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Distribution in India with Lions Club



In October 2008 I began corresponding with the Lions Club District 322 B1 in Kolkata, India. After many months of planning, a donated container load of seventy PET carts was shipped to Kolkata. I was invited by the Lions to attend the distribution on Sunday April 26. As I set out on my journey I wondered how this event would play out. I am happy to say that my expectations were greatly surpassed. As promised, the Lions Club fulfilled the assessment and documentation requirements very well, and the disabled were served.

(Above: Various mobility devices are handed out. Right: Von meets Mr. Mithun Chatterjee who received a PET.)



Purpose: The promotion of PET vehicles for individuals with disabilities who have no appropriate means of mobility; to coordinate PET work sites where PETs are constructed; to assist in the dissemination of vehicles to international agencies/sponsors.

PET Sites

- PET MO—Columbia
- PET FL—Penney Farms
- PET TX—Luling
- PET TN—Murfreesboro
- PET FL—Tampa
- PET Southwest MO
- PET NY—East Jewett
- PET WA—Spokane
- PET KS—Moundridge
- PET TX—San Antonio
- PET IA—Hawarden
- PET ME—Waterboro
- PET FL—Jacksonville
- PET TX—Austin
- PET MI—Holland
- New Life Center—Zambia, Africa
- PET—Cape Town, South Africa
- PET Mexico—Nuevo Progresso
- PET Sierra Leone
- Affiliates forming**
- Utah & MI



This man was one of over fifty very happy persons who received the gift of mobility that day. (Another leads the way home on their PET/new found hope and mobility.)

Von Driggs, Director of Operations

I had the opportunity to interview and connect personally with each PET recipient. I found this very humbling to again mingle with those who cannot walk and to hear their stories and interact with them in a small way.



Arms of Mercy deliver PETs in Honduras

Arms of Mercy delivered 85 PETs and has a goal to make that 300 by year's end. Here is one of the recipients along with an excerpt from their Spring 2009 newsletter.

"Mario Zuniga (at right) was born with deformed legs. Now, age 30, as a result of his disability has developed good strong arms to operate his new PET. Mario said: 'Thank you to each one of you who sacrificed to make this possible. My new PET completely changed my life; I now plan instead of just dream about my future.'



Special points of interest:

- PETs are now also in Laos, Djibouti, Swaziland, Somalia and Armenia for a presence in 76 countries.
- Two new Affiliates approved in 2009:
PET TX—Austin
PET MI—Holland
- New partners in distribution:
GAIN (Global Aid Network)
The Luke Commission
- In May a shipment of PETs went to Benin, Africa from:
PET NY—East Jewett
and PET TN—Murfreesboro
- We have a brokerage account set up to receive stock gifts to help in our ministry.

Please send gifts to:

PET International, Inc.
503 E. Nifong Blvd.
#186
Columbia, MO 65201-3717

www.petinternational.org

Email: pet@petinternational.org

501 c 3 non-profit

In poor communities, the disabled are often confined to a modest shack, dependant on help from friends and family who are usually struggling themselves. Most of the streets are rough dirt roads. Even those who can afford wheelchairs, find it impossible to leave their homes and move about in the community and some perish as a result. PETs to the rescue! A simple hand powered three wheel cart is the answer. It's a beautiful sight as we have the privilege to see the tears of joy on the many faces of those who have received a PET (Personal Energy Transport). Usually dressed in their best outfit they anxiously try out their new hand powered vehicle. Pastor Luciano and I delivered these PETs in the Masca region"

PET Kansas and Honduras Missions PET Distribution



(Gilma Lizeth receives a PET made by PET KS—Moundridge. Standing to her right is Kirby Goering.)

(Below Fredico Lopez receives a PET made by PET TX—Luling.)



In April we had a successful distribution of 190 PETs in Honduras. These included adult PETs, child PETs, push PETs and one pull PET. We started on the Pacific coast and went to the Atlantic coast and back to Tegucigalpa driving 1500 hundred miles before it was over. Without any break downs or even a flat tire. We would like to thank PET TX—Luling for bringing 28 adults and 30 child PETs for our distribution and PET MO—Columbia for their pull PET. We had 6 distribution sites and one random site when we saw a man

with one leg sitting in front of a store. We stopped and gave him a PET and before it was over we gave 3 more PETs to people in a small village not far from him. We were then out of PETs but could have given a few more away. We always had to add someone to our list at every stop for a PET at a future distribution. The need is big if we can only find them. A big Thank You to Ashley Williams and the Church of Christ of Honduras for finding the needy people for the PETs. They did a great job.

God Bless Those in Need, Kirby and Chris Goering, PET Kansas—Moundridge

Utah PET Affiliate in the Making



(First shop burned Nov. 2008 and second shop was found Feb. 2009.)

“Hi, Yes the Lord has been good to us. Attached you will find several pictures of the new site that should keep us busy for some time....The building has been relatively idle and had a lot of clean up do to. The roof was recently replaced....When I first inquired about leasing it, she (the manager) quoted me her boss' number (\$300/month). I explained that our initial site (the planing mill that burned) only cost us \$1.00 per month, but I would offer \$50. She insisted that she contact her boss to clear the deal. Next morning she called and asked, 'Norm, how does \$1.00 a month sound?' Sometimes we just don't realize how blessed we are. We have pretty well cleaned out the place...Hopeful we will be moving our equipment & spare parts in by the end of the month.... things are looking up and we just need to get back to work.

Blessing to you all for all the help and prayers. Norm Anderson”

(email excerpt February 20, 2009)

PET TX - Austin Celebrates

May 17, 2009 report on the ribbon cutting celebration from our Director of Operations, Von Driggs. “I was glad that we (Von and his wife, Linda) went down to be a part of the event. About 70 people came and the shop seemed to really be set up well. I had the opportunity to meet and personally speak with most everyone. I found out that PET TX - Austin made 40 units during the 40 days of lent! Not bad.”

(Picture on left in next page: John Rudd at left and Von Driggs at mike. Others in attendance included Jake and Gwen Royall who helped start PET TX-Luling in 2003.)



PET TX - Austin enjoys the support of the community around it. Northwest Fellowship Church is donating space in their building and paying the electricity bill each month as their contribution to the PET ministry. The 'Men of Hope' from Hope Presbyterian Church are giving their time and helping financially. Bethany United Methodist Church is donating \$\$\$

and time. Bethany pastor, Tom Deviney, gave PET - Austin the challenge to build 40 PETs for Lent. Pastors from all three churches participated in the shop dedication ceremony.

In addition, PET TX - Austin is receiving support from the Northwest Austin Rotary, the Cedar Park Lions Club, The Ladies of Charity and several other Sunday School classes at local churches.



The last group that is helping with PET TX - Austin is the Cris Cole School for the Blind. Yes, the school for the blind. They have a rehabilitation program to teach blind people carpentry. They are cutting, routing and drilling wood parts. It is wonderful to hear these individual's excitement when they talk about being able to give back to others with handicaps. PET touches the lives of many other than the recipients.

One last story is about William. William is one hundred percent blind. On one Saturday workday during Lent, he came to the PET shop to help. He took the city bus, changed busses twice, walked from the last bus stop crossing two major highway intersections and one of our other volunteers finally found him in the parking lot trying to find our shop. We were painting that day and William jumped right in. You can imagine, someone who is one hundred percent blind has to paint by touch. William painted two complete PET bodies that day, and I have to admit, his painting was better than some of our other volunteers. John Rudd, President of PET TX—Austin

Gifts in honor or memory

- In honor of Ann & Steve Valenta by Carol Daly; in honor of Donna DiSandro by Dennis Percy
- In honor of Frank Amos by Joel & Lynn Matthiesen; In honor of Mel West by Mark & Gay Schoene
- In memory of Mr. & Mrs. Lyle Zahler by Warren L. Zahler
- In honor of My Friends and Family by William Radford



RECIPIENTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Nicaragua

"Teresa is a senior woman who has only one leg; she stayed at her home all the time because she could not move by herself. "

Uganda

Distributed by one of our many distribution partners, Wheels for Humanity. (at right)



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