

Help Wanted!

To paraphrase a line from a play, we have 'O' right here in Unionville! (located in the heart of Orange County approximately five miles east of the intersection of Routes 20 and 692) The 'O' stands for 'opportunity.' Are you yearning to put your God-given talents and abilities to work? Fortunately for you, Rapidan Habitat has challenges and opportunities available for all God's talented 'handy folk' to make a meaningful contribution TODAY!

On July 6th, the second wave of the 250 Maryland church youth and adults departed Tatum Villa. It had been a sight to cherish – hundreds of youthful hands working feverishly - equally dedicated to Christ and to their mission here. They did a phenomenal job, and we will be eternally grateful for their work and ministry here.

So, you ask, '**WHERE DO I FIT IN?**' The four families selected by Rapidan Habitat desperately need decent, affordable housing. But, none of the houses is complete. There's still plenty of work to do.

'Handy' volunteers are needed – either individually or in groups. People are need who can help: (1) shingle a roof, (2) install vinyl siding, (3) build a deck, etc. If you want to 'walk on the water' and be a part of Christ's love in action, please dust off your tools and call either Jim Smiley (972-9128) or Bill Nowers (972-3966).

Blitz Build Mission Accomplished!



They came in a caravan of vans! About a dozen vans and a U-hall truck for equipment and tools. They arrived 160 people strong, well organized and ready to work.

The WoodsWork part of the two week Mission from Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church in Severna Park Maryland brought 124 high school aged youth and about 38 adults leaders put in many hard hours.

Work started at 7:30 AM on June 25 on all three houses. The first day was "heavy duty" work. The sill plates were installed then the floor joist (heavy stuff) were put in place. Next came the 4' X 8' X 3/4" sub-flooring. While this was going on another of the group was building the framework for the walls. The second day saw the workers finishing the walls, (Nailing the ply wood and Blue Board to the frame of 2" X 4" s) and raising the walls into place. The roof trusses were moved into the house before the last wall was raised into place. And so it continued for a week until all three houses had all their interior walls most of their roofs, siding, electrical wiring.



The day after the high school, *WoodWorks Mission*, had their dedication service beside one of the new homes, the *DriftWood* gang of College youth rolled in for a long 4th of July weekend. Made up of about 80 College students, they got right to work continuing the work and hanging the drywall!



At their closing dedication service the WoodWorks youth chairperson presented a \$15,000 check to John Henry, President of Rapidan Habitat for Humanity, to help with material costs for the three houses.

The youth group held a giant car wash before they left washing 605 cars to raise the money.

See www.orangepec.org/habitat for more pictures of the youth at work.



The Presidents Corner: by John Henry

"We get the job done." This is the slogan of the WoodsWork Mission group from the Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church in Severna Park Maryland. The Mission arrived on June 24. Their objective was to build three houses in two weeks.

The group started work at 7:30 AM on June 25. The building material sat on the ground next to the bare foundations.

The Mission group completed it's work on July 6, and headed for home at 4:15 PM.

The results are: Three houses up with shingles on the roof, siding on two and started on the third, drywall hung in two houses and ready on the third. That is fantastic for 9 days of work.

The people of Orange showed their support and enthusiasm by providing lunch each day for all of the workers. It is a great show of support for the work of Rapidan Habitat for Humanity.

The current houses are the last of the building sites that Habitat has. We are looking for affordable building sites. Individual lots of 4-20 acres that can be divided into buildable lots. We must have land for the 2005 building program. Contact Gina Sedwick at 540-672-3233 or John Henry at 540-972-2706.

HighBrow & HomeSpun



A benefit concert to be held at Orange Presbyterian Church on Sunday, September 12 at 4pm. A musical extravaganza with soloists Suzanne Sherwin, Al Packard, Susan Anson, & Lavinia Phillips; accompanist, Barbara Packard. If you would enjoy an afternoon of musical plenty, with everything from classical music to show tunes, then this is an event you won't want to miss! A goodwill offering to benefit Rapidan Habitat for Humanity will be received. So save the September 12 @ 4pm. and come join us for a wonderful musical program!

Blitzing The Blitz-Build—feeding the workers

The people of Orange County responded to *Building Together's* call for help in a big way.

The *Building Together* program called for volunteers to provide lunches for the 160 people of *WoodsWork Mission* for a week followed by about 80 in *DriftWood Mission* the next week. Thanks to the Orange County School system for the use of Locust Grove Middle School for housing them all.

For the Phase one *Habitat Blitz-Build* 16 Food Teams were organized by Rev. Linda Ray of Bethlehem and Salem UMC to carry out the mass food service. Individuals, churches, Boy Scouts troops, and restaurants responded in droves providing lunches every day. The first day we had a Fredericksburg traffic jam! Thanks to the 16 Blitz-Build Food Teams including:

- Boy Scout Troupe #97,
- Salem UMC,
- Bethlehem UMC,
- Lake of the Woods Church,
- Trinity UMC,
- Shady Grove Baptist,
- Carey Family,
- Charles Taylor,
- Subway Restaurant,
- Millie Nowers,
- Janice and Jim Bloom,
- Dairy Corner Restaurant,
- Mature Adult Club,
- East Orange Ruritan Club,
- Unionville Christian Church,
- Venice Restaurant, and
- *Roadster's Restaurant served all 164 people on July 1.

The East Orange Ruritan Club provided Pop Ice for an afternoon snack at 2:30 each work day. This was a very welcome treat for the workers. The kids loved it!

The Impact Virginia crews, Phase Two of the Building Together program, replacing doors, windows and roofs, built several handicapped ramps, stairs and hand rails, put up siding and painted on 20 homes for low income families and seniors. Impact Virginia is a project sponsored by the Baptist Mission Board of Virginia. Their 375 volunteers from churches all over Virginia were housed in the Orange County High School.

Teams providing and delivering lunches to the Impact Virginia crews are:

- Orange Presbyterian Church,
- West Louisa Charge,
- Office on Youth,
- Macedonia Christian Church,
- Little Zion Baptist,
- Orange Baptist,
- St. Thomas Episcopal,
- Bethlehem UMC,
- St. Isidore Catholic Church,
- Gordonsville Baptist,
- Rhoadesville Baptist,
- Good Shepherd Lutheran,
- Zoar Baptist,
- Gordonsville Rebuild,
- Antioch Baptist,
- Raccoon Ford Christian Fellowship,
- Lake of the Woods Church,
- Lake of the Woods AARP, and
- Bethel Baptist Church



Rev. Linda Ray, shown above serving, did a remarkable job of organizing Food Teams for both phases of Building Together

Rapidan Habitat for Humanity

P.O. Box 545

Locust Grove, VA 22508

Non-profit org.

U.S. Postage

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Cindy Reid, Women Build Coordinator – 672-3461

Bobbie Gerhardt, Treasure – 854-6364

Email: habitat@orangepc.org

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Newsletter editor: Gene Whitaker (gene@orangepc.org)



Building Together T-Shirts – Order yours now!

We still have some of these top quality white 100% pre-shrunk cotton with the Orange School Colors, Blue and Orange. Sizes Med, Large, and Ex Large are available. Only \$10.00 each!

Call John, (540) 972-2706, to place your order and help fund completion of the Blitz Build homes. Or send a check (be

sure to indicate the size and your mailing address) to:

Rapidan Habitat for Humanity, P.O. Box 545

Locust Grove, VA 22508



Important Dates:

Daily – Construction Volunteers, call Bill Nowers @ 972-3966

September 12 —Benefit Concert @ Orange Presbyterian Church

September 24 —Fall Golf Tournament @ Meadows Farm Golf Course.

Virginia Tax Credit Approved for 2005!

The Virginia Neighborhood Assistance Program has allocated a \$10,000 tax credit to Rapidan Habitat for the year starting July 1, 2004--June 30, 2005. "The tax credit is a credit toward tax owed to Virginia. It is not a tax deduction. The tax credit is equal to 45% of the gift. Although you can carry the credit over for several years, you can not claim the donation as a deduction on your federal or state return.

Parties interested in a more information can contact Cindy Reid at 540-672-3461, cindy_reid@woodberry.org, or John Henry at 540-972-2706.



PING-The Golf Irons – Win a Set!

A set of Ping Irons, (3-PW), is the big prize in our golf raffle. The winner will be drawn at the Sept. 24 tournament at Meadows Farm Golf Course.

Tickets are available now: \$5 for one, \$10 for three, \$40 for a book of twelve. Send your contribution to Rapidan Habitat, P. O. Box 545, Locust Grove, VA 22508. Tickets will be mailed to you. Call Mike Hill, 540-972-8717, or John Henry, 540-972-2706.