



# Habitat happenings

*Get Involved. Learn How.*

(707) 422-1948 / [www.solanonapahabitat.org](http://www.solanonapahabitat.org)

## WINTER-SPRING 2014

### Past • Present • Future

#### PAST: HABITAT CORNER PROJECT

Last August, we dedicated the two "Habitat Corner" homes in Fairfield, the first new homes the affiliate has built in over five years. It was an emotional ceremony for the Parker and Hamilton families and the many volunteers and staff members who worked for ten months on the build. It was especially moving for Jean Hamilton who had waited over four years for her house to be built. We send special thanks to all the project sponsors, including Anheuser-Busch Brewery, Valero Benicia Refinery, Kiewit Construction, Wells Fargo Bank, MV Transportation, Lennar Housing Foundation, PG&E, Genentech, Calpine and West America Bank.

#### PRESENT: MIES REHAB PROJECT

We are currently renovating the Mies/Rassin home in American Canyon to make it wheelchair accessible. Eric Mies was paralyzed as a result of a hang-gliding accident almost three years ago and cannot come home from the VA hospital until his home is modified to accommodate him. He is a Navy veteran, though his injury is not service related. Thanks to an aggressive fundraising effort by his family, friends and many wonderful Habitat supporters, almost \$15,000 was raised through individual donations, with Umpqua Bank granting an additional \$2,000. Our work is expected to be completed by early March, 2014.

#### FUTURE: MISSOURI / TAYLOR PROJECT

Our next build is at the corner of Missouri and Taylor Streets in Fairfield on property we purchased in 2001 with Community Development Block Grant funds. We have started pre-development work and fundraising for the approximate \$400,000 needed to build two single-story, 3 bedroom houses. Donations and sponsorships are being sought. Please contact Kathy Hoffman, Director of Development at [kathyinvallejo@gmail.com](mailto:kathyinvallejo@gmail.com) or call the affiliate office at (707) 422-1948 for more information. Donations can be sent directly to the affiliate administrative office at 5130 Fulton Drive, Ste. R, Fairfield, CA 94534. 

### Habitat Corner Project



*The Parker and Hamilton families with board member Dr. Roddy Feldman at the house dedication ceremony*

### Mies Rehab Project



*Our current project is the renovation of Eric Mies's home in American Canyon.*

## 2013 Volunteers of the Year



L-R: Sandy Borman (ReStore Volunteer of the Year), Ann Cousineau (Board President), Doug Burke (Construction Volunteer of the Year), Mark Baides (Affiliate Volunteer of the Year).

Our 2013 Volunteer Recognition Ceremony, held in early December at our ReStore, was attended by close to 100 people.

During the year, more than 750 volunteers filled over 3,000 slots during more than 700 shifts at 14 sites, including building two new homes, operating the ReStore, and helping in the office. Twenty-five volunteers received a Volunteer Service Award for providing 50-99 hours; twenty-two volunteers received the U.S. President's Bronze Volunteer Service Award for providing 100-249 hours; seven volunteers received the President's Award at the Silver Level for 250-499 hours; and five volunteers

received the President's Award at the Gold Level for over 500 hours of volunteer service to our affiliate – (James Nuehring, Mark Baides, Patrick Ernest, Odette Goldberg and Kathy Hoffman).

**Special awards** went to: Affiliate Volunteer of the Year - Mark Baides; Construction Volunteer of the Year - Doug Burke; ReStore Volunteer of the Year - Sandy Borman; Leadership Award as Napa Project Manager - Anne Gustin; Sustainability Award for Continuous Support - Ron Thorpe.

Obviously, we owe all our success to our amazing volunteers! 

## ReStore

Our ReStore in Cordelia (104 Commerce Court, 707-863-0692) has been doing extremely well since it opened in August 2011. ReStore is Habitat's retail store that sells donated new and gently-used items including furniture, appliances, sinks, tubs, doors, windows, hardware, and

so much more. ReStore operates on three critical components: donors, shoppers, and volunteers. Donors receive a tax write-off, shoppers get incredible bargains, and other than two employees, ReStore is run entirely by volunteers. Please donate, shop or volunteer! 

## A Message From Our President

2013 was a very productive year for Solano-Napa Habitat for Humanity and this newsletter features the highlights. Most significant was the dedication of Habitat Corner for two very happy families. The current project in American Canyon is going well and there is much excitement with the anticipated homecoming of Eric Mies. We started our Deconstruction program and it is going gangbusters! We were privileged to be selected as one of forty non-profits featured in the first-ever Give!Guide magazine in Napa county. This unique fundraising effort encouraged first-time and

ongoing donors to support their favorite local non-profits with a donation that fit within their budgets. The funds raised will support our efforts in Napa county. Of course, we couldn't have done it without all our wonderful volunteers and dedicated staff. They are the ones who make the Habitat experience so rewarding. If you would like to volunteer, visit our website at [www.solanonapahabitat.org](http://www.solanonapahabitat.org) or call our office at (707) 422-1948. 

*Ann Cousineau,  
Solano-Napa Habitat  
Board President*

## Cars for Homes Donations

(of your unused car, truck, van, trailer, RV or boat)

Support Solano-Napa Habitat with donations that help us build more homes in our community.

Call (877) 277-4333 toll free  
or e-mail [www.carsforhomes.org](http://www.carsforhomes.org) for more information.

## Your Support Makes a Difference

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



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Fairfield, CA 94534

*Mission Statement: We bring people together to build decent, affordable homes and empower families through home ownership.*

### OFFICERS

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Gerry Raycraft: *Vice Pres.*  
Nancy Nelson: *Secretary*  
Craig Paterson: *Treasurer*

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