



PET® Mobility Project

WINTER 2015

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- ◆ PET No. #900 was packed in November!
- ◆ 245 PETs were shipped out in 2015 so far
- ◆ 14 Pull PETs and 10 Child PETs were included in this shipment (assembled in Columbia, MO)
- ◆ In 2015, Design & Standardization Committee (including Bob Gabrielse) made many significant changes to the PET cart to make it safer and better for the recipient.

“With LOVE to the TLC staff from PET Indiana”



Wheatfield, IN — Aug. 27
 The 40-foot long Container Truck pulled up to the PET workshop and within 4 hrs. volunteers packed it full—including 94 PETs (made here) with 14 Pull PETs and 10 Child PETs (from Columbia, MO). The loading team signed their names on a large greeting card — the first thing *The Luke Commission* staff would see.

Swaziland — Oct. 16
 Then seven weeks later the Container was unsealed by the TLC maintenance crew; they posed by the greeting card with big smiles for a “Thank You” picture for us! Unpacking the Container took less than half the time it took for us to fill it.



245 PETs have been delivered to Swaziland during this year — thanks to YOU our DONORS!

“Arrived by Bus . . . Left by PET”



Swaziland —June, 2015

Sifiso

“I came by bus, but now I will drive my new car home,” said this 15-year-old Swazi who had just been fitted for a new PET cart at a Luke Commission outreach in rural southern Swaziland.

“See, he’s used to that cart,” laughed a bystander as she watched Sifiso Shabalala moving quickly through the school grounds and out onto the country road.

Sifiso had received a Personal Energy Mobility cart in 2013 at a TLC outreach nearby, but the brakes were “finished,” explained the teenager, whose legs were short and misshapen.

“I liked my old cart, but it now has a big problem,” said Sifiso.

“When I heard TLC was coming to the school, I knew I could not miss this day! I would ask them for another cart that worked better.”

Both Sifiso’s parents died within the last several years, his father in 2011 and his mother in 2013. He and his brother live with their grandmother.

The teenager is in grade 6 and hopes to go to high school in a couple of years. He said he has no friends, which is common for Swazi children with disabilities; often the disabled are viewed as disfavored by God. **Someday he wants to be a policeman.**

“**Jesus gave you this cart;** it was made by friends in America who love Jesus,” a TLC staff member explained to Sifiso. “**Yes, I know,**” he smiled. “**Jesus loves me and those people in America must love me also.**”

—Humbled by how God puts people and places together in His name
to bless His children everywhere, this is Janet Tuinstra (for
The Luke Commission and the PET Mobility Project)

Some People You Should Meet....

Our Luke Commission Partners



Austin, TX — September: At the 21st Annual PET Conference in Austin, Texas, Bob & Arla Gabrielse were thrilled to spend several hours connecting with Harry & Echo VanderWal. They and their family of 6 children ranging from age 14 to 1 (Zeb, Jacob, Luke, Zion, Hosanna, and Gilead) were on a 6 week traveling vacation in the states, but they came special to Austin to connect with the PET organization and especially with the managers of the shop from where all their supplies are shipped.

Our PET International Leaders

November: It was a fantastic week for **Jim Conn** and **Scott Walters** as Bob joined them to tour five Indiana and Michigan PET Affiliates, and meet with four “parts suppliers” who are partnering with all 24 PET shops to bring quality materials at low cost (or some at no cost). Their 1200 miles in just 5 days included these PET shops:

PET—DeMotte IN; the PET Vinyl Team—Goshen, IN;
PET—Saline MI; PET—East MI; and PET—Holland MI.

Significant meetings were held with:

Veada Industries (boat-seat vinyl) in New Paris, IN;

D&M Metal Fabricating (PET cart forks) in MI;

Peer Bearing (bearings) in Waukegan, IL; and

Peer Chain (chain and sprockets) in Waukegan, IL.

Each is a very valuable partner, and each expressed excitement to be part of the support team for PET mobility carts!



Jim Conn, Chairman of the Board for PET International
— Minneapolis, MN

Scott Walters, the new Exec. Director for PET International
— Atlanta, GA

Our Packing Crew—packing PET #900 !



Our Mission: *to reflect the love of Jesus Christ by bringing mobility and dignity to those in developing countries who are unable to walk.*



Since you, our donors, are such a vital part of our ministry,
 our Staff of Volunteers wants to wish all of you a
“Blessed Christmas and a Joy-Filled New Year”



- Front Row:** Scott Walters (Ex. Director), Wally Wyman, Arla & Bob Gabrielse
- 2nd Row:** Sandy Morris, Cindy Westerhoff, John VanKeppel, Jim Shouse, Oscar Quiroga, Char Groet, Jackie Barton, Gail Scott
- 3rd Row:** Bob Bennett, Joe & Kathie Zellon, Dan Allen, Bonnie Sanow, Larry Ouwenga, Gary Love, Terry Murphy, April Kortum, Carol Moberg, Barb Timpe, Peg Nick, Carol Lagestee
- Back Row:** Bill VanderMolen, Bob Conley, Dale Mecherle, Ray Poortinga, Dale Nommensen, Jon Huisman, John Wallace, Sue Allen, Jim DeJong, Marge Fase, Dick Souther
- Not Pictured:** Dave & Barb Werblo, Denny Kortum, Ron Kolivas, Dianne Reimsma, Phyllis Huisman, Dan Blaney, Pat & Rosie Sullivan, Kay Spurgeon, Piper & Jay Stowers, John Lindbeck, Gregg Homans, Rich Tillema, Wayne Van Drunen, Brent Womac, Ruby Walstra, Ken Conway, Ron & Vicki Anliker



PET Ministries, Inc.
 12352 N 550 W
 Wheatfield, IN 46392
 Phone: 219-789-8617
 E-mail: petdemotte@gmail.com
www.petdemotte.org



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