

# The Blueprint Newsletter



Spring  
2016

Gadsden-Etowah Habitat for Humanity

3644 Rainbow Drive

Rainbow City, AL 35906

256-543-1898

## Partners in the Community

### House #48 ~ Home of the Veal Family

Alabama Power Service Organization (APSO) volunteers framed House #48 on Nov. 6th in E. Gadsden. The volunteers were under leadership of **Charles Copeland Construction Co.** and **Jerry Mills**, Senior Marketing Specialist with Alabama Power. The group raised the walls, installed trusses and roof sheathing. Lunch was prepared and served on site by members of APSO.

**Steve Hildebrant**, Alabama Power Area Manager spoke to volunteers during a break emphasizing the importance of community involvement and support. "Habitat for Humanity is looking forward to continued partnerships with APSO," said **Steve Scharfenberg**, Construction Coordinator. "They gave us another

great start," he said.

The home will be completed by families and Habitat Core Volunteers. It will be sold to the Veal family when completed.

The house has been equipped



with a handicap bathroom and entrance ramps to meet the needs of Ms. Veal's adult son who is in a wheelchair. The ramps were built by **Fred DeJong, John Parks** and **W.C. Murphy**.

The house is sponsored by Habitat with grant funds from **Community Development Block Grant** and **BBVA Compass** grant funds.



*Ta-Shanuna, Gabriel, Avila, and Alicia Veal.*

**Dedication Ceremony House #48**  
**Thurs. May 19, 2016 at 10:00 a.m.**

104 Adams Circle, E. Gadsden

Thanks to all the Habitat Volunteers, APSO,  
BBVA Compass Bank grant and generous supporters

## Accepting Applications for Housing

**May 1-31, 2016**

**Families/Individuals interested in applying for housing should contact us now at 256-543-1898 to receive a Pre-Screening form. Deadline is May 31st.**

You may qualify if you are living in poverty or substandard housing, have a steady income between \$15,360 and \$38,400 per year, are willing to work 300 hours of sweat-equity, and have lived in Etowah County for at least 1 year. Habitat for Humanity is an equal opportunity lender.

## How Can My Church Help?

In many ways, one of the most appealing aspects of working with Habitat for Humanity is that building a house provides a tangible opportunity to live out your faith. Giving of your time and talents makes faith come alive.

Building a Habitat house allows you to have a new understanding of poverty housing locally. When you work side by side with the future homeowner family, you break through barriers and see one another as real people - as partners. Getting to know people in need creates an urgency to respond.

Strong feelings of community develop as people work together to build a Habitat house. New friendships are created within the congregation and the community. When a house is finished, volunteers and homeowners feel a great sense of pride and connection with one another.

Many congregations experience great spiritual renewal when they build a house. Lives are changed. Often new families join the church and the congregation as a whole sees new purpose.

Our affiliate tithes 10% of unrestricted funds raised to fund the construction of houses in Haiti. Our tithe often pays for an entire house in another country where construction costs are lower.

Building a house can be the single most inspiring project your church will take on. Contact the office today 256-543-1898. Get involved. Help eliminate substandard housing in Etowah County!

*The Church Relations Committee  
Linda Russo, Chrm.*

## \*\*\*\* JOB POSTING \*\*\*\*

**Habitat** is seeking a part-time **Construction Manager** to oversee all building projects. Salary negotiable. Must have strong technical and leadership skills, a working knowledge of house construction. Challenging but rewarding partnership opportunities with Habitat families, volunteers, and the local community.

**Send resume:** GEHFH, 3644 Rainbow Dr.  
RBC, AL 35906

## Volunteers Needed!

Don't miss out on the opportunity to make a difference. **PLEASE help!**

- ◇ **Wed. and Sat. workdays**
- ◇ **8:00—12:00 noon**
- ◇ **Call: 256-543-1898**
- ◇ **gehabitat@comcast.net**



## Donate, Volunteer or Apply

Phone & Fax: 256-543-1898

Email: [gehabitat@comcast.net](mailto:gehabitat@comcast.net)

Office: 3644 Rainbow Dr., RBC 35906

Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9 - 5:00

Website: [www.gadsdenhabitat.com](http://www.gadsdenhabitat.com)

Facebook: [Gadsden-Etowah Habitat for Humanity](https://www.facebook.com/Gadsden-Etowah-Habitat-for-Humanity)

## At Work with Families and Volunteers

**Cathy Johnston** joined HFH as Office Administrator on March 21, 2016. She brings years of practical administrative experience to the job and is excited about her first dragon boat festival event.



Volunteer ~  
Ed Spraley



Volunteer ~  
John Czervionke

**Be a Volunteer!**

### A Word from the President



Dear Friends of Habitat,

We are off to a great start in 2016 with generous supporters and wonderful volunteers who make it all possible. More volunteers are always needed! Will you help?

We welcomed five new board members in January 2016. (see insert photo)

Applications for housing are OPEN from May 1 – 31, 2016. If you know of anyone who would like to apply for housing, contact the office at 256-543-1898 for pre-screening form.

We are reaching out to partner with local churches in our area and share the joy of this ecumenical Christian housing ministry. There are many ways to volunteer. We have literature and ideas to share with your church. Come help us build a better community by providing simple, decent, affordable housing. **Will your church help?** Our church relations chairwoman, Linda Russo, will be happy to provide you with exciting ways to get involved.

**Paddles UP!** Our 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Habitat Dragon Boat Festival is set for Sat. Aug. 20, 2016 at Riverwalk Park on the Coosa River. Team registration is OPEN. Just contact our office for registration form and all the information you'll need. Or go to our website: [www.habitatdragonboat.com](http://www.habitatdragonboat.com). Please help us raise needed funds to continue our mission of serving those currently living in poverty or sub-standard housing in Etowah County.

God bless you all!

*Suzanne Scharfenberg*  
President



Volunteer ~ Alicia  
Veal & Frank Duke



Volunteer ~  
Kristy Strother



Volunteer ~ Renii Oliver

### Welcome New Board Members

New 2016 Board Members: (L-R) Linda Russo, Becky Henson, Robert Smith, Joanna Mercado and Catherine Martin.



### 2016 Board of Directors

Suzanne Scharfenberg—President

Traci Pondick—Vice Pres.

Eugenia Cunningham—Secretary

Steve Scharfenberg —Treas.

Carol Clokey Mike Grieco Becky Henson

Catherine Martin Joanna Mercado

Linda Russo Robert Smith

### Sweat-equity



#48 Veal Family

### Families in the Pipeline



#49 Coker Family

### Friends



#50 Pascual Family

### New Skills

### Budgeting

Families in the Pipeline ~ (L-R) Alicia Veal family, Emily Coker family, and Martha Pascual family





## 5th Annual Habitat Dragon Boat Festival Sat., August 20, 2016

### Time to Register Your Team ..... Come join the fun!

- Registration at: [www.habitatdragonboat.com](http://www.habitatdragonboat.com)
- Phone: 256-543-1898
- Email: [gehabitat@comcast.net](mailto:gehabitat@comcast.net)
- Deadline Friday, Aug. 5, 2016
- \$2,100 per team (\$1,100 due with registration form)

#### Your Team Receives:

- Equipment - use of dragon boat, paddles, life jackets, steersman
- 90-minute practice with coach during week Aug. 15-19
- Tent space in Athletes Village
- Team Name and Sponsor recognition

#### Race Day:

- Awards for Top 3 Teams in Competitive & Recreational Divisions - Gold, Silver, and Bronze paddles
- Award for Best Drummer Costume
- Award for Best Team Spirit
- Award for Best Decorated Tent
- Award for Best Team T-Shirts
- Photo of your Dragon Boat Team available for purchase

*Paddles UP!*

### Major Sponsors

Exchange Bank of Alabama  
The Gadsden Times  
City of Gadsden  
WQSB/MIX 102.9  
District #30  
Rep. Mack Butler  
Sen. Phil Williams

**Festival Partners**  
Hampton Inn/Gadsden

**Other Sponsors**  
Greater Gadsden Tourism



## Volunteers Honored

Larry Dooley received the 2015 Volunteer of the Year Award and Steve Scharfenberg received the 2015 Affiliate Leader of the Year Award. The presentations were made at the 13th Annual Awards Banquet hosted by Alabama Association of Habitat Affiliates in Montgomery, AL on Jan. 21st. Keynote speaker for the event was Shannon Ammons, CEO of AL Association of Nonprofits.

Larry Dooley has been a volunteer with Gadsden-Etowah Habitat for Humanity since 1998. Larry is an inspiration to all because at the age of 80, he continues to share his time and talents as an active construction volunteer.

Steve Scharfenberg has served as Construction Coordinator since 2002 overseeing every aspect of construction.

Larry & Steve make it a point to get to know all of our partnership families. They find great satisfaction in helping others and encouraging everyone to lend a hand!



(L-R) Larry Dooley & Steve Scharfenberg

### ~ In Memory ~

*Bill Davis and Blake Cornelius who volunteered with Habitat for Humanity over the years. Their kindness and generous spirit will be sincerely missed.*

*Marion Hayden who served as advocate for family #30. Ed Hill who was a longtime contributor to Habitat for Humanity. May they rest in peace.*

## Thanks to our Donors and Supporters!

Donations Sept. 19, 2015 – April 15, 2016

#### Individuals

Frances Patterson \* Elizabeth Fussell  
Craig & Theresa Gilley Roscoe Garner  
Pudden McArthur \* Dorothy Stephens  
Leslie & Clay Hix Ida Rader  
Ed & Evelyn Schreier Jane Petty \*  
Mike & Judy Grieco

#### In-Kind Gifts

Yarbrough Janitorial Service \*  
Bolin Cabinets Gadsden Scaffold Co.  
Hugh Baskin Publix  
Dallas Plumbing Simmons's Signs  
Nick Webb Jessica Miles  
Alabama Power Service Organization  
Schneider Electric/Square D/Yale Locks  
Tom Berndt, Bucky's Surplus LLC  
Chris Bradford Appraisal  
Master Gardeners of Etowah County

#### Churches

Morris Sunday School—FUMC Gadsden

#### Grant

CDBG City of Gadsden

#### Businesses

Tre Regazzi Your Cause ATT  
JC Penny Change for Better \*

#### Memorials

Marian Hayden by Scharfenberg Family  
Marion Hayden by Henry & Cynthia Bruning  
Ed Hill by Suzanne & Steve Scharfenberg  
Bill Davis by Suzanne & Steve Scharfenberg  
Bill Davis by McCord Family  
Bill Davis by Diane Chalupnik  
Larry Champagne by Scharfenberg Family  
Blake Cornelius by Scharfenberg Family  
Milton Skinner by Anonymous

#### Christmas Honorariums

Dallas & Norma McElroy  
by Kenneth & Janice Rains  
The Norris Family  
by Dr. Sam & Leone Norris

Habitat Dragon Boat Festival  
Saturday, Aug. 20th  
Registration OPEN!





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www.gadsdenhabitat.com

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

SERVING ETOWAH COUNTY SINCE 1996  
BUILDING HOUSES AND CHANGING LIVES

Spring 2016

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit #124  
Gadsden, AL

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

## 2016 Home Builders Blitz Build

Habitat's 2016 Home Builders Blitz will take place the week of **June 6, 2016** on Garvin St., N. Gadsden. This exciting event is a partnership between Habitat for Humanity and the building industry that gives local builders a chance to give back to their community while networking with other builders and suppliers.

Coordinating the 2016 Blitz Build is **Joey Fortenberry**. Local builders committed to the project so far are **BD Welch Construction, Omega Homes, and Richardson Construction**. The **GSCC Carpentry Class** under instructor, **Heath McDaniel**, will also participate.

Habitat believes housing provides a critical foundation for breaking the cycle of poverty. The Blitz Build offers professional homebuilders the opportunity to use their skill and talents to address the growing need for low-income housing in communities nationwide.

Habitat for Humanity acquires land, develops the sites, provides house plans and permits, and selects partner families, while builders donate labor, funding and materials.

Many builders and subcontractors who participate in Home Builders Blitz stay actively involved with Habitat long after the event through continued volunteerism, advocacy and financial support.



Ta-Shanuna & Gabriel ready for moving day! This summer they will be enjoying the playground at Adams Park.

### Donation ~ 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 donation acknowledgement card to:**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City/Zip** \_\_\_\_\_