



Personal Energy Transportation

PET® MO-Columbia

SPRING 2016 Vol. 62

GIVE THE GIFT OF MOBILITY, DIGNITY, AND OPPORTUNITY

PET COLUMBIA TEAMS UP WITH 1040I TO DELIVER PETs TO THE PEOPLE OF COTE D'IVOIRE

- GARY MOREAU, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Last month I had the opportunity to travel to Cote d'Ivoire with a medical mission trip and provide life changing mobility while others performed life changing surgeries. 1040i has been offering surgical procedures for the people in the remote parts of Cote d'Ivoire for nine years and came on board as a PET kart distributor six years ago. I went over to deliver new PETs, rehab older PETs and check on how our PETs are holding up under very difficult circumstances. I'm proud to report that they are holding up quite well. The two week stay allowed me to give away 82 PETs to raise the dignity and opportunity of many lovely people and their families.

SHE NAMED IT RUTH.

Mamu Djbari now feels like a woman because her PET allows her to be mobile. As a 30 year old mother of three she lives in a village near Doropo. She contracted polio later in life and was unable to perform her roles as wife and mother. She couldn't gather firewood, walk to the well to collect water or wash the family's clothes. With her PET she can do all of that and more. Her PET makes her feel like a woman again. She wanted a special Christian name for her PET. We christened it Ruth after my mother.

(STORY CONTINUED ON PG. 2)



**WELL USED
PET GETS TO
RETIRE!**

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Nabaloum Mahamady, age 54, has been riding his PET for 5 years. He was thrilled to replace his worn out PET with a new one. Nabaloum's PET possibly could have been repaired but our replacement parts after 3 months are still clearing customs. As you can see he wanted to keep his original PET for parts, so he left with both.



Because of the difficulty in customs and the cost of shipping we often ask the question: Is it feasible to build PETs overseas, hiring locals to build with more reasonably priced materials. PET needs willing partners to explore this effort.



PETs GO TO BURKINA FASO

A brother and sister traveled many miles from the neighboring country of Burkina Faso to receive two new PETs at our distribution. Sib Binissofana, 70, disabled because of polio, came back to replace his 3 year old PET. He brought his 60 year old sister, Siba Bitore, who was also disabled by polio at an early age. I felt honored that she allowed me to hold her while they loaded their PETs in a small truck to take home.

DAH GETS AN UPGRADE

Dah Hanwalan was 13 when she got her first PET, a small or child size one. Now at 16, it was getting a bit cramped. She is thrilled to get her large PET, allowing her more comfort. PET is adapting to the needs of an aging population. Thank you for helping us make changes.



EXCITEMENT RISES IN HARD TO REACH AREAS

RECIPIENTS WERE VERY GRATEFUL FOR TIRES THAT COULD NOT BE PUNCTURED



Daslin Small sends joy and thanks from Benin, Africa, as she continues distributing PETs. Her organization has been another dedicated distribution partner since 2012. She has received multiple overseas shipping containers with over 400 PETs to date.

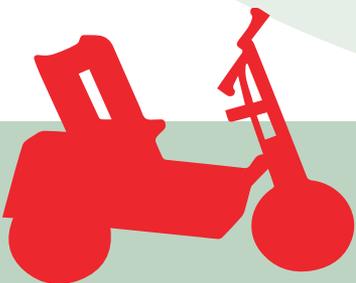
“Dear Von,

Thanks for your patience. We started off quickly with our distribution in April shortly after the arrival of the container but it took us a while to get the distribution done in the north. There were several obstacles in reaching the most needy parts of the nation. I am not surprised as I have found that to the extent that the people’s needs are great, the greater the effort needed to get to them. This was the case in Kandi a city in the far North East of Benin where we distributed 40 PETs on Dec 3, the International Day for Persons with Handicap. There are so many people in the area who desperately need mode of transport suitable to their mobility needs. The PET carts are perfect for this rural area. The recipients were very grateful for the wheels on the carts that could not be punctured. The joy was great for those who got a PET but there were many who still need one.

I have a contact in the Ministry of Family and the Persons Handicap who is a tremendous help and resource person to point me to the areas of greatest need. She is writing PET a note of thanks which I will send in another message. Photos will be sent in several emails.

Thanks again and God bless you.”

DASLIN SMALL | MISSION INTERNATIONALE D’EVANGELISATION ET DE REVEIL SPIRITUEL (MIERS)



“Every charitable act is a stepping stone towards heaven.”

- Pierre Corneille



MEL'S COLUMN:

“THINKING ABOUT OUR LEGACY”

“Legacy -- anything handed down or passed on” (New World Dictionary)

My generation has done rather well, many of us. We were born into the times of the Great Depression, the Dustbowl, drought, bank foreclosures and World War II. Life and times were not easy for many of us. But do to inflation, hard work and thrifty habits when many of us add up the value of our total estates we are both humbled and amazed. As a group we are wealthy.

Not only are we wealthy but most of our children are far better off than we were at their age. As we approach life's end we begin to ask ourselves, “What should I do with my estate? Am I obligated to leave it all to our children or should I share it with other children? If so, how?”

As one who is a part of the so-called “Great Generation” and as one who has given much of my life to those less fortunate, I have these observations.

First of all, I let scripture and common sense guide me. My Bible tells me that those who have received much should share generously with those who have little. I have received much. That makes sense.

Second, my common sense tells me I should give help to those most in need. I did that with animals on the farm---the orphan lamb, the runt pig, the picked upon hen. Jesus called people like this His “least of these”.

Third, I want to give to a work that has a proven track record of getting the most mission out of its dollars---“the most bang for my buck”.

And fourth, I want to do it in such a way that it will not complicate things, legally, for my family at the time of their distress.

So, my wife and I have left a percentage of our residual estate to PET. Legally and practically, that is a good way to do it. We intimately know PET and the work its volunteers do. It helps some of the most downtrodden, overlooked, disenfranchised folks in the world. It dramatically enhances their lives. Some have been crawling on the ground for many years, often as beggars. But they get onto a PET and arise to a new life of dignity, hope, pride, comfort and productivity.

Our children and grandchildren know our intentions, so we are passing on our legacy of values as well as dollars. It is more important that our children receive our values than our dollars but together they make up our legacy.

It was simple to get our lawyer to write that into our will---just a sentence or two to designate that a percentage of what will be called our “residual estate” should go to PET. TRY IT! YOU'LL LIKE IT!

For more information about how you can offer a legacy contact PET-MO Columbia.

CONTACT Us



- MEL WEST, DIRECTOR EMERITUS

1908 Heriford Road, Columbia, MO 65202

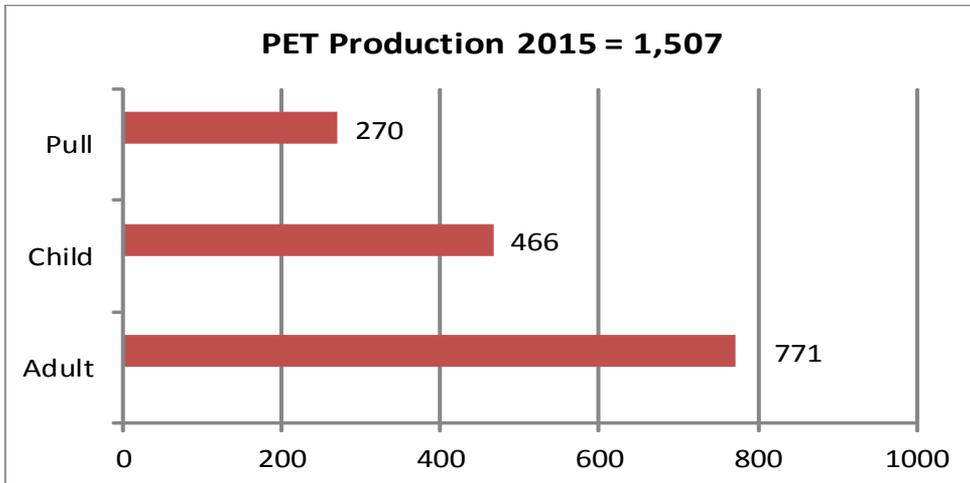
Telephone: 573-886-7877 Email: petproject@giftofmobility.org Web: www.giftofmobility.org

YOU CAN SHOW GOD'S LOVE THROUGH VBS

Our Vacation Bible School kit includes a leader's guide and a DVD. Children's activities are for Preschool to 2nd grade and 3rd to 5th grade. Order your kit for \$15.00 and a display PET.

Find details at <http://giftofmobility.org/give/vacation-bible-school/>

YOU HELPED CHANGE 1,507 MORE LIVES IN 2015



With strong giving, we were able to start 2016 with a slight increase to 32 PETs per week. Please help us continue the forward momentum of helping more of our brothers and sisters around the globe.

GIFTS GIVEN IN HONOR

- Mr. & Mrs. Mark Hofmeister, Mr. & Mrs. Kirby Cameron, Mr. & Mrs. Brian Hofmeister, and Mr. & Mrs. Brad Hofmeister by Roger & Donna Hofmeister
- Steve Korreect, Lisa Korreect, Dr. Jon Webb, & Dr. Garrett Korreect & Catherine Korreect by Jeanette Korreect
- Bonita Baer, Elizabeth Ann Morgan, Elaine Thompson, & Kay Wallace by Anne Miller, Elaine Thompson
- Elmer Bigham's 80th birthday by Wesley United Methodist Church Members, Ronald & Diann Rockstrom
- Kate & Glenn Brown and Erich & Janet Brown Martz by Tom & Mildred Brown
- Jim Lee by Christina Dolan; Jonathan, Kristen, Jameson, Weston, and Ethan Lee
- Elaine Thompson, Elizabeth Ann Morgan, & Anne Miller by Kay Wallace
- Elaine Thompson, Kay Wallace, & Anne Miller by Elizabeth Ann Morgan
- LaVonne Patterson's Birthday by Phil Patterson & Family, Pamela Davis
- Rory Schaefer, Cate Schaefer, & Ian Westerberg by Rich & Carol Oliver
- Carolyn Johnson, Nancy Mebed, & Mary Sue Barnard by Marge Hicks
- Maurice William (Bill) Chastain by Lisa Rodriguez, Chace Brundige
- Jerry Doyle's birthday/Christmas by Rosemary Doerr, D. J. Doyle
- Dan Zettlemoyer's college graduation by Bob & Judy Silverforb
- Doreen Hendrix & Don O'Bannon by Harrold & Nancy Ankeney
- Moine, Mabel, Susan, Melvin and Barbara West by Aaron West
- Kathy Popeck & Francine McGuire by Karen & Charlie Popeck
- Sam Maples & Mary Ellen Rhoderick by Joe & Pat Powell
- Pete & Ann Bartelt Wedding by Jason & Natalie Ysker
- Larwence Garvin by James & Janice Cha, Karen Garvin
- Green & Catherine Long their 25th wedding anniversary
- Purris Williams & Robert M. Burdeau by Mark Kelty
- Earl Miner (PET Designer 1994) by Ken Leinweber
- Grandchildren & Great Grandchildren by Beth Ferrell
- Pastor Marilyn Dorst by Altamont Methodist Church
- Rob & Colin Barber Birthdays by Lois & Cliff Elliott
- Dennis & Sandra Janssen by Lowell & Elaine Allen
- Betty & George Kruck by Phil & Marilyn Garrett
- Bev & Mel Toellner by Patrick & Dianne Maguire
- Jared and Jaime Lewis Family by Harold Lewis
- Judy & Chuck Losasso by Catherine O'Brien
- Barbara & Melvin West by Mary Isabel Doak
- The Toellner Family by the Gold Crest Team
- Rosalie Eubanks by Jo Ann & Ken Knudson
- William Floerchinger by David Floerchinger
- Ralph Heidenreich by Marcia Heidenreich
- Richard Brashler Sr. by Janet Brashler
- Betty & Joe Dillard by Jennifer Dressler
- Patty Brown by Becky Butler
- Wally Brown by Bishop Joe A. Wilson
- Frank Conley by Carla Conley
- Howard Fox by Shirley Ryan
- Jerie Furness by Leanne Trebilcock
- Roger Hofmeister by Pat & Pete Dalum
- Kay Hoefner by Lisa Hoefner
- Christine Houser by Ron Houser
- Judy Matheny by Gladys Campbell
- Roland & Shirley Meinert by Matt Meinert
- Gary Moreau by Sass & Yvonne Tracy
- Alissa Newton by Amy Dunaway
- Kathy Perks by Kathy & Andy Maynard
- Lloyd & Diana Rudloff by Kim Rudloff
- Alana Shelare by Judy Milliken Ross
- The Smith Family by Michael Smith
- The Wests by Martin West

PET PROJECT DONATION SLIP

Yes! I want to give the GIFT OF MOBILITY to a person whose legs do not function.

My check is enclosed for:

\$_____ for _____ PET's at \$300.00 each.

\$_____ toward the purchase of a PET.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Email: _____

Organization, if any: _____

Make check payable to PET MO-Columbia and mail to: 1908 Heriford Road, Columbia, MO 65202
Tel: 573-886-7877



GIFTS GIVEN IN MEMORY:

Carol Sechler by Randy Miles, Ethel Bassett, Mel & Barbara West, Lance & Linda & Brice & Evan Belden, Charlene Belden, Herman & Shirley Harrison, Don & Joan Bay, Tom & Mildred Brown, Barbara Phillips, Ross & Ava Swofford, Roger & Donna Hofmeister, Jim & Lorene Royer, Nancy Burke, Junior & Rosemary Sechler, Randy & Robin Sechler, Helen Malizia, Ron Haffey, Mary Sundermeyer, Shirley Meinert, Allen & Betty Bluedorn, Julian & Beth Parrott, Laura Turner

- Lloyd Dresher by United Methodist Men of First UM Church in MN
- Carol and Dale Sechler by Elton Fay, Stephen Dolan & Lisa Sechler,
- Dr. Hubert & Mrs. Connie Wilhelm by David & Bonita Maze
- Ted Henrichs & Mark Henrichs by Margaret Henrichs
- Greyson & Stella Kimbrough by Jo Ann Kimbrough
- Phoebe Black Begemann by Ray & Linda McKenzie
- Elizabeth Ann Brown by Bob & Jane Bellinghausen
- Wanda Southerland Fowler by John & Suzanne Glenn
- Andrew John Lambert by Dan & Mona Pargee
- B. D. McKenzie by Ray & Linda McKenzie
- Art & Alma Pargee by Dan & Mona Pargee
- Norma Jean Dorris-Mon by Sarah Dorris
- Ruth Bunton by Mike & Cathy Bunton
- Charles D. Fulhage by Jane Fulhage
- Charles Roberts by Dorothy Watson
- Matthew Orman by Delores Orman
- Gilbert C. Felling by Mark Felling
- Shelby Bussing by Robert Bussing
- Ed Hampton by Doris Hampton
- Lois Kocher by Charles Kocher
- Bill Appelgate by Mark Barrett
- Clair Marnin by Robert Jones
- Richard Myers by Joan Myers
- Dr. Oliver Sacks by Moine West
- Arthur Witt Jr. by Ruth Witt





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United States Of America

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“The simplest acts of kindness are by far more powerful than a thousand heads bowing in prayer.”

- Mahatma Gandhi

PETs VARY AND So Do DISABILITIES

THESE THAI PEOPLE SUFFER FROM PARAPLEGIA, DYSTROPHY, BIRTH DEFECTS AND STROKES



“Dear Mr. Driggs:

Yesterday, just in time for Christmas and the New Year, we delivered both adult PET carts and pull PET carts to the Mae Sai Thailand Disabled Association run entirely by disabled persons living along the Thai border with Burma.

The Association (under their supervision) will distribute the pull carts to rural area clinics that provide medical services to local disabled residents. The adult PET carts were delivered in person as can be seen in the enclosed photos. We were very happy to support this effort as it is entirely non-government and is organized by the disabled themselves. It was not an easy task to transport and assemble all these mobility aids, but the group did a splendid job using volunteers and members. One of the adult chairs had to be dis-assembled on the spot to get it to fit into a Suzuki compact

5 door car, but with considerable trial and error, we got all the parts safely inside so the cart could travel to the distant home of the disabled user. The disabilities varied from paraplegia to dystrophy to birth defect to stroke. Please extend our thanks and warm holiday wishes to everyone at PET who so wonderfully support this work.”

DON WILLCOX, PRESIDENT | FOUNDATION TO ENCOURAGE THE POTENTIAL OF DISABLED PERSONS