

PROUDLY CELEBRATING 27 YEARS!

Pilots For Kids Organization



Pilots For KidsSM

O R G A N I Z A T I O N

Helping Hospitalized Children Since 1983

Newsletter

March 2011

Congrats to all PFK members for another banner year. There were plenty of challenges, but your spirit shined!



PFK volunteers in Indianapolis visited area hospitals and an early childhood center, brightening the holidays for hundreds of local youngsters. Weather created several challenges, but PFK members came through for those in need!

**SAVE THE DATE!
PFK Golf Tournament
Monday, May 16, 2011
Hackberry Creek
Country Club
Irving, Texas**

Details Inside!

“100% of our donations go to the kids”

visit us at: pilotsforkids.org

President's Corner...

Dear Members,

Congratulations on completion of our 27th year of visiting with and distributing toys to hospitalized children.

Remember the old adage, "you improve over time?" Well, we have. However, I would like to add, "but not without a tremendous effort from our dedicated volunteers."

This year, I have had the pleasure of talking with many of you who volunteered your valuable time to make our organization better. It is an obvious sacrifice. Many of you struggle to find free time between work, family, and other obligations, yet still find time to help Pilots For Kids. We truly have many selfless members in our organization.

Thanks to everyone who supported our effort last year, and the real reason why we "improved over time."

Best wishes to everyone,

Ed Faath

President, P.F.K.

CITY: GUM/Guam

COORDINATORS: Chuck & Ivy Heberle

PARTICIPANTS: CAL and Cape Air

Thanks to Chuck and Ivy Heberle and a dedicated group of PFK members, it was a merrier Christmas for young patients at Guam Memorial Hospital again this year. On December 20th, a cheerful group of volunteers from CAL and Cape Air visited with young patients and distributed a selection of holiday gifts.

Special thanks to Chuck and Ivy who took over PFK coordinator duties from our 2010 Pilots for Kids Award recipients, Peter and Teresa Suck. The Suck's left the Guam Base in 2010 after coordinating the PFK program there for 10 years. And thanks, also, to the other wonderful volunteers who took time from their busy schedules to help brighten the holidays for less fortunate families.



Above and below, PFK volunteers from CAL and Cape Air visit young patients at Guam Memorial Hospital.



CITY: HNL/Honolulu/Kailua, Kona, HI

COORDINATOR: Suzanne Skeeters

PARTICIPANTS:

Volunteers in Hawaii had a successful PFK event on Wednesday, December 22, at the West Hawaii Domestic Violence Shelter. Coordinator Suzanne Skeeters, along with other pilots, shared pizza and gifts with children with very challenging lives. The contribution each of these pilots made toward a better life for the children is expressed in a short note from the shelter director: "It takes a village to help people change their lives. We have been very supported thru our community this past year. We look forward to going into the New Year giving the families that we work with hope and then anything is possible at the West Hawaii Domestic Violence shelter. Thank you for helping make a difference!" Kelly



ATL PFK members are shown during one of four visits to Hughes Spalding Children's Hospital in downtown Atlanta. Volunteers visited with over 300 children this year.

CITY: ATL/Atlanta, GA

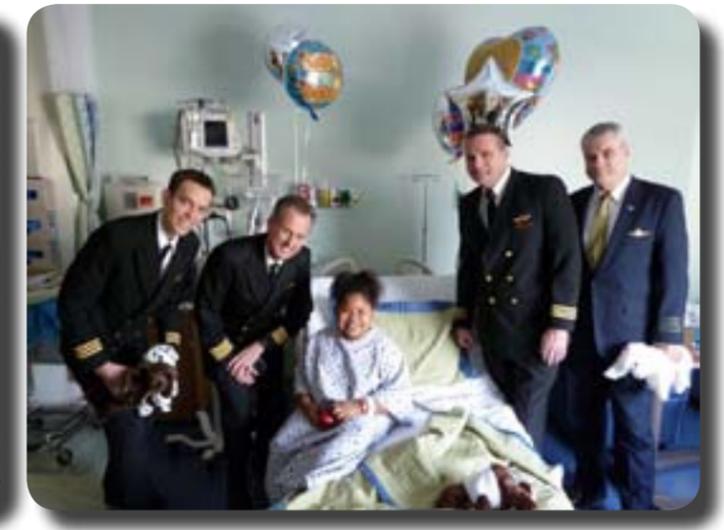
COORDINATOR: Steve Stubbs

PARTICIPANTS: Delta and NetJets

Steve Stubbs, a longtime Atlanta PFK coordinator, organized FOUR different trips and events to Hughes Spalding Hospital in the Atlanta area. During these visits, Steve and other Delta Air Lines and NetJets pilots spent time with over 300 children. Steve writes:

"Pilots for Kids in Atlanta have enjoyed a long-lasting relationship with the staff at Hughes Spalding Children's Hospital in downtown Atlanta. The majority of our visits for the last 2 years have been here.

Usually we have 5 or 6 pilots for each visit. Handing out toys to each of the children is a real privilege, but I believe the real benefit comes from the interaction we have with the kids. Some of these kids have debilitating illnesses, and taking the time to ask about their hobbies or favorite class in school lets them know we care. Seeing a child's face light up when we walk into their hospital room, with gifts in hand, makes it all worthwhile.



As the PFK coordinator in ATL, I am looking for new avenues to make a positive impact on kids in need. While our focus in Atlanta has been mostly with Hughes Spalding, next year I want to expand not only to other hospitals but also other child service organizations that could use a visit from pilots in uniform."

CITY: BOS/Boston, MA

COORDINATOR: Gerry Russo-Gilbert

PARTICIPANTS: US Air

Although the Boston Crew Base for US Air closed in May, 2010, coordinator Gerry Russo-Gilbert was able to get an enthusiastic group of volunteers (pilots, office staff and retirees) to visit the Boston Medical Center again this season. The group visited hospitalized patients, out-patients and visiting children (usually siblings), providing gifts and plenty of holiday cheer. A dedicated local retiree has served as "Santa" for many years and continues to thrill the children as he hands out gifts to each and every child.

As Gerry points out, "The whole Center looks for us each year!" Congrats to the BOS group for 20 years of bringing PFK to hospitalized children in the area.



CITY: IND/Indianapolis, IN
COORDINATOR: Dan Ferracciolo
PARTICIPANTS:

Mike and Brandon were born to a drug addicted mother. They had countless men in and out of their home from the time they were born. Their "home" changed every few months until mom went to prison and they were placed in foster care. Soon they were enrolled in the Early Childhood Program at St. Mary's Child Center in Indianapolis. The boys now ride the bus to school, eat nutritious meals daily and learn through a school curriculum inspired by the Reggio Emilia philosophy. They have taken their first steps toward a successful future. We, at Indy Pilots For Kids, met Mike and Brandon this year along with 183 of their classmates, 100% of whom live in poverty. It took three days, (Dec. 9th, 13th, and 14th) two sessions a day, cancellations due to snow, the willingness of our members to re-schedule, and a little four wheel drive action, but we did it. All 185 St. Mary's kids received gift bags, stuffed animals, books, toys and a flight deck poster. They were instructed in the fine art of aviating around the room, shown pictures of famous aviators (Snoopy and Santa were high on that list), and entertained with countless flying stories. I only hope that they had as much fun as we did!

In addition to visiting St. Mary's, Indy PFK members provided gifts for 92 hospitalized children at three area hospitals. At Clarian Medical Center, on December 7th, we met 13 kids including Emily, a 13 year old cancer patient. "The big stuffed animal and the I-Tunes gift card were great," her mother later told me, "The true gift, however, was Emily's laughter during your visit."

Twelve Indy PFK members manned six craft stations in the atrium of Riley Children's Hospital, downtown Indianapolis on December 16th. Forty hospitalized children rotated through each station while participating in craft building with our members. Captain Baldy flew in for a special guest appearance during our Riley visit and proved to be a big hit while entertaining the kids.

Left, children at the St. Mary's Child Center in IND enjoy the stories that PFK pilots share during holiday visits.

Volunteers with the IND chapter of Pilots for Kids enjoyed visitations and "crafting" projects at Riley Children's Hospital in downtown Indianapolis. Below, even Captain Baldy helped out with the fun event.



IND Cont.

Finally, on December 23rd, Indy PFK members visited 39 kids at St. Vincent's Peyton Manning Children's hospital. We met Carlos, a twelve year old young man who was recovering from brain cancer surgery. He could barely stand, and he doesn't speak English. The fun he had while playing with his newly aquired airplane toys and the smile on his face required no translation.

This is an amazing group of volunteers who generously give money, time and enthusiasm, brightening the lives of hundreds of hospitalized and disadvantaged children year after year.



Above and below, PFK volunteers in Indianapolis visit with young patients at St. Vincent's Peyton Manning Children's Hospital. Looks like these youngsters loved their special aviation-themed hat and slippers!



Youngsters at the St. Mary's Child Center in IND enjoy learning about flying from the "pros".

THANK YOU

Dear Captain Dan,
Thank you so much for making a difference in the lives of our children. They truly were inspired by the presentations and the knowledge learned from your information. It was refreshing to observe that the lessons carried over into other school experiences.

During music class on Wednesday, the music teacher was demonstrating one way to help remember ways to increase the pitch of voices; we could change the location of our arms. A child responded "that is just like flying the airplanes when you want it to go up in the sky."

We had family night on Tuesday and the families were so impressed with the gifts and how very considerate and thoughtful the pilots were to extend their generosity to the children.

Please extend our gratitude to the other pilots and our very best to all for a wonderful Christmas and the best for 2011. Please stay in touch.

Gratefully,

Brenta Clem and the staff of St. Mary's Child Center

CITY: Point Pleasant NJ
COORDINATOR: Rod Biggs
PARTICIPANTS: American, USAF, UPS, friends and family members

Like many volunteers, Captain Rod Biggs, the PFK coordinator in Point Pleasant, NJ, was drawn to the Pilots for Kids organization due to personal experiences. His visit this year reflected upon those memories...

“About ten years ago my wife and I were in the hospital wondering about the health of our son. The Picture of Mrs. Claus, Captain Baldy, myself and my son is a neat memory of giving back.

Of the kids we visit each year, there is always one situation that breaks your heart more than the others. We visited nineteen youngsters this year; our hearts were drawn to TJ who is 18 years old. A few days ago, he and his dad had an asthma attack. Unfortunately, his dad didn't make it and they almost lost TJ. We visited him while he was recovering in the ICU. Since his family (mother, brother age 14 and brother age 16) don't have much, the pediatric floor all chipped in to buy him an Xbox360. The main reason is for therapy on two fronts...first is to help him regain the dexterity in his hands that he lost from a previous injury and secondly, to help the family get through this tough time. PFK was able to get some “add-ons” as well as provide a \$500 gift card to help he and his family find a little joy this Christmas season. TJ was overwhelmed by our visit and was very thankful for all of it.”



Giving from the Heart



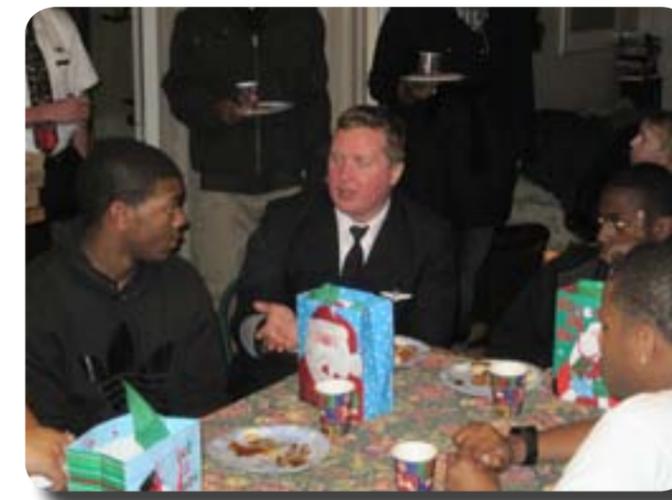
Above and left, Captain Baldy and PFK volunteers in Point Pleasant, NJ visit hospitalized children at the Jersey Shores Medical Center.



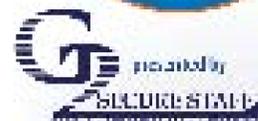
CITY: MKE/Milwaukee, WI
COORDINATOR: Brandon Vondrak
PARTICIPANTS: AirTran, Republic, Midwest and Landmark Aviation

Photos on this page show PFK volunteers during their annual pizza party and gift giving event at Walker's Point, a homeless shelter for teens in the Milwaukee area.

The Milwaukee area Pilots for Kids group held its second annual pizza party and gift giving event for Walker's Point on December 16, 2010. Walker's Point runs two shelters for homeless teens. One shelter is the “Transitional Living Program (TLP) Youth Home.” This shelter provides transient or homeless youth with a home environment as well as various other services which are aimed to prepare the youth for independent living. The second shelter is a “Teen Crisis Program” which provides a home and counseling to teens. Fifteen youth and youth staffers attended our event and each teen received a gift bag filled with candy and a \$20 gift card to Target. Tickets to a University of Milwaukee women's basketball game were donated by AirTran. In addition, the TLP center received two bean bag chairs from PFK. We held a question and answer session during the event and the highlight of the night was that a couple of lucky teens got to wear Captain Kurt's hat. A good time was had by all and the youth were very thankful for the gifts provided by PFK. Volunteers for the visit were Dan Wolkomir (AirTran), James Kostelyk (Republic), Kurt Overbagh (SkyWest), Josh Handrich (Republic), Bart Goldman (Landmark Aviation) and Brandon Vondrak (Landmark Aviation).



A special thanks goes to the Midwest pilots for their donations in memory of Captain Mike Walker, the former MKE PFK coordinator.



Monday, May 16, 2011
Hackberry Creek Country Club
Irving, TX

Benefiting Hospitalized
Children of the DFW Area



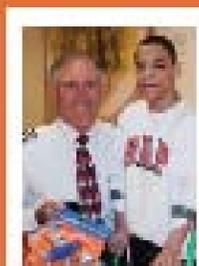
Hosted by the Dallas Fort Worth Chapter of Pilots for Kids



Pilots For Kids is an international, nonprofit organization that is dedicated to making sure that hospitalized children receive the attention, support and love they need during hospitalization. Founded in 1983 by airline crewmembers who wanted to address the needs of hospitalized children, PFK has built its success on many individual efforts (pilots from various airlines) that come together as one for a very special cause. If you are interested in joining Pilots For Kids, please visit pilotsforkids.org for more information.



PFK's primary activity is visiting and distributing toys to hospitalized children. Visits occur throughout the year, although the majority of the visits are during the December holidays. In addition to hospitals, members visit children's shelters, orphanages, halfway houses, and other facilities with children in need of love, affection and a small token of thoughtfulness. Every year thousands of children are met nationwide.



100% of all donations raised by crewmembers are spent on items for the children. Besides toys, PFK has purchased wheelchairs, hospital beds and special medical equipment.

What: 9th Annual Pilots For Kids Golf Tournament
benefiting hospitalized children of the DFW area

Format: Four Person Scramble
Limited to the first 100 players

When: Monday, May 16, 2011
• 9:00 am Arrival/Registration
• 9:30 am Teeing Range Open
• 11:00 am Luncheon Buffet
• 12:15 pm Shotgun Start
• 5:00 pm Awards Dinner
• 6:00 pm Follow-Tee Auction

Player Package includes:

- **Landscaper Buffet** Sponsored by American Airlines Credit Union
- **Hospitality Host** Sponsored by Smith Anglin Financial
- **Awards Dinner** Sponsored by Colleen Barrett, President Emerita of Southwest Airlines
- **Celebrity Players**
- **Player Gift Bag**
- **Team and Individual Prizes**



- Hole-in-One 2011 BMW 125i Convertible
- Hole-in-One Trip for Two
- Top 3 Team Prizes
- Largest Entry Prize
- Closest-to-the-Pin Prizes
- Free Frank of Golf

Where: Hackberry Creek Country Club
1901 West Royal Lane
Irving, TX 75061
972-444-9154

Why: To raise funds to purchase gifts for hospitalized children at hospitals in Dallas and Fort Worth

For more information, please call [972] 444 8443



2011 Registration Form



Monday, May 16, 2011
Hackberry Creek Country Club
Irving, TX

Name: _____

Company Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

I would like to register _____ player(s) at \$750.00 each = \$ _____ total paid.

Send this completed form and check(s) payable to The Wilson Group

Golfers (Please print each golfer's name and handicap)

- | | |
|----------|-----------------|
| 1. _____ | Handicap: _____ |
| 2. _____ | Handicap: _____ |
| 3. _____ | Handicap: _____ |
| 4. _____ | Handicap: _____ |

Note: Individuals will be teamed with walk-in handicapped players, unless otherwise requested.

I cannot participate at the above sponsorship levels, but would like to make a donation in the amount of \$ _____

Entry deadline: Monday, May 2, 2011

Please complete form and return with check to The Wilson Group, 10555 Newkirk, #500, Dallas, TX 75220
Phone: [972] 444-8443 • Fax [972] 444-9875 • e-mail: woodys.ark@thewilsongroup.net

Thank you for your generous support!
All activities are for paid participants only.

CITY: DEN/Denver, CO

COORDINATOR: Stephen Henderson

PARTICIPANTS: UAL, FedEx, Frontier and Int'l Jet

The Front Range "PFK Troopers" showed their true colors once again with overwhelming support and participation with our 5 holiday shelter visits. What makes this so special is how serious/challenging the missions are for each one of these Colorado organizations. However, that did not deter our pilot/flight attendant group - instead it brought strengthened commitment and concern. Furthermore, in reviewing our attendance rosters since the early 2000s, the remarkable dedication of our group was demonstrably evident with the same recurring names year after year. The following include those devoted volunteers, giving both of their time and treasure. Please give them a "shout-out" if you recognize / run-into-them as you traverse this great big Aviation world.

- | | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Scott Ginn | Shelly Smith | Dana Evert | Eric Ecklund |
| Rich Van Slyke | Mark Bosler | Mark Bomber | Dave Miller |
| Beth Janssen | Gary Duncan | Greg Lunsford | Greg Hall |
| Dave Cross | Tom DeBoalt | Maureen Robinson | Joe Gamarano |
| Bill Anonsen | Erik Stark | Rich Frampton | J Achtenberg |
| Keith Niemitalo | Brian Smith | Kristen Coyle | Scott Lamb |
| Denise McDonald | Lynn Kroch | Dave Guinn | David Claytor |
| Tom Kreutz | Keith Miemitalo | Bruce Feinstein | Lizette Stuber |
| Kevin Lambeth | Peter Senior | Bill Morris | Ruth Sherry |
| Mark Divish | Rick & Gayle Bebee | Mark Castellani | Bret Ahern |
| Doug Philpott-Jones | Jeff McDonald | Jolanda Witvliet | Dave Horwitz |
| Mike Everist | Dean McDavid | Dave Chancellor | Steve Knopf |

Beyond our pilot/flight attendants, some local community businesses stepped up and provided assistance:
The Browning Group II LLC www.tbgz.com
Ereading books www.ereadingbook.com
Zapilre & Associates www.zapiler.com
The Taste of Philly www.tasteofphilly.biz



In photos above and left, Denver PFK volunteers visit five shelters in the Denver area bringing gifts and holiday cheer to the residents.

SPECIAL GIFTS

Looking for a few pilot related gifts? It is as easy as shopping at our website to select just what you need. Visit us at "The Store" at pilotsforkids.org & pick out some of our unique gifts.

Only \$20
New Product... While they last!

PFK Merchandise:

Sport Sweatshirt
The ideal garment for any season. Choose your sweatshirt from white, ash or royal blue. Sizes: White and Ash - Youth Large, M, L, XL, 2XL Royal Blue - L, XL \$16.00



PFK Merchandise

Pilots For Kids items, including: sweatshirts, polos, T-s, ball caps, travel mugs and luggage tags are available.

Visit *The Store* at Pilots For Kids.org or contact Carol Stocker at: (440) 285-9635 or write us at our PO Box.

PFK Sport Hoodies
Limited Sizes

50/50 Poly/Cotton Blend
Blue available in sizes S, M, L, 2XL
Gray available in size S only
\$20.00



T-shirts \$10.00



Ball caps \$7.50, & \$10.00



Travel Mugs \$9.00

CITY: SEA/Seattle, WA

COORDINATOR: Barry Sacks

PARTICIPANTS: Delta

Long time PFK coordinator, Barry Sacks, was joined by 6 other Delta pilots in mid December when they visited over 50 children at the Seattle Children's Hospital. The cockpit photo posters of a Delta 757 were very well received by the children. Barry calls the PFK visits "one of the best 'reality checks' on the planet. We have so much to share and it is so easy to find children that appreciate all we have to give."

CITY: SAT/San Antonio, TX
COORDINATOR: Charlie Patterson
PARTICIPANTS: American and DNA Fit employees

San Antonio PFK coordinator, Charlie Patterson, was assisted in delivering gifts by Devin Verdon, owner of D-N-A Fitness, and two of his employees, as well as Kathleen O'Shea Schenken. The group had a successful area visit on December 16th, sharing gifts and holiday cheer with approximately 20 children. The youngsters at Christus Santa Rosa Children's Hospital enjoyed a brighter Christmas due to the efforts of this great group of volunteers.

Thanks to Charlie and his volunteers for another great year of giving.



SAT volunteers helped to brighten the holidays for young patients at Christus Santa Rosa Children's Hospital on December 16th.

CITY: ORD/Chicago, IL
COORDINATOR: Kathi Hurst
PARTICIPANTS:

Young patients at Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge, Illinois received pilot visits and holiday gifts in December from an enthusiastic group of PFK members. The group visited with about 150 children, not including the infant unit. The infant unit had upwards to 100 babies throughout the month. PFK has been visiting this facility for about 15 years, and is warmly welcomed by the staff and patients. Thanks to coordinator Kathi Hurst and her group of volunteers for their dedication.

Top to bottom, PFK volunteers in Chicago visited infants and children at Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge, IL. Pilots even donned sanitary blue smocks to visit young patients.

CITY: EWR/Newark/Hackensack, NJ
COORDINATOR: Brian Heron
PARTICIPANTS: CAL

Over four years ago, Brian Heron introduced his fiancée, a nurse at Hackensack University Medical Center, to the PFK program. She was very impressed and has helped with organizing the local event ever since.

Brian relays their strategy, "Our usual game plan is to get gift bags and fill them with toys for the different age groups and sexes. We do gift bags for young boys, young girls, and older boys/older girls. We usually see about 30 to 35 children from all ages. The youngest child we saw this year, 2010, was a 5 week old baby boy. His mom was very grateful for our visit and gift bag. I've noticed, from doing the hospital visits, that each year a handful of children really stand out as very remarkable and unforgettable. The feeling that we get from the kids is worth all of the hard work and effort that we put into gathering the toys and organizing the gift bags and making the event happen. It's much more about giving and expecting nothing in return. When a child or a parent gives us a heartfelt thank you, it definitely tugs at the heart strings!

The doctors and nurses in the PICU look forward to our visit each year and we've been there between some of the big MLB, NFL, and NHL teams. The staff at HUMC tells us that we (the pilots) are more popular than the sports team players! Maybe, maybe not....but it sounds nice!"



EWR PFK volunteers CA Vasco Rodrigues, FO Matt Sloan, CA/Asst. Chief Pilot Mike Bowers and CA Brian Heron collected, bagged and delivered gifts to the Don Imus Pediatric Center for Tomorrow's Childrent at Hackensack University Medical Center. They are helped by Stephanie Omens (top photo) who coordinates the Child Life Art Therapy program at the Children's Hospital at HUMC.



CITY: ANC/Anchorage, AK
COORDINATORS: Christopher & Amy Carman
PARTICIPANTS: FedEx

Over 18 Federal Express pilots and spouses attended the 2010 Pilots for Kids hospital visits to the Providence Alaska Medical Center and the Alaska Native Medical Center. In addition gifts were sent to Clare House, an emergency shelter for women and children. Anchorage pilots donated \$4535 towards gifts for the children. Santa passed out candy canes, chocolate Santa's and over 160 toys to the children, as well as gift bags to their parents on Tuesday, December 14th. Everyone had a wonderful time and coordinators, Christopher and Amy Carman, are very appreciative of the great turn out to distribute gifts and the generous donations!



Above and right, Anchorage PFK members brought lots of holiday cheer when they visited patients at Providence Alaska Medical Center and the Alaska Native Medical Center on December 14th. ANC pilots donated over \$4500 to PFK for local support!

CITY: MSP/Minneapolis, MN
COORDINATORS: Mike Roelof, Terry Rice, Jim Fisher & Stephanie Laidlaw
PARTICIPANTS: Delta

Working with Delta Air Lines, PFK sponsored a fantasy flight and North Pole party at the airport at gate F4. Over 60 children joined Mike Roelof and his coordinating partners Terry Rice and Jim Fisher for a carnival, magic show, sing along and a flight to the North Pole. The company helped by providing an aircraft the children boarded for their flight to the North Pole. After a high speed taxi and tour of the airport taxi ways the children returned to the gate which was transformed to the North Pole while they were gone and found themselves at none other than Santa's house, who was ready with gifts for each of the children.

Stephanie Laidlaw coordinated another annual event on January 26th at the St. Joseph's Home for Child in the Twin Cities. MSP pilots visited with over 100 children passing out gifts and sharing smiles.

CITY: FLL/Fort Lauderdale, FL
COORDINATOR: Frank Ferrante
PARTICIPANTS: Delta

PFK Coordinator, Frank Ferrante, led a group of pilots to the Children's Home society of Florida, working with the adoptions recruiter to make a difference in some special children's lives.



CITY: HOU/Houston, TX
COORDINATOR: Ofelia Carrasco
PARTICIPANTS: CAL

PFK members in Houston visited Texas Children's Hospital on December 7, 2010, delivering plenty of gifts and holiday cheer to the young patients there. Special thanks to Captain Bill Bella who wore the "red uniform" for the occasion.



Lots of help...



And lots of patients to visit for PFK in DFW



Above and left, Continental crews and their families visited Texas Children's Hospital in HOU on December 7th, spreading plenty of gifts and holiday cheer.

Volunteers Needed

If you want to help children and can donate some time to Pilots for Kids, contact Ed Faath at president@pilotsforkids.org

We need YOU!

City: CLE/Cleveland, OH
Coordinator: Andy Adams
Participants: CAL

PFK volunteers in Cleveland visited MetroHealth Hospital on December 10, 2010, and later visited the Cleveland Clinic in January. CAL participants included Kevin Moncrieff, James Henry, Al Macino, Joe Morowitz, George Henning, Aaron Kunzen, Eric Mendheim and Ray Blaha. The group distributed gifts to the youngsters and joined them in fun and games to help lighten the burdens of their illnesses.

More Denver Photos below...



Above and below, Cleveland PFK volunteers visited with youngsters at MetroHealth Hospital and the Cleveland Clinic, sharing gifts and holiday cheer.



City: DFW/Dallas/Fort Worth, TX
Coordinator: Wayne Morrison
Participants: Southwest, American and Various Other Airlines

Well, despite the poor economy, we had a very successful year here in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. We visited 4 hospitals and saw over 600 children.

Our first visit was Cook Children's Hospital in Fort Worth and we had about 30 pilots help distribute the toys to 300 kids. Next we visited Dallas Children's Medical Center where about 30 pilots met in the auditorium and a large number of kids came down to visit us. All the children got their toys and made paper airplanes and necklaces. There were paper planes flying everywhere. Then we went up to the rooms to visit the children who couldn't come down to the auditorium and we saw everything from newborns to 18 year olds. They were all so happy to see us. The following week 25 pilots went to Texas Scottish Rite and visited about 125 children. We surprised a lot of kids in the out-patient clinic; then went upstairs and brought a lot of smiles to all the children that were in bed. Our final visit was to Our Children's House at Baylor and everyone there had a great time handing out toys to all the grateful children.

All the children each got at least 4 toys. The younger ones got bubbles, a teddy bear, a magic writer and a book. The older children got a radio, camera, an MP-3 player and a book of puzzles. All this would not have been possible without the help of over 50 pilots from 7 different airlines to help distribute all these toys and bring smiles to all these kids. We have many pictures from all these events that can be seen if you go to johnelseyphotography.com.

Coordinator, Wayne Morrison also writes, "I want to remind everyone about our PFK Golf tournament on May 16, 2011. The Wilson Group runs the tournament and does a fantastic job. A FUN FUN event. I have been to a lot of golf tournaments and this is by far the best with lots of gifts handed out as well as an awesome raffle. It is a fun day of golf that starts with lunch, a putting contest, and a golf clinic held by a professional. We then play the tournament on the

beautiful Hackberry Country Club followed by happy hour and a delicious buffet dinner and auction. There is everything from four celebrities who play a hole with every participant to Hooters Girls who hand out golf balls on the "closest to the hole" contest. This is our only fund raiser and it is a lot of fun. If you want to help a great charity and have a lot of fun, please contact Woody Euart at the Wilson Group at 972 444-8443. We would love to see you there."



Above and below, PFK volunteers in DFW visited over 600 children at four hospitals in the Dallas/Fort Worth area.



CITY: MCO/Orlando, FL
COORDINATOR: Mark Plussa
PARTICIPANTS: ABX, NetJets, NW/DL and SWA

This year seemed to be a great year, as far as the quality of our hospital visits. We started our day with some laughs and a great breakfast at the White Wolf Café. This year, the following Pilots helped with the toy distribution: Ed Faath (ABX Air), Barry Hakimian (retired UAL), Ludwig and Anchorelle Van Sprang (NetJets), Candy Christmas (retired NW/DL), Eric Nordheim (Continental), Pete Neilsen (DL), Dallas Dudley (SWA), Theresa Ryan (SWA), and Mark Plussa (SWA).

We divided the group into two. One went to Arnold Palmer Hospital and the other went to Florida Children's Hospital. In total, about 180 toys were distributed. Our next stop was The Russell Home. There a monetary donation was dropped off. We were given a nice tour, and had time to say hello to the kids and share a few laughs.

Everyone's feedback was extremely positive from the PFK helpers to the hospital staff. Please know that your donations are making a lot of kids and parents smile here in Orlando.



Dear Friends,

May God bless you for blessing us so abundantly with this gift of \$1250.00; it comes at a time of great need. Please know it will be used wisely and solely for the benefit of the special children in our care. God bless you and have a Merry Christmas.

*Janet Russell Nixon
Director*



Above, Orlando PFK volunteers enjoyed visits to two local hospitals as well as The Russe Home, a facility for atypical youngsters.

CITY: LAX/Los Angeles, CA
COORDINATOR: Marty Harrington
PARTICIPANTS:

On December 15, 2010, Los Angeles Pilots for Kids volunteers delivered dozens of toys to the gravely sick children at the City of Hope Hospital in Duarte, CA. This dedicated group of Santa's helpers included Andrew Coward, Andrew Minney, Dan Delane, Jim Bailey, Steve Smith, and Tom Witts. Tom is the son of retired Fedex pilot Tom Witts, who started our relationship with the City of Hope Hospital. Tom Jr. currently flies for Skywest Airlines.

Later in the month, coordinator Marty Harrington delivered a new Xbox 360 and many more toys to Torrance Memorial Hospital. The children's playroom had an Xbox that was worn out from use, and Pilots for Kids happily replaced it, adding a few new games for the children. On Christmas the nurses delivered PFK's gift-wrapped toys to the boys and girls spending the holidays at the hospital.

Marty was very appreciative for all of the help he received, "I would personally like to thank everyone that donated money to the 2010 Pilots for Kids event. Special thanks to Scott Lohman, who drove up from Orange County with his family to help wrap presents. Steve Smith, Dan Delane, Jim Bailey, Sheree Weber and Bill Constable also pitched in wrapping toys."



PFK volunteers prepare to deliver gifts to children at the City of Hope Hospital in Duarte, California on December 15, 2010 as part of their holiday tradition.



Above, Las Vegas volunteers visited the Women's Shade Tree Shelter during January, 2011, and bringing smiles to all.

CITY: LAS/Las Vegas, NV
COORDINATOR: Gary Dolson
PARTICIPANTS:

On January 24, 2011, volunteers from PFK visited children at The Shade Tree, a facility sheltering women and children in times of need. PFK provided gifts to about 45-55 children ranging in age from several months to 17 years. These children and their mothers have no place of their own and basically nothing of great value. PFK members, Hal Miller and his wife, Jim Palmer and coordinator, Gary Dolson, presented gifts which included: hair brushes, berets, nail clippers and nail polish for the older girls; coloring books, pencils, crayons, stickers, games for the younger girls; airplane models, cars, dinosaur creatures and balls for both young and older boys. Everyone enjoyed airplane posters and a pizza party along with the gifts!

CITY: TOL/Toledo, OH
COORDINATOR: Tom Dooley
PARTICIPANTS: Delta

Tom Dooley took over for long time PFK coordinator Dale Carter and has picked up right where he left it, in great shape. Tom and other pilots visited the Toledo Children's Hospital including the ICU unit. They touched the lives of 40 children leaving behind in addition to their support and smiles, books and stuffed animals. Delta flight attendant, Lauren Lemos has written several soft cover children's books and she donated 100 of them to the PFK effort.

CITY: BNA/Nashville, TN
COORDINATOR: John Floyd
PARTICIPANTS: Delta

2010 Fundraising Event

John Floyd coordinated 3 events in the BNA area this season. He writes:

“The first event was at the Nashville Rescue mission for family. We visited over 70 children. WowIt was a GREAT experience for us all! Our pilots want to do more throughout the year.

Our second event of the season was at the Center for Adoption, Dept. of Children Services, Nashville TN. The coordinator of the facility selected 12 young adults who are staying at Foster group homes and, due to their age, will probably be there until they are 18. Each young person (ages 15-17) sent in a “wish list” for us. Once again the PFK-BNA members and their families stepped up to the plate. Each member “adopted” a kid for the day. Some members adopted more than one. Their job was to purchase one or more items on the “wish list” and present it to them at the party. We had an unexpected group purchase gifts for the families too. Engine #1, Nashville TN, (the Fire Chief is one of our pilot’s father) adopted 3 kids that day. That was great! We met the kids at the Center for Adoption. Now, you can just guess how 12 inner city youth look at a group of Airline Pilots in uniform. Breaking the ice was tough at first but we got it done. As usual, we started out with a Pizza party. We mingled with the kids while eating and getting to know something about them. After that we had a plan to play a game for small prizes. Remember ‘Simon Says?’ Well it’s still a fun game and, to tell you the truth, the pilots were ‘out’ before many of the kids. Everyone received a small gift. Next we presented, one at a time, the “big” gifts the kids asked for. Our group was very generous. Needless to say, the kids were very grateful.

We met some good kids that day; kids that have had a lot of bad luck. Some of the ladies (PFK Volunteers) are going back in the coming days to help out some more.

PFK is a great program. We’re only in our second year but have already doubled the number of volunteers. We never turn down the help. Come out and join us next year.”

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CITY: DTW/Detroit, MI
COORDINATOR: James Young
PARTICIPANTS: Delta, MI Air Natl. Guard

This year the DTW based pilots, under the coordination of Jim Young, had two visits; first with kids at Mott Children’s Hospital in Ann Arbor and then later in the week at Beaumont Hospital Pediatrics Rehabilitation Center in Royal Oak.

Jim Young writes:
“At Mott the staff escorted us through all four floors of Pediatrics at Mott Hospital. While visiting over 200 children, we distributed T-shirts, stuffed animals, thermos bags, and water bottles. There were a lot of new friendships made and a lot of smiles from the kids. One particular young boy was very quiet until the poster of a 757 was given to him and, from then on, he was all smiles. At Mott, we had 18 pilots visiting the hospital and passing out gifts for all the kids. During the Beaumont Rehab Center Holiday party, we had 15 pilots attending, including pilots from the Michigan Air National Guard. During the visit we met with over 170 kids and their parents. One of our pilots took pictures of the families with Santa and Mrs. Claus. The rest of our group passed out stuffed animals and Captain Baldy dolls along with Bouncy buddies, thermos bags, cockpit posters, silly bands, and a lot of good treats. There was fun all around. Our favorite thing during the party was spending time with the kids, talking and having fun with all the kids and their families. Over the years we have been able to see the progress these children have been able to make with the help of the staff at the Rehab Center. One young girl in particular was in a wheelchair 3 years ago, unable to walk on her own. Two years ago she was walking with the aid of a walker. This year, Jackie was walking all on her own. It is truly a miracle that would not have happened without the help of the Beaumont doctors and staff. It is always a pleasure being a part of their Holiday Party.”

Web access: If you are a current PFK member, your username and password are: Username: **pfk** Password: **1983**

Address Change: If you have a change of address please complete the form on the back of this newsletter & mail to: Pilots For Kids, PO Box 620052 Orlando, FL 32862-0052.....Thanks!

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Membership Our organization is funded entirely by membership dues. Membership dues allow us to spend **100%** of our collected donations on the children. Annual membership dues are \$15.00.
Pilots For Kids members include airline crewmembers, corporate, military, private, and aviation enthusiasts.
See membership form on back cover.

Newsletter The Pilots For Kids Newsletter is published in March and November. Articles should be submitted to Kathie Schroeder at schroederfamily2@mac.com

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PFK Mascot, Capt. Baldy SM

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