



GENERATION JOY

Kids helping Kids

www.generationjoy.org

April 2010

Board Members

Curtis Betzler
Ellen Betzler
Caroline Brown
Linda Guard
Joe Osborne
James Randle
Barb Steeves
Annette Strand
Jenna Velozo

Save the Date

2nd Annual GenJoy
Auction
Saturday, May 1st 2010
Pickering Barn,
Issaquah WA

DONATE ONLINE



Welcome to Generation Joy.

We hope you are enjoying all the news from Generation Joy. We had a great start to the drive at Beaver Lake Middle School. We were lucky to have Pierre and Jaci Horn to come and speak to the students about the benefits that the work we do here has in the schools in South Africa. Their beautiful accents brought sunshine and meaning to our community on grey March days. I also had a chance to chat to some of the students while we were sorting and boxing items. They were very open about the feelings that the drive gives to our community and that giving back makes them feel good. Challenger, Clark and Skyline participated by having their own drives, showing us once again that generosity does not

stop at Beaver Lake Middle School.



Generation Joy is also gathering support on the other side of the Cascade Mountains, thanks to former Beaver Lake pupil, Patrick Horton. Patrick now attends Washington State University; he and his friends collected about 30 boxes of precious school supplies for kids in South Africa and even rented a U-Haul and delivered them to us! Patrick re-affirms for us that what kids learn about humanitarianism when they are young changes their lives forever

We are now waiting to load the container and send it on its merry way to South Africa.

We hope to see you at our auction this year. We have been busy collecting items and experiences for you to bid on. We will have the premier of a video shot in South Africa which will give you an idea of the work your donations are doing to benefit learners.

[Register here](#) to come and join the auction fun!

Also we have a neat fundraiser that will appeal to those of you who eat out for business, pleasure or just because you want to avoid the washing up! See the article about Celebrated Chefs. Sign up online or visit their table at the auction

How are we doing ?

We have had some changes on our board and would like to welcome James Randle and Annette Strand. They bring a wealth of experience to our group, and Generation Joy will benefit greatly from their organizational and financial expertise. So a big thank you to them for stepping up to join our Board. As

we gear up for the auction we thought it would be a great chance to take stock and see how we are doing ~ to date we have shipped over 2370 boxes of educational supplies, 286 computers, 237 bicycles, 33419 books and 7181 soft toys that's \$120,000 worth supplies. That is not including the containers we

will ship this year. For those of you in a facts and figures mood we also did a review of how we spend your money and we are pleased to report that our operating costs are just 3% so out of every dollar you give us 97 cents goes directly to fulfill our mission of "kids helping kids"

A Generation Joy Celebration



Bikes get another life on the dusty roads of South Africa

Have you RSVP'd for our 2nd annual fundraiser yet? Please join us for an evening of friendship and celebration on May 1st at 7:00pm at the Pickering Barn in Issaquah! If you'd like to attend, please [register now](#) by making a secure on-line credit card payment of \$35, which will include delicious hors d'oeuvres and local wines and microbrews. If you'd prefer to write a check you can mail it to:

Generation Joy Foundation
4580 Klahanie Drive S.E. #246
Issaquah, WA 98029

Your early RSVP and registration (by April 15th) will ensure that there will be plenty of refreshments for everyone!

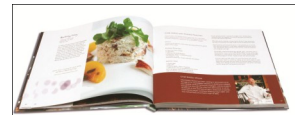
When you arrive on May 1st, please consider using your credit card to "express pay". Your purchases will all be charged to your card and check-out will be fast and easy!

An on-line catalog will be e-mailed to those of you who are registered, so you'll have the chance to look at all of our auction items in advance and decide what to bid on... watch for

it to arrive at the end of April!

Raffle tickets and Generation Joy merchandise will be available for purchase!

Look for our "Celebrated Chefs" table. It's a way to support Gen Joy at no cost to you, just by dining out! Details to follow!



"Boxing days at Beaver Lake are hectic but great fun as we see the gym filling up with all our hard work"



Jaci sorting shoes which she will see again when she gets home.

Vukuzakhe and Travelling to South Africa

Vukuzakhe is Zulu for "Arise and Build for yourself" and is the reason we feel so confident that the work we do here has such meaning for learners in South Africa. Seeing Pierre and Jaci talking to students on their recent visit and telling them all the good our donations are doing was a great way to energize our students. We have written about Dancing Pencils in past issues and that is just one part of the work that Vukuzakhe does. As our containers arrive in Durban it is Pierre who takes charge of seeing the goods through customs and getting them to Himeville and Underberg. He and Jaci look at the supplies and how these resources can be best used in their community. The work that they do covers the broadest definition of education from adults to school children. Why adult learners? This is often the key to encouraging and supporting younger learners ~ How can you read with your

child and do homework if you are lacking the skills? So the evening adult learning program are just as important as the school day ones. If you want to know more about [Vukuzakhe](#) click and learn about the great work they are doing with a little help from their friends over here.



Contents of our container sorted ! Sort of



Adult learners work all day ~ learn in the evening.

All my bags are packed and I'm ready to go.....

Thinking of travelling to South Africa with Generation Joy? Here are a few of the pointers as promised in the last issue.

- Check out your local travel clinic to see that your immunizations are current and up to date.
- Be prepared for all weather. It's winter there so there could be snow, sun, heat and cold all in one day.
- It gets dark early so a flashlight is a good idea for getting around after 6 in the evening.
- Travel coffee mug and slippers make nice comfort items after a long dusty day.

South Africa can be sunny but also very tiring...



Update from the Foggy's

Here is the latest from our Friends of Generation Joy (FOG) . Greg continues to pound the trails to benefit Generation Joy. So far he has completed The Susitna 100 miles in Alaska, the Chucknut 50k, and Soaring Eagle 50k and by the time we are having fun and celebrating at the auction he will have completed the Boston marathon and should be crossing the finish line of the Racing the Planet 150 mile desert race in Australia.

Meanwhile on the Washington State campus at Pullman Patrick Horton shares his story...

Every year for "Greek Week" on the WSU campus, the Greek Week Committee picks a charity that they use for the donation drive which is one of the big events that takes place for Greek Week. I pitched the idea of using Generation Joy to the Committee and they accepted. I had to find other ways to raise the funds to get all of the supplies back to from Pullman. I also had to find ways to

purchase boxes to pack everything up in. I made a pitch to the ASWSU Senate Budget Committee to try to get money from their budget to pay some of these costs. Money could only be granted if I could show that it would be of a benefit to a large group of student

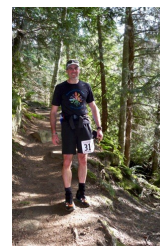


body. They granted me \$300 to complete the project.

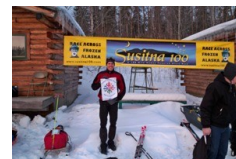
For the boxes, gas money, as well as man power to pack all of the boxes and to collect all of the items from the various houses, I enlisted the help of my fraternity, Pi Kappa Alpha. We bought boxes and went around to all of the chapter houses and collected the items they had raised. We brought everything back to our

fraternity where we sorted them, boxed them, and prepared them to be sent over to the charity

I am indeed a former pupil of Curtis. I believe I had him as a teacher in 2002 but I have kept in touch since then. I work for student government (ASWSU) on campus at WSU. A new committee was put together called Project GIVE this year. Our focus was to affect people on a community service/philanthropic level at not only the local level, but from a national and international level as well. I remember when Curtis started raising donation items for this cause well before he created the charity. I have known about it through my community for a while and thought about it once Project GIVE started brainstorming ways to get involved. It was one of the first points that came to mind when thinking of how we could influence people and help them on an international level. I was glad that everything worked out from that point as well as it did.



Greg continues his Herculean task around the world with Generation Joy close to his heart



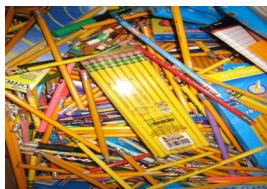
Thanks to the guys in Pi Kappa Alpha....@ WSU

"Pencils Fight Poverty: Give a pencil, Write a future" by Kevin Vu

Being a teenager doesn't mean you have to act like one. Unfortunately, many adults and teenagers still think otherwise, with adolescents shoving aside volunteerism for fun and excitement and the media centering on youth crime over youth activism. I know there are thousands of teens out there doing their best to change these notions even while facing resistance from peers, parents, and mentors who may think their efforts are a mere drop in the sea. Pencils Fight Poverty is one of these student-run efforts trying to make a positive difference in the world, however small it may be, by collecting pencils for the Generation Joy Foundation to assist South African schoolchildren.

Pencils Fight Poverty collected a grand total of 5600 pencils. Promotion involved setting up the

[website](#), hanging up posters around the school and collaborating with teachers and staff to create awareness for the upcoming collection.



Collection, began on December 7 with the start of the two-week Pencils Fight Poverty Collection. PFP held a "Boxing Day" at the end of the drives. Back in Beaver Lake I remember I left each day of boxing (for the Humanitarian Drive) with joy, simple and pure. Thus, I learned that true happiness does not come from having the latest iPod, the fastest mile time, or even a 4.0 GPA; true

happiness is what we receive when we give to others.

Morning announcements, print-out flyers, and a lunchtime collection table helped gain additional donations throughout the collection. I personally counted and reorganized the donations at my house delivered them to GenJoy President Curtis Betzler a week later, concluding the '09-'10 Pencils Fight Poverty Collection! I learned a good many things (sometimes the hard way) before, during, and after the collection, probably enough to fill up a small novel. Most of all, though, I learned that giving back to the human community may only start as a small trickle of goodness, reflected in PFP's motto: Give a pencil, write a future. But if you start early and keep at it, that trickle may swell to a flood.



One small pencil or a giant pencil for the fight against poverty.





Turn your knives and forks into a humanitarian action with your dining experience and

“Celebrated Chefs”

Generation Joy Fundraiser ~ Get your knives and forks ready for.....

What do Ruth’s Chris Steak House, Barking Frog, Pomegranate Bistro and Skycity at the Needle have in common.....



Imagine supporting Generation Joy Foundation all year long simply by dining out. Through Celebrated Chefs™, an innovative dining program, 5% of your dining bill can automatically be donated back to our cause! You lend valuable support by dining at the area’s best restaurants.

Here is how it works:

ENROLL

No cost to participate

Enroll any existing Visa, MasterCard or AMEX card(s) at our Celebrated Chefs table at our auction on May 1st.

Select any of the 70+ Celebrated Chefs restaurant when dining out

Pay your bill using any enrolled credit card

No special membership card to show

RESTAURANTS DONATE 5%

Contributions to our organization are automatic

Every visit counts

Help us easily raise thousands of dollars by doing what most of us already enjoy doing - dining out!

A beautiful cookbook featuring recipes from participating restaurants is a complimentary gift when you enroll in the program!



Generation Joy Contacts

Curtis Betzler

President

curtis@genjoy.org

Barb Steeves

Vice President

bsteeves@genjoy.org

Jenna Velozo

Secretary

jvelozo@genjoy.org

Joe Osborne

Strategist

josborne@genjoy.org

Ellen Betzler

Director of Programs

ebetzler@genjoy.org

Supporting Generation Joy

Generation Joy Foundation is a recognized 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. As you consider participating in giving campaigns through your work or community, we encourage you to designate all or part of your gift to Generation Joy and promote the cause of “kids helping kids”. Don't forget to maximize your giving by using your company's matching funds program. We thank you in advance for your generosity!

[Donate here](#) Or for more information go to www.generationjoy.org



Pierre and shoes ~ off to a second life in the rural parts of KwaZulu-Natal region.



Books, books and more books off to eager readers on the other side of the world. Thank you !



Soft toys, pencils and smiling faces. Another great visit from Generation Joy.