



Central Connection

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

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

Volume 38, Number 2

February 2008

THE SALVATION ARMY
2008 COMMISSIONING & YOUTH WEEKEND
Featuring God's Fellow Workers & A Territorial Conference for Youth & Youth Leaders

iConnect
Finding Your Place in the Mission

Featuring Dr. Bill Ury
with
Workshops for Youth & Youth Leaders
and
JOE CASTILLO KIDZ BLITZ RONNIE CALDWELL

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2008 Commissioning and Youth Weekend

iConnect: Finding Your Place in the Mission

This year's commissioning weekend, June 6-8th, will not only feature the God's Fellow Workers session but will focus on youth and youth leaders and their place in the mission. Themed *iConnect: Finding Your Place in the Mission*, this life-changing conference for youth and youth leaders will be packed with powerful speakers, inspiring musical groups and first-class children's programs. While having a special emphasis on youth, the weekend will hold something for delegates of all ages and you certainly won't want to miss the fun, fellowship and spiritual insights waiting for you!

The Friday and Saturday evening meetings will feature Dr. Bill Ury of Wesley Biblical Seminary in Jackson, Miss. Dr. Ury is a theologian known for effective holiness preaching. Midwestern Salvationists may be familiar with Dr. Ury as he spoke at Central Bible and Leadership Institute (CBLI) last year. The youth and young adults of CBLI stated his ministry was the highlight of the encampment.

The Saturday evening meeting also will feature a 20-minute set by contemporary Christian artists, Caedmon's Call. They've recorded 14 albums which have sold over a million copies. You'll not only enjoy their style which appeals to a broad age range but their message of missional living. After the Saturday evening meeting, they will hold a concert open to the public.

Earlier that day, internationally recognized artist, pastor, author and speaker Joe Castillo will bring the face of Jesus to life before your very eyes with intricately crafted illustration performed to music. "Art," he says, "is the finger of God that touches the soul." Joe's artwork has been sold worldwide and touched the lives of thousands of people.

Alongside these headliners, many internal groups like the Chicago Staff Band, The Singing Company, Bill Booth Theater Company and the Great Lakes Youth Band from the Western Michigan and Northern Indiana Division will participate in the weekend.

There will be programming for children, ages 6-12, by Ronnie Caldwell and Peaceable Kingdom Ministries, Inc., and a nickelodeon-style kids' event called Kidz Blitz. Childcare also will be provided.

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ARCs begin new year with prayer

In God's divine providence, the adult rehabilitation centers (ARC) were asked to kick off the Central Territory's 24/7/13 prayer initiative beginning on December 31st. That's how Major Judy McPherson, ARC Command general secretary and the organizer of the initiative for the command, sees it. She says New Year's Eve is an especially difficult time for the

men in the rehabilitative program. The focus on beginning the new year with prayer was not only symbolic but significant.

According to Major Judy McPherson, prayer and its power is new to some of the men in the centers. It was healthy for them to read the prayer requests and realize that they're not alone. It helped them to

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Salt and light—in balance

by Lt. Colonel Carol Seiler
Territorial Secretary for Women's Ministries

It's interesting to reflect while looking out a window, and since our kitchen table sits at a window, I start many mornings this way. Reading the book of Matthew this winter, one morning found me at Matthew 5:13-16: the picture of the Christ-follower's impact in the world being similar to salt and light. As I watched another cloud-covered, gray winter day emerge and salt trucks barrel efficiently along the busy street, it seemed there were lessons to be learned.

The first reflection comes from the properties of salt. Even scripture says it can lose its saltiness and become useless. In many ice-related driving discussions, I've learned sand and kitty litter often are preferred because they don't pit cars or roads, stain shoes or kill the grass. But salt is so effective on the roads! The right amount breaks ice apart and makes it safe to walk or drive. I've noticed as I walk on icy sidewalks or roads, I keep my eyes down as I pick around the ice and clumps of salt. In food, a sprinkle of salt brings out the flavor. However, too much salt makes for a briny, fluid-draining, mouth-puckering, inedible plate. In the Dead Sea, salt keeps

you from swimming; you literally can't get under the surface! So, a pinch of salt is ok, but keep it in moderation—or it's bad news.

The second reflection comes from the properties of light. What a difference when the sky is clear and blue and the sun shines—even if the temperature is frigid! People look up and walk with a spring in their step. Everyone has likely heard of seasonal affective disorder (SAD) that causes depression in dark climates in the winter. Light is vital. *The Message* uses phrases like "bring out the God-colors," "I'm putting you on a hilltop—a light stand—shine!" and "Be generous with your lives." Too much light doesn't seem to have the same negative effect. The scripture actually says don't hide the light under a bushel, implying that too little light is the negative.

The third reflection comes from looking at the proportion of words for these two. We often say "salt and light" as though they're equal. But when you look at the number of verses and words given to salt and light, light wins hands down. Not only in Matthew 5:13-16, where the verses about light are 2.5 times those



of salt, but all through scripture. Light wins by volume and importance with its link to Christ who is the light of the world.

So my question is: Why do so many Christ-followers seem to weigh in more on the side of being "salty" than being light-bearers? You know it when you see it. Their words can "pit the soul" of a younger Christian, discourage those trying new things, and if they're not careful "kill the grass." These folks often are looking down to see if there's something on which they need to sprinkle their "salt" so someone won't slip.

Why is it that looking up—having a broader vision, seeing the glory of God, bringing the light to others—is so much harder? True, we might slip on some unexpected ice, but wouldn't you rather slip and land on your rear-end on a light-filled day than walk looking down, carefully sprinkling salt inch by inch on a gloomy one?

What would happen in this Army if Christ-followers put the pictures of Matthew 5:13-16 into perspective and practiced being "light" more and "salt" less?

Commissioning & Youth weekend

Continued from page 1

"This is going to be a spectacular weekend, and we're very excited about the guests who will be joining us. Our prayer is that we will all come away with a deeper understanding of our walk with God and how each of us fit into the ministry and mission of The Salvation Army," said Territorial Youth Secretary Major Collette Webster.

The very heart of why we draw together each June is the commissioning and ordination of cadets and then their appointments on Sunday.

Plan now to be a part of the fellowship and worship this June! Pray for this weekend and the effect it can have on our youth and Army.

For more information, see your corps officer or visit to www.usc.salvationarmy.org



ARCs begin new year with prayer

Continued from page 1

be "outward looking," to realize that some people may have even more dire situations than their own. Many of the 176 requests submitted for the prayer initiative in the ARC Command were heart-wrenching, soul-searching. "Please pray for my mother. I don't know where she is or even if she's alive," read one.

Dividing up the five-day prayer period between the 20 ARCs and the ARC Command, each center was asked to intercede for a specific six hours; sign-up sheets were shared representing 15-minute increments for individual prayer by beneficiaries, employees, advisory council members and officers. What they found was that many people choose to pray much longer. Many of the chapels were filled with people praying together.

"We had men leaving the chapel with tears in their eyes," said Captain Dale Brandenburg, Milwaukee, Wis., ARC administra-

tor. "We hear comments about how they just started reading the list and became overwhelmed how much hurt there is around us. One man said it was the most intense prayer time he had ever felt. We are continuing to pray daily for the concerns... Several of our men took copies with them so they could continue to pray daily."

Many of the officers in the ARC ministry hope this fervency will continue throughout the year. They have been excited by the response and the possibilities.

Said Captain Scott Salsbury, Rockford, Ill., ARC administrator, "I can't help but believe that as a result of this concentrated time of prayer, great things are going to happen in the Army, in our city, in our country, and in the world."

Editor's note: The territory's prayer effort is 24 hours a day, seven days a week, for the 13 weeks from New Year's Eve until Easter. Log on to Get Connected to read more ARC experience with the 24/7/13 prayer initiative.



Employment Opportunities

Multimedia Ministries Specialist—Southern Territorial Headquarters, Atlanta, Ga. Fulltime position; reports to director of communications. Responsibilities include planning, executing, evaluating production of educational, training, evangelistic and promotional videos and PowerPoint presentations; serving as a technical resource; establishing, monitoring territorial video production standards to ensure clarity, consistency; uploading files, podcasts to website. Solid historical knowledge of The Salvation Army required. Must know modern audio-visual production equipment, Avid video production software and PowerPoint. A bachelor's degree in communications, journalism or related field and two years experience producing videos and podcasts required (or any equivalent combination of education and experience). Travel required (may be extensive during disaster responses). For more details or to submit a resume contact Debra_Elder @USS.salvationarmy.org

Academic Dean—William and Catherine Booth College, Winnipeg, Canada. Applications and nominations invited for chief academic officer position. Operating under The Salvation Army, Booth College is repositioning itself by developing new programs in the liberal arts and sciences. The college also plays an increasing role in developing international Salvation Army leadership. Responsibilities include developing, imple-

menting, assessing academic programs; recruiting, developing faculty, and encouraging faculty research. The position reports to the president and is part of the senior management team. Requirements include a Ph.D. in a relevant discipline; a passion for undergraduate education; demonstrated teaching success; experience in academic administration; the ability to provide visionary leadership, manage day-to-day academic operations and cultivate relationships with other schools. Beliefs and a lifestyle compatible with the mission of the college also required. Please submit a letter of introduction, a curriculum vitae, and three references to Dr. Donald Burke, President, Booth College, 447 Webb Place, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, R3B 2P2. For more information, visit www.boothcollege.ca; email dburke@boothcollege.ca, or call (204) 924-



Get Connected!

With this issue we kick off an exciting new interactive venture with the web. Here's what you'll find this month on our very own webpage. www.usc.salvationarmy.org/getconnected

Clips

Youthquake
Indy Radiothon podcast

Resources

Information on Commissioning weekend
Fundraising ideas for ISDWMF

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Candidates' web page
Emergency Disaster Services website
Metropolitan Division youth network website

Article exclusives

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Reflection by Major Herb Fuqua on relief effort at mall
Booth's last speech

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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 where we serve.

Serving with focus

by Ken Tregallas

In the last year at the Oak Creek Centennial, Wis., Corps, we've initiated strategic planning to better serve our community.

Instead of trying to be all things to all people, we decided that wise



stewardship meant focusing on a few needs which fit our mission and vision. Led by Majors Gregory and Lee Ann Thompson, the corps council looked at our history and developed core values that describe who we are—you might say our DNA! These include: introducing Jesus to others; a caring community of genuine believers; families growing together; relevant meaningful worship; developing Christlike leaders.

We developed a measuring stick of sorts to determine whether or not we can support new ideas physically and financially. These focus points include



healthy families, child development, and senior care. With this perspective, we've also reviewed the relevance of current programs.

These focus points have become intertwined in all we do. An advisory council member approached us on behalf of her organization's community days. They were interested in our approach to senior care and provided a cookout, music and bingo for our Booth Manor residents. They also have become financial supporters of the corps.

Last fall we instituted a 4-year-old kindergarten program in conjunction with the school district. The decision to begin this program was driven by the ideas of promoting healthy families and child development. We

are now in touch with 60 new families and have the opportunity to share our hope with them.

We are seeing changes already! In the community when discussions arise about children, seniors and families, The Salvation Army's approach is referenced. We take pride in the fact we work on excellence in our focus areas instead of just being adequate in many.



Youth express gospel through acts of kindness

Teenagers and young adults from the Metropolitan Division participated in a servant evangelism initiative called "I'll Fight Day" this winter. Challenged by General William Booth's last public address, "While women weep..." youth helped build the Kingdom of God and show the love of Christ to people in their communities through practical acts of kindness.



Each corps was given a list of activities—ranging from finding parking spaces in a crowded mall parking lot for shoppers to paying library late fees—and were encouraged to engage in what would best meet needs in their community. Some teams fed and clothed the homeless, some corps baked and delivered cookies to their social services recipients, while others spread cheer through carols, delivering Christmas trees or returning shopping carts at a department store and clearing dirty trays at a mall food court.

The goal was to encourage youth to follow Jesus'

example of "taking the form of a servant" in creative and practical ways. They learned that service is a powerful act of worship. They were able to represent Christ in a way that forces others to ask, "Why are you doing this?" The results were amazing. One department store employee even exclaimed, "You are the nicest people I have ever met!"

This was the second year the Metropolitan Division participated in I'll Fight Day. For more information, check its youth website, www.metroyouthnetwork.com.



May God be glorified in China

by Tanya Hedberg

How was China?" I get this question a lot, having returned from spending two years teaching English there with the English Language Institute China (ELIC). I never really know how to answer. "It was great!" doesn't do it justice. I suppose the honest answer would be something like, "It was difficult, wonderful, life-changing, hilarious, frustrating, terrible, and absolutely amazing all at the same time!" Even that won't do.

If I could say anything to you, it would be that God is faithful! He is alive and active in China. Now is such a strategic time of opportunity! China needs your prayers and personal investment. God is raising up a young generation of believers who, I believe with all my heart, will impact the world for His glory.

While it broke my heart to leave China, I know that for a season God wants me back in America. I have moved to Los Angeles to work with ELIC as a program counselor.



Through the university teaching program, I will be investing in getting more and more people to Asia! Though the adjustment has been difficult, I am excited about the work God has given me. Pray for me and for God's work in Asia. May He be glorified!

You may reach Tanya at the English Language Institute China; P.O. Box 265; San Dimas, CA 91773

A bountiful FEAST

The Warren, Mich., Corps' weekly FEAST (families eating and studying together) offers a lot more than tasty food for the body; it provides nourishment for the soul. Every Tuesday night people of all ages

from the corps and community gather for fellowship around a dinner, provided and served by volunteers, and then take part in activities ranging from moonbeams for younger children to activities for seniors.

"This came from a need our people had for family time. We were asking people to come out three to four times a week for activities, and with their busy schedules and gas prices it became really difficult," said Captain Caleb Senn, corps officer.

...every program has seen growth since FEAST began.

The evening begins with dinner followed by a half-hour SONday'SCOOL program that includes praise and worship, Bible memorization and a devotional. At 7:00 pm attendees break into age-appropriate activities including character-building pro-

grams and two Bible studies for adults.

"We really want to take a holistic family approach, incorporating the entire family into the night's activities," said Caleb. "It's a great way to reach people and introduce them to the corps in a more relaxed, less threatening environment."

They've also found that it not only encouraged corps members but families from their annual day camp, the neighborhood and shelter residents to start attending. In fact, every program has seen growth since FEAST began.

According to Caleb, the Bible study has grown by 10 percent, character building programs have had a 20 percent increase, nearly 60 individuals attend SONday'SCOOL every week, and new people are attending on Sundays as well. In addition, the number of children

needing to be picked up has dramatically decreased as whole families now attend.

"This is really making an impact on our people. We are living out Acts 2, building relationships not only as individual families, but as a corps family to become a strong community of believers," said Caleb. "It's exciting to see the new life and watch the families interact."



CSM honored

During the annual weekend when cadets are ordained and commissioned as officers, a luncheon is traditionally held where parents are presented with a Silver Star certificate and pin. When Captain Joaquin Rangel was commissioned in 2006, he invited Jesús Ortiz to be honored at the luncheon.

Now the corps officer (with wife Gabriela) at the Dodge City, Kan., Corps, Joaquin explained that he and Jesús had become soldiers at the same time at the Chicago LaVillita Corps. The two men prayed for, encouraged and challenged each other to learn more about their Lord, and they attended the same Wednesday night Bible study and taught the adult Sunday school class.

"We are like real brothers, besides being actually related through marriage," said Joaquin (their wives are sisters).

"I felt Jesús Ortiz is a great testimony of what God can do in someone who allows Him to work in his life. My parents died a long time ago, and in my walk with the Lord, Jesús is a living testimony of God's power. It was a privilege to have him accept the Silver Star for me."



Jesús started attending LaVillita because his girlfriend (now wife), Virginia, attended the corps. At first he came just to please Virginia, but he started to think more seriously about God. Jesús finally accepted Christ as his personal Savior and soon afterward began attending soldiership classes.

Jesús started teaching Sunday school and then was asked to be corps sergeant-major (CSM). When the corps officers who had been most influential in his life received new appointments, Jesús didn't fully assume his leadership role. But, when Majors Juan and Belinda Arias came from Spain and told Jesús that "when the officers are absent, the CSM is in charge of the corps," Jesús began to take his duties very seriously.

"Major Arias awakened the CSM that was asleep in me," said Jesús, who strives to be an example to the congregation and his three children, Sandra, Jacqueline and Jesús Alberto. He's especially made a point of getting to know corps attendees personally to help them in their daily walk with Christ.

His vision for the corps' future, now under the leadership of Carlos and Kerman Moran, is to see the sanctuary full of people each Sunday morning.



Jesús Ortiz and his family.

New children's paper launches in U.S., Canada

It has news about flying cars, kids who can see underwater and a man who can smash 76 bricks all at once. It has a comic strip featuring Bible super heroes like the Sea Splitter (Moses), Deep Sea Survivor (Jonah) and Fearless (Mary Magdalene). It has puzzles and games, plus a special "Home Delivery" tidbit about The Salvation Army.

It's *My SONday Paper*™, and last month, the first shipment of 12 weekly issues began arriving in corps across the U.S. and in Canada and Bermuda.

My SONday Paper is a fresh take on a tried-and-true idea: Write about things that interest kids in exciting ways, and they will read. At the same time, they'll get the basic message: God loves them, and Jesus wants to be part of their everyday lives.

The paper, created in the USA Eastern Territory, can be used with the SONday'SCOOL curriculum or it can stand alone, says Dr. Lynell Johnson, HopeShare® bureau resource facilitator in the Eastern territorial youth department which collaborated with the literary department.

Corps that would like to order the paper may call (845) 620-7374 or email



WMNI launches customized version of CJOA

by Major James Nauta

In support of the strategic national emphasis on enrollment of senior and junior soldiers, the Western Michigan and Northern Indiana Division has



Jane Anderson, social caseworker in Grand Haven, Mich., presents a best practices session at the school of ministry related to bridging community service participants and corps.

launched a customized version of Come Join Our Army (CJOA). We feel it's important to link this exciting new initiative to the Army's three-fold mission as articulated by General John Gowans (Ret.): saving souls through evangelistic ministries, growing saints through discipleship ministries, serving humanity through caring ministries.

General Gowans stressed the importance of integrating all elements of our ministry, comparing it to a three-legged stool. Each is a vital component of our mission, and, if any is missing or out-of-balance, the stool is unsteady, ineffective or useless.

Our plan focuses on these goals:

- To inspire a shared vision among corps constituents for renewed evangelism and disciple-making, enrollment of soldiers
- To schedule one clearly focused family evangelistic outreach event especially geared toward community service participants to include seeker and recruitment follow-up strategies

COME
JOIN
OUR ARMY



- To commission one person, who's not already providing leadership, to the specific responsibility of soldier recruitment and training

- To plan a membership strategy emphasizing enrollment of senior and junior soldiers resulting in at least a three percent membership increase in each corps

Each corps is being asked to conduct a retreat to focus on a plan to accomplish this in their own location.

This emphasis was launched at our divisional officers' councils and again at our school of ministry. In a leadership track taught by Lt. Colonels Robert and Marguerite Ward, officers and soldiers worked together to develop a process by which local corps retreats could develop their own plans.

Divisional mission partners will help facilitate corps planning retreats which will stress soldier involvement and ownership which is absolutely necessary if this initiative is to be successful.



Prospective Candidates Rodney and Kris Morin attend a class on the "Come Join Our Army" initiative during the School of Ministry.

Where God wants me

by Captain Jeff Eddy

H ave you ever gotten that feeling that says, "This is it! This is where God wants me?"

As a new corps officer (commissioned last year), I certainly can relate, but there's more to this story—God is at work in the Cadillac, Mich., Corps!

We recently enrolled four new soldiers into the ranks of The Salvation Army. These new soldiers realize the commitment and honor of being part of an Army called by God to serve our fellowman. The Cadillac Corps has a history dating over a century of hard-working, dedicated soldiers that includes the likes of Colonel Albert Pepper, a joyful early leader in our territory known for holiness preaching.

Many have asked me to give a reason for what is happening here, and what is responsible for the spirit of excitement. I can certainly say that it has little to do with me, other than obedience to the position of corps officer. It has everything to do with God moving in the hearts and lives



of His people here at the Cadillac Corps making The Salvation Army a place where people want to be.

Following is a short excerpt from the testimony of Judy Porterfield, one of our new soldiers, that describes the spirit of this corps.

All my life I had been searching: knowing God wanted me in a certain place and that I had a purpose. But, I didn't know where I belonged or what my purpose was. I couldn't find a church home that felt right. Then I found The Salvation Army in Cadillac and went through senior soldier classes. It was when I was up on the platform getting enrolled as a soldier I realized this is it! This is where God wants me! This is where I belong.



The corps' newest soldiers—Darik Willis, Josh Porterfield, Judy Porterfield and Dawn Monger—are flanked by Captains Jeff and Erin Eddy (far left) and Majors James and Janice Nauta, Western Michigan and Northern Indiana divisional leaders (far right).

THQ farewells Wards



Lt. Colonels Robert and Marguerite Ward (back row, center) were given a fond farewell from territorial headquarters family this winter. They were recognized with brief tributes by representative officer Major Arnel Ruppel and employee Joe Mole for their commitment to God and each other and their true partnership in ministry. The Wards responded in song with original (and sometimes hilarious) lyrics to the seasonal favorites "O Tannenbaum" and "Auld Lang Syne." They're pictured here with the program department staff (Pauline Smith, Dolores Judge, Pam Ricken and Major Ruppel) and party guests Mickey and Minnie Mouse.

Changing lives creatively

Although all adult rehabilitation centers (ARCs) follow a program of rehabilitation for substance abuse and social/spiritual regeneration of beneficiaries, some ARCs have incorporated unique and creative programs into the process of regaining responsible behavior, confidence and self-respect.



Joy of Cooking

The Kansas City, Mo., and Chicago Central ARCs offer job training in the culinary arts as part of their rehabilitation programs. Career outlooks are promising: food service employs more people (10 million and growing) than any other U.S. industry.

The Kansas City program prepares students for employment as entry-level or preparatory cooks in restaurants, hotels and other venues offering food service. Students learn basic and intermediate food preparation techniques at the Culinary Arts Institute, a non-profit organization.

In the Chicago Central pro-

gram, ARC culinary students receive the opportunity to intern at Chicago's top restaurants after training. Executive Chef John Barton conducts extensive classroom and hands-on training so students learn all work stations in a professional kitchen. The students' chef uniforms—including the distinctive hats—were a gift to the program from the Metropolitan Division.

"Who knows," said Major Susan Anderson, ARC administrator. "Maybe someday a Chicago Central chef will be featured on the Food Network!"



Fish therapy

Spiritual regeneration, attending support meetings and performing work therapy assignments are important components of the ARC program. The Minneapolis, Minn., ARC, however, offers a unique, additional form of therapy, reports Program Director Jeanna Petchell.

The ARC staff enjoy taking beneficiaries out fishing once a month April through October and twice a month during the winter! After all, the ARC is located in Minnesota, the "Land of 10,000 Lakes" teeming with sport fish.



Beneficiary Shaun Klink (pictured above) proudly displays a pike he caught. The men look forward to the fresh air and the struggle to land their catches!

Home-spun advice

The Gary, Ind., ARC is taking aspects of "life learning" back to the basics, reports Envoy Steven McNary, administrator. Straight-talking, Godly volunteers not only teach

literacy, GED, job training and rehabilitation classes, they share from their own experiences as grandmothers, grandfathers, mothers, fathers, wives and peers to help beneficiaries become better men, husbands, fathers and sons. Their collective wisdom benefits those who may have missed these life

lessons growing up—or who may need reminders.

A local reverend performs volunteer chaplain and counseling duties; another gentleman teaches "Christian Living" and assists with job training. A grandmother has taught Bible studies and counseled men for

eight years; another has taught literacy classes for years. A retired teacher, whose son completed the Gary ARC program, teaches a reading class and made new curtains for the entire building.

Four ARC alumni (one now a county deputy sheriff) teach rehabilitation classes. "Living Stones" is a volunteer group of rehabilitated men who perform evangelistic meetings. Two vol-

Troop reinforcements



Envoy Steven and Pam McNary, administrators of the Gary, Ind., Adult Rehabilitation Center were thrilled to enroll three new soldiers—Robert Carpenter, Vernon Hill and Tony Irrazary—who successfully completed the center's rehabilitation program and experienced spiritual regeneration. Pictured (l to r) are Pam, Vernon and Tony.





unteer teachers conduct GED classes assisted by four interns from Indiana University each semester. And, a mother with a son currently in the program teaches a family education class so beneficiaries can understand what happens to their families when they abuse substances.

Book bounty hunters

Each week the Minneapolis ARC receives mountains of donated books. Some are sold in its family (thrift) stores for as little as 50 cents each. But, now—thanks to a new venture started by David Ophaug, director of new business development—some books sell for up to \$7.50 on Amazon.com!

"We're becoming better stewards of our donations," explained David. He's particularly excited because new business efforts like this could keep beneficiaries working at the ARC after they graduate from the rehabilitation program. Although ARC personnel help graduating beneficiaries find jobs and housing, real-world living can be too much, too soon for some men.

"This is a way to support our graduate program and provide jobs so we can minister to the men an extra 18 to 24 months," David added. Pictured below are beneficiaries Paul Devaney (right) and Steven Weeks sorting donated books for sale on Amazon.com.



Bringing in the sheaves

Last winter, where others saw open land in front of the Kansas City, Mo., ARC and an empty lot across the street, Advisory Board Member Pat Conway saw gardens full of vegetables and flowers, shrubs and trees, new job skills and hope.

"I had a sense of developing something through which the men could learn a trade," explained Pat. She liked to imagine a beneficiary walking in the garden, handing a tomato to his son and proudly saying, "I grew this."

Pat called a weekly radio garden show hosted by Toby Tobin to get some advice. Suddenly, she found herself on the air.

Toby and his guests volunteered to help.

In the months that followed, the garden received countless hours of landscaping and gardening expertise, as well as plants, trees, sod and just about everything else that was needed. Toby checked the garden at least once a week and has already met this winter with beneficiaries to discuss this year's growing season.

"It will change every year," said Toby, who added there's now talk of an orchard! He's also contacting seed companies to see if they'd like to use the garden for experimental plants.



Mastering the mouse

Recognizing that the majority of employment opportunities—both skilled and unskilled—in the world today require at least a modicum of computer knowledge, the Milwaukee, Wis., ARC has set up a formal computer laboratory and training program utilizing the latest in software to prepare beneficiaries for the job market.

Jason Grandstaff, transitional activities director, explains the program can simultaneously accommodate students at every skill level—from those needing

to learn the "cut & paste" basics to those hoping to learn or refine their skills on the Microsoft Office suite.

Students also learn how to use internet search engines for finding employment and researching information. "These are all skills that everyday computer users take for granted," Jason explained.

"Even a warehouse job requires computer skills to check databases for shipping and receiving. Without computer training, people can fall by the wayside."



Best it's ever been

by Craig Dirkes

LeeRoy Roth, 37, spent much of his life in prison for assault and drug-related crimes.

"My whole life I didn't like myself," LeeRoy said, who's had no family since he was 11 years old. "I spent years in addiction and was mad at God. I had a lot of self-hatred and couldn't medicate the pain."

Now he's clean and living a good



life thanks to the adult rehabilitation center (ARC) in Minneapolis, Minn., where LeeRoy recently was enrolled as a soldier. He entered the ARC in 2004 soon after he was released from prison.

"I cried out to God and said if there's any hope for me, you need to show me," LeeRoy said. "God did so immediately through people, situations and the ARC."

LeeRoy graduated from the ARC in June 2005 and is now employed as the center's resident manager. When away from work, he spends time with his 16-year-old son from whom he was estranged until LeeRoy found God.

"Now we pray together," said LeeRoy. "My life is the best it's ever been."



Kingdom building in Ghana

by Colonel Dennis Strissel

The Army "open fired" in Ghana in 1922 when Lieutenant King Hudson was sent, along with Ensign and Mrs. Charles Roberts, to pioneer the work. The territory just concluded its 85th year of mission service and salvation warfare. We thank God for the officers, stalwart soldiers and thousands of friends who have given of themselves to make Ghana a great place to live and serve Jesus.

Today, there are 100 corps, 144 societies (outposts) and over 20,000

soldiers with enrollments happening weekly. One of our goals for 2008 is to grow societies into corps.

Over the last several months we've visited all seven divisions and five districts, celebrating God's goodness throughout the country with Salvationists. In each location we were welcomed with open arms. During a recent visit to the West Akim Division I was thrilled to give four societies full corps status. In the Ashanti Central Division I commissioned a new society that already had 40 active members. God is at work in the Ghana Territory!

Another exciting and growing aspect is our partnership with the government to provide education for Ghana's youth. We maintain 206 schools and have more than 20,000 students. Last year four new school buildings were dedicated. This ministry and the children who attend are



a valuable asset to the Army's future. However, the needs are great with most of the buildings in poor condition due to the lack of funds for maintenance.

As we look to the future we focus on this year's territorial theme, "Building the Kingdom Together" based on Nehemiah 2:18, (*The Message*), "'We're with you. Let's get started.' They rolled up their sleeves, ready for the good work."

The soldiers and officers have taken ownership and are setting priorities in soldier making, corps upgrading, society commissioning and entrepreneurial engagement to create a climate that is conducive for simple income generating. The plan is to reduce our complete dependency on outside funding sources and try to balance it by a measure of self-sufficiency.

Please continue to pray for the territory and support it by giving to the International Self-Denial World Mission Fund.

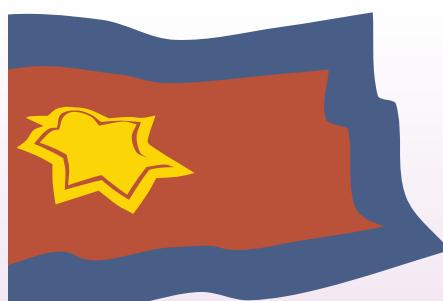
For more information on how you can help The Salvation Army around the world, visit www.usc.salvationarmy.org/missions



Army hits new high

The Salvation Army has begun work in two more countries: Greece and Central Africa's Burundi. Officers have been appointed to these countries for the first time by General Shaw Clifton, raising the total number of countries in which the Army is officially present to 113.

The work in Burundi, which began in Bujumbura under the leadership of A/Captains Lusombo Museses Justin and Fatuma Kalema Justine, is attached to the Rwanda Command. The work in Greece began in Thessalonika under Captains Polis Pantelidis and Maria Konti-Galinou and is attached to the Italy Command.



Salvationists and friends are asked to pray for these countries and the officers carrying out this pioneering work in response to the Great Commission to take the gospel to all nations.

Adapted from an International Headquarters news release

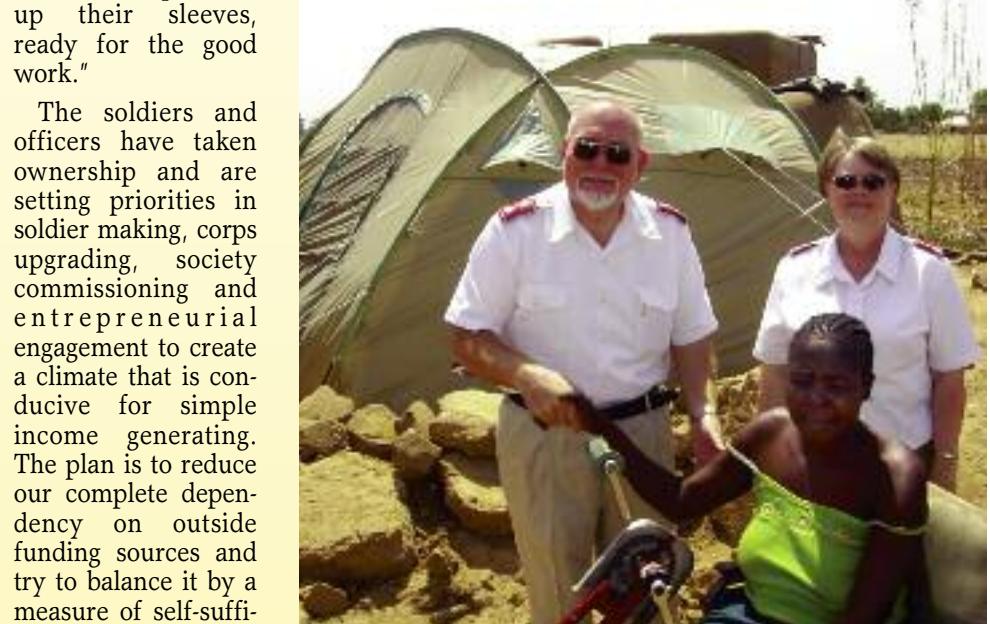
SA team aids Kenyan refugees

The Salvation Army sent an international emergency disaster services team last month to assist Kenyan refugees fleeing civil unrest following the country's presidential vote. The team was headquartered in the neighboring country of Uganda. It was estimated that up to half a million people might need vital humanitarian assistance.

"Salvation Army officers living in the slum areas of Nairobi are being housed at a safe Salvation Army compound in the city, and security

at all Salvation Army facilities has been increased. We are in close contact with our offices in Eldoret, Kisumu and Kakamega, where hundreds of refugees are being sheltered and fed. Unfortunately, it is not physically possible at this time to reach those locations," said Lt. Colonel Kenneth Hodder, chief secretary for Kenya.

Major Eluid Nabiswa, divisional commander for the Eastern Division in the Uganda Command, indicated that the main needs were food, shelter, soap, medication and clothing.



International College for Officers

Central Territory Delegates for 2008



Major Merle Heatwole

ICO Session #196
January 9 – March 3



Major Rebecca Sjogren

ICO Session #197
April 9 – June 2



Major Toni E. Dorrell

ICO Session #198
July 16 – September 8



Major James Beardsley

ICO Session #199
October 15 – December 8

Newest accepted candidates



Janelle Cleaveland

**Waukesha, Wis.
Wisconsin and Upper Michigan Division**

Though Janelle had anything but a perfect childhood, God kept sending "messengers" to her from The Salvation Army "to point the way." The first was the corps officers'

daughter, Samantha Mead, who befriended her and invited Janelle to her house and, of course, the corps. It was during one of those visits that the corps officer, Captain Nancy Mead, showed her the way of salvation in their living room. That led to a job at Army Lake Camp with Major Jonathan Miller where she had the privilege of leading a young lady from her cabin to the Lord. Little by little God was nudging Janelle toward a life of service.

She went away to college in Waukesha, Wis., where she attended the corps and came under the ministry of Captains Dan and Wendy Faundez, her present corps officers. She says the devil has tried to make her deny her calling, but every time God has brought someone to confirm it!

Jennie Sullivan

**Port Huron, Mich.
Eastern Michigan Division**

Getting involved with the Port Huron Corps at age 14 was a blessing for Jennie. She joined in girl guard program and finished with both the General's and Catherine Booth awards and started to feel God calling her to be a Salvation Army officer. However, in 2004 she decided officership wasn't for her as she prepared to study for work as a physical therapist. But God kept calling.

She said, "In May of 2007 He called me again, and I was ready to accept this great blessing. Everything I was doing at the corps was helping me become prepared



for what He had planned. He shut the doors that needed shutting, and I just kept praying for Him to show the way. He did!"

Join the fight!

Candidates of the Prayer Warriors session are preparing to answer the call God has placed on their lives. Join the fight by upholding these men and women in prayer.

Pray for:

- God to stir hearts for more warriors to join the session
- God to remove road blocks to people answering His call
- Your heart to be open to His leading for your life. Is God asking you to become a member of the Prayer Warrior session?

For more information on becoming a candidate visit www.usc.salvationarmy.org



A whole campus effort for ISDWMF

by Captain Michelle Oliver

The audience at the Festival of Worship Arts sits with bated breath and wonders how much has been raised by the Central Territory for the International Self-Denial World Mission Fund (ISDWMF) this year. One by one, divisions are listed with the amount they have given. Tension mounts and toward the end of the presentation the College for Officer Training (CFOT) is listed—\$76,630.72!

Considering it's been raised by a community of about 100 people



(officers, cadets and children at the CFOT) the amount is staggering. To raise such a large sum, a number of fundraisers are planned strategically throughout the year. Cadets learn the significance of the American contribution to ISDWMF. The concept of sacrificial giving of time and talent is modeled, and the practical skill of working in small committees to organize fundraising events is obtained.

The first event is the 5k walk or run along the Lake Michigan waterfront. Participants obtain sponsors, and some good-natured rivalry of who can run fastest between officers and cadets ensures an enjoyable morning for tortoises and hares alike.

Some fundraising opportunities open up the campus to the community. The Fall Festival Dinner, which includes a tour of the mansion, and the annual Christmas Teas invite the public to enjoy our beautiful facilities in addition to great food. Between them, these two events raise more than \$10,000.

Despite these successes, the CFOT constantly tries to find new ways to raise money to reach our ISDWMF goal. This year junior soldiers on campus held a lemonade stand one Saturday morning when the Chicago Cubs were playing at home in nearby Wrigley Field. The children were excited to report they raised over \$100 to help children overseas!

In addition, weekly bake sales and monthly movie nights are held,



Easter baskets are compiled and sold, a "Blessing Tax" is taken, tours of the mansion are given, and a variety of on-campus social events are held.

"For me it is part of living in community, not just my community at CFOT, but because I am a part of a much larger community in God's Kingdom. I saw God's children hungry and in desperate need, and through godly stewardship we were able to feed them and meet their needs. I've witnessed firsthand how giving toward the International Self Denial World Mission Fund changes people. It changed me," said Cadet Shannon Martinez.

Drops of grace

Majors Mel and Esther James are having the time of their lives. Not because they retired in 2002 and left the chilly North to live in balmy Clearwater, Fla. It's because of their experiences during almost two years of living in New Orleans working as emotional and spiritual care (ESC) counselors in the wake of Katrina.

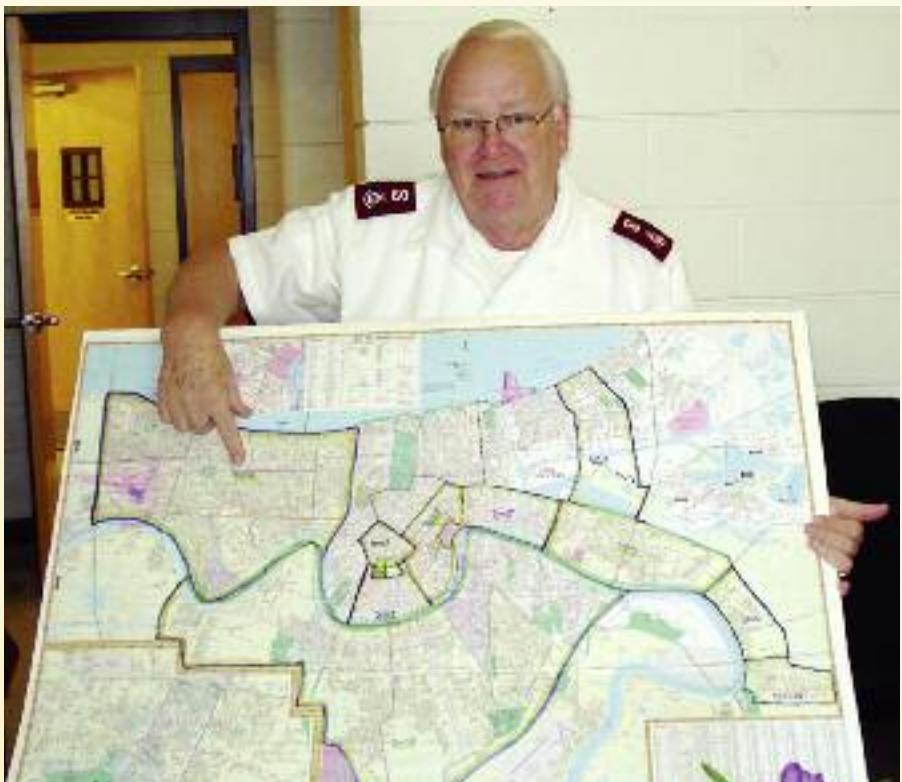
"This is the most excitement we've had since retirement," exclaimed Mel, who serves as the ESC area coordinator for the Southern Territory. "After 33 years of officership, we've seen more fruit first hand in our ministry here. We've sown many seeds over the years, but when you move from appointment to appointment, you don't always get to see the harvest."

Esther added that their duties at Western divisional headquarters in the three years before they retired prepared them for this time. "Everything we learned in social services made it easier to put ourselves into play in New Orleans," she said.



Last spring, they oversaw 44 caseworkers who helped 34,400 families in three months; they now have over 100,000 contacts. The Jameses not only provided ESC counseling to the families, but to the caseworkers, volunteers and college students who poured into the area. Mel had many opportunities to tell this new, receptive generation about The Salvation Army.

The Jameses and their teams still go door-to-door three days a week in an area with 250,000 residences seeking to establish home-based cell groups for Bible studies, resource sharing and a link to the corps.



Major Mel James shows the extent of their door-to-door ministry outreach.



Major Esther James counsels a Katrina survivor.

Many churches in this area have not been rebuilt since Katrina.

"The floods of Katrina may have destroyed this area, but the drops of grace provided by volunteers helped cleanse and restore," said Mel.

God hasn't only been protecting the Jameses spiritually, mentally and emotionally—He provided an extra measure of grace physically.

On a six-month waiting list for a new hip in Florida, Mel had the surgery in New Orleans within three weeks, flew through rehab and was

back in the saddle. Hospital staff told Mel of their gratefulness for Salvation Army canteens that had fed them through the worst of Katrina. Prostate cancer also was discovered and treated. And, Esther, who's suffered with lupus for the last 22 years with several flare-ups annually, hasn't had one occurrence since she's been in New Orleans!

The Jameses also have been helping restore a corps. They were thrilled to enroll six caseworkers as soldiers after leading them through recruits classes!

Compassion amidst chaos

The Omaha, Neb., community was thrust into panic and mourning on December 5th as a troubled young man ended his life after killing eight strangers at the Westroads Mall. Amidst the chaos, The Salvation Army became a refuge.

"As soon as police had secured the area they called us to provide assistance. Though we didn't know exactly what had happened we were ready to help," said J.J. Kuzma, Western divisional emergency disaster services (EDS) director.

The canteen was stationed at the police command post and an EDS team was positioned inside the mall's J.C. Penney store where shoppers and employees were detained.

"People were really scared and tired. They were grateful for our comfort and prayer," said Major Craig Stoker, Omaha disaster services coordinator.

When the mall reopened on December 8th, The Salvation Army was asked to provide refreshments and chaplaincy. Officers, including Majors Herb and Yaneth Fuqua, offered support.

At a beauty salon Herb comforted a woman whose regular customer was one of the victims. As he listened to her fears and sadness others in the store found comfort, and Herb was able to pray with them.

"People are really sensitive and open to God. It's amazing to watch them come in reverence hour after hour. They are looking for a chance to share their stories, and the Holy Spirit is truly present as we talk, listen and pray," said Herb.

At a makeshift memorial outside the Von Maur store The Salvation Army set out books in which mourners wrote words of sympathy and encouragement to victims' fami-



Major Herb Fuqua with Westroads Mall security guard, Assanta, who helped save lives the day of the shooting.

lies.

"We offered people tissues, a shoulder to cry on, we prayed and gave lots of hugs," said Craig.

"It's amazing how people find comfort in seeing a Salvation Army uniform and the ministry of presence it provides," said J.J.



A memorial contained snowflakes made by thousands of people in the community and adorned the Von Maur store entryway on two levels.



From left: Major Herb Fuqua, Rick Von Maur, Chuck Von Maur, Jim Von Maur (president of Von Maur), and Major Yaneth Fuqua in front of snowflake memorial.

Visit
www.edscentral.org

for the latest information on
Emergency Disaster Services

- Volunteer opportunities
- Training classes/schedules
- Resources
- News reports



Chief of the Staff makes historic visit to mainland China

Commissioner Robin Dunster, Chief of the Staff, met with government officials and church leaders in Beijing, China, during a visit which also saw her chairing a task force meeting in Hong Kong.

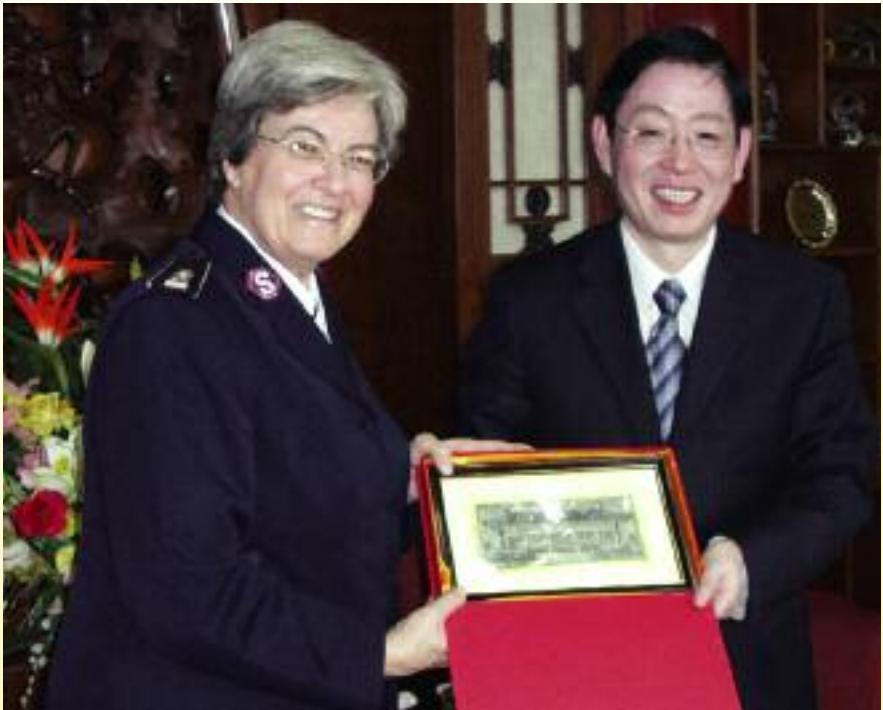
The purpose of her visit to China was to engage in conversation with representatives of the State Bureau of Religious Affairs, including the Deputy Director, Wang Zuo An, and the Rev. Yu Xin Li, vice-general manager of the China Christian Council and chairman of the Beijing National Committee of the Three-Self Patriotic Movement of the Protestant Churches in China. She also met faculty members and seminarians of the Yanjing Theological Seminary.

During her time in Hong Kong, the Chief chaired the task force which is exploring opportunities to develop and support the work in mainland China and to support Salvation Army ministries in Chinese communities in other parts of the world. The main focus was on mission opportunities.

The Chief was accompanied in Hong Kong by South Pacific and East Asia Zonal Leaders Commissioners Barry and Raemor

Pobjie and in Beijing by Lt. Colonel Edna Williams.

*Adapted from an international release



Announcing the Norridge Citadel Corps

25th Anniversary Celebration Weekend

March 14-16, 2008

Connect - Reflect - Expect

With special guests

Commissioners Israel L. Gaither and Eva D. Gaither
National Commander and President of Women's Organizations

supported by

Commissioners Ken and Joy Baillie
Lt. Colonels David and Sherry Grindle

led by

Majors Stephen and Morag Yoder



Don't miss this marvelous weekend of celebration!

All events to take place at the corps, 8354 W. Foster Ave, Norridge, Ill.

For more information, call the corps at (708) 456-6220

-mustard Seeds-



MARCH 2008

PRAY FOR:

- 1 Midland Division music programs
- 2 Junior Soldier Enrollment and Renewal Sunday
- 3 The newly initiated work in Greece and Burundi
- 4 The territory's adult rehabilitation centers
- 5 The Cadillac, Mich., Corps
- 6 Salvationists returning from the biblical education tour of Israel
- 7 The Come Join Our Army initiative
- 8 The Metropolitan Divisional Men's Bible Retreat
- 9 The retired officers' bureau staff and those to whom they minister
- 10 Candidates for Salvation Army officership
- 11 The young people chosen for this year's summer mission teams
- 12 Officers' councils in the Wisconsin and Upper Michigan Division
- 13 The National Business Administration Conference
- 14 Norridge Citadel 25th anniversary celebration
- 15 Personal renewals in preparation for Holy Week
- 16 A renewed sense of wonder and praise on this Palm Sunday
- 17 Cadets from the College for Officer Training on spring campaigns
- 18 Hearts to be open to evangelistic messages presented this week
- 19 The Warren, Mich., Corps
- 20 Chief of the Staff Commissioner Robin Dunster
- 21 The message of the cross to be heard by all
- 22 SONday'SCOOL in our territory
- 23 Countless numbers to know the risen Christ
- 24 Territorial leadership preparing for annual command consultation reviews
- 25 Correctional services ministries throughout the territory
- 26 The Western Michigan and Northern Indiana Divisional Women Officers' Retreat
- 27 The Heartland Division's "Spring Fling"
- 28 The Western Divisional Women's Camp
- 29 The ministry of the Chicago Staff Band
- 30 The International College for Officer Training
- 31 The Kistler family's evangelistic campaign in Emporia, Kan.

Radiothon rings in hope



The Indiana Division's 13th annual radiothon hosted by WIBC radio raised more than \$155,000 that will be used to help people in need throughout the greater Indianapolis area. The Friday through Sunday event included celebrity bellringers such as WISHTV anchor Joy Dumunden (pictured above) who helped raise additional funds by manning the kettle outside the station. Every hour drawings were held for prizes donated by sponsors including Royal Spa and the Indianapolis Colts. In addition to the prize packages many sponsors matched pledges made by the public, sometimes doubling hourly totals. This also was the first year donors were able to make contributions via the radiothon website.



Territorial Youth Councils 2008

Coming Soon to the community near you

Jam

For more information contact your divisional youth secretary

Promoted to Glory

Lt. Colonel Donald Rose

Lt. Colonel Donald Rose was promoted to Glory on November 22, 2007.



Donald Rose was born on February 10, 1922, in Highland Park, Mich. Raised in a Salvationist home, he was enrolled as a junior then senior soldier, but it was not until he was about to enter the senior band that he realized the importance of living a life reflecting Christ and surrendered to Him.

At the sudden passing of Lieutenant John Stewart, God awakened a call to officership in Donald. He entered the College for Officer Training in 1942 and while there met Edith Rose. They served as single officers for six years before marrying in 1949. Donald was commissioned in 1943 and held corps appointments in Indiana and Illinois. In 1945, he was appointed to the territorial finance department and later the editorial department.

The Roses ministered for many years on divisional staffs, including leading the Western and Midland divisions. In 1982 Donald returned to territorial headquarters as the territorial program secretary and then secretary for personnel.

The Roses retired to Florida in 1987. In retirement Donald worked as the administrative assistant at the Clearwater, Fla., Corps and served as the Central Territory's retired officers' representative to Florida for 18 years. He was a loyal, hardworking man who used his gifts for the Lord.

Colonel Rose is survived by his wife; a daughter, Joyce Fournier; a son, Gregg; a brother, Kenneth; a sister-in-law, Mrs. Lt. Colonel Ulla Lindstrom-Rose, and four grandchildren.

Major Nancy Madson

Major Nancy Madson was promoted to Glory on November 27, 2007.

Nancy was born in Stillwater, Minn., on September 4, 1931. In 1949, she graduated from high school and then attended business college in Minneapolis where she studied accounting.

Nancy dedicated her life to the Lord in 1950 while taking part in a young people's meeting at a First Congregational church. She began attending The Salvation Army in 1954 and was enrolled as a senior soldier a year later. In 1958 she moved to Portland, Ore. Though she attended another church she felt God calling her to officership and moved back to Minnesota a year later.

In 1960 she entered the College for Officer Training (CFOT) and was commissioned in 1962 to the Wichita, Kan., Home and Hospital. She was transferred to the women's social services department at territorial headquarters (THQ) in 1964 and during that time she earned a diploma in accounting from Northwestern University. In 1970 Nancy was appointed to the territorial property department and faithfully worked there until she retired in 1996. During her tenure at THQ she was an active soldier at the Chicago Andersonville Corps where she served as corps treasurer. Nancy loved people and always went the extra mile to help someone in need. A giving woman, she established a trust fund for cadets at the CFOT.

Major Madson is survived by two brothers, Thomas and William; a niece, Diane Santin, and a nephew, David.



Mrs. Brigadier Louise Elcombe

Mrs. Brigadier Louise Elcombe was promoted to Glory on December 10, 2007.

Louise Griffin was born on March 30, 1918, in Fargo, N.D. She attended The Salvation Army as a child and in 1930 gave her heart to the Lord. A year later she became a junior soldier and started attending corps cadets. Feeling called to be a Salvation Army officer, she moved to Duluth, Minn., in her late teens to become a corps assistant.

She entered the College for Officer Training and in 1941 was commissioned to assist at the Bismarck, N.D., Corps. As a single officer she held appointments at the Fargo, N.D., Corps and divisional headquarters in Minneapolis, Minn. She married Adjutant James Elcombe in 1945 and together they ministered in corps in Minnesota and North Dakota. They retired from the St. Cloud, Minn., Corps in 1976. In



retirement Louise loved to travel so much, her children lovingly nicknamed her "gypsy mom."

Louise had a heart of gold. She loved ministering to people and was dedicated to helping those in need.

Mrs. Brigadier Elcombe was preceded in death by her husband, James; a daughter, Doris Aspling, and three great-grandchildren. She is survived by a son, Ron (Sharon) Elcombe; a daughter, Nancy (Michael) Massich; grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Readers' Forum

The Eames, Faundez, Hale and Breeze families would like to thank the many officers and friends who sent words of comfort and support at the recent news of the promotion to Glory of Major Beth Eames, Mary Jane Breeze and Judy Byam. We are very grateful for your love and support at this time. We would appreciate your continued prayer support as we continue to heal from these deaths in our family.

Lent 2008

The 2008 Lenten Resource Book, *Jesus Changed My Life*, is designed to help enrich your corps' worship during this Holy season. We will be looking at the impact Jesus' life and ministry had on the lives of people from the scriptural narratives. Every believer's celebration of this Holy season can be enriched by understanding that God relates to us today similarly as to the individuals in these biblical narratives. This resource contains ready-to-use, quality meetings for Sunday worship, women's and community care ministries. Discover anew this season how Jesus can change your life!

