



# Pilots For Kids<sup>SM</sup>

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

*Helping Hospitalized Children Since 1983*

N e w s l e t t e r

Nov 2007



Continental Airlines crewmembers & Santa on a Houston visit.

- \* **Our Annual hospital visits are about to kick off.** To take part in one of our visits, please contact one of our coordinators on page 2.
- \* **Congratulations to Captain Mike Newmeyer and Captain John Swanson as the shared recipients of our 2007 Pilots For Kids Award.** Please see page 5.
- \* **Welcome new members!** Page 8.

**“100% of our donations go to the kids”**

visit us at: [pilotsforkids.org](http://pilotsforkids.org)

**PRESIDENT'S CORNER:**

Hello Members,

Thank you all for everything you have done to make last year another successful year. You are the heart and backbone of Pilots For Kids and you have demonstrated your generosity with great concern for hospitalized children.

Aristotle once said, "A good man thinks it is more blessed to give than to receive." Thanks again to all the good men and good women who care enough to make Pilots For Kids the success it is.

With appreciation,

Ed Faath  
Pres.

GUAM Peter & Teresa Suek tsuek@myclearwave.net  
 HNL Eva Akata Eglinton lavarocker@aol.com  
 IAD Julie Callens ejcallens@aol.com  
 IAH Ofelia Carrasco/CAL-ALPA  
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**THANKYOU LETTER:**

*Thank you so much for your gift. My son has been in the hospital first in Cleveland and now in Columbus since two days before Thanksgiving. He is recovering from brain surgery and is currently in rehab. Your gift of "K' Nex" meant a lot to him, as building with his hands is something he is beginning to do again- one handed.*

*The Lippolis family*

**2007 HOSPITAL VISITS:**

| CITY               | CONTACT             | E-MAIL                            |
|--------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Point Pleasant, NJ | Rodney Biggs        | rnbiggs@comcast.net               |
| ABE                | Jeff Buchman        | jbuchman@ptd.net                  |
| ANC                | Tom & Fiona Peichel | fpeichel@yahoo.com                |
| ANC                | Jeff Case           | houseof5@ak.net                   |
| ATL                | Steve Stubbs        | sws757@yahoo.com                  |
| BIL                | David Lee           | davidrlee@earthlink.net           |
| BOS                | Gerry Gilbert       | Gerry_Russo-Gilbert@usairways.com |
| Cherry Hill NJ     | Steve Gould         | smgould2@cs.com                   |
| CLE                | Andy Adams          | askadams@adelphia.net             |
| CLT                | Bob Lawlor          | pi9921@aol.com                    |
| CMH                | Kathleen Crum       | kathcrum@hotmail.com              |
| COU                | Amie Howard         | amiflyer@cs.com                   |
| CVG                | Fred Owlett         | fowlett@cinci.rr.com              |
| DAY                | David & Lori Laake  | dlaake@woh.rr.com                 |
| DEN                | Steve Henderson     | spikeanddanny@yahoo.com           |
| DFW                | Wayne Morrison      | wayne_morrison@verizon.net        |
| DTW                | Jim Breaugh         | jwbreaugh@comcast.net             |
| FLL                | Mark Ator           | mark.ator@jetblue.com             |
| GFK                | Jenni Hedge         | jennihedge03@yahoo.com            |
| GRR                | Greg Chase          | gregorypCHASE@sbcglobal.net       |
| GSO                | Capt. Jean Thompson | njt1949@earthlink.net             |



**CITY: MCO:****PILOT GROUP:** Southwest**COORDINATOR:** Mark Plussa

Our MCO coordinator, Captain Mark Plussa, was very busy coordinating events during the year. As we mentioned in our last newsletter, the BICSI Cares organization donated a large sum of money to PFK to be used in the Central Florida area. Rather than reserve these funds for future events, we decided to distribute the funds to help the kids. Captain Plussa's first stop was the Russell Home. This home has relied completely on public funds for their support for severely handicapped children since 1944. They were extremely grateful for the \$15,000 check that Captain Plussa presented to them. Captain Plussa's next stop was the Central Florida Children's home. There, Captain Plussa rounded up his fellow "crewmembers/part time kitchen staff" Chris Cerny, Bob Gentner, Ed Faath,

and Tom Nagle, to serve the kids a big Italian dinner ordered from a very good Italian restaurant up the street. After everyone was finished eating, Mark & the other crewmembers personally handed out \$100.00 gift cards to the kids. "You thought it was Christmas," remarked Captain Plussa, and added, "The kids were so well behaved, appreciative of the dinner & gifts, and were genuinely happy to have you visiting with them. We'll definitely be adding this destination to our list of visits during the holidays."



MCO pilots visit the Central Florida Children's home.

**CITY: IND:****PILOT GROUP:** FedEx**COORDINATOR:** Ming Lowe

Southwest pilots presenting a gift of \$15,000.00 to the Russell Home



Capt. Ming Lowe on a visit in Indianapolis, IN

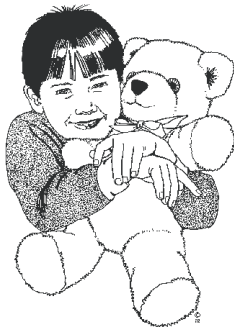


Capt. Ming Lowe on a visit in Indianapolis, IN

“Indy Pilots for kids added yet another visit to our schedule by adding Clarian North hospital this year. We saw almost 240 kids at four locations this past year and it was nice to have some new faces in the group. The two hospital visits went well with crews visiting each room and handing out gifts from pull behind wagons. At the two Saint Mary’s preschools pilots read books, chatted, and handed out stuffed stockings to 180 kids. The kids seemed especially interested this year. One of our volunteer flight attendants found a great resource for aviation related gifts and we purchased quite a few things in bulk from them at reasonable prices. The company is Daron Worldwide Trading and they supply many of the major airport gift shops with toys, models, etc. They carry the pilot hat you often see which the kids really like. Thanks to all those that helped make 2006 another fine year.”

Best regards,

Ming IND coordinator



## **CAPTAIN BALDY JR. HAS ARRIVED!**

Thanks to the creative and collaborative efforts of Captain Mark Bogosian and Captain Tim Hill, we now have a plush doll of our mascot, “Captain Baldy.” The “junior” Captain Baldy is 14” tall, has PFK wings on his chest, and sports a PFK logo on the back of his blue flying jacket.

Both Mark and Tim worked over a year to design and create the doll that is pictured in the photos below. We would like to offer Mark and Tim our sincere appreciation for what they have accomplished. The kids are sure to like our smaller version of Captain Baldy!







## 2007 PILOTS FOR KIDS AWARD



Every year our board has the difficult task of selecting our annual Pilots For Kids recipient. This year we have selected ATL coordinators Captain Mike Neumeyer and Captain John Swanson.

In talking with Captain Swanson, he couldn't have been more humble, insisting that he did not deserve the award. Instead, he suggested that we present the award to his predecessor, Captain Mike Neumeyer. When we contacted Captain Neumeyer, he proposed that we give the award to Captain Swanson. Therefore, both of our fine gentlemen will share our 2007 Pilots For Kids award.

We asked Captain Neumeyer to share his thoughts about participating and he wrote the following:

I believe it was the year 1995 when a local ALPA representative asked me if I had ever heard of "Pilots for Kids" and suggested it might be something of interest to me. After our brief conversation and some research, I decided to become involved with the organization. Not only did I like the idea of visiting children in the hospital, but especially appreciated the fiscal responsibility of the charity, with 100% of our pilots' donations being used to buy gifts for these visits. As the new "Atlanta Coordinator" I began by soliciting donations and volunteers from the Delta Pilots based in Atlanta for the upcoming Christmas visits to our local hospitals. It became quickly evident that most of the hospitals receive a great deal of attention from various groups in December, so we only scheduled a couple of visits for that month. With generous donations and careful gift buying, we had enough funds to continue our visits monthly throughout the winter. That first year, we established a very good relationship with Scottish Rite Childrens Hospital in Atlanta, visiting over 100 children on each of five trips. After twelve satisfying years, we still find that the children and even the staff get excited to see pilots in uniform, roaming the halls, giving out gifts and brightening the day of all involved. Through this span of time, it became clear that although the children were the

focus, we often have a greater impact on the parents. They have spent many hours in the hospital and are very receptive to seeing us, as well as having someone spend a few minutes with them and lending a caring ear. As a parent, seeing my young child in the hospital is one of the most difficult things I had ever dealt with. My personal experience came out well in the end, but illustrates the joy I feel as a participant in Pilots for Kids. It is a pleasure to make a small difference in what can be a trying time for both the children and their parents.

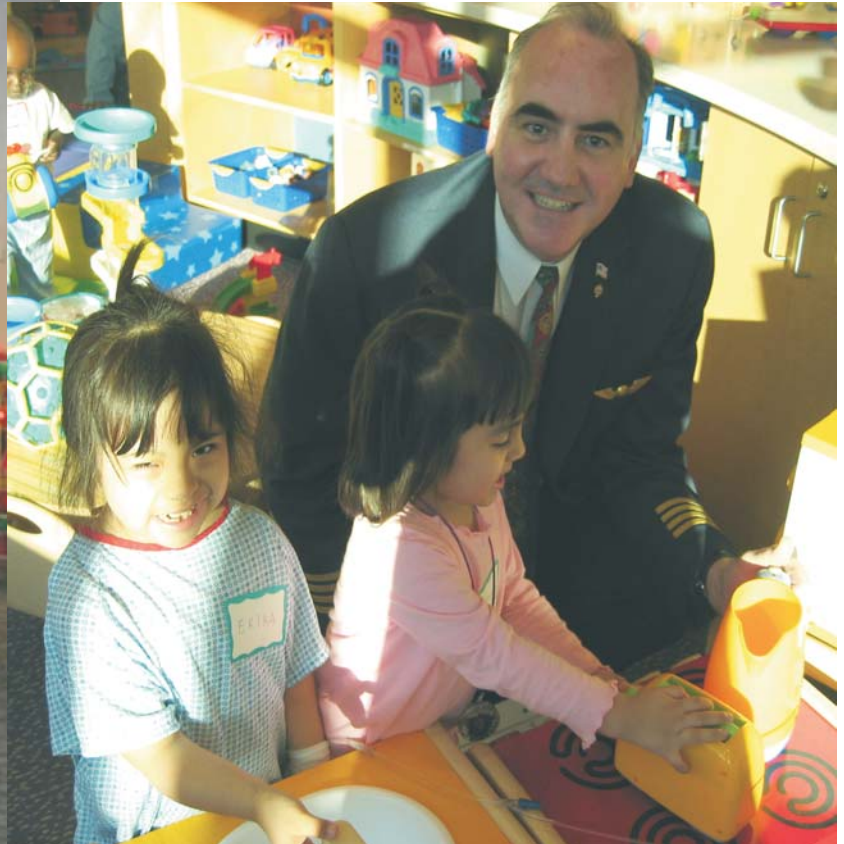
During my six years as the coordinator in Atlanta, a neighbor of mine, John Swanson, volunteered and helped in many ways. In the summer of 2000, my wife, Elaine and I decided to move to the mountains of North Georgia as empty nesters. Since that time, John has done an excellent job leading and coordinating the visits by pilots in Atlanta. It has been my privilege to work with him and I wish him the best as he prepares to pass the baton to another Delta pilot, Steve Stubbs. I would also like to extend my thanks to Ed Faath and the other board members who work year after year keeping this great charity going.

Fly safe!.....Mike Neumeyer



UAL pilot on a Denver visit

# PFK MEMBERS IN ACTION





# PFK MEMBERS IN ACTION



**HOLIDAY 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](http://pilotsforkids.org) & pick out some of our unique gifts.

**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 Bob Cirka at:  
[PFKMerchandise@pilotsforkids.org](mailto:PFKMerchandise@pilotsforkids.org)



T-shirts \$10.00



Ball caps \$7.50 & \$10.00



Travel Mugs \$9.00

*Pilots For Kids welcomes  
the following new mem-  
bers:*

John Barnett FedEx  
Michael Boyd United Airlines  
Joel Brown United Airlines  
Ryan Collins Freedom Airlines  
Robert Coopman Network For Good  
Chris Creny Southwest Airlines  
James Franklin Airtran Airlines  
Ed Gallagher ABX Air  
Colm Galvin Mesa Airlines  
Martin "Marty" Harrington FedEx  
Shannon Long Mesa Airlines  
Chad McGarry USAF  
Patrick McLaughlin Univ of N. Dakota  
Raymond Middlesworth American  
Scott Philpot Comair  
Terry Ryan Southwest Airlines  
Charles Sassone Delta Airlines  
Ken Wachs Delta Airlines  
Tandy Westmiller Exec Jet  
John R. Woelfel Northwest Airlines  
Tony Wolfe Southwest Airlines  
Peter Zabel Skywest

**Address Change:** If you have a change of address please complete the form on the back of this newsletter, or e-mail us at:  
[database@pilotsforkids.org](mailto:database@pilotsforkids.org) Our database manager, Bill Spinelli, will be glad to make those changes.

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

*Want to spread the word about us?  
Give your newsletter to a fellow pilot!*



**“APB!”**

Our PFK members have moved & we don't have their new address. If you can help, please e-mail us their new address at: [database@pilotsforkids.org](mailto:database@pilotsforkids.org)

..Thanks!

*Mike Babylon Jet Blue*

*Erika Berndt USAF*

*Brock Cooney Flightworks*

*Leo De Blecourt NWA*

*Douglas Delamater USAF*

*Frank Foster NWA*

*Keval Fox Comair*

*David & Brenda Fredrickson American Airlines*

*David Gieseke Jet Blue*

*Scott Gliedt JetBlue Airways*

*Max Griffen American Airlines*

*Doug Hall US Air*

*Jim Harrod UPS*

*Mike Herriott Midwest Express*

*John Hogan UPS*

*Pascal Houcke US Airways*

*John Kobitz Northwest Airlines*

*Kelly Koshlap JetBlue Airways*

*Scott MacPherson Jet Blue*

*Derek & Deirdre Manke Delta Airlines*

*Anthony Mazze American Airlines*

*Dave McElwee Southwest Airlines*

*Lester Pangilinan USAF*

*Nancy Peterson Federal Express*

*Jason Stevens Executive Jet Awn*

*Peter Trimarche Federal Express*

*Richo Veregara Federal Express*

*E. Wilkinson, III Federal Express*

*Kent Williams ASA*

**Pilots For Kids Organization, Inc.**  
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**Pilots For Kids Board of Directors:**

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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 crew-members, corporate, military, private, and aviation enthusiasts.

*See membership form on back cover.*

**Newsletter** The Pilots For Kids Newsletter is published in March and November.

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*PFK Mascot, Capt. Baldy*

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Pilots For Kids <sup>SM</sup>  
Organization

P.O. Box 620052

Orlando, Florida 32862-0052

*"Helping hospitalized children since 1983"*

*Become a Pilots For Kids member, today!*



Complete the attached membership form and return it with your tax deductible \$15 annual dues which will help fund the organization.

By becoming a member, you will receive a membership card, lapel pin, flight bag decal, luggage tag, our Pilots For Kids newsletter and most importantly, an opportunity to help hospitalized children.



## NEW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / ADDRESS CHANGE

Please check here if this is a mailing or e-mail address change.

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Airline/Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return your membership application along with your annual dues of \$15.00 to:

Pilots For Kids, P.O. Box 620052, Orlando, FL 32862-0052

Make checks payable to: *Pilots For Kids*

*Your information is considered confidential and is never sold or shared.*

