

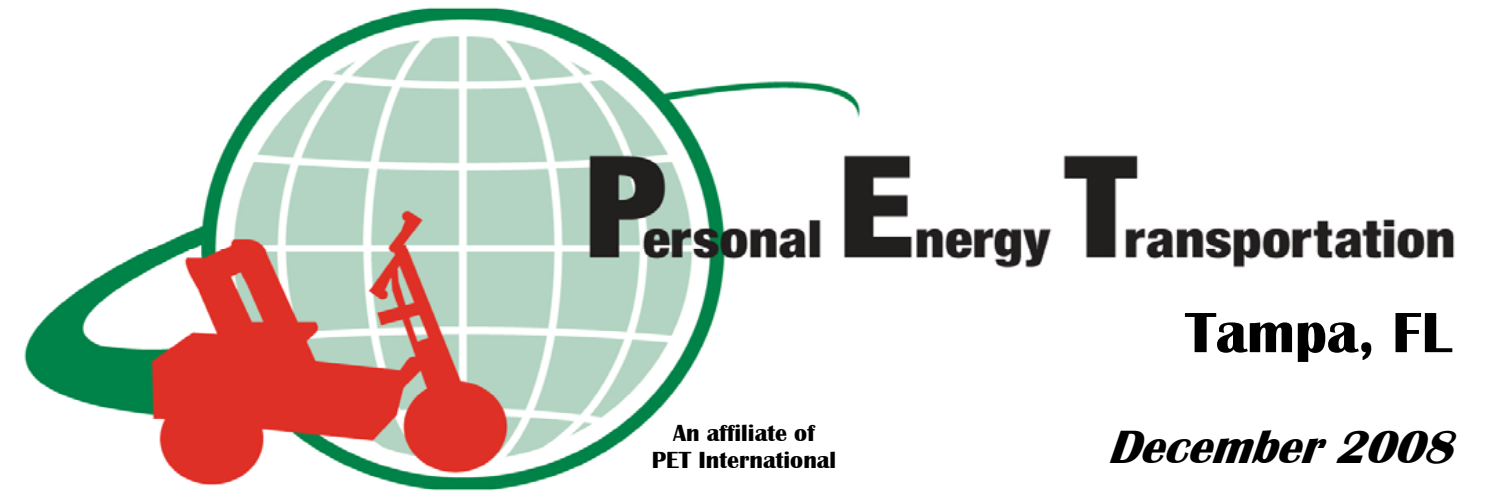
### **GIVE THE GIFT OF PET THIS CHRISTMAS!!**

Make a donation to the PET Project in the name of your loved one this Christmas and give the gift of mobility to someone in need around the world. Simply give a monetary gift using the donation form inside. You can download a PET Gift Card from our website and send it to your loved one to let them know what you have done. The funds you send will be used to build a PET to be given to someone in need.

**Check out our new website!!**  
[www.pettampa.org](http://www.pettampa.org)

# MERRY CHRISTMAS!

*The PET Workshop will be closed on  
December 25th & 27th and January 1st & 3rd.*



**December 2008**

## Prayer & Praise

- Pray that even through this time of economic recession that we would all continue to give to those less fortunate than ourselves and continue to realize how truly blessed we are to live in these United States.
- Praise for the continued flow of volunteers that show up to do the work. Without those hands, none of this would get done. 421 volunteer hours in the month of November and 54 first-time volunteers at the workshop.
- Pray for connections to be made for the destination of a large shipment of PET wheel chairs, and that the expense of it would be attainable for us. Pray for the possibilities that exist for India, Ghana, Ethiopia and the Dominican Republic.
- Pray for the continued safety and protection of the workshop and all those that work there.
- Praise for the wood planer, which was donated. Pray that electrical connections can be done without much effort or expense.



**PET Project**  
**P.O. Box 2105**  
**Tampa, FL 33601**

## 2008: Year In Review

It has been another remarkable year at the Tampa PET. This month we would like to share with you some of what we have seen this year. We hope you will enjoy reading the amazing statistics, notes on recipients, and glimpses of our dedicated volunteers.

### 2008 Stats:

- Average of 527 volunteer hours per a month.
- Over 500 first time volunteers during 2008.
- 210 adult PET units produced.
- 20 Junior PET units produced.
- Three new workshop have come on line in the U.S.
- The new Sierra Leone, Africa workshop opening, making it a total of four PET workshops operating worldwide.
- Our youngest volunteer is 5 years old and our oldest is 91!
- 15 adult units are heading to Nepal this month.

### Volunteer Groups

Every Saturday at least one group, and many times two groups, are hosted at the workshop. Many of the groups are students from local high schools and universities. Only with their help was it possible to accomplish producing the 200 plus units this year. Many thanks to them and everyone that came to serve. Here are photos of some of these groups.



**Above: New Tampa Young Life**  
**See more group pictures inside!**

### Sierra Leone, Africa Workshop

Between May 19th and July 2nd this year, 20 PET wheelchairs were produced by the Sierra Leone, New Steps Workshop in West Africa. Pictured here are two of the recipients of these chairs.



### Partnering With Mission Trips

Workshop volunteer Marlin Schmidt accompanied a team from Hyde Park United Methodist Church on a medical mission trip to Nicaragua. His wife and he carried two PETs, one adult and one child-size, which they presented. Photos and story to follow in the next newsletter.

**The PET Ministry • Jeff Sukup, Director**  
**1109 E. Osborne Avenue • Tampa, FL 33603 • 813-677-3709 • [www.pettampa.org](http://www.pettampa.org)**



Above:  
UNUM



Left:  
Alpha Phi Omega

Below:  
The Key Club



Above: The Rotaract Club

Below: New Tampa Noon Rotary Club



## PET Poem

By: Dwight Eckel

Help me, Mister, please help me;  
I have no legs! Can't you see!  
Oh, PLEASE don't pass me by,  
For all I can do is sit here and cry  
For HELP that never seems to come,  
For people just look the other way like I'm not even here!  
It's not MY fault I can't get around,  
I have no legs, All I can do is crawl on the ground.

Hey Mister, come help me get home,  
I made a mistake and thought I could move on;  
I made a mistake and grabbed on to a wheel, and was  
dragged down the street pretty far;  
I thought if I could hold on it would be a great deal;  
But I couldn't hold fast when the wagon hit a stone and  
shook me loose, and I was far from home;  
Now I can't get back there all on my own.

Hey Mister! It's not My fault I can't walk,  
Bad things happened, and I'm lucky I can talk;  
So PLEASE, Please listen, and help me get home  
For I'll never ever get there all on my own!

Please, Mister, don't pass me by,  
For there's nought I can do but sit here and cry  
For help from someone who cares.

Are YOU someone that really dares  
To reach out with helping hands  
And help me get home, for I can't stand,  
Let alone walk on these bloody knees;  
I've tried my best to make it on back  
But I'm all done in and can't even squeeze out another  
drop of effort to crawl back home;  
To where people care enough to get me a "PET"  
That I hear can make me able to up and get.

PLEASE Mister, I won't bother you again,  
If only you can get me home, I might make it yet.  
For with a PET they say I can move on my own.  
Please Mister, quick get me home.

OH, Thank You, Thank you, for hearing me out,  
For when I get a PET, you will really hear me shout;  
For at last I'll be free to move out and about;  
Thanks again friend, for setting me free,  
I'll never forget you and my God who helped me be free!

*Dwight is our oldest volunteer at 91 years old. He comes twice a week to the workshop and spray paints outside amongst other things. He is a wealth of knowledge and a special blessing to the PET ministry. Thank you, Dwight, for your hard work and dedication!*

Right: Dwight Eckel



## News Flash

**New website: [www.pettampa.org](http://www.pettampa.org)**

We have a new website! Check out our new look and the information available online. **Please note:** workshop sign ups for individual and groups is now done on our website. Due to overwhelming demand for group volunteer activities such as PET, and the increased costs for production, we request groups to make a contribution (financial or supplies) as part of their participation. Please let us know if you wish to donate supplies such as paint (latex house paint or spray paint), wood, milk jugs (rinsed and dried), cardboard, parts, etc. A more complete list is provided on our website.

### Year-end contributions

The Board of Directors and all those involved with the PET Project want to thank you for your continued support. It all started with a missionary in Africa sharing his story of one lady looking for mobility and from that the creation of one PET wheel chair, and then another and another. Every dollar we receive goes into the production or distribution of the PET wheel chairs. Every dollar is appreciated no matter whether it is one, one hundred, or more. We thank you! **Please remember that year-end contributions for the PET Project must be postmarked by December 31st to be counted for year 2008.**

### Give the Gift of PET

Make a donation to the PET Project in the name of your loved one this Christmas and give the gift of mobility to someone in need around the world. Simply give a monetary gift using the donation form inside. You can download a PET Gift Card from our website and send it to your loved one to let them know what you have done. The funds you send will be used to build a PET to be given to someone in need.

If you would like to sponsor a PET wheelchair in the amount of \$250 as a memorial, an honorarium, or a gift for a special occasion, we will gladly send a letter of recognition to that individual. It's the perfect gift for those that already have everything they need, and it's a gift that will change a life.

## Volunteer information

The Tampa PET workshop is open every Saturday from 9 AM - 3 PM and Thursdays 1:30 - 4:30 PM. Volunteers are needed to assist with packing (each PET includes about 30 pounds of clothing, toys, supplies, etc. that serve as the packing material), sorting, painting, assembly, woodworking and metal work. No prior experience is necessary, training is provided, and volunteers of all ages are welcome. There is a particular need for experienced welders. The oldest volunteer is 90 years old, and teenagers can fulfill their community service hours as well! Please note that anyone under age 15 requires adult supervision.

**For more information, or to donate good used or new clothing, supplies, toiletries, etc., contact:**

Jeff Sukup  
[director@pettampa.org](mailto:director@pettampa.org)  
813-677-3709

George Frazer  
[gmilo2@yahoo.com](mailto:gmilo2@yahoo.com)

### Workshop Location:

1109 E Osborne Ave, Tampa, FL 33603  
East of Nebraska on 12th Street at Osborne (just off I-275 in Tampa at the MLK exit). See map below.

### Workshop times:

Saturday 9 AM - 3 PM  
Thursday 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM  
Check the website for holiday hours.

Website: [www.pettampa.org](http://www.pettampa.org)

**In Memory of ...**  
**John Sukup, Jr.**  
a gift of two PETS has been  
generously donated by  
his loving wife Terri and family.

## PET Project Donation Slip

December 2008

Your donation to the PET ministry will provide someone with a whole new way of life.

Help raise a child or adult from the dirt to dignity with your gift.

**The cost of each PET, including materials, assembly and shipment, is \$250.**

Gifts of all amounts are accepted and appreciated! All donations are tax-deductible.

Please detach and return this form with your contribution.

Please accept my gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to the PET Workshop.

(Make checks payable to "PET Tampa, Florida" and mail to:

P.O. Box 2105, Tampa, FL 33601)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_