



PEOPLE TO PEOPLE
INTERNATIONAL

E-NEWSLETTER

ON TRACK December 2008

Happy Holidays! Welcome to the December 2008 issue of People to People International's **On Track** E-newsletter. We encourage you to explore each section for updates and inspiring stories. Please contact **Stacey Chance** at ptpipublications@ptpi.org with news and photographs for future issues.



Calendar of Events

Open this section for our **Calendar of Events**. There is something for everyone!



Board News

Board News includes activities and news from members of our Board of Directors and Board of Trustees.



Adult Exchange

We invite you to **Be a Part of the Journey** with one of our educational, cultural and humanitarian missions for adults. Learn more in this section.



Student Initiatives

In this section, learn about **Student and University Initiatives** around the world.

BE A PART OF THE JOURNEY



A few spaces remain for **PTPI's Global Peace Initiative** to Jordan, March 26 - April 5, 2009. [Click here](#) to reserve your spot today!

REGISTRATION OPEN



PTPI's 2009 **GYFHC** will travel to Costa Rica! Students who will be 16-18 years old during our travel dates of July 16-26 are invited to apply for this cultural, humanitarian program. [Click here](#) for details.

STAFF NEWS



Congratulations go to PTPI's President and CEO, **Mary Jean Eisenhower**,



Global Perspective - the Americas
Visit this section for a *Global Perspective - the Americas*.



Global Perspective - Asia/Pacific Rim
Visit this section for a *Global Perspective - Asia/Pacific Rim*.



Global Perspective - Europe
Visit this section for a *Global Perspective - Europe*.



Global Perspective - Middle East/Africa
Visit this section for a *Global Perspective - Middle East/Africa*.



Operation Iraqi Children
This section shares news from *OIC: Operation Iraqi Children*.



In Remembrance
We bid farewell to members of our PTPI family who have passed away.

who this month received **Park University's** highest honor, an **Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters**, for her numerous humanitarian exchanges with the world's people and nations. The university is located in Parkville, Missouri (USA), also home to **PTPI's Park University Chapter**.

ABOUT PTPI



People to People International (PTPI) was founded on September 11, 1956 by **U.S. President Dwight D. Eisenhower**. He believed if contact could be made directly among the world's people, citizen diplomacy and global friendships would endure. His granddaughter, **Mary**, makes PTPI her life's work, serving as president and chief executive officer.

Peace through Understanding

ON TRACK TRANSLATIONS



PTPI's **On Track** E-newsletter is available in English, Arabic, Chinese, French, Japanese, Korean and Spanish.



Mission Statement/Our Beliefs

Open this section for *PTPI's Mission Statement and Our Beliefs.*



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Calendar of Events



Last month, PTPI's Arizona Chapter in the United States hosted an Open World delegation of six individuals from Russia (shown here). To learn about upcoming chapter events or activities, please review PTPI's Calendar of Events.

Please note that the Calendar of Events lists events as general or by region.

GENERAL

January 29-31, 2009: Registration is open for PTPI's January **Board of Directors Meeting**, which will be held in Jupiter, Florida USA. Please contact **Karen Hoch** at karenh@ptpi.org with questions.

May 22-24, 2009: PTPI is excited to host its first **Young Generation IMPACT Weekend** in Kansas City, Missouri USA! This humanitarian and educational conference is for young adults ages 18-25. Highlights include guest speaker **Michael Cory Davis**, a morning building school kits for **Operation Iraqi Children**, welcome address by PTPI's President and CEO, **Mary Jean Eisenhower**, and much more! Registration is open and space is limited so be sure to reserve your spot today!

June 3-4, 2009: PTPI's **Board of Directors Meeting** will be held in conjunction with PTPI's **European Council Meeting** in Montpellier, France. Details will be provided as we get closer to the date.

September 3-6, 2009: SAVE THE DATES for PTPI's **Annual Board of Trustees Meeting** in Las Vegas, Nevada USA! In addition, we will hold our second annual **Americas Regional Meeting**, as well as a **Chapter Leadership Session**. Our host hotel is the Westin Casuarina Hotel, Casino & Spa located just minutes from Las Vegas Boulevard.

Registration opens soon!

2010: PTPI's **19th Worldwide Conference** will be held in the Phoenix area of Arizona USA. Dates will be announced in early 2009.

AMERICAS

January 22, 2009: **Dr. Don Gore** will give a presentation about Mongolia at the **PTPI Sheboygan, Wisconsin Chapter** meeting.

March 13, 2009: **PTPI's Delaware Chapter**, in conjunction with the **Chesapeake Bay Girl Scouts**, will host *Families of the World: China*.

March 15, 2009: **PTPI's Sheboygan Chapter** in Wisconsin will host a Brat Fry and Bake Sale at the K.C. Hall.

March 21, 2009: **PTPI's Delaware Chapter**, in conjunction with the **Delaware Technical and Community College**, will host *Families of the World: Mexico*.

April 17, 2009: **PTPI's San Diego Chapter** in California will sponsor an International Café for students at the **University of California-San Diego**. The International Café will feature an international meal and a presentation about **People to People International**. The chapter hopes to further acquaint UCSD students to PTPI and the chapter.

May 7-22, 2009: **PTPI's Sheboygan Chapter** in Wisconsin will travel to Russia. Chapter members will enjoy a river cruise from St. Petersburg to Moscow and hope to visit **PTPI's Moscow Chapter**.

May 26, 2009: **PTPI's Sheboygan Chapter** will celebrate its 44th anniversary as a PTPI chapter at their Annual Meeting.

June 27-July 5, 2009: **PTPI's SCP Educational Initiative** designed for educators will travel to Mexico! For program details and to register, click here.

July 16-26, 2009: **PTPI's Global Youth Forum Humanitarian Conference** will travel to the Central American country of Costa Rica! Students who will be ages 16-18 years old during our travel dates are welcome to apply.

Click here for details.

ASIA/PACIFIC RIM

May 7-9, 2009: PTPI's **Asian Pacific Conference** will be held in conjunction with the **Asian Pacific Council Meeting** in Tainan, Taiwan. For details, please contact **Jasmine Kim** at asia@ptpi.org.

May 9-20, 2009: PTPI's **Educational & Humanitarian Initiative to China** will explore the cities of Beijing, Xian, Chengdu, Guilin and Shanghai. For more information, please contact **Cindy Baugh** at specialprograms@ptpi.org.

December 2009: PTPI will offer its first **Educational & Humanitarian Initiative to Thailand and Cambodia!** Details will be available in March 2009.

EUROPE

Regularly: **PTPI's Brussels Chapter** in Belgium organizes a variety of special events on a regular basis. Each Thursday, participants practice French-language speaking skills at *Tables de conversation*. Day excursions are also planned to several destinations. There is something for everyone as events are scheduled each month. Contact the chapter for details at ptpbelgique@skynet.be.

January 2, 2009: **PTPI's Berlin Chapter** in Germany will hold its first Roundtable Event of the New Year at the restaurant Heidelbeere. For more information, please visit www.ptpberlin.de/termine.php

January 17-18, 2009: **PTPI's Sternberk Chapter** in the Czech Republic will hold its Annual Chapter Meeting and a Table Tennis Tournament. For details, please contact **Helča Metelková** at info@ptpisternberk.org.

February 5, 2009: PTPI's Pecs Chapter in Hungary will hold its Annual Meeting. For more information, please contact **Hans Randau** at randau.hguj@t-online.hu.

February 27 - March 1, 2009: **PTPI's Sternberk Chapter** in the Czech Republic will organize a weekend of "Winter Pleasures" with team-building activities, relaxation, sports and games. If you would like to join the fun, please contact **Helča**

Metelková at info@ptpisternberk.org.

March 21, 2009: In cooperation with the children's club Plejádý, **PTPI's Sternberk Chapter** in the Czech Republic will welcome spring with a special walking trip.

April 13-15, 2009: **PTPI's Kiev Student, University and Adult Chapters** will hold their second International Lingo Festival in Kiev. Please contact **Anna Chuiko** at anna_chuiko@yahoo.com for details.

May 23-20, 2009: **PTPI's Denmark Chapter** members will travel through Romania. The tour will begin in Bucharest and will include a meeting with PTPI's Roman Chapter. To learn more, visit www.peopletopeople.dk.

June 4-7, 2009: **PTPI's European Conference** will take place in Montpellier, France.

June 20, 2009: **PTPI's Berlin Chapter** in Germany will have a Summer Grill Party. If you are interested in attending, please contact **Hannelore Büchler** at info@ptpberlin.de.

June 18-29, 2009: **PTPI's Educational Mission to the Baltic States** will visit Helsinki, Tallinn, Riga and Vilnius. Registration will open in January 2009.

MIDDLE EAST/AFRICA

March 26 - April 5, 2009: **PTPI's Peace Camp** for students and **Global Peace Initiative** for adults will be held in Jordan.

October 2009: PTPI will offer an **Educational & Humanitarian Initiative to the Kingdom of Morocco!** Destination cities will be Rabat, Fez, Marrakech and Casablanca. Itinerary and other details will be available in February 2009.

Board News



Il Hook Gwak, PTPI Board of Trustees vice chairman of Asia, and his wife with Ambassador Theodore R. Britton, Jr., PTPI Board of Directors member, at the Universal Peace Federation's International Leadership Conference in Seoul, South Korea. Both are alumni of the National Assembly gathered to recognize the nations that supplied ground forces during the Korean War.

Ambassador Theodore R. Britton, Jr., member of PTPI's **Board of Directors**, was invited to attend the **Universal Peace Federation's International Leadership Conference** in Seoul, South Korea and represent the United States at the National Assembly in recognition of the 16 nations that supplied ground forces during the Korean War. Ambassador Britton spoke at the event, reflecting upon his experiences and also paying tribute to the Americans who died in combat during the war.

In addition, Board of Directors member **Mark A. Stansberry** was featured in **The Fund for American Studies'** (TFAS) *Making the Difference* December newsletter for his support of TFAS, which has been educating young leaders on the values of freedom, democracy and free-market economies since 1967. He is an alumnus of a TFAS program and a member of the TFAS Board of Trustees. More than five years ago, PTPI forged a relationship with TFAS because many of its programs align with our mission. Each year, PTPI awards up to four scholarships of \$500 USD to TFAS participants.

REGISTRATION OPEN

Registration is open for PTPI's January **Board of Directors Meeting**, which will be held in Jupiter, Florida USA, January 29-31, 2009. Please contact **Karen Hoch** at karenh@ptpi.org

with questions.

SAVE THE DATES

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FRIENDLY REMINDER

Members of PTPI's **Board of Directors** and **Board of Trustees** are encouraged to submit news and photos about their PTPI activities worldwide. Please submit news to **Stacey Chance** at ptpublications@ptpi.org.

Adult Exchange



Delegates of PTPI's May 2009 Educational & Humanitarian Initiative to China will have a chance to explore Nanjing Road in exciting Shanghai. Register today to reserve your spot!

DON'T MISS THESE 2009 PROGRAMS!

March 26 - April 5: Join us for PTPI's 2009 **Global Peace Initiative** to Jordan! This ten-day program led by PTPI's President and CEO, **Mary Jean Eisenhower**, will visit the cities of Amman, Petra and Aqaba, and other special sites throughout the Hashemite Kingdom. Delegates will enjoy an in-depth study of the culture and history of Jordan, participate in humanitarian activities, and be given unique opportunities to meet and learn from government and religious leaders. A few spaces remain available. To reserve your spot, click [here](#) or contact **Cindy Baugh**, special programs associate, at +1.816.531.4701 x117 or specialprograms@ptpi.org.

May 9-20, 2009: PTPI's Educational & Humanitarian Initiative to China will visit the cities of Beijing, Xian, Chengdu, Guilin and Shanghai. Highlights include the Terracotta Warriors, giant pandas, a day cruise on the Li River, and special meetings and dinners. The deadline to register is February 2. Please direct questions to **Cindy Baugh**, special programs associate, at +1.816.531.4701 x117 or specialprograms@ptpi.org.

June 27 - July 5: PTPI's **SCP Educational Initiative** will travel to the Central Highlands of Mexico! Designed for educators, this program gives delegates a chance to meet their counterparts in other countries and explore the world beyond their classrooms. Delegates will visit schools and explore the sites of Mexico City, San Miguel de Allende, Guanajuato, Queretaro and Cuernavaca. Registration closes March 2. Click [here](#) to view the program's itinerary and register today! Please direct questions to **Paige Leitner**,

director of the School and Classroom Program, at
+1.816.531.4701 x128 or classroom@ptpi.org.

Student Initiatives



PTPI's Varna, Dolphins Student Chapter in Bulgaria received a Disney Minnie Grant through Youth Service America. They used part of the \$500 USD reward to plan a "Say Boo! to Drugs" themed Halloween carnival. The chapter created funny scenery and had the character Alice visit Wonderland, where her surroundings were distorted and scary after taking drugs.

- Attention YGs! Don't forget to register for PTPI's first **Young Generation IMPACT Weekend** to be held May 22-24, 2009 (Memorial Day Weekend) in Kansas City, Missouri USA! This humanitarian and educational conference is for young adults ages 18-25. Highlights include guest speaker **Michael Cory Davis**, a morning building school kits for **Operation Iraqi Children**, welcome address by PTPI's President and CEO, **Mary Jean Eisenhower**, and much more! Space is limited so be sure to reserve your spot today. [Click here for details and registration.](#)
- PTPI is excited to announce that the 2009 **GYFHC** will travel to the Central American country of Costa Rica! High School students who will be 16-18 years old during our travel dates of July 16-26 are welcome to apply for this incredible cultural and humanitarian program. The application process will close January 30. [Click here for details and to apply online.](#)
- **Sister Chapter Matches--growing popularity!** Six PTPI Student Chapters were recently matched through PTPI's **Sister Chapter Program**. The program pairs participating student chapters from different countries. While communicating, chapters learn about another culture, exchange ideas and work on joint projects.
 - **PTPI's Brooklyn, NY LMGHS Student**

Chapter in New York USA is matched with the **RI-SOL PTPI Jenin Center of Excellence Student Chapter** in the Palestinian Territories.

- **PTPI's Students Taking Opportunities for Peace Student Chapter** in Belmar, New Jersey USA is matched with **PTPI's Agents of Change for Tomorrow Student Chapter** in Sadat City, Egypt.
- **PTPI's Doves Student Chapter** in Sofia, Bulgaria is matched with **PTPI's Sadat City Peacekeepers Student Chapter** in Egypt.

Are you interested in PTPI's **Sister Chapter Program**? Chapters wishing to sign up should contact us today! Email youthcoordinator@ptpi.org for details.

- **Student Chapters on the Rise**
We would like to welcome the following PTPI student chapters chartered during December.
 - **Everest, Nepal Student Chapter**
 - **Gliwice, Poland Teens for Peace Student Chapter**
 - **Bosphorus, Turkey Student Chapter**
 - **RI-SOL Bethlehem Community Based Learning and Action Center Student Chapter**
- **Chapters show competitive spirit in the Team Peace Challenge**
Student Chapters receive points for their activities when they submit their quarterly reports. At the conclusion of this year-long challenge, chapters will be rewarded with awards and funds for their chapter treasury based on the number of points they have earned throughout the year. Chapters are setting their goals high. The first project submissions have arrived and include a school clean up, chapter presentations, Janitor Appreciation Day and boxes of care goods for soldiers.
- **Young Humanitarians**
PTPI's Greater Houston Student Chapter, Texas USA
The chapter met in a temple for the special prayers of Diwali (the biggest Hindu festival) and an Indian dance program to learn more about Indian culture. Simultaneously, the chapter sold Indian handicraft items and collected \$210 USD for their ongoing effort

to collect funds for a school of the blind in Delhi, India, which chapter members visited during the summer.

The chapter has many initiatives underway to secure community support and participation to help increase the literacy rate of visually-impaired children in India. The chapter's goal is to sustain blind students' personal efforts and alleviate their deprivation and neglect by uplifting their development, so that they can lead full and rewarding lives.

PTPI's PEACE Student Chapter in Osterville, Massachusetts USA

The chapter recently launched the 1X1 Compassion Fund. The fund aims to collect a donation of \$1 USD from every student once a month to raise money to feed and shelter the homeless.

This project was launched with a motivational school assembly, during which project managers informed the students about the problem and what they could do to help. The chapter hopes for a local newspaper to publish a story about its project, so others will join the cause.

- We would like to congratulate the outstanding recipients of PTPI's **2008 Student Awards**, which were announced at PTPI's recent **Global Youth Forum** held November 12-16 in Denver, Colorado USA.

For their significant contributions toward *Peace through Understanding*:

- Make a Difference Award to **Gary Sinise**, co-founder of **Operation Iraqi Children**. PTPI's Make a Difference Award is one of the more prestigious awards bestowed by PTPI and is presented to an internationally recognized individual or organization that has made a significant impact improving peoples' lives throughout the world for a period of at least five years.
- James T. Doty Memorial Award to **PTPI's Uganda's Dream Student Chapter** in Uganda. This award may be presented to a student chapter for having initiated a new program or event during a calendar year, which makes an important contribution in advancing

the purposes of PTPI.

- Student Best Student Chapter Newsletter Award to **PTPI's Metro Atlanta Student Chapter** of Georgia USA. This award is given to the chapter having the most creative, informative and accurate presentation of information in the form of a chapter newsletter.
- Best Student Chapter Web site Award to **PTPI's Kids of Gordion Student Chapter** of Turkey. This award is given to the chapter having the most creative, informative and accurate presentation of information in the form of a chapter Web site.
- Student Chapter Leadership Award to **Mukiibi Spirito** of Uganda.
- Student Chapter Outstanding Adult Advisor Award to **Marina Krsnik** of Croatia.
- Student Chapter Membership Award (less than 50 members) to **PTPI's Somerset County Student Chapter** of New Jersey USA.
- Student Chapter Membership Award (more than 50 members) to **PTPI's Central Valley Student Chapter** of California USA.
- Student Chapter International Visitors Program Award to **PTPI's EAGLES Student Chapter** of Croatia.
- Mary Jean Eisenhower Partner in Peace Award to **Michael Rees** (Middle School Category) and **Elliott Wall** (High School Category). The Mary Jean Eisenhower Partner in Peace Award is presented to a student that strives to promote and encourage the development of leadership, education, humanitarianism and international understanding in youth. This prestigious honor seeks to recognize students committed to *Peace through Understanding* as evidenced by their involvement within their community, exemplification of our mission and leadership skills shown while at the Global Youth Forum (GYF). This award is presented each year to an outstanding middle school and high school student at the **Global Youth Forum**. The Middle School Award recipient will receive a full tuition scholarship to the next year's **GYF** and the High School Award recipient will receive a weeklong internship at **PTPI's World**

Headquarters the following summer.

- 2008 PTPI's CEO's Award presented to **Ambassador Charles and Mrs. Chin-Yeh Hostler** for outstanding commitment to PTPI's mission of *Peace through Understanding*.

Global Perspective - the Americas



PTPI's Bogota, Colombia Chapter sent a team of women (shown here) to the 2008 Homeless World Cup in Melbourne, Australia, where they finished fourth place.

- With assistance of a matching grant from **PTPI World Headquarters, PTPI's Bogota, Colombia Chapter** sponsored a team of eight women at the 2008 **Homeless World Cup** in Melbourne, Australia, November 30 - December 7. The Homeless World Cup is an annual, international football/soccer tournament, offering a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for teams of homeless people to unite and represent their countries. For many participants, playing in the Homeless World Cup has provided opportunities such as the ability to find jobs and get an education. Team Colombia finished in fourth place! Since their return home, the women have participated in the chapter's Christmas party and have been involved with its other humanitarian projects.
- **PTPI's Greater Kansas City Chapter (USA)** has launched their new Web site! Check it out at www.gkcptp.org. The new site allows members to view upcoming events, pay membership dues and purchase chapter merchandise online. In addition, the chapter is working to "go green." Members recently voted to begin distributing their chapter newsletter electronically rather than printing and sending it via mail.
- **PTPI's Delaware Chapter (USA)** has launched a new humanitarian initiative Books for Overseas Youth. The goal of their project is to provide non-fiction books to teachers and youth across the globe. Chapter members are actively collecting unwanted books from local libraries and schools. Through this program, the chapter hopes to prevent unwanted books from going into landfills by sending them to individuals overseas

with a desire to learn the English language.

- **PTPI's Green Bay Chapter** (USA) hosted a dinner for international students from St. Norbert College and the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay during their November 9 chapter meeting. In addition, November 19, members celebrated the chapter's newly dedicated People to People Peace Tree with a lighting ceremony and vocal performance from a local school group.
- **PTPI's El Dorado County Chapter** (USA) continues to work in conjunction with the **American River Conservancy** on the Wakamatsu Tea and Silk Farm Colony project. The goal of the project is to protect the first Japanese colonial site established in North America, which dates back to 1869. An effort is being made and is being supported by California State **Senator Barbara Boxer**, to transform the site into a historical public park with a visitor's center and memorial garden.
- **PTPI's Midland Chapter** (USA) continues to donate funds to the world language programs of Midland Public Schools. The chapter's gift of \$500 USD will purchase supplemental materials for the International Baccalaureate High School Program, as well as supplies for the Hispanic Fiesta organized by the 5th grade Spanish language class.
- **PTPI's Greenwood Chapter** (USA) hosted a Thanksgiving Dinner for international students from nearby Lander University. Each participating student spent the Thanksgiving holiday in the home of a chapter member. The chapter members created specific themes for each dinner. Chapter president, **Connie Edwards**, hosted an Amish Thanksgiving!

Global Perspective - Asia/Pacific Rim



PTPI's Board of Directors Chairman, Joseph Patterson; PTPI's Asian Pacific Liaison, Jasmine Kim; and guest General Walter Sharp at PTPI Korea National Headquarters' 36th Award Banquet and Friendship Night held December 16 in Seoul, Korea.

- Congratulations go to **Eugien John** of **PTPI's Gujranwala, Pakistan Chapter**. Eugien was recognized as Principal of the Year by his region's Ministry of Education, December 6.
- Approximately 250 guests gathered for the **PTPI Ulsan, Korea Chapter's** president inaugural ceremony and year-end meeting held December 15 at the Lotte Hotel in Ulsan, South Korea. Distinguished guests, including **Ulsan city Mayor Park, Chamber of Commerce and Industry President Lee, City Council Chairman Kim, Hyundai Heavy Industry Vice President Min, PTPI Asia Pacific Council President Il Hoon Gwak** and **PTPI Korea National Headquarters Chairman Seung-Nam Kim**, attended to thank outgoing **Chapter President Hwang** for his leadership and to congratulate new **Chapter President Lee**.

Over the years, **PTPI's Ulsan, Korea Chapter** has organized many programs such as cultural exchanges with **PTPI's Ogaki, Japan** and **PTPI Tainan, Taiwan Chapters** and volunteer opportunities for local community development. PTPI's President and CEO, **Mary Jean Eisenhower**, sent a certificate for the event, wishing the chapter continued success.

- **PTPI Korea National Headquarters** celebrated its 36th annual **Award Banquet and International Friendship Night**, December 16, at the Lotte Hotel in Seoul, South Korea. Approximately 500 members and guests, including PTPI Board of Directors Chairman, **Joseph Patterson**, attended. During the evening, PTPI

Korea National Headquarters Chairman, **Seung-Nam Kim**, emphasized the importance of volunteer work in local communities to achieve world peace and pledged to increase membership in 2009. Korean folk music and an ensemble performed during dinner, which was followed by award presentations to local chapters and outstanding members. Heartfelt thanks and congratulations go to all honorees for their tireless efforts and dedication to promote PTPI's mission of *Peace through Understanding*.

- **SAVE THE DATES** for PTPI's **Asian Pacific Conference** to be held with the **Asian Pacific Council Meeting** in Tainan, Taiwan, May 7-9, 2009. For more information, please contact **Jasmine Kim**, PTPI's Asian Pacific liaison, at asia@ptpi.org.

Global Perspective - Europe



"I am young, I get involved, I count" student and Young Generation participants listen to Paula Chelaru, a representative of Scouts Romania, and share their experiences in different projects that promote youth in leadership positions.

- **PTPI's The Dolphins Student Chapter** in Varna, Bulgaria, successfully implemented the anti-drug campaign named "Say Boo! to Drugs." The campaign started with presentations in secondary schools to inform students about the dangers of smoking. October 31, chapter members organized a Halloween party and presented a play, showing the negative effects of drugs, to more than 120 students. November 14, they further informed students about the negative impact of smoking with the visual aid of a "smoking bottle."
- November 2-4, members of **PTPI's Friends Meeting Friends Student Chapter** in Kurchatov, Russia repaired furniture and disposed of rubbish on the school premises.
- November 14, **PTPI's Young Leaders Student Chapter** in Khmelnytsky, Ukraine held an exhibition entitled "Famous figures on the way to tolerance." Representatives of the city council and regional council attended the exhibition opening, which finished with the symbolic lighting of a "candle of tolerance."
- November 15-23, **PTPI's Tallinn Chapter** in Estonia coordinated a Global Education Week about intercultural dialogue.
- November 19-21, **PTPI's The Doves Student Chapter** in Sofia, Bulgaria, organized an art exhibition. Exhibition proceeds, totaling 467 Leva or 235 Euros, will be donated to a local orphanage for

Christmas.

- November 23, **PTPI's European Office** held a second **Young Generation** Meeting in Berlin, Germany. The program included a brief presentation about PTPI, an introduction to Italian current affairs using the film "Gomorrha" by Roberto Saviano as a starting point and a discussion about possible projects for PTPI's **Young Generation** in Berlin. The intention of the meeting was to support **PTPI's Berlin Chapter** in Germany in its efforts to attract young members ages 18-30.
- November 27, **PTPI's Zalishchyky Student Chapter** in Ukraine gave a presentation, raising awareness about AIDS.
- November 28, **PTPI's Šternberk Chapter** in the Czech Republic won a symbolic prize for enthusiasm and action on the court during a volleyball tournament organized by the Sternberk city council for NGOs, institutions and the public organizations in the region. The tournament was an excellent opportunity for chapter members to show their commitment to the community, the regional council and financial institutions that were present.
- November 26, members of **PTPI's Friends Meeting Friends Student Chapter** in Kurchatov, Russia, helped to install new computer equipment in the classroom.
- November 29, **PTPI's Kiev Student and University Chapters** participated in the international symposium "The Days of Diasporas in Ukraine." The symposium explored the following concepts: peace as a goal to achieve; culture as a means for communication; and language as a means to deal in the mutual interests sphere. Chapter members presented their vision of youth culture, the problems they face in their communities and their activities as PTPI members at a meeting session entitled "The new wave of the Ukrainian youth generation."
- November 29, **PTPI's Roman Chapter** in Romania hosted a seminar entitled "I am young, I get involved, I count" at the Eurasia Educational Center. University professor **Mr. Laurentiu Soitu** from Al. I. Cuza University of Iasi joined the group. **Young Generation** members of the chapter presented their future projects and exchanged addresses with seminar guests. The chapter also hosted young people from disadvantaged backgrounds, as well as several

representatives of local NGOs.

- December 1, **PTPI's The Doves Student Chapter** in Sofia, Bulgaria organized a campaign for World AIDS Day. Members distributed condoms and red bands to students, as well as teachers, and showed short films related to the topic of AIDS at schools. During September, preceding the chapter's World AIDS Day activity, members organized a workshop with experts on this subject.
- November 29 - December 2, **Verena Denk** of **PTPI's European Office** presented information about PTPI to a group of students in Thessaloniki, Greece, who are interested in starting a student chapter.
- December 5, **Lars Poignant** and **Verena Denk** of **PTPI's European Office** held a workshop about chapter leadership for members of the newly-chartered **PTPI Teens for Peace Student Chapter** in Gliwice, Poland and a workshop on intercultural sensitivity for members of **PTPI's Silesian Student Chapter** in Katowice, Poland. December 6-7, the latter chapter hosted a meeting for all chapters in Poland. It was an excellent opportunity for chapter members to get to know one another, exchange experiences and develop cooperative projects. The first day, 16 representatives from three chapters participated in workshops organized by **PTPI's European Office**. The following day, members, friends and the general public were invited to learn more about PTPI and the Polish chapters' activities during an Open House.
- ANNOUNCEMENT: An Internet radio station may become a permanent PTPI radio station. Transmitting live from Pécs, Hungary in English, German and Hungarian from 20:00 to 21:00 hours CET, or 19 to 20 h GMT/UTC, www.live365.com/stations/country1357 plays classical, country and folk music and provides news, features and announcements about upcoming PTPI events. Please tune in!

Global Perspective - Middle East/Africa



Members of PTPI's newly-chartered Mombasa Adult Chapter in Kenya during a chapter meeting.

We extend a warm welcome to PTPI's new chapters from the Middle East/Africa region.

- **PTPI's RI-SOL Bethlehem CBLAC Student Chapter** in Bethlehem, the Palestinian Territories. **Alice Jolani** serves as chapter president and **Raed Hamouri** is adult advisor.
- **PTPI's CairOdyssey Adult Chapter** in Cairo, Egypt. **Mahmoud El Nems** serves as chapter president.

Attention all PTPI Middle East/Africa Chapters! This is your last chance to be included in the **2008 Middle East/Africa Regional Newsletter**. Share your 2008 activities and photos with **Ahmed Roushdy**, PTPI's Middle East and Africa liaison, via email at ahmedroushdy@ptpi.org or fax at +2 022 271 3569.

Operation Iraqi Children



A child in Kabul, Afghanistan excitedly examines the school kit that she received from Operation Iraqi Children and People to People International.

People to People International administers **Operation Iraqi Children (OIC)**, a grassroots organization co-founded in 2004 by actor **Gary Sinise** and author **Laura Hillenbrand** to reach out to the children of Iraq. OIC has delivered more than 230,396 school supply kits and toys, books, shoes, blankets and sports equipment to children in Iraq and recently in Afghanistan, the Philippines and Kyrgyzstan. The kits and other items are assembled for shipment at the **OIC Warehouse** operated by PTPI and distributed by U.S. troops.

SUPPLY DRIVE! OIC needs supplies to keep our wonderful volunteers busy assembling school supply kits. To start a supply drive or make a monetary donation, please visit OIC's Web site at www.operationiraqichildren.org or contact OIC Director, **Kelly Meyer**, at oinfo@ptpi.org.

In Remembrance



We extend our sincere condolences to PTPI member **Mary Lou Luebbe-Gearhart** for the recent passing of her mother, **Mary Luebbe**. Mary was a supportive member of the former **PTPI Buckeye Chapter** in Ohio USA. She will be missed by her friends around the world.

Mission Statement/Our Beliefs



PTPI's Greater Houston Student Chapter in Texas USA visited a school that educates blind primary- and middle school-aged students in a city near Delhi, India. Less fortunate students have access to residential facilities to ensure they are not denied an education because of their disability or economic limitations. Chapter members gave bracelets with inspiring messages such as peace written in Braille to the students.

The purpose of People to People International is to enhance international understanding and friendship through educational, cultural and humanitarian activities involving the exchange of ideas and experiences directly among peoples of different countries and diverse cultures.

People to People International is dedicated to enhancing cross-cultural communication within each community, and across communities and nations. Tolerance and mutual understanding are central themes. While not a partisan or political institution, PTPI supports the basic values and goals of its founder, President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Our Beliefs

- **We believe** that greater understanding between individuals and peoples worldwide reveals universal values and aspirations;
- **We believe** international educational and cultural exchange among youth further ensures long-term friendship and understanding;
- **We believe** we all benefit from sharing different approaches to solving common problems;

- **We believe** that individuals can often be more effective than governments in promoting human relationships and world peace;
- **We believe** if people can better understand other cultures, they are more tolerant and accepting of differences;
- **We believe** that citizens of all countries need personal contact with other peoples and cultures;
- **We believe** we need to ensure the enduring legacy of People to People International;
- **We believe** that People to People is inspirational!
- **We believe** in people!
- **We believe** in *Peace through Understanding!*