

Celebrating 20 years of home building

2012 marks the 20th Anniversary of the founding of the Kearney Area Habitat for Humanity with the first home being dedicated in November of 1992.

The Kearney Area Habitat for Humanity 20th Anniversary Banquet was held on February 18. The event was held to celebrate the past, the present and the future. It honored those that have helped with KAHFH throughout the years and gave encouragement to those that will continue to help in the years to come.

The keynote speaker was Ken Klein. Mr. Klein is just finishing up his time serving as the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Habitat for Humanity International. Mr. Klein spoke to the group about the importance of forging ahead in the years to come and congratulating everyone on the accomplishment of 61 homes in the past 20 years. He also remarked about the unusual way the Kearney Area Habitat for Humanity was started and that it was because of this community support that it has continued to thrive for the past 20 years.



Our AmeriCorps Volunteer, *Ben Emeigh* provided this brief synopsis of KAHFH 20th Anniversary. THANKS Ben.



Jim McKenzie—Ken Klein—Jerry Marlatt—Bill Ballou

Three of the four founding fathers also talked a little about their time spend with KAHFH in the past 20 years. Bill Ballou, Jim McKenzie, and Jerry Marlatt all gave brief recounts of their past 20 years spent with the Kearney Area Habitat for Humanity.

Two current Habitat for Humanity homeowners, Tina Sheets and daughter Holly Klingelhofer, talked to the group about their appreciation for the work done by all of the volunteers of KAHFH and how receiving a Habitat for Humanity house was really a life changing experience for their family.

The event was closed by Brandon Benitz, the current president of Habitat for Humanity thanking everyone for their support over the past 20 years and urged everyone to continue to strive to make the next 20 years of the Kearney Area Habitat for Humanity a great success.

You can go to www.habitat.kearney.net to see the 20 year history of KAFHF, a list of the original homeowners and many more pictures. You can also check out the building progress for 2012.

Our next 20th Anniversary Event will be the Habitat Appreciation Supper on April 19th. See the back of this newsletter for all the details.

Kerstin & Sheri Schroeder

The first dedication of 2011 was held Nov. 18th for Kerstin & Sheri Schroeder. This date was also Sheri's 11th Birthday.

Their home is located at 1610 Avenue C and a former neighbor, Pastor Toby McDonald gave the invocation and a touching tribute to the family.



Carlos & Elizabeth Lopez



and Mahdiel, Jahebed and Zibiah received their new home at 108 East 8th Street on November 29th. Due to a family emergency, Carlos was the only one present for the dedication and he delighted those in attendance by singing two beautiful songs.

Mike & Tracy Tjarks

The final dedication of the year was held on December 12th at 808 Avenue B when we welcomed Mike & Tracy Tjarks and Shyanne and Ethan Albus to their new home.



Check the website and facebook for MORE.....



From Behind the Gavel

The President SPEAKS

We are excited for the 2012 Build Season to begin! We will kick it off in a "BIG" way as The Big Event volunteers from UNK will be on hand, in force, to help with our first build day. After that, we have a number of UNK student organizations scheduled to help build throughout April. Looking ahead to the rest of the year, we already have a full calendar for those groups who will provide devotions and lunches for us. Special thanks to the Church Relations Committee Chair, Randall Heckman, for all his hard work to recruit and schedule our partner groups for the entire 2012 build season!

Speaking of partnering, we are pleased to recognize our 3 partner families whose houses we'll be building this year - Ricardo and Idalia Atilano, Robert & Christina Bahde and Amelia Borrego. Ricardo and Idalia's house is about halfway completed, thanks to our partnership with the UNK construction management class this past Fall! We'll finish their house, then build Amelia's house and Robert and Christina's house "from the ground up" as our build year progresses.

Speaking of our build year, you may notice that we're completing 3 houses this year, when in many years past, we have built 4. The Board decided to slow down a bit this year, concentrate on our 3 houses, and then look forward to the houses we want to build in 2013.

Speaking of 2013, we already have our partner families identified and they are currently working on their "Sweat Equity" hours. We are blessed to be accepting Applications for the 2014 build season, because we'll full until then!

Speaking of 2014, and looking beyond it, we are filled with a special sense of excitement. Having just celebrated our 20th Anniversary, we are eager to see what our next 20 years holds for KAHFH. We'll be doing some strategic planning over the next several months as we hope to build on the solid foundation our first 20 years gave us and look forward to serving the Kearney community for many more 20th Anniversaries to come!

Thank you all for your continued support of the Kearney Area Habitat for Humanity affiliate!
—Brandan Benitz, President

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International Web Site www.habitat.org
KAHFH Web Site
www.habitat.kearney.net



From Behind the Hammer

And the work goes on

2011 was a good year for our building crews. We built and dedicated three houses and with the help of the UNK Construction Management class we started a fourth house. It is framed and dried in and we will start working on it as our first house for 2012. The three that we completed in 2011 made a grand total of 61 houses built in Kearney since our Habitat affiliate started in 1992.

We plan to finish and dedicate three homes this year and if possible get a foundation in for our first house of 2013. The partially completed house is at 808 Ave B and the next two houses will be on 14th Street and Fourth Avenue .

If you know of a group or are a member of a group that would like to spend a day working together doing a service project, please contact us and we will set up a date for you. Our first official work date of the season will be March 31. We will again be working on Tues and Thurs. mornings and all day on Saturday. We would be glad to have you join us at any time. Each week you can get an up date of where we will be working by calling the Info line: 4-INFO AT 234-4636 Habitat For Humanity

Building for Habitat is a fun way to share your time and talents. We hope you will join us at our job sites as we look forward to another productive year of building.

—*Jerry Marlatt*, Building Committee chairman

Greetings from the Family Selection Committee!

During this past year, our committee members responded to over 78 inquiries, obtained and analyzed 44 credit reports; and processed 8 complete applications. The committee members include Cindy Barney, Don Niemann, Fernando Segura, Stan Wilson, Yvonne Deyle and Paul Bartlett. We also receive a great deal of support from Julie Adams, our office assistant, in processing inquiries and tracking the status of each application. Other accomplishments during this past year include the updating of the Family Selection Committee Guidelines and providing a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) link on our webpage (www.habitat.kearney.net). The number of inquiries and applications received during this past year indicates a need for affordable housing in our community that goes beyond our volunteer's capacity to meet.

Three families were selected for the 2012 build season and another 4 families were identified as candidates for the 2013 build season. Any new applications being processed and considered at this time are for the 2014 build season. We are grateful for our volunteer's support and look forward to helping more families prepare for home ownership in the coming year.

—Paul Bartlett, chairman Family Selection Committee Chairman

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

The hospitality committee is looking for a couple of helpers to round out our staff for the 2012 build season. If you or you and a partner would like to volunteer one weekend a month in the food shack from 7:30 am to 2pm (approximately) please call Bonnie Mumm at 234-3101 for details. Thanks to the committee for this year, Edith Marlatt, Pat Skiles, Jan Paxson, Mariella Segura, Alice Heckman, Lanna Bishop, and Pam Miller.

The food providers are finalized for the entire season (thanks to Randall Heckman), vendors have been contacted, and we are ready for another great season.

—*Bonnie Mumm*, Hospitality Chair

THANKS

Habitat wishes to thank everyone who donated anything and everything, including (most of all) your valuable time.

Address changes & Other Business

Call 234-6030 (office)

kahfh@yahoo.com

Requests for changes can be left on the answering machine. Leave a clear, concise message so that Julie can get back to you ASAP. Or send your changes via email.

2012 Kearney Area Habitat for Humanity

Brandon Benitz President
Marty Madden Vice-President
Charlie Pickens Treasurer
Rita Wright Secretary

Committee Chairpersons

Jerry Marlatt Building
Randall Heckman Church
 Relations
Tina Sheets Family Nurture
Paul Bartlett Family Selection
Cory Christians Fund Raising
Bonnie Mumm Hospitality
Vacant Public Relations
Vacant Volunteer Coordinator
Laura Love Site Selection
Cindy Barney Finance

Other Board Members

Barbara Clark, Tom Hardekopf, Roger Hoffman, Josh Jelden, Hugo Longoria, Ryan Osten, Tom Paxson, Kay Payne, Patty Rinn,, Daren Snider

Committee chairs do not have to be board members so we welcome volunteers for the open positions

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Service

Spring/Summer—2012

Kearney Area

Habitat for Humanity

1815 First Avenue

Kearney, NE 68847

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*Come help build simple, decent
housing for God's people in need*

Check the website and Facebook for
current information
www.habitat.kearney.net

Habitat needs LOTS & and/or LAND to develop. Please contact the KAHFH office with your ideas.

BUILDING SCHEDULE

Saturday building begins at 8:00 a.m.

No Building on May 26th or September 1st

Come and work for an hour or two OR more. Experience is not required. Tools are provided but you can bring your own if you wish. Lunch, snacks and soft drinks are served, FREE of charge.

Schedule: InfoLine 234-4636 Selection 4310

Work site information is also given on KGFW during the 7 a.m. news on Saturday and on www.habitat.kearney.net

Children from 8 to 14 must have a one-on-one adult sponsor (18 or over.) Those 15 and older may work without supervision, unless they are a part of an organized group...then a group sponsor is requested. Children under 8 are discouraged from the work site due to safety concerns.

Our 20th Anniversary Celebration Continues

Habitat

Appreciation Dinner

April 19, 2012 - 6:00 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church

4511 6th Avenue

Kearney, NE

The KAHFH Board and committees will furnish a potluck meal in honor of the volunteers who provide their time, talents and monetary gifts. Our homeowners will be our SPECIAL guests this year in honor of our 20th Anniversary.

Kearney Area Habitat for Humanity † 1815 First Avenue, Kearney, NE 68847 † 308-234-6030 (office)