on Faith Week

Contact Patty Lee

plee@habitatla.org or ext. 106

Wednesday, 17th - 6:30 pm

Habitat 101 Info Session

Contact Deborah Lewis

dlewis@habitatla.org or ext. 119 for information and location.

September - Date TBD

Diaz-Echavarria Family

House Warming

Louise Street Lynwood

Friday, 26th

Music Builds Tour (see pg 4 for info)

Verizon Wireless Amphitheater

Irvine, CA

Home Improvement Store
17700 S. Figueroa St
Gardena, CA 90248

Hours: Tuesday—Saturday
9am-6pm

Phone: 310-323-5665

Website: www.shophabitat.org

DONATE, SHOP, RECYCLE -
Help the environment while helping to fund the building of more Habitat homes. 100% of all purchases goes back to Habitat.

Save the Date

BUILDING A GREATER

Los Angeles

Gala

A "Diamonds & Denim" Affair

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2008

6:30 pm – 10:30 pm
Beverly Hilton Hotel

Honoring Partners from the Entertainment, Corporate,
Private and Housing Sectors

Join Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles, Our
Partner Families, Celebrities, Dignitaries & Special Guests

Live Music • Red Carpet • Habitat House Auction •

VIP Reception

For More Information and Tickets call

Jo-An at 310-323-4663 ext. 121,

jturman@habitatla.org

www.habitatla.org



Habitat Cornerstone Graduates Its First Class

by Janell McKane

Graduation of the first Cornerstone Basic Construction Skills class was held on July 2—complete with certificates, a hard hat and a tee shirt.

Our Housing Center for Excellence is now offering construction skills training to partner families and to our volunteers. From basic hands-on learning workshops for beginners to advanced “Crew Leader” training for veterans, this preparation will improve efficiency on job sites.

Cornerstone is a 14 unit training course that will teach basic construction skills needed on our Habitat sites.

The Crew Leader training will focus on understanding Habitat procedures and how to lead teams of volunteers. No skills assessment will be needed, but participants should have basic construction skills and have had previous experience on a

Habitat site as a volunteer. This is a four-week course.

Trainings for this exciting program will be held at:

Housing Center for Excellence
969 Sandhill Ave.
Carson, CA 90746
(310) 324-4206

For information and training schedule, contact:

Deborah Lewis at (310) 323-4663 ext 119 or dlewis@habitatla.org



Youth United Program Awarded \$10,000 grant!

by Jo-An Turman

Our Youth United Steering Committee Members have worked long and hard to complete a grant application for a matching grant from State Farm through Habitat for Humanity International. Their hard work has paid off, and we have been awarded a grant! Thanks to our youth's hard work, we are \$10,000 closer to our goal of \$100,000 to provide one more safe decent, affordable house for a hard working family in need.

Our hats off to Shoshana, Deborah and Nicole for their hard work on our Youth Initiatives. More than 6,000 students have been engaged in Habitat for Humanity's mission so far.

Congratulations to USC for raising \$20,000 for Nickels for Nails!

Help us achieve our goal!
Register for [Nickels for Nails](#) and start raising funds today.

Opportunities for Giving

Help Build More Homes and Eliminate Poverty Housing

Make a Donation

Your generous gift will provide materials and resources to help us in our mission to eliminate poverty housing. Just click on the “Donors” tab of our website.

DONATE your **VEHICLE**
to help build homes.



Call **1-877-277-4344**

or visit

www.carsforhomes.org

Attention Ralphs Shoppers

Committed to supporting the community, Ralphs Grocery Stores implemented the Ralphs Rewards program, enabling customers to save money while donating to non profit organization of their choice. Habitat for Humanity Greater L.A. is a partner in Ralphs Rewards, and earns dollars when our supporters swipe their Rewards Card when checking out.

In order to earn we must be identified by you first. The Ralphs Rewards program is easy to use: just sign up for a Rewards Card at you local Ralphs Store, and register at Ralphs.com as a participant between August 4th and August 31st to support HFH GLA.

Participation requires renewal even if you enrolled last year, and those with the older Ralphs Club Cards must update to the Ralphs Rewards Card too. And please, don't forget to tell your friends!

If you have any questions, contact Lydia Lujan at ext. 110 or llujan@habitatla.org.

Thank You Carol for Helping Habitat and the Environment!

On Friday 6/27 I took a donation of \$361.46 from Northrop Grumman Mission Systems to Lydia Lujan at HFHGLA. This was money collected for the past two months from the recycling efforts at our Northrop Grumman site. With our stepped up collection of plastic and glass in addition to aluminum cans, the rewards are much greater and we are keeping that much more out of the landfill. Again we give thanks to King Rouse for his manpower in facilitating this donation to Habitat For Humanity. King sorted, bagged, transported, and cashed in 472 lbs. of recyclables in the past two months! Thanks, King!

Carol James
Northrop Grumman

Lending a Hand

With or Without Your Tool Belt There Many Ways to Help

Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers needed for positions listed below. For job descriptions and additional opportunities check our website:

http://www.habitatla.org/volunteer_admin.asp

Home Improvement Store Liaison

Help us open our second Home Improvement Store! We need an individual to collect information, complete and file permit applications. Should be highly motivated, have excellent communication skills and be detail oriented. Must commit 12-16 hours per week for three months. Please send your contact information and why you'd be right for this position to Dave McKechnie at davem@habitatla.org

Office Worker

Assist in the daily operations of the Program Department by tracking critical volunteer information. Commit to regularly volunteer in this capacity. If interested please contact volunteers@habitatla.org.

Site Hosts

Welcome volunteers to the construction site, create a welcoming environment for all volunteers, make sure that all volunteers sign-in, their paperwork is turned in and filed properly. Site hosts are needed for the first couple hours of each build day, particularly on Saturdays. Must be at least 16 years old. Contact volunteers@habitatla.org for more information.

Construction Department Volunteer

Improve the function of the construction office and the Housing Center for Excellence operations. Provide general administrative support, including filing, answering phones and general organization. Commit to 4 hours a day at least 2 days a week (Monday through Friday). Please send a brief description of your skills and why you would like to volunteer to volunteers@habitatla.org.

WIN A CHANCE TO BUILD A HABITAT FOR HUMANITY HOUSE WITH BANDS ON THE MUSIC BUILDS TOUR!



THIRD DAY, SWITCHFOOT Robert Randolph & the Family Band and Jars of Clay, invite you to win a chance to build a Habitat for Humanity house with bands on the music builds tour!

TO ENTER:

Add the donation badge at www.myspace.com/musicbuilds to your MySpace page. Then get your Friends to donate or copy the badge. On August 15th, 2008 the two fans who have collected the greatest number of donations through their network of Friends will be the winners.

For additional information and to get the donation badge, visit www.myspace.com/musicbuilds between August 5 and 15th. Then check back to see if you've won!! **OR**

Visit www.ebay.com/musicbuildstour from August 5-15 to bid on a chance to join the bands from the Music Builds Tour and Habitat as they build in Indianapolis or Nashville. Prizes will include: *2 build slots for winner and guest * 2 VIP Tickets to the Music Builds Tour show that evening in corresponding city *Special Band Merchandise* New Third Day album Revelation

We hope you will support Habitat for Humanity by bidding on the auction above for the concert in **IRVINE, CA** on **Friday, September 26, 2008**.

The winner of the auction will receive a once in a lifetime concert experience including two premium tickets to the show (exact locations are shown in listing), a private meet and greet with the bands, tour merchandise, and an autographed copy of the new Third Day album "Revelation."

In addition to the contest and the auction, a portion of the proceeds from each ticket sold to the concert in Irvine, CA on September 26, 2008 will benefit HFH GLA. The group sales form can be utilized to receive a DISCOUNTED ticket. Anyone and everyone who sends in this form in a group of 15 or more will receive the group discounted ticket price. For the Group Sales Order Form visit <http://www.habitatla.org> and click on link for [2008 Music Builds Tour Group Ticket Order Form](#).

Another creative way to raise money to build homes...

The Archer Dads and Daughters club organized their first Annual Woof n' Wash Habitat Fundraiser this April. Over twenty Archer School girls, fathers, siblings, and a couple of moms, volunteered to wash dogs, sell Habitat items and sell refreshing beverages and snacks. There was even a puppy silent auction! The event took place on Saturday, April 12th, from 11am-3pm at Barrington Dog Park in Brentwood. Volunteers spread the word about Habitat, spent quality time with friendly dogs and owners, and enjoyed a bright, sunny day! The fundraiser was a huge success; the group raised \$1,000!



Our Wish List

Help us open a second Home Improvement Store. HFH GLA is in need of the following materials & equipment. Our hope is that someone out there in our pool of outstanding supporters, might be a resource or know of a resource for some of the more expensive items that we need. Please have a look at the following items and see if you, or someone you know might have the resources or connections to donate these materials:

- Pallet Racking
- 7k capacity warehouse forklift (propane powered)
- 20' Stake Bed Trucks (Diesel) with lift gate

Please contact Dave McKechnie at ext 104 or dmckechnie@habitatla.org