



The Fisher House of the Emerald Coast, Inc

Winter 2010

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Message from the FHEC President, Joe Oder, Brigadier General, USA Retired



BG Joe Oder presents past-president, Tony Hughes, with a plaque thanking Tony for his two years as FHEC's inaugural president, 2007-2009

It's appropriate to have a photo of Tony Hughes in our first news letter. Tony was the first president of the Fisher House of the Emerald Coast. His position in the community and untiring efforts assured us of starting this program on a solid foundation. Thanks Tony for all that you have done.

We are all excited now that the construction has begun. We are optimistic that our first guest will be able to stay in the house by late summer or early fall. You will see more in future correspondence from Julie Thompson, our executive director, about the need for volunteers to support the House once it opens.

You will see notice of several of the fund raisers that we have had throughout the year as you read the news letter. These are very important to the future operations of the facility as we want to provide the best possible quality of life to our visitors. During their time here facing the challenges of a healing loved one, being away from home and balancing life's daily task we want them relaxed and comfortable. We owe this to those that have served their country and not asked for anything in return.

Please visit our website, direct your friends and family to the site, and if you have questions contact Julie Thompson or myself. Our contact information is on the site; www.Fisherhouseemeraldcoast.org

God Bless all of you that have been and continue to be so kind with your time and donations to the Fisher House of the Emerald Coast.



President, Joe Oder, Brigadier General, USA, retired

FHEC benefits from first year on CFC campaign!

The numbers, 66684, were sure lucky for FHEC this year during the CFC Campaign, which kicked off mid-September and ended 30 October. FHEC was listed on three campaigns; Okaloosa/Walton, NW Florida (Bay Cty), and EscaRosa (Pensacola). Campaign director for Okaloosa/Walton, Diane Thomas, reports the following results from our local campaign: \$34,680.93 for our Eglin Fisher House!

Thank you to Eglin, Hurlburt, the Coast Guard and the other federal employees in our area!



Volunteer, Jeff Thompson, works the crowd at the CFC Campaign Kick-Off event



Jim and Ursula Graham share their testimony

Our friends at Pensacola NAS and the surrounding federal employees brought in \$1,837.80 for the EscaRosa CFC campaign!



Year in Review:

Fundraisers for FHEC

February:

Shirley Simpson performance as Shirley Temple, hosted by the Destin Women's Club

May: Ranger Open House & Run

May/July/Oct:

Mary Taylor raises funds with blanket raffle at the Ranger camp, Eglin Commissary, and the Mullet Festival

August:

American Legion Riders Post #75 Mystery Poker Run

September:

Stripes & Stars & Tiki Bars-Parrotheads of the Panhandle

CFC Kick Off Events in FWB and Pensacola NAS

Second Annual Hope Rides Alone Eddie Jeffers Dinner

Parrot Heads of the Panhandle host the PhunFest in Navarre

October:

FHEC 2d Annual Gala & Golf Tourney, hosted by the Young Professionals of FWB

Baytowne Wharf Beer Fest

November:

Pancake Breakfast, hosted by the Magnolia Grill

The Healing Field, hosted by the Crestview Exchange Club

Duke Field Family Day

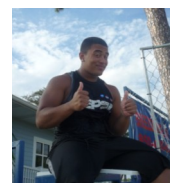
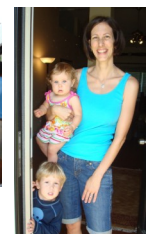
Panama City AMVETS Annual Golf Tournament

Destin Block Party, hosted by the Boathouse Oyster Bar, Red Door Saloon & Dockside Water Sports

December:

BAE Systems Aviation Programs First Annual Poker Run

Highlight of Fundraisers: Volunteers in action...



Thank You!

Volunteers are recognized for their commitment to FHEC!



L-Rt: Julie Thompson, Maj Gen CR Davis, Joel Oxley, Shirley Pigott, Joe Oder, and Tom Rice

On Sunday, 20 December, volunteers recruited by FHEC and who worked events during 2009 were honored for their service. The event was hosted by board Vice President and owner of Magnolia Grill, Tom Rice. Volunteers were treated to finger foods, pastries, and beverages. Mr. Ray Brown volunteered his time, playing holiday tunes on his keyboard. Each volunteer attending received thanks from board members and a Fisher House Foundation coin as a token of appreciation. Many volunteers were unable to attend due to prior commitments, but all are very much appreciated and thanked for their service on behalf of Fisher House. We look forward to your continued participation in 2010. Thank you, all!



L-Rt (top-bottom):
Mike & Linda Anderson, Lucas VanTassel & Cecilia Torres, Jim & Stevie Gerber with Marge & Bill Mann, C.R. Davis & Ed Hubbard, Bob & Felicia Ritz, Karlynne Akos & Kim Combs, Jeri & Bill Johnson with Pat Oder.



Construction Update

As of the third week of January, the construction is going up on house number #44 like gangbusters! The workers are out there every day, rain or shine, busily building this house. When completed, the house will be completely furnished and landscaped, and the key turned over to the 96 ABW Medical Group. There will be a house manager responsible for the daily operations of the house who will work with the Medical Group staff and the families. The Fisher House of the Emerald Coast, Inc will continue to seek funding from our community partners and individuals to help pay for the operational and maintenance costs of the house. Remember, no family pays for staying in the Fisher House. The house is expected to open for business in August 2010. The picture to the right, on the bottom, is an artist's rendition of what the house may look like when completed.



Thanks to our donors!

Friends of Fisher House

Fisher House of the Emerald Coast, Inc (FHEC)

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PO Box 2007
Eglin AFB, FL 32542

Phone: 850-883-8072

E-mail:

julie@fisherhouseemeraldcoast.org

Office hours:

Tues-Thurs 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Use the PO Box address for all
correspondence

Check our website for
updates!

Your continued support is needed!

Please consider
additional donations
when possible.

Please tell your friends
and family about the
Fisher House of the
Emerald Coast.

Donate on line or send a
check to the FHEC,
PO Box 2007, Eglin AFB,
FL 32542

For corporate donations
and/or room
sponsorships, contact
President, Joe Oder, BG,
USA, retired at
850-502-0496 or
[joe.oder@
joderconsulting.com](mailto:joe.oder@joderconsulting.com)

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