

# Images from the 2003 Jimmy Carter Work Project



Anniston, AL

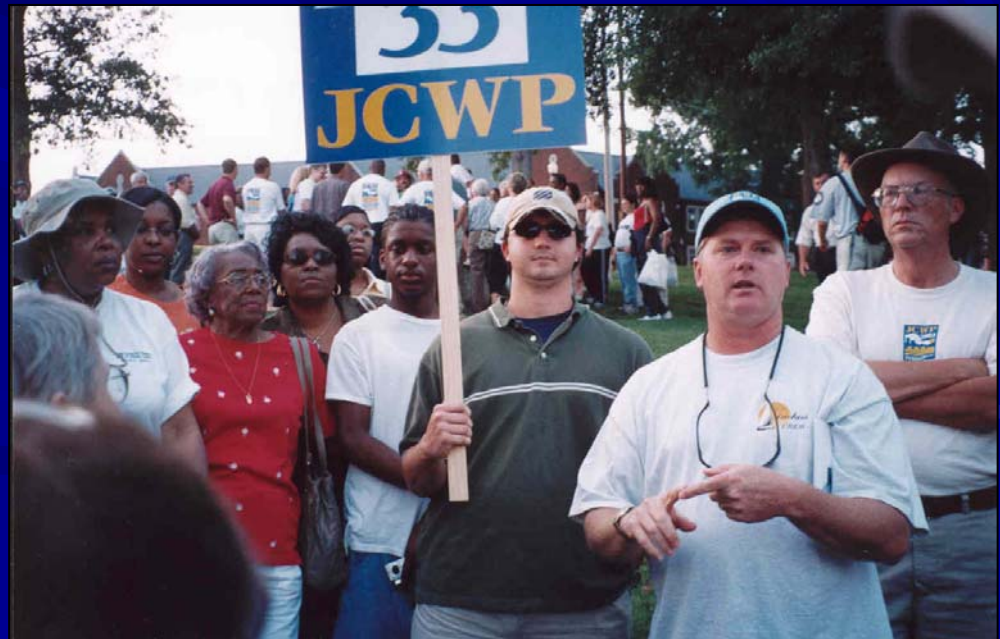
■ My dad, Ed Havitz, and I have worked independently on dozens of Habitat for Humanity houses, but this would only be our third project together. We met in Lansing, hopped into his old Ford pick-up, and drove down to Anniston, AL for the 2003 Jimmy Carter Work Project.



The project consisted of 102 homes that would be built in 6 days in three southern communities. Anniston was, by a slight margin, largest of the three sites.

■ Former President Jimmy Carter addressed the 2000 Anniston volunteers at the Sunday evening opening ceremony.

■ Chuck, the House 33 crew leader is from Mobile, AL. He spoke with volunteers assigned to that house during the orientation. Future homeowner Brenda Goodman stands at far left.



# Some new homeowner profiles

- Here are brief profiles of the homeowners who will move into the houses on which some of the volunteers featured herein worked:
- Lakesia Hawkins (House 23) and her daughter Kiara, 6, lived in a four-plex in an area surrounded by drugs. Their heat is provided by space heaters. Lakesia is employed by Wendy's.
- Jonell Gorman (House 32) and her severely handicapped 35-year-old son, Christopher, lived in a house that was not suitable for Chris. Chris has cerebral palsy, is confined to a wheelchair, is deaf and cannot talk. His wheelchair did not fit through the doorways, making it impossible to move Chris around. He could not get into the bathroom for using the toilet or for taking baths. Chris also could not get outside, so Jonell had to stay home with him all the time unless she could get a sitter. Jonell receives her late husband's Navy pension and Christopher's Social Security.
- Brenda Goodman (House 33) is a single grandmother. She is employed at Designer Checks, lives in Section 8 housing in an area that has become less safe, especially at night. Brenda was moved from the waiting list to the new homeowner list just days before the 2003 JCWP commenced its work.
- Frances Curry (House 35) and her two children, Kevin, 21, and Rena, 12, lived in an older house with various structural problems. The neighborhood was not safe. Frances is employed at Constantine Elementary School.

Most of the volunteers working at the Anniston site, including the Carters, stayed in dorms at Jacksonville State University. After a day at work, Dad posed in front of our digs which were in stately Fitzpatrick Hall.



At the opening dinner, Dad chatted with several volunteers from Axis, a large Illinois-based youth and young adult group.



- Monday morning, 6 a.m., Dad carries his tool belt past a supply trailer on his way to breakfast.
- Thanks to pre-build efforts by Anniston-area volunteers, sub-floor was in-place when we arrived. House 33 exterior walls were taking shape by 8 a.m. Monday morning.



■ After eagerly accepting my offer to spot her, Brenda worked at nailing top-plate on Monday morning while I steadied the ladder.



■ Here are some House 33 volunteers returning to work after a Monday afternoon break. The house is nearly sealed by this point.



■ Here's a JCWP streetscape about 6 a.m. on Tuesday. The photo was taken while we were on our way to breakfast at the food tents.

■ Good thing they don't get much snow in Alabama! On the way to Tuesday's lunch Al Green, a volunteer from South Carolina, pauses at the foot of a steep driveway on one of the houses.





■ I spent most of Tuesday morning on the roof of House 33 with the shingle crew. Meanwhile another group was installing siding.



■ The exterior of House 33 was nearly completed by the time this photo was taken at 7 a.m. on Wednesday.



■ Work progressed on all 35 houses. Here's my roommate Bill Taylor, a volunteer from Winter Haven, FL, posing with me and Dad in front of "Bill's" House 23.



■ Dad also posed in front of "his" House 35. Both pictures were taken prior to the start of work on Wednesday morning.



■ Habitat Canada's Linda Jones emerged from the supply trailer wet but smiling from a brief Wednesday afternoon down-pour. She worked on House 32.

■ Meanwhile the House 33 crew scrambled to lay sod while the soil was wet!



■ While shutters were being installed at House 33 on Thursday morning, Brenda and I posed briefly before returning to the tractor to finish the backyard landscaping.



■ Arriving for work at 7 a.m. on Friday, octogenarian former U. S. President Jimmy Carter carried his own toolbox up the steep driveway at House 15.



■ President Carter speaks with two homeowners prior to the dedication ceremony. Millard Fuller, co-founder of HFH stands nearby in the grey hat with his back to my camera.



■ Brenda, still teary-eyed following the Friday afternoon dedication ceremony, posed with her extended family and (most) House 33 crew members.



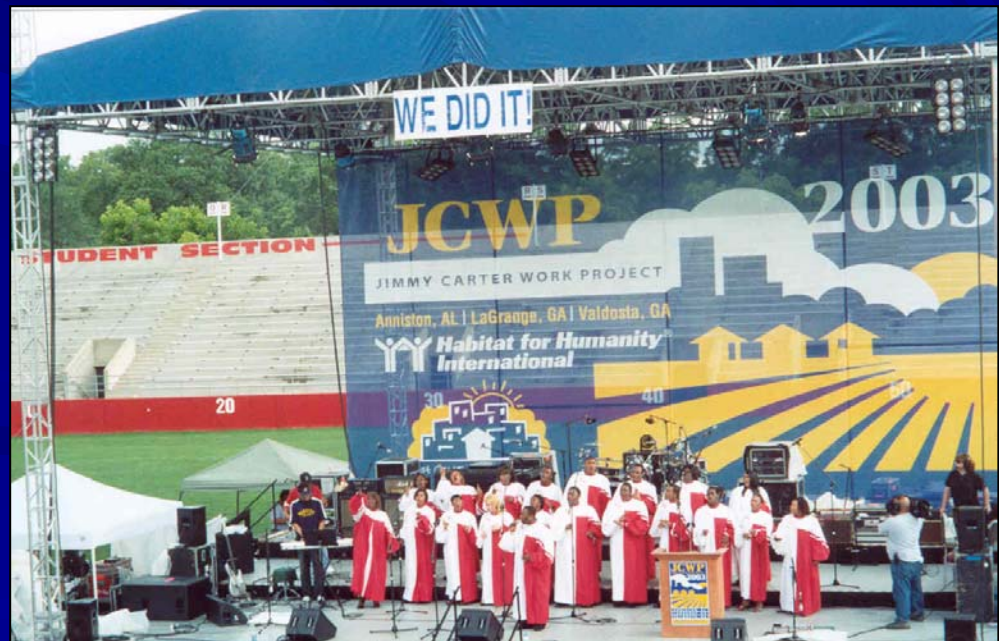
■ Meanwhile, just down the street, House 35 crew members signed autograph books for each other after their House dedication.

■ Dad posed with beaming homeowner Francis Curry and her two children, Kevin and Rena. Kevin and Dad were a bit muddy after laying sod most of the day.



■ Dad got another crew-member's autograph while Francis exulted on her new front porch!

■ A JSU choir performed some memorable music later that afternoon at the closing ceremonies.





- In a scene replayed sixteen times on Friday afternoon, volunteers gathered, two houses at a time for official photos. Bill Taylor is among the middle of the House 23 crew (left side of the photo). The House 23 and 24 homeowners, the Carters and the Fullers are in the center.





- Ed Havitz is wearing a red shirt, directly under the House 35 sign. The House 34 and 35 homeowners, the Carters and the Fullers are in the center. That is House 34 in the background.



- I'm in the back row, third from left of this one. The House 32 and 33 homeowners, the Carters and the Fullers are in the center. Linda Jones is directly behind homeowner Jonell Gorman and to the right of the guy in the moustache. House 32 is in the background.



- Symbolizing the work yet to be done and community yet to be built by this magnificent housing ministry, representatives of the Anniston affiliate, Millard Fuller, and Jimmy Carter pass a hammer to delegates from the Mexican affiliates which will host the 2004 JCWP!