


*Shipment Headed For Latvia Wednesday, June 24, Arrived August 10 and distributed.*

**Still Searching for Next Year's Warehouse. See "Changes Coming" Page 4.**

## Branch Manager's Report

Rob Hall, our Branch Manager, attended the OGT International Convention September 11-12, and the Managers' Meetings.

While there Rob had some private time with Grant Schmidt, Peter Gnan, Ralph Schmidt & Tom Watson. They chose Wednesday, September 30 for their visit to us to discuss how to do fund raising for purchasing a facility and what to do in the meantime. They will review the local market. Our branch officers will meet with them at the warehouse that day.

The official OGT Board Meeting was Friday morning. They reported that they finally found legal ways to have people carry in the needed $30,000 per quarter to support Hannah House in Russia, which is administered by local ministries. They accept people aging out of orphanages from 16-18 years old and support them until they are 23, or in some cases, 26. A side note: Pastors in Russia are required to pray for victory in the war on Ukraine but prohibited from praying for peace.

OGT is known as a second responder to disasters, with most of the 165 domestic loads in the US being disaster relief supplies.

Branches are not allowed to sell any items donated. It violates our 501c3 status. Our Conflict of Interest form precludes any of our volunteers from receiving materials or finances from our functions.

Carmen Wolfe, inventory manager, notes that they have facilities to wash and dry underwear so that it can be packed with clothing. The basic standard is that if clothing is provocative it is not distributed. There are no documented standards.

The Managers did a team building exercise where they made over 300 hygiene kits in 15 minutes.

Branches were encouraged to identify a sponsor to support spots on Christian radio; send press releases to local publications; use social media; get high school and college youth groups to volunteer.

8.8 million meals were distributed in the last year. Of the 125 international shipments, 60 were done by branches, of which we did 3 (5%).

Norfolk is considering revising the OGT logo.■

## National Assistance continues

OGT has incredible outreaches both nationally and globally. September 3 they delivered another load of fence posts to Hyannis, NE to assist farmers rebuilding fencing destroyed by the fires in Nebraska last March. And they continue to supply hay to feed the cattle in drought stricken areas in New Mexico. Check the website ogt.org to see the varied efforts of their many branches.■

## Our recycling efforts

Did you ever wonder what on earth we do with the items we cannot send?

- Cardboard boxes get recycled at the warehouse
- Unusable Plastic Bags get recycled at Giant
- Useable Plastic Bags are put to use to line our trash cans, bag our pass thru items and are available to volunteers to take as needed. The white kitchen size bags are a popular choice.
- Blankets, sheets or towels we cannot use go to the SPCA or a vet.
- Some decorated bags go to Encore.
- Any XXLarge clothing and clothing with USA emblems or US flags along with any camouflage material are saved to ship within the US, often to The Christian Appalachian Project in Kentucky or State Line Baptist Church in Rising Sun, MD or Mission Santa Maria in Avondale, PA.
- The Pass Through Bags are taken to the Salvation Army and/or Friendship House in Wilmington (part of the Clothing Bank of DE).
- Household items and "odds and ends" are shared with Hope on Deck in Newark, DE.
- Tee shirts without seams, that we cannot use, are saved for John Hollinger who makes colorful jump ropes with them.
- Used socks that we cannot send go to Code Purple at St. Johns Lutheran Church.
- Mike takes jewelry to a rummage sale to benefit a woman's shelter.
- Battery powered toys go to Manna Ministries of New London Baptist Church which tests and repairs them and shares them with those coming to their food bank.
- Any overflow of handicapped equipment goes to the Lions Club.
- Medical equipment we don't need goes to Project Cure.
- Others receiving from us: Habitat for Humanity, Lutheran Community Services, Mosaic DE, ND Temple of Prayer, Neighborhood Services Center, Refugia de Esperanza, STAR Foundation, Sunday Breakfast Mission, Urban Promise.■

## Community Connections

On Saturday, October 10 from Noon-4:00 pm we will have a table at the Penn Township Fall Fair, which is a huge community event. Contact Rob Hall or Mary Lou McKee if you can be available to help greet those who stop by our table.

*Certificates of Appreciation.*




Rob Hall and Mary Lou McKee presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Nick Legere and Lynn Pagan honoring the support we have received from the Jennersville YMCA. Their ongoing assistance in collecting goods for distribution is so appreciated. Last year they had a special drive for blankets, sheets, and towels, which was most successful.■

## News Tidbits—Did you know?

- Roger Hazzard has been an MAB volunteer since the beginning of our Branch.
- The banner for our Newsletters was created by Carla Niesen.
- Tom Fuesler has been repairing and rebuilding the bicycles we send.
- Grace Hollinger, Barbara Vail, Sharon Fox and the LWML Macungie women have been major donors of their handmade quilts.
- A group of women from Cochranville and another group from St. John's Lutheran Church in Dover regularly make and donate lovely pillowcase dresses.■

## 3 More Shipments Sents

June 24 we sent another shipment to Latvia for Pastor Eisaks Evangelical Lutheran Church in Pampali, to distribute. They do that so very well! They are finding good use for the 1100 boxes of clothing, shoes, bedding, toys and school supplies, Bibles and hymnals, plus 200 pieces of medical equipment and bicycles. That shipment was received on August 10.






The second shipment is enroute to Margibi County, Liberia where Pastor Kollie will share it with Lutheran AID Ministries, Good Shepherd Church & School and Bee Liberia. Lots of extra hands helping! It shipped on August 5.



The third shipment, our first to Romania, shipped Wednesday, Sept. 16, including 1230 boxes plus medical equipment, school supplies and toys for Charity Foundation for the Blind in Suceava and Bucharest.■




## Board Members are Active



Sandra O'Hedy attended the NJ District LWML Convention this summer and had the opportunity to speak to the whole group as well as having a table display for MAB. Susan Bell also attended.

Rich Gruenhagen attended the Eastern District LWML Convention in Lancaster in June. Thanks to both for sharing the MAB story.■

## Boscov's Friends Helping Friends

**FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS** fund raiser will take place at all Boscov's Department Stores on Wednesday, October 21, 2026 from 8am-11pm. You can get your discount pass from many OGT MAB volunteers. For a $5.00 donation you receive a shopping pass that gives you 25% off most items in the store or online. A good time to start Christmas shopping! –Sandra O'Hedy ■

## Changes Coming

We are currently still receiving donations from individuals and those groups that normally support us. While we continue searching for a warehouse, we are preparing to exit our current location. After October 31 we will temporarily not be receiving donations until we find a location we can use.

We hope to schedule shipments to move as much of our inventory as possible. What is left we can send to the Maryland Branch to ship out.

We are postponing our normal **Fall Matching Fund Drive** until we find our way forward for collecting, sorting, packing and storing in 2027.■

Relief for Human Need Worldwide

Recognized Service Organization of The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

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**Warehouse**:
8 Federal Road
West Grove, PA 19390

**Hours of Operation:**
Wednesday, 10:00—2:30
Saturday, 9:00—1:30

**Warehouse Manager**
Rob Hall
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484-459-9217

*Our Mission Statement*

In loving response to Christ the Servant, the Orphan Grain Train movement encourages and enables God's people to share personal and material resources in bringing Christ's name and character to needy people, both far and near.

*Mid-Atlantic Branch Purpose*

To build a Christ-centered team who can use their God-given talents to be a blessing to others through their service in the Mid-Atlantic Branch of Orphan Grain Train, fulfilling the Mission Statement of the OGT movement.

Genesis 12:3 - "I will bless those who bless you … and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

***"I will not leave you as orphans, I will come to you." John 14:18***

## MAB BOARD MEMBERS

**Rob Hall, Branch Manager**
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**Roger Hazzard, Warehouse Manager**
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**Tom Fuesler, Inventory Manager**
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## what's AHEAD...

**Divine Direction is Charting MAB's Course –** the Lord led us to our Jennersville warehouse and now we need His continued leading as we face the need to leave our current space by November, 2026. **Please join us in prayer** for His wisdom, provision and guidance .

We need a minimum of 3,000 sq ft if renting, 10,000 sq ft if buying, with preference of location being southeastern Chester County, or possibly another safe neighborhood near the PA-DE state line. It is not necessary to be on a main road. Preferred specifics: rest rooms, a heated facility, access to a break room, office space, drive in donor accessibility, a loading dock suitable for 53' semi-trailers, and parking for at least 12 vehicles.

If you have any leads or know of any warehouses that might be available, contact Rob Hall rob.hall.OGT@gmail.com or (484) 459-9217. ■

*To God alone be the Glory!*