

Baird Congo Journal #13—Loosing the Chains of Injustice Together—Baird Family Ministries

Return Date to Congo, March 27th. Wow! In only 9 wks we depart for Bukavu! Our biggest news—the Baird family along with Ed and Brenda Buell has been approved by the board of ACM International to send a **20 foot Cargo Container** to Bukavu.

Why Send a Container? The price to send one extra 50 lb bag on a flight is now \$200.00, a method that is way too expensive for sending extra items. We are asking you to please partner with us in this project which will provide such items as backpacks and tennis shoes for the Yatima (orphan) School Ministry; cases of NIV Paperback Bibles for teaching English and Spiritual Growth, along with Ministry Needs for Bob and tools to fix everything☺

Date for Shipping Container --Beginning of March: Of course, this depends on the availability of a shipper and how soon we are able to purchase the container, etc. We would like to have funds to buy the container as soon as possible and the items to pack in it by the 3rd week or so of February.

Funds for Container: To purchase, pay shipping and pay customs on a 20 foot container is approx. **\$8,000.00** per family. Please send funds for this project to our Forwarding Agents at the following address (any excess funds would go toward items in container or customs):

Tim and Theresa McGee
1326 N. Kankakee Street
Lincoln, IL 62656

Please write “**Container**” in the Memo Line:

Baird Family Yatima School Ministry (44 Yatima now – that number will surely increase):

1. New or gently used Backpacks for boys and for girls of all ages.
2. New or gently used Tennis Shoes and ankle socks for boys and girls of all ages.
3. Pens, Pencils, Rulers, Compass (for Math) Also, some of same the items for Teaching and Office use listed below.

The Congo government has declared it wants to include English as an official language and has made it law that English must be taught in all schools. Almost all Elementary and High Schools are now administrated by churches at the government’s request. Dawn and Congolese Teachers are forming an *English Language Program* for the Restoration Movement Schools in the Bukavu area. The Bible and Christian books will be the primary texts for most English language lessons. Materials needed are for training English teachers, for classroom supplies, and for starting a **Library**:

1. 100 cases of NIV Paperback Bibles – 24/case. \$65.00 for Bibles and shipping.
2. Binders, Page Protectors, Spiral Notebooks (70 pages), Pens, Pencils, Pencil sharpeners, Coloring books, Markers, Construction paper, Scissors.
3. White Boards, Dry Markers, Erasers and Easels
4. **For a Library:** Used books (good condition) Children’s, Christian literature and novels, textbooks, Atlases, Dictionaries, Bible Dictionaries and Concordances (inappropriate books will be donated to local Thrift Stores).
5. World Maps, Maps of Africa, Posters for teaching the alphabet, colors, body parts, etc.

Elizabeth's Ministry, Rape Survivor Children (some needs overlap with Dad and Mom's):

1. Craft Items of All Kinds; VBS Material- Especially large plain pictures for ease of student understanding; Flannel Graph with Characters
2. Construction Paper, Coloring Books and Crayons, Markers, Stickers, Stick-on Letters and Animals, etc. – these may be found in Wal-Mart or Dollar Stores.
3. Children's scissors, 70 pg Spiral Notebooks, Pens, Pencils
4. Sturdy White Folding Tables – mid-size
5. Hand-Sanitizer, Wipes (with alcohol and without – Equate, Wal-Mart is least expensive

If it is convenient, could you email to us the items you are donating so we can determine items that are still needed. Should you have any extra boxes or plastic packing containers of any size to contribute, we would appreciate that too!

Bob's Tools and Office Supply (please let us know if you are sending these items so that we may let other partners know that they may be crossed off the list – thank you):

1. Square -drive screws (multiple sizes) and square-drivers used to screw them in.
2. Set of large and small variety of Screw Drivers.
3. Dewalt (or comparable brand please) battery operated screw driver with 2 batteries and one charger with multiple drivers.
4. Dewalt battery operated, hand-held saw – one battery and charger
5. Set of Chisels, Set of Files
6. Sandpaper (variety), Paint brushes (all sizes), Paint Rollers/extra roller pads, Caulk
7. Good Varnish – any color on sale
8. Sturdy Wheel-Barrow, Hedge clippers, Rake, Sturdy shovels
9. Folding Ladders, Extension Ladders
10. Computer Paper, Printer Cartridges for Kodak ESP 3200 - black/white and color

Thanks so much for your contributions to this project. Please email and let us know if you have items that we may come and collect. We will organize a Collection Day in the 3rd or 4th week of February, so money is not wasted on paying postage.

For the Lion of Judah, *Bob, Dawn and Elizabeth*

PS Should you have a small used **4-Wheel Drive Vehicle** in good condition to donate to the work in Congo, we will drive it into the container and pack other items in and around it.

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dbaird@acminternational.com

Serving With:

ACM International

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