



COAST || HABITAT NEWS

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HABITAT HOUSES TWO NEW FAMILIES AND MAKES GOOD PROGRESS ON FINAL DUPLEX



The Garcias from l-rt: Marisela, Zulaimy, Blanca holding Natalia, Hilario. Not shown, Yamilet



The Lopez Family from l-rt: Angeles, Eduardo, Jorge, Dafne



The Olvera family from l to rt: Emily, Rachel, Selena, Antonio and baby Marcus will be one in January

The Garcia and Lopez families (left) have moved into their new homes and are very excited to be our newest Partners on Chuck Greenberg Court. They have worked hard to put in their hours and now can enjoy the fruits of their time and dedication to Habitat’s mission to house working families on the Coast.

PARTNERS NEWS ROUNDUP FOR 2017

By Chet Anderson

Our first Habitat family, Joel and Graciela Morales, sold their Habitat home (built and sold in 1990,) purchased a home in the Sacramento area and have moved there for Graciela’s health. Theirs is another part of the story of Habitat: A family home where they raised a family has become the tool to facilitate the family’s ability to relocate.

Habitat was saddened to learn of the early death of Carol Chilton, housed in 1996,. Our hearts go out to Rick, the girls and their five grandkids. Graduating from Fort Bragg High School were Brian Hurtado, Ricardo Alfaro (Telles) and Molly Dorsey, daughter of former Board Member and volunteer Jerry Dorsey.

Liliana Bermudez., after working and going to Jr. College in Ft. Bragg, has moved on to CSU-Sacramento to complete her degree.

Alma Rocha (“the daughter Alma, not Mom) has moved up at her Harvest Market job from “bagging” to checker and has her eyes on college next!

Daniel & Irene Perez (nee Gaeta) are both busy serving veterans in the county as they provide for HomeCare.

Charlie Maden made a big career change from Safeway to the U.S. Postal Service. His son Tibor recently went to Austria with his mother, Waldie, to meet his maternal grandfather.

HABITAT PICKS NEW PARTNER

By Chet Anderson

We welcome our newest Habitat family, the Olveras. They will be the last of eight families to live in and own one of the duplex units on So. McPherson Street in Fort Bragg. The family consists of father Antonio, mother Rachel, Emily, Selena and Marcus. Mom works fulltime for Parents & Friends providing in-home care for disabled persons mostly at night so she can be with the kids during the day. Antonio has his own Olvera Landscaping business working for clients on the coast; he is looking to expand his services to doing limited construction projects. Antonio grew up in Fort Bragg and went to elementary and high school there. Rachel has lived in the area for about 10 years. Emily is in the 2nd grade at Redwood and Selena is in Pre-school. Both girls enjoy taking karate class and are high-energy kids. Marcus is not quite one but will be in January

HABITAT GETS TWO SURPRISE BEQUESTS

Habitat was the beneficiary of two welcome surprises this year. A man named James Dersch in Lakeport died and left property to HFH Lake County, the Shriners and us. When the estate settled, our portion was \$130,000. No one here knew of him until receiving the call. This has greatly accelerated our work on the last two units of Chuck Greenberg Court without incurring any delays due to insufficient funds to proceed.

Over the summer Martha Davis Wagner died and left Habitat what will be close to \$200,000 when everything is settled. She named Habitat and many other local non-profits in her will. She lived in Fort Bragg and wanted her assets to improve the lives of many people on the Coast. Again, we had no advance notice of this extraordinary generosity. This will allow us to wrap up the Mcpherson Street project as we move on to the next project in 2018..

BISCHOFF GRANT 2nd INSTALLMENT IS PAID

Habitat received the second annual grant allocation from the Bischoff fund in October. We will be eligible to apply for a Capital Grant in 2018.

HFH'S "NEW" OFFICE SAVES \$5000 THIS YEAR

Last year we closed our Fort Bragg office since we no longer had sublessors. The Board now meets at the home of Board member Chuck Greenberg where our files are kept in a fire-proof safe.

This has already saved enough to place a kitchen in the 3rd duplex and will do so for the 4th!

HABITAT GUATEMALA VISITS MENDOCINO WEST COAST TOUR

Kayla and Ronnie from HFH Guatemala spoke about their program and their goal of providing 100,000 families with a home or Healthy Home Kit: smokeless stoves, working latrines and water filters.

A standard home can be built for \$6000 if the land is owned. If they need to purchase a Colonia lot the cost is \$10,000.

The stoves greatly improve the air quality in the homes, reducing asthma in the wives and children who do most of the cooking. The water filters give a family clean drinking water. The kits, including a safe chemical latrine, cost \$285.

We discussed our radically different price structure and how we deal with it through fundraising and grants. Even with the relatively small population here (we barely qualified to have an Affiliate) we have managed to raise the money.

The Board increased our giving to their affiliate by \$1200 to \$6000 a year under the obligatory HFHI Tithe program. We have not raised this Tithe in 16 years.

WEATHER CHANGES HFH BUILD PROTOCOL AGAIN FOR 2017-2018

With the bequest we received from the Dersch Estate, the Board opted to beat the weather on the final duplex by hiring Don and Kieran to work weekdays as well as with the families and volunteers on weekends

This allowed us to close the 4th duplex to the weather. We will complete and sell it in 2018.

WORK ON THE BAXMAN PROPERTY UNDERWAY WITH SOILS TESTING

The Board voted unanimously at the October meeting to proceed with the first stage of the engineering needed to determine what can be built on this donated parcel.

The City and Baxman Gravel used it for years as a clean-fill dumpsite to bring the steep slope to level. Charlie and Helen Baxman donated the parcel to Habitat in 2015

We have contracted with John Daily of SHN Engineering in Willets to take core samples at a cost not to exceed \$4800 to determine what modifications will need to be made to effectively use the parcel.

Presently it houses our two large storage cans with tools, kitchen supplies and other Kite Fest gear.

Options include building on deep piers, a grade beam with reinforced slab, doing clustered single homes, a cul-de sac or duplexes like those we have on CG Court.

It is tempting to build duplexes for which we already have plans and know-how, but these do not allow much land around each unit, are more costly and time intensive to build and preclude using community volunteers which is an important part of our mission to involve the larger community in constructing these homes with the future homeowners.

Our intention is to resolve all these issues by May so we can begin preparing the site by Summer 2018. We will have enough funding to begin by then.

We are very excited to begin to think about a new project after all these years planning and completing Chuck Greenberg Court.

It's that time of year again in which we ask you to contribute to our mission to house working families on the Coast as we push to complete Chuck Greenberg Court. There are many worthwhile causes clamoring for your help, but Habitat, I think is unique. We bring all manner of folks to our work with a plethora of gifts to give: good wishes, the labor of their hands, the fruits of their labor, their prayers and goodwill and all to house a Partner Family they do not know and will possibly never meet. Once the home is complete, a home which they have themselves built with our help, they buy the home. The income stream from the family mortgage payments constitutes half of the cost of another home each year.

The other half must come from you who are reading this newsletter. We supplement your many gifts with a mortgage from the Savings Bank, itself a gift of a very low interest loan, and spend our income nearly as fast as we get it on a very tangible item: a home for a hard working family that have given up at least a year's worth of weekends and many workdays to make their dream come true.

Habitat honors our Partners, but above all are grateful to you, our steadfast donors, whose gifts sustain us and make this a real community effort. We quite literally could not do this without you and wish you a joyous holiday season and new year.

The following people and entities have given since the last newsletter in fall 2016. if you are not listed please forgive the omission and let us know so we can correct the Webpage

Chet and Sherri Anderson	Harvest Market	Pacific Gas & Electric
Luna Armstrong	Thomas and Jean Hawkins	Rantala Heating & Sheet Metal
Betty Barber	Amy Hensell	Dorine Real and Lee Tepper
Marcus and Kathy Bibbens	Ron and Ruth Hensell	Frank and Sallie Richards
Bowers Studio (Karen Bowers)	Sharon D. Higgins	Norman Roby and Ginny Mills
Kathleen Cameron	Susan Joyce Hofberg	Norman Rudman
Tom Charters Construction	Jay and Terri Hudson	John J. Ruprecht
Brian and Lucinda Clark	Jim and Barbara Hurst	William and Carla
Thomas Costello	William and Gwen Jacobson	Schneiderman
Grail G. Dawson	Barbara Johnson	Mary E. Schuette
Estate of James R. Desch	Linda Jupiter	Sue Shabazz
Pat Dunbar	Paul and Joan Katzeff	Cynthia A. Sharon
Jim Ehlers and Susan Larkin	Wilma Keeney &	Janie Sheppard
Donna Feiner	Christopher Roe	Judy Smith Bookkeeping
Richard and Gabriele Fienburgh	Donald Kirkpatrick	Jennifer Stewart
Ann Brewer Fischer	Patty Lyons	Hal and Sidra Stone
Fort Bragg Electric	Horace and Virginia Mann	Erif Thunen
Douglas and Claire Fortier	C Marks Bookkeeping	Jane Vartanian
Patricia Galligan	Patricia Patton Marshall	Janet Venable
Robert and Mary Gerbi	Shelley M. Martin	Martha Davis Wagner Trust
Benjamin and Pamela Graham	Mary Sue McNeill	Norma Watkins
Richard Green	John and Susan Mitchell	John Wetzler and
Chuck Greenberg and	James and Arlene Moorehead	Nan Motolinsky
Claire Ellis	Susan Newstead	Mary Willoughby
Doris Hammer	Poppy O'Sheehan	Orah Young
Jeanette Hansen	Patty Lyons	



FROM THE BOARDROOM
RON HENSELL,
 PRESIDENT

This has been a pretty exciting year for us at Habitat. We completed the 3rd duplex despite a prolonged rainy season. The Garcia and Lopez families are now happily in their new homes.

The 4th and final duplex is moving ahead smartly with the Seaholm and Olvera families hard at work on their homes.

This year we have been blessed with two bequests and a third recurring one that will enable us to put the finishing touches on Chuck Greenberg Court in 2018 including the parking lot and landscaping.

PR COORDINATOR FOR THE BOARD SOUGHT

We are looking for a volunteer or potential new Board member to coordinate our PR and arrange for Board Members to address local non-profits. Also we need a coordinator to continue the Kite Fest.

EXTRA-ORDINARY VOLUNTEERS

Habitat wishes to thank the following contractors and suppliers:

Dave Galey for inspecting and guiding the work completed by our construction foreman, Don Evans.

Gallo Villapondo for the flashing, and the final connections to the street valves.

Steve Dunlap who paid for the roofing materials and his crew's installation.

Helio Cen, Board Member, who paid his men to work many days and worked Saturdays himself.

Don Evans and Kerin Sloane who have worked diligently at less than 1/2 the going rate.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2017

RON HENSELL: BOARD PRESIDENT

SUE SHABAZZ: VICE PRESIDENT: FAMILY SELECTION

HELIO CEN: BUILD CHAIR

RICHARD GREEN: TREASURER; FINANCE COMMITTEE

CHUCK GREENBERG: SECRETARY; RESOURCE COMMITTEE

NORM RUDMAN, LEGAL AFFAIRS

FRANK RICHARDS: BUILD COMMITTEE

CHET ANDERSON: PARTNERING

CHUCK GREENBERG: NEWSLETTER EDITOR

TO DONATE FUNDS OR YOUR TIME YOU CAN FIND US AT 964-0942 OR HABITATMENDOCINO.ORG

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