

June 2020

THE SILVER BULLETIN

SILVER VALLEY **FULLER CENTER FOR HOUSING**



P.O. Box 338, Smelterville, ID 83868 Phone 208-682-3240 www.svfch.org Volume 28



Number 3



Organizing our part of the Global Home Challenge—first step was when, Judy Blalack, Ellie Arguimbau, Verne Blalack and Tom Richards met at The Snake Pit. We debated the feasibility of joining with Ellie in Team Silver Valley Idaho. Tom does our Facebook page.

Silver Valley Fuller Center for Housing members join the **Global Home Challenge**

Since the Fuller Center Bike Adventurers could not make their usual tours across the US to raise funds and awareness of substandard housing, this year they set up a virtual challenge where anyone can help by tracking their distance either by biking, walking, jogging, running, rollerblading, swimming, walking during golfing, etc.

Ellie Arguimbau, our secretary, enjoys biking and saw this as a way to help the Fuller Center Bikers since they have helped us several years when they stopped here. Last year they worked on 6 different Greater Blessings projects in Kellogg, Osburn, and Mullan. These are not just young kids, they are adults some even in their 70s going across country to help.

Ellie was able to inspire Verne and Judy Blalack to join They no longer bike but have accepted the challenge of at least walking a mile for the two of them from home to the Cataldo Post Office with their walkers for 80 days making 80 miles. They generally walk about 2 miles to be miles ahead for rainy days.

The funds generated go to help build 80 homes in 80 days in third world countries where The Fuller Center works with homeowners there.

Please help us pay back by joining those who helped us and others. Go to: www.globalhomechallenge.org to either sign up, contribute, or just watch this event unfold as their progress is updated along the 55,000 virtual journey around the world.

If you want to donate, click on the donate tab and scroll down to Donation Recipient and type in the name of whomever you sponsor, such as Ellie, Judy, or Verne or ??, or call Judy at 208-682-3240 for more information.



Chanse Watson, at right, interviews Ellie Arguimbau and Judy and Verne Blalack for his front page article in the Shoshone News Press. You can find his article at https://shoshonenewspress.com/news/2020/may/29/around -the-world-in-80-days-8/



Ellie and Judy met with Mike Domy at Excelsior Cycle in Kellogg to explain the Challenge. Mike has extra fliers available for more information.



People who live in safe, decent homes in their own countries don't want to leave these homes.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, who forgives all your iniquities; who heals all thy diseases; Who redeems thy life from destruction; who crowns thee with loving kindness and tender mercies; Who satisfies you with good as long as you live so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's.

Psalm 103:2-5



First day of the Challenge: Ellie, Judy & Verne.

Chris Johnson, Vice President of Communications for The Fuller Center for Housing International asked Ellie and me to write a blog about our Challenge experience. Here is mine, posted June 3—Ellie's will be posted on June 5 on their website.

Every mile matters in this Challenge!

I'm Judy Blalack representing Silver Valley Fuller Center for Housing in Idaho. It is now 12:26 a.m., a good time for reflection after our first day of the Global Home Challenge.

My husband, Verne, and I were on the original steering committee and joined Habitat for Humanity as full-time volunteers in October 1993. We have worn many hats in this organization during the last 27 years and have rejoiced with

the accomplishments our group has made in our valley. We also became friends of the Fuller Center Bike Adventurers when they came to work in our Valley during their cross country trips. I met its founder, Ryan lafigliola (now The Fuller Center's Vice President of International Programs) on their first trip here.

Sadly time has taken its toll. Verne now has heart conditions and dementia and no longer can serve as site supervisor nor as bookkeeper/treasurer. On my recent 80th birthday this month, we resigned from our board of directors. I continue to work with fundraising and PR (editing and producing a monthly newsletter since August 1993). I am a board member of The Fuller Center for Housing International but no longer take 5 days to travel to Georgia for the meetings — attending instead via Zoom.

I was delighted when our local board secretary, Ellie Arguimbau (who has a blog post appearing on FullerCenter.org on Friday, June 5), approached me about starting a group with the Global Home Challenge, Team Silver Valley Idaho. Mainly because Verne is willing to participate, it is good exercise for him; we think it is a very worthy endeavor having participated in the Jimmy Carter Work Project in the Philippines where we saw third world housing first-hand; and this gives me interesting material for The Silver Bulletin, our monthly newsletter. (If you are interested, you can find it posted for the past several years on our website www.svfch.org.)

We have pledged to walk a mile between us every day, usually to our post office and back. That makes 80 miles. Verne uses his walker with a seat, and I sometimes take mine so I can sit if it looks like he will need to rest frequently. So far we have recruited our son and wife, George & Melody, in Hawaii. We have a flyer explaining the Challenge which will be in the next newsletter and is easy to hand out while walking. Both of the therapists who help Verne are excited about it and hopefully will start teams of their own.

Tomorrow (actually today) we will be leaving early again and go up river, the opposite direction from the post office, where there is more shade since the weather will be unusually hot — 90 degrees in the afternoon when our post office is open. We are fortunate to have a first-class trail across the road from our home. It is The Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes, following the route from Mullan, Idaho, to Plummer, Idaho, replacing a railroad. It even crosses over a portion of Lake Coeur d'Alene on a bridge that rotates for tall boats. We did bike the whole 70-plus miles years ago.

It will be interesting to see how this summer will progress.

Peace & Blessings,

Judy

GLOBAL HOME CHALLENGE

Virtual Tour Around the World in 80 Days

Supporting The Fuller Center for Housing International

May 29-August 16, 2020

WHAT: bicycling, running, walking, jogging, etc.—
golfing counts as walking and the swimming
distance counts as "on foot".

WHERE: at home, on the bike trail, wherever you want.

GOAL: nationally to raise \$200,000 to build 80 homes in 3rd world countries where The Fuller Center has been working with local homeowners.

JOIN: a team, create your own team, or go-it-alone. Be inspired to stay active during the COVID-19 pandemic, by joining friends in any of these activities and feel good about it.

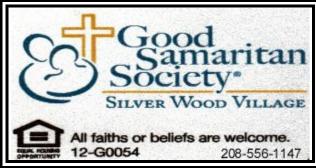
(Please join Team Silver Valley Idaho)

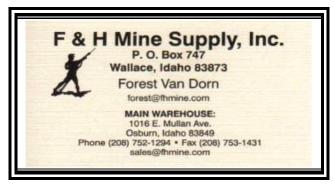
DONATE: at The Fuller Center site (below right) to support a participant, a team, or the whole event.

CONTACT: Ellie Arguimbau, 208-783-1804 or <u>Arguimbau@frontier.com</u> or <u>www.globalhomechallenge.org</u> We thank those businesses for supporting our newsletter.













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Thank You, May Donors

Your gifts bring us pleasure in knowing you believe in our efforts to eliminate substandard housing and are willing to help.

Lois Arvidson, Tom & Tami Atkins, Hap Butler, George & Melody Blalack, Tallis & Trina Weller

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We are honored to receive these memorials.

From Mary Whales
In memory of Frank Whales

From Sherrie Holman In memory of Bob Larson & Family, Terrie, Jim and John

From Verne and Judy Blalack In memory of Carra Humphrey

From Debbie and Wayne Kovash
In memory of Jim Smith

Greater Blessings Fund

Judy & Verne Blalack, Diana Burbridge, Scherry Colhoff, Melody Darg, Pat & Sharon Hewitt, Daina Oliver

[We congratulate two more of our Greater Blessings recipients in having paid their accounts off: Sherry Colhoff and Daina Oliver.]

Coming Events

Jun 9—Board and Committee Meetings, 6 PM, Mountain View Congregational Church, Kellogg (hopefully last meeting was a conference call)

May 29-Aug 16—Global Home Challenge—Virtual Tour Around the World in 80 Days

It is wonderful to be remembered

We received another anniversary gift from Audrey and Bernie Ussery. They were leaders of the Care-A-Vanners in 2011 when we were working on Darnell Kriedeman's home and when Verne & I celebrated our 50th anniversary. They have blessed us with a gift to SVFCH every year since.

We also received a gift from our son, George, for my 80th birthday. He is living in Hawaii and the COVID-19 prevented his coming home in person.

Another gift for SVFCH is from Michael Rutherford, a member of the Fuller Center Bicycle Adventurers who came, helped with our builds, and now sends an encouraging gift.

Thank you all very much, Judy



For our May newsletter mailing, those who took the newsletters home to fold also inserted the envelopes and added the side stickers required by the Post Office. Then six of us Verne, Gwyneth, Norm, Ellie, Linda, and Judy assembled at St. Rita's Parrish Hall to add the mailing labels and sort them. We carefully spaced out and wore our masks.

	Help for SVFCH I'd like to join the "300 Club" and pledge at least \$10 per month for one year. Please note 300 on your ch	
	 Here is my pledge for \$ per month for one year. Here is my gift of \$ I do not wish to be on your mailing lis I do not wish a receipt or thank-you. 	
*	I have a house and/or land to donate.	
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*	• I would like to help with construction and/or committee work. Please call me to help or send a volunteer form.	
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Please return to Silver Valley Fuller Center for Housing, Inc.P.O. Box 338, Smelterville, ID 83868 □ 208-682-3240



and Judy Blalack have pledged to walk from their home in Cataldo to the Cataldo Post Office for the Global Home Challenge for 80 days. That is at least 80 miles.

Photo by Irma Pickard

Needed: Committee Members (especially for family selection and family partnership)

Board Members from Cataldo, Wallace & Mullan

Newsletter Assistant for layout

Construction Volunteers and onsite Supervisors

PR Chair

Data Entry Volunteer

Please Be Safe and Protect Others Too.

We will be posting information for this year's ride in July.

BE SURE TO MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR OUR 2020 "RIDE THE WALL"
BIKE EVENT.

It has been postponed from June!

IT IS ON SATURDAY, September 12,

The printing of this newsletter is courtesy of

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