

## *Chairman's Report*

Our 2011 sale was again held at the Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex which provides ample parking and enclosed space within a single large area. We thank God for the large attendance and safe weekend.

While the economy remains somewhat depressed, we are truly thankful for the generosity of those who attended the sale on Friday night and Saturday, April 1-2. Surprisingly there were few "April Fools" pranks. We again sent MCC a contribution of \$370,000.00; we are pleased we could maintain the same level as in 2010. Our prayer is that these resources will be used around the world by MCC as we share God's love and compassion in the name of Christ by responding to basic human needs and working for peace and justice.

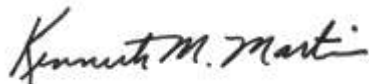
In addition to the Harrisburg sale, there were two pre-sale banquets in Chambersburg and New Holland, a co-sponsored "Sing for Hope" concert in Lancaster to benefit the Global Family Program, and a Heifer Sale which exceeded last year's proceeds. All of these activities help demonstrate that the Pennsylvania Relief Sale is a year round operation. We are supporting a group of MCC supporters in the Philadelphia area who are planning a Fall Festival in October.

The volunteer Board of Directors is a dedicated group of Christians who unselfishly contribute hours of planning, meetings, congregational outreach, and hard work to operate the sale. We especially appreciate the work of John Kreider, Dorthy Livengood, and John Rutt who asked to leave the Board but will continue to help with the sale. We welcome our new Board members, Steven Stoltzfus and Darrell Yoder.

The Board oversees the work of hundreds of volunteers who are absolutely critical to the sale's success. These relationships throughout the year and over sale time are tangible ways of "Celebrating Community." Our goal, in return, is to "Create Hope" for those who struggle to meet their basic needs.

We are breaking from tradition and will hold the 2012 sale during the second April weekend due to Easter. Please reserve Friday evening, April 13 and Saturday, April 14 for the 2012 Relief Sale.

In the name of Christ,



Kenneth M. Martin, Chair

## **Banquet Reports**

### **East Banquet**

The east banquet was held at Yoder's Restaurant, New Holland, PA on March 5, 2011. The music group *Bluegrass Gospel Concepts* provided the entertainment.

A total of 331 adults and 5 children were in attendance. A total of 43 sponsors at \$ 175/table covered the costs of the banquet. Grant Rissler shared some of MCC's involvement around the world. The evening offering totaled \$14,080.00.

*~ submitted by Lloyd Martin*

### **West Banquet**

The west banquet was held at the Kauffman's Community Center on February 19, 2011. It was the 33<sup>rd</sup> promotional dinner. The event started at 6:30pm with a few opening comments and invocation by Ray Kuhns.

The first report following the meal was the meat canning report given by Steven Bricker. He recounted his experience traveling with the canner several years ago. He outlined the 2011 goals for the meat canner at Cumberland Valley Relief Center. The next report was about the 110 quilts for Pa Relief Sale that were coming from CVRC. Marie Eby gave the report. The music for the evening was congregational singing led by Fred Keener.

Ken Martin commented on the upcoming 2011 sale. One exciting projection is the fundraiser events like the banquets, etc. could provide enough funds to cover all costs allowing all proceeds of the Sale at Harrisburg to go to MCC. Ken introduced Grant Rissler who gave a report on Penny Power.

Ken Martin also introduced Ken Sensenig, the speaker of the evening. Ken Sensenig pulled us into his story by taking us back some 40 years (bomb shelters), took us around the baseball diamond at his childhood home (next to a Russian family), took us to North Korea so that we could easily see our own fears and biases of other peoples and cultures.

Dale Horst and Dwayne Eby assisted by several others received and counted the offering. The offering and table sponsorships for the evening totaled \$11,393.50. This year we had table sponsors. The \$10.00 per adult meal ticket was replaced by the sponsor's contribution of \$100.00 per table.

*~ submitted by Ray Kuhns*

## *Children's Activities*

Dorothy Livengood and Darrell Yoder coordinated the children's activity area this year. Money was again designated for Global Family's Child Sponsorship program. James Wheeler from Global Family was present with a display table and also spoke prior to both auctions about this program of MCC. Friday evening's auction raised \$391 with 74 items sold. Saturday's auction brought in \$856 from the sale of 71 items. We are so grateful for the donated items from the church in Chambersburg and the Ephrata MRC volunteers. Merv Garmin was the auctioneer.

Darrell organized "tent" events that were well attended. The juggling duo (Dkers) were a huge success and drew a very large crowd of children and adults on Saturday. (If they return, we should consider being more assertive about collecting donations before people disburse.)

Another new attraction this year was the balloon twisting which went over well. We collected almost \$400. Lorin and Wendy Zimmerman have agreed to coordinate the balloon twisting for 2012 under the direction of this committee.

Eagle Rental again donated the use of the bouncing castle for which we are grateful. Additional on-going activities were chosen to promote peace or cooperation with others. Children were also invited to fill school kits with items which had been donated.

Challenges to work on for the future: felt squeezed on space; need better sound system with the size of crowds; roped off area might help eliminate people walking right through activities; rough table tops are not conducive for coloring or other smooth-surface activities.

*~ submitted by Dorothy Livengood*

## *Country Auction*

Our numbers were down this year compared to last year. This year's being \$37,758 compared to almost \$50,000 last year. Some reasons for this were, we didn't have any marble rollers because those men either passed away or are too old, also only 1 gold coin compared to 5 or 6 last year and also our health. But we did have a John Deere tractor that generated \$2,600. A Conestoga Wagon that brought \$1,225. Other than those 2 items nothing brought more than \$1,000. Two sheds sold for \$725 and \$650, a new recliner brought \$350, a John Deer riding mower converted to a BBQ grill sold for \$500. Aaron Zook's winter scene brought \$575, a corner cupboard sold for \$550, wooden bulldozer sold for \$350 and a wooden chase the rat game brought \$375. In art, a P. Buckley Moss barn raising picture sold for \$350 and an Erma Wenger painting sold for \$500. The coins sold very well again even without many gold pieces which amount to \$6,300. We also had less furniture but what we did have did well. We only had 13 theme baskets selling from \$20 to \$100. That is something that could greatly be improved on if the right person got a

hold of it. We only had a few Winross trucks. We had some toy farm equipment and some Hess trucks, etc. They could do better. We had a nice assortment of collectibles but nothing too high priced. An Elgin pocket watch sold for \$300. On the whole, country crafts did pretty well. But then they're everywhere.

We had really good help and lots of it. We felt things went real smooth this year. Praise the Lord. But we're just getting too old for this. We wish the Lord's blessings to "The New Gang!"

~ In the name of Christ, *John J and Esther Rutt*

P.S. We did enjoy working with the board and we would do it all over again but there comes a time when we have to say it is enough!

### **Craft Stand Report**

My sister and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many volunteers who helped make the PA Relief Sale Craft Stand a roaring success this year with a total of \$3,861.50 raised for MCC. This being our first year as coordinators for the Craft Stand we were a bit nervous about how it would all come together. Many donations came in ahead of time; some arrived from MRC Friday morning, others kept arriving throughout the two days. Volunteer sales persons were on time and diligent.

What a wonderful assortment of beautifully executed items we had for sale: scarves, afghans, pillows, lap robes, prayer shawls, table runners, wall hangings, baby sweaters, toys, booties, hats and blankets, doll clothes, Christmas items, totes, a myriad of things to use in the kitchen, aprons, handmade jewelry, cards and knickknacks, those wonderful knitted wool slippers, adult cover-ups, walker bags, chemo hats, and so much more.

We are already looking forward to working as coordinators at the 2012 Pa Relief Sale and want to encourage more volunteers to pull out their crochet hooks, knitting needles, fabric, and patterns and start all over again. We extend a huge thank you to:

- those who took time to make and contribute items
- the ones who came and helped sell
- the ones who set up tables, collected money, helped tear down
- all those who worked behind the scenes
- those who helped with clean-up
- Lillian Patten, a tried-and-true volunteer whose help was invaluable
- Norman and Arlene Leaman who took bags of leftovers to the Columbia MCC thrift shop

~ *submitted by Janet Runion Patton and Ruth Runion Slear*

## *Penny Power*

With contributions that arrived after the sale and the \$50,000 match, Penny Power at the PA Relief Sale raised \$113,817.40 for MCC's focus on helping people around the world understand what it means to have peace. Since 2005, Penny Power at the PA Relief Sale has raised more than \$851,000 for MCC's Food, Water, HIV/AIDS and Peace work around the world. In 2012 the proceeds from Penny Power will be directed toward Education through MCC's Global Family Education Sponsorship program (read more at [globalfamily.mcc.org](http://globalfamily.mcc.org)).

We appreciated the support of the Amish community who helped with some of the sorting on Friday and Saturday. This year we added a running total display on a video monitor which was well received. We continued the practice of posting church giving totals from last year compared to this year. This attracted visitors to the Penny Power stand. Overall, our rookie year went well and we are looking forward to 2012.

*~ submitted by Roger and Holly Myers*

## *Publicity*

Justin and Christina Weber stepped down from the Publicity role this year and Grant picked it up in an interim way. The following were the standard efforts of publicizing the Sale:

- **Save the Date cards** mailed to 1449 persons who registered for bidder numbers in the past 3 years. Another 3151 cards were apportioned out among board members and were available at pre-sale quilt previews and banquets.
- **Generic Bag Stuffers** were distributed via 15 MCC Thrift Shops and apportioned to board members for personal distribution
- **Ten Thousand Villages Bag Stuffers** which mention the TTV merchandise available at the sale were distributed through the 12 TTV stores.
- **Central PA Magazine Ads** – ads were purchased for the February and March issues of the magazine.
- **Congregational Mailing** – Jim Stoner coordinated a mailing of a poster and cover letter to area churches

In addition, the following new efforts were made:

- **Constant Contact E-mail** – Grant facilitated the sending of an e-mail to MCC contacts with e-mail in the PA Sale region that listed all of the pre-sale events and the sale itself.
- **WDAC radio spots** – Grant worked with Mike Eby to develop and ad for the Heifer Sale and for the PA Sale. Local businesses the Mike recruited sponsored the spots.

- **Die Botschaft classified** – ad taken out to promote availability of a bus from Lancaster County to the PA Sale.

Grant also briefly researched the cost and time involved in advertising via are digital billboards owned by Lamar Advertising. Due to time constraints idea was not put forward for adoption but may warrant examination for 2012.

*~ submitted by Grant Rissler, MCC East Coast*

## Quilts

The quilt committee (Janice Horning, Thelma Olinger and Sharon Swartzentruber) gained a new member, Anita Beidler. Susan Wadel coordinated the set-up and display of the quilts at the sale. Many people willingly helped at each stage of the process to prepare the 391 items offered for sale at the 2011 PA Relief Sale Quilt Auction.

Our Friday Night sale items totaled 91 pieces and Saturday's Sale items totaled 300 pieces. This year's traveling quilt was a wall hanging with a peace theme which raised \$2,100 for MCC's peace projects. The highest selling quilt was Ellen Ressler's original design "Poppies" (110 x110) and quilted by MCC volunteers. This quilt was voted Viewer's Choice at the Quilt Preview at the Ephrata MRC and brought \$6,100. Sixteen other quilts were sold for over \$1,000 with two of them bringing over \$2,000. Twenty one vintage items brought in a total of \$5,250. Total sale of quilts was \$119,970. Several donations and the sale of the last strawberry pie brought the final total for the quilt auction to \$121,070.

Many hours of work and creativity were invested in these quilts, showing a strong support for the work of MCC.

*~ submitted by Sharon Swartzentruber*

## Quilter's Attic

Quilter's Attic once again had a great relief sale experience. After being collected, sorted, and priced at Ten Thousand Villages in Ephrata, four pallets of boxes full of quilting treasures were delivered to the Farm Show Complex on Friday morning. Many tables, quilt racks, and clothing racks were full of merchandise when 4 p.m. opening rolled around. Business was steady at almost all times. Early in the afternoon on Saturday there was a 1/2 price sale and then later on near the end of the quilt auction \$5 bags were sold and folks were encouraged to fill them as full as they could. Quilter's Attic had great volunteer help and took in a bit over \$7,800.00 for MCC relief.

*~ submitted by Rose Haury*

## **Set-Up and Tear Down**

### **SET-UP**

12 people helped to set up on Friday starting at 7:30 a.m. and finishing by 12:30 p.m. 773 tables and 3800 chairs were used.

### **TEAR DOWN**

Tear down happened between 3:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Approximately 16 people helped and it went smoothly.

*~ submitted by Lloyd Martin*

## **Share-A-Meal**

189 meals were sold at \$15/each; 4 bed and breakfast tickets were sold at \$15/each; total proceeds \$2,895.

*~ submitted by Lois Landis and Anna Mae Kauffman*

## **Sharing about MCC's work at the Pennsylvania Relief Sale**

Again this year, the Pennsylvania Relief Sale partnered with MCC in good ways to share the MCC purpose of sharing God's love and compassion for all, in the name of Christ, by responding to basic human needs and working for peace and justice. MCC remains deeply grateful to the thousands of volunteers, board members and sale-goers for the partnership with the Pennsylvania Relief Sale.

On the day of the sale, MCC staff, volunteers and board members staffed the MCC display, answering questions about MCC's work and selling rugs, comforter kits and shopping bags made from recycled clothing at the Material Resource Center in Ephrata, PA as part of MCC's emphasis on Caring for Creation. A display featuring the words of people from the Christian churches of Southern Sudan was in place along with information on MCC's Sudan: Coming Home initiative that is helping the Southern Sudanese people rebuild after more than 2 decades of civil war.

The traveling peace tree, which is visiting multiple relief sales, was also displayed in the MCC area – several dozen people stopped by to add a bead to the tree, symbolizing their commitment

and support for peace. A Generations (HIV and AIDS work) display was also set up and CD's by Kim Thiessen and Darryl Neustaedter Barg were available for donation in light of the Take Your Place concert tour they undertook in PA and VA from April 3-10. Displays on Global Family, Water and Food as well as videos about MCC's work were also available.

At the MCC Alumni and Friends gathering, Linda Herr and James Wheeler, former country representatives in Egypt, offered their reflections on the recent events in Egypt and the Middle East. International Volunteer Exchange Program participants also shared a song with the 55 people gathered.

During the Friday evening offerings which went to relief efforts where needed most, MCC staff person Grant Rissler shared about MCC's support for responding to disasters and other relief work and noted that MCC was accepting donations towards the Japan earthquake and tsunami response.

On Saturday, MCC Peace programs coordinator Krista Johnson shared about MCC's peacebuilding work in Colombia and Kenya before donations were taken across the auction block at both the quilt and country auctions. These "bids" where folks take nothing home, continue to show the strong compassion and generosity of sale-goers.

*~ submitted by Grant Rissler, MCC East Coast*

## **Silent Auction Report**

The 2011 Pennsylvania Relief Sale Silent Auction was a "work-in-progress" from start to finish - and continues as such. The pre-auction input from the 2009 Silent Auction planners Barb Souder and Lois Huston was in-valuable.

The Silent Auction netted \$1,952.50. The auction was open for bidding from 8:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m. Saturday only. That total does not include the dollars raised through the sale of 3 tin chandeliers (wired/hang) sold by the "Country Auction" auctioneers.

There was a total of 75+ actual items donated to the Silent Auction. For purposes of itemization and bidding facilitation, the items were grouped into 67 designated bidding "lots". Of those 67 items ("lots"), 10 did not receive bids. Of those 10, 5 were returned to their donors, 1 went to the "Treasure Cove", 1 set of wall hangings (from India) were given to MCC staff for office decor and the 3 lights went to the "Country Auction".

The item "lots" were categorized/hand-out listing and physical set-up organization purposes as follows:

- 1). Original Art
- 2). International Treasures

- 3). Textiles
- 4). Women's Personal
- 5). Home Decor
- 6). Miscellaneous

The "Original Art" category brought in top sale total , with the "International Treasure" and "Textile" categories registering at the next highest levels. The antique pocket watch and the nature activity bag for children were very good income generators as individual items from the "Miscellaneous" category .

*~submitted by Diane Kropf*

### **Sing for Hope Winter Opera Gala – January 22, 2011 Concert**

This year, with the help of many people, including close to 400 folks who came out for the concert in the wonderful setting of the historic Fulton Opera, the *Winter Opera Gala* netted more than \$12,000 for Global Family, enriching the educational lives of children around the globe and bringing an evening of operatic excellence to Lancaster. The amount raised is equal to 40 Global Family annual sponsorships and almost doubled the net proceeds from the previous concert.

The planning committee of H.A. Penner, Madeline Bender, Abby Fretz, Magdalene Hess and Grant Rissler coordinated the event. Performers included Madeline Bender (soprano), Leah Summers (mezzo-soprano), Gordon Geitz (tenor), Christopher Herbert (Baritone), Timothy Long (music director and pianist) and the Lancaster Mennonite High School Chorale. Heidi Lauren Duke and Nancy Sylbert helped out behind the scenes. Five “Birdie Children,” ages 5-7, also had a chance to make their debut at the Fulton and captured many hearts.

The most touching part of the evening followed a brief sharing by recently returned MCC workers Alan and Beth Claassen Thrush who shared about the impact of Global Family for children they knew in Nicaragua. As the Chorale performed the Humming Chorus from *Madame Butterfly*, Leah Summers and the birdie children created a touching tableau of a woman reading to children, conveying by image the impact that Global Family has in helping local communities expand the horizon of possibilities for their children.

The artists all expressed deep appreciation to be part of such a meaningful event and many persons who attended encouraged the concert to continue. A date for the next concert is set for January 21, 2012 at 8pm at the Fulton Opera House.

*~ submitted by Grant Rissler, MCC East Coast*

# Treasurer's Report

## Food Proceeds

Apple Dumplings	\$ 2,564.40
Baked Goods	6,284.25
Baked Potatoes	985.50
Beef BBQ	1,460.25
Beef Veg Soup	815.90
Candy	1,434.65
Cheese Stand	5,225.30
Cheese Steaks	3,128.25
Chicken BBQ	2,866.00
Chicken Corn Soup	2,157.10
Chicken Wings	1,470.81
Drinks	4,900.17
French Fries	2,466.75
Fruit Bread	2,358.45
Fruit Stand	1,145.35
Gourmet Coffee	1,693.11
Ham Sandwiches	839.75
Ham/Bean, Potato Soup	1,076.31
Homemade Donuts	5,375.91
Homemade Ice Cream	4,658.24
Hot Dog Stand	240.00
Indonesian Food	1,087.25
International Food	504.00
Milk Shakes	2,337.85
Nuts & Homemade Candy	1,065.50
Omelet Breakfast	2,327.50
Pancakes & Sausage	2,359.50
Pie & Ice Cream	645.94
Pizza	557.80
Pretzel Roll Sandwiches	3,259.25
Pretzels	810.40
Roast Beef/Pulled Pork	2,610.50
Salad Platters	1,957.65
Sausage Sandwiches	1,179.00
Strawberry Pies	8,941.90
Take Home	2,619.69
Turkey BBQ	785.00
<b>Total Food</b>	<b>\$ 86,195.18</b>

## Other Proceeds

Balloons	\$ 399.66
Booksavers	2,961.30
Cambodian Cyclo Rides	110.00
Children's Activities	424.38
Children's Auction	1,246.75
Choice Books	851.00
Country Auction	33,954.00
Crafts	3,861.50
First Aid	65.00
Friday Eve Offerings	1,401.01
Parcel Check Station	185.00
Penny Power	71,510.60
Plants	8,265.47
Quilt Auction	117,705.00
Quilters Attic	7,809.67
Reserved Seats	1,130.00
Share-A-Meal	2,835.00
Silent Auction	1,952.50
Special Donations	1,667.09
Ten Thousand Villages	8,356.60
Treasure Cove	3,266.49
<b>Total Other</b>	<b>\$ 269,958.02</b>
<b>Total Food</b>	<b>\$ 86,195.18</b>
<b>Sale Day Proceeds</b>	<b>\$ 356,153.20</b>

## PreSale Income

East Banquet net	\$ 15,039.22
West Banquet net	11,647.50
Heifer Sale net	55,747.44
Quilt Catalog net	6,438.60
Sing for Hope net	8,923.40
<b>Total PreSale Income</b>	<b>\$ 97,796.16</b>

General Relief	\$ 282,295.21
Penny Power(Peace)	71,510.60
Global Families	10,994.19
Sing for Hope- 8,923.40 Children's Activities- 2,070.79	
Peace Projects	5,200.00
Peace Traveling Quilt- 2,700.00 Country Auction Peace Project- 2,500.00	
<b>2011 MCC Proceeds</b>	<b>\$ 370,000.00</b>

