



Relief for Human Need Worldwide

WINTER 2011 - WHATS HAPPENING!
ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN
MID ATLANTIC DIVISION

"I WILL NOT LEAVE YOU AS ORPHANS, I WILL COME TO YOU" John 14:18

A lot is happening with the Mid Atlantic Division. Come and join us in the excitement and joy of helping those in need. We have a great group of volunteers to work with and share the joy of giving time and talents.

The October Auction was successful again, although not as successful as we would like. The Sheraton Hotel in Frazer, PA went overboard with the food and set up. Mashed potatoes in a cocktail glass with toppings and apple crisp for desert kept the people going. The Sheraton promises something better yet for next year. Save the date—October 16, 2011, at the Sheraton Hotel Rte 202 and Rte 30. With a Thrivent contribution we made over \$10,000. That will pay for most of our warehouse rent for the year.

The "Unfashion Fashion Show" at Concordia in Wilmington, DE was another fun evening. Clothing which was given to us for shipment to the needy was used for the "Unfashion Fashion Show" and then sent back to the warehouse for packing. If you want to see some of the "fashionable items modeled go to www.stjohnsdover.com/fashion.html. The models volunteered their time and talents and the offering was beyond expectations.

Shipments of clothing and household items have gone to Lutheran Social Services in Caldwell, Ohio. Mary Woodward does an outstanding job of managing the Outreach Ministries and Disaster Response programs there. Here are some of the statistics from 2010: 10,408 households, totaling 20,839 individuals, were served, \$75,610 worth of in-kind donations were provided to families in need, 103 homes in southeast Ohio were repaired and maintained through 12 servant events, 5,365 backpacks and school kits were distributed to the very poor children, more than 5000 children received Christmas gifts, 1,171 children and adults received dental kits. That is just a portion of the work that is carried out under Mary Woodward's watchful and loving eye.

Mary is not only interested in helping those in need but also is doing research on "Decoding Poverty". Why do some people in that area of the world remain in poverty and how can they be encouraged to change their situation? Hopefully this will allow her to

see how to better serve the needy in that area. Want to help Mary? How about a Mission Trip or Servant Event to the Appalachian area of the US? Call Mary at 740-732-6700 to arrange a Servant Event for your youth etc, which will have a lasting effect on all involved.

Our first shipment went to Haiti. Included in it was clothing, medical supplies, including a dental x-ray machine and some food. Our next container is scheduled for May. In this one we will have over 3000 pair of flip-flops, medical equipment, clothing and food. One interesting item will be Pillowcase Dresses made by many "Seamstresses" in the area. We are hoping for 1000 (one thousand) of these dresses for the young girls in Haiti who have very little. Get in on the act! The pattern and all instructions are available on line. E-mail me at kraftcm1@verizon.net and I will send complete information and the pattern to you. Individuals, LWML, congregations, schools and Girl Scout Troops are just some of those involved. The girls in Haiti can use all that we can ship. Come join in the joy of providing a dress for a girl in Haiti!

More individuals and congregations are becoming involved in Orphan Grain Train. Even so we continually need more items to sort and pack, and of course more volunteers to sort and pack. The faster we get clothing into boxes the sooner we can ship to those in need to show the love of Jesus to the needy.

Every Friday from 9 to 12 we sort and pack at our Wilmington warehouse. If that is not a convenient time, and you have a number of people, we can possibly arrange to have the warehouse open for your convenience. The packing area is heated and air conditioned making for comfortable conditions. The sorting area has less heat and might become chilly at times. Some prefer one area and some prefer another.

For warehouse directions and information please contact Roger Hazzard, Warehouse Manager at 1-302-883-1760.

Lest I forget, and you wonder, we always are in the need of funds. The warehouse rent and utilities and shipping are our main expenses. Shipping can take a large amount out of our budget. We also will be purchasing some food items for Haiti to go on our next shipment there. Purchasing food items is a challenge, especially when we try to get the best prices to allow us to purchase larger quantities.

It is only through volunteers that we are able to operate the warehouse, sort, pack, purchase some food and ship all of the items to the needy. Those who have either come to the warehouse or contributed in some other fashion are exceedingly joyful in the time and effort spent. Some congregations gather and sort and pack at their church- if they have the space. Others gather and bring the items to the warehouse. Some congregations do fund raisers of many different sorts. They may do a "fashion show", dinner, BBQ or a yard sale. There are many ways to help and help others both domestically and internationally.

Have a look at the Orphan Grain Train web site www.ogt.org and get acquainted. Call Cliff Kraft at 610 420 0380 and let's talk about what or how you might become involved, or if you have any suggestions.

Most important, we would appreciate your daily prayers for guidance and direction. All we want to do is what He wants us to do.

Blessings to you!

To God Alone Be The Glory!

Cliff Kraft

1/20/2011