Celebrate What's Right with the World!

by Dewitt Jones and The Facebook Celebrate Tribe
I N T R O D U C T I O N

Celebrating What's Right with the World. It's a concept that has changed my life. For over twenty years, as a photographer for National Geographic, this was the vision I was charged with capturing. Yes, I photographed some things that were tragic and heart wrenching but my overall job was to find the very best in every person and situation and bring it to light in an image. That vision not only became the way I shoot, but the way I see. And what I see on our little planet is a lot more good than evil; a lot more beauty than ugliness.

This is not the prevailing view, however. Every day we seem bombarded with all that's wrong with society. After a while, we begin to believe it. It takes discipline to buck the tide and see what's right in our lives and the lives of others. Really, discipline? Yes, really. The discipline of celebration.

So three years ago, I committed to post a daily Facebook photo of my celebrations. I had no idea how hard or easy it would be, I just knew I had to do it if I was going to keep alive the vision that had been so important to me over the years. Everyday I would post a photo and some words describing why this thing or that event was a worthy of celebration.

And something amazing happened.

People wrote saying they not only enjoyed my photos and my words but that my posts were giving them permission to celebrate as well. That the simple discipline of going through a day continually asking, “What's here to celebrate?” really did change their attitude toward life.
Based on that feedback, I started the Celebrate What’s Right Facebook page (www.facebook.com/celebratewhatsright) where others could post their photos and words of celebration.

In the last year and a half, more than 7,000 people have ‘liked’ the site and more than 10,000 photographs have been posted on it. Amazing! Thousands of uplifting visual stories of joy and beauty, happiness and love.

For all of us who have been involved in the site, we see how much it has changed us. Not so much in an intellectual way, but rather in a deep and abiding emotional way. By seeing life as a celebration, by focusing on all we have to be thankful for, we find ourselves filling with gratitude. First, perhaps, for the big things in life. Now, more and more, for everything. Every cloud, every tree, every person, every opportunity, every breath.

Living life to the fullest is so much easier through the lens of celebration. When we really allow ourselves to feel the miracle of each day, — all that’s right with it — then the parts of the day that don’t work shrink from struggle to mere inconvenience. We’re full — full to overflowing — with all that we’ve been given.

It’s all a gift.

So is this book. It’s a compilation of some of our favorite posts from the site. It was next to impossible to choose what images and words to leave out. If we’d put in everything we wanted, the book would have been far longer than War and Peace! Hopefully, this will be but the first of many volumes of celebrations.

So come and enjoy this wonderful collection of personal celebrations, of joyous noticings, of quiet visual prayers. Fill with gratitude as you turn each page.

Celebrate What’s Right with the World!

-- Dewitt Jones
The Celebrate Facebook Tribe

(www.facebook.com/celebratewhatsright)

This is the site that all of the images in this book came from. Please come visit and enjoy the hundreds of celebrations posted here. Then post your own and join the Tribe!

The Celebrate Webpage

(www.celebratewhatsright.com)

This is the webpage that gave rise to the Celebrate Facebook Tribe. It's full of images, videos, blogs, and quotes that can help make every day a celebration. We invite you to partake in every part of it. Enjoy!
Every day
is full of a thousand celebrations!
Today, I celebrate those who aren’t afraid to be themselves.

- John Derby
Out one night for an ocean sunset. As the sky turned to fire and everything else followed suit, I thought my heart was going to burst. Three years earlier, I’d been in a horrible accident that I shouldn’t have survived. Every day since, I’ve been consumed with moments of “Thank You.” Before the colors disappeared, my friend said, “Go stand on the rock; I’ll take your picture.” It was the time I’d been waiting for, to stand before God and all His glory. No noise, no clutter, no distractions. Just that absolute moment, to gather it all in, and give it all back ... and say, “Thank You.”

- Nan Madruga
This photo is a celebration of our son in Afghanistan and his mom (my wife)! She made about 12 dozen chocolate chip cookies and sent them off for him to share with his fellow Marines. Jeff is a Staff Sergeant on his second Afghanistan deployment. To see him hold up the very cookies I watched my wife bake brings tears to my eyes. Thank you, Lord for providing safety to our son, his Marines and the gift of love in the form of chocolate chip cookies!

- Jim Stiles
Celebrating the Beauty of Nature.

- Tobias Schuermann
This is my 3 year-old daughter, Nora. She planted, tended, and helped pick this cucumber. She then washed it in her wading pool and promptly ate it like an ear of corn.

- Scott Fairbairn
Today, I celebrate the absurd! I’m standing in front of the frozen food case at the grocery store and feel a scowl overtaking my face. THEY DON’T HAVE MY PIZZA! Grrrrr ... I start counting all the varieties in the case, 25, 26 ... 42 ... you have got to be kidding me! By now, I’m laughing so hard I can hardly see. Yep, 96 varieties to choose from and I still don’t see the one I want! That’s okay though because there are lots of lessons to be had in this situation and gratitude for being able to see “the divine in the absurd.”

- Katrina Pruett
It was 11 degrees when I woke before sunrise. Seeing a clear sky and no wind, I decided to go out and build a campfire. Hands got kind of cold shoveling snow out of the fire pit, but soon there was a cheery blaze, warming me head to toe. I celebrate the beauty and aliveness of fire and its welcome warmth on a chilly morning. I also celebrate a wonderful daughter who built the fire pit for me from native stone.

- Carol Carnicom
Sharing an Alaskan backpack adventure with a grandson is indeed a celebration.

- Wayne Thompson
“The longer I live, the more my mind dwells upon the beauty and wonder of the world ... I have loved the feel of the grass under my feet and the sound of the running streams by my side. ... I am in love with this world. ... I have climbed its mountains, roamed its forests, sailed its waters, crossed its deserts, felt the sting of its frosts, the oppression of its heats, the drench of its rains, the fury of its winds, and always have beauty and joy waited upon my goings and comings.” - John Burroughs.

- Doris O’Keefe
“Little League baseball is a very good thing because it keeps the parents off the streets.” — Yogi Berra

- Mark A. Carruthers
The serenity of still water.

- Eric Raymond
“I know that list is in here somewhere. What was that thing I wanted to remember? Pleasure ... nope, possibility ... nope! God, I wish I had my glasses. Maybe I scribbled it on a scrap of paper in the bottom of the bag. Yah, yah, there it is ... gratitude! Purrrrrrrrrr.”

- Cathy Drew
Celebrate your table, the keeper of memories.

- Amy Howry Yamamura
Carpeted in green, Often mowed but rarely seen.

Today, I overheard a conversation between a child and his parents. They had handed him their smart phone, and he was in heaven — running from spot to spot taking pictures with wild abandon. In a voice brimming with wonder, he announced that he was “watching the grass grow!” Following his lead, I decided to do the same.

-Katrina Pruett
I celebrate the patience of friends who listen to the stories of fishermen and other liars, and who have the courage to question their veracity, “You Gotta Be Kidding Me!”

- John Derby
A special moment I share with you! Celebrating what’s right with the world.

- Judy Cronin
Today, I celebrate patriotism! Every day is a photo opportunity, and looking for the sunshine through the rain is always an option!

- Mark A. Carruthers
I fell in love with her, the Dancer, a couple of years ago. This past week, against all odds, I found her again. There she was, celebrating her dance with the moon. It was quite a celebration.

- Theresa Souers
Celebrating “catnaps” — a very short, light nap that refreshes you enough to face the rest of the day!

This sweet dog was taking her “power nap” right outside her boy’s very noisy Youth Baseball game!! Oh, how I admire those who have mastered the art of napping!

- Barbara Bozzo
The silence after the storm ...

- John Storjohann
A lone fisherman, standing in the predawn mist of a cold, trout stream, knows he can never explain the peace and serenity to someone who hasn’t been there. At times like this, he can feel the connection to every fisherman who has ever been and ever will be.

- Jon Rank
A street vendor in impoverished La Buffadora, Mexico works long hours making Churros for tourists. I celebrate those who work hard to provide for their families.

- John Derby
There are times when one must have the whole thing. Then again, there are times when one perfect part is everything.

- Jim McDade
Let’s CELEBRATE what we CAN do. Bless you, Joshua!

- Kathy Elmore
A Bird’s Eye View ... reminds me to honor different viewpoints.

- Denise Jensen
I love this creative painter’s perfect canvas. An old, abandoned silo is an ideal place to paint a celebration of sunflowers.

- Wayne Thompson
Sometimes the little things are those that bring the most joy to our lives!!

- Carlos Rojas
Today, I celebrate windshield wipers for helping me see what’s right in front of me!

- Connie Post
In celebration of the deepest truth that the present moment is the moment of fullest joy and is the heart of life itself — which is always and only in the “Now.”

- Ed Sancious
As I paddle through nature in my sea kayak, I notice that the American White Pelicans are always hanging out together, as they must intrinsically know what we know: that “Celebrating life is always better with a friend.”

- Jim Duckworth
Celebrating my daughter’s playfulness as she stepped into and complemented this waterfall that I was framing up.

- Glenn Smith
This day I celebrate order on the molecular level.

- Linda Scates
“Being caught with egg on my face” used to make me crawl under a cover and hide, as I was too embarrassed and detested being the “center of attention” — especially if it made me look foolish! As I matured and recognized how a good sense of humor made my life more liberating, I found a whole new respect for laughter. Today, I celebrate an important part of human survival — a sense of humor!

- Barbara Bozzo
Today, I celebrate my birth!
I celebrate my parents for all their love and patience.
I celebrate the birth of my daughters and grandchildren.
I celebrate the earth upon which I stand.
I celebrate having the best family and friends anyone can ask for.
I celebrate the Lily Plant my husband gave me and for spoiling me today.

I ask everyone to Celebrate What’s Right with the World!

- Janet Aguila Krause
Celebrating those moments when nature just parades in front of you.

- Scott Bolden
I caught him in the act tonight of making frog tracks on my truck.

- James Edwards Vis
Celebrating Faith. My grandson, Hunter Austin, takes a literal leap of faith at the swimming hole. Sometimes, you just have to leap.

- Fred Hornshuh III
As a photographer, I celebrate what I like to call “happy accidents.” Although, I should tell people I meant for them to happen. Here is an example. While shooting a sunset, I noticed a horse and buggy coming. I quickly reframed the shot to include it. After I got home, I opened the image; and to my delight, I noticed the reflection of the sunset on the buggy. In my opinion, that’s what makes this shot.

- Brian Kowalchuk
drip drip drip
murmurings, whisperings,
lullaby of the fog
shhhhh
who would disturb the quiet?

- Deane Dozier
“My Babydolls ~ Sweet Dreams.” Nothing says loving like a brand new baby to love, and this is the last one I was blessed with. Celebrate every day with the Grands!

- Kathy Elmore
We drove like crazy people to get to the ferry terminal in hopes of catching the 8:25 boat to San Juan Island but missed getting on board by one car. Next ferry? Two hours! Instead of lamenting our affair, I was reminded by this facebook page to celebrate! So, I broke out my gear and set up to shoot Mount Baker in total darkness! I ended up celebrating missing the ferry as a result. Mount Baker as seen from Anacortes, Washington.

- Jim Stiles
“To make a prairie it takes a clover and one bee,
One clover, and a bee.
And revery.
The revery alone will do,
If bees are few.” - Emily Dickinson

I used to be terribly afraid of bees. Don’t know why. Long forgotten childhood anxiety, I guess. Now, I celebrate their simple life, dancing from flower to flower, creating beauty and wonder every step of the way. We must do all we can to protect them.

- John Franz
Standing silently at the edge of forever.
Watching the Sun plummet toward the horizon.
Shivering in the cold breeze but not caring.
Feeling detached from the past and the future.
Reveling in the intensity of this moment.
A timeless show that is always different and always the same.
Knowing I will go on with the rest of my life in a few minutes.
But, for now, just living in the Celebration.

- John Hummel
Celebrating happiness and freedom!

- Peggy Wilkie
In celebration of connections and interconnectedness in/of life.

- Ed Sancious
Celebrating fond memories of high school days, cruising to Bob’s Drive-In in Pasadena, CA in my car, (same color as this one) and burgers and fries and a coke. It was just a “Cheeseburger in Paradise,” to quote Jimmy Buffett.

- John Hummel
Sometimes we find ourselves committed to a decision or course in life, but all around us are discouraging messages, circumstances, and obstacles. We resolve to stand firm. We say that nothing shall move us. You can’t knock me off my place in this world.

I celebrate resolve and commitment, as I watch this seagull watch wave after wave crash around his perch. I don’t think he even blinked. I admire him. I resolve to be like him in the important things in life — my faith, my marriage, my family!

- David Pickles
I celebrate new beginnings. ... Coming from a friend’s afternoon retirement party, I had just enough time for a quick visit to my favorite, local park, Great Meadows Wildlife Refuge in Concord, MA, at dusk. It was cloudless so no dramatic sunset, but when I turned to leave, the crescent Moon and Venus happily beamed at me above the darkening horizon, just out of reach of the towering marsh grasses. Reminding me not to mourn endings but celebrate the brilliance that rises out of darkness with each new Moon and each new beginning in life.

- Sylvia J. Zarco
I remember the joy of flying through the air (at least it seemed like I was flying when I was little) and splashing down in a big ‘ol puddle. I got to relive that memory by taking some pictures of a friend’s son doing just that and enjoying every minute. He was free from rules, free from worry, free from chores — just a moment of pure play. We all could use a little more of that. Just a few moments away from our so-called adult worries and responsibilities. I’ve found that all those things seem a little clearer and in better perspective after a little diversion.

- David Pickles
I celebrate today warm days and cool nights ... and the misty mornings they give us.

- Robert Postma
Last night I celebrated Eliza, a beautiful and joyful teen who was born with down syndrome. It was amazing to watch her create as I worked with her, teaching the art of Ukrainian eggs, a layering of wax and dye using a small tool and a candle ... she was absorbed in this art for two hours ... she was a teacher to me in so many ways.

- Amy Howry Yamamura
My early years were spent living next door to my grandparents. The narrow, winding staircase to the second floor was filled with those cut, black paper silhouettes of my ancestors back four generations. Without color, or depth of field, or the details of their eyes, or smile, somehow their personalities were magically conveyed. Even as a rambunctious five year-old, I would sit still and soak in the feelings and stories these silhouettes conveyed. How that can be is still a mystery and a celebration to me!

- Cathy Drew
Today, I celebrate the new day with what matters the most in my life: Family!!

- Carlos Rojas
I’ve heard the saying, “being a fly on the wall ...,” but this? Celebrating a little urban photography chuckle.

- Wayne Thompson
Sitting on my front porch waiting for the next sweep of wind, this leaf unobtrusively settled in and decided to stay awhile. I love the color moving deeper into the fall. Reds and golds with the simple, concrete step in the background. Celebrating my autumn visitor today.

- Dana Englekirk
Hey, kids. It’s a nice day to celebrate what’s right in the world. Go outside, play, and climb some rocks.

- Wayne Thompson
On Nov. 10, 1975, the freighter “Edmund Fitzgerald” went down in a hurricane on Lake Superior. The Split Rock Lighthouse on Minnesota’s North Shore rarely lights the lamp; but they lit it tonight in honor of the 29 men who lost their lives. It was rainy, windy, and very cold and we were there to see the lamp being lit.
Tonight, I celebrate the 1,000 or so people who came out to see the lighting of the lamp and to remember.

- Dee Kotaska
As I walked in the forest near my home today,
A tree called out to me and said,
“Come Celebrate with me,
For I have overcome the adversities
and pressures of the world around me,
And I AM THRIVING,
Come Celebrate with me ...”
I sat there with the tree for a while, in the silence,
and the Celebration felt good.

- John Hummel
In Obidos, Portugal, a man and his dog walk the ancient stones that have rested in this spot for centuries. They have no idea that what is just an afternoon stroll for them is art to someone else. Seemingly insignificant moments come to life when we appreciate the beauty that is all around us every day. We just have to open our eyes and our minds to it.

- Paulette Mertes
Life can get me down sometimes. Tries to hold me back. But relaxing the claws and taking flight is the best way for me to soar and feel the wind in my face. And to see the perfect light on my wings. The views are incredible.

- Wayne Thompson
Celebrate solitude ... the sense of a calm, serene setting has a relaxing quality that overrides the stresses of the day ... heart rate slows, blood pressure drops, and all things seem more promising ... and maybe even possible!

- Gary E. Larsen
Today, I celebrate serendipitous moments. Linda had the idea to make a small snowman. I asked, “How should we decorate it?” “Let’s use our left-over pizza,” she said. The tomato became a hat; peppers became eyes; and the crust grew into a nose. It didn’t take long for a chickadee to spot his next meal. He ate an eye and then returned for more.

- Chris Whitney
Questions for an iris. Do you understand now that your destiny all along was to be touched by the sky and kissed by the clouds? To echo the beauty that is above you and surrounds you, and to bring a smile to the faces of those who chance to walk by.

- Katrina Pruett
“People are like stained-glass windows. They sparkle and shine when the sun is out, but when the darkness sets in, then their true beauty is revealed only if there is a light from within.” - Elizabeth Kubler-Ross

- Jack Larson
Late one night, when I was six, I was with my parents on Highway 99 driving back home from Merced. I looked out the back window of the car and there, flung across the sky, was this amazing array of stars. My parents told me it was the Milky Way. I fell in love. This was before seat belts, so I climbed up in the back window and lay down, drinking in those incredible stars the whole way home. Slowly, almost imperceptibly over the years, my beloved Milky Way faded away. Then, on a recent family trip, I rediscovered it. I was thrilled. I all but tap-danced my way back to our campsite. My “Wish Upon a Star” had come true.

- Jennifer Schooley
Today, I celebrate being inside looking out on a weekend that’s been marked by showers, downpours, and thunderstorms.

- Doris O’Keefe
Shoes placed in the window to dry, clothes hung on the line ... those inside are fast asleep for the night. But someone is watching ... evaluating the scene ... seeing how the light plays with the folds in their shirts ... how the shoes are placed just so ... trying to tell their story with just ... one ... image. Click.

- Paulette Mertes
I have three bracelets that I wear 24/7: a survival bracelet to remind me I’m a survivor of PTSD, a Veteran’s Crisis Line bracelet to provide me with a phone number if I ever feel I will no longer BE a survivor, and a Celebrate What’s Right With The World bracelet to remind me WHY I want to survive. And I have 28 friends who “like” this page. You know who you are. I want to dedicate this image to you and thank you for helping me celebrate life.

- John Derby
At the Hartford County 4-H Fair, this dear little girl sat right down in the straw by her calf and stroked his forehead, scratched his ears and carried on a full, one-sided conversation for the longest time. All this while outside the barn, there was a carnival with games, rides and food — children, laughter and fun. But I got the impression there was nowhere on earth she would rather be than with her calf having a talk. Could not pull myself away without a photo and a lesson in true love.

- Paulette Mertes
Celebrating serendipity ... at a professional baseball game last night, I was walking back to my seat when I came across this couple observing the game from the railing. It triggered the realization that multiple generations have now celebrated an evening at the ball park and gave the impression that they were almost looking back into time.

- Scott Bolden
Dare to be different. Celebrating those who go boldly through life wearing turquoise with pink.

- Katrina Pruett
“Thousands of tired, nerve-shaken, over-civilized people are beginning to find out going to the mountains is going home; that wilderness is a necessity ....” - John Muir

- Jim Stiles
Maple sugaring. Celebrate how sweet life can be!

- Alan Nyiri
“Ode To Joy”
I was treated to an impromptu concert by my kids yesterday in my bedroom closet. They truly amaze me.

- Kate Austin
Looking through the viewfinder on this early morning, I saw my dad and me about 50 years ago. I would get so excited about waking up in the middle of the night, getting to the water, heading out on the boat like adventurists off to discover a new world. Fifty years later, I vaguely remember the actual fish but vividly remember the feeling of the collective experiences.

Celebrating special moments that become memories and pass down to the next generation.

- Scott Bolden
Today, I celebrate the joy of children in a third world country seeing themselves on an LCD screen for the first time. Through the art of photography and advanced technology, they are placed in an unusual position — the main subject, the center of attention, a place of prominence, and for a few short seconds they matter most in this world.

- Reggie Broom
My dad and I were ready to capture first light on Mt. Whitney and the Alabama Hills in California’s Eastern Sierra. Light not yet visible to our camera’s sensors was starting to make an impression on our imaginations. It was not only images that we were capturing. Strung together, a life time of such moments is the heart’s album. Lenticular clouds graced the sky, drifting over the landscape. We clicked our shutters and froze time. For one quick moment, that spot was the place to be, the best place on earth.

- Chris Whitney
Sinking into Presence to allow Beauty in a domestic moment. Simply noticing. There’s too much to do. Dishes pile up. I relax and smile at the colors and shapes.

- Teresa Dietze
Celebrate: America! With all that is wrong with the world, we have a small oasis here on this site where we can celebrate what is right. Since Sandy, there are no party lines for those of us living in New York and New Jersey. Hopefully, our politicians can learn something from this tragedy. I’ve said it before; we are all in this thing together.

- Larry Gambon
Another warm day, beautiful grass and tender leaves. What else could you ask for!

- Steve Nelson
The setting sun illuminates this beautiful chunk of ice along the south shore of Iceland. Nature is amazing!

- Robert Postma
When it comes to celebrating life, my parents are two of the best role models anyone could have. Dad, 84, and Mom, 82, epitomize the adage, “Growing old is not for the faint of heart!” yet they both continue, in the face of some pretty serious adversity, to celebrate life at the drop of a hat.

Here, they are celebrating my dad’s 84th birthday at the rehab facility where he was recovering from a broken hip. The joy in their eyes and smiles says it all.

- Rad Drew
This is a common sparrow flying against the noon sun. Mundane things can still be generous depending on how you look at them.

- Adam Lee
I saw a B-24 Liberator bomber making an approach to our local airport, as part of an event with a lot of WWI and WWII aircraft. I saw an old man with his WWII veterans cap on, cane in hand and bent over from age. I watched quietly, as he slowly made his way to the side of the bomber. His quivering hand reached out and touched the plane under the cockpit. I could feel the connection and memories he was feeling, as his hand rested on the plane. Quietly, he walked away toward what appeared to be children. I celebrate the sacrifice so many of his generation made to secure a free future for those generations to come.

- Michael Still
Celebrating “being found!!” Often in life, we lose our way down a temporary path of uncertainty. During these times, we have an amazing opportunity for personal growth and empowerment. How life-affirming to be able to find our way back and to rejoice in our “being found” through gratitude and celebration.

- Barbara Bozzo
Today, I celebrate curiosity. Because curiosity fuels creativity.

“I think, at a child’s birth, if a mother could ask a fairy godmother to endow it with the most useful gift, that gift would be curiosity.” - Eleanor Roosevelt

- Esther Smit
I celebrate the bond between good friends, no matter what species. With good friends, there is no need for words.

- Beth Miller Mennenga
Today, I celebrate: Bees, Life, and our incredible connection to Nature. This very “busy bee” draped in pollen, is an integral part of pollination. I feel blessed to have captured this amazing moment and to be a part of this life-enhancing forum that shares the beauty and love of Nature and all that is right with the world!

- Barbara Bozzo
Amidst the diners at the beach and the click of wine glasses, one little boy stood alone and watched the astounding cloud formation at sunset. You could almost feel him whisper, “Wow.”

- Theresa Airey
Celebrating the beauty of the first light of morning on the Bitterroot Mountains.

- Jerry West
Celebrating the renewing waters of Spring’s first bath.
“Take a course in good water and air; and in the eternal youth of Nature you may renew your own. Go quietly, alone; no harm will befall you.” - John Muir

- Denise Jensen
Time for rebirth ... celebrate the changes ... life after fire, this little fern. One of the first to push up after a fire on our farm, it stands as a symbol for continuance. Celebrate what is right with the world.

- Paddy Howes
Today, I celebrate that, with a little imagination, even the morning coffee at the hairdresser’s can become a retro beauty.

- Clare Gibson
Abandoned, she turned to either running with — or from — the coyotes. The county finally trapped her. She was placed in a cage at the animal shelter and labeled: “Caution Feral.” A promise was whispered between the bars, “Don’t worry, I’ll think of something.” A few days later, filthy, starving, infested, in pain from spaying surgery, and with a BB pellet imbedded above her eye, she came home with us. Highly intelligent, she trained us fairly quickly. This month marks Quilla’s fourth year of love, family and mutual Rescue Celebration.

- Denise Jensen
Today I celebrate my boots. We’ve traveled some wonderful places together, and hopefully, we’ve many more miles to explore.

- Terry Atkin Rowe
This young seal seemed to be chuckling over some secret, funny thought, and I found myself chuckling along with him. When I celebrate, more reasons to celebrate come to me. So, I wish you all true celebrations in your lives.

- Suzanne Klump
Celebrating my inner child through the laughs and giggles of my grandchildren! When I practice Celebrate What’s Right With The World’s philosophy, more reasons to celebrate come to me.

- Betty Gross
Today, I celebrate my Beloved of 47 years. Alzheimer’s is a cruel diagnosis. By the
time it is finally, officially made those close to the person have all seen the signs of
approaching loss and heard all the horror stories. And yet .... There is a side I
truly was not expecting: the childlike glee my husband takes from simple things.
The mellow person he has become, unafraid to show the gentle side of his nature,
something he hid from others for over six decades. The dogs he stops to pet on our
daily walks, the joy he expresses as he finds a “good, big rock” to heave at the
pond ice we pass, and the delight that lights his face at the big splash he makes.
Then there are small children he notices whom he never saw before. “They’re so
tiny, how can they walk?!” Now, there are so many little discoveries he makes
daily. I treasure this unexpected side of him and rejoice with him in this, his
newfound world.

- Carol Aldinger
She gathers them very carefully. Two trains of thought pull into the station. 
I board her train. Slowly and carefully, she puffs. Together, we watch the autumn light catch them, as they sail away in the soft, warm breeze. Celebrating perspective.

- Susan Hurrell
My office is within a block to Lake Tahoe, and I pass by every day. I swear that lake has a personality and moods. My personal mood is always enhanced when I take the time to stop and really check out the scene. It's never the same.

“What we see depends mainly on what we look for.” - John Lubbock

- Theresa Souers
I celebrate what LOVE can do to one ... making difficult times tolerable, and even whimsical, which is the best medicine.

- Kelly Pajak
“Sometimes reaching out and taking someone’s hand is the beginning of a journey. At other times it is allowing another to take yours.” - Vera Nazarian

- Jim Keefe
Sometimes the simple things are the most profound. Just a leaf floating on the dog’s water bowl, but the images and stories it produces fill the mind.

- H. William Lewis
Celebrating that the joy of life spans all the ages.

- Bob B Wright
Up at the crack of dawn,
The thrill and anticipation of what the day will bring,
Spending quality time with dad and grandpa,
The tug of the pole,
The exhilaration of the catch,
The pride of the accomplishment,
All in the day of one amazing 11 year-old
— my grandson!

- Barbara Bozzo
CELEBRATE WHAT’S RIGHT WITH THE WORLD!

Come Join the Tribe

www.facebook.com/celebratewhatsright

Check out our Website

www.celebratewhatsright.com

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First, I’d like to thank my dear friend, Lauri Gwilt, who prodded me to start both the celebrate site (www.celebratewhatsright.com) and the celebrate Facebook page (www.facebook.com/celebratewhatsright). She has been my inspiration and tireless cheerleader. None of this would have happened without her.

Nor would it have happened without my wonderful wife, Lynette Sheppard, who lives a life of celebration every day and does so with incredible grace and ease. And somehow puts up with me as well.

Also warm thanks to Eric Alan, who has given so freely of his many talents from the very beginning. To John Hummel who has championed the site from its inception. To Shervin Communications who gifted us our beautiful website and Facebook page. And to Jack Davis who designed the marvelous cover for this book.

Finally to Barbara Bozzo, the den mother of the Celebrate Tribe, for commenting every day on everyone’s work, for handling all communications and logistics for this book and for embodying the Celebrate philosophy in all she does.
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