

March 2011

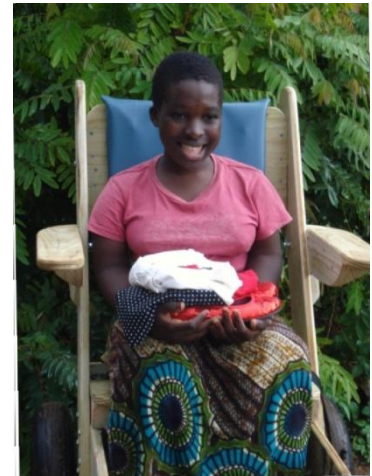
Volume III, Number 1

Reports from the Field

Malawi



Let's take another look at something we mentioned in a past newsletter; how essential a good packing job is, and at the path some of our PETs have to take to make it to their destination. Last January, Linda Karl, a



missionary from Columbia Missouri took a PET (as excess baggage) with her to Malawi for an 18 year old girl she had

met on a previous trip. The PET made it from Kansas City to Detroit, Detroit to Amsterdam, Amsterdam to Nairobi where it spent the night, then from Nairobi to Zimbabwe, Zimbabwe to Zambia and Zambia to Lillongwe Malawi. Note how the box stayed together! Linda is in front of the Lillongwe airport waiting for a truck to African Bible College where the PET was put together. The recipient – Zione Jumpa from the Makalani Village. Zione has a disease which makes her brittle bones break and then fuse together smaller and smaller. Her typical mode of transportation is on the ground where she scoots on her bottom – her legs are virtually useless and her arms are really short for her Linda says. Imagine “scooting” down the street in the village where she lives, especially after a rain.

Senegal

Talk about timing – PET International has been working for several months to develop a new PET distribution partner, MIS, Mission Inter Senegal, in the West African country of Senegal. Von Driggs, PET International Director of Operations, writes: “Today after receiving the completed partnership application form we also just ‘happened’ to receive the following photo.” Do you recognize the PET.? Yes, it was built by our own crew right here in the Greater North-West. It is one of our trademark “Rainbow PETs”. Mr. Driggs goes on to say: “This is wonderful timing as our plan with



MIS is to ship over 300 PETs for distribution throughout the country in the following months. The U.S. Navy's Project Handclasp will be providing transportation to get the PETs to Senegal. The Greater North-West PET Project sent 17 PETs to Nigeria via Project Handclasp in 2008

Zimbabwe

The St Giles Rehabilitation Centre in Harare was where Chris (34) was undergoing rehabilitation



after an accident at work. He hadn't imagined that his life could change overnight, but he was working

under a car, when the jack gave way and the full weight of the car fell on his body, leaving him with extensive spinal injuries and unable to walk. Nine months into his rehabilitation, he welcomed the arrival of a PET. "It means for the first time I am going out without a wheelchair. With the PET I have the freedom now to take myself to the shops." (Story and photo were taken from the MedShare blog featured in the Feb 2011 Celebration Health bulletin.)

Volunteer Spotlight

Our Spotlight this month is shining on one of the first PET builders to volunteer for the Greater Northwest PET Project. This man spent much of his growing up years on a farm right here in Mead. He graduated from college with a degree in mechanical engineering and was hired by NASA in Virginia. After three years, he went to Ford Motor Company where one of his jobs was to test drive cars – up and down Pikes Peak in Colorado, sometimes three times a day. After another stint at wheat farming, he returned to college and got another degree in Computer Science. After 20 years at KeyTronic as a Cad-Cam engineer he is more than qualified to be our Chief Engineer at the PET Project. He is married, has three children, and six grandchildren. He enjoys going to all the grandchildren's events, reading non-fiction, taking walks/hiking, riding bikes and traveling. He has a

strong love for God, his family and a loving heart for the PET Project. It means the world to Maurice Feryn to help others by using his talents. It has become part



of his "new direction" since retirement and has given him a wonderful out-reach in which to serve the Lord. We appreciate you Maurice and

value your desire to see those who are less fortunate be lifted from the dirt into a life of dignity and hope.

Highlighting one of our Business Partners

At the start of the PET Project, Dick Carpenter had strung clothes lines all through his pasture to hold metal parts to be hand spray painted. He painted first with primer, then with rainbow colors. Fortunately, just before winter hit, he met a man at his Church who could help. Dick and Gordon Cudney discussed what Dick was doing in his pasture when Gordon told Dick not only about his company, Apex Industries, but that they had a much better way of preserving the metal parts with powder coating (a hard finish, electrostatically applied, which is much tougher than conventional paint and in bright cheerful colors).

Apex Industries is a precision sheet metal fabricator located in the Spokane Industrial Park. The company was formed in 1993 when Matt Matthews and Gordon



Cudney purchased the Key Tronic sheet metal shop. They now occupy approximately 60,000 square feet and

employ about 55 people. Apex serves a wide array of industries, including electronics, aerospace, medical, and several others. Apex is ISO and AS90 (aerospace) certified. In addition to normal sheet metal functions, they perform mechanical assembly, spray painting,

powder coating, and silk screening . Gordon says “we are proud to be part of the PET project”. Dick adds: “This was before Gordon had his heart transplant but we knew long before that, whatever heart he ended up with, would be a heart sensitive to God’s calling.” Apex continues to provide us with beautiful rainbow colors for our steel parts.

Another Milestone

On March 3, PET numbers 734 through 793 were loaded for shipment #19 by a great group of dedicated, hard working, volunteers.



A Sobering Reality

Mel West, one of the PET Founders, wrote that he has encouraged people to read the book, “Half The Sky” a vivid account of oppression of women and girls in the world. He gives some staggering statistics: over 8 million children are trapped in slavery, debt bondage, prostitution, and pornography. Two things contribute to this problem: one is the cultural attitude that children are “property” and can be used, sold, or bartered, and two, extreme poverty makes it necessary to have the children work to support the family, or sold into bondage to pay off a family debt. Mel goes on to say that worldwide, one child in six is engaged in child labor, and that every year 22 thousand of them die in work related accidents. Mel describes one example: A family owes a debt to the money lender who demands that he be paid. Since the family has no money, to pay off the debt, they give one of their children who then becomes a slave to the money lender, working long hours at hard labor, and often used as a sexual slave. The child often sleeps with the animals, never goes to school, is fed scraps and as the child grows, the cycle is repeated. ***The good news*** – when a leg-handicapped person who has been unemployed, but is able to secure work

because he/she gets a PET, they are much less likely to have to force children into slavery.

A Little Child Shall Lead Them

When does a one dollar donation to The Greater North-West PET Project seem like a thousand dollars? Last Christmas, a young lady of 3 years old went to her piggy bank and took a dollar bill from it. Her Daddy asked her what she was doing? “I want to give a gift to help build one of Grandpa’s PETs for someone without legs.” Her Dad gave her a big hug. “When I opened her gift, I teared up as I hugged her, giving her thanks for her thoughtfulness.” As our Lord said, “A little child shall lead them.” From Dick Carpenter – her Grandpa.

Finances

We can’t say that finances are “sufficient” but God’s people have generously provided enough to buy parts for the next batch of 50 PETs. Thank you so much for your generosity during a very critical time over the last several months.

Contact Information

For comments about this newsletter, or address changes, please send an e-mail to: www.petnwnewsletter@onemain.com. You can contact Dick Carpenter at (509)466-3425. Tax deductible donations may be sent to WCPC PET Project and mailed to 15123 N Little Spokane River Dr, Spokane WA 99208. A coupon is enclosed.

Quotes Worth Reading

“We realize we cannot ‘save the world’, but we helped provide many with a quality of life they didn’t have yesterday. Perhaps not every PET will see its full potential with its new owner, but if it frees up another mother or another caregiver, and gives them a life, the PET will have accomplished its humble mission.” Jeanne Smith, a PET volunteer from McPherson Kansas.

Be sure you put your feet in the right place, then stand firm.-- Abraham Lincoln



PETs have been distributed to about 90 countries around the world, the majority having gone to Africa , Eastern Europe, and South East Asia. Here are nearly 50 of those countries which have received PETs.



“For God is not so unjust as to overlook your work and the love that you showed for his sake in serving the saints, as you still do.” Hebrews 6:10