Response to Midwest flooding continues

As historic flooding devastat-ed vast areas of the Midwest this summer, Salvation Army emergency disaster services (EDS) teams offered a quick response to affected communities. As the focus shifts from immediate case work to long-term recovery and case management, they continue to bring comfort, relief and hope. The hardest hit areas included eastern Iowa, western Illinois, southeastern Missouri, southern Wisconsin and northwestern Michigan.

According to Kevin Ellers, territorial disaster services coordinator, emotional and spiritual care remains a crucial component.

“People don’t often realize the long-term needs of survivors of disasters. It’s at this time that the magnitude of their losses becomes a reality and they’re overwhelmed with how to restart their lives,” he explained. “That pat on the back is needed just as much now.”

Dennis Flom, incident commander in July in Cedar Rapids, and who has served in disasters after the tsunami in Sri Lanka, Hurricane Katrina in the South, and the tornado which wiped out Greensburg, Kan., has seen and experienced a lot in this regard. He likened people’s emotional journey to the stages of grief, moving often from shock or denial to anger.

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In its response in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, which had 400 city blocks submerged by flooding, for the first time in our territory The Salvation Army is part of the coordinated assistance network (CAN). Developed after 9/11 for use in response to major disasters, the CAN database program was utilized in Katrina

Continued on page 12

Corps advancement consultations introduced

Vital signs is something we often associate with the medical profession, but for the past seven years corps have applied this phrase to a statistical and program measurement process that helps reveal the health of a corps. This coming year that will change.

Vitals Signs will be replaced with the Corps Advancement Consultation. Measurement is still a part of the process, as is dialog and input from corps members; however, the new document is half the size of Vital Signs.

The areas measured and discussed fall into three categories: saving souls, growing saints, and serving suffering humanity. These areas represent the heart, soul and future of The Salvation Army. Emphasis is on the “Cycle of Salvationism” as seen in the new logo. The three components include the encouragement of intentional relationships that lead to witnessing opportunities and new believers. New believers need to be encouraged to “Come Join Our Army!” Both new and existing members need to be discipled, which includes teaching them how to share Christ.

The consultation will include the participation of the corps officer(s), local leaders and divisional mission partners. Members of each divisional staff will collaborate with corps leadership to look at the mission and ministry of each corps. Health of the corps will be measured according to mission, ministry and Kingdom-building standards. Minimum standards have been set to assist in promoting spiritual and numerical growth. The new process is a blended focus of vision, mission and the “Come Join Our Army” initiative.

The review of the Vital Signs process began with officers participating in a survey designed by the Territorial Officers’ Forum. Last November a task force began reviewing the assessment process given feedback from these surveys. From his, Commissioner Ken Baillie, territorial commander, asked the task force to recommend changes to the annual consultation process.

The task force is composed of two soldiers, three corps officers, two divisional commanders and four divisional secretaries, along with the territorial secretary for program, the assistant territorial secretary for program and territorial corps mission and adult ministries secretary. Major Joseph Wheeler, serving as chair, secured copies of measurement tools from the other three U.S. territories, Canada and the two Australian territories which provided good insight as to what might suit our territory’s needs. After months of work, the Corps Advancement Consultation emerged.

Continued on page 12
Spiritual care and discipleship

by Major James Nauta
Territorial Secretary for Personnel

Following five years serving as divisional leaders in the Western Michigan and Northern Indiana Division—our home division—my wife and I are returning to territorial headquarters! We are humbled by what we believe to be our Lord’s leading and are praying for His anointing as we assume an awesome responsibility.

As we take up our new appointments, I have been asked to share my vision. While a specific vision for our work in personnel must await some further analysis and build on the positive plans already set in motion, I believe we must emphasize spiritual care and discipleship. I see a need to shift emphasis from programs to relationships if we are going to become more intentional about developing disciples and leaders. There are plenty of good programs, but what we need is the time and desire for quality relationships.

I strongly believe that every level of our Army needs to provide spiritual care—for officers, soldiers, adherents, employees, volunteers, and community service participants—the end result of which will be the development of disciples. Strong, healthy disciples will result in the fulfillment of Christ’s command to “go and make disciples.” To accomplish that, we must develop small group support systems, resources to free corps officers from consuming administrative tasks, and a renewed commitment to longer appointments for corps officers so they can build relationships of trust and understanding and employ a long-term approach to developing disciples and leadership.

Each corps must be treated uniquely and encouraged to choose from a wide range of options and approaches that will work best for them. It is essential to emphasize the interdependency of components. For instance, the discipleship program cannot work as it should if people are not involved in evangelism and caring ministries. Hands-on soldier involvement in planning and giving community service is vital. People who are served by our social service programs need to know they are welcome to be part of the healing community of a corps.

I strongly believe we must emphasize spiritual care following Christ’s example by helping to meet people at their points of need through emphasis on quality relationships. Then, we can help build dependency on God so folks can experience His love and power, while equipping them to reach out to others in a loving, effective and balanced manner of evangelism and helping hands.

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Welcome to the family

by Evie Palsley

For five years Wyred, the summer day camp program at the Waikerka, WIs., Corps, has rolled out the welcome mat. Under the direction of Nicole Beachamp, youth ministries director, it brings the love of Christ to kids in the community.

“It’s a ministry that sets up bridges with the community and share Christ,” said Captain Wendy Fumdez, corps officer.

Nearly 200 elementary and middle school kids take part in the three camps. Middle schoolers are involved in a Bible study at the corps, while SONDway’s Cool curricularum is used for elementary kids. Initially held in a park, the program has been so effective, two elementary schools requested the camps meet in their buildings. “We’ve made some amazing partnerships with the community,” said Nicole.

A junior counselor program has been instituted to continue mentoring and encouraging leadership development in youth who outgrow the program’s age range.

“These kids have difficult lives, but we bring them the light of Jesus and He works on their hearts,” said Nicole. “You can see it in the little things like a boy who wants to stop swearing. Jesus is getting into the cracks and bringing hope.”

The corps knows Wyred is only a start. They hope youth will get involved in corps programs throughout the year so that the seeds planted in their hearts will grow.

Total involvement honored

After 41 years as an employee and soldier in Grand Island, Neb., Carol Scott has retired. When asked what brought her to Grand Island, Carol replied, “Well, Lieutenants Howard and Sandy Fennell asked me in December 1966 to come and work at the thrift store.”

She’d known them in Lincoln, Neb. Caro has seen lots of officers come and go, each making changes here and there. She’s also observed a roller coaster attendance at the corps. In her opinion the biggest change in the Army is what she calls leniency. “When I first joined the Army, you couldn’t go to picture shows or wear makeup.”

Carol has held many jobs including bookkeeper, day care worker and cook, but league of mercy (now community care) has always been part of her job and has been very rewarding. She told her corps officer, Captain Jeff Richardson, that while she’s retiring from the thrift store, she plans to continue visiting nursing homes and the Veterans Administration Hospital. In the same breath she reminded Captain Debbie Richardson that the next Veterans Affairs Voluntary Services meeting is this month.

Central Connection

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With the Word of God as our foundation, we as a Christ-centered and praying people will glorify God by becoming a spiritually healthy community of believers who are committed to wholehearted service and ministry in The Salvation Army.

Strengthened by His presence in us individually and corporately, we share a common passion for bringing people into an intimate relationship with Jesus Christ and meeting human needs in His name in the diverse communities we serve.
by Major Candace Voeller

Moses was tending his sheep—a demanding yet routine responsibility—requiring long hours in the hot sun—when something caught his attention. It was a fire. As Moses went to take a closer look, he heard God call his name. God used the burning bush to get Moses' attention.

Seventy-five officer delegates, leaders and instructors from the four U.S. territories, England and Zimbabwe set aside their appointments, families, computers and cell phones to attend the 60th Brengle Holiness Institute for the sole purpose of seeking God and His holiness. God would use these 10 days to get our attention.

We were reminded of the disciplines and spiritual truths absolutely necessary to live a life fruitful and pleasing to God. Some of these included:

- Intentionally studying God's Word for ourselves, going beyond a quick devotional read and deeper than sermon preparation. God's Word is powerful, and He has something for us to learn, know and hold.
- Silence and solitude. Time was designated in our schedule to be alone without distractions. I thought this would be my most challenging time during Brengle; I discovered it to be my most valuable. It allowed me to rest in God's presence, to be silent and listen for His tender voice of wisdom and direction.
- In the light of God's holiness, sin is exposed. The more we become like Christ, the more we see how unlike Him we are. God's holy power changes hearts, minds and lives when we surrender everything to Him.

Holiness impacts our families, relationships and desires. Holiness compels us to love God and others. It ignites and empowers ministries. To love God gives purpose, devotion and a drive to pursue souls.

"My preaching will be impact- ed," said Macomb, Ill., Corps Officer Captain Owen Thompson. "I need to be deliberate in teaching holiness."

After Moses saw God, he changed; the Bible says his face shone. I don't know if we glowed when we left Brengle, but I do believe we left changed. It's been said the world needs our personal holiness. How would our corps, families and communities be different if each officer and Salvationist looked like Jesus, loved like Jesus and lived like Jesus?

by Evie Polsley

When new soldiers join our Army they're entering into a sacred covenant. Captains Charles and Katie Pinkston, Muskegon, Mich., corps officers, want to ensure they understand the magnitude of this decision.

"Mentoring, discipling and soldiership has been on our hearts since we were appointed here almost two years ago," said Katie. "Before people sign the covenant I make sure they know they're not just signing something, they're making a public testimony that they will do all they can to follow Christ."

To drive the point home, the corps took a 12-week journey into Salvation Army doctrine and history, highlighted in the weekly sermon and a discussion. Taking it a step further, the corps makes sure everyone interested in soldiership is mentored.

"Our corps council members have been wonderful in discipling others. They're passionate and know it's their responsibility to teach others that worship doesn't only happen in a pew on Sunday but needs to be a part of our daily life," said Katie.

And people are joining! This year the corps has enrolled six junior and five senior soldiers, including a woman who began attending the corps after making a donation to the Hurricane Katrina effort.

"She wanted to know what The Salvation Army was all about, so we invited her to the corps. She had some questions so I gave her Brengle's books on holiness. As she read, her excitement grew and she wanted to become a soldier," said Katie.

by Captain Rob DeGeorge

The Central Territory hosted Captain Bishow Samhiha from our Partner in Mission territory Zimbabwe as he celebrated the end of training for Captains David Musungo and Ezekiel Chisera [also from Zimbabwe]. He also attended the National Brengle Institute. Between commissioning weekend and Brengle, Bishow squeezed in visits to the Heartland and Northern divisions, where he was overwhelmed by what he saw. Zimbabwe is especially grateful for the Central Territory's support in the training of cadets.

"The skills learned in the U.S. are an invaluable resource for our future to keep pace with evangelism growth and corps plants. Currently, we can only train one session at a time. We're not short on those called to officership; we just don't have the resources to train officers at the pace in which we need them," continued Bishow.
A “new” building for a new era

One of the few remaining original corps from the territory’s old Scandinavian Division, the Escanaba, Mich., Corps still has an active “string band” (guitars and other traditional instruments) to honor its heritage, even though today its soldiers and attendees represent many different cultures who’ve embraced The Salvation Army and the family-oriented corps as their place of worship and fellowship.

The Salvation Army “opened fire” in Escanaba in 1914. Starting in a store front, it moved several times until 1986. Three years ago, the corps moved several dozen of the corps (which serves two counties). They and several thousand volunteers, soldiers, adherents and attendees have provided extraordinary service to those in need.

The corps’ innovative outreach ministries have addressed homelessness through a transitional living shelter where families can stay up to three months and a “friendship kitchen” that provides balanced meals and compassion to over 60 people weekly. They’ve become part of the corps’ extended family.

Children have found a safe place to learn and grow through the corps’ weekly youth programs and summer day camps. And, social service outreach programs provide rent, utility, food, transportation and prescription assistance.

When Discipleship Training was introduced to the territory in 2004, Major Elizabeth Cox and three corps people attended a training session. Major William Cox proclaimed a year later, “This series has filled a hole in my ministry that’s been missing for over 20 years. Now I’m seeing fruit from those who’ve recently been converted as well as older saints alike!” Earlier this year, six people from the original group who started Discipleship Training completed level eight, the highest lesson stage.

“Seeing people graduate isn’t the point,” said Elizabeth. “We’re seeing real changes in depth of spirituality. Discipleship Training has been key to our corps’ growth.”

Sunday attendance averages 90-130 in this small town of 13,000, and new people are being saved. Two soldiers and five adherents were enrolled by Commissioner Ken Baillie, territorial commander, at the building’s dedication service.

Pasties a gold mine

Rich in many types of ore, the Upper Michigan Peninsula attracted mining companies that needed experienced miners. Most were recruited from the immigrant coal-miner populations from Wales and Northern England, who brought with them the know-how for making “pasties,” the traditional, hearty miner’s lunch of a half-moon shaped pastry stuffed with meat, potatoes and vegetables.

TheEscanaba Corps has become famous for its semi-annual pastie sale, which, reports Major Elizabeth Cox, funds not only the corps’ giving to the International Self Denial World Mission Fund but just about every other special project for which the corps has needed to raise funds.

Love makes the difference

by Evie Polsley

Love. It’s a word carelessly batted about to describe everything from an affinity for ice cream to an obsession with a rock star. At the Omaha Northside, Neb., Corps, led by Captains Paul and D.J. James, Christ-centered love is impacting a community, changing one life at a time.

By getting into the community and through programs, such as a noon feeding ministry and after-school care, people learn about the corps, and, more importantly, Christ.

“We want to be a light to our community,” said Envoy James Curry, corps assistant in charge. “We show the love of Jesus in many different ways by helping someone in need, talking to a person who’s lonely and upholding people in prayer.”

This love causes lives to be transformed like newly enrolled Junior Soldier Jon-ele Duncan-Brown who saw how the Army supported her family during a difficult time and wanted to become a soldier just like her dad. Senior Soldier Carolyn Warner came to the corps seeking material assistance but found so much more. The more Carolyn discovered about the Army, the deeper her desire grew to make a personal commitment.

“We strive to have an atmosphere of love. We all make mistakes, but we also celebrate the victories which are evidence of God working in our building and community,” said James. “Miracles happen here every day, and we’re seeing God’s hand at work as we continue to do what He has called us to.”
sandwiched between the city center and the more affluent suburb of Wauwatosa, the west side of Milwaukee is the tough side of town. With factories and warehouses interspersed with neighborhoods of once-lovely but now run-down houses, the west side is anchored by the huge Miller brewing complex and the Potowatomi casino. However, the west side also has The Salvation Army!

Captains Steve and Latdavanh Kounthapanya, Milwaukee West Corps officers since last July, are happy to report not only the recent enrollment of eight junior soldiers and one senior soldier, plus six new adherents in the pipeline, but that the entire corps has been growing spiritually thanks to a renewed emphasis on grounding people in God’s Word.

“We essentially returned to ‘Christianity 101’ at the corps,” explained Steve, plus an emphasis on prayer and praise. As a result, people have been reaching a deeper understanding of their relationship with God, and even the corps’ financial life has turned around. The corps now has a surplus, allowing the freedom to increase evangelistic community outreach programs to youth, single mothers, older adults and particularly teens and young adults.

Steve and the corps staff already have made a big impact on the community by regularly walking through it, handing out brochures about the corps, and befriending young men in gangs. This has resulted in a particularly effective Friday youth night that has bridged them into the building, where Steve and corps soldiers interact with and minister to 30-40 people weekly. They play basketball for three or four hours, and Steve gives an inspiring devotional emphasizing the unconditional love and life-changing work of Jesus.

“They are very respectful of us; there’s no swearing, and the gangs have even done some volunteer work,” said Steve. “They know we’re their friends. Our goal is getting them to see the love of Jesus Christ and hopefully bring them into church.” Steve is seeking grant money to start soccer and basketball teams.

The corps also recently started music classes for young adults from the community. The response has been overwhelming.

Steve concluded, “God has blessed us overall because we’ve emphasized doing things right and with integrity.”

by Captains Steve and Latdavanh Kounthapanya

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Milwaukee West on the grow!

By Captain Enrique Azuaje

This past February the Bridge Outpost in Hanover Park, Ill., opened under leadership of the Templo Laramie Corps. We celebrate weekly activities, including Bible study, worship, a prayer group, and women’s, men’s and youth meetings, an afternoon Sunday school and evening holiness meeting and fellowship.

In just four months our congregation has grown to 85. They are receiving discipleship and spiritual support. Ten new senior soldiers and three new junior soldiers were enrolled recently.

We have learned we do not need to have perfect conditions just people who trust the Lord. We now have five new recruits at the Bridge.

The newest soldiers of the Templo Laramie Corps.

New senior soldiers at the Bridge Outpost.

New junior soldiers at the Bridge Outpost.

Elkhart enrollment

by Captain Jennifer Woodard

Two new soldiers were recently enlisted in the salvation war at the Elkhart, Ind., Corps. 21-year-old Mario Leal and 16-year-old Dalton Jenkins. Seven months ago, Mario was first befriended by corps soldiers then led to Christ in their home. Dalton came to Christ five years ago, but wasn’t living a Christian life. Nurtured by the same corps family as Mario, he rededicated his life to the Lord and sees his soldiership as a tangible way to reach others for Christ. Both Mario and Dalton have become involved in corps programs and are eagerly seeking the work of God in their lives.

Also during the enrollment service, Deborah Wheeler renewed her youth. Though her Christian journey began in The Salvation Army, Deborah had been distant from God and absent from the corps most of her adult life until this past year. Deborah recommitted herself to the Lord and is actively pursuing God’s present call on her life, serving Him in the capacity of corps cadet leader and as an active member of community care ministries.

The Elkhart Corps looks forward to the fellowship, growth and leadership of its newest soldiers!

We asked God to provide men and women who would be part of this mission. We’ve encountered devoted and talented leaders who are going to be part of community care, Sunday school and evangelism. We have a plan for training in leadership, discipleship, spiritual formation and Salvationism that will equip them as genuine soldiers.

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The newest soldiers of the Templo Laramie Corps.

Eight junior soldiers were also proudly enrolled at the Milwaukee West Corps.

Malavine Le is enrolled as a senior soldier. He’s flanked by Corps Officer Captains Steve Kounthapanya (left) and guest Major Jonathan Miller, Wisconsin and Upper Michigan divisional youth secretary.

“Come join our Army” dream coming true

by Captain Enrique Azuaje

With the declaration of “Come Join our Army,” we put our dreams in the Lord’s hands, and they are being accomplished. In the first six months of 2008 we’ve enrolled 19 new senior soldiers, three new junior soldiers, one adherent, and 15 new recruits at the Templo Laramie Corps and the Bridge Outpost.

At the Templo Laramie Corps in Cicero, Ill., we enrolled nine senior soldiers and one adherent.

While our corps has been pre-

We dominant in sharing our ministries with the Hispanic community, last fall we started English holiness meetings to reach English-speaking people.

New senior soldiers at the Bridge Outpost.

New junior soldiers at the Bridge Outpost.

New senior soldiers at the Bridge Outpost.
Whenever and wherever disaster strikes

“People across the division really pulled together to help those in need; furloughs, vacations, day camps and other events were postponed. The newspapers in Missouri’s Lincoln County expressed much appreciation to The Salvation Army for staying to meet the needs of residents long after other relief agencies left.”
—Major Roger Senn, Midland Division

“The generosity and caring of communities helping each other was overwhelming. Some people drove four hours each way to help. We placed a newspaper ad thanking volunteers for serving in the spirit of Matthew 25:35.”
—Captain James Pennington, Western Division

“People have been so grateful we’ve been there to provide hot food and meet their needs. The widespread flooding in Wisconsin has left families homeless, lots of standing water and ruined crops. The ground is saturated from last fall’s floods, record snow falls and this year’s floods; rain continues to fall.”
—Terri Lece, Wisconsin & Upper Michigan Division

“One of the many things we do is listen, understand and validate their loss and feelings.”
—Dennis Flom regarding Cedar Rapids, Iowa
“Floods strike…

“After Katrina I gave money to The Salvation Army. I never thought I’d need The Salvation Army myself.”
—Flood-affected Iowa resident

“Peoples are just devastated in southern Wisconsin. Kickapoo River towns lost their homes for the second time in 10 months; the Rock River submerged homes over a month. With 30 counties affected, this is worse than 1993’s Mississippi flooding.”
—Marty Colip, Wisconsin & Upper Michigan Division

“My heart just hurts when I see how this flooding has affected so many.”
—Wisconsin resident

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“Flooding, tornadoes, more flooding; the Western Division EDS response has been non-stop. I’ve been most impressed by the drive of Midwesterners to just get things done for themselves and others and by the brave boy scouts who dealt so magnificently with the tragedy at their camp, performing triage and saving the caretaker’s family buried in debris before help arrived.”
—J.J. Kuzma, Western Division

“As a born-and-bred Iowan, I was pained by the horrible images I saw of flooding. I’m a U.S. Army captain going through the last few weeks of a 15-month Iraq rotation. My heart and mind is with the wonderful people of Iowa during this great struggle. I hope you can use this money to help people get back on their feet. Thank you for what you do.”
—Letter accompanying a donation from Baghdad, Iraq

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**Reflections on Spain**

by Captain Sandy Hunt

It’s hard to believe six and a half years have passed since I first set foot in Madrid to serve as an officer in the Spain Command. Since then, I’ve seen God move in wonderful ways.

During my first two years, I had the privilege of teaching at the officer training school in Madrid. It was encouraging to see the cadets learn, grow and become seasoned officers. Unfortunately, after the cadets were commissioned in 2003, the training school had to close due to lack of funds.

In addition to teaching at the training school, I was in charge of the Palomeras Corps in Madrid for five and half years. God worked in amazing ways there. We had a very small beginning of a handful who attended on Sunday mornings, but with a couple of committed soldiers and an emphasis on prayer, we grew into a larger, thriving corps that reached out into the community.

Last year I was given a new appointment as director of the command’s beautiful Camp Sarín and corps officer of the English congregation in Denia. Being at the camp has been a great experience. Located on the Mediterranean, the camp is nestled among orange groves; it’s an ideal place for conferences, church retreats, youth camps, music camps, Bible study groups and even vacations.

God also has been working in the Denia Corps, which has been growing. I had the privilege of enrolling two soldiers last year and enrolled one more on my farewell Sunday.

I’m happy to be back in Chicago as the assistant director of business at the College for Officer Training. My experience in Spain has strengthened my walk with the Lord and affirmed that God is in control in whatever situation He places me.

**Following God overseas**

by Sarah Kistler

You never know the amazing places God will take you if you are willing to follow Him anywhere. Captains Jeff and Valerie Carr have been appointed to serve in Denia, Spain. With Valerie’s various short-term summer missions along with Jeff’s service in the U.S. military for three years in Germany, the Carrs have always loved being overseas and felt that God had missions in mind for their family.

They are ready to fully embrace the upcoming joys as well as the difficulties. While Valerie admits that adjusting to a new culture will be a bit of a struggle for the family, she is excited for the new opportunity. In fact, she is looking forward to adapting to the new culture. She does not want to be simply an American living in Spain.

“You go to be one of the people,” she said.

Another challenge will be moving overseas with two little boys, Bramwell (almost three) and Jonah (14 months). Although it will be hard to leave grandparents and family, Valerie is excited for the way in which her kids will grow up. She and her husband have well researched raising third-culture kids, and overall they feel positive about serving as missionaries.

“My kids are eager to support the Army’s work anywhere,” Valerie said.

Valerie mentioned, “As we go to share our faith, we are not bringing God to anyone or anywhere. He is already there. We are simply immersing them into everything that God is, has always been, and always will be in their lives.”

The Carrs have a vision for their appointment to Spain: they want to come alongside those who are already ministering there. They are eager to support the Army’s work that is there and help it grow.

“Don’t you go there to fix the problem,” Valerie said. “You go there to offer your skills and be a part of the solution.”

The Carrs have made a three-year commitment to serving in the Spain Command.

**Keeping the mission running in Ghana**

Colonels Dennis and Sharon Strissel, Ghana territorial leaders, celebrate with divisional leaders the arrival of much needed vehicles purchased from projects funded by our territory. The Salvation Army has officially begun its work in the African nations of Namibia and Mali, bringing the total number of countries in which it operates to 115.

The Army had once worked in Namibia for seven years in the 1930s. Now 70 years later, it has been officially registered and warmly welcomed. Situated along the southwestern coast of Africa, Namibia is part of the Southern Africa Territory, which includes the countries of Lesotho, St. Helena, South Africa and Swaziland.

The predominate Muslim nation of Mali invited The Salvation Army to register there. Mali, the majority of which is located in the Sahara Desert, represents the most northern part of the African continent in which The Salvation Army has a presence. Mali is attached to the Nigeria Territory.

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A Malian was instrumental in the Army’s entrance into the country. Togo had no knowledge of The Salvation Army until he had a vision of “millions of people wearing white uniforms saying, ‘People of the nations, repent for we are coming with the Kingdom of the Lord.’” Togo was certain God was calling him to join these white-uniformed people; his research led him to The Salvation Army. With help from the Nigeria Territory and International Headquarters, God used Togo to “open fire” for the Army in Mali.

**Working together for the world**

by Major Mary Reinking

Displaced in Kenyan clothes, the Dearborn Heights, Mich., born junior soldier sang, “Jesus loves me” in Swahili at the 2008 International Dinner which featured Major James and Major Valerie McDowell who spoke of their former ministry in Kenya. From junior soldiers to Corps Commanders, each section of the corps presented funds for the International Self-Denial World Mission Fund.

Soldiers rang bells at Christmas and held special concerts. They organized craft and rummage sales. Moms, who helped with dinners for sunbeams, also baked for women’s ministries. Guys set up the tables and chairs in the gym. The whole corps, led by Majors Steve and Chris Merritt, planned and worked together toward a common goal. More than $49,000 was raised! Thanks to Beverly Herivel, world missions sergeant, and her committee for this victory!

It’s not just about money. It’s also learning about the needs of the world and answering God’s call to share the blessings He’s given us.

**Namibia, Mali up Army total to 115**

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The Army had once worked in Namibia for seven years in the 1930s. Now 70 years later, it has been officially registered and warmly welcomed. Situated along the southwestern coast of Africa, Namibia is part of the Southern Africa Territory, which includes the countries of Lesotho, St. Helena, South Africa and Swaziland.

The predominate Muslim nation of Mali invited The Salvation Army to register there. Mali, the majority of which is located in the Sahara Desert, represents the most northern part of the African continent in which The Salvation Army has a presence. Mali is attached to the Nigeria Territory.

A Malian was instrumental in the Army’s entrance into the country. Togo had no knowledge of The Salvation Army until he had a vision of “millions of people wearing white uniforms saying, ‘People of the nations, repent for we are coming with the Kingdom of the Lord.’” Togo was certain God was calling him to join these white-uniformed people; his research led him to The Salvation Army. With help from the Nigeria Territory and International Headquarters, God used Togo to “open fire” for the Army in Mali.
by Evie Polsley

For many young adults in the neighborhood surrounding the Wayne/Westland, Mich., Corps, the only affordable entertainment on a Friday night involved hanging out at bars. Captains Matthew and Malinda O’Neil, then corps officers, decided it was time to find an alternative.

“While in training I took young adults to Heart and Soul Café (an outreach ministry for teens and young adults) on Saturday nights, and it really helped strengthen my faith. When I was commissioned I missed those times and thought something like this would be a great way to connect with our neighborhood,” said Malinda.

After chatting with young adults at the corps, they decided to try a coffeehouse format. Every second Friday night Higher Rock Café opens complete with ping pong, table and video games, local bands performing and coffee drinks made to order. Many corps members now rival Starbucks baristas with their expertise at making lattes. Businesses in the community also are embracing the coffeehouse, including a pizza place that tapes flyers to every pizza box and a grocery store that puts flyers in their bags.

Though the bands’ music styles vary from folk to hard rock, each one must have a Christian message and be willing to give a devotional. Members are excited about playing at The Salvation Army and want to learn more about the organization.

Friday nights average about 40-60 people, and special events, like New Year’s Eve, have seen more than 140 people.

by Major Darlene Harvey

The Marion, Ind., Corps held a band and songster reunion earlier this year which drew together former Marion musicians from across Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin.

Special guests Captains Harold and Lynette Polf conducted the band and songsters, performed vocal duets and spoke.

At the reunion dinner 90-year-old Margaret Miller was honored with roses and applauded for having turned out a number of corps band members from her family, including notable jazz trumpet player Bob Miller, who’d learned to triple-tongue at age 9 and later became Marion’s bandleader.

“As for me, the only thing I ever played was the radio, and it was all static!” she joked.

Other past Marion musicians were mentioned, including well-loved soloist Major Harold Petrie, Ben Merritt award winner Tanya Heidberg, and Sidney Hall, a cornet player who recently gave his life as a volunteer firefighter when the floor of a burning house collapsed.

A sacred recital on Saturday evening treated the nearly 100-member audience to piano, vocal and brass solos, a vocal quintet and tuba quartet. The reunited songsters sang Chris Mallett’s “To God be the glory,” and the reunion band’s highlight was Handel’s “Hallelujah Chorus” featuring Keith Whilford, principal trumpet of the Kokomo Symphony.

“We have witnessed and experienced countless blessings and life-changing victories,” said Marion Bandmaster Glenn Welch. “Let’s pray that God will rejuvenate our spirits and press us on to greater heights.”

Presented by the Territorial Music and Gospel Arts Department

Territorial Worship Arts Retreat

Let us enter the throne room and receive our marching orders, Ascending in Worship...

Let us worship God and enter into the battle, Descending to War...

October 17–19, 2008

Wonderland Camp and Conference Center, Camp Lake, Wis.

with special guests

Commissioners Barry C. and Sue Swanson, Central territorial leaders
Dr. Richard Holz, Southern territorial music and music education secretary
Bandmaster Neil Smith, Western territorial music secretary
Major Kevin Metcalfe, Canada and Bermuda territorial music secretary
Dr. Jim Scott, Australia territorial music secretary
Bernie Dake, music publications and production, Southern Territory
Rich Swingle, actor

Supported by the Chicago Staff Band, Bill Booth Theater Company and guest clinicians from around the territory

With all 120 tickets sold, the event raised over $8,000 to provide opportunities for lives to be changed in the Kroc service area.

The Chicago Kroc Center recently has partnered with Music Theater Workshop to start a drama team at Higgins Community Academy. This program prepares young people to make positive life choices through the process of writing, producing and performing original music theater inspired by personal stories. Attending the play, Music Theater Workshop students enjoyed an historical and cultural experience which allowed them to explore the possibilities of theater in their future. More importantly, it showed them how tragedy can bring about change.

The play elevated sensitivity and awareness regarding racial and civil rights issues. It also brought healing and reconciliation. At its conclusion, the actors, black and white, came forward hand-in-hand to applause, showing their unity in portraying a life-altering event.

The Chicago community, too, is hand-in-hand, stepping forward to raise funds for the Chicago Kroc Center to provide life-changing and healing opportunities to those who will participate in its programs.
Southern California.Division. have divided the mission statement of The Salvation Army. They have preached the gospel and met human needs in Christ’s name without discrimination. This summer in Los Angeles, Calif., their 41-year chapter of officership came to a close as friends, families, co-workers and dignitaries gathered for their retirement.

The Bollwahns distinguished themselves both as social workers dealing with secular, governmental and other non-profit organizations as well as within the Army as corps officers and administrators at the territorial and national level. For the past two years the Bollwahns have served as divisional leaders of the Southern California Division.

They both received their undergraduate degrees from Olivet Nazarene University, following which Ronda worked in the school’s admissions department while Paul engaged in graduate work at McCormick Theological Seminary and then received his MSW from the University of Illinois. Ronda has a master’s degree from Norwich University in volunteer management.

They began their officership as corps officers in Evanston, Ill. From there ministry led them into appointments in social services where they met the needs of communities through childcare, youth programs, family services, dental clinics and legal clinics, to name just a few. The Bollwahns served at the divisional level for nine years and at the territorial level for five. They have enjoyed teaching, consulting and ministering throughout the US and in several foreign countries.

The Bollwahns have retired to Denver, Colo., to spend more time with their two daughters, Lindsay and Greyn, and grandchildren, Sawyer and Truman.

**Super Bowl winner draws record crowd**

*Indianapolis* Colts Head Coach Tony Dungy drew a sold-out crowd to the annual D.J.’s Heroes fundraiser luncheon, which benefits Salvation Army youth programs in Omaha, Neb. More than $405,000 was raised.

“We’re at a critical point in this country and need to do a better job of mentoring young people. The Salvation Army does so much of that,” said Dungy, who praised the Army as a leader in creating programs for youth in Omaha. He added he wouldn’t be where he is today—a Super Bowl-winning coach—without the many adults who reached out to him while growing up.

The young Nebraskans selected to receive a D.J.’s Heroes scholarship were chosen for their courage, concern for the community, compassion for others and enthusiasm for life:

Matt J. Brandl overcame the heartbreak of his parents’ death to become a good student and community volunteer.

Mary Cecilia Daly balances school and volunteer work with caring for her father and brother with disabilities. Brittany Haga overcame a life of abuse to become a community leader. She bravely fought off a home intruder who attacked her and her mother with a knife.

Stacey Mitchell was devastated by the death of his parents but turned to God. He wants to become a pastor to guide others. Nikita Robinson removed herself from an unhealthy home environment and became a volunteer.

The adult D.J.’s Heroes, selected for making a difference in the lives of young people, were Tom and Nancy Osborne, founders of the TeamMates mentoring program, which has grown to 73 chapters serving more than 3,000 students. Nancy is a community volunteer and former teacher. Tom is a former University of Nebraska (UN), three-time national champion football coach; three-term U.S. congressman and now athletic director at UN.

**Turning things around!**

*When young women at the Booth Family Services Teen Parent Center in Grand Rapids, Mich., spoke to their school friends, it seemed as if everyone else would be going away for spring break. Instead of feeling bad about their situation, they turned it around and looked for a place they could go to both further their education and help others.*

After a stop in Jackson, Miss., the group reached New Orleans and reported to Beacon of Hope where they were put to work cleaning debris from the yard of an older couple’s home. Next, they worked on building a home for Habitat for Humanity. They ended their time in New Orleans by taking a tour of the Ninth Ward, an especially powerful experience.

Their trip also included visits to several colleges and universities, the church where Martin Luther King, Jr., preached in Montgomery, Ala., the Rosa Parks Library and Museum, and a stop at Six Flags over Georgia.

The trip was a success. Relationships were built and deepened, perspectives were expanded, opportunities for giving realized, and lives changed.
Students. It's spared us the awkward—graduating in the afternoon and not continuing education students were in the morning with the traditional how glad I was that the adult and to go back to college after years in students younger than our children. We were a group of adult learners, most of whom had chosen to go back to college after years in the workplace. There was serious-ness about this group. Very few of us had parents who were paying tuition. Most were managing families, work and school. I also thought how this ceremony was the culmination of much effort, work and sacrifice. It is an small task to return to school while fulfilling the responsibilities of an appointment. For me, this short walk across a platform required 128 credit hours of class, five separate colleges/universities, 10 Salvation Army Continuing Education Program (SACEP) sessions and countless short nights of sleep endured to studying or writing papers. The path to graduation was not easy. It occurred to me that I was the first member of my family to graduate from college. While the moment was satisfying as a personal achievement, it was a meaningful event for my family as well, in particular for my mother who has cheered me on every step of the way. My mother, who grew up during the later days of the depression, dropped out of school in the eighth grade to help take care of her five younger siblings.

Finally, as the university president offered his hand in congratulations and placed my diploma into my hand, I realized that this long road was worth it. I am glad I participated in the ceremony. It was helpful in bringing significance to this moment of accomplishment. As I moved off the stage, I remember being thankful for God’s provision and the encouragement of my wife and children to finish. I remember being grateful for the resources that are provided to officers to pursue education. I am pleased to have been a part of SACEP. The classes have real world and timely application for officers and soldiers.

The moment of commencement was significant. However, it is the education that has been accumulated over the years that has real value. Very seldom does a day go by that I cannot apply something that I have been learning over the way. I am relieved to be finished, although I have just applied for acceptance at the National SAC EPIological Seminary in Kansas City.

Joyful retirement for Dalbergs

Last month, Colonel Ted and Nancy Dalberg recently retired after 42 years as Salvation Army officers. Their retirement ceremony in Kansas City, Mo., was conducted by Commissioners Ken and Joy Baillie, territorial leaders, with approximately 500 people in attendance.

Colonel Ted is a third-generation and Colonel Nancy a fifth-generation Salvationist. They were commissioned as Salvation Army officers in 1967. The Dalbergs served as corps officers, then held a variety of divisional appointments before being assigned to the College for Officer Training. Before their most recent appointment—almost 13 years as divisional leaders in Kansas and Western Missouri (KWM)—the Dalbergs were divisional leaders in Heartland for five years.

The service reflected the Dalbergs’ personalities and years of joyful service. In addition to tributes and a bit of humor, the program included an abundance of music by divisional groups formed during the Dalbergs’ 12 years as divisional leaders in (KWM): the divisional band and chorus; the MoKan Gospel Choir; and the premiere performance of the divisional march band.

Other participants included the Dalbergs’ grandchildren, their daughter, Lori Gjovig, and a vocal solo by Major Rick Carroll, “I just love old people.” The focus of the service revolved around the song, “We will serve Him for the rest of our days,” which is the prayer of the Dalbergs, who will remain in Kansas City and continue to serve as soldiers at the Kansas City Northland Corps.
**Women of Worth**

by Captain Jennifer Woodard

**K**araoké, spa treatments, interactive bowling, and even a chocolate fountain awaited women gathering for the Western Michigan and Northern Indiana Women’s Retreat earlier this year at Little Pine Island Camp.

The theme, “Women of Worth,” became a healing salve to many delegatees as the weekend progressed. From the first evening’s pajama party to the formal princess banquet, women were reminded they are God’s precious daughters with whom He is captivated.

Women connected through Bible studies and workshops on faithful, practical and worthy living. Other activities included boat races, scrapbooking, a Pilates class and a chic boutique. A basket and purse auction raised $2,516 for the Sri Lanka Girls Home.

Special guest Major Barbara MacLean, territorial assistant secretary for women’s ministries, ministered to sensitive messages from God’s Word, while Carol Jaudes accompanied by pianist Karen Krinjak, presented moving portrayals of Susannah Wesley, Fanny Crosby and Evangeline Booth.

“I learned more history in an hour and a half than if I had studied books for hours and hours,” said Margaret Delucenay of Elkhart, Ind.

**Midwest flooding**

Continued from page 1

relief. This multi-partner, interagency program helps streamline paperwork for those applying for assistance, helps resources be utilized more effectively and decreases duplication of service.

In the initial phase of immediate relief the Salvation Army provided life-sustaining help such as food and water, serving hundreds of thousands of beverages and meals to emergency responders, volunteers and flood-affected residents. Trained emotional and spiritual care counselors provided support, and teams of volunteers distributed clean-up kits and helped residents actually begin cleaning up their properties. Personal hygiene kits also were distributed.

As of mid-July in the Midwest, more than 281,000 persons and families had already received help and more than $3 million spent in flood relief efforts.

**Corps advancement**

Continued from page 1

the new document this summer in order to input statistical and goal information. Corps will receive the materials by September, and the process will begin with divisional mission partners making visits to corps in their division. The process will include consultation, goal setting, review of membership rolls, and inspection of all Salvation Army properties. The annual command consultation and reviews will follow the pattern of reviewing the mission, ministry and vision of the divisions.

Task force members believe that the new system will generate excitement, growth and encourage others to “Come Join Our Army.”

**INDIANAPOLIS, IND.—**The Indianapolis Eagle Creek Corps building pushed with excitement as more than 100 junior soldiers, prospective junior soldiers, leaders and officers gathered for a divisional rally. After a rousing opening, everyone moved to the gym for a knowledge competition. During the awards ceremony, brigades proudly posed for pictures with Major Richard Amick, divisional commander, and Captain Marcos Ramirez, then divisional youth and candidates’ secretary. Pictured is the New Albany Corps brigade.

**SOUTHFIELD, MICH.—**Major Kendall Mathews was recently honored with a Men of Excellence award from the Michigan Chronicle, a Detroit-based newspaper serving the state’s African-Americans. The major was among 50 African-Americans recognized for excellence in leadership and lifestyle; honorees included judges, government officials, company presidents and educators. The Chronicle’s Timothee Tinsley-Glen presented the award to Major Mathews.

**DETROIT, MICH.—**Detroit witnessed “Christmas in July” at Comerica Park on July 10. A Salvation Army brass quartet played Christmas carols at four kettle locations, and seven children from the Ellen A. Thompson Center for Booth Services were able to attend the game. They returned to Booth Services with Tigers baseball shirts, big smiles and great memories. The Tigers organization is donating another 100 tickets to The Salvation Army to use as incentives for learning. Captain Patrick Holness is pictured with Santa.

**DES PLAINES, ILL.—**Shopping for their very first uniforms, these happy people are prepared for enrollment as senior soldiers at the Gary, Ind., Adult Rehabilitation Center. Their outing to the Resource Connection store, located in the Central Territorial Headquarters, was reported to be lots of fun as they strolled along and as they were expertly fitted for their uniforms and other necessary components.

**NORRIDGE, ILL.—**Women’s ministries held a “Fashionably Caring” luncheon, style show and silent auction to benefit the International Self-Denial World Mission Fund. More than $6,000 was raised at this elegant affair through the silent auction of more than 60 donated items from local merchants like purses, hotel nights, meals and spa treatments. A local dress store presented the style show using corps models.

**ST. CHARLES, ILL.—**St. Charles Tri-City Corps Officer Major Steven Kochler presented the corps 2008 Volunteer of the Year award to Wally Brown Jr. during the annual civic and volunteer appreciation dinner.

**MILWAUKEE, WIS.—**The Milwaukee Adult Rehabilitation Center (ARC) opened its seventh family store. The 14,097-square-foot superstore is located in Menomonee Falls, an affluent area where there’d been donation pickups but no store.

“We believe as the economy gets tighter, there’ll be an even greater need for our stores,” explained Captain Dale Brandenburg, ARC administrator. “In the week before we opened, 50 people a day tried to shop. We brought in over $10,000 on day one, a Thursday before a holiday weekend.” The new store is self-sustaining for donations and has become the shopping center’s anchor.