

Orphan Grain Train †

Relief for Human Need Worldwide

OGT Spotlight

Rocky Mountain Branch

David Orth has served as Orphan Grain Train (OGT) Branch Manager as well as Warehouse Manager of our Rocky Mountain Branch since January 2023. Previously he had served as our Assistant Warehouse Manager for approximately eighteen months.

Branch Manager and Branch History

David grew up in Ogallala, NE and worked side by side with his father and brother Dennis in the Culligan Water business located in Ogallala,



NE. and Julesburg, CO. which business they now own and operate. His first recall of Orphan Grain Train was when an OGT volunteer from Julesburg asked

his Father if he could use one of their Culligan trucks to collect and transport a large OGT donation to Julesburg, which request occurred in the late 1990s. He moved to Julesburg in 2005 and through his church family and a close friendship with Rex and Louann Nicolaus, who were instrumental, along with Carol and Heinz Piehl in creating our Rocky Mountain Division, he became involved in the mission work of OGT by assisting with numerous fish fries and brat feeds. In the fall of 2005, the Colorado vision split. The east half became the Rocky Mountain Division, and the west half became Colorado West. Today, Julesburg is known as the Rocky Mountain Branch.

In the year 2001 we began collecting clothing in a rent-free retired John Deere warehouse which had no heat, no restrooms, and earthen floors. Very uncomfortable working conditions, but our volunteers were energetic and determined to sustain. In the fall of 2007, after months of applying for and securing numerous grants, having land gifted to us and an interest free loan from an individual, who had a depth of genuine feelings for the mission work of OGT, we built and dedicated our new and current warehouse. This warehouse construction loan was forgiven by his family at the time of the donor's death. To-date we are open each Wednesday and Saturday morning from 9:00 am to noon and average approximately thirty volunteers each month.



Mission Accomplishments

One of the many highlights for David was in March 2022 when he received an email from OGT requesting certain humanitarian supplies needed for their first shipment to Ukraine. David shared this need with his faithful Sterling, CO volunteers and these ladies went to work. Within less than a week seven pickup loads arrived at our warehouse. All donations were transferred to a U-Haul trailer and a couple of our volunteers personally delivered them to Norfolk, NE, a 350-mile trip, on the requested designated date.

David relates that his volunteers and family never cease to amaze him. In the fall of 2023, our Branch was asked to present a program at an LWML meeting in North Platte, NE. In preparation for such his sister-in-law completed the poster included in the pictures below which provided OGT's statistical information for their fiscal year ending May 2023. This poster was again displayed at our annual fund-raising brats feed held in July 2023 following the Phillips County Fair in Holyoke, CO and as part of our exhibit booth at the Rocky Mountain LWML convention held in Greeley, CO the first week of June 2024, where our Branch was a recipient of their ingathering. This ingathering included Teacher and Student Kits as well as new underwear and socks for all ages. Such a blessing!

Another heartwarming event for David is when we make shipments. Since January 2023 we have made three international shipments and via OGT several domestic shipments to the Ysleta Mission in El Paso, TX. To-date our Branch has made over 120 international shipments.



In the fall of 2023, our Branch did a mass mailing which highlighted our accomplishments and special events for the previous two-year period including shipments. We did not ask for monetary gifts but instead related our need from additional volunteers. Since then, we have had several groups and volunteers drive more than 300 miles to our warehouse to sort and pack.

David's Culligan Water business is very demanding, so he relies heavily on his OGT Board Members and Volunteers to daily assist him with accomplishing his tasks as Branch/Warehouse Manager. We are family at the OGT warehouse in Julesburg, CO.

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