



Les Amis de Svieta

Information July 2009 - June 2010



The results of our 10-year history are impressive: about 80 children were helped, projects in 20 different orphanages were realized, 20 trips to Ukraine, about CHF. 350'000.- donations received from 422 donors from Switzerland, further donors from Germany, New Zealand, Ireland and Spain, associations founded in

France and in America, and partnerships established with various organizations. It all began in the hot summer 2000, when we met a young girl named **Svieta**.

Who would have thought we'd still exist as an association 10 years later? Certainly not many, and not us in any case. In fact it is thanks to your unfailing help and support in all of its forms during all those years, that we were able to assist all those children in need and realize so many great things.



That's why we are pleased to invite you to LAdS 10th anniversary. Come and celebrate with us in **St-Brais (Jura), on Sunday 21st of November 2010 from 1 AM**. The entire LAdS board will be cooking and serving this homemade, traditional, Jura-style St. Martin meal and is especially honored and proud of your attendance. In order to be able to prepare ourselves properly and while only limited seats are available, please register either by returning included flyer or use this link <http://www.svieta.org/2010/05/10th-anniversary/>. One time more, we rely on you and look forward to welcome and entertain you in November.

❖ During the past 12 months, **Vera, Nikolay, Masha, Kostya, Vika, Ivan, Vadim** (from top to bottom and from left to right on the pictures) and Irina, Olga, Svetlana and Ilya made one or several trips to Kiev or Evpatoryia (Crimea). They were examined and diagnosed by doctors and when possible, immediately operated. Vika, LAdS director in Ukraine, had to organize several trips, sometimes with up to 3 children and nurses simultaneously. Thanks to our own car, and

through this rational and efficient approach, we were able to help three times more children than during previous year.

Health problems they're suffering from were the usual ones: heart, eye and orthopedic.

With pride, we can announce that we could take for the first time a child (Kostya) from the

Kremenchuk Baby

House for treatment at ophthalmological hospital in Kiev. After three years of tough negotiations, numerous visits, and thanks to help from our partner organization OBS, Baby House direc-



tor finally agreed to let us help. Hopefully it won't remain an isolated case. We would be very happy if we can support more children from Kremenchuk Baby House, as we successfully have done for years at Nikolaiev Baby House. Other orphanages have already expressed their interest in working together with LAdS and we're looking forward to such partnership in the coming next few years.

- ❖ You may remember the outdoor playground project, which we realized last year together with Our partner organization OBS (An Orphan's Bright Star)? As announced in our previous newsletter, LAdS France has also realized two playgrounds in the second half of 2009. You may also recall the story, where Elton John wanted to adopt an HIV positive child from the Donetsk region? It is there, in that very same orphanage in Makiivka that LAdS France and the Air France Foundation sponsored these two



outdoor playgrounds. In this project though, everything had to be built from scratch, not renovating outdated existing playgrounds. The planning of this huge project - the biggest LAdS has ever led - lasted two years and the realization just under three months. We are very proud and congratulate Vika and Galina for this great success!



- ❖ On his second 2009 trip, Pascal was joined by Elizabeth and Stacey from our American partner organization OBS. Together with Vika they



visited several orphanages in Kremenchuck, Poltava and Kharkov. The days were intense, because we wanted to take advantage of the rare presence of OBS on Ukrainian soil. We managed to discuss many problems and answer many questions. You can find out more details about this visit at OBS web site www.orphanbrightstar.org.

- ❖ All 12 group bathrooms from Nikolaiev Baby House will be renovated by the end of 2010. Thanks to you (LAdS Switzerland) and LAdS USA the remaining two have found sponsors.



- ❖ Three Swiss families have decided to participate in a sponsorship program for young people "VocEd", that our partner OBS has initiated 2 years ago. These teenagers have to leave school-internat to begin professional apprenticeship and are financially supported at least for the next two years with CHF 60.-/month . This grant shall be primarily used for personal hygiene items and for clothes. If teenagers manage their money well, they also may have a little pocket money for leisure. Study, accommodation and meals are paid by the Ukrainian Government and provided within the professional school.

- ❖ **Olga Igorivna** has successfully completed her second year of apprenticeship. In spring we've visited her in Kakhovka. This time, her second Swiss godmother **Hanneke** and Tom were accompanying us.



We wish you a great summer and are counting on you again in 2010. Thank you in advance!

Les Amis de Svieta

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

Les Amis de Svieta

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

Les Amis de Svieta

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

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www.svieta.org