



# Post Harvest

## Proving Perpetual Pedal Power Project Progresses

Over the years it has been recognized by many field observers that a better method of powering our grinders 'must be found'. Many individual projects and prototypes have been designed and some built. Most of these designs focused upon some variation of bicycle power. Many of our engineers felt that these variations on the theme were not sustainable in rural communities. With the recent return of Kathleen Graham from Kenya and Diego Bonta from Uganda, both of whom reiterated the need for more human power, new life was breathed into the project.

A team of volunteers, led by Erv Lentz, has completed the construction of a simple device for using leg power to drive our Omega VI grinder. This frame, made of wood and fasteners is designed to allow an individual to remain seated (semi-recumbent) while they do their work. Using a direct drive coupling, a cranking rate of 60 rpm can be maintained. The fabricated steel crank is designed in such a way that a flywheel may be attached to the end opposite the grinder. Erv and his team are looking for suggestions for improvement, so please drop into The Shop, try it out and let Erv know your thoughts. Great progress guys!



Now, onto MECHANICAL power!

## New Committee Formed

The CTI Board of Directors has formed a new committee, the Program Operations Committee, to help direct and monitor all of CTI's many program areas. This committee consists of two Board members, two CTI staff, the four chairs of the CTI operational committees (Africa, Americas, Asia, and Technology), and the Executive Director as the non-voting Chair. This Committee plays a key role in determining the budget for programmatic activities; advising the Board on Program matters; monitoring projects; and is the main communications conduit between and among volunteers, staff, and Board.

## Thank You Volunteers

*Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has. — Margaret Mead, anthropologist*

April 15-22, 2007 is National Volunteer Week. Sponsored by the Points of Light Foundation & Volunteer Center National Network, National Volunteer Week began in 1974 when President Richard Nixon signed an executive order establishing the Week as an annual celebration of volunteering. Every President since has signed a proclamation promoting National Volunteer Week. Compatible Technology International thanks each of our volunteers for the commitment and dedication to helping to create a world in which all people have adequate nutritious food and clean water. All our volunteers make a difference. But if you have observed a volunteer doing something extraordinary or just want to recognize a particular volunteer in this newsletter, please send your accolades to [Anne-Marie](#) for inclusion in a future issue.

Since our last appeal for specialized volunteers, Mic Dahlberg and Lee Wenzel have spent several happy hours putting the finishing touches on our grinders, making them ready for shipment and also doing some of the preassembly manufacturing. Many thanks, guys, finished inventory is now truly FINISHED! We will soon be ready to do the final modifications to our



Ewing III grinders and then to start assembling them, so please come forward if you have any spare time to help. Thank you to Brigitte Blesi for making the beautiful black table skirts for our display area. Thank you to Karen Johnston and her staff at Preferred Adventure Travel for putting return address labels with our new address on nearly 4000 envelopes. And finally, thank you, Ryan Allen, for stepping up to chair the Water Team.

### **Program Director Moves On**

Jenni Amundson who has been CTI's Program Director for the past 2½ years has moved on to a position with the City of Minneapolis. Her new position, Community Engagement Coordinator, helps City departments incorporate community input into their plans and activities. We wish Jenni all the best in this new venture!

### **Program Coordinator Position Open**

Within the next week we will be posting a new, part-time staff position. The Program Coordinator supports the varied programmatic areas of Compatible Technology International. This includes supporting the organizational activities of the Asia, Africa and Americas committees. This position will be a vital part of a small office environment and will be expected to assist with any and all aspects of running the office. No travel is required. This position will also assist the accountant with bookkeeping.

If you are interested in this position or know of someone who is please contact [Bruce](#) or pass this along to them. A complete description will be on our [website](#).

### **Website Update**

We are in the process of soliciting volunteers to help us revamp our website. We have received responses from several individuals through VolunteerMatch.com. Please let us know if there is something specific you would like to see included in the new website, so we can incorporate what is important to all of you. Please send your suggestions to [Anne-Marie](#).

### **CTI Logo Wear Available**



Do you need a new spring jacket or perhaps a cap or golf shirt? We have just the thing for you. There is a full range of products from denim shirts to golf shirts and coffee mugs to caps. You will be supporting Compatible Technology International with your purchase, as we will receive 20% of the purchase price of all products (not including tax and shipping). We have a sample of a denim shirt in the office if you'd like to see one before ordering and a full color catalog if you'd like a better depiction of colors available. You can even personalize your selection for an additional \$5. There is a link on the Compatible Technology International website or you can go to the website directly from here: <http://compatibletech.fundnetstore.com>.

### **Meeting Date Reminders**

Committee meetings provide opportunities to hear more about some of the work happening in each region or even a chance to get your hands dirty at the technology committee. You might also learn more about a project that interests you specifically and find new ways to engage in CTI projects. All meetings are held at the CTI office (directions are on the website) and anyone is invited, meaning you're welcome to come even if you aren't a committee member!

<b>America Committee</b>	May 14 <sup>th</sup> – 4:30-6pm (2nd Monday of every other month)
<b>Africa Committee</b>	May 8 <sup>th</sup> – 4:30-6pm (2nd Tuesday of every month)
<b>Asia Committee</b>	May 17 <sup>th</sup> – 3:30-5pm (3rd Thursday, every other month)
<b>Technology Committee</b>	April 21 <sup>st</sup> and May 19 <sup>th</sup> – 9-11:30am (3rd Saturday of every month)
<b>Board of Directors*</b>	April 17th – 4:30 pm (3rd Tuesday every other month)

\*Please contact Board President [Rob Scarlett](#) if you would like to attend the board meeting.

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### **Compatible Technology International Staff**

Bruce Humphrys	<i>Executive Director</i>	<a href="mailto:bruce@compatibletechnology.org">bruce@compatibletechnology.org</a>
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