



# WHEELS FOR KIDS

501(c)(3)  
EIN: 45-4714911  
www.azwfk.org

*Providing bikes for youth in need since 2007.*

*In memory of  
Arlyn Kinkel*

To: Vistoso Cyclists

April 27, 2015

## Wheels for Kids Update

The Vistoso Cyclists (VC) bicycling club is the originator of Wheels for Kids (WFK) and has remained our largest supporter. Without you, Wheels for Kids would not exist.

Over the past couple of years, our organization has grown substantially. We currently have **35** volunteer mechanics, almost all from VC, as well as a number of volunteers performing other critical functions. As a result of your efforts, as of March 30, we have delivered 1421 bikes to various area charities since 2007.

*Like any growing organization, we have had some organizational changes:*

- Our recent email to those who indicated interest in WFK generated a number of *new volunteers*. Welcome! If you do not find your name on our organization chart, let me know!
- When our web site developer and maintainer, **Paul Pomeroy**, was tied up for personal reasons over much of last year, **Harvey Ferguson** stepped in to help maintain it. Is there anything this guy can't do?
- **Bob Faucett** had been doing a great job with the **Transportation** group. Unfortunately for us, he elected to move away. Fortunately for us, **Dick Shaffer** stepped up to lead the group. Also fortunately for us, **Tom Terfehr** volunteered to assist Dick by splitting the activity between pickups and deliveries. They are supported by a strong team as shown on the attached chart.
- **Jack Bona** has been working the Community Outreach effort virtually on his own since the program began and is responsible for most of our current supported charities. After eight years, we have been fortunate enough to get two other strong players, **Jim Elkan** and **Lisa Terfehr** on the team. Jack will remain a key player on the team and provide continuity. Jim will lead the team until he becomes President of VC next year. Lisa will be his understudy taking over when Jim leaves.
- Last but by no means least, **Sharon Heaps** has proven such a gifted **Fundraiser**, that we have asked her to do this full time. To enable that, we have taken over the **Treasurer responsibility**. Rick will handle it during the summer as we try to find someone as competent as Sharon to take over the function. Sharon has done a wonderful job over the past three years and can account for every penny spent or received!
- **Tom Meyer** is leading a Board committee on **succession planning**. None of us will be here forever and it is important that we have a program to ensure continuity in every office and on each committee.

## As we evolve, policy updates become necessary:

- When we first began, the **emphasis was totally on kid's bikes**. Obtaining sufficient donated kids bikes was a problem. As we grew, we established more contacts in the community and worked with our partners to generate an awareness of our operation in the community. A key factor was the development of a web site with capacity to accept financial donations and bike donations. As the inventory of bikes increased, we saw that they also increased in quality, but the donations included many adult or mid-sized bikes. As our deliveries increased in number, we also found a decreased demand for kid's bikes. Some of our charity partners (**Gospel Rescue, Ronald MacDonald House**, etc.) kept the bikes on hand for the revolving contingent of kids staying there temporarily. After the initial donations, they only occasionally needed replacements.
- At the same time, we recognized a growing need in our community for **adult bikes** of all types. We support young adults at **Youth On Their Own, Sisters Connection** helping women recently released from incarceration to begin anew, and **Refugee FOCUS** helping new immigrants and their families get established in the community. In addition, we have partnered with **Pima County, Perimeter Bicycling and Banner University Medical Center** to develop bicycle training programs at middle and high schools. All of these programs require support with an assortment of bike types and provide WFK with an outlet for almost all bike types collected.
- During the early days, we often found it necessary to **sell bikes to raise money for parts and supplies**. Most of these sales were within the VC community. We are fortunate in that financial donations have eliminated our need to sell bikes. We then faced an ethical issue concerning the propriety of selling bikes donated to help those in need within our community. We have therefore determined that the sale of bikes is no longer in accordance with our primary mission. The Board of Directors will retain the option to sell bikes in the future, but only in very unique situations.

## WFK operates under a few key principles:

- We remain an all volunteer operation. We will **not establish production goals or requirements** for our volunteers.
- While we seek to understand and meet our supported charities needs, we will **never guarantee a specific bike or quantity of bikes** because of the first principle.
- We minimize our overhead expenses and **do not spend what we do not have**.
- **We donate every bike received**. If it is not in reasonable condition to repair, we donate it to BiCAS, an organization that will use the parts, use them for a training platform or creates art from them.
- We **donate only through recognized charities**. We are not equipped to evaluate an individuals resources or need.
- While our basic purpose is to collect and repair bikes, when financially able, we will *purchase bikes* for training purposes and to meet anticipated requests.
- We will continue to develop our relationships to **generate free publicity**. Publicity is essential to the generate donations upon which our program depends.

Thank you for your continued support.

## WFK Organization Chart - April 27, 2015

Board of Directors							
President - Temp Treasurer	Rick Haupt						
VP & Founder	Dick Swain						
Fundraising	Sharon Heaps						
Recording Secretary	Harvey Ferguson		Several volunteers are doing multiple things... thus you will see their name more than once.				
Director at Large/Alternate	Tom Meyer/Jim Johnson						
Steering Committee							
Board of Directors	Rick Haupt	Dick Swain	Sharon Heaps	Harvey Ferguson	Tom Meyer	Jim Johnson	
Committee Leads	Jim Elkan	Tom Terfehr	Ernie Fisher	Dick Schafer			
Key Functions/Volunteers							
<i>Leads</i>							
Asset Mgt & Purchasing	Jack Melville						
POD Maintenance	Harvey Ferguson	John Johnston	Darcy Lewis				
Community Outreach	Jim Elkan	Lisa Terfehr	Jack Bona				
Bike Pickup & Delivery	Tom Terfehr (Pickup)	Bad Aaker	Fred Finney	Earl Cohen	Jim Elkan	Marv Jepsen	Karen Jepsen
	Dick Schafer (Delivery)	Bob Farmer	Dave Goodman	Darcy Lewis			
Fundraising	Sharon Heaps	Rick Haupt					
Web Development & Maint	Paul Pomeroy	Harv Ferguson					
Quality Control	Ernie Fisher	Dick Swain	Harv Ferguson				
Mechanic Training	Dick Swain	Harv Ferguson	Ernie Fisher				
Mechanics	Dick Swain	Bad Aaker	Dave Burnham	Jim Elkan	Rick Haupt	Phil Procida	Lee Taylor
	35	Ernie Fisher	John Johnston	Dick Schafer	Jack Melville	Tom Terfehr	Roe Erlanson
		Pierce Cornelius	Dennis Everson	Fred Finney	Bill Reeves	Dave Goodman	Paul Pomeroy
		Harv Ferguson	Tom Wakefield	John Beckman	Bob Mathers	Gary Ceard	Harold Grossman
		Wayne Cullop	Bob Wilman	Roger Paluska	George Pepelnjak	Dave Pauley	Tom Calder
		Darcy Lewis	Ron Bliss	Curt Jones	Rich Crocker		
Function to be Determined	Carol Jennings						

Rick Haupt, President