Roberts installed as national leaders

Among the Centralites "coming home" for the celebration were Commissioners Barry C. and E. Sue Swanson, chief of the staff and world secretary for women’s ministries, who conducted the installation at the Chicago Mayfair Community Church.

Among a packed house of Central Salvationists and friends were a contingent of National Headquarters (NHQ) staff, leaders of the four U.S. territories, and the new national commander’s parents, Commissioners William H. and Ivy Roberts.

The Roberts’ daughters, Rebecca and Barbara, presented a tribute during which all 10 grandchildren stole the show as they held flags of the nations in which their grandparents served during their births!

Commissioners’ Conference, adding, “America needs you!”

The evening also featured glorious music provided by the Mayfair Community Church Songsters, Chicago Staff Band, and soloist Heidi Strand.

Flanked by flags held by their sons William and Bramwell, Commissioners William and Nancy Roberts were solemnly installed by the Swansons who recited the charges for the Roberts’ new appointments of national commander and national president of women’s ministries.

The chief of the staff read a letter on behalf of General Shaw Clifton and commended the Roberts as strong, capable and spiritually gifted leaders to the crowd. The Roberts knelt for a dedicatory prayer by Commissioner

No room for them in the inn

by General Shaw Clifton

E VERY Christmas we are reminded of the innkeeper who turned Mary and Joseph and their baby away. We do not know his name, but we do know he tried sincerely to make amends by at least offering space with the animals.

Luke’s Gospel records “there was no room for them in the inn” (Luke 2:7, NIV). The main accommodation was packed out, due to the national census under which all citizens were required to return to their places of origin in order to be registered.

“How have you any room for Jesus?” asks the old gospel hymn. Poets and hymn writers down through the years have found in this sacred birth narrative much to inspire them. They picture the holy family outside the inn, seeking admission, and find in that image a powerful metaphor applicable to us all still today. Another writer urges us to offer Christ “the best of rooms,” with the final words of the song affirming softly that “the best of rooms” is “the heart.”

Jesus still knocks! Still he awaits admission. Long ago I heard that knocking sound upon the door of my heart. I was very young, but I knew beyond the shadow of a doubt the identity—and even the name—of the One standing outside. I had seen the famous painting known as The Light of the World by Holman Hunt. It depicts Jesus with a shining lantern as he stands outside a door seeking admission. It is the door of my heart and it has no handle on the outside. Only from the inside can I open it and let the Master in. How glad I am there was a day when I did just that.

I wonder what would happen were the Lord Jesus to arrive suddenly in our midst. Where would he stay? Some of us would rush to reserve for him the plush, luxurious presidential suite in the best hotel in town. Others, not knowing him and thus unable to recognize him, might try to run him out of town.

What about you? How would you respond? “Come home with me, Lord,” you could say. He would like that, but as you walk along together he would in all probability be saying, “You know, child, all I seek is your loving heart. Can you make space for me there?”

Can you? Have you done so? If not, do it now. He is the most gracious of guests.
I Christmas 13

by Commissioner Paul R. Seiler
Territorial Commander

It is always interesting to try and find some different approaches to Christmas season writings without being repetitive and trite. As I search for ways to think about this wonderful season, I want to balance the key message with a caution to keep Christmas activities in perspective. The irony is that in responding to others at Christmas, we can just get on a roll with kettle applications and sorting toys and food.

This adaptation of 1 Corinthians 13 posted on appleseds.org seems appropriate to share.

If I trim the spruce with shimmering angels and crocheted snowflakes, attend a myriad of holiday parties and sing in the choir’s cantata but do not focus on Christ, I have missed the point.

Love stops the cooking to hug the child. Love sets aside the decorating to kiss the husband. Love is kind, though harried and tired. Love doesn’t envy another’s home that has coordinated Christmas China and table linens.

Love doesn’t yell at the kids to get out of the way, but is thankful they are there to be in the way. Love doesn’t give only to those who are able to give in return but rejoices in the giving to those who can’t.

Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails. Video games will break, pearl necklaces will be lost, golf clubs will rust, but giving the gift of love will endure.

Those food boxes and toy bags could be enhanced this Christmas with a card that also shares the priceless gifts of love, hope, faith and peace, and “coupons” for tangible ways to share those gifts with others.

For instance, perhaps corps and soldiers could contribute time in the future to share one of those elements—an hour in March for a mother’s night out or a birthday party meal at the corps for a child and up to eight guests. When our kids added coupons like these into our gifts, they became more precious.

Love believes and offers hope that things will be different. As Salvationists this is what we’re part of, especially during the Christmas season when more people come through our doors in need of hope.

Thank the Lord for encounters and opportunities, and may you use these “gifts” wisely.

Roberts installed

Continued from page 1

Headsquarters, and most recently leading the newly established Kenya West Territory.

Commissioner Nancy Roberts recounted their continued surprise with their appointments and incredible experiences, wistfully sharing how the African culture “got into” them. The national commander read excerpts from the Dr. Seuss book, Oh, the Places You’ll Go, as a reflection of their adventures and personal growth.

“We learned there’s another world out there. Every country, every people, belongs to God,” he said. “Christ is still the hope of the world. And holiness is the hope for The Salvation Army.”

Survey says!

This year’s General’s Congress gave us the opportunity to experience commissioning weekend in a new location, Schaumborg, Ill., with more space and a different feel. To get feedback on the new venue and help plan future events, people who attended could participate in an online survey. More than 500 people took this opportunity to voice their opinion.

The results revealed that the majority of people were happy with the schedule, programming and childcare. It also indicated that an auditorium or theater like the Star Plaza in Merrillville, Ind., is preferred.

Thanks to all who participated in the survey! Your responses are helpful as we plan the Festival of Gospel Arts and Commissioning of the Ambassadors of Holiness session in Merrillville, Ind., June 10-12, 2011.

February 25-27, 2011
Orlando, Florida

A weekend to discover how creation and social justice are tied to the mission of The Salvation Army.

For more information, visit tsasameimaginativefaith.com

Get Connected!

Check out our complementary material on the web: www.usc.salvationarmy.org/getconnected

Clips
Commissioiners William and Nancy Roberts’ interview from the General’s Congress

Resources/Links
Grand Rapids Kroc Center site
Author Steve Cornwell’s site
Craig Arnold’s blog and video on Haiti
Precept Bible Study site
Officer Candidate webpage
Mission and Environment Conference

Web exclusives
More Haitian tales from Ezeh’s interview with master ballinger Sam George
Taco Bell restaurants in the Omaha, Neb., area have been strong supporters of The Salvation Army’s Toyland Christmas effort for many years, and its personnel have been avid Toyland volunteers for more than a decade. Restaurant managers and assistant managers cover two complete shifts of 60 volunteers each. No other company supports Toyland in this manner, reported Susan Eustice, public relations and communications director in the Western Division.

“The volunteers always arrive with bundles of energy and enthusiasm, sharing ribbons and bells with the staff,” she said. “We always look forward to them spending Christmas with us!”

Omaha’s Toyland distribution began more than 20 years ago for parents of children up to age 16. The toys are amassed through the Angel Tree program. Last year, 2,745 children received gifts and stocking stuffers from the six-day event (split over two weekends). Registration for Toyland is held in early November. Volunteers and staff escort parents and guardians through Toyland, which takes place at the Lied Renaissance Center. Parents select from new, unwrapped toys for each child—a primary toy, a secondary toy or other gift and stocking stuffers.

Cornbread, also supports the Christmas campaign. His radio station takes an entire Saturday in December to raise money over the airwaves. Everybody in town knows him, and thousands of people donate. His generosity extends to advertisement on his program and inviting volunteers to ring bells at his Christmas concert.

According to Ronald, the territory’s web-based volunteer management database, Volunteer Impact, has maintained their volunteer base really well in recent years. It’s made the process even more seamless. Those who are needed the most, however, are the St. Charles soldiers. “Our members come in at night to count money and collect kettles, they contribute every year even if they can’t ring,” he said.

Proceeds from kettles last year helped more than 35,000 people in St. Charles County, not only at Christmas but through their soup kitchen, health clinic and social services.

Santa moved to Missouri?

Santa Claus lives in St. Charles County, Missouri. His name is Joe Schilligo. Every year he gives Christmas to 117 area children through The Salvation Army’s adopt-a-family program.

What began as simple volunteer participation has resulted in an entire network of people rallying around Joe to help others in O’Fallon, Mo., throughout the year. A successful area business owner, Joe coordinates a Christmas dinner community Easter egg hunt and back-to-school party for hundreds of children at the O’Fallon Corps. Originally, Joe wanted no recognition for his philanthropic efforts, but when he realized publicity gained volunteers, he got the word out. “If I don’t ask, nobody knows what I need,” he said. Now, with additional volunteers on hand, Joe has a literal army behind The Salvation Army’s work.

Mayor Bill Hennessy, for example, designated the city hall gym as storage for the corps’ Christmas toys, The Bell

by Craig Dirkes

In 2005, while bell ringing at the Mall of America in Minneapolis, volunteer Scott Cornwell noticed something different about his bell. It wasn’t like the shiny new ones he’d used before. This one had tarnished brass and a busted stem held together with a washer and some wire.

Indeed, it had seen better days. Thankfully, it still managed to make a beautiful sound. Suddenly, an idea popped into Cornwell’s head. The broken bell was like some of the people served by The Salvation Army; although damaged, both could be repaired to make sweet music.

The idea resonated with Cornwell. So much so, he decided to write a book about it, The Bell. The Bell tells the story of a broken hand bell named Bella. She is certain nobody loves her because she can no longer make a sound. But through the support of a kind old man, named Mr. Peterson, she is restored and able to make music again.

“I wrote The Bell to help parents explain to their children that the holiday tradition of bell ringing has a deeper meaning,” said Cornwell, who lives in Lakeville with his wife and two young daughters. “The story of Bella happens every day. Thousands of broken lives are repaired thanks to volunteers and donors—the Mr. Petersons of the world—who support The Salvation Army.”

The 10-page book includes a bevy of nostalgic illustrations by artist Jake Page. It is sold online at amazon.com and at charlesscottcornwell.com.

A portion of each sale is given to The Salvation Army.

The “key” to kettles

by Kara Langford

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Mayor Bill Hennessy, for example, designated the city hall gym as storage for the corps’ Christmas toys, The Bell.
A whisper of a community enriching project started over six years ago, and the dream came true this fall with the opening of the Grand Rapids, Mich., Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center.

The new Kroc Center took center stage in a series of events that signaled the newest manifestation of Joan Kroc’s vision. Joan Kroc, widow of McDonald’s franchise founder, Ray Kroc, was adamant the centers that bore their names live up to a promise to “provide facilities, programs and services that encourage positive, life-changing experiences for children and adults, strengthen families, and enrich the lives of seniors.”

“We are humbled by the opportunity to create a new and important catalyst for change on Grand Rapids’ south side.”—Major Thomas Bowers, WMNI divisional commander

This newest Kroc Center—10th of 25 planned nationwide—encompasses a 20-acre educational, recreational, spiritual and cultural campus. It was designed by Isaac V. Norris and Associates PC.

Landscaping was planned by RJM Designs, and Israel’s Designs for Living provided design expertise for the interior. Erhardt Construction was the general contractor.

The Kroc Center was created to reflect the diversity of the neighborhood. Additionally the center is working toward gold LEED certification, one of the highest levels of achievement in environmental design.

The Kroc Center was host to thousands of individuals who experienced a variety of events over a late October weekend which showcased the beauty and functionality of the 105,000-square-foot facility.

“We should be practicing in the Kroc Center what we’re going to do in eternity.”—Rev. Dr. Rick Stevenson, Kroc Advisory Council Chair

The events kicked off on a Thursday with an opening gala: A Celebration of Giving. Nearly 650 people attended a dinner program that featured personal testimonies, presentations by Kroc Center Endowment Campaign Co-Chairs Larry Robson, M.D., and Dick Young, and a special appearance by Amanda Smith Latimer, the third of Joan Kroc’s four granddaughters. The evening’s music included a performance of the Kroc Center theme song “Come to this place” by soprano Carolyn Quinn, members of the Grand Rapids Symphony Youth Chorus, and brass players from the Grand Rapids Youth Symphony and Grand Rapids Symphony; directed by Grand Rapids Symphony Associate Director John Varineau.

Saturday began with the ribbon being cut by 15 children from the neighborhood along with 15 public officials, local dignitaries, Salvation Army officers and four U.S. Marines.

Following the ribbon-cutting ceremony, the crowd moved inside to take part in the dedication ceremony which included presentations by Commissioners Paul R. and Carol Seiler, territorial leaders; Major Thomas Bowers, Western Michigan and Northern Indiana divisional commander; Major Marc Johnson, senior Kroc Center officer; Major Karen Johnson, Kroc Center officer for program development; Captain Peter Mount, Kroc Center officer for congregational life; and Captain Catherine Mount, Kroc Center officer for youth development. Also presenting were Gregory Sundstrom, Grand Rapids city manager; Isaac Norris, president, Isaac V. Norris and Associates; and

Saturday’s festivities concluded with an uplifting concert by the Chicago Staff Band (CSB), led by Bandmaster William Himes, gospel music by TSA Madison Street of the Chicago Temple Corps and a Metro Youth Band ensemble. Attendance at the event topped 330.

A Sunday morning service included music by the CSB and
Photos by Emily Butkus (Grand Rapids Kroc Center) and Emily Aukes

TSA Madison Street and a sermon by Commissioner Paul R. Seiler, territorial commander. The Kroc Center was open Sunday afternoon again for the community to tour while enjoying refreshments.

Over the four days of festivities more than 4,000 people visited the Kroc Center, and a number of platitudes were naturally lavished on the structure. “Stunning!” “Absolutely beautiful!” “Wow!” And indeed, the Grand Rapids Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center is amazing! Its physical assets certainly please the senses.

“I have to say this is a beautiful and exciting building that takes my breath away.”
—Commissioner Carol Seiler

But as pointed out numerous times by officers and staff alike, the physical manifestation of the Kroc Center is only one part—a beautiful one, for sure—of the larger calling to the work. The Salvation Army will undertake at this beacon of hope in an underserved area in the city.

It is paramount as an organization we never lose sight of our mission to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His name without discrimination through every activity that takes place at the center. It is also vital we honor the vision of Joan Kroc and the legacy she entrusted to us.

As Commissioner Carol Seiler, territorial coordinator for strategic mission planning, remarked at the dedication, “On behalf of The Salvation Army in the Central Territory, I charge you all—officers, staff and volunteers—with the responsibility to use this building to accomplish, as effectively as possible, the vision of Joan Kroc through the mission and purpose of The Salvation Army as we serve the Lord through serving others.”

The Kroc Center is located at 2500 S. Division Ave. in Grand Rapids, the epicenter of an underserved, highly-diverse population in both ethnicity and economics. With 30 percent of the population at or below the poverty line, nearly 33,000 individuals—including 11,000 school-aged children—live within one mile of the center. Thirty-seven percent are Hispanic, 30 percent are African-American, 29 percent are Caucasian, and the remaining four percent are of Asian decent. These individuals will have unprecedented access to life-changing opportunities through educational, recreational, cultural and spiritual experiences. The Kroc Center indeed will be a beacon of hope that will enrich lives and celebrate community!

Programming at the Kroc Center will address the community’s needs in five specific areas: education, fine arts, health and wellness, recreation, and spiritual development. Programs are designed to be holistic by creating multiple points of entry in the development of personal growth.

“The Grand Rapids Kroc Center already has filled 26 fulltime and 95 part-time positions and will further complement new businesses in several adjacent neighborhoods. The Kroc Community Campaign raised $15 million, which was the main criterion for securing the original $41 million grant from the estate of Joan Kroc. The Salvation Army raised $14 million of its goal from local, private donors, with the final $1 million in the form of a grant from the Kresge Foundation.

“Awesome!”
—Alberto, 8 years old

Programm...
**First accepted candidates**

**Brianne Louthan**  
Evansville, Ind., Corps  
Indiana Division

Brianne works as a corps helper in Evansville. She was born and raised in Huntington, Ind., and attended the corps from a young age. However, in her teen years she stepped away from her faith and her corps. A friend invited her back, and she found she missed her Army family. At Re-Generation 2010, Brianne experienced holiness; her heart was changed and she realized she needed to move forward in her faith. Brianne is taking the next step to officership and knows the Lord will equip her for the ministry ahead. Her corps officers are Captains David and Shanda Minks.

**Christopher White**  
Rockford Temple, Ill., Corps  
Metropolitan Division

Christopher was born in England and came to the Central Territory through a summer employment opportunity. He worked at Camp Wonderland for several summers and returned to England to finish his education. While in England he became involved with The Salvation Army and was enrolled as a soldier. He feels a deep connection to the Central Territory and loves working with the young people. He’s currently youth director for the Rockford Temple, Ill., Corps where he’s had opportunities to preach and teach God’s Word. His corps officers are Majors Randy and Kathy Heliston.

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**Firsts**

**by Lt. Mary Kim**

Those of you who know me know I’m not boasting when I say as far as I am aware I’m the first lieutenant whose first appointment is divisional youth and candidates’ secretary (DYCS) in the Central Territory. It is a great privilege yet a daunting position to be in. One side of me feels I should know and do everything well, while the other mocks, “See, I knew it wouldn’t work out.”

I physically feel the weight of this appointment real-  

L y. My early childhood education degree and eight years of being a first and third grade teacher attests to my love for teaching youth. This appointment combines my vocational experiences and spiritual gifts. Naturally optimistic and an encourager, I want to motivate others to live Spirit-driven lives.

Undoubtedly, headaches and heartaches will come. They are a part of any ministry. But nothing can squelch God’s peace and joy. With the Lord’s help, I hope this “first” will be a long settling in, not just a quick visit. People’s lives are at stake and His Kingdom’s work is in the balance. However long I do stay, His peace and joy remain with me because He is peace, He is joy.

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**Love’s lasting legacy**

**by Carol Shoults**

The Sjogrens were presented at their retirement service at the O a k b r o o k Territorial Corps band set the tone for the meeting with the rousing march, “Celebration.”

Prayers of blessing acknowledged God’s faithfulness in their lives, and a video tribute shared pictures of their family and friends, associates and dignitaries, and other loved ones from around the globe.

Their daughters, Evie Polesley and Erika Seiler, spoke about their parents’ lives exemplifying love in four areas: God, each other, family, others. They shared that their parents opened their home to many people over the years who needed a place to stay, confirming Deb’s gifts of hospitality and compassion. The daughters explained, “They were experts at making the mundane extraordinary in family life.” In other tributes Rand was described as a man of honesty, integrity, grace, a giant of few words but worth listening to. Poignantly, three teens, who were once part of the singing company led by Deb, gave a video tribute on the lasting impact she’s had on their lives.

Flanked by their daughters and sons-in-law, Rand and Deb were presented with their retirement certificates by Majors Russell and Jan Sjogren. Having given 69 combined years of service, exemplified by servant- hood and love, Majors Rand and Deb Sjogren entered the fellowship of retired officers.

In his remarks, presented via videotape, Rand gave a firm and clear testimony of God’s sustaining grace, saying during the past year he has found Psalm 23 to be a particular source of strength.

“Our responsibility is to have an active relationship with Jesus Christ,” said Deb in her closing remarks. “I fully understand that God has called us to love Him and bring glory to His name.”

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**1 Corinthians 15:12-19**

For theq erything is brought to naught without love. Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will be done away; where there are tongues, they will cease; where there is knowledge, it will be done away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part; but when complete, we shall all be made perfect together. When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I thought as a child, I reasoned as a child; when I became a man, I put away childish things. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known. So now faith, hope, love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.”
Precept Bible study class online

Starting in January join with Linda Himes on Thursdays at noon (CST), for Precept Bible study lessons live, online!

Contact Linda Himes at (847) 294-2115 or linda_himes@usc.salvationarmy.org to register.

Bible study is just a few clicks away!

Midland men hit the trail

This fall Major Jim Curl, Midland Division secretary for business administration, organized a three-day, 160-mile bicycle trip for 10 fellow officers. The men rode a section of Missouri’s scenic Katy Trail, one of the nation’s longest rail-to-trail projects; a large portion runs along the Missouri River. Along the way the men completed a study of The Mentor Leader by Tony Dungy. “It was a great time of team building and fellowship,” said Jim. “I hope to make this an annual event.”

Charmed from day one

by Major Debra Pascoe

In the summer of 1956 Charlene Smith and her friend double dated with Virgil Horner and his brother, Bill. Though Virgil was not her date, Charlene was instantly in love with him.

She didn’t see Virgil again till later that year when he appeared at her school wearing his bright navy whites. Charlene recounted, “I could only stare at him.” He was flirting with other high school girls she thought she’d pass out. “He was the most handsome dude I had ever seen,” she exclaimed.

Getting a drink at the water fountain and hearing the class bell, she thought she’d never see him again, but to her surprise Virgil walked up, kissed her on the cheek and said when she grew up he’d come back and marry her! Charlene dropped the rack of glasses. They went steady for the next six weeks and were married June 17, 1960.

Fifty years later they celebrated their golden anniversary and renewed their vows during Western Michigan and Northern Indiana Seniors Camp at Little Pine Island Camp, thanking God for their life together and those at camp who shared this special occasion with them.

Contact Linda Himes at (847) 294-2115 or linda_himes@usc.salvationarmy.org to register.
Glimmers of hope in Haiti

Two Centralite families serving in Haiti give updates since the 7.0 earthquake struck on January 12.

Learning to cope

Fond des Negres is the Haitian mountain town in which Major Violet and Captain Dr. Felix Each run the Salvation Army’s Bethel Clinic and live with their son, Matthew. While the town wasn’t as severely damaged by the January earthquake as Port-au-Prince (75 miles away), the corps building, primary school and children’s home were seriously damaged. Children slept in tents and classes were held in the courtyard, as was corps worship.

After the quake Felix spent much time in Port-au-Prince as Violet mourned people she’d known there and praised God for amazing escapes.

Life slowly began returning to normal over the summer. An added blessing was the appointment of Violet’s brother and sister-in-law, Majors Robert and Rae Doliber, to the Haiti recovery and development team.

The Each family with a cardiac medical mission team in March. A donated defibrillator saved a patient’s life the next day!

Quake-shaken lives

“The idea of an earthquake in Haiti was the farthest thing from my mind,” said Bob Poff, public relations and disaster services director for the Haiti Division. Just two days before the quake struck, Bob and his wife, Vicki (who runs the Bonheur Children’s Home in Port-au-Prince), welcomed back the children from their Christmas break.

“We instinctively sprang into action to perform things we knew through extensive emergency disaster services training,” said Bob. “But this situation was unlike any other we’d experienced.”

This fall Bob concentrated on Haiti’s cholera outbreak due to contact with dirty water.

The Salvation Army tent camp has a sufficient supply of safe drinking water and toilets, plus good drainage. For several months classes have been teaching the importance of thorough hand washing and cooking.

“One of our corps near the ‘epicenter’ of the outbreak buried four children from its school in recent days,” Bob reported. “There’s been a good response from several health organizations to the impacted areas, and we’re looking for ways to be helpful if needed. Education is the single most important component in this situation; many of our corps officers remind their congregations of the importance of good hygiene from the pulpit.”

Vicki continues to monitor the well-being of the La Maison children, now scattered among friends and family after the quake severely damaged the home.

“Although the future of the home has not yet been decided, the Army has determined we’ll stand by these children, assisting them with their education and helping their families recover from the devastation,” added Bob.

“French-speaking Swiss friend who’d lived in the Caribbean for years. Many officials kept asking for proof the Army is a charity—in spite of having been in Haiti for 60 years, schooling 10,000 children at any one time and serving 15 million meals and housing 13,000 after the quake. And he helped free six of the containers and continued working with Major Ron Busroe, director of the Salvation Army’s Haiti recovery and development team, to release the remaining three.

Working with U.N. security forces, Craig’s team held a large-scale distribution of tarps in The Salvation Army’s tent camp. UPS “Trackpads” were used to ensure one tarp per household (around 4,000).

Over the next six days, the team distributed nearly a million meals and temporary shelters to survivors. Craig observed, “Even before the quake, people lived in conditions most of us would call appalling, doing their best to earn a little money so everyone gets to eat.”

In his thanks to Craig, Major Busroe wrote, “Your determination in the face of a system designed to delay…has provided new confidence to the staff here; we now know it can be done.”

UPS delivers

Salvationist Craig Arnold, an executive for United Parcel Service, arranged emergency shipments of Salvation Army disaster-relief supplies to Haiti after its horrific January earthquake. Ten months later, the former Centralite returned to Haiti with four co-workers to find out why nine shipping containers had been detained in port for six months, denying survivors much-needed supplies. Craig’s team hoped to not only release the containers but ensure the food, medical tarps and other items were transported and distributed properly.

When Craig’s inquiries to customs officials were met with obstinate bureaucracy, he called in Andre, a