



Les Amis de Svieta

Information July 2007 - February 2008

- ❖ End of September 2007, Pascal left for Ukraine, once again by car, in order to deliver numerous goods received during the year. This long trip (to Ukraine, across it and back to Switzerland) could be accomplished thanks to a generous sponsor from Wallis in a comfortable 4x4 car. With this ideal, **roomy vehicle** the numerous pot holes on Ukrainian roads could be defied in the best way!



- ❖ Maybe because of the European football championship scheduled in Ukraine for 2010, numerous foreign investors are attracted to Ukraine. In all large cities of the country, lots of construction activities are going on. Many new public and private buildings are popping up everywhere. But the gap between poor and rich continues to grow as well. The huge demand for consumer goods, connected with the constantly rising oil price, affects prices directly (mainly because 95% of all goods are transported on the road!) Thus, life became more difficult for an even larger part of the population. The loan business flourishes and continues to heat up the inflation. Particularly orphanages and boarding schools (internat) suffer from this strained situation. In particular those located outside large city centers (like for instance **Teterevka** in Zhytomyr region). Furthermore, government decision to drastically reduce



international adoption makes it worse, since numerous donations are directly related to adoption. Les Amis de Svieta relies more than ever on your support, in order to be able to continue to help all these children. Nobody in the Ukraine worries about the fate of these children and certainly not at all the elite, which profits most from the economic upswing.

- ❖ Last November **Nataliya** and **Ilona** (left) traveled to Evpatoriya in Crimea. Both young girls with severe orthopedic problems were scheduled to be operated there. So it happened for Ilona. But unfortunately Nataliya was diagnosed with tumor during preliminary examination. She was then sent back to Nikolaiev to first treat the tumor prior to orthopedic surgery. Ilona remained at the Evpatoriya hospital for 6 weeks. In order to remove the plaster she returned last January to Crimea. Now a long rehabilitation period begins for her, as the 5 year old Ilona never learned to walk!



- ❖ **Irina** and **Vitaly** went to Kiev in December 2007 for a surgical operation. Both suffer from a cleft palate, which was aggravated in the case by Vitaly by a Macroglossy (too large tongue volume) preventing him from being normally nourished. Both surgical operations went well. Additionally **Vitaly received special equipment** easing caretaker's job to feed him. Macroglossy surgery not being available in Ukraine, we contacted Doctor Carrer and his French association AICM to look for a possibility to get it done in France.



- ❖ Thanks to your donations and those of other associations and sponsor at Nikolaiev Baby House, an outdoor Montessori **swimming pool** could be build. The swimming pool features a secured playground and a grass area, as well as **level free entrance from the buildings of the orphanage**. You should have seen the joy of these children! For some, it was the first time that they were seeing a swimming pool and could play in the water. They were jumping around and shouting out loud. In the name of all children a big thank you! Your donations likewise made the implementation of the **water therapy facilities** possible. Not only for the joy of children, but also for medical personnel since long and difficult journeys with children to external therapy centers are now unnecessary. They just have to go one floor down and everything is ready waiting for them...



- ❖ In Zeleniy Gay orphanage (Kharkov region), **gas flow meter and automatic heating regulator have finally been installed.** This project led by Les Amis de Svieta France is not terminated yet, both new gas-burners still need to be installed. This quite simple installation was delayed over and over again because of Kharkov regional committee for safety in orphanages administrative hassle.



Purchase of **basic educational Montessori toys set** for Nikolaiev Baby House was, likewise, financed by LAdS France. Since no Ukrainian supplier for these toys could be found, we had to order these from St. Petersburg (Russia). Russian and also Ukrainian customs authorities put forward all conceivable administrative obstacles in order to prevent the shipping company from delivering three cardboards with toys to Nikolaiev. With a delay of 4 months and some lost sleep everything arrived nevertheless at Nikolaiev Baby House!

- ❖ The autumn 2007 trip took Pascal and Vika literally all across Ukraine. On this trip they also represented the American partner organization «An Orphan's Bright star» (OBS). First they visited an orphanage and a boarding school (internat) in the city of **Kherson**. Both institutions are well managed and are also in very good structural condition, because for many years other associations support them. Afterwards they drove via Kramatorsk (Donetsk region) to the **Baby House in Kremenchuk**.



The renovation of the buildings goes on very well. The next «big step» will be kitchen renovation. Subsequently, together with a local OBS representative, they visited two boarding schools (internat) for handicapped children in Zhytomyr region. **Teterevka** (boys) and Nova Borova (girls) are places from a past time, where few foreigners are passing by. The «handicapped» label is not appealing to adopting families at all. On the way back they crossed the Carpathian Mountains



and visited **Chinadiievo Baby House** and Nyzhny Vorota boarding school (internat), both belonging to Lviv region. To their big surprise, these places are the most modern they ever visited, both in terms of equipment, and applied educational



- ❖ The young, handicapped Olga Igorivna (Olya), for which we found last year two Swiss sponsors, started in autumn her training in **business school of Khakhovka**. Vika and Pascal visited her there and they also met with the responsible persons at



the school. They insisted absolutely that Olga shows them **her room, which school provides to her.** This room was in a terrible condition. With the help of the two sponsors, urgent renovation work to make the room «livable» was arranged immediately. A «support contract», which regulates the use of the money and required monthly reports, was negotiated and signed between Olga Igorivna and



Les Amis de Svieta. At the beginning it was difficult to receive a simple monthly report from Olga, but after a few months, it now works well and she could even save some money. We hope Olga will be able to meet in person her second sponsor this year.

- ❖ You can now sign up to receive this newsletter in electronic form via email. Doing so, you will actively help us reduce administrative association costs. Visit www.svieta.org (bottom of right column) and register yourself!
- ❖ Last minute: At the beginning of April 2008, Pascal will travel again to Ukraine. He must take care among other things of the car of Les Amis de Svieta, which must be replaced this year!

We wish you a nice summer and hope we can count on you again this year. Thank you in advance!

Les Amis de Svieta
c/o Véronique & Joseph Erard
Les Prés-Dessus
2874 St-Brais (JU)
Tél. +41 32 433 46 36
info@svieta.org

Les Amis de Svieta
c/o Françoise & Christophe Hürlimann
Sur Prègne 13
2885 Epauvillers (JU)
Tél. +41 32 461 30 17
info@svieta.org

Les Amis de Svieta
c/o Martine & Pascal Chavaille
rte du Centre Sportif 6
1752 Villars-sur-Glâne (FR)
Tél. +41 26 400 08 85
info@svieta.org

**Bank account# 25 01 211.621-01, SWIFT# BEFRCH22
IBAN# CH45 0076 8250 1211 6210 1**

Please visit us on a regular basis, you can read latest news, hear about our latest activities and find many new pictures :

www.svieta.org