



# HIS WHEELS INTERNATIONAL

## Bikes & Hand-Pedaled Trikes

NEWSLETTER

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

July 2014, Volume 9 Issue 2

### Our Next Chapter

Over the past four years our rented 1,600 square feet of industrial space has served as the HWI headquarters. During that time we had church and youth workdays. It provided the space to prototype a U.S. trike and our latest Compact Trike. We also packed a crate of 15 trike kits that went to Ethiopia. In addition we were able to have three students do a semester long internship with us, and have a group of 10 students do a feasibility study.

The rented property provided the space necessary to accommodate the bicycle division of HWI. During our twice weekly volunteer mechanic work times we received, fixed, and distributed bikes to World Relief and other places. A contract worker led some bicycle events including a few evenings of teaching college students and others how to repair bicycles. He also helped with three big bicycle sales. Then after giving away over 1,700 bicycles we brought the bicycle division to a close in July, 2013.

The headquarters allowed us to implement our dreams and through the exploration process we discovered our strengths. Thus we narrowed our focus to the trike aspect of our ministry.

This specific focus on the trike division has allowed us to maximize our operations. As we no longer needed space to maintain the bicycle division, in May we moved into a moved into a 250 square foot climate controlled storage unit, set up as a trike showroom. We have already had guests come through. It holds our inventory and is conducive for the next chapter of our ministry. Our mailing address remains: P.O. Box 423/Wheaton, IL 60187.

### Senior Capstone Project

On April 29<sup>th</sup> Kevin, Alice, and seven other friends from HWI went to Olivet Nazarene University (ONU) for the Senior Capstone Engineering presentation. The four senior students who worked throughout the school year on a way to make the trike such that a quadriplegic could navigate it through brain wave, neuro engineering controls via a motorized system presented their work.

Over 40 people were present for the final presentation, standing room only. One family unit included two coast-to coast cycling teammates of Alice's from the 1970's. Along with them was their son who is now an engineering student at ONU.

Soon after the presentation was over, students entering their senior year had already texted the four presenting students saying how they hoped to work on the HWI trike project next year.

Afterwards Kevin and Alice met with the students. The students shared how they chose the project because of the human interest component and because it would help them learn some things that they would need to know in the future as they considered doing "missionering," (Engineering as missions).

The students shared how it helped them grow personally and professionally. "It required us to have good communication with each other and to work closely together," Brandon. "It required team work, utilizing each other's strengths," Benjamin. "We worked like a trike," Michelle. "It was exciting to be doing something that was on the brink of technology," Britny.

## More University Projects

During the Spring 2014 semester three junior engineering students at Taylor University (TU) worked on two trike related projects. During the beginning stages, Kevin, our engineer and Alice met via Skype with the students and professor during a few class hours.

We later held a three way phone conference with Dr. Gegner, TU's engineering professor, John Meyer the trike faculty member at Messiah College, and Alice Teisan. The call was initiated by Alice after hearing all the questions Dr. Gegner had about where the trikes could be used. It was a rich opportunity for John Meyer to share what he has learned after leading the trike project for Messiah College students in Burkina Faso since 1999. The wheels were turning as to the possibilities of finding a place overseas where TU students may be able to set up an ongoing program for engineering students to work with others around the area of trikes.

For the second year Messiah College used our trike as a spring semester class project where students did computer analysis on the frame.

## Upcoming Events

- October 25-30<sup>th</sup> Alice will travel to Messiah College. She will speak at their Engineering Chapel and also see students work on their collaborative mission projects.
- November: We are slated to send a trike with a mission team from Bronson, Michigan to Mexico.

## A New Endeavor

During the nine years of doing trike research and development work we have recognized a need to have a trike related conference. Our goal is to bring together our University Consortium participants and those from other organizations doing trike work throughout the world so we can learn and encourage each other. We are in the beginning stages of planning our first two day conference for Fall, 2015.

## Trike Blueprint Reminder

To learn more about HWI visit our website at [www.hiswheels.org](http://www.hiswheels.org). There you will find all our trike blueprints as free downloads.

Thanks for your prayers. We couldn't do our ministry without being girded in prayer. One of the unseen components of our ministry is the Brothers Praying for Others (BPFO), a group of over 50 men behind prison walls in Texas who pray daily for us under the leadership of JJ.

Let me close with this quote from his most recent letter dated June 28, 2014. "This is a prayer we say daily. 'Please help us and Alice and all at His Wheels to lift up Jesus Christ with our lives in such a way that people here and there and all over the world where those trikes go would be drawn to Him. May our lives and our every word bring glory, honor and praises to you for Christ's sake— Amen.'"

*On Behalf of the His Wheels Team,  
Alice Teisan  
Founder and Executive Director*



P.O. Box 423 • Wheaton, IL 60187 • (630) 510-1005 • [info@hiswheels.org](mailto:info@hiswheels.org) • [www.hiswheels.org](http://www.hiswheels.org)  
**Blog:** [hiswheelsinternational.blogspot.com](http://hiswheelsinternational.blogspot.com) • **Twitter:** HisWheels • **Facebook:** HisWheelsInternational