



Orphan Grain Train †

Good Tidings

News -for and about -
OGT Maryland

May, 2026

Dear Suzie,

Volunteer Picnic

On April 18th, over 70 volunteers and guests enjoyed an afternoon of fun, food, and fellowship at Wayne Gerst's home in Severna Park. The weather could not have been more perfect, the food was delicious, and everyone appeared to have a great time! Many thanks to Wayne and Faye for opening up their home and beautiful grounds to our volunteers!



Ron Phipps Honored at Picnic

Ron Phipps was presented with a citation thanking him for his many years of volunteer service and leadership at the Maryland Branch of the Orphan Grain Train. Presenting the award is Anthony Rodriguez, our current Assistant Branch Manager of Operations and Elfie Eberle, our founder and first Branch Manager and current Ambassador to OGT. Ron served as the Assistant Branch Manager from 2008 until 2022. The back of the warehouse where all of the donations are stored will now be known as the "Ron Phipps Warehouse"!

Shipment to Appalachia

On April 23rd we loaded a shipment to Hazel Green Food Project (HGFP), Hazel Green, Kentucky. As a reminder, HGFP sits in one of the poorest counties in all of Appalachia. We loaded winter and summer clothes for men, women, and children; plus-sized clothes; linens including those marked specifically for Appalachia; medical equipment and hygiene supplies; soft toys; sewing machines; and more. This totaled 1,227 pieces and weighed 21,920 lbs.





Making its way back to Appalachia!

Included in this shipment was a sewing machine donated by Heidi Hawkins in honor of her mother who recently passed away. Heidi wrote "Sally Wood (Mom) died at 91 years old and would be so happy that her beloved sewing machine would go to anyone who could use it, but especially where she was raised in northwestern NC, Appalachia." We were happy to honor Sally Wood by including her machine in this shipment! While we were unable to send the machine to NC, it did make its way to Appalachia!

Distribution of Humanitarian Aid

The weekend after our truck arrived, these donations were distributed to the community of Hazel Green (and surrounding area) via their Food Bank! Our local contacts pass on their most sincere thanks and I want to share their quotes:

"That stuff [on board the truck] was amazing! Everything was gone by dark. It was such a blessing. We could never thank you enough."

"The toys are special! We limit the kids to 1 toy and they always go fast! Thank you for sending those."

"We are getting overwhelmed with people asking for those walkers and potty chairs. That was a major help."

While it is hard to imagine, there is still abject poverty in the county of Hazel Green, KY, as well as most of Appalachia. While no single shipment will ever solve such deep poverty, we continue to do our best to help the people of Appalachia. For we all know, what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters, we do for our Savior, Christ Jesus! Amen!





Warehouse Grounds Gets Facelift

On April 25th, a group of enthusiastic and motivated young adults from the Lighthouse Church in Glen Burnie came to the warehouse to work on the grounds. They moved 15 cubic yards of mulch in under two hours! That has to be a record! Our warehouse grounds have never looked so good. We certainly appreciate their hard work and dedication and hope to see them around the warehouse again sometime soon!



More Lighthouse Volunteers!

Mike and Debbie Wasem, OGT volunteers, brought their small bible study group from the Lighthouse Church in Glen Burnie to our warehouse on the evening of April 22nd. After watching a short video about OGT, they sorted and packed clothes. The group enjoyed learning about OGT and the services it provides to the less fortunate here in the United States, as well as across the world. We hope to see these volunteers around the warehouse again, donating items and/or volunteering their time. Thanks to Mike and Debbie for introducing their friends to the Orphan Grain Train.

Feminine Hygiene Project Update

We have a wonderful and very dedicated group of volunteers that sew the different components of the Feminine Hygiene Kits. While all of their hard work is needed and greatly appreciated, we also have some lessons-learned and now realize that some changes are needed as we move forward.



It is really important that all of the components are sewn to specifications to ensure consistency and uniformity. Unfortunately, some contributors are having difficulty with portions of the instructions, so we have decided to schedule a Training Session on Monday, June 1st, at the warehouse, as both a refresher for existing partners and for new sewers who may be interested in joining this mission.

If you are interested in attending this training session on June 1st, please contact Wendy Preslan at wendy@goodneighborsgroup.org. Wendy will be available that day from 1:00 until 4:00 and will hold three or four shorter sessions during that time period. There will be no need for you to spend the entire three hours, as you will be assigned a specific time to attend based on what works best for you.

Thank you for your continued support of our Feminine Hygiene Project!

Animals Take Over the Warehouse!



OGT sends a loud shout out to the students and staff of Benfield Elementary School in Severna Park who recently donated a LARGE carload of gently-loved stuffed animals. No one bothered to count, but let's just say they filled 43 boxes. Most of those boxes were included in the shipment that was sent to Appalachia last month and can be seen in several of the photos above. They undoubtedly brought big smiles to children who have very few toys to call their own. Special thanks to Cindy Wrye, school guidance counselor, who oversaw this project and delivered the stuffed animals to our warehouse.

Dine-In or Carry-Out at Cafe Mezzanotte



CAFÉ

MEZZANOTTE

Wednesday, May 27

4:00-9:00 p.m.

760 Ritchie Highway,

Severna Park

410-647-1100 –

www.cafemezz.com

CAFÉ MEZZANOTTE

Fundraiser

15% of sales (dine-in and carry-out)

will benefit

Orphan Grain Train †

Street Survivors Cruise Night June 26th to Benefit OGT



The Street Survivors Car Club of Maryland holds Cruise Nights every Friday evening from April through October at the East Park Shopping Center, 7900 Crain Highway in Glen Burnie. Their Cruise Night on Friday, June 26th, will benefit OGT Maryland! Admission is free. We will be having several fundraising events throughout the evening, including a Chinese Auction, a bake sale, and a 50/50 raffle. The Flying Kiwi Ice Cream truck will be there featuring their New Zealand style ice cream. YUM! Thanks to Mike and the entire car club for partnering with us to help raise money to support our OGT mission!

Cherry Blossom and Cheery Breeze

On March 28th, we were invited to have our display table at the Crofton Cherry Blossom Festival. The breezy wind and chilly temperature meant our volunteers had to bundle up and also make an occasional catch and grab for the display board! However, the tree blossoms were in wonderful bloom, and we were thankful to be part of this special event. Thank you to Jim Harvey, event coordinator, and his team for welcoming us.



A Friendly Reminder re: Medical Supplies

We receive many donations of medical supplies each week. Thanks to everyone who has contributed. Just a friendly reminder Before donating these items, please check the expiration dates. We are not allowed to ship any medical supplies that have already expired. Also, things we do NOT accept include the following: prescription drugs, liquids (including tube feeding formula) and C-Pap machines.

REFLECTION FOR TODAY

Trust in the LORD
with all your heart,
and do not lean on your own
understanding.
In all your ways
acknowledge him,
and he will make straight
your paths.

Proverbs 3:5-6

JOIN US IN PRAYER

Please remember our OGT community in your prayers!

- Our Volunteers
- Our Donors and Supporters
- Recipients of our humanitarian aid



Continue to pray for our brothers and sisters in Ukraine and in the Middle East and for an end to these wars.

USED PRINTER CARTRIDGE PROGRAM



Orphan Grain Train accepts your used printer cartridges as part of a recycling program that provides funding for OGT. Please continue to bring your depleted cartridges to the warehouse when you come to volunteer, donate, or visit.

VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!

Orphan Grain Train is always looking for new volunteers. Many opportunities, both large and small, are available. For more information, please call 410-417-9674 or stop by the warehouse any Monday or Tuesday morning (9:00 - noon), Tuesday evening (5:00 - 7:00 p.m.), or the second Saturday of each month (9:00 - noon).



Warehouse Location:
621 East-West Blvd.,
Millersville MD 21108

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 1741
Millersville MD 21108

e-mail: md-orphangraintrain@ogt.org

Assistant Branch Managers:

- Irene Giguere, Administration
- Anthony Rodriguez, Operations/Shipping

Call us at: 410-417-9674

Donate to Orphan Grain
Train



Visit our website

**Contact us for details on our
Medical Walk Out Program
including donations and availability.
410-417-9674**

