

JAKE'S JOURNEY OF LOVE AROUND THE WORLD!

Begins at the IDEX SHOW in Orlando, Florida

By Terrie Stong



It was a highlight of the Orlando IDEX event to be able to introduce Jake, our new traveling GBW teddy bear and goodwill ambassador, to the show attendees and also to the special Girl Scout guests. We were all thrilled when everyone oohed and ahed over this gorgeous 16" curly golden mohair bear lovingly created by our Vice Chairperson for Fundraising, Elizabeth Taylor. I was sure I could see Jake sit a little taller and the winsome twinkle in his shoe button eyes get a little brighter every time someone penned a message in his journal.

Because Jake's fur came from Edinburgh, we were especially happy to introduce Jake to Ron and Elke Block. We were ecstatic when Ron offered to take Jake with him to Israel in February for a youth peace conference. How perfect!

Sue Quinlan, our newest GBW sponsor, also took time out from the busy show to sign Jake's journal. We are hopeful that Jake will be able to visit her fabulous doll museum in Santa Barbara, CA sometime during his travels.

Another exciting opportunity for GBW was our annual charity auction. Marlene, Elizabeth and I were a little disheartened that there were not more bidders present but those that were there bid sooo enthusiastically...When the last bear was gone we had raised enough money to donate almost sixteen cases of GBW teddies and every lucky bidder (including me) was thrilled with their new bears! I always like to think that the bears are excited to be getting new and loving homes, too. We all know how those awesome bears love adventure! Many, many thanks to the artists and our GBW members who make these auctions possible with their generous donations!

Florida is gorgeous, especially in January, if you are from the fro-



Jake and Elizabeth (right) look on as Susan Quinlan, our newest GBW Sponsor from Santa Barbara, CA, signs Jake's journal.

zen snowy north. I'd like to personally invite each of you to attend the 2008 IDEX next January. I know you'll have as much fun as we did and we'd love to have you at our Sunday auction! To learn more about their shows please check their website: www.idexshows.com. (There is also a show scheduled for Las Vegas in June).

Since one picture is worth a thousand words, I am happy to share some of our IDEX photos and hope you'll enjoy meeting our Jake.

While you are surfing the net, please check out Elizabeth's website: www.agapebears.com.

Ron Block, Edinburg Imports, signs Jake's travel journal. Ron will be taking Jake to a youth peace conference in Israel in February 2007.

