

NEWSLETTER

Summer 2007

WANTED

House Applicants

If you know of someone who may qualify for a Habitat house, please have them call the Habitat office at 815-759-9002

See Page 2 for qualifications.

We are all pencils in the hand of God.

—Mother Teresa

Groundbreaking Ceremony

Sunday, April 22, was a perfect day for a Groundbreaking Ceremony.

Everyone gathered on the lawn of the double lot located on Eighth Street at McKinley in Harvard to officially kick off construction of Habitat's next two houses, house # 13 and #14.



Left to right, Jay Nolan, Mayor of Harvard, John Klyop, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, Alexis Melesio, Claudia Melesio, Javier Melesio, and Joseph Creasey, President

Jay Nolan, Mayor of Harvard gave a welcoming address.

Claudia Melesio and her two children, Javier and Alexis, helped Joseph Creasey, President; Jay Nolan, Mayor of Harvard, and John Klyop, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans

drive shovels into the hard earth marking the spot for start of construction on the first of two houses that will be built on this double lot.

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans will be providing 65% of the funding for this first house.

New Board of Directors for 2007-2008

Joseph Creasey, President
Perfect Shutters, Inc.

Craig Connington, Vice President
Harris Bank

Brian Oerkfitz, Treasurer
Midwest Bank & Trust

Susan Braun, Secretary
Retired Business Owner
Women Build Crew

Keith DuShane
Legacy Homes

Jose Rey
ReMax Traditions

Sharon Hill
Retired Registered Nurse
Women Build Crew

Christine Hooker
Women Build Crew



L. to r. front row: Christine Hooker, Sharon Hill, Susan Braun; back row: Joseph Creasey, Craig Connington, Brian Oerkfitz, Rev. Ronald Woodruff, Jose Rey

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans “Team Builds”

The 13th house being built by Habitat for Humanity of McHenry County at 808 Eighth Street in Harvard is well under construction.

Work is moving along nicely, thanks to the efforts of local Lutheran church groups under the sponsorship of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, who is funding 65% of this house.

An additional 10% will be funded by local Lutheran churches, and 50% of the

volunteers for this house will be Lutheran.

Spurred by the Thrivent program, “team building” is catching on. Many churches of all denominations and corporate groups have been calling the Habitat office to “team build.”



Qualifications for a Habitat House

- Age 18 or over
- Resident of McHenry County for at least 1 year
- Citizen or legal resident
- Steadily employed or have reliable income
- Not able to qualify for a conventional mortgage
- Able to save \$500 for a down-payment and pay back a zero-interest mortgage
- Willing to help build the house

New Executive Director

Thomas Jones has replaced Vivian Sorce as Executive Director.

Tom has been active as a volunteer with Habitat for Humanity since 1995, serving on Habitat’s Board of Directors, as President, and Vice President and, in his early years,

chairing the Fundraising Committee.

Tom is a retired United Airlines pilot.

Tom’s predecessor, Vivian Sorce, resigned to seek another opportunity, relocating with her husband to Florida.



Annual Golf Classic and Silent Auction

Bull Valley Golf Club, Woodstock, IL

Monday, August 20, 2007

Registration Fee: \$225 per person (includes green fees, cart, box lunch, dinner, goody bag)

Dinner Only: \$75

NEEDED: Golfers, sponsors, and donations for our Silent Auction. Please call the Habitat office at 815-759-9002 if you are interested in helping or want more information. A brochure is also available on our website, www.habitatmchenry.org.

A Happy Ending

June 22nd was a happy day for Jozef Huszla, widowed father of two children. Jozef was finally taking possession of his Habitat house located at 702 W. Washington Street, Harvard, IL.



Attorney Dick Short discussing closing documents with Habitat homeowner, Jozef Huszla



702 W. Washington Street, Harvard, IL

The closing took place at Ticor Title Company in McHenry, with pro bono attorney, Steve Cuda, representing Habitat and Dick Short, pro bono attorney representing the homeowner, Jozef Huszla.

A New Beginning

Claudia Melesio, a single mother with two young children, Javier, age 5 and Alexis, age 3, has been chosen to receive the next Habitat house, currently under construction at 808 Eighth Street in Harvard.

Construction is expected to be completed by year end.



L. to r: Claudia Melesio, and her daughter, Alexis, and son, Javier

Upcoming Events ...

Mon., August 20—Habitat's Annual Golf Classic and Silent Auction, Bull Valley Golf Club, Woodstock

Sun., August 26—Cary-Grove Neighborhood Gathering and Family Walk Fundraiser for the benefit of Habitat for Humanity of McHenry County, Fel-Pro RRR Conservation Area, 1520 Crystal Lake Avenue, Cary

Fri., December 14—McHenry County Association of REALTORS® 2007 Holiday Charity Gala Silent Auction for the benefit of Habitat for Humanity of McHenry County, Turnberry Country Club, Lakewood, IL

For more information on the above events, please see "Upcoming Events" on our website at www.habitatmchenry.org.

**HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF
MCHENRY COUNTY**

P.O. Box 1166
McHenry, IL 60051-1166

Phone: 815-759-9002
Fax: 815-759-9051
E-mail: habitat1@mc.net



*Building Houses in Partnership
with God's People in Need*

We're on the Web

www.habitatmchenry.org

A Hand Up, Not a Hand Out

Habitat for Humanity of McHenry County is not a giveaway program nor is it government subsidized. Habitat partners with deserving families to build affordable housing in McHenry County.

The applicant family must live within McHenry County for at least one year and show a steady source of income to qualify. They commit to paying a small down payment and contributing 250 "sweat equity" hours per adult in building their house. By their investment in the building process, homeowners gain self-reliance, self-esteem, and new skills.

Down payments and monthly mortgage payments are used to build more houses through a revolving fund.

Once the house is complete, it is sold to the partner family at no profit and zero interest.

Habitat partners with businesses, churches, foundations, organizations, and private citizens to provide funding and volunteer labor to build houses, as well as build lives.

Together we can make difference.



P.O. Box 1166
McHenry, IL 60051-1166

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
WOODSTOCK, IL 60098
PERMIT #423