



Foundations

An Historic Build

Homes for Our Troops Makes History with 100th Home Build in Fredericksburg, Virginia

What started at 9 a.m. Friday, April 1 ended 76 hours later as the occupancy certificate for the home of Marine Sgt. Kenny Lyon was issued. Following three days of building and the help of hundreds of volunteers, a 2,600-square-foot rambler in Fredericksburg, Virginia was ready for its owner to move in. And that he did as Sgt. Lyon was handed his key on Saturday, April 9.

That's the fastest construction job in the seven-year history of Homes for Our Troops.

Lyon was on his second deployment in May 2006 when a mortar attack near Fallujah, Iraq, left him with severe injuries including a left leg amputation above the knee,



Marine Sgt. Kenny Lyon is surrounded by volunteers, tradesmen, family, and friends on the front lawn of his new specially adapted home.

nerve damage to his left arm and hand, and a shattered jaw. It took 50 units of blood to save him.

Local company Atlantic Builders was our Building Partner on the weekend's "build brigade," which involved an estimated

800 people laboring around the clock in shifts to meet the deadline. The foundation was laid, the well was dug and the plumbing was installed in advance of Friday, but most everything else was done this weekend.

This is the second home Atlantic Builders has built with Homes for Our Troops in the region. The first was done last year for Marine Sgt. Steve Kiernan, with whom Lyon was living.

Atlantic Builders and Homes for Our Troops held another Build Brigade on April 15th in Fredericksburg, Virginia for a specially adapted home for Army SGT Jude Recendez, who also was injured in Iraq in 2006.

DATA SHOWS INCREASE IN AMPUTATIONS AMONG SERVICE MEMBERS LAST YEAR

The majority of American service members undergoing amputation for war wounds in 2010 lost more than one limb, according to data compiled from Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany, where all seriously injured veterans are treated.

By December, only one-quarter of amputation surgery involved only one limb; three-quarters involved the loss of two or more limbs. During the first seven years of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars, only about six percent of seriously wounded soldiers underwent amputation.

100 MORE... Homes for Our Troops

Homes for Our Troops has officially launched the 100 MORE..... Homes for Our Troops campaign. As the number of eligible applicants continues to grow, we estimate that there are between 1,000 to 1,500 OIF/OEF veterans among us that have injuries so severe that they are in need of an adapted home. As a result we have set a goal to build 100 homes within the next three years. To be successful, however, we must raise \$40 million.

For more information, visit www.homesforourtroops.org/100more. With America's support, Homes for Our Troops can "give back" freedom and independence to them through a gift of a specially adapted home.



Meet General (USA, Ret) Richard A. Cody



National Campaign Chairman of the 100 MORE...Homes for Our Troops campaign

A distinguished military career spanning nearly four decades and sustained success as a leader in his civilian life have more than prepared General Richard A. Cody (US Army, Ret.)

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A LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT AND FOUNDER

Dear Friends:

Let me start by saying thank you for your support of our mission. Over the past seven years I have been amazed and humbled by the generosity of the American people. More humbling is the spirit of our severely wounded veterans that we serve. Since 2003 I have been visiting our wounded at military hospitals. What is a reality right now is shocking. Although the war and our wounded may not be the lead nightly news story or on the front pages of the newspapers, what I am seeing will shock you, as it did me. Where at one time I saw many single and double amputees what I am now seeing is many triple and even some quadruple amputees. Soldiers like SGT Luis Rosa-Valentin who was on his second deployment to Iraq when an IED explosion left him a triple amputee with hearing and vision loss. We as a country face a question that needs an immediate answer. What are we going to do about it? You have helped us rebuild the lives of 100 deserving military families to date. Together we have given back freedom and independence to many of our nation's most severely wounded veterans through the gift of a specially adapted home. I am very proud of what we have accomplished together thus far.



We will begin our 100th home building project on April 1st! Our immediate goal is to build "100 more... Homes for Our Troops" in less than half the time it took us to build the first 100 homes. The need is great, and as the fighting continues the requests for assistance is rising every month.

Homes for Our Troops is much more than an organization, it is an American movement which you have become a part of. We have come very far together but we need your help now more than ever. We are beginning a new chapter, one that will rely on a significant commitment from Americans everywhere. To accomplish these goals requires us to raise a significant amount of money. I ask you to help by making a contribution to our "100 more... Homes for Our Troops" campaign. Please help us raise the funding and awareness needed to continue our mission.

We will do our part by maintaining our high standards in fiscal responsibility and in the quality of the homes we build for our nations wounded heroes.

John S. Gonsalves, *Founder and President*

OUR NEWEST HFOT VETERANS



We are proud to welcome the following veterans into our HFOT Family of Veterans: (from left to right) Cpl Tyler Southern, LCpl Nicholas Thom, LCpl Paul Schaus, SPC Darrel Isaac Jensen, LCpl Randal Wright, LCpl Daniel Peterson, SGT Justin Bond, SSG Brian Schar, SPC Joshua Sommers *(not in photo)*.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP

- Support the mission financially as a NATIONAL SPONSOR
- Contribute in-kind materials/services as a NATIONAL SUPPLIER.
- Become a "MISSION PARTNER" and sponsor one or more home builds!

For more information, contact Steve Keohane at 866-7-TROOPS or skeohane@homesforourtroops.org

PROFESSIONAL CONSTRUCTION TRADES

- Volunteer your expertise to help build a specially adapted home.

INDIVIDUALS

- Hold a "Virtual Fundraiser"
 - Make a donation
 - Register to become a Key Volunteer at a project near you!
- Find out more online at www.homesforourtroops.org/donate*

BUILD BRIGADE AND KEY CEREMONY HIGHLIGHTS



SGT Joseph Smith's Build Brigade was held January 21-23, 2011. We look forward to welcoming SGT Smith, his wife, Debbi, and their family home to Thomasville, North Carolina at their Key Ceremony planned for later this year.



SSG Christian Bagge, his wife, Melissa, and their two children at their Build Brigade in August 2010. SSG Bagge and his family received the key to their new specially adapted home in Parkdale, Oregon on February 5, 2011.



CPL Joshua Stein, his wife, Nicole, and their three daughters at their Build Brigade in September 2010. CPL Stein and his family received the key to their new specially adapted home in Spring Branch, Texas on December 18, 2010.



On January 22, 2011, We were proud to bring PO2 Anthony Thompson, his wife, Ivonne, and their son home at last to their new specially adapted home in Houston, Texas.

UPCOMING BUILD BRIGADES

Cpl Jose "Daniel" GASCA..... **APRIL 29, 30 & MAY 1, 2011**
El Paso, TX *Building Partner: Veliz Construction, LLC*

COMPLETED BUILD BRIGADES

SGT Joseph SMITH.....**JANUARY 21, 22 & 23, 2011**
Thomasville, NC *Building Partner: Beane Construction, Inc.*

SSG Jason LETTERMAN.....**JANUARY 21, 22 & 23, 2011**
Hinesville, GA *Building Partner: Hardin Construction Company, LLC*

CWO3 Jeffrey PCOLA.....**FEBRUARY 4, 5 & 6, 2011**
Seneca, SC *Building Partner: Markovich Homes*

SSG Ronell BRADLEY.....**FEBRUARY 11, 12 & 13, 2011**
Columbia, SC *Building Partner: Hallmark Homes International*

SFC Charles ARMSTEAD.....**MARCH 11, 12 & 13, 2011**
Killeen, TX *Building Partner: Cameo Homes, Inc.*

Sgt. Kenneth "Dylan" GRAY.....**MARCH 11, 12 & 13, 2011**
Wellington, NV *Building Partner: Eureka Builders Inc.*

SGT Jeffrey ADAMS.....**MARCH 18, 19 & 20, 2011**
Black Forest, CO *Building Partner: Genesis Custom Homes*

SPC Adrian GARCIA.....**MARCH 18, 19 & 20, 2011**
El Paso, TX *Building Partner: Veliz Construction, LLC*

Cpl Jeremy STENGEL.....**MARCH 18, 19 & 20, 2011**
Mukwonago, WI *Building Partner: Burbach Builders*

Completed Build Brigades - continued

Sgt. Adam KISIELEWSKI.....**MARCH 25, 26 & 27, 2011**
Frederick, MD *Building Partner: Case Design & Remodeling*

Sgt. Kenny LYON.....**APRIL 1, 2 & 3, 2011**
Fredericksburg, VA *Building Partner: Atlantic Builders Ltd.*

SSG Nicholas McCOY.....**APRIL 1, 2 & 3, 2011**
Boerne, TX *Building Partner: VERITAS Custom Homebuilder*

SGT Jude REZENDEZ.....**APRIL 15, 16 & 17, 2011**
Fredericksburg, VA *Building Partner: Atlantic Builders Ltd.*

UPCOMING KEY CEREMONIES

Sgt. Kenny LYON.....**APRIL 9, 2011**
Fredericksburg, VA *Building Partner: Atlantic Builders Ltd*

COMPLETED KEY CEREMONIES

PO2 Anthony THOMPSON.....**JANUARY 22, 2011**
Houston, TX *Building Partner: John & Brian Lavezzari, GMB Inc.*

SSG Christian BAGGE.....**FEBRUARY 5, 2011**
Parkdale, OR *Building Partner: Kase Construction, Inc.*

SSG Jason LETTERMAN.....**FEBRUARY 12, 2011**
Hinesville, GA *Building Partner: Hardin Construction Company, LLC*

SGT Tim "TJ" JOHANNSEN.....**MARCH 26, 2011**
Elizabeth, CO *Building Partner: Platinum Homes*

Meet General Richard A. Cody - continued from page 1

for his latest role. We are extremely proud to introduce you to the man who is going to lead our campaign.

Born in Montpelier, Vermont, Gen. Cody graduated in 1972 from the United States Military Academy at West Point where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree. Advanced studies prepared a young Cody for the rigors of a military career, one during which he found himself flying helicopters, earning the designation of master Army Aviator and a place in the Army Aviation Hall of Fame, logging more than 5,000 hours of flight time, and ascending to leadership positions, most notably with the 101st Airborne Division. Yet, through what can only be described as a storied career, Gen. Cody never lost sight of his mission to lead.

"We are a team," he once shared with the Army News. "If you allow ego to reign, emotion will trump true leadership. You'll have a clash of egos instead of a discussion about skill sets, capabilities, and what is good for the organization."

Serving as the 31st Vice Chief of Staff, Army, Gen. Cody retired in August of 2008 at which time he joined L-3 Communications as Corporate Vice President. He was promoted last year to Vice President of Washington (D.C.) Operations.

General Cody and his wife Vicki have two sons; Clint and Tyler are active duty Army Helicopter pilots, both of whom have several combat tours in Iraq and Afghanistan.

GIVING 'HOMES' A VOICE



The leadership of Homes for Our Troops recently joined veteran home recipients and family members to participate in speaker's bureau training. The two-day event was held in D.C. in February and hosted by public relations firm Susan Davis International. The training is part of the ongoing effort by Homes for Our Troops to involve the veterans served by the organization in outreach efforts to raise awareness of the mission. Among those in attendance included (l-r): Corporal Daniel Gasca, HFOT veteran; General Richard A. Cody, HFOT Board of Directors and Chairman of the 100 More... Homes for Our Troops Campaign; John Gonsalves, HFOT Founder and President; Sergeant Kenny Lyon, HFOT veteran; Dawn Teixeira, HFOT Executive Director; Debbi Smith, wife of SGT Joseph Smith, HFOT veteran; Laura Butler, wife of CPT Ferris Butler, HFOT veteran.



Make One Day Matter!

JOIN US...

TUESDAY,

September 13, 2011
Spring Valley Country Club

25 Tiot Street, Sharon, MA 02067

FUNDRAISING EVENTS to Benefit HFOT

Supporters of Homes for Our Troops throughout the country host a variety of fundraising events during the year. We are happy to share this information with you – whether you are interested in attending a Homes for Our Troops benefit event in your area or hosting one yourself. While HFOT does not sponsor or partner for third party fundraising events, we are honored that others graciously host events and donate the proceeds to support our mission.

For a complete list of events to be held during 2011, please visit our website at www.homesforourtroops.org/events

Homes for Our Troops is pleased to announce the First Annual Golf Classic. The event will be held Tuesday, September 13, 2011 at the Spring Valley Country Club in Sharon, MA. All proceeds will benefit Homes for Our Troops.

The cost-per-player is \$225 and includes golf and cart rental. The tournament will be limited to 128 golfers in total. The event will include lunch and dinner. Non-golfers are also encouraged to participate by donating items for the silent auction and raffle or by sponsoring a hole.

For more information, contact Dianne Travers at (508) 823-3300.

HOORAH!

Team HFOT Will Once Again Take On the Marine Corps Marathon

Team HFOT has 25 charity marathon spots and welcomes any registered running interested in running as part of our team for the marathon or 10K. All eligible runners must be registered through the Marine Corps Marathon before registering for Team HFOT.

Go to...www.homesforourtroops.org/mcm11



Charity Navigator, one of the premiere charity rating agencies in the country, has awarded Homes for Our Troops with its highest rating of 4 stars.



Homes for Our Troops is a Top-Rated Military & Veteran Charity by the American Institute of Philanthropy.



#12525 For our active duty military supporters: CFC #12525 is a national beneficiary of the world's largest and most successful annual workplace charity campaign. Your CFC pledge will help Homes for Our Troops build our next 100 specially adapted homes for our nation's severely injured troops.