



# GIVE THE GIFT OF MOBILITY, DIGNITY, AND OPPORTUNITY

MAKER OF THE MOBILITY CART SINCE 1994.

## SPINAL TB LEADS TO NEED FOR CARTS

### DR. JILL ASKS FOR MORE CARTS FOR HER WORK IN SOUTH SUDAN.

Dear Gary Moreau and Connie Cheren! Thanks again for those Mobility Carts. They are so awesome. **Our place, without roads, cannot support any other type of wheelchair we've tried. With 18% of our TB being spinal TB and many of those becoming paralyzed, these carts are such a godsend.**

I've a picture of Jok, he's a 17 year old who became ill about 9 years ago, has a fractured leg and paralysis. He has been dragging himself by his hands ever since. And now! He's driving all over our village. He was brought by his brother from several days walk away. They are enjoying our town and he is enjoying his new found mobility. It is really really life changing.

#### THANKS

I see that possibility of 200 carts in a container. I'm stunned by this! But we really have no place to store this incredible offer. We have no roads, no sand, no gravel thus no cement to build storage, we all live in mud huts ...

I wonder if it is ever possible to beg say 20 or 30 from a shipment to Kenya that we could then transport across the border? .... And thanks thanks thanks for the help!

Dr. Jill Seaman, Founder of South Sudan Medical Relief, Africa

(She treats patients in Alaska and South Sudan. For her work in treating infectious diseases, Dr. Jill was named a MacArthur Fellow in 2009 & received a grant.)



17 year old Jok has paralysis.



### REMEMBERING OUR PROMISES

*(Located on our website under "About")*

**We promise** to never sell or share our donor list. All your information will be strictly confidential.

### ONE DAMNED GOOD HORSE

STORIES, WIT, AND WISDOM



By Mel West

**Our founder's book of stories** is still available for \$20 with all proceeds going to build & ship more carts. Or mail your check for \$25 with postage and note 'Mel's book' in the memo line.

# LIFE AT THE SHOP DURING A PANDEMIC

Guess what? Majority of the MW volunteers are in the high risk group susceptible to the effects of COVID-19. So March 15, we shuttered the shop from active assembly work. However we had individual parts makers that wanted to keep making their special parts. And we did limited access to the shop, cleaned tools better, wiped down common used areas and wore masks in close encounter situations.

To keep the parts materials flowing, we still expended funds to buy steel and wood. Since some workers always worked from home anyway, they had more time to work. Knowing that we were not assembling meant that our parts inventory is growing which is all for the good.

On May 1, City of Columbia lessened the restrictions. So the shop opened for assembly, and we offered the assembly teams to come in and build carts IF comfortable. We made 14 large Mobility Carts the first week back. **While all of the existing shop is slowly becoming normal, the new shop did not miss a beat. Work progressed well towards a moving in date of mid-June.**

All these activities require donations hence the generous offer of matching funds from two donors. As our donor base sat at home during Stay At Home orders, they had time to write checks. They contributed well and the Match was achieved.

The building fund is continuing to be replenished so that we will owe NOTHING, NADA, "0" when the new shop building is opened. By the way watch for a Grand Opening, Celebration, Ribbon Cutting day tentatively set for September 17 (and that is tentative at writing).

Our June fundraiser by the Rotaract Club has been moved to Sunday, August 30, again tentative date. Craft Beer and Carts has set a goal of 50 businesses and groups decorating 50 carts, meeting for a decorating contest and finally sending those carts to Kenya for a photo story back showing how mobility changed a life.

## \$22,000 Spring Match Met

Thank you to the 124 families, 1 business and 3 churches that sent their gifts to more than meet the goal. We are grateful to you and the Match sponsors!



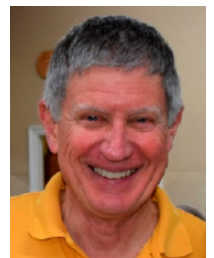
2019 cart sponsored by Columbia Orthopaedic Group



So June and July are set aside for moving and transition to new warehouse/shop accommodations. We know production temporarily in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> quarters is going to be reduced. **Our goal is to ramp up to 50 units per week (past was 35). Will you help us achieve that goal?** We are so thankful that your support continued during these difficult times, and we expect your continued donations for the months ahead.

**LIFE IS GOOD!!!**

**- GARY MOREAU, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**



# GIFTS GIVEN LAST QUARTER:

We appreciate all the donors and families who have chosen Mobility Worldwide to honor or remember someone. Your gifts will be put to good use building and shipping mobility to others in need.

## GIFTS GIVEN IN MEMORY:

- George Adams by Mel & Barbara West
- Susan B. Bailey by David Bailey
- Bob Battern by LaVonne Patterson
- Paul Braisted by Anne Braisted
- Charley Christy by Gene Baumann and Barbara Loch
- Wilmer & Elva Cottey by Bill & Jan Goodson
- Kathleen Dessent by Peggy Greene
- Molly Ann Dickinson by Ron & Mary Goecke
- Peggy Jean Endley by Donald & Janet Rees, Susan Schuppan, Britt & Gail Clements, Ray & Linda McKenzie
- Howard Fox by Shirley Ryan
- Charles Fulhage by Jane Fulhage
- Tina Stewart Graue by Judy Dick
- Wallace Hart by Bryan & Susan Cornett
- Whitney Hicks by John & Joane O'Connor
- Hugh and Ruth Kuhn by Loren & Frances Mattke
- Eunice McCoury and Joan Shuford by Gladys Campbell



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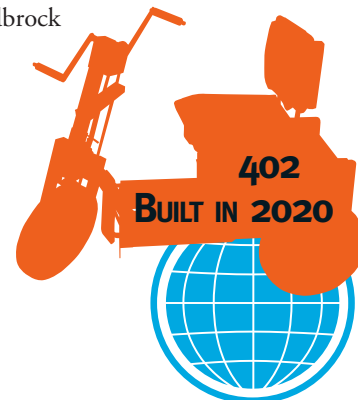


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- Roland Meinert by Susan Meinert
- Madaline Muhrer by Charles & Jane Rabeni
- Bob Ragland by Milton & Emily Ford, Gary & Marion Moreau, Kyle & Tina Marcum, Carole Moore, M & Rose Lloyd, Bernard & Susan Clark, Richard & Michele Cropp, Virginia & Tinkle & Nikki Wade, Mary Jane Decker, Timothy & Carol Clark, Gene & Nancy Iannotti
- Carol & Dale Sechler by Joyce Anderson
- Madeline Wilcox by Larry Wilcox
- Maxine Woods by Marylin Sudbrock



## GIFTS GIVEN IN HONOR:

- 57th wedding anniversary by Ray & Doris Speckhals
- Active Faith Sunday School Class by Susan Schneider
- All front-line medical care heroes by Catherine O'Brien
- All virus patients by Bob & Jane Bellinghausen
- Erica Berg by Martha & Kenneth Berg
- Glensted United Methodist Church by Beverly Underwood
- Gold Canyon UMC by Timothy & Barbara Newman
- Roger Hofmeister by Renner & Martha Anderson
- Jeff Moran by Courtney Moran
- Gary Moreau by Dell & Janet Epperson
- Susan Olson by Linda Watkins
- Parents, the Ruppel and Harrington families by Rick & Mary Ruppel
- Judy Parsons by Cleo Kottwitz
- Joe Powell by Lawrence Boston
- Don & Thelma Randall by Dennis Carter
- June Vickery by Elsie Heller
- Wednesday cart packing crew by Linda Day
- Mel West by Janice Burk, Earl & Jean Cecil, Robert & Jane Smith,
- The West Family by Martin West
- Mel & Barbara West by Mary Hodge, Rev. Patricia & John Buck, Ed & Myra Kail

# 2020 CARES ACT CHANGES CHARITABLE DEDUCTIONS

The federal government has changed its rules for 2020 in how you can take an increase in charitable giving deductions. This special \$300 deduction per eligible taxpayer just happens to be the cost to build and ship a Mobility Cart. Check with your tax accountant.

## SEC. 2104. ALLOWANCE OF PARTIAL ABOVE THE LINE DEDUCTION FOR CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS.

“(22) CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS.—In the case of taxable years beginning in 2020, the amount (not to exceed \$300) of qualified charitable contributions made by an eligible taxpayer during the taxable year .”. (from Congress.gov)

# VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHT

## “THE GIRLS” DID IT AGAIN

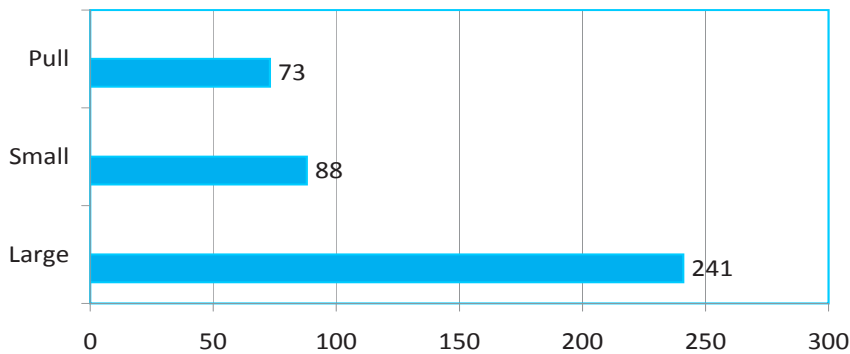
Bryan and Susan Cornett raise chickens. “The Girls” lay eggs, and the sales of eggs have amounted to 16 Mobility Carts being built. As raving fans, they have enlisted 23 neighboring churches in Centralia and Mexico countryside to save milk jugs and cans. They bring more CLEAN cans and jugs to the shop through the help of Carl Yager (his Ford Taurus is full) than any other family or group. And they are clean and dry; ready as packing material in the cart shipping box. Cornetts travel their circuit telling our story. Their home church Liberty Christian Church in Thompson, MO has provided 47 carts. All totaling donations \$14,100 over the years. THANKS BE TO OUR SPECIAL FRIENDS, BRYAN AND SUSAN CORNETT and “The Girls”.



“LIFE’S MOST PERSISTENT AND URGENT QUESTION IS, WHAT ARE YOU DOING FOR OTHERS?”

**DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.**

May 11, 2020 YTD Cart Production = 402



### MOBILITY CART DONATION SLIP

Yes! I want to give the GIFT OF MOBILITY to a person whose legs do not function.

My check is enclosed for:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ carts at \$300.00 each.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ carts sent to Kenya at \$55 each for extra shipping expense.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to **Mobility Worldwide MO-Columbia** and mail to: 1908 Heriford Road, Columbia, MO 65202  
Tel: 573-886-7877



## CONTACT Us



1908 Heriford Road, Columbia, MO 65202 • Shop Hours: M – F 8 am to 3 pm  
Telephone: 573-886-7877 Email: [info@giftofmobility.org](mailto:info@giftofmobility.org) Web: [www.giftofmobility.org](http://www.giftofmobility.org)

# GRANTS FUND EQUIPMENT FOR NEW WORKSHOP

Thanks to a relatively mild winter, construction on the new Mel and Barbara West Cart Center, new home to Mobility Worldwide MO – Columbia, continues. “Despite the obstacles of the winter season and COVID-19, Coil Construction and the subcontractors have maintained their work schedule,” Gary Moreau, Executive Director, noted. “The building is enclosed, parking lot poured, and all of the framing is in place. It has been exciting to watch.” Workers are completing the interior work, with mid-June slated for the turnover. A team is now working details to facilitate a move shortly afterwards.

Outfitting the workshop is being made possible thanks to generous donations. The Stafford Family Charitable Trust funded equipment in the new welding shop. The Boone Electric Community Trust graciously funded the fire and security system. The PET Mobility Project Foundation provided for installation of new storage racks throughout the new facility.

Multiple donors have agreed to support landscaping costs. Moreau and a team of volunteers have completed plans for landscaping to be done this summer, with a focus on eco-friendly trees and grasses.

A grand opening celebration is slated for a tentative date of September 17.



North side with concrete lot and drive



South side and view of docks

## MOUNT KENYA UNIVERSITY STUDIES CARTS *(continued from page 6)*

(Compared to crawling or other devices)... All these modes of movement are very slow and not user friendly in comparison to the Mobility Carts. The carts are fast, easy to operate, can be used to carry the merchandise for selling and are more dignified.

... After the Mobility Carts, 50% are now able to attend school with ease (school-going age)....

***Do you think the Mobility Cart changed the way the society looks at you? (98% said YES)***

.... The respondents expressed their new experiences using the following sentences: *“I have more friends. The church built a ramp so that disabled individuals can access the church. I am no longer viewed as needy. I have been appointed in my village Water Management Board....”*

(96% did not have economic activity before the cart).. there was increased independence, 20 (69%) over the age of 20 years started economic activities...



Children now attend school

### CONCLUSION

From the above findings, it is apparent that the Mobility Carts have brought a transformation in the lives of many that were initially incapable of not only making an income but most importantly did not have the freedom to move....”

**- Phelista Wangui Njeru, Head of Dept. of Economics; Peter Gakio Kirira, Dir. MKU Foundation and Partners for Care Excerpt of the Study Published by the Int'l Journal of Economics, Commerce and Management in the UK Dec. 2019**

**Our mission:** Mobility Worldwide MO – Columbia’s mission is to provide appropriate mobility for all of God’s children in need. We seek to provide mobility first for those in greatest need and with the least resources in poor or underdeveloped countries.

## MOUNT KENYA UNIVERSITY STUDIES CARTS *(continued from spring issue)*

### A STUDY FOCUSED ON “THE PSYCHO-SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT OF MOBILITY CARTS”.

“...As of September 2019 Partners for Care (constituted in 2012) in conjunction with partners like counties, foundations, corporates, disabilities groups, and individuals have donated 2659 Mobility Carts (wheelchairs) in Kenya to meet the goal. Each Mobility Cart is handcrafted by teams of skilled volunteers working at Mobility Worldwide locations throughout the United States.... Out of the 44 respondents, 15(34.1%) were aged 20 and below, 11(25%) were between 21-30, 8 (18.2%) were between 31- 40, 5 (11.4%) were between 41-50 and 5 (11.4%) were above 51....

Among the respondents, 26 (59.1%) were male, while 18 (40.9%) were female. In the African culture, the males are expected to fend for their female partners. **“Not being able to provide for my family made me feel less of a man,”** this was the general sentiment by the male respondents.... The arrival of Mobility Carts alleviated some of these frustrations. (sell sweets and other merchandise, feel more useful, gained some confidence)....The female respondents.... they could respond to their crying babies, bring food to the table, and contribute to their families’ welfare. **They appreciated that they could experience some freedom to privately attend to their natural womanhood needs without always having to expose their private affairs to someone.**



Sponsored cart of Girls’ Night Out

*(continued on page 5)*