



Mobilizing God's work worldwide.

His Wheels International's Newsletter

Summer 2006, Issue 2

Jr. Mechanics Mission Team

"When is five year old camp?" asked Braden. "Next week," I said. His interest touched my physical education background, my enjoyment for teaching, my camp memories and my desire to instill God's love in children.

In April, Joshua, a 12 year old missionary boy, home on furlough from Ecuador, came to get a bicycle. He asked if he could help fix bikes. After the first day he brought along two younger missionary friends from Japan.

These three children taught me that God's only requirement for service is the enthusiastic heart of a child. Our knowledge does not amount to anything if our heart is not sold out to serve Him. The children keep coming back because they enjoy serving, learning and participating. No job is too small for a child. As adults, our job is to provide experiences for children. As I have let go of my productive mindset and allowed God to nudge me through the lives of children I am awed by His big plans to instill missions in individuals of all ages through HWI. Our weekly team meetings include a retired fireman, a teacher and myself working with children from my neighborhood, local refugees from Sudan, international students from Congo, missionary kids, and a young man with Down's

syndrome. One father wrote, "Thanks for accommodating our son... He'll make memories and develop a unique work ethic and world view as a result of working on HWI bikes." We invite you to join our team.



Boy Scouts Troup 46

"Wheels of hope, Eagle Scout project leads to bicycle give away." This was the front page headline of The Wheaton Sun's publication, for April 21-27, 2006. Read the Scouts article online: www.hiswheelintl.org.

Greg Forkins approached World Relief (WR) in January about providing bicycles for refugees as an Eagle Scout project. WR put Greg in touch with HWI and a partnership was formed.

On April 15 there was a Scouts workday at Greg's house. Jan Lutkevich, one of HWI's volunteers, taught a 45 minute class on basic bicycle repair. Then 20 teens and fathers worked on bikes for about three hours. Greg's father summed up the project well, "It's hard to call this a

service project. It makes me feel so good inside."

Over 100 hours later, Greg delivered 20 bicycles to WR. Other bikes were donated to HWI. The WR bicycles went to refugees from Sudan, Angola, Somalia, Turkey, Ethiopia, Russia, Ukraine, and other places. The recipients live in DuPage County, after being resettled here from their war-torn countries.

Partnership Power

What a great idea! Go for it. HWI will partner with you. This idea put in motion our partnership with Naperville Presbyterian Church's (NPC) Katrina project. NPC has taken several mission trips to New Orleans and served with Trinity Christian Community (TCC). HWI's tiny, yet big, contributions were our encouraging words and partnership. Jan Lutkevich took off. Her skilled leadership has mobilized many at NPC.

Donated bikes are coming in from the local bike store where Jan works, from NPC families, HWI, and Scout Troup 46. On June 17th, 24 singles, married couples and families participated in a bike repair day where 38 bicycles were finished.

Jan thought that the earliest she could get bikes to New Orleans would be in 2007. God has bigger plans. A church family offered to pull a trailer of bikes while on vacation in July. This summer,



more than one load may go by other church volunteers.

Another family donated warehouse space. "While out at garage sales two people gave me bikes after hearing what we were doing," said the warehouse owner. On June 21st Jan and six volunteers moved bicycles into the warehouse. Now over 70 bikes are there.

One's Tools HWI's Treasure

"Do you know how to use all those tools?" A HWI board member asked. Through God's amazing connections we bought hundreds of dollars worth of bike tools for a huge discount from a retired bike store owner. This makes our mechanics happy. It also gives those of us less skilled some new tools to learn how to use.

HWI Fun Facts

- Since our beginning we have distributed 224 bikes.
- In 2006 we have already distributed 120 bikes.
- 44 Bikes are serving leaders in Kenya, Angola, Tanzania, and Nigeria.
- Missionary families representing 15 countries. have enjoyed bikes during their furlough. Some of these countries include

Papua New Guinea, Brazil, China, and Senegal.

- International Students from eight countries have used bikes while studying here.
- Refugees and Immigrants from 14 countries are using bikes in DuPage County.
- Over the last 76 days 82 people volunteered a total of 591 hours.
- HWI has appeared in 11 publications and on the radio five times since 2005.
- Our first three-wheeled hand-pedaled prototype was completed. Our second one will be built in 2006-2007 along with two copies.
- Our first 13 months of ministry beginning May 2005 through June 30, 2006 has been done on a budget of \$9,000. We have a positive bank balance and no outstanding debt.

Africa Update

In May a Nigerian pastor was returning home after studying at Wheaton College. He had fun customizing his first bicycle at HWI's headquarters. While he worked on his bike I tried to imagine what it would be like to be an adult before getting my first bike. The thought was beyond my comprehension. However the joy of providing him with his first bike was beyond words. This was the first bike we sent by plane.

Two bicycles will be purchased in Nigeria. This pastor's son will get one.

Another will go to a Bible School in Jos.

In May we sent four bicycles with RISE to Angola.

December 2004 I met Habil Omungu, then Anglican pastor from Nairobi Kenya. He graciously listened, encouraged and prayed for the idea of HWI. Nine months later he returned to finish his master's from Wheaton College. He couldn't believe how God had blessed the ministry in such a short period of time. Habil was appointed Archdeacon and conferred upon him the highest honors in the Anglican Church of a Canon this summer.

We have the privilege of partnering with Habil in spreading the gospel as he trains lay church leaders in church planting. We will buy 12 bicycles to better equip these new leaders. "The bikes will do much more than what any one can ever imagine," wrote Habil.

As our ministry increases in Africa I gain a deeper understanding of Matthew 6:21. "Where your treasure is, your heart will be also." The treasure is both sharing a friendship and partnering together in advancing the gospel. "Clarice has your room ready for your visit to see what God is doing," wrote Habil for his wife. Lord willing I will go next year.

On Behalf of the HWI team,
Alice Teisan
Executive Director

All donations are tax-exempt and can be sent to our address below.
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