



The Inland North-West Trinity Project
Home of the Rainbow Freedom Cart
15123 N Little Spokane Dr.
Spokane WA 99208

Tri-Kin Trailways



Before

April 2021
Volume XIII Number 2



After

Feedback from Jordan

It is seldom that we get pictures of our Trinity Cart recipients, so we are excited to share one we recently received. In the November 2019 issue of the Tri-Kin Trailways, we discussed the fascinating country of Jordan. Its location between several warring countries brings many refugees. Ancient ruins brings tourists and archaeologists. The whole area is especially rich in Biblical history as the Jordan river forms its Eastern boundary. The bad news is that the disastrous results of many wars have given rise to much pain and suffering and has caused many people to lose use of their legs.

Late in November 2019, we shipped a load of 140 Trinity Carts to Jordan through World Vision. The following is from the mother of one of those who received a cart. (I might say that I almost didn't open the email when it first came since it was from "sniper - - - @yahoo.com". I'm glad I took the chance.)

The mother started by saying: *"I want to start from the amount of joy and happiness my son Ibrahim felt when he was riding his three-wheeled horse for the first time, that joy that forgot us from poverty, the need and the constant neglect of everyone for my son Ibrahim and the great pain from Abraham's illness and from poverty and need, and securing the needs of things of Abraham."* She said in a 2nd message that Ibrahim is 13, and he has suffered from hydrocephalus (a build-up of fluid on the brain) and hemiplegia (paralysis of one side of the body) since birth. The mother's name is Rania Rifat Nimer Awwad and they live in Zarqa, Jordan.

Zarqa is the capital of Zarqa Governorate (like a state in the US) with a population of almost 700,000. Zarqa is the 2nd largest city in Jordan, and is just 19 miles northeast of Amman. The Arab Weekly points out the main crime problem currently is coming from the mobs of extortion radicals. The Weekly describes, in graphic detail, the torture of a teen-ager whose father refused to pay the extortion money they demanded of him.

Unfortunately poverty has increased lately, mostly due to the "social transformations" enacted, especially in poor areas. Turmoil in Syria and Iraq isn't helping. Due to the country's recent efforts, security forces are making inroads into the social problems, and hopefully a more livable environment will soon return. Jordan is a remarkable and historically interesting country.



We are grateful for a very generous Western Washington lumber company's donation. With their timely gift, our West-side team can now build another 21 Trinity Carts. At today's lumber prices, their donation qualifies as **very GREAT**. It totaled 205 boards, composed of 631 lineal feet of 1x6 and 250 lineal feet of 1x5. The 2 pictures show all 205 beautiful pieces of wood.

We also appreciate the "West-Side" acknowledgment of an "East-Side" university (the Cougar cap).



Stubborn As A Mule

The only connection the following essay has with the Trinity Project is that it was written by one of the 3 founders of the Project, Mel West. It is an interesting read, humorous, factual, and informative.

"One of the most high compliments I have received from time to time was to be called "mule-headed", or "stubborn as a mule". I grew up with mules and know them to be highly intelligent and hard-working animals, with a lot of common sense.

"A mule is a cross between a male donkey and a female horse. That hybrid cross results in an amazing animal. For more than a century, 1785 to 1950 this country relied upon mule and horsepower to do its heavy work. Horses were bred for pleasure and work, mules mostly for work. Missouri was at that time the very center of the breeding, sale, and use of mules for farm and urban work. Thousands of mules were shipped out of Missouri to go overseas for the use of the army in WWII. In 1940 some 193,564 mules were counted in Missouri.

"Mules have some traits that make them special. They eat less than a horse, withstand heat better, and pound for pound, work harder than horses. Although there are arguments about this, mules, considering their weight, will move a heavier load than horses.

"I like the common sense gift that mules have. Place a lot of feed before them, and horses will eat too much, founder and even die. A mule will eat a bit, and come back later for more. Bring a horse in hot and thirsty from the field and they will drink too much, too fast, and get sick. I can still hear my father saying, "Pull those horses back from the tank. Do not let them drink too much." The mules drink a bit, then come back later.

"Mules usually learn the voice commands of "get up, whoa, gee, and haw". They have a troubling ability to quickly learn to open gates and doors that keep the cows and horses in, but not the mules. Make a simple gate with a wire loop latch and a mule takes one look at it and is gone. Once a mule has made a trip from, then back to, home, it will never forget the way.

"Mules are the preferred animal for riding treacherous mountain trails because of their sure-footedness and common sense. They are used for trail rides into and back out of the Grand Canyon. My experience is that if

a mule refuses to go somewhere you want them to go, you had better get down and find out why.

“While working as a volunteer with the Heifer Project in the 1970’s I purchased and shipped a number of big Missouri jacks and several Belgium fillies to Central America for them to raise large mules, which they still desire. This brought back many memories of my long days with my two mules, usually cultivating corn with a one-row cultivator. I knew that when noon and quitting time came, I had better have a good hold on the reins, because they were stubborn and mule-headed about getting back to the barn for meals.”

Triage

If you have been around the medical field, you’ve heard the word “Triage”. It can be used either as a noun or a verb. As a noun, it means deciding the order of treatment priority for a large number of patients or casualties. The verb form just means to assign a degree of urgency to treat patients or casualties.

Trinity also uses the term in determining priorities of cart recipients. As in a medical emergency, that is not an easy task. In our case we may have 71 very needy leg disabled people show up at the distribution center, but only 70 carts. So, a heart rending decision must be made as to who does not receive a cart. We may not even have another shipment of carts in the near future, or more often, we do not have enough funds to send another shipment.

For those who are left out, this means a continuation of their dependence on others, or in many cases, never getting out of a back room where they have been hidden by their family because of shame. Medical triage often determines life or death. Trinity triage often determines a continuation of not being able to work, not going to school, or to not have any social activity. To be given the hope of receiving a cart but then have that hope suddenly dashed, puts that person in a world of crushed hopes and further depression.

The Biblical story of the Good Samaritan tells of a needy man being passed by multiple times without help he so desperately needs. The picture below is a bit haunting, but graphically displays a desperate leg-disabled person being passed by. It is a picture on one who has been left out.



Be tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, tolerant of the weak, because someday in your life you will be all of these. ~ George Washington Carver

Burma (Myanmar)

Khaung lives with his wife and six children in a town north of Lashio. He had to have both legs amputated due to blood clots.

Before he received a Mobility Cart, Khaung used a wheelchair. But after three years of use, the wheelchair had started to fall apart and the brakes were no longer working. “The mobility cart will give me strong arms,” said Khaung. “Now it will be easier to go up hills and I will be able to stop and rest (by using the brake).”



Dave & Carol Rasor

Saying good-bye to Dave and Carol Rasor is akin to losing a close member of our family.

They have decided to sell their beautiful home and large shop to find another place to live nearer family. Since they will no longer be nearby, we must find replacement Tri-Kin to learn and continue the work they have been so faithfully and ably doing for Trinity.

Dave has been with us since we started. You cannot walk through the Trinity Shop without rubbing against something Dave has contributed to the project. Just a few of the items he designed and built are: our three building jigs, the racks we use for storing painted boards, the high shelves where we dry stenciled tailgates and side braces. The long racks we use for storage of front wheels and pedal post assemblies are all Dave's work.

Dave currently welds the large sprockets for the front wheel. He uses our Robot-Chuck, designed and built by Bob Berndt, which allows a perfect weld on the sprockets in place on each front wheel. He also makes our T-bolts.

NEEDS: 1) A person to learn the Robot-Chuck operation and move it to their own shop, then to take over the welding of the large sprocket onto the front wheel. **2)** Someone to make the T-bolts.

Carol, has also been with us from the start, 16 years ago. In those early years, she built over 200 Freedom Carts (Then PETs) by herself. She even learned to move them from their assembly jig to the floor by herself (and she is NOT a large person).

Carol now manages our “To-Go” boxes which include what is needed to re-assemble the carts when they get to the field. This includes colored directions, in multiple languages, for re-assembly. The tools used during reassembly which go with each cart are: Phillips screw driver, locking pliers, a packet of 5 miscellaneous tools, and various sizes of crescent wrenches. Included also is a form for sending us feedback from each recipient and a checklist from the builder of each Cart. Finally, a small box containing all of the nuts, bolts and screws needed to re-assemble each cart.

NEED: A Tri-Kin to manage the “To-Go” boxes for each cart packed.

We are devastated to see them go, but we also know there are willing and able Tri-Kin either already here, or in the wings, to take over their tasks. Thank you so much Dave and Carol.

Where you might normally see a Deer Crossing sign, you'll now see a somewhat different sign. Here Dick Carpenter is holding our new Freedom Cart Crossing sign which he personally designed.



Tax receipt letters for 2020 were sent in early February. If you gave to the Trinity Project in 2020 and did not receive a tax letter, please let us know at nwtrikinnewsletter@gmail.com.

Several years ago Dick Carpenter came up with the idea of recording something special our volunteers remember about the Trinity Project. He asked all to fill out a “History Note of Trinity/PET” telling about something that sticks in their memory. Here are a few of the memories people had.

- *“The first frames we received from the Midwest came in a 53 foot trailer filled with Weight Watchers ice cream. It was not easy to get the trailer up to the big barn and back out.”*
- *“Started out with the wood work – Found out they needed a welder. Had a wire-feed welder at home. Now weld and really like to do it. Besides, the wife really likes to get me out from under her wonderful care.”*
- *“Dick was the first person who introduced me to PET (now Trinity). He tried to show me how to build one. At the end he suggested I try packing one. I’m still doing that and several other tasks, but not assembly.”*
- *“I had the experience of delivering 5 or 6 of the model carts that were gifts to our suppliers. The reaction from the managers and employees was special and a reminder of the broad appeal this charity has, even to the giver.”*
- *“As I remember, my first assignment working on carts was to fabricate a hydraulic press to press tires on rims. I couldn’t get the hydraulic ram to retract adequately, so I found a 70’s era Cadillac in the junk yard and to this day our press has two Cadillac hood springs to retract the ram. After all, I don’t build no junk. I would never have had the opportunity to make two distribution trips to Guatemala if it weren’t for my association with our group. Also, the 70 carts that we sent to Pastor Enrique in Navajoa, Mexico were well placed in the hands of a needy recipient even though getting them across the border was a trying experience.”*
- *“Sitting in my chair with a can full of paint-encrusted hooks, listening to music and using needle-nose pliers to peel the hooks one by one. Takes about eight hours to do a can, so I get to listen to a lot of music. More importantly, I get to pray for the folks who will use the hooks to hang the boards to be painted and assembled and sent to other folks whose lives will be changed as they use their new carts.”*

Our Spotlights Volunteer

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Fairly new to the Trinity project, but boy, does he catch on quick. Dick Carpenter says “he is an excellent builder and does anything I ask him to do. He is quickly learning subassembly of the front tires and pedal posts which will be a real help because of the recent need for someone to take that over. He is sharp and finds specific errors in other parts then seeks to get them fixed quickly. He also likes to share new ideas and is not deterred if that particular idea has already been discussed but discarded. He is a wonderful addition to our Trinity Team.”

Just who is this new volunteer? None other than Ron Kennett. And how did he find out about the Trinity Project? It gets complicated but basically the Kennett and Manteuffel families have known each other for over 50 years.

We won't spill the beans about Ron's age, but just to say he was born 2 days after Christmas in Sioux City Iowa. The family had 6 girls and 3 boys, Ron was the 2nd born. He left Iowa after high school to join the Air Force. After basic, he was sent to Fairchild right here in Spokane as an aircraft radio mechanic.

Ron used his AF training after 3 years of service at a radio repair shop until it closed, at which time he went to what is now Food Services of America (FSA) where he worked for 30 years in the frozen food warehouse. (I understand they did let him go home at night to warm up.) For such a large company, he received a huge honor in 2002 as the Warehouse Associate of the Year.

Ron married Helen McNutt, an elementary school music teacher in 1969, so they have been married 52 years. The year they celebrated their 50th they also celebrated Helen's mother's (Priscilla) 100th birthday. She still lives in Riverview Retirement Center. That's Priscilla then Ron & Helen



on the right.

Ron and Helen have 2 girls and now 4 grandkids (ages 19-15), split evenly between Mead (here on the East-side) and Kenmore (on the West-side). The whole family is in the picture on the left.

Just a few of his side “off-work” hobbies are pitching for and coaching softball teams for his church, church maintenance and custodian, the deacon board, singing and leading the church choir as well as other musical groups. He has been on mission trips to Mexico, Czech

Republic, Africa, and Armenia. In addition he loves 1000 piece jig-saw puzzles, watching Gonzaga, Seattle Seahawks, and WSU Cougar games, and golfing at least once a week.

A great addition to the Trinity Project and we look forward to working with him for a long time.



Never miss an opportunity to make others happy, even if you have to leave them alone in order to do it.

By swallowing evil words unsaid, no one has ever harmed his stomach. ~Winston Churchill

The panel at the bottom of this page explains several different ways you can donate to The Trinity Project. There are ways to give funds, leverage your assets, and at the same time save income/estate taxes.

We can't give you financial or tax advice; that needs to come from a professional tax advisor or tax attorney who will help you determine financial consequences of your charitable activities. What we can tell you is that if you have items such as stock, a 401(k), IRA's, or 403(b)s, you are able to donate up to \$100,000 to be transferred directly to the Trinity Project. {Inherited stock falls in another (even better) category.} One thing you do need to keep in mind is that, to avoid taxes, the funds must be transferred directly from your account to the Trinity Project. Once you personally receive a check, tax is due. Again, different rules apply to different types of investments and timing as to when contributions to the investment were made, so please check with a tax advisor or attorney as you plan your personal charitable giving. There are many tax advantages when you give retirement assets to a qualified charity such as The Trinity Project.



Two additional ways of donating to The Trinity Project are through making a bequest of part, or all, of your estate, and setting up either a revocable living trust or an irrevocable trust (there are advantages and disadvantages to both).

Trinity has also established a Charles Schwab account which is funded for the future (3-5 years) costs for the production and shipping of Trinity carts. To get more specific details about this account, please contact Mike Larson at (509) 998-5517. This is a great way to keep from having to pay capital gains tax, and to reduce your tax liability at the same time.

Other ways to give to the Trinity Project: We have an account with **Amazon.com** where, when you purchase from Amazon, you can designate a part of their profit to come to us. When you sign in to Amazon, use "**smile.amazon.com**". The first time you will be asked which charity you would like to support. Just find "The Inland Northwest Trinity Project", click on it and, as long as you use the "smile.amazon.com" to sign-in, a part of your purchase price goes to help those who cannot walk. There is no added expense to you.

1) You can send checks, made payable to WCPC (or Whitworth Community Presbyterian Church). Put "Trinity Project" on the memo line, and mail to: 15123 N Little Spokane Dr., Spokane, WA 99208. Please be sure the only thing on the make payable to line is "WCPC".

2) Donate electronically through **PayPal** (you don't have to have a PayPal account). All you need is either a credit or a debit card. Go to our web-site: **www.nwtrinityproject.org** and click on the word "DONATE". That will take you to the image you see at the right. Just click on the yellow button. We'll gladly send you an official tax receipt when you donate via PayPal. You can also make this a **recurring monthly donation** by checking the "Make This A Monthly Donation" box. PayPal will guide you through the steps.

Tax changes, authorized by Congress over a year ago include changes which affect federal retirement laws. One provision raises the age when individuals must start making minimum distributions from their individual retirement accounts (IRAs) from 70 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 72 years of age. The tax law did not, however, alter the giving incentive known as the IRA charitable rollover. Individuals 70 $\frac{1}{2}$ and older may still make tax-free distributions to nonprofits from their IRAs, even if they are not required to make distributions from their IRAs because they have not yet turned 72. The law, as far as giving a non-taxable donation to a qualified charity (such as The Trinity Project), once you reach 70 $\frac{1}{2}$ remains the same. As we mentioned above, the one requirement you need to be careful of is that your check must go directly from your financial institution to the charity.





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NONPROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
SPOKANE, WA
PERMIT NO. 265



Before



After

Freedom Cart Connection – Contact and Newsletter Information



For volunteer opportunities, visits to the Freedom Cart shop, or to request a presentation, please call Dick Carpenter at (509)466-3425 or send him an e-mail at bebold@comcast.net. For address changes or comments about this newsletter, send to 8trikin@gmail.com. Tax-deductible donations may be sent to WCPC-Trinity Project, 15123 Little Spokane Dr., Spokane, WA 99208. Our web-site is: nwtrinityproject.org Please also see the article “Ways you can make a direct impact on the Trinity Project” on page 7. We are on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/trinityfreedomcarts/> where we would appreciate a thumbs-up. 

