

Toys for God's Kids™

Turning scrap wood into smiles

OCTOBER 2015 NEWSLETTER



Last summer SmileMakers in Sioux Center, IA, took on a project to make 12 tumblers that tumble our cars prior to assembling them. The tumblers have sand paper glued to their interior. We put 50 cars in them for one hour to smooth the bodies. When we went looking for motors to power our tumblers, we went to Groschopp in Sioux Center who manufactures motors of all kinds. In our inquiry we found the motors they had were \$250+. and we thought it

was out of our budget range. As we left Ed Tullar said to us, "Let me see what I can do." An hour later Ed called and said Groschopp was going to donate the motors we needed. They brought their PR team to our shop and took pictures. Groschopp is a generous supporter who has also taken cars on their mission trips.

THANK YOU GROSCHOPP!



Gilbert Beekhuizen's family generously donated Gib's memorial funds to TFGKs for a new CNC machine. What is a CNC machine? If you are a woodworker, you may have a table saw, a drill press, a chop saw, a lathe, a router, a band saw, a joiner/planer, and a shaper in the shop. A CNC is a multi-purpose machine that can cut, drill, and shape in the same way as traditional tools. In loving memory of Gilbert Beekhuizen, TFGKs has a 'Gib's CNC' that is cutting, drilling, and shaping smiles.

THANK YOU to the BEEKHUIZEN FAMILY.



Don Clasen, Bob Kramer, and Wayne Wagener have been working with residents of Spectrum Retirement facility at Lincoln Meadows in Colorado. Once a month the residents put together cars. They have assembled over 2800 toy cars for distribution in over 130 countries. THANK YOU to everyone for working together for the children.



Duane Strand, Platte, SD, carefully selects his wood from Boyds generous lumber pile. Then the wood is cut and neatly stacked in his impeccably clean shop. Now the real fun begins for this active 82 year old as he spends three to five hours a day assembling cars. THANK YOU to DUANE and all Smilemakers as you play each day creating so many smiles.



Thank You From Pastor Ray Ramsburg in Honduras:

"I would like to thank John Chart and all the Smilemakers who provided the

cars for our Honduras mission trip. We distributed the cars during our children's ministry time where each child gets his/her hair washed after hearing the story of Christ. They were a great hit. We also took some to World Gospel Outreach's property in the mountains where the cast off children of Honduras are raised. The small ones there received the cars, and the rest were used for a VBS that was being held the following week. Thanks again".

God's

Blessing,

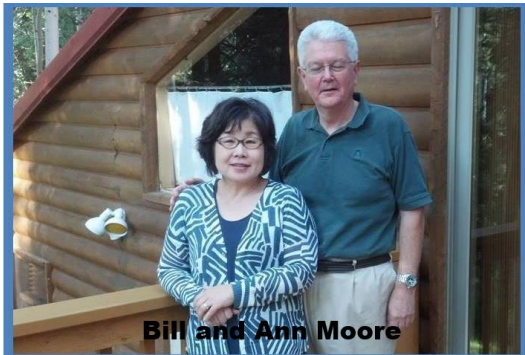
Ray Ramsburg

Pastor



Want to create memories with your grandkids this winter? Here is what Ed and Linda Berg from Garden City, Kansas, are doing ... working with their grandkids to complete 2,000+ cars for Operation Christmas Child.

I see future Smilemakers at play!



YCH (Yodogawa Christian Hospital) is a 600 bed Christian hospital in Osaka, Japan, with a children's hospice wing where TFGKs cars have been shared. Bill and Ann Moore are missionaries in Japan, where Bill is also a board member at YCH and Ann is President of YWCA in Kobe. Mike Hooper knows Bill & Ann through his work on the Missions Board. The Broomfield Smilemakers, Jerry Clark, Dick Lindemann, Bob Forrey, Jerry Williams, and Ollie Hux along with Mike made cars for both YCH and the YWCA. A thank you note from a staff person at YWCA writes, "Your toy cars have been donated to us through Mrs. Anne Moore, and we would like to express our gratitude for your effort and kindness. They are all well made and very heartwarming. We will make good use of these and hope to see lots of smiles. Thank you again for your generous support. We hope that your mission will make many children happy."

Cars getting passed out in the Dominican.

Thank You to Lee Stover with RISE Ministries



SHARING MY *blessings*

Virgil Houtkooper received a call from Jason Wiersma, Prison Chaplain in Mike Durfee Springfield SD Prison. Jason had asked the warden if inmates could assemble TFGKs cars. Now Virgil is going to bring a 200 car kit, and handicapped inmates are going to assemble them. The inmates realize they can be useful and make a difference in others' lives. We call this a Double Blessing!



Trifecta of Blessings for Judith Ruch, Coopersville, MI:

#1 A town near Judith Ruch recently acquired an old caboose as part of a museum project. Judith crafted a small wooden train with a caboose replica. She needed another five gallons of mineral oil so decided to sell her caboose as a fund raiser. To her surprise, she had an offer for the full train. She uses screw eyes for connectors, and while explaining the use to Doug Cleary with Larson Hardware, Rock Falls, IL, Doug generously shipped her screw eyes at no charge. **THANK YOU DOUG CLEARY and LARSON HARDWARE!**

#2 When Judith picked up a bench from DL Miller Woodworking in Shippshewanna, an Amish wood factory in Indiana, she talked about Toys For Gods Kids with owner Dave Miller. She gave Dave a small wooden car and inquired about scraps. Dave said to come back later. When she returned, Dave had cut three 12 foot white oak boards. **THANK YOU DAVE MILLER and DL MILLER WOODWORKING!**

#3 Ken Stevens, President of Superior Wood Products, Inc., generously

donated wood to Judith. Ken's son Ryan has traveled to Guatemala where he shared the TFGKs cars with local children. **THANK YOU KEN & RYAN STEVENS and SUPERIOR WOOD PRODUCTS, INC.**

THANK
YOU!



Cars were delivered by Walter Baker who has been going to HAITI for about 50 years.

Children attend a kid's club where the small cars bring joy and many smiles. Some of the girls detail

cars with nail polish.





Bill Wiersma received this THANK YOU from Don Ten Hoeve:

"Thanks again for the 50+ bags of cars provided for our ministries. I sent some with missionaries returning to Tanzania. I also sent some to Bolivia. The rest went to Malawi, Africa, with a team of 10 people. They were received warmly. The kids loved them and played with them constantly. Thanks for the time and effort that you and your friends put into each car. They truly put a smile on a lot of faces. May the Lord bless you as you continue to share His love through these beautifully crafted toys."



MONGOLIA

Ken Treiber, Smilemaker from Ft. Myers, FL, got hooked on building cars when his neighbor Bill Reiff told him about TFGKs. Before long the two grew to five. Now they build approximately 4,000 cars annually. They have also developed some awesome distribution channels that include missionaries, dentists and school builders. Dale and MaryAnn Louis took the picture in Mongolia while taking care of children's dental needs.



CUBA

Yes, you read it right!
Jose shares **TFGKs** cars with children in CUBA.



COSTA RICA

Jerry & Alyssa Postma state:
"Everyone wanted one. You have a great ministry."

CHECK OUT OUR NEW RIDE!

Four year ago, Marlin visited Chip Thiel who worked at Denver Woodworking to get some insight on CNC's. Last year we brought 17 boards and our logo to him and asked if he could make signs. After some meticulous painting, this is the handsome result.

Thank you CHIP THIEL for our beautiful new sign!



Something Stinks

Today, class, we will talk about Mineral Oil. I know, pretty exciting, but please restrain yourselves. Mineral oil is completely different from mineral spirits. We want to emphasize that because many of you have complained about the odors emanating from cars dipped in the mineral spirit/linseed oil mixture. In fact, I wonder if some of you have decided not to ask for more toys because of that odor. Perhaps you thought it was not safe for kids, or you just didn't want to deal with it.

Well, we have finally found a substitute.



Actually, we've known about mineral oil for some time but could only find it in small containers so the cost was prohibitive. That's changed due to some investigative work by Stan Vander Ploeg. We can get it for less than \$10 a gallon when we buy 300 gallons at a time and have a dock on which to receive the shipment. Russ Olson, owner of Paint & Lacquer Co., in Englewood, CO, is helping out with the dock. We've been testing it in Iowa and Michigan this summer. The cars look great and have the protection they need. So, our new motto is "No More Smell."

As some of us old timers know, mineral oil was used for kids suffering from constipation. It is without odor and has no taste. Woodworkers use it to finish salad bowls and other wood utensils. It's perfect for kids who like to chew on wheels. As an aside, it is still used for that constipation issue on large animals. That's a pretty picture. So those of you who just need several gallons a year might want to buy it at a farm supply store.

That's your lesson on mineral oil. Sorry I had to bore you with it, but now everyone, our Smilemakers, our Smile Distributors, and all of you who help transport cars around the country can ride in the same vehicle as the toys. Thanks to all of you

and keep up the good fun!

Welcome to
amazonsmile

You shop. Amazon gives.

FRIENDLY REMINDER:

We encourage everyone to log on to Amazon and make sure you find **Amazon Smile**. There you can designate TFGK as the organization to receive contributions based on your purchases. All Amazon contents are available on **Amazon Smile**.

[Click here and get connected to the Amazon Smile Program](#)

Please share with your family as well. The more we use TFGK as the portal for Amazon shopping, the more children we reach.

“OUR HATS OFF “

Thank You to our generous suppliers!
You make it possible for us to operate as Smilemakers.



Eastern Time Zone

Central Time Zone

Mountain Time Zone

Pacific Time Zone

Coastline Shutter Corp - FL

Florida Stairworks & Carpentry, LLC - FL

Mach 5 Supply LLC - MA

Naples Shutter - FL

Boyds Gunstocks - SD

DL Miller Woodworking - IN

Groschopp, Inc. - IA

Larson Hardware - IL

Randy Van Nate Farms - IA

Superior Wood Products, Inc. - MI

All American Stair Company - CO

Austin Hard Woods, Inc.- CO

Chateau Shutter - CO

High Country Millwork - CO

Legacy Builder - UT

Woodley's - CO

BrandNew Industries, Inc. - CA

Colony Products - CA

Glacier Moldings - WA

Please share our newsletter with family, relatives, and church friends.

Questions or comments?

Email us at

MarlinD@ToysForGodsKids.org