

The Blueprint Newsletter

3644 Rainbow Drive
Rainbow City, AL 35906
256-543-1898

Spring
2014



Volunteers from APSO (Alabama Power Service Organization) gave HFH a real boost this Fall when they spent the day framing House #43, installed the trusses and dried it in by tar papering the roof.

"We are grateful to the men and women who gave their time to help the Taylor family," said **Suzanne Scharfenberg**, Pres of the Board. The event was organized by **Jerry Mills**, Senior Marketing Specialist with Alabama Power. The build was also supported by framing experts from **B.D. Welch Construction Co.**

A barbecue lunch was prepared and served on sight by members of APSO. **Steve Hilderbrant**, Area Manager spoke to volunteers during the break emphasizing the importance of community involvement and support. "Habitat for Humanity is looking forward to future partnerships with the APSO group," said **Steve Scharfenberg**, Construction Coordinator. "They gave us a great start," he said.



Volunteers from Alabama Power Co.
& B.D. Welch Construction Co.



Melissa Taylor and her son, Brayden closed on their new 2-bedroom home in Rainbow City April 1st. We had many weather delays, but the happy day is here. The dedication will be April 15th. The house is sponsored by Habitat for Humanity funds, a gift from Mary Alvey, and a grant from Wells Fargo.

Girl Scout Junior Troop #30822 completed a project in March establishing a flower bed around the mailbox filling it with spring flowers.



House #43—Rainbow City, AL

CONGRATULATIONS!

John Parks, a Southside resident and long-time volunteer with Gadsden-Etowah Habitat for Humanity, received the 2013 Volunteer of the Year Award. The annual awards banquet was hosted by Alabama Association of Habitat Affiliates in Montgomery, AL on February 20th. The keynote speaker was Gov. Robert Bentley.

John Parks has been a volunteer with Gadsden-Etowah Habitat for Humanity since 2004. His primary role on the job site is "saw man". **Steve Scharfenberg**, Construction Coordinator, says, "John is the best saw man you could find. He is fast, accurate, and very cheerful. He has earned the love and respect of all our volunteers." John's outgoing, friendly personality has also earned him the nickname of "Papa Smurf".

John's generosity to Habitat for Humanity is evident in many ways. He has donated tools and supplies, and constructed a jig for the fast, accurate cutting of siding materials. He is a regular on the construction site.

John inspires many people through his volunteer activities including Carpenters for Christ, Manna, and Retired Senior Volunteer Program.



L-R: Suzanne Scharfenberg, John Parks, Steve Scharfenberg

ATTENTION! *Volunteers Needed* We are looking for volunteers with some construction or carpentry skills to help build houses.

WILL YOU help?

- ◇ Wed. and Sat. workdays
- ◇ 8:00—12:00 noon
- ◇ We have tools
- ◇ Contact HFH to volunteer!



Habitat Dragon Boat Festival
Saturday ~ Aug. 16, 2014.
Look inside ~ registration OPEN!

Welcome New Board Members ~



Joining the Habitat for Humanity Board in January 2014 are: (L-R) - Don Whitt, Monica Gilmer, Bill Parker, (center back) Ty Dillon. Not shown, Jerry Mills.

House #44 Groundbreaking Feb. 7, 2014—First house built in Ball Play



We broke ground on HFH house #44 in the Ball Play on Beaird Rd. for the McGlaughn family - Sandra, Randall and their daughter, Jessica. The house is sponsored by HFH, Mary Alvey, and State Farm Ins. Pastor Tommy Hutt of Sims Chapel Baptist Church gave the opening prayer. Friends, family, volunteers and supporters gathered to share in the excitement of a new beginning. The family is busy completing their sweat-equity and partnership agreement. Their advocates are Wanda and Jimmy Posey. Special thanks goes out to Glen Latham who is helping coordinate a number of volunteers from the local community to help build this house.



Left: Cendee Pierre, Family #45, selects her house plan assisted by Marisa Moehr, Adm. Assistant.



Right—Rob & Jessica McArthur and five children are Family #46. They recently selected their house plan.



A Christmas party in December with families in the “pipeline” was a chance to celebrate the holidays and each family’s progress. Advocates, board members, and volunteers attended the event.



Support Gadsden-Etowah Habitat for Humanity

3644 Rainbow Drive
Rainbow City, AL 35906

Enclosed is my tax-deductible donation in the amount of \$ _____
in support of building houses and changing lives.

My Name _____

Address _____

City/ Zip _____

Phone # _____

I wish to make my gift:

In Honor of: _____

Occasion: _____ (birthday, anniversary, graduation, etc.)

In Memory of _____

Send gift acknowledgement to:

Name _____

Address _____

City/Zip _____

Thank you, Volunteers

The Family Selection Committee recently screened a large number of families seeking partnership with Habitat for Humanity. This process requires much effort and includes screening, verifying information, home visits, phone calls, and clerical work. We truly appreciate the volunteers who helped select our next group of families.



L-R: Traci Pondick, Stan Wagar, Monica Gilmer, Ola Vay Majure, Sunita Graves, Steve Scharfenberg, Marisa Moehr. Not shown, Pudent McArthur, Suzanne Scharfenberg, and Eugenia Cunningham.

A Word from the President

Dear Friends of Habitat,

Spring is finally here and our plan is to build three houses this year. We could certainly use your volunteer help. Please say YES and contact our office for more information.



If you are skilled or semi-skilled in carpentry, painting, or just cleaning up the worksite...there's a place for you. We typically work Wed. and Sat, so please consider putting Habitat for Humanity on your community service project schedule. You will make a difference for a needy family currently living in substandard housing!

Congratulations to John Parks, our 2013 Volunteer of the Year! John was recognized by Gov. Robert Bentley at the annual AAHA meeting in February.

Don't forget - the 3rd Annual Habitat Dragon Boat Festival will be Sat. Aug. 16, 2014. It's time to register YOUR team. New this year....two race divisions. See details in this newsletter.

Thank you so much to all the generous volunteers, contributors and supporters of Habitat. Your support helps builds houses and change lives. To date, we have completed 43 houses and served 144 individuals.

Suzanne Scharfenberg

3rd Annual Habitat Dragon Boat FestivalSat., August 16, 2014



Talk of the Town! Elizabeth Barnett, a two-year captain of 'Row Tide', the Alabama Alumni team, and winners of the Team Spirit Award for two years says, "The Dragon Boat race day has become an amazing community event. It brings people together with like interests, bonds them together and inspires friendly competition in the community. The teams have a TON of fun while raising money for such a great cause. The costume and spirit contests really bring out the personalities in our community. Each year has gotten bigger and better! Dragon Boat day is definitely one of the highlights for the year for our community! It allows us to show off our

beautiful river and bring the entire community together for a great day of family friendly fun. You MUST be there this year!"

How to Register:

- Forms available at: www.habitatdragonboat.com
- Phone: 256-543-1898
- Email: gehabitat@comcast.net
- Deadline Friday, Aug. 1, 2014
- \$2,100 per team (\$1,100 is due with registration form)

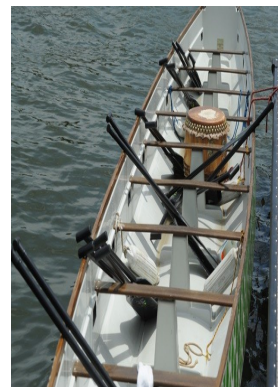
Your Team Receives:

- Equipment - use of dragon boat, paddles, life jackets, steersman
- 90-minute practice with coach during week Aug. 11 - 15
- Tent space in Athletes Village
- Team Name and Sponsor recognition

Race Day:

- Awards for Top 3 Teams in Competitive Division- Gold, Silver, and Bronze
- Award for 1st, 2nd, 3rd place in Recreational Division
- Award for Best Drummer Costume
- Award for Best Team Spirit
- Award for Best Decorated Tent
- Photo of your Dragon Boat Team available for purchase

Janet Tarrance, who works for Gadsden Parks & Recreation has been the captain for two years of the 'Blazing Nostrils' dragon boat team. She says, "I have had the pleasure in working with several events over many years, but this is one of my favorite events by far that I have been involved with. Not only is it competitive, takes teamwork, and is fun, but the money this event takes in goes for a wonderful cause. I look forward to this event each year."



Your dragon boat awaits!

HDBF Major Sponsors & Festival Partners

Paddles UP!



The Gadsden Times



~ District #30 ~
Rep. Mack Butler
Sen. Phil Williams
Committee Members-
Jon Jones & Karen Thomas



Thank You, Donors and Supporters!

Donations Sept. 10, 2013 - March 20, 2014

Individuals ~

Juanita Miller *
Jane Petty *
Jeanie Russell
Pudden McArthur *
Dorothy Stephens
Ed & Mary Ann Hill
Lynne & John Czervionke

Frances Patterson *
William Simpson
Leslie Hix
Ben Johnston *
M. & Hollie Porter

Businesses ~

Greater Gadsden Greeters
Sam's Club, Trussville
Alabama Power Co.
Printup Hotel Association Ltd.

Memorials ~

Robert Will by Marge & Dick Heberlein
Hannon Hardy by Suzanne & Steve Scharfenberg
Letha LaRue by Suzanne & Steve Scharfenberg

Honorariums ~

Cobie Williams by Roscoe Garner
Jerry Yarbrough by
Dr. Teresa Drummond
John Parks by Herb & Sandra Morris

In-Kind ~

Jerry Yarbrough
A-1 Exterminating
Gadsden Fire Dept.
Jerry Dowdy
Tidmore Construction

Steve Parrish
Mike Chapman
Laura Ditsworth
Rexel

Churches ~

Morris Sunday School—FUMC Gadsden
Episcopal Church of Holy Comforter

* Given more than once this period



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BUILDING HOUSES AND CHANGING LIVES

Spring 2014

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Gadsden, AL

Volunteer....Donate....Help a Family....Change a life.....Build a dream....Make a difference....Habitat for Humanity



Shelnut Law Firm volunteers



Heath McDaniel's class from GSCC built the storage shed for House #43

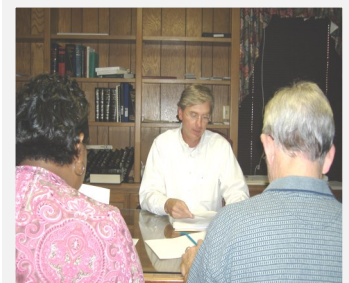


Volunteers build floor system at House #44

Happy Easter

Thank you, Jim!

Jim Copeland Law Firm has generously donated their professional legal skills to provide the closings for Habitat families for 16 years! Thank you, Jim, and associates, for your generous support over the years. Helping families understand their mortgage and other legal matters is an important step in purchasing their new home.



Gadsden-Etowah Habitat for Humanity

Donate, Volunteer or Apply

Phone & Fax: 256-543-1898

Email: gehabitat@comcast.net

Office: 3644 Rainbow Dr., Rainbow City, 35906

Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9 - 4:00

Website: www.gadsdenhabitat.com

Facebook: gadsdenhabitat



2014 Board of Directors

Suzanne Scharfenberg—President

Stan Wagar—Vice Pres.

Eugenia Cunningham—Secretary

Pudden McArthur—Treas.

Carol Clokey Ty Dillon

Ben Johnston Jerry Mills Bill Parker

Traci Pondick Monica Gilmer

Steve Scharfenberg Don Whitt