



460 N. Main Street
 Kilmarnock, VA 22482
 804-435-3461

The Hammer

WINTER 2023 – NEWS & UPDATES FROM L/NHH

Board President's Message

Dear Friends,

With Build 21 complete, L/NHH turned to Build 22. The Family Empowerment Committee interviewed several applicants and selected our next Habitat homeowner. The Building/Site Selection committee is reviewing candidate lots for the next build.

The Board has made reconnecting with current homeowners a priority, including visits to update their contact information and learn of their concerns about their homes.

Board members visited with the Richmond Habitat's construction supervisor to learn and share best practices.

The Resale Store continues to thrive and has added another person to the sales staff. Second quarter revenues were over \$20,000.

Board members, Resale Store staff, volunteers, and Habitat homeowners gathered at Yankee Point Marina to celebrate Christmas.

And finally, we are pleased to report that two of our Habitat homeowners, Evelyn Ball and Stacy Fisher, have paid off their mortgages in full! Look for pictures from the "mortgage burning" party in the next issue of The Hammer!

Thanks for everything,
 Eddy Whichard

Everyone deserves a decent place to call home, and LNHH has been helping residents of Lancaster and Northumberland counties do just that since 1996.



Board member Linnie McCrobie, Habitat Accountant Cheryl Hoover, Resale Store staff Jenny Poole and Dana Owen surrounding Store manager Delinda Nelson in the truck bed, Board members Sandra Baxter and Lucia Schoelwer and donation pickup volunteer, Dick Bennett.

'A Community Strong Christmas' Parade

L/NHH Board members, Resale Store staff, and family members participated in the 43rd Kilmarnock Lighted Christmas Parade on 9 December. Organized by Sandra Baxter and Delinda Nelson, our "float" featured a pickup truck (driven by Robbie Nelson) carrying a "house" and Resale Store staff sporting blow-up construction tools, and banners painted by Dana Owen that carried the Habitat logo and parade theme. The truck pulled the construction trailer that was covered in Christmas lights and garland. Wearing Habitat construction hats, logo-colored beanies and scarves, we walked alongside the truck and handed out 20lbs of candy to the many families lining both sides of Main St. The big lesson learned – buy more candy!

Board of Directors and Staff

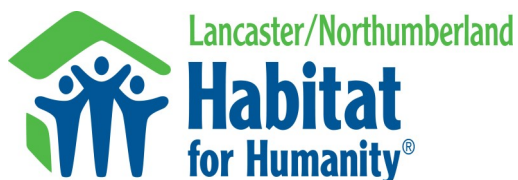
Officers	Directors	Staff
Eddy Whichard, <i>Acting President</i>	Sandra Baxter	Delinda Nelson, <i>Store Manager</i>
Bob Poole, <i>Vice President</i>	Linnie McCrobie	Jennifer Poole
Lee Wonson, <i>Treasurer</i>	Alex Mason	Sally Boltz
Victoria Gardner, <i>Secretary</i>	Doug Biedenweg	Karen Raham
	Christopher Dameron	Dana Owen
	Ralph Hendrickson	Kari Gordon
	Rev. Jim Moseley	
	Bill Otley	
	Lucia Schoelwer	

Updates from the Resale Store



From left to right: Store manager Delinda Nelson and part-time sales associates Sally Boltz, Jennifer Poole, and Karen Raham. Not pictured: Dana Owen and Kari Gordon

L/NHH Resale Store manager Delinda Nelson would like to thank the community for the amazing support through donations and patronage at the Resale Store. With 2nd quarter revenues over \$20,000, the Resale Store is covering all expenses, contributed to Build 21, and is contributing to the costs of Build 22. We have added staff to ensure that the donations are efficiently processed and beautifully displayed, and store patrons greeted warmly and effectively.



Tales from our Donations



I may just look like a rocking chair to you and you would be right. You may see a little paint chipped off here and there but that to me is a memory. Let me explain and maybe you will see the value I have.

I was originally purchased by a young couple and

after a short time, I was used every day that first year. Lots of nights when everyone else in the house was asleep the mom and baby would spend hours rocking in me. I loved that time.

Then as the baby got bigger I was used less at odd hours during the night. I still felt important because I had a place in the corner of the nursery and I usually got used every night while the mom read a book to the baby. This became my life for the next couple of years, then before long, there was another baby and the mom was back using me many times during the day and night. I loved those days.

The babies grew into young children and got too big to be rocked in me but Mom would sit in me while she read to them. I wonder how many books I have had read while someone was sitting in me? Sometimes the children would crawl into my seat and rock. There was a puppy that came along and chewed on my rockers but those rough spots are memories to me.

Not long ago they moved me from the nursery to the garage. I heard the dad say I was taking up space they needed for a bunkbed they purchased from the Habitat Resale Store. After I was in the garage a couple of days the Mom decided it was time for me to have a new home.

So now I am sitting at the Habitat Resale Store on Main Street hoping someone will come along and decide to take me home with them so I can rock babies again, or maybe sit on a porch with a grandma or grandpa. I can only hope someone will come in that needs a rocking chair.

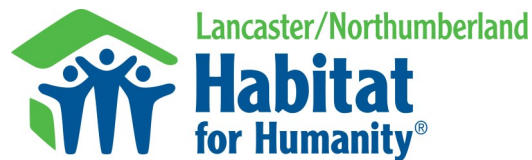
HABITAT FIELD TRIP TO RICHMOND

Earlier this month, four board members took a trip to meet with a few of the directors of the Habitat For Humanity of Richmond. Richmond being a larger operation, we were interested in the methods they use to fund and build their homes and to see if some of their methods might fit into our local Habitat chapter. The trip was set up by board president Eddy Whichard with Doug Biedenweg, Alex Mason, and Ralph Hendrickson attending as well.

We found the same dedication to building good solid homes that we have here in Lancaster and Northumberland but on a much larger scale. They are on track to build about 16 homes this year and as a result they have streamlined their operation in many ways. One of the biggest differences between their operation and ours is the separation that their paid administrative staff have from the volunteers. They use subcontractors to get the homes under roof and waterproofed as quickly as possible. The Richmond volunteer workers come in at the drywall stage and do most of the finishing from that point. Our chapter is much more hands-on in this sense. Our volunteer directors and building volunteers overlap and work together on the homes we build. We usually use subcontractors for the HVAC, plumbing, and electric, but all the building and finishing of our homes is done by volunteers. In our most recent build we actually ended up doing many of the subcontractor jobs as well, including the electrical and plumbing work.

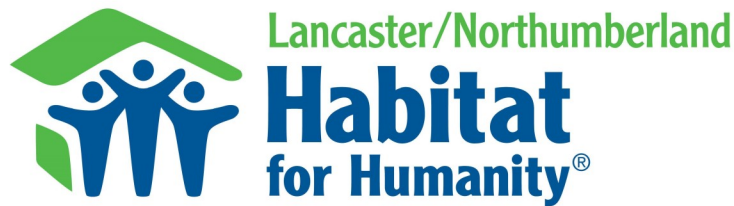
I believe we all came away from our meeting with the Richmond Habitat chapter with a lot of appreciation for the volume of work they do to get a large number of recipients into their homes. Ours, being a much smaller operation, works under less funding and a smaller number of local volunteers. We are not able to do the large volume that Richmond does but this has some real advantages and benefits in several ways. We are a much more intimate group who know each other well and find a lot of joy and satisfaction in working together. I believe we get to know and appreciate the recipients of our projects a bit better than Richmond might, as well. We take a lot of pride in building a solid home with some personal touches and getting our homeowners into their new homes. I think I speak for our volunteers and directors in saying that we get more satisfaction working in a smaller, more personal, operation than we might working in a larger operation such as Richmond.

Ralph Hendrickson



Family Selection

The L/NHH Family Empowerment Committee is made up of a group of dedicated volunteers who are responsible for finding the right family to partner with on each new home. Committee Chairman and Board Treasurer Lee Wonson reports that the committee reviewed all the applications and interviewed four applicants. The Board has selected a primary candidate and an alternate candidate. Both will start performing "sweat equity" at the Resale Store and on Build 22 once construction begins.



Volunteer Opportunities

- Habitat home build site
- Habitat Resale Store
- Donation pickups

Donation Opportunities

Lancaster/Northumberland Habitat for Humanity is a non-profit, 501(c3) organization. Your donations are tax deductible and 100% of your contributions stay here in Lancaster & Northumberland Counties.

- L/NHH website DONATE button
(<http://www.lnhabitat.org/support/>)
- Shop at our Resale Store
- Shop at smile.amazon.com and L/NHH will receive a donation of 0.5% of eligible purchases (<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/54-1810325>)
- Planned giving
- Car for Homes