



HIS WHEELS INTERNATIONAL

Bikes & Hand-Pedaled Trikes

NEWSLETTER

Providing pedal-powered transportation for the able and disabled with dignity

September 2012, Volume 7 Issue 2

Ethiopian Trike Recipient



In the last letter there was a picture of an Ethiopian walking on his hands, looking for some help from the Soddo Christian Hospital physicians.

There was nothing surgically that could be done. When they took him back to his village he went with new clothes and a His Wheels trike.



Trike Production

In August we finished a production run of 30 compact trikes. Thanks to your generous donations and a bike sale in August that yielded \$3,000, we were able to pay for them.

After six years of field testing and valuable feedback we incorporated some changes into our new compact trike design.

Unfortunately the production process wasn't completed in time to ship 8 of these compact trikes to Togo West Africa by the end of August. However they did take one of our larger trikes.

New Trike Opportunities

On August 10th I met with several faculty and staff members at Spring Arbor University (SAU) in Michigan. When people ask me how I made that connection, my answer is, "through prayer."

God began orchestrating this SAU connection between Carla Koontz and I when we rode coast-to-coast across the USA together in 1977. He knew that one day she would be the Executive Director of the Center for Global Studies and Initiatives at SAU. Part of their curriculum is a global experience. Because of this Carla has her finger on a wide array of international opportunities. Last summer we reconnected when I followed God's prompting and sent Carla a letter.

During our meeting at SAU we discussed opportunities in Burundi with Craig Reese, head of micro-enterprise training and vision for Sister Connections. They minister to widows and orphans from the civil war and genocide of the 1990s. Among other things we discussed a technical school program in India.

Ministry Miracles

After the meetings at Spring Arbor University we faced some hurdles. First we didn't know anyone going to India or Burundi.

Only a week later someone from the SAU community walked into Carla's office. She was willing to take one of our trikes to Hyderabad, India on September 23, 2012. About the same time someone from Washington State also offered to take the other trike to Burundi, East Africa in October. Also Bishop Joab Lohara from the Free Methodist Church in Hyderabad was going to be at SAU on September 14th and they hoped to show him a trike.

Unfortunately our engineer didn't have time to build these trikes up. God had already worked out a solution to this problem.

Back in March, Jack Piers and Don Miller, from We Build Hope in Holland, Michigan came to visit us. Their goal was to get trikes to Haiti and Honduras and they wanted permission to build our design.

Jack planned a return visit with Josh Ribbens on August 16th. I asked if he and his team would begin by building up five trikes for us?

Jack's team of volunteers was raring to go. They were glad to assist the Kingdom work in this way. So Jack and Josh took a truck load of parts back with them. We delivered more parts two days later. Jack plans to take 2 trikes to SAU on Sept. 14th.

We still had one more hurdle. "Where would the money come from?" God provided for the India trike, through a student business club (SIFE) at SAU. We are still trusting God for the needed funds to ship the trike to Washington and then on to Burundi, East Africa.

Headquarter Happenings

- Andy has volunteered to upload mechanical drawings onto our website. We hope to share the knowledge we have gleaned through our trike prototyping research and development with other like minded organizations.
- At the beginning of September we were joined by Aubrey, a journalism student at Roosevelt University in Chicago. She will spend 225 hours as an intern helping us improve our media presence.
- Alice spoke at the Wheaton Rotary in August. If your professional, school, community, or church organization is looking for a speaker, we welcome the opportunity to share about His Wheels, please give us a call.
- Our bicycle mechanics continue coming every week to work on bicycles. If you or someone you know has bike mechanic skills we could use your help.
- While I was out walking near World Relief this week I saw a young refugee off in the distance riding my way. As he passed I recognized his bike as one of the six bikes we had donated to World Relief only three days earlier. I continued my walk with a little extra spring in my step, overjoyed that we could help him get his first set of wheels in the USA.

On behalf of the His Wheels team,

Alice Teisan
Founder/Executive Director

