

# Airline Ambassadors

"Caring and Sharing for Each Other and the Earth"

Quarterly Newsletter, Summer 1998

## JOURNEYS OF THE HEART

**A**irline Ambassador humanitarian missions give us a chance to travel in a way that deepens our connection to the earth and our human family and add our unique and special note to the rising symphony of sharing and good will on this planet.

Travel allows us to interact with and relate to differing peoples and cultures. Many have found that using holiday time to serve, such as visiting orphanages in Romania, helping doctors in Senegal, children in Bosnia, or clinics in Guatemala is actually more fulfilling than traditional vacationing. These "journays of the heart" become a real adventure and leave us with a feeling of fulfillment and gratitude.

If you have an affinity for any country or a relationship with any legitimate humanitarian organization, orphanage or clinic that could use our assistance, please let us know. We are a non-political, non-denominational organization and willing to work with all groups bringing compassion into action.



*Irene Logan with Honduran orphans*

## Spring Humanitarian Missions to Bosnia, Senegal & Guatemala!

### ***Blessings for Bosnia***

*by Rae England*

*Rae England led a group of 14 Airline Ambassadors on an unprecedented trip through Central Bosnia in late April to assist some of the 35,000 children who have lost their parents or who are handicapped as a result of the war. Rae, a DFW F/A has an organization called Love in Action which has been assisting this war torn region for the last 6 years. The trip to five cities in five days was planned by retired General Jovan Divjak of Sarajevo and Love in Action. A trip that changed the life of those who went.*

**R**etired General Jovan Divjak, a real hero in Bosnia, led us through a rigorous schedule in order to see the needs of children in post-war Bosnia. It is not possible to put into words the impact these children have had on our lives as we listened to their stories. Over and over again we saw the power of love as an aunt, grandmother or neighbor put their arms around these children and nurtured them

through their tragedy. We were shocked by the horror of crimes against innocent people, especially children, in the name of war, and amazed by the goodness of others.

### **CHILDREN WITHOUT PARENTS**

We visited five cities on this trip, Bihac, Mostar, Zenica, Sarajevo and Tuzla. At each stop we spent time with families who are foster parenting children without parents. We saw families in such need it is hard to comprehend how hard their life is. We met people broken by grief. Grandmothers cried and shook uncontrollably while their sons and daughters told their particular story. We visited several orphanages where we saw loving caretakers doing the best they can with limited resources.

### **SCHOOLS**

Tears rushed to my eyes when we walked into one school in Bihac. The children smiled and greeted us as if all was normal. More tiles were missing from the floor than were left, and those were only pieces. Walls needed repair and paint, Windows

needed to be replaced and the heat came from a tiny stove in a corner. Three principles of schools in this condition spent the day with us. Their love for the children was evident and they will not let us forget the need.

### **REFUGEES**

Refugees are the forgotten people of Bosnia. Many remain in refugee camps without jobs or basic nutrition. Men hobble around without a prosthesis that could greatly enhance their quality of life. One refugee couple insisted I visit their 26 year old daughter. She had been hit by a grenade and the father had fled with her on his back. She recovered from her physical injuries, but so traumatic was her experience that she has been unable to eat solid food or leave her room since then. When I touched her shoulder, it seemed her frail little body was vibrating. These parents have lost their child as surely as if she were dead.



*Rae England comforting a refugee*

### **SREBRENICA**

It is estimated that 10,500 were killed in a massacre in Srebrenica when thousands of innocent people were murdered in July of 1995 because of ethnic and religious prejudice. Our last stop was at a camp for victims of this tragedy. We entered a meeting room full of Muslim refugees waiting to hear from us. I was the last to speak.

"In 1993 I went to Sarajevo to try and find ways to bring food into Bosnia," I explained. "I am a Christian, but that trip was paid for by a Muslim couple and I worked with many Muslim organizations while there. One evening we sat late into the night by candlelight plotting ways to get food into Bosnia. We talked of the many sad situations of the war. Then the Arabic Muslim man I was with said an extraordinary thing. "Truly, you are my sister." After my talk a man approached me and said, "I teach religion here at this refugee camp. If I do not see you again here, I expect to see you in heaven."



*Airline Ambassadors in Bosnia*

### **CONCLUSION**

There were some tense moments on our trip, especially as we drove through central Bosnia. For miles there was a ghostly absence of life as we drove past beautiful villages where no one lived. These villages belong to one ethnic group and are controlled by another who will not allow them to return. We were the only car on the road and graves were visible throughout the countryside - temporary graves heaped up with gravel as if waiting for families to come claim them.

How can the voice of reason ever prevail in a place where many have stooped to the worst that they can be? We met wonderful people on the trip, who, because of extraordinary acts of courage and kindness, give hope to us all. Our group touched upon the answer it seems. Fourteen flight attendants flew standby on oversold flights, paid for their own expenses and took time off to help Bosnia's children. General Jovan Divjak who is Serb is

well known in Bosnia as a man who paid a high price to do what is right. He left the Yugoslav Army in which he had served for 35 years to fight beside Muslims and Croats. And yet he is often rejected by those for whom he risked his very life. I am reminded of the writing in front of Mother Theresa's home:

People are unreasonable, illogical and self-centered.

*Love them anyway*

If you do good, people may accuse you of selfish motives.

*Do good anyway.*

If you are successful, you may win false friends and true enemies.

*Succeed anyway.*

The good you do today may be forgotten tomorrow.

*Do good anyway.*

Honesty and transparency make you vulnerable.

*Be honest and transparent anyway.*

What you spend years building may be destroyed overnight.

*Build anyway.*

People who really want help may attack you if you help them.

*Help them anyway.*

*Thank you to Nancy Amrien, Doug and Lynn Baker, Janet DeShon, Linda Ferguson, Kathy Johnson, Bridget Harbaugh, Teresa Novotny, Audrey Osborne, Susan Killips, Susan Tatman, Maybrey Scott, Leah Studer who joined Rae England on this mission and to those who contributed to our drive for Bosnian schoolchildren. Rae organized a follow-up container of donations to be sent to General Divjak and plans to lead another trip to the area soon.*

### **Service in Senegal**

*by Gloria Reid*

Our visit to Senegal, West Africa was like stepping into a National Geographic Magazine while reliving the stories missionaries told! The people were beautiful with their glistening black skin, colorful clothing and wonderful posture - I suppose from balancing all the things they carried so easily on their heads and the babies on their backs. Their smiles welcomed us to their country. We enjoyed the hospitality of Dr. Khadijah Cisse and the African-American Islamic Institute and stayed at their compound in Medina about 150

## Margaret's Escort Column

Our Children's Escort Program continues to grow, with several new agencies now using our volunteer services. So far in 1998 we have made over 150 escort trips. The majority of trips have been to Santo Domingo, Tegucigalpa, Cali and Guatemala City. However \*there have been several trips to Ethiopia and even Latvia and Sweden. Every trip we make is special in its own way. Yet a few stand out in my mind as being extraordinary.

Brenda Givens, on her very first escort trip got more than she bargained for when she brought little Hugo from Guatemala. We had been told that he would have surgery for a congenital hand deformity and a cleft lip and palate. This sounded easy enough for a new escort. Then Brenda had to change a diaper enroute. What a shock when she discovered that Hugo had also had a colostomy! She handled the matter quite professionally and was surprised when a nearby passenger pulled out a \$100 bill and presented it to her. He was impressed with our work and asked that his donation be used to help other children in need.

Then there is Herby. This little charmer from Haiti, born without ears, now proudly shows off his new set of ears crafted from his own cartilage! He is now in Atlanta, preparing for surgery that will allow him to hear for the very first time.

Cheerie Smith and Laura Latham did their very own mini-airlift in July as they took 6 kids, healthy and happy back home to Santo Domingo. They began their journey in Newark with 5 of the kids. In Miami they rendezvoused with Sue Thomas who brought Danny from Detroit to join them for the last leg of his trip home.

\*Miami based pilot, Kevin Smith made the long and grueling trip to Ethiopia and brought home 8 kids to their new adoptive parents. 5 of these kids were under 2yrs old. Kevin had the entire entourage to feed, change and entertain! Then he had to connect in Frankfurt, the halfway point in their journey. This in itself makes me shudder to imagine. I still remember escorting from Korea with lots of babies and lots of carry on and having to change planes and clear customs. Believe me, it is NOT EASY! The day after their arrival home Kevin called to say he would gladly go back to Ethiopia any time. We truly need more like him.

Recently John Cushman and Margarita Bergthaler also traveled to Ethiopia where they stayed for 5 days helping at the orphanage and distributing medical supplies. They escorted little 5 yr. old Tsega on the biggest



Margareta Bergthaler & John Cushman & Tsega

adventure of her life - to her new home and her new family. Tsega is now very happy and will start kindergarten next year. In a letter to John and Margarita her new family said. "You really don't realize what a great service you are doing for people around the world. Thank you."

There are some of the stories of the kids who touched our lives this year. A big thank you to Laura Latham, Teri Martin and Gloria Reid who joined me at the Healing the Children Conference and to all who have helped in Flight Service: Jane Allen (HDQ) Monica Lunser (JFK) Joy Simmons (DCA) Sue Albers (ORD) Joyce Bethune and TC Roberson (DFW) Jackie Bryant (MIA) Amy Carter (LAX) and Teri Jelli (SFO)

## Ambassadors to the Needy

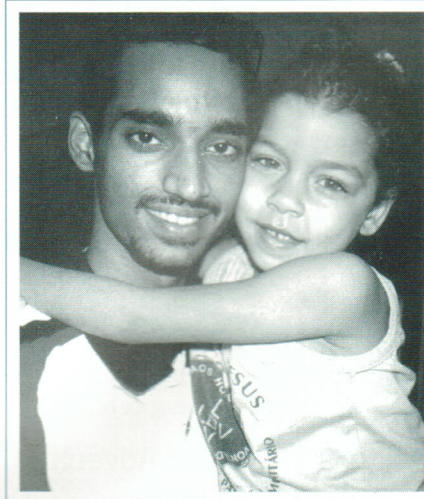
By Nancy Rivard

Airline Ambassadors co-hosted a workshop at the United Nations Youth International meeting last May. They invited young people to assist in soliciting donations for the Legion of Goodwill's charitable work in Brazil and promised to give youth representatives an experience of "traveling to make a difference" by bringing them on an actual mission.

"What do you think about your visit here?" I asked 18 yr. old Gibran later half expecting that he may complain about the tiring bus ride of the day. Gibran looked slowly up at me - his dark eyes glistening. "This trip" he said "has been the pivotal experience of my lifetime."

5 Airline Ambassadors and 4 young people traveled to Brazil August 10 -17th. We had coordinated the donation and shipment of 6,000 lbs of medical supplies and clothing to assist the Legion of Goodwill but were unprepared for what we would encounter.

Bright lights of TV cameras met us upon arrival in Sao Paulo and followed us throughout the visit. By the end of the week we all felt like celebrities. But the real celebrity was the Legion itself. Never in my



Gibran Ameer with Brazilizn girl

many years of travel have I seen such an example of unconditional love.

The Legion of Goodwill is one of the largest NGO's (Non-governmental Organization's) in Brazil. They support over 500 facilities such as schools, day care centers, orphanages and nursing homes throughout the country. They feed the hungry and heal the sick. Everything they do is of first class quality, undertaken

with genuine caring, love and joy. All of their services are offered free of charge. They have inspired over 100,000 people to work as volunteers.

Our group visited day care centers, schools and old folks homes in Rio and Sao Paulo. We joined the Legion in some of the worst favellas (slums) outlying Rio bringing warm and wholesome food to the families there. All facilities we toured were impeccably clean and beautiful. Each individual is cared about deeply and seems to blossom in the caring atmosphere. Children and employees greeted us with joyous songs and angelic voices. One of the highlights of the trip was a visit to the Legion's Temple in Brasilia built as a pyramid and honoring all spiritual paths.

One evening we looked out of our hotel in downtown Rio and saw 25 Legion volunteers on the street corner. They were feeding the homeless delicious organic food. They had set up a medical table to wash the feet and the wounds of the street people, and a makeshift barber shop to shave and give haircuts to the homeless. It wasn't just any shave or haircut - they were given with such care and in the very latest styles. Husbands, wives, grandmothers and children were among the volunteers. They had an inner radiance and happiness I had rarely seen. I

began to cry. Never in my life had I seen such selfless sharing and sincere happiness.

It was the same for Natalie Alhonte (15), Gerard Ameer (18) Martine Moore (17), and Korina Smith (15). The young people decided to volunteer next summer and teach English in Brazil. Whatever happens - their experiences will change their lives forever. We were happy to have Joan Beisel the President of United Youth International join us. Thank you so much to Susan Eckert who's donated D3 passes helped make this trip possible for them.

We are deeply grateful to Maria Malaman UNNGO representative for the Legion who coordinated the whole trip, to her sister Sondra and countless volunteers who hosted us and were there to meet our every need, who provided a beautiful bus and daily radio and television coverage of our mission. Special thanks to Mr. Paivo Netta, the President of the Legion and his lovely wife Luci who we had the privilege to meet.

Thank you to Sharrye Moore, the professional and loving Project Coordinator for the mission. I know our whole



*Leeanne Hansen, Nancy Rivard & Sharrye Moore with Brazilian children*

team echoes her sentiment when she was interviewed on the radio back in New York. "It will be an honor for us to share about this wonderful work. One day I hope that all Americans will have the Legion of Goodwill's name on their lips."

## Mission of Love to the Philippines

*by Leeanne Hansen, LAX Regional Director*



*Sharon Stein & Dennis Estes at Philippine Orphanage*

I had the privilege, honor and thrill of coordinating the humanitarian trip to the Philippines. Our destination was an orphanage called Shepherd of the Hills in the northern province of Zambales, which was located on the China Sea Coast. My amazing team consisted of 7 flight attendants, a pilot, and a 15 yr. old girl, all first timers, who seemed like veterans. After a 5 hour van ride from Manila to the orphanage, 65 beautiful children and staff greeted us with cheeris, hugs and flower leis and a welcome speech by . Auntie Faie (the House Mother) There wasn't a dry eye among us. We were so touched and happy to be there with these gracious and sweet people.

We had hoped to open and distribute 36 boxes of toys, clothes and first aid that NorthWest had graciously shipped for us at no charge. Thank you

Tony, Brad and Dick. But, unfortunately, due to political bureaucracy they were still in Customs. (There are many angels working on this issue) So it was on to plan B.

The next day Dennis Estes and Mark Jawors went downtown and bought paint. For the next 4 days we painted the home where most of the children slept, as well as a few staff members...a project 20 years overdue. Korina, our 15 year old, painted a fabulous beach scene mural in the hall. (We all felt compelled to add our own little touches to commemorate the visit.) It was quite a collaboration and we worked extra hard to make up for the boxes not showing up. We laughed so much with the children and with one another during the project. It gave us a sense of accomplishment and bonded us so much more because we cared about them and their home. Granted it wasn't a toy that would soon break or an article of clothing that would be soiled, torn or grown out of and forgotten. It was a team effort of LOVE from the heart. they knew it and we knew it and we came away with a renewed spirituality, a closer bond of friendship with each other and our new found friends and knowing we made a little difference in these precious lives. So in the end we got back so much more than we gave.

Special thanks go to my terrific team: Susan Best, Erin Beyers, Maggie Blaemire, Dennis Estes, Darla Italiano, Mark Jawors, Korina Smith and Sharon Stein - you were all so incredible!!! You are shining examples of what Airline Ambassadors is all about. I was proud to be on your team - NorthWest Cargo, Gary Schindler, Don Rabbit, AA Cargo, Dicie Sizemore, Catherine Reed Lynda Currier, Joanie Austin, Amy Carter, Tom Del Valle and all those who gave so generously in our collection boxes in LA. Please keep praying for the boxes to arrive by Christmas. Thank you for letting me be of service.

## World Congress of Adventure Tourism Mission to Ecuador

6 Airline Ambassadors traveled to Quito to participate at the World Congress of Adventure Tourism and to lay the foundation for continuing humanitarian work in Ecuador.

Sharon Ochoa and Nancy Rivard met the Vice President of Ecuador at the opening reception and solicited his full support in releasing 52 boxes of donated medical supplies from Customs!

The group skipped the Congress one day and joined Dr. Fernando Ortega to learn about the Community Health and Development Program (CH&D) which he directs and to which Airline Ambassadors has been sending donations.

He gave a short tour of the University San Francisco de Quito highlighting a van used as a "traveling clinic" and his hope to equip it with basic medical equipment for his volunteer work with the rural poor. He also took the group to a 15 bed hospital in Yaruqui, where they comforted the sick and noted the need

for medical donations.

The most touching part of the day was the visit to the Tababela School in the tiny village of Ceum. The school and day care center caters to 45 children of primary school ages and houses 6 children from the Amazon Achuar tribe. They were delighted to receive visitors. The Ambassadors gave candy to the children and distributed donations they had brought. 50 T-shirts, baby and children's clothes (donated by Mike, Sue and Joseph Albers) as well as coloring books paper and pencils (brought by Jim and Marge Casey).

The school decided that the T-shirts would be used as part of the Tababela school uniform! The school charges only \$2.00 per month per child. Until this donation there has not been enough money available to provide uniforms.

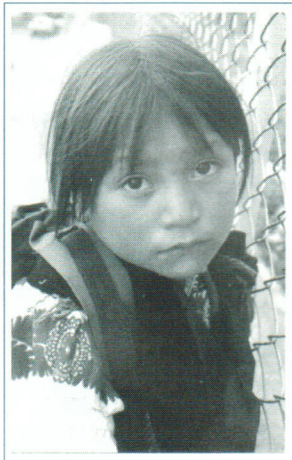
At the World Congress of Adventure Tourism Mike Albers and James Casey (Co-chairs of the AA's Volunteer Environmental Advisory Committee (VEAC) presented on AA's environmental commitment, corporate volunteerism and the VEAC program and children's art competition. Nancy Rivard introduced the Airline Ambassador program and identified an emerging market niche as "traveling to make a difference" to a receptive audience.



*Sue Albers distributing clothes at school in Ecuador*

## Humanitarian Aid

Airline Ambassadors works with 4 US Hospitals who donate medical supplies regularly and we collect humanitarian donations of clothes, toys, school supplies, baby items and first aid in our 9 base cities and in our home communities.



*Ecuadorian girl waiting for our aid*

### Want to help?

Review the yellow pages in your phone book and identify pediatricians or pharmaceutical companies. Call their office and explain that we are looking for supplies to assist children and clinics in developing countries. Ask them if they can donate anything, give them a newsletter and thank them profusely! Also, let your Regional Director know if you are willing to personally escort the supplies.

#### May

20 boxes of medical supplies to Quito Ecuador

#### June

20 boxes of first aid from SEA to Guatemala

#### July

32 boxes 2,000 lbs of medical supplies to Rio de Janeiro

#### August

82 boxes 4,000 lbs of clothes to Brazil  
82 boxes of school supplies sent to Bosnia  
20 boxes to Nicaragua  
6 boxes to St. Kitts hurricane relief

#### September

10 boxes to Dominican Republic and St. Kitts (Hurricane relief supplies)

#### October

32 boxes of medical supplies to Quito Ecuador  
3 boxes of clothes and school supplies distributed to schools in Ecuador.  
40 boxes of school supplies, shoes, toothbrushes, and amenities to Haiti orphanages  
20 boxes medical supplies and first aid to Guatemala

#### November

20 boxes medical and relief supplies for Nicaragua and Honduras  
8 boxes of aid to St. Kitts for Hurricane Relief  
2 48 ton semi trucks into Honduras and 1 airplane full of supplies to Nicaragua.  
150,000 lbs of medicine, food, water, blankets and clothes to Honduras.  
100 boxes pedialite, baby aspirin, diapers, ensure and supplies for Honduras.

## Bosnia Report

*by Rae England who coordinated a trip to Bosnia last April and recently sent a 40 ft container of donations as follow up.*

"Joyfully I want to inform you that the container has arrived in Sarajevo", were the words of General Devjak this week. Airline Ambassadors from every base astounded us with their incredible response to the needs in Bosnia. Many checked boxes of school supplies and clothes to DFW and others brought them on their trips. I can only imagine the joy of so many little ones because you gave of your time energy and resources. Thanks to all of you who assisted.

### Deliver Blankets to the Homeless on Christmas Eve

Joan Bihn had been dependent on a wheelchair for many months when she experienced a remarkable healing on the Tigua Reservation in Texas. She made a promise that in return for her health - she would serve the homeless. Within a week after making this solemn vow she ended up in a maze of mishaps that led her unexpectedly to a homeless shelter. What better way she thought to learn to serve the homeless than to be with them. Joan was the last woman admitted and was without a blanket. She was so cold that night it was difficult to sleep.

After returning home, Joan could not forget how cold she had been on that night in June. She made arrangements through a local store to purchase 40 blankets for the 40 beds in that Cincinnati shelter and had them delivered Christmas Eve.

There are homeless everywhere who are cold and many die in cardboard boxes on the street.

Please help Joan keep her promise and assist with our Blanket Project. Our goal is to provide 40 blankets for shelters at our 9 base cities for delivery on Christmas Eve. Please donate to the box in Operations or contact Joan Bihn at 831-685-0131.



Lynn Duddey, Joanne Jaffee Nancy Rivard & Christina Andersen with new friends at the World Philosophers Conference

## Special Events:

### World Philosophers Conference Geneva

Nishikant Wahgmare of Air India arranged for 8 Airline Ambassadors to host and participate at the World Philosophers Conference in Geneva. The volunteers met conference delegates at the airport, assisted with registration and participated in a series of fascinating meetings on ethical issues for the new millennium.

The group met young women from MIT University in Pune, India who invited them to visit their city on a humanitarian mission focussing on the needs of poor women. Mrs. Yogi Bahjan said she would help identify orphanages and clinics near Delhi also. Connie Sheehan volunteered to lead a mission in February of 1999!

Nancy Rivard, Christina Andersen and Connie Sheehan were interviewed on WRG 88.4FW one of Geneva's most popular radio stations. Many thanks also to Lynn Duddey, Paula Freeman, Joanne Jaffe, Deborah Moldow, Vanda Osmon and Basil Massey who helped make this trip an unforgettable and inspiring experience.

*We are birds of the same nest  
We may wear different skins  
We may speak different tongues  
We may believe in different religions  
we may belong to different cultures  
Yet, we share the same home, Earth  
Born on the same planet  
covered by the same skies,  
gazing at the same stars  
We must learn to progress together  
Or miserably perish together  
For a person can live individually  
But can only survive collectively.*

Artharva Veda

### United Nations DPI/NGO Conference

14 Airline Ambassadors assisted and participated at this annual conference for NGO's coordinated by the United Nations Department of Information. They helped with registration, meeting the representatives and hosted at the reception.



Cathy Orten and Kathy Savage assisting at UN

The Conference was dedicated to the 50th Anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights and participants heard from many inspiring speakers such as Koffi Annan, Mohammed Ali, Dr. Robert Muller etc. Airline Ambassadors had a chance to meet many other NGO's doing important work on our planet. Thank you to Carol Schaper, Cathy Orten, Kathy Savage, Nancy Kelly, Shannon Banks, Connie Sheehan, Lisa Biera, Louis Mejia, Nancy Rivard, Sharrye Moore.

### American Indian Prayer Vigil

Airline Ambassadors was again a co-sponsor of this special gathering of Native American elders to pray for peace in the world and for all peoples. Thank you to Ande Thollander for a D3 pass donation to assist the Vigil and Kathy Coffman who will help initiate an escort service for native american children needing medical care.

## Local Activities:

### SFO Community Activism

SFO volunteers continued to assist monthly with Habitat for Humanity, in October they decorated the art room and painted the woodshop at Ridgewood Center as part of Community Impact Day and in November they participated again in a rewarding day refurbishing the Rubicon School for abused and abandoned children.

### DCA Raises Funds and has Fun

17 Airline Ambassadors friends and family got together to play softball against a team from Sports Talk 980, WTEM. to raise money for Airline



DCA Ambassadors at charity baseball game

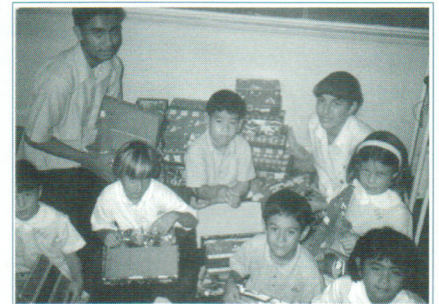
Ambassadors and the local charity For the Love of Children. Special thanks go to sponsors of the event Trak Auto and the Green Turtle Sports Bar where a post game celebration was held. Congratulations also to Irene Logan who has added International Relations to her duties as a Regional Director.

### MIA Walk for the Animals

Two cats on wheels...5 dogs on leashes and 30 walkers a wigglin' and a wagglin' their way around Kennedy park kicked off the first Airline Ambassadors Walkathon for the Animals of the World" in beautiful Coconut Grove. The Cat Network also participated and generous donations were generated to assist animals in need. The Second Annual walk is scheduled for next year Call Carol Reichert at 305-285-7742.

### Bravo for the Beanie Babies!

St. Rose of Lima School in Miami raffled Beanie Babies and raised \$450 to assist orphanages in Haiti. The class is wrapping shoe boxes to be given to each orphan filled with a toothbrush, a book, soap and small toys. 2 students will help hand deliver the donations at a party there on Nov. 27th, coordinated by Jennifer Butler.



Miami schoolchildren wrapping shoebox gifts for Haitian orphans

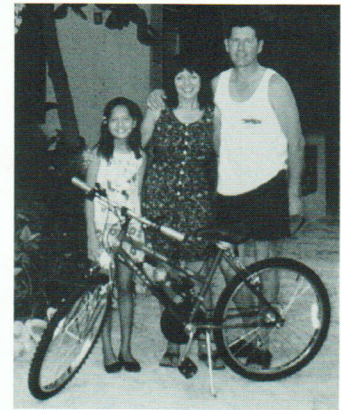
Thanks to Nimberto Nunez who helped ship their 40 boxes to Haiti!

### LAX Assists with Celebrity Charity Benefits

Airline Ambassadors are involved with almost every celebrity benefit in Hollywood. Since May they have participated at the Revlon Run Walk Breast Cancer Benefit, the Culinary Evening at Paramount Studios, the California Special Olympics, the Kodak/ Entertainment Industry Golf Tournament, the Tennis Ball and Tournament benefiting Cystic Fibrosis Fdtn., An Evening of Fashion and Compassion, the Carousel of Hope Ball benefiting Juvenile Diabetes Fdtn., an Evening at

## Island Dream

Airline Ambassador Linda Puccetti and friend Burt Baca turned this year's vacation into a heart-warming experience they will always treasure. The couple met a local child selling bracelets on the beach while vacationing on Isla de las Mujeres, an island near Cancun, Mexico. They learned little Nayalie dreamed the impossible dream of having a bicycle. "We thought how easy it would be for us to make her dream come true," said Linda. So, they stopped at a toy store in San Francisco before leaving for their next island vacation. They assembled Nayalie's new bike in their hotel room, then went to surprise her. "After that, we met the whole family", laughed Linda. "It meant so much to them we will never forget." Thank you Linda and Burt for Caring and Sharing!



## 1998 UPCOMING EVENTS

### August Mission to Jamaica

Join this humanitarian mission to deliver medical supplies and toys to HIV positive children arranged by the Jamaican Ministry of Health and Ambassador Durrant. Call Sharrye Moore 888-855-0690

### August 10-17 Mission to Brazil

Legion of Goodwill is hosting a visit to assist schools, orphanages and clinics in Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo and Brasilia. Airline Ambassadors will provide tickets for youth leaders who have mobilized their communities to assist our project. Call Sharrye Moore at 888-855-0699

### August 11 - 21 World Philosopher's Meeting in Geneva, Switzerland

Assist at this prestigious meeting on values featuring the Prime Minister of India, the Secy/Gen of UNESCO, and possibly the Dalai Lama! Our Asian Director Nishikant Waghmare was Secy./General in 1996. Call Nancy Rivard at 650-685-6262

### August 20 -30 Humanitarian Mission to Philippine Orphanage

A beautiful Christian orphanage with 120 children of all ages has requested our assistance. This orphanage is located 10 minutes from the South China Sea so bring your bathing suit! Room and board for 20 volunteers. Call Leeanne Hansen 213-650-3153

### September Mission to Nicaragua

Janet Ray Weininger will lead a trip to Nicaragua to assist children, war victims and clinics in remote areas. Jan's heroic efforts to recover the remains of her father who died in the Bay of Pigs incident sparked her desire to help the people of Nicaragua. Call Jan for details at 305-255-0606.

### September 14-16 United Nations DPI/NGO Conference - New York

Participate at the United Nations NGO Conference "The Fiftieth Anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights sponsored by the Department of Public Information (DPI). Discuss global issues and meet non-profit organizations from all over the world. Call Sharrye Moore 888-855-0699.

### September 17 - October 2 Mission to Ethiopia

Children's Cross Connection is sending a medical and dental team to Soddo, Ethiopia. They camuse volunteers to work in the pharmacy, wash and sterilize instruments and maintain crowd control. Call Pam Rundio at 770-716-1926.

### September 26- 27 Native American Prayer Vigil for the Earth - Washington, D.C.

Airline Ambassadors will again assist at the annual Prayer Vigil for the Earth which will open at dawn in a circle of tipis under the shadow of the Washington Monument. Native American elders will open the vigil with a sacred pipe ceremony. Call Louis Mejia 305-667-6399.

### October Art Competition Award Ceremony Washington, D.C.

Join the official Award Ceremonies honoring youth winners of our 1998 art/essay competition "Traveling to Make A Difference" at the United States Congress. Call Christina Anderson at 212-308-1933.

### October 18-21 Adventure Travel Congress Quito, Ecuador

Join Airline Ambassadors and VEAC (AA's Volunteer Environmental Advisory Committee) in Quito, Ecuador to participate at the Adventure Travel Congress there and bring medical supplies to local clinics. We will host a workshop on "Traveling to Make a Difference - the Leading Edge of Adventure". Call Nancy Rivard 650-685-6262

### October 19-24 Mission to Guyana

Join our humanitarian mission to Guyana to visit orphanages and clinics coordinated by Ambassador Insally and Guyana's Ministry of Health. A team of Homeopathic doctors also plan to join this trip. Call Sharrye Moore for details 888-855-0699.

### November 1-15 Mission to Nepal

We are conducting this research trip to organize our official larger mission next April. Assist Tibetan refugees in Katmandhu, help clinics and orphanages. Perhaps you'll want to combine your trip with a trek or a tiger shoot (photographic, of course), via elephant! Call Joyce Amrien 703-532-5509 or 202-942-9648.

### December Orphanage Christmas Parties!

#### Bombay, India

Join this holiday party for children at Mother Theresa's Orphanage in Bombay, India and help escort medical supplies for a hospital there.. Call Nishikant Waghmare 011-91-22-620-1252 or e mail at nirant@cyberdude.com.

#### Port au Prince, Haiti

Experience the true meaning of Christmas by joining this Orphanage party for needy children in Haiti, the poorest nation in the Western Hemisphere.. Call Jennifer Butler at 305-374-4146.

#### Bogota, Colombia

Students from Arch School will assist us again at Hogar de Vida Orphanage in Colombia. Call Frank Marchetti 718-805-6791.

#### San Pedro Sula, Honduras

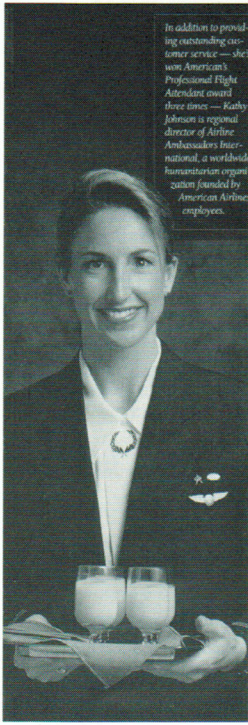
Bring presents and supplies and help throw a beautiful party for orphans in Honduras. Call Irene Logan 703-820-8918.

#### San Salvador, El Salvador

Visit the children of Instituto de Proteccion al Menor orphanage and join the First Lady of El Salvador for this special holiday party. Call Gloria Reid 817-268-2410.

Note: Dates are sometimes subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances and new activities are being added all the time. Stay in touch with your Regional Director or check the Bulletin Board at your Base.





In addition to providing outstanding customer service — she won American's Professional Flight Attendant award three times — Kathy Johnson is regional director of Airline Ambassadors International, a worldwide humanitarian organization founded by American Airlines employees.

With deep acknowledgement and appreciation to American Airlines and especially to Ms. Jane Allen for ongoing support of our humanitarian programs. San Francisco Regional Director of Airline Ambassadors, Kathy Johnson was honored in American Airlines 1997 Annual Report.

**A**irline Ambassadors International is a non-profit organization affiliated with the United Nations. It is made up of 700 airline employees and others who volunteer as "Ambassadors of Goodwill" in their home communities and abroad. They escort children in need, deliver humanitarian aid to orphanages and clinics, assist at special events and co-sponsor a global youth art competition each year. Through service and compassion they are raising awareness in the travel industry and in the world.

**PROGRAM DIRECTORS:**

Escort Coordinator	Margaret Whitehead	770-487-9212
Humanitarian Aid	Ande Thollander - Roth	650-233-1777
Special Events	Christina Andersen	212-308-1933

**REGIONAL DIRECTORS:**

Boston	Kelly Fealey	978-352-3113
Chicago	Linda Gwynn	770-424-6065
Dallas / Fort Worth	Gloria Reid	817-268-2410
Los Angeles	Leeanne Hansen	213-650-3153
Miami	Ana Kinese	305-271-4565
New York	Alex Wahl	212-633-1866
San Francisco	Kathy Johnson	415-923-0444
Seattle	Marty Sanders	206-281-1579
Washington D.C.	Irene Logan	703-820-8918

"As we approach the year 2000 we are challenged to be the caretakers of our Earth and of each other. What we create for our planet and its inhabitants can flourish bountifully, multiplied by the rapid rate of advancement that technology brings. We must heed the call to let values, ethics kindness and depth of spirit lead the way, working with a deep commitment and an honoring of our planet and fellow human beings."

Elaine Valdov,  
Chair, United Nations  
NGO/DPI Executive Committee

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ AIRLINE BASE : \_\_\_\_\_

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PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: \_\_\_\_\_ E MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

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Please make checks to Airline Ambassadors Intl. and give your Regional Director or send to:  
Airline Ambassadors International, P.O. Box 117321 Burlingame, CA 94011-7321.

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