

OUR SPONSORS:

Hapag Lloyd Cruises, a proud sponsor of dolphin aid for many years, from time to time likes to extend an invitation to be a guest on one of their ships to our patron, our ambassadors or our president. Thus these people generously volunteering their time are able to inform the guests on board about the project assisted dolphin therapy, about dolphin aid therapy, about the sorrow of the respective families as well as about special needs children in society. Only recently Mrs.Kuhnert devoted her time to such a purpose.

Mrs. Irena Moebus, producer, singer, composer, writer and also an ambassador of dolphin aid, produced two separate CDs. Its proceeds go directly to dolphin aid. In 2000, Mrs. Moebus heard about dolphin therapy for the first time by means of reading the book written by Mrs.Kuhnert "Every Day A Little Miracle". Thus Mrs. Moebus found her calling since she wanted to socially engage herself for children with her music. She immediately started to write specific songs and sent them to Mrs. Kuhnert. Both women met and trusted each other. Music not only moves - it also has the ability to move. Mrs. Moebus wishes to enable even more children to attend dolphin therapy as a result of her work as an artist. Currently Mrs. Moebus is producing a new CD. She is also planning her dolphin aid winter tour 2005 throughout Germany.

ACTIONS AND EVENTS:

On August 1, 2005 for the first time in 10 years - since the foundation of dolphin aid - all ambassadors as well as the patron "His Royal Highness Prince Leopold of Bavaria" met for a common press conference followed by a get together in Munich. During this press conference, Mrs. Kuhnert stressed that without the help and support of these people, she would not have been able to make the idea of dolphin aid work. During the course of the evening, Mrs.Kuhnert received a check in the amount of 50.000,-- Euro from the head of the PR department of AUDI Mr.Juergen Pippig. Within this meeting dolphin aid ambassador Mr.Bobby Brederlow, 42, and the only famous actor with Down Syndrome donated a picture, painted by him. This picture was auctioned off at the "Dolphin's Night" gala event on October 29, 2005.

On August 20, 2005 the first dolphin aid night on the beautiful island of Sylt in the far north of Germany took place. 150 pieces of "Sylter dolphin aid" shirts had been created to be sold at a price of 50,-- Euro thus raising once again money for the cause of dolphin aid.

During their summer party the Poco furniture store collected by means of tombola an amount of 1.200,-- Euro for dolphin aid.

OUR HEROES:

Dolphin aid news likes to inform in every issue about the very first children that received dolphin aid therapy. What happened to them since and where do they stand in live nowadays...Alexandra is severely disabled due to damage by vaccination. Her mother Claudia learned in 1996 for the first time about dolphin therapy. Way back then a new form of therapy, which was also attended by Kirsten Kuhnert's her son Tim. Tim's successful therapy was the main subject of their mother's conversation. Curiosity turned into interest, interest into hope.....In April 1997 Alexandra traveled to Florida to participate in Dr.Nathanson's therapy program. Her mother remembers that during this time Alexandra's whole motoricity changed, her posture became more stable, her appetite increased, the realization of her surroundings improved. It almost seemed as if there are two Alexandras - one in Florida and the other one at home. During therapy for the first time the parents had been asked what they want, what they want to achieve for and with their child. They had been so much part of therapy that the term "family therapy" was used in every sense of the word. Most of all the positive impact of the treatments remained to be seen long term. Today, after many more successful dolphin therapies, Alexandra is well-balanced and much more stable in her posture.

A WORD FROM MRS. KUHNERT:

Many famous men met for a car race "the race of the Legends" on Norisring, all of them former Formula 1 champions. The company of AUDI decided that the prize money should support the work of dolphin aid. In the opinion of Mr. Juergen Pippig something meaningful should be done with the money therefore his decision to donate it to dolphin aid. Furthermore, he emphasized that this is what friends are for. Thank you Juergen Pippig, thank you Dr. Winterkorn and thank you Dr. Ulrich.

DOLPHIN AID INFORMS - HIPPO THERAPY:

Horseback riding as a form of therapy consists of several fields, which are being used for therapy with children with behavioral disorder as well as paralyzed people in wheelchairs. The goal is not so much the physical easing of pain, especially not with incurable illness, but the emotional aspect for people who very often are considered as a social fringe group by our society. Thus the focus is to return hope, confidence and quality of life. Enrichment of life through harmony of body and soul. Paralyzed people, people in wheelchairs, people with hemi paresis, based on neurophysiological principals can once again experience the feeling of walking. This feeling is produced by the movement of the horse thus taking place with 160 impulses per minute. By means of this movement all muscles of the body are being trained. A regular physio

therapist can not fulfill in 60 minutes what hippo therapy can fulfill within only 20 minutes since the movement of the horse activates the entire sensors and motoricity of the nerve system.

INTERNATIONAL PRESS:

The Curacao Sea Aquarium is one of two best dolphin resorts in the Caribbean. This concluded an scientific and technical commission (STAC) of the United Nations which specifically emphasizes on protected natural areas. On a scale of 1-10 the Curacao Sea Aquarium was given the highest score of 10 points.

SOME NEWS FROM OUR FRIENDS AT DOLPHIN HUMAN THERAPY:

Dolphin Human Therapy is proud to announce that at the end of this year they will move into a brand new facility within the property of Dolphin Cove. The offices of the therapists and management as well as the shop, the workshop room and the room for siblings will be under one roof. Leo, the oldest of the two dolphin babies just turned two. He is the son of Nikki and Alfons and already qualified for the next level of therapy. Therefore he will receive his own therapy platform right next to his mum. He is part of the already third generation of dolphins. Another son of Alfons this time with Spunky is Elvis. He just celebrated his first birthday. A series of new work shops are also being offered. Just to name a few: "music and art therapy" as well as "practical advice on relaxation for parents and caretakers".

INTERVIEW WITH MRS. KUHNERT

Mrs. Kuhnert is the founder, president, and head of the board of directors, or however we would like to express her position in titles. In real life, she is the mother of Tim and Kira. However, her personal life is intertwined with her professional life. Mrs. Kuhnert is, herself, the mother of a special needs child - her son Tim. For dolphin aid, she is the engine and constant source of energy, and foremost the First Lady of our organization. In the year of our 10th anniversary, Mrs. Kuhnert gave the following interview:

da News: What is a daily workday in the life of Kirsten Kuhnert like?

Kirsten Kuhnert: You do not want to know. It mostly begins at 5.00am, with an open end. In any event, covering many areas, mainly chaotic and never, ever boring!

da News: This year, dolphin aid turns 10 years old. If you could turn back time, what would you change within dolphin aid?

Kirsten Kuhnert: Basically nothing. The history of dolphin aid is formed by constant growing, solidarity, loyalty, flexibility and readiness to be there

for each other. Compassion, competence and pleasure in doing. That is what I am proud of. Dolphin aid so far has been able to grow with new challenges and learn from them. When we started nobody knew where our little ship was sailing to. We had no resources to take advantage of. Only an idea, a vision, ourselves and our enthusiasm. We learned and, most of all, listened to these people that we engage ourselves for. From this results a state of mind with strict principles. However, there is always a little bit too much work for all of us, regardless of whether our helpers are being paid or volunteering. This is something I would like to change. But a personal expansion would be in contradiction to our goal of maintaining our costs at an extremely low level.

da News: And now the other way around? Where do you see dolphin aid in 10 years from now?

Kirsten Kuhnert: Hopefully, twice as big and with unbroken spirit in regards to the original idea. And the realization of projects that are now in the planning phase, research, a European dolphin aid therapy center, pre- and post-care facilities, acknowledgment through the health system and much more....

da News: dolphin aid plans the implementation of a research and therapy center for pre- and post-preparation of dolphin therapy. How far is this project developed?

Kirsten Kuhnert: The planning together with our partners, the association "Mother and Child Clinics" is so far developed that we would like to start in June 2006 with a dolphin aid therapy program. Reservations are already being accepted. It will be a well-structured two week program according to the concept of dolphin aid therapy, both individually and family oriented, and most of all with the aid of animals. The goal is to find a possibility to introduce a successful concept of treatment in Germany and to offer the patient a wide, holistic, rehabilitation possibility which includes their families.

da News: How do you combine your family, your volunteer work with dolphin aid, your company and your work as an author?

Kirsten Kuhnert: Above all stands the well being of my children. Like any other single mother I need talent to organize and plan well ahead in the future. And then you just have to be a little bit faster in everything you are doing....I do not play golf, I have understanding friends, a great family which does not blame me for not having a lot of time.

da News: What gives you the energy to face all your tasks?

Kirsten Kuhnert: Quite honestly, I do not know. I do not think about it much. Maybe from the fact that I am a positive thinking person and that I

am loved. Maybe because I am regularly allowed to meet special people. Maybe also, because there is no room for superficiality in my life. You do not talk with me about the weather. What I do is fulfilling. Of course, it's also stressful. But stress is not always something negative. And when I am really tired, I swim with the dolphins.

da News: What in your opinion has changed in Germany over the last couple of years in reference to dealing with special needs people?

Kirsten Kuhnert: Unfortunately not enough. Dolphin aid for sure has contributed a lot to articulate the needs of handicapped people. Meanwhile we are being contacted by more and more doctors asking us to support their patients with the realization of therapy. This already is something that we are happy about. Knowing about the needs of handicapped people and the natural interaction with them being different should, according to American sample, also be taught from childhood on. There is still a lot to be done.

Americans are more advanced, more funny and more social when it comes to deal with special needs populations. This is one of the many reasons, why I love to live here.

da News: What does a political change mean for the situation of disabled people in Germany?

Kirsten Kuhnert: It would be presumptuous to judge. In any event, dolphin aid will soon seek contact with the respective ministers and will continue to clarify the foremost question -- recognition of dolphin assisted therapy through the health system.

da News: You live and experience two different cultures in the US as well as in Germany. What are the most significant differences?

Kirsten Kuhnert: First of all it is nice to have roots and be aware of them. In my heart I am of course German, maybe also a bit American. I love our culture, our kitchen and tradition. But I also find it fulfilling to look into other cultures. Often I am asked about Americans being superficial. This is not fair. In every nation there is a balance between people that possess depth and those that are superficial. I would like to admit that I prefer the American way of meeting each other openly to the German way. In Germany we first always have a problem with everything. This reflects in our, most of the time, bad mood. Maybe it is the weather....but I would wish for a certain basic cheerfulness, also when it rains, and also when dealing with special needs people. America is built for handicapped people, not to mention the eagerness to help. This Germany can only learn from America.

da News: What in your opinion is the reason for the special aura of dolphins?

Kirsten Kuhnert: I think that cannot be answered in general. Everybody finds a different description of how it feels to touch a dolphin. Therefore each of our therapy children would find their own explanation as to why they love dolphins. For me, it is the essence of sensibility, elegance and intelligence. They harmoniously move in their element, water, have a distinctive social sensitivity and great humor. Maybe we all would like to be a little bit like them..and therefore we are so fascinated by them.

da News: Where and how do you see the future of charity organizations in general and especially dolphin aid?

Kirsten Kuhnert: Our social systems crumble or are no longer intact. Charitable organizations will increasingly have to take social responsibility because the public possibilities will become fewer and fewer. I am convinced that it is mandatory to strengthen the understanding for responsibility and the necessity to help others already at school. In German hospitals, there should also be the name of a sponsor who enabled the construction of a lab or rehabilitation facility like you see it everywhere in the US. Charitable engagement must grow into social obligation, of course. Dolphin aid recognized the signs and is prepared. The field of engagement widens according to necessity. My hope is that more and more people are willing to contribute. Especially financially.

da News: How is your son Tim now?

Kirsten Kuhnert: Tim is doing outstandingly. He is my teacher and the biggest hero I have met in my life. He possesses an unbelievable inner strength, a lot of charm and humor. He still has a lot to do on his way to find a self-determined life. His sister Kira and I will accompany him along this road.

da News: A lot of siblings frequently feel neglected by their parents because it seems that they care more about the special family member. What is your experience and what advice can you give respective parents?

Kirsten Kuhnert: Siblings of special needs children have a right to live their own lives. They are not assistants in the caretaking of brother or sister. They should not feel less loved, just because more time needs to be spent on a special needs child. To make both sides happy needs a lot of energy. But we owe it to our healthy children to enable them to develop as freely and easily as possible. Quality time is important. It is difficult that we have never been taught to deal with such situations. If something bad happens, be it an accident or something else, we are paralyzed and caught up in our pain. In this pain, it is difficult to realize

that siblings are not supposed to suffer with us exclusively. I would wish for wide support for that.

da news: If a fairy would grant you three wishes, what would they be?

Kirsten Kuhnert: Time, time and time again. No, but honestly, this is a beautiful imagination. First of all, I wish for Tim to be healthy and be able to experience his own development. Second, a happy life for my daughter Kira, free of sorrows and pain. And wish number three would be for my family. Above all for my mother and my friends. I wish them health, money and happiness. And then I would ask the fairy whether she knows somebody who could make sure that every special needs person will be supported properly. But that would already be wish number four and most likely she would refer me to God.

da News: How do you relax best?

Kirsten Kuhnert: What means "relax?"

da News: The biggest acquisition of mankind is.....

Kirsten Kuhnert:...not being invented yet. A machine to avoid war, another one to take pain away and another one to avoid famine.

da News: What historic event would you have loved to be a part of?

Kirsten Kuhnert: This event has not taken place yet. But I would love to be in Jerusalem, when it is declared World Capitol of religion and peace. I am convinced that this would be a step towards peace and a declaration against terrorism.

da News: You are offered a seat in a space shuttle. Do you accept?

Kirsten Kuhnert: No, because I have children and furthermore I do not have time....

da News: Which human quality are you most impressed with?

Kirsten Kuhnert: Devotion

da News: And which one do you detest the most?

Kirsten Kuhnert: The pleasure of hurting people on purpose.

da News: Every person has flaws, which one do you have?

Kirsten Kuhnert: Flaws? Me? Hahahaha.....there actually are a couple. I was born in the sign of Virgo. Which means I am a walking flaw.....a

perfectionist combined with impatience and therefore, for my surroundings and for myself, difficult to deal with.

da News: What is the last book you read?

Kirsten Kuhnert: Two at the same time "Life and Death of the Penguin Fish" by Juliane Hielscher and "Mumo" by Nomi Baumgartl.

da News: What plans as an author do you have for the future?

Kirsten Kuhnert: Also two, no three...One will be a book about kids, something different and new about my request for intense and purposeful training to be a parent...number 2 will be a children's book series. And then, well okay, I am gonna say it -- I am writing my first novel.

da News: Where is your favorite place in the world?

Kirsten Kuhnert: Where my children are! With my family and with my friends. Otherwise on the, for me, most beautiful ship in the world -- the MS Europa, wherever she might be.

da News: With what can people make you happy?

Kirsten Kuhnert: With cheerfulness and donations for dolphin aid.

DOLPHIN'S NIGHT 2005

Due to Hurricane Wilma and its extensive damage to parts of Miami our dolphin's night 2005, originally planed to be held on November 11th at the Palms South Beach Hotel had to be postponed. The event most likely will take place sometime at the beginning of next year, preferable in the month of February. As soon as a new date is set we will go ahead and inform our friends and members accordingly. Additional information about the event or tickets can be required under (305) 377 8861 or under dolphaid@bellsouth.net.

dolphin aid America is looking forward to a new prosperous year and would like to wish you and your family Happy Holidays!