

Habitat for Humanity of Cape Cod

Monthly Update for May

May 5, 2009

Please visit our website www.habitatcapecod.org for frequently updated news items, photos and announcements.

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A Challenge to Honor our Volunteers: As announced in this month's newsletter, we are the delighted beneficiary of a promised **donation that will match, dollar for dollar --- up to \$25,000 -- all donations made in response to this initiative.** Two other conditions from the donor: First is that the total \$50,000 raised be used for a Gomes Way home sponsorship; **the Challenge Grant will therefore sponsor home #6** which we are building in partnership with the Granquist family. Second, that it be known that **this donation is being given in honor Habitat's awesome volunteers** and that the donor wishes us to invite all challenge donors to do the same - honor one or more of Habitat's volunteers with their gift.

To respond to this challenge, please use the envelope in your newsletter or follow this link to download and print a form

<http://habitatcapecod.org/documents/Challengegranttemplate.pdf> -- or just send in a check and a note! **If there is volunteer you think is pretty special, we hope you will name that person, and write a few words about them. We will let each honoree know that we have received a gift in his or her honor. We look forward to creating a wall of honor to make public all the tributes we receive.**

We're off! Thanks to early donations from our Board of Directors plus another 30+ friends, spouses, colleagues and admirers of our volunteers, **as of May 5th we have raised \$7449 in challenge donations!**

Anonymous approached me a couple of months ago – for what I expected to be an ordinary conversation on an ordinary day with one of the countless extraordinary people who make up our very extensive and extended Habitat family. The promise of a major challenge donation came “out of the blue,” to put it mildly.

To me, anonymous has a curious and inspiring mix of motivations. For her, the opportunity to sponsor a home – to see such a tangible, permanent, transformative use of her donation - was an exciting idea. That this home is part of a model “green” neighbor also had great appeal.

As one, who personally puts her faith in action as a volunteer with her church and various community organizations in addition to Habitat, she expressed great admiration of the range of responsibilities, talents, and accomplishments of Habitat’s volunteer corps. She thinks that HABILITAT volunteers are something special and so she wanted to use her gift to honor them. *Challenge* was another theme of discussion between us - that these were challenging times, and that she had thought a lot about what that would mean for a non-profit such as ours, trying to meet its commitment to those we serve in this particular year of economic chaos and distress. She purposefully challenged herself; this was something she *could* and *chose* to do now – with joy. Through her gift, she invites us all to challenge ourselves while honoring another. Our deep appreciation to Anonymous.

National Women Build Week (May 2nd– 9th) Our affiliate will be hosting it's 2nd Annual Women Build Team Day on Thursday, May 7th. The event is fully subscribed and should be a great day for over 40 women to join us to do a little “housework!” We wish to thank Habitat’s Women Build and Lowe’s for their support and for the \$5,000 Lowe’s merchandise card that will be put to good use on Gomes Way. We do have our special Habitat Mother’s Day cards available again this year for a minimum \$10 donation. (Please call the office if you wish to make arrangements for purchase, as Mother’s Day is upon us!)

Kayak Raffle: The raffling of the strip cedar kayak hand crafted by Pat Taylor and Bill Witmer is **an event that lasts from now through the Wellfleet Oyster Festival in October, raises LOTS of money for Habitat, and needs MANY volunteers** to sign up for various shifts at various venues to ensure its success. It is a great opportunity for new and veteran volunteers to work together, be an

important part of Habitat, and publicize our work up and down the Cape. The raffle tickets sell themselves! To help out on the **Lower Cape**, please call or e **Nancy Erskine 508 945 2163** or nancybillersk@comcast.net . Volunteers who can work Mid or Upper Cape venues – please be in touch with Hilary Greene, here at the office – Hilary@Habitatcapecod.org 508 775 3559 x16. We need you!

Newsletter: Our newsletter has a new look thanks to the support of our new business partners at Grouper Design. We welcome your feedback and suggestions as we prepare for future editions. Special thanks go out to Jan Preus for providing the layout design through many years. Enjoy your well-deserved “sabbatical,” Jan. (If you have received this e-shout but NOT the newsletter, please contact us so we can check our mailing contact info for you).

Cheers and Kudos to:

CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT (CHS), ORLEANS: I was happy to be invited out for a cup of coffee last week, which turned out to be a rather understated and humbly unceremonious way for Frank Greco and Chip Bechtoldt of Church of the Holy Spirit to present Habitat with a check for \$25,000 to fulfill their \$50,000 sponsorship commitment. In the true Habitat spirit of embracing our worldwide ministry – the conversation soon turned to the possibility of special additional funding towards a tithe contribution for a Habitat home for our neighbors in Haiti. CHS has been a fabulous partner from its first organizing initiatives to their current great crews of volunteers and yummy on-site lunches.

TDBANKNORTH gets a big cheer for a \$7,500 grant to our affiliate given in support of the Gomes Way Neighborhood Build. Thanks to “TD” for its support through the years. We look forward to hosting a Team Build Day this fall for employees of TDBanknorth.

Upper Cape Tool sale

Save the date: Saturday, June 20th 8 am- 1 pm
St. Patrick's Church, 511 Main Street, Falmouth

Tool Donations: We still need more tools for this sale! Tools may be dropped off at the May and June Upper Cape Chapter meetings at the Mashpee Senior Center from 6-8 PM. For more information (or to arrange alternate pick-ups or drop-offs) please call Mary Maraggio at 508-420-6230 or email her at threepsinapod@peoplepc.com **Baked goods:** Yes, please! We are asking that baked goods be dropped off to the sale on the day of the sale, between 7 and 8 a.m. Thank you!

Gomes is going great! We have houses sprouting up all over this neighborhood, and have had wonderful groups of volunteers each work day. Our fabulous volunteer coordination team has been doing a great job working with all of you to make sure Mike has the number of hands he needs for the tasks planned for the day. And our registration team is there bright and early to welcome everyone who has signed up for the day. Once again – here is the contact info to sign up. **Coordinator for individuals:** Joanne Broderick 508 240 - 5860 joannebroderick@comcast.net (If you are planning to be part of a church or other team and group *and ALSO* want to volunteer on your own – let Joanne know).

Coordinator for churches and other groups and teams: Hilary Greene, hilary@habitatcapecod.org 508 775 3559 x 16 (Tues – Fri). Thanks also, to **Nancy Erskine** our team liaison with CHS, and Gary Mann, who is coordinating with the leaders from each of the **Harwich Faith Community Churches**.

Chapter Meeting Information

Upper Cape meets on the first Monday of each month. 7 p.m., Mashpee Senior Center. Chapter Chair: **Bob Leary**

Lower Cape: next meeting to be announced.

Mid-Cape

Chapter Chair: **Marilyn Nouri** 508-385-8568;

Co-Chair: **Fred Yarger** 508-385-5407 fred.yarger@lycos.com

Affiliate Office Contact Info

Address: 657 Route 28, W. Yarmouth 02673

Office Hours: Weekdays, 9 – 4:30.

Email: office@habitatcapecod.org

Office phone: 508-775-3559

Construction updates– x2, bad weather hotline - x3;

Anne Corrieri x10,

Vicki Goldsmith, Executive Director x15

Sue Daggett, Director of Resource Development and Communications x14

Hilary Greene, Coordinator of Volunteer Programs X16

Mike Williams, Director of Construction X17

Linda Caldwell X12

TO JOIN OR LEAVE THIS LIST

If you are reading a print copy of this update and **would like to join**, please email linda@habitatcapecod.org, subject: monthly update, and in the text provide your name and email address.

To be removed from this list, please use the Google instruction (link) at the very bottom – your email will be removed automatically.

To comment on content: please call or email Vicki G. at vg@habitatcapecod.org