



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)

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1,000 men vow to stand for Christ

by Major Keith J. Welch

How do you encourage 1,000 men in the Central Territory to take a strong, effective stand for Christ in one short weekend? According to Territorial Men's Conference guest speaker Commissioner Israel L. Gaither, former national commander and chief of the staff, "We're going to allow the Holy Spirit to have His way."

The conference at the Lake Williamson Christian Center in Carlinville, Ill., this spring was a time of reconnecting with old friends and meeting



man," he said. "But in our day the Spirit comes in a man." In the third session he asked, "Can you hear God's footsteps? Can you hear the sound of God running toward the prodigal? There have been times when I had to stop and let Him catch me." His messages spoke straight to the heart, and men lined

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Photos by Captain Michael Cripe



new ones. Though from a variety of places and life circumstances, the men were one in accord.

Spirit-empowered meetings were the highlight. The Southeast Michigan Adult Rehabilitation Center (ARC) Singers and band Justified led each session with uplifting praise, followed by

inspiring video testimonies, presentations by the Bill Booth Theater Company and a message by Commissioner Gaither.

"It is important for men to make promises," he said. "Being here is no accident, not by chance. It was planned by God." He urged delegates to listen and reflect what they each would do with what God said to them during the weekend.

Commissioner Gaither challenged the men with scriptural truths from three men in the Bible: Samson, the Prodigal Son, and Nathan. "In Samson's day the Spirit came upon a



Territory initiates anti-trafficking council

by Helen Campbell

The U.S. State Department estimates that up to 27 million people are victims of human trafficking—modern day slavery—around the world. In the U.S. approximately 300,000 children are at-risk for being prostituted, and the average entry age for a child victim is 12-14 years, according to the Department of Justice. The trafficking of humans, whether an adult or child, male or female, domestic or foreign national, is an egregious crime against humanity and the inherent value of people made in God's image.

A Territorial Anti-Trafficking Council, composed of 30 members convened this spring.

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STEPS

An update on the Strategic Tool to Engage Potential process in the territory

See pages 5-8

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What Matters?

by Lt. Colonel Richard Vander Weele
Assistant Chief Secretary

Thirty-seven years ago, June 12, 1977, to be exact, I was commissioned a lieutenant in The Salvation Army. In a few days, I move on to my next appointment: retirement. Like my previous change of appointments, I leave the familiar for the unknown, unsure of what lies ahead. However, I know where I will live, the corps I will attend and that I will be reconnecting with family and old friends. Writing today, I can't help but reflect on what has been as I prepare for what will be.

There are three questions people have asked me lately. The first, *What have you accomplished as an offi-*

cer? There are many things I could mention, but for me what matters most is this: making a difference in the lives of people wherever I have been privileged to serve. Advisory board member, employee, kid at the corps, client off the street, it doesn't matter. Allowing Christ to work through me as I interact with people and see people grow in their own relationship with Him is what is important and provides a potential for Kingdom results.

The second, *Considering all you have experienced, if you could do it over, would you choose to be an*



officer? Yes, without a doubt. That doesn't mean there weren't tough times or failures on my part from time to time, but overall I don't think doing anything else would have given me the same "pleasure in His service" that being an officer has.

The third, *What have you learned?* Simply this...

The will of God will never lead you where the grace of God cannot keep you. (II Thessalonians 3:3)

Character is more important than position. (I Timothy 3:2-7)

Be yourself and do what you say you will do. (I Timothy 4:12b)

Although I'm retiring, I'm not quitting. My status will be changing, but I intend to continue pursuing mission and ministry with the same determination I have today.

So, to conclude this final rant of an old Lt. colonel, let me leave you with this benediction, "...May the God of peace make you holy in every way, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless until our Lord Jesus Christ comes again. God will make this happen, for he who calls you is faithful." (I Thessalonians 5:23-24, NLT)

Slam-dunk for Omaha North

Out of 25 high school seniors to have played on the Omaha North Side, Neb., Corps' basketball team in the last two years, 11 are now playing college basketball with full scholarships. One of them is Cameron Williams. He now leads his college team in points, is ranked third in the nation and maintains grade levels worthy of the dean's list.

According to Lt. Pam Kasten, Omaha North Side corps officer, the corps' community lives and breathes basketball, and all the boys want to join a team. Unfortunately, the high school teams fill up quickly, and many talented players either don't make the cut or the grades.

When Jim Sells, the community center director, arrived at the corps in May 2011, he quickly realized the

untapped potential of these young men and an opportunity to impact their lives for good. So he started a basketball team with five teenagers who he often found playing ball in the corps' gym. It grew into a team of 15 with rapid success. They started to play in a league with other community centers and before long expanded to multiple teams.

Jim, along with assistant coach and successful local businessman Kurt Mayo, are not only encouraging the boys to play great basketball but to get their grades up and go to college.

Last year, three teams strong, they traveled to Aurora, Ill., for a tournament where the teams took first and second place. Not only was the tournament a success, but Jim and Kurt insisted the players visit a couple of college campuses while they were on the trip.

"Most of these kids want to be NBA [National Basketball Association] stars, but our coaches remind them that won't always happen, and help direct them to college," said Lt. Pam. "Our coaches are real life success stories, who stand in front of these guys and tell them they can do something and be someone. And in the Omaha North community, it's working."



Jim Sells (top left) and Kurt Mayo flank the corps' junior high basketball team.



Anti-trafficking

Continued from page 1

They met to develop strategies for moving forward in combatting human trafficking throughout the territory. As a first step, delegates looked at how each division currently is addressing this issue and what moving forward with greater focus and effort might look like.

Dr. Michael Smith, social services consultant for the Cascade Division in the Western Territory and author of The Salvation Army's anti-trafficking training manual, led the group in these efforts, providing expertise in understanding human trafficking, trauma-informed care and strategies.

Central Territory program leaders Pilar Dunning (STOP-IT, Chicago), Linda Burkle (Western Division) and Frank Massolini (PROMISE, Chicago) shared their experiences and knowledge. Maribeth Swanson, territorial social services secretary, guided the group in developing action plans and next steps. This work included forming SMART goals with specific actions and timelines.



Part of the meetings included a visit from Commissioner Carol Seiler, secretary for strategic mission planning, who affirmed the group's mission and the value of all people. She also spoke about the importance of collaborating with other programs as demonstrated by the work in Chicago. On a serious note, she encouraged members to support each other in this difficult work as new situations and stories are heard.

The meeting concluded with a discussion about how territorial headquarters can support council members in implementing plans. Several ideas were shared including

keeping communication open, making plans for future meetings, providing an online forum for discussion/sharing and emphasizing the importance of anti-trafficking work with divisional leadership. As the meeting adjourned, council members left armed with a true sense of purpose and a flash drive loaded with resources.



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CBLI online registration

CMI online registration

Web exclusives

Holiness resources list from Lt. Colonels Sjögren

Media

Omaha North Corps SAL Blackhawks basketball game clip



Central Music Institute

August 7-17, 2014 **Camp Wonderland, Wisconsin**

with special guests

Ken Waterworth

Creative Arts Director,
Australia Southern Territory



Ken Waterworth is the creative arts director for the Australia Southern Territory and has served as bandmaster of the famous Melbourne Staff Band since 1994.

Prior to his current position, Ken was director of music at Eltham High School where he played a vital role in the development and growth of the instrumental program and established the school's symphonic band as one of Australia's finest school ensembles.

Ken is acknowledged as one of Australia's leading music educators, highly praised for his conducting, training and development of school concert bands throughout the country.

Omar Perez has served as the territorial music secretary for the South America East (SAE) Territory since 2001—a vast area which includes Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay.

Omar holds a degree in vocal music from the *Conservatorio Superior de Música Manuel de Falla in Buenos Aires*. In recent years he has served as bandmaster and songster leader at Buenos Aires Cuerpo Central and has been on the faculty of numerous Salvation Army music schools throughout North and South America. He is the director of the SAE Territorial Music Institute.

Guest Artists

Chicago a cappella will be featured in concert on Saturday, August 9. This ensemble of professional singers was founded in 1993 and is

Omar Perez

Territorial Music Secretary,
South America East Territory



recognized for their vocal virtuosity and innovative programming. They have produced nine CD recordings of music ranging from Renaissance masses to contemporary works.

Alan Atwood is a professional actor who writes and produces full-length plays for his community as well as shorter dramas for worship services. He tours one-man plays



around the country and has authored a book of sketches for worship. He will present his one-man show, "The Heart of God" at CMI on Sunday evening, August 10. In this dramatic "walk through the Bible," 12 modern characters play out the great events of scripture in a modern and often humorous way.

CMI 80 Alumni Weekend August 15-17

That's right! This year marks the 80th Central Music Institute at Camp Wonderland. Alumni are invited to join in the final weekend celebration. Come back to camp, reconnect with lifelong friends, participate in the Alumni Band and Chorus and enjoy a rich weekend of fellowship and worship. Watch our website for details: centralusa.salvationarmy.org/usc/cmi



Quincy Kroc Center conducts YADI conference

by Kent Embree

The Quincy, Ill., Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center kicked off its role as a learning hub for the Youth Asset Development Initiative (YADI), hosting delegates from the territory this spring for a two-day learning experience. Representing corps community centers, including other Kroc centers, territorial headquarters and specialists from The Search Institute, participants shared experiences and best practices to help each other on the path toward a new, organized approach in support of youth development.

The seminar began with a welcome from Major Andrew Miller, Quincy area commander, and introductions to "Asset Building" from Major Beverly Best, South Bend, Ind., Kroc Center officer for youth development, and Barbara Higgins, youth specialist from the territorial youth department. Lt. Colonel James Nauta, territorial Kroc project specialist, gave a brief overview of YADI implementation in the territory.

Participants combined into teams to discuss three main areas regarding



their implementation of the initiative: what YADI strategies have taken hold in their center, what elements of their strategy have been most important to making it work, and what is one core challenge they've faced and what they've done to overcome it.

Dr. Terri Sullivan of The Search Institute led the discussions and gave a presentation on the national YADI model, which was followed by a group discussion on both the exciting prospects of youth asset development as well as the major concerns. Stations were set up for each group to record ways of addressing each concern.

Lt. Rich Forney, Quincy Kroc Center officer for youth development, organized the and was excited by conference feedback in terms of prospects for the future of youth programming in the Central Territory.

"This is the first time that the 'learning hub' concept has been used to test and share knowledge of new innovations in youth asset development as a territorial approach," he said. "It was very encouraging to see youth departments represented from both territorial and divisional headquarters, corps community centers, including other Kroc Centers, and even advisory board members in the same room to help fulfill the same vision."



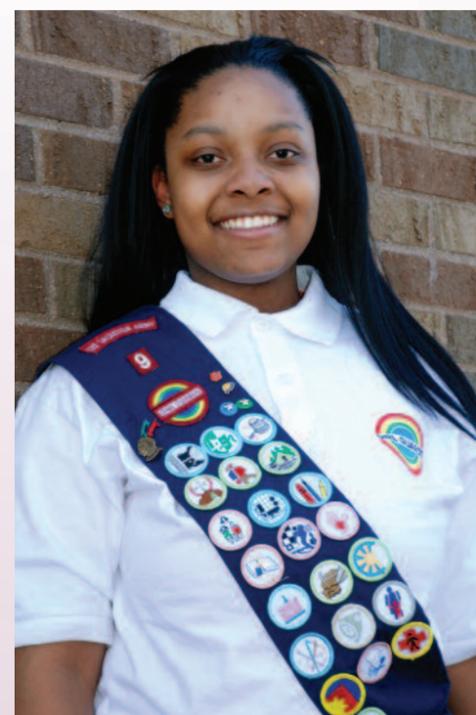
Trailblazer at her corps

There is a new General's Guard at the Detroit Harding, Mich., Corps in the Eastern Michigan Division! After months of preparation, CheRon Hill earned the rank of General's Guard. While this achievement is noteworthy in itself, it is particularly special for CheRon and her troop because it's been 66 years since the Detroit Harding Corps has seen a young woman earn this award.

"CheRon worked very hard for this. She has also used this as an opportunity to encourage the younger troop members to work hard in order to achieve the General's Guard award as well," said Captain Kelsie Moreno, Detroit Harding corps officer. "She is truly an inspiration to the young ladies in her troop, an incredibly remarkable young woman."

CheRon worked independently, as well as with her troop and leaders to complete the required emblems and prepare for the review.

"The Girl Guard program has taught



me a lot about God and the importance of hard work," said CheRon.

When asked what she would change about guards, CheRon replied, "I would make troop time longer each week so we could spend more time earning emblems."

Set apart to serve

It's been nearly a year since Lt. Colonels Daniel and Rebecca Sjögren were appointed as territorial ambassadors for holiness. The first to fill this new role, they have traversed the territory teaching and promoting an emphasis on holiness at conferences, Sunday meetings and retreats. They have visited the majority of the divisions and impacted hundreds of Salvationists and friends of the Army.



exemplified. Let the beauty of Jesus be seen in me."

As with any groundbreaking appointment, it's had challenges and blessings. "Seeing the corps and the level of spiritual maturity in our territory has been a true joy," said Lt. Colonel Daniel. His wife added, "It's exciting to see soldiers desirous of deep spiritual growth; they're seeking a clearer understanding of their spiritual walk."

In the fall the Sjögrens preached the third message in a three-part series on holiness at the LaCrosse, Wis., Corps. According to Corps Officer Major Paul Moore the sermon was well tailored to meet the needs of his congregation.

Lt. Colonel Daniel noted one of the privileges of this appointment was the ability to dedicate his studies to one subject matter, which provides the opportunity to adapt his material to every corps or unit he visits.

"The Sjögrens fit in with our people so well, and they identified with them," said Major Paul. "It was obvious they connected with Becky's testimony, and Dan preached a very relevant message. They did not present themselves as 'special guests' but as friends back for a visit."

At the Metropolitan Divisional Men's Camp Lt. Colonel Daniel spoke about

"Holiness is so sacred and so personal. I feel the weight of this; I always have, and I always will," said Lt. Colonel Daniel. "There are so many aspects of holiness, and leading a holy life means living with holiness



holiness on Friday night and Sunday morning, as well as taught a session on pure living. "It was very evident God was working through the colonel," said Major Robert Gauthier, Metropolitan divisional men's ministries secretary. "The altar

was lined both Friday night and Sunday morning."

Lt. Colonel Daniel treasured the experience, too. "We raised the bar and asked the men to give consideration to holy living," he said. "As a result we saw 128 men make commitments to holiness."

At the Western Divisional Leadership Seminar the Sjögrens participated as keynote speakers and workshop leaders. According to delegate Major David Womack, Aberdeen, S.D., corps officer, the class was inspirational. It featured biblical truth, personal examples and time for reflection. The major said he really appreciated Lt. Colonel Daniel's transparency and openness as he shared about the vulnerabilities pertaining to his own journey of holiness.

For Major Vicki Steinsland, Western Divisional secretary for program, one of the weekend's high-

lights was seeing the Sjögrens engage delegates in conversation between meetings. "It translates what they teach into something more personal. They're so approachable," she said.

As the Sjögrens look to the future, their greatest hope is for revival—not just for individuals but the entire Army. They pray their ministry will be used by God for this purpose.



New Members

January - March 2014

68 Senior Soldiers
25 Adherents
78 Junior Soldiers

Welcome to soldiership

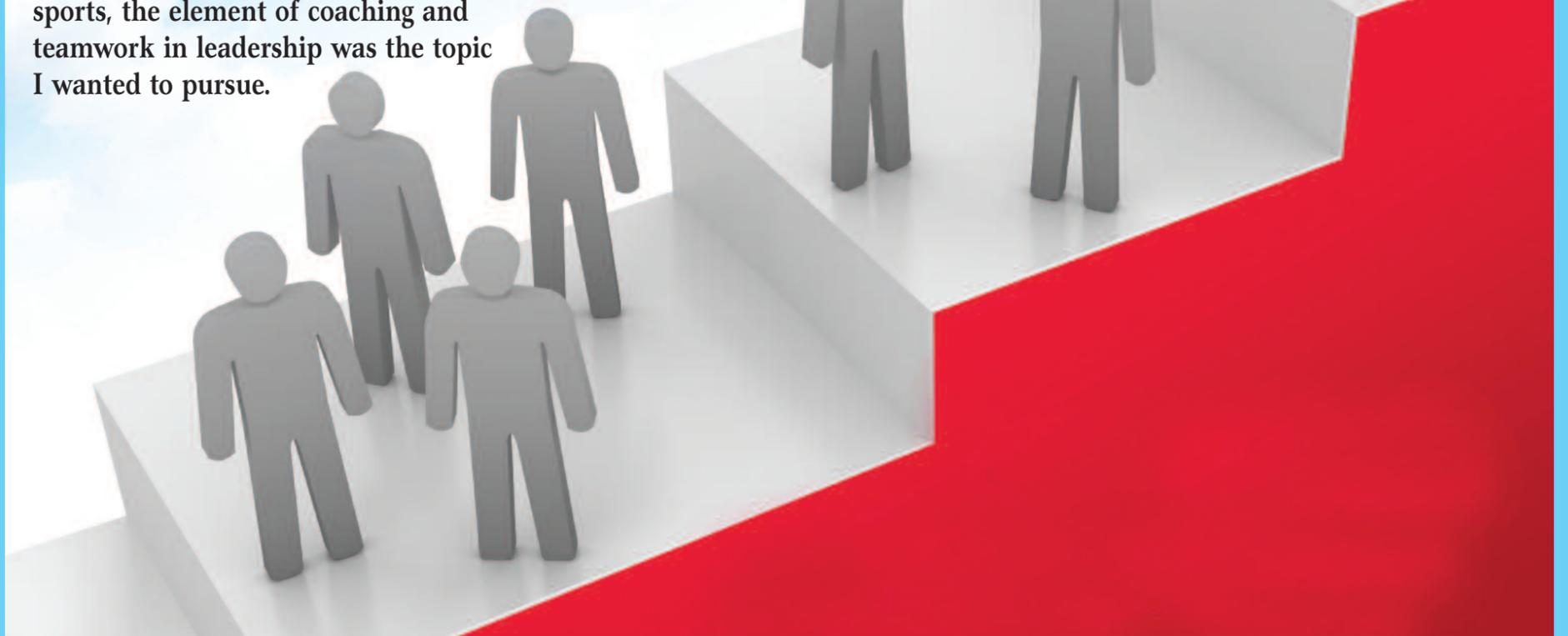


The most recent senior soldier enrollment at the Alpena, Mich., Corps welcomed to the ranks Marie Weiss, Peggy Sleeper, Kaitlyn Noiles, Denise Martin and Rochelle Martin. Also pictured (back row) are corps officers Majors Joan and Craig Stoker, Corps Sergeant-Major Tim Schroeder and flagbearers Tim Hart, head usher, and Sue Foster, corps treasurer. The Martin family met the Army first through sunbeams and home league, Kaitlyn and her Aunt Peggy through girl guards and music camp, and Marie and her family through her child's involvement with the Alpena Corps special summer program.

STEPS: a coaching approach

by Commissioner Paul R. Seiler
Territorial Commander

As a young officer I sent territorial headquarters (THQ) a proposal to attend a "coaching" course at a local university. The response was serious and definite—"the territory does not support sporting activities for continuing education." Although there are many lessons learned in sports, the element of coaching and teamwork in leadership was the topic I wanted to pursue.



For more than 15 years I used a coaching approach in coming alongside corps with a small group of officers and employees as part of the team to help them focus on meaningful goals ("vital few") to move the mission forward. Back then we did not have a tool such as STEPs (Strategic Tool to Engage Potential) that looked so intentionally at mission effectiveness and resource capacity. However, if we had, I believe we would have had even more impact.

Several years ago in this territory

there was a cry from the field at a territorial leadership summit for a "customized scorecard" that could fit various corps settings. *Everyone can't do everything.* At that time corps were rated on "minimum standards" regardless of their capacity. Sadly, the minimum standards seemed more like gold standards, and this placed a significant burden on the frontlines. We decided to try a coaching approach.

The STEPs tool offers a way to have local conversations that decide whether to focus on using strengths

to move mission forward or to improve capacity regarding mission impact. Another difference in the approach is that a corps officer does not just fill out a form. It's a process that includes key soldiers and employees. After all, we are all part of pursuing mission as faithful soldiers and disciples of Jesus.

We have asked for teams of four or five to be divisional headquarters (DHQ) STEPs teams for corps, which may require expanding the DHQ team from the traditional few officers doing reviews. At THQ, we have

followed the same model. Also, as we require DHQ STEPs teams to visit corps three times a year at approximately 90-day intervals, THQ STEPs teams are visiting divisions with this same frequency.

I am grateful for the conversations that are taking place and pray for the work being done across the territory. I pray God will bless these efforts and we will begin to see more people coming to know Jesus as Savior, people being helped more intentionally, and our corps becoming vibrant centers of worship.

In the know

With the STEPs process being implemented in your corps, you may have heard some words and phrases you're unfamiliar with. Here's a short primer.

STEPS "Strategic Tool to Engage Potential" A self-evaluation review process for the Central Territory.

Holistic An approach that considers the spiritual, social, physical and emotional needs of people.

Mission Refers to The Salvation Army Mission Statement and the areas of salvation, spiritual growth of Christians, and service to people; our purpose for being.

Outcomes The change in the individual or community, in contrast to the "outputs" (ie: number of activities, number of hours, etc.) that impact the outcome.

"Vital Few" This is a leadership phrase intended to identify some of the really important things to do. It is different from the "urgent many." It is an effort also to say we know you can't do everything, so pick those things that would make a significant difference and focus on them first. Not everything is a "vital few."

Vision Picture of what the preferred future could look like.

Goal The concrete element of where you want to be compared to where you are. Makes vision measurable.

S.M.A.R.T. Goal S = Specific, M = Measurable, A = Achievable, R = Realistic, T = Timely. Format example: By (date), we will (do something) from a to b, which will result in (this) change.

Action Step How one plans to reach a goal. After the action steps are completed, the goal should be achieved. If not, adjust the action steps. These should specifically relate to achieving the goal.

2013 STEPS DIVISIONAL GOALS

SUNDAY MORNING ATTENDANCE

SPIRITUAL GROWTH & OUTREACH

BUSINESS & FISCAL RESOURCES

HUMAN RESOURCES



 = 1 Divisional STEPs Goal

SUNDAY MORNING ATTENDANCE

Goals focused on: influence and growth potential as indicators of mission effectiveness. Decline or lack of growth in attendance brought concerns to the surface. Lack of people results in a lack of influence and decreased future impact as a body of believers.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH & OUTREACH

Goals focused on: worship quality and resources, tithing, corps cadets, young adult development, growing saints, serving suffering humanity, Pathway of Hope, and leadership development.

BUSINESS & FISCAL RESOURCES

Goals focused on: fundraising, increasing income, balanced budgets, business and fiscal resources that support mission effectiveness and the allocation of resources.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Goals focused on: partnerships and alliances, officer membership in local ministerial associations, officer care, human resources that support mission effectiveness and increasing local officers.

New tools for new times

Imagine a system that makes it easier for corps teams to come together to evaluate their ministry and set goals for bigger impact. Envision a system that organizes results so divisional headquarters easily can see what might make a difference for individual corps to be more successful. Picture a system that graphically reflects the health and progress or challenges of each division. In essence, you're seeing the STEPs online tool. With it, analysis is at your fingertips.

The online tool that's been developed for STEPs helps make the process more accessible, transparent and organized. Information is shared, stored and used to set goals and track outcomes in each corps. For instance during the survey phase, members of each corps' multidisciplinary team can share comments and attach support for their corps' portfolio. And when a corps officer moves, the history of the process and the goals remain with the corps so new officers can better understand the corps' direction and more easily join soldiers in "taking the next step up" in that location.

The online tool also allows information to be summarized quickly and easily for divisional and territorial headquarters. Based on the survey results, corps are automatically plotted on a matrix which reflects how they're doing with resources and mission effectiveness and what might make a difference in their situations. Plans then can be better individualized for each corps. At a glance, territorial leaders also can see a big picture for each division and how it's doing as a whole in mission effectiveness.

The pride is back

Although the Huntington, Ind., Corps has already seen results by taking the "next step up" in the vital few goals it identified through the STEPs process last year, the biggest change has occurred in the corps' people, according to Captain Barbara McCauley, corps officer.

"Because they've been empowered and taken ownership of the corps, many of our people have begun wearing their uniforms again as a statement of their commitment," said Captain Barbara. "The STEPs tool gives corps members a voice in the goal-planning process and a stake in their own future. And, because all of the 'next steps' are achievable, nobody feels like a failure."

Corps members no longer sit back and wait for someone else to make a move because goal setting is no longer an officer-driven process, she continued. "Our people provided honest feedback throughout the STEPs process and now keep each other accountable for the responsibilities they've assumed, offering to help anyone who's having difficulties fulfilling their role or accomplishing their duties. Now if something doesn't go well, corps people ask them-



Forming a corps worship committee was an early STEPs goal

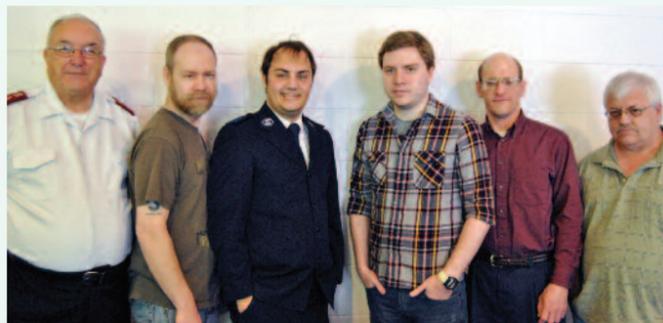
selves what went wrong and determine a solution," the captain added.

Enhanced worship leading to corps growth was one of the goals identified last year with the premise that if people found the worship experience worthwhile, they'd keep coming back, make connections and find their place within the corps.

An age-diverse worship committee was formed to plan Sunday worship three months in advance with committee members taking responsibility for each element of worship. This left the captain free to concentrate on preaching preparation.

"By not getting bogged down in the details, the committee has allowed me to determine the

direction of what corps members need from me in the pulpit and where they need to grow," she said.



A new men's ministry group

The committee works in sermon-driven, thematic harmony. One member is responsible for staging dramas, another for thoughtful selections of praise band music incorporating traditional and contemporary songs, while another plans a monthly missions presentation for the service. A retired officer collects and organizes all the information for each Sunday's bulletin.

This approach to worship has worked. "We've seen growth on Sunday mornings from new people who've quickly found opportunities to invest themselves in our corps to people who've attended Sunday school for years but never stayed for worship," said the captain.

Another goal identified by the corps' STEPs team last year concerned how to handle follow up of visitors. The corps determined an effective method of collecting names and information for future contact and is assembling visitation teams for phone and/or home visits.

The last goal was starting a men's ministries group, which was a success. Several men of all ages meet each month for fellowship, work projects or volunteering at the corps.

Western keeps moving forward

by Major Vicki Steinsland

“Keep moving forward” is an emphasis the Western Division has adopted. STEPs supports this endeavor.

We’ve found one of the greatest benefits of the STEPs process is the corps team discussion while completing or updating their survey. In many corps an accurate assessment is determined based on perspectives from several corps leaders and is validated by the portfolio. Several corps experienced “ah ha” moments as team members listened to one another and discussed topics and indicators of effectiveness for the first time. The hard work of listening resulted in intentional planning through goal writing. It has been

exciting to see our corps move from discussion to goal setting with focused action for greater mission effectiveness.

In the Western Division the number of goals achieved since beginning STEPs increased approximately 30 percent from 2011 to 2013. Several corps are in the process of writing additional goals. However, achieving goals is not an end in itself. They are means to help us serve more effectively and efficiently.

Along with STEPs successes, as a division we also have experienced challenges. One is simply distance. So, good use is made of experts on the field throughout the division. We are grateful to employees and officers in our division who are will-

ing to share their expertise by serving on our divisional STEPs team. This year most corps will experience three to four visits by the team depending on the number of goals and completion dates. Addressing the challenge of distance through technology, at least one of those visits will be via Skype or teleconferencing. The last visit includes property inspections

and roll revisions. It’s a busy but excellent day of celebrating God’s work through corps ministries.

In some of our corps one of the significant challenges has been a lack of people participating in mission on a regular basis. Too many goals are written with the corps officers being responsible to complete each action step. Our corps need soldiers fully engaged in mission standing shoulder-to-shoulder with their officers working toward seeing lives transformed through the power of the gospel.

Every appointment is reviewed, and divisional headquarters is no exception. The territorial STEPs team visited Omaha in February. A review in any appointment can be intimidating, but we’ve found that discussion, brainstorming, visioning and celebration are beneficial to keeping our division moving forward!



Staying on the path

A growth spurt over the last three years at the Sturgis, Mich., Corps helped drive the identification of its “vital few” goals, reported Envoy DeWayne Duskin, corps administrator. The corps found STEPs to be a helpful tool for members to see their accomplishments and determine which areas needed focused attention to increase mission effectiveness.

“Twenty corps people did a thorough job providing input and documentation throughout the STEPs process to identify three areas requiring focused attention. One was bringing on a fulltime youth coordinator under the Good Soil Initiative to handle the expanding number of youth at the corps,” said the envoy. Junior soldiery has increased from six three years ago to nearly 40 after Easter.

The corps’ growth in worship attendance, which more than doubled, naturally led to the identification of the next goal: increased building capacity. “We just don’t have enough space,” said the envoy citing the single Sunday school classroom in the metal-construction building. “And, because we’re located on a side street behind a meat market, there are folks who’ve lived all their lives in Sturgis—population 12,000—who don’t even know we exist!”



A corps-wide Bible study series supports a STEPs goal.

The “next steps” approach has provided clarity and helped prepare the corps in pursuing this goal, starting with recognizing the corps needed a larger, stronger advisory board with increased capabilities and involvement.

“This year will be spent on recruiting, orienting and activating new board members before embarking on the next stage necessary to bring a new corps facility to fruition,” said the envoy. Though past normal retirement age, he hopes to finish out this goal before retiring.

The corps’ third goal concerns developing human resources. Although people have assumed local leadership roles, the corps has never commissioned local officers. Preparations are underway to commission at least 18 local officers.

Also being offered are Bible-study series for adults and youth/young adults on making bolder commitments in faith and action. The STEPs team hopes to inspire a sense of increased corps ownership in its members and self-sufficiency both financially and in human resources. Supporting this endeavor are plans for a stewardship campaign weekend conducted by Majors Joseph and Lois Wheeler, territorial evangelists and spiritual formation secretaries.

The corps’ last goal goes hand-in-hand with the one for a new building. “When people make personal financial and emotional commitments to a corps, it’s no longer a case of spending someone else’s money,” the envoy concluded.



Cadets take first STEPs

The STEPs (Strategic Tool to Engage Potential) review tool is being taught at the College for Officer Training (CFOT) to prepare cadets to work seamlessly with leadership teams in corps where they’re appointed as officers to achieve the Army’s mission.

“The CFOT is committed to helping cadets understand and gain proficiency in the various programs they will be using to lead their soldiers upon arrival to the corps,” said Major Cheri Hobbins, CFOT principal.

The training in STEPs is in two parts. First, cadets receive instruction in the STEPs module. Presented this spring by Jennifer Orbe, territorial STEPs manager, the class includes an overview of the process and rationale for the shift from previous tools, an explanation of the review content, instruction in the



online tool, and information on the “vital few” selection and goal setting.

Then to bring STEPs out of theory into practice, cadets engage in the process at their field training corps where they’ve been ministering for six months. They look at data compiled by the corps committee, meet with the corps officers and other team members, and then formulate their own “vital few” goals. This simulated experience gives cadets the opportunity to walk through the review tool and reflect on how they’ll implement it in their future corps.

“We are hoping this will build a stronger bridge between understanding the process and how it actually looks in a corps setting,” explained Major Hobbins. “We hope they will make some strong connections to the process.”



Living up to our potential

by Captain Caleb Senn

What's the point of an evaluation if everything seems to be going well? That's what I wondered when I heard that a new evaluation tool, STEP's, would be introduced to the Central Territory. Nevertheless, we gathered our team and prepared to go through the motions of what we thought would be a fairly uneventful process at the Dearborn Heights Citadel, Mich., Corps.

We soon found, however, areas in our corps where we were not quite living up to our potential. As our team completed the evaluation survey, wrestling along the way with definitions and parameters, we began to see those vital few priorities that needed our attention. For us it was mission effectiveness general (1.1), mission resources (11.2), mission effectiveness, saving souls (2.2), and growing saints, youth and children (6.6).

Mission effectiveness general (1.1): Although none of us had ever noticed it before, the STEP's process made it starkly evident there was no posted mission statement in our building. We were in the process of renovating our gymnasium at the time and decided to include the mission statement on the new sound absorption panel. Now, those who enter the gym clearly see our

corps' mission.

Mission resources (11.2): Our corps was without the presence of an advisory organization. In order to bolster our community awareness and fully utilize mission resources, we began the planning process for creating an advisory council. Our first meeting with the inaugural group was held in March, and we look forward to how the council will boost the effectiveness of our mission.

Mission effectiveness, saving souls (2.2): It became evident we needed to train our congregation in the importance of personal evangelism. Our STEP's team planned training in personal evangelism and mercy seat (altar) counseling with Major Chuck Wright. The training took place in March, and we feel confident the results will translate into a renewed sense of urgency in our mission.

Mission effectiveness, growing saints, youth and children (6.6): We

realized a gap in programming and curriculum in regard to youth development in our corps. Our STEP's team charged our youth and community outreach director to initiate a youth development committee to further identify the needs of our youth and develop ways to address them. This is an ongoing process that we believe will yield significant results.

In all, this has been an experience that has advanced the sense of mission at our corps. We now feel more knowledgeable of corps needs and how we empower, equip and engage for mission effectiveness. We are very impressed with the STEP's process and look forward to what the future holds for our corps.



The Dearborn Heights Singing Company with Captains Caleb and Stephanie Senn.



Young adults are encouraged to develop skills needed to become active corps leaders.

Refocusing outward

This year through STEP's, Decatur, Ill., soldiers and Corps Officers Captains Wes and Susan Dalberg are working on reaching out to families, with particular attention to their men's shelter, and bridging them into the corps family. Their specific strategy follows the guidance of the acronym CORPS: Connect Others through Relationships, Programs and Strategies.

"Many come through our doors every week for everything from social service needs to home league to character-building. We hope we can see relationships built beyond 'here's a bag of groceries,' or 'here's some money for rent,'" said Captain Wes.

One of the ways they are making progress is through their second goal: evangelism training. This spring the corps held a day-long set of workshops.

Mary Farrell attended a workshop and now feels more prepared to witness. She said, "As I meet new people or gather with friends and/or family, I will remember how to introduce spiritual conversation and the plan of salvation using my own story."



Captain Susan Dalberg with soldier and men's shelter director Jeff Mueller, who attended the evangelism workshop

Right now there is a significant divide between the men's shelter beneficiaries and corps programs. "Sunday services may be the only contact these men have with our people, and we want to change that," said Captain Wes.

The plan is for soldiers to start meeting the men on their turf—attending movie night, meals or participating in Bible studies with them. "It's not about 'recruiting,' but being there for them and forming a relationship. Hopefully through this there will be a more natural way of sharing the gospel," said the captain.

Although challenging at times to keep the STEP's goals at the forefront of a long list of things to do, the initiative has been more than an exercise. According to Captain Wes, it's been a vessel for change. He said, "I really like what STEP's does for us. It makes us look honestly at who we are and where we are as a corps. It helps us to determine our strengths as well as acknowledge what we need to work on."



Kathy Hogg and Kay Blakes practice one of the evangelistic models from the Contagious Christian material.

Corps on the move

At the Kansas City Blue Valley, Mo., Corps change is in the air. Soldiers and Corps Officers Lieutenants Roberto and Elia Davila are working hard to take a step up in mission effectiveness.

Last year the corps people pursued a "Great Awakening Goal" to stabilize family units. The aim was to bring not only children but their parents into the corps community through holistic ministry.

"As a result there is great unity among our families, and it's even translated into corps growth," said Lt. Roberto. "When we started STEP's we were averaging 75 people at our holiness meetings, now our average is closer to 100 people!"

Additionally enrollments, corps cadets and Sunday school attendance is up.

Building on this goal the corps plans to convert its backyard into a family area with picnic tables, landscaping, mulch and grills. They also hope to rebuild the playground.

The next emphasis will be on leadership. One of the main goals this year will be to develop an active and involved group of local officers. It will start by educating soldiers on their



Lt. Mary Kim, divisional youth secretary, and Lt. Colonel Jeffrey Smith, territorial secretary for personnel, flank the corps' newest soldiers.

spiritual gifts. Classes will be offered on spiritual gifts, and soldiers will be given the opportunity to have their gifts assessed.

"Eventually soldiers will be assigned responsibilities based on their gifts," said Lt. Roberto. With 12 people in soldiership classes, he anticipates a great opportunity for leadership growth.

The STEP's goals haven't come without their challenges. As a Hispanic corps sometimes the language barrier has created problems in explaining the focus, and it isn't always easy for regular attenders to see the big picture, the lieutenant explained.

But overall, it's been a blessing. He concluded, "The STEP's program has been a good way to keep us focused on specific tasks, and it's helped our people to see where we are heading."



Kansas City Blue Valley Corps children participate in Bible class.

Conference resonates with corps officer

by Keith J. Welch

I knew it would stretch me beyond my comfort zone to attend "RES-ONATE," the 2014 National Community Relations and Development Conference in Indianapolis, Ind., but I needed it. So, I chose the strategic communications track for the three-day conference. In addition, the conference



offered tracks on major gifts and planned giving, along with a plethora of other workshops, rounded out by plenary sessions, a banquet and an exhibit hall.

The more than 500 attendees included mostly divisional and territorial development employees and officers' staffs, with a sprinkling of corps representation. So, what was the take-away value for this corps officer? Salvation Army corps officers are responsible to oversee a variety of ministries, but I understand I can't do it all. I need good, qualified people who become experts in the areas of my limited understanding. Delegation allows me to focus on other areas of importance. Yet, I also know the importance for corps officers to gain knowledge of the min-

istry work delegated to another within the corps. The purpose of this knowledge is not to micro-manage but to suggest ideas and give support.

One of the emphases of the fundraising communication workshops was that fundraising is not just about raising money; it's about the people who give. The presenters found donors often think all The Salvation Army wants is their money but does not know or care about them. They challenged us to get to know donors personally and show we care about them as individuals.



The communication track also emphasized the importance of stories over factoids.

Wednesday's box lunch required delegates to sit at individually pre-tagged table settings, which allowed people of varied disciplines (development, officer, communications specialist, volunteer coordinator, etc...) to share ideas.

The Central Territory's Pathway of

Hope was prevalent from the welcome session led by Lt. Colonel Richard Vander Weele to the closing banquet with National Commander Commissioner David Jeffrey.

My mind stretched to use apps for accessing all the information about the conference as it was in progress. I also gained a better understanding of how Twitter works. The communications network continues to change, and there is a greater potential to reach more people through these devices.

I chose to attend this conference to purposely step outside my comfort zone and gain knowledge outside of my focused expertise. It was a worthy investment for a corps officer.

SHARING OUR SUCCESSES



Catching the vision

by Linda Blossom

Immediate Past Chair,
Tri-County Advisory Board
Peoria, Ill.



Recruitment of advisory board members for nonprofit organizations sometimes can be a challenge. Here in Peoria, Ill., we have learned one of the most effective approaches is to help individuals "catch the vision."

Many organizations have an image that creates a perception. Often these perceptions limit people's involvement to simply giving money. The symbols and awareness of The Salvation Army are, of course, most evident at Christmas—ringing bells at kettles, fundraising events and activities, toys for children, etc...

Fundraising is of paramount importance to a nonprofit organization and is part of the responsibility all of us commit to. However, in and of itself, fundraising is not fun. It's necessary.

Vision helps fuel the passion

within us to overcome the discomfort of fundraising, aligns us with the mission, and takes us beyond fundraising to "hands on" volunteerism. The recruitment and ongoing development of an engaged, visionary advisory board is critical.

My journey toward catching the vision began in 2002. My husband and I were asked to be honorary co-chairs for the Peoria Tree of Lights campaign. I had always admired The

Salvation Army but knew very little about its background and the depth, breadth and diversity of its ministries. Although Salvation Army staff, officers and the advisory board do much of the "heavy lifting," the honorary chairs often become the "face" to the community in representing and promoting the efforts and purpose for the Tree of Lights fundraising campaign.

In order to coax friends, business associates, family and the community to support the good the Army does on behalf of those who cannot do for themselves, we must try to experience what they do. What "got" me were the tours of the facilities. I toured the daycare center and saw the happy, healthy children and learned about the quality of education they receive to prepare them for kindergarten. I saw people coming off the streets for a hot lunch. I saw the shelter where families stay while they get assistance and coaching to get back on their feet. Children are transported to the schools where they're able to maintain their friendships and education with dignity. Parents receive mentoring and training: parenting skills, job

skills, housing assistance, and addiction programs.

I toured the Eagle Crest Camp where children are provided new, wholesome experiences while learning about the love of the Lord. The afterschool programs offered at the Peoria Citadel Corps provide study assistance, physical activities, music programs and special interest club experiences—a caring, safe presence in its neighborhood.

The Tree of Lights campaign reached its goal that year. The vision I had been exposed to carried us through. I was hooked. My husband and I were asked to be honorary co-chairs again the next year to which we said "yes!" That year I also was asked to be an advisory board member. At least three other advisory board members have been honorary chairs for the Tree of Light campaign. The tours turn program ministries into real life experiences. Up close and personal is the way to move knowledge from the head to the heart. Capture an individual's heart, and you will win their hands.

Newly accepted candidates

Gloria Pelayo

Irving Park, Ill., Corps
Metropolitan Division



I know God created everything with a special purpose, and God's purpose for me is to be saved. I believe I was four years old when I received Jesus as my Savior. Still, I didn't feel God's calling to be an officer until I came to

Chicago. I faced difficulties like being away from my family and feeling alone.

I find it hard to explain how God called me to be a Salvation Army officer. First He sent me to the right place. Next He allowed me to feel how other non-English speaking people felt when struggling to be understood. This taught me to depend on God. It was also through the testimony of other officers that He called me to work in His Kingdom.

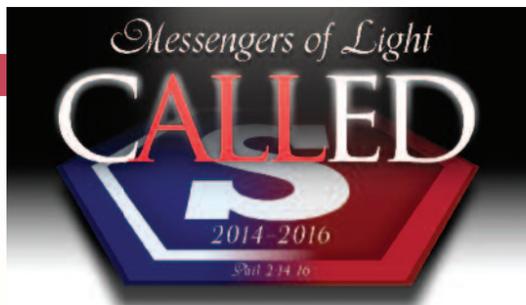
"For He chose us in Him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in His sight." Ephesians 1:4, NIV.

Gloria's corps officers are Captains Pedro and Mirca Arias.

James M. Beardsley

Sioux Falls, S.D., Corps
Western Division

Growing up with parents who are officers, I always knew about God but did not accept Christ into my heart until 1994. During a powerful teen track meeting at Central Bible Leadership Institute, I gave my life to the Lord and received my calling



to become a Salvation Army officer.

After years of ignoring His plan for my life, I once again felt His calling during the Festival of Worship Arts in 2007. Even though I began the application process, I again ran from His calling. Through years of turmoil, no direction and closed doors, I cried out to God and asked Him to show me what His will was for me. In April 2013 He showed me again in a very profound way that officership is His will for my life. I fully accepted this, moved forward and have never looked back. I thank God every day for His faithfulness, grace and plan for my life.

James' corps officers are Majors Thomas and Belinda Riggs.

Aaron and Sarah-anne Kruse

Fargo, N.D., Corps
Northern Division



Eight years ago we met during a community theater production of "Jesus Christ Superstar" and have been together ever since. We come from drastically different backgrounds. Aaron was brought up in the Army, while my first experience was when Aaron brought me to a worship service while he was attending the Cloquet, Minn., Corps. It did not take long for me to fall in love with The Salvation Army, too.

Despite the roadblocks that have come up, we have always felt the hand of God leading us to officership. We believe all of our experiences, from Aaron working in the oil and gas fields in North Dakota and Wyoming to me taking classes in theater and dance, have prepared us for the exciting journey and challenges that await us as officers.

Along with our three beautiful daughters, LillyAnne, Inara and Mia, we are excited for the opportunities God has in store for us.

The Kruses' corps officers are Majors Byron and Elaine Medlock.

Blake Fewell

Rockford Temple, Ill., Corps
Metropolitan Division

The Salvation Army has been an important part of my life from the beginning. My parents have taught me what it means to love God and be a true follower of Jesus Christ. Growing up in the Rockford Temple Corps, numerous soldiers and officers planted seeds of the gospel in my life.

I came to know Christ as my Savior at age five and responded to His call to officership at age 12. Since then God has continued to guide every step of my journey toward officership. The Lord gave me a passion for studying theology and its application for the Church, as well as a love for practical ministry and youth ministry. He opened the door for me to study theology at Moody Bible



Institute from which I graduated in May. My other interests include reading, playing percussion, blogging and social media.

Blake's corps officers are Majors Steve and Christine Merritt.

Ross and Patricia Anderson

St. Paul Eastside, Minn., Corps
Northern Division



Patricia and I both received our call to become officers three years ago when we were invited to attend the St. Paul Eastside Corps. Patricia was saved at a young age and felt God calling her to ministry, but her church held the belief that only men could be in ministry so she buried the calling in her heart until the time was right. I, on the other hand, received salvation at age 23 when the Lord entered my heart. Shortly thereafter, God gave me a longing that could not be filled with any other earthly mission than bringing His Word to all those I came across.

In early 2011 Patricia and I met and fell in love. Our faith and our callings combined to reveal the path God has set before us in the form of Salvation Army officership. We are currently Ministry Discovery interns at the St. Paul Citadel, Minn., Corps led by Captains Geffory and Leticia Crowell. We feel God has truly blessed us and pray we give Him glory in all we do.

The Andersons' corps officers are Captains John and Crystal Joyner.

Faith underpins her accomplishments

For her unprecedented performance as director of planned giving—achieving record financial expectancies for the Indiana Division—Jo Ann Remender was honored for excellence in development at the National Community Relations and Development Conference.

Since taking on leadership of the planned giving team in 2005, Jo Ann



Jo Ann Remender greets donor Carmen Riedl at a recent gift and estate planning seminar.

has increased its output through thoughtful planning, professional communication and her genuine care for donors. Financial expectancies have grown to more than \$37 million—a record for the division's planned giving program—with \$8.8 million acquired in 2013 alone. Expectancy relationships grew from two donors in 2005 to 143 with growth averaging 16 new relationships per year; 26 in 2013 alone.

Committed to the success of others, Jo Ann helps people grow into confident, planned giving representatives.

"As a servant leader, she would never want to be nominated for any



Dressed as a World War I donut girl, Jo Ann Remender meets a WWII veteran on Donut Day.

award," said Dr. F. Duke Haddad, Indiana divisional executive director of development. Under Jo Ann's leadership, the planned giving department also developed annual donor endeavors, such as Operation Compassion benefitting military, Donut Day and Tours of Hope.

Underpinning her accomplishments, however, is Jo Ann's love for the Lord. Her Christian witness reflects Jesus Christ.

She shares her faith and prays for donors.

"Jo Ann has distinguished herself as a fine Christian woman...[and] as a person of initiative and influence," said Lt. Colonel Richard Amick, ter-



Jo Ann Remender with Dr. Duke Haddad, divisional executive development director, and Major John Turner, Indiana divisional commander.

ritorial secretary of business administration. "[She] epitomizes the mission of the Army...and looks upon her position as ministry."

Dr. Haddad added, "To work for an organization for 26 years says something about the cultural fit!" A graduate of Asbury College, Jo Ann started working for The Salvation Army at the Indianapolis Eagle Creek Corps as its community center director in the late 1980s.

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The Salvation Army

PRAYER CENTRAL

USA Central Territory

July Prayer Calendar

My Prayer List	Day	Bible Reading	Pray for The Salvation Army
	1 Tuesday	Philippians 1-2	Bloomington, Ind., Corps
	2 Wednesday	Leviticus 10-12	El Dorado, Kan., Corps
	3 Thursday	2 Kings 1-5	Chicago Englewood, Ill., Corps
	4 Friday	Psalms 78-80	Thank God for our freedom in Christ
	5 Saturday	Proverbs 8-9	Belleville, Ill., Corps
	6 Sunday	Ezekiel 19-24	Bismarck, N.D., Corps
	7 Monday	Luke 17-18	Boone, Iowa, Corps
	8 Tuesday	Philippians 3-4	Benton Harbor, Mich., Corps
	9 Wednesday	Leviticus 13-15	Major Cindy Shellenberger (Australia)
	10 Thursday	2 Kings 6-10	Escanaba, Mich., Corps
	11 Friday	Psalms 81-83	Davenport River Valley, Iowa, ARC*
	12 Saturday	Proverbs 10	Heartland DHQ**
	13 Sunday	Ezekiel 25-30	Decisions for Christ to be made today
	14 Monday	Luke 19-20	Bay City, Mich., Corps
	15 Tuesday	Colossians 1-2	Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Corps
	16 Wednesday	Leviticus 16-18	Brown County, Ind., Corps
	17 Thursday	2 Kings 11-15	Emporia, Kan., Corps
	18 Friday	Psalms 84-86	Chicago Irving Park, Ill., Corps
	19 Saturday	Proverbs 11-12	Branson, Mo., Corps
	20 Sunday	Ezekiel 31-36	Brainerd Lakes, Minn., Corps
	21 Monday	Luke 21-22	Council Bluffs, Iowa, Corps
	22 Tuesday	Colossians 3-4	Big Rapids, Mich., Corps
	23 Wednesday	Leviticus 19-21	Fond du Lac, Wis., Corps
	24 Thursday	2 Kings 16-20	Des Moines, Iowa, ARC*
	25 Friday	Psalms 87-89	Dearborn Heights Citadel, Mich., Corps
	26 Saturday	Proverbs 13	Central Bible Leadership Institute
	27 Sunday	Ezekiel 37-42	Champaign, Ill., Corps
	28 Monday	Luke 23-24	Columbus, Ind., Corps
	29 Tuesday	1 Thessalonians 1-3	Garden City, Kan., Corps
	30 Wednesday	Leviticus 22-24	Chicago LaVillita, Ill., Corps
	31 Thursday	2 Kings 21-25	Cape Girardeau, Mo., Corps

Go to www.salarmycentral.org

If you follow the prayer calendar in the next year, you will have read through the Bible!

* = Adult Rehabilitation Center
 ** = Divisional Headquarters



Cadet summer assignments

Members of the "Heralds of Grace" session will serve in the following locations this summer.

Cadets

- Linda Acosta
- Jessica & Steven Dahl
- Sarah Eddy
- Justin & Stephanie Hartley
- Grant Holloway
- Joseph & Rachel Irvine
- Dalvius King
- Vinal Lee
- Brandon Lewis
- Abraham Marin
- Jessica Martinez
- Kevin & Megan Sechrest
- Jessica Smith
- Christina Tamayo
- Justin Thor
- Michelle Walters
- Patricia Williams

Corps

- East Chicago, Ind.
- St. Louis Temple, Mo.
- Dearborn Heights, Mich.
- Royal Oak, Mich.
- Williston, N.D.
- New Albany, Ind.
- Waterloo-Cedar Falls, Iowa
- Lawrence, Kan.
- Muskegon, Mich.
- Rockford Temple, Ill.
- Kansas City Blue Valley, Mo.
- Oak Creek, Wis.
- Huntington, Ind.
- Champaign, Ill.
- Plymouth, Mich.
- Norfolk, Neb.
- Kalamazoo, Mich.

Employment Opportunities

Technical Advisor, Disaster Relief and Recovery—Salvation Army World Service Office (SAWSO), National Headquarters, Alexandria, Va. Immediate opening for new, on-site position providing technical leadership in disaster relief and recovery. Primary responsibilities: coordinate transition of project oversight for disaster relief under International Emergency Services to recovery under SAWSO. National, international travel required two to three months per year. Position requirements: bachelor's degree (master's preferred) in social services or related field (disaster response, humanitarian assistance, international affairs, peace and conflict resolution, etc.); five years professional work experience in disaster preparedness, relief/recovery program design; two to three years program management experience; three years experience (management role preferred) living and working in a developing country with international disaster programs (i.e., disaster response, humanitarian assistance, mitigation). Hiring range: \$3,175.60 - \$3,572.55 bi-weekly; benefits after 60 days; free underground parking and lunch. Email resume (name, position interest on subject line) to usn_recruit@usn.salvationarmy.org.

--Mustard Seeds--



Men's Conference

Continued from page 1

the altar in prayer each meeting.

"You can make a difference because there is something God wants you to do right where you are," Commissioner Gaither encouraged them on Sunday. "God wants you to take a stand for what's right. We need some Nathans. Do we have some Nathans in the house?" His question was answered with a resounding "Amen!"

Major Richard Herivel, territorial men's ministries secretary, and the conference planning committee had spent considerable time in prayer for the weekend. They incorporated into the plans plenty of time for fun, good food and great fellowship.

There were many sport opportunities from rock wall climbing and basketball to fishing and a golf tournament. There were also more than 40 practical workshops and divisionally led Sunday school classes that offered opportunity for growth. Workshops included topics like anger management, effective fatherhood, starting a men's group, witnessing, living a holy life, dealing with sexual and gambling addictions, and men in recovery.

"I don't like the term 'rehabilitation,'" said Commissioner Gaither. "We rehab old furniture. But God transforms a life! That's transformation."

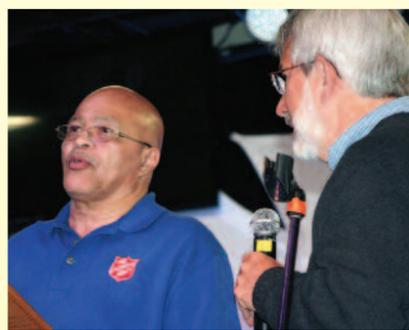
"Wouldn't it be good to see men's fellowship clubs in every corps and institution in the Central Territory as a result of this conference?" Major Herivel asked.



The Men's Ministries Club of the Year went to the Plymouth, Mich., Corps, and James McSpadden, director of spiritual development at the Southeast Michigan ARC, was named Central Territory Man of the Year. A motorcycle ministry was inaugurated.

Commissioner Paul R. Seiler, territorial commander, concluded the conference by enthusiastically asking, "Has God blessed you this weekend?" which again was answered by a resounding "Amen!" He then encouraged the men to take a strong spiritual stand for Christ when they returned home.

Indeed, this was the purpose of the weekend: men returning home changed, Holy Spirit-empowered, ready to take a stand for Christ in their homes, at work, in worship and their neighborhoods. Commissioner Gaither summed up, "When you go home there should be no mistake Who you belong to."



Hogs for heaven

"Vroom, vroom!" A cadre of Salvationist bikers helped herald the announcement at the recent territorial men's ministry conference that the Central Territory was debuting a motorcycle ministry. An inauguration ceremony was held during the conference's Saturday morning service.

Designed to be an outreach ministry of corps community care programs, TSAMM (The Salvation Army Motorcycle Ministry) members promise to make mission a priority of their lives and Christian witness. They engage themselves wherever they're welcomed in the biker community for the purpose of sharing salvation through Jesus Christ with the lost and serving their needs without discrimination in His name.

"We hope to accomplish two things: win some non-Christian bik-

ers to the Lord and engage bikers in service to people in need within their communities," said Major Richard Herivel, territorial men's ministries secretary. "We felt introducing TSAMM at our territorial men's camp was an ideal place to start the ministry."

According to the major, this is the first territorial biker program to debut in the U.S., although there had been other attempts within the Army to form groups. "In fact, the program's fundamentals, which we modified for our use, were written by Eastern Territory officer Major David Dunham, who was invited to assist in the inauguration ceremony," Major Richard continued.

Salvationist members of TSAMM must testify to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and a calling from God to reach out specifically to the biker community. Salvationist members will be commissioned as corps community care workers by corps officers.

Support membership is open to



Christian bikers from outside the Army who testify to being led by God to ride with and assist commissioned members in carrying out TSAMM's mission. A support member must be sponsored by a commissioned member and be willing to become familiar with the Army's history and mission, its doctrines and orders and regulations.

All members must become familiar with motorcycle safety riding practices, motorcycle club culture and appropriate witnessing and evangelism techniques. Additionally, riders must wear a helmet and safety gear, have proper licensing and insurance and sign a waiver. Commissioned members wear a 12-inch diameter TSAMM patch on the backs of their riding gear, and support members wear a four-inch diameter patch on the front of their attire.

There are no membership dues, and any money raised or donated through each group's outreach work will be directed to its corps.

Promoted to Glory

Major George Curtis

On April 4, 2014, Major George Curtis was promoted to Glory. He was 84.

George was raised by his grandparents who brought him to The Salvation Army. There he was introduced to the salvation of Jesus and would later meet his wife-to-be, Jessie Cameron.

George and Jessie were married in 1948, entered officer training two years later and were commissioned with the "Ambassadors" session in 1951. The majority of their first 20 years of officership was spent at corps in Michigan.

After a period of 15 years of soldiery and local officer positions at the Kalamazoo, Mich., Corps, the Curtises returned to service in 1987. In 1994 they officially retired from the Minneapolis Temple, Minn., Corps, but Major George never knew the full meaning of retirement. As a faithful soldier of the Grand Rapids Fulton Heights, Mich., Corps, he played in the band, organized the bellringing effort and was a faithful music camp instructor at Little Pine Island.

George is survived by his wife of 65 years; his children, Stephen, Major Kathleen (Robert) Edmonds, Laurie (Randall) Velzen and Timothy (Dawn); seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild.



Colonel Edgar Overstake

At 89 Colonel Edgar Overstake was promoted to Glory on April 5, 2014, from Wichita, Kan.

Edgar was born to Charles and Leah Overstake and grew up in Chicago. In 1942 he joined the U.S. Navy and served in Europe and the Pacific during WWII.

Returning from service in 1946 he met and married Darline Coulter, and their marriage was blessed with five children. The Overstakes were commissioned in 1954. Their officership spanned eight divisions, with the majority of their appointments in Minneapolis, St. Louis, Chicago, Des Moines and Detroit. They retired from territorial headquarters where he was the secretary for personnel.

Edgar's capable and gifted partner Darline was promoted to Glory in 1991. After living and serving in Florida a few years, Edgar returned to the Central Territory, where he married Aldine Coulter, Darline's identical twin. They lived in Florida, Kansas and Michigan, before Aldine was promoted to Glory.

Colonel Edgar is remembered for his joyful and compassionate spirit.

He is survived by his children, David (Denise), Leah (Frank) Gabrielli, Nancy Overstake, Captain Sally Broughton and Curt; 12 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.



Major Herbert Fuqua

Major Herbert Fuqua was promoted to Glory on March 30, 2014.

Born to Archibald and Cora in 1921, Herbert grew up on a farm and attended the Decatur, Ill., Corps where he met his wife-to-be, Marjorie Folz. Two weeks after she graduated from high school, they were married. Herbert served four and a half years with the U.S. Navy before the couple went to training.

Commissioned with the "Challengers" session in 1946, their first appointment was as Rockford, Ill., corps officers. Their officership took them to corps, divisional headquarters and county commands across the territory. In 1986 they retired from the Wichita, Kan., City Command but came out of retirement three times to serve as corps officers.

Public relations was one of Herbert's fortés, and in each of his appointments he served in a service club like Kiwanis to help spread the good work of The Salvation Army. In addition to having a thriving ministry, Herbert was a talented athlete, musician and writer.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 71 years; he is survived by his children, Dennis (Cookie), U.S. Army Sergeant Gale (George) Blevins, Major Herb (Yaneth) and Melody Schake; 10 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren.

