



It is possible to create a world in which fewer innocent children suffer. Camus

30 years of loving children.

3rd Quarter 2008/Special Edition

"For the Kids" Gala Event!

COTA Holds 2nd Annual Fundraising Event on November 9, 2008

So much goes into the planning, execution, and enjoyment of an evening like this, that it's really hard to get the whole story into such a small space, but we'll try. For our second annual event, we were blessed with some new talent and enthusiastic drive that helped shape our event and brought some new friends of the children into our circle.

The evening was another success, not just financially, but also in bringing together old and new friends and people from both sides of our border with Mexico.



Children's faces were everywhere including these great centerpieces handmade by Marcie Spann for the event.

their art, products, and services to us for auction and drawing items, and with Ivan Calderon (himself an immigrant from Mexico), founder of Taco Mesa and Taco Rosa, donating much of the catered food and food services, there was much involvement from the community. And one of our newest supporters, Tony Salas, brought many new faces and his graphics and non-profit experience to the table as well. We are grateful to everyone who gave so much for our kids.

Of course the high point of the evening was spending some time thanking and honoring two couples who have given so much to



COTA President Dave Brisbin with his wife Marian and flowers.

(Continued on Page 2)

"El otro lado," "the other side," ceased to exist for a few hours as we all mixed and ate together and explored what may be possible for the children.

With many local businesses and artists donating



Bob and Judy Beauchamp--our special honorees for loving our children so well in 2007.

Special Thanks to Special Folks...

COTA Honors Two Couples for Major Gifts to Our Kids

Of all the people who helped our children last year, two couples stood out for sheer generosity and faithfulness of giving. Bob and Judy Beauchamp of Dana Point, CA are relatively new to the COTA family, but jumped right in with major gifts in 2007. It was great to have them and their family and friends with us for the evening so we could present them with a small keepsake and token of our gratitude.



Bob and Judy Beauchamp being honored for their gifts by Jeff Jones, a long-time friend.

Dale and Pearlina Butler of Palm Desert CA have been supporting our kids since 1987 and have been our top supporters since 2000. Their gifts have been instrumental in keeping our work going and our kids smiling. Unfortunately, Dale and Pearlina couldn't be with us for the Gala, but were with us in spirit and great ovation.

We also want to express special thanks to Marc Kassoff, Rick and Kathryn Ferrell, Tony Salas, and Mike Griffin who purchased entire tables for the evening. Without the generosity of these wonderful people, our event would not been a financial success. ■

COTA Fundraising Event

(Continued from Page 1)

ensure that our work with the children continues--as well as a group of our dedicated staff who was able to make the border crossing and trip up the coast from Mexico.

Ron Sukut, Senior Pastor of Cornerstone Community Church in San Clemente was on hand to give the invocation and to continue to support us as has his church for at least the past 8 years. Barb Whorley was also with us after spending weeks contacting local businesses and securing donations.

The evening was marked by great music and food, a silent auction and drawing, special entertainment, and a presentation of Children of The Americas and our work by President Dave Brisbin--all capped by a video production celebrating the children produced by photographer Mike Morgan.

Having said all that, we had almost 100 people in attendance and raised over \$25,000--money which will keep us going through the holidays and into next year. Once again, our heartfelt thanks to everyone who gave so much of themselves for the kids. Take a look at this quick tour of the evening... ■



Pastor Ron Sukut and his wife Diane of Cornerstone Church--long-time COTA supporters. Pastor Ron gave the invocation for the evening.



Bob and Judy Beauchamp (Bob is second from left and Judy second from right) with friends and family. COTA honored Bob and Judy, along with Dale and Pearline Bulter, for major financial support in 2007.



Four of our lovely drawing ticket sellers--all friends of Hannah Frey (CR)--who could resist?



Joe Holt at the buffet line being served by Ivan Calderon of Taco Rosa--who donated much of the catering.



COTA board member Gene Spann with his wife Marcie who created centerpieces, photo displays, and all manner of decoration for the evening.



Sandy Mejia is just as much at home here as she has been in the field in Mexico with the children.



Some of our coordinators from Mexico--and children too. Center left is Olivia Morentin, our director in Tijuana, with Rose to her left and Karla, Olivia's daughter to her left.



Long time COTA supporters Lisa Hopkins and Jeff Larson with some great art.



Tony Salas, who donated hours of his time and expertise to help make this event a success, with his friend Larry Porter and an original print.



Emcee and COTA supporter Bill Frey at the mic making announcements and jokes.