A MESSAGE FROM KEN BEHRING

Success is like a garden; if you want to have crops in the Fall, you must first take care of the land and plant seeds in the Spring.

This same idea works for things other than vegetables and flowers. This is why I choose to support the Smithsonian Institution, sponsor National History Day, build Science and Technology Museums, and continue to give away wheelchairs all over the world. Access to knowledge helps foster success.

I want that person who receives a wheelchair from us to succeed because we have given them mobility, freedom, and the opportunity to grow! I want kids to learn about the history of our country and the world, and be inspired to do and create something great! After all, our history is much like a community garden, ripe with inspiration, lessons and ideas that anyone is welcome to take from.

For me these efforts and ideas are like seeds; if we simply hold them in our hands, they don’t appear very impressive. But, if we have a little faith, take a little care, and invest a bit of our time and effort in them, they will grow.

Kenneth E. Behring
Founder and Chairman
THE HOFMANN WHEELCHAIR PROJECT PHASE ONE COMPLETE!

When the Wheelchair Foundation celebrated our 10th Anniversary last year, long time supporter and Spirit of Mobility honoree, Ken Hofmann stood up and pledged $1 million dollars for wheelchairs. During Phase One of the Hofmann Wheelchair Project, all of Mr. Hofmann’s funds were matched by other donors, resulting in nearly 3,500 wheelchairs being distributed in the United States, Mexico, El Salvador and Costa Rica. Mil Gracias, Ken Hofmann!

TRF MATCHING GRANT WHEELCHAIRS REACH ALGERIA

After several months in the making, 840 wheelchairs from The Rotary Foundation’s Matching Grant for Algeria finally arrived in Northern Africa. This grant was written in cooperation with American Rotary clubs and the the Association of Rotary clubs in Algeria.

CHEVRON CONTINUES ONGOING ASSISTANCE TO ANGOLA’S DISABLED

Chevron has been one of Wheelchair Foundation’s biggest and most consistent corporate partners for more than a decade. Chevron has donated more than 5,700 wheelchairs to the country of Angola in partnership with Lwini, Fundo de Solidariedade Social, the foundation of Angolan First Lady, Dr. Ana Paula dos Santos, and again this year with a donation of 1,500 wheelchairs and more than 200 three-wheeled tricycles for the disabled and less fortunate of Angola. Thank you Chevron for your ongoing support.
Jack Drury was visited by Wheelchair Foundation Founder Kenneth E. Behring and his sons, David and Jeff, in August to celebrate the 11th anniversary of Wheelchair Foundation’s Florida office. Ken, who lived in Fort Lauderdale for many years, was greeted by many friends and long time supporters. In honor of all of the good deeds done by Wheelchair Foundation Florida, the City of Fort Lauderdale Mayor, John P. “Jack” Seiler, presented Mr. Behring with the key to the city.

“The wheelchair arrived today. Now I’ll be able to attend classes at my school and get around the campus safely and more efficiently. God bless you.”

-Melissa Simmons, Ocala, Florida.

“In every country we visit, the USNS COMFORT hospital ship is able to give away new wheelchairs. The smiles on the faces and the tears of joy from this gift are priceless.” (The USNS COMFORT has provided medical services to the countries of Haiti, Panama, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Costa Rica, Guatemala, El Salvador and Nicaragua through Operation Continuing Promise 2011).

-LCDR Jeff Stancil, USNS COMFORT, NGO Coordinator

“We just received these great chairs. We are so grateful to you and the Wheelchair Foundation. May God richly bless you and your Foundation.”

-Cheryl Herbold, Sarasota, Florida Center for Independent Living.

“Hi Jack, we just held a distribution of 30 wheelchairs to disabled people from not only Kingston but as far away as Manchester and St. Ann. It’s been a pleasure dealing with you and the Wheelchair Foundation these last ten years. Because of our relationship we have changed the lives of over 2,000 Jamaicans!”

-Lloyd Eubanks-Green, Jamaican Rotary

“On behalf of the newborns, women and children served by the Arnold Palmer Medical Center, we thank you for your generous donation of 12 new wheelchairs.”

-Tori Spradlin, Director of Development—Arnold Palmer Medical Center, Orlando, Florida.
Ten years ago, on May 15th, 1991, at the 17th meeting of the Standing Committee of the Seventh National People's Congress, China declared that, "The third Sunday of May every year shall be designated as the National Day for Supporting Persons with Disabilities."

This declaration preceded one that would follow a year later, in 1992, in which the United Nations established the International Day of Disabled Persons, to be observed annually on December 3rd. The UN established this day of recognition to promote an understanding of people with disabilities and encourage support for their dignity, rights and well-being. Observation of this date also seeks to increase awareness of the benefits and the integration of people with disability in every aspect of political, social, economic and cultural life. The UN's proclamation came at the conclusion of the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons (1982-1992).

Wheelchair Foundation China, in partnership with the Chinese Disabled Person's Federation (CDPF), distributed nearly 9,300 wheelchairs, on May 15th of this year, in observation of China's National Day for Supporting Persons with Disabilities. Wheelchair Foundation China will also partner with CDPF to distribute more than 4,000 wheelchairs this December 3rd in observance of the International Day of Disabled Persons.

Wheelchair Foundation China fosters social responsibility outreach projects in partnership with major corporations, like IBM and Disney, in conjunction with the American Chamber of Commerce in Shanghai, China. One shining example is "Redchair in Action," when corporate volunteers assist people with disabilities enjoy a day in the park. Together they share new friendship, play games and enjoy the fresh air and sunlight. The most wonderful thing being that every participant is afforded an experience they would not be able to have without one another. Together, for a better world for all!

To learn more about Wheelchair Foundation China, please visit www.wheelchairfoundation.org.cn
Some of you might remember the artist Bob Ross from the television show *The Joy of Painting*. Bob Ross would mesmerize his audience with his gentle demeanor and soothing soft voice. As he worked, and taught viewers how to paint, he would encourage everyone to try new things. “Maybe a happy little cloud lives here,” he'd say, as he smeared on paint and turned it into incredibly beautiful clouds with an effortless looking twist of his hand. In a quick 28 minutes he would create fantastic landscapes which would, at the very last moment, need in their foreground a huge and “Mighty Tree.” He would speak to the camera and say, “Maybe it started as a tiny acorn and then grew into this huge and mighty tree that lives right here!,” as he painted away.

Sadly, the world lost Bob Ross on July 4th, 1995 to lymphoma, but his message of empowerment and his passion of painting for “the joy of it” lives on. Bob Ross sought to share something with the world that gave him extreme personal joy, but it did much more than that. He painted for the benefit of others. and his teachings have been touted as therapy and a form of meditative relaxation.

Andrea Catalina Perez Resendez would concur, “Painting is a form of therapy, and a platform for teaching others to try new things.” She has shared her passion and her painting technique with more than 13,000 individuals, from school children to corporate executives.

Andrea, who is 21 years old, has cerebral palsy and uses a wheelchair to get around. Because she has limited use of her hands for her artwork, she draws and paints while holding a paint brush in her mouth. She began painting as a young child, and has never stopped.
Andrea has been recognized for both her art and her philanthropic work. She was named an Agent of Change by MTV Latino America in 2009, the same year she was awarded the Nuevo Leon State Civic Merit Recognition, the highest award of recognition her State’s Government can bestow upon any Mexican citizen. She has had more than 40 gallery showings, more than half of which have been solo installations. Her work is on permanent display in an installation at the Hospital Christus Muguerza Sur in Monterrey, Mexico, and she has her own gallery.

For the past nine years Andrea has produced annual calendars of her artwork which she sells to support her own humanitarian outreach work. Andrea’s primary concern is not with her own disability, but with assisting other children and individuals in need of mobility devices who have no means to afford them, particularly wheelchairs, in her native Monterrey, Mexico. To date, she has been able to sponsor more than 750 wheelchairs for individuals in need, on her own.

Wheelchair Foundation is proud to partner with the Danville/Sycamore Valley Rotary Club of Danville, California, and the Rotary clubs of Monterrey, Mexico, in support of Andrea’s effort to raise awareness and provide wheelchairs to children, women and men in need in the State of Nuevo Leon, Mexico. For every 2012 calendar Andrea sells, $2 dollars will go directly to Wheelchair Foundation for wheelchairs to be distributed in Monterrey, Mexico and the surrounding area.

If you would like more information about Andrea’s 2012 Calendar, please visit our website at www.wheelchairfoundation.org / Andrea for more information.

To learn more about Andrea please visit her website at www.andreaperez.com
Clockwise From Top Left: Pleasanton North Rotarian and Former Judge, Ron Hyde, enjoys the company of children from the neighborhood, while delivering wheelchairs in Colombia, South America. Kenneth Behring, Founder and CEO of Global Health and Education Foundation, and Irina Bokova, Director General for UNESCO, in Paris discussing future projects. Wine For Wheels longtime supporter and volunteer, Dan Davis, with a charming young wheelchair recipient during a recent wheelchair distribution trip. Gary Hendrix, son of Wheelchair Foundation supporters Sid and Gigi Hendrix, and coordinator of the 8th Annual Rooster Run Golf Tournament, held every year in Petaluma, California, with his daughter in Belize, Mexico, on a recent wheelchair distribution trip. Pete Petrovich, 2011 Spirit of Mobility Award recipient with his wife, Rhonda. Rotarians from the Association of Rotary Clubs in Algeria, Northern Africa, unpack three containers of brand new wheelchairs to be distributed throughout their country. Members of the Vietnam Veterans of Diablo Valley accept a check for $10,000 from an anonymous donor to help fund their return to Vietnam in November of 2012, at a Wine For Wheels fundraiser for Vietnam hosted by Wheelchair Foundation President, David Behring. Rotarian and Musician Josh Burroughs entertained guests at the Wine For Wheels fundraiser for Vietnam. Wheelchair Foundation volunteers Christine Burke and Ashley Olson with our own Amanda Ferguson at the 10th Annual Drive Fore Mobility Golf Tournament at Blackhawk Country Club in Danville, California. Wine For Wheels supporters Khalid Kamal and Kay Collier raised funds for wheelchairs in Chicago so they could distribute them in Khalid’s home village of Aitoullil, Morocco, in July of this year.
Pleasanton North Rotarian and Former Judge, Ron Hyde, enjoys the company of children delivering wheelchairs in Colombia, South America. Kenneth Behring, Founder and CEO of Global Health and Education Foundation, and Irina Bokova, Director General for UNESCO, in Paris discussing future projects. Wine For Wheels longtime supporter and volunteer, Dan Davis, with a charming young wheelchair recipient in Guatemala during a recent Wine For Wheels sponsored wheelchair distribution trip. 2011 Spirit of Mobility Award recipient Pete Petrovich with his wife, Rhonda, and Wheelchair Foundation President, David Behring. Rotarians from the Association of Rotary Clubs in Algeria, Northern Africa, unpack three containers of brand new wheelchairs to be distributed throughout their country. Members of the Vietnam Veterans of Diablo Valley accept a check for $10,000 from an anonymous donor to help fund their return to Vietnam in November of 2012, at a Wine For Wheels fundraiser for Vietnam hosted by Wheelchair Foundation President, David Behring. Rotarian and Musician Josh Burroughs entertained guests at the Wine For Wheels fundraiser for Vietnam. Wheelchair Foundation volunteers Christine Burke and Ashley Olson with our own Amanda Ferguson at the 10th Annual Drive Fore Mobility Golf Tournament at Blackhawk Country Club in Danville, California. Wheelchair Foundation supporters Khalid Kamal and Kay Collier raised funds for them in Khalid’s home village of Aitoullil, Morocco, in July of
SPIRIT OF MOBILITY
HONOREE

Pete Petrovich

“I was hooked the very first time I put a child in a wheelchair and saw that smile.”

That smile set in motion a driving force that hasn’t stopped. Wanting to find a way to help the mission of the Wheelchair Foundation, Pete Petrovich decided to organize the Drive Fore Mobility Golf Tournament.

After ten years and raising over $1,500,000 to help those in need of mobility, Pete and his “Team Wheelchair” are still going strong. The Wheelchair Foundation relies on the efforts of individuals like Pete, volunteers willing to dedicate their time and efforts to carry our message, looking for nothing in return but a smile on another’s face. After numerous distribution trips in various countries, Pete is still counting those smiles. Thank you for everything you have done and continue to do. You exemplify volunteerism, and we hope that your example will continue to encourage others to follow, helping us bring mobility to those in need around the world.
TENTH ANNUAL DRIVE FORE MOBILITY GOLF TOURNAMENT IS A HUGE SUCCESS!

On August 15 of this year Wheelchair Foundation held its 10th annual Drive Fore Mobility Golf Tournament. The beautiful and exclusive Blackhawk Country Club played host to a sold out crowd of more than 150 golfers. “We are fortunate to have many returning golfers and sponsors, but we are also lucky to welcome many new faces as well,” observed Pete Petrovich, the father of the Drive Fore Mobility Golf Tournament.

This year everyone was treated to beautiful weather and cooler than normal temperatures, along with incredible food, drinks and entertainment along the course. Our own Charli Butterfield and longtime Wine for Wheels volunteer, Bill Arendt, teamed up with Casie Cathrea, teen LPGA star, and Nick Nardolillo to form what would be the winning foursome. This tournament raised nearly $85,000 for support of our mission. Thank you to everyone who participated!
The news from Colombia usually deals with “guerrillas,” “cocaine” and “landmines.” This year alone, some 2,000 landmines were unearthed in the province of Putumayo by the government, while at the same time, on the other side of the country, someone discovered two more narcotics submarines in secret guerrilla camps in the jungle. Every year there are more and more landmine victims and innocent bystanders who are wounded due to ongoing conflicts, from soldiers, to peasant farmers, to kids.

But there is so much more to Colombia – history, culture, beauty, gastronomy, art and people who will amaze you. Come here and visit the gold museum, take a cable car to Montserrat, drink some lulo juice (Colombia has the most amazing tropical fruit), eat some ajiaco soup (chicken and potato soup with corn and avocado), dance the cumbia, oh, and have some Juan Valdez coffee, too! Most important, give mobility and hug many people. You will be as happy as we have become!
Wheelchair Foundation has distributed wheelchairs to the people of Bogotá on a few occasions, but this trip would be our first visit to the city of Popayán. Popayán, also called the “White City” for the color of many of the old colonial buildings, used to be the Colonial Capital of Colombia.

It would be Mrs. Luz Gomez’s friendship with Wheelchair Foundation supporter, Josh Routh, that would eventually bring us here to Popayán. Josh met Luz nearly 10 years ago while riding his wheelchair in a park in Northern California, near his home, and they have been neighbors and friends ever since. Together they developed a plan to donate wheelchairs to the disabled and less fortunate of Colombia. Luz’s family had moved to California from Colombia when she was 15 years old, and she had only been back to Colombia a few times since. On our trip Luz was able to re-connect with her roots, and we enjoyed the small town atmosphere of Popayán. We had the pleasure of working with some very charming and energetic Rotarians, who took us around town, made us feel like family, and planned a great wheelchair distribution.

Thank you to our Rotarian friends from the Rotary Club of Pleasanton North for sponsoring this container of wheelchairs for the people of Colombia, and thanks to our Rotary friends in Bogotá and Popayán for giving us an unforgettable experience.

Clockwise from Left: Ron and Lety Hyde, along with one of the many Popayán Rotarian volunteers, smile and wave with a new wheelchair recipient and his son. The Rotary Club of Pleasanton North’s own Josh Routh spends a moment getting acquainted with young wheelchair recipient Nancy and her mother. Two of the beautiful young girls from the dance troupe that entertained volunteers and recipients as part of the wheelchair distribution ceremony. Both are from displaced families who formerly lived in the jungles surrounding Popayán, but were forced to the city to avoid the violence from guerilla activity and the ongoing drug trade. Traveling members of the Rotary Club of Pleasanton North join together with members and volunteers from the Rotary Club of Popayán and several of the child performers present at the wheelchair distribution for a group photo.

Facing Page Top to Bottom: Dario and his hand-built Jeep, which he constructed to motor around Popayán. He had heard about this wheelchair distribution event by word-of-mouth and showed up with the hope of obtaining a wheelchair, something he has been living without for years. Fortunately, provisions had been made for just such an occasion, and Dario was given a much needed wheelchair. All of this resulted in a pretty good day for a guy who was stabbed in the back at age 13, and has been paralyzed from the waist down ever since. Josh Routh and Luz Gomez, the two catalysts for the distribution event in Popayán, share in the magic of actually seeing all of their hard work pay off, and enjoy meeting all of those who will benefit from the gift of a new wheelchair.
This Spring, Kay Collier, Mike Richter and Khalid Kamal hosted a Moroccan themed Wine for Wheels event at Shokran Moroccan Grill in the trendy Irving Park district in Chicago, Illinois. The purpose: to raise funds for a container of 270 All-Terrain wheelchairs for the people of the city of Fes, in Morocco. Their event featured traditional Moroccan fare, tasty wines, live Chicago blues music and real belly dancers. This event also afforded Kalid, whose family still lives in Morocco, the opportunity to share his culture and tell others about daily life in Northern Africa. The gathering was a huge success!

In July, Kay, Mike, Kalid and members of his family, traveled more than 3,700 miles to the city of Fes, and to Kalid’s home village of Aitoullil, to assist in the distribution of the wheelchairs they helped fund. Together with Wheelchair Foundation partner the Association Mobilite Pour Tous, they provided mobility to Moroccans of all ages, from all walks of life.
“O h boy do we EVER have stories; ...like the one about the group of five who got on a bus in Casablanca and came to Fes (150+ miles) on hearsay that there were free wheelchairs to be had in Fes (and didn’t have bus fare back home until they met Khalid) ...what an adventure with two immobilized adults in their party.

Or the woman I almost married because she loved me so much for wheeling her home after the wheelchair distribution event; as we were passing two policemen guarding the rear entrance to the police station, we stopped and she spoke Arabic to them, about me. When she had finished her story, the one policeman came over to me and kissed me! eck! But, beautiful none the less. I think her prayers were answered, and I was her guardian angel sent from above to take such wonderful care of her.”

From Morocco - Kay and Mike
GIVE THE GIFT OF MOBILITY!

MAKE YOUR DONATION ONLINE FROM THE COMFORT OF YOUR OWN HOME!

Simply make your donation of $150 or more online, print out our special gift certificate and you’re done!

Your loved one will receive a beautiful presentation certificate with a photo of a wheelchair recipient 4-6 weeks later!

All donations of $500 or more receive a limited-edition engraved paperweight as a token of our appreciation.

Donate $100 or more and we will send you wild flower “seeds of hope” to plant in your garden!

Please visit our website at www.wheelchairfoundation.org and click on the gift certificate link.

HURRY! ORDER BY DECEMBER 1ST TO GUARANTEE CHRISTMAS DELIVERY! "THE PERFECT THOUGHTFUL GIFT FOR THE HOLIDAYS!"