

Issue No. 34

A Publication of Habitat for Humanity of Hood County P.O. Box 1866 Granbury, Texas 76048 817-573-2812 www.habitatofhoodcounty.org

Winter 2004

# From the Prez

We have noticed spring is in the air around the Habitat homes under construction this fall. Spring is a time for new growth, renewal, a feeling of optimism and observing things once again as though it were for the first time. After a long hot summer, although this past summer was mild compared to average summers in this part of Texas, many Habitat volunteers are eager for the first building day of fall. As a rule, we start construction immediately after Labor Day. We see friends we haven't seen often during the summer. We catch up on what has been occurring in each other's lives. We are ready to drive in that first nail. There is an air of determination to build houses for the future homeowners. Nothing can stop us, not a thumb that has been hit with a hammer, not creaking muscles, nothing. It is similar to a new school year when we were younger.

There is a new ingredient that has been added to the mix this year, new volunteers. There have been twenty or more first time volunteers who have come out for at least two workdays. All organizations continually need new blood to excel and Habitat is fortunate to have these new faces. Their enthusiasm and spirit has affected us all. The number of volunteers this fall has allowed us to work on two homes simultaneously although they weren't started at the same time. Habitat's spring growth is two more houses for deserving and needy families. I think spring will again be in the air after the holidays and in January and in April and anywhere volunteers are helping others. Jeff Jeffcoat

# Home for the Holidays

Habitat volunteers are working hard at this special time to try to get two families in their **Homes for the Holidays**. Community Bank is helping with this goal in a big way!

We are once again greatly blessed by Community Bank with their 9<sup>th</sup> year of offering a Matching Funds Campaign. This partnership with Community Bank, the people of Hood County, and Habitat for Humanity of Hood County has been extremely successful over the past 8 years. This year, again, Community Bank will be matching any gift given to Habitat for Humanity from November 15<sup>th</sup> to January 31<sup>st</sup>. Those wishing to donate may drop their donations by any of Community Bank's locations or send them to Habitat for Humanity of Hood County, PO Box 1866, Granbury, TX 76048. Community Bank will match up to \$1,500 from any donor. Last year the bank generously contributed \$30,000 to match donations. We are so very appreciative of Community Bank's support of this ministry of building simple decent homes for families in need.

This community is making an incredible opportunity available to families in this county. Thanks to you, the dream of purchasing a home of their own is becoming a reality for four new families every year. Your donated funds are all used to purchase materials for construction of these four homes. All construction labor and administrative functions are done by volunteers. We are an <u>all</u> volunteer organization and strive to be good stewards of your donations. We sincerely thank you for your continued support.

Carol Davidson, Volunteer Exec. Director

#### Officers for 2004

Executive Director	Carol Davidson
President	Jeff Jeffcoat
Vice-President	James Spencer
Treasurer	Wayne Hagood
Secretary	Kathy Gwinn

# **Thanks to Volunteers**

Happy Holidays from your construction crew. We are finishing off the last two houses of the calendar year, and everything is going great. We thank God for His blessings.

If you've been wondering if there was anything special you might do for Habitat this holiday season, I've made a short wish list of construction items. They can be used, abused, discarded, worn, dented, or even new.

Your construction team could really use:

- 1- A 3-point hitch, post hole digger for our tractor,
- 2- A used refrigerator for the lunch shack,

3- A powered miter saw with laser guide (to eliminate sawing fingers),

4- Hand Tools, crow bars, speed squares, framing squares, levels, tape measures, utility knives.

Thanks for considering our wish list. I pray that you have a wonderful holiday season, and Look forward to starting a new house after the first of the year.

**Jim and Brenda Bair** have been installing our fences with **Harlan Keller** for quite a while. On Jessica's house, I had forgotten the fence - no problem - Jim and Brenda to the rescue. They came out on their own, measured, ordered the materials, and installed the fence. Many thanks.

Alan Rogers suggested we use house wrap instead of construction felt to seal our houses. I explained the cost difference, and expected Alan to let it drop, but instead he contacted Tyvek Corporation, and arranged for them to donate a roll of house wrap for each Habitat house. Thanks for seeing something that needs changing, and then doing something about it. **Paul Chevarle** got his company W.F. Gunn, to survey and replat our last two Edgebrook lots. Thanks Paul.



Want to know where we are building and when to show up? Just check our web site at <u>www.habitatofhoodcounty.org</u>. See photos of construction progress and volunteers in action!

If you REALLY want to keep up to date, sign up for our weekly e-mail update by Jeff Jeffcoat. It includes specifics of the construction progress and usually includes a photo. Jeff promises no spam, no pop-ups. Only Habitat news!

Sign up by e-mailing Jeff at Jeffcoat@hcnews.com

Please let us know if changes need to be made to your name or address as listed on this newsletter. You may send any changes needed to: <u>newsletter@habitatofhoodcounty.org</u>

#### HELP US, PLEASE

Habitat for Humanity of Hood County is an all-volunteer organization. We have no paid staff and no office so that we can devote the resources you give us to providing simple, decent housing for God's people in need.

If you no longer have an interest in Habitat's ministry, it will help us keep our mailing expenses down if you would let us know that you no longer wish to receive this newsletter.

Simply call 817/573-2812 or send us an e-mail to: Newsletter@habitatofhoodcounty.org



# Partnership and The Penny Drive

Granbury Schools, Students and Habitat for Humanity of Hood County have been partners the last 3 years in "The Penny Drive". This is so appropriate, because Habitat for Humanity is a story of partnerships.

Habitat has many partners, the most important of all are the families. HFH families are willing to partner with Habitat and other families in construction of houses, attending support meetings, saving for a down payment and meeting their monthly house payments.

You see, our Habitat families are willing to partner because they have this chance to make a better life for themselves. Our volunteers partner in many ways, to help build a simple but decent house for those in need.

GISD has blessed Habitat with their support and willingness to partner with "The Penny Drive". Parents, teachers, staff and students dug deep for pennies and more for a

#### Grand Total of \$ 7,308.13.

There was some fun competition between classes and schools this year. Each school had a winner, this group or class received a 2X4X8 board from Habitat to decorate anyway they would like. A board from <u>each school</u> will be constructed into a Habitat home<u>. (Look for this to happen after</u> <u>the New Year!)</u>

To be a Habitat Carpenter for the day the school had to collect the most \$\$\$! This honor goes to

# Principal Rebecca Johnson at Mambrino Intermediate.

She will be decked out in Hard Hat, tool belt and Habitat t-shirt. And her staff will be dressed the part also in their Habitat t-shirts. Habitat owes another big Thank you to the "Penny Drive" Committee. What an awesome group of volunteers. Working with every school in Granbury and counting thousands and thousands of coins! You have made a difference, Nita Mitchell, Nadia Linnabery, Natalie Tello, Phyllis McDonald, Margie Messina, Nancie Sawyer, Stephanie Holland, Marsha Ossowski, Kathy Gwinn, Vicki Neff, Florence Franks, and Lyn Nuding!

# Thank you Granbury Schools again for your love and support.

iove and support.	
Acton Elem.	\$656.14
Nettie Baccus Elem.	852.33
Emma Roberson Elem.	482.77
Mambrino Elem.	927.12
Mambrino Interm.	1,089.83
Brawner Interm.	985.91
Crossland Interm.	181.31
Oak Woods Interm.	369.00
Acton Middle	604.16
Granbury Middle	116.52
Granbury High School	490.18
BTC	32.32
Stars Academy	441.67
Friends of Penny Drive	78.87
•	



Continued Prayers for....

The Harlan Keller Family. Ray Fox Leon Frazier

# Giving the Gifts of Time and Talents

Being a part of an all volunteer ministry is truly a blessing from God. At Habitat for Humanity of Hood County, we have no paid staff and we have an incredible number of volunteers that spend countless hours doing all the things it takes to be able to build homes for families in need of decent shelter. We have a volunteer board of directors that meets monthly to make decisions for the affiliate and perform the business needs for us. There are those that interview families and plan home visits to gather information to select the families in the greatest need of shelter. There are others who search for building lots to purchase and then still others that volunteer all the legal efforts to purchase the lots and then close on the homes when they are finished. Once the lots are purchased, volunteers do our tractor and site preparation work.

We also have many other committees that perform other functions, such as the family support committee who nurtures and trains the homeowners from the time they are selected until well after they are living in the home. We have a publicity and fund raising committee that makes sure the word gets out to the entire community about opportunities to volunteer and donate with Habitat. This also includes fund raiser events, newsletters, public speaking events, special event publicity and whatever else the year may bring to us. We are blessed by donors that volunteer by giving their money and resources. We have a volunteer finance team that makes sure that our bills are paid promptly and that the donated funds are used wisely and efficiently.

There are volunteers that send tax letters of thanks to donors and others who send letters of appreciation for special gifts and services that are donated. And of course, we have a construction committee that guides our home building efforts. Last but not least, there are hundreds of volunteers that come out on site to actually be the hands and feet of Christ as we construct a home. With them are volunteers who prepare food for workday lunches, order and have available materials for construction, put in fences around the yards, paint and caulk the exterior and interior, install heating and air conditioning, clear lots, frame homes, sheetrock walls, build cabinets, organize the work site and tool sheds, visit with families, play with neighbor children and pets, and some share their leadership talents by supervising all of these activities! Volunteers even take pictures and document events of families and first walls, first days, experiences with the building process and the volunteers in action. They even put together scrapbooks for the family and the affiliate. It's a Habitat family!

Being part of this whole ministry family, any part of it, is such an incredible experience. We all soon realize that every part is important and helps to make a home possible for other families in Hood County. These homes, God's gift offered through his servants, inspire hope in the entire community. We all bring something different to the work site and all are used by God to make life better for our homeowner families and better for us.

**Thank you** to those of you that are serving in all of these jobs and sharing your gifts and talent! We appreciate every one of you! And to those of you that might see something you would like to help do, give us a call. There's always a place for you in this family!

Carol Davidson, Volunteer Exec. Director 817-573-8480

Printing of this newsletter was done free of charge by Acton United Methodist Church.

# Contributions

*Yes!* I/We want to give a gift of hope and love that will last for years to come.

Enclosed is a gift of \$\_\_\_\_\_ for a Habitat house.

Type of gift: Honor/Christmas/Birthday/Graduation/Anniversary/Wedding/Memorial/Other\_\_\_\_\_

Name of Person \_\_\_\_\_

Send acknowledgment to:			
Name			
Address			
City		_Zip	
-		-	
From:			
Name			
Address			
City	_ State	Zip	

☐ Yes, you may use my name (not the amount) in publications such as newsletters or

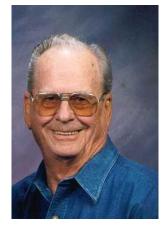
newspapers. No, I wish this contribution to be anonymous.

All gifts are tax-deductible. Make checks payable to "Habitat for Humanity of Hood County"

Please return this form to:

Habitat for Humanity of Hood County P.O. Box 1866 Granbury, TX 76048

# Harlan Keller 1923-2004



Harlan volunteered for of Habitat for Humanity since it was founded in Hood County. He was a member of the Board of Directors. He was a dear friend. Harlan worked not only on workdays but just about every day except Sundays. Even this summer, while battling cancer and no houses under construction, he would come out and build benches or whatever needed to be done. Harlan was able to build until October when his strength finally left him. We will all miss him.

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# **Did You Know?**

Ladies Home Journal has an article each month featuring a Habitat family?

They also provide an internet link to learn about Habitat projects in your own neighborhood! www.lhj.com/habitat



# Volunteers for 3211 Edgebrook Ct.



Phyllis Anderson J? Arnold Bobbie Banner Janet Banner Jeanine Banner Ruby Barfield Ronald Barrett David Becker Kelsey Becker Tyler Becker Paul Beckman Gary Berryman Julie Broyles Alice Camacho Campbell Robert Nellie Chalmers Paul Chevarley Clark Barbara Barry Clark Melissa Clark Theresa Craig Shanna Crawford Stephen Dabalos Tina Dabalos Ray Darby Carol Davidson Steve Davidson Wayne Delvea Trudy Diehl Terri Dillworth Bill Eslick Ronda Everson Debbie Fishencord Ray Fishencord Chelsea Flynn Lois Flynn Ray Fox Dan Frances Florance Franks George Freas Richard Freas John Fry Sue Ellen Fry Bryan Gaines Lara Gaines David Gamez Francisco Gamez Lucio Gamez Jessica Garcia Barnard Ghim

Robert Moe Bill Beta Kathy Wayne Suzy Arden Connie Ernie Howard Kim Tracie George Frankie Nelda Don Schofield Stephanie Dwight Bill Keith Jeff John Laci Patricia Harlan Jerry Randy Travis Mike Shelley Ismall Jario Julian Oscar Jon Emily Bob Earl Phyllis Kendall John Susan Elsie Nita Jimmy Ken Rebekah Ethan

Gilliam Glotfelty Green Greer Gwinn Hagood Hallmark Haltom Hanson Harbison Hayre Henderson Henderson Herr Hibler Hibler Hinkle Hinson Holland Hoover Jackson James Jeffcoat Jeffries Jones Jones Keller Leake Lockhart Lowrance Macho Mackey Martinez Martinez Martinez Martinez Mc Conal Mc Gehee **McClinton McDonald** McDonald McQueary Meche Meche Miller Mitchell Morgan Morgan Morgan Neff

Vicki Neff Lyn Nuding Finley Nunn Karen Nunn Max Odle Jessica Ozuna Kristen Ozuna Samuel Ozuna Cindi Pace Scott Pace Pat Patnoe June Perkins Aurora Peterson Jan Pope Pope Larry Popejoy enee Kody Popejoy Nicole Popejoy Poynor Hayney Reace? Presson? Becky Pria Jay Regehr Dee Reiber Bob Roberson Gustavo Robledo Robledo Jose Jose Jr Robledo Vividiana Robledo Yolanda Robledo Alan Rogers Roy Sailers Mary Sanchez Nancie Sawyer Scott Perry Bill Shelton James Spencer Kim Spencer Gene Stacy Bob Stapleton Stewart Ray Taylor Tom Laura Terhune Rachel Tienda Jim Tigner Varghar Pattrick Norma Vera Ashley Walker Stan Weid Cassi Wilson Wood Glen John Wood

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## **The Carpenters Club**

We SALUTE the 115 "Symbolic Carpenters" who support this Christian Housing Ministry by contributing \$100 when a Habitat house is started in Hood Co. They choose to contribute for 1, 2, 3, or 4 houses each year. By so doing, they help us to move from one house for a needy family to the next house for another family in need.

W.B. & Faye Adams Charles & Charlotte Allerton Don & Phyllis Anderson AUMC Bible Explorers SS Class D.R. & Kathleen Bales Jeff & Bobby Barlow Randy & Sharon Barnes Ronald & Glenda Barrett Irvin & JoAnn Barron Paul & Sally Beckman Charles & Bobbie Brownlee Robert W. Carter Church Of Christ John & Barbara Clark Courts & Sally Cleveland Creg & Patty Coffey Community Care Granbury Steve & Carol Davidson B J & Dorothy Davis Jane Douglass Margaret Estep Henry L. Ehrlich Howard M. Ferrill Ray & Loretta Fox AUMC 50/50 SS Class Harry & Joneta Gaffin Bob & Carolyn Gould Moe & Helen Glotfelty Granbury Lions Club Granbury Masonic Lodge No. 392 Tommy & Kathy Gwinn Dr. Clyde Hagood Joe & Judy Hallmark Bill & Donna Haynie Mr. & Mrs. Charles V. Harris Neil & Shirley Hatch Howard Hayre Wanda Hayre Gerald & Valta Heffley Ron & Billie Henderson **Bill & Shirley Hooks Everett Hooks** Keith E.James Herbert & Nell Johnson Darrell & Karen Jones John & Elta Jeffries H.B. & Charline Keating Mr. & Mrs. Harlan Keller Gene & Marilyn Kellough Holman & Janie King Karl & Christi Kobald Lynne Kuehler

Juanita Lorimer Terry & Trudy Larkins David & Carolyn Leaverton Rachel J. Ledbetter Lone Star Yellow Pages Bill Lowe J.J. Mainord Pat & Noni Meaney Jim & Mary Lynn Martin Dawne & Ken McAlpin Dale & Sally McCormick Frances T. McGuire Ed & Becky McMahon Mike & Pat McPherson Stephen Miller Homes Steve & Shirley Moiles Bob & Sharon Mosbarger Ronny & Lacy Mowrey T.D. Murphy Classic Homes Jayne R. Norman Rev. & Mrs. Jim Olney Robert & Marsha Ossowski Larry & Laura Potts Rusty & Jo Beth Ross Joann Robinson

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If you would like more information about "The Carpenters Club", please call Phyllis Anderson at 817-579-1198 or you may become a part of this important group by completing this form and mailing it to:

#### Habitat for Humanity of Hood Co. PO Box 1866, Granbury, TX 76048.

	<b>YES!</b> I will join the "Carpenters Club." Count on me for a \$100 donation each time a HFH house is started in Hood County.	
	I pledge for one, two, three, four houses per year.	
	Name:	
	Address:	
/ tur cost		
Phone: Business		
	Home	
	E-mail	
	<ul> <li>Yes, you may list my name as a contributor in publications such as newsletters or newspapers.</li> <li>No, I wish this commitment to be anonymous.</li> </ul>	
Thank you! Your gift is tax deductible.		
	Signature Date	

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#### **Memorials and Honorariums:**

from **Jim and Billie Tigner**, in memory of **Kathy Scott Hawkins** 

from **Joann Robinson**, in memory of **Joseph Robinson** 

from Willie and Wanda Crossland, in memory of Al Norman

from Sally Baker, in honor of Beta Greer

from **Gwen Lawrence** in memory of **Robert P. Lawrence**  **Business Contributors** 

3211 Edgebrook Ct.





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## **Blitz Build in Mexico**

By Susan & John Meche

We are back from our trip to Mexico safe, sound, and in good spirits. The opportunity to build homes with the Jimmy Carter Work Project during October 24 - 30, 2004, went far beyond our expectations. With nearly 2,000 volunteers working on 75 houses these "blitz builds" are fast-paced and hectic.

Situated at the base of the Popocatepetl and Iztaccihuatl volcanoes in Puebla, Mexico now lay a community of 75 homes for incredibly precious families. These families come from all walks of life but the common denominator that brought them together was the need for simple, decent housing. Home ownership, something none of them could have ever dreamed, is theirs now because Habitat for Humanity ventured into their small area of the world.

Upon our arrival at the worksite, we were told to expect to be challenged physically, mentally, and emotionally. It was all that and our lives are forever changed through this experience. Our days started by boarding the bus at 5:45 a.m. and we usually returned to our hotel about 7:00 p.m. Working 9 to 11 hours a day with ½ for lunch, we socialized while eating and working. We were assigned to a team of 11 volunteers on House #27. The foundation was poured and the first course of concrete blocks was laid before we arrived, but it was up to our team to raise the walls and put on the roof. What a process!! We participated in all aspects of the build – laying blocks, mixing and slapping on mortar, filling in joints & seams, sanding, painting, installing metal roof panels, windows and doors, and landscaping. By Friday, we had built a house.

Our daily nourishment started with devotions under the big tent, where we were also fed breakfast and lunch – the food was prepared and served by Mexican culinary school students. We certainly enjoyed the Mexican cuisine all week long – and fortunately did <u>not</u> get a visit from Montezuma. Yea!! We proudly wore our Hood County work shirts and hats throughout the week; and managed to meet several people from 11 of the 33 countries represented – they all wanted to know where Hood County was.

The highlight of our trip was getting to work with the family for 5 days and getting to know them. Fernando and Leonor are in their mid-30s and have 3 children ages 14, 13, and 7. Fernando works 12 hours days as a school security guard and Leonor takes care of the home and children. For the last few years, this family has lived in a 15' x 15' shack with no running water. Now, to their amazement, they own a house with 2 bedrooms, a bathroom with shower, a kitchen, and a living room. They have almost no furniture, but their hearts are filled with gratitude and joy. These affordable homes come at the cost of 80,000 pesos (about \$7,000 at current rates) paid back over 10 years.

Another highlight was having the opportunity to be in the presence of former U.S. President Jimmy Carter and his wife, Rosalynn. They were working on House #75, one block over from us. We also took a photograph with them and the homeowners. You can see this photo below. The Carters are standing next to Fernando and Leonor. Our House, #27, was sponsored by the Habitat for Humanity International from the Country of Canada.

Our hearts and minds are filled with many memories and we have volumes of stories we could share. Just ask!! Thank you again for your thoughts and prayers for our journey. Our bodies worked hard, our minds strained to communicate with those from other countries, and our emotions bounced all over the place. The difference one week can make in a person's life can only be from the work of God – nothing happens by chance, for His hand is almighty. We went expecting to share only our hands in service, but left with a portion of our heart staying in Mexico. We feel blessed that God allowed us to be a part of this experience. We are now back at work along side our fellow volunteers building Habitat houses in Granbury, Texas. But when we pick up a hammer here, a part of us will always be reminded of our Mexico experience.



Note: John is the one in the wide-brim hat center row; and Susan is the one in the white shirt helping hold the sign; former President and Mrs. Carter are far left.

## **Dedication Ceremony**

Habitat Home #27, at 3211 Edgebrook Ct. was dedicated on Sunday November 21st. by **Dr. David M. Becker**, Pastor of First Baptist Church. This is the home of **Jessica Ozuna** and her children **Samuel, Kristen and Isabel**. Jessica and her family will be in their home in time for Christmas, what a blessing from God this is for all! Jessica had such a wonderful turn out from her Family, Church family, Habitat friends and other Habitat families what a show of love!

This home has special meaning to our Habitat Family, as it was Dedicated in Memory of **Harlan Keller**, good friend and faithful Habitat volunteer who helped build every Habitat House in Hood County.



## Fish Fry results.....

#### The Knights of Columbus report.....

"Had a great turnout at the fish fry. Fed 314 customers and we thankfully ran out of almost everything. Habitat did a fantastic job of bringing in the crowd. We made \$784.95 as their door share plus \$96.50 in direct donations to Habitat for a total to them of \$881.45."

Thank you Knights of Columbus for your faithful support of Habitat for Humanity's mission in Hood County.

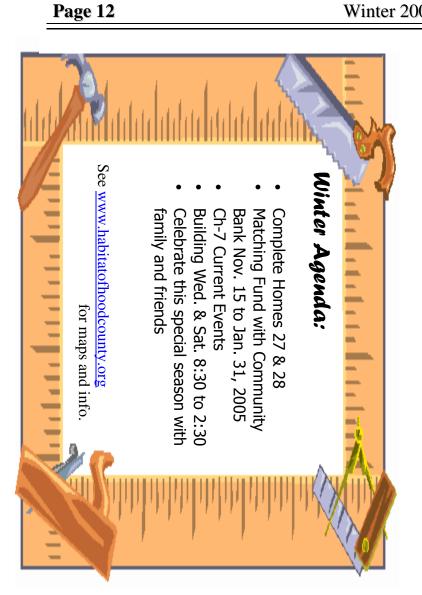
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Granbury, Texas 76048 P.O. Box 1866 Habitat for Humanity of Hood County

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Inside This Issue:

Community Bank Matching fund Penny Drive Partnership Blitz Build in Mexico





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