Young adults set hearts on Heaven

by Tabatha Anderson

A record-breaking crowd of more than 400 young adults gathered at Camp Wonderland for the annual conference known as Regeneration. The event’s theme, “Heaven,” reminded delegates to flee from loving the world and, instead, set their minds on things above.

Throughout the weekend Salvationist and Bible expositor Cotton Presley inspired young adults to embrace their true identity as “citizens of Heaven.” In the keynote session, Presley presented the foundation for eternity put in our hearts, so we will never be satisfied down here.

Christian contemporary vocalist Audrey Assad led worship on Friday night. She began by guiding delegates to a cappella in the hymn “Come Thou Fount” which prepared them for the teaching of God’s Word. With a clear and powerful voice, she beautifully led worship for plenary sessions as well as presenting a concert Saturday evening. Her new album, Heart, had shot to number one on the iTunes Christian Albums chart.

Regeneration delegates partnered with the territory’s Love in Action goat project, an endeavor to give goats to 350 families in Zambia. A family is able to generate a sustainable source of income by selling a goat’s milk and offspring. Delegates

Green Bay Kroc scores 3,200 members

Since the Green Bay WOs, Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center opened last August, more than 3,200 individuals have joined. “This is significantly ahead of our expectation,” said Captain Ken Shiel, senior Kroc Center officer and Brown County coordinator.

Membership has picked up since January 1 thanks to New Year’s resolutions and the close of the National Football League season. “It’s a Green Bay Packers town,” said Ken. “When there’s a game on, everyone is watching!”

In less than a year of operation, the Kroc Center has had an amazing impact on the community already. According to a member and potential-member survey, the people of Green Bay are grateful for the safe, healthy and wholesome environment the Kroc Center provides.

“There are other organizations similar to us, but we go a step further and care for our members’ spiritual health with counseling and corps church services,” said Ken. “It’s something that sets us apart.”

The Green Bay Kroc Center is one of two in the Central Territory planting a corps instead of incorporating an existing one. It’s creating a unique opportunity to start with a clean slate. Corps Officers Major Louise and Cadet Karl Blessing—recently married—are working hard to build the corps, and they’re seeing success.

Nine partnerships with community groups also expand the Kroc Center’s influence in Green Bay. They offer GED and citizenship classes, mentoring programs and a children’s oral health clinic where community dentists volunteer to provide dental care for low-income children. Area schools also have found it a great option for holding school programs.

As far as future expectations go, Kroc leadership anticipates continued growth. “No doubt God has blessed this ministry, and we’ll continue to trust Him to keep us on target,” said Ken.

The RJ’s Fun Depot childcare area

About 50 people attend Sunday worship services on a regular basis and many of them came through the Kroc Center. Community members visit the center, learn about the corps and discover it’s a convenient, God-centered option for worship.

Gospel and Performing Arts Director Grant Holloway leads a music class

Some of the wonderful Green Bay Kroc Center staff

N ews and Views from the Midwest

“...we have all been called to the same glorious future.” Eph. 4:3,4 (NLT)
Tending our souls

by Colonel Dawn Heatwole
Territorial Candidates’ Secretary

For Christmas we received a large, very beautiful poinsettia. The blooms were deep red, vibrant and abundant. For the first few weeks, they remained this way. Then I began to notice that the red had began to fade and the leaves were starting to droop. I had set it in a corner, so it wasn’t getting the light it needed. The poinsettia also needed to be watered more often than my other plants. Once I adjusted the light and water, the color in the blooms returned to a deep red, and the leaves were once again vibrant green.

It reminds me of my spiritual walk. There are days when I’m feeling great, my devotions are exciting and my prayer time goes quickly. My spirit is buoyant, and I’m ready to face the day and anything that comes my way. Then there are times when I realize I haven’t spent enough time with the Lord. I haven’t taken the proper time to feed and water my spirit, and I begin to droop a little in my service—and attitude.

My spiritual walk deserves much more attention than my plants. I must be careful to keep my time with the Lord set apart. Since I journal my prayers, I can look back and see both times of struggle and times of victory. I’m responsible for feeding and watering my spirit. I cannot, nor should I, expect my corps officer to tend my heart. I have to do it myself.

So, how is your spiritual garden? Are you tending to it daily?

Cadet campaigns get a makeover

by Cadet Melinda Tripp

Next month cadets from the College for Officer Training will embark on the second weekend of new campaigns this year. Traditional spring campaigns have undergone a makeover. Now, instead of one weekend long campaign in just a few corps, cadets are conducting two weekend campaigns which enable them to minister in more locations.

This change also better reflects corps ministry. The typical corps does not conduct weekend long evangelistic campaigns any longer but often holds two weekend campaigns during a year. An outgrowth of this change has been greater demand for cadets to visit corps around the territory. The requests for cadet campaigns more than doubled with the new format. So, cadets can double their impact.

The “Friends of Christ” and “Proclaimers of the Resurrection” sessions spread out across the territory in February for evangelistic campaigns and outreach. The “Proclaimers of the Resurrection” session brigades taught “The Story of Jesus” in St. Louis, Mo.; Council Bluffs, Iowa; Kalamazoo, Mich.; and Springfield, Ill. The “Friends of Christ” session brigades incorporated various themes like holiness and prayer in Rochester, Minn.; Flint and Grand Rapids, Mich.; and Quincy, Ill.

The cadets received a wonderful response from the corps they visited. Seeing the people dig into God’s Word and light up as they learned was an encouragement to the cadets. All of the hard work and preparation for the weekend was worth it as cadets saw the impact of their ministry.

In May the cadets will head out into the territory to reach more people with the gospel. The locations for these weekend campaigns include: Marquette and Warren, Mich.; Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Elkhart and Indianapolis, Ind.; Wichita, Kan.; St. Louis, Mo.; and Fond du Lac, Wis.

Words of Life

May – August 2012

Take time with the Father daily as you meditate upon His Word.

Ask Jesus to interpret His Word and speak to your heart.

Open yourself to the Spirit as He brings inspiration.

As we contemplate travel during the summer months, we acknowledge that faith is a journey, too. From the travels of the Israelites to the Promised Land, to David’s perseverance in faith despite his failings, and the spread of the Good News in Acts, we see how God stands by His people when they trust in Him.

Along the way we consider the importance of prayer, the suffering of Job and the story of Ezra, while guest writer Major Sasmoko Herjajo from Indonesia provides a beautiful Pentecost series. Each weekend excerpts from hymns, psalms and proverbs remind us that we share our faith journey with brothers and sisters worldwide.

Words of Life is available through Resource Connection (1-800-937-8896 or shop.salvationarmy.org) and also as a Kindle book from Amazon (type in Words of Life May – August 2012).
w ill be available along the route and at the finish line. Refreshment costs only $6.00 and starts at 7:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 9, in Merrillville, Ind.

Steve DeNeff

Saturday morning of the Spiritual Life Summit will feature Steve DeNeff, senior pastor of College Wesleyan Church in Marion, Ind. A prolific author and popular speaker at conferences, camps and universities, Steve first and foremost wants to be known as a disciple of Christ.

His latest book, SoulShift, focuses on discipleship not as a program but as a way of life where we become more like Jesus. It conveys through seven soul shifts how God can transform our lives.

Steve holds bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Indiana Wesleyan University (IWU) and received an honorary doctorate from his alma mater in April 2003. A pastor in the Wesleyan Church for more than 25 years, he is active in the training and development of new ministers.

Throughout the U.S. He currently serves on the IWU Board of Trustees and is also a member of the General Board of Administration for the Wesleyan Church International.

In his free time, Steve enjoys golfing, bicycling and playing basketball. He is the lucky husband of Lori and father to Nicholas and Ashley.

5-6-7 Run for the World

Join in fun, fitness and fellowship by signing up to participate in the 5-6-7 Run [or walk] for the World with Territorial Commander Commissioner Paul R. Seiler.

The slogan tells you what you need to know. It’s a 5K course—3.1 miles, costs only $6.00 and starts at 7:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 9, in Merrillville, Ind.

People of all ages and fitness levels are welcome, and you’ll receive a t-shirt just for signing up. Refreshment will be available along the route and at the finish line.

Everyone participating has the opportunity to raise funds for World Services. Simply download a copy of the optional pledge form during the registration process. You—or friends and family supporting you—will have the option to pledge funds toward your corps’ World Services goal or the Windsor Lodge Children’s Home in Mandeville, Jamaica.

“What a great opportunity this is to raise money for a good cause, get active and fellowship with other believers during commissioning weekend,” said Captain Willie DeJesus, territorial assistant youth secretary and race coordinator.

That’s when I knew God wanted me in ministry. From then on, He has worked miracles in my life, one after the other, leading me toward officer training. I have been at the corps in Merrillville, Wis., working as an intern, learning the ins and outs of being a corps officer.

During this time I have been growing closer to God and into the woman He wants me to be. I am excited about the next adventure awaiting me at the College for Officer Training. I hope to make lifelong friends and further develop my passion for ministry.

Megan’s corps officer is Captain Leanna Tuttle.

Newly accepted candidate

Megan Hartley

Marinette, Wis.
Wisconsin and Upper Michigan Division

Growing up as an officer’s child, I had many people joke with me about following in the ‘family business,’ but I was adamant I would never become a Salvation Army officer. I made a big mistake. I told God ‘never.’

Until two years ago I believed I called a borrowed faith. I hid behind religious knowledge and never had a personal relationship with Christ. When I finally gave my heart to the Lord. He filled me with an incredible, mountable joy! I had a clear and overwhelming desire to witness to everyone who was searching for happiness. I wanted them to have the same incredible, life-changing feeling I was so overcome with.

That’s when I knew God wanted me in ministry. From then on, He has worked miracles in my life, one after the other, leading me toward officer training. I have been at the corps in Merrillville, Wis., working as an intern, learning the ins and outs of being a corps officer.

During this time I have been growing closer to God and into the woman He wants me to be. I am excited about the next adventure awaiting me at the College for Officer Training. I hope to make lifelong friends and further develop my passion for ministry.

Megan’s corps officer is Captain Leanna Tuttle.

Bone chilling blessing

by Cadet Judith Fetzer

When my husband came home from his weekly men’s fellowship at the College for Officer Training in November 2010 and said, “I know exactly what the men on this campus need,” I imagined a new accountability group or Bible study. You can imagine my surprise when he exclaimed, “We need to jump into Lake Michigan in January!”

John explained about men banding together and adrenaline-based activities.

At the end of the conversation, I was bewildered about this vision for men’s fellowship, and even as four first-year cadets jumped into the icy water of the Great Lake in 2011, all I could think was, “It’s a man thing.”

Over the next year plunge survivors Cadet Daryl Mangeri made connections with the community leader who organizes the annual Polar Bear Plunge, hoping The Salvation Army could offer hot beverages at the 2012 event. Simultaneously, a new committee, formed to focus on evangelism in the Lakeview/Boynton area, started the “Good Neighbor Initiative” to generate ideas to demonstrate Christ’s love monthly to our neighbors in simple and practical ways.

On January 28, 2012, the Men’s Fellowship Polar Bear Plungers, which actually included one female cadet, and the “Good Neighbor Initiative” sponsored hot beverage service to participants and spectators.

Cadet Corey Hughes on duty at the Chicago Polar Bear Plunge

ers. Those of us on campus consider this a testimony to God’s ability to weave our best ideas together for His purposes.

Evidently, organizers of the Polar Bear Plunge have been trying to find a hot beverage sponsor for 10 years! Community leaders were so excited they gave away mugs to all plunge participants.

What began as “a man thing” showed itself to be “a God thing.”

Cadets covered the cost of serving hot chocolate to 1,200 people, while the Metropolitan Divisional Headquarters and the college loaned insulated containers to keep the cocoa hot. Cadet Corey Hughes represented the Army in uniform and called the cadet response to serve overwhelming.

“We had a number of volunteers who either donated money or were willing to give up a Saturday, which is often the only full day for studies, in order to be Christ in our community,” he said.

The following Sunday at campus worship, many cadets testified how this opportunity to serve greatly encouraged them because of the exciting conversations that took place.

5-6-7 Run for the World
Chicago mayor speaks at Central ARC

More than 300 alumni and beneficiaries packed the Chicago Central Adult Rehabilitation Center (ARC) chapel recently to hear Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel deliver the keynote address at the annual sobriety awards banquet.

The banquet celebrates the achievements of former residents who have found their way back into society by God’s grace and the ARC’s open doors. The event draws men from all over the Chicago area who come to celebrate the ministry of the ARC and reunite with other alumni. Alderman Walter Burnett, long-time friend and supporter of The Salvation Army, introduced the mayor as a “man of change” and highlighted many of the mayor’s recent initiatives.

Mayor Emanuel brought the overflow crowd to its feet as he thanked the men for their courage. Personally sharing about growing up in Chicago, he said, “Change is possible if we refuse to quit.”

Speaking from his heart, the mayor told the crowd they understand what it takes to succeed in life because of their experiences. “There isn’t anything you can’t do,” he declared. He went on to refer to the men and women of the center as the “future leaders of Chicago.”

A special tribute was given to James Gross, Chicago Central ARC director of rehabilitation, who passed away just a few weeks prior to the awards banquet. Mr. Gross had faithfully served at the ARC for more than 21 years. Major Larry Manzella, Chicago Central ARC administrator, read a proclamation from the Chicago City Council honoring Mr. Gross, and his wife, Kimberly, graciously accepted an award.

By the time the afternoon was over, more than 200 men had walked across the platform to receive their certificates of sobriety.

Major Manzella said, “The former residents of this program are powerful testaments to the saving, transforming power of the almighty God.”

The Chicago Central ARC has a rich history of providing addiction services since 1902 to thousands of Chicago area men and, most recently, women.

The gospel sounds of the Chicago Central ARC Choir

Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel with Mrs. Kimberly Gross and Alderman Walter Burnett, Mayor Emanuel with Mrs. Kimberly Gross and Alderman Walter Burnett

Majors Larry and Joan Manzella with some of the 200 men who received sobriety certificates.

ARCs commission local officers

by Major Linda Mitchell

On most any Sunday morning you can find a capacity crowd gathered for lively and meaningful worship at any one of the 20 adult rehabilitation centers (ARCs) in the Central Territory. Among those in attendance are beneficiaries, program graduates, family members and friends of participants, employees and officers. They call the ARC their church home.

For many, their time at the ARC has been instrumental in developing a genuine faith walk which is nurtured by administrators and staff. The participants find a sense of belonging and are comfortable in their rehabilitation. Due to this desire to belong, long ago The Salvation Army began enrolling adherents at ARCs. Currently, there are 291 adherents in Central Territory ARCs.

Just over two years ago, ARCs began enrolling senior soldiers. As of October 2011 ARCs in the Central Territory had enrolled 308 senior soldiers. Some are program graduates, others family members, and still others friends of the Army. Whatever their connection, they now belong to the part of the body of Christ known as The Salvation Army.

Last October the ARC Command

Lt. Colonel Richard Vander Weele, territorial secretary for program, commissions local officers at the Gary, Ind., ARC, including Vernon Hill as sergeant-major, Theodric Coleman as organizing secretary, Tamera Franklin as welcome sergeant, Sharon Hill as welcome sergeant, and Michael Llamaso as quartermaster.

Dennis Earnhart commissions Johnnie Richardson as men’s fellow ship secretary at the Waukegan, Ill., ARC.

Colonels Merle and Dawn Heatwole, chief secretary and secretary for women’s ministries, commission sergeant-major James McPadden at the Southeast Michigan ARC which is led by Eunyae Merle and Charyl Miller.

Michigan, and Waukegan, Ill. ARCs offer a unique blend of ministry and rehabilitation. They are places where miracles happen every day, bearing witness to the life-changing power of Jesus Christ. Check them out sometime and consider whether God is calling you to serve in the ARC Command.

Booth University College, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, seeks an academic dean to lead its academic programs. Duties include developing and maintaining programs, recruiting and supervising faculty and cultivating strong relationships within the academic and other constituencies. As a member of the senior leadership team, the academic dean works closely with the president of the institution.

Booth University College is operated by the Canada and Bermuda Territory; it serves students on its Winnipeg campus, officers across the country and the international Salvation Army in 35 countries.

Please submit a letter of introduction, a curriculum vitae and three references to Dr. Donald Burke, president, Booth University College: donald_burke@boothuc.ca
W
girlguards to the Timbrel Brigade in the corps from corps cadets to and eventually became a senior officer. She characterized her call to officership as a series of realizations, with an unusual turning point.

"One day as I was cleaning my room, I stopped and thought about how I had been living my life," Candida recalled. "I realized it was time to recommit myself to the Lord and give my life to the Salvation Army."

She also asked God for a helping hand in this endeavor. "I asked God to guide me and help me make the right decisions," she explained. "And He did. He introduced me to the Salvation Army and showed me how I could make a difference in the lives of others."

The corps is committed to reaching out to those who are lost and helping them to find their way back to God. Candida is passionate about this mission and is dedicated to doing her part to see that it is accomplished.

In his closing remarks, Captain William DeJesus, territorial secretary, emphasized the importance of faithfulness and hope in the work of the Salvation Army. "We must remain steadfast in our commitment to the mission, even when the going gets tough," he said.

He also encouraged the corps to maintain a "giving" attitude and to be kind to one another. "Let us be like our Father in heaven, who gives good gifts to those who ask Him," he said.

The Salvation Army's specialty is to care for the least of these—the lost, the poor, the hopeless. It is a ministry that is about compassion and tenderness, and about giving.

The corps has a responsibility to that territory, its neighborhood, its community. It is a ministry that is about reaching out to those who are lost and helping them to find their way back to God. It is a ministry that is about compassion and tenderness, and about giving. It is about being faithful, hope, and love.

They were faithful to their calling and ministry. They shared hope with those who were lost and helpless, and they were loving servant leaders who had a positive influence because they cared.

He admonished those in attendance to live by the mantra he adopted years ago, "Be patient and be kind."

The Allans' officered this corps and has left an indelible mark not only on the lives of those they served but on the people who call them friends.

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**Appointment of Discovery**

This year the territorial candidates' department, led by Colonel Dawn Heathcote, welcomed Captain Cassie DeJesus as assistant territorial candidates' secretary. Captains Gordon and Catherine Booth, the founding generation of this Army, introduced themselves at the Central Territorial Headquarters, where they learned about the corps' mission.

Cassie enjoys seeing people grow in the Lord through their calling and leadership. She also assists with event organization and website updates.

Cassie recruits and places Ministry Discovery Program interns, observes their progress and works with them to make the experience a success. It requires additional travel, but after five years serving in Argentina with her husband, Captain William DeJesus, she welcomes the opportunity to recoup herself with the Central Territory.

Cassie enjoys seeing people grow in the Lord through their calling and leadership. She also assists with event organization and website updates.

This is a corps vigorously engaged in its neighborhood, its community? Is it a "going and giving" life, or a "giving" life with a "waiting for people to come" attitude? Does a corps spend more time in its building, among a comfortable few, safely in a "this is what we've always done" life? Or does it find every opportunity to shut off the lights and go out the doors to the beloved world?

These are days in which Salvationists in the Midwest are being challenged by a vision of a shared future. The vision challenges us to give pride of place to mission. Pursue mission.

272 corps, vigorously engaged in their communities.
Singing Companies

A portal to Live Music in Worship in Every Corps by 2020

Those attending the Festival of Gospel Arts and Commissioning weekend last June were the first to hear the announcement of an ambitious undertaking: Live Music in Worship in Every Corps by 2020 (LM-2020.)

More than a slogan or campaign, LM-2020 recognizes music as a vital and fundamental component in worship which requires a long-term commitment to successfully develop the next generation of Salvationist musicians. Simply put, when it comes to worship, music is not a luxury, it is a necessity.

Although plans for this eight-year effort will address strengthening all aspects of music ministry, the territorial music and gospel arts department has committed the coming year to encouraging the development of its first and most basic expression: the singing company. For regardless of community size or corps strength, a singing company can function effectively on a regular basis with few or many, while providing a basic portal for children to discover their musical potential and the joy of singing God’s praises.

Analysis of statistics which show a steady and alarming decline in senior and junior soldier membership over the past 10 years underscores the need to jump-start children’s music activities. While there are no easy answers for reversing this trend, there is no doubt that corps music activities can be an effective means of outreach, connection and involvement.

Fact is, if today’s children are given the opportunity to discover and develop their musical talents now, they will be late teens and young adults by 2020—fully able to pick up the mantle of live music in worship.

With the complete support of our territorial leaders [see letter] a timeline has been established which identifies three major priorities: recruiting and training of local leadership; equipping participating corps with useful music resources; and providing strategic performance and program incentives along the way to encourage steady, long-term development of our singing companies.

In consultation with all divisional music and gospel arts directors and coordinators, William Himes, territorial music and gospel arts secretary, has developed a “Singing Company Resource Kit” to be provided to all corps with active, re-activated and new singing companies. This material will include children’s music compilations from Salvation Army and other Christian publishers, leadership information, accompaniment CDs, membership in a youth music choral club, and a Christmas musical to finish out the year.
This spring divisions are being encouraged to sponsor a "Singing Company Resource Seminar" to demonstrate the most effective ways to use these resources as well as give instruction in teaching methods, performance opportunities and organizational basics. Corps officers are directed to identify and recruit potential local leadership (corps or community volunteers) to receive this training which will also share ways to effectively connect children from singing to Sunday school to salvation and then to junior soldiers.

Divisional music directors will be working in tandem with corps efforts, encouraging singing company members to continue their musical development by attending divisional music camp.

In September singing companies will receive a Christmas musical suitable for performance by any size group. This will provide another performance objective which can result in turning the holiday season into a Christmas worship experience.

Kicking off the new year, "University 2020," the Territorial Worship Arts Retreat scheduled for January 18-20, 2013, at the South Bend, Ind., Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center, will include a special focus on singing company leader development, featuring top-notch clinicians who will share a wealth of experience, insight and music resources in youth music seminars throughout the weekend.

Also in the first quarter of 2013, each division will host a Music Day featuring a singing company festival in which these corps groups will prepare required and selected numbers for evaluation by a panel of three adjudicators. Patterned after school music festivals, singing companies will receive a written evaluation from each adjudicator along with a rating of 1 — Superior, 2 — Excellent, or 3 — Good.

In addition, at that event each division will select one singing company to be their representative group to perform in a massed singing company as part of the Family Congress with General Linda Bond in St. Louis, Mo., June 6-9, 2013.

In recognition of this achievement, these representative groups will receive a financial award from Central Territorial Headquarters which can be used to enhance the singing company’s ongoing corps activity (music, uniforms, equipment, etc.) or for expenses related to congress travel, meals and housing. This award is based on the size of official and active group membership:
- 4-10 members — $500
- 11-15 members — $1,000
- 16-20 members — $1,500
- 21 or more — $2,000 (maximum)

"Of course this is just the start of what will be a long-term effort," William Himes said. "But as the song goes, ‘Let’s start at the very beginning, a very good place to start.’ And the singing company is that most basic place to begin. But we can’t stop there. We must continue to develop our accompaniment resources including keyboards, guitar and instrumental ensembles if we are to truly see Live Music in Worship in Every Corps by 2020."

Stay tuned!

Photos represent the Chicago Kroc Center, Oakbrook Terrace, Ill., Marion, Ind., Royal Oak, Mich., Hastings and Omaha Citadel, Neb., corps and Northern and Eastern Michigan divisions.

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**USA Central Territory**

**The Salvation Army**

**Friends:**

Since our earliest days in the 1800s on the streets of London, we have been a singing Army with music that attracted listeners to the message of salvation and then drew them to commitment and service. Methods and styles may change, but I believe music in our mission still has the power to attract, save and sanctify.

At first glance, this emphasis over the next year on singing company development may seem far removed from the principal objective of Live Music in Worship to Every Corps by 2020. But think about it. If you were one who became a Christian as a child, when and how did you learn basic spiritual truth?

If you are like me, it was through singing Sunday school choruses and songs. Many were simply Bible verses set to music. Most of these didn’t seem to make an impression on me at the time but later, when put to the test, little melodies such as “Jesus loves me, this I know” and “It’s no longer at just the right time—with just the right truth!"

It was the singing company that provided my first opportunity to discover the joy of music performance and in praise which opened the door to other music ministry opportunities, such as playing my trombone in the band.

I’m convinced that the music of our movement can still connect people with the truth of salvation. And I believe that music still has the power to reach and teach the youngest about Jesus. I hope you will do all you can to encourage live music in worship in your corps—and the singing company can be that first step.

Sincerely,

Paul R. Seiler
Commissioner
TERRITORIAL COMMANDER
M ajor Rick Shirran, national liaison officer for SATERN (Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network), reported membership is at a new high of close to 4,600 operators.

Record-high “hams”

Amateur radio is a viable source of communication in disasters when telephone land lines may be down, cell phone towers jammed or destroyed and electrical power is out. Ham radios can work on generators or battery systems and have proven to be invaluable in disaster situations.

According to the ARRL, amateur radio first became popular nearly 100 years ago. Frustrated commercial operators competing on the same wavelengths for signal time called the amateurs “hams,” and the appellation stuck.

Hams can communicate with people around the globe or even astronauts in space, the ARRL continued. A surprising number of the new hobbyists are young people. It’s relatively inexpensive to get started around $200 and the FCC license is free, with a small fee to cover expenses. There are even games to play, such as “fox hunt” where amateur radio clubs search for a transmitter (the fox) using their homemade antennas.

Amateur ‘ham’ radio operator licenses are at an all-time high, reports the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), with more than 700,000 licenses in the U.S. According to the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), retirees, emergency organizations and church groups are primarily responsible for the 25,000 new hams that pick up the hobby each year.

“As communication technology moves forward, amateur radio will continue to be an all important fallback mode for any emergency response organizations,” said Major Rick Shirran, national liaison officer for SATERN (Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network). Major Patrick McPherson, SATERN founder, added, “This gives credence to the value of recruiting volunteers from this growing group, many of whom have high-tech, computer, mechanical or emergency management skills.”

Indy AB chair led by example

Diane Nichols began and ended her three-year term as Indianapolis Advisory Chair by building relationships. At an advisory board dinner, Diane reflected on the board’s accomplishments and shared appreciation for the committee chairs for their excellent work.

Diane initially was reluctant to take the position as chairperson and even emphatically said, “No.” But Lt. Colonel Richard Amick, then Indiana divisional commander, talked with her over lunch. Three years later she said, “I would like all of you to aspire to the advisory board chair. These three years have been so rewarding.”

Some of the significant accomplishments of the Indianapolis Advisory Board during Diane’s term as chair include: the board growing to 43 members; the development of a strategic plan for Indianapolis; and the forming of advisory councils at the Indianapolis Fountain Square and Eagle Creek corps and adult rehabilitation center.

One board member said, “This lady led by example.”

SATERN enters next phase

By Major Keith J. Welch

Major Richard (Rick) Shirran, central territory SATERN director, at his radio console.

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One board member said, “This lady led by example.”

Find great opportunities to interact with colleagues and leaders who are involved in cultivating, securing and maximizing resources to support Salvation Army ministries! Exchange innovative ideas. Broaden your professional skills.

Register at www.usc.salvationarmy.org

Territorial Community Relations and Development Conference

June 20 - 22, 2012 Hilton Northbrook 2855 N. Milwaukee Ave. Northbrook, Ill. 60062

Featuring:

Major George Hood
National Community Relations and Development Secretary

Since 2003 Major Hood has been responsible for marketing, communications, public relations, government relations and corporate relations for The Salvation Army in the U.S.
Georgian missionary returns to U.S.

After a year of serving, exploring and cherishing every moment in the Republic of Georgia, Kirsten Withoff has returned to the United States. She assisted the regional youth leader in Tbilisi while alternating additional time at the Samgori and Rustavi corps.

When at the corps, Kirsten worked with the afterschool programs, taught an English language class, prepared lunches and ran youth group; during her time at the youth office she turned her attention to larger-scale projects such as youth councils and the region’s Angel Tree program. In her free time, she enjoyed exploring the city and forming friendships with the wonderful people she met.

“What I really loved was being with the youth,” said Kirsten. “The kids at the afterschool programs were so much fun to teach and play with. The teens and young adults were always ready to love and welcome me to any event. I felt like I became part of the family.”

One of the most spirit-filled experiences of the trip took place during youth councils. The program drew 100 youth, and she witnessed how much it impacted their faith. “In the fall I saw a lot of those who attended become even more involved and passionate about Jesus,” said Kirsten. “One girl in particular changed her view of God completely; she went from an almost atheistic outlook to praising God and becoming one of the best volunteers at her corps.”

Kirsten was deeply affected by the realization that culture and language can’t restrain the connection believers have in Christ. “Now I have friends that I really see as part of my family for life!” she said.

A registered nurse, for now Kirsten will return to nursing in the Chicago area but believes she’ll get back to Georgia, or at least overseas, in the future.

She said, “The experiences of this past year will be huge in helping me to, hopefully, one day serve as a nurse overseas!”

2012 Summer Mission Teams announced

Pray for these young people who will be ministering overseas this summer:

**Caribbean**
- Andres Vilarino* Rockford Temple, Ill., Corps
- Caleb Allan Oakbrook Terrace, Ill., Corps
- Eric Chung Chicago Mayfair Community Church, Ill., Corps
- Veronica Centeno Bloomingon, Ind., Corps
- Anel Garcia Norfolk, Neb., Corps
- Jasmine McCoy Gary-Merrillville, Ind., Corps
- Brittany Nichols Wayne-Westland, Mich., Corps

**Kenya**
- Jamison Taube* Oak Creek Centennial, Wis., Corps
- Alexis Benefield Wayne-Westland, Mich., Corps
- Clayton Cox Oakbrook Terrace, Ill., Corps
- Tiana Flax Gary-Merrillville, Ind., Corps
- Lance Hill Royal Oak, Mich., Corps
- Rachel Moe Rockford Temple, Ill., Corps
- Nancy Valentin Chicago Irving Park, Ill., Corps

* = Team Leader

**Hungary**
- Megan Potley* Oakbrook Terrace, Ill., Corps
- David Chang Chicago Mayfair Community Church, Ill., Corps
- Sarah Eddy Bloomington, Ind., Corps
- Valerie Jaconson Oakbrook Terrace, Ill., Corps
- Kenneth Jones Detroit Harding, Mich., Corps
- Michelle Winters Rockford Temple, Ill., Corps

**Ukraine**
- Alexandra Cox* Oakbrook Terrace, Ill., Corps
- Alexandra Anderson Sheboygan, Wis., Corps
- Joshua Hubbard Wayne-Westland, Mich., Corps
- Melissa Hulett Ypsilanti, Mich., Corps
- Dennis Jolly Dearborn Heights Citadel, Mich., Corps
- Elizabeth Turner Norridge Citadel, Ill., Corps

World Services/Self-Denial has a new look just in time for next month when our territory gains new Partners in Mission.

Log onto www.centralmissions.org to get resources to help your corps learn more about our new partners and to raise funds to support ministries around the globe.

You will find:
- The new Partners in Mission countries
- The Central Territory will be working with, along with the specific countries partnered with each division
- Upcoming information and pictures for each of the partners
- Bulletin inserts, ideas for children’s ministry and other resources that can be printed for your corps’ use back to Georgia
- A link to Resource Connection, where you will be able to order World Services/Self-Denial envelopes and banks to use along with the printable resources.

Contact the world missions bureau for information and help at missions@usc.salvationarmy.org
Reunion concert rocks the Temple!

by Major Phil Aho

My wife, Gail, and I have a history with the TSA Madison Street gospel choir of the Chicago Temple, Ill., Corps (see side-bar). As former Temple corps officers and TSA Madison Street members, we were delighted to hear of plans for a reunion concert celebrating 26 years of the choir’s continuous service.

Monica (Simmons) Washington, the group’s current director, invited all former members to rehearsals. It was deeply moving to reconnect with people. Some hadn’t seen each other for years! At first the songs sounded a little ragged, but our spirits were willing. We made progress, and our voices were ready by the night of the concert.

If you’re familiar with The Salvation Army in Chicago, you would have recognized a number of faces: Nate Latham, who served as the evening’s emcee; the Ferguson (Reggie and Jason), the Simmons (Captain Dale, Brigitte, Patrick and Monica), the Carrs (Walter, Stephanie and Lucretia) and many others.

We thought perhaps 100 people would show up to hear the concert. Instead, we were pleased to welcome a full house of 240! The audience heard the choir’s old sounds (“He has done marvelous,” “When the battle is over,” “I’m looking for a miracle”) and some new ones (“Sound of praise,” “God is great”). My wife’s dancing while she sang was entertaining, but it couldn’t match the young Temple Dancers led by Raven Temple. Such energy, teamwork and precision! And, as is customary in gospel performances, a guest choir from New Tabernacle Baptist Church came to support us with their selections.

Captain Dale Simmons and I each shared a few words that evening, but the highlight was the reunion of TSA Madison Street members, Chicago Temple people and the many folks who’ve enjoyed the choir’s ministry over the years.

With lots of greetings and fellowship before and after the concert, we had a long, happy evening together.

TSA Madison Street’s existence has been tenuous over the years; currently it’s uncertain who will serve as their keyboardist. But one thing is certain: there’s a community of people in Chicago who’ve been brought together by the joyful freedom of TSA Madison Street’s gospel music.

Everyone a winner

Missing his family after years of living away from home led James to leave sunny San Diego, Calif., for a job at the Omaha North Side, Neb., Corps. It was a “win-times-four” situation for James, his family (now three hours away), Corps Officers Lt. Joel and Elta Johnson and the community kids who quickly embraced James as their youth program director.

After graduating from St. John’s University in New York with a degree in sports management, James accepted a job on the opposite coast as a fulltime sports coordinator for the U.S. Naval Station on San Diego’s Coronado Island. He worked part-time as facility manager for The Salvation Army Door of Hope residential center for pregnant teens. It was his first exposure to the Army beyond “bell-ringers and thrift stores.” James’ efforts at the Omaha North Side Corps have breathed new life and enthusiasm into the community center along with increased numbers of kids (about 50).

“It’s good to see the children having such a great time,” said Elta. “James works hard each day toward the success of the youth program.”

“We want to impact not only these kids’ lives but those of their families,” said James. “The first step was attracting youth and gaining the trust of their parents or guardians. Then we began seeking family engagement. Parents have joined us on field trips to museums, the zoo or sporting events. They may also join their children for the free meal we provide each day after school.”

A big draw for teenagers is the basketball program. Both boys and girls play, but some also serve as team managers, coaches, stall keepers or attendance monitors. James also works with teens in the corps’ computer lab helping them with college and job searches, resume writing and other work skills.

A sound beginning

Amazingly, TSA Madison Street was born in the mid-1980s as a tradition-bound corps attended by officers from territorial headquarters and several retired brigadiers. Even the repertoire of the songsters at the Chicago, Ill., Temple Corps reflected a deeply traditional mentality, recalled Majors Phil and Gail Aho, Chicago Temple corps officers and lieutenants at the time.

“The songsters had young people,” said Gail, “but they were mainly there because they loved being with the brigadiers!”

When the Ahos arrived at Chicago Temple in 1984, the young singers asked Phil, a talented pianist, to play songs with which they could more closely identify. Phil had recently heard the same thing from a wise corps soldier, Gordon Bingham, regarding the youth’s need to sing gospel and contemporary music.

“We started out with several young people standing around the piano singing gospel and contemporary songs a cappella as Gail and I listened and learned,” recalled Phil. “Gospel has a strong oral tradition with little printed music; the ability to read notation isn’t as important as having well-trained ears.”

When the young singers began performing on Sunday mornings, the brigadiers were so proud of them, Gail continued. At first the group performed in matching shirts. But when the young people decided it was more appropriate for them to wear Salvation Army uniforms, the brigadiers pitched in to help buy them.

Gail estimates more than 50 young people have been involved in TSA Madison Street over the years. In fact, the present line-up includes second and third-generation members!
May Prayer Calendar

Go to www.prayercentralusa.org for prayer updates.
If you follow the prayer calendar in the next year, you will have read through the Bible!

Day | Bible Reading | Pray for The Salvation Army
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1 Tuesday | 2 Samuel 5-9 | Wayne/Westland, Mich., Corps
2 Wednesday | Psalms 81-53 | Shelbyville, Ind., Corps
3 Thursday | Job 25-36 | Rockford Temple, Il., Corps
4 Friday | Jeremiah 27-31 | S Indiana, Mo., Corps
5 Saturday | Mark 10-16 | St. Paul Eastside, Minn., Corps
6 Sunday | 2 Corinthians 4-5 | Sioux City, Iowa, Corps
7 Monday | Exodus 25-24 | South Bend Kroc Center, Ind
8 Tuesday | Psalms 10-14 | Superior, Wis., Corps
9 Wednesday | Psalms 54-56 | Sturgis, Mich., Corps
10 Thursday | Job 37-38 | Wyandotte Downriver, Mich., Corps
11 Friday | Jeremiah 32-36 | Terre Haute, Ind., Corps
12 Saturday | Luke 1-2 | St. Charles Tri-City, Ill., Corps
13 Sunday | 2 Corinthians 6-8 | Springfield, Mo., Corps
14 Monday | Exodus 25-28 | Virginia, Minn., Corps
15 Tuesday | 2 Samuel 15-19 | General Linda Bond
16 Wednesday | Psalms 57-59 | Sioux Falls, S.D., Corps
17 Thursday | Job 39-40 | South St. Marie, Mich., Corps
18 Friday | Jeremiah 37-41 | Waukesha, Wis., Corps
19 Saturday | Luke 3-4 | Ypsilanti, Mich., Corps
20 Sunday | 2 Corinthians 9-10 | Vincennes, Ind., Corps
21 Monday | Exodus 29-32 | Waukegan, Ill., Corps
22 Tuesday | 2 Samuel 20-24 | Captain Christopher Marques (Japan)
23 Wednesday | Psalms 62-62 | St. Louis Harbor Light, Mo., Corps
24 Thursday | Job 41-42 | Williston, N.D., Corps
25 Friday | Jeremiah 42-46 | Waterford, S.D., Corps
26 Saturday | Luke 9-6 | Warsaw, Ind., Corps
27 Sunday | 2 Corinthians 11-13 | Detroit Harbor Light, Mich., Corps
28 Monday | Exodus 39-38 | Warsaw, Indiana
29 Tuesday | 1 Kings 1-4 | Chicago Harbor Light, I., Corps
30 Wednesday | Psalms 63-63 | Willmar, Minn., Corps
31 Thursday | Proverbs 1 | Traverse City, Mich., Corps

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My Prayer List

Day | Bible Reading | Pray for
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1 Tuesday | Wayne/Westland, Mich., Corps
2 Wednesday | Shelbyville, Ind., Corps
3 Thursday | Rockford Temple, Il., Corps
4 Friday | S Indiana, Mo., Corps
5 Saturday | St. Paul Eastside, Minn., Corps
6 Sunday | Sioux City, Iowa, Corps
7 Monday | South Bend Kroc Center, Ind
8 Tuesday | Superior, Wis., Corps
9 Wednesday | Sturgis, Mich., Corps
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29 Tuesday | Chicago Harbor Light, I., Corps
30 Wednesday | Willmar, Minn., Corps
31 Thursday | Traverse City, Mich., Corps

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**Sweet fellowship**

by Taryn McComb

I heard it said once that there is no such thing as a small mission. The junior band from the Oak Creek Centennial, Wis., Corps would agree. While we spent only a few hours at the Milwaukee Citadel, Wis., Corps one Sunday earlier this year, the Lord moved in a powerful way. It was beautiful to watch our two ministries come together in worship of our Lord and see each benefit from the other.

Given the opportunity to take over Milwaukee Citadel’s Sunday worship service, many of our young bandsmen participated in key roles, including Taylor McComb who gave her testimony, Matt Hernandez who read scripture, and Chelsea Barnes who led prayer time. The band also provided music for the service, including preliminary and special numbers, the offertory and “Hallelujah Choruses” during praise and worship led by Captain Beth McComb, Oak Creek Centennial corps officer. Lt. Colonel David Grindle, now a soldier at Oak Creek, preached on the importance of discipleship while the junior band led junior church.

Afterward, our band and the corps members enjoyed fellowship over lunch provided by Milwaukee Citadel Corps Officers Majors Gary and Donna Van Hoesen. Donna said, “It was inspiring for our corps, and particularly our youth, to have the band join us. We are on the verge of beginning music instruction with our young people, and it was good for them to have that exposure.”

Go to www.prayercentralusa.org for prayer updates.

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

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**Mustard Seeds**

**Pst... Dan... turn off the phone... you can’t watch a movie during the morning service...**

**Dad... it’s the Ten Commandments**

**And Moses is about to part the Red Sea**
In 2009 The Salvation Army received a grant from the Detroit Red Wings foundation to help fund the STRIVE (Student Training for Integrity, Vitality and Education) youth hockey program in the greater Metropolitan Detroit, Mich., area. STRIVE fulfills a need for children, regardless of means, to participate in the costly sport and contributes to the increased awareness of The Salvation Army and hockey in general.

STRIVE’s mission is to help meet spiritual, mental and physical needs of children through organized hockey. Not only does it achieve this, but it’s helping to cultivate relationships between corps in the division, young people in the community, and the community and its corps.

Over the last three years the program has gained momentum, and this month up to nine corps in the Eastern Michigan Division may participate. The program welcomes both boys and girls, ages 7 to 13, onto a junior varsity or varsity team. Eight-ice games are held between corps community center teams during the 12-week season, which concludes with a celebratory pizza party.

At the Wayne/Westland, Mich., Corps most of the 20 to 30 children who participate did not play hockey prior to the Army’s floor hockey team, nor have many of them had exposure to the gospel, according to Andrew Barryski, community center director. Their corps team prays and has devotions before each practice. “It’s very important to our team,” Andrew said.

The drive to divisional headquarters is non-eventful. Pulling into the parking lot, I see a handful of cars and think, Wow, others have come to join “the wave,” only to find the cars represent employees who arrive early for work.

Opening the stairwell door and heading downstairs to the chapel, I imagine this happening throughout our division as the KWMM Mighty Prayer Team gathers to receive “the wave.” As the meeting draws near, faithful prayer warriors have joined me. Last year during pilgrimage 120 soldiers and friends joined the KWM Mighty Prayer Team, committing to pray every Thursday morning at 7:30 a.m. Some pray from their own homes, some join together over coffee, others gather in corps prayer rooms to intercede for the needs of our worldwide Army. Every Wednesday lists are emailed to team members with a reminder to meet in the morning.

For months we have faithfully met together to pray God would deepen our spiritual life. We pray about the economic climate and financial resources for our worldwide mission. We request renewed passion to bring people to Jesus and lead them to maturity in Him. We ask for courage and compassion to stand for and serve the marginalized. We also pray for individual and corps needs.

As 8:00 a.m. draws near, we begin to pass “the wave” on to those west of us who have committed to pray. We leave, knowing that “the wave of prayer continues and God will be faithful today and continue to bless and strengthen our Army.”

We have found God’s promise to be true. “If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.” 2 Chronicles 7:14 (NIV)