



SKILTON HOUSE MINISTRIES

P.O. Box 1045 □ Glenside, PA 19038-1045 □ Phone: 866-77-CROSS □ info@skiltonhouseministries.org
Website: www.skiltonhouseministries.org □ Facebook: www.facebook.com/Skilton-House-Ministries-2130774133823042/

The President's Corner ~Durwin Parks, President

Greetings everyone,

As I write this column for our newsletter, Spring has arrived. Springtime means a change of season, warmer temperatures, and longer daylight, among other things. Beautiful flowering trees, dark green grass, and bright flowers remind me of new life provided by our loving Creator God.

In this newsletter, I announce to you the homegoing of our beloved Ann Egner. On November 25, 2020, the Lord Jesus Christ called Sister Ann home to eternal rest from her earthly labors. It is not possible here to list all of the accomplishments of Ann for Skilton House Ministries, but here are a few.

She was a longtime diligent worker for SHM. She worked alongside our founder Dr. Skilton, and served as Vice President, Executive Director, and Operation Brotherhood and Christian Released Time Coordinator. On November 18, 1999 she was one of seven people who received a reward from the Philadelphia City Council for the good work of Operation

Brotherhood. She spent many hours each year developing the network of volunteers to help with Operation Brotherhood.

When a motion was presented by the Board to start Christian Released Time (CRT) in Philadelphia, Ann was very supportive. She would go out and talk to pastors, school administrators, and others about hosting CRT classes.

She rarely missed a board meeting, hosting many of them at her house. She always served us snacks before the meeting.

Ann believed God is so big that He can do wonderful things through Operation Brotherhood. She hoped everyone would come to know Jesus. A Bible passage that she liked—and part of it appears on our rally flyer—was Romans 12:10-13. “Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor” (NIV).

For sure, we at SHM do miss Ann, but King Jesus wants us to press on. It is a great honor for

me to introduce to you our new directors of Operation Brotherhood—Pastor Cedrick and Ruthy Blakney. They are board members with a smile and good energy. Cedrick has preached at our events and has provided good help at Operation Brotherhood. Ruthy remembers helping at Packing Night on the Friday before Thanksgiving as a teenager, and she is still helping. Ruthy has many good ideas and believes our best days are yet to come. Please take a moment to call on our new phone line (866-77-CROSS) and leave a greeting for Cedrick and Ruthy.

We are hopeful—Lord willing—to have Operation Brotherhood 2021. Please pray for us as we move forward. Any donations of time or funds are appreciated.

May God bless you all in 2021.



Skilton House Ministries
has a new phone number!
866-77-CROSS
(866-772-7677)

AN ENCOURAGEMENT

~Cedrick and Ruthy Blakney

As we look forward to Operation Brotherhood 2021, we reflect on the ways that 2020 has changed us. For many of us, our faith has been challenged and through these hard times we have learned to see God in this “new normal” life.

Even though we have been through challenges, fear, sickness, loss, changes, and much more, we rely on the guidance that God provides. We will see that God often uses the difficult times in our life to bring us closer to Him and to bring us into a deeper and more intimate relationship with Him, while growing our faith and character.

Now that 2021 is here, it's time for us to reunite in brotherly love, moving forward with all the challenges that Covid-19 has brought. The Bible says in Isaiah 41:10, “Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.” Together, we can make Operation Brotherhood 2021 the greatest year ever!





IN MEMORIAM: ANN EGNER

~Jan Comanda

In this newsletter, we announce to you the passing of our beloved sister Ann Egner. She always had a smile and was so willing to do whatever was needed in the ministry. We will miss her greatly with her ability to tackle any difficulty with the confidence that the Lord would provide.

Ann passed away suddenly at her home, just before Thanksgiving 2020. She is survived by her husband, two children, five grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

Ann loved her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. She was on the Board of Skilton House Ministries for many years. She was also a devoted volunteer to many other organizations including the Red Cross and Central Ocean City Union Chapel.

Ann was a part of Skilton House Ministries from its founding more than 40 years ago. She served on the Board in various capacities and hosted the board and executive committee meetings at her home in Ambler for the last two decades.

For many years, thousands of households around the city of Philadelphia received Thanksgiving food baskets as well as a printed gospel message from their neighborhood churches, all

through the coordination of Operation Brotherhood. For these same years, Ann was the coordinator of this great effort. She found locations for the rallies, contacted all the churches to discuss their needs, organized the singers and preachers for the rally and the service on packing night. She ordered the turkeys, counted the canned goods, bagged onions and potatoes, and oversaw the pickup of baskets and turkeys. She was the first one at every meeting and the last one to leave.

Ann believed in the Bible and for many years was energetic in promoting Christian Released Time classes for students in the Philadelphia public schools. She was fearless in her travels to any church willing to consider hosting CRT classes, driving all over the city even in her 80s.

We will greatly miss her energetic and enthusiastic presence this year and for years to come. Ann cheerfully and automatically performed numerous tasks

(both large and small). She remembered everyone by name and had an encouraging word for anyone having difficulties. As we anxiously try to organize Operation Brotherhood without her this year, I can hear her say, "Don't worry, the Lord will provide. He always does."

Yes! I would like to help Skilton House Ministries spread the Gospel in Philadelphia!

I would like to:

- ☐ Pray regularly and often for the work of Skilton House Ministries
- ☐ Sponsor a camper: ☐ \$150 (full campership) ☐ Other \$ _____
- ☐ Donate to Operation Brotherhood: ☐ \$30 per bag ☐ Other \$ _____
- ☐ Donate towards the ministry that needs it most right now
- ☐ Make a monthly contribution:
 - ☐ \$10/month ☐ \$25/month ☐ \$50/month ☐ Other \$ _____
- ☐ Learn more about how I can help with CRT
- ☐ Receive future newsletters by email to: _____

Email Address

Please complete the reverse side



"Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor."

~Romans 12:10-13

HENRY COOPER MEMORIAL PICNIC

Upper Moreland Township Park

3500 Mason Mill Rd.
Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006

September 11, 3:00 p.m.

What should I bring?

If your last name starts with:

A-F: meat (grills are available)

G-L: casserole/main dish

M-R: salad

S-Z: dessert

SHM will provide paper products and drinks

**Please Call
866-77-CROSS
to RSVP**

***Food
Fellowship
Games***

Just a Reminder

If you receive the newsletter in the mail, please send us your email address and we will add you to our distribution list.

Thank you.

Enclosed is my donation of \$_____ (made payable to "Skilton House Ministries")

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ City State Zip Code

Email Address: _____

☐ **I would like to receive future newsletters by email**

*Please send contributions to:
Skilton House Ministries, P.O. Box 1045, Glenside, PA 19038*