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 Give2TheTroops, Inc. Newsletter (April 2005 Issue)  
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In this issue

- MEET TRUDY BROWN, COLORADO BRANCH DIRECTOR!!
- MEET SHELLEY PARSELL, MARKETING DIRECTOR!
- Interested in joining our BOARD of Directors?
- THANK YOU DONORS!!
- "What does GIVE2THETROOPS send to our troops?"
- VOLUNTEERS ARE AMAZING!
- WELCOME HOME TROOPS!
- MANY MORE TROOPS STILL NEED YOU!
- Want to Help the Iraqi Children?
- MANY WAYS YOU CAN HELP...
- Even Active Duty Troops are Helping!
- Wristbands & Magnets

Dear Andi,

Thank you for supporting our troops and our Mission of **GIVING BACK TO THOSE WHO GIVE ALL!** I hope you enjoy this monthly newsletter. Please feel free to forward it to your family and friends, I am happy to include any ideas or news you have - just send me an email!

MEET TRUDY BROWN, COLORADO BRANCH DIRECTOR!!
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**We have a new BRANCH and a new DIRECTOR!!** Please welcome our newest Branch Director, **Trudy Brown**. Trudy has been actively involved with Give2thetroops, Inc. for several months, spreading the word in Colorado about our Mission. All her hard efforts paid off! She has just opened our COLORADO BRANCH of Give2thetroops, Inc.!

Trudy is the mother of a deployed U.S. Marine, Tyler, and has volunteered for 10 years at her local VFW post. She has also volunteered with Young Marines Youth Organization for 4 years and has been helping numerous support the troop organizations for over 3 years.

We will be keeping her VERY BUSY while her son is away and are grateful to have her on board...

Trudy's full bio is on our Website's Board of Directors page. If you would like to reach Trudy,

her email is: [Trudy@Give2thetroops.org](mailto:Trudy@Give2thetroops.org)

## MEET SHELLEY PARSELL, MARKETING DIRECTOR!

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For over a year, **Shelley Parsell** has been volunteering for GIVE2THETROOPS "behind the scenes." She has created our corporate flyers, brochures, and signs in her "spare time". During various holidays, Shelley and her friends donated creative holiday gift bags filled with candy and goodies for hundreds of our deployed troops.

After a year of begging her to come on board, we are pleased to finally welcome her to our team!

If you need advice on ideas for GIVE2THETROOPS flyers or marketing needs, Shelley is the one to contact. She works full-time as a graphic artist and also does freelance work on the side. Incredibly, she still finds time to help GIVE2THETROOPS. If you need her advice on any GIVE2THETROOPS flyers, she can be reached at [Shelley@Give2thetroops.org](mailto:Shelley@Give2thetroops.org)

Please read Shelley's background in her bio on our Website's Board of Directors page.

## Interested in joining our BOARD of Directors?

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**Pictured above are just a few of our volunteers who help pack care packages...**

Our **GIVE2THETROOPS** "family" keeps growing. People start out as volunteers, packing boxes for the troops or holding donations drives. Pretty soon they become "hooked" and want to do more for our troops.

**Interested in contributing your special skills or talents?  
Want to start a new Branch of Give2thetroops?  
[EMAIL US NOW!](#)**

We can send you our detailed Guidelines and By-Laws.

Although Branch Directors must be heavily committed, there are openings for Assistant Directors in all our branches.

We always need volunteers with skills in accounting, administration, marketing, etc. We look for "Volunteer Coordinators" to train other volunteers in the care package assembly. We have many activities for people in wheelchairs, younger children, senior citizens, etc. Just ask and we will get you involved. This organization is truly run by our volunteers.

## THANK YOU DONORS!!

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Pictured above is **Cub Scout Pack 157 of Midland Park, New Jersey** who donated hundreds of items for the troops.

We have so many donors to thank this month!

Special thanks to Greeting Card Companies **Graphic Alliance**, **Magic Moments Greeting Cards** and **Love Greeting Cards** for donating over 1,300 pounds of **MOTHERS DAY CARDS** for our troops! Now the troops can send their love to their mothers, wives and grandmothers on this important occasion! (Now they have NO EXCUSES!!!)

THANK YOU to this month's organizations, institutions and businesses for your successful Donations Drives & Fundraisers:

- **1ST BAPTIST CHURCH** in Ayden, North Carolina
- **AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY #143** in Fairifeld, CT
- **BROWNIE TROOP 1007** of Saugatuck Elementary School in Westport, CT
- **CUB SCOUT PACK 95** of Stratfield Elementary School in Fairfield, CT
- **FAITH ASSEMBLY OF GOD** in Greenville, North Carolina
- **FAMILY of JENNIFER BARRETT** in Trumbull, CT
- **GIRL SCOUT TROOP 95** of Stamford, CT and Rye, New York
- **GREELEY COLLEGE** in Stony Brook, New York
- **GREENBERG ELEMENTARY SCHOOL** in Fresno, California
- **GYMNASTICS & MORE** in Woburn, Massachusetts
- **HEAVENLY WOOD WORKS** in Henderson, Nevada
- **HELEN STREET ELEMENTARY SCHOOL** in Hamden, CT
- **MARIST HIGH SCHOOL** in Chicago, Illinois
- **MASTERCARD CORPORATION** in Purchase, New York
- **MAUREEN SMITH** of MB DESIGNS JEWELRY in Bethel, CT
- **NEIL A. WEINRIB & ASSOCIATES** in New York City, New York

- **NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL** in St. Louis, Missouri
- **OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN WOMEN GROUP** in Fairfield, CT
- **PATRIOT POINT** in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania
- **PHARMACEUTICAL FORMULATIONS, INC.** in Edison, New Jersey
- **RECREATION FARM SOCIETY INC** in Union, New Jersey
- **REPUBLICAN TOWN COMMITTEE** in Trumbull, CT
- **SEVERNA PARK HIGH SCHOOL** in Severna Park, Maryland
- **SOUTH SCHOOL** in New Canaan, CT
- **ST. PETER'S SCHOOL** in Greenville, North Carolina
- **ST. ROSE CATHOLIC SCHOOL** in Longview, Washington
- **SUPPORT OUR SOLDIERS** run by a 12-year-old boy in Chicago, Illinois
- **TENDERLY TAECHING DAYCARE** in Ayden, North Carolina
- **UNIVERSITY of BUFFALO** in Amherst, New York
- **UNIVERSITY of NEW HAMPSHIRE** in Durham, New Hampshire

ALSO -->Thank you **Mohegan Sun Casino**, **Cadillac Ranch Casino**, and **Foxwoods Casino** for donating cases of poker chips, playing cards, and dice to help our troops' MWR (Morale Welfare and Recreation) Centers!

Many troops write about **YOU** and **YOUR** donations in their letters. Please go to our website and read their letters. We add new letters as they come in.

[Read letters from our troops...](#)

"What does GIVE2THETROOPS send to our troops?"

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(Pictured above is GIVE2THETROOPS Washington Branch Director, Pete Cassell, and his daughter, Becky, at one of their donations drives)

The Washington branch has sent **over 1,000 pounds** of donations to our deployed troops! The NC, CA, FL, AZ, and CO branches are busy, too, though few of us can keep up with Pete's amazing speed!

We receive many special requests from our troops and we accommodate them whenever possible. Every box we send is CUSTOMIZED for the troops who sign up. We send them their requests along with an assortment of other goodies and we always include letters!

#### **OUR "HOTTEST" ITEMS REQUESTED BY TROOPS THIS MONTH ARE:**

- **NEW XBOX VIDEO GAME SYSTEMS & GAMES**
- **NEW PLAYSTATION2 VIDEO GAME SYSTEMS & GAMES**
- **MOVIE DVD'S**
- **MUSIC CD's**
- **SNACK FOODS!**
- **WHITE COTTON SOCKS!**
- **GATORADE, CRYSTAL LIGHT and other powdered drink mixes**
- **AT&T Long Distance Pre-Paid Phone Cards**
- **Twin Bed sheets & Pillow cases**

[See entire list of ITEMS REQUESTED by the troops](#)

## VOLUNTEERS ARE AMAZING!

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(Pictured above is Volunteer **Mona Nolden** in Longview, Washington)

Thank you to all our volunteers who do so much for the troops. You don't realize how much we appreciate what you do! There are so many different kinds of volunteers we have and everything you all do is very much appreciated by our organization and more importantly, by our deployed troops.

THANK YOU TO OUR WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS WHO: go shopping for special items, spend 2-4 hours a week packing boxes for the troops, man our fundraising booths, write letters to the troops, provide us with financial donations to help us continue our Mission, spread the word about GIVE2THETROOPS, help conduct donations drives, do fundraisers on our behalf, etc. etc. **We love you all!**

WELCOME HOME TROOPS!



Please help us WELCOME HOME: SPC Bobby Carroll (US ARMY; pictured above), CAPT Nora Merritt (US ARMY), LCPL Jonathan Munoz (USMC), LCPL Joshua Jolly (USMC), LCPL Daniel M. White (USMC) and LCPL Nick Smeragulio (USMC)!

We know your families are so happy to have you back home! Thank you for sharing your welcome home party photos with us!

MANY MORE TROOPS STILL NEED YOU!





Pictured above are members of **Army A Co 411 CA BN, FOB Warhorse** in Iraq who have received care packages from us.

We enjoy hearing from the troops and getting to know them on a personal level. We have over 1,000 troops signed up with us who still need our support. Please continue to help us with our Mission of giving back to those who give all! The troops really appreciate it!

Want to Help the Iraqi Children?





Pictured above is **Major Alvin D. Schwapp (US ARMY)** who enjoys interacting with and helping the Iraqi people.

If you would like to donate items to the children, we have a few military contacts who work directly with Iraqi children and would be happy to distribute your gifts.

MANY WAYS YOU CAN HELP...

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Above, **Minwax and Thompson's Waterseal of the Sherwin-Williams Wood Care Division (in New Jersey)** sends their love to the troops by holding a donations drive for GIVE2THETROOPS!

**We always need help with the following:**

- Collecting donations or funds
- Packing & mailing care packages
- Bringing boxes to the dump
- Filling out postal customs forms
- Spreading the word about GIVE2THETROOPS...

**ITEMS YOU CAN EASILY DONATE:**

- Plain white paper
- DELL color & black ink for Dell Printer A920
- Zip-loc, *FREEZER* bags (gallon-size)
- Packing tape - clear and brown
- Large black trash bags
- Empty ink jet cartridges: For each empty cartridge sent, Recycle for America gives \$2.00 to GIVE2THETROOPS.

**LOOK AT OUR ONLINE CALENDAR TO VOLUNTEER FOR EVENTS!**

[GIVE2THETROOPS CALENDAR](#)

## Even Active Duty Troops are Helping!

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There is always SOMETHING YOU CAN DO TO HELP THE TROOPS and help our Mission!

Above is **TSGT Jamie Gardner** (U.S. Air Force), who has written to us saying he wants to help GIVE2THETROOPS when he returns home to North Carolina from duty! Thank you Jamie!

Wristbands & Magnets

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We are now **GIVING AWAY**

"Support Our Troops" nylon wristbands and car magnets to thank our donors.

### **Suggested Donation Amounts:**

- **Wristbands - For donations of \$15.00 or more**
- **Large or Small Magnets - \$20.00 or more**

All magnets & wristbands are MADE IN THE USA and 100% of your donations for these gifts will go to the troops. Please email me if you would like to receive one of these gifts when you make a donation to GIVE2THETROOPS. We do not always have them in stock.

**Thank you ALL for everything you do to support our troops and their families.**

**Your support means more than you will ever know...**

**God Bless you all.**

**Love,**  
***Andi Grant and the Board of Directors***

**Please visit our sister charities:**

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- our TX Sister Charity, OPERATION LETTERS FROM HOME
  - Our VA Sister Charity, OPERATION FIRST RESPONSE (Wounded Troops)
  - our GA Sister Charity, IRAQI BASEBALL
  - our FL Sister charity, USA TROOP CARE

**Contact Information**

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email: info@give2thetroops.org
phone: 888.876.6775 (888.TROOPS.5)
web: <http://www.give2thetroops.org>

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[Forward email](#)

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