



Central Connection

The Salvation Army / USA Central Territory
News and Views from the Midwest

"We are all one body, we have the same Spirit, and we have all been called to the same glorious future." Eph. 4:3,4 (NLT)

Volume 45, Number 10

October 2015

Drill tests disaster coordination

by Krachel Greenwood

The Salvation Army participated this summer in the PATRIOT exercise, an annual domestic operations training drill sponsored by the National Guard Bureau and accredited by the Joint National Capability Program.

The training focused on improving coordination with local, state and federal organizations and tested first responders in events such as mass casualty, aeromedical evacuation, collapsed structures and hospital evacuations.

More than 1,500 Air and Army



Mike Levine relays a SATERN field-test message to Incident Command.

National Guard members representing 33 states traveled to Volk Field, Wis., where The Salvation Army was represented by staff and volunteers from the Eastern Michigan, Heartland, Indiana, Metropolitan and Wisconsin and Upper Michigan divisions.

"The PATRIOT exercise provides a great opportunity for The Salvation Army to test our capabilities. This year we tested real-life hydration ser-

Major Karen Hanton (l), Terri Leece and Glen Reckner review canteen routes.

vice with multiple events happening at the same time, along with amateur-radio communications and emotional and spiritual care," said Terri Leece, Wisconsin and Upper Michigan divisional disaster services director and incident commander for The Salvation Army operation during the PATRIOT exercise. Crews put together 300 bag lunches and delivered them to National Guard members. Three canteens assisted.

In addition to providing food and hydration, The Salvation Army also tested radio communications by conducting field operations using the Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN). The SATERN amateur-radio operators provide communication assistance to Salvation Army

Continued on page 12



Three canteens were key to hydration and feeding functions during the exercise.

Garbage Bag Gala goes big!

by Shannon Craig

The fourth annual Garbage Bag Gala, hosted by Echelon St. Louis and benefiting The Salvation Army Midland Division, drew a crowd of more than 300 people. Sixteen local designers were tasked with creating a casual/formal and art-to-wear look solely from recycled materials, and this

year's group took the challenge to new heights.

From bicycle tires to old DVDs, chicken wire to hundreds of pages of magazines, the runway was littered with wearables inspired by haute couture fashion houses. The fashion show illustrated the importance of exploring sustainable design to benefit the environment, while raising

visibility for The Salvation Army's efforts to combat homelessness in the St. Louis community.

The Salvation Army Midland Division's Young Professionals Group (YPG) has always organized, developed and hosted Garbage Bag Gala, and since joining the ranks of Echelon earlier this year, both the professional nature and quality of the event have skyrocketed.

"Being a chapter of Echelon has given us a new voice," said Cate Kennedy, vice-president of Echelon St. Louis. "YPG was a great organization, but through Echelon we are seeing the impacts being made in the next generation, not just here in St. Louis but all over the United States."

Echelon seeks to mobilize the next generation for The



Photos by Shannon Craig

Salvation Army by providing opportunities for young adults to engage with the organization through fellowship and networking, donations

Continued on page 12

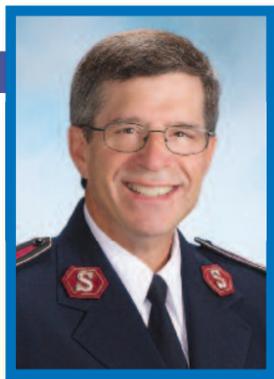


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Influence

by Colonel Jeffrey Smith
Chief Secretary



Lately I've been deeply disappointed at how little influence Evangelical Christianity seems to have in shaping and guiding our culture. No one seems to care what the Church thinks about issues of morality or values. I can't help but wonder how this happened. How did we become so irrelevant? So disregarded?

Many people blame the media for covering the wrong events or for giving the Church too little coverage. I'm not convinced. I think it's our fault ("us" being everyone who claims to be a Christian), and so I'm doubly disappointed. The Church often has failed to be a force for good in the world. In too many cases,

churches have done the opposite. Time and time again, supposedly Christian leaders and groups have failed to live up to even a basic standard of righteousness. There is a long list of sins including child abuse, embezzlement, misuse of power, subjugation of women, sexual sins and marriage failure. Non-Christians look at those who claim the power of Christ in their lives and see very little difference in things that really matter. Why would they seek us for guidance in establishing a satisfying marriage? Why would they trust us to keep their children safe? When

questions about morality come up, why would they even care what we think?

If we have lost influence—and we have—we must blame ourselves.

We have all the resources of God at our disposal. We have the power of the Holy Spirit to transform us. We have the truth of the Bible to guide our thinking and choices. All that is required is a willingness to trust and a determination to obey.

More than ever, our culture and our nation need a holy Church. It needs me and you—all of us—to be holy.

When I consider the positioning of The Salvation Army I am encouraged and excited. We have the right theology: the truth of available salvation from all sin and Holy Spirit-infused power. We have the right reputation

and tradition of compassionate action for people in need. (Isn't it interesting that even non-Christians know Christians should be actively doing compassionate things?) We have the right stage; people are watching us. Our uniforms and our work provide us with visibility to magnify holy living, if we genuinely live it.

More than ever, Salvationists need to see themselves as holy change agents in the world. We have seen what happens when the Church fails to live holy. I'd like to see what happens when we do *not* fail.

Pray with me, "Father, fill me with your Holy Spirit. Give me a clean heart. Guide my choices, my language, my thoughts and my behavior. Keep me faithful. Make me holy through and through."

Transformative love

Salvationists at the Logansport, Ind., Corps are growing closer to God and each other through a unique initiative by Corps Officer Lt. Amanda Keene. Each month one family or individual is showered with love. Their names and contact information are posted at the back of the chapel, and other corps members find tangible ways to show they care like making dinner and dropping it off, a phone call, a note or an invitation to someone's house. On Sundays the congregation gathers around the family or individual and prays for them during the worship service.

"Watching our corps people grow spiritually and grow in their love for

one another has been the greatest joy," said Lt. Amanda, who has been the corps officer for just over a year. "It goes beyond our time together on Sunday. To invest in each other's lives and become a corps family, we need to encourage each other every day of the week."

This summer corps members took sacrificial love up a notch when eight of them woke up at 6:00 a.m. on July 4 and traveled to Charleston, S.C., to comfort and pray with survivors of the African Methodist Episcopal Church shooting.

"On Sunday morning the kids passed out handmade cards to people in the congregation, and we just hugged and hugged, and prayed with people, and cried with people," the lieutenant recalled. "Just us being there and saying, 'Hey, it's not okay what happened,' seemed to be really encouraging."

Out of the overflow of love has come an overflow in attendance. Ten new people have started attending the corps regularly, and many more are visiting.



Logansport Corps members visit Charleston S.C., after the tragic shooting.



BOUNDLESS THE WHOLE WORLD READING
THE INTERNATIONAL BIBLE READING CHALLENGE

Coming down the back stretch of the 2015

Boundless Bible reading challenge, the 30 or so participants who committed to the endeavor at the Lincoln, Neb., Corps are encouraging each other to stay on course.

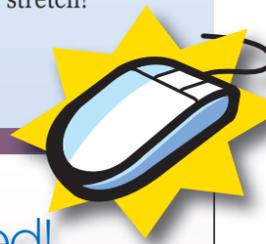
"Kids who signed up are even challenging their parents," said Major James Pennington, corps officer, who reported his own 8-year-old son wouldn't go to camp this summer until he was sure his Bible and study guide were safely packed inside his suitcase.

"The most faithful participants—those who've stayed on track each week—are in our social services department, where Clarice Mackey has been leading a mostly non-churched group of staff, volunteers and clients," the major continued. "The study guide questions have opened many gateways to discussion."

Particularly affected was a young intern from a university in Florida who was seeking her master's degree in social work. Raised Catholic but

not practicing, she was struggling in her marriage and felt she was at a cross-roads in her life. In addition to her participation in the study group, she began attending the corps and sought spiritual counseling.

"We believe seeds were definitely planted before her return to Florida," concluded the major, who's planning to offer further encouragement to challenge participants from the pulpit as the year rounds into its final stretch!



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Check out our complementary material on the web.
salarmycentral.org

Resources/Links

- Officer Candidate website
- World Missions website
- Emergency disaster services website
- Men's ministries website
- Echelon website
- David Hilden: A Most Amazing Fundraiser story

Media

- CMI and CBLI meetings
- SMT promotional video

Web exclusives

- Complete CMI award winners list
- SMT full reports
- SMT first-person experience by Marjorie Remy
- Three steps to helping people feel loved at your corps by Lt. Amanda Keene
- A look at Slovakia
- Excerpt from men's ministries guidelines

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MOST Amazing Race crosses 10-year line

Twenty-five teams competed in the Twin Cities Salvation Army's tenth MOST Amazing Race, raising \$83,000! In the last decade this light-hearted, fun competition has raised more than \$630,000 to support Salvation Army food and housing programs in the area. The event was the brainchild of Julie Orlando, Northern divisional special events manager.

This year, for the third time in a row, the winners were Tom Puzak and Eric Kelly, who raced as team "Lucky Halves" and finished in 4 hours, 58 minutes. The team of "Breezy Bizzle" came in a close second 10 minutes later.

Presented by CenterPoint Energy, the 2015 MOST Amazing Race included popular challenges from each of the past 10 years. Many were mental, such as identifying six different Buffalo Wild Wings hot sauces.

"This race is becoming less physical and less about running—it's more accessible to everyone," said Eric. "If you're a track star, you can't win based on that. There are difficult mental challenges like memorizing a play. You have to be multi-faceted."



One of the teams crosses the finish line of the qualifying event.

and plans from CenterPoint Energy to safely build a pipeline to a house.

The top fundraising team was David Hilden and Beau Ellis, who raised nearly \$6,300! This is the sixth time David has won top fundraising honors. Racing with various teammates through the years, David is the only person to have competed in every race since it began and has raised more than \$34,000. His favorite memories include jumping off a 30-foot-high platform in 2013 and eating Dairy Queen banana splits and chili dogs without the use of his hands in 2006.

"I am so thankful that I can take part and help be a blessing to others in need," he said. He said he appreciates the support of family and friends.

Last year The Salvation Army in the Twin Cities served nearly 500,000 hot meals, provided groceries to about 82,000 people, and nearly 370,000 nights of housing.

"Participants in the MOST Amazing Race know that the challenges of hunger and homelessness are great," said Lt. Colonel Robert Thomson, Northern divisional commander. "They also understand that when everybody chips in, the challenges are winnable."



A boost to men's ministries

"God needs men and men need God," is one of the first declarations in the revised national men's ministries guidelines recently distributed to corps. It states active men's ministries should promote corps programming, attract men without church affiliation to God and the Army and build relationships throughout the community.

"Men's ministries has a fluid definition and can even be a subset of corps groups in which men are already participating, such as band, songsters, Bible studies, prayer meetings or Sunday school, as well as fellowship groups formed around shared interests, such as golfing, fishing, hunting or other pursuits, and even groups of men who provide emergency disaster services or who are in handyman/repair ministries," said Major Robert Gauthier, territorial men's ministries secretary.

There's also a wider degree of flexibility for men's ministries. For instance, it's up to individual groups to decide whether they want formal or informal leadership, as well as what they want to call themselves, to



meet the needs of men in their corps or institution.

Under the mission statement, "Leading men into a relationship with Jesus Christ and into community with other men who love and serve Him,"

there are five focuses for men's ministries: integrity of fellowship, integrity of intellect, spiritual integrity, integrity of service and integrity of adventure.

To help groups get started, the guidelines contain lists of best-practice ideas for each of the five focuses, as well as membership and record card formats and a list of website resources. And, to further encourage men's ministries, nomination forms for the annual territorial men's ministry and territorial man of the year awards are included.



Riding a log chute at Mall of America

Some of the other tenth anniversary challenges included making a gallon of fresh salsa and eating two cups of it, delivering pillows (courtesy of Mattress Firm) to 60 apartments at the Army's Booth Manor for seniors, looking for landmarks while riding surrey bikes, jumping off a five- or 10-meter diving board at the University of Minnesota Aquatic Center, and getting a permit



DESTINATION *providence*

A RETIREMENT CELEBRATION



serving joyfully
where God has led

Commissioners William & Nancy Roberts
CHIEF OF THE STAFF AND WORLD SECRETARY FOR WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

Service conducted by General André Cox and streamed live

OCTOBER 31, 2015, 2:30PM (EST)

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STEPS

goal writing tips



by Commissioner Carol Seiler

You've probably been hearing a lot about the STEPs (Strategic Tool to Engage Potential) process at your corps in the last few years. It's designed to help your corps have maximum mission impact. As your corps sets goals in STEPs, here are some basics to get the most out of the process. And even if you're not directly involved, there may be some takeaways for your personal life in setting solid goals.

Good Goal Writing

- Understand and define the issue. What are you trying to solve? Why do you need to solve it? What difference will it make?
- Ask "why" at least five times to help identify the key issue. After someone identifies the problem, ask 'why'. Take that response and ask 'why', etc. What surfaces may surprise you.
- Identify how the goal will solve the problem. Write it down to be sure the group agrees: "We believe this goal will address the issue we want to solve because..."
- Conclude your goal statement with the phrase "which will result in..." Be sure this result addresses the problem in a meaningful way. For example, if you need a million dollars, while it might sound good to set a goal to increase bake sales by 25 percent, finishing that sentence with "which will result in \$450," helps make everyone realize it won't work. Make sure the goal has a meaningful impact.
- Avoid words like "everyone" or "all." Instead, state a more realistic goal like "at least half the people" or "8 of 10."
- Set goals that have enough of a "prize" (effect) so people are energized, stretched, willing to be involved, perhaps even a bit nervous and excited at the possibility.
- Establish a deadline. If the overall problem won't be resolved in 6 to 12 months, divide it. Figure out what can be a significant change in the 6 to 12 months.
- Remember the acronym "S.M.A.R.T." Make goals specific, measurable, attainable, realistic and timely.

Examples using STEPs documents

Here are some general examples of goals to help show the process.

Goal 101: Moving up a step.

- *By (date), we will move from Basic to Commendable in category X, which will result in...*
- *So, if Basic is some people (3 to 4 of every 10) demonstrate the behavior described, then Commendable will be many people (5 to 6 of every 10) demonstrate the behavior, which will result in 6 to 9 more people of our congregation of 30 actively involved in... Then the actions steps will focus on the 6-9 people.*
- *In 101, the key question is whether this is a "vital few" area. In other words, will reaching this goal make a meaningful difference in either mission effectiveness or resource capacity.*

Goal 201: Combining activities, possibly leveraging a strength in one area to lift another.

- *By (date), we will use the strength of Outstanding in category X, where 7 or more of every 10 people demonstrate a certain behavior, to move to Commendable (build capacity or effectiveness) in category Y, which will result in...(specific impact in another section of mission effectiveness, or more financial or technical resources, or facility resource)*
- *For example, if there are 21 spiritually mature people identified in a congregation of 30, how could they become part of a solution to another category or section?*
- *In 201, identifying a goal relates to a new way of looking at strengths in one area to support a weaker area and perhaps move up two steps.*

Goal 301: Identifying bigger issues or trends, often realizing a need that covers several categories. This involves analysis on a different level. Here's a real trend example, although the specifics were created just for the example.

- *The trend was the oil boom and population swell in Williston, N.D. Resource strengths included officers with master's degrees in social work and divisional headquarters strengths in social services and development. Resource gaps included facility space and funding. Some basic collaboration in the community existed. The pressures of service demands were being felt. The time was right for The Salvation Army to lead a response. Delays or trying to respond to needs with existing resources would cause significant debt and social crisis.*
- *An example of a good goal in this scenario: By (date) The Salvation Army will coordinate a community-wide, fully funded response to the significant increase in basic needs as a result of the oil boom in Williston, N.D., which will result in at least three agency partnerships collaborating on a grant to provide at least 250 bed nights and 750 meals daily for 12 months.*



Common Mistakes

- The goal is too vague or sounds more like a vision. Remember the goal is the method for making an outcome a concrete reality.
- The goal is already in progress and easy to accomplish, so no one is stretched by it.
- The goal doesn't relate to the problem, or the problem is not defined well enough to identify a goal.
- The goal is more of an assumed solution.
- Training is the goal. Training is an action step to help reach a goal. What will be accomplished by the trained people?
- The goal is too big, such as "all" will do "everything," or it doubles something in a very short time.
- The goal uses just a percentage without linking to a specific number that can then be broken down for specific action steps.
- The goal is so long-term no urgency is felt in accomplishing it. Due to situations like staff changes and seasonal disruptions, when the deadline looms nothing will have changed.

World of blessings for summer mission teams

Five young adult summer mission teams (SMT) find blessings in ministry at home and abroad.

Kenya East

From teaching the Kambu Corps members the Cupid Shuffle to learning how to cook African chapatti, this SMT has had the experience of a lifetime! "We were going there expecting



to be a blessing," said Brianna Shelbourn, "but in reality we were the ones who were blessed."

One such blessing came when they visited Jane Rose, who lives in a shack and attends a corps in the slums. Though she had so little, she gave them jewelry she'd made from street scraps she sells for a living. "She was boldly unashamed of the gospel," Brianna recalled. "Her energy and love was apparent."

Led by Sam Arias, the team which also included Darby Bird, Rachel Kim, Morgan Marinelli and Alex Paguibitan spent their days in a diverse array of activities from leading youth rallies to preaching

in open markets and visiting schools for handicapped children.

Haiti and Bahamas

Led by Kendelle Polsley, this SMT's ministry mainly focused on vacation Bible school (VBS). They spent several weeks leading VBS in Gros-Morne, Gonaïves and Saint-Marc, Haiti, and Eleutheria, Bahamas.

"The children were so vibrant and full of personality. It [Gros-Morne] was one of the poorest parts of



Haiti—and so remote—and yet they were some of the happiest children," said Majorie Remy.



One 11-year-old boy especially touched her heart when he shared his dream to live in America. Majorie and her teammates, Joshua Bowyer, Henry Herber, Stephanie Marinelli and Briana Staggers, could hardly keep up with his rapid-fire questions about our country.



Creative Arts Service Team (CAST)

"What I liked best about participating in CAST was getting to explain the Bible in a new way," said Kayla Bohannon, part of the first summer mission team to specialize in drama. The team, led by Cadet Veronica Cintron, also included Sandra Cabrera, Greg Hurula and Lauren Smith.

CAST helped with VBS and day camps and led workshops at five divisional music camps. At every location they presented "Bible Rewind," a light-hearted look at the Bible from beginning to end. One of the summer's highlights occurred in Lawrence, Kan., when a new family—parents and children—accepted Christ during an altar call at the end of their performance!

"It was incredible to see how God worked through our show," said Kayla.



Hungary

Led by Lance Hill, this SMT stressed building relationships at every camp and service opportunity.

"When we were at the Debrecen Corps' day camp, the kids asked some of us about our personal testimonies during free time," said Rebecca Hixenbaugh. "We found out despite our different cultures, many of us have the same struggles."

The team, which also included Milly Flores, Kaitlyn Kyser and Justin Polsley, ministered at children's camps in six locations. Though they had to rely on translation, it didn't keep them from connecting and communicating the



gospel. At the Gyöngyös Roma camp, the team demonstrated God's love by washing the children's feet. "The humility I felt from being a servant in that moment was amazing," recalled Rebecca.

Central Territory



When first-time SMT member Samantha Barnes arrived at the Detroit, Mich., Harbor Light, she wasn't sure she wanted to be there, but within days she'd completely changed her mind. "I didn't want the summer to end!" she exclaimed.

"Until this point I'd never really prayed with someone who needed it. I was always the one being prayed for," she explained. "Being on the other side, giving advice, asking questions and praying... it was outside of my comfort zone, but I was able to grow spiritually."

After Detroit, the team, which included Honey Joel, Jerry Joel, Isaac Leka, Haley Vecellio and leader Rebekah Langham, headed to Milwaukee,



Wis., to serve with "Feed the Kids" by day and help with service projects in the evening. Then it was on to Omaha, Neb., and Fairmont, Minn., where they led VBS. Their summer concluded leading boys and girls camps for Native American children in the Blacks Hills of South Dakota.

For a full report on each team, visit our website, and contact the world missions department at missions@usc.salvation-army.org if you're interested in being on an SMT.

Army opens in 127th country

The work of The Salvation Army officially commenced in Slovakia on September 1, 2015, making it the 127th country in which The Salvation Army has a recognized legal presence.

Interest in having the Army work in the country first arose in the summer of 2013 when Slovakian Christian congregations with ministries to Roma communities (a highly marginalized people in the country) expressed interest in being aligned with The Salvation Army.

Registered in Slovakia as a civic association in August 2014, the Army began developing its Roma outreach and integrated three existing congre-

gations as outposts under the supervision of The Netherlands and Czech Republic Territory. More than a dozen soldiers have been enrolled and four candidates accepted for officer training.

Leading the work are Captains Vitally and Inna Chiriach, Eastern Europe Territory officers based in Bratislava, Slovakia's capital. Chief of the Staff Commissioner William Roberts and Commissioner Nancy Roberts, world secretary for women's ministries, conducted the official opening of the work on September 1, which also marked a territorial name change to The Netherlands, Czech Republic and Slovakia Territory.

From an International News Release

Campers thrive at Central Bible

by Zane Koehler

Central Bible Leadership Institute (CBLI) 2015 was amazing! With the overarching theme "Thrive" every track from CBLI Kids to Adults pursued how they can grow in their walk with Christ. CBLI Kids sailed the 7 C's of Creation, Junior CBLI were Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D. The Junior High track was an Army of Warriors, while the Senior High track learned how to Intersect all aspects of their life in Christ. The Young Adult Community found Freedom, and the Adult Track learned about covenant living.

CBLI provides a unique opportunity for spiritual growth amongst all ages and walks in an intergenerational environment. The family atmosphere is encouraging and empowering especially for those coming from broken homes.

—Envoy Christal Johnson



Special guests included territorial leaders Commissioners Paul R. and Carol Seiler, Linda Himes, Chick and Margaret Yuill, Captains Rowan and Rachel Castle, Brent Phillips, Andres Orbe, Jim Burns, Fulton Hawk and Steve Carter. Each brought an important message God used to touch hearts in unimaginable ways.

It's evident that the Holy Spirit is at work the second your corps van goes through the gates of Wonderland Camp. That kind of worship and fire for the Holy Spirit is what brings me back every year.

—Reggie Brooks, Jr.



Evening programs were filled with joy and challenge! Monday night featured a concert by the Grammy award-winning band, for King & Country. They not only entertained campers but led them in worship, reminding each they are made in God's image and have innate dignity.

Tuesday night the summer mission teams took the stage to share their testimonies of how God is working through The Salvation Army around the world. Friday night teen peer leaders led a "War on the Floor" (prayer meeting) in which many students shared from their heart how the Lord has brought them through difficult times.



Making a world of difference

CBLI campers, young and old, banded together to make a world of difference for preschool children in Mali by raising \$8,585 to build a kindergarten on the outskirts of the capital city Bamako. With the Central Territorial Headquarters match of up to \$5,000, the total of \$13,585 is enough not only to build the facility but to fund it for two years!

According to Major Kapela Ntoya, Mali regional coordinator, the project will allow up to 30 children the opportunity to be looked after every weekday morning while parents are away or busy. It will meet a specific

need for children of an association of disabled women who've asked for the Army's help. The program will be free of charge to the community. The kindergarten will be built on land the Army already owns and on which they hope someday to build a primary school as well.

Funds for this project were raised in creative ways from children selling candy and handmade bracelets, to senior high campers selling concessions during staff versus camper softball and soccer competitions, to a silent auction and resale shop by young adults and donations and offerings by adults.

Leadership Institute

I keep coming back to CBLI because the Young Adult Community feels like family to me.

—Matt McCarter



Family day was an excellent mid-week break that offered a variety of fun and leisure. Campers had the chance to participate in a "Staff vs. Student" softball game, field games, a 5k run, petting zoo, fishing, swimming, fun at the archery range, and to attend a BMX stunt show put on

by Real Encounter Outreach. This day of rest was topped off with fireworks at the waterfront. Many found it a wonderful opportunity to sit back, relax and absorb what they had learned during the first half of camp.

CBLI doesn't always teach me something, but it always reminds me of the sacrifice Jesus made for me which helps me strive to be more like Him.—Caleb Shelbourn



It was a privilege to minister to the four-and five-year-olds this year on CBLI staff. At this age children are deciding to follow Christ, and I consider it an honor to be used by God to guide them in that direction.—Katy Engle



CBLI 2015 was a year to remember. Friendships were made. Hearts were turned toward Christ. Lives were saved.

If this looks and sounds like a camp you would like to attend, mark your calendars for CBLI next year, July 30–August 7, 2016! Hope to see you there.



Photos by Nicki Hudgens and Cathleen Himes

CBLI Awards

Jr. CBLI Top Girl

Megan Hanton (Goshen, Ind., Corps)

Jr. CBLI Top Boy

Jaylen Williams (Oakbrook Terrace, Ill., Corps)

Jr. CBLI Bible Scholar

Bram Carr (Peoria Citadel, Ill., Corps)

Jr. CBLI Future Star

Majestik Pullen (Heartland Division)

Garrington Award

Doug Leslie (Noble Worship Center, Minn., Corps)

Jr. High Top Boy

Ronnie McCoy (Muscatine, Iowa, Corps)

Jr. High Top Girl

Olyvia Shiels (Kansas City Northland, Mo., Corps)

Bonifield Award

Shannon Cabrera (Wichita Citadel, Kan., Corps)

Green Award

Captain Dana Bigelow (Marion, Ind., Corps)

Fisher Award

George McSpadden (Southeast Michigan Adult Rehabilitation Center)

Carlson Award

Allison Jordan (Oakbrook Terrace, Ill., Corps)

Landon McClintock (Omaha Citadel, Neb., Corps)

Shiels Award

Milly Flores (New Albany, Ind., Corps)

Strissel Award

Oksana Murray (St. Louis Maplewood, Mo., Corps)

Pepper Award

David Paredes (East Chicago, Ind., Corps)

Leader Award

Keyarah Banks (Port Huron, Mich., Corps)

Rowland Award

Joe Portera (Des Plaines, Ill., Corps)

Music just the hook for Himes



It began with then Chief Secretary Colonel Gordon Foubister, at the behest of new Territorial Commander Commissioner John Needham, coaxing Bill Himes away from teaching music in the public schools of Flint, Mich., to come work for the Army as territorial music secretary and Chicago Staff bandmaster. Given that he was just 28 and the first layman in the world to be considered for this appointment, there is no question the Army—and Bill—were taking a risk. But Bill took the job—with a three-year commitment.

As it turned out, the job proved not only a good fit but a life's calling. It became the place for Bill to invest himself for God's Kingdom. With such immense talent, his possibilities were infinite, but he chose to commit to this ministry for 38 years, believing it to be God's will. His dedication not only has strengthened the Army but extended its sphere of influence.

He introduced initiatives like Live Music in Worship in Every Corps by 2020, the Bill Booth Theater Company, The Singing Company and Territorial Youth Band and Chorus and produced new resources like the "Hallelujah Choruses" and worship series.

From tunes for beginners to festival works for bands, Bill has composed more than 250 pieces, including favorites like *To the Chief Musician*, *Jubilance for Cornet and Band*, *Jericho Revisited*, *Aspects of Praise*, *Procession to Covenant* and "All that I am." Some would say his greatest contributions to Army music actually have been song accompaniments like "O Boundless Salvation" or "In Christ Alone." (Interestingly, Bill was only 18 at the time of his

first published work by the Army called *The Witness*.)

"From my earliest creative instincts as a child to the frequent inspiration and purpose that has come my way over the years, it has been my joy and challenge to write music that God might use to touch hearts and convey spiritual truth," wrote Bill in the introduction to his *Legacy* CD. "And it has been my honor to write many of the pieces in this collection for the Chicago Staff Band—my band."

During his tenure, the Chicago Staff Band's ministry has spanned the globe and become known for excellence and innovation. Just as importantly to Bill has been the band's commitment to supporting the Army's mission throughout the territory—in many instances in smaller and more rural locations—nearly every month of the year. And it's not only been the band's talent or targeted programming that has endeared the CSB to its audiences but Bill's persona.

"His ability to relate to an audience is one of his greatest gifts," observed Peggy Thomas who has been in the band and worked alongside Bill for decades. "He's the absolute best story teller, and most of them are hilarious. The majority of us [CSB] can play a musical instrument. Some of us can conduct; others of us can compose. Some are good speakers or writers, are quick witted or can preach or lead Bible studies, but give me one other name in the entire

Salvation Army world who can do all these things like Bill. He's without peer."

Under Bill's direction, Central Music Institute (CMI) has grown from three bands and a vocal school to five bands and two choruses plus 25 diverse electives. In that time CMI has instructed nearly 6,000 students, and more than half of its current faculty were students while Bill's been at the helm. Other hallmark events, inspiring and equipping Salvationists, have included dozens of territorial music leaders councils, worship arts retreats, youth music clinics and music congresses and festivals.

"It would be easy to say he's all about the music," said Staff Bandsman Ron Shoults. "It couldn't be further from the truth. To be sure, he loves music, and sometimes the band will play a piece because, well, it's just good music. But that doesn't mean it's all about the music—far from it. If I've heard him say it once, I've heard him say it a hundred times, 'Music is just the hook to bring people to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.' In my opinion, he's not just a musician, he's an evangelist who uses music as the hook."

Indeed, Bill's perspective of music as a means to win people to Christ and help them grow in their faith has been central to everything he's done.

In 2000 Bill received the Order of the Founder, the Army's highest honor, for dedicating his life to the cause of Christ, yielding a ministry

that has touched thousands of lives. "I was totally shocked to receive the award....Everybody in the Army does their job without thinking of such an honor or realizing that other people value their work to that degree. When you're simply doing what you're supposed to do, you don't even consider awards," he said.

"There I was, by God's grace, standing nearby when General John Gowans pinned the Army's highest recognition on Bill's tunic admitting him to the Order of the Founder," said Colonel Dennis Phillips. "Many may opine the award was given him due to his worldwide celebrity in music composition and conducting, but I am more convinced Bill merited this recognition every Wednesday night at the Oakbrook Terrace, Ill., Corps where he faithfully taught instrumental music to brand new beginners, some of whom became Chicago Staff bandsmen. I love this man for the intense spiritual impact he has had on me and my wife, our children and grandchildren. All my 'Bill Himes moments' have indelibly impacted my heart, mind and soul."

Indeed, each of us has our own "Bill Himes moments." His music has lifted our spirits and moved our hearts. His testimony has strengthened our faith. And for that as he retires, we say thanks, Bill, for being dedicated to the Chief Musician.

Newly accepted candidate

Robert Owen

**Huntington, Ind., Corps
Indiana Division**

I heard my first calling to ministry on the banks of the Mississinewa River at age 8. I was being harassed

by some boys who threatened to throw me in the water. After realizing they shouldn't do it because I could drown, they left me on the shore. I remember thinking "those boys really need Jesus."



I'd grown up going to vacation Bible school and church off and on, but it was May 24, 1990, when I found myself at the altar pouring out myself to the Lord. I found peace and acceptance on that day and a desire to share it with others. Since then I have not always lived as I should but always knew I was called for a higher purpose. In February 2014 I found a copy of the *War Cry* in the local library and thought, "I'll go there to see if I can be of service."

I found a place where I could use the talents God has given me. I have been called to preach and teach the gospel as an officer.

Robert's corps officer is Captain Barbara McCauley.



New lives for asylum seekers

"If you ever need help, go straight to The Salvation Army." These departing words of advice came to Pastor Joel Bobby, the Pakistani leader of an underground church in Saudi Arabia, from an Indian pastor friend, who was also leading a secret church, when he learned Joel was seeking asylum for his family in the U.S.

A long-time employee of Hyundai Corporation, Joel and his wife, Jane, had married and raised their family in Saudi Arabia. Now God was miraculously opening the doors for them to make the many necessary travel and visa arrangements so they could move.

In late 2014 they arrived to stay with relatives in Chicago's northwest suburbs until residency and work permits could be finalized. But, their relatives had a very small, one-bathroom apartment and a family of their own to provide for. Space and finances were tight.

Recalling his friend's advice, Joel contacted the nearest Salvation Army, which happened to be the Des Plaines, Ill., Corps. There he not only received assistance for his family's physical needs, such as food and even a voucher for a month's motel stay, but open arms of welcome from the corps officers, Captains David and Shannon Martinez, and the rest of the strongly multicultural corps.

Happily ensconced and active in the corps, the family received an even greater blessing when Majors Jim and Judy Garrington, territorial headquarters officers and soldiers at the corps, opened their home to them. Former missionaries, the Garringtons were more than happy to help the family make the sometimes difficult transition to American life.

This past spring the three Joel children, Jerry, 23, Honey, 21, and Binish, 19, were enrolled as soldiers, and the two oldest served on the territorial summer mission team that ministered in the Midwest. And, until their father recently received his work permit, he volunteered for the Army.

"When I'm settled in a fulltime job and find a home for my family, Captain David offered me the opportunity to start an outreach ministry to the Pakistani population in the northwest suburbs," said Joel.



Pictured (l-r) are Pastor Joel, Honey, Jerry, Binish and Jane

A mountaintop experience

NSE transforming Chicago Kroc

by Major Darlene Harvey

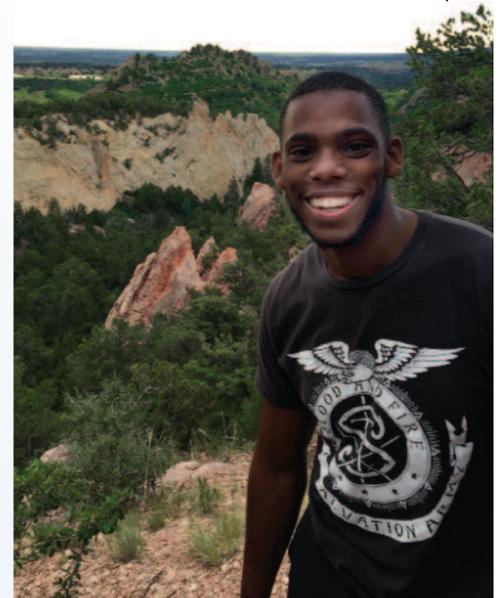
Soldiers from the Chicago, Ill., Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center have been thankful to attend the National Seminar on Evangelism (NSE). It has been a mountaintop experience which has transformed them individually as well as equipped them collectively to share the gospel.

Since the Chicago Kroc Center is a new corps, it has given soldiers a broader picture of The Salvation Army and allowed them to meet Salvationists from across the country who share the same mission. The focus of spiritual renewal, combined with the beautiful setting of God's creation in the Rocky Mountains, allows delegates to deepen their commitment to the Lord.

Sequetia Hammons shared NSE has been a life-changing experience. She believes it has allowed her to become the person she always wanted to be by leaving her comfort zone. With curriculum based on friendship evangelism, she and other delegates feel it has inspired them to approach others. Charles Bundy, Chicago Kroc corps sergeant-major, has indicated it's given him confidence and understanding of how to share the gospel.

Specific action steps that have emerged from NSE include the corps incorporating a "Prayer Tent" into our outreach and community events at the Kroc Center. This gives soldiers a place to meet and pray with individuals who have come to our health fair, anniversary celebration, Christmas assistance, Thanksgiving dinner, Hallelujah Night (alternative Halloween activity) and Martin Luther King celebration. Last year soldiers who attended NSE started a singles' ministry which has brought new people to the corps and center.

This year delegates have been inspired to return home and begin new ministries. Dan Cornelious would like to start a young adult ministry. Richard Parker feels led to begin a brass ministry, serve veterans and strengthen the corps' relationship with the adult rehabilitation



NSE Chicago Kroc delegate Dan Cornelious

center and the Chicago Harbor Light. Fannie Taylor-Parker shares NSE has called her to reach out to women and children. Upon her first Sunday back at the corps she helped with junior church and was a part of leading five young girls to the Lord. Barbara Alexander feels this experience reminded her she needs to take time with the Lord and listen to Him, knowing she can't give others what she doesn't



Chicago Kroc Center delegates getting ready for a morning hike with staff member Cotton Presley (back).

have within herself. She wants to strengthen her devotional life. Of course, part of the training and curriculum emphasizes everyone developing closer relationships with their neighbors, friends and family. Each delegate would like to be more intentional about sharing God's love with those in their neighborhood.

We thank God for the opportunity The Salvation Army gives to train soldiers and officers by providing this wonderful, refreshing opportunity for spiritual renewal and commitment. NSE is transforming us and our ministry.



The Central Territory delegates

730... AND BEYOND



479 days and counting

by Lt. Jonathan Tamayo

I love fulltime ministry as a Salvation Army officer. It provides me so many opportunities to speak truth, serve others and show Christ's love to people. Though the opportunities are too numerous to count, I want to share one specific instance in which God used me recently as an officer.

I was asked to conduct a funeral for a soldier's son from my corps. Having never conducted a funeral, I accepted this opportunity with a humble heart. When the day of the funeral came it was filled with sadness, pain and sorrow, but it also was filled with hope because of Christ. Meeting with the family, I felt there were times when I had no words to truly comfort them or ease their pain, but just being there to show



support and love seemed to be enough. Though this ministry was difficult, I was thankful for the opportunity to pray, support and show love to a hurting family.

Officership brings so many opportunities to minister to people in both good and hard times that I couldn't have imagined, and I'm grateful God's chosen me to serve Him through The Salvation Army.

Buttreys move forward



Themed "Moving Forward, Looking Back," the retirement celebration for Majors Robert and Vicki Buttrey featured fond tributes, words of hope and a rousing closing congregational song, "I'll go in the strength."

The Buttreys' children were an important part of their retirement ceremony with Captain Robb Buttrey and Captain Michelle Graham conducting it while Christina Tompkins and Nathan Buttrey held the flags. Tributes were presented by Lt. Colonels David and Sherry Grindle for friends and mentors, Major Vicki Steinsland for sessionmates, Jennifer Buttrey for family and Jim Spencer for soldiers.

Commissioned in 1981 with the "God's Soldiers" session, the Buttreys served as corps officers in the Midland Division until 1986. Then came a series of headquarters appointments in the Metropolitan, Midland, Northern and Western Divisions where Major Robert held finance, business and administrative appointments, while Major Vicki served in women's ministries and programming.

After leading the Hammond-Munster, Ind., Corps and Lake County Coordinator's Office, the Buttreys were appointed in 2011 to the Adult Rehabilitation Centers Command, where Major Robert served as general secretary and Major Vicki as assistant to the director of special services and as multicultural ministries coordinator, until their retirement.

The Salvation Army

PRAYER CENTRAL

USA Central Territory

November Prayer Calendar

My Prayer List	Day	Bible Reading	Pray for The Salvation Army
	1 Sunday	Ecclesiastes 3-4	Youth in corps cadets
	2 Monday	Zephaniah	Milwaukee, Wis., ARC*
	3 Tuesday	Acts 11-12	Flint Citadel, Mich., Corps
	4 Wednesday	James 4-5	Madison Genesis, Wis., Corps
	5 Thursday	Deuteronomy 1-3	Galesburg, Ill., Corps
	6 Friday	2 Chronicles 33-36	Indianapolis Eagle Creek, Ind., Corps
	7 Saturday	Psalms 128-130	Kansas City Citadel, Kan., Corps
	8 Sunday	Ecclesiastes 5-6	Junior soldier enrollments
	9 Monday	Haggai	Cicero Templo Laramie, Ill., Corps
	10 Tuesday	Acts 13-14	Caribbean Territory ^{PM}
	11 Wednesday	1 Peter 1-3	Hibbing, Minn., Corps
	12 Thursday	Deuteronomy 4-6	Kearney, Neb., Corps
	13 Friday	Ezra 1-5	Metropolitan DHQ**
	14 Saturday	Psalms 131-133	Jackson, Mich., Corps
	15 Sunday	Ecclesiastes 7-8	Madison Temple, Wis., Corps
	16 Monday	Zechariah 1-7	Minneapolis, Minn., ARC*
	17 Tuesday	Acts 15-16	Hillsdale, Mich., Corps
	18 Wednesday	1 Peter 4-5	Iowa City, Iowa, Corps
	19 Thursday	Deuteronomy 7-9	Indianapolis Fountain Square, Ind., Corps
	20 Friday	Ezra 6-10	Kansas City Northland, Mo., Corps
	21 Saturday	Psalms 134-136	Crystal Lake, Ill., Corps
	22 Sunday	Ecclesiastes 9-10	Jacksonville, Ill., Corps
	23 Monday	Zechariah 8-14	International Falls, Minn., Corps
	24 Tuesday	Acts 17-18	Lincoln, Neb., Corps
	25 Wednesday	1 John 1-2	Kalamazoo, Mich., Corps
	26 Thursday	Deuteronomy 10-12	Thank God for the blessings He gives!
	27 Friday	Nehemiah 1-4	Christmas kettle campaigns
	28 Saturday	Psalms 137-139	Manitowoc, Wis., Corps
	29 Sunday	Ecclesiastes 11-12	Livingston County, Mich., Corps
	30 Monday	Malachi	Kankakee, Ill., Corps

* = Adult Rehabilitation Center
** = Divisional Headquarters
PIM = Partners in Mission

Go to www.salarmycentral.org

If you follow the prayer calendar during the year, you will have read through the Bible!



--Mustard Seeds--



Garbage Bag

Continued from page 1

and fundraising, and service and volunteering. Founded in 2010 in Dallas, Texas, chapters have begun to steadily spread across the country; St. Louis is the latest chapter to be accepted into Echelon.

Going beyond the traditional duties of a Salvation Army Young Professionals Group, Echelon explores fresh opportunities that extend fundraising and networking. To engage younger donors and volunteers, Echelon hosts events such as 5k runs, fashion shows, tailgate parties and Easter egg hunts. They leverage the power of social media and crowdsourcing to promote what results in highly publicized, highly attended and highly funded events.

Garbage Bag Gala holds a special place in the hearts of Echelon St. Louis members. With more than 29 percent of St. Louisans living below the poverty line, the services offered by The Salvation Army to homeless men, women and children are critical. Garbage Bag Gala's primary intention is to bring awareness and funds to these underserved communities.



"This year's Garbage Bag Gala encompassed what I believe Echelon was created to do," said Cate. "We brought together many generations of Salvation Army volunteers and donors to support the work that The Salvation Army does. *Reclaim. Recover. Rejoice.*—the theme for Garbage Bag Gala—does not only represent the fashion show. It represents the work The Salvation Army does every day: taking people, clothes, household items, cars, even buildings on their last leg and giving them new life."

For more information about Echelon St. Louis, visit salvationarmyechelon.org



Drill tests disaster coordination

Continued from page 1

teams who are providing services, such as mobile feeding and emotional and spiritual care.

"During this set up we found problems with our primary antenna system. However, knowing disasters, we always prepare by having redundancy. We put up our redundant antennas and were on the air providing necessary field communications. We always remember in a disaster, 'Flexibility is the keyword.' We can fix situations as we go," said Bill Shillington, Central territorial SATERN coordinator and operations/logistics coordinator for the exercise.

Critical Incident and Stress Management (CISM) trained volunteers provided support to disaster victims and first responders by lending emotional and spiritual care.

"Our being here is by invitation because we train to CISM. We have a team of four participating, but the military chaplains only serve military so the civilian population shifted to The Salvation Army. That's kind of daunting but also exciting," said Major David Dalberg, Metropolitan divisional emergency disaster services director and emotional and spiritual care officer for the exercise.

Major Karen Hanton, Central terri-



Mary Minton prays with Nebraska National Guardsman Lt. Trevor Bellows.

torial disaster training coordinator and operations chief during the PATRIOT exercise, was pleased with the Army's overall performance. "Through this training, The Salvation Army is able to better understand the role of the National Guard and how it can help support them during a disaster," she said. "In return, the National Guard better understands the role of The Salvation Army so together they can work to help and restore hope to those affected by disaster."

For information on becoming an emergency disaster services volunteer visit www.edscentral.org



Following his grandfather's course

Joey Vogeney of the Des Plaines, Ill., Corps was sworn in at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, earlier this year in a private ceremony by his grandfather, Lt. Colonel Marcus Stilwell. Colonel Stilwell was in the Navy before becoming a Salvation Army officer and served on a submarine during the Korean Conflict. Joe's respect for his grandfather and his feeling that this is how the Lord would want him to serve our nation were the motivating factors in his decision to join the Navy.



The Jubilee Down in My Heart

Scandinavian Jubilee October 23-25, 2015

Don't miss a wonderful weekend of music, messages and memories—and the chance to pass on your love of heritage to a new generation!

Featuring

Colonels Jan Peder and Birgit Fosen
Chief Secretary and
Territorial Secretary for Women's Ministries
Norway, Iceland and Faeroes Territory

Musical Guests

A/Captains Lars-Otto and Ingrid Ljungholm
Corps Officers, Garland, Texas

Lakewood Temple, Minn., Band
and a United Stringband

Rockford Temple, Ill., Corps
500 S. Rockford Ave.
(815) 226-4400



Promoted to Glory

Major Norma DeGraff

Major Norma DeGraff was promoted to Glory on July 27, 2015. She was 87.

Norma was born to William and LaVerne DeGraff on January 27, 1928, in Mishawaka, Ind. She was enrolled as a junior soldier at age six and gave her life to the Lord at age 13. At age 16, Norma left home to live with officers for the next 10 years, during which time her faith was strengthened and her desire to serve grew before she received her call to officership.



In 1957 Norma entered training from the Madison, Ind., Corps. After commissioning she served for 20 years in various corps appointments in Indiana until 1979 when she was appointed as the St. Cloud, Minn., corps officer. She remained in Minnesota until her 1993 retirement from the Albert Lea, Minn., Corps.

In retirement Norma served as part-time chaplain at the South Bend, Ind., Adult Rehabilitation Center. She also traveled widely with her sister, Flora, and friends.

She was preceded in death by her siblings Robert, William, Charles and Flora and is survived by many nieces and nephews.