

Chesmars' Don Klein Leads Benefit Homes Project for Fourth Year



As we begin the 31st year of the Benefit Homes Project, the GHBA is proud to announce, for the fourth year in a row, that Don Klein, president of Chesmar Homes and long-time member of the association, will again chair the Project. Don and his team, including Raymond Wilburn and Donna Newcomb, originally came on board the Benefit Homes Committee as one of two Benefit Homes builders for 2007. In 2008 the committee was in need of a new chairperson. Don took over the role and at the same time built his SECOND home for the project. In 2009, Don again chaired the Benefit Homes Project and at the same time committed to a THIRD home. That home sold before it was even built—a project record.

Don has a gift for inspiring others he works with as well as a natural competitive instinct. When he takes on a cause, he creates energy in everyone around him to join that cause. His passion for the three charities and what they represent runs deep and this passion is contagious. He has been responsible for challenging each building team to push for donations and resulted in raising more funds every year on his watch than any other year in the fundraiser's history, even during a tough economy. Over the past three years, Don has helped raise collectively more than \$1 million for the Project's three charities. The beneficiaries are Texas Children's Cancer Center, the Alzheimer's Association and HomeAid Houston.

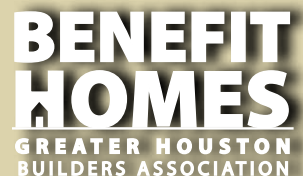
Since the project began, \$6 million has been raised for local charities. These record donations during Don's chairmanship have helped build Benefit Homes by Chesmar, Trendmaker Homes,



▲ PHOTO TOP: Chesmar staff attends ground breaking ceremony for Chesmar Homes' first Benefit Home. The home was constructed in the Canyon Gate community of Sterling Lakes.

► PHOTO CENTER: Don is the emcee and host of Benefit Homes Project events throughout the year. These include ground breakings and vendor appreciation lunches that are typically held at the home that is under construction, and the closings with the homebuyers.

► PHOTO BOTTOM: Don visits with Village Builders Benefit Home buyers and Village staff at the recent closing of their home at the Design Center.



Highland Homes, Westin Homes and Village Builders. Each company built its homes with dozens of upgrades and amenities. The developers were also generous with their superior lot donations in The Woodlands, Bridgeland, Cinco Ranch, Discovery at Spring Trails and Kingwood.

Don has been a key figure within the homebuilding industry in Houston for many years. This wealth of knowledge and experience is the backbone of his 5 year old company, Chesmar Homes. Since 2005, the company has grown to include six different product series, closing more than 1,500 homes in 14 Houston area communities and five San Antonio area communities. Around Houston, Chesmar Homes currently builds in Cinco Ranch, Eagle Springs, Telfair, Westheimer Lakes, Senterra Lakes, Estates of Willow Creek, Northcrest Village, Bay View in League City, Highlands Ranch and Hunters Creek in Baytown, as well as Tupelo Glen, Jagged Ridge and Cheswood Manor Townhome communities in The Woodlands.

With everything Don has accomplished, he still maintains a low profile as a humble individual. The GHBA was proud to name Don and his team of "Chesmarians" the GHBA Production Builder of the Year for 2008. Don was named Humanitarian of the Year by the GHBA the same year.

"The entire experience over the last four years has been personally satisfying, especially when looking into the faces of those the project has helped," said Don. "The Benefit Homes Project has become a huge fundraiser for Houston charities, and every year we are blessed with generous homebuilders, developers, trades and vendors who don't think twice about participating by doing what they do best, building quality homes in Houston. Whether it's for children with cancer, those afflicted with Alzheimer's or for those facing homelessness, hundreds of people step up to give of themselves over and over again."

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—Rusty Smith, Suncoast Post-Tension Inc.

For a \$500 investment, you'll receive:

- An invitation to the board meeting
- A 6-foot tabletop display
- 5-7 minute speaking opportunity
- Your company logo printed on the board agenda

Sponsorship Guidelines:

- Sponsor must be a GHBA member.
- Sponsorship is on a first come-first serve basis.
- To be confirmed as the sponsor, all money must be paid 30 days prior to event date.
- Meeting sponsor may bring one additional person from your company.

Board Meeting Information:

- Board meetings start promptly at 4 pm at the GHBA office.
- Sponsor presentation to begin just after meeting is called to order.
- Sponsor may stay through the full board meeting.
- Sponsor is not eligible to vote on any proceedings at the board meeting.

Available meeting dates:

Feb 3, May 5, June 2, Aug 4, Sept 1, Oct 6, Nov 3

INFO: Contact Donna at DBuenik@ghba.org

Only 7 Left!