



Mobilizing God's work worldwide.

His Wheels International Newsletter *Fall 2009, Vol. 4, Issue 3*

Parade Celebration

Last call for Wheaton's Sesquicentennial (150th) parade registration. Those words jumped off the newspaper days before the parade deadline. I immediately called Alan, a parade veteran and asked, "Do you think HWI should enter the parade?" Alan said, "I think it is a great idea. I've had many offers to walk in the parade, but haven't said yes yet. If you decide to enter the parade I will walk for HWI. This is one of the largest parades in Northern Illinois where more than 70,000 people attend." I signed us up.



Alan came up with a slogan, "Providing a Future Worldwide." Ern from Fast Signs in Wheaton provided his expertise and a substantial discount for signs and banners. The Wheaton Evangelical Free Church, where I'm a member, heard we needed a truck and lent us one. We had 22 people representing seven churches participate. The Lord provided cool weather and kept the rain at bay. Our entry included a unicycle, bicycle, hand and foot pedaled adult size trikes, and a bicycle pulling a trailer. This team illustrated the vision God gave me when I drew up the logo. The four wheels in the logo represent the Trinity, three in one, and the opportunity to serve others with one to four wheeled vehicles.

Eleven people passed out 6,000 copies of my tract, hot off the printing press from June 26, 2009. While driving the follow up truck my heart bubbled over with songs of praise. I watched people reaching for copies of the tract. I heard the crowd cheer as team members passed by and others yelled out "Hi Alice." An elderly woman told Alan, "Thanks. You helped my grandson in California get a bike." I saw and heard some reading, "Battles, Bicycles, Beliefs, God has a plan," He does have a plan for each of us. After the three-mile parade our team members shared stories of how God touched them through their participation. Don't miss out next year. Mark your calendar; we will save you a spot on HWI July 4, 2010 parade team.

Tract Story

"You need to write a tract," my late mentor Robert Walker told me eight years ago. After many rewrites, in September I finally had my story into 780 words. Then I sought out graphics artists to help me illustrate the tract. In April, Stephen provided a promising layout. Since this was his and my first tract project I wanted a tract professional's input. I agonized and prayed because I didn't know anyone to ask.

"We found bicycles in the fountain at Crossway Books. Would you like them?" Amy stated in a voicemail left on May 5th. "I don't want those rusty bikes," I thought. Shortly thereafter I realized this call was an answer to prayer. When I returned Amy's call the bikes were gone. "This contact had nothing to do with those bikes.... I wonder if you could connect me with a person at Crossway who might take a look at my tract," I said. "I do the graphics for tracts and books here. I'm a missionary kid who rides a HWI bike and I have benefited from your ministry. I would be honored to offer my assistance after work. Amy put the finishing touches on the tract needed for publication.

The Wheaton parade was the tracts debut. During the first eight weeks over 9,000 of the 30,000 tracts printed have been distributed. The tracts are in five churches, with nationals in Germany and Tanzania, were sent out in missionary's mailings, available at conferences, in health care offices, handed out at two retirement communities and critiqued in a college class. Individuals have offered to translate it into Arabic, Spanish, French, Swahili and Portuguese. I have enclosed two copies of the tract. Please share it with those who may benefit from the story or may be interested in HWI. If you would like additional copies to pass out please contact us. If you are reading this online, you can find a copy of the tract on our news page under articles.

Bronson Bikes Meeting Needs

Here are some ways HWI bicycles have allowed Pleasant Hill Missionary Church in Bronson, Michigan to continue reaching out to those in need of transportation within their community.

- A first grader rode his broken down bicycle to school everyday. His trip home was dependent on the janitor's ability to put it back into working order. When the church heard about this child's

need they provided a bike for this student and a disabled sibling. The mother had tears when she saw the bikes, and the janitor had one urgent need removed from his daily schedule.

- A bike was donated for the Bronson Youth Center auction to raise money for the after school program. "It brought in good money," a member reported.
- A school secretary notified the church of a family in financial need whose child's bike had been stolen. The church met their need.
- In grief, at a grandfather's funeral, a church member found out about the need the grandchildren had for a couple bikes and gave.
- The church participates in a community program where they house and feed the homeless for a week or more. A homeless man from this program and the person who does childcare for his children needed bicycles and the church reached out to them.
- At the beginning of the school year the High School Principal asked the church to save a bike as an incentive for a student he knew who was planning to drop out of school. The student got his bike. We are grateful to have had a small part in seeing this student through the school year.

Match Accomplished

I am always amazed and thankful for your continued support. My daily post office run is a great adventure. Thanks for the special blessing I receive each day as I process the mail. Your sacrificial gift allows us to celebrate God's faithful provision for HWI. We are also celebrating how your gifts have helped us meet our \$10,000 matching gift. We reached our \$10,000 goal in July. Thanks to each of you for your prayers, and financial support.



Trike Pilot Project Video

This past winter Jeremy along with African nationals built six trikes and distributed them. He has since moved out of that country but he intends to return within the next year to help assemble and distribute the remaining 13 trikes. Through our partnership with Jeremy we have learned valuable lessons that will serve us well as we move forward with our trike program. One of the first lessons we learned was that the air compressor in Africa wasn't powerful enough to inflate tubeless wheelbarrow wheels.

Watch our three-minute trike pilot project video on You Tube under His Wheels International.

Events From This Past Summer

- May 30th HWI board had an all day retreat. It was a time to reflect on all God has done through HWI over the last four years and to set future goals.
- We went through a second trike production having forty sets of parts made.
- A trike went to Angola Africa with Rise International.
- We heard that the trike given away in Haiti back in February is still on the road.
- During our bicycle workdays on Wednesday and Friday mornings we averaged 4-7 people. We had 20 abled and disabled adults, and children, participate this summer. Over 100 bicycles were distributed.
- On June 30th an email about HWI and I was broadcast on Chris Fabry live, a national program on Moody Radio. You can find a link to this broadcast on our website, news page.
- On July 15th we had an all day informational meeting with Project Rwanda's project development advisor. Fifteen HWI team members attended. Our engineer, Kevin, gave a demonstration of how to build a trike using the trike manufacturing fixtures and tube bender.
- On July 18th I was on Family Radio. The MP3 file will appear on our website soon.
- Thanks to Eric, we received a website makeover just in time to welcome 300 viewers in July.

Updating our Mailing List

Please let us know if your address has changed or is about to change. If you prefer receiving our newsletter by email, send us your email address. We hope to begin an email feature in 2010.

Thanks for your part on our team through prayers, encouragement, volunteering and financial gifts.

On Behalf of the HWI team,

*Alice Teisan
Executive Director*

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