

ALW EARTHLINK  
SEPTEMBER 2007

In this issue.....

September Birthdays  
A Message from Two Special Friends  
Giving Project -- Review  
Camp H.O.P.E. News  
Two New FUNdraisers to help Camp H.O.P.E.!  
Mountaintop Removal Mining  
The 11<sup>th</sup> Hour  
Environmental News  
And Finally

September Birthdays

Wow! We have lots of Angels celebrating their birthdays in September! We hope that each of you has a special "par-tay" to usher in your coming year!

Esther – September 2  
Sabine – September 3  
Ilia – September 5  
Celeste – September 7  
Casey – September 9  
Debbie – September 10  
Gaby – September 15  
Susan – September 16  
Kizzy – September 16  
Sarah – September 19  
Yadachi – September 20  
Tresca – September 25  
Meg – September 27

A Message from Two Special Friends!

Some of you already received this message via e-mail, but for those of you who did not see it, here is a greeting from two very special friends of ALW:

*Dear ALW, Angels and Friends:*

*We were so excited to read that Camp H.O.P.E 2007 was such a success. We know you've had the dream of providing this camp for a very long time and we're so pleased that your vision has been brought to fruition and is becoming an annual event. Congratulations and thank you for sharing your time, knowledge and efforts with these little ones. It sounds like it was an absolute blast!*

*Thanks for keeping up the fight for the Earth and her resources. Though Just Within Reach has been gone for some time now, Jim and I have kept in touch with a number of our environmental colleagues and we both are still working in the environmental field. Jim is Corporate Manager for Environmental Affairs for the Starbucks Coffee Company*

*and his work has global impact. I counsel clients in environmental remediation as I am vice president of a public affairs consulting firm. As always, it is rewarding work and makes a real difference.*

*We encourage you all to take what you've learned from JWR, ALW and other environmental projects and turn up the heat on your local leaders and communities before very important issues such as global climate change reach the point of no return. We believe there was a reason we were all brought together at that "BSB-crazy" point in time. We hope that point in time will live on in your environmentally-friendly and socially just actions of today and the future. Thanks for all you do and congratulations again.*

*Much love and peace,*

*Vicki and Jim Hanna*

We just can't say enough about Jim and Vicki Hanna. They have done so much for ALW and for us, personally. Without their expertise, their guidance, their counsel, their assistance, their encouragement and their PATIENCE, ALW would not be what it is today.

Jim and Vicki gave us permission to announce some other wonderful news. They are expecting TWINS! The babies (a boy and a girl!) will make their 'debut' early in 2008. All of ALW sends the Hanna family congratulations and lots of ((((((hugs)))))) and love!

#### Giving Project – Review

Many of you contributed to our "Giving Project" in honor of the birth of Kevin and Kristin Richardson's firstborn son, Mason. We took your monetary donation and several boxes of brand-new baby clothing and items to Nicholasville, Kentucky (just outside of Lexington) on August 16. We delivered the gifts to All God's Children, a residential mother/baby home that provides a comprehensive range of services that seeks to meet the needs of the total person – physically, mentally, emotionally, spiritually, socially and interpersonally. The first and primary goal of this residence is to provide each mother and baby with a safe and stable living environment and to meet her most critical needs. All God's Children strives to provide a very home-like, but structured atmosphere, through which the mothers/babies can begin to have a sense of family, order and routine in their lives. Trained staff provide care for the babies in the residence during the hours the young mothers are in school.

The gift from ALW was received with great joy and much appreciation, and we know that it will truly make a difference in many lives. Thanks again for participating in this project. We were not allowed to take photos of our visit, but you can go to [www.allgodschildreninc.org](http://www.allgodschildreninc.org) to view pictures and to find out more about this amazing residence.

### Camp H.O.P.E. News

While we were in Kentucky, we met with our contact person at the school our Camp H.O.P.E. kids attend. We have set a date in early October to host a 'yearbook signing party' at the school, providing each camper with their own yearbook, along with a pizza lunch for our 2007 campers and our contact person. We're looking forward to presenting each student with the camp yearbook. Thanks to Angels Ali and Jennifer, the book is filled with awesome photos that highlight all the events/activities of our week at camp. In order to be able to host Camp H.O.P.E. 2008, we need funds. We have come up with two new FUNdraisers, and we will again be hosting our luminary candle fundraiser in the spring. We hope you'll all open your hearts and help us raise the money needed to be able to sponsor more campers. You will never know how DEEPLY you have touched these kids' lives.

### Two New FUNdraisers to Help Camp H.O.P.E.!

Be watching for the announcement of two exciting, unique new FUNdraisers that we hope will bring in the donations we need to sponsor more kids at Camp H.O.P.E. next summer. We'll announce the FUNdraisers in a special e-mail to all our Angels, and we'll post the news on message boards, in forums, on Myspace, etc. You won't want to miss these two "FALL" (hint) FUNdraisers – we think "EVERYBODY" (another hint) will have a BALL (and another hint) participating in them! Stay tuned!

### Mountaintop Removal Mining

One of ALW's top priorities is to raise awareness about the practice of mountaintop removal strip mining and the devastation it causes, not just to the Earth, but to the people who live in the areas where the mining is being done. PLEASE check out the many articles and 'take action' ideas we've posted in the MTR forums on our website ([www.alastingworld.com](http://www.alastingworld.com)). Our friend Dave Cooper sends updates quite frequently, and Linda does her best to add current news on this topic. It's up to US to stop allowing the coal companies and our current administration to destroy our mountains. As we told our Camp H.O.P.E. kids, mountains don't grow back.

### The 11<sup>th</sup> Hour

Have you seen this newly-released documentary yet? PLEASE make the effort to find a theater where it is playing and go view it! Here's what Vicki and Jim Hanna have to say about the film: "Jim and I highly encourage everyone to take 4 to 5 people with them and go watch Leo DiCaprio's environmental documentary, The 11th Hour. You can't help but be moved to action by the information provided. Thanks."

If you've already seen the film, we'd like to hear your comments!

Send them via e-mail, or post them on the ALW message board.

Thanks!

### Environmental News

#### Learn About Your Eco-friendly Options

Find out about green travel options, like the trip-planning services of the Better World Club ([www.betterworldclub.com](http://www.betterworldclub.com)), which offers route maps, roadside assistance for

drivers and cyclists, and discounts on hybrid car rentals and hotels. For more green ideas, consult the International Ecotourism Society ([www.ecotourism.org](http://www.ecotourism.org)), Sustainable Travel International ([www.sustainabletravel.com](http://www.sustainabletravel.com)), and the “Green Hotels” Association ([www.greenhotels.com](http://www.greenhotels.com)).

#### Take the Interpretive Tour

Many national, state and regional parks offer free, naturalist-led interpretive tours. The knowledge you will pick up in these brief introductions enhances everything else you do. Bonus: You will be able to impress your friends with such trivial tidbits as “Did you know red alder trees are nitrogen fixers that help the forest nourish cedars and spruces?”

#### What’s Really Heating Up The Planet?

Coal-mine fires in China and India could be huge culprits in global warming. In China alone, up to 200 million tons of coal go up in flames each year – which may be equivalent to America’s total carbon-dioxide emissions from gasoline. India’s mine fires waste up to 10 million tons of coal annually. The pollution has made land in both countries uninhabitable. And the problem is expected to worsen.

Now experts are asking if controlling mine fires in Asia might be a key to reducing global warming. Economist Diana Furchtgott-Roth, for one, argues that it would likely be more efficient than offsets like planting trees or cleaning the ocean. So what can be done?

One possible remedy being developed in the U.S. is a nitrogen-laced foam. It was used recently to put out a mine fire in West Virginia. (Emissions from coal-mine fires in the USA are a fraction of Asia’s.) Deploying such a successful foam in China and India – both of which would likely help - could drastically reduce damage from long-burning fires, which are very difficult to extinguish fully. (L. W. Winik, Parade Magazine)

#### Speaking of Coal.....

From destroying the Appalachian landscape to exacerbating global warming, our coal addiction is costly. And with the USA planning to build more than 150 coal-fired power plants in the next few years, the threats to our environment are even more pressing. “The Dirty Truth About Coal: Why Yesterday’s Technology Should Not Be Part of Tomorrow’s Energy Future,” a recent Sierra Club report, explains why we must shift from fossil fuels to cleaner alternatives. If all the proposed plants were built, the study notes, they would increase U.S. carbon dioxide pollution from electricity production by more than 25% above 2004 levels, a 10% increase in total USA CO2 emissions. (Visit [www.sierraclub.org/coal/dirtytruth/report](http://www.sierraclub.org/coal/dirtytruth/report).)

#### Recycle.....

Besides newspaper, bottles and cans, what else can you recycle? Plastic bags, toilet paper rolls, phone books, junk mail – and you can take motor oil, batteries and fluorescent light bulbs to specially equipped recycling stations. In a time when it seems that everyone is more conscious of global warming, rising gasoline prices and other environmental issues, recycling is something relatively easy that we can do to preserve our planet. Everyone can do it!

(Kate Thayer, Kane County Chronicle)

### Hang It All

Just line drying your clothes in the spring and summer can prevent about 700 pounds of carbon dioxide emissions per household, based on Energy Information Administration averages. To keep jeans and towels from getting stiff, add a half cup of white distilled vinegar to the rinse cycle or give them a very brief spin in a clothes dryer. For more tips on how to use less energy to wash and dry clothes, visit [www.laundrylist.org](http://www.laundrylist.org) and [www.eere.energy.gov/consumer/tips/laundry.html](http://www.eere.energy.gov/consumer/tips/laundry.html).

### Bad News In the Air

Long-term exposure to high levels of air pollution causes reduced lung growth and function in children, according to a study of almost 3,200 Mexico City 8-year-olds. Published in August in the American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine, the report says this is the first time the long-term effects have been conclusively documented. (Health Day News/Newsletter)

### Check out Reverb

Reverb has toured with artists ranging from college-rock bands Guster and Dave Matthews Band to classic blues artist Bonnie Raitt, pop-punk princess Avril Lavigne and folk-rock jamband String Cheese Incident. They've played cruise ships, ski slopes, clubs and amphitheatres from Milwaukee to Manitoba. So why haven't you heard of them? For starters, Reverb isn't a band – it's a nonprofit organization with a commitment to rocking responsibly. The Portland, Maine-based group, founded by Guster singer and guitarist Adam Gardner and his wife, environmental activist Lauren Sullivan, raises awareness about environmental issues at rock concerts and helps musicians run greener tours. When Reverb launched in 2004, its first gig was a joint tour with Barenaked Ladies and Alanis Morissette. Since then, "The word spread, and now we've greened more than 25 major tours and 500 events," says Gardner. Reverb offers each artist a menu of options for promoting environmental awareness and sustainability while on tour. "If artists want their buses to run on biodiesel, we'll coordinate biodiesel fueling," says Sullivan. "We can also provide green cleaning kits for the tour buses and look at the contract rider to find ways to make the event greener." They also suggest things like using reusable, large containers for water backstage, instead of a few dozen individual water bottles every night. With thousands of fans attending each show, rock concerts are a natural venue to promote Reverb's environmental message. Preaching is not part of the platform, but Gardner says "It feels good to say from the stage in between songs: 'We got here in a biodiesel-fueled bus, and this show is powered by wind.' By supporting environmental causes, he adds, "rock bands truly can 'walk the walk' and put it on display at their concerts." For more about Reverb, go to [www.reverbrock.org](http://www.reverbrock.org). (Kathryn Hawkins, E Magazine)

And Finally.....

"Write your hurts in the sand.....  
carve your blessings in stone."

(Anonymous)

The A-B-C's of Life

Accept differences

Be kind

Count your blessings

Dream

Express thanks

Forgive

Give freely

Harm no one

Imagine

Just do it

Keep confidences

Love

Make every day count

Nurture hope

Open your mind

Pack lightly

Quell rumors

Reciprocate

Seek wisdom

Touch hearts

Understand

Value truth

Wish

X-ercise good judgment

Yearn for peace

Zealously support a worthy cause

(Anonymous)

See you in October!

Linda and Wen