

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY PROJECT

The Fourth Annual NCMA Habitat for Humanity Build in West St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana

BY WILL KOHUDIC

On the morning of November 10, 2009, 27 NCMA members, staff, and friends gathered at the Habitat for Humanity ReStore in Mandeville, Louisiana, ready to pitch in and build homes for a region still suffering the aftereffects of 2005's Hurricane Katrina. Many of us were veterans of previous builds, while others were new to the project and to construction work in general—no matter, there was plenty of work for volunteers at all levels of experience.

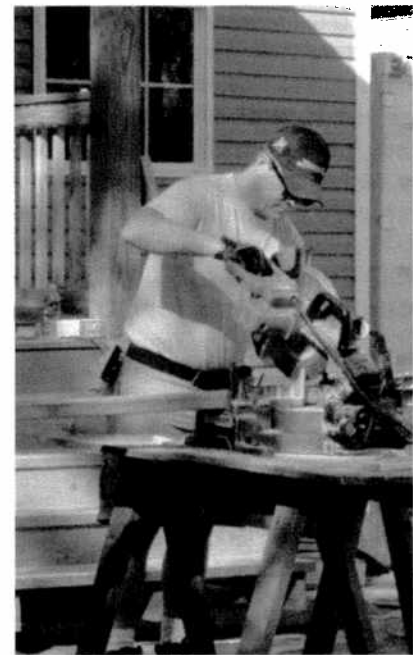
This year's build focused on one site in Covington, a street with five new Habitat homes in various states of completion. Two homes were fairly far along, needing mostly interior paint and detail work, while the others lacked basic features such as porches and steps, exterior trim and latticework, and interior doors and trim.

As always, the NCMA crew pitched in with energy and dedication. For the next five days, we roofed, sided, installed, measured (and measured again) and cut, hammered, sawed, dug, mixed and poured concrete, painted, made new friends, and learned to use new power tools. And, as always, we exceeded the expectations of our Habitat site managers and left the work site on the last day tired, but with a true sense of accomplishment.

NCMA wishes to thank West St. Tammany Parish Habitat for Humanity for allowing us to return to work with them this year. This affiliate's dedication to the Habitat for Humanity mission of building decent, affordable housing in partnership with the local community is evident in everything they do, and we are planning to return to work with them this coming year in Fall 2010.

Thanks to all the volunteers!

- Matthew Baker
- Tanga Baylor
- Nancy Connor
- Neal Couture
- Eamon Coy
- Chris Hansen
- Joyce Herth
- Jay Holmes
- Bill Hummel
- Gary Jacobs
- John King
- Will Kohudic
- Thea Lindsay
- Marta Lyle
- Janet Mattson
- Pat Maxson
- Kerry McKinnon
- Margaret Merhoff
- Gary Miller
- Frank Moore
- Nzuri Mtumishi
- George Peck
- Jennifer Reece
- April Silverthorn
- Neal Skinner
- Cambria Tidwell
- Gary Zura



HABITAT FOR HUMANITY PROJECT