<u>Pilots For K</u>ids Organization



Pilots For Kids...

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

Helping Hospitalized Children Since 1983

Newsletter

March 2016



Retired Delta pilot, Sarah Pearl, is a member of the Seattle PFK group. Her enthusiasm is representative of all who participate in Pilots for Kids whether their support is via visitations, donations, coordination, administration or any other capacity. Congratulations to all members on another hugely successful year!

SAVE THE DATE

PFK Dallas/Fort Worth Golf Tournament (details on page 10)

Monday, May 23, 2016

"100% of our donations go to the kids"

visit us at: www.pilotsforkids.org

President's Corner...

Dear Members,

Recently, one of our members asked me how we handled our funds.

It was a great question, especially considering that we are a nonprofit charity dedicated to helping hospitalized children.

I explained that our funding falls into two categories, dues and donations. Our dues fund the operational expenses of our organization and our donations go to the children. Each fund is kept separate and is never mixed. In addition, our organization pays for the credit card fees for our on-line donations, thereby, insuring that 100% of our donors' hard earned dollars go to benefit hospitalized children.

With no paid staff and everyone being a volunteer, we are able to make our impact greater.

Thank you for your support!

With appreciation, *Ed Taath* President, P.F.K.









Pilots for fidsThe note enclosed is from a patient there at
Nemours children's Harpital. Pilots came to
visit on september 8th and paid a visit to
Mitchell. His mom called us after the visit to
let us know how much he enjoyed you all
stopping by. It was the first smile he had
Since being in the hospital and helped turn
a bad day into a good one! Thank you
for all you do.

Jenna fuller
Narketing 3 communication
Nemours children's Harpital



Above and left, IAH PFK members during their successful hospital visit to Texas Children's Hospital. The Houston Pilots For Kids have been visiting children in Hospitals for the past 21 years.

CITY: IAH/Houston, TX COORDINATOR: Bill Bella

PARTICIPANTS: United, ExpressJet

The Houston Pilots For Kids had a very successful Holiday visit to Texas Children's Hospital in Houston on December 8. Sixteen (16) United and Express Jet Pilots joined Santa, spreading cheer to approximately 120 hospitalized children.

"We had a lot of new Pilots For Kids who did a great job interacting with the children bringing happiness and discussing their hobbies and interests," said Captain Bill Bella (Santa).

We split into 2 groups with a Spanish speaking pilot in each group to assist with the numerous Spanish speaking patients. This visit enabled us to give each child at least one United gift as a memory of our visit. We distributed to the children the United Pullback Airplane toy with lights and jet sound, a specially designed small teddy bear with a United t-shirt, an inflatable United airplane and a United Airplane stress reliever.

Texas Children's Hospital has often said, "The Houston Pilots For Kids are one of their best and favorite groups that visit the Hospital and they truly proved it again today!" The Houston Pilots For Kids volunteers have been visiting children in hospitals for the past 21 years.

CITY: SLC/Salt Lake City, UT COORDINATOR: Lorrie Cunneen

PARTICIPANTS: Delta

On December 16th, 70 Christmas presents of Star Wars airplanes were shared with the children at The Children's Center.

All who participated had big smiles and big hearts! The group looks forward to more events in the coming years and encourages everyone in the Salt Lake area to join in the fun. PFK wants to thank each and every pilot who either joined, donated or participated in the local event.



Above, PFK members in SLC delivered 70 gifts to youngsters at the Children's Center Utah. Congrats to a great group of volunteers!

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

Pilots for Kids in Nashville hosted a fun filled afternoon at the Nashville Rescue Mission for Women and Children on Dec 5, 2015. This was the group's sixth time visiting the Rescue Mission. It never gets old.

More than 30 Children were on hand to enjoy the fun and games. It's always hard to break the ice, so volunteers started the day with a Pizza Party to get to know everyone. Next came games while volunteers also coordinated the blanket and toy give always.

This year's volunteers really came through. One family donated enough toys to cover most of the children. Another family supplied a Piñata, while still others supplied cookies to decorate and games to play. A local Church group made all the blankets that were given to the children. It was a great community effort and everyone had an enjoyable visit.

The five pilots could not have done this without the help of their spouses and friends who reach out to the kids and their moms in a very special way. Time went by quickly and the rewards for volunteers were amazing. Coordinator, John Floyd, encourages other PFK members in the Nashville area to join in the festivities next year!



children at the Cleveland Christian Home and the Children's Ward of The Cleveland Clinic. The volunteers provided gifts and provided lots of information about aviation to the youngsters.





Family and friends joined in the fun when PFK volunteers visited the Nashville Rescue Mission for Women and Children. Over 30 children enjoyed the Pizza Party, games and gifts provided by the group. This is the sixth year that PFK volunteers have visited the shelter.

CITY: CLE/Cleveland, OH COORDINATOR: Andy Adams

PARTICIPANTS: United, Southwest, Jet Express,

ABXAir and Ladies from the 99's

Cleveland PFK members had two visits. The first visit was to The Cleveland Christian Home, where the group visited boys 12 - 18 years old. Volunteers engaged in spirited conversations about aviation and let the group examine airplane instruments and approach plates and maps. After the talks, the boys all received radio controlled drones for their rooms.

The second visit took place after the holidays at The Cleveland Clinic Children's Ward. This was a room to room visit, where volunteers met with the children and their parents. The plush animal gifts were warmly received.









CITY: DEN/Denver, CO

COORDINATOR: Steve Henderson

PARTICIPANTS: United

Once again, the Colorado PFK "troopers" poured it on, and visited 5 local shelters where the need was significant... and palpable. Four of the shelters have been long-term PFK sponsorships, while the fifth was new for 2015 – Shiloh House - which serves children, 5-18 in overcoming the impact of abuse, neglect, and trauma. Similar to all of our shelters, their mission and circumstances are challenging and heart-wrenching. However, through the leadership of our All-Star coordinators (Lizette Stuber, Mike Everist, Jolanda Witvliet, Shelly and Brian Smith, Dana Evert, Bos Bosler, and Bill Anonsen), the children have benefited immensely from their serious concern and generosity. Finally, a special salute to Scott and Diana Ginn, who, after many years of leading our Family Life Services commitment, have relinquished command to Bill Anonsen.....Many thanks to Scott and Diana!





PFK volunteers in DEN enjoyed visiting children at five Denver area shelters throughout the holiday season. You may notice that many of the youngsters have covered their faces for photos; this is due to the sensitive nature of children being housed in shelters that deal with abuse, neglect and trauma. Congrats to the Front Range volunteers who had another successful year!

CITY: ATL/Atlanta, GA COORDINATOR: Don Myers

PARTICIPANTS: Delta, Endeavor, PSA, ExpressJet, NetJets, Frontier, Shuttle America, American, Envoy

PFK members in ATL enjoyed several visits to Hughes Spalding Childrens Hospital and Children's Healthcare of Atlanta. The group delivered a multitude of gifts and good cheer to the youngsters and their families.



Above, ATL PFK members enjoyed their visits to Children's Healthcare of Atlanta and Hughes Spalding Children's Hospital.





CITY: ANC/Anchorage, AK COORDINATOR: Martha Service

PARTICIPANTS: FedEx

It was another successful year in Anchorage with the Pilots for Kids visits. Over 20 uniformed FedEx Pilots, spouses, family members and Santa join us on December 15, 2015 for visits to two local hospitals (Providence and Alaska Native). In addition, a small contingent deliver gifts to the Mat-Su Regional Medical Center. As in previous years, volunteers also delivered wrapped gifts to the local Clare House (an emergency homeless shelter for women and children).

The group distributed over 200 wrapped gifts, parent gift bags, candy canes, chocolates and a huge amount of Christmas cheer. PFK was joined by their favorite singing quartet who entertained all throughout the visits! The turnout for this worthwhile event was outstanding and the response from those visited was heartwarming.

Coordinator, Martha Service, would personally like to thank Amy Carman, Kim Meeds, Karin Evans, Rose Colbern and Vicki Ramage for helping to make Pilot for Kids 2015 a huge success. It was a team effort, and these individuals were instrumental in making the visits a success. Everyone agreed that this was a very successful and heartwarming event.



Above and left, PFK volunteers in ANC enjoyed another successful year visiting three area hospitals and a homeless shelter during the holiday season. Over 200 gifts were distributed by the 20+ PFK volunteers. Their hard work was rewarded by the happy faces of the recipients.











Above and left, PFK volunteers from NetJets delivered gifts to over 70 children through the Columbus Homeless Families Foundation.

CITY: CMH/Columbus, OH COORDINATOR: Paulette Gilbert

PARTICIPANTS: NetJets

In the spirit of the holiday season, the NetJets Association of Shared Aircraft Pilots (NJASAP), NetJets Aviation, Inc., and the Columbus chapter of Pilots For Kids (P4K) partnered in support of the Columbus Homeless Families Foundation, an area charity that serves families and children in need. The pilot union distributed gifts to more than 70 children who were given the opportunity to make a Christmas wish. Dressed in uniform, a contingent of pilots sat with the children and watched as they opened their gifts during the mid-December Christmas party.

Gifts were collected in the weeks prior to the distribution as NetJets employees had the option of making an online donation or taking an envelope from the gift tree and purchasing the requested item. More than 150 gifts were wrapped during a three-hour party held in the NetJets Flight Center. The generosity shown by the pilots and their NetJets peers was overwhelming as the conference room was filled to capacity with gifts.

Pilots then gathered to offer Christmas cheer and to distribute gifts at the Foundation. They were joined by a representative from Congresswoman Joyce Beatty's office, who offered words of encouragement and praise to the children. NJASAP considered it a privilege to have the opportunity to serve area children for a second year in a row.







Above, a dedicated group of PFK volunteers from EWR enjoyed their 8th annual visit to St. Joseph Children's Hospital. Congrats to this dedicated group of pilots again this year.

CITY: EWR/Newark, NJ COORDINATOR: Brian Heron

PARTICIPANTS: UAL, CAE Simulator Training,

Frontier and ExpressJet

A small group of volunteers got together for the 2015 PFK visit to St. Joseph Children's Hospital. Last year the group was not able to visit with the children due to visitor restrictions related to concerns about Ebola and the flu. However, PFK donated several boxes of toys outside the hospital to the Child Life Specialists.

This year, visitations worked out very well. Volunteers had over 55 gift bags assembled and organized by ages and gender which were delivered to individual patients. There were lots of happy smiling children and grateful parents. This is one of the best feelings of participating in PFK!

This was the group's eighth year of doing PFK visits and they are excited about future events. Coordinator, Brian Heron summed up the group's feelings, "Sometimes the best gift that we can get out of doing a PFK visit is the smile or laugh from a sick child and a big hug or handshake, or just a thankful nod of appreciation from a stressed out parent."









Above and lower left, FSD volunteers spread holiday joy as they visited young patients at Sanford Children's Hospital and Avera Hospital. The happy faces of patients and staff show how much their visit was appreciated!

CITY: FSD/ Sioux Falls, SD COORDINATOR: Chris Rossing

PARTICIPANTS: Delta, SkyWest and ExpressJet

A dedicated group of PFK volunteers spent December 16th visiting with young patients at Sanford Children's Hospital and Avera McKennan Hospital. Armed with over \$1500 in toys, games, plush airplanes and more, the uniformed pilots had the great pleasure of surprising and bringing a smile to the faces of several children and their families facing the stress of receiving treatment during an otherwise happy time of year.

This was the fourth consecutive year a Pilots For Kids event was held in Sioux Falls. New this year was an event at Sioux Falls' other large healthcare facility, Avera McKennan Hospital and University Health Center which was added to the fourth annual visit to Sanford. As the photos indicate, a great time was had by all!

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

PARTICIPANTS:

Again this year four pilots visited the UMC Children's Hospital in Las Vegas. The group took age appropriate gifts for boys and girls and enjoyed visiting with the youngsters as they handed out the presents.

UMC Children's Hospital helps families that are less fortunate and the families are very excited when Pilots for Kids representatives make a visit. Parents and children generally get big smiles when volunteers arrive and the pilots are always happy to have participated.

CITY: MSP/Minneapolis, MN

COORDINATOR: Stephanie Laidlaw

PARTICIPANTS:

On January 20, 2016, PFK volunteers in MSP hosted about 60 children and staff at St. Joseph's Home for Children. This shelter houses youngsters ages 6-17. PFK provided an afternoon of pizza, entertainment, games and crafts. Half of the 50 pizzas ordered, along with other food donations, were taken to a nearby overnight shelter that houses young adults ages 17-21 who come off the streets to sleep in available beds each night.

According to coordinator, Stephanie Laidlaw, "Our visits really make their day...And ours too!"



Above, MSP volunteers enjoyed their visit to St. Joseph's Home for Children on January 20, 2016. They enjoyed pizza, games, crafts and entertainment with the youngsters.

For Kids Organization





Golf Club



Please contact Paul Brown at pilotsforkids@yahoo.com or 214-725-7842

CITY: DFW/Dallas/Fort Worth, TX

COORDINATOR:

PARTICIPANTS: American, Southwest, NetJets,

ExpressJet, Envoy

Three dates...three hospitals. December was a busy month for PFK volunteers in Dallas/Fort Worth. Over 70 volunteers supported the efforts of Pilots for Kids during the holiday season.

On December 3rd Pilots for Kids visited Cook Children Hospital in Fort Worth. Over 23 DFW pilots and flight attendants volunteered their time to make a childs' day a little brighter. The pilots delivered toys, balloons, pillow pets and restaurant gift cards to patients. The Child Life Specialists meet with PFK volunteers to figure out what toys are most appropriate for each patient. Pilots grouped together in threes and fours and visited the hospital rooms for the toy delivery. Volunteers saw 176 children and 43 babies in the NICU. It was an amazing day, making children smile while they recover in the hospital. Extra toys were left at the hospital for future patients.

On December 4th, 13 pilots and sponsors visited Scottish Rite Hospital. Volunteers visited several outpatient children and 18 inpatient children. PFK passed out Melissa and Doug Toys, Pillow Pets, jewelry and lots of cool aviation balloons. All the items that were left over were given to the hospital to pass out to future patients. This was another great time allowing PFK to make a child's day a little brighter.

On December 16th, Pilots for Kids visited Childrens Medical Center in Plano. Over 35 pilots volunteered to help pass out toys to 145 outpatient and 26 inpatient children. PFK arrived with toys that included Pillow Pets, Melissa and Doug toys, jewelry and great aviation balloons. It was another great day of making each child's day a little brighter. After the event, all of the toys that were left over were again left at the hospital for future patients.

Right, PFK volunteers in DFW visited three area hospitals spreading cheer throughout the holiday season. They delivered balloons, gifts and good cheer everywhere they went.









Welcome New PJK Members

Skywest Airlines Allegiant Air Craig Abbott Hansel Duran Aaron Adrian Endeavor Air David Eastty Air Wisconsin Airlines Corp **ExpressJet Airlines** Tarek Alem Cameron Edwards ExpressJet Airlines Endeavor Air **Pevton Eustis** Atlas Air Shay Allen Dellts Air Lines Douglas Alte Brandon Falzon **SkyWest Airlines** Philip Altieri Alaska Airlines Christopher Fanone Envoy Air Christian Amaral **United Airlines** Wade Farrar **Endeavor Airline** Jerome Fath Virgin America Frank Ancona United Airlines Roger Anderson, Jr. FedEx Express James Fingerman NetJets John Antoniades **USA Jet Airlines** William Flory Republic Airways Skip Fox Jolynn Barbao Alaska Airlines American Airlines PSA Airlines, Inc. Steven Bauer Bill Fox **United Airlines** Buppachart Blue SkyWest Airlines Jeremy Freismuth Cathay Pacific Airways David Booth **PSA** Airlines Alexander Garcia Allegiant Air Steven Boyd **LECO Corporation** Zach Gerbner Mesa Airlines Mitch Brantner **USAF** and Compass Airlines Mesa Airlines Tim Gleeson **United Airlines** Steve Brashear Cole Goldenberg Mesa Airlines Steve Gratwick Aymeric Buchwald Republic Airlines Endeavor Air Republic Airlines Tim Green Austin Calvert American lauran Canatella American Airlines Corporate Flight Management Anusha Gregory Michael Carroll Envoy Air Inc. **Kevin Gregory** Chantilly Air, Inc. Robert Griffith Adam Casson Endeavor Air ExpressJet Jared Cederstrom Shuttle America Myles Grimm Mesa Airlines Republic Airlines Charles Grumbine **PSA Airlines Inc** Kirk Choquette Jeff Christman Southwest Airlines Dale Gustafson **United Airlines** Michael Ciabattoni **PSA** Airlines James Haldeman ExpressJet Airlines Lucas Clair **Compass Airlines** John Hannan ExpressJet Airlines, Inc. Jennifer Clark Shuttle America Ian Hanobeck **ExpressJet Airlines** United Airlines American Airlines Robert Clausen Bjorn Hansen Shawn Clayton **Delta Airlines** Benjamin Harris **Expressiet** Michael Cleveland Air Wisconsin Airlines Navid Hassani Endeavor Air Adam Cohn Republic Airlines Mark Hatem Shuttle America John Coomes Shuttle America Scott Hedge Delta Air Lines Teresa Cooper **ExpressJet Airlines** Jacob Hepfinger Mesa Airlines **Daniel Cotter** Plane Insights Flight School Reid Herman Compass Airlines **United Airlines** Rvan Crabbe John Hicks **United Airlines** Donnielle Crossman United Kolton Holmes Endeavor Air Joseph Crudo **ExpressJet Airlines** Kenneth Honneffer Air Wisconsin Airlines Mark Crystal ExpressJet Matthew Hood **Netjets Aviation** Rebecca DeGroot **ExpressJet Airlines** Kyle Hruz Endeavor Air Casey Delaney **United Airlines** Terri Hull NetJets Inc. Jason Detwiler Frontier Airlines Evan Hunt **Envoy Airlines** Shane Dougal Delta Air Lines Republic Airways Amjad Husein American Airlines via USair via Johan Intgroen Mike Doyle **American Airlines** America West Airlines Jason Johnson Republic Airlines Pete Driver Virgin America Bryan Johnson SkyWest Airlines

Welcome New PFK Members (cont.)

FedEx Air Wisconsin Airlines Scott Johnson Nathan Perry Katja Jourdan Trans States Airlines Matthew Phelps Republic Airlines Byron Keeling Republic Airways Jordan Pollock Delta Air Lines Sung Kim Republic Airways Colleen Prairie **PSA** Airlines Compass airlines Jonathan Kitsch Tim Prather Marie Kogiso **PSA** Airlines **Bartholomew Putt ExpressJet Airlines** Ryan Kollberg **Compass Airlines United Airlines** Dejan Rajkovich Kasiri Landon Mesa Airlines Andrea Ratfield Delta Air Lines Mike Lange Delta Air Lines Barrett Ratliff Air Wisconsin James LaRosa **United Airlines** Omid Razbani-Tehrani **ExpressJet Airlines** Jason Layman **NetJets** Eric & Kimberly Ricciardone **NetJets** Vincent Lehmann **ExpressJet Airlines** Laurie Riebeling FedEx Express ExpressJet Airlines Pedro Leroux **Netjets** Tom Roaa Republic Airlines Ari Rose **Expressiet** Lori Logeais United Sates Marine Corps John Love Tom Rossow **ExpressJet Airlines** American Airlines Kyle Lucas Jeff Ruetz **NetJets** ExpressJet Airlines Michael Luckstone **Spirit Airlines** Steven Runnels Brian Madeley **United Airlines** Justin Salter **PSA** Airlines Shawn Maes **SkyWest Airlines** Republic Airlines Mariano Sanchez Tine Martinelli **PSA** Airlines **Tyler Sanders** ExpressJet Airlines Joseph Marx Compass Airlines Amy Savitsky Southwest Kenneth Schreiber Victor Mason Alaska Airlines AA**ExpressJet Airlines** Amber May Martha Service Fedex Jetblue Airways Patrick May FedEx Jameson Shonk Kimberly Mayfield **United Airlines** Rori Shonk Jetblue Airways Mike McBride George Sickels **ExpressJet Airlines** Air Wisconsin Chad McElmurry Republic Airlines Steven Sierra Endeavorair, Inc. James Mejia **United Airlines** Dwayne Smith American Airlines David (Patrick) Miltenberger JetBlue Airways Ken Stone Delta Mark Mitchell JetBlue Lisa Strohschein **SkyWest Airlines** Howard Moody Live Nation William Sweeney Kansas City Aviation Center Jeff Moore Republic Airlines Kimberly Talleur Netiets, Inc. Robert Moore Mesa Airlines Ryan Tapia **Compass Airlines** John Morgan Alaska Airlines Eric Tatko Expressjet Airlines Brian Moynihan Andrew Teigen **Compass Airlines** Jeff Muhlenkort **United Airlines** United Airline Lynsey Templeton Rye Thompson Sean Naslund SkyWest Airlines **United Airlines** Erik Timpane Georgia Nichols Children's Med Center Plano SkyWest Airlines Stephen Tremain **David Nichols Spirit Airlines** United Alex Nikle **Compass Airlines** Michael Troxell **GoJet Airlines ExpressJet Airlines** Richard Tulloch Timothy Nunes Envoy Air Glenn Nylander Delta Air Lines Joseph Turner Republic Airlines Austin O'Neal Jet Logistics James Tymczyszyn American Airlines Jordan Urbanczuk Delta Airlines Stacy Okland **XOJET** Jeff Olekszyk Fedex Santiago Vargas Express Jet

Brent Vetter

SkyWest Airlines Inc

Greg Pattie

Expressiet

Welcome New PJK Members (cont.)

David Voss Trans States Airlines
William Vuillet US Navy
Eric Wandel United Airlines
Erik Wichmann United Airlines
Reed Willis Compass Airlines
Sandy Wilson-Barnes United retired
Andy Winslow Alaska Airlines

CITY: GUM/Guam

COORDINATOR: Chuck & Ivy Heberle

PARTICIPANTS:

An enthusiastic group of volunteers in Guam met on December 19th to spread holiday cheer by visiting youngsters at GMH (hospital in Guam). They delivered cartloads of gifts and enjoyed the wonderful experience.

PFK also supported Erica's House, a family visitation center in Barrigada, Guam.





David Wood

Hank Woodward

United Airlines

JetBlue

Chris Wright US Coast Guard
Jamie Wright United Airlines

Patricia Wright

Eric Yoder Endeavor Air Arya Zayghami PSA Airlines

CITY: SEA/Seattle/Tacoma, WA COORDINATOR: Barry Sacks

PARTICIPANTS: Delta, United and Alaska

December 15th was a special day at Mary Bridge Tacoma Hospital. Pilots representing Pilots for Kids met to visit with hospitalized children and deliver special gifts and good cheer. Everyone had a wonderful time as they brightened the day for a number of area youngsters.





Wishing you the blessings of Christmas now and throughout the coming year.



Above is a thank-you card from Erica's House for the support provided by PFK. Left, PFK volunteers enjoyed visiting with young patients at GMH during the holiday season. Photo above, PFK volunteers in SEA visited patients at Mary Bridge Tacoma Hospital during the holidays.

CITY: MIA/Miami, FL

COORDINATOR: Daniel Molina

PARTICIPANTS: ABX Air, UPS, United and Delta

Santa and his enthusiastic friends at PFK brought cheer to youngsters in the Miami area again this year with two events. The group delivered gifts and cake to the happy children.







Above, MIA flight crews representing PFK made two holiday visits this year, spreading joy to nearly 100 youngsters. There were plenty of smiles wherever they went.





Above, RDU volunteers made their seventh annual trip to WakeMed Children's Hospital visiting over 30 youngsters and delivering pizza and gifts.

CITY: RDU/Raleigh/Durham, NC COORDINATOR: Ken Worsham

PARTICIPANTS: Southwest, JetBlue, Delta and

Various Others

On December 19th RDU Pilots made their 7th annual visit to WakeMed Children's Hospital. Volunteers saw over thirty kids, bringing them lots gifts and smiles. The group them made a second round delivering pizza. This is always a great hit with the kids and their parents.

Coordinator, Ken Worsham, would like to thank all who participated and helped make this such a successful event. He would also like to thank Child Life Specialist Susan Davis who will be retiring this year, for her support and commitment to PFK over the years.

CITY: IND/Indianapolis, IN

COORDINATOR: Dan Ferracciolo

PARTICIPANTS: Beck's Seed corporate pilots, Delta, American, Shuttle America, Republic, Air Wisconsin, USAF and FedEx pilots, Delta ramp, flight attendant, gate and ticket agent personnel, Republic Airlines corporate folks, daughters of pilots, wives of pilots (including a certain Commandress, aka the admiral), Marcus, the Flight One founder, and Bob... the gentleman who made 80 plus really cool wooden airplanes for the kids

Three children's hospitals, two pre-school campuses, drones, and one sensational Indy PFK Season!

Volunteers kicked off the 2015 season with the annual visit to Peyton Manning Children's Hospital on November 30th. 12 Indy PFK members conducted traditional room to room visits on both floors of the hospital. Pilots sought out and engaged numerous targets of opportunity in the halls and playrooms too. The patient cenus was realtively light (a good thing) for such a large facility, but PFK was still able to visit about 30 kids and their families.

IU Riley North was next on December 2nd. Five pilots...one charged up drone...DANGER! Volunteers broke out a drone (one of the gifts to the older kids) and demonstrated (not so precisely) remote flying skills in a couple rooms with older kids and later in the lobby. The group was able to distract (crashing a drone in a hospital room can be distracting) about 20 kids and their families from the reason they were hospitalized during the holiday season.

The St. Mary's kids broke the bank this year (thanks to so many generous contributions). On December 4th and again on December 9th PFK visited both campuses of St. Mary's Child Care Center. Nearly 100% of the St. Mary's kids live in poverty. All 164 of the pre-schoolers received a Build-a-Bear, pilot hat and sunglasses, gender appropriate activity tin, foam gliders, coloring books, pilot wings, stickers, and cool airplane trading cards. More importantly, they were read to, they were taught to perform a flight control check and fly around the room, and they got a lot of positive personal attention from some authority figures in blue suits and funny hats.

Riley Children's Hospital capped off the season and wow, what a turn out! 39 Indy PFK members (including spouses and offspring) met in the Child Life Center at Riley downtown on December 11th. Over the course of two and a half hours, 135 patients and family members signed in to the room and circulated among numerous gift tables and craft stations. PFK members engaged the kids while handing out gifts, regaled them with flying stories (mostly true) and assisted in craft building. This year, thanks to a generous donation from the Central Indiana Woodworkers (CIWW), one of the crafts was a beautiful solid wood aircraft model. The kids quietly painted and decorated their models while pilots eagerly taught them how to fly them.

"Special thanks to Lori Walton of FedEx Services, who facilitated FedEx's donation of 350 Build a Bears to Indy PFK, Shelia Turman, Flight Ops. Admin Assistant, who always comes through with huge quantities of speaker bank materials for us (foam airplanes, coloring books etc), and Bob Chastain of CIWW, who worked with Indy PFK member Scott Taylor to build from scratch over 80 wooden airplane models for the kids. And, as every year, special thanks to Indy PFK member Mike Meskis for coordinating our downtown Riley event."

"From infants, to pre-schoolers, to teenagers, and even one adult (who still had a childhood cancer), we provided age appropriate gifts and some holiday cheer to A LOT of people in 2015. We were able to distract them from their medical condition or life circumstances, if only for a moment, and brighten their day. Year after year, you make this possible. During an already hectic and expensive time of year, you graciously volunteer your time, money, energy and talents, all for the kids. It's a privilege to be your Indy PFK Coordinator. Thank you." Dan Ferracciolo











Above and left, PFK volunteers in IND visited three children's hospitals and two pre-school campuses during this years' holiday events. It was unforgettable!

CITY: IAD/Washington, DC COORDINATOR: Julie Callens

PARTICIPANTS: 8 Airlines, several corporate pilots

PFK had another great year in Washington, D.C. with Pilots for Kids volunteers from several corporations and over 8 different airlines taking part in this years' festivities. The group was able to visit four local hospitals and deliver gifts to sick children.

As an added bonus, the staff at the National headquarters of the Airline Pilots Association in Herndon, Virginia, had a toy drive benefiting PFK and the group was blessed with an additional 75 toys that were delivered to deserving children!





Above and below, PFK volunteers from IAD showed their holiday spirit by visiting youngsters at four local hospitals during the holiday season.



<u>Pilots</u> For Kids Organization









Above and right, PFK volunteers in MCO visited three Orlando area hospitals during the holiday season and brought cheer to a wide variety of children.

CITY: MCO/Orlando, FL

COORDINATOR: Ludwig & Anchorelle van Sprang **PARTICIPANTS:** UPS, JetBlue, Netjets, SWA, Delta, USAir, Pinnacle, Signature Flight Support and Cessna Citation Service Center

Pilots for Kids in MCO again visited three hospitals this year with the help of about 20 PFK volunteers.

Groups met at the White Wolf Cafe on Orange Avenue. Volunteers "fueled up" on coffee, chatted with old friends and made some new friends as they enjoyed a delicious breakfast. The White Wolf generously allowed PFK to use their location as their "Balloon fill station." Following breakfast, the groups visited youngsters at the Nemours Children's Hospital, Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children and the Florida Hospital for Children. At each hospital, volunteers were met by the awesome Child Life Program coordinators and their team members. Armed with airplane balloons and a variety of age appropriate gifts, volunteers set out to bring some joy to the kids. MCO volunteers also visited the Russel Home for Atypical Children to hand over a check from PFK. All of the visits were a great success again this year. It is always a very gratifying, but also a very humbling experience and those who participate don't soon forget.





CITY: ORD/Chicago, IL

COORDINATOR: Kathi Hurst

PARTICIPANTS: United, ExpressJet, American Eagle, Shuttle America, Skywest, Spirit and Delta

ORD volunteers visited two hospitals this year. The first visit took PFK members to Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge, The second visit was to Lurie Children's Hospital. Five PFK pilots met with about ten kids who came to the Family Life Center. The group also left several gifts for the children who were not able to attend the group event.

This year ORD PFK volunteers held a wonderful fundraising event organized by Ryan Feltis and his fiancée, Wendy. The event was hosted at TopGolf Naperville and was attended by pilots from 7 different airlines: United, ExpressJet, American Eagle, shuttle America, Skywest and Spirit and Delta. With this event Ryan raised over \$2000 for Pilots for Kids and 4 new members joined.





PFK
volunteers
in ORD
made
visits to
two area
hospitals
this year.

Address Change: If you have a change of address, you can notify us via the PFK web site or complete the form on the back of this newsletter & mail to:
Pilots For Kids, PO Box 620052
Orlando, FL 32862-0052......Thanks!

Pilots For Kids Organization, Inc.

P.O. Box 620052 Orlando, Florida 32862-0052

E-mail: <u>President@pilotsforkids.org</u>

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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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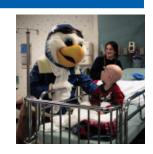


Become a Pilots For Kids member, today!



To join Pilots for Kids, complete the attached membership form and return it with your tax deductible \$15 annual dues or visit our web site (www.pilotsforkids.org) to submit your membership form and pay by credit card..

By becoming a member, you will receive special PFK gear, our Pilots For Kids newsletter and most importantly, an opportunity to help hospitalized children.



PLEASE CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX:

☐ NEW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION		☐ 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





