

## Mobility Worldwide Welcomes New Affiliate



SW, MN Leadership Team (L to R): Wendy Fast, Gordon Krause, Galen Kauffman, Bill Janzen (seated), and Arnold Harder.

We are proud to announce the addition of yet another affiliate to Mobility Worldwide's international network of manufacturing sites. Volunteers in the community of Mountain Lake, MN, headed up by Bill Janzen, have named their operation Southwest MN.

This latest operation was formally approved by the national board of trustees after Janzen's team underwent the required manufacturing training, followed by an inspection of their first locally built cart.

"Our team first worked very hard to become proficient at making the frames for the wooden carts and then moved on to the bodies. We have seen how Mobility Carts change lives for people who are unable to walk, and we wanted to be part of that," Janzen stated. "Now we must recruit additional volunteers interested in working with metal and wood to manufacture more mobility carts."

The SW MN shop is staffed entirely by volunteers as are virtually all the other 22 shops located throughout the world. Those who are interested in establishing an affiliate in their community are encouraged to reach out to us by emailing [MW@MobilityWorldwide.org](mailto:MW@MobilityWorldwide.org).



Carts built by SW-MN will help people like this young Honduran lady who wanted her picture taken once she received her Mobility Cart. However, she demanded that the picture could only be taken after she changed into her party dress to display her newfound confidence.

The new molded resin body carts will fit comfortably on existing frames built at the SW-MN Affiliate & elsewhere as this Kenyan gentleman demonstrates aboard his Mobility Cart.





# The Passing of Two Great Leaders



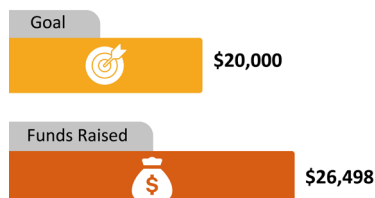
Wade Hammons (seated), celebrating the recent production of Memphis' Mobility Cart #1,000

Mobility Worldwide mourns the loss of two devout volunteers. Jim Conn, who founded the Twin Cities, MN Affiliate and Wade Hammons, the founder of the Memphis, TN Affiliate passed away recently after serving as key volunteers.

Jim Conn served as board chair with both the local affiliate and the national board of trustees for many years. He is credited with driving an effort to standardize the design and manufacturing of Mobility Carts. Mr. Conn's leadership will be memorialized with the debut of the Jim Conn Golden Sprocket Leadership Award to be given to Mobility Worldwide's volunteer of the year during the annual conference September 29-October 1, 2022 in Holland, MI. Nominations may be sent to [MW@MobilityWorldwide.org](mailto:MW@MobilityWorldwide.org) Wade Hammons was the shop manager of MW Memphis since its founding over 20 years ago. Wade devoted his life and energy almost exclusively to building Mobility Carts. His colleagues say Wade knew every bolt, screw, and piece of wood in the shop. He celebrated his 90th birthday recently with the construction of Memphis' 1,000th Mobility Cart.



Jim Conn



## Liberian Affiliate Progresses



The future home of Mobility Worldwide's Liberian Affiliate is beginning to take shape thanks to the leadership of the program's director, Rev. Rose Farhat, and the generosity of donors. The new shop will be housed in a building that was partially destroyed in the Liberian civil war that ended in 2003.

Rev. Rose Farhat



Future site of MW's Liberian workshop.

The Liberian building project will be done in time so that a visiting mission team from the US will be able to help distribute Mobility Carts there. Other duties on the mission trip will include offering educational materials to students and performing vision and health screenings.

Those interested in participating in the Liberian mission trip, planned for late February/ early March of 2023, are asked to send an email to [Margot@MobilityWorldwide.org](mailto:Margot@MobilityWorldwide.org). People with skills in construction work or medical fields are needed. The trip is open to friends, family, donors, volunteers, and anyone with an interest in Mobility Worldwide Liberia. The cost of the trip is estimated at about \$2,500. Deadline for expressing interest is August 2022.



People in need of a Mobility Cart wait their turn under a shade tree during a recent distribution.



# Beare Becomes New Logistics Coordinator



Wayne Beare

Wayne Beare has become Mobility Worldwide's new Logistics Coordinator, taking over from Cary Loesing. Wayne will ensure efficient distribution of Mobility Carts and other mobility assistive devices to those in need by overseeing the supply chain process from affiliate to end user. Mr. Loesing, meantime, retains his role as director of the Atlanta, GA Affiliate.

economic development. He is fluent in Spanish and has been given the title of Honorary African Chief by an African Governor. "It is a dream come true to help people around the globe through Mobility Worldwide's mission," Beare stated. "Our brothers and sisters deserve to have every available means for their empowerment. Providing resources to become self-sufficient leads to resilience to overcome challenges beyond the physical, elevating peoples' social, economic, and spiritual experience", he said.

Mr. Beare's full time role in logistics is crucial in that his responsibilities will include many modes of transportation from the USA to some of the remotest of communities on the planet.



Volunteers in N. Alabama load their first full container of carts bound for Malawi & Zambia thanks to St. Mary's Catholic Church in Virginia.



Team W Michigan takes a break while loading a cart shipment bound for DR Congo.



Logistics includes transportation of Mobility Carts to people in need in remote areas like Robinson Island, Kenya.

## Lions' Foundation Chair Visits Affiliate

Dr. Jung-Yul Choi, the chair of Lions Clubs International Foundation and its immediate past president, visited Mobility Worldwide's Waterboro, Maine Affiliate recently, only weeks prior to the club's global convention in Canada.

Choi was keenly interested in the Mobility Cart as he toured the manufacturing facility and said, "I have heard of these carts, but seeing is believing. This is of great value to those living in countries with few resources".



A Lion offers a Mobility Cart to a teen in Guatemala.



Dr. Choi of S. Korea tests a Mobility Cart.



(LtoR) John Kustron, Dr. Choi and Charlie Dubois, Lions all during Dr. Choi's visit to Waterboro, ME.

The Waterboro, MN Affiliate is led by John Kustron and is staffed entirely by members of the local Lions Club. Lions are active in several affiliates throughout the United States and many affiliates have received funding from their local Lions Clubs.

On the international stage, Walt Hays, senior advisor to MW's national board of trustees has displayed Mobility Carts at the Lions Clubs' international conventions around the globe for many years, most recently in Montreal, Canada in June 2022.





**Vision:**

End immobility in the world

**Mission:**

Mobility Worldwide seeks to reflect the love of God by bringing mobility & dignity to those in developing countries who are unable to walk.

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## Just How Strong Are Mobility Carts?

Mobility Carts are designed as simple machines. The goal of designers through the years has been to make improvements to carts without complicating things by adding parts that could break leaving the device useless.



Mary Wanganga of Partners for Care tracked down this man to see how his 16-year-old Mobility Cart is functioning.



Noe of Honduras received a sturdy Mobility Cart which was an upgrade from his less resilient conventional wheelchair.



Steve Baima, board of advisors, shows a prototype of a rain resistant seat cushion,

A rule of thumb has been to offer a Mobility Cart that is rugged and durable and will be able to operate for five years or more with very little maintenance. That is one tough order to fulfill but an admirable one at that.

Currently, the research and design committee is looking into a redesign of the seat cushion and cover. Often, the

seat is one of the first parts that needs maintenance due to wear and tear. A new design made entirely of durable plastic that is resistant to water damage and stronger than the current foam & vinyl system is being tested and is showing promise. It also provides more support for a longer period of time.

www.MobilityWorldwide.org

## The children's "movement & ease of doing things have improved tremendously".



A Kenyan child enjoys his Mobility Cart.

"We would like to extend our special gratitude to Mobility Worldwide for the support you gave towards our children with special needs and disabilities. The Mobility Carts that you donated have been of great assistance to the children. They can move and stretch their elbow joints now. The carts have also strengthened the muscles of their upper limbs and improved their eye-hand coordination. They are also able to have a better sitting posture. God bless you!"

Helen Waithera, Resource Mobilization Officer, Mukuru Promotion Centre, Kenya.