

DENA MORA REST AREA A FUN PROJECT

By Ron Boothe

Well, another week of travelers' conversation and contributions to our housing ministry was completed without any hitches.

Lots of credit goes to Norma and Jim, who ramrodded the operation and monitored any needs from their camping trailer.

Terry Sverdsten stored one of our two trailers, the Seatons the second one. Mighty handy to have a trailer to serve from both the westbound and eastbound lanes. Terry and Ron patched the leaky roof and replaced the serving door panel on the westbound trailer, so both are in good working order.

Terry and Ron and Norma and Jim took the trailers up the hill, and Terry and Iver Larson brought them down after the last shift.

It's always great sport to visit with all the travelers taking a rest, and it's gratifying to see that travel seems to be up again, with vacationers galore going both directions, and lots of truckers delivering full loads of multifarious cargoes.

Thanks to all the volunteers who took a day to spend in the trailer making and serving coffee and lemonade, tea, baking and serving cookies, and being responsible for opening up and closing up the trailer each shift. The very capable volunteers, in addition to the aforementioned:

Moe and Joyce Pellissier, Judy Blalack and Duane Little, Tom and Connie O'Neil, Marie Carver and Winnie Williams, Lois and Keith Dahlberg, Jack Mendy and Penny Sharp, Penny Warren and Tom Fulton, Marilyn White and Kelly Griffin, Fred and Donna Stone, Sandy Houston and Brittney Robins, Donna and Dewey Skaggs, Norm and Mary Lou Dubiel, Iver and Lou Larson, LaDonna Booth and Dee Sverdsten.

What a crew of capables!

Altogether with some funds from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, the project added over Seventeen Hundred bucks to our ministry, as well as some enjoyable conversation with all kinds of travelers.



Millard & Linda Fuller's mentor, Clarence Jordan, wrote, "What the poor need is not charity but capital, not caseworkers but co-workers. And what the rich need is a wise, honorable and just way of divesting themselves of their overabundance."



Whatever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might.

Eccles: 9-10



Duane Little, Tom & Connie O'Neil and Judy Blalack served coffee & cookies to the westbound travelers at the Dena Mora Rest Stop.



Verne was delighted to find someone with the Pilgrim Lutheran youth group who had installed wall board. Here they are covering insulation in a back room at the ReUse Store where a furnace will be installed.



Local boys, Steven Camacho and Jacob Camacho, help move wood into covered storage.

ON GIVING AND RECEIVING

By David Snell, Fuller Center for Housing President

When Paul was counseling with the leaders of the Ephesian church at Miletus he reminded them of “the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive’”. A simple statement to be sure, and one that we can all believe in. But, like so much in the Bible, this is one that deserves some thought. It turns out that the process of giving and receiving has some complexity to it, something that The Fuller Center for Housing takes very seriously.

There is giving and then there is *giving*. In too many cases the act of giving misses the mark and is dangerous to both the giver and the receiver. Gifts that are given with anything other than righteous intent rob the giver of the true joy of the act. And giving without regard to the spiritual and emotional needs of the recipient creates a social imbalance. Too often the act of giving results in the giver ending up somehow superior to the receiver; and while the giver may not even be aware of the fact, aside from a certain smugness that comes from having done a truly good deed, it is not lost on the receiver.

One of the hallmarks of Jesus’ ministry was the dignity that he showed to others. He had a meaningful conversation with the Samaritan woman, remarkable in that she was both a Samaritan and a woman. He saved the woman caught in adultery and treated her with respect and good counsel. Even as he hung suffering on the cross, he comforted the criminals who’d been crucified with him.

Throughout His healing ministry, Jesus did a remarkable thing. He was clearly the instrument through which blindness, palsy, even death was cured. But in nearly every case He turned the responsibility around with the simple statement “Thy faith hath made thee whole”. The recipient of his mercy became a partner in the transaction, dignity intact.

Jesus knew how to give, and when we follow his lead we get better results. From the earliest days of this ministry, back on Koinonia Farm, there has been a conscious effort to retain the dignity of those we serve. This is why we call the recipients of the houses we build and repair ‘partners’. We aren’t a group of high-minded do-gooders looking for a way to feel better about ourselves. We’re a collection of brothers and sisters reaching out to other brothers and sisters in the hope that we’ll all be improved by the engagement.

I’ve been asked how it is that we can charge our homeowner partners for the cost of their new or restored homes. I’ve been told that it’s not Christian to expect such a thing of the ‘poor’. My answer is that it’s probably not Christian not to. We don’t charge interest of the poor, because the Bible says not to, and we don’t make a profit, so our homeowner partners are able to buy the houses on terms they can afford. In the process, though, they have a chance to be part of something that too often the poor miss out on — the opportunity to give, and there is great joy in giving. Fuller Center house payments go into a local Fund for Humanity, from which they are promptly recycled to build and restore more houses. By making their payments, homeowner partners are balancing the social equation; they’re no longer simply receivers, but givers in their own right. Jesus might say to them, “Thy faith, hard work and house payments hath provided thee with a decent home”.
{Editor’s emphasis}

There is much talk these days about who should give and how much, and who’s entitled to what. It’s hard to say where all of this dialogue will lead us, but one thing we know to be true: people esteem more highly those things that they work for than those for which they don’t. People who struggle and prevail have more joy in their lives than those who sit at home and wait. Our goal is the elimination of poverty housing, and we’re committed to making sure that the houses we build and repair are a blessing to those who receive them, folks who then reach out to help others to have the same blessing. It is more blessed to give than to receive, but it’s just as blessed to receive and then give back



Youth pastor, Jeff Hobson, of the Pilgrim Lutheran Church in Puyallup, WA, teaches his group how to chop wood. They helped a lady who likes to log & split her own but was ill this year. They also split a cord of wood donated by Loren Clemens and made 3 deliveries to needy folks with it.



Inside, Pilgrim Lutheran youth help with cleaning, sorting, and displaying the donated items, and installing wall & peg board, etc. Outside, they learn to roof a shed.



We truly appreciate all the youth labor during the summer.

During the last week of their seven weeks here this summer, Shoshone Base Camp Servants also spent hours helping at the ReUse Store.



A couple digs a post hole on a very hot day. Others helped by building shelving in the back area & cleaning inside.



Some prepared the site for a window storage rack.



We thank these businesses for supporting our newsletter.



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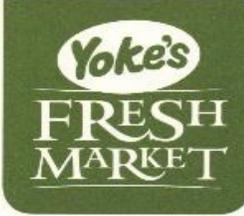
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Mike Humphrey, Janice DeVoe, Darnell Kriedeman, and Jacki Huber greeted folks during Pinehurst Days. Tammy Claflin won the raffle with items donated by Building Maintenance & Supply, Ace Hardware, Idaho Silver, A Hint of Whimsy, Marlow's Gift Cottage, & the 1313 Club.

Coming Events
Sept 11—Committee and Board Meetings, 6:30 PM,
Mountain View Congregational Church, Kellogg
Sept 15—15th Annual Walk-A-Thon, 9 AM, Kellogg
Middle School

Laura Moore Cunningham Grant
*We are delighted to receive this Greater Blessings grant.
This is a pay forward program where the recipient homeowners repay our costs so others can also be helped.
For applications for minor repairs, contact Judy Blalack
at 682-3240 or Box 88, Cataldo, ID 83810.*

We are honored to receive these memorials.
*From Verne & Judy Blalack
In Memory of Wendell Badgley, Ron Eggart,
Michael Eby, & Everett Arvidson
From Ken & Carolyn Kimpton
In Memory of Julius & Theresa Elek
From Josephine Davis
In Memory of Rose Mary Peak & "Edie" Buschbacher
From Laura Nelson
In Memory of Everett Arvidson
From Stovern Supply
In Memory of Everett Arvidson*



Rose Hinsz is moving to a retirement community and donated her lovely piano/organ. Joy Persoon is finding a good home for it.

Here's Help for SVFCH . . .

- ❖ I'd like to join the "300 Club" & pledge at least \$10 per month for one year. Please note 300 on your check.
- ❖ Here is my pledge for \$ _____ per month for one year.
- ❖ Here is my gift of \$ _____.
- ❖ I have a house and/or land to donate.
- ❖ I can make a no-interest loan for \$ _____. Please call about working out the details.
- ❖ I can provide construction materials either discounted or at no cost.
- ❖ 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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Pilgrim Lutheran Youth from Puyallup, WA, brighten the ReUse Store with new signing and painting shelves. This was their 3rd year here. Last year, they also helped on the Kriedeman home.



Our newest Board Member, Beverly Lightner, was also elected as the manager of the ReUse Store. She poses with Verne & Kevin who also work many hours at the store.



Our new family, Cory, Karen, & Trevor Harshman, attend their first Partnership/Board meeting. Pictured here are Board Members, Kevin Hutchings, Haley Gosline, the Harshmans, Janice DeVoe, and Verne Blalack.

At the ReUse Store:

Hospital beds for \$50

A selection of— Living room furniture; computer/electronic equipment; kitchen items; pictures; and a wide variety of building supplies

WISH LIST

- Assistant Newsletter Editor
- Bookkeeper
- Family Selection Committee Members
- PR/Fund-Raising Co-Chair
- ReUse Store Volunteers
- Construction Volunteers for Greater Blessings repair projects
- Gleaner for picking up larger donations
- Volunteer Coordinator
- New Homeowner Applicants—contact Marilyn at 753-4131 or download application and guidelines at www.svfch.org



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