



# *His Wheels International Newsletter*

November 2010, Vol. 5, Issue 4

## **Refined Bicycle Focus**

At our September 27th board meeting, our board decided to discontinue our international bicycle division. This has been the weakest link in our ministry chain. Since our inception, of the nearly 1,400 bikes and trikes distributed, only 165 bikes were bought or sent to 14 countries. We will no longer grant money for buying bicycles in other countries. However, we are still able to provide bicycles, but not container funds, to organization wanting to put bicycles on their already secured container.

We are switching gears and focusing our undivided attention on strengthening our national division. We hired Grant a few months ago to oversee our bike division. He makes sure the shop is open Tuesday -Friday mornings from 9AM-12PM. Earlier this month Grant received approval to do his Christian Formation and Ministry, Master's internship through Wheaton College with HWI. As part of his internship he is researching different models of community bicycle ministries across the country to help us refine our focus. In addition we are pursuing partnerships with churches to provide service projects through HWI for all ages with the goal of doing local missions. We also look forward to complementing local churches outreach ministries by providing bicycles as another tool for reaching out, meeting needs and expanding Christ's Kingdom.

## **A First Bicycle**

"Oh, purple is my favorite color," Adeline exclaimed with excitement, as she received her

first bike from HWI. Adeline is a Billy Graham Scholar from Uganda, doing her Master's at Wheaton College. She works with Uganda Studies Program through Uganda Christian University, with study-abroad students from Christian colleges and universities in North America. Students go to Uganda for a semester of cross-cultural experience.



Adeline writes, "A month ago, tired of needing other people to take me shopping, I decided to walk to The Village Marketplace for milk. It took me 25 minutes to get there, another 25 to get back. It was a good workout, but not the best way to get milk for late afternoon tea.

Then, over fall break, I got the opportunity to go to Honey Rock Camp in Wisconsin. I saw all the bikes they had for mountain biking and decided I was going to ride one before going back to campus. With patient help from one of the leaders at the camp, I finally managed to keep myself on a bike as I wobbled around a grassy field, then ventured out on dirt roads in the woods. It was exhilarating! When I received my own bike two weeks later from His Wheels International, I got hooked. Yesterday I rode up to the Marketplace. Six minutes!"

Thanks Adeline for your ministry in Uganda helping internationals make a smooth transition to their

new culture. We are glad to reciprocate, making your life a little easier while you are studying here in America. Afternoon tea is vital to keeping the brain alert for studies.

## **HWI-Church Partnership**

"Hi, my name is Jeff. I work with the Chicago Eagles Soccer Ministry and am a missionary through College Church, in Wheaton, Illinois. There is a refugee who arrived only nine days ago from Iraq. He has already been to College Church four times. Some of those visits have been to participate in the Eagle Soccer program. Could we get him a bicycle?" Jeff asked. Jeff and I understand the deep significance of a bike since both of us have ridden cross-country with Wandering Wheels.

We at HWI believe the most effective way to give bicycles is by working together with a local church. Then, when the recipient receives the bicycle, they are aware the church cared about their basic transportation need and can later trust the church when other issues arise.

The timing of Jeff's request was amazing. With the goal to come alongside churches, days earlier HWI met with Chris, one of the pastors at College Church who works with refugees. We are discussing ways that College Church and HWI can work together to provide bicycles to refugees. Now Jeff can give this young man his bike, as a gift from College Church. This fulfills our mission to provide bikes through partnerships as a tool for expanding Christ's Kingdom

Getting a bicycle for this newly arrived Iraqi refugee was the first of what will hopefully be many more. We hope to keep providing transportation through our newly formed relationship with College Church. Please pray with HWI and College Church as we brainstorm other ways both to provide bicycles and to educate refugees on how to properly maintain their bikes. We are planning to offer periodic bicycle clinics at one of the Wheaton apartment complexes beginning next spring. If your church is interested in partnering with HWI, please contact us.

#### **A Dream Come True**

November 9th we had 14 people present for our workday. This included Jonie, a missionary kid and Wheaton College student who received a bike from us a few weeks ago. Jonie has always wanted to work on bikes, so he chose to give back to HWI by volunteering. The first week he came alone. The second week he brought two other students to help. This doubled our bike mechanic team for the day, making it six people.

In addition, we had a family of five here to learn about our trike factory. Ken and Kevin showed them the process. Two trikes are already packed and will head to Sierra Leone (SL) by container with the families personal belongings. The people of SL have identified the need for trikes and a trike factory. The government has granted land to the mission to turn into a factory facility. The very building was Ken's (our trike coordinator's) father's workshop when Ken was a missionary kid, growing up in SL.

While everyone was working inside I took the children outside and let them play with the trikes. How exciting to see our new headquarters bustling with such a variety of activities. I trust this is just the first of many action-packed, people-filled days at our headquarters.

#### **Other Trike News**

The trike crate we sent to Ethiopia in May has arrived at port. Now please pray for the miracle of a quick release from customs so it can travel by land to Soddo Christian Hospital.



Two trikes went to Sierra Leone at the beginning of October.

#### **HWI Happenings**

**Dec. 11th:** An interview with HWI and Wayne Shepherd on Firstpersoninterview.com

**Nov. 11th:** HWI met with the Wheaton College SIFE business club students. They will help us with business projects utilizing student resources.

**Oct. 19th:** HWI appeared on Chris Fabry live, national radio.

**Oct. 12th:** Alice & Ben Teisan spoke in Wheaton College Class.

**Sept, 22nd:** HWI appeared on This Is The Day, national radio.

#### **Radio Results**

A couple collected six bicycles and plan to continue collecting

bicycles through their church. After our October 19th interview we had 110 new visitors to our website.

A filmmaker and a graphics designer volunteered to help us with a promotional video. and ongoing graphics needs.

One listener wrote, "My husband was an athletic 33 year old man when he was diagnosed with a slow-growing bone cancer...he went from being an active life-long participant in various sports...to a disabled man who would never walk without the aid of crutches or a wheelchair again....It has been difficult for him. God has used this trial in his life in an amazing way, and he has learned to find his identity and worth in Christ alone through it all...."

I believe with all my heart that the Lord has a special ministry for my husband. As I listened to Alice's testimony this morning on my drive to work, my heart absolutely resonated with so much of what she was saying about dreams, desires, God's perfecting work and His timing. I believe my husband will be so encouraged to hear her testimony and challenged to not give up his dreams of being used to minister for the Lord."

We are amazed by all the ways God has used HWI to share hope and transportation. Thanks for your part on HWI's team.

*Merry Christmas on behalf of the entire HWI team,*

*Alice Teisan  
Founder & Executive Director*

**His Wheels International P.O. Box 423 Wheaton, IL 60187  
(630) 510-1005 [www.hiswheels.org](http://www.hiswheels.org) [info@hiswheels.org](mailto:info@hiswheels.org)**

Blog: [hiwsheelsinternational@blogspot.com](http://hiwsheelsinternational@blogspot.com) Twitter: HisWheels Facebook: HisWheelsInternational