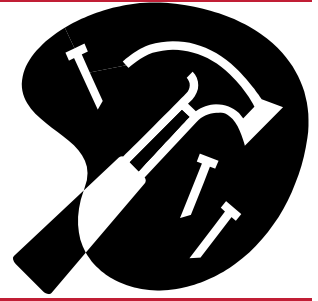


**November 2008  
To  
January 2009**

# HAMMER & NAILS



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Chris LaBrie

Vice President  
Larry Bodley

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Vacant

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## Church Relations by Dave Calverley

“We can help”...Galations 6:10

As an affiliate of Habitat For Humanity International, we agree to follow the mission and principles stated in a written agreement, called a Covenant. Both parties promise or covenant to live up to this agreement. This covenant contains a Mission Statement and Foundational Principles, which describe what Habitat does, how it does it, and the reasons why. These are very basic statements, and taken together they help us understand what is unique about the Habitat For Humanity contribution to society.

The Mission Statement does not say we exist just to build houses. It says the fundamental purpose is to work in partnership with God and people to develop communities. So, our

mission and opportunity is to work with people in a partnership based on love and respect, with God always watching us.

Habitat For Humanity is one means to focus your church's skill at helping people in need. We partner with your church. We provide the motivation and support to help your church decide what you can do. New relationships are formed, tasks are shared, and all people involved grow from the experience. Good churches get better.

One of my favorite sayings is “If you improve in one talent, God will give you more.”

Why not use this in our thinking as members of covenant churches when we try to support one another. Our covenant churches are invited to a Habitat For Humanity

Church Relations Committee meeting every other month. We get acquainted, learn about each other at these meetings, new connections are made, and we improve.

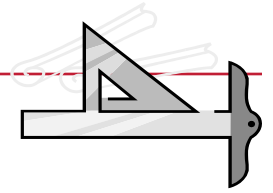
Our next meeting will be at the Rock County Habitat office, Nov. 18, at 7 pm. Please send your church's representatives to this meeting.



## President's Message by Chris LaBrie

As Rock County Habitat for Humanity's newly-elected president, I look forward to working closely with everyone to ensure the success of Habitat in Rock County. As an organization, we are entering an exciting and challenging time. Having four new homeowners in Janesville and Beloit shows how Habitat continues to make a difference in the lives of area families. A big thanks to everyone who helped to make this all possible, especially the volunteers who have worked so hard on the five construction sites this past year.

I would also like to welcome new board members Deb Gable and Herb Saunders and recognize continuing board members Larry Bodley, David Calverley, Terry Duller, and Greta Teter. Their commitment to the success of RCHFH is one of the reasons Habitat is able to help make this community a better place to live and work.



## ON THE SQUARE by Larry Bodley

Winter is near at hand, and most of our outside work is finished. In the inimitable words of John "Hannibal" Smith (A-Team), "I love it when a plan comes together!" With the dedicated help of many ambitious volunteers, we have completed 1109 and 1115 Academy (Thrivent Builds).

The Women Build on Morgan Terrace is nearing completion, with interior painting done, trim in process, and the siding nearly finished. The generous students of Beloit College and our core crew have been helping out here.

The Coldwell Banker build on Orchard is ready for interior paint and trim, and the soffit and fascia is nearly complete.

The Harrison Avenue build, funded by Kerry International, has a lawn, thanks to the efforts of the Beloit College chapter. Siding, soffit, and fascia is complete, and drywall is nearing completion, again thanks to the Beloit College students and our core crew.

The volunteer experience on all these builds has been extraordinary. Help is extremely diverse, high school and college students to retir-

ees, office workers to tradesmen, men and women. Everyone brings something totally unique to the builds and the camaraderie is most gratifying. It becomes almost like family, with everyone watching out for everyone else, asking about them when they're not there, discussing vacations, and so on. I can only encourage anyone who has had reservations about volunteering to come on out and jump in. Everyone is extremely helpful and supportive. Lack of experience is no excuse. We are all more than willing to coach, teach, demonstrate, and assist.

### Holiday safety tips



The holiday lights are more festive if safety is kept in mind. Here are some reminders:

- \* Use no more than three sets of lights on each extension cord.
- \* Discard worn or frayed cords.
- \* Avoid overloading wall sockets and extension cords.
- \* Only keep Christmas lights on when you're home and awake.
- \* Do not insert new bulbs or change fuses when lights are plugged in.
- \* Keep lights away from carpeting, furniture and drapes.
- \* Make sure household smoke detectors are working properly.

### Energy-Efficiency Tip of the Month

Would you like to lower your heating and cooling costs by 10 percent? All you need is a **clock programmable thermostat**—it automatically sets back the temperature in your home to present levels at different times of day. A good clock-programmable thermostat will cost between \$50 and \$150, depending on the features you want, and can pay for itself in energy savings in less than a year. You can find less-expensive models, but they might not provide what you need nor have the warranty a better model does. Installing a programmable thermostat is an easy do-it-yourself project if you have previous experience with wiring.

## Welcome Wanda and Chad !

Habitat is thrilled to welcome Wanda and Chad Dixon to their new home on Central Avenue in Beloit. Wanda is an enthusiastic, hard-working single mom, and Chad is her six year old son. The two of them are so excited to have their own place. Chad wants a tree house, is helping his mom do the yard work, and has chosen his bedroom already. Wanda is so grateful to have her own home, to be on her own, and to have a safe, warm place for Chad. She is looking forward to planting a small garden and decorating her home.

Wanda learned about Habitat homes from another family partner, who had already purchased a house. She applied twice before being accepted and was approved as a family partner at the June Board Meeting. She was assigned the Beloit College Build home on Central Ave. in August, '08 and by October, she had completed more than

her 250 required sweat equity hours. She worked on several other Habitat Homes and had family and friends helping her by volunteering and donating their hours to her. Wanda works hard and is dedicated to her son and their future. She recently received her Associate's Degree and is planning to finish her degree in Web Design.

The closing for their new home is in November, '08, with the house blessing on Nov. 16. Habitat and all who know Wanda and Chad wish them the best of luck in their new life as homeowners.



## Restore Items—Come In and Browse

The Restore is filled to capacity, and we are hoping that those of you who are building or working on home improvements need some of these items. Come in and check us out!

Doorknobs-Interior \$5

Shutters- \$4 per set

Ceiling Fan \$5-\$50

Doorknobs-Exterior \$10

Windows \$5-\$50

Light Fixtures \$10-\$75

Dead Bolts \$5

Windows-Picture \$75

Mirrors (unframed) \$5-\$25

Doors-Interior \$5-\$20

Cabinets—Bathroom \$20-\$80

Bathtubs \$35-\$100

Doors-Exterior \$20-\$80

Cabinets—Kitchen (Bases) \$25-\$85

Medicine Cabinet \$5-\$30

Doors-Storm \$10-\$40

Cabinets—Kitchen (Wall) \$15-\$65

Black dishwasher \$30

## Beloit College Chapter News by Lauren Jones

The Beloit College chapter has been very busy since the start of the fall semester. A decision was made to sponsor another home, and plans for fundraising are in the works. The students held their annual Gods and Goddesses fundraiser earlier this month, in which 22 students were auctioned off for dates. The fundraiser brought in

close to \$1,000 for the chapter.

The students are also preparing for the dedication of the first Beloit College-sponsored house on Central Avenue, which will take place on Sunday, Nov. 16.

Beloit College students have been active in helping at the builds in Beloit during the last month. In

addition, eight students participated in the fall break trip to Berea, Kentucky, where they helped build on two homes. They painted, installed trim and doors, and helped with framing. At the end of the week, they donated all their hours to a single grandmother that will become the homeowner of one of the houses they worked on.



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### Yes, I want to help!

Cost to build a home in Rock County: \$63,000

Amount given by each of the 900 supporters who receive this newsletter : \$70

Building a house in 2009 is the goal.

Help us build a home in 2009!

I would like to get involved with Rock County Habitat for Humanity in the following ways:

DONATION OF:  \$25  \$50  \$70  \$100  \$500  other \$ amount

VOLUNTEERING:  Building (please specify any special skills/experience you may have):

Office Work  Snacks or Food Preparation  Fundraising  Serve on a Committee

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact the RCHFH office at 608/754-1228, for information on volunteer opportunities. Updates on build work schedules can be found at [www.rockcountyhabitat.org](http://www.rockcountyhabitat.org).

Please mail this form to Rock County Habitat for Humanity \* P.O. Box 8204 \* Janesville, WI 53547-8204