

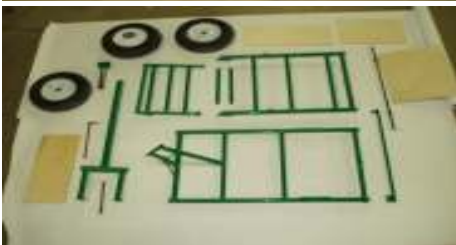


Mobilizing God's work worldwide.

His Wheels International Newsletter

Winter 2006, Issue 4

Trike Prototype Picture Book



Trike Is Flying

"These pictures tell a story," said the photo clerk.

Reflecting on the season of Thanksgiving and HWI, I'm overcome by tears of joy and awe.

In August 2005 we met with an African government official. From there a vision was cast for HWI to make a three-wheeled hand-pedaled tricycle. November 2006 our first prototype flew to Africa.

Above you will see HWI's prototypes designed and built by Kevin Nikolich of Fox River Design. The project is valued over \$115,000. HWI's cost is \$170.

Pray with us. This may be the beginning of serving the disabled in Africa through small business ventures whereby the nationals can build these trikes.

Mysterious Radio Guest

The news struck curiosity. While listening to Crown Financial Ministry radio broadcast, Money Matters, I heard Howard Dayton say, "Tomorrow we will be telling you about an International Bicycle Ministry." I wondered what

ministry this could be, so I cleared my schedule and made sure to tune in on November 8th. "Today we will hear from Alice Teisan" was how Howard began. Part of the mystery was solved. I know who Alice is, but it took a few seconds to remember when this was recorded.

Over a year ago I called in and left my story on a recorded message, following the instructed prompts. You can hear this excerpt at: www.hiswheelsintl.org, on the news page.

Now the newsletter division is publishing a printed version of my story and HWI.

Fall Breakaway 2006

"We'd like you to be our guest on the Fall Breakaway." These words from Janech at Wandering Wheels (WW) made me smile.

WW is where my love of cycling began. In 1977, at age 15, I took my first trip from Portland Maine to Portland Oregon. It was 42 days long, 3,600 miles, and we averaged 100 miles a day.

My last trip was in 1992, prior to facing a life altering disability with Chronic Fatigue Immune

Dysfunction Syndrome. Over the past 14 years cycling even a few miles has been hard. I would never have had the courage to attempt another trip with WW given my health limitations, but their invitation said, "Bike if you can, but do join us."

Coasting downhill and climbing uphill, feeling the cool fall breeze, breathing in the scents of freshly mowed hay, passing old dairy farms, and seeing the golden autumn colors made my heart glad. Over 5 days of cycling, my mileage totaled one hundred and it was a milestone for me.

While biking, I reflected on HWI's first 16 months. Hopefully others have seen Jesus through our distribution of bicycles. Also, we trust that those using HWI bikes have discovered a little taste of the freedom a bike can offer. Most of all we hope they experience the freedom for which "Christ has set us free." (Gal. 5:1) Read the story of HWI's beginning at our website on the about us page.

Katrina Thanksgiving

The day before Thanksgiving, Naperville Presbyterian Church

(NPC) and HWI loaded about 70 bikes onto a truck. Thanksgiving morning Paul and Carol Sue, from NPC headed to New Orleans. They arrived just before Noon on Friday. Children were waiting for the truck so they could pick out a bike. Paul explained: "By 3PM there were only 6 bikes left. The best part was after unloading the truck. We walked through the neighborhood and saw at least a dozen of NPC/HWI bikes with kids on them. They were just having the greatest time riding through the neighborhood."

African Partnerships

"I won't let you go until you bless me! We need bikes in Tanzania," Joel exclaimed. Joel is a new Wheaton College graduate student from Tanzania. Somehow Joel let me go but not before we set up a time to meet and discuss the need for more bikes in Tanzania.

"I know this Bishop!" Joel enthusiastically stated after I showed him a picture of the first bikes we gave away in his country. "Bishop Tibanenason is a man of integrity with a powerful ministry in Tanzania," he continued. "Do you realize people from Africa know about HWI and their lives have been changed because of this ministry?"

The timing was amazing, having just returned from a week long grant writing seminar. During the seminar, three conference participants and I wrote HWI's first grant proposal. Then all 20 attendees critiqued our first proposal and gave constructive feedback.

After returning and talking with Joel and Mboligihe from Congo, the Lord showed me that this proposal can be a template for these leaders to customize for the need in their

country. Grace, an advisory board member pointed out the progressive model for development work. Showing these leaders how to write grants will give them a valuable tool for the future.

Evangelism Class & HWI

"I'm taking a leadership evangelist course and I need to interview a leader of an organization," Yreille said. Yreille, pronounced Eray, is an international student at Wheaton College, from the Bahamas.

She asked, "What is your leadership style? What is your philosophy of leadership? What is HWI's 5-year plan?" Her questions challenged me. She was graciously listening as I formulated my thoughts. When I finished, she said, "Wow, two of your ideas are the same as Billy Graham's." I've been privileged to have one of Billy Graham's confidants pray for me daily over the last eight years.

Yreille presented this information about HWI to her classmates during a week long intensive course.

All Business

"Does HWI have any brochures they need written?" asked Leah. Leah is my cousin and a professor of Business English at Cornerstone University in Grand Rapids, MI.

During class Jake asked if Leah had any real life assignments to do. He didn't want to waste his time doing a fake assignment. When Leah told Jake about HWI's trike brochure his eyes lit up. Last summer Jake went to an African country and saw a family who was blessed to be a two bike family. He was so excited to work on the brochure. Jake got our brochure off to a good start.

Also, during class Leah had her students critique HWI's brochure.

HWI received feedback and students were exposed to HWI. Afterward she lost a couple off students to our website for the rest of class, but "What could I do?" she asked. Leah then presented the insights she'd gleaned from this partnership with the college's advisory committee.

Donation & Helmet Promotion

"What are you going to do with these bikes and helmets?" asked Amini. Amini is Mboligihe's 16 year old son from Congo. He accompanied me as we picked up a donation of two brand new bikes, helmets, and a car bike rack. The donor lived close by so I made an exception. We aren't able to make regular pick ups.

Every bike has a story and it was true of these, too. As we talked, I realized that there was great joy and pain packaged in these bicycles.

I used the opportunity as a teachable moment and explained to Amini that the donor had entrusted HWI with memories and material goods. Now before God HWI is responsible to steward these gifts properly. I didn't know who would benefit from the donation, but when the time was right I would know.

Amini then went on to explain how his mother had just heard about the importance of wearing a helmet while riding a bike, in a class she is attending. He knew helmets weren't just for kids because both "Big D" (a HWI volunteer and friend) and I wear helmets when we ride. He asked if he could have a helmet. I couldn't think of a better use for one of those helmets than to protect the head of a young man and volunteer. So, I gave him a helmet.

*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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