Live music moves people like nothing else. And when the music is dedicated to God, it’s powerful indeed—soul enriching, life transforming. More than 2,400 delegates who attended the Festival of Gospel Arts, featuring Keith and Kristyn Getty and General Paul A. Rader (Rtd) and Commissioner Kay Rader, can testify to it! The multi-faceted meetings, showcasing the wide range of talent and expressions of worship in the Central Territory, held something for people of all ages and tastes.

Delegates were drawn into worship for the weekend by the Bill Booth Theater Company (BBTC), highlighting a solo by Joe Caddy, “Let the music begin,” accompanied by the Chicago Staff Band (CSB), just back from a United Kingdom tour and the International Staff Band’s 120th Anniversary Celebration (see pages 8 & 9).

Continued on page 3
Camp’s lasting impact
by Commissioner Paul R. Seiler
Territorial Commander

Camp has been a hallmark of my summers since 1965. I was a 14-year-old junior counselor at Camp Ladore in Pennsylvania. My brother and I were too young and too green to be counselors, but at 14 and 15 we still understood the impact camp could make. Through high school and college I spent summers working at Camp Ladore. By my last summer before entering training, I was an assistant leader of the waterfront staff and knew all the ways to get around the divisional youth secretary (DYS)—and the rules. Oh, the times I have shared! Busted! I must admit I prepared well for when I became a DYS.

Before working at camp, I’d been a camper. My corps officer parents found it a wonderful break and a way to keep up with kids, Willie, Paul, Dorothy and Emily, out of trouble (well, mostly). Each summer it was hard to leave camp even though we were going back to a good family situation. I realized over the years that not everyone had such a good home life; for some, it was difficult. So as DYS in Hawaii, I endured teary farewell services as staff and campers sang, "Friends are friends forever, if the Lord’s the Lord of them," because as much as I needed to keep the buses moving and the staff working on clean-up, the kids needed this promise.

I have a serious appreciation for corps officers who make the effort to get kids to camp, recruiting both community and corps kids for this life-changing opportunity, and who follow up with them and their families when they return home. The opportunity for spiritual impact and reflection is almost unparalleled.

I learned a lot about leadership at camp. I recall waterfront director “Dan” from Taylor College who taught me about organizing, planning, scheduling, discipline and calm action under pressure. (There is a never-forgotten gut response when you’re walking or swimming gridlines in a murky lake to look for a missing kid while everyone else holds their breath on the beach or dock.) From my DYS days, I can point to at least eight Salvationists and non-Salvationists who worked at the little camp on Oahu’s North Shore and eventually became officers. My own kids learned valuable lessons working at camp, and the goal of getting their life-guarding certification helped not just there but with part-time jobs through college. I believe my daughter, who went to camp every summer of her life and even lived there for a couple of years when she was first married, learned skills she needed later as a teacher of middle school kids from working on camp staff.

This is why it’s important to hire Army kids at camp and to have a balance of learning opportunities and exposure for the staff. It needs to be a healthy environment that develops good work skills and provides accountability. I still remember the spiritual giants—camp staff, program directors, youth officers—who helped me put Christ at the center of my life. One of the first lessons of staff orientation was how to intentionally share Christ with campers in word and action. I thank God for what I learned at camp, including learning to love Him in a new way.

Renewal at Yangui Camp
by Chris Shay

Yangui is about 53 miles from Brazzaville, the capital of the Republic of the Congo. With nearly 16 miles of clay road, the route is nearly impassable during the rainy season. Here at a Salvation Army camp, the Central Territory’s Global Mission Team was put to work in April.

Once the site operated with a medical/maternity clinic and a women’s ministries camp, but turmoil brought conflict and violence to the area. The property was attacked by rival forces, leaving it in semi-derelict condition. In 2009 the health and maternity center was rebuilt, but the camp remained damaged. After more than a decade, the Congo Brazzaville women’s ministries decided to hold camps again. In faith, they scheduled them to begin at the end of May. The pressure was on!

The team partnered with Congolese Salvationists to tackle a variety of tasks, including repairing mortar blown out by gunfire, building beds for the dorms, patching bullet holes and painting. The temperature and humidity were high, and the conditions were primitive. But spirits were also high, as Congolese and U.S. Salvationists hummed and sang Army songs in their own languages as they worked.

Perhaps the biggest challenge was getting supplies and people to Yangui. Wet and muddy, the road was the consistency of pudding, and vehicles were stuck sometimes for hours. Everyone had to hike into the camp from miles away; supplies and personnel arrived in shifts. Fortunately, team members took it in stride. In fact, relationships with the Congolese officers, soldiers, cooks and the driver were strengthened.

The road to Yangui

World Services/Self-Denial Giving
This year our territory raised a record $7.6 million for World Services/Self-Denial! To God be the glory!

- Eastern Michigan $835,680
- Heartland $329,170
- Indiana $471,170
- Kansas/Western Missouri $662,400
- Metropolitan $1,076,490
- Midland $784,540
- Northern $650,000
- Western $487,830
- Western Michigan/Northern Indiana $461,090
- Wisconsin/Upper Michigan $691,160
- Adult Rehabilitation Centers Command $884,940
- College for Officer Training $80,550
- Territorial Headquarters $198,780
- Total Grand $7,613,800

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Get latter stories

Web exclusives
More about SA in the Congo (Brazzaville) Territory
DJ’s Heroes Blog
Campaign contest winners’ inspiration
Commissioner Helen Clifton full promotion to Glory bulletin
An interview of the Raiders by territorial leaders Commissioners Paul R. and Carol Seiler proved fascinating and revealed the General’s college musical endeavors, the origin of his passion for missions and challenges they faced in Korea, the crucial part Commissioner Andrew S. Miller played in the Raiders going to training, and the hope they retain.

“When I lie down at night, I can go to sleep because I know that there are officers and soldiers out there in the world meeting needs,” said Commissioner Kay Rader.

The Gettys’ ministry not only displayed masterful musicianship but a sincerity and energy that swept delegates up in worship, proclaiming hope and victory in Christ. With charming Celtic melodies, modern-day hymns like “O Church of Christ, Rejoice” and “By Faith” penetrated hearts.

General Rader was masterful as well in speaking of the international Army and the vital role of World Services in serving humanity and “doing the most good” by giving people what they need most, Jesus Christ.

“The continued and sustained advancement of the Army around the world depends on the generosity of American Salvationists,” he said. He explained how Centralites can be confident in their generous givings because their Army’s work is credible, multifaceted and evangelistic, often partnering with others to accomplish its mission.

It was the perfect context to reveal World Services/Self-Denial Ingathering record total of $7.6 million (see page 2). Then summer mission teams to Argentina, India Central, Poland and Germany, and Zimbabwe were dedicated by Commissioner Carol Seiler.

Saturday morning all genres of music mixed and mingled in two consecutive praise concerts. Their very attire from full uniform to t-shirts and jeans, from choir gowns to costume, reflected the diversity of expression. It was altogether an impressive array of talent and dedication, each group and individual lifting their praise to the Father.

Large traditional groups like the Royal Oak, Mich., and Kansas City Northland, Mo., bands and the Oak Creek, Wis., Songsters and the Heartland Divisional Gospel Choir were complemented by smaller, more contemporary ones like the Petoskey, Mich., Worship Ensemble; the God Comes First rappers; and Northern Divisional Dance Team.

Some especially attention-getting items included a violin solo, “Come thou fount of every blessing,” by Cadet Karen Bennett; a Viking musical skit by the Marion, Ind., Band; and the “Sound of Music” by the Chicago, Ill., Youth Symphonic Band. Two of the award-winning compositions were debuted. The Grand Rapids Fulton Heights, Mich., Songsters performed “Perfect faithfulness,” while the Quincy, Ill., Praise Team led “You are the Lord.”

Saturday afternoon delegates could enjoy a CSB mini-concert, peruse intricate museum and art exhibits and stock up on ministry items from Resource Connection.

The magnificent performance of “Vienna Philharmonic Fanfare” by massed cornets and trombones accompanied by the CSB heralded the Saturday evening meeting. Its focus on proclamation was immediately apparent not only through this clarion call but a clever skit on angels by the BBTC.

While the program offered a plethora of praise and proclamation, some of the highlights included a classic euphonium solo, “We’ll all shout hallelujah,” by Glenn Welch; a dynamic cornet solo by Clayton Cox in “Cantad a Jehova” with the Metropolitan Youth Band; a brilliantly choreographed flag routine by Devotion in Motion of New Albany, Ind.; and an ethereal vocal solo, “Artist of my soul,” by Ruthie Mbiisi with the CSB.

“As your territorial leader, I’m on the edge of the sin of pride,” confessed Commissioner Paul Seiler before dedicating The Singing Company as the territory’s official praise band. In their new capacity, they have been charged with training praise bands and developing a common repertoire of music for them. The Singing Company proceeded to rock the house with a modern “A mighty fortress.”

Commissioner Kay Rader then gave an eloquent message about the importance of musicians’ hearts being in tune with the Lord, otherwise their offerings are but noise.

The festival concluded with an impressive massed choir of more than 200 vocalists proclaiming “Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord!”

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After four years in the Ghana Territory, Colonels Dennis and Sharon Strissel are taking up responsibility for leading the Eastern Michigan Division (EMI).

“Eastern Michigan is a great division with a great history of commendable, strong leaders,” said Dennis. “We’re so honored to be counted among them, not only to serve, but to live in a division with such wonderful people and corps.”

Although excited to embark on this new appointment and spend time with friends and family (including six young grandchildren), the Strissels will miss their beloved Africa. Africa wasn’t just home for them over the past four years; their love for the continent goes back to 1980 when they were appointed to St. Helena [a British island in the South Atlantic Ocean], which led to an additional four years in Southern Africa.

In their last appointment as Ghana’s territorial leaders, the Strissels saw considerable growth in the territory. Many of their societies grew from outposts to become corps, cadets were commissioned as officers, and youth blossomed into corps leaders.

The Strissels were also instrumental in developing and implementing a ministry to street children, a vocational training program for women trapped in sex trafficking, and the “Naomi Group,” a network of support for widows.

“In all appointments we have a tendency to learn more than we leave,” Dennis said. “Rather than shaping them, they shape us. That’s what happened in Ghana, and that’s what we expect to see happen in EMI as well.”

Li, Colonel Norman S. and Diane Marshall, Eastern Michigan divisional leaders, receive their certificates of retirement from Commissioners William A. and Nancy L. Roberts, national leaders. The Marshalls’ sons, Sean and Todd, were official flagbearers.

Long Service Awards

25 Years

Lt. Col. Dorothy Smith
Lt. Col. Jeffrey Smith
Major Jesse Collins
Major Kelly Collins
Major Elizabeth Cox
Major William Cox
Major Candy Curl
Major James Curl
Major Charlene Hale
Major Dennis Hale
Major Melody Koehter
Major Steven Koehter
Major Julie McDowell
Major Thomas McDowall
Major Byron Medlock
Major Elaine Medlock
Major Nancy Moffitt
Major Joann Price
Major Josh Price
Major Edward Rowland
Major Sandra Rowland
Major Jeffrey Stricker
Major Mary Thomas
Major Michael Thomas
Major Debora Wilson

30 Years

Commissioner Carol Seller
Commissioner Paul R. Seller
Lt. Col. Susan Buikeweiszer
Major Robert Buttry, Jr.
Major Roger Buttry, Jr.
Major Evelyn Diaz
Major Robert Dobler
Major Alan Fones
Major LaVonne Fones
Major Dale Hurt
Major Mary Hurt
Major Jean Manzella
Major Larry Manzella
Major Mark Marzotta
Major Terr Martsolf
Major Linda Mitchell
Major Kiel Sienkiewicz
Major Vicki Sienkiewicz
Major Christine Van Zee
Major Kevin Van Zee
Major Michael Vogler
Major B. Sue Welsh
Major P. Mark Welsh

40 Years

Lt. Col. Daniel Szygany
Major John Alarcon
Major Nancy Alarcon
Major Brian Atkins
Major Dale Hale
Major Linda Ibbas
Major Cheryl Lary
Major Cortis Slapper
Major Joan Stoker
Major Margo Thorsen

50 Years

Major Alice Scott
In the service of appointments, a tribute from Friends of Christ Session Cadet Daryl Mangeri took the form of a David Letterman-style “Top 10” list of advice, and Lt. Jason Bigelow testified on behalf of the Ambassadors of Holiness how God has reigned supreme through their struggles to reach this point.

In her prayer of dedication, Commissioner Carol Seiler, territorial president of women’s ministries, petitioned God for humble boldness and servant leadership in the new lieutenants, along with revival in the territory.

Earlier in the meeting the Ambassadors of Holiness gave a highly creative recitation of the Officers’ Covenant with rapid repetition of key phrases by individuals and small groups.

Cadet Becky Barringer, session flagbearer, shared her testimony of an almost lifelong dream of officer-ship stymied by poor life choices. Six years ago she’d sat in the back of this same theater sobbing in her father’s arms feeling officer-ship was unattainable. Her dad gently reminded her, “God is able.”

General Rader spoke on what God wants of us in Psalm 40—not offerings but ourselves—and how hard it sometimes is to “sing a new song” to Him when we live in such a sinful world, referencing Psalm 137:4.

“How can we sing the Lord’s song in such a strange land?” he asked. When we’re stuck in the mire, God puts us on solid ground, letting others see, hear and follow.

The General’s brother, Lt. Colonel Herb Rader, a medical doctor, arrived in Haiti soon after the massive earthquake in January 2010. As he slept in a condemned building that first night, he heard voices singing in Creole, “I must tell Jesus all of my trials.”

“If your soul is trusting in Jesus you’ll somehow find a song,” said General Rader.

The General’s altar call produced a flood of people, as did a challenge before the end of the meeting by Colonel Dawn Heatwole, territorial candidates’ secretary, to those who felt called to officership.

There were knowledge-able people who immersed themselves in their host cultures, represented their nation’s interests, did whatever was asked of them, and sometimes lived in perilous situations.

The territorial commander proceeded to have gentle fun with the new lieutenants and their families as he handed out their first appointments. Surprise appointments were given to three first-year cadets, Karl Blessing and Esteban and Karen Pommier, due to their advanced education, experiences and competencies. They will be officially ordained and commissioned next year with the rest of their session.

The Ambassadors of Holiness will always remember the Sunday on which they were ordained and commissioned by Commissioner Paul R. Seiler, territorial commander, and challenged by General Paul A. Rader (Rtd) and Commissioner Kay Rader.

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Brass spectacular wows world!

by Martyn Thomas

When the International Staff Band (ISB) announced plans for their 120th anniversary celebration nearly two years ago, many band geeks (enthusiasts) circled the date on their calendars. I was not one of them. Don’t get me wrong, I love brass music. I’ve grown up in the Army, and I’ve played in a variety of Salvation Army bands since I was eight. I was just looking at this trip as another week away from home, long bus rides, equipment issues and an opportunity for band geeks around the world to unite and feel good about this fraternity to which they belong.

Even as the Chicago Staff Band (CSB) season progressed, I didn’t feel the same sense of excitement as everyone else. This would be my fourth international trip with the band, and though each has been musically and spiritually exciting, I just wasn’t sharing the same anticipation.

That all changed Saturday morning as the eight staff bands assembled inside the Royal Albert Hall for our united rehearsal. As we sat there crowded on the stage shoulder-to-shoulder, it became apparent that this would be no ordinary concert. As we greeted each other and got about rehearsing the numbers for the evening, we were joined by the music on the page and God who inspired every note. Over 250 bandsmen united in praise!

The afternoon was dedicated to eight 20-minute performances by each of the bands. While the ISB proved the most proficient, the largest applause was reserved for the entrance of the Japan Staff Band, whose participation was in question due to the tragic earthquake and tsunami earlier this year. As they fought back tears, they gave a Spirit-filled performance that demonstrated our worldwide fellowship.

The evening concert was heralded as a “Brass Spectacular” and did not disappoint. With Royal Albert Hall filled to capacity, the ISB marched each of the other seven bands in to “Emblem of the Army,” written by Peter Graham for this occasion, followed by “Nothing do I bring” led by Bandmaster (B/M) Hajime Suzuki of the Japan Staff Band.

Following selections by the International Staff Songsters (ISS) and the ISB, the massed bands continued with “Dancebeat,” the congregational song “Stand up and bless the Lord,” “Pursuing horizons,” a flugelhorn feature “So glad,” a band vocal item, “My simple prayer,” “In quiet pastures.” The call of the righteous,” and the benediction “St. Clements.” The evening was capped off with a stunning performance of the march “Celebration,” which featured the bands singing, “We’ll keep the old flag flying,” the unveiling of a six-story Salvation Army flag and fireworks shooting off of the top deck of the hall.

The next day, all bands were part of a united worship service featuring music of the ISS and the United Kingdom Territorial Youth Band under the direction of B/M Stephen Cobb. Bandsmen from around the world united in prayer and worship as General Linda Bond brought the message and a call to holiness. It was a nice opportunity for those who normally serve as worship leaders and participants to sit back and worship as part of the congregation. The weekend concluded with a grand march along the Mall to Buckingham Palace with streets lined with thousands of Salvationists and spectators.

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The nice thing about travelling with the CSB is that each band trip is treated the same. It doesn’t matter if the destination is Oak Creek, Wis., or London, England. The focus is on the task at hand. I’ve seen the same enthusiasm and effort put into local band schools and concerts in high school auditoriums as programs with symphony orchestras and concerts at the Winter Olympics. The band always does its best to share the message of Christ through music. This trip, the same was true in every location.

After touching down at London’s Heathrow Airport, we set off on a two-hour bus ride to the Boscombe

2014
Monday began with touring Windsor Castle and the town of Eton, which is home to Eton College, described as the most famous public school in the world with 12 British prime ministers and many British royals listed as alumni. Several members of the ESB were in attendance for the evening’s concert which featured “Concertino for flugel and band” (Beth Cooper), the euphonium solo “We’ll all shout hallelujah” (Shaun Thomas), the vocal solo “You raise me up” (Heidi Strand), and “Symphony No. 3, Mvt. 4” by Vittorio Giannini.

Tuesday we travelled east to Norwich where we set up and had a light lunch before heading out for an afternoon boat tour of the Broads, a series of lakes and rivers joined together into a delightful and beautiful waterway. After dinner at a carvery, we headed back to the corps for the evening concert, minus one percussionist who had become ill. As he headed to his hospital, home for rest, one of the Norwich percussionists quickly learned his parts and filled in brilliantly. Highlights of the evening concert included the opener “Intrada & Allegro” and “Rigaudon.”

Wednesday took us to Leeds, but not before we detoured to a concert for the Lord Mayor of Leeds and just meet him at a civic reception. The evening’s concert was held at the nearby Morley Town Hall with the Lord Mayor in attendance. Also in the audience was the conductor of the Black Dyke Band, which was also the venue for our evening concert. Shaun Thomas celebrated his 25th birthday with a stellar performance of “We’ll all shout hallelujah” followed by the entire audience singing “Happy Birthday” to him. Even without the final weekend, this was a memorable trip. The ESB presented itself as the “band with a sacred message” at every opportunity through its music, words and actions. The impact of this tour will be felt for a long time on both sides of the Atlantic. May Jesus Christ be praised!
SA delivers hope in Joplin
by Danielle Eickenhorst

The devastation and carnage I witnessed in Joplin, Mo., after the EF-5 tornado on May 22 is nearly indescribable, more akin to a war zone than a disaster. Indeed, the tornado was the deadliest in America since 1953.

I was preparing dinner on Sunday evening for a corps council meeting at our house. My wife had left for the Salvation Army Continuing Education Program near Chicago, leaving me with our four children (ages 6-12). When the sirens began, all 13 of us trooped outside to look. The sky was gray but not particularly ominous. The sirens stopped, I resumed cooking, then the power went out.

Several minutes later I heard “ah-oh” from behind me. I turned and uttered one of my own when I saw our fence soar into the sky.

I herded everyone into two walk-in closets in the master bathroom. I was shooting the last two people through the door when the bedroom windows exploded. I pushed a stroller into one closet and flew into the other one, which, thank God, contained my children.

I hung onto the doorknob with all my strength while reassuring my crying children that everything was going to be OK. My two greatest fears were being able to keep the door closed followed by finding the other closet gone.

The house shook and floorboards jigged for about 90 seconds. Suddenly everything was quiet, then a freight train’s roar signaled the tornado speeding away.

The house was beaten but still standing. We checked on neighbors, freeing an elderly woman trapped under a wall and debris. I had just enough cell phone service to call my wife and divisional commander.

We climbed into salvageable vehicles and headed to the corps. It was like driving through a movie set. People wandered about dazed and confused, debris was everywhere, papers still floated in the breeze and scattered fires burned.

When we reached the corps, we found well-intentioned people had already been dropping off elderly people at the corps. We sheltered them as well as cooked food for teenagers.

Search and rescue was postponed by the authorities until the next day, then we went at it full bore. Thankful for my past emergency disaster services (EDS) experiences, I came alongside the EDS teams, and my staff worked their fingers to the bone cooking, managing multiple warehouses and distributing items.

Our new thrift store, open for only three weeks, was destroyed before we could hold its grand opening. The site, however, became an oasis of restpite from the disaster for refreshments and a friendly word, a center for lost and found, and then case-work shifted to the site.

Our children are safe and living with relatives while our house is repaired and we work to bring hope to the brokenhearted.

The Salvation Army was among the first on scene, feeding and counseling survivors and first responders at the St. John’s Hospital central command site. In the first eight days after the disaster, The Salvation Army utilized nine mobile canteens from six states and served more than 30,000 meals and snacks and 22,401 drinks. Emotional and spiritual care was given to 557 individuals, and social services were put into place to handle intermediate needs.

The Salvation Army utilized an all-terrain vehicle in the first days to provide spiritual support and supplies to residents and to deliver bottled water to military police and other responders as they worked directing traffic and clean-up efforts.

Corporate sponsors have shown tremendous generosity and trust in The Salvation Army. For instance, Walmart donated 36,000 bottles of water and $150,000. Sprint donated 1,500 prepaid cell phones, and the Kansas City Chiefs donated nearly 200,000 bottles of water and $35,000 to relief effort. The Salvation Army partnered with the HOPE Station, a unique disaster relief program created for Joplin by Ikros graphics.

During the course of that first week, The Salvation Army was able to deliver critical assistance, and a nearly tangible hope started to emerge. God is doing great things in Joplin, and The Salvation Army is doing His work.

For more photos and stories, go to Get Connected.

Joplin, Mo., Corps Officer Captain Jason Poff shares an account of survival and initial service.

A man and Valletta Tangaris, along with their daughter Jeane and her autism service dog, Athena, were on their way home after Jeane’s high school graduation when the tornado sirens sounded. Winds picked up; debris began to fly. Urgently, they pulled into a bank drive-thru for some protection, but soon their car windows shattered. Athena sprawled on top of Jeane to protect her. When the storm was finally over, the bank had collapsed around them. Valletta suffered a compound arm fracture but was turned away from local hospitals due to the quantity and severity of other people’s injuries.

The family made it to The Salvation Army’s 20th and Main canteen area where they received food and other resources. Alma Hudson, a nurse, had set up a makeshift triage unit. “She splinted my arm and helped me get to Kansas where they operated on my arm,” recounted Valletta.

Though their house was badly damaged, the Tangarisis family was more fortunate than many others. As they waited for utilities to be restored, they daily visited the canteen, a hub for many relief agencies and churches, for coffee, food and support.

“This is our first experience receiving aid from The Salvation Army,” said Valletta. “My husband researched the organization, and we appreciate that so much of the money donated goes directly to the people who need it. When we are back on our feet, we intend to make a donation or get involved in some way.”

An oasis of care
by Danielle Eickenhorst

Have you ever wondered how a soldier in Afghanistan can have hope, or a person who has lost everything, can find life? The Salvation Army delivers hope in Joplin, and it is especially unique, because they deliver the hope of Heaven and the living hope of Jesus Christ. They also serve in every other city in the world and are the Salvation Army.”
Commissioner Helen Clifton

Commissioner Helen Clifton, former world president of women’s ministries, was promoted to Glory on June 14, 2011. The commissioner, who had for some time faced illness with strong faith and trust in God, was promoted to Glory from St. Christopher’s Hospice in London. Her husband, General Shaw Clifton (Ret.), was at her bedside.

Announcing the news, Chief of the Staff Commissioner Barry C. Swanson wrote: “I ask for your prayers for General Shaw Clifton (Ret) and his loved ones as they live through these sad days of great loss. We thank God for the life and faithful ministry of Commissioner Helen Clifton and commit her loved ones to the Lord’s care.”

Commissioner Clifton was world president of women’s ministries from 2006 until her retirement in April. She was commissioned as an officer in 1973 and served in the UK, Zimbabwe, the USA, Pakistan and New Zealand, Fiji and Tonga.

To read the full promotion to Glory bulletin, visit Get Connected.

Olympian Apolo Ohno inspires crowd

by Susan Eustice

Eight-time Olympic medalist Apolo Ohno, who has skated his way to success since age 14, inspired a crowd of more than 1,300 people at this year’s D.J.’s Heroes luncheon in Omaha, Neb., which raised $336,000 for Salvation Army youth programs.

Ohno shared how his father’s “tough love” helped him be successful. A Japanese immigrant, his father tried to wear Apolo out before he got into trouble by getting him involved in soccer, basketball and choir—anything that might exhaust him!

But Ohno was tireless and rebellious and still had the energy to get into trouble at age 12, running with the wrong group. Then he found skating. Ohno took the audience on his journey from a trouble-making teenager to an eight-time Olympic medalist and the most decorated U.S. Winter Olympic in history.

He also credits his win on the television show, “Dancing with the Stars,” to his father’s advice to dedicate himself 100 percent to whatever he does.

During the luncheon, emcee Patrick Combts invited attendees to whip out their cell phones and text 80888 to donate $10 to Salvation Army programs for young people.

Those attending the luncheon included dignitaries such as Nebraska Governor Dave Heineman, who was honorary chair of the event. They were drawn by the opportunity to salute eight Nebraska students who received 15,000 scholarships each.

Recipients were chosen for their courage, concern for the community, compassion for others and enthusiasm for life. Having overcome tremendous obstacles, their stories are compelling. (Read them on Get Connected.)

Go to www.prayercentralusa.org for prayer updates. If you follow the prayer calendar in the next year, you will have read through the Bible! * = Adult Rehabilitation Center ** = Divisional Headquarters PIM = Partners in Mission

Stop!

OK what’s going on? We were merely discussing which one of us is “doing the most good.”
Promoted to Glory

Mrs. Lt. Colonel Ulla Lindstrom Rose

Mrs. Lt. Colonel Ulla Lindstrom Rose was promoted to Glory on May 21, 2011. The Rose family will cherish her until the end.

Ulla was born to John and Elsa Ekholm in Sweden in 1922. After completing school, she immigrated to the United States where she worked for the Two Harbors, Minn., Corp; she became a lifetime member four years earlier.

She was commissioned in 1952, and as a single officer served in different appointments from editor of the Swedish War Cry to the legacy and endowment department at territorial headquarters.

In 1972 Ulla married Carl Lindstrom, and they retired together in 1975 to Rhinelander, Wis. After 14 happy years together, she was raised and aided among three agencies. The class raising the largest amount was given to the overseas agency, the most, and they chose The Salvation Army!

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