

A Message From Our Past President, Adam Wolfer, Ph.D

My term as president of Cowlitz County Habitat for Humanity came to an end yet I remain on the Board of Directors. Good things are happening in the affiliate. I am excited to be a part of the changes and wanted to share the following:

We're hired our first Executive Director (again). We hired someone who started in February and unfortunately things didn't work out. He relocated out of the area and we've filled this role in the most capable hands of Len Lelevich. Len has been a part of our affiliate since our inception and we're thrilled and grateful to have him fulfill this important role in our organization. Welcome aboard, Len!

One of the tasks for our Executive Director will serve as the initial contact for our various partners. As a part of that, he will be working with PNE Corporation, who has again made Cowlitz County Habitat for Humanity the recipient of the funds raised in their August 2007 charity golf tournament. A new partner is GGP, the management company for the Three Rivers Mall. We have had several events at the mall and look forward to future activity with them.

Our Volunteer Coordinator's term with Americorps ended July 31, 2007, so Judy Drage will be finding new challenges for her life. She will definitely be missed but has assured us that she will remain active whenever she's in town and available. David Schaasfma has taken on the task of our new Volunteer Coordinator and has been dutifully working on obtaining new volunteers – both on site and our various committees. Welcome, David!

The Development/Public Relations Team has been working hard to raise

funds and awareness of Habitat for Humanity. The Construction Team is finishing up house number 6 and working on house number 9. The Family Selection Team has helped find new partner families and the Family Relations Team is supporting our partner families. The Church Relations Team is talking to the churches about our mission. And somehow in all of this, Diane Perron and her dutiful office support staff are keeping everything organized and running smoothly. I am continually impressed by these wonderful people.

As I write this I have just returned from a funeral in Montana. My godfather, John Lager, lost his long battle with diabetes and the ravages it inflicted. John was my dad's cousin and he married one of my mom's best friends. As often happens at these times, I learned things about a man who had been an important part of my life. John served his community in many ways while working hard as a dry-land farmer and demonstrated a lesson that I heard best expressed in a song by Montana singer/songwriter Jack Gladstone in a song entitled *The Builder*.

*With their tools, they build the walls
That stand solid, fresh and tall*

*You know, building is a risky thing to do
When the work you perform outlasts you*

My year as president of Habitat for Humanity has rapidly come to a close. As mentioned earlier, I will remain on the board, but will turn the reins over to the quite capable Ron Naff. The year has been everything I expected it to be: challenging, fulfilling, frustrating, and most of all rewarding. I have met people who have educated me on the challenges that life can throw at us, and people who have dedicated much of their energy to helping those who are challenged. Quite often,

Cowlitz County Habitat for Humanity is a locally-run affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International, a nonprofit, ecumenical Christian housing organization. Habitat for Humanity works in partnership with people in need to build and renovate decent, affordable housing.

**PO Box 1451
Longview, WA 98632
(360) 425-6177
office@cowlitzhabitat.org**

Inside this issue:

Executive Director Letter.....	2
Meet the Aguilar Family.....	2
What is Habitat 200?.....	3
Festival of Giving.....	4
Judy Drage Letter.....	4
Volunteer Breakfast.....	4
Can Recycling for CCHF.....	5
Annual Wish List.....	5
PNE Charitable Foundation.....	6
Donate to CCHF.....	7
Federal Way Youth Support....	cover

those people are one and the same. I have been asked to step outside of my comfort zone to accomplish what needed to be accomplished. I have led a lot of meetings, presented on occasion and discussed Habitat with many people. I hope that I can continue to serve our community in many ways; it has definitely been a challenging opportunity.

Thank you for all you do with us – and the challenges that you set for yourself.

Adam

THOUGHTS from our new Executive Director, Len Lelevich

“Our love should not just be words and talk, it must be true love, which shows itself in action.”
1 John 3:18

This year we have blessed with the actions of so many of you to that support our mission. Through your generosity we have built a home for the Aguilars, nearly finished another for the Hyltons and enabled through tithing homes to built in Romania and Kyrgyzstan. Your gifts of time and money are changing lives here and around the world.

Next year the need to accomplish even more is forefront with our affiliate. Our goal is finish two homes. We will not be able to do this with out your continued support and dedication. I know our staff is committed to working with all of you to reach those goals and continue to put your faith into action.

Thank you for all the generosity you have shown Habitat and its partner families.
Gratefully,
Len

Meet the Aguilar Family

Michael is 25, a Manager at McDonald's, as well as a wonderful husband and father. Erica is a 23 year old part-time college student and stay-at-home mother, and will be having our second child in October 2007. Lydda is a very sweet and beautiful girl with a wonderful disposition. She was born on July 1, 2005 and we will be celebrating her second birthday very soon. Mike and I always knew that we wanted to have a family and be able to provide a safe and happy place for that family to blossom.

After renting a deteriorating duplex in an undesirable neighborhood, we decided that we needed to find a house that we could call a home. Over a lot of searching, we found that we would be unable to buy a home by conventional means so we starting looking for alternative methods.

We read about Habitat and after reviewing the CC Habitat for Humanity application, knew that we wanted to be a part of this program and the community they are trying to build.

When we completed the application and later accepted into the program, we were thrilled. The people in the office were really very helpful and answered many of the questions that we had and also help us get going in the right direction.

Our advocates are also very helpful, letting us know when there is work and helping us find different means of earning hours (because we were fortunate enough to be offered a house that was near completion). Although this makes it a little hard to get the construction hours that we need, but with the help of the great office and support staff that the Cowlitz County Habitat for Humanity has, we have been working together to find opportunities for us to earn the required sweat equity hours to move into the house we have been helping to build, and in turn, make that house that so many wonderful people (volunteers) helped us with into the safe and happy home that we dream about. So, we would like to extend our heart felt thanks to all of the gracious volunteers and staff at Cowlitz County Habitat for Humanity.

By Erica Aguilar

(Since the date of Erica's writing, we have additional GOOD NEWS to share with each of you. Their second beautiful, healthy baby girl arrived on October 8, 2007 at 7 lbs/5 oz and 20" long. Her name is Breanna and we're thrilled to welcome our newest Habitat homeowner into our community. Lastly, we congratulate the Aguilar Family as they recently completed their requirements, signed documents and will be in their home for THANKSGIVING. Welcome HOME, Mike, Erica, Lydda and Breanna!)

CCHFH Board of Directors

Rev. Ronald Naff,
President

Roger Morey,
Vice-President

Michael Evans,
Secretary

Aloma Thomas,
Treasurer

Gail McCarthy

Sheri Monge

Valerie Olson

Hillary Orr

Tim Roeder

Carole Sprouse

Rod Snyder

Mary Lynn Stephenson

Kris McElroy-Weber

Mary VanSickle

Elizabeth Gray-Weekley

Rev. John Williams

Adam Wolfer, Ph.D.

CCHFH Staff

Executive Director
Len Lelevich

Office Manager
Diane Perron

Volunteer Coordinator
David Schaafsma

“HABITAT 200”

What is this and how can I join?

By Diane Perron

Be one of 200 individuals to help sponsor a house in partnership with Habitat to build a home with a low-income partner family.

Join a group of 200 individuals.

Each contributes \$20 each month and one Saturday a year.

Habitat will provide skilled labor, planning, and management.

The partner family will provide 500 hours of sweat equity working on their home. They will also repay a no-interest mortgage for the cost of materials. This money will go back into building more houses.

Once a low-income partner family is selected for the house you are sponsoring, you will begin to receive regular updates on the status of your house.

If you are able to help with construction, you can choose how you would like to help:

- Pound nails during framing, siding, or roofing.
- Install insulation.
- Paint inside and outside.
- Landscaping.
- Install trim molding, carpet, vinyl, kitchen cabinets.

We have about approximately 12-20 people working each Saturday from 8:30 to 3:30 for about 26 Saturdays to complete a house. Lunch is provided, donated by a local church, other organization, or individuals.

At the end you will be invited to the dedication, when the partner family will move in and make the house a home.

That is all it takes to HELP sponsor a house...200 caring people to help support one family every year. Your HELP will provide a place that is a warm, dry, safe place to live.

Here's my help for Habitat...

- Here is my pledge \$ _____ per month for one year.
- Here is my one time gift of \$ _____.
- Please include me in a Habitat 200 group to help sponsor a house. My contribution of \$20 per month or more is indicated above.
- I would like information that would help incorporate Habitat in my estate planning.
- I can provide the following construction materials or specialty services either discounted or at no cost:

Please tear off this coupon and return to:

**Cowlitz County Habitat for Humanity
P.O. Box 1451
Longview, WA 98632**

FESTIVAL OF GIVING

Sunday, December 9, 2007

Have fun and help Habitat for Humanity at the same time!

The Festival of Giving is a fun shopping event designed to benefit local non-profit organizations. Admission to this special evening of shopping at Three Rivers Mall involves a \$5 tax-deductible donation to a participating charity.

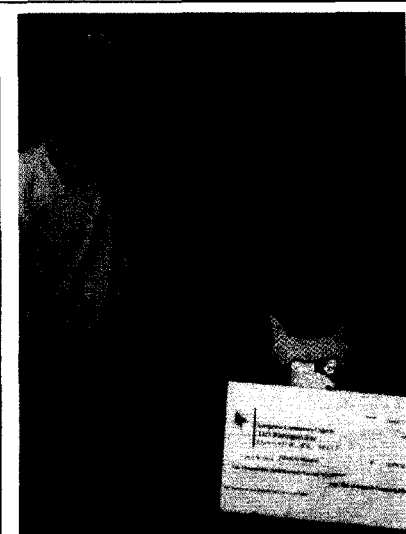
Cowlitz County Habitat for Humanity has tickets available for purchase in our office. This evening of shopping will include special sales provided by stores and vendors, door prizes and more. In the past certain dollar values in eligible purchases earned you a free poinsettia or movie money and the shopper with the most sales earned a mall gift certificate. 100% of your \$5 ticket purchase price is donated to the organization selling the ticket. The large part of your ticket is retained for your tax records and the small coupon is turned in the night of the

event for the door prizes. Your presence is not required to receive your door prize.

The event will be held on Sunday, December 9, 2007 from 7:00 pm to 10 pm. Children five and under are free. Cowlitz County Habitat for Humanity will also be selling tickets on Sunday, December 9th at the Food Court Entrance. If you haven't purchased your tickets beforehand, please JOIN us in the festivity and purchase your tickets at this location.

Please consider purchasing your own ticket, tickets as gifts for you office staff or selling tickets at your favorite gathering place. Please call our office Tuesday through Thursday to arrange to pick-up tickets. Our phone number is 425-6177.

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



Students of Longview Community Church Vacation Bible School (VBS) raised \$5,474 in contributions this summer for the CCHFH.

Shown above, Len Lelevich, Executive Director receiving check from 3 VBS students..

Final Hurrah!!

By Judy Drage

I have pondered what to say to all of you for my final hurrah as your current Volunteer Coordinator. You have no idea what a pleasure it has been to work with a group of people that have a mission to accomplish and that work so diligently at it. God has really blessed Cowlitz County HFH with the most fantastic bunch of people to do His work.

I would like to challenge all of you to find even more areas that fit for you and get even more involved. If you do that I believe that you will walk away each day with the feeling that your kindness, your work, your donations, your willingness and your perseverance have made a difference in someone's life.

Although I'll still be around after my official departure date to harass you, I just won't put in as many hours at it. Maybe I'll just get sneakier. As many of you know my sister moved here to Longview and we will be traveling a bit. (Actually a small bit with the price of gas).

Anyway, I would like to say a HUGE THANK YOU to all of you. I wish I could thank each one of you individually but the cost of sending out that newsletter would probably break the bank. Keep on doing what you do best!!! BUILDING SIMPLE AFFORDABLE HOUSING!!!!!!

Judy Drage

Annual Christmas **VOLUNTEER** **APPRECIATION** *Breakfast*

*In honor and special thanks to all
our volunteers, donors &
supporters!*

December 8, 2007 9:00 – 11:00
a.m.

St. Stephens Episcopal Church
1428 22nd Avenue – Longview

We invite you and your family to
join us in our Annual Christmas
VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION
Breakfast

**RSVP requested with number
attending to the CCHFH
Office at 425-6177.**

We hope to see all our
volunteers, donors and
partnering families there!

Board of Directors

3rd Thursday @ 5:30 p.m.
CCHFH Office-Downstairs Conference Room
1347 14th Avenue, LV
Ron Naff, President
Len Lelevich, Executive Director

Church Relations Team

2nd Thursday @ 6:30 PM
John Williams & Robert Metke, Co-Chairs
CCHFH Office, at Great Escapes Travel
1347 14th Avenue, Longview (please use rear entrance)

Construction Team

3rd Tuesday at 5:30 p.m.
Nate Dozier & Gail McCarthy, Co-Chairs
Henri's Restaurant
4545 Ocean Beach Hwy. LV

Development/PR Team

4th Tuesday @ 5:30 p.m.
CCHFH Office-Upstairs in Great Escapes Travel
1347 14th Avenue, LV
(please use rear entrance)
Ron Naff Co-Chair (Need another CHAIR)
Lead Members: Len Lelevich & Diane Perron

Family Support Team

Marion Metke & Judy Potter, Co-Chairs
2nd Tuesday @ 6:00 p.m.
CCHFH Office, at Great Escapes Travel
1347 14th Avenue, Longview (please use rear entrance)

Family Selection Team

2nd Tuesday at 5:30 p.m.
Rod Snyder, Chair
CCHFH Office, upstairs at Great Escapes Travel
1347 14th Avenue, Longview (please use rear entrance)

Site Selection Team

Call for Dates & Location
New chairperson needed

Volunteer & Office Resources Team

2nd Wednesday at 2:00 pm (Every other month start in January)
Diane Perron, Office Manager/Program Administrator
David Schaafsma, Volunteer Coordinator
CCHFH Office, upstairs at Great Escapes Travel
1347 14th Avenue, Longview (please use rear entrance)

Recycle for CCHFH... Submitted by Diane Perron

First of all, we want to extend our special THANKS to Carol Ledbetter, CCHFH Aluminum Can Coordinator and Adam Simpson for ALL your support on our aluminum can recycling efforts. Carol and Adam faithfully pick up at our drop sites and submit to Waste Control. We are extremely grateful for your dedication and servant hearts.

We want to also thank the Monticello Lions Club who spearheaded the donation of all their aluminum can collection boxes and initial route to CCHFH when we first started this recycling effort back in 2002. Your generous donation has turned out to be a big help to us in our building program.

Carol and Adam regularly pick up cans from the route which we have greatly expanded. We now have both indoor and outdoor collection sites, so if you or someone you know would like to place a can box at work, church or through one of your organizations, let us know by leaving a message at the Habitat office (425-6177). We are also looking for vacation relief drivers to pick up cans and looking for a replacement for Adam's outdoor route. Adam will be out on medical leave and we are in dire need for someone to step up and fill this significant role and route. Please call and leave a message for Carol Ledbetter if interested and available.

WITH ALL YOUR HELP and SUPPORT in the ALUMINUM CAN RECYCLING, we made approximately \$3,000 in 2006. We're hoping to increase our aluminum can recycling fundraising efforts this year with a goal of \$5,000+.

To boost our returns we are asking all who read this to consider turning in their recyclables to Waste Control on Third Avenue and asking them to credit the Cowlitz County Habitat for Humanity account with the proceeds. Please request the yellow receipt and forward to our office for our records.

Waste Control also accepts and pays for, (in addition to cans) metals, plastics, and cardboard in large quantities. Thank you WASTE CONTROL for your continued support and efforts as well.

THANK YOU to our drop off points, which currently include:

Behind St. Stephen's Church
Columbia Heights and Nevada Drive
Brookhollow RV & Mobile Home Park
Chevron Station in Lexington
Cedar Tee Apartments in Kelso
Carnival Market
Community House
Corner Pacific and 30th
Eco-Land Services in Stanley Plaza
Mountain View Apartments
Deluxe Trailer Court

32nd and Ocean Beach (across from Les Schwab)
Juvenile Department
Mint Place Apts.
Fibre Federal Credit Union Offices (Castle Rock, West Kelso, Longview Main Branch & 32nd Avenue)
Olympic Drugs
Red Canoe Credit Union on 15th Ave.
1st Christian Church
Humane Society

2007 Cowlitz County Habitat for Humanity "WISH LIST"

Commercial Strength Wet/Dry Vacuum (16 Gallon Craftsman)
Gift Cards for building materials, meals, office supplies
Business COPIER machine or money towards new one *Call office for details.
Digital Camera
Rolls of Postage Stamps
Printing Cartridges (New) *Call office for details.
Roll-Around Scaffolding
Box Fans
Ladders (8'; 2' and 3' Step Ladders)
Levels (4')

Pry Bars and Speed Squares
Router
Newer TRUCK for construction work and aluminum can pick-up
Volunteers for Team Leadership;
Construction Site & Special Needs
Skil Saw
Sabre Saw
Concrete Finishing Tools
12" Saw Blades (80 Tooth)
Securable FREE STORAGE SPACE (with indoor lights)
Stand-Up Construction Lights

Thank you for your generosity! All gifts are tax-deductible

THANK YOU PNE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION!

Cowlitz County Habitat for Humanity's goal is to eliminate substandard housing by building homes with families in need of simple, decent affordable housing. On Friday, August 17th, with the generosity of PNE Charitable Foundation, \$40,000+ was raised at the PNE Corporate Classic Golf Tournament, dinner and auction. These funds will be dedicated to building another Habitat house. THANK YOU and well done, PNE Charitable Foundation!

We want to extend a special and personal thank you to the Partridge Family, the Jabusch Family, foundation board members, tournament coordinator Ashley Opsahl-Scibelli, and the many volunteers who showed tremendous support. CCHFH would also like to thank the more than fifty generous sponsors, specifically:

- The Reception Sponsor: BRATRUD MIDDLETON INSURANCE
- Hole-in-One Sponsors: U-Neek RV, Columbia Ford, Pro Caliber Motor Sports & Bud Clary Chevrolet
- Carts: Cowlitz Bank
- Prize/Trophy: Liberty Benefits Group, LLC
- Drink/Snack: Weatherguard Roofing
- Photography: Mr. C's Photography
- GOLD SPONSORS:
PNE Corp., United Rentals, SpeedyLitho, Inc., King Graphix, Umpqua Bank, The Daily News, Oil Re-Refining, Lilian & Steve Jabusch, Tri-County Truss, Halton Company, PeaceHealth, Kelso Red Lion, NW Pump & Equipment Co., Opsahl, Shepp & Co. and McEwen Gisvold, LLP.
- SILVER SPONSORS:
DeRosier Trucking, Inc., USA Auto Sales, Morgan Stanley, All-Out Sewer & Drain Service, MulvannyG2 Architecture, PacificTech Construction, Shell at Fisher's Landing & Valvoline Express Care.
- BRONZE SPONSORS:
Superior Tire Service, Advanced Electrical, Hamer Electric, Domino's Pizza, Boyles Electric, Inc., SpeediBoot, John & Shelly Jabusch, Interstate Wood Products, Lakeside Industries, Longview Eye & Vision, Ace Tank, Skookum Creek Tobacco, Baker Corp., Longview Fibre Co. & Harlan's Drywall Company.
- ASSOCIATE SPONSORS:
Precision Door & Window, Cascade Door & Window, Utility Vault, Entek, Construction Specialty Supply, Baker Lumber, Sutinen Consulting, Inc., Ferguson Construction, Renaud Electric, Tri-Coat Painting, Interior Resources, Daniet T. Reece Contractor, Ferguson's, Fistolera Painting Co., Quality Cabinets Plus, RSC, Spill Control, Audio Express, Inc., Schlecht Construction & Wilcox & Flegel Oil Co.

We'd also like to extend out thanks to the participating players, the Three Rivers Golf Course, The Kelso Red Lion and NIKE Golf for their generosity and friendly spirit. Habitat is truly blessed to enjoy such community support in its mission to eliminate poverty housing.

We invite you to consider joining us in the Habitat goal and mission by participating at a construction site, becoming active on a team or through supporting our fundraising efforts. Your time and talents will be put to good use. If able and interested, please call us at 360-425-6177.

Gratefully, The Cowlitz County Habitat for Humanity Board of Directors, Executive Director & Staff

Equal Housing Opportunity

We are pledged to the letter and spirit of the U.S. policy for the achievement of Equal Housing Opportunity throughout the nation. We encourage and support an affirmative advertising and marketing program in which there are no barriers to obtaining housing because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin.

