



## RV Care-A-Vanners Update April 2011

**Dear Care-A-Vanners,**

We're writing this following the National Affiliate Conference in Atlanta where we participated in a discussion panel and an information booth, both aimed at identifying new affiliates who could benefit from Care-A-Vanners. A good number expressed interest in hosting Care-A-Vanners; we expect to see some new places on the build list in the upcoming year.

Speaking of the upcoming year, some of you have asked when a particular build will be scheduled or when we will have a schedule for 2012. Actually, affiliates are free to schedule their builds whenever they wish. So we have no foreknowledge of builds not yet scheduled. As soon as the affiliate registers a build it goes into the build list.

We're sending this a little earlier than usual because Tony and I will be on vacation (!) until April 25. We're leaving the RV behind and cruising (a first for us) through the Panama Canal.

While we are gone, the following will be here to assist you with various matters:

Volunteer Mobilization main number for anything not covered below: 1-800-422-4828 ext. 7530 (229-410-7530).

New Care-A-Vanners with general questions about how things work: call Joyce Rush, Care-A-Vanner, at 724-344-4922 or email @ [jayrush@juno.com](mailto:jayrush@juno.com).

Team Leaders: call Mary Vandeveld at 920-737-0507 or email [habitat1@prodigy.net](mailto:habitat1@prodigy.net)

I will not hear messages left on the RV Desk extension (7534) until April 25. Emails to [rvinfodesk@habitat.org](mailto:rvinfodesk@habitat.org) will be monitored by others, but we would appreciate it if you would defer non-urgent matters until after April 25.

See you next month.

In Partnership,

Mary (and Tony) Campbell

**Need more information about online registration?**

The RV Care-A-Vanner Yahoo e-group provides step-by-step instructions for first-time users, plus a place to post other Care-A-Vanner-related questions. To join, send an e-mail with a blank subject line and body to [rv-care-a-vanners-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:rv-care-a-vanners-subscribe@yahoogroups.com). For more details or to [join this group](#), visit us online.

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### **Monthly Care-A-Vanner trivia: Do you know?**

How many affiliates have hosted Care-A-Vanners over the years?

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### **Tent-a-Thon 2011**

Capital District Affiliate Albany, New York is holding their 2011 Benefit Tent-a-thon/RV to eliminate substandard and poverty housing. Camp in tents and RVs and help us raise funds for the area HFHI community. August 18-25, stay one day or all days. For information, please contact Carrie Christopher at 1-518-462-2993 or [carrie@capitaldistricthabitat.org](mailto:carrie@capitaldistricthabitat.org). No fundraising required for RV Care-A-Vanners, Complimentary breakfast and dinner will be provided. \$15 a night cost for RV Parking. Please RSVP by March 15th.

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### **Report Care-A-Vanner hours**

To help us keep track of total volunteer hours contributed, please report all hours served at drop-in or ongoing builds to the [Care-A-Vanner office at Habitat for Humanity International](#). (Team leaders also provide group totals at the end of each build.) If you build with an affiliate as a Care-A-Vanner outside of a scheduled build, please report your total hours worked to the Care-A-Vanner desk by sending a brief e-mail to [rvinfodesk@habitat.org](mailto:rvinfodesk@habitat.org).

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### **Welcome to our new Care-A-Vanners**

Richard and Anna Armstrong, Nancy Jo Dinsmore and Bill Essex, Dave and Sue Fullerman, John Hawkins and Gretchen Bain, Gordon Saum, Charles and Norma Stufflebeam, Tom and Peggy Wilcox, Gerald Zieg.

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### **Donate your RV, trailer, car or boat and help Habitat build homes**

Looking for new ways to give? Call Cars for Homes™, Habitat's vehicle donation program, toll-free at 1-877-277-4344 to donate cars, trucks, boats and RVs.

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### **Continue your support**

As the need for volunteers continues to grow, so does the number of opportunities to contribute to Habitat's work. Find a build now on the [online build listing](#) and register online, or visit [ongoing building opportunities](#) and contact the affiliate directly for more details.

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### **Featured builds of the Month:**

**Yolo County HFH, Woodland, CA**, (<http://habitatyolo.org>) on the Ongoing Build list seeks volunteers to do exterior stucco application March 28-April 9, under the direction of certified stucco installers. Anyone who has stucco experience or would like to learn is welcome. Work would be done from the ground or from a low scaffold. [The Yolo County Fairgrounds](#) RV Park, about 2 miles from the work site, has full hookups (50amp) for \$25/night or \$150/week. Please contact Construction Manager, Robert Mitchell. Office Phone: 530-668-4301, Cell Phone: 916-202-3649, Email: [robert@aboutworkingtogether.com](mailto:robert@aboutworkingtogether.com).

**Highland County HFH, in Sebring, Florida.** Contact Jennifer McGee at 863-402-2915 or [jmcgeeW@habitathighlands.org](mailto:jmcgeeW@habitathighlands.org). They have 20 houses to finish by end of June 2011.

**Hardin County HFH in Elizabethtown, KY Mega Build** beginning in March. Contact Larry Mengel, executive director, 270-300-1773 or [www.hardinhabitat.com](http://www.hardinhabitat.com).

**Cedar Valley Habitat for Humanity** is looking forward to another wonderful year of building homes! Our goal is to build 5 new homes, rehab 5 homes in the flood impacted area, and 10 A Brush with Kindness homes, the main focus being on exterior repairs and painting. There will be much productive work here as we will be doing several different projects.

We are excited to announce that as of April 10th, our RV site will be open to Care-A-Vanners and volunteers. Our RV site offers 30 and 50 amp outlets, water and sewer hook-ups at each site, laundry facilities on premise, and Wi-Fi internet access. Work sites are within minutes of the RV site and directions will be provided. There is no charge for the parking, but if you'd like to give a donation to help offset the cost of utilities it would be greatly appreciated!

If interested in being a part of this exciting build, please contact Tierra Benischek by email [volunteer@cvhabitat.org](mailto:volunteer@cvhabitat.org) or call 319-366-4485 for more information!

### **Anchorage, Alaska Needs Two RV Traveler Rigs This Summer**

This summer, Habitat for Humanity Anchorage is building seven homes in NE Anchorage at Oklahoma Street and E 4th Avenue. We are seeking two RV traveler rigs that can spend the summer (June 1-September 1) in Alaska living at our jobsite. Two RV traveler rigs allow each owner to alternate between traveling the Greatland and watching over the jobsite. Ideally, the owners could be our "Tool Pusher" on volunteer workdays (typically Wednesday-Saturday this year).

The Tool Pusher issues and receives tools from the volunteers and keeps our tool trailers organized. This is a volunteer position. We can offer a parking pad and an electrical hookup. There will not be access to water or a dump station at the jobsite, but these are available within a mile of the jobsite. Shower passes for the Alaska Club (exercise facility) in Anchorage will be available, but they do not include workout privileges. A Carrs (Safeway) grocery store, US Post Office, Target, Lowe's, Kohl's, movie theater, and Laundromats are all located within one mile of the jobsite.

If you are interested in helping Habitat for Humanity Anchorage AND seeing Alaska this summer, please contact Craig Jaeger, Executive Director, at 907-272-0800 or [cjaeger@hfhanchorage.org](mailto:cjaeger@hfhanchorage.org) as soon as possible.

**George County HFH Lucedale, Mississippi** would appreciate the help of any Care-A-Vanners for a two week stay in early April. The weather will be lovely! We currently have three builds going on, but we have 60 Collegiate Challenge students in the next three weeks. We should be able to complete one house in that time. The other two should be about to the trim and paint stage then install cabinets, etc. We also need help building some racks in our warehouse to store things more efficiently.

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### **Upcoming builds**

The [build list](#) and [ongoing builds page](#) feature weekly updates, so check back frequently. Openings are available for the following builds:

<b>Location</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Rigs needed</b>
Sebring, Florida	April 10–April 24, 2011	11
Phenix City, Alabama	April 17–May 1, 2011	1
Dade City, Florida	April 24–May 8, 2011	11
Livingston, Texas	May 8–22, 2011	4
Sebring, Florida	May 8–22, 2011	11
Libby, Montana	May 15–29, 2011	4
Melbourne, Florida	May 15–22, 2011	7
Sheridan, Wyoming	May 22–June 5, 2011	4
Marquette, Michigan	May 29–June 12, 2011	5
PEI – Summerside Canada	May 29–June 19, 2011	8
Malvern, Ohio	June 5–19, 2011	4
Pagosa Springs, Colorado	June 5–19, 2011	2
Sioux Falls, South Dakota	June 5–19, 2011	5
Brookings, South Dakota	June 12–26, 2011	5
Iron River, Michigan	June 12–26, 2011	5
Richmond, Indiana	June 12–26, 2011	4

Sheridan, Wyoming	June 12–26, 2011	4
Pagosa Springs, Colorado	June 26–July 10, 2011	2
Santa Fe, New Mexico	June 26–July 10, 2011	4
North Platte, Nebraska	July 3–17, 2011	3
Mankato, Minnesota	July 24–August 7, 2011	2
Sheridan, Wyoming	July 31–August 14, 2011	2

Go to the [build list](#) for the complete list of upcoming builds.

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### Leader roles

Please note: An RV Care-A-Vanner team leader's role is to help manage team logistics. While RV leaders with construction skills are certainly valued, the affiliate is responsible for construction supervision.

If you have participated in at least three builds and are interested in leading but your construction skill set is still growing, consider splitting duties with a co-leader. Many co-leaders divide duties, which include managing logistics (e-mails, paperwork and social activities) and assisting volunteers on construction sites.

### Lead a team

Want to put your coordinating and leadership skills to work for Habitat? Team leaders are needed for the following builds:

Location	Dates
Sebring, Florida	May 8–22, 2011
Melbourne, Florida	May 15–22, 2011
Sioux Falls, South Dakota	June 5–19, 2011
Brookings, South Dakota	June 12–26, 2011
Iron River, Michigan	June 12–26, 2011
Sheridan, Wyoming	June 12–26, 2011
Pagosa Springs, Colorado	June 26–July 10, 2011
Santa Fe, New Mexico	June 26–July 10, 2011
North Platte, Nebraska	July 3–17, 2011
Brookings, South Dakota	July 10–24, 2011
Norway, Michigan	July 10–24, 2011
Hibbing, Minnesota	July 17–31, 2011
Sheridan, Wyoming	July 17–31, 2011
Mankato, Minnesota	July 24–August 7, 2011
Sheridan, Wyoming	July 31–August 14, 2011

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### Team leaders' corner

#### Roster updates

Please make roster corrections by hand and fax it to 1-229-410-7490, or scan and e-mail it to [rvinfodesk@habitat.org](mailto:rvinfodesk@habitat.org). For minor updates, leaders can report corrections by calling 229-410-7534.

#### Evaluations

Tell us about your experiences with Habitat. During the second week of a build, you will receive the link to an evaluation form. If you do not receive this link, e-mail [rvinfodesk@habitat.org](mailto:rvinfodesk@habitat.org).

#### Contact us

For questions, cancellations and concerns, the most efficient way to reach us is by e-mailing [rvinfodesk@habitat.org](mailto:rvinfodesk@habitat.org). You can also call 1-800-422-4828, ext. 7534, or 1-229-410-7534 for assistance.

To help us find you in the database, please include your name (and your spouse's name, if applicable) and ZIP code in all communications.

Because we coordinate from the road, please allow 48 hours for a response. If you cannot reach Mary and need more immediate assistance, please call the Habitat for Humanity International Volunteer Mobilization desk at 1-800-422-4828, ext. 7530, or 229-410-7530.

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**Monthly Care-A-Vanner trivia answer: Do you know?**

Over 400. We hope to be signing up some new ones who expressed interest at the National Affiliate conference in Atlanta.

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