The Salvation Army / USA Central Territory

News and Views from the Midwest

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"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)

ARC soldiers top 100

In the two years since adult rehabilitation centers (ARC) began enrolling program graduates as soldiers, more than 100 beneficiaries plus several employees and volunteers have made that decision, reported Assistant ARC Commander Major Laurence McPherson.

"Men in rehabilitation often have great loyalty to the place where they regained self respect as part of their spiritual and physical rehabilitation. So, it behooves them and us for the regained self respect as part of their spiritual and physical rehabilitation."

ARC to become their church home as they continue their stabilization and growth process into a life of abstinence and responsible behavior," the major continued. "And, when beneficiaries in the program see men in uniform who were once like them, it gives them great hope."

"This is what William Booth had in mind — to make like circumstances bolstering each other up," he added. "When men see ARC alumni making successes of their lives, it provides hope and vision for their own lives."

According to ARC Commander Major Graham Allan, the goal of the ARC command is to have enrolled 200 soldiers by the end of 2009. They're well on their way. In 2006, the Kansas City, Mo., ARC had nine soldiers; they now have 31. The Flint, Mich., ARC recently enrolled its first eight soldiers. The Southeast Michigan ARC now has 12 soldiers, up from three in 2006, and Milwaukee has eight, up from one in 2007.

Envoys Steven and Pam McNary, administrators of the Gary, Ind., ARC, recently enrolled eight soldiers, and their current soldiership class has nine students, including two women who started attending worship services at the ARC. The recruits are committed to The Salvation Army.

"All of our recruits are very enthusiastic about everything we do. Our soldiers participate in worship services and go out and minister in the community," explained Pam.

One Saturday a soldier took a group of beneficiaries over to the house of an 85-year-old woman to assist her in cleaning up her property so she wouldn’t lose her home. The group stayed almost four hours longer to finish up the job than the time that was asked of them. During the recruitment process:

- The Flint, Mich., ARC celebrates its new soldiers. This ARC is led by Majors Jimmy and Mary Wilson.

Midland gives flood relief

The Midland Division activated emergency disaster services (EDS) response teams toward the end of March in response to major floods caused by heavy rains throughout the region.

Canteens provided two hot meals a day to more than 100 firefighters staged in Ballwin, Mo., and served three meals a day at a Salvation Army shelter for those affected by the flooding in the Cape Girardeau area. More than 200 cots, blankets and cleanup kits were delivered to shelters in Wayne and Reynolds counties, while a 100-cot shelter was established at the Black Water Coliseum in Poplar Bluff.

During the first week of the relief effort, Salvation Army personnel and volunteers distributed more than 600 cleanup kits and served over 800 meals; 400 cots and blankets were used in shelters across the division.

"Though we’ve had 11 state declared disasters within the last 24 months, we stand ready to serve the people in the Midland Division," said Vicki Poll, Midland emergency disaster services director. "We continue to develop our disaster plan and to establish protocols that will help enable us to respond when needed."

Jesus wants me for a sunbeam!

Sunbeams from the Minneapolis Citadel, Minn., Corps received second place in the junior division of the troop rally in the Northern Division. The rally brought together nearly 200 sunbeams, girl guides, boy scouts, rangers, explorers and cub scouts at the Northwoods Camp. Dawn Crowell, divisional director of Christian education, organized this fabulously fun event.

Gary ARC Administrators Envoys Steven (r) and Pam McNary flank a new soldier as he signs his covenant.

The newest soldiers at the Southeast, Mich., ARC were enrolled during the Easter Sunday worship service which was attended by more than 640 people. This ARC is led by Envoy Merle and Cheryl Miller.
Leadership changes announced

Commissioner Ken Baillie, territorial commander, has announced the following changes of leadership appointments for our territory effective July 1, 2008.

Majors James and Janice Nauta have been appointed as territorial secretary for personnel and associate territorial secretary for personnel, respectively.

Majors Ralph and Susan Bukiewicz have been appointed as divisional commander and divisional director of women’s ministries, respectively, for the Western Michigan and Northern Indiana Division.

Majors Jeffrey and Dorothy Smith have been appointed as divisional commander and divisional director of the Kansas and Western Missouri Division.

Majors Paul and Paula Fleeman have been appointed training principal and director of campus services and mission effectiveness officer, respectively, for the College for Officer Training.

As the territorial review teams visited the 10 divisions during the annual command consultation and reviews, some interesting observations surfaced. In one corps, the average Sunday attendance is more than double the number of soldiers on the roll. Why not invite these folks who are already worshipping with us to “Come Join Our Army?”

In another, the average Sunday attendance is about one-third the number of senior and junior soldiers on the roll. Why not devise a strategy to locate these folks, contact them, visit them and invite them back into Army fellowship?

Let’s make May a month of preparation for what God can do through you—and me—to invite people to “Come Join Our Army.” Engage the people God already has brought our way. Get them in, get them saved, get them discipled and get them involved as fulltime soldiers active in Salvation Army ministry. Summer is just around the corner!

There’s a world just outside your window that needs The Salvation Army. It’s a world that needs you and those within your sphere of influence. There’s no better recruiter than you!

Summer is just around the corner. Prepare now for how you can make the summer of 2008 an extraordinary event in your life by personally inviting someone to “Come Join Our Army!”

Get Connected!

Here’s what you’ll find this month on our webpage.

- OfficerCandidates webpages
- Evangelism resources
- Recipe for Des Moines’ egg casserole
- Bunny Brunch tips and timeline, etc…
- ARC, and their commitment is strong and true—they all can to lead others to Christ,” added Steven. "My wife and I are so honored and privileged to be a part of this great work.”

Central Connection

With the Word of God as our foundation, we serve as a Christ-centered and praying people who will glorify God by becoming a spiritually healthy community of believers who are committed to wholehearted service and ministry in The Salvation Army.

Strengthened by His presence in us individually and corporately, we share a common passion for bringing people into an intimate relationship with Jesus Christ and meeting human needs in His name in the diverse communities where we serve.

ARC soldiers

Continued from page 1

Sunday worship the next morning, the soldier gave a glowing praise report about the wonderful work and cooperation he got from the men and how blessed they all felt.

“Our soldiers come to Christ through The Salvation Army Gary ARC, and their commitment is strong and true—they all can to lead others to Christ,” added Steven. "My wife and I are so honored and privileged to be a part of this great work.”
A special commissioning

Through this they joined their African sessionmates who were commissioned last September as captains. Captains Musungo and Chitereka were granted educational leave to complete their training experience in Chicago where they’ve been studying since 2008. They will celebrate their commissioning with the Central’s session of God’s Fellow Workers in Merrillville, Ind., next month. Captains Musungo and Chitereka are joined (l to r) by Majors Jess Collins and Phil Aho who served as their mentors, respectively, during their training experience.

A rite of spring

by Captain Rob DeGeorge

Some may look for the crisp white of Easter lilies, many for the sunburst of daffodils, or others for the lavender of sweet violets, but one only need look as far as cadets and the full bloom of campaig...
t the Royal Oak, Mich., Citadel Corps, we have found that people from many diverse backgrounds and relationships join the Army. Our three newest priests have great stories to tell. Amanda Ruggerio and her husband, Jason, had been reading the Left Behind book series and had asked a friend many questions about the Bible and faith. This friend was Salvationist Vikki Coakley, who not only answered their questions but encouraged them to come to church. “Now the whole family has been enrolled,” said Major Glen Caddy, corps officer. Both Jason and Mandy now hold local officer positions as adventure corps explorer leader and sunbeam leader, respectively. “It’s great when people not only join the Army but become leaders as well,” said the major.

The first Salvation Army meeting Doug and Stephanie Bayne attended was a band concert featuring several Eastern Michigan corps bands as well as a local brass band, The Motor City Brass, in 2007. Doug specifically had come to hear the community band. At the concert he renewed a friendship with Royal Oak Songster Leader Ian McNeil. When Ian learned that Doug was looking for a church, he quickly invited him to come to the corps, as well as reengage with the corps band. As a cornet player for many years, Doug was hooked. He not only attended rehearsals, he began attending Sunday worship and playing with the band. Doug’s first question was “How do I get a band uniform?” When told those who were uniforms were members of The Salvation Army, Doug and his wife Stephanie quickly signed up for recruits’ class. Enrolled last fall, Doug can be found each Sunday in the solo cornet row. Stephanie enjoys the unique Army worship experience in the congregation.

by Major Carole Caddy

Why I became a soldier

E ver since I turned 14, my corps officers have been on me about being enrolled as a senior soldier. I never quite understood why but knew it was something I didn’t want to do. After all, who wants to wear a silly uniform to church every Sunday? I remember telling my parents I didn’t want to become a soldier for that very reason. For four years I kept telling them that, and then I went to Central Music Institute (CMI). I met young people my age who were all soldiers. Sitting together, all decked out, at lunch the first Sunday of camp, they talked about how much they loved being soldiers. They told me the uniform was a symbol of their faith. They also told me they didn’t become soldiers for their parents or their corps officers. They did it to show their love and faith in God. They really touched me that afternoon. I started thinking seriously about what they’d said. But it wasn’t until the last day of CMI that God tugged at my heart and spoke to me. I knew then that I needed to become a soldier.

I came home and told my corps officer. I kept on wondering if it really was the right choice, but God kept whispering it was. I went through soldiership class and read through the “Soldier’s Covenant.” Everything pointed to the same thing—becoming a soldier. So, that’s what I did. I like to think of it as a symbol of my faith in and love of God, and hopefully I’ll be able to share that with others.

by Rosanna Hanks

Take your stand!

U pon hearing about “Come Join Our Army” I was interested in how it could impact our people and corps here in Kansas and Western Missouri. I decided I should be a key recruiter and have taken the recruitment process to corps during my visits. I’ve been amazed that when I’ve asked, “Why now?” people have responded, “No one ever asked me before.”

The Purpose

• Re-ignite the spirit of the soldiers and officers as to whom they are.
• Recruit new prospective soldiers.
• Give an opportunity to accept Jesus and then become soldiers

The Message

• Present salvation
• Explain our exciting history and service, point out examples of the local soldiers
• Ask directly for those who aren’t soldiers to take a stand and “Come Join Our Army” as the corps officers stand with me.

by Lt. Colonel Ted Dalberg
Divisional Commander, Kansas and Western Missouri

The Responses

• 30 teens and adults at the Garden City, Kan., Corps took their stand. One couple came forward on their first Sunday at the corps. They wanted to be a part of a church that had made such a positive impact on their son’s life.
• Kansas City Westport Temple’s response was overwhelming with 18 people
• Grandview Southland, Mo. Corps, located in the Booth Manor senior high rise, had seven older adults declare their interest in becoming soldiers

Think about what you belong to, share it with others and ask them to take a stand!

Make a joyful noise!

In a jubilant celebration at the Traverse City, Mich. Corps five young people were enrolled as junior soldiers by Major James Nauta, Western Michigan and Northern Indiana divisional commander. The meeting also featured the beginners’ band of 10 young people, the singing company, and a young person’s violin solo as offering. Jr. Soldier Wyatt Bigelow is pictured here with Major Nauta. The others enrolled as junior soldiers include Ethan Squires, Caleb Atkin, Joyce Chupp and Shane McNeil. The corps officers in Traverse City are Majors Bruce and Mildred Jennings.
Things are buzzing in Beatrice

The Salvation Army in Beatrice, Neb., led by Captain Joshua and Rhegan Stansbury, dedicated its corps community center earlier this year. The project was underway since 2005 when the Army moved to its current location.

Formerly a car dealership, the building underwent a complete remodel. The thrift store now occupies the west side of the building, while the east side of the building features the chapel, offices, meeting rooms, and a food pantry.

Captain Rhegan Stansbury said, “This project was long awaited for the Beatrice Corps and surrounding community and the support we received at our dedication ceremony really spoke to us. The Salvation Army’s presence is appreciated here in southeast Nebraska. It was truly a day blessed by God.”

More than 300 children, parents and volunteers braved eight inches of snow for brunch and a morning full of activities at the Plymouth, Mich., Corps. Children received Easter baskets to fill with eggs, cookies and other treats as they moved through activity stations which included crafts, face painting and the resurrection story.

Volunteers from the Rotary Club, Rotary Interact, Kiwanis Colonial Plymouth Club and Life Church joined with the corps members to greet families, work activity stations and serve breakfast.

“May the face of hard times, it’s so terrific to see so many community groups pull together to help us provide such a fun day for families of limited means,” said Laurie Aren, director of Family and Community Ministries.

“The Easter Bunny Brunch represents a departure from the way the Plymouth Corps has provided Easter services to the community,” Captain Jim Irvine said. “In the past, we’ve hosted food baskets for families with children. This year we wanted to provide a fun atmosphere where families could enjoy the day and could hear why we do what we do to help others. We serve people in crisis because of the Easter story, because of the risen Christ.”

As children and their parents worked their way from station to station, the captains took turns sharing the Easter story with children and their parents. “This is about providing more than food and Easter candy. This is a wonderful opportunity to provide smiles and joy in the middle of difficult circumstances,” said Captain Pat Irvine.

24/7/13 - great expectations!

Indiana Division

The Indiana Division picked up the prayer baton with fervor. Each corps in the division participated. By using the prayer calendar, participants were encouraged to commit to a specific date and time to pray. Soldiers, adherents, women’s ministries members, advisory board and auxiliary members, volunteers and employees were encouraged to join in. Major Vicki Amick shared a comment from a participant: “I didn’t realize just how important the discipline of prayer was until I participated in the prayer initiative. It was nice to shut out the noisy, busy world and just focus on what really matters.”

College for Officer Training

Cadets and staff at the College for Officer Training participated in prayer in a variety of ways for a week. Individually, they were encouraged to sign up for a block of time to pray. Corporately, two daily prayer gatherings were held. Major Kelly Collins coordinated prayer walks around the campus walls, helping to focus intercession for the needs of the neighborhood. Prayer stations were created to focus on specific topics and needs. Children of cadets and officers also were included in daily prayer meetings in the family care center.

Eastern Michigan Division

From Adrian to Alpena and Livingston County to Port Huron, the Eastern Michigan Division experienced the power of prayer. By constant prayer from Palm Sunday through Easter, everybody’s Holy Week was enriched.

“During our Palm Sunday service, we had an opportunity to write our prayer requests and praise reports on our worship banner. We concluded with putting our palm branches on those requests, recognizing that JESUS is King—able to answer our prayers,” said Captain Heath Selis, Pontiac, Mich., corps officer.

The 24/7/13 prayer initiative was a success! The Central Territory can look forward with expectant hearts to what God will continue to do through our combined efforts in prayer.

Plymouth bunny brunch

The Plymouth Bunny Brunch was hosted by the Salvation Army, Plymoutb bunny brunch and the flour cheerful vibe of the Easter Sunday in Plymouth.

Plymouth bunny brunch was a delightful event where families gathered to celebrate the Easter story with children. The event included crafts, face painting, and the resurrection story.

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Employment

Alexandria, VA.—National Headquarters is seeking a director of disaster services. This person would represent the Salvation Army before national government officials, departments, and agencies in Washington, DC. and work in keeping the organization engaged in public policy and legislative matters relating to emergency disaster services. He or she would serve as the national liaison for territorial disaster services and would work in the development of a national disaster program. Frequent distance travel required. The ideal candidate would be a Salvationist, hold a bachelor’s degree in emergency disaster management, public policy, public administration, or other closely related field (a master’s degree preferred), and have at least five years experience in disaster services management or an equivalent combination of training and experience which provides the knowledge, skills and abilities necessary to fulfill the specific tasks of this position. Fax resume to Human Resources at 703-302-8688 or email human_ resourcesnhq@usn.salvationarmy.org.

National Seminar on Evangelism


See your corps officer today to attend this Christ-centered week of learning and fellowship.
Norridge celebrates 25 with Gaithers

With a three-fold emphasis, “Connect, Reflect, Expect,” the Norridge Citadel, Ill., Corps celebrated its 25th anniversary with a weekend featuring national leaders Commissioners Israel L. and Eva D. Gaither. This corps, regarded as a model of strong local leadership and progressive worship and evangelistic outreach, has much to thank God for.

“This weekend was a pivotal milestone in the life of the corps,” said Major Stephen Yoder, corps officer. “We are amazed that our hopes and expectations were all exceeded; God worked in the people of Norridge in a powerful way!”

Spearheaded by soldier John Larsen, the anniversary event involved almost every program area and countless people in its planning and execution.

Connect

The anniversary began with a Friday night youth celebration highlighting all aspects of the corps’ youth programming from junior soldiers, character-building and music groups to day camp, after-school and sports.

Gary and Dana Calgreen, parents of Ashley and Matthew, thoroughly enjoyed the evening. “Our kids have been involved in summer programs for three years,” said Gary. “Bill Brutto and his staff are terrific… Our kids are being taught biblical principles even when they don’t realize it.”

Nine children were thrilled to be enrolled as junior soldiers by Commissioner Israel L. Gaither, national commander, while Commissioner Eva D. Gaither, national president of women’s ministries, presented a commissioner’s sunbeam award.

She affirmed the youth and their parents in her message that evening, saying “We love your kids. Parents, we’re glad you’re here supporting your children.” In a message based on Acts 17:28, she then challenged the youth to “be somebody, belong and do something.”

The importance of family has been a stronghold at Norridge, where an emphasis is placed on learning and worshiping together, nurturing and discipling the next generation. In fact the corps has been blessed with multigenerational families who’ve committed to growing together and serving God in this place.

Reflect

On Saturday the celebration continued with an elegant, late-afternoon banquet for 300 soldiers, officers, advisory board members and friends, followed by a rousing festival.

Harwood Heights village trustee Arlene Jezierny remarked how surprised she was to learn the breadth of The Salvation Army from social services for those in need to opportunities for volunteerism. “I’m enjoying the friendliness of the folks of The Salvation Army,” she said.

The Gaithers concurred with the trustee’s impression after they were presented with humorous sweatshirts making them honorary corps members. “It’s obvious that a very special fellowship is enjoyed here,” observed Commissioner Israel Gaither.

Amazingly, the roots of the corps date back to 1885, when it was first known as Chicago No. 20. It became the Chicago Mont Clare Corps in 1935.

According to Brass Bands of The Salvation Army by Ronald Holz, Norridge has had a long-standing history of banding yet has not been a band-driven corps by any means. It has been a corps led by a talented, committed group of local officers chosen for their spiritual gifts, men and women who’ve proven that corps can grow significantly in a worship environment that balances both traditional and contemporary musical styles.
Under the vision of beloved and respected Harry McBride, who was corps sergeant-major (CSM) for over two decades, the corps began looking for a site to build a new, larger building in the early 1980s. With the invaluable assistance of Cliff Monk, an empty lot strategically located in a stable residential area on the corner of two major streets with public transportation and nearby expressway access became available in Norridge, Ill., a near northwestern suburb of Chicago.

Sensitive to dispel any misconceptions about The Salvation Army, soldiers canvassed the neighborhoods. During the building’s construction, an outdoor vacation Bible school was held, and neighbors were invited. In true Army style, the band marched through the streets. The Norridge Corps held its first service on Palm Sunday 1983.

Innovative outreaches, like evangelism explosion, summer band concerts and pet shows, have continued to draw people into the corps. Come to Bethlehem, the corps’ longest-standing outreach, has attracted thousands. Before mission statements were vogue, the corps developed a clear and concise focus, simply expressed as “To bring Christ to the people and the people to Christ.” This has been its guiding light.

Representing a mammoth undertaking by Bandmaster Peggy Thomas and current CSM David Brooksbank, the corps’ history and those who’ve committed their lives to the Lord’s work here were aptly captured in a fascinating historical display featuring more than 3,500 photos. Many of the corps’ legendary saints, like Ed and Doris Lowcock and Howard and Sherry Cox, also were honored in memoriam through a visual presentation as the band played the very moving piece, “Hymn to the Fallen.”

The Saturday night worship arts festival premiered “Caprice—And Now Hallelujah” written for the occasion by Andrew Mackereth.

Bandmaster Peggy Thomas, overseeing the weekend’s programming, also included a spirited “Call of the Cossacks” (Graham) and “Tone Poem—Psalm of Praise” (Curnow), written for the Mont Clare band to perform at the 1978 International Congress.

These and other challenging pieces featured the excellent band for which the corps is known throughout the world. It has traveled in the U.S. and abroad, not only performing but eagerly sharing its innovative worship style, blending old and new and effectively incorporating video. This is perhaps most obviously demonstrated through the Hallelujah Choruses series which is so popular that the band is getting ready to record its 16th album.

“We had the courage to try new things and to look wide,” said Betty McBride. “We incorporated the interests and talents of capable people as seen in our multimedia approach to our worship services and the production of the Hallelujah Choruses CDs now used throughout the Salvation Army world.”

As the band triumphantly played “O Boundless Salvation” (arr. Himes), former corps officers marched up to the platform as the audience burst into thunderous applause. (It is well known that a succession of excellent officers, each appointed to Norridge providentially at the right time, has enabled the corps to achieve its mission.) A standing ovation followed as current corps officers Majors Stephen and Morag Yoder and the flags of the Mont Clare and Norridge Citadel corps reached the platform. Finally, children waving small Army flags ran excitedly up the aisles.

Expect

Sunday dawned with the anticipation of fresh spiritual blessings. The morning didn’t disappoint as five senior soldiers and seven adherents were enrolled by the national commander.

A spirited presentation by the cherub choir gave the national commander pause to remind the corps to be like little children in their faith relationship with God.

“Make the things of the present count,” the commissioner challenged. He reminded the soldiers of Norridge to balance the comforts of tradition with new ideas of mission as he brought a fresh awareness of Jesus’ teaching in Matthew 9:17 about the importance of putting new wine in new wineskins.

Major Morag Yoder indicated that the weekend highlight was seeing firm commitments and renewed expectations for the next 25 years sealed as the mercy seat was lined at the close of the weekend celebrations.

Source: Pamela Church
Three generations of corrections ministry

by Major Bonnie Clark

In October 1998 I read a book about Elizabeth Fry’s ministry in British prisons over 100 years ago. I was impressed with her impact on prison reform, all while raising 12 children! As an officer, I’ve had occasional opportunities to minister behind bars but never felt I’d made much of a difference in any prisoner’s life.

Shortly afterwards, a request was posted at territorial headquarters for volunteers to grade Bible correspondence lessons from prisoners. It sounded like something I could do at home while my then-teenage son and daughter were doing their homework.

In 2001 for

I contacted Bible Correspondence Director Melody Rosa, and she quickly sent me a package of lessons. It was fun to “play” teacher as I corrected each page, but it also was challenging. Questions are specific and points are assigned for each correct answer. Fortunately, an answer book was provided because, frankly, I wasn’t certain of the answers for some of the questions! Many times I’d pull out my Bible and study a subject more deeply for my own edification.

Soon my husband, David, son, Ben, and daughter, Becky, got involved in grading lessons. At first, I think they started helping me just so I’d finish faster and do something with them! But, we discovered our family made a great grading team, and we accomplished a lot while having meaningful conversations and fun.

Around the same time, David’s father, Major Alvin Clark, read in the retired officers’ newsletter that the correctional services department needed pen pal volunteers. Severe arthritis didn’t stop him from volunteering—he just recruited his wife, Shirley, to type the letters! Becky and I started holding parties with a Purpose in 2001 for friends to come over and grade. Ben even recruited his future wife, Heather, into grading lessons!

Melody Rosa has a faithful crew of grading volunteers, but the prison population keeps growing, and she’s continuously flooded with new lessons.

In 2005, I began four pen pal relationships; it’s grown to 17. It’s been such a blessing to help alleviate the great loneliness these people experience. Seven of my pen pals have been released—all report changed lives!

More graders needed

It was recently reported on the national news that one out of every 100 adults in the U.S. is incarcerated, a record high. As the prison population has dramatically risen over the past few years, so has the interest in Salvation Army Bible correspondence courses. Melody Rosa, Bible correspondence director of the territorial correctional services department, is looking for more volunteer graders. For more information on how you can help, contact her at (847) 294-2077 or melody_rosa@usc.salvationarmy.org

Prisoners’ quilts warm homeless

by Robin Harper

Al group of inmates at the Hutchinson, Kan., correctional facility are recycling used denim pants, shirts and flannel-lined jackets worn by prisoners there into thick, warm quilts for The Salvation Army to distribute to the homeless.

Warden Sam Cline said the idea arose when state agencies were asked to recycle. Chris Merritt, the prison’s business manager who quilts as a hobby, spearheaded the project by teaching inmates how to sew.

“Creating the quilts has been a real learning process for the inmates,” Chris reported. “For example, our first quilt weighed about 40 pounds!”

Now each quilt contains a balance of lighter- and heavier-weight materials, as well as khaki twill from the worn-out pants of correctional officers. An old sheet or recycled blanket is used in the middle of the quilt as batting. Small, leftover scraps are used to make the quilts more decorative and to add pockets that the end-users might find useful.

“The quilts give inmates the opportunity to be creative,” added Chris.

Used inmate clothing is beginning to come in from other prisons for the quilting project. A local company has volunteered to manufacture cloth squares with The Salvation Army logo on them for sewing into the quilts.

After the local need for quilts is met, Hutchinson Corps Officers Majors Rick and Barbara Carroll plan to send boxes of quilts to the Kansas and Western Missouri Divisional Headquarters and then send quilts to meet the needs of the homeless in Chicago.

Sharing correctional tools

Guest speaker Alicia Deville is flanked by Major David Biggs Jr., territorial correctional services director, and Major Geoffrey Allan, territorial social services secretary.

Workshops covered a variety of topics in correctional settings: physical and mental health, relapse prevention, family concerns during and after incarceration, and bridging ministries connecting correctional facilities with local corps and churches.

Alicia Deville, a congressional aide from Kansas City, Kan., presented an uplifting, informative session describing her personal struggles with drugs and abuse earlier in her life to becoming a substance abuse counselor for ex-offenders, then a clinical director for half-way housing. Now an aide to Kansas Congressman Dennis Moore, she works hard to present legislation for correctional funding.

As a final tool for the climb, seminar delegates were asked to recommit themselves to the corrections process and, through the Army’s mission, help strengthen the inmate’s commitment to recovery.

Three generations of Clark men participate in correctional services ministries. 
One song featured on the recording is Richard Jukes’ “Behold the Lamb” (Song Book #107). “The lyrics are incredibly powerful,” said Eric. “You can’t sing them without encountering Christ’s atoning sacrifice on the cross.”

The song features an original melody written by Nathan Himes and was a collaborative effort with the band. “Nathan’s melody is simple and haunting. It complements the lyrics in a very powerful way,” said Eric.

The Singing Company believes, by faith, that the Lord will use these songs to convict, encourage and direct His people. “I want to be a part of a Salvation Army that believes in the mercy seat and aches with urgency to win the world for Jesus, an Army whose soldiers know the power of humbling themselves before God, who get their knees dirty and have clean souls. We hope that this album will compel others to commit to this sacred mission,” concluded Eric.

An album release party for The Mercy Seat Sessions will take place at the Friday night afterglow at iConnect.

Don’t miss these enriching opportunities on Saturday afternoon, June 7, during iConnect.

Youth Workshops 12:45 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.

Me, MySpace and iPod
David Tooley, presenter

How to dig your date without falling in a pit—God’s expectations for funtastic dating relationships
Daniel Wallace, presenter

My personal holiness
Diane Ury, presenter

Into all the world: witnessing to those of other faiths
Sarah Meisch, presenter

Social justice
Don Czaplicki, presenter

Leaders Workshops 2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

My personal holiness
Diane Ury, presenter

Developmental assets:
an intentional approach to strengthening youth
Lt. Colonel Carol Seiler, presenter

Children’s ministries
Ronnie Caldwell, presenter

Revolutionary leadership:
leading powerfully when you don’t have a title of power
Daniel Wallace, presenter

Creative programming: thinking for a change
Jerrie Miller, presenter

Resource Connection at this year’s 2008 iConnect is the perfect time to get your new uniform, music, Bibles, worship material, and the new blouses! Our great products and resources will help support your “Come Join our Army” effort. Also, you’ll want to come get your FREE copy of the newest Singing Company CD “The Mercy Seat Sessions” produced by the territorial youth department and Eric Himes.

Resource Connection is ready to rock the 2008 iConnect and Commissioning weekend. Have any of you heard of a little game called Rock Band?! Well, touch up your guitar, drumming and singing skills because Resource Connection is hosting a Rock Band competition during the iConnect weekend. Get your band together and sign up by e-mailing Jeremy_Rowland@usc.salvationarmy.org.

Resource Connection will be located on the 2nd floor of the Radisson Hotel East Lobby. Follow your ears to the music!
We visited sites such as the Bethlehem birthplace of Jesus and the Upper Room. Visiting the Temple Mount, we stopped at the nearby Pool of Bethesda and Church of St. Anne where the acoustics gloriously lifted our songs of praise to the Lord. Then, we prayed at the Western Wall.

Although the schedule was planned well in advance, our guides Bernice and Nola were wonderfully sensitive to God’s itinerary, which resulted in many unanticipated blessings. One occurred when God directed our group to where the Antonia Fortress once stood. I gazed upon 1st century paving stones, crudely etched with Roman game boards, and contemplated soldiers casting lots for Jesus’ garments. We prayed, sang and cried as God spoke to each of us individually and collectively.

A day trip south of Jerusalem took us to such sites as Masada, En Gedi and Qumran, where the Dead Sea scrolls were discovered. There was time for a quick float in the Dead Sea or a rejuvenating mud pack!

Back in Jerusalem we meditated in the Garden of Gethsemane before singing praises while walking down the Mount of Olives on the Palm Sunday route. What a glorious experience.

Our last day in Jerusalem was emotionally heavy. The moving Holocaust Museum at Yad Vashem was overwhelming. From there, we visited the house of Caiphas. As we approached, a rooster crowed in the distance, reminding us of what had occurred there. We filed down into a stone pit cell where the words of Psalm 88 took on poignant meaning.

Our final stop was at the skull-shaped outcrop of rock known as Gordon’s Calvary and the Garden Tomb, concluding with a service led by Lt. Colonel William Hartfoot at the Garden Tomb. The empty tomb.

My pilgrimage is a memory.

Along the way, I collected tactile remembrances such as stones, pottery shards and shells. I touched massive gates built by King Solomon, sat on the teaching steps of the temple in Jerusalem, and felt the cool water at Gideon’s spring. I gazed over the tranquil Sea of Galilee, ran my hand along a stone manger trough, and tasted the sweetness of the land. My senses were challenged, my heart moved. My reading of scripture will never be the same. I am blessed.
A good year
by Commissioner Barry C. Swanson

This has been a good year in the lives of Barry and Sue Swanson. On July 1, 2007, we began our appointments at International Headquarters in London. All of the changes that come with moving to a different country and culture were present to one degree or another. Especially acute was and is the feeling of separation from family and friends.

We have seen God use this particular “pain” to bring about blessing. New relationships are constantly emerging, and we realize again that, everywhere we go, there are friends we never knew we had. It’s delightful finding each other. As for family, we treasure the children, parents and siblings God has given us as never before. Emails and phone calls are savored. We recount to each other in great detail the words of each conversation. Of course, the high point of any day is word of the latest feat of Luella, our beautiful, 11-month-old granddaughter.

Sue and I are fundamentally soldiers. It is how we started, and it is how we are going to finish. In the meantime, we have discovered a lovely corps in south London called Penge to which we belong. It is very old. We still meet in the hall that was dedicated in 1894! With me in the band and Sue in the songsters, we never tire of assuring people that “yes, we really know Bill Himes.” The soldiers of Penge have accepted us, pray for us and view us in our roles as an extension of their ministry to the world. After travelling we look forward to our walk down the High Street on a Sunday morning to worship the Lord.

Our awareness of the world and God’s work in it increases daily. We have had the privilege of visiting Chile, Jamaica, Costa Rica, Mexico, Brazil and the U.S. Everywhere we have seen wonderful Salvationists doing compassionate work in Jesus’ name. Invariably, it is being done without the benefit of adequate resources, save one. They have an abundant supply of the most precious resource: faith. God is honoring that faith by continuing the work Jesus instructed His disciples to do.

That’s what I call a good year.

International doctrine council meets in U.S.
by Colonel Brian Tuck

Members of The Salvation Army’s International Doctrine Council gathered for deliberations at National Headquarters in Alexandria, Va., under the leadership of the chairperson, William Francis, territorial commander, Canada and Bermuda Territory.

Alongside members who attend the gathering, input on agenda items is obtained from four corresponding members who participate in the council’s work via email. They live in Japan, the Philippines, the U.K. and the U.S. In addition to ongoing agenda items, the council focused on its dialogue with the World Methodist Council, as well as planning for the Theology and Ethics Symposium to be held at Sunbury Court, London, U.K., in October 2010.

Commissioner Christine MacMillan, director for social justice, International Headquarters, and Dr. James Read of the Ethics Center in the Canada and Bermuda Territory, joined the council for discussion on how the recently-formed International Social Justice Commission and the International Doctrine Council can mutually support and inform each other’s mandate.

The International Doctrine Council is grateful for prayerful support from Salvationists as they seek to fulfill its mission.

Promoted to Glory
Mrs. Lt. Colonel Betty Carroll

Mrs. Lt. Colonel Betty Carroll was promoted to Glory on March 6, 2008. Betty Swanson was born on May 27, 1922, to Felix and Hitama in St. Paul, Minn. Betty accepted Christ as a child in the Mission Church. For years she felt drawn to serve God. Her call to officiership came when she started attending The Salvation Army in Chicago.

Betty entered the College for Officer Training in 1942 and was commissioned in 1943 with the Valiant session. She assisted Illinois and Minnesota corps until her marriage to Captain Raymond Carroll in 1945. The Carrolls served at Michigan corps until 1954 when they took up youth appointments in three divisions, then served as divisional secretary and divisional league of mercy secretary in two divisions.

Starting in 1970, they led four divisions, and in 1981, Raymond became territorial secretary for program and Betty territorial nurses’ fellowship secretary. They retired in 1982.

Mrs. Lt. Colonel Betty Carroll was preceded in death by her husband, Raymond. She is survived by her four children: Major Richard (Barbara) Carroll, Barbara (Ken) Carl, Cindy (Ian) McNiel and Susan (Greg) Patton; many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

JUNE 2008
PRAY FOR:
1 Fresh ways to share God’s love on this Community Care Ministries Sunday
2 The evangelistic ministry of the Kistler family in Lansing, Mich.
3 Staff and counselors at camps throughout the territory
4 Territorial leadership
5 The Royal Oak, Mich., Corps
6 The Connect and Commissioning weekend in Miamiville, Ind.
7 Adult Rehabilitation Centers’ ministries
8 The “God’s Fellow Workers” session being commissioned as lieutenants today
9 New candidates called to Salvation Army officership
10 The Traverse City, Mich., Corps
11 Safety for summer mission teams as they travel to their assignments
12 The ministry of territorial correctional services
13 The Wisconsin and Upper Michigan divisional women’s ministries camp
14 The Singing Company
15 Men to have a strong Christian influence in their families
16 Officers from around the country attending the Bongie Holiness Institute
17 The Kistler family ministering in Muscatine, Iowa
18 The Hutchinson, Kan., Corps
19 Commissioners Barry C. and Sue Swanson
20 Officers who will soon be moving to new appointments
21 The Nonrige Cludall, Ill., Corps
22 A renewed enthusiasm for Christian education in Sunday school
23 The Kistler family’s evangelistic meetings in Albert Lea, Minn.
24 The International Doctrine Council
25 Those considering the National Seminar on Evangelism
26 New methods to bridge day campers into your corps
27 The Beatrice, Neb., Corps
28 The territorial Bible correspondence ministry for prisoners
29 A powerful presence of the Holy Spirit in your worship today
30 The Family Haven shelter in St. Louis, Mo.
Eggs-actly what’s needed

by Arvid Huisman

Each Tuesday and Friday morning the Salvation Army mobile canteen follows a route through the core of Des Moines, Iowa, serving a hot breakfast to more than 600 homeless and near homeless men, women and children. The main entrée is a quickie-like egg casserole.

The program got a big boost recently when employees of Iowa Health Systems prepared, baked, froze and donated nearly 1,000 pans of the popular breakfast casserole. This is an annual project for the employees of Iowa Health Systems, which operates three Des Moines hospitals: Iowa Methodist, Iowa Lutheran and Blank Children’s Hospital.

The Army provided the aluminum baking pans, while volunteers provided the ingredients which cost approximately $5 per pan. The volunteers prepared and froze the casseroles before delivering them to the corps on Des Moines’ east side.

Prior to the initiation of the breakfast program nearly 20 years ago, research was conducted to find the best recipe for the casserole. In addition to the primary ingredients, volunteers add a variety of meats—ground beef, sausage, pepperoni—and occasionally peppers and other ingredients.

“The egg casseroles are very tasty,” said Jim Civitate, mobile canteen operator. “The people we serve really enjoy it.”

Civitate begins warming the casseroles around 3:00 a.m. The breakfast route begins at 5:00 a.m.

A variety of cold cereals, hard boiled eggs, fruits, pastries, juice, coffee and milk also are offered. The number of meals served each day has increased in recent months but the supply of casseroles has kept pace with the need.

A number of other organizations and churches donate casseroles throughout the year. Members of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ have donated about 40 pans of egg casseroles each month since the program began nearly two decades ago. Employees of Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc., in Des Moines also contribute a large number of casseroles each year.

We’re pleased to share with you a tribute by Major Judith Mills to her foster mother, Evelyn Winkler, who over the course of 37 years took in and loved more than 800 foster children.

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Readers’ Forum

Majors Marie Ellsworth, Lois and Joseph Wheeler with their mother Agnes Ellsworth express their appreciation for the prayer support, calls, cards and expressions of sympathy received following the Promotion to Glory of Eugene Ellsworth. The prayerful support and encouragement has been helpful in these days of adjustment.

In honor of those who have gone before us, The Salvation Army will hold its traditional memorial service in The Salvation Army section of Glen Oak Cemetery one week before the Memorial Day weekend.

Sunday, May 18th

3:00 p.m.

Glen Oak Cemetery

4301 W. Roosevelt Rd.
Hilside, IL 60162

(708) 344-5600

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