

NORTH OKANAGAN VALLEY GLEANERS SOCIETY

(mailing: 9728 Springfield Road, Coldstream, B.C. V1B 3E5)

www.novgleaners.org

NEWSLETTER

JULY, 2010

July 7, 2010 was the date of 2nd reading at our North Okanagan Regional District. That was approved and now on to a public meeting to be held on August 4 at the meeting room of NORD. It would be great to have a good show of Gleaners supporters at that meeting. Then on to 3rd and 4th readings which we anticipate completed by early fall.

While we wait for our final go ahead from the Regional District we have been busy up at the Gleaners building doing test runs. A successful run of apples was done in May and were taken by a family on a mission trip to an orphanage in Zimbabwe. The report back to us was that these little ones were excited to taste apple – they had never tasted apples before. Below are a few pictures of the children enjoying Okanagan apples.



We were recently donated several tons of potatoes which have kept us busy. Various test runs are being done to make the dryer efficient and keep the cost to heat at a minimum. We are improving with every run. The last run had costs down to 1.5 cents per serving. In our 4 test runs we have made over 60,000 servings. One of our regular volunteers, Martha Bouma, has submitted her observations which we share with you:

Hello Fellow Gleaners

If you have been to the site lately, you know what is happening there. We have a lot of potatoes, donated by a generous farmer in Armstrong. We have been cleaning, cutting off blemishes, washing, chopping them in our new machine, putting them on trays, they are then wheeled into the dryer and there they sit for approx. 20 hours.

These are surplus potatoes that were not sold and now go to feed hungry children! No wonder we all enjoy going to work at the Gleaners and put our different abilities to use. God has truly blessed us with abundance here in Canada. Everyone is put to work in whatever capacity they are able. If you don't know anyone there, you will make friends in short order.

So far we have filled several containers with medical equipment, the last two were shipped to Haiti through the Christian Blind Mission. One member collects hospital beds and other medical equipment that our system is ready to discard, but is much appreciated in third world countries. We have also had work parties folding clean but obsolete hospital gowns that are still in good condition, to go on these shipments.

The bathrooms and lunchroom are taking shape. A lot of volunteer labour goes on, but the need for operating money is an ongoing need. The Gleaners is not a business that generates money. Our product is donated to needy areas in the world. We feel this is what God wants us to do.

Why not drop in on a 'workday' and catch the vision? Submitted by: Martha Bouma (Gleaners Volunteer)

Thank you again to all you volunteers who have come and given of your time and to those who have given so freely of their various skills. You are much appreciated and the Gleaners couldn't carry on without you. On the days we are working we usually send out a request for volunteers by e-mail. For those of you not on e-mail, and if you would like to come volunteer, please feel free to contact Eileen Nogue at 250-545-1672 for information on work days.

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