



FALL 2006

Changing THE WORLD

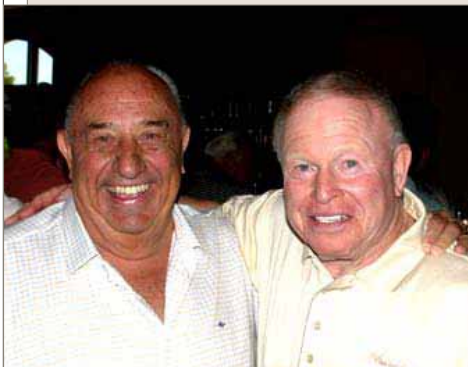
Wheelchair Foundation
 "Serving the World"
 hope
 Cycling the Globe with Friendship
 mobility
 ESTABLISHED JUNE 2000



the spirit of giving

CHANGE A LIFE ...

A MESSAGE FROM KEN BEHRING



We've had some wonderful fundraising events the last four months. I have had a great time attending our events and want to thank everyone involved in putting them together. I am amazed at all of the time and effort that goes into each and every event. It is all

worth it because over the past four months we've raised over \$1 million which will go toward sponsoring over 13,000 wheelchairs to countries throughout the world.

Over the period of the next month, many of you will attend holiday events and will also share quality time with your families. I look forward to spending time with my family and the opportunity to express my thanks for all that they do for me. The holidays are a time of year to reflect and give thanks for all that we've been given.

With the holidays and year-end upon us, I would like to invite you to make a donation to support those who are in desperate need of a wheelchair. At this annual time of gift giving the question is often asked, "What did you get?" I would like to change one word in this familiar statement. And by changing this one word you will capture the vision of what this time of year is all about. Rather than asking others, "What did you get?" change the word "get" to the word "give" and ask others, "What did you give?"

This will probably catch some people off guard, and it might even cause them to reflect on, and realize, what the holidays are really all about. "The Spirit of Giving" is the title of this newsletter and it is that spirit that has brought so much joy and happiness into my life. I would like to invite you to feel the joy of giving this holiday season by sponsoring a single wheelchair for \$75, or an entire container of 280 wheelchairs for \$21,000. Your generous donation will give someone else the gift of hope, mobility, and freedom. After all, the spirit of giving is what truly makes this time of year so special.

Sincerely,

Kenneth E. Behring
Founder & Chairman

mission and goals

Our Mission

The Wheelchair Foundation is a nonprofit organization leading an international effort to create awareness of the needs and abilities of people with physical disabilities, to promote the joy of giving, create global friendship, and to deliver a wheelchair to every child, teen and adult in the world who needs one, but cannot afford one. For these people, the Wheelchair Foundation delivers Hope, Mobility and Freedom.

Our Goal

Over the next five years, the Wheelchair Foundation aims to deliver one million wheelchairs to people who cannot afford to buy one, and to further the awareness that a wheelchair is no longer an unaffordable relief option for delivery to developing countries around the world.

Mobility

Since its establishment on June 13, 2000, the Wheelchair Foundation has witnessed tens of thousands of examples of how mobility creates independence and new possibilities for recipients and their families. A mobile child is able to attend school. A mobile adult is able to get a job and provide for their family, or care for the children at home so the spouse can work. An elderly person can rejoin society or family activities after years of staying in a bed. The joy and hope that a simple mobility device can deliver is what gives people a new outlook on life and hope for the future.

Wheelchair Foundation

"Serving the World"



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Getting Involved... Plan an Event

The past four months the Wheelchair Foundation has had several first-class events which have been a lot of fun and very successful. The combined gross income is roughly \$1 million. Below are some photos and brief summaries from these fundraising events. We hope to have more events sponsored around the world with the proceeds to benefit the Wheelchair Foundation. If you have any questions or would like to put on an event to benefit the Foundation, please contact us at events@wheelchairfoundation.org. Also, please join us for our upcoming "USO Song and Dance Show" event in Boston, Massachusetts on November 12.



2nd Annual McCovey's Invitational - July 10, 2006

Willie McCovey stepped up to the plate this year by reaching out to many of his former teammates to support the McCovey's Invitational event. Ten San Francisco Giants players, past and present, were in attendance and participated in the tournament this year. After enjoying a nice round of golf, everyone gathered into the clubhouse for an elegant dinner, silent and live auction, and awards ceremony. The Wheelchair Foundation thanks Willie McCovey, Dudum Sports Entertainment, the Junior Giants organization, and the title sponsor, The Lee Brandenburg Family Foundation, for the partnership that has been established with the Wheelchair Foundation.



Majestic Evening of Hope - July 28, 2006

A crowd of approximately 250 people attended "A Majestic Evening of Hope" to support Wheelchair Foundation, Lifeline Humanitarian Organization, Group Seven Children's Foundation, and Peja Stojakovic Children's Foundation. The highlight of the evening occurred when two determined live auction bidders paid \$14,000 each for a beautiful framed and autographed photo of NBA All-Stars Vlade Divac and Peja Stojakovic, who were both in attendance at the event. The Wheelchair Foundation is looking forward to doing more work with these foundations to provide wheelchairs to people in desperate need throughout Eastern Europe. The Foundation is indebted to the Niles Rotary Club of Fremont, California for all of their help and support in putting this event together, especially Steven Lloyd.



5th Annual Brentwood Golf Tournament - August 15, 2006

With a sold out tournament and vendors on every hole, the 5th Annual Drive for Mobility Golf Tournament was another fun-filled day of golf. At the event dinner that evening, a raffle was held for the option of a brand new Honda car from Berkeley Honda or \$13,000 cash. Michael Beinke held the winning ticket and chose to donate the \$13,000 to Joey Bozik, a triple amputee U.S. soldier who had been seriously wounded in the war in Iraq. The Wheelchair Foundation would like to acknowledge Ken Haggerty from Washington Mutual Home Loans, the title sponsor of the tournament, as well as Pete Petrovich and Matt Beinke, event Co-Chairmen, and their committee.



Rockin' H Ranch - October 14, 2006

Sid and Gigi Hendricks were wonderful hosts and had the day filled with non-stop action. It all started with a boat and water-ski show early in the afternoon, along with hors d'oeuvres, wine tasting, and a silent auction. The crowd of nearly 300 gathered around to watch a world class airshow featuring aerobatics by Kent Pietsch. After the airshow, everyone met at the hanger to enjoy an archery show by Bob Markworth and a first-class dinner provided by Scott's Seafood Restaurant. The night concluded with a live auction that brought in hundreds of thousands of dollars, and everyone enjoyed dancing to the music of Big Bang Beat Orchestra. The Wheelchair Foundation appreciates Sid & Gigi Hendricks, Ray Gallagher, and Lyle Schneider for sponsoring the event.



Wheel & Grace - October 21, 2006

The Wheelchair Foundation would like to commend Thu Do, Executive Director of VNHelp, and all those who served on the 2006 Wheel & Grace committee. Approximately 300 people from around the San Francisco Bay Area came to support the event. Proceeds benefitted the physically disabled in Vietnam. Van-Anh Vo entertained the audience with her zither in harmony with Taiko drums. The talk of the night was the stunning Ao Dai Fashion Show. The Vietnamese outfits were amazing, and the models for the fashion show included Miss Asian America, Miss Vietnamese Northern California, and others.

Wine for Wheels



Six years ago Andronico's Market in Danville, California stopped hosting their Tuesday night wine tasting. Who knew that this seemingly insignificant and random act would spawn a phenomenon that is today known as "Wine for Wheels?"

As it would happen, a disappointed group of nine friends; Val and Belia Nunes, Mike and Blanca McKean, Tom Delaney, Mark Dewitt, and Jeff Behring, who were out to enjoy an evening together, would end up having dinner at the home of Bill and Kathy Arendt, in what would turn out to be the very first Wine for Wheels gathering. This would go on to become a bi-weekly happening in which friends would get together, share a glass of wine, and pool their money to sponsor wheelchairs for people in need through the then-fledgling Wheelchair Foundation.

One of these initial nine, Jeff Behring, fourth son of Ken and Patricia Behring, had been volunteering his time sorting through and cataloguing photographs of wheelchair recipients being returned from around the world. "Seeing the pictures of the people who were getting wheelchairs inspired me to get more involved and helped me realize that what we were doing (at Wheelchair Foundation) was very cool."

Jeff continued, "I had done some charity work with the American Cancer Society and Make a Wish Foundation in the past when we were doing construction, and learned that lots of people get involved with charity for false reasons. I feel that I've been given a very special opportunity to help others, and it's neat! Wine for Wheels kind of grew out of nothing and it isn't intended to be a legacy, but rather a social gathering where friends can get together for a good cause."

When asked which experience in his six years with Wheelchair Foundation has impacted him most, Jeff relates a story of an old man he encountered in Jamaica: "He arrived at the wheelchair distribution and could hardly walk, his knees and legs were all messed up and he had arthritis really bad and was really having a hard time getting around. I went to try and help him into a wheelchair but he refused, and he told me that he was only there to get a wheelchair for his wife who was bedridden. I offered him two wheelchairs, one for her and one for him, but he wouldn't take two. He said that if he had to sit in a wheelchair too, he wouldn't be able to push his wife around and go for walks. It was more important for him to care for his wife than get assistance for himself. I have a lot of respect for the wheelchair



recipients. What I do (fundraising) is easy. What they go through on a daily basis (without a wheelchair) is next to impossible, especially for their spouses and caregivers."

Wine for Wheels meetings have since become monthly events. The cost of admission; \$25 per person and one bottle of wine per couple ("...although most people now give \$75 at the door to sponsor a wheelchair," says Jeff). The group now takes turns hosting at

"I'm always the first one to get to an event and the last one to leave, but I don't mind. It's for a good cause and I'm happy to help."

their homes, while other participants bring hors d'oeuvres and finger foods. All proceeds go to the Wheelchair Foundation. Today, the core Wine for Wheels group is still participating in the monthly events, but the turnout has increased from the initial nine to 150 or more. "At our big events we'll have anywhere from 150 to 400 people show up." And there are many exciting events to participate in including the "Wigged Out" event in February, the annual "Wine for Wheels Charity Ball" the first Saturday in March, the "Kentucky Derby" event that Jeff hosts at his house in May, or "Music on Eagle Ridge" at the Behring Estate in September, just to name a few.

If you would like more information about Wine for Wheels, or if you would like ideas on how to host an event to help support Wheelchair Foundation, you can e-mail Jeff when you visit the Wine for Wheels website at www.wineforwheels.org.

Wine for Wheels has played a part in sponsoring over 10,000 wheelchairs to individuals in need in more than 20 countries around the world and provided an avenue for individuals to donate over three quarters of a million dollars to support the efforts of Wheelchair Foundation.



Knights of Charity



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: THUMBS UP FOR A NEW LIFE OF MOBILITY >>> THIS YOUNG BOY WILL GO TO SCHOOL WITH HIS NEW WHEELCHAIR >>> THIS 5-YEAR-OLD NEVER MOVED HIMSELF BEFORE TODAY >>> JAVIER, 16, IN MEXICALI

On Oct. 2, 1881, a small group of men met in the basement of St. Mary's Church on Hillhouse Avenue in New Haven, Connecticut. Called together by their 29-year-old parish priest, Father Michael J. McGivney, these men formed a fraternal society that would one day become the world's largest Catholic family fraternal service organization. They sought strength in solidarity and security through unity of purpose and devotion to a holy cause: they vowed to be defenders of their country, their families and their faith. These men were bound together by the ideal of Christopher Columbus, the discoverer of the Americas, the one whose hand brought Christianity to the New World. Their efforts came to fruition with the incorporation of the Knights of Columbus on March 29, 1882.



The Knights of Columbus is a Catholic men's fraternal benefit society that was formed to render financial aid to members and their families. Social and intellectual fellowship is promoted among members and their families through educational, charitable, religious, social welfare, war relief and public relief works.

throughout the United States, Canada, the Philippines, Mexico, the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, Panama, the Bahamas, the Virgin Islands, Guatemala, Guam and Saipan.

Since 2003, the Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus, led by Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson, has sponsored the delivery of more than 8,000 wheelchairs to recipients in Afghanistan, Jordan, Morocco, Poland, Mexico and the Philippines. In 2005-2006, the Knights of Columbus of California sponsored the delivery of 1,680 wheelchairs to Mexico, Ecuador and Poland, and other states have sponsored hundreds more wheelchairs. Currently, over 20 states and Canadian provinces have named Wheelchair Foundation chairmen for their mobility relief efforts.

In the Supreme Knight's State of the Order Address in July of 2006, Carl A. Anderson said, "I also encourage every council to consider supporting the work of the Wheelchair Foundation during the coming year." As a member of the Wheelchair Foundation's International Board of Advisors since 2003, Mr. Anderson has been instrumental in exposing the humanitarian efforts of the Wheelchair Foundation to brother Knights and other charitable organizations around the world.

The Wheelchair Foundation thanks the Knights of Columbus for their dedication to people without mobility around the world, and for helping us make such a difference in the quality of their lives.

For more information about the Knights of Columbus wheelchair relief effort, please contact Chris Lewis at clewis@wheelchairfoundation.org.

The Knights have grown from several members in one council to more than 12,000 councils and 1.7 million members



hope delivered to Mexico



LEFT >>> FIRST LADY OF MEXICO MARTHA FOX AND DENNIS COSTANZA, REPRESENTING THE HOFMANN FOUNDATION, GETTING TO KNOW THE WHEELCHAIR RECIPIENTS
ABOVE >>> WHEELCHAIR FOUNDATION PARTNERS AT A WHEELCHAIR DISTRIBUTION IN MEXICO CITY
BOTTOM >>> KEN HOFMANN, PRESIDENT VICENTE FOX, FIRST LADY MARTHA FOX, AND KEN BEHRING KICK OFF MOBILITY AND FRIENDSHIP FOR MEXICO CAMPAIGN

Words from Mexican President VICENTE FOX QUESADA during a ceremonial donation of 20,000 wheelchairs, which took place in the Adolfo Lopez Mateos room of Los Pinos, the official presidential residence. This speech was given in response to the \$2 million donated by philanthropists Ken Hofmann and Kenneth Behring to provide 20,000 wheelchairs throughout Mexico.

Today I receive with a lot of affection, love, and admiration those who give us the pleasure of their visit, those who are a true example of courage, strength and a real example of life that inspires the rest of us.

The satisfaction of giving to others has no limit; it enriches the ones who give, and the ones who receive.

In six years Kenneth and Ken have changed the lives of over half a million people through the Wheelchair Foundation.

This is not only proof of generosity but a force that transforms the world.

This very important donation is part of a campaign that is appropriately called: mobility and friendship for Mexico.

Today we begin to distribute the wheelchairs around the country and I want to state once more our gratitude to both of you in the name of the Mexican government and its people.

Like Benjamin Franklin said: a brother may be a friend, but a friend will always be a brother.

We have the pleasure that Kenneth is with us today, and in representation of Ken Hofmann, Mr. Dennis Costanza. Welcome, and I ask that you receive the thanks of all the Mexican families.

Joining in the generosity of Kenneth and Ken was the work of the

Telmex Foundation, of whose philanthropy we hear constantly, and who desires to support the worthiest causes in our country.

And we cannot forget the International Rotary Clubs that always try to serve others.

And I know of many civil society organizations that also work for these good causes.

This work shows us that the participation of civil society and citizens has become a fundamental value of our democratic society, and it is a true support to the government and its tasks.

You all have assumed your social responsibility; you have done your part to convert the dreams of many people into reality.

We have also seen today that when we work as a team, when we act jointly for a cause, we can accomplish so much more, we can confront any challenges to benefit those in need, and we can accelerate the creation of the common good in our country.

I am sure that we will continue to work together so that all, seniors, teenagers, boys and girls, and women who have a physical disability can very soon count on receiving a wheelchair that helps them get through life in an easier way.

Let's double the efforts of society and government to put within

reach more wheelchairs to all the people with different capacities, more support that allows them to integrate fully with their family, more employment, and more openings and access to schools, to knowledge, to work, and to sports.





WF Canada visits The Philippines



CLOCKW ISE FROM TOP LEFT >>> Rotarians from Red Deer East warmly welcomed in the Philippines >>> Three wheelchair recipients' lives are changed >>> Neil Swensrud provides mobility >>> Wheelchair distribution location

Recently, 12 members of the Rotary Club of Red Deer East in Alberta traveled to the Philippines to deliver 280 brand new wheelchairs that would change hundreds of lives, including their own.

Working hand in hand with members of their sister club, Las Pinas Camino Real, the Red Deer East group became immersed in the happenings of the city of Manila and its 14 million residents. They spent two and a half weeks working 14-hour days. Visiting Rotary clubs and projects, the group was getting a good feel for who their hosts were and how dedicated they are to helping people.

The wheelchair distributions in which they participated brought many emotions into the hearts of every member of the Canadian/Philippine team. On one occasion, the team had an opportunity to give a wheelchair to a 90-year-old woman in her home. The woman had been confined to her bed for over three years. The following day was Sunday, and the woman was able to realize a dream that she had held on to for the previous three years. She was able to get into her new wheelchair and attend church. Her prayers had been answered that Sunday because the Red Deer East Rotarians cared enough to provide her with that wheelchair. She returned home after the mass and was happier and more at peace than she had been in years. The following day, the team learned that she had died. It was sad news, but her prayers had been



answered, and everyone was grateful that she died happy.

The group flew to the island of Palawan 500 miles south of Manila to deliver more wheelchairs, and more new friends were made in the process. People in these remote locations would never be able to get a wheelchair if it were not for the efforts of the local and visiting Rotarians. Without mobility, these people had no hope for any kind of a productive or independent future. Now all that has been changed.

A new level of respect and appreciation was established between the Canadian and Philippine team members. Great friendships were made. More importantly, a greater understanding of the challenges that the people of the Philippines face was brought back to Red Deer. This new understanding helped to change how each team now thinks of their sister club and its members, who both demonstrated such enthusiasm for making new friends, showing gratitude and serving those who are in need of their help.

This most recent delivery has brought the number of wheelchairs sponsored by the Rotary Club of Red Deer East to more than 1,750.



season highlights



THIS PAGE, COUNTER-CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:
 >>> The W ihe.ln y family changing lives in China >>> NBA All-Stars Vlade Divac and Peja Stojakovic give autographed shoes and a high five to a physically challenged boy >>> Tim Honey, Executive Director of Sister Cities International, Chinese Ambassador to the U.S., and Steve Benke >>> Supporters of the 2nd Annual M cCovey's Invitational >>> Belizean recipient t ows his wheelchair home on a borrowed wheelchair >>> John W ihe.ln y, Ken Behring, HRH Crown Princess Katherine and HRH Crown Prince Alexander, and Steve Benke with wheelchair ballroom dancers in Serbia >>> Excited for wheelchair distribution >>> Rotarian volunteer Dr. Jon Grant, Stanley Togkawa, and Hans Erle changing lives in Cambodia >>> Pat Behring helps a child



Need a last-minute gift idea for the holidays?

Give the gift of mobility!

Are you running out of gift ideas for the holidays? Are you out of ideas because your loved one seems to have everything he or she wants? Then giving the gift of mobility in the name of your loved one is the perfect gift to give this holiday season! It is not only a great gift idea, but it also gets a wheelchair in the hands of someone who desperately needs it.

When you make your donation online, you will be able to print out a gift certificate (pictured below) that confirms that you have made the donation in the name of your loved one, which you can give as a gift. Then, 4-6 weeks later, your loved one will receive a beautiful presentation certificate with a picture of a wheelchair recipient! To make a donation and receive the gift certificate, please visit our website at <http://www.wheelchairfoundation.org> and click on the gift certificate link.





KAREN GALLAGHER FEELS THE SP R I T T O F G I V I N G I N M E X I C O >>> E L D E R L Y M E X I C A N W O M A N I S C A R R I E D T O H E R N E W W H E E L C H A I R



changing lives...

By Joel Hodge

the spirit of giving

“Please allow me to introduce myself; I am Joel Hodge, Program Director for Wheelchair Foundation and I am contacting you concerning a shipment of wheelchairs we would like to distribute in your country...”

This is how I start all my correspondence to strangers around the world, be they heads of state, assistants to heads of state or just plain good-hearted, well-intended, helpful people.

I often tell others “I have the best job in the world,” and sincerely believe that I do. I will also tell them that it is the hardest and most challenging job I have ever had in my life. In the time I have been working for Wheelchair Foundation I have had the great fortune of traveling around the planet to more than 90 countries. And in my travels I have seen some of the most beautiful and majestic sights the world has to offer, and I have seen some of the most ugly and awful sights as well.

I get to meet with dignitaries, diplomats, politicians, people of enormous authority and power. I also meet with the poorest and most oppressed people that exist. During a typical wheelchair distribution I may encounter a country’s prime minister, their first lady, heads of state, ambassadors and celebrities. And I always encounter wheelchair recipients, in all of their various forms. Some are young, some are old, all of them disabled or challenged in their ability to move about on their own. Each one of them is a “unique” individual.

In taking a cue from our esteemed benefactor, Mr. Kenneth E. Behring, I am conscious to make contact with as many wheelchair recipients as I can at some point during the distribution process. I also encourage any attending donors or sponsors, dignitaries and diplomats to do the same. Personally, my favorite times are before a distribution begins, as the recipients are arriving, and when things are finished and people are leaving with their brand new red wheelchairs. Over time I have overcome the awkwardness of speaking with people from different cultures. My job has taught me two very important things: 1.) Be humble, and 2.) Listen more and talk less.

A man in Haiti once approached me and was very adamant about getting his point across to me. In his thick Haitian accent he told me “You are not supposed to tell people in America that you ‘saw’ the people of Haiti, but rather that you ‘listened to the people of Haiti.’” And I did. And I do.

When I approach wheelchair recipients, I do so from a point of understanding that is probably not immediately mutual. I’m less concerned about how a man or woman is dressed, or whether or not their hand is dirty when extended to shake mine, as I am interested in their personal story. I want to know what their life is like, and I want to know about them. I have a series of questions I like to ask when speaking with people from other countries, questions that allow for broad answers.

I have had hundreds of wheelchair recipients approach me, take my hand and thank me for the gift of a wheelchair, all the while assuming that it came from me personally. Some are excited, some convey their thanks through what seems like a steady stream of tears. And still others are stoic. It is at this point that I explain to them that the wheelchair that has been given to them by Wheelchair Foundation represents the “desire to help others” which is shared by our more than 40,000 willful donors around the world. People from all walks of life contribute so that you, the wheelchair recipient, no longer have to crawl in the dirt, or lay on a bed staring at the ceiling for hours, or attempt to find comfort in a heap of rags on the floor in a corner. And, like Ken Behring will say, “our wheelchairs are a gift of peace, a gift of love and good intention from tens of thousands of people who are willing to reach out and help others.” I am just their representative.

I would now like to relay a message, to all of our generous donors, from our more than half million wheelchair recipients; “Thank you. Thank you for giving. Thank you for making the effort to help us. Thank you for not forgetting about us when everyone else has.”

And from myself, I would like to thank you all for allowing and enabling me to be the messenger of such good hope. Thank you for letting me do such good and positive work. I can honestly tell you that Wheelchair Foundation strives to make the best use of your donations as is possible. We deliver a quality wheelchair directly to people in need all over the planet efficiently. Wheelchair Foundation is the largest relief effort of its kind ever attempted and we have no rivals when it comes to the scale of what we are trying to do, or have accomplished. I am proud of the Foundation I have helped build and I am proud to work side by side with amazing people who get to share in the same experiences that I do.

I would also like to take this opportunity to ask you to continue to support our efforts. Please tell your family and friends, business associates and acquaintances about the work we are doing. Tell them that for \$75 there is a way they can put a person in a wheelchair who would otherwise be immobile. A way that they can grant someone the ability to move about with dignity. Tell them that they can assist a family who has to carry their child,



grandparent, or loved one everywhere they go, by providing them with a wheelchair. Tell them that they can immediately change a life for the better. Because we have created a way so you really can help others right now.

And no matter what you are able to give, any amount great or small is significant. I urge you to consider the examples presented in the pages of this newsletter. There are as many ways to collect donations and make a contribution as there are people waiting for a wheelchair.

Did I mention that there are people waiting? There are people who are waiting in almost every country around the world for a wheelchair. Tens of millions of people just like you and I. And some of those people are waiting for me, specifically, to come back and give a wheelchair to them.

TOP RIGHT >>> ANGOLAN WHEELCHAIR RECIPIENT RETURNS TO SAY THANK YOU AFTER TWO YEARS
 BOTTOM LEFT >>> BEST FRIEND HELPS THIS YOUNG BOY TO RECEIVE HIS NEW WHEELCHAIR
 BOTTOM RIGHT >>> THE BOY IS ABLE TO ATTEND SCHOOL THANKS TO THE SPIRIT OF GIVING





The Gift of a Wheelchair Helps the Donor as Well

By Rotarian Michael Mattie



FROM TOP LEFT CLOCKWISE: THUMBS UP FOR MOBILITY >>> MICHAEL MATTIE READING CHILDREN'S BOOK TO RECIPIENT >>> FAMILY MEMBERS CARRY SON TO WHEELCHAIR DISTRIBUTION >>> THERE IS NO LANGUAGE BARRIER WITH THIS HANDSHAKE >>> THANK YOU SPEECH FROM WHEELCHAIR RECIPIENT



mother before me had recently developed back pains. What a relief it was to this mother, and her aching back, that her 5-year old son now received the gift of a wheelchair. Not to mention the joy in seeing her son moving on his own without someone having to carry him from place to place, or using a borrowed wheelchair. Since birth, the parents had requested a wheelchair of their own through normal channels, only to be left waiting for years. Now, during a small distribution ceremony in the quiet town of Eduardo Castex, Argentina, their wait came to an end.

Through a partnership with Rotary Clubs and the Wheelchair Foundation, 1,400 recipients in Argentina experienced this same feeling of happiness, relief and hope.

After witnessing the effect a new wheelchair had on a recipient and their family during their first journey to Argentina, Rotarians Michael Mattie and Don Heebner from Warrington, PA made a second trip. In March 2005, they went with 280 wheelchairs. In June 2006, they assisted in the distribution of 1,400 wheelchairs. This experience reinforced the joy and personal satisfaction of helping others through the special gift of a wheelchair.

Traveling to Argentina for a week at their own expense, Michael and Don arrived in Mendoza, the second largest city in Argentina. For two days they developed new friendships, enjoyed the warm hospitality of Rotarians and distributed hundreds of wheelchairs to Argentinians in need.

Their next stop was the heartland, Santa Rosa La Pampa, where more distributions were planned in several small towns. A seven-hour car ride took them south of Buenos Aires to Mar del Plata, a beautiful seaside city for more distributions and Rotary camaraderie. The eight day adventure reinforced their desire to return again with another shipment of wheelchairs.

Once you participate in this process, you feel your life enriched. The long days and countless hours of raising thousands of dollars to purchase these wheelchairs are quickly forgotten with the first smile from the recipient.

And the effect of your \$75 donation does not stop there.

Because your \$75 gift of a new wheelchair touches many lives beyond the recipient and their family. This was reinforced shortly after our return home when we received an email of thanks from the school teacher of a 6-year old girl who received a new wheelchair. The teacher saw such an improvement in the attitude of her young student, and a corresponding improvement in her entire class, that she felt compelled to share this with us. This wheelchair allowed her student to fit in with her classmates and become a part of the class. What a wonderful gift for the student, classmates and their teacher.

So go ahead and be selfish. Raise money and participate in the distribution of a wheelchair to someone you don't know, and will probably never see again. Then bask in the glory of knowing that perhaps you have helped them improve their life forever. It is truly in giving that we receive.





The Heart of NW Arkansas

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: 4-YEAR-OLD WHEELCHAIR RECIPIENT IN PUEBLA, MX >>> SANDY AND NOEL MORRIS >>> GO TYSON TIGERS! >>> LOGOS AND MOTTOS DRAWN BY THE STUDENTS



Arkansas is known as “The Natural State” with its numerous lakes and rivers, the Ozark Mountains, and more naturally beautiful landscape than most anyone has seen. The most attractive feature in the State of Arkansas is its people. Since 2002 the Rotary Club of Springdale, Arkansas has been one of the most consistent and involved sponsors of wheelchairs to destinations around the world. Raising funds for more than 1,100 wheelchairs at one club meeting on October 2, 2006, the Springdale club has now sponsored the delivery of more than 4,400 wheelchairs.

Noel Morris, Past President of the Springdale club, has headed up the wheelchair program in Northwest Arkansas, and has spread the fever of the humanitarian mission to neighboring clubs and districts in several states. Noel serves as the Wheelchair Foundation chairperson for Rotary District 6110, which covers portions of Arkansas, Oklahoma, Kansas and Missouri. His wife Sandy started a wheelchair fundraising and education program at the J.O. Kelly Middle School in Springdale, which has taught the kids valuable lessons about giving back to people in need.

Since 2003 the Springdale club has coordinated a wheelchair distribution trip each year so club members and their families could directly participate in wheelchair deliveries. Returning home and sharing the experiences with friends and family is the best part of a hands on humanitarian relief project. This was the case with Springdale club member Jim Crouch and his wife Cathy.

After attending the wheelchair distributions in Mexico in 2005 with her daughter Mary Catherine, Cathy Crouch decided to bring the wheelchair mission to the school where she teaches. At the John Tyson Elementary School, named for the Tyson Foods patriarch who donated the land for the school, Cathy began teaching her students about what it meant to give a wheelchair to a person in a developing country.

Part of the creative approach Cathy developed included a note

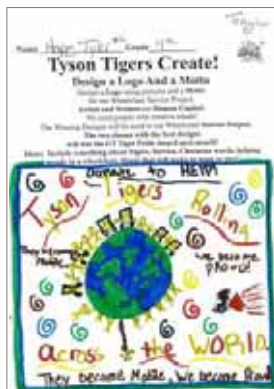
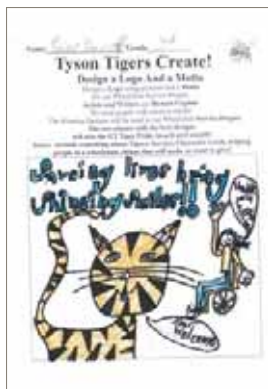
sent home to parents that read in part, “Mrs. Crouch and her students invite you to join us in this Random Act of Kindness as we begin to collect donations for the purchase of wheelchairs for needy people around the world!”

The idea was to have the kids earn the money to be donated for the wheelchair program with a goal of raising \$450 total to sponsor the delivery of six wheelchairs to Mexico. The Tyson Tigers earned money by doing jobs around the house, cooking dinner, or washing cars. Each student created a logo and motto for the project and drew a picture of themselves doing the job that would earn the money for the wheelchairs. They followed the plan, were very successful, and learned that “when you do a good job, you are Human Capital.”

A group of students made a presentation about their project to the Rotary Club of Springdale and raised money on top of what they had earned. Then, 500 of the Tyson Tigers proudly marched down Cambridge Street in Springdale to the Tyson Foods headquarters. Hope Hallam, 7, who uses a walker for mobility, was pushed in a bright red Wheelchair Foundation wheelchair at the front of the parade by student council president Matt Bowen, which allowed Hope to complete the march to Tyson Foods and back. With a large banner proudly displayed, the students were greeted by about 100 Tyson Foods employees and Don Tyson, son of the company founder, who spoke to the group. Tyson Foods then added a donation to the pot and the Tyson Tigers had raised \$5,400, enough money to sponsor the delivery of 72 wheelchairs to Mexico.

In a parent evaluation form that was sent home with each student, a mother wrote, “Having our students ‘work’ for money rather than asking for donations made a big impact. You are showing our kids they can make a difference in the world! Thank you!”

The seeds that were planted by the Springdale Rotarians in the beautiful landscape of NW Arkansas are paying off in human capital, random acts of kindness and making a difference in the world.





You Just Gotta Belize...



FROM TOP LEFT CLOCKWISE: WF CAL POLY TEAM BELIZE >>> KATE KLUENKER, MARGIE TAYLOR, ROBIN CHO, AND SCOTT WEST PROVIDE FREEDOM FOR A MAN SUFFERING FROM DIABETES >>> LYNN METCALF WITH AUBREY HERNANDEZ, A YOUNG MAN WHO SUFFERS FROM SEIZURES DUE TO A GUNSHOT WOUND TO THE HEAD >>> THANKS TO FRANCIS WOODS, A CHILD CAN NOW GO TO SCHOOL >>> ROBIN CHORIDES A ZIP LINE IN THE JUNGLE OF BELIZE

Now in their fifth year in support of the Wheelchair Foundation, Cal Poly students have taken the motto, "You Just Gotta Belize," and put it into action in their fundraising efforts. Each year the students have surpassed the previous year's mark. Starting in 2001, they raised \$18,000. This has increased annually up to \$62,000 this year, bringing their five year total to an astonishing \$160,000.

After raising the funds this year, the students continued to plan and prepare for their trip to Belize, not fully understanding the life-changing experience they were going to have. Robin Cho, WF Cal Poly Chapter team member, who traveled to Belize to be a part of the wheelchair distributions, had this to say about her experience:

"The most powerful and touching stories were at the wheelchair distribution. There were countless stories about handicapped children and young adults who had been carried by their parents or grandparents, depending on whether their parents were still alive. Many of these people had been carried for ten to twenty years because they never had access to a wheelchair. Everyone knew that the wheelchair had changed the lives of the physically handicapped and their families, but no one knew that their stories, smiles, determination, and resilience had changed me forever."



The students worked closely with the Rotary Club of Belize and distributed wheelchairs in a lot of unique places. They did some home visits and took the wheelchairs to the people's homes, dropped off wheelchairs at the Belize Central Prison, and went to two senior citizen centers. They also visited two orphanages, where they gave away school supplies, shoes and clothing, as well as wheelchairs.

At one of the home visits, the

students met a 17 year-old boy named Aubrey Hernandez who would have been a senior in high school this year. However, Aubrey was unable to attend school because earlier in the year he was shot in the head while standing in his front yard. The bullet is still lodged in his brain, and he suffers seizures as a result. His family cannot afford the surgery to remove the bullet, nor could they afford a wheelchair to help mobilize Aubrey. Now that Aubrey has a wheelchair, he can get himself around and be an active part of society once again.

At Sister Cecilia Senior Home, the students spent time talking with residents and people who had gathered at the facility to receive a wheelchair. One gentleman had recently lost a leg due to complications of diabetes. In contrast to other wheelchair recipients we met, he is a middle class Belizean citizen. His situation highlights the difficulties even the relatively well-off physically disabled face in Belize. There are no wheelchair manufacturers in Belize, and high import taxes can easily double the cost of a wheelchair. This puts the cost of a wheelchair out of reach for most Belizeans. The Wheelchair Foundation works through local officials and non-governmental organizations (NGO's) to obtain duty-free status for the wheelchairs.

It's going to be difficult to continue surpassing the previous year's fundraising efforts with this past year's total exceeding \$62,000. Having now sponsored over 2,100 wheelchairs in seven different countries throughout the world, will the Cal Poly San Luis Obispo students be able to surpass this year's total next year? "You Just Gotta Belize" they will!

The Wheelchair Foundation is grateful to all those who have been involved with the fundraising at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo over the past four years. You have changed and blessed the lives of thousands around the world. We would like to encourage other schools and universities across the country to get involved in the Wheelchair Foundation program. Please contact Matt Montague, Director of Community Relations, at (925) 791-2316 or mmontague@wheelchairfoundation.org to learn how you can participate in the program.



WHEELCHAIRS COMMITTED OR DELIVERED

Afghanistan	6,370	Liberia	780
Albania	550	Lithuania	1,090
Algeria	640	Macedonia	480
Angola	4,590	Madagascar	1,030
Antigua and Barbuda	280	Malawi	1,920
Argentina	6,811	Malaysia	2,260
Armenia	2,684	Mali	240
Australia	292	Malta	240
Azerbaijan	280	Marshall Islands	140
Bahamas	1,200	Mexico	80,749
Bangladesh	240	Micronesia	1,390
Barbados	280	Moldova	1,720
Belarus	990	Mongolia	1,320
Belgium	280	Montenegro	120
Belize	2,420	Morocco	2,030
Bolivia	4,084	Mozambique	1,380
Bosnia-Herzegovina	1,480	Myanmar (Burma)	500
Botswana	1,128	Namibia	466
Brazil	2,305	Nepal	2,265
Bulgaria	530	Nicaragua	4,725
Burundi	520	Niger	240
Cameroon	2,550	Nigeria	1,310
Canada	280	N. Mariana Islands	410
Cape Verde	780	Oman	280
Central African Rep.	240	Pakistan	3,175
Chile	7,228	Palestians/Israel	1,906
China	138,458	Panama	5,300
Colombia	5,780	Papua New Guinea	2,080
Costa Rica	5,095	Paraguay	1,544
Croatia	1,300	Peru	5,360
Cuba	1,520	Philippines	5,900
Cyprus	280	Poland	2,160
Czech Republic	597	Portugal	530
Denmark	280	Puerto Rico	490
Dominican Republic	8,178	Romania	2,692
Ecuador	5,333	Russia	2,110
Egypt	1,058	Rwanda	2,200
El Salvador	4,965	Saint Lucia (UK)	560
Eritrea	250	Saint Petersburg	120
Estonia	500	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	280
Ethiopia	2,928	Samoa	1,080
Fiji	1,620	Senegal	520
France	560	Serbia	1,530
French Polynesia	280	Sierra Leone	1,840
Georgia	1,030	Somalia	88
Ghana	2,240	South Africa	10,240
Germany	240	Spain	500
Grenada	280	Sri Lanka	2,890
Guam	250	Sudan	280
Guatemala	6,503	Suriname	240
Guyana	250	Swaziland	1,580
Haiti	1,820	Syria	641
Honduras	4,904	Taiwan	756
Hong Kong/China	970	Tajikistan	480
Hungary	120	Tanzania	2,468
India	2,716	Thailand	4,980
Indonesia	2,820	Tibet/China	331
Iran	3,880	Tonga	500
Iraq	2,620	Trinidad & Tobago	2,164
Israel	6,610	Turkey	4,320
Italy	580	Turkmenistan	520
Jamaica	2,440	Uganda	3,184
Japan	1,750	Ukraine	3,620
Jordan	4,742	United States	27,115
Kazakhstan	1,510	Uruguay	1,632
Kenya	2,540	Uzbekistan	1,240
Kiribati	250	Vanuatu	250
Korea, North	552	Venezuela	1,320
Korea, South	5,020	Vietnam	10,696
Kosovo	1,300	Virgin Islands (UK)	284
Kyrgyzstan	1,240	Virgin Islands (US)	280
Laos	780	Western Sahara	153
Latvia	740	Zambia	1,240
Lebanon	2,150	Zimbabwe	2,050
Lesotho	500		

TOTAL COUNTRIES REGIONS 150
 TOTAL WHEELCHAIRS 525,875

For current totals visit wheelchairfoundation.org

The Gift of Planned Giving *Leaving a Legacy*

We are very pleased that you are interested in supporting the Wheelchair Foundation. Your generosity will help us meet our current goals and reach farther in the future. We encourage you to plan your gift thoughtfully and to consider how your gift can benefit you as well. An outright gift to the Wheelchair Foundation gives us resources to meet immediate objectives. In turn, it provides you with maximum tax benefits. It can also be the simplest gift to arrange.

You may, however, prefer to make your gift through your estate. Even though we cannot use this gift immediately, it will be critically important to the long term financial strength of the Wheelchair Foundation and will help ensure our ability to meet opportunities and challenges of the future.

New! Charitable IRA Rollover!

If you are age 70-1/2 or older, new legislation now allows you to make cash gifts totaling up to \$100,000 per year from your traditional or Roth IRA to qualified charities without incurring income tax on the withdrawal. On August 17, President Bush signed H.R.4, the Pension Protection Act of 2006, into law. This bill contains a two-year IRA Charitable Rollover provision that allows people ages 70-1/2 or older to exclude up to \$100,000 from their gross income in tax years 2006 and 2007 for cash gifts made directly to a qualified charity. This is good news for people who want to make a charitable gift during their lifetime from their retirement assets, but have been discouraged from doing so because of the income tax penalty.

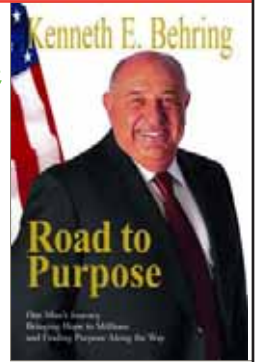
Top Ten Things You Can Do Today To Leave A Legacy

- >> Prepare a will and consider a charitable trust.
- >> Remember loved ones with memorial gifts.
- >> Leave a gift for the Wheelchair Foundation in your will or trust.
- >> Encourage family and friends to leave gifts to the Wheelchair Foundation in their wills.
- >> Leave a specific amount or a percentage of your assets to the Wheelchair Foundation.
- >> Consider using appreciated assets such as stocks, bonds, real estate, etc. for a charitable gift.
- >> Prepare an existing or purchase a new life insurance policy naming the Wheelchair Foundation as the beneficiary.
- >> Name the Wheelchair Foundation as the beneficiary of your pension plan or IRA.
- >> Ask your financial advisor to include charitable giving as part of counsel to clients.
- >> Check to see if your employer offers an Employee Charitable Matching Gift Program.

To include a charitable gift to the Wheelchair Foundation in your estate plan or for more information, please contact Lee Winter, our planned giving representative, at lwinter@wheelchairfoundation.org, or by telephone at (925) 736-8234.



YOU can change a life
 in the name of a loved one
 and receive a
 free copy of **Ken Behring's**
 book
Road to Purpose



an account of his personal journey that
 led to the creation of the Wheelchair Foundation,
 and the stories of
 people we have touched.

EACH \$75 DONATION WILL DELIVER A WHEELCHAIR AND GREATLY IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR A CHILD, TEEN OR ADULT WITHOUT MOBILITY. YOU WILL RECEIVE A BEAUTIFUL CERTIFICATE OF THANKS WITH A PICTURE OF A WHEELCHAIR RECIPIENT IN YOUR NAME OR DEDICATED TO YOUR LOVED ONE. YOU WILL ALSO RECEIVE A FREE COPY OF ROAD TO PURPOSE. DONATE TWO WHEELCHAIRS AND RECEIVE A SIGNED COPY.



Sample Presentation Folder

CALL US NOW AT (877) 378-3839

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