



### Volunteers are the 'key' to our success!

Executive Director Tom Chamberlin is the only paid staff of Berkeley County Habitat. Everyone else is a volunteer, including his wife Bonnie who serves as the Co-Director. We want to highlight our volunteers, so everyone knows how important they are to us. Volunteers are the backbone of our affiliate. Without them we could not build low cost housing or help fund it through our ReStore. We want to make sure that we utilize their time and skills so they feel good about volunteering, while having a good time, meeting new friends, getting to know the homeowners and having the satisfaction of helping others realize the American dream of owning their own home. A big shout out to: **The Board of Directors--** Jan Morgan, Kevin Alford, Jose= Stephens, Tom Richardson, Tom Biglin, Janet Hudgen, Mickey Smith, Ivor Edwards, Bacari Jackson and Peggy Pinnell; **Office Volunteers--** Joyce Demmerle, Martha Jo McGlothlin, Stephanie Vazquez (bookkeeper), Doris Mitchell (newsletter), Bobby Steverson (computer guru, CAD and data processing), and Fred Judkins (Web Master); **ReStore Volunteers--** Stephen Aidala (Americorps VISTA volunteer), Janet and Shauna Hudgen, Joyce Demmerle, Belle and Fred Anderson, Joshua LaBelle, Fred Judkins, Diane and Mike Wilson, Danny Lentz, Kathleen Kennedy, Chris Snyder, Adam Kirshner, Glen Birdwhistell, Eleanor Vinlaun, Mike Ientile, Nathaniel Crawford, Dave and Jo Melton, Sheila Smith, Bobby Steverson, Guy Sheets, Harry Calvert, Cheryl Keith, and Amy Cheney; **Family Services Committee--** Mickey Smith, Janet Hudgen, Heike Harvey, Rose Brown, Sally Dupree, Linda Moss and Martha Jo McGlothlin **Construction Committee--** Tom Biglin, Joe Roberts, Vincent Janzen, Don Thompson, Ron Brabham, John Reimer, Guy Sheets; **Site Selection--** Jose= Stephens **Church Relations--** Bob Tarpley; **Financial/Budgeting Class Teachers--** Jan Morgan, Tom Richardson, Bacari Jackson.

This list doesn't begin to cover all the construction volunteers. It takes a couple hundred for each house that we build. Nor does it list our sponsoring Churches, Businesses, Service Groups and Organizations, the Lunch Bunch or the Community Service People. As you can see, it takes a lot of volunteers to keep Habitat going. We are grateful for each and every one of them and we literally cannot thank them enough for giving of their time and talents.

If you read through the whole list, you will see that we have some volunteers that wear many hats for Habitat and some of our >committees= are a little light. We could use more folks on every committee we have. We don't want to stretch our volunteers too thin or wear them out. We still need folks to help as a partner family advocate, or with public relations, volunteer coordinating, fund raising and more. If you feel that you have some time and talent to give to this great cause of building simple, decent houses to eliminate substandard housing in Berkeley County, please call the Habitat office at 761-8989 or Stephen Aidala at the ReStore in Goose Creek at 572-9191. You don't have to swing a hammer to help Habitat. For example, if you love to shop, you could support Habitat by shopping at our ReStore. Buy a bargain. Help build a house.



### A note of Thanks!

You may have read about the recent break-in of our tool trailer. We lost a number of high-end tools including our pneumatic nail guns, air compressor, slide mitre saw, cordless drills and more. As a result of recent newspaper articles, many have donated money that will allow us to replace the stolen tools. Some have donated actual tools themselves. God can make good come from evil. And He has done that in a mighty way in this event. We are indeed grateful to the kindness of the community that was shown to us. We have been encouraged by the generosity, as well as feeling supported in both word and deed.

# Awesome News!

**“Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain.” Psalm 127:1**

The South Carolina Department of Commerce recently presented the Town of Moncks Corner with a \$200,000 grant to help Berkeley County

Habitat. The money is designated: to buy three lots next to Berkeley Middle School; to pay the town to bring sewer and water across the street; the tap fees, building permit and engineering fees; and to help with some of the construction costs of the houses. Habitat is both thankful and grateful for the tremendous blessing of this assistance. We will not need to do as much fund raising for the construction costs, which will help us to build these homes with the partner families who have already been identified and have been working through their pre-construction steps.

## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S DESK

In our 15 plus years of working with Habitat for Humanity we have never spent much energy on having an office or what it should look like. In fact, for us, it’s almost heresy to think about spending money on an office when there are houses to be built, land to be bought. We have the same issue with Churches who can’t help build Habitat houses because of their own “Building campaign” but that’s a story for another day.



We do know the value of having an office. Supporters and volunteers need a place to go to work or for committee meetings or to visit with us. The Family Services group needs a place for Homeowners classes. Our construction materials, tools, trailer, scaffolds, sawhorses, ladders, etc. all need a place to be stored.

We know the value of having a visiting volunteer center. A facility that can be used to accommodate work crews is essential for allowing us to host college students during their spring breaks and churches from colder climes that want to come to work (they also bring funds with them to help).

So it’s not an either/or type of thing. We know we need facilities to grow but we really don’t want to pay for them with hard to raise dollars which could be used for land or more houses.

When we moved into the Holy Family complex, we thought we had died, gone to heaven and found the perfect “Home”. This facility has everything that we could ever need as an office, a place for visiting work teams, a chapel, meditation garden, room for storage of our construction materials and tools, and the fountain (to feed our souls). Our good friends at Trinity Episcopal Church have made this available to us at no cost other than our utilities. It couldn’t possibly get any better than this.

So what’s the problem? Well the Diocese of South Carolina wants to sell the facility for its fair market value and we can’t afford to buy this facility today at that price. So, we are here for a while longer while the church tries to find a buyer at which time we will need to move to a new home.

We strongly believe that our next move should be into a facility that a) is permanent or which we can use for a very long time, b) meets our current space needs for the office and construction storage and c) has the potential to allow us to expand to meet our future needs as well. It would be desirable but not essential if we had room for the visitor center on the same site or close by.

Millard Fuller, Habitat’s founder often said that he’d tried asking for things and not asking for them, and found that asking always worked better. **SO WE ARE ASKING.** Is there anyone who can help meet this need?

Do you have or know someone who has some land with or without a building, located in the greater Moncks Corner area, which would be suitable for an office and which you would be willing to donate to Habitat or to sell at a reasonable price? OR is there someone who would be willing to make a donation to Habitat to help us purchase land and build an office home for Habitat. Our goal is to try to find new previously untapped sources so we do not impact on our home building projects

**"WE'VE COME A LONG WAY"**

with the Aoffice building project". Both are essential to our continued ability to provide services to God=s children in need in Berkeley County.

Thoughts:  
by Jan Morgan  
Board President

In my five year tenure on the Habitat Board of Directors, we=ve come a long way. Just look at the other news in this issue of the Newsletter. We have a grant for \$200,000 to build 4 houses. We have an impressive list of people who volunteer on a regular basis to do the non-construction work. We are looking for a permanent Home for Habitat. For the second year we will be participating in the Builders Blitz with FirstCoast Homes. The ReStore is thriving.

It would be tempting to say the Board is responsible for this, or we couldn=t have done it without our Executive Directors. But the truth is that God is responsible and deserves the praise and glory for our success. Surely the hand of God is behind the involvement of so many people who have provided the energy and money to get us this far. Volunteers moved by God are the key to our ministry.

When I look at the things we want to do in the next few years: the new office; a land bank; funds to support building five or six houses a year; and fully functioning development and volunteer recruitment committees, I sometimes wonder how we will accomplish it all. The answer is the same today as it was 4 years ago when we dreamed of having a ReStore, consistently building 3 houses a year and having sufficient volunteers to support those activities B **With God, all things are possible.**

So if you have land, money or time and feel the hand of God moving you to support Habitat don=t fight it. Give in and join us in eliminating poverty housing from Berkeley County.



## Home Builders Blitz 2008

FIRSTCOAST Homes is joining Berkeley County Habitat and 110 other Habitat affiliates and home builders in the United States to blitz build one of 262 homes across the country during the week of June 2<sup>nd</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup>. Last year FIRSTCOAST Homes built a four bedroom house for Delmore & Melissa Reeves and their five children. This year's house will be built for Benjamin & Barbara Batton and will be located at 138 Fennick Drive in Moncks Corner. Because of the housing slump, we are especially blessed that FIRSTCOAST Homes has agreed to build with us again this year.



## Habitat=s Wish List

### Office Needs Rolls of Stamps

Letterhead/Envelopes  
Bilingual individual (Spanish/English)  
Volunteer to help with resource development  
Volunteer to help with Construction purchasing

### ReStore

Computer, capable of wireless network  
Donation of a year of wireless service

Lift for the ReStore box truck  
Pallet Jack  
Bilingual individual (Spanish/English)  
Graphics person  
Volunteer to help with marketing

Fix-it person

**Construction**

10' ladders (300 lb capacity)  
12' ladders (300 lb capacity)  
8' ladders (300 lb capacity)

6' ladders (300 lb capacity)  
14 or 18 volt cordless saw/drill combo  
10 or 12' aluminum brake with stand  
Chain saw and heavy brush cutter  
Scaffolds with walkboards



**113 St. James Ave**  
**Goose Creek, SC 29445**  
DONATE  
**843-572-9191**  
VOLUNTEER

SHOP

**OPEN: Tuesday thru Saturday**  
**10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.**

Check out the new look on  
our web site

[www.berkeleyhabitat.org](http://www.berkeleyhabitat.org)



Help us get the  
word out!!

Some folks still don't know about our ReStore. We need your help to get the word out. Tell everyone you know about us. We need shoppers and donations. Here's the kind of things that we are looking for:

Functioning appliances

Building materials

Windows

Tubs and sinks

Patio Furniture

Roofs

Roofing shingles

RVs

Doors

New or gently used furniture

kitchen and bathroom cabinets

Tools

Electrical and lighting

Floor and wall tile

Housewares

Functioning HVAC and AC

Hardware

plumbing

Bathroom & Kitchen faucets

Home decor

cars