



Wine & Silent Auction Newsletter

Issue 1, Feb 18, 2010

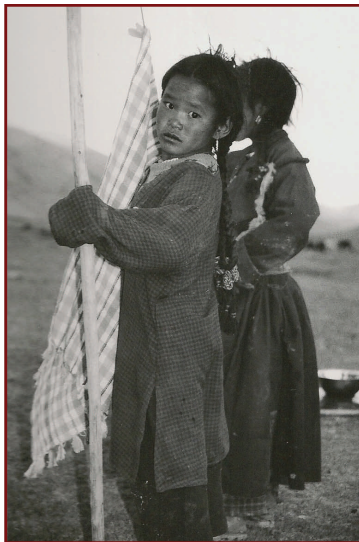
VDF first Wine & Silent Auction is coming up in May 2010. Thanks to the efforts of donors and volunteers, in 2009 we had provided basic necessities like bedding, blankets, clothing, food, shoes and socks for 63 boys in orphanage/school "Nga Nyur Shed Dup Choe Ling" at Eastern Tibet. This year we want to extend the same opportunity to the local orphan girls.



With your help, our plan will be to build a classroom and a dormitory for fifteen (15) orphan girls. Our goal is to raise \$10,000 (USD). Please come support us this expansion effort to create a brighter future for these orphan girls.

These girls need your help!

Save The Date	May 22, 2010
Preview 6:30 pm, Auction 7 pm	
Location: Lake Forest Park Civic Club	



Nomad's Life on the Plateau

It's early morning in the Himalayas and my fellow trekkers and I were awakened by the sounds of hundreds of sheep and goats milling around our tents. Through the rays of light peeking over the mountain rim, I saw several Tibetan families had settled down next to us to graze their herds.

My friends and I reluctantly crawled out of our bright orange nylon tents and were met by curious stares from Tibetan children. They had dreadlocked hair and red cheeks due to overexposure to the harsh sun; they seemed eager to see foreigners camping on the land they shared with their animals.

The children and their families are pastoral nomads. During the spring and summer months they are constantly on the move with their sheep, goats and yaks through the remote highlands. And as winter approaches, they move down into the lower valleys.

The majority of Tibetans are nomadic. Herding families do not make very much money and survive only on a few hundred dollars a year. Children help out by doing daily chores such as herding, milking and dairy process-

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ing, housework, preparing yak dung (used as fuel), churning butter, fetching water and preparing meals.

Because of the wandering lifestyle no-mads lead, children are often denied any life choices. One family we had tea with said that they wished to send their eldest son to school so that he could have a better future. It was apparent that they would have made any sacrifice in order to make this happen, but they just didn't have the means.

I have often thought about the Tibetan families I have met during my travels. This is why I am dedicated along with other members of VDF to bring hope and education to children living in rural communities in Tibet.

By,
Michelle Wentzel
VDF Marketing Volunteer

We need your Help with Auction Gift Donation

Often the most sought after items are things that **only you** can provide because of a special talent or relationship. Examples of these might include (but are not limited to):

- Fun:**
- Your favorite outings and exploration;
 - Sailing around the Puget Sound;
 - A guided Kayak Tour;
 - Tea with a local celebrity.

- Travel:**
- Weekly Donation of a Vacation Homes in Puget Sound;
 - Victoria BC Ski Mountain Resort;
 - Donation of Frequent Flyer Miles;
 - Donations of Hotel, Spas, or other Getaway Packages.

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Why Attend the Fundraiser?

- Know that you are making a difference in improving the life of the girls.
- Learn about Tibet culture, people and land
- Enjoy good food, great wine and company.
- Shop for good bargains.
- Feel good about helping others.



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Dinners/ Food:

- Catered Dinner Parties;
- Gourmet Chocolate Basket;
- Custom-Baked Cakes;
- Cooking Lessons.

Restaurants:

Gift Certificates to anything from Pizza to Five-Star Restaurants!

Lessons/Crafts:

- Portrait (Family or Individual);
- Picture Framing;
- Art Lessons;
- Floral Arrangements Lessons;
- Music Lessons;
- One-on-One Sport Coaching.

Professional Services:

- Financial Services (Tax Returns Assistance to Investments);
- Home Architectural, Landscape/Design, or Remodeling Assistance;
- Weekly or Monthly Maid Services;
- Medical or Legal Assistance;
- Body Massage Gift Certificates;
- Computer Servicing or Repair
- Beauty Treatments

Sports/Cultural Event Tickets:

Donations of one or more Season Tickets to Cultural Performances or Sporting Events.

Fantasy/Luxury Items:

- Use of a Private Boat;
- Celebrity-Related Items;
- Backstage Passes;
- Casting as a movie extra;
- Private Tours of Zoos, Museums, Training Camp Packages.

Please email Wendy (wwong@vdfus.org) or Michelle (mwentzel@vdfus.org) if you like to donate gifts, like us to solicit on your behalf or any for auction related questions. Otherwise, we hope to see you at the Auction!



Lake Forest Park Civic Club overlooking Lake Washington