



## Newsletter

April/May/June 2006

### The Latest News from the Chairperson...

Hello Grobania!

Welcome to the second quarter of 2006!! It's hard to believe we're already halfway through the year! It won't be long (I'm keeping my fingers crossed) before we'll all be rushing to buy Josh's newest CD as well as preparing for his next tour. Oh, the anticipation continues to build!

The Penny Power Campaign for Project 46664 has exceeded its goal of \$4,666.40 thanks to all of you! Grobanites are truly AMAZING!!!!

GFA has been extremely busy this quarter with the Zamimpilo Blanket Drive immediately followed by the Point Hope Book Drive. It was a privilege for GFA to work this year on the Blanket Drive as we got to see and hold some of the most beautiful blankets made by Grobanites. What a thrill it was to open each box with the excitement of a child opening his presents on Christmas morning! Trisha, Harriet and I couldn't wait to open the next box to experience the beauty contained within! Thank you all for sharing your creativity and your passion for wanting to make a difference in the life of someone less fortunate. You'll be pleased to know the blankets have arrived safely at their final destination!

The Point Hope Book Drive is in full swing so if you haven't had an opportunity to donate books yet, there's still time! And, if you missed the Point Hope Radiothon by "Delilah", check out [www.thatjoshgrobanguy.com](http://www.thatjoshgrobanguy.com) for the media clip that explains what we've been challenged to do. Delilah was assured if a fundraiser for anything pertaining to Africa needed to be done, Grobanites were the ones to call on!

Watch your mail for special GFA announcements and/or visit us on our website [www.grobanitesforafrica.org](http://www.grobanitesforafrica.org). We have a lot going on and certainly want you to be a part of it!

Grobanite Hugs to Each of You!  
Janet Kennedy

### Thank you..... For Your Amazing Penny Power!



One year ago, thanks to an idea given to us by Audrey Catalfamo, our team started its "Penny Power" fundraiser for Nelson Mandela's "Project 46664", which works in the fight against HIV/AIDS in South Africa and for which Josh is an Official Ambassador.

Our goal was to raise \$4,666.40 before Josh's next concert tour begins. We are absolutely **THRILLED** to announce that: WE'VE REACHED OUR GOAL!!! YOU'VE RAISED OVER \$4,666.40 FOR PROJECT 46664! As promised, we will have a drawing before the first concert on Josh's next tour, where we'll offer a fantastic prize, and the proceeds from that drawing will be

added to what we've already raised through Penny Power and will be sent to the Mandela Foundation.

The GFA team would like to send a huge, huge, heartfelt THANK YOU to everyone who helped make Penny Power a success. To everyone who made monetary donations, contributed prizes for our drawings, promoted the fundraiser on the Josh Groban message boards, or offered prayers for its success, we appreciate you so much. Thanks to GFC for its support and to Audrey for the idea behind Penny Power.

To Josh who, through memories of his Grandfather, taught us how much luck our pennies can bring to others, when every single penny counts and every single penny brings us that much closer to a future without AIDS for millions of children in Africa --THANK YOU.

Though we've reached the end of this phase of the fundraiser, we're going to continue Penny Power, with donations going to the Josh Groban Foundation. These donations will be earmarked for future projects in Africa which will be chosen by Josh and his family. As these projects come up, GFA will be sure to bring you all the details and even more opportunities to make a difference for children who need our help so desperately.

## It's about HOPE....

THE Book Drive for DELILAH'S "POINT HOPE" SCHOOL IN GHANA is NOW in progress ... until July 15th!!

The Grobanites for Africa team has been working with World Vision and Point Hope for the past few months to finalize the plans for this project and we're excited to be part of the "Point Hope Book Drive"!!! Over 1100 books have been pledged to date by the awesome Grobanites (See picture!)!!! Many more books are still needed.

In March, many of us listened to Delilah's Radiothon to benefit her Point Hope program for those living in the Buduburam refugee camp in Ghana, West Africa. Thousands of children are living in the camp under deplorable conditions and, in addition to other projects which Delilah has undertaken to try and better the lives of these children, she wants to start a school for them. You may find out more about "Point Hope" here: [www.pointhope.org](http://www.pointhope.org)

Josh Groban was a special guest on Delilah's program that night, and spoke with such feeling about his concern for the children of Africa and the struggles they are facing. Grobanites responded generously by pledging over \$6800.00 to the Radiothon.

During the program, Delilah talked with Josh about her plans to start a school for the children in Buduburam and asked for help from his Grobanites, and Josh challenged his fans to help out. Listen to his words:

[http://web2.streamhoster.com/soopernay/Delilah\\_Radiothon2.mp3](http://web2.streamhoster.com/soopernay/Delilah_Radiothon2.mp3)



Point Hope plans to use an existing building at the camp for the school, which has room for 5 classrooms. What they need from us are books, so GFA is partnering with World Vision [www.worldvision.org](http://www.worldvision.org), who will transport the books to Africa for us. World Vision ships regularly to Ghana, and will designate our books for Buduburam and deliver them to Point Hope.



### HOW to HELP...!!!

- Visit the 'Fundraisers' - "What We Do" - 'Point Hope' section on this website - [www.grobantitesforafrica.org](http://www.grobantitesforafrica.org) ;
- Review Guidelines for books needed;
- Before packaging books, fill out form on [www.grobantitesforafrica.org](http://www.grobantitesforafrica.org) and print out a \*\*\*mailing label for your package and a packing slip to enclose with your books;
- Ship package between June 1 - July 15, 2006.

\*\*\* Using this mailing label on the outside of your package is VERY important, as this will enable World Vision to recognize that your books come from the Grobanite book drive and are meant for Buduburam. Filling out the form on this site will not only create your packing slip, but will also enable GFA and World Vision to track the Grobanite donations so that we can report our results to Delilah and to Josh and his family.

Everyone who donates books through the website will receive a special "Book Drive for Point Hope" button (as shown) for your Josh button collection.

Our thanks go to Grobanites for Charity and the Groban family for their support and to all of you who've expressed interest in helping the children of Buduburam. Education is valued so highly in Ghana. They know that education is the key to a better life for their children. All they want is the opportunity for them to learn, and you can help give them that. Let's make this another successful Grobanite project!!

The book drive began on June 1 and will continue through July 15, 2006.

Please visit the 'Point Hope' section at [www.grobantitesforafrica.org](http://www.grobantitesforafrica.org) to be part of this wonderful drive for Hope.

## And Introducing ... 'Our Isabel'

In January of this year, Grobanites for Africa (then, Grobanites for 46664) made the decision to sponsor a child through the organization, **Save the Children**. This was undertaken with our personal funds as our own special project. We were able to choose the child we would like to sponsor from pictures on the Save the Children website. Because of our interest in Africa, we knew we would pick a child from that continent.

In our search we came upon a beautiful little girl named Isabel. **Isabel** lives in Mozambique and is 13 years old. She lives with her father, mother and two sisters in a concrete home in a community within the district of Xai-Xai, which is about 210 kilometers north of Maputo, Mozambique's capital. Agriculture is the community's main source of income. The inhabitants raise maize, cassava, peanuts and vegetables. Fishing is another source of income and contributes to the diet.

Mozambique is among the poorest countries in the world with an average per capita income estimated at \$90. Child mortality rates are high at 134 per 1,000 live births and 48 percent of children under three years old are chronically malnourished. Maternal mortality rates are among the highest in the world. About one in four people in rural areas have access to piped water or a latrine. Life expectancy stands at 42 years and over 60% of the population remains illiterate.

Isabel presently attends primary school and is described by her family as being bright. The activity in which Isabel participates most is helping with household chores. We hope that our sponsorship will enable her to continue to attend school and have the things she needs for survival and a little extra to make her life a bit brighter. We have written to her and Harriet sent her some small bright and colorful birthday gifts along with a picture of her family and of Josh, of course. Included is a wonderful picture she drew just for us.



We have all fallen in love with Isabel already and feel blessed to have her as our sponsor child. The cost of sponsoring a child through **Save the Children** is only \$28 a month and they can be contacted at [www.savethechildren.org](http://www.savethechildren.org). Please consider sponsoring a child yourself. There are so many children in need just waiting to hear from you. --- Thank you to Trisha Miller for contributing this update.

## Update: Zamimpilo Orphanage 'Under Cover' Blanket Drive 2006

Grobanites for Africa was delighted to be able to lend a helping hand to the Zamimpilo Orphanage 'Under Cover' Blanket Drive for 2006 by assisting with the packing of over 140 gorgeous and lovingly-made Grobie blankets. The GFA Team would like to extend its special thanks to Harold & Janet Kennedy, Trisha Miller and Harriet Clark for their work on behalf of the GFA team. Harriet was kind enough to provide an account of that special 'packing' weekend.....

### Zam Blanket Packing Day, April 8, 2005



"Trisha drove the two of us to the lovely new home of our friend and Grobanites for Africa Chairperson, Janet (pictured) on Saturday morning, April 8th. We arrived in time for a personal tour of Janet's gorgeous home and a delicious lunch. Our task for the day was to unpack all the beautiful blankets and quilts lovingly made by Grobanite hands, and then bundle them with ribbons and labels that told the recipient who made each blanket, and where the donor lives. **The love with which each blanket or quilt was made was so obvious.** We felt **surrounded by love** as we worked. We 'oohed and aahed' over each wonderful creation, took photos of many of them, and then the blankets were re-packed in plastic bags in standard sized boxes—27 of them. Trisha and Janet grew quite adept at pressing

the blankets down so that all the air was squeezed out of them. That way we could maximize the number we could ship in each box. Boxes were taped shut and numbered. In the meantime, I played secretary, and kept track of whose blanket was sent in which numbered box. Janet's very patient husband, Harold, was a big help in getting the original packing materials moved out of our work area (Janet's dining room), and not complaining when his supper was very, very late! Finally the last box was filled, and Trisha and I headed home at 9:30 P.M."

-- Harriet Clark aka HarrietforJosh

For more information about Zamimpilo or to find out how you may help, please visit: <http://www.grobanitesforcharity.org/zamimpilokids/undercover06/index.html>.