Renovation wins national award

The prestigious award recognizes efforts in advancing historic preservation goals while providing affordable housing and economic development opportunities for low-income residents. Midland divisional leaders Lt. Colonels Lonneal and Patty Richardson accepted the award in Washington, D.C., from Marion McFadden, HUD deputy assistant secretary for grant programs.

Retaining historic elements without drastically altering interiors, the $12 million renovation produced 58 one-bedroom apartments for individuals with special needs. Not only was the building’s design preserved but its historic, continuous usage for sheltering and architectural details without drastically altering interiors, the $12 million renovation produced 58 one-bedroom apartments for individuals with special needs. Not only was the building’s design preserved but its historic, continuous usage for sheltering and economic development opportunities for low-income residents. Midland divisional leaders Lt. Colonels Lonneal and Patty Richardson accepted the award in Washington, D.C., from Marion McFadden, HUD deputy assistant secretary for grant programs.

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Growing the next generation

In its fourth year the Good Soil Initiative (GSI) continues to grow throughout the territory. With youth development coordinators currently deployed in sixteen locations, representing six divisions, GSI has been planted in both rural and urban contexts, multicultural ministries and even nontraditional settings. Its reach now stretches from Lincoln, Neb., to downtown Chicago, to Kalamazoo, Mich., but it’s a resource many more corps could take advantage of.

“Moving from campus ministry into community youth development, with a focus on developing leaders, we’ve created an environment where kids are not just taught about Christ, but can learn the discipline of living for Christ,” said Lt. Colonel Lonneal Richardson. “It’s a new approach to youth development that aligns perfectly with GSI’s mission.”

Youth development coordinators work with youth, corps leaders, neighborhood organizations, parents, teachers and others to increase ministry opportunities for youth in their communities and to provide healthy and safe places to grow in their faith and character.

Coordinators are trained on-site and resourced by the territorial youth department. They receive ongoing training annually at the Refuel youth leaders conference in February and at Central Bible Leadership Institute in July. This year Barb Higgins, territorial youth specialist, also will begin mentoring them one-on-one.

GSI requires a three-year commitment, not only from the individual but from the corps and division as the funding model for the position is tiered with contributions from the corps, divisional headquarters and territorial headquarters.

The division taking most advantage of this opportunity is Western Michigan and Northern Indiana (WMNI). According to Major Jason Poff, WMNI divisional youth secretary, approximately one-fifth of their corps now have GSI youth development coordinators, and the division is hoping to add two to three more in the coming year. His passion for the program comes from his own experience.

“Coming to this appointment in 2013, we reviewed the status of youth work in the division and felt there needed to be an infusion of...”
Godly lessons from science

More than 278 youth, leaders and corps officers in the Heartland Division took part in a day-long event at Eagle Crest Camp called STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math).

Teams were even scriptural, although generally referred to with a “body” metaphor. From Romans 12:4-6 (NIV): “For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us.” Sounds like a team to me, not at all with different abilities because the functions are needed. So what can Patrick Lencioni’s book, The Five Dysfunctions of a Team, teach us as we work together to Create a Shared Future?

He identifies as the first dysfunction an absence of trust, an unwillingness to be vulnerable with each other. In the Christian walk, acknowledging needs, fears and joys together builds the faith community. Our corps need a team that weeps and prays together over the apparent gap in mission when in almost 40 percent of corps no one is finding Jesus as Savior. I’m being vulnerable. This breaks my heart.

The fear of conflict is the next dysfunction. Without vigorous and honest debate, the buy-in is lacking at best. Without commitment, the fourth dysfunction then is an avoidance of accountability. He writes, “Without committing to a clear plan of action, even the most focused people often hesitate to call their peers on actions that seem counterproductive to the good of the team.” The fifth dysfunction, which is inattention to results, then thrives. When we don’t pay attention to results, we defend our own interests and withdraw from the mission.

Wow! Imagine the “Romans 12 body” running a race not as one: legs not running strong, lungs half-hearted about breathing, hands carrying a suitcase and soda, and eyes shutting for a nap. When the body of Christ acts like a dysfunctional team, it’s not just a game we lose. A marathon that is lost, but souls! The spiritual cost is high.

I pray as we work together on teams (STPs, employee, advisory member and officer teams, etc.) we won’t allow dysfunctions to flourish but instead will fit a positive profile of trusting one another, engaging in conflict around ideas, committing to plans of action, handling each other accountable for delivering on those plans, and focusing on achieving collective results for the Kingdom of God through The Salvation Army.

Sunbeams experiment with a water filter for their project called “Purified to Purify.”

Heartland Divisional Headquarters in Peoria.

“For a first-time event, we were very happy with the turnout, and all of the kids did a great job,” said Captain Jeremy Stouder, Heartland divisional youth secretary.
Western holds shield identity event for donors

by Linda Holmes Garbina
Western Divisional Director of Planned Giving

Everyone should take steps to protect themselves against identity theft, according to security professionals who spoke at the Western Division’s first “Shield Your Identity” event in Omaha, Neb., attended by 150 people.

“We can’t make this stuff stop, but you can lower your risk,” said Russ Hyllested, senior information security consultant for Cox Communications, the presenting sponsor for the event. “I want to many new you’re not an easy target.”

Hyllested was joined by experts from the FBI Cyber Task Force, University of Nebraska Omaha, Continuum Security Solutions and the president of the regional Better Business Bureau to address cyber security issues facing consumers every day. Other sponsors included Northwestern Mutual and Harrison Financial Services.

“Being a victim of identity theft can cause everything from a small inconvenience to a full-blown disaster,” said Major Greg Thompson, Western divisional commander. “We wanted this event to provide our donors with some preventive tools.”

Hyllested compared identity theft to a home robbery. He said burglars may pass by the house with the lights on and a barking dog inside for a home where the lights are off, window ajar and days of mail in the mailbox.

He recommended consumers use credit cards rather than debit cards for purchases; configure security patches to auto-install on computers and install both antimalware and antivirus software; use diamond cut shredders that have the ability to shred DVDs/CDs and credit cards; make sure smart phones are password protected; check credit reports for erroneous charges annually; create strong passwords with at least 12 characters with a mix of letters, numbers and symbols; change passwords every 90 days.

Fresh starts for mother, son

by Roxanna Ruiz

Due to domestic violence, I needed to leave home with my young son, Ramon, to live in a shelter. Its staff encouraged me to ask others for help, find a church and seek counseling.

Women living at the shelter told me about a terrific organization that helps those like us: The Salvation Army.

After relocating to northwest Indiana, I visited the East Chicago, Ind., Corps for help furnishing my apartment and met a wonderful woman named Rosemary. As she listened to my problems, I began to feel a sense of relief, the weight of the world was no longer on my shoulders.

Rosemary helped me resolve a problem with my mother who was being difficult about letting us reclaim our belongings. Thanks to Rosemary’s persistence, we were able to pick up our possessions. Ramon got back his clothes, toys and all the other things so important to a small boy. He attended summer day camp in the corps and made many new friendships that continued into the school year.

I also made many new friendships and started attending Bible studies, women’s ministries and classes in nutrition, exercise and music! This never would’ve happened if it weren’t for great people like Rosemary and Captains Daniel and Nivia Paredes (then corps officers) who devoted their time and efforts to help us.

When I first came to the Army for help, I felt like a piece of gum under somebody’s shoe. Now I feel a sense of pride and accomplishment. The corps is a home for Ramon and me, a place where we’re known on a first-name basis.

Chaplaincy in Milwaukee grows

Last year the Milwaukee, Wis., Police Department enlisted The Salvation Army to organize and lead a chaplaincy program in an effort to combat violence and bring encouragement to those affected by traumatic events in the area. In less than six months, the volunteer base has grown over 25 percent.

In October the division hired one of the lead chaplains, Pastor Alexis Twite, as chaplain coordinator. In this capacity he coordinates directly with the police to dispatch chaplains who live within the district and are best qualified for the crisis at hand.

She is currently working on a chaplain database which will include a list of skills and unique gift for each chaplain. She interfaces with police, meets the captains and lieutenants in person and regularly meets with head chaplains to get to know them better. In the future she hopes to put together a tracking system for calls from the police department to determine patterns.

“My goal is to help make sure the head chaplains and chaplains have appropriate training and resources to do their jobs well and that the police have confidence in us that it’s a program they can rely on,” the pastor said.

Upon police request, extensively trained volunteer chaplains are available to provide emotional and spiritu-
Newly accepted candidates

Kenneth S. Jones

Detroit Conner Creek, Mich., Corps
Eastern Michigan Division

I was 7 when I started attending the Detroit Brightmoor, Mich., Corps through the soup kitchen program. I didn’t see it at the time, but God was beginning to fertilize the soil in which I would plant my roots. I began to get involved with various programs at the corps, acquiring development assets every child needs growing up. I don’t remember the exact day or time I gave my life to Christ; I just remember being taught stories about Christ and what He did.

Those truths were instilled in my heart as I dealt with poverty and the violence of the city.

It wasn’t until the summer of 2012 when I got my call to officership. I was part of a summer mission team in Hungary when the Lord broke my heart for fulltime ministry. My desire for my life was no longer for the ‘American Dream’ but rather for a life of simplicity and complete dedication to God’s people. I now work as a ministry intern in Saginaw, Mich., where I hope to be better equipped for ministry before entering the College for Officer Training. As a future officer my passion is simple, summed up in a well-known sentiment: to preach the Gospel at all times and, when necessary, use words in order to save souls.

Ken’s corps officers are Captains Javier and Kelsie Moreno.

We feel so privileged and humbled to be called by God to serve in fulltime ministry with The Salvation Army. Heather and I were both raised in South Korea. She came to know Jesus as her Savior at a very young age, and I experienced salvation at age 13. I grew up in a Buddhist home where I became the first Christian in my family. My wife grew up in a Christian home where her father was a Presbyterian pastor.

We both served in Korean Churches for 10 years before God led us on a journey to China, the United Kingdom and the United States, serving in different ministry positions with a few different denominations.

Eventually, we met The Salvation Army in Chicago and became soldiers at the Mayfair Community Church (Corps). Since 2013 God has been leading us toward officership. We currently serve as interns at the Norridge Corps. We are gaining great experience here. We see God’s Kingdom at work in this community every day.

We have been blessed with two wonderful children who love the Lord. Anita is in her second year of college, and Matthew will graduate from high school this May.

Derek and Heather’s corps officers are Majors Ho Yoon and Kehyoung Chang.

Derek and Heather Jung

Chicago, Ill., Mayfair Community Church (Corps)
Metropolitan Division

Precious treasures

Even though I grew up in poverty, my parents left me a very precious treasure; they taught me having Jesus in my heart was the most important possession in life,” said Cadet Rona Prado Mutcha (Beatty), who grew up in the Philippines. Throughout Rona’s childhood, her mother supported their family of six because Rona’s father was very ill.

“I gave my heart to God at age 8 in 1988,” said Rona. “Growing up, I knew God was calling me to His ministry, but I tried to ignore it. One reason was worry about my family; I became the sole breadwinner after my mother died. God was persistent, however, and I finally realized I could never run away from Him. When I fully surrendered I said, ‘Okay, Lord, I’m yours. You know the reasons why I kept running—I give them all to you.’”

A second treasure entered Rona’s life when she met and fell in love with Matthew Beatty, a lay missionary from the Central Territory serving in the Philippines. Their relationship blossomed while serving together in corps ministry. That commitment to service continued after their marriage in April 2012. After returning to the Central Territory, Matthew and Rona served as ministry interns at a corps before entering the College for Officer Training as members of the ‘Messengers of Light’ session, which will be ordained and commissioned this June in Merrillville, Ind.

“Even though I am 10,000 miles away from my family, I have peace in my heart because I know the Lord is faithful with His promise that He’s watching over them,” Cadet Rona concluded. “I’m glad I gave my heart to God and so thankful because I found real joy and happiness by serving the Lord through His ministry.”

Cadet Rona Prado Mutcha (Beatty) shares her story at the Boundless Joy weekend.

Cadet Matthew Beatty and Rona Prado Mutcha (Beatty)
Marques marks year five in Japan!

Captain Chris Marques, assistant to the territorial youth secretary in Japan, spent a great part of the last year helping to prepare for a large Gospel Arts Concert featuring Japan's Salvationist youth. Performances included interpretive dance routines, choirs and timbrels.

"The youth went above and beyond my expectations; they did a fantastic job," the captain said.

The youth also performed a drama about Commissioner Gunpei Yamamuro, the first native Japanese territorial commander of Japan. The young people acted out scenes from the commissioner’s life, encouraging the audience to seek repentance and live a pure life in service to God despite distractions.

In addition to his responsibilities assisting Territorial Youth Secretary Major Shinji Ishizaka, the captain is working to complete his bachelor's degree in practical ministries through Olivet Nazarene University online. He has eight courses left and will complete the degree this year.

"I'm looking forward to having another pair of English speakers to learn from," Captain Chris said.

Dolibers stick with Haiti

The Salvation Army’s Haiti Recovery and Development (HRD) office has closed after five years of successful project management and rebuilding efforts. From the start Majors Robert and Rae Doliber were part of the international team leading the office, which opened nine months after the devastating January 2010 earthquake that rocked vast areas of Haiti, destroying or damaging much of the Port-au-Prince region.

"The Army’s holistic mission was fully embraced in planning and implementing the myriad of projects that followed the initial emergency response," said Major Bob, who served as HRD team director with Major Rae as special projects manager. The Dolibers committed to serving two more years in Haiti with Major Rae as special projects manager for business administration and Major Rae as divisional human resources manager.

Major Bob visited a cornerstone to facilitating meaningful and lasting change in Haiti was the Army’s

Renewed to serve in Canada

by Major Sheila Davison

Our officership for the last year has had a theme: renewal. In February 2015 we decided we’d like to renew for another three-year term at Booth University College, Winnipeg, Canada, in the Canada and Bermuda Territory and were approved to do so. Philip remained the associate dean for extended learning, while I moved to the Canada and Bermuda Territory’s College for Officer Training (CFOT) as the new training officer.

In the last year we’ve managed to keep very busy. In addition to being able to venture to Newfoundland, Montreal, Ottawa-Gatineau and Toronto, Canada, Philip has had the responsibility of developing soldiership curriculum for the territory. The curriculum has a Bible study component and an integrated mission activity, and it will be translated into French and Spanish. Since the Booth University College renovations—three additional classrooms, eight offices and new telecom equipment—Philip has moved into a new office. He is writing a three-volume commentary series on the book of Revelation.

As the CFOT training officer, I advise our cadets, lead chapel services and initiate and run small group meetings. Highlights from the year for me include teaching a week-long class called Spiritual Formation for Discipleship at a camp in Jackson Point, Ontario; helping to lead Sunday night meetings for Booth University students called The Gathering; and seeing our youngest daughter, Julia, graduate from Booth University College with a degree in social work.

The theme renewal doesn’t just describe our officership this year. We’ve both been renewed in our faith as I’ve navigated the change of appointment and Philip has sought new friendships and fellowship opportunities.

Also exciting for us in the last year is the marriage of our daughter, Jacky, to Lt. Grant Holloway after his commissioning. They’re now serving together as corps officers in Brainerd, Minn.
I

Arcs unite

In an effort to better and more fully serve beneficiaries, the Adult Rehabilitation Centers Command (ARCC) has implemented Service Point, a data management system that will standardize beneficiary data across all 18 of the Central Territory’s adult rehabilitation centers.

“Service Point will help beneficiaries in a number of ways, first by tracking their progress within the program,” said Major Arnel Ruppel, ARCC secretary for program. “It will record classes and activities, work therapy experience and, based upon identified needs, can help to set goals for the beneficiaries’ individual care.”

Service Point also creates visibility and efficiency for all of the centers, allowing staff to track trends in population, analyze data for evaluation of services and program development, as well as to share case information across centers in case of beneficiary transfer.

Additionally, storing data through Service Point adds a level of security. “We can lock down confidential aspects of our beneficiary files now,” said Neisha McNeal, ARCC beneficiary management specialist.

Service Point was first introduced to the territory as the data management system for the Pathway of Hope (POH) initiative. It’s been such a success, it seemed a logical fit for the ARCC. According to Neisha it will easily allow the transfer of information between the POH initiative and ARCC programs. “It’s a win-win because there will be times for referrals between each,” said Neisha.

Meet Christmas

Soldier Christmas Rose Hudgens has been in adult rehabilitation centers (ARC) most of her life, but she’s not a beneficiary! Her parents, Majors David and Peggy Hudgens, served their entire officership in ARCs, and although she didn’t plan to, Christmas has followed in their footsteps.

For the last 10 years she has worked as the Indianapolis, Ind., ARC director of rehabilitation services. When she started, despite her background and college degree, Christmas describes herself as “totally green.”

“As a result I had to rely heavily on God, and my relationship grew exponentially,” she said.

In her job Christmas is responsible for overseeing the men, supervising intake and counseling staff, handling housing issues, designing the course curriculum, and the list goes on. Her favorite aspect of the job, however, is evangelism.

ARC Command Information Technology help desk technician, assists Captain Alex Velasquez, Davenport, Iowa, ARC administrator, with Service Point.

Two years of doing drugs and working dead-end jobs, Casey had a near-death experience at 18 when a dealer friend was shot to death while they were doing a drug money collection run.

Unfortunately, Casey didn’t heed the wake-up call. He spent the rest of his teens and his 20s getting high. He found work as an irrigation installation specialist and made decent money for the next decade while dealing drugs on the side.

As he got older, Casey’s use of alcohol and marijuana remained constant, but then he added methamphetamine. “I thought I was the most worthless, horrible piece of crap when I was doing meth,” said Casey, who finally stopped dealing in the late 2000s when he realized people could die from the drugs he sold.

He continued to drink, however, and racked up several arrest warrants in Minnesota. He fled to South Dakota to work for his uncle and attempt sobriety.

Less than a year later, his uncle kicked him out.

Casey’s dad brought him back home in December 2009 with an ultimate go straight to the ARCC or leave. Casey started cursing and blaming his parents for his problems.

“They’d bailed me out so many times before but wouldn’t this time,” he said.

Leaving the house in a Huff on a cold, snowy night, Casey began walking down the hill to his favorite bar.

Halfway, he looked back toward his parents’ house and started to cry when he realized he’d have to repeat the same uphill journey he’d traveled for 15 years. He went back to his parents’ home and huddled in the corner of a backyard pigeon shed. When his dad found him, Casey said, “Fine. Take me to that stupid rehab place.” It was a lesson in tough love Casey will never forget.

“The best thing my parents ever did for me was refusing to help me that night.”

He arrived at the ARC on December 28, 2009, and immediately felt God’s presence. “I felt a weight lifted off me that I haven’t felt before. I really can’t explain it,” he said.

Casey received counseling, spiritual support and work therapy while in the program, which gave him a better understanding of God and give Him control. And, God didn’t disappoint, especially when it came to Casey’s legal problems.

“I turned myself in for the five warrants against me, two of which were felonies, and pleaded no contest. The prosecutor thought I was crazy,” said Casey. But, after a Salvation Army official spoke to the judge and prosecutor, explaining the progress Casey had made, the judge reduced everything to misdemeanor disorderly conduct.

Casey tied up another loose end by finishing high school. Though scared to take the GED test, he passed it with flying colors.

He graduated from the ARC program in June 2010 and today is the center’s intake coordinator, the first person met by every broken man who arrives in search of a new life.

“I shouldn’t be standing here, alive or as a free person,” said Casey. “Now I have an active relationship with God that starts with Him every morning and ends with Him every night.”
Indianapolis ARC at capacity

In the last 10 years the Indianapolis, Ind., Adult Rehabilitation Center (ARC) has gone from a capacity of 65 to 115. Not only has it grown, but it’s been an asset to the community.

“Something that makes our facility unique is the fact that it’s almost always full,” said Major Linda Barker, ARC administrator with her husband, Troy. “It’s a reflection on the need, and I believe, a direct reflection on our staff.”

According to Director of Rehabilitative Services Christmas Rose Hudgens, one of the reasons for the growth is the internship opportunities. With limited resources, hiring college students to gain experience in their field has been a win-win situation. The interns have been able to improve the intake process as well as assist with administrative work. Recently the program has expanded to include four counselor interns from Martin University.

Another reason for the program’s growth is the significant improvements that have been made to the building over the last decade. “The more comfortable people are in our building, the more likely they are to bring their loved ones, and the more likely the beneficiaries are to stay,” said Christmas.

Sunday morning worship also is growing, bringing in upwards of 190 people. They’ve recently moved the service into another room to accommodate larger numbers of beneficiaries, alumni and family members and have begun to hold children’s church for ages 2-10.

“We do everything we can, from uploading trucks to sorting clothes and organizing the drug and alcohol program, is all about Sunday,” said Major Troy. “It’s ultimately about changing lives and bringing families together.”

The Barkers hope to open more of the facility to support the growth. Recently, they’ve overseen the opening of a beautiful, new, 23,000-square-foot store in Noblesville, Ind. Their goal is to improve the shopping experience and the community’s perception of the store.

“There is a lot of opportunity for growth here,” said Christmas. “I think we’ve been poised for some time now, and I’m excited about where we’re going.”

Beneficiaries’ children attend Sunday school at the ARC.

Better together

“Believing we’re better together” was the impetus behind a partnership struck three years ago by officers each new to their appointments in Omaha, Neb. With deep passions for evangelism and discipleship, Captains Chris and April Clarke, administrators of the Omaha Adult Rehabilitation Center (ARC), and Captains Trevor and Rochelle McClintock, Omaha Citadel corps officers, decided to work hand-in-hand for the greater good of their people.

Each week after attending the ARC Sunday chapel service, about 30 men—many accompanied by their families—attend the Omaha Citadel for worship and junior church.

The deepening relationships amongst this united congregation have resulted in children and adults attending mid-week corps activities, a quarterly united Sunday worship service at the ARC and many other opportunities for joint fellowship and education, the most recent being a spiritual gifts weekend to help people identify their roles within the congregation. The next will be a holiness seminar weekend.

The officers were thrilled to have a packed house of 183 on the Sunday morning of the spiritual gifts weekend, which was conducted by Major Christine Pelé from territorial headquarters. “Even the ARC staff who attended the seminar received fresh insight not only into their missional roles but job responsibilities,” said Captain April.

“Camp Sunday” held at the division’s Gene Eppley Camp just before the start of fall programming at the corps, has become a greatly anticipated annual event for the united congregation.

Other events include diversity dinners held on Martin Luther King, Jr., Day, Super Bowl parties, junior band concerts and graduation celebrations, among other reasons for fun and fellowship.

“This approach feeds programs at the corps for youth and other activities, including ARC men attending the men’s Bible study at the corps,” said Captain Trevor McClintock.

“Developing lasting relationships is the goal of both our ministries at the corps and ARC.”

Captain April concluded, “Believing we’re better together is about investing in each other and giving voice to our opportunities for connection, that’s what’s happening.”

Genuine humility

When General André and Commissioner Silvia Cox visited the Southeast Michigan Adult Rehabilitation Center (ARC) for Sunday worship late last year, it was their humility that made the greatest impact on the beneficiaries of the men’s and women’s campuses, according to Envoy Merle Miller, ARC administrator. The General captured many hearts when he said, “I’m not worried about protocol with The General” because “I’m not the most important person here. YOU are!”

Women were particularly interested to hear Commissioner Silvia talk about how she came to know “a big God” personally. The General’s message, “Christ, the Pearl of Great Price,” was based on the parables of Matthew 13 about recognizing “true value.”

“You might not do well investing in today’s market, but you can invest everything you have in the Kingdom of God!” the General said as he encouraged the congregation to evaluate the price they put on their eternity with Christ. “You’re here because God has a purpose for your life,” he continued. More than 100 men and women responded at the mercy seat.

Opportunities for spiritual awakening and growth abound on both campuses of the ARC. In addition to one-on-one counseling, Bible studies and discipleship classes, warm fellowship and a sense of community is offered by the ARC congregation. Soldiership classes also are available, as well as continued spiritual guidance and support as part of follow-up services to program graduates.

“There’s also a new emphasis on visits to families to encourage them to attend our Sunday services,” said Envoy Merle of the efforts being done by retired officers Majors Rudy and Jean Richards.

![The praise team opens Sunday worship at the Indianapolis, Ind., ARC.](image1)

Commissioner Silvia Cox is introduced by Envoy Merle Miller.

![A spiritual gifts seminar benefited both the Omaha ARC and Omaha Citadel Corps.](image2)

The General providing prayer support at the mercy seat.

![The Barkershope to open more opportunities for connection.](image3)
Chicago Staff Band to participate in brass celebration

The Chicago Staff Band (CSB) will participate this May in a spectacular North American Brass Celebration, marking the 10th anniversary of the Western Territory Staff Band (WTSB). Originally formed in the 1920s, the WTSB disbanded in 1930 but has enjoyed a decade of musical ministry since reforming in 2006.

Along with the CSB, the New York Staff Band, Southern Territorial Band and Canadian Staff Band will join the WTSB on May 21, 2016, at the Terrace Theater in Long Beach, Calif., for a full day of individual band concerts, culminating in a gala featuring all five.

“The Chicago Staff Band is looking forward to interacting with the other four North American staff bands in this historic celebration and engaging together in some challenging concerts, culminating in a gala featuring all five,” said Dr. Harold Burgmayer, CSB bandmaster.

The day will begin in the morning with a free performance on the terrace by the Western Territory Youth Band and other divisional youth bands from the West. The first indoor staff/territorial band concert will start at 2:00 p.m. Each staff or territorial band will present a 30-minute concert reflecting the essence of that group and featuring music written by local composers. Bandmaster William Flinn is to be the master of ceremonies. Each band also will have a display, along with various vendors with music, instruments and CDs for sale, in the theater lobby.

In addition to some of the very best classic Salvation Army pieces, a number of new works by Salvationist composers, such as Stephen Bulla, Kevin Larsson, William Himes and James Curnow, have been commissioned by the WTSB for the event. Legendary composers such as Heaton, Ball and Steadman-Allen also will be featured.

Bandmaster William Himes and Amber Sullins, a Salvationist musician who is also chief meteorologist for ABC News in Phoenix, Ariz., will host the evening.

“When these five territorial/staff bands of North America meet to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the reactivated Western Territory Staff Band, Salvationists and the general public will have an engaging time evaluating and assessing a sacred musical tradition and culture that is now 138 years old (1878-2016),” said Dr. Ronald Holz, who is writing a new book which will chronicle the history of these five North American bands in words and pictures that will be released at the celebration. He continued, “The organizers planned and projected that the event is first and foremost a vehicle for the proclamation of the Gospel of Christ and will bring praise and glory to God. These are the supreme purposes of Salvation Army music.”

Tickets for each concert are available at taticickets.org.

New Songs of Salvation released

Adult Rehabilitation Centers (ARC) and Harbor Light Centers now have a new and helpful worship resource: Songs of Salvation, a collection of 200 hymns, songs and choruses especially geared for Salvation Army clients on the road to salvation and recovery. While the new version of this songbook was specifically designed for these ministries, the changes give it great versatility for use in corps as well.

William Himes served as senior editor, initially working with a consulting committee comprised of ARC officers from all four USA territories. This proved to be a time-consuming and painstaking process involving six years of consultation, planning and production. “It took a lot more time than anyone anticipated,” he observed. “But we were determined that this music resource would be relevant, useful and practical.”

The first phase involved a thorough review of the contents of the previous edition, produced in 1999, to determine which songs should be kept or removed, as well as what recent songs should be added. The outcome is a collection of 200 diverse songs including lasting classics such as “Amazing Grace,” “It is well with my soul” and “The old rugged cross” to more recent songs such as “Be still, for the presence of the Lord,” “In Christ alone” and “Total Praise,” just to name a few. In fact, over a third of the songs are new to this compilation.

Songs of Salvation also marks a dramatic change in appearance and format. Although this hard-cover book is the same size as standard hymnals, it features a wire binding so it can open easily and lie flat for accompanying and song leaders. “And there are absolutely no page turns involved in any song,” Himes emphasized.

Equally important, the piano accompaniments have been simplified as much as possible. Yet in spite of their simplicity, the style is convincingly pianistic. Chord symbols also are included for guitar and accordion and also are useful for keyboardists players who “play by ear.”

Care was given to set the songs in a comfortable range for the average voice.

While Bandmaster Himes arranged two-thirds of the contents, he also recruited other Army arrangers from around the world who are particularly experienced writers for keyboard, including Major Howard Davies and Noel Jones (Australia), Major Len Balantine (Canada) and Karen Krinjack (USA East).

He also recruited his longtime friend from the United Kingdom, Lt. Colonel (Dr.) Ray Steadman-Allen, O.F., to add editorial oversight. Long recognized as the dean of Army composers, the colonel added scrutiny with typical thoroughness and skill until his sudden but peaceful passing at age 92. Gratefully, his daughter, the Rev. Barbara Steadman-Allen, added her skills to bring her father’s work to completion.

Marty Thomas of the Central Territory Music and Gospel Arts Department also provided professional skills as he typeset all 200 songs for press. Andrew Dobney (ARC Command Information Technology) also was very helpful in compiling the index and revised responsive readings.

This also was Bandmaster Himes’ last publishing project prior to his retirement as territorial music and gospel arts secretary last October. “While this songbook was created to meet the specific needs of ARCs and Harbor Light Centers, given the universality of the songs included, these accessible accompaniments will be very useful in virtually all corps settings,” he summed up the project with typical enthusiasm. “I believe this songbook will be a great encouragement to developing meeting pianists.”
Continued from page 1

[Image 28x888 to 421x1171]

life and energy. From our previous appointment in North Platte, Neb., which participated in GSI, we knew what a blessing it was to have someone to focus specifically on youth ministry, so we’ve encouraged corps to use this underutilized resource. We see it as an investment.”

The major attributes larger attendance at divisional events and last year’s largest summer camp attendance to GSI. However, he is quick to point out that GSI not only benefits corps and youth but the young adults as well. “We have the opportunity to place mission-oriented young adults looking for fulltime ministry into meaningful positions,” he concluded.

Jason Sell, GSI youth development coordinator at the Elkhart, Ind. Corps has found he loves the ability to minister to youth on the front lines. “I really enjoy being able to use my planning and organizational skills to impact the kids,” said Jason. “The kids are the best part of this job—being able to form relationships with them, find out what they enjoy doing and working in ways to show them Jesus loves them through our activities.”

Since her arrival, children’s attendance has grown to average 50 in afterschool programs daily and 70 at summer day camp. Mindy now has a staff of two and 12 volunteers daily for the afterschool program. Last year a youth outreach brought 277 children to the corps, 46 of whom accepted Christ!

In the Heartland Division a pilot for GSI is starting at Peoria Family Services, where there have been many excellent services like childcare, but not a fulltime ministry position focused on families with youth.

Functioning as an additional facet of Family Services, the GSI youth development coordinator will engage entire families in their current circumstances at the shelter and make connections that hopefully can be maintained when they leave, according to Captain Rachel Stoudt, Heartland divisional youth secretary.

“We recognize this great opportunity the Lord has given us, and we want to be super sensitive to His leading,” said the captain.

In this unconventional setting for GSI, solid resources like character-building and the discipleship aspects of junior soldiers, as well as Mission: Literacy, will be used in creative concepts and activities to minister to youth and their families. For Julie Simpson, who will pioneer this ministry, ideas were percolating just walking through the shelter before she began her new job.

“Just love the flexibility we’ll have creating this program,” said Julie. “There’s so much potential here.” Until recently Julie was GSI youth development coordinator in Decatur, Ill.

“She’s the perfect person really, very creative and passionate about ministry,” said Captain Rachel.

Interested in learning more about the Good Soil Initiative? Contact your divisional youth secretary for details. There is availability for more people to participate in developing the next generation!
Holy Spirit helps us see that even our righteousness is like filthy rags. Yes, we are poverty-stricken because of our sins.

As a young believer I thought all I had to do to live a holy life was to find in the Bible what God wanted me to do and go do it. I had to learn I was dependent on the power of the Holy Spirit for this. We all are. As we look to Him, we will see Him working in us by revealing our sin, creating a desire for holiness and guiding us to respond to Him in obedience. Even though sometimes we fail, our inner beings can still delight in God’s law. (Romans 7:22)

I still remember the day it was evident he’d become ‘a new creature in Christ.’ I couldn’t go to the altar. Larry, however, responded, and for the rest of the day it was evident he’d become ‘a new creature in Christ.’

That night I reread those verses. How could God forgive me? As I whispered, ‘Lord, your Word says you’ll forgive anyone…’ I instantly felt a warm sensation as my guilt, depression and anxiety melted away and was replaced with peace, joy and love. I had no doubt my sins were forgiven and my dark days were over.

I eventually returned to college, graduated with highest honors and became a social worker. Because of my healing I’m often invited to share my story. But the greatest miracle was the healing of my soul, a miracle God offers anyone!
The gift of RightNow

How would you like access to 10,000 Bible studies featuring teaching from respected leaders like Francis Chan, Joni Eareckson Tada and Max Lucado; 1,000 leadership training messages from dynamic teachers such as Priscilla Shirer and Bill Hybels; full sessions from over 20 annual Christian conferences like The Gospel Coalition; and an entire library of Christian children’s videos?

Believe it or not, you already have it!

This year in the Central Territory, we have free access to a tremendous resource: RightNow Media, the virtual “Netflix” of Christian Bible-based media resources. It’s an online library with content accessible by your computer, smart phone or tablet, Apple TV or ROKU device. Topics include biblical principles for finance, marriage, parenting, evangelism, discipleship and more!

If you have not yet received an invitation to join, simply visit www.RightNow.org/Account/Invite/ TSA_Central_Territory, to create an account.

“The Salvation Army Central Territory and RightNow media want to make this resource available to as many people as possible,” said David Tooley, territorial discipleship resources and leadership development consultant. “We envision officers using this for both personal and corporate development, discipleship, leadership and evangelism training. We see soldiers using it in small groups and individually. The possibilities are endless, and we want as many people to log in and investigate as possible.”

David also has started building a library of Central Territory resources on the site. Eventually there will be access to corps mission, evangelism, multicultural, music and gospel arts resources and videos.

Go to www.salarmycentral.org
If you follow the prayer calendar during the year, you will have read through the Bible!

** = Divisional Headquarters
* = Adult Rehabilitation Center

PRAYER CENTRAL

March Prayer Calendar

My Prayer List

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<th>Pray for The Salvation Army</th>
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Celebrating God’s blessings

A great addition to your personal reading list for this year are three books authored by Salvation Army Generals which were launched at the 2015 Boundless—The Whole World Redeeming International Congress.

Crown of Glory, Crown of Thorns—The Salvation Army in Wartime by General Shaw Clifton (Rtd.) has been hailed as the most comprehensive analysis of the Army in wartime ever compiled. Based on General Clifton’s 1980 doctoral thesis, the book provides detailed accounts of Salvationist wartime work and attitudes between 1899 and 1945. Meticulous research reveals three principles governing the Movement’s Christian internationalism particularly during times of strong patriotism, which placed a perpetual strain on leadership. The book includes 16 pages of fascinating photographs.

To Seize This Day of Salvation, written by General Paul A. Rader (Rtd.) with Commissioner Kay F. Rader, explores vital themes that lie at the heart of the Army’s vision and mission. The authors make it clear the issues aren’t only perennial; they’re urgently relevant to this day. The book contains presentations that will inform and inspire action.

Those Incredible Booths by General John Larsson (Rtd.) takes a look at the impact made on the world by the Founder’s family. The book examines William and Catherine Booth’s approach to raising “a boisterous crew of eight individuals as gifted and head-strong as their parents,” following the children through eight biographies woven to form one fascinating narrative. All three titles are available from Resource Connection (shop.salvationarmy.org or 1-800-937-8896).

Saginaw marks milestone

In celebration of its 125th anniversary, the Saginaw, Mich., Corps held a series of commemorative events throughout 2015, including a two-day “Christmas in July” red kettle fundraising effort, a band concert in the park, a family-fun day and a back-to-school fashion show, reported Captains Thom and Cassandra Moffitt, corps officers.

The corps was publicly recognized by Saginaw’s mayor and council members at a city hall meeting and a proclamation was issued commending the Army’s 125 years of service to the community. The corps held a civic dinner during which community leaders, volunteers, staff and former corps officers were recognized, as well as Eastern Michigan divisional leaders, Lt. Colonels John and Theresa Turner.

During a Sunday “Heritage” service long-time corps soldiers were saluted including Vicky Clark (25 years), Julia Werner (37 years), Barb Gipson (43 years), Paul Duranso and Jim Steiner (57 years), Hubert Werner (61 years) and Darleen Zimmermann (65 years).

Celebrating comebacks

by Major Mikey Carter, Newton, Iowa, Corps Officer

It was thought that Newton, Iowa, known by some as the former headquarters of the Maytag Corporation, might never recover from the loss of its main employer. But those who live here know it’s made a comeback. Interestingly, the history of The Salvation Army in Newton mirrored similar difficulties, but has celebrated its 125th anniversary.

The Army’s work began there in 1890 but closed 14 years later. Resuming in 1926, an advisory board was formed and plans developed for a permanent location. Company-founder Fred Maytag constructed a building that housed the corps until 1996.

To celebrate the corps anniversary year, advisory board members prepared and served a lunch and manned educational activity stations for guests in the corps building and the thrift store. Activities ranged from stacking cans to show the amount of food received by a household of four each month to lifting weights representing the 500 pounds of bread and fresh produce distributed by the corps each week. Guests were invited to help fill backpacks with school supplies for the 200 students.

In the thrift store guests were invited to guess prices and learn about its medical equipment lending program, while in the chapel they could view historical photographs and pray for requests received from donors, clients and program participants.

Promoted to Glory

Major Charles Moffitt

Major Charles Moffitt was promoted to Glory on December 10, 2015.

Charles was born to Ira and Hazel Moffitt in 1934. He grew up in Beloit, Wis., and entered the College for Officer Training immediately following his graduation from high school.

In 1956 he married Florence Kuhlik, and together they served in eight corps appointments, one divisional headquarters appointment and two appointments at territorial headquarters before retirement. Charles firmly believed God used him in every appointment—no matter how different or diverse—to empower others for change.

During their 59 years of marriage, Charles and Florence were blessed with four children, and as foster parents welcomed numerous children into their home, providing a safe place and sharing their love of Jesus.

The major was blessed with many talents, including cooking, interior decorating, ceramics and floral design, and used these to serve others.

Charles was preceded in death by his children Gail and Timothy. He is survived by his loving wife; children James (Leslie) and Major Lisa (Butch) Frost; six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.