

# Habitat for Humanity of Northern Saratoga, Warren and Washington Counties



## Summer 2009 Newsletter

### President's Message

Since you have last heard from us, our Habitat affiliate has been quite busy. First off, I am honored to have taken over the Presidency role from Steve McCorkell. While his shoes will be hard to fill, I'm excited to help lead a wonderful, hardworking, all volunteer Board of Directors! We thank Steve immensely for his many years of hard work, commitment and leadership.

We've had other changes to our Officers and Board of Directors; adding several diversely experienced members from the accounting, banking, legal and technology fields to our already qualified team. (Meet our members of the board on page 2.) Additionally, we are disappointed to see prior members, Nicole Bissonette and Jim Farley move on to other interests. We thank them for their contribution and dedication to Habitat.

Due to the varied talents of our current Board of Directors, we have been working on several exciting initiatives. Our Web site has been under construction over the past several months but will now be more user friendly and provide more up-to-date information on our events and building schedule. (Check it out at [www.glensfallshabitat.org](http://www.glensfallshabitat.org).) We have

developed a new volunteer database that will allow us to keep accurate and current contact information for all of our supporters, donors and volunteers. We have also been busy reorganizing our Community Outreach, Volunteer Coordination, and Site Selection committees. By re-establishing these efforts, we hope to extend our reach to more families in need and help folks better understand our program's goals. (See page 2 for further descriptions of each committee and specific volunteer needs.)

Finally and most importantly, we are embarking on building our next home this summer. This will be the 19th house in the history of our affiliate and the 4th of the 5 lots we have on Medbury Road in Porters Corners. We are currently focusing on the pre-build work; such as finalizing the floorplans, starting the permit process, and digging the well, septic and foundation. As volunteers have always been and will always be central to Habitat's success, we look forward to seeing all of our old friends at the building site in early summer! In addition, we hope to make many new friends over the course of helping our newest family's dream of homeownership come true!

– Kristin Kesnowski



### Habitat for Humanity

*of Northern Saratoga, Warren and  
Washington Counties*

P.O. Box 4206

Queensbury, NY 12804

(518) 793-7484

Visit

[www.glensfallshabitat.org](http://www.glensfallshabitat.org)

to view photos of  
our 2007 build!



*Habitat for Humanity  
works with communities to  
provide simple, decent,  
affordable housing in  
partnership with  
those in need.*

[www.glensfallshabitat.org](http://www.glensfallshabitat.org)

## SBA: True Partners in the Dream of Home Ownership

For the 14th year, Saratoga Builders Association has chosen Habitat for Humanity as a beneficiary from their annual Showcase of Homes. This year, our affiliation received \$37,500! We are truly honored that they appreciate and support our goal of providing home ownership to hardworking families. Thank you SBA!



## Calling all Churches, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts:

You can help at our next build by providing lunches for our builders! Contact us at 793-7484 and let us know about your culinary skills! (Hint: We love PB & J sandwiches!)

## Many People Make Habitat Houses Possible

Most people see Habitat volunteers busy building homes. But before the first hammer is swung, many groups of people spend countless hours getting all of the behind the scenes work completed.

### Site Selection:

Responsible for identifying suitable building lot locations for Habitat homes in Northern Saratoga, Warren and Washington Counties.

### Family Selection:

Searches for people in need of decent, affordable housing, review applications and interview perspective families.

### Community Outreach:

Creates relationships with churches and other like-minded organizations in the communities that we serve to help us increase the number of families we are able to provide affordable, simple, decent housing to.

### Partnership Committee

Works with the selected family throughout their home construction, providing a support system and education regarding financial obligations, being a good neighbor and how to maintain a home. Provides workshops for all prior families on career planning, budgeting and other homeowner issues.

### Construction committee:

Creates workable housing plans, develops systems and schedules for organizing families and volunteers for construction.

### Volunteer outreach:

Responsible for maintaining the volunteer database, volunteer contact and communication, and general office duties.

If you are interested in helping out "before the build," contact a committee member on the Volunteer page of our Web site.

## Meet Our Current Board

The Habitat Board meets the third Monday of every month. We currently have the Site Selection position open and would love to have you join us for a meeting to see what we do!

Feel free to contact any board member with comments or questions:

President: Krisin Kesnowski  
Vice President: Jason Henault  
Treasurer: Carol Norton  
Assistant Treasurer: Debbie Gordon  
Secretary: Danielle Adams  
Family Selection: Priscilla Petta

Partnership Committee: Antoinette Jackson  
Public Relations: Marilyn Reisch  
Community Outreach: Gary Brunick  
Volunteer Coordinator: Tari Bacon  
Construction Committee: Sean Collins  
At Large: Deirdre O'Callaghan

## Ready and Willing to Build!

Rachael Flickinger and her daughter, McKenzie, will be busy planning, building and moving into their new home on Medbury Road in Porters Corners this summer and fall.

They are the happy recipients of our next home build.

Rachael has been working with the Family Selection Committee and has completed all of the requirements needed to receive a Habitat home.

All Habitat home recipients are a big part of the building process. Rachael has helped her mom with some minor construction and renovations in the past and is eager to use some of these skills on her new home.

“We can’t wait for a big back yard to play in,” said Rachael. But when soon-to-be five year-old McKenzie was asked what was most exciting? “Two doors in the house to run in and out of!” she said.

Interested in helping Rachael and McKenzie? Contact us at 793-7484 or fill out our volunteer survey online at [www.glensfallshabitat.org/page8/page8.html](http://www.glensfallshabitat.org/page8/page8.html).



## Do You Know Anyone We Should Know?

Our Family Selection Committee works to carry out Habitat’s vision by searching for people in need of decent, affordable housing. There are families in Warren, Washington and Northern Saratoga County that currently reside in substandard housing and don’t qualify for traditional mortgage financing. Many believe that home ownership is far out of their reach. However, many families may have an ability to pay a modest mortgage, and have a willingness to partner with us now and in the future. These are families we are looking for!

If you, or anyone you know would like more information about eligibility requirements to be a Habitat owner, please contact our Family Selection Chair, Priscilla Petta at [familyselection@mail.glensfallshabitat.org](mailto:familyselection@mail.glensfallshabitat.org).

## DONATIONS:

If you wish to make a donation of land, materials or money, please contact us at one of the following:

**Website:**

[www.glensfallshabitat.org](http://www.glensfallshabitat.org)

**Phone:**

518-793-7484

**Mail:**

**Habitat for Humanity**  
P.O. Box 4206,  
Queensbury, NY 12804

*All donations  
are tax deductible  
and greatly appreciated!*



*Habitat for Humanity  
does not discriminate in  
the selection of families  
on the basis of race,  
creed, gender, disability,  
ethnic background or  
any other characteristic  
protected by law.*

## Check Out Our New Website!

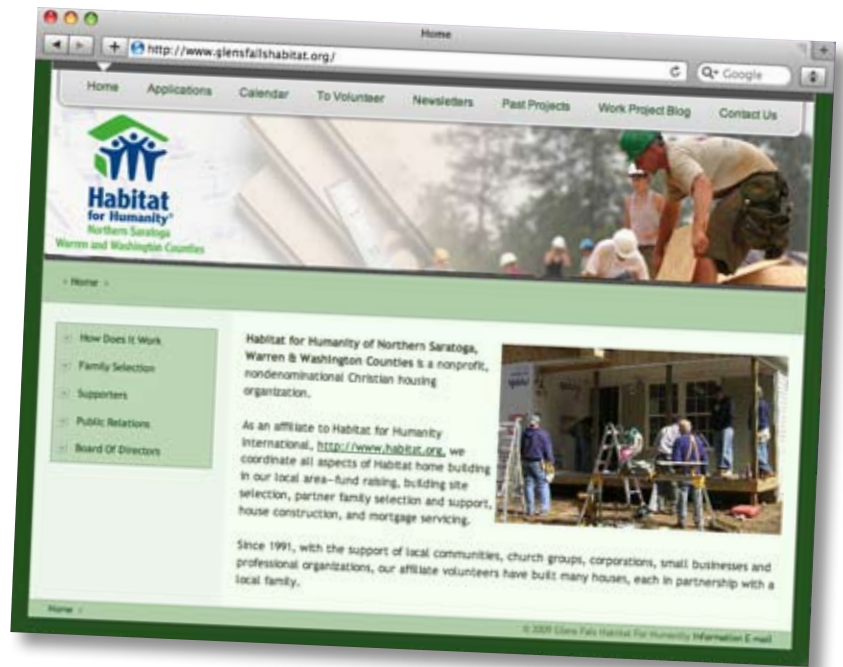
We have recently updated our Web site!

Check us out at [glensfallshabitat.org](http://glensfallshabitat.org)

- ✦ See where we have built homes
- ✦ Read our previous newsletters
- ✦ Contact any of our board members

Keep up-to-date, week-by-week on our build in Greenfield Center beginning this summer!

Click on our Work Project Blog to see how far along we are!



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(Return Service Requested)