



RV Care-A-Vanners Update March 2011

Dear Care-A-Vanners,

We're getting a little help from our friends. Three Care-A-Vanners have volunteered to share a portion of the coordinating job. Every month we get more inquiries from retiring baby boomers – "How does this program work? How can I join a build?" Joyce Rush is going to handle these calls. Lu Tillotson is taking on the chores involved in creating and gathering the electronic evaluations, so that I can focus on reading them. And Mary Vandeveld is going to help recruit and mentor team leaders. Thanks dear friends and fellow Care-A-Vanners!

The new online registration program provides much more information to help you decide which build is right for you – type of work, cost, parking location, hookups, distance from jobsite, etc. Some of you have called us for "more information" about the build. In fact, all we know is what you see on the web page. Please do call us if you discover any inaccuracies in what is advertised.

The links to join the eGroup (see below) did not work properly in January's update. They were fixed last month. Thanks to those who let us know.

We're going to take a vacation! We're taking our first cruise (14 days thru the Panama Canal) the first 2 weeks of April. The Global Village staff and our friends mentioned above will keep things going, more on this in the next update.

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. For more details or to [join this group](#), visit us online.

Featured international build: Visit us in New Zealand!

A month long Global Village trip, from April 30 to June 1, will be hosted by the Habitat Greater Auckland affiliate. RVs will be rented upon arrival in Auckland.

For details about the cost, trip leaders and Habitat New Zealand, [visit us online](#).

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

How can I donate to the Care-A-Vanner program?

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. -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.

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.

Welcome to our new Care-A-Vanners

Stephen Charles, Jim and Theda Collier, Christopher and Johnnie Fulton, Tom Hatchard, Kyle and Cassie Robertson, Tom and Dana Stark, Allen and Nancy Thiele, Lauren Vacca, Gary and Susan Whitney.

In Memoriam

One of the original Care-A-Vanners, **Jean Wilkinson**, passed away Friday, Feb. 11, 2011, in Alamogordo, New Mexico at 80 years of age. Born Aug. 9, 1930, in Fort Worth, Texas, Jean graduated from Austin High School in 1948.

She owned several businesses over the years and was the first female to be on the board of directors of the American Home Sewing Association in New York City.

She is survived by her husband of 60 years, Curtis Wilkinson. Both were on the advisory board that gave the Care-A-Vanners their name and facilitated the creation of the RV Desk in Americus.

Her obituary and online register book are located at <http://www.alamogordofuneralhome.org/>.

Our thoughts and prayers are also with the family of Elmer Dech who passed away in January.

Health Note

Prayers and thoughts go out to Don and Elaine Stover, who have been coordinating construction in Las Cruces, New Mexico for the past several years. Don is in medical treatment in Phoenix Arizona. Give Don a shout at dw_stover@prodigy.net.

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.

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.

Featured domestic builds

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

HFH Hardin County in Elizabethtown, KY Mega Build beginning in March. Contact Larry Mengel, Executive Director, 270-300-1773 or 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 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 as soon as possible.

George County Habitat for Humanity 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.

Upcoming builds

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

Location	Dates	Rigs needed
Sebring, Florida	March 13–March 27, 2011	11
Aransas Pass, Texas	March 20–April 4, 2011	3
Micaville, North Carolina	March 20–March 27, 2011	3
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	12
Waynesboro, Virginia	May1–21, 2011	1
Livingston, Texas	May8–22, 2011	6
Sebring, Florida	May8–22, 2011	11
Libby, Montana	May 15–29, 2011	6
Melbourne, Florida	May 15–22, 2011	6
Winona, Minnesota	May 15–29, 2011	1
Sheridan, Wyoming	May 22–June 5, 2011	4
Marquette, Michigan	May 29–June 12, 2011	6

PEI – Summerside Canada	May 29–June 19, 2011	9
Malvern, Ohio	June 5–19, 2011	6
Sioux Falls, South Dakota	June 5–19, 2011	5
Brookings, South Dakota	June 12–26, 2011	6
Iron River, Michigan	June 12–26, 2011	5
Richmond, Indiana	June 12–26, 2011	6
Sheridan, Wyoming	June 12–26, 2011	5
Santa Fe, New Mexico	June 26–July 10, 2011	4

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

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
Thibodaux, Louisiana	March 27–April 10, 2011
Libby, Montana	May 15–29, 2011
Melbourne, Florida	May 15–22, 2011
Winona, Minnesota	May 15–29, 2011
Marquette, Michigan	May 29–June 12, 2011
Prince Edward Island, Canada	May 29–June 19, 2011
Sioux Falls, South Dakota	June 5–19, 2011
Sullivan, Illinois	June 5–19, 2011
Brookings, South Dakota	June 12–26, 2011
Iron River, Michigan	June 12–26, 2011
Sheridan, Wyoming	June 12–26, 2011
Salem, Ohio	June 18–July 3, 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
Pagosa Springs, Colorado	July 31–August 14, 2011
Sheridan, Wyoming	July 31–August 14, 2011

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

rvinfosk@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 rvinfosk@habitat.org.

Contact us

For questions, cancellations and concerns, the most efficient way to reach us is by e-mailing rvinfosk@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.

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

To donate to the Care-A-Vanner program, write "RV CAV #1108007" in the memo line of your check and mail to:

RV Care-A-Vanners
Habitat for Humanity International
121 Habitat Street
Americus, GA 31709-3498

Or to donate online follow the instructions on the Donate/Support tab (directly below the Build Listing tab) at www.habitat.org/rv.
