



*"Caring and Sharing for Each Other and the Earth"*

Quarterly Newsletter

Spring 1996

Welcome to the first edition of *Airline Ambassadors*. 1995 has been an exciting year for Airline Ambassadors and we want to bring you up to date on interesting events.

## AIRLINE AMBASSADORS OFFICIALLY LAUNCHED

Airline Ambassadors is a network of airline personnel who give of their time as "Ambassadors of Goodwill" in worldwide volunteer service. It offers three major programs; escorting children or orphans, humanitarian and environmental service, and special event or conference assistance. In November it was officially established as a not-for-profit company, with headquarters in Washington, D.C. "Bring Compassion into Action" – call or write for a brochure to register officially as an Airline Ambassador volunteer.

## AMBASSADORS CARE AND SHARE

Volunteers spread their generosity around the world in 1995, hosting at five international conferences, escorting orphans to new lives; bringing emergency relief supplies to war-torn regions; delivering Christmas toys and cheer, painting schools; collecting books and building libraries; and assisting in many other community projects.

## BRAVO TO THE ESCORTS

One of the most rewarding ways for airline personnel to volunteer their time to escort orphans or children in need of medical care not available in their home countries. Airline Ambassadors is arranging escorts for Healing the Children, Adopt Intl., Villa Hope and several other agencies. Contact Margaret Whitehead, our new escort

coordinator, who will place you in an escort opportunity that fits with your time schedule. Her phone number is (770) 487-9212.

Thanks so much to Kate Riley who assisted 2 yr. old Corrine who had been abandoned in a Haitian gutter, to Myra Emrick who escorted little Glenis



Kate Riley with baby Corrine.

to Cali after heart surgery, Rachel Martinez for escorting Maria Jose from Guayaquil (her medical exams are now complete and she's ready for adoption!) Hugs to Tracy Moine who took little



Luis Gonzales with Anabell de la Rosa.

Ana Raquel from Tegucigalpa for heart surgery, and to Evelyn Tiburchio who escorted a little one all the way to Korea, and turned around to come right home! Hats off to dear Connie Lawler who escorted 2 children with one visit to Guatemala, for keeping her cool

with one less than enthusiastic interlude! Special thanks to Luis Gonzales who contributes his time once a month as an escort, and to all of you who give of your time regularly for this rewarding contribution.

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## ANGELS AND INDIANS

Airline Ambassadors volunteered at the Sacred Prayer Vigil in Washington, D.C. this past fall. Their donation of D3 passes enabled many Native American Elders to attend the event which brought many tribes together for three days of ceremony and celebration.



Elsa Theodose with Native American Elders.

## THANKSGIVING IN BOLIVIA!

A round of applause to Dave Rivard of California World Foundation who gathered \$200,000.00 worth of medical supplies that airline volunteers took to the Children's Hospital in Santa Cruz, Bolivia on Thanksgiving. American Airline Country Director, Rene Ossorio, cleared the shipments through customs, hosted a tour of the Children's Hospital, and sponsored a Thanksgiving feast, Bolivian style!

## CHILDREN'S PEACE QUILT

60 Bolivian children participated in the Children's Peace Quilt Project, and added their expressions of peace by drawing or painting on 12 inch muslin squares. The first peace squares were contributed by wounded and war-orphaned children of former



AA Country Director-Bolivia Rene Ossorio, Sales Manager Patricia Gutierrez and Nancy Larson in Bolivia.

Yugoslavia, and Airline Ambassadors are now helping to coordinate contributions from children throughout the world. The quilt will be displayed at UNICEF'S 50th Anniversary in Washington, D.C. this summer.



## FELIZ NAVIDAD IN MEXICO

Polly Realopozo brought the spirit of Christmas to 90 children at an orphanage in Ciudad del Carmen, Mexico this year. A special plaque was presented to Senora Josephina de Robideaux, who founded the orphanage on the day of the Christmas Party, Dec. 19th, (its 15th anniversary). Each of the children aged 2 - 17 received a very special gift just for them, got to decorate a Christmas tree, and even talk to "Papa Noel" himself. Everyone celebrated afterwards - of course - with 3 Christmas piñatas!

## CANADIAN AMBASSADORS MAKE THE HOLIDAYS BRIGHT

Nick Cheema, AA Saber Executive from Toronto, joined the Thanksgiving trip, and recruited his friends Martine Beland and Sylvie Corriveau, to help make the Christmas holiday drive a success. The trio solicited donations from toy stores, pharmacies and even the Royal Canadian Mounted Police! They coordinated participation with local schools to get 140 handmade cards and 3 Banners for the Bolivian Children.

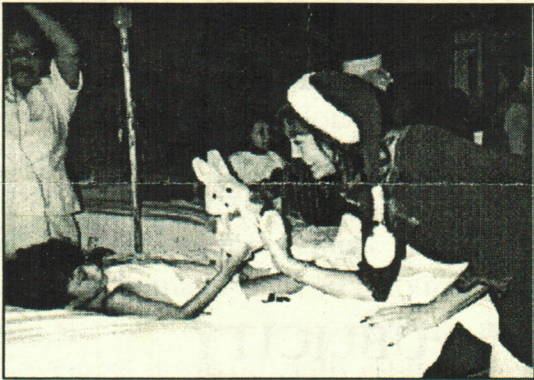
They had hoped to join the Christmas party in Santa Cruz, but sadly, they could not make it to Bolivia, despite being on stand by for two days! However, they remained undaunted in their humanitarian efforts. They shared their Miami hotel room with a family, also stranded, who were traveling on a death emergency. Their kindness was appreciated by all.

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## SANTA'S HELPERS IN SANTA CRUZ

26 boxes of toys were donated throughout the AA system and were hand delivered by Santa Claus and Santa's Helpers in Santa Cruz, Bolivia on Dec. 16th. During a visit to the Children's Hospital, each child was given a special gift and hand made



Santa's helpers in Santa Cruz.

card that had been made for them by students in Canada. The little ones faces lit up as they experienced the love and caring that is the real meaning of Christmas. Afterwards the group gathered with 200 underprivileged children for a Christmas party that none will forget (Even Mickey and Minnie Mouse showed up!).

A huge thank you to the special efforts of the Canadian Ambassadors, Kathy Coffman and Sharon Smith!

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## AMBASSADORS NEEDED:

The opportunities for spreading humanitarian and environmental relief throughout the world as an Airline Ambassador are becoming boundless. We are in the process of developing a database of volunteer and environmental programs throughout the world, which we hope to have available to members within the next 6 months. Until then, here are some exciting programs you can help join to make a difference.

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## INTERNATIONAL ART CONTEST

Airline Ambassadors is a sponsor of the International Art Competition "A World's Fair of Ideas for Peace" which will be featured at the United Nations upcoming Habitat II Conference.

Volunteers are needed to help solicit prizes for the contest and to distribute promotional posters to local schools, churches and civic organizations. Volunteers are also needed in New York on February 12 and 13th to help host a United Nations press conference on the contest, and host an evening promotional reception at the Philippine Embassy.

## JUNE VACATION IN ISTANBUL!

Airline Ambassadors have been asked to provide 20-50 volunteers to serve the Secretary-General of the upcoming United Nations Conference on Human Settlements - Habitat II, which will take place in Istanbul, Turkey, June 3-14, 1996. This conference will gather Heads of State, national delegations, non-governmental organizations (NGO'S), global business, youth and spiritual leaders. The conference (also known as the City Summit) will focus on solutions and hopes to produce a Global Plan of Action which will guide our development into the 21st Century.



Airline Ambassadors will participate as volunteers and also help to host the Award Ceremony for the "World's Fair of Ideas for Peace" art competition. Bid your vacation for June for the experience of a lifetime!

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## AIRLINE PEACE CORPS

Ever wondered what it would be like to be a Peace Corps volunteer? Well, now you can find out on a short term basis through the Dooley Foundation. For 20 years they trained airline personnel from 30 airlines, for volunteer missions, and are now restarting their program. You take a 3 month leave of absence, and the Dooley Foundation handles the rest. They provide training and expenses for your assignment. You can assist medical teams, teach community and health education in rural areas, and much more. It could be the most rewarding 3 months of your life.

Call Airline Ambassadors for further details.

## ESCORTS NEEDED

Escorts are also needed for deliveries. Recently Rachel Martinez delivered baby items, supplies and hundreds of stuffed animals to an orphanage in Guayaquil. Her mother joined her for the trip!

If you can't deliver goods, but have contacts with hospitals or medical supply companies who can donate supplies to Airline Ambassadors, we would love to hear from you.

## VOLUNTEER IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Call Airline Ambassador Headquarters information on the closest Volunteer Center to your home. Volunteer Centers are located in 501 cities in the United States and can help you channel your personal interests into service in your own community. You can help with children, the homeless, the environment or the elderly while making new friends and having fun.

## NEEDED:

D3 passes! Those of you who do not use all of your D3 passes may be willing to donate one pass a year for use for humanitarian purposes. Your expenses would be reimbursed, and your generous offering would go a long way to helping create a better world.

## ALERT

10% Discount for Airline Ambassadors on EarthWatch Vacations or Magazine. Call for details.

## PUBLICITY

The Airline Ambassador Program was recently featured on the 6:00 pm News on UNIVISION TV all over North and South America as well as Spain, and will soon be featured on Voice of America for global distribution.

## MEMBERSHIP

Annual membership fee is \$20.00 per person. Send in your contribution today to register as an Airline Ambassador Volunteer, and please share any ideas you have to enhance our program.

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