



HIS WHEELS INTERNATIONAL Bikes & Hand-Pedaled Trikes

NEWSLETTER

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

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Riding on Faith: Kindle & paperback

Alice's memoir is now available on Amazon.com in both a Kindle and paperback format. Here is a synopsis.

Where do you go after your dream has been shattered?

At age 30, Alice Teisan was an avid cyclist with a big dream: to ride her bicycle on every continent. But that summer, as she was preparing for a cross-country cycling trip, she was struck with a life-altering illness. In a flash, it seemed, her health, her career ambitions, her financial situation, and her plans for the future—not to mention her big dream—were all shattered. Was life still worth living when everything she once held dear was stripped away?



A donor, with Alice's book

Riding on Faith is the story of how God took Alice's dream and turned it upside down, replacing it with an even bigger dream inside her heart. Hers is a journey full of fear and faith, of loss and transformation, of soaring vistas and desolate valleys. Ultimately it is a story of hope—that when we give God our dreams, He will transform them into something grander than we could ever imagine.

After reading the book Evvy wrote, "What an outstanding book! The stories—particularly the back and forth in time use of them—was tremendously effective. Congratulations on a very fine achievement. Hooray!"

Meet Tom R., one of our Volunteers

Here is the first profile story about our team members written by Aubrey Smith, our journalism intern, from Roosevelt University.

Thomas G. Rapinchuk, a resident of Glendale Heights, began volunteering at His Wheels Int. after the loss of his wife



Photograph by William Koechling

in 2011, when a missionary from Wheaton Evangelical Church introduced him to founder Alice Teisan.

"He said, 'Come down here and she'll put you to work,' and that's what happened to me," said Rapinchuk, who keeps Teisan laughing when he volunteers on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday mornings.

"What I do is I clean all of the bikes, and I take some of the parts apart and whatever's got to be done that the mechanics don't do on the bikes we are fixing, I do," said Rapinchuk.

When he's not volunteering, Rapinchuk can be found gardening, collecting copper, brass and aluminum to sell, doing handiwork around the house and taking care of his cat, which he jokingly named, "There she is."

Trike Travels

In our September newsletter I reported that Jack Piers and his team at We Build Hope in Holland, Michigan were beginning to do the trike assembly for us. Since that time his team assembled and then got two trikes to their stateside destinations.

On September 24, 2012, Shar, a friend of Spring Arbor University (SAU) took a trike from Spring Arbor, Michigan to Hyderabad, India. The end destination was to the newly formed Immanuel Vocational Technical Institute, which some of the faculty at SAU along with Bishop Joab Lohara, helped begin. They recognized that “economic sustainability and vocational skills were the key to helping out the Christian community within India.”

Students at SAU have already begun raising money for the building of the first ten trikes in India. The trike fits in with their mission of teaching welding and woodworking skills.

Whenever we send a trike as two boxes for carry on luggage we await the story of how God’s glory will be magnified through the journey. We anticipated it would cost about \$350 for the trike to fly but it only cost \$75. Then when Shar got to India there was talk about making her pay an extra fee. However after the officials heard what the trike was for they thanked her for bringing it and let it through for free.

As a result we had \$275 left over that SAU was able to send to Craig in Washington who took the other trike to Burundi, Africa on October 19th. The trike made it to Burundi. While in Burundi Craig along with another micro-enterprise director of Sister Connection met to discuss building trikes as a business venture for orphans in their twenties.

Upcoming Events

On November 26th Jack from We Build Hope and I will travel to Spring Arbor University. We will drop off a completed compact trike for the Global Initiative department to have on display.

We will meet with faculty, staff, students, and prayer partners who are involved with the India and Burundi project and those who have an interest in seeing the trike travel to still other countries.

In December we hope to have one completed trike and one set of trike parts headed to John, our engineering department contact at Messiah College in Pennsylvania. The trike kit will go with John and a group of students headed to Burkina Faso, Africa in January. The completed trike will be used as part of a course curriculum for a computerized analysis engineering course during the spring semester.

In February 2013 I plan to visit Messiah College. While on campus I will have the opportunity to speak at the Engineering Department Chapel.

Last month I met one of the new pre-engineering faculty members at Wheaton College. He asked Kevin, our engineer, and I to speak to the students in that program. He looks forward to finding ways that the students can get involved with our trike program.

Also in 2013 we plan to send a trike to an engineering missionary in Vanuatu who is working with the countries disability society.

Thanks for your part on our His Wheels team,

*Alice Tesian
Founder & Executive Director*

