
KETTLEBY HERB FARMS

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Volume 12 Issue 2

www.kettlebyherbfarms.com

NOVEMBER 2008

To Give or Not to Give?that is the question.

Fall..... a time of harvest, a time to give thanks, a time to remember and a time of change. Change in weather, change in wardrobe, change in Politics!!!! And this year, a change in world economics.

The environment is in need of our attention along with the plight of people all over the world. These times are certainly challenging and this has stirred a desire in me to give something back. I am thankful for my lifestyle, my health, my children's independence and freedom to live their lives as they choose. I feel quite fortunate, I have a job/lifestyle that I love, family I can count on, great friends and I still have my sense of humour. Maybe we need to be shaken up once in awhile to appreciate what we do have and perhaps, consider what we have to give others.

So, I have spent this past while investigating charitable possibilities. This is not to say that I have not been charitable in the past, like most, I have donated to an assortment of charities in varied ways both personally and through Kettleby Herb Farms. ...United Way, Red Cross, Salvation Army, National Institute for the Blind, Community Garden Programs, etc., but in these cases I have not initiated the donation, I have only responded to a request. This is something different to me...No, I am not in a position to write a big cheque....I want to find something to which I can give a meaningful contribution in terms of time and commitment.

The search for my right match has lead me to an assortment of worthwhile causes-everything from Granting Wishes for Terminally Ill Children and Building Affordable Housing to Clean Water Programs in underdeveloped countries and organizations providing the basics to impoverished children.

Last weekend, with the radio tuned to CBC, I was diligently researching charities on the internet, and as coincidence would have it.....on came a segment exploring 'Our Relationship with Giving'. It examined the different perspectives of giving to global issues as opposed to local causes, as well as the different ways to be charitable, from

anonymous cash donations to corporate sponsorships and fundraising. One interviewed guest even related fundraising

to dating! The program delved into the cultural differences in the definition of charity and another 'expert' even ventured to discuss the actual percentage of income one should donate. I concluded from all this, that giving comes in a variety of ways, from money and goods to time and skills. It is truly a personal decision based on circumstance, resources, understanding, interests and beliefs.

Since I have really been missing my dogs, my first thought was an 'Animal Charity', but that actually sounded a bit more selfish than selfless, (still think I might donate some time to our local animal shelter)..... Ok, let me think about what I have to offer, we have already eliminated the cash thing, but I do believe we all have something to contribute.

I do have a business to run so I probably can't go traveling around the world picking up land mines or building schoolsas appealing as that traveling thing would be.... I do have a fairly flexible schedule so I can certainly offer a few hours a week..... I can drive, however, not real confident in bad weather or big city traffic.....my cooking skills are....well... challenged...I do have a fair amount of 'dating' experience so perhaps some fundraising would work....but gosh I hate that outright asking for money thing.....I am relatively skilled in computer etiquette and do have basic business skills....my herb knowledge is notable and I also have maturity on my side.....well, at least chronologically, and then there is that sense of humour which has been known to bring a smile to some.

Not sure what all this will add up to, but I am hoping to offer what I can, to a cause I can appreciate and in my own small way give something back.....

No time like the present to get started and just putting these thoughts on paper has given me a couple of ideas!

The first thing I am going to do is put together a number of our **sampler skin care gift packs** and drop them off at a local **Women's Shelter**....I will check with them to make sure I have enough for everyone.

As well, and this is where I am going to need your help, but I am going to make it very appealing

From now until Christmas our new **'Fab Four'** gift pack (the perfect gift for the all the 'cooks' on your list!) will be **specialy priced at \$35.00** (regularly \$38.00)-see already a deal! To entice you even more, I will also waive our standard **\$4.00** handling fee on all orders that include this gift packAnd finally to 'close' the deal... I will donate **\$5.00** from each sale of this gift pack to the **'Sleeping Children Around the World'** Charity. I had not heard of this organization before. It was founded in 1970 by Murray Dryden, the late father of hockey legends Ken and Dave. Because of a legacy left by Murray, which covers all the administrative costs, and volunteers who pay their own travelling expenses to personally distribute the **'BedKits'**, 100% of donated funds are used to buy these 'BedKits' for children in undeveloped or underdeveloped countries around the world. 2009 will see the 1 millionth 'BedKit' distributed. The contents of these kits vary depending on the country but they generally include a mattress, pillow, comforter, sheets, towel, school uniform, school supplies; mosquito net etc. Each kit costs \$35.00- I will top up any difference in the total collected to make up complete 'Bedkit' donations. An acknowledgement of your contribution will be included in each 'Fab Four' gift bag.

I will let you know how we did!

For more information on this organization please visit:

www.scaw.org

To give or not to give?.....

I think the only question is Where and How?



The 'FAB FOUR'
HERB INFUSED OILS WITH ATTITUDE!

KETTLEBY HERB FARMS

**READY TO GIVE WITH GIFT BAG, TISSUE & RIBBON.
CULINARY GUIDE AND PRODUCT INFORMATION
INCLUDED!**

So what's happening at Kettleby Herb Farms?

- Well, it looks like the 'summer that wasn't' is over and winter is just around the corner. Didn't really get a good chance to take advantage of my 'enviro' lawn that is supposed to be drought tolerant and slow growing- trust me, not a week has gone by that I haven't had to cut it...but it is nice to look out and see green instead of the burnt up brown from last summer. The gardens faired quite well though they did require quite a bit of thinning due to the lush foliage growth.
- **Big News!!!** As of August, we have a distributor for our Herb Oils....you won't even recognize them...jazzy new labels and all! They look so awesome that they were even showcased on **Canada AM and Breakfast TV** in October during a segment by the Grocery Federation of Canada regarding 'new trends' in food products, focused on 'buying local'. RossPartners is the company distributing them and Harry Ross, the owner, is working very hard to get them to a store near you! They are currently available at selected locations across Ontario with distribution in Quebec underway. Check out our web site: www.kettlebyherbfarms.com for the list of locations where they are currently available and I have also posted pictures to 'show off' their new look! If you can't find a store near you, please contact us with your location and if possible, a suitable store nearby and we will do our best to accommodate. Yes, I am doing a lot of bottling!!!
- Make sure to check out our **Web Site:** www.kettlebyherbfarms.com for a great selection of Gift Packs for the upcoming holiday season. The **'Fab Four'** is a collection of our ever popular four herb infused oils, same great oils with a jazzy new look, perfect for all the gourmets on your list! We have also put together some very reasonably priced sampler packs perfect for co-workers, teachers, stocking stuffers etc! We are always happy to put together a gift assortment of your choice and we can ship it directly for you too!
- As we enter our 15th year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your enthusiasm and continued support through all our ups and downs!

*Wishing you all a wonderful
holiday season!*

Sue