



# The Ark Village Bulletin

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

Year XII – n° 134 – November 2011

*Dear friends*

This number is mainly dedicated to our sponsors. (We sincerely don't like this word and we prefer to use local friends instead). Saying this we do not want to give less importance to our friends in Italy that constantly support us and are close to us all the time.

We wish we could have enough space on the bulletin to thank each and every one of you on paper, but you know that even if this is not possible we thank you with our heart.

We would like that the people who live here with us and face every day the challenges and difficulties, could share with you and with us, the grateful look we try to communicate to our children.

Please accept our deepest friendship and gratitude.

*P. Guido*



**This Christmas think differently!  
Together with your friends, donate  
a gift to the Ark Village children.**

Go to [www.larca.org](http://www.larca.org), click in the box written in English **"Donate now"** and participate to the new Noel's Ark initiative. **Choose the Christmas e-cards in English** to send per e-mail to your friends wishing them Merry Christmas and sharing with them this solidarity moment.



*in English!!!*

**DONATE NOW**

**THE ARK Christmas E-CARDS**  
To send to your friends with  
different Christmas motifs  
Are available today!



**Chronicle of the Village** \* In Kazakhstan, October 1st Teacher's celebration. A surprise party was organized by the Arca Village children. ♥ Iliya left to the United States. A journey that will take him to the road of recovery from a disease he has since he was born. \* Living like artists! Our boys and girls participate to a handicraft exhibition in Almaty! X From Italy a „soft“ gift to implement our „Village tailor workshop“.



*Party picks and new projects For the tailor workshop.*

The boys and girls working in the tailor workshop have been invited for a week to an exhibition dedicated to the „Art dolls“ that took place in an artistic gallery in Almaty. It has been an important recognition of their work, a new occasion to be seen and a good spot to find new customers.

Almost at the same time, we received from the owner of a furniture/intern design shop, quite a number of textile samples from Italy that played an important role into the inspiration and production of new tailor creations aimed to open new opportunities and projects on the market.



*Have safe trip Iliya!*

**According to the ancient** - we might say - Sovietic tradition; each profession has its own celebration. Therefore on October 1st they celebrate teachers, educators and mentors... What a great opportunity to push adults aside and to organize a party according to our own ideas. That's exactly what the boys and girls did. Wit-

hout any sign for a week before the day, they met secretly in the medical center gym to rehearse the sketch in program without anybody to spy on them. The celebration was appreciated not only from us but from a group of friends arrived just at the beginning of the program.

Few months ago we have mentioned the possibility for Iliya to leave to the US to be operated to his feet in order to fix his deformation connected to a forked spine he had from birth. The director of the public orphanage where he came from went with him since she is the legal tutor. As typical of his radiant character, Iliya prepared himself for this journey with

great excitement (his suitcase have been ready for weeks) and he talked about the surgery as if he was talking of a trip to the seaside. At his age, it is difficult to realize completely the importance of what is going to happen to him, but we trust his attitude and the friends around him to face such difficult moment..

**Arca's Friends "Made in Italy"** • Laura and Anna, special reporter from Arca editorial unit, tell their experience at the Village. • New Arca communication project: with the beginning of the year, the web site will be in English as well. Thanks to the editorial team friends and to the student of the English School of Milan.

Anna after her journey to the Arca village writes:

**Fall 2011. All flights from Europe to Kazakhstan back to Europe take off and land during night time.**

*Before arriving at Arca Village, I was expecting big dormitories and a bit of bleakness. My mistake. - The Arca village is not an orphanage but it is a project built with efforts and commitment by those crazy, that lucky enough, thought it was possible to do something like this. It is a small village where more than 60 people between children and teenagers with complex personal backgrounds, live happily and serene a close family reality, and a good family for sure. It is an incredible positive environment that needs to be supported in order, step by step, to become, one day, independent and self sufficient. Let's do it, just one small gesture from many people and it is done! Pass it on!*

**Laura tells the story after her journey to the Village in Kazakhstan.**

After some second thought, Anna and I decided to leave.

It took one day and half to get there and eventually we arrived in the night at Almaty. Padre Guido welcomed us with a warm smile and a nice snow! 30km from the city, it took almost an hour to reach the Village. The right time to be briefed about our status of friends coming from far away. We talk about memories and life episodes and we find in Guido the serenity and affection of a dear friend. He tells about the „2 speeds village“, this is how he calls this place. A country with big social differences, where rich are really rich and poor really poor, where winters are too cold and summers too hot. It is a country almost as big as Western Europe, inhabited by more than 130 ethnic groups' and 30 religious faiths. Our four days at the village have been fantastic. Padre Guido is a perfect host. He introduced us to the kids and teens, he showed and explained all that has been done and what is necessary to do in the future. He is untiring, and persistent. Children love him and he loves them, unconditionally. Too bad we couldn't take a picture of his magical look and expression when he is with them.

Days pass by fast and we are busy, as it is expected from 2 good housewives, to tidy up and to write on a notebook what has to be done once we are back. As special reporters from the Arca editing unit, this is what we have been asked by Anna G. our chief editor: taking pictures and movies of the kids, for the new Christmas postcards. So many pictures and movies have been shot. Actually, they are not all best quality you can have, but we looked so professional that children took us quite seriously. Everybody had a lot of fun, especially encouraged by Anna's tickling and by Padre Guido comments, unfortunately for us, not understandable.

Now it is time to leave. Anna is still unpacking! She got nicknamed Eega Beeva. Her bags can contain anything and they do. She is fantastic a true fairy for the kids. Guido is stoic and very kind. He took us back to the airport late at night. We left but we would have very much stayed a little longer. We had great time and this is a beautiful experience that we would like to repeat soon.



**A surprise from Arca editing unit.**

Thanks to the student of **English School of Milan**, lead by Michela and to some friends around the world, you will soon be able to see our **internet website in English** for all our foreign friends. Welcome!

*Anna and Laura and a sunny, snowy morning at the village.*



*This is a page dedicated to all pictures taken by Anna and Laura at the village. Complete reportage on the web site.*



# News by Talgar

★ Local initiatives of solidarity, acts of „true“ friendship to be taken as an example.

Winter already knocked to our door with its first snow. Along with that, we had to turn on the heating in all houses. For the first part of winter, we received a prompt help from two local companies Dietsmann and MTM whom we would like to thank them with all our heart for their warm friendship.

Citibank, who has been our friends since the beginning of our adventure in this country, offered its support to

It is constantly increasing the number of people willing to donate their help and support. A group of student from **Almaty International school** came to see the reality of the village and to offer a regular cooperation on a weekly base to organize free time activities and post school. The students, also, will organize at school a fund raising project “**work in progress**”.

Another example of support comes from two Almaty schools, „friends of Arca“ for several years that showed their solidarity by keeping a permanent picture gallery of the village at the school entrance as well as updated information about us, how to get in touch and how to join the group of our family supporters.

some educational activities after the beginning of the school year as well as its contribution to the daily center that welcomes every day the disable children living with their families.

*In the picture below, look at Mariuccia the cow, recently arrived at Arca. On the right side EgoLife party.*

Obviously we are very grateful toward those who give an economical support to our project. Nevertheless we believe that these moments of solidarity and cooperation among young generation are essential to develop an awareness and attentiveness to each other's problems and difficulties and they are fundamental elements to create and sustain in the future, other solidarity projects



Our friend **Angelo** in agreement with his friend **David** got the Idea to pull together a project for us. Through “**Renaissance Capital**” financial help, we bought a **cow** and a second one is on the way. Also, they will finance some kitchen equipments and apparatus for the rehabilitation of our disable children. To them, goes our thank you for making possible a new beginning of our **farm project**.

As some of our old friends might recall,

at the beginning of the Village, we use to have a quite prosper agricultural activity run by the elder kids and supporting the domestic income. We had three cows, pigs, chicken, turkeys, rabbits, and ducks but at that time, we were told that children couldn't be in contact with farm animals. Now our relationship with city hall improved and thanks to Angelo's idea, we decided to try again and, who knows, maybe even with bigger projects in the future.



Thanks to the enthusiasm of **Jennifer** and **Danette**, there might be good cooperation opportunities with the Almaty International Women Club ([www.almatyclub.org](http://www.almatyclub.org)) that helped us already in the past. In the last few weeks we received several visits to introduce our reality to new people and show the Village future plans currently on the pipeline.

“EGO life” is a **furniture shop** in Almaty. For few months it has been also the exhibition and sales spot of the **Arca handicraft products**. As often happens, solidarity gestures become a good friendship and when they met us to give us the income from the summer sales, they organized a pleasant event with games and entertainment for everybody.

Dear friend, like every family, we would like to **prepare for Christmas** and we decided to do it together with you with the support of our **new Christmas e-cards** prepared by Anna G. with the pictures by Laura and Anna. We hope you like them too and that you chose them as a **solidarity tool** as well as a renovate sign of **your friendship**.

*The great family of the Ark*

benvenuto

web

Surfing together the site of Arca Village

www.larca.org

**Together with your friends donate a gift to the ARK Village children.**

**in HOME PAGE  
www.larca.org  
click on:**



*in English!!!*

**and... buy the Christmas e-cards for your friends!**



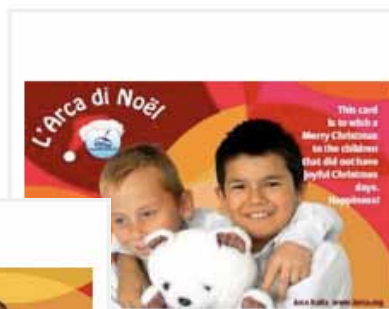
**Come on and join us on NOEL'S ARK**



Christmas Card "Happy new Year" €10.00



Christmas Card "Season's greetings" €10.00



simas Card "Happiness" €10.00

**THE ARK Christmas E-CARDS  
To send to your friends with different Christmas motifs  
Are available today!**

You can give your contribution to help the ARK Village children by changing your friends gift into a donation for these kids who are orphans or disables and that need a help to support themselves, to receive an education, rehabilitation treatments, an introduction to the working world in order to prepare their future.

For informations, suggestion or if you have problems to surf our site please contact us at our new e.mail address:

**web@larca.org**

«ARCA» ASSOCIATION  
The Ark Village  
Talgar - Kazakhstan

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