



# MCC Material Resource Center

737 Hagey Center Drive - Unit C • Souderton, PA 18964 • 267-203-8074



*Sharing God's Love  
in the name of Jesus Christ*

[www.mcc-harleysville.org](http://www.mcc-harleysville.org)

Newsletter - Fall 2010

## A Truly Remarkable Lady

Did you ever wonder where all the things that are shipped from MCC end up? Well, recently we found someone who said she remembers items that came from America when she was a child growing up in the Ukraine. She said her father had a room in their house where he stored goods sent from America. He was in charge of distributing these items to people in need in the community. It was a long time ago that Katharina Efimenko, who now resides at Rockhill Mennonite Community, became the recipient of something from MCC. Katherine, as she prefers to be called, is now 90 years old, but she can still remember with appreciation the yellow hat she received as a young girl.

Katherine is a truly remarkable lady, who volunteered many years at the Care and Share Thrift Shoppe in Souderton. Her life has been filled with hardship. Her mother died when she was 10 years old. Two of her brothers were sent to Siberia for many years during the war. When the war ended she married Iwan and they made their way, first to Brazil, and then to the United States. The couple had two daughters. Tragically, they lost both daughters, one in a car accident in 1982 and the other after complications from a liver transplant in 1999. Her husband also died in 1989.

To face as many hardship as Katherine Efimenko had to endure during her lifetime, is incomprehensible to most people. Katherine, however, always kept going, never giving up, and always working hard. She still continues to smile through her tears, and gives of herself everyday.



Katherine recently took a tour of our MRC facility. She wanted to see how it is done, the process of making, packing, sorting, baling and shipping the items that end up in the hands of those who are so grateful for them. God bless you, Katherine, for your wonderful spirit. (An expanded edition of her life story can be obtained at MRC. Ask for a copy in the office.)

Newsletter by Leinbach Design



### MCC Material Resource Center

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#### MRC Coordinator

Sharon Swartzentruber

#### Warehouse Manager

Steve Halteman

#### Board of Directors

- Abe Landes, President
- Steve Leinbach, Vice President
- Lowell Miller, Treasurer
- Brenda Sims, Secretary
- Lucy Brubaker
- Robert Kratz
- Henry Moore
- Joanne Nice
- Ron Smucker

#### Contact Information

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Mennonite  
Central  
Committee

## Gift Shoppe

**LAST MINUTE CHRISTMAS SHOPPING NEEDS?**

There are many beautiful, hand-made items in the Gift Shoppe at the Center. The Shoppe is open Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Kay Derstine models a reversible Christmas apron, available for purchase at the Gift Shoppe.



Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) strives to respond to urgent needs around the globe and at home. Material Resource Center of Harleysville (MRC) works along side MCC to share God's love to those suffering from poverty, oppression, natural disasters, and war.



## Needed



More people are needed to cut patches, sew comforter tops and hem finished comforters. Each week between 15 and 25 comforters are knotted. It takes many people cutting patches, sewing tops for these comforters as well as people to sew the hems on the finished comforters. MCC sent 26,000 comforters to Haiti after the January earthquake. Many other locations also receive comforters. Please contact the MRC if you are willing to help with this need.

## Comforter Sewing Class for Beginners

Would you like to help sew comforters but are not sure how to get started? Join our class Jan. 20, 27, and Feb. 3 from 9:30-11:30 am to learn this useful skill, have fun and help those in need. Jan. 20 and 27 will include learning to sew patches together to make comforter tops. Feb. 3 we will learn how to hem the edges of finished comforters. MRC is in need of people willing to do both of these tasks. Please call 267-203-8074 to register for the class.

## Something New - Check it Out!

It's a "drop off bin" - newly constructed by Merlin Hartman to be used after hours when our facility is closed. You can bring your cardboard, grocery bags and kits to the center anytime and leave them in the bin. The bin is behind the MRC building. Corrugated cardboard only please.

## Third Annual Fried Oyster & Roast Beef Dinner

Friends of MRC, approximately 260 of them, gathered on Saturday evening, October 23rd at 6:30 p.m. to enjoy a delicious fried oyster and roast beef dinner. This is the third year that our banquet menu offered "fried oysters", prepared especially for MRC constituents in the trailer by the banquet hall kitchen at Christopher Dock Mennonite High School. Abe Landis, Steve Halteman, Marcus Rosenberger and their frying crew did it again!



Many thanks to all who contributed in making the evening very enjoyable. Grant Rissler, Financial Resource Development Coordinator for MCC East Coast, shared some of his experiences upon visiting the country of Haiti recently. Your donations to MCC are so crucial to a country like Haiti, struggling to get back on it's feet, after the earthquake's devastation.

Sincere appreciation also goes to those who provided dining music, the waitresses who worked so hard, as well as Chef Robert Kulp, and his kitchen staff.

A net total of \$13,144.45 was donated and applied to MRC's Building Fund. Thanks to everyone for helping MRC of Harleysville do their part in alleviating needs both here in our country and around the world.

In case of inclement weather the MRC will follow the Souderton School District Schedule. When Souderton School District is closed for bad weather MRC will be closed, if they start 2 hours late, MRC will start 2 hours late.

## Giving Opportunity

The MRC board has set a goal to eliminate the debt of \$320,000 on the building by January 2012. Help us pay off the remaining debt on our building with an end of year gift! Send checks to MCC Material Resource Center, 737 Hagey Center Drive Unit C, Souderton, PA 18964.

## Open Night

Starting January 18, 2011 MRC will be open the third Tuesday night of the month for anyone to come and volunteer from 6:30-8:30 pm. Bring your energy and enthusiasm, learn about the work of the MRC and MCC and help with ongoing projects. Call Sharon at the MRC if you have questions.

## MRC Happenings

Connie Landis taught eleven participants to sew the Kaleidoscope Wallhanging at the October quilt classes.

We said goodbye to Ron Smucker, board member who completes his term the end of the year and Dorothy Detweiler, long time coordinator of the sewing department of the MRC. Both of them gave many hours to the work of the MRC for which we are very grateful.

Darlene Rosenberger will be joining the board in January. We are grateful for her willingness to serve.

Comforters and fabrics were baled to be sent to Zimbabwe to be distributed through Gwab Mpfu.

3,080 school kits, 600 health kits and 173 comforters were sent to MCC in Ephrata in October and November.



October 15 Lacher and Associates employees check and pack school kits during an extended lunch hour break from work.