



FAMILY ALBUM

A Quarterly Publication of Nightlight Christian Adoptions

Spring 2008

NEW ARRIVALS FROM OVERSEAS

FROM CHINA, KYRGYZSTAN, TAIWAN AND RUSSIA, WE ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE ARRIVAL OF...

Nikolai to parents Kent and Leslie Kozina of Mandeville, LA • Thomas to parents Neil and Maureen Moseman of Omaha, NE • Asher to parents Ben and Sheri Cotuna of Greenville, SC • Nicole to parents Eric and Cathy Kee of Orange, CA • Anika to parents Andrew and Valerie Zucker of Murrieta, CA • Kyle to parents Steve and Wendy Dyott of Easton, MD • Heather to parents Patrick and Sheila Martin of Livermore, CA • Fiona to parent Gwen Eng of Redondo Beach, CA • Ethan to parents Jeff and Maria George of San Diego, CA • Grace to parents Jim and Monika Pelletier of San Diego, CA • and Christian to parents Don and Michelle Tebbe of Brea, CA.

SNOWFLAKE ARRIVALS

By Megan Corcoran



Above: Carter & Connor

Spring has sprung, and so have the Snowflake babies! In January, Mason Alan was born to Brett & Carolina. In February, Carter Luke and Connor James were born to Eric & Laura. In April, Daniel James was born to Bill & Patty, Aidan Scott was

born to Andrew & Gail, and Kyle Douglas was born to Ken & Beth.

When you consider how far these babies have come, from the date of their conception under the care and direction of their genetic parents, to their adoption and successful thaw, transfer, and birth, there are many heroes along the way who did whatever it took to give them life. You know who you are. Thank you.



Above: Mason

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Nightlight Christian Adoptions originally began offering adoption services in 1959 under the name Evangelical Welfare Agency. The agency later incorporated in 1963 and then changed their name to Family Ministries (1973), Christian Adoption & Family Services (1981) and finally Nightlight Christian Adoptions in 2000. During the past 49 years hundreds of people have staffed the agency and thousands have been served. As we approach the celebration of our 50th anniversary, we will be contacting past staff members and clients to ask them to share stories that make up the fabric that is our adoption ministry.

At a time when we are looking back and remembering, we are also looking forward and developing ways to more effectively serve families and children in the United States and throughout the world. About six months ago, we joined eight other Christian adoption agencies to form the National Christian Adoption Fellowship. The agencies are licensed in 12 different states and provide domestic and international programs that complement the

(continued on page 2)

NEW DOMESTIC ARRIVALS

We also welcome home the following babies who were adopted through our Domestic Adoption program and were delivered into the waiting arms of their proud parents.



Above: Andrew Noah



Above: Elijah Paul

CHILD

Andrew Noah

Elijah Paul

Luke Paul

DATE OF BIRTH

October 28, 2007

September 21, 2007

February 6, 2008

PROUD PARENTS

Jason and Angelis Chevalier

Paul and Renee Longshore

Matt and Dina Kyser

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (continued from page 1)

services offered by Nightlight. With the goal of cooperating, not competing, the fellowship is developing ways in which we can assist each other in meeting the needs of birthmothers in the United States and children without families in countries throughout South America, Africa, Eastern Europe and Asia.

We do not believe churches should be used as “markets” to compete for clients. We are committed to avoiding duplication of programs wherever possible and creating a model for cooperation and assistance among Christian agencies. You will be hearing more about the National Christian Adoption Fellowship in the months to come – but go to www.AdoptionFellowship.org for a preview of things to come. It is refreshing and invigorating to be in fellowship with other Christian adoption professionals who share our vision of service and outreach.

We are also regularly blessed by the wonderful families we are privileged to work with. Over the years, we have had many children born with unexpected birth defects or special needs – but in virtually every instance, the waiting adopting parents continued with the adoption plan. Not every family is

equipped to parent a child with special needs, but we serve a really big God who is more than able to meet our every need.

Thousands of birthmothers have been counseled and supported over the years, while

children have been placed in loving forever families. But millions of babies each year are not afforded the opportunity for a loving family because the peer pressure on young girls is to have an abortion rather than placing their babies for adoption. We need your help in changing hearts so that every life is valued – not just those that are convenient and seen as worthy. The truth is that life begins at conception – period. We believe that every life is worthy of protection at every stage of development.

We understand that our ministry is not always popular and we have received our share of criticism. When that criticism comes from those who also profess their Christian faith, the pain is magnified. There are certainly those who would prefer to emphasize the adoption of children who have already been born or who are waiting in orphanages. We respect that God has given each of us different callings, but it is important not to denigrate the ministry that each member of the body has chosen.

To Nightlight it is not a matter of excluding the care of some children at the expense of others. Through our Snowflakes embryo adoption program, we seek to offer life to the tiniest of pre-born babies. (Check out the new videos at EmbryoAdoption.org. under Video Encouragement.) Through our domestic program, we offer a life giving alternative to birthmothers facing a crisis pregnancy. And through our international programs, we offer forever families to children waiting in orphanages. Not every program will meet the need of every child or every family – but we hope that as you come to know more about Nightlight, what we believe and how we serve, you will look for ways to become more involved in our ministry.



Ron Stoddart

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TAIWAN PROGRAM



Above: Grace

Our first two families have returned home with their children from Taiwan. Since beginning this program last summer we have had several families join the program. Many families are matched with children and waiting for the court process to be completed. If you are interested in adopting a healthy child from 2 – 5 years of age, this program may be something for you to consider.



Above: Ethan

Sibling groups are also available. Please contact Kate Zyubenko for more information, kate@nightlight.org.



NIGHTLIGHT'S FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY

2009 marks the Fiftieth Anniversary of Nightlight. We will be celebrating our golden anniversary throughout the year, particularly at our Gala and at our 2009 Summer Reunion.



The 2009 **50th Anniversary Gala will be held on Saturday, March 28, 2009 at the Pacific Palms Resort** in the City of Industry. This is a beautiful site on a hill with a lovely view—but freeway friendly and centrally located for our families in Los Angeles, Orange and Riverside counties. We will be sending out a **SAVE THE DATE** postcard shortly and would encourage you to visit our web site to learn more about the event—and to let us know if you'll be joining us. For those of you who will be traveling some distance, please let us know if you would like to reserve a room at the Pacific Palms. We believe the room rate will be \$139/night for a double. The resort offers many amenities, including championship golf. You may want to



make this a mini-vacation.

2008 SUMMER TOUR IS COMING SOON!

Before we know it the children will be here again! We are bringing 11 children out from St. Petersburg, Russia. The children range from 7 to 13 years of age, some girls, some boys, some alone and some in sibling groups.



Above: 2007 Summer Tour

Nightlight & Detsky Dom Partners are bringing the children out to raise awareness of these special kids who need our love and prayers. We would love to have you participate in the tour, either by coming to a performance, or giving of your time and financial support. They will be performing in the following locations:

OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP A CHILD

1. Sponsor a child coming on the 2008 Summer Tour for \$2,500. You will receive an 8x10 photo of the children and Tour T-shirts for your family.
2. Donate a lesser amount to support the cost of the tour.
3. Host a child in your home (July 9 to July 28, 2008). You must live in Southern California and have a homestudy completed by Nightlight or have begun your homestudy with us. You will need to bring the child to all of the tour events.
4. Entertain the chaperones who will be visiting. This may be a dinner in your home or taking them sightseeing or shopping.
5. Host a pool party for the tour group at your home.
6. Give of your time and talents to help out in other ways.

Summer Reunion Los Vaqueros Park 1200 N. Carlsbad St. Placentia, CA	Sat., July 12	10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Calvary East Anaheim 5605 E. La Palma Ave. Anaheim Hills, CA	Wed., July 16	7:00 p.m.
Orange County Fair Main Stage	Thur., July 17	3:00 p.m.
Disneyland (Plaza Garden)	Sun., July 22	TBA
Red Hill Lutheran Church 13200 Red Hill Ave. Tustin, CA 92780	Wed., July 23	7:00 p.m.
Calvary Baptist 8281 Garfield Ave. Huntington Beach, CA	Sun., July 27	8:45 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

If you would like more information, you may check our web site (www.nightlight.org) or contact Kathryn Deiters (Kathryn@nightlight.org).

A SNOWFLAKE STORY By Bill and Patty



My husband Bill was diagnosed with Adult-onset Cystic Fibrosis in 1999 when he was 32 years old, approximately a year and a half before we got married. We knew that sometimes the

disease could cause infertility in men. CF is a genetic disease that can be passed on if both parents are carriers. I was tested before we were married and learned that I was not a carrier. At that point in time that was about as far as we went with regard to thinking about starting a family. We got married in October 2000 and shortly thereafter we saw an infertility specialist to find out what our options were for having children. When we got in the car after the appointment we shed many tears together as we realized there seemed to be no way for us to have children the way that we thought God intended for it to happen. There were several options for us to have our own genetic children but each in its own way seemed inconsistent with God's word and His plan for our lives.

In the spring of 2005, we both felt God leading us to adopt a child. One day after work Bill got in his car and the first thing he heard on the radio was "Let's talk about adoption". "Focus on the Family" was playing on the radio and Ron Stoddart was being interviewed on the Snowflake Embryo Adoption Program. Bill came home that night and told me all about what he had heard and we spent that evening researching the web site and got very excited about the possibilities. Our desire to have children was so strong, but we wanted to put God first. Whatever path

we chose we wanted to make sure it was right in God's eyes and His personal will for us. Bill had been praying that somehow I could experience being pregnant with a child, though there seemed no way this could possibly happen at the time. The Snowflake program seemed to allow all these things. Aside from miraculously answering our prayers, the process not only respected life, but it saved life. It was the perfect choice for us.

The next three years God caused us to grow closer to Him. We had several failed attempts and even a miscarriage after carrying a baby for five weeks. We were comforted to know these little lives would spend eternity with our Father in heaven but it was very hard emotionally. I can remember saying to God that He was enough...that He had already done everything for us...given us so much we did not deserve...but we still felt the door was open...that this was God's will for our lives. So we tried again.

On April 5th, 2008 God blessed us with a miracle named Daniel. He was created in God's own image and by His hand. Daniel's genetic parents have been used by God to bless us in such an incredible way. We continue to pray that God would return this blessing on them and their family.

Thank you Nightlight (and especially Megan Corcoran) for everything that you have done for us. What an incredible blessing you have been in our lives. And we are so thankful to Kevin and Melinda for donating their embryos and having such strong faith. I am happy to say that we have been able to share our story with so many people and it is truly amazing how many lives have been touched by this precious gift from God. When I think of baby Daniel's journey into this world, it brings tears (of joy) to my eyes! He is so special and we love him more than words can say.

A SPECIAL BOOK—NIGHTLIGHT MEMORIES

Would your family like to be part of a very special book? We are compiling a book that will capture the essence of adoption, with photos of the special children who have come into your families through adoptions with Nightlight Christian Adoptions. Two of our client moms, Stacy Richards and Courtney Atnip will be working on compiling this very special book. We would love to have photos of your child from when you first saw them and from more recently. Family photos and a little description are welcome as well. At a minimum we would like "before" and current photos, first name of the child or children and the program(s) they were adopted through.

When you have your photos and the text you would like to share, please email them to nightlightmemories@gmail.com. Stacy and Courtney will compile the book, which will be one of the highlights of our 50th Anniversary Gala. If you have any questions, you may address them to the above email address or you may contact Kathryn Deiters (Kathryn@nightlight.org).

CHINA AND TAIWAN REUNION

Many of our families who have adopted from China and a couple of new Taiwan families gathered for a reunion on February 16th to celebrate Chinese New Year. It was great to see all of the families and their children, enjoying the wonderful Chinese food, fun entertainment for the children, and of course being able to catch up with friends. Next year, we look forward to having several of our new Taiwan families joining us as well.



2008 SUMMER REUNION



Please plan to attend another fun summer reunion at the Park. It will be held:

Saturday, July 12, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Los Vaqueros Park
1200 North Carlsbad
Placentia, CA 92870



There will be games, performances by children from all our adoption programs, food from In-N-Out, raffle, photos—and lots of time to talk with friends. Please let us know if your children would like to participate in the performance by singing a song with a group of other children adopted through Nightlight (siblings who haven't been adopted are also welcome to join in). We will have the children from the summer tour perform, but also want to have children from other countries and from our domestic and Snowflakes programs perform as well. Please contact Kathryn Deiters (Kathryn@Nightlight.org) for more information.



If you have friends who are interested in learning more about adoption, please invite them along. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet our families and see all the kids. Some of you may have gotten twice the usual mailings telling you about the reunion. Please share the extra Reunion flyer with a friend or family member.

You may register and order your lunches online at our Web site (www.Nightlight.org) or you may call the office at (714) 278-1020.



EDUCATION: CLASSES, SEMINARS, AND SUPPORT GROUPS

Nightlight offers the following classes in our offices. If you would like further information on any of these classes, please call us at (714) 278-1020. Pre-registration is required for all of the classes.

ADOPTION SEMINARS

These are informational seminars on domestic, international, and embryo adoption. The seminars are held on **Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon**. There is no charge, but registration is helpful. Adoption seminars can also be held at local churches. If you would like an adoption seminar offered at your church, please call us at (714) 278-1020 and ask for Kathryn Deiters.

Dates for 2008: June 7 • August 2 (international only) • October 11 • December 6

LIFE-LONG ISSUES IN ADOPTION

The Life-Long Issues classes are offered on **Thursdays from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.**

Life-Long Issues in Adoption (Part 1; required for all adopting couples)

In this class we will look at the core adoption issues, which will give you an understanding of how you are linked to the other members of the adoption triad: the adoptee and the birth family. The material is applicable to all forms of adoption, including domestic, international, or the Snowflakes Embryo Adoption Program, and will help adopting families develop understanding and compassion for everyone involved in the adoption process.

Dates for 2008: June 26 • Sept 4 • Nov. 13.

Cost: \$50/Couple

Domestic Adoption Decisions Class (Part 2; required for all Domestic Adopting Couples)

Thursdays from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Dates for 2008: July 24 • Sept 25 • Nov 20.

Cost: \$50/Couple

ATTACHMENT & OTHER ISSUES OF INTERNATIONAL ADOPTION,

Wednesdays from 4:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Understanding the theory behind parent and child attachment is important for any parent. However, it becomes particularly important when adopting a child internationally. For those families planning on adopting internationally, “Attachment and Bonding” is a required class. It is most helpful if this class is taken in the beginning of the homestudy process. This class defines attachment and bonding, reviews the theories behind attachment, and provides practical advice on how to develop a solid attachment with your newly adopted child. It is a requirement of the homestudy for international clients; you will receive a certificate of completion at the close of the class at 9:00 p.m. Reservations are necessary as these classes fill up quickly. Please contact Rhonda Jarema, MA, Director of Family Support Services, with any questions about this class, by emailing her at Rhonda@Nightlight.org. To register, please contact the Nightlight office at (714) 278-1020.

Dates for 2008: July 2 • September 10 • November 5.

Cost: \$100/Couple

ASIA ADOPTION WORKSHOP

This is a class designed to help prepare our parents adopting from China or Taiwan. It covers the Chinese/Taiwan culture and the travel experience; it is also a great opportunity to meet other families who are adopting through the programs. The first hour of the class will cover the trans-racial component which will be helpful for domestic families who may be adopting a child of a different racial background. If you have any questions about the class or would like information about the next class, please contact Kathryn Deiters (Kathryn@Nightlight.org).

Cost: \$25/person. Registration is required.

LIFEBOOKS WORKSHOP

Sundays from 12:00 – 4:00 p.m.

If you have not begun your child's Lifebook because you're having trouble knowing where to start, come join us. So far, the Lifebooks that parents have made are beautiful and the children are excited to see them after each session. We have a lot of fun sharing stories and pictures from orphanages. Please join us!

Dates for 2008: June 15 • August 10 • September 14 • October 12 • November 9.

SPECIAL CLASS ON MEDICAL ISSUES OF INTERNATIONAL ADOPTION

By Dr. Gary Feldman

Dr. Gary Feldman will be presenting his “Medical Issues of International Adoption” class here at Nightlight Christian Adoptions. This class satisfies the medical issues training required by The Hague. Dr. Feldman is an expert in the field of International Adoption Medicine. We know those of you in attendance will enjoy this informative class.

As The Hague Standards now specify the material that must be covered in education programs, this will help to ensure that the required parent education and preparation for inter-country adoptions has been completed.

Dates for 2008: July 19 • September 27 • November 1.

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Cost: \$30/person. **Registration is required to reserve your seat.**

SUPPORT PROGRAMS

The “Mom’s Support Group” is continuing to meet on a monthly basis in the South Orange County area. If you are interested in participating, please contact Rhonda Jarema at Nightlight for more information. Rhonda@nightlight.org

EMAIL SUPPORT GROUPS

Snowflakes - If any of you would like to be added to the Snowflake Adopting Parent or Genetic Parent Yahoo groups, please contact Megan Corcoran at Megan@Nightlight.org. The Snowflake families are great about sharing information they learn with others in the group. We would be happy to add you.

China and Taiwan - Families adopting from either China or Taiwan may join one of our Yahoo groups for these countries. This is a wonderful way to meet other families adopting from China or Taiwan. Please contact Kathryn Deiters at Kathryn@Nightlight.org to be added to either of these groups.

TEXAS NEWS By Natasha Nechiporenko

Classes in Texas:

Adoption Orientation Classes will be held in Dallas. These classes cover both International and Snowflakes Embryo Adoptions.

They will take place on the following dates, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Hope Cottage Building, 4209 McKinney Avenue, Dallas, Texas 75205.



Dates in 2008: June 14

For further information please contact Natasha Nechiporenko at Natasha@Nightlight.org or (972) 956-9988.

SEEKING HELP

By Rhonda Jarema

Sometimes when I’m visiting a client for a post adoption visit, I have the feeling that the parent is just telling me what he/she thinks I want to hear. Sometimes I confront the issue and other times I let it slide. After all, I am there to help and if the client does not want my help, why try to drag it out of them? Who really wins in a situation like that? I believe no one comes out the winner.

I have been running the “Mom’s Support Group” for the past 3 years. We had quite a large group when we first began the meeting, but the group has gradually dwindled and I’m currently reformulating this group. We have also offered educational programs at the office and other groups offsite. Yet, they have not been well attended. One of the questions I had when going through the Hague accreditation, was why I just offered the one monthly group? My response was that although we’ve offered other groups in the past, this is the only one where we have had consistent members who have been committed to coming and actively participating. We have talked about offering other groups through Nightlight, but the key is getting the commitment from you, our families. I have been asked to begin a “Moms of Toddlers” group in the Orange county area. If you are interested in participating, let me know. In the meantime, be honest with your social worker, for it is only then that we can truly help you.

THE NIGHTLIGHT SHOPPE

NIGHTLIGHTS



These rechargeable nightlights plug into the wall. At dusk the nightlight automatically turns

on. It can also be unplugged and used as a flashlight—very handy to have around the house.

If you would like one, please send in your check for \$20 to cover the cost of the nightlight and shipping.



NIGHTLIGHT COOKBOOKS

By Betsy Johnson

Ever since the Nightlight Cookbook came out, I've been a big fan. I love giving friends and family this cookbook. It has great recipes from all over the world and has also made a great hostess gift. I've enjoyed trying out several of these yummy recipes for family and friends. People always enjoy what I've made!

I'm not even a client of Nightlight—I guess I'd be in that category of Nightlight Friend. But I love sharing this cookbook and have given at least 20 of them

away already. Give it a try. I'm sure you'll enjoy it!

Editor's Note: To order your cookbooks, please send a check to Nightlight for \$15.00. If you prefer, you may order a CD of the cookbook for just \$10. Check out the cookbook on our website, www.nightlight.org, under "Support". There are even a few sample recipes to try out!

WAYS TO SUPPORT NIGHTLIGHT

By Julia McColister

GOODSEARCH.COM AND GOODSHOP.COM

Sometimes big things come from humble beginnings, after all The Statue of Liberty's base was built with the pennies, nickels, and dimes of America's school children. At Nightlight we try to make every penny count whether we are helping a birthmother who reaches out to us when she is in need, finding ways to improve the lives of children in orphanages, or by improving our resources for our clients. Now, you can help Nightlight earn funding for these special programs and it won't cost you a cent!

GoodSearch.com is a new Yahoo-powered search engine that donates half of its advertising revenue, about a penny per search, to the charities its users designate. So simply by designating **Nightlight Christian Adoptions** as your charity and using it as you would any search engine you'll be able to watch those pennies add up!

Do you do a lot of online shopping too? Well then you might want to consider making your purchases through www.GoodShop.com, a new online shopping mall which donates up to 37% of each purchase to your favorite charity, **Nightlight Christian Adoptions!** There are hundreds of great stores, including Amazon, Target, Gap, Best Buy, eBay, Macy's and Barnes & Noble that have teamed up with GoodShop.com. Every time you place an order, you'll be supporting our programs and helping us help others.

How do you sign up? It's easy! Just go to www.goodsearch.com and enter **Nightlight Christian Adoptions** as the charity you want to support. Yes, it's that simple. Be sure to tell your friends and family too. And thanks—without the support of our friends and families we wouldn't be here doing all that we do—trying to make a difference!

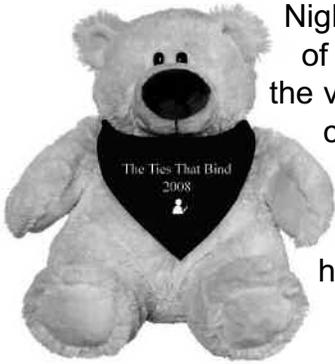


PRINT4LIFE

Print4Life is the company that Nightlight uses for our printing needs. They are a Christian organization that gives non-profits a discount on all printing orders. They are now offering to provide our clients with not only quality printing services but the ability to donate 20 percent of the cost of their order to Nightlight Christian Adoptions. We will have a link on our web site, on the Support page, taking you to the Print4Life Web site.

They work with customers all over the country, shipping to 48 states for only \$5.00. Their toll free number is (866) 900-5050 and their Web site is www.print4life.com.

NIGHTLIGHT'S ANNUAL GALA DINNER



Nightlight's 2008 Gala was a big success. We had lots of fun during our live auction and greatly appreciated the very generous group of people who came to celebrate Nightlight and share of themselves.

We would like to once again express our gratitude to our wonderful donors. Without you, we wouldn't have had such a great auction.



Thank you so much!



Alicia's Cookery & Catering
 American Girl
 Angels Baseball
 The Atnip Family
 Balboa Bay Club & Resort
 The Bereskin Family
 BJ's Restaurant
 Black Gold Golf Club
 Bradford Portraiture
 Boomers!
 Boz the Bear.com
 Camelot Golfand
 Cookie Lee® Jewelry,
 Carri Tanaka
 Carpenter Performing Arts Center
 CC Designs
 Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts
 Chateau Montelena Winery
 Chick's Sporting Goods
 Chomp Sushi & Teppan Grill
 Chuck E. Cheese
 Disneyland
 Donna's Heart Stitches,
 Donna Stevens
 Dutch Girls' Quilting Guild
 Fortress Networks, Lihn Ho

French 75 Bistro
 The Froehling Family
 Gymboree
 Home Interiors
 Inland Empire 66ers
 Jabez Salon
 The Johnson Family
 Junk Posse Jewelry
 La Mirada Theatre
 La Vie en Rose
 Lomeli's Italian Restaurant
 Los Angeles Dodgers
 Los Angeles Lakers
 Los Angeles Zoo
 Marshall's
 Mary Kay, Josie Forbes
 The McColister Family
 Mimi's Café
 Mozambique Restaurant
 The Nechiporenko Family
 The Richard Nixon Library
 The Parent Family
 Pasadena Playhouse
 The Passmore Family
 Penelope Funk Designs,
 Michelle Van Dalsem
 The Powers Family

Rancho Cucamonga Quakes
 Red Thread Boutique.com
 Regal Entertainment
 The Richards Family
 Rowley Portraiture
 The Umberger Family
 Salon Lujon & Day Spa
 Samurai Sushi & Roll
 Schmiesing Blied Stoddart & Mackey
 Sea World Adventure Park
 Six Flag Magic Mountain
 Sleepysoft, LLC,
 (www.Sleepysoft.com)
 Starbucks Coffee Company,
 La Mirada
 The Strege Family
 Surf & Sand Resort
 Sunwest Electric
 The Studio Salon
 Tennant Packaging
 TJ Maxx
 Trader Joe's
 Ty, Inc.
 White House Restaurant, Anaheim
 Dr. Michael Winter, DDS

JCICS MEETING IN WASHINGTON

By Rhonda Jarema

The Joint Council on International Children's Services holds a yearly conference attended by international adoption specialists in all fields. It is an excellent conference and gives us the opportunity to share, advocate and learn from other professionals in the international adoption field. These were the highlights of the conference:

Dr. Dana Johnson addressed the vulnerabilities of children adopted internationally from an institutionalized setting. He stressed the benefits of providing nurturing and spending as much time as possible between the newly adopted child and parent. His research showed that "Daycare here in the United States affects some children the same as the children who remain in the orphanages." His message was that environment and nurturing are both very important and that internationally adopted children who came into nurturing, enriched homes where they were able to get the necessary therapies, tended to show good catch up in all areas of their development. Post institutionalized children who were put into daycare here in the United States, tended to show similar developmental issues and lack of catch up in their development as those children who remained in the orphanages.

Dr. Ira Chasnoff presented the results of a study on facilitating attachment between adoptive parents and children. He talked at length about issues that they identified as common with most of the families who came to their clinic. The families in the study were all experiencing issues of anxiety and stress. Several of the children were diagnosed with behavioral issues. They found that families who were in close contact with a strong support network did better than those families who had isolated themselves from other adoptive families. Families who accessed services and support also showed a higher rate of attachment to their children. Effective interventions were 1) Teaching

VISIT FROM KYRGYZSTAN

In May we were happy to welcome two visitors from the Kyrgyzstan Embassy in Washington, D.C. Akinay Abylgazieva and Alymkan Isaeva came out to meet Southern California families who have adopted from Kyrgyzstan. They enjoyed seeing the families and the children at various gatherings that were held in their honor.



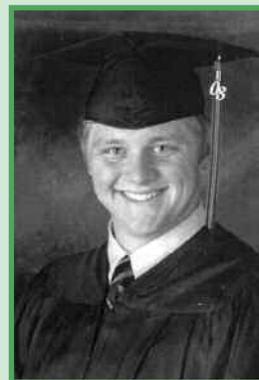
the parent to recognize why the child was acting out rather than just focusing on the behavior. If the parent could address the stress or anxiety of the child, acknowledging it and nurturing the child, the child tended to calm down quicker and the intervention resulted in a positive response from the child. 2) Increase playtime between the parent and child, with the parent encouraging the child to lead in the play. 3) Teach children how to recognize emotions as most children coming from an institutionalized environment cannot recognize even simple emotions. Their research showed that "time-out" causes escalation of negative behaviors with post-institutionalized children. Giving your child a "time-in" is actually more effective as your child is learning to interact with you as their parent.

There was a lot of discussion about the changing face of international adoptions. Regulations are stricter and agencies are trying to figure out how the United States' implementation of the Hague Treaty will affect adoptions in

foreign countries. We have seen where even countries who are not Hague Convention countries are monitoring who is and who is not accredited. A large part of the conference was focused on the new Hague regulations. Our State Department is the US Central Authority for Hague Accreditation. They were available throughout most of the conference to address the concerns identified by agencies. We are pleased that Nightlight has its Hague Accreditation. I expect we will see changes throughout the world as more countries follow China, Great Britain, the United States and others in implementing the Hague Treaty on International Adoption.

CONGRATULATIONS GRADS!

We want to congratulate the 2008 grads. Job well done! And for those of you who haven't yet shared this milestone with us, please send us the information to add to the summer issue of our newsletter.



Daniel William Ray (left) is graduating from Maranatha High School in Pasadena, California on May 31, 2008. He will be going to Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Congratulations, Daniel!

Ilya Daniel Blazin (not pictured) graduated early so that he could enter the United States Marines on May 5, 2008. He worked hard to obtain his high school diploma two months early in order to join the USMC in May. Congratulations, Ilya!

DETSKY DOM PARTNERS



Detsky Dom Partners is the humanitarian foundation that is helping orphans

around the world. The first project of the new organization was to raise money to send sweatshirts to children in the orphanages in St. Petersburg, Russia. Detsky Dom Partners is also providing strong support for the 2008 Summer Tour.



Above: Children at Detsky Dom 31

If you would like to support Detsky Dom Partners or would like to learn more about this organization and how you might be able to help, please visit the website at www.detskydompartners.org or contact Kathryn Deiters (Kathryn@Nightlight.org). One way to provide support is through corporations providing matching funds for donations you make. We will be happy to give you any information the corporation needs for this purpose.

CARS 4 CAUSES



If you would like to donate an old car, truck, or van, regardless of where you live, you may contact Cars 4 Causes and they will take care of everything.

Phone (800) 766-CARE (800-766-2273). Tell them you would like the proceeds to be given to Nightlight Christian Adoptions. Cars 4 Causes will pick up the car, towing it if necessary, without charge to you. Cars 4 Causes fixes up the car, sells it, and sends a check to Nightlight.

If you have any questions about the program, please call Nightlight at (714) 278-1020.

BABY BOTTLE FUNDRAISERS



These fundraisers are a very successful means of allowing churches to become involved in a profound way in support of Nightlight Christian Adoptions and our ministry to help women who are facing a crisis pregnancy. Please talk to people at your church to find out if they would like to support a fundraiser. You may contact Kathryn Deiters for more information.

THE TRICYCLE GUILD



Are you looking for a worthy organization to support, volunteering your time and talents? Nightlight has the answer—The Tricycle Guild! We get together and have parties just for fun; we have gatherings to plan upcoming events, and we have “work parties” before our big events—like our Summer Reunion in July or our Gala in March.

For further information or if you are interested in joining The Tricycle Guild, please contact Kathryn Deiters at (714) 278-1020 or Kathryn@Nightlight.org.

NIGHTLIGHT CALENDAR

2008

June

- 07 Adoption Seminar
- 15 LifeBooks Workshop
- 26 Life-Long Issues in Adoption

July

- 02 Attachment & Other Issues
- 9-28 Summer Tour (tentative)
- 12 Summer Reunion
- 19 Medical Issues of Intl Adoption
- 24 Domestic Adoption Decisions

August

- 02 Adoption Seminar - (international only)
- 10 LifeBooks Workshop

September

- 04 Life-Long Issues in Adoption
- 10 Attachment & Other Issues
- 14 LifeBooks Workshop
- 25 Domestic Adoption Decisions
- 27 Medical Issues of Intl Adoption

October

- 11 Adoption Seminar
- 12 LifeBooks Workshop

November

- 01 Medical Issues of Intl Adoption
- 05 Attachment & Other Issues
- 09 LifeBooks Workshop
- 13 Life-Long Issues in Adoption
- 20 Domestic Adoption Decisions

December

- 06 Adoption Seminar

For more information on any of these events, please call the office: (714) 278-1020.

FAMILY ALBUM

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