

### Congratulations OBS!



The summer is wrapping up and OBS has reached that one-year mile marker. Without everyone's contribution and effort, this year could not have gone so smoothly.

In these first 12 months, we've completely funded three major projects totaling \$20,750.00 in donations and nearly \$10,000 of donated labor by volunteers. This summer has been amazing for us. In our last newsletter you learned of our successes in funding both the Nizhny Vorota Internat Library project, which provided these special needs children aged 6-17 with books, encyclopedias, maps, and much more, as well as Phase I

of the Kremenchuk Laundry Project, which renovated the laundry area of the orphanage with a new ventilation and electrical systems. Both projects have been completed. We owe a big thanks to LAdS and their partnership, without them the laundry project would not have been possible.

Since then we've reached total funding and completion of the Window Replacement Project at Svalyava Baby Orphanage. Svalyava was in dire need of better insulation. Many windows contained broken glass and rotted wood. In August this project was completed and could not have been possible without the numerous generous donations and our partnership with the EcoClub of Ukraine. These accomplishments have been no small doing. Congratulations OBS!

OBS would like to thank Alternative-V and St. Luke's for their contributions to this project. For information on the 2008 window project please contact Crystal, [crystal@orphansbrightstar.org](mailto:crystal@orphansbrightstar.org).

Click here to see a slideshow of the window's project: <http://www.photodex.com/sharing/viewshow.html?fl=2869830&alb=0>

### A few of the many other accomplishments this year

- Raised funds to provide Chinadievo Children's Home with 2 new washing machines, a new library, sewing machine and meat mincer
- Assisted with coordination of donation and delivery of entire container full (20,000 pounds) of medical equipment to Western Ukraine *\*\*if you are in Atlanta, GA, we currently are looking for volunteers to help MedShare sort and pack this equipment. \*\**
- Assessed feasibility of providing new playgrounds for 3 orphanages
- Explored feasibility of providing dental chair/dental instruments to Chinadievo
- Worked to implement vocational sponsorship program for teenagers that 'age out' of the orphanage system
- Determined location for next EcoClub partnership window repair/replacement project in 2008

### Important News

- *Art Exhibit/Fundraiser November 3<sup>rd</sup> in Houston, TX*
- *Don't forget to order your keepsake ornaments and cards*



Thanks to all of the volunteers and the EcoClub of Ukraine!!



The Window Replacement Project Finished!!  
Svalyava, Ukraine



# an orphan's bright star



The boys at Teterevka



## Work in Progress

Now that we've reminisced and recapped many of OBS's accomplishments, it's time to focus on the projects at hand.

### Teterevka Orphanage

The Teterevka Orphanage is home to 85 boys. The majority of these boys are ill, many invalids and many with critical needs. In the Ukraine they are considered "unwanted" and there is no hope for adoption. OBS is working to provide shoes & school supplies for the boys. Contact Cristin Andrews, [cristin@orphansbrightstar.org](mailto:cristin@orphansbrightstar.org).

### Shoe Project

Shoes are a common need in nearly all orphanages. OBS is pledging to provide one pair of shoes for every child in our orphanages as well as a few other orphanages. Shoes can very costly in the Ukraine, so we have submitted an application with Buckner Shoes for Orphans Souls, who will donate the shoes. All we have to do is raise the funds to ship them. We've already begun collecting donations. This project will warm the feet of nearly 1,500 orphans when completed. Contact Elizabeth Galligan, [elizabeth@orphansbrightstar.org](mailto:elizabeth@orphansbrightstar.org).

### Wheelchairs for Poltava Home

Hope Haven International Ministries is generously supplying 13 brand new custom child-sized wheelchairs for the rehabilitation home in Poltava. This will enable caregivers to move the 250 children around to their various therapy sessions without enduring heavy lifting and moving. OBS is raising funds to ship these wheelchairs to Poltava. Contact Elizabeth Galligan, [elizabeth@orphansbrightstar.org](mailto:elizabeth@orphansbrightstar.org).

## First Annual Gala

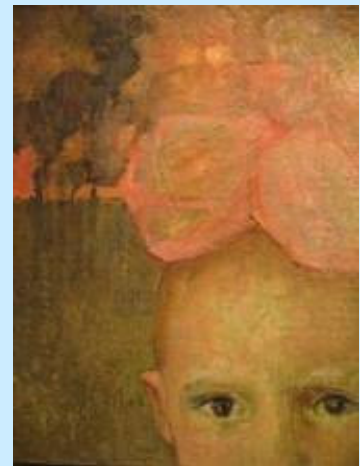
This is a very exciting event for all OBS members. Lydia Bodnar-Balahutrak, a Ukrainian artist, has agreed to exhibit her work "the Innocents," a series based on video footage of an orphanage in L'viv, Ukraine. The event is being generously hosted by Gallery M<sup>2</sup> in Houston, Texas on November 3, 2007. The evening's emcee will be Dayna Steele. She is a professional speaker and is the author of "Rock to the Top: What I Learned about Success from the World's Greatest Rock Stars."

In addition to donations at the door, we are organizing a silent auction. If you'd like to donate an item or have any ideas for the silent auction please let us know.

Already, so many people have been so generous in their contributions to this event, particularly Lydia, Dayna, Max and everyone at Gallery M<sup>2</sup>, and all of those who have donated to the silent auction.

If you or anyone you know will be in the Houston area on November 3<sup>rd</sup>, we would love to see you there and we are in definite need for volunteers (wink wink).

If you are not in the Houston area, but would still like to be more involved with this event, worry not, there are PLENTY of items we could use your help with and Mindi, [mindi@orphansbrightstar.org](mailto:mindi@orphansbrightstar.org), would love to hear from you.



a piece from "the Innocents"

When: November 3, 2007, 6:00-9:00pm  
Where: Gallery M<sup>2</sup> [www.m2-houston.com](http://www.m2-houston.com)  
Featuring: Artist Lydia Bodnar-Balahutrak  
[www.lydiabodnaralahutrak.com](http://www.lydiabodnaralahutrak.com)

**An Orphans Bright Star**  
**501(c)(3) Non-Profit Org**  
**431 Biscayne Blvd**  
**El Lago, Texas 77586**

**Web Site:**

[www.orphansbrightstar.org](http://www.orphansbrightstar.org)

**Grants:**

For Grant Assistance or recommendations on where to apply for grants, please contact Wendy Cleveland, [wendy@orphansbrightstar.org](mailto:wendy@orphansbrightstar.org)

**Donations:**

You can make a donation to OBS in the following ways:

Mail a donation check to:

an orphan's bright star  
431 Biscayne Boulevard  
El Lago, Texas 77586

or through PayPal :  
<http://www.orphansbrightstar.org/donations.html>

## Easy Ways to Help

There are many ways to help OBS, and the following are just a few small everyday tasks you can do to donate back to OBS.

[www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) A search engine powered by yahoo. Go to the web address, and enter "An Orphans Bright Star" (based in Texas) in the box that asks you who you are searching for. It works just like any other search engine and earns OBS \$0.01 for every search.

[www.igive.com](http://www.igive.com)

[www.buyforcharity.com](http://www.buyforcharity.com)

<http://www.littlelikes.com> Little Tikes Giving Program

<http://www.randalls.com/randalls/tomthumbgoodneighborprogram> (Share Card acct #11507)

<http://www.magfundraising.com/orphansbrightstar> Magazine Fundraiser

Don't forget to save your [box tops](#); every top is worth \$0.10 to OBS. Send them to Joan Stout, 725 130<sup>th</sup> Ave, Pipestone, MN, 56154. We've raised \$278.00 to date.

## EBay Auctions

EBay Auctions are a great and easy way to contribute to An Orphans Bright Star. Just provide us with picture(s), description, shipping cost, and any price constraints. We'll post the item and let you know when it is sold so that you can send it to the buyer. If you have any other questions please contact Traci, [traci@orphansbrightstar.org](mailto:traci@orphansbrightstar.org), or Heather, [heather@orphansbrightstar.org](mailto:heather@orphansbrightstar.org).



Or begin your shopping here [http://search.ebay.com/\\_W0QQsassZorphansbrightstar](http://search.ebay.com/_W0QQsassZorphansbrightstar)

## Season's greetings!

The Holidays are just around the corner.

Elizabeth has collected the artwork created by kids adopted from Ukraine and submitted it to the printer for OBS's annual Holiday Cards. If you'd like to place an order please contact her at [elizabeth@orphansbrightstar.org](mailto:elizabeth@orphansbrightstar.org). The cards should be in soon.

In addition to our cards, we've contacted Hampshire Pewter to design an OBS keepsake this year. They're absolutely beautiful and the best part is that all proceeds will go to benefit OBS projects. Please contact Mindi at [mindi@orphansbrightstar.org](mailto:mindi@orphansbrightstar.org) to place an order or click here: <http://www.orphansbrightstar.org/keepsakes.htm>.

	<p>Hampshire Pewter has designed this amazing OBS keepsake.</p> <p>They are \$20.00 a piece with free shipping.</p> <p>All proceeds will go to the children.</p>	
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## OBS Officers and Contacts

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