A Letter from Founder & President John S. Gonsalves

DEAR SUPPORTER:

Since 2004, Homes for Our Troops supporters from all walks of life have “paid it forward” by giving the gift of freedom and independence to those who have given it to them. As we work toward accomplishing our goals for Year 6, we continue to be amazed and grateful for our ever-growing Support Communities – the key to our success.

Our ongoing HFOT Champion Spotlight column gives us a chance to offer our sincere appreciation to just a few of our supporters with each newsletter issue. Some champions however, break the mold of what it means to be a power of example —what it means to pay it forward—what is means to be a local hero. The ultimate “case in point” comes from within our HFOT Family of Veterans, which makes the example of our own SSG Robert Canine an inspiration for us all.

When SSG Robert Canine learned that he would receive a specially adapted home from Homes for Our Troops at no cost to him, his first emotion was gratitude. His second? Selflessness, which has always been Canine’s fundamental instinct: take care of my family, take care of my comrades.

Within days, Canine was sharing the story with other veteran amputees at Walter Reed Army Medical Center who he thought would benefit from a specially adapted home. Within weeks, he created a public service video to show how wider hallways, roll-in showers, and roll-under stove-tops and sinks provide the gift of freedom and independence by removing mobility restrictions. By December 2009, he had announced his goal to raise and donate $100,000 to Homes for Our Troops to build a specially adapted home for another severely injured veteran.

Canine’s goal for the most compelling Pay It Forward example we’ve ever seen was crystal clear: use the funds I raise for another specially adapted home, not my home. “I decided to save $100 a month for 10 months to make a $1000 contribution to HFOT. If I could inspire 99 other people to do the same or inspire 900 people to donate $100, I would reach my goal of $100,000 raised by October 1, 2010.”

And inspire he did. On June 8, 2010 – 4 months ahead of schedule – Robert reached his $100,000 fundraising goal. Using a HFOT Personal Fundraising page, Robert’s message to friends and family was simple and uniquely heartfelt: “help me give to those who gave to us.” The result? Good old fashioned word-of-mouth inspired donations from individuals, youth organizations, schools, and corporations as well as fundraising events such as “Run for Robert” and “Coins for Caring.”

“Help me give to those who gave to us.”

Ever the selfless hero, he attributes success to others saying, “People ask me how I raised the $100,000. I tell them I didn’t, my friends and family did. All I did was ask for their support, and they came through in a big way. Not just for me, but for an injured soldier they may never meet.” As Robert continues to applaud his Support Community for their help and successes – we at Homes for Our Troops continue to applaud him.

John S. Gonsalves

Thank you to everyone who donated, raised funds for, and volunteered for SSG Canine's home!

Title Sponsor: Missouri Credit Union Association
Corporate Partner: FUJIFILM Seehere.com
General Contractor: Beacon Street Construction

SSG Robert Canine, his wife, Jennifer, and their son, Sebastian, received their new specially adapted home in Columbia, Missouri on June 26, 2010.

To see a model of success, go to SSG Canine's fundraising page at... www.homesforourtroops.org/K9
“Jelly Jo”
Joan Eskelinen, “Jelly Jo” as she is now known, is the passion and muscle behind Log Cabin Love. Joan has been on a jelly and jam crusade for the past 3 years and has made over 1,000 jars in this last year alone. All supplies are grown locally, the sugar is donated and she pays for the jars out of her own pocket. Her commitment to raising money for our injured soldiers is inspiring. Her fourth year of support begins in the fall, when the local grapes, strawberries, & rhubarb are ready for picking!

Born and raised at the end of Log Cabin Drive in Walled Lake, Michigan, Joan and her husband Bill still reside in the same log cabin. Joan has raised a sweet $17,000 selling her jams and jellies and donated 100% to HFOT! Thank you “Jelly Jo” for your support!

Buracker Construction, LLC
Congratulations to Dave and Martha Buracker, owners of Buracker Construction in Bentonville, VA, awarded the “2010 business of the year” by the Front Royal-Warren County Chamber of Commerce. Describing their work in helping to construct a home for SSG Arthur “Bunky” Woods, Martha noted, “The Homes for Our Troops house for SSG Woods that we have volunteered to be the General Contractor for has been the single most rewarding volunteer project we have ever done. We may have spearheaded the project, but it has been the whole Front Royal/Warren County community that has come together to make this a reality.”

Thank you to the Front Royal/Warren County community and Buracker Construction!

Mastic Home Exteriors on Paying It Forward:
“Our Red, White & Home promotion will donate more than $100,000 in cash, volunteers, and product donations to Homes for Our Troops in 2010. With the support of Mastic distributors and contractors, we’re paying it forward by helping to build more than 20 homes for severely injured veterans with Mastic Home Exteriors low-maintenance siding and trim. As leaders in our industry, we hope that our example encourages others to get behind an organization that provides such a vital and needed service to our severely injured veterans.”

Thank you Mastic Home Exteriors!

HFOT WOULD ALSO LIKE TO THANK AND RECOGNIZE THE EFFORTS OF:

Gary and Karen Chaput, SGT Ryan Newell Project: Marion, KS
Jim Ward, Essex Homes, CPL Wesley Leon-Barrientos Project: Bakersfield, CA
Jeremy Skinner, CPL Joshua Lindsey Project: Cumming, GA
Stephanie McDivitt McGee, Keller Williams Realty, Sgt. Steven Kiernan Project: Fredricksburg, VA
Vicki Wallis, Elbert County Examiner, LCpl Kade L. Hinkhouse Project: Elizabeth, CO

CALL TO ACTION
Responding to our Call to Action can be as simple as sharing this newsletter with a friend, as easy as making a donation, or as committed as signing up be a project volunteer. Every action helps to move our projects to “Mission Accomplished.”

GET INVOLVED! Go to...
www.homesforourtroops.org/howtovolunteer

• GENERAL CONTRACTOR
Each project begins with a great GC! Volunteer to lead one of our projects.

• PROFESSIONAL TRADESPEOPLE
Volunteer your time as a professional tradesperson and make a difference in the life of a severely injured veteran.

• DONATE BUILDING MATERIALS
The more building products we are able to acquire through donation, the less funds are depleted and the more veterans we can serve.

• KEY VOLUNTEERS
Join a project Event Team to help run a Build Brigade, Volunteer Day, or Key Ceremony. Join a project Street Team to create community awareness for our mission.

• ATTEND A LOCAL FUNDRAISER
See page 4 for details on events in your state and mark your calendars!

• JOIN THE CONVERSATION
Join us on Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn to show your support online!

WE NEED RUNNERS!
RUN FOR US on 10.31.10!
We have spots available for the Marine Corps Marathon and the Marine Corps 10K.
Sign up today!
Go to...
www.homesforourtroops.org/mcm10

Our 2nd Annual Victoria L. Mosier 5-mile Memorial Run is on 11.07.10! Join us at the American Legion Hall in Raynham, MA.
Run starts at 10 a.m.
Register on race day or online.
Go to...
www.homesforourtroops.org/vlm

FUJIFILM SeeHere.com launched a program to support Kids For Our Troops to encourage teens to participate in community service. Teens can develop and execute a fundraising and awareness-building campaign for a specific Homes For Our Troops build and then be eligible to win a $5,000 scholarship from FUJIFILM.

Sign up on seehere.com!
Our Newest HFOT Veterans

Because of your continued support, we are pleased to welcome the following new members of the HFOT Family of Veterans:

- SGT Jeffrey Adams.............. Colorado
- SFC Sean Gittens.............. Georgia
- SGT Latseen Benson.............. Colorado
- SSG Kelly Keck.............. Kentucky
- SSG Ronell Bradley.............. South Carolina
- Sgt. Kenny Lyon.............. Virginia

Go to an HFOT Veteran’s web page: www.homesforourtroops.org/(veteran’s last name).

Spotlight: Volunteer Day

On Volunteer Day, the Support Community cleans and landscapes a specially adapted home to perfection. To prepare for CPL Joshua Lindsey’s Key Ceremony in Cumming, GA on June 26, 2010, Hilbert’s Heroes demonstrated the power of a group effort! Staffed by Atlanta’s Hilbert Law Firm, Hilbert’s Heroes supports a charity each month and gets clients, colleagues, friends and family involved too! We join CPL Lindsey in thanking Hilbert’s Heroes for coordinating landscaping materials donations for this home and rolling up their sleeves on Volunteer Day to install the results!

Completed Build Brigades

HFOT thanks the General Contractor and the many skilled/unskilled Volunteers on every one of these projects!

- **SSG Bunky Woods**
  - Location: Browntown, Virginia
  - BB Dates: May 21-23, 2010
  - GC: Buracker Construction

- **SPC Frank Pierson**
  - Location: Plainfield, Illinois
  - BB Dates: May 21-23, 2010
  - GC: DeCraene Custom Homes Inc.

As of our press time (July 19, 2010):

**Upcoming Build Brigades**

- **SSG Christian Bagge**
  - Location: Portland, Oregon

- **CPT Ferris Butler**
  - Location: Chester, Maryland

**Upcoming Key Ceremonies**

- **CPL Wesley Leon-Barrientos**
  - Location: Bakersfield, California

- **SSG Heath Calhoun**
  - Location: Clarksville, Tennessee

- **Cpl Neil Frustaglio**
  - Location: Marion, Texas

- **Cpl Jose “ivan” Perez**
  - Location: Wellington, Florida

- **SFC Steven Holloway**
  - Location: Trussville, Alabama

- **SPC Frank Pierson**
  - Location: Plainfield, Illinois

- **PO2 Anthony Thompson**
  - Location: Houston, Texas

- **SSG Bunky Woods**
  - Location: Browntown, Virginia

**SSG Dwayne Cole’s Key Ceremony**

On June 19, 2010, Homes for Our Troops and General Contractor Stephen Thomas Homes were proud to present SSG Dwayne A. Cole and his wife, Shontel, with the key to their new specially adapted home in Henrico, Virginia. The Coles can now rebuild their lives in a home that is barrier-free.

From Stephen Thomas Homes website:

“We were looking for just this type of community project so that we could ‘give back’. We proudly volunteered to be the general contractor for this home, and are grateful for this tremendous opportunity to say ‘Thank You!’ to someone who has made more sacrifices for his fellow men and women than most of us will ever know.”

**More Veterans Who Received Their Keys:**

- **Sgt. Steven Kiernan**
  - Location: Fredericksburg, VA
  - KC Date: June 12, 2010
  - General Contractor: Atlantic Builders Ltd.

- **SSG Robert Canine**
  - Location: Columbia, MO
  - KC Date: June 26, 2010
  - Title Sponsor: Missouri Credit Union Association
  - General Contractor: Beacon Street Construction

- **CPL Joshua Lindsey**
  - Location: Cumming, GA
  - KC Date: June 26, 2010
  - General Contractor: SBG Homes

- **SGT Ryan Newell**
  - Location: Marion, KS
  - KC Date: June 26, 2010
  - General Contractor: Hett Construction

**SSG Cole’s GC:**

- **Hilbert’s Heroes**
  - Team for CPL Lindsey
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<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<th>Date</th>
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<td>MAINE</td>
<td>Seagars by the See (seagars)</td>
<td>Portland, ME</td>
<td>Sunday, SEPTEMBER 24, 2010</td>
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<td>MaryLand Basket Bingo (chuckbingo)</td>
<td>Aberdeen, MD</td>
<td>Friday, AUGUST 27, 2010</td>
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<td>Massachusetts 7th Annual Charity Softball Game (7thsoftball)</td>
<td>Hyannis, MA</td>
<td>Saturday, AUGUST 8, 2010</td>
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<td>Jennifer Kane Memorial Golf Tournament (jenniferkane10)</td>
<td>Kingston, MA</td>
<td>Monday, AUGUST 23, 2010</td>
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<td>2nd Annual Dighton Run for Heroes 5K (runforheroes10)</td>
<td>Dighton, MA</td>
<td>Saturday, SEPTEMBER 11, 2010</td>
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<td>Warrior Run (warriorrun)</td>
<td>Foxboro, MA</td>
<td>Saturday, SEPTEMBER 11, 2010</td>
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<td>Oak Point Homeowners Charity Golf Tournament (oakpoint10)</td>
<td>Lakeville, MA</td>
<td>Thursday, SEPTEMBER 23, 2010</td>
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<td>Mark Keilty Golf Tournament (markkeilty10)</td>
<td>Harwich, MA</td>
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<td>Benefit Horse Show (horsehelp)</td>
<td>Marion, MA</td>
<td>Sunday, OCTOBER 17, 2010</td>
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<td>REALTORS Got Talent Show (passtalent)</td>
<td>Middleborough, MA</td>
<td>Thursday, NOVEMBER 4, 2010</td>
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<td>Weekend at Patriot Place Raffle (maceyraffle)</td>
<td>East Longmeadow, MA</td>
<td>Thursday, NOVEMBER 11, 2010</td>
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<td>Busa Wine &amp; Spirits 50th Anniversary Celebration (bowl2010)</td>
<td>Lexington, MA</td>
<td>Friday, NOVEMBER 12, 2010</td>
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<td>NEW HAMPSHIRE</td>
<td>Guns &amp; Hoses 911 Memorial Ride (gunsandhoses10)</td>
<td>Hudson, NH</td>
<td>Saturday, SEPTEMBER 11, 2010</td>
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<td>Hudson, NH Saturday, SEPTEMBER 11, 2010</td>
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<td>NEW JERSEY Run for Our Troops (runforourtroops)</td>
<td>Pennsauken, NJ</td>
<td>Saturday, SEPTEMBER 11, 2010</td>
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<td>NJAFED 5th Annual Golf Outing (njafed10)</td>
<td>Atlantic Heights, NJ</td>
<td>Monday, SEPTEMBER 13, 2010</td>
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<td>Running to Rebuild (runningtorebuild10)</td>
<td>Freehold Boro, NJ</td>
<td>Saturday, OCTOBER 9, 2010</td>
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<td>NEW YORK Local 35 Benefit Golf Outing (local35golf)</td>
<td>Mechanicville, NY</td>
<td>Saturday, AUGUST 28, 2010</td>
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<td>NORTH CAROLINA Fearless Women Revolution Gala (fearlesswomen)</td>
<td>High Point, NC</td>
<td>Friday, SEPTEMBER 10, 2010</td>
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<td>PENNSYLVANIA Par for Patriots (parforpatriots)</td>
<td>Salem, OR</td>
<td>Friday, SEPTEMBER 10, 2010</td>
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<td>PENNSYLVANIA Corvettes at Carlisle (carlislecorvette)</td>
<td>Carlisle, PA</td>
<td>Friday, AUGUST 27, 2010</td>
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<td>TEXAS 3rd Annual Spend a Day with a Vet BBQ &amp; Bike Run (withavet10)</td>
<td>Houston, TX</td>
<td>Saturday, AUGUST 28, 2010</td>
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<td>TX 2nd Annual Homes for Our Troops Bowling Fundraiser (bowl2010)</td>
<td>Plano, TX</td>
<td>Saturday, SEPTEMBER 18, 2010</td>
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<td>VIRGINIA Charity Track Day (charitytrack)</td>
<td>Alton, VA</td>
<td>Friday, AUGUST 13, 2010</td>
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<td>PDP Charity Golf Tournament (pdp2010)</td>
<td>Chantilly, VA</td>
<td>Friday, AUGUST 27, 2010</td>
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<td>TPC River Highlands (riverhighlands2010)</td>
<td>Cromwell, CT</td>
<td>Monday, AUGUST 23, 2010</td>
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<td>TPC Potomac at Avenel Farm (potomac2010)</td>
<td>Potomac, MD</td>
<td>Monday, OCTOBER 11, 2010</td>
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<td>TPC Wakefield Plantation (wakefieldplantation2010)</td>
<td>Raleigh, NC</td>
<td>Wednesday, NOVEMBER 3, 2010</td>
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<td>TPC Piper Glen (piperglen2010)</td>
<td>Charlotte, NC</td>
<td>Monday, NOVEMBER 1, 2010</td>
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<td>Meadowbrook Farms Golf Club (meadowbrookfarms2010)</td>
<td>Katy, TX</td>
<td>Saturday-Sunday, NOVEMBER 6-7, 2010</td>
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<td>TPC Sugarloaf (sugarloaf2010)</td>
<td>Duluth, GA</td>
<td>Monday, NOVEMBER 8, 2010</td>
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<td>TPC Tampa Bay (tpctampabay2010)</td>
<td>Lutz, FL</td>
<td>Saturday-Sunday, NOVEMBER 20-21, 2010</td>
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**Donate now using the enclosed slip and envelope or donate online at:** [www.homesforourtroops.org/donate](http://www.homesforourtroops.org/donate)

**Donations are tax-deductible and with our low 8 percent overhead, you know your money is going a long way and making a big difference.**

**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.