

FMCA Chapter: Habitat for Humanity Build
Lenoir, NC
August 20, 2006- September 1, 2006

Our Team consisted of 11 Coaches. This included 2 singles totaling 20 people. Of these we had 4 people who were on their first build for our chapter. We all arrived Friday through Sunday Starting on August 18 after the FMCA International Rally in Charlotte, NC. And on Sunday August 20 we had a pot luck dinner. The Local Affiliate in Lenoir, NC provided us a place to park at the Caldwell County Fair grounds in Lenoir, NC with full sites at no charge to us from August 18 to August 31. At this time we had to move to Green Mountain RV Resort, also in Lenoir due to an activity that had book the campground at the fairgrounds for that weekend. This was prearranged by the Affiliate at a small charge to us. This was great.

The Affiliate under the direction Peter Kidder had a working Site Supervisor on site at all times for us which this was a plus. Having been on other builds where they were not always there. Gary Teague was the supervisor and was more than willing to do anything he could to help our people at any time. He was super to work with considering he had joined the affiliate only two weeks before our arrival. At the end of the build he said he had learned a lot from our group and how we work together. This affiliate usually has Quite a few jobs farmed out such as the dry wall, trusses and roofing, and siding as their local volunteers are not used to doing some of these jobs. Our people did a lot of this for them .But they had a crane for lifting the trusses and had outside roofers. Some of our Team also finished covering the roof when it was going to rain to keep the inside dry. The affiliate arranged for the local churches to provide all lunches, snacks and many of our dinners. Which we really appreciated this a lot and one of the Grumpy old Men, David Mursch provided us with a fish and chicken dinner cooked by professional caterers which was simply great. We all ate too much on this build, but loved it. Everyone here welcomed us with open arms and went all out to show us that they appreciated us being here. Also the publicity we brought for their affiliate.

We lost ½ day due to rain the first week. The second week we worked in the rain all day one day to finish much as we could on the house. The first week was extremely hot and humid and some felt they would only come back to this area in the Fall or Spring. When we left, the sheet rock was on, 98 % of the siding was done. And the front porch was on. The new owner worked along with us. We also found that the new homeowners here are required to be responsible for a lot of the jobs which they have not been on other work sites and we thought this was good as it teaches them to take care of their home and what was involved in building. Such as making sure it is insulated enough everywhere, cleaning up the site daily, and several other jobs around the new house.

We found that to completely build a house it takes at least three to four weeks. And suggest maybe in the future a team could go in before convention for 2 weeks and one for 2 weeks after the convention. This would eliminate a team waiting around for two weeks to work the third and fourth weeks. This affiliate said this would be okay with them and sure other affiliates would say the same.

We had no major injuries, just scrapes, no lost of work time only 2 incidents with a hammer, but both were fine after relaxing for about an hour.

We enjoyed this build and found everyone on the team easy to work with. And it was great working with the Sosa Family, the grumpy old men and the local people.

Any Taggart was our go between our team and the local Churches who provided our meals and she did a terrific job of coordinating these with all the churches and was ready to do anything we need.

This affiliate was easy to work with would love to do another build here.

We recommend asking Joy & Ken Fehrenz, and Doug & Judy Key to be Team leaders in the future. Doug & Judy are considering it and Joy said we showed them that they could do this also. We are sure Doris & Bob Owen would also do a great job but, they are still new to our group but, maybe would be great assistants anytime.

Raymond and Jewel Hebert,
Team Leaders for the Lenoir Build

Note: Using the team leaders numbers, I estimate the team worked 1400 Hours.

John