



*"It's not right that human beings crawl
on the ground all their lives."
Rev. Mel West, Founder, Mobility Worldwide*



April - June 2024

SAVE THE DATE!

SEPTEMBER 18-19, 2024

READ INSIDE:

Save the date: for "The Big Give!"

Our Partners in Mexico pay us a visit
and pick up 19 Mobility Carts

Our president, Tom Martin, takes the
Lions Club's "Mike Butler Ambassador
of Service Award"

Volunteers and Donors meet and thank
each other

An entire shipment to Africa – LOST!



The Big Give is a program of The Nonprofit Council, a San Antonio-based nonprofit. theBigGive.org is an easy-to-use and secure on-line platform that allows users to search and discover local giving opportunities. You can find the causes you love, learn about the impact they make, and start giving them your support. Mobility Worldwide Texas San Antonio is asking for your help.



THE BIG GIVE

Mobility Worldwide Texas-San Antonio

P.O. Box 701172
San Antonio, TX 78270
(210)596-4584
Website: mwsanantonio.org

Shop Location: 219 E. Nakoma
Drive, San Antonio, TX (Rear
entrance only; no mail delivery)

The Need

Over 65 million people need a wheelchair! In most developing countries, few of those who need wheelchairs have access and there are insufficient production facilities available. (21st World Congress of Rehabilitation International, World Health Organization, the U.S. Agency for International Development, the International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics, and Disabled People's International, 2008).

Of the more than 18 million amputees around the world, about 80-percent of those live in developing countries. ("Bringing Prosthetics to Developing Countries." Atlanta Business Chronicle, May 2010).

Our Mission

Our mission is to provide Mobility Carts (specialty wheelchairs) at no cost to individuals with disabilities who live in developing countries and who have no appropriate means of mobility by: operating a manufacturing site to construct Carts; educating the public about the great need of disabled and disadvantaged persons; raising funds to support the construction and delivery of the wheelchairs; and disseminating the wheelchairs to the applicants through international agencies and sponsors.



If Mobility Worldwide Texas San Antonio is already one of your favorite charities or if you would like to learn more about this non-profit organization, please join us at our workshop anytime from 9:00 a.m. to Noon on Saturday, September 7. Sign in, grab a snack and start your tour. Under watchful supervision, try your hand at one of the skills required to make a Mobility Cart. Ride our three-wheeled, off-road specialty wheelchairs. Visit with our volunteers to discuss the joy they feel knowing they are providing mobility to a disabled person living in a developing country. Consider volunteering with us or making a donation to support our financial needs.



(Watch for additional mailings as we get closer to the actual "The Big Give" dates of September 18 & 19.)

OUR PARTNERS IN MEXICO

We have enjoyed the relationship developed with our partners at DIF, in the city of Acuña, state of Coahuila, Mexico. DIF, standing for the "Development of Integral Families," is the Mexican version of our Social Services, Adult Protective Services, Child Protective Care, and Handicapped Services, all rolled into one agency.

Recently, the representatives from DIF have talked about the possibility of their driving from Mexico to pick up a trailer-load of Mobility Carts at our workshop. Usually it is the San Antonio volunteers who drive the Carts to the Border at Del Rio, TX and transfer them to the DIF trailer for crossing back into Mexico. They thought that would save us a trip of driving to Del Rio and would give them the opportunity to meet some of our volunteers and visit our workshop so they might have a more complete understanding of what it takes to build a Mobility Cart.



So that's what we did on June 24! Luis (driver), and Amalia Hernandez, Director of DIF Acuña, drove to San Antonio and we took them on a tour of our shop. While Amalia kept track of the Cart serial numbers, Joe Srubar, Mobility Worldwide volunteer, and Luis loaded 19 Carts onto their trailer. With their waiting list back in Acuña, we are already looking forward to our next trip to Del Rio and trailer carrying 19-20 Carts.

And as an expression of their gratitude for the volunteers in San Antonio caring for their citizens with disabilities, Amalia and Luis brought two plates of fresh-baked Mexican breads and pastries to be shared with our volunteers. Thank you, Yahaira Romero de De Hoyos, First Lady of Acuña, and Amalia and Luis!



TOM MARTIN RECEIVES PID M.P. "MIKE" BUTLER AMBASSADOR OF SERVICE AWARD

A "District 2-A2 Recognition Program," awarded by the Past District Governors Association, was held in San Antonio on April 30. And among the distinguished re-

ipients of the awards that evening was Lion Tom Martin. Volunteers at Mobility Worldwide have come to know Tom as "Our Fearless Leader", "El Jefe", "Bwana", "Teacher", and "Friend." It is Lion Tom and his ever-presence in our workshop that keeps everything working. Yes, he can set up, operate, and fix all of the machinery upon which we depend in



the production of the Mobility Carts. But more than that, Tom keeps the "Monday Volunteers" informed of what the "Friday Volunteers" are working on, and vice-versa. He is the one who takes the inventory reports and places the orders for the raw materials used in production. And it is Lion Tom who communicates with leaders in other

shops about combining our shipping efforts to the overseas recipients of the Carts.

Lion Tom is a 33-year member of the Lions Club and has served for over 20 years on their Board of Directors as president and secretary for Northside Lions. In the past, Lion Tom has received numerous recognitions, including a Melvin Jones Fellow, a Jack Wiech Fellow, Texas Lions Foundation Fellow, and the Club Humanitarian Service Award.

The photos above show Lion Tom with his cherished award and of him talking with PID Lion "Mike" Butler, for whom the "Ambassador of Service Award" is named. To Tom and his entire family (including daughter Joslyn, pictured), we extend our sincere congratulations on your accomplishments and recognition.



RECOGNIZING VOLUNTEERS - THANKING DONORS

On May 11, Mobility Worldwide Texas San Antonio held its annual Volunteer Recognition-Donor Appreciation Dinner. This is a fun time for our supporters to meet the volunteers who produce the Mobility Carts and for the supporters to see and ride a Cart. It also gives our volunteers an opportunity to express our thanks to those individuals and groups who make this "Mission of Mobility" possible thanks to their financial investment.

We thank Joslyn Campbell for making many of the arrangements for the gathering at Blanco BBQ, and for being the master of ceremonies. Volunteer time in the shop working on building Mobility Carts is documented and a running-total of hours is tallied at the end of each year.

Not present but still being thanked are Bob Oroszi for his 100 hours of service. Also recognized is Keith Venable for his 1,000 volunteer hours.

Being recognized for his 1,000 volunteer hours of volunteer work in the Mobility Worldwide shop is Jack Arnold, pictured left, below.

Pictured right is Dick Baldwin, being recognized for his 2,000 hours of volunteer service.



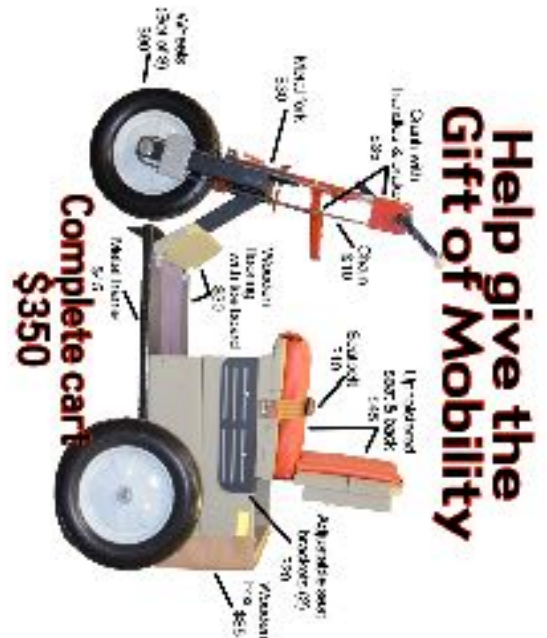
Bill Myers is recognized for his 3,000 hours of volunteering in the workshop, pictured below left.

And below right is Roger Galloway, being recognized and thanked for his 5,000 hours of volunteering (an achievement, to date, never duplicated)!



ENDING ON A SAD NOTE

We reported in our January-March newsletter that we were participating in providing Mobility Carts to combine with other Mobility Workshops into one ocean shipment to the African country of Malawi. Our contribution to the shipment was 34 Carts from San Antonio. In all, the container held 184 Carts, 8 sewing machines, and 25 of our new Resin Carts still under evaluation. Following a two-month shipping time, the container cleared customs in Malawi and headed to the distribution site. Tragically on June 15, the transportation truck experienced an engine fire and everything went up in smoke, including the shipping container and the Carts. Several volunteers were scheduled to go on a mission trip to Malawi to assist with the assembly and distribution of the Carts. Hopefully more will follow on this story.



Yes! I want to partner with Mobility Worldwide TX-San Antonio to sponsor the building of Mobility Cart specialty wheelchairs.

\$ _____ toward the production of a Cart

\$ _____ for _____ Cart(s) at \$450 each, which includes a personalized metal plate attached to the Cart

Name _____

Business _____

Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

Phone _____

Email _____

My gift is _____ in honor of / _____ in memory of _____

Please send acknowledgement in my/our name (withhold disclosing the amount of gift) to:

Name: _____

Relationship _____

Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

Make checks payable and mail to:

Mobility Worldwide TX-San Antonio
P.O. Box 701172
San Antonio, TX 78270