



Les Amis de Svieta

Information February 2008 - June 2009

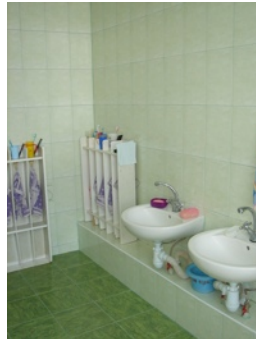
❖ A fair amount of time has passed since our last newsletter. Although, we have been very active and were able to complete many projects during the past year!

❖ Pascal and Tom went to Ukraine in November 2008. They were joined by **Jim**, Director of LAdS USA. Accompanied by the indispensable **Vika**, they took a short trip to visit **Olga Igorivna** at Kakhovka. She continued her studies with success and showed us her nice studio. We support her with monthly payments thanks to two sponsors and she was able to benefit from a better exchange rate, an advantage of the global financial crisis. They also spent a lot of

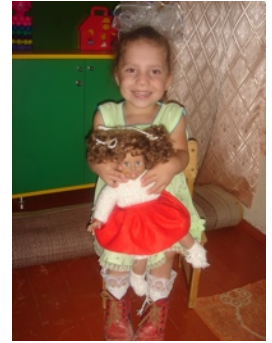


time at Nikolaiev Baby House to see all the improvements made since Jim's last visit: indoor and outdoor Montessori infrastructure, renovated bathrooms. At the time of our visit the orphanage was occupied by 131 children up to 4 years of age. During 2008, 15 children left the orphanage for domestic adoption and 17 for international adoption. Unfortunately, the situation of abandoned children has not

really improved and 40 of them are still waiting for a place in this orphanage.



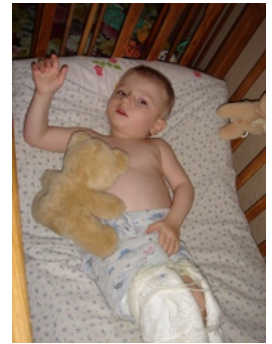
❖ Things are finally looking up for **Natalyia**, who had been treated last year. Shortly after her return from Crimea she was adopted by an American family who, with no difficulties, accepted to take charge of her health problems. We wish her much happiness, good health and a promising future in her new family and her new homeland.



❖ As for **Nikolay**, after a very long stay in Kiev, he arrived back healthy in Nikolaiev Baby House. He is now able to stand and move by himself. Now begins a long learning phase for all the things he was not able to do so far, as he was always in an horizontal position. Finally, it has been only one surgical operation during which no less than 4 experts (an orthopedic surgeon, a urologist, a gastroenterologist and a cardiologist) succeeded one after another to correct his various medical conditions. After 3 years of waiting, we finally



reached our goal and **Nikolay** thanks you warmly for your support.



❖ We also helped Svetlana, Svieta and Olga, who were all treated successfully in Kiev Cardio Center.



On a sadder note, we must inform you of the death of Bogdan early in July this year. Bogdan left us 15 days before undergoing the second cardiac intervention to solve his heart problems. He had a sudden thrombosis and doctors of the orphanage couldn't do anything. This is the first time that we have lost a child we supported. And even if we do not carry any responsibility in this event, it remains difficult to accept. Especially after having had the chance to meet Bogdan after his first operation.

- ❖ Our collaboration with the American Association OBS (An Orphan's Bright Star) has intensified with the realization of two **outdoor playgrounds** at Baby Houses in **Svalyava** (Carpathian region) and in Kremenchuk (Poltava region). Both projects have demanded a lot of patience and negotiations with the importer of specialized equipment fabricated in Western



Europe. As Ukrainian law requires, prices shown on official documents must be in local currency. After an order was placed the exchange rate collapsed and these projects have almost failed, as the importer was forced to sell at a loss. In tough negotiations, led by Vika, we were able to save the situation and last spring the two outdoor playgrounds were delivered and installed to the delight of the children.



Vika's multiple trips to the orphanage in Svalyava also allowed her to follow and complete the repair and renovation project of the room where sick children are placed in quarantine. This room was heavily damaged by heavy floods that hit the Carpathian region last fall. We had to wait until spring and warmer weather before we could initiate this project, because the equipment necessary for drying up of the room is not available in the region.



- ❖ A new **telephone switch** allowing communication between each building and service (a total of 40 phone sets) was installed at the Nikolaiev Baby House last spring. No more long runs through the orphanage to find the director, the doctor on duty or any other staff member.



- ❖ It's done, since July 2008 LAdS has a new car in Ukraine. And this time, the car was purchased locally and it has all local approvals necessary. Once more, only thanks to the generosity of several sponsors was it possible to purchase this car. It was about time because the previous car broke down on the return trip back in April of 2008.



- ❖ LAdS United States has once again funded the vaccination campaign against influenza at Nikolaiev Baby House which is due every October. This treatment is essential to an orphanage for young children. This is the third consecutive year that our American friends support this operation and they hope to continue.

- ❖ In collaboration with LAdS France, APAEU (Association des Parents Adoptants d'Enfants Ukrainiens) and the Air France Foundation, we were able to launch a new project for an outdoor playground at the orphanage for HIV positive children in Makiivka (Donetsk region).

We wish you a great summer and are counting on you again in 2009. Thank you in advance!

Les Amis de Svieta

c/o Véronique & Joseph Erard
Les Prés-Dessus
2874 St-Brais (JU)
Tél. 032 433 46 36
info@svieta.org

Les Amis de Svieta Les Amis de Svieta

c/o Françoise & Christophe Hürimann
Sur Prègne 13
2885 Epauvillers (JU)
Tél. 032 461 30 17
info@svieta.org

c/o Martine & Pascal Chavaillaz
rte du centre Sportif 6
1752 Villars-sur-Glâne (FR)
Tél. 026 400 08 85
info@svieta.org

CCP 17-635 130-2

Regularly visit our Web site to keep you up-to-date with our latest activities. It also allows you to browse many more pictures:

www.svieta.org