



Habitat for Humanity of Merced County NEWSLETTER

Issue 39

June 2006

FROM THE PRESIDENT



By Lyle Alien

I'm pleased to provide an update on our current project, #11.

Our target for completion of the Upson family home is the end of June. Partnering with Cathy, Jennifer, Rochelle and Gory, to build their home, has been a very good experience for all of the Habitat Volunteers. You know about the Mennonite men who framed the Upsons' home in one day! After this event a core group of volunteers has worked to complete the home from this rough stage. It took months to put in the same number of hours that framed the house in one day. But this core group put in hours each Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday; they were in for the long haul. They brought the energy and skills that moved the Upsons' home through each subsequent stage.

I thanked one of the volunteers for his efforts and he told me that he did it for himself, which I believe is what keeps us all working. This is one of the greatest opportunities each of us can have for personal growth and I believe it is at the heart of growing our Christian beliefs. The home is now looking like it won't be long before it can be occupied and that is a very good feeling for all of us.

If you have the opportunity, come by the site to view the progress. The address is 421 W. 6th Street in Merced.

I want to thank you for your support and prayers for our ministry. Please know that we accomplish this work because of your help. May God bless and keep us together in these efforts.



Project 11 at 421 W. Sixth St. as it appeared on Thursday, May 11th.

Excitement near Home Dedication July 15

Our Project 11 at 421 W. Sixth St. is slated for dedication on Saturday morning, July 15th, at 10:00 a.m. An Open House will extend to 12:00 noon. A short service, featuring the presentation of a Bible and transfer of keys, will be held beginning at about 10:15 a.m. Depending on the day, you may want to bring some sun protection.

The new partner family will be moved in already. We refer, of course, to Kathy Upson and her children Jennifer, Rochelle and Gory. We cordially invite the public to attend what is always an inspirational highlight in the history of a Habitat affiliate.

On this special occasion we want to acknowledge a wonderful corps of volunteers who picked up where the Mennonite men left off and brought this project to completion. (See accompanying photo.)

We also want to recognize a number of large gifts which were critical to the funding of Project 11: the estate of June Toler of Atwater, memorial gifts sent in the name of Carol Pitman, a contribution from the Hattie Givens Testamentary Trust and from the John & Barbara Wainwright Fund administered by the East Bay Community Foundation.



Moving it toward completion on May 11th were the following sterling volunteers: (Front row 1. to r.) Al Zierenberg, Fred PiUsbury and Kermit Leonard. (Back row): Del Kolda, Cordon Phillips, Dale Van Den Boom, and Lyle Alien. Other major contributors of time and talent were Ron Denault, Maury Hojfar, Manud Monterroza and Bill O'Donnell.

Board notes.

The location of our the board's monthly meetings -always second Tuesdays at 7:00 - is about to change. As of Tuesday, July 11th, the venue will be back in Atwater at 1271 Fifth Street (New Life Community Church). We thank St. Patrick's Catholic Church of Merced for giving us meeting space these past six months.

Our last issue carried word of the death on January 2nd of board member Carol **Pitman** due to multiple myeloma. A lovely memorial service was held Saturday, April 8th, at the United Methodist Church of Merced. The new thing to be reported now is the almost flood of memorial gifts which relatives and friends have sent to Habitat in Carol's memory. The total as of May 24th was \$2,810. Such a tribute to both Carol and to those who expressed their love for her!

Bill & Jeanne Sanford, flew to Atlanta on April 11th and began a two-week car trip which included a stop at Habitat headquarters in Americus, Georgia. They found the Global Village there a very rewarding visit and encourage others traveling in the Southeast to include it in their travel plans.

Former Board member **Bobjantzen**, with his wife **Ruth**, has moved from Atwater to the following address: 794 Via Acalanes, San Lorenzo, CA 94580.



New board members

Meet four people who are a half year into their two-year (Class of 2007) terms: Donna Hall, Jim Tolladay, Patti Houbein and Pat Shay.

Meet our affiliate online

With appreciation to our vice president George Gallaher, we announce the creation of our own HFH of Merced County website. We invite you to visit it. Simply go online and key in this address: www.hmmerced.com

The Antonio Rosas family - Project 6 re-visited

On September 16, 2000, a home dedication program was held at 13359 E. Marshall St., in LeGrand, the new home of Antonio and Eva Rosas and their three sons. The house had been donated by Merced Irrigation District, moved by Habitat to LeGrand, placed on a new foundation and extensively re-modeled. It has been a good home for a fine family for nearly six years now. So, it's time for an update: how are the Rosas doing these days? Dad continues to do field work in the LeGrand area. Eva continues to work in agricultural packing during the five months a year that that employment is available to her. The biggest changes relate to the sons. Here's the then (2000) and now (2006) report on:

	<i>Tlien</i>	<i>Now</i>
Carmelo	Sophomore in high school	Working in Fremont
Antonio	Fifth Grade	Junior in high school
Nicholas	Kindergarten	Fifth Grade

Way to go, guys! We're proud of you and the fine progress you're making.



*The Rosas*home at 13359 E. Marshall St. In LeGrand.*



Seated: Antonio and Eva Rosas, standing: Carmelo, Nicholas and Antonio, Jr.

The following have sent contributions to our affiliate since January 20, 2006. Cut-off date for this listing: received by May 31, 2006. If there are any errors or omissions, please call Bill Sanford at 357-0701.

In an effort to provide a complete list of those making gifts in memory of Carol Pitman, several names have been repeated from the last newsletter.

Individuals/Families:

Aunita Armstrong Susana & Henry Baca Jack & Phoebe Benjamin Dorothy Bizzini Jackie Blevins Julie Brannan Ernest C. Burroughs Beverly J. Cesario Albert & Katherine Cesario Ron & Mary Denault Eunice Duncanson Mary Frances Ellis Robert & Peggy Faretta Gary & Kristina Frago Urla Garland Irish Golden Lily Hamaguchi Karen & Leo Hernandez Veronica Hoffart Patricia G. Houbein Brenda Hughes Bob & Ruth Jantzen Jeff & Jenn Jones Evelyn Keller Constance W. Kelly Thomas R. Kivley John & Joanna Lennox Karen D. Gurr Mous Jerry O'Banion Michelle Paloutzian Peggy Perkins Gordon & Lou Phillips Lori Phillips Fred Pillsbury Gerry Roberts Michael T. Ryan Betty T. Schenone Carol K. Silva Guy & Darla Stanley Bob & Linda Storm Kathryn Stowell Eric Swenson

Virginia Taylor Judy Van Tassel Caroline Venable Manuel & Mary Jo Vieira Marguerite Whitney Orville & Marion Young

In honor of...

*Bill Sanford
Given by Paul Fromson
Bob Storm
Given by Beth & Dave Alien*

In memory of...

*"All the babies that are aborted"
Given by Gregory L. Ruelas III
A. V. Betencourt
Given by Frank & Nancy Vergara
John Caligiuri
Given by Dave Olsen
Bill & Robert Cox
Given by Mary K. Cox Jim Crookham
Given by Jerry Shaffer
Robert Dixon
Given by Jack & Phoebe Benjamin
Edna Hong
Given by Patti Houbein
Catherine "Kate" Lathrop
Given by Florabelle Lathrop
Bruce K. Levey
Given by Marianne Levey
Lance Cpl. Juana Navarro
Given by Marian Ledesma
Larry Nelson
Given by Jan & Larry Sorge •
Archie Nichols and Donna Jo Gustafson and Ed & Dorothy Lopes
Given by Adrienne Lopes & Cecilia Nichols
Clarente Olive
Given by Jack & Phoebe Benjamin
Elizabeth O. Kinney
"Our parents"
Given by Rick & Anita Chisholm
Clarence Parrish
Given by Florabelle Lathrop*

*Carol Pitman
Gifts from
(in approximate order received)
Bill & Jeanne Sanford Bill & Myra Stockard Barbara & Fred Lindenberg Charley & Sally Magneson Roland & Lauretta Orth Fred T. Pillsbury Kelly Bentz Sharon Beverly Sharon Lesch Dee Near Carol Rossi Lee & Ann Andersen James R. Rowan Lyle & Barbara Alien Frances Arduengo Allan & Cydne Grimsby Fred & Judith Leger Hal & Joyce Hambley Brenda Hughes Jake & Fran Kiriara Cecilia Nichols Gay Nichols
Donald & Delores Schwerdtfeger Virginia Taylor Al & Erna Zierenberg Dale & Sue Hulse Dave Olsen Rick & Karen Albright Eunice Duncanson Alien & Irene Breed Ed & Peggy Hughell Joan C. Mills Sharon M. Benincasa John M. Cameron Pat Davis Ray & Priscilla Fitchett Margaret Freed Urla Garland Jim & Diane Glidden Lloyd & Donna Hall Evelyn Honeysett Norma L. Kilinsky Charles & Anita Martin Marc Medefind
M/M Ralph R. Mendershausen Shelly P. Scribner*

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Pamela Ann Stahl
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Bobby & Marlea Massey
Ruth & Bob Stone
Carol Smith Tatum
Frank & Nancy Vergara
Brenda Stallard
Deidre Kelsey
June Toler
Dale & Sue Hulse
"Two men named Bill"
Given by Nettie Descalso del Nero*

Businesses:

Albertsons

Churches:

*Livingston United Methodist Church
New Life Community Church
Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church*

Organizations:

*East Bay Community Foundation
(John & Barbara Wainwright Fund)*

**Habitat for Humanity of Merced County
Newsletter**

is published 3 - 4 times a year.

Editor: Bill Sanford 357-0701

Our Affiliate's phone number: 209/358-7280

Our meeting schedule:

Board of Directors meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Meeting place: Changes twice a year. July - December 2006 : New Life Community Church, Atwater.



Habitat
for Humanity®

The National Scene: What can we say but "wow?"

The five-year More Than Houses campaign has concluded having surpassed its goal by reaching nearly \$600 million! Following are two campaign notes and a paragraph from a message from the campaign chairman, Jack Kemp, Former Secretary, U.S. Housing and Urban Development.

"HFHI enjoys 59 relationships with partners who have each contributed \$1 million or more to the campaign, up from four such relationships in 1999."

"Special recognition was offered to Whirlpool for its \$33.8 million commitment to the More Than Houses campaign - the largest contribution to this campaign."

(And from Jack Kemp): "A study done by Dr. Donald Haurin, professor of Economics, Finance and Public Policy at Ohio State University, found that children whose parents are homeowners are 25 percent more likely to graduate from high school; 116 percent more likely to graduate from college; 59 percent more likely to own their own home within 10 years of leaving their parents' household; and 20 less likely to become teenage mothers than children whose parents are renters. Each of the 200,000-plus houses built by Habitat around the world means that more than 1,000,000 people have made a "constructive" step toward bettering their lives and those of their children."

MISSION STATEMENT

Habitat for Humanity works in partnership with God and people everywhere, from all walks of life, to develop communities with God's people in need, by building and renovating houses, so that there are decent houses in decent communities in which God's people can live and grow into all that God intended.

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Habitat for Humanity of Merced County

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