



Central Connection

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

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

Volume 38, Number 11

November 2008

Swansons installed as Central leaders

Call for faith in perilous times

This is a time for faith, for you and me to believe with all of our hearts in God's plan," proclaimed Commissioner Barry C. Swanson to more than 400 Salvationists gathered at the Mayfair Community Church for

his and his wife Sue's installation as territorial leaders. Citing the recent crisis of confidence in our society's financial system, the new territorial commander clearly presented the opportunity we have to be witnesses by putting our confidence in God.

The challenge came near the close of a service suffused with positive

energy, uplifting music, articulate, forward-looking speeches, and a sense of God's presence and pleasure. Chaired by Lt. Colonel Paul R. Seiler, chief secretary, the meeting moved at a staccato clip, with no one missing a beat, each item enriching the next.

Anchoring the evening was the Chicago Staff Band, led by Bandmaster William Himes, with a brilliant arrangement of the National Anthem by John Williams, transcribed by Stephen Bulla, and a richness while plumbing the depths of "In Christ Alone." More than 50-voices strong, the College for Officer Training Chorus gave witness with the lilting, "Here am I, my Lord, send me."

"We believe that God has placed us all together at this time in history, and we would ask that you lead us... Lead us farther than we can see," urged Major Steven Merritt, representing officers of the territory, in his welcome to the Swansons. He asked that the new leaders get to know and love the officers, thank them for their accomplishments, and be examples of holiness.

In her welcome representing soldiers, Linda Himes of the Oakbrook Terrace, Ill., Corps, presented a pop quiz to the Swansons which demonstrated their vast knowledge of this their home territory. After enumerating the troops' hope for their leaders, from raising the bar for ministry to making tough decisions, she quipped, "We believe that you're

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MacMillan champions social justice

Interfaces with cadets; speaks at Chicago-area corps

by Major Renea Smith and Evie Polsley

If you want to be involved in social justice, you need to understand the justice of God," Commissioner Christine MacMillan, director of the International Social Justice Commission, urged cadets at the College for Officer Training. "What is God saying through His Church about His justice in the world?"

In her position, Commissioner MacMillan travels the world as an advocate for the poor and oppressed. "My faith better be relevant. I better understand what God is wanting to say through The Salvation Army," she stated as she shared her passion



for social justice with cadets and officers over a two-day visit.

On Monday morning, cadets posed questions to Commissioner MacMillan covering a myriad of sub-

jects. She challenged cadets and officers to work to understand the issues, to educate themselves. "We are sitting in a place to be salt and light," she said.

As the day concluded, the commissioner was asked to identify her strongest passions. She narrowed them down to two. 1) We would understand social justice from the heart of God. "It's a way of thinking, not a way of doing." 2) We would truly integrate our ministry, so we deal with all

issues in a holistic way.

While in the Chicago area, Commissioner MacMillan also spoke at the Oakbrook Terrace, Ill.,

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Surprising the predictions

by Lt. Colonel Paul R. Seiler
Chief Secretary

As I work on this column with a sports example, I am very aware that by the time this is read in November there might be a very different scenario. But my point is still valid, and I'll just give the information as it stands today.

I'm talking about the Chicago Bears game against the Indianapolis Colts, played Sunday, September 7th. In the sports section of the *Chicago Tribune* that morning, eight experts (Chicago sports writers) called the game for the Colts, and all by at least one touchdown. Only one dissented and picked the Bears by two measly points. Not much of an endorsement!

In fact, the article begins: "I am trying to fathom a reasonable, compelling, non-partisan rationale to support picking the Bears to upset the Colts on Sunday night. A rusty, reeling, rehabbing Peyton Manning? Please!"

Now it is certainly easier to make a living as a weatherman or stock market forecaster or sports analyst than many other jobs. Based on the information available, a guess is made about the future. Sometimes speaking authoritatively as the bringer of bad news is tempting.

Plus, if the forecast doesn't turn out right, they can just find other factors to show why there was an upset, turn the talk around to show why they'd support the outcome, and keep on forecasting based on this experience. Sure enough, Monday morning the headline was "Surprise, surprise: Bears Cruise." You see, the Bears upset the Colts and won by 29-13.

I can be like that sometimes. So can all of us. Based on our experience, we can make assumptions about people or events in the corps



that expect the worst. "It never worked before." "He'll never..." "They'll always..." etc. In the manner of sportscasters we sometimes anticipate the present and predict the future based on the past.

Thank God, He doesn't!

Thank God He always allows—through the power of His Holy Spirit—an "upset" to the prediction. He knows that there will be opportunities for each of us to throw off our past and be new people, or new congregations!

As much as we understand that we carry with us the shaping and forming of our families and our experiences, we also need to be sure to understand that Christ alone can overcome that past.

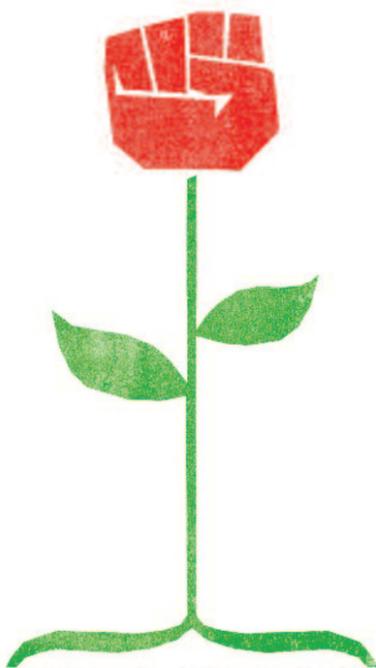
"This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk ...alienated from the life of God...that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man

which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness." (Ephesians 4:17-24, NKJ, excerpted)

A caution for the Bears: one game doesn't make a season. But for today, one game is a victory, a triumph over all the predictions that "it can't be done." For today, one game is hope that the future can be brighter. For today, the players are winners and not losers, and they will know that even if they don't win the next game.

When God makes us a new creature, and we "surprise" the predictions of being overcome by the world, sin and past habits, we show the power of the Holy Spirit to help us walk a new path—one day at a time. Every victory and triumph of the spirit changes how we define ourselves.

In Christ, we are winners not losers. We expect the best of ourselves and others. We work hard and understand the play book (Bible). And we rejoice when a brother or sister, against all odds and predictions, shows the new holy person God has redeemed.



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MacMillan

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Corps on a Sunday morning to bring awareness of the plight of those caught up in the horror of human trafficking. People packed the pews to hear her heart.

Focusing on the story of the woman at the well, Commissioner MacMillan challenged worshippers to bring Christ's living water to millions who are parched with despair. Through vivid contrasts and heart-wrenching stories, she conveyed harsh realities people face each day around the world.

"God wants The Salvation Army to be purer than it's ever been before," she urged. "If we're going to walk down these dark roads we need clean hands... God wants us to do something and be a spokesperson that enough is enough."

The commissioner shared how The Salvation Army is answering that call in many practical ways such as working with local governments on policies about trafficking and educating those who could be potential victims. Tears

flowed freely as the altar was lined with Salvationists praying for those enslaved.

"Weep over the darkness and for those looking for the Messiah and a way out," she said. "Then say, 'I'm going to take this message and be the love of Christ.' We are not overwhelmed because we have a God who loves the world."



Central Connection

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

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

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

Swansons' Welcome Meeting audio podcast
Flint Citadel Amazing Grace CD track
Doctrines in Song

Resources/Links

I'll Fight Day fact sheet
Omaha, Neb., Kroc website
Online Red Kettle
Community Care web pages
Child Sponsorship web page
Overseas officer and lay personnel addresses for Christmas cards

Web exclusives

First person perspective by Peru team members
Speech by Major Ed Tutewiler, National Award for Excellence in Corrections recipient
Article by Chris Wynn, Indiana soldier development director
Eight points of reconciliation
Facts about Salvation Army in Germany

Swansons welcome

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ready to be these leaders from day one. We don't need to spend time getting to know each other, we just need to roll up our sleeves and be about the work of the Kingdom."



Lt. Colonel Paul R. Seiler

Digging into the book of Numbers, the 33rd chapter, Commissioner Sue Swanson used the analogy of pitching tents, being willing to go wherever God leads. She shared charming cards she received from Central junior soldiers which encouraged her while she pitched her tent in England last year.



(left) Commissioner Eva D. Gaither, (above) College for Officer Training Chorus

"I'm so glad right now that I'm pitching my tent right here," she exclaimed. "I want to 'live Christ' here in the Central Territory."

Later in sacred and solemn moments, Commissioners Israel L. and Eva D. Gaither, national leaders, installed the Swansons as territorial commander and territorial president of women's organizations.

"We recognize that these are positions of spiritual leadership but also of servanthood," the national commander charged. "You're under God's authority, under His anointing, keep it in God's hands."

Commissioner Barry C. Swanson gave a succinct yet strong message that faith comes first, faith triumphs over fear, and faith is a choice, using an illustration from his very first appoint-

ment as a corps officer in Grand Rapids, Mich., to drive the points home.

Now more than 30 years later, being charged to lead the territory where he was commissioned, he proclaimed, "I believe God is waiting to do great things for us as individuals but also as a territory, and I'm excited to be a part of that."



Soldier representative Linda Himes



Officer representative Major Steven Merritt



Commissioner Israel L. Gaither

Photos by Jim Strobel and Erik Hanson

Finding hope in Wichita

by Tim Brown

Before I came to The Salvation Army, I didn't know what I'd do. I was worried my family would be out on the street," said Jesse Earl.

Jesse has a heart condition. Because of expensive treatments, his insurance money ran out. He lost his job, his home, his hope. He didn't know where to turn for help until someone suggested The Salvation Army's emergency lodge in Wichita, Kan. His family moved in and was connected with community resources. It wasn't long before they were back on their feet and ready to find a place of their own.

Homeless outreach is just one of the many ministries The Salvation Army in Wichita offers Sedgwick County. We're proud of our 122-year history. When Salvationist Mae Cunningham rode her bicycle almost 50 miles from Hutchinson to Wichita to hold the first street meeting, nobody had any idea the Army



would become the beacon of hope here it is today. Thousands of people each year are provided help and hope by emergency social services.

Hiawatha Campus and Retreat Center is another place where lives are changed. Young people learn about nature and themselves during summer day camp, and corps and other churches enjoy retreats in its beautiful, natural settings year-round.

The foster care program helps change the lives of hundreds of children who are put in The Salvation Army's care by the state. The Army finds loving, caring homes for these youth as they transition through difficult times in their young lives.

Youth residential services provides homes to youth put in Salvation Army custody by the Juvenile Justice Authority. They need a lot of special care and love. Twenty boys live in the Army's psychiatric residential treatment facility where they're provided counseling and care in a structured environment, and 10 girls reside at Hiawatha Campus and Retreat Center.

The Christmas distribution program is one of the largest in the

state, serving more than 16,000 people last year, mostly children. It's amazing to see the tears in parents' eyes as they learn their children will receive Christmas gifts.

And, the "Biddy Basketball" program teaches kids in a Christian environment that sportsmanship and teamwork are both fun and important. Each year, the Biddy crew hosts an international tournament. Last year, a team from Finland participated in the fun.

People young and old come together at two corps in Wichita for Sunday worship and social services. God's Word is proclaimed, and those truths are spread throughout their communities.



NAB sets eye on future

One of the top priorities of the most recent Salvation Army National Advisory Board (NAB) meeting, held this fall in Wichita, Kan., was to find ways to attract younger volunteers. In his remarks to the 40-member board, Commissioner Israel L. Gaither, national commander, said many 16-30 year old Americans don't have a full appreciation of the work done by The Salvation Army. Pictured (l-r) are Wichita Advisory Board Member Tim Witsman, Sandra Boden and Commissioner Israel L. Gaither.



Indiana “wynning” disciples

When the Indiana Division instituted a soldier development position seven years ago, they tapped Chris Wynn for the job. An ordained minister for 30-plus years at non-denominational churches, Chris showed himself to be the right man for the right time.

Chris and his wife, LeAnn, started attending the Eagle Creek, Ind., Corps several years ago; he recalled his father loved The Salvation Army during WWII. Chris was the corps' business administrator for five years until joining the divisional staff. He still teaches a weekly Bible study at the corps and runs the Saturday morning men's fellowship.

Chris developed the division's school of ministry, which is held three times a year on a regional basis, with the emphasis on devel-

oping local leaders and promoting the Come Join Our Army initiative. The division held its second leadership retreat for soldiers this fall.

Each week Chris writes a two-page newsletter, *The Soldier's Report*, full of ministry ideas, devotional thoughts and insights. He spends many weekends on the road speaking or preaching and serves as a partner with four corps in the new Corps Advancement Consultations. He also serves as a consultant to officers in theological research and seeker follow-up.

Chris not only supports the multi-level *Discipleship Training* courses, he's a huge proponent of Sunday school. "It's been around for more than 200 years! Sunday school is the original small group and should be used to its maximum," Chris exclaimed.



Top honors for Aurora junior soldiers

Buttons were popping with pride all over the Aurora, Ill., Corps when five of its youth recently became honor junior soldiers after passing their final examinations this summer, reported Corps Officers Majors Robert and Charlotte Hall.

"Junior soldiers are a vital part of this corps' ministry. Our children aren't only our future but our present! In this post-modern world that tells our youth to live for themselves, these five young people decided to step out from the 'norm' and lift high the banner of the Lord," exclaimed Charlotte.

Pictured (l-r) are the hardworking, committed youth—Marc Smith, Bram Smith, Alexandra Martinez, Alicia O'Horo and Emily Pruitt—and their faithful leader, Tracy O'Horo, who received the Metropolitan Division's Youth Leader of the Year award and was recognized as an outstanding leader at this year's *iConnect* event.

Many countless hours were spent memorizing and understanding



Salvation Army doctrines and history. Community and corps projects were also an essential part of the process. But, the real test came when these young people stood before a panel of reviewers to be tested and challenged on their study and knowledge.

"All five students studied hard, prepared thoroughly and did a fantastic job," added Sharon Waiksnoris, territorial Christian education director. Youth who have completed required junior soldier courses and are at least 10 years old may begin the honor junior soldier course, an in-depth exploration of the Army's fundamental beliefs and doctrines, their scriptural basis and the importance of living the Junior Soldier Promise, among other requirements.



Ottumwa celebrates corps



Carrying the U.S. and Salvation Army flags, two young scouts smartly marched down the aisle of the new Ottumwa, Iowa, Corps building on its dedication Sunday. Parading before nearly 300 people, the boys posted the flags as the roll call was taken.

Roger Archer, advisory board chairman, presided over the event which included special guests Lt. Colonels Mickey and June McLaren, territorial secretary for business administration and assistant territorial secretary for program, respectively, and Majors Merle and Dawn Heatwole, Western divisional leaders.

Several advisory board members, Ottumwa's mayor and the county supervisor participated in the dedi-

cation service. After the architect presented the key to Corps Officers Captains Jamie and Angela Pennington, Colonel Mickey McLaren presented the dedicatory address, aptly titled "Keys to the Kingdom." Major Dawn Heatwole gave the dedication prayer.

The new facility is 250 percent larger than the old corps building and has over 75 parking spaces. The building boasts a loading dock, pallet food-storage room, walk-in cooler and freezer, full commercial kitchen, computer lab, eight classrooms, dining room (capacity 120), social services suite and corps offices, in addition to the chapel.

Proud advisory board members conducted tours of the building during a light reception after the service.



Photos by Cindy Toopes, Ottumwa Courier

Troop surge at Norridge



Two senior soldiers and an adherent were added to the roster of the Norridge Citadel, Ill., Corps recently, reported Corps Officers Majors Stephen and Morag Yoder. More than 40 soldiers and adherents have been enrolled at the corps over the last three years, added Lucy Thomas, a key person in the corps' recruitment process. New adherent Maureen Rogers and new soldiers Helena Pavkovic and Karen Craft (l-r) listen to Major Steve Yoder's affirmation of their decision to enlist in the battle for souls. Five more individuals are expected to be enrolled later this month.

A family of grace

by Captain Jennifer Woodard

Sunday morning worship has just begun in the Elkhart, Ind., Corps. Out of nowhere, a six-member Hispanic family walks in and sits down. Five of them are in Salvation Army uniform. The meeting continues without interruption. Happily, the corps does not. It is a God-initiated work, both for this family and for the corps.

Meet the Moraleses: Ignacio and Antonia, and their children Jose, Jessica, Angelo and Jasmine, who range in age from 12 to 23 years. They met the Army in 2004 in Chicago when Captain Enrique Azuaje, Templo Laramie corps officer, saw Antonia crying inside her car. He knocked on her window and introduced himself.

Army. Jessica, Angelo and Jasmine became part of the corps youth group, and Antonia began attending women's ministries.

Ignacio and Antonia were invited to take part in marriage classes at the corps, and Captain Azuaje began conducting a small group Bible study at the Morales' home, though they were not yet believers. Ignacio was still in the chains of alcohol when three of his children attended the division's pilgrimage and were wholeheartedly saved. Except for Ignacio, the family began attending church on Sundays.

Finally, unable to resist the Holy Spirit any longer, Ignacio went with his family to the corps on a Sunday morning. He found himself surrendering his life to the Lord and was freed from the bonds of alcohol.

Christ had come to take up residence in his heart. The Morales' home was no longer a place of fear and despair; it was dominated by divine love.

The family all enrolled as soldiers. They spent three years at Templo Laramie being disciplined. Then last summer, while praying for his son, Ignacio received a revelation from the Lord that he should move his family away from the drugs and gangs of Chicago. They came to Elkhart.

Since their move, Jose is now a happy husband and new father, and the Morales family has committed themselves to God's people and His service at the Elkhart Corps. They are growing in faithful leadership, and through them a strong Hispanic ministry has begun. We praise the Lord for His works of grace in and through His people!



The Morales family (l to r) Jasmine, Angelo, Jessica, Antonia and Ignacio. Jose not pictured.

Antonia told the captain about her alcoholic husband and about her son, Jose, who struggled with depression and was being drawn in by gangs and drugs. Captain Azuaje went to the house and prayed for Jose. In the following weeks and months, he invited Jose to work off his community service hours at the

Redemption at work

by Captain Jennifer Woodard

Have you ever felt as if God were allowing you to be in on something that He has been planning for a long, long time? That's how we feel as corps officers of the Elkhart, Ind., Corps.

We were appointed here just over a year ago, and we believe we are being given the rare privilege of watching God breathe His life into one heart after another, all because people are ready and God is willing. It is a work we know He was arranging before our coming, and that is a humbling thing, a holy experience.

To see people agree with the Spirit of God is like witnessing a birth. In one moment of agreement, God completely changes a life by becoming Lord of it. We are seeing it take place in both believers and unbelievers, in soldiers following faithfully, even in those trying to keep their distance from the Spirit. God's holy love embrace is pulling them to their knees.

Evidence of this work is impacting the corps. Soldiers are being enrolled and local officers commissioned. Hispanic ministry is being cultivated. Social service recipients



Newly commissioned Corps Sergeant-Major Paul Nichols shakes hands with Captain Steven Woodard, corps officer.

are attending corps programs. Long-gone faces are beginning to show themselves again, and women's ministries attendance has doubled! New youth ministries include teen worship, gospel arts, corps cadets, girl guards, explorers, singing company, junior soldiers, moonbeams, and new Sunday school classes.

As officers, we know that this work of God's is something we need to keep prepared for. We must be a meaningful presence in the lives of His people. And we must both support and confirm His work in the hearts of those who experience a spiritual transformation.

I can think of nothing more rewarding than to have a part in the redeeming work of God in this world.



Newly enrolled soldiers at the Elkhart, Ind. Corps, Haleigh Sherven and Jim Wheeler with Captain Woodard.

Multicultural ministries bureau now a department

by Sarah Kistler

This summer the territorial multicultural ministries bureau was designated as a department. This change reflects a keen awareness of our ethnically diverse society and a commitment to minister to it.



"Our territory is truly a mix of different cultures and people from around the world. As a department we want to provide the consultations, resources and training needed—whether to a corps or the divisions—to support these ministries and to help our people become interculturally competent. That simply means that they feel that they have the tools to minister in sensitive and appropriate ways with those who are different from themselves," explained Major Mary Hammerly, multicultural ministries department secretary.

While this might seem a daunting task to some, Major Hammerly is passionate about her work. She wants to see a unified Army—a body of diverse believers worshipping, serving and

building God's Kingdom together.

The Central Territory's first efforts toward multicultural ministry began in 1970, and the bureau was established in 1997. According to its mission statement, the department strives to attract and disciple people of varied ethnic and racial backgrounds by building multicultural sensitivity among officers, soldiers, employees and volunteers.

The major hopes that this new designation will increase the staff to sufficiently support ministries at all levels in the territory and will encourage more on-the-field training events.

She concluded, "It's not just about what we do, it represents who we are."



A passion for people

by Sarah Kistler

They came to me. I didn't go to them," Major Mary Hammerly remembers of Majors Charles and Florence Moffitt, the officers who ministered to her as a child. Growing up in Emporia, Kan., Mary was forever touched by the Salvationists who reached out to her little Mexican community.

"They didn't see us as Mexicans," she said. "They saw us as people." To a little girl who had never felt such acceptance, that meant the world. Mary grew up with hardships and the shattering tragedy of her father being killed, but the Army was always there for her and reminded her that God was there, too.

Young Mary never guessed she would celebrate 40 years of officer-ship in 2008, but she did this summer, by God's grace. The way the Lord changed her life through the Army has given her a deep passion for multicultural ministries, a passion she is blessed to pursue by



Major Mary Hammerly and her son, Tim.

directing the territorial multicultural ministries department.

She longs to see Salvationists reach out in the way her corps officers reached out—to go into people's own settings and communities. Equally important, she thinks, is bringing them into non-segregated corps.

"It's going to take work," she said. "It's going to take passion."

Omaha Kroc Center Corps



Majors Yaneth and Herbert Fuqua, administrative officers.

The Omaha, Neb., Salvation Army Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center (RJKCCC) is strategically located in the heart of the city's underserved, culturally diverse and historic south neighborhood. The 120,000-square-foot facility and outdoor athletic fields will be situated on 15 acres of land. When completed, the existing Omaha South Corps will move into its new facility and become the Kroc Center Corps. Already God is moving and bringing about tremendous growth with new families and individuals who are anticipating what seemed unimaginable just three years ago. The Omaha Kroc Center Corps will make a tremendous impact in the lives of individuals, families, the neighborhood and the Omaha community.

Programs

To help participants discover and develop their God-given potential is one of the hallmarks and vision for the center's programs and services. This will be accomplished by offering a holistic enrichment opportunity for the physical, emotional and spiritual development of each person in a Christian atmosphere. In every direction there is a different activity to be explored individually or together as a family, from infants to seniors.

leadership training and recovery groups. Outreach evangelistic ministries will be key to helping neighbors know and understand the heart of The Salvation Army. This Kroc facility will offer all the traditional Army programs and so much more!



Features include:

- Indoor Aquatics Complex including a large recreational pool with zero-depth entry, water slide and lazy stream; a six-lane, 25-yard competitive pool and other water activities



Educational opportunities—supported by eight large classrooms, a learning center and computer lab—will include among many offerings: classes in English as a Second Language, youth and adult literacy, parenting, finances, basic life skills, healthy

lifestyles, tutoring, computer training, fitness, and character-building programs. **The Arts** will cover both performing arts and fine arts:

theater, dance, music, photography, watercolor, pottery, communications and storytelling, plus self-defense and martial arts. A myriad of programs in **Sports and Recreation** will be featured both indoors and out, including an outdoor Festival Plaza for neighborhood festivals, community worship and special events.



lifestyles, tutoring, computer training, fitness, and character-building programs. **The Arts** will cover both performing arts and fine arts:

Spiritual Life will encompass worship and Christian education, Bible studies and spiritual life studies, prayer meetings, day camps, vacation Bible school, music groups,

According to Majors Herb and Yaneth Fuqua, Omaha South/Kroc Center administrative officers, helping individuals discover their talents and abilities in the arts, athletics and education is a major emphasis. The Kroc Center Corps offers an opportunity for a positive, life-changing experience in the midst of all the fun, sports, drama and education, and an opportunity to respond to the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Construction is well underway!

After years of planning the facility is becoming a reality. Each week construction crews complete significant work. The center is scheduled to be enclosed this fall, and crews will continue to work inside through the winter. The expected completion date is scheduled for the fall of 2009.

The corps held a covenant service last month at the new site for Omaha South Corps members. This service included praying over the facility, singing praises to God and writing scripture verses on the facility's beams, walls and floors. An initial covenant service was held following the groundbreaking in July 2007.

Planned Building Components

Several exciting features are planned for the two-level Kroc Center Corps. The spacious facility will have something for everyone.

- Large Fitness Center
- Gymnasium Complex which divides into three gyms
- Study Center and Computer Lab with reading and study areas
- Performing Arts/Assembly Hall that seats 625
- Kids Fun Zone
- Three Party Rooms
- Game Room
- The Commons, a multi-purpose area for fellowship, special events and dining
- Outdoor Sports Fields
- Outdoor Festival Plaza

Marketing Efforts

Marketing tools have been established to help the community stay informed regarding construction progress and program initiatives. Two full color brochures have been developed. A website has been launched:

www.omahakroc.org.





New territorial leaders Commissioners Barry C. and Sue Swanson (center) see first-hand the progress of the Omaha Kroc Center with Majors Yaneth and Herbert Fuqua, Kroc administrators, Major Merle Heatwole, Western divisional commander, and others involved in the construction project.

A power point presentation has been developed to use in conjunction with the speakers' bureau, and a quarterly electronic newsletter highlighting the Kroc Center story.

Staff and Oversight

Western Divisional Commander Major Merle Heatwole is actively involved in the overall leadership and oversight of the entire project and is one of the key members of the permanent advisory committee.

When asked about the impact of the Kroc Center on the community, Major Heatwole said, "I am extremely excited about the opportunities the Kroc Center Corps will have to minister to thousands of new individuals who have never previously had contact with The Salvation Army. Our potential for successful, evangelistic outreach is unlimited."

The Omaha South/Kroc Corps staff, under the leadership of Pastoral Officers Lieutenants David and Shannon Martinez and Administrative Officers Majors Herb and Yaneth Fuqua, continue to make plans to unite under one roof next fall.

In addition to the corps officers and the existing Omaha South Corps staff, there are currently three staff members working on the development of the Kroc Center

Corps: Tom Folk, operations director; Viv Ewing, Ph.D., assistant operations director; and Vera Montes, administrative assistant.

Committees Provide Valuable Assistance

Several committees have been formed to help develop and promote the programs. The committees are comprised of advisory board members, business leaders, representatives from educational facilities, community organizations and staff. The current active committees include a speakers' bureau committee, membership committee, corporate membership committee, education committee, business and finance committee, scholarship committee, and operations council.

"The Kroc Center's impact has already begun to be felt. The excitement in South Omaha is stirring great interest in other projects to be started because of this facility," said Terry Moore, president of the Omaha Federation of Labor AFL-CIO and chair of the operations council. "It will reshape our community like nothing else that we have seen! It is an opportunity for all walks of life to literally find their inner potential. The ripple effect of that will open even more doors not only in our community but also in our region."



Community Partnerships

To match the state-of-the-art facility, exceptional programming must follow. Omaha is blessed with many institutions, organizations and churches willing to share their expertise. Collaborations throughout the metro area continue to be molded and established. These include:

- University of Nebraska at Omaha (Computer lab)
- Metropolitan Community College (Class instruction)

- Nebraska Christian College (Class instruction)
- City of Omaha Recreation and Parks Department (Lifeguard training and use of Upland and Keith Parks adjacent to the Kroc Center)
- Area churches (Volunteer program assistants)
- Omaha Community Playhouse (Theater instruction)
- And many others



From left, Viv Ewing, Vera Montes, Tom Folk, Major Herb Fuqua, Hal Johnson and Major Yaneth Fuqua

Looking for a career change?

Is God nudging at your heart to do more in ministry? The Omaha Salvation Army Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center may be just the place for you. The Kroc Center Corps will offer a wide array of career opportunities for fulltime, part-time and volunteer positions. The Kroc Center Corps is in the process of hiring its ministry team.

Positions will be available in aquatics, sports and fitness, customer service, child care, sales and marketing, facilities maintenance, fine arts, performing arts, finance, food service, outreach, and security.

Volunteer opportunities include tour guides, team moms, team dads, coaches, class chaplains, teachers and youth workers.

Upcoming fulltime career opportunities expected to be posted within the next four months include:

- Sports and Fitness Manager
- Education and Arts Manager
- Aquatics Manager
- Outreach Director
- Customer Service Manager
- Facilities Services Director
- IT/Telecom Coordinator
- Special Events Manager

For more information on posted openings go to www.careerlink.com or www.omahakroc.org.

New corps to be built in Peru

by Sarah Kistler

The Salvation Army had no presence in Ica, Peru, until August of last year when a devastating earthquake—around 8.0 on the Richter scale—hit. With over 500 deaths and tens of thousands of homes destroyed, the Army's work in Ica began with disaster relief. Before long, an outpost was established. Soon it will become a corps.

Daniel and Patricia, a soldier couple who are parents of three small children, lead the outpost and walk miles every day between it and their home. Corps activities are held under a makeshift tent constructed of tarps and wooden posts. Under the white plastic chairs the dirt floor is sprinkled with water before meetings to prevent clouds of dust. Although the conditions are scant, the ministry is great.

Daniel and Patricia lead home



league, junior soldiers, youth group, Sunday meetings and other nightly meetings and events. They have enrolled a number of senior and junior soldiers. The neighborhood is very grateful for the Army's work, taking good care of the tent and faithfully attending meetings and events.

They hope to construct new facilities as soon as the funds are raised. The plans include a corps building with officers' quarters on the second story and a bakery. Since many of the local bakeries were destroyed in the earthquake, the shop would serve the community as well as support the corps. Daniel dreams of having a self-sufficient corps that is able to continue its ministry through this business.

The work in Ica is growing daily, and the Peru Division is eagerly awaiting this new corps and the work that will be done there.

Editor's note: Peru is part of the South America West Territory, one of our Partners in Mission.



And baby makes three

This summer Envoys Steve and Ketsia Diaz, serving as directors of a children's home in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, were delighted to welcome a child of their own, son Kyle, into their Haitian extended family.



A child's prayer

by Katie Casey

Monica prayed. She prayed for children in Africa and that the Lord would lead her there. She prayed she'd meet those little girls and boys one day. She asked God to do something in a mighty way!

Doors opened. Though just 10, Monica was connected with a Salvationist, occupational therapist and administrator of the rehabilitation clinic in Begoro, Ghana, which is part of a compound that includes a school, maternity ward, medical clinic and corps. With the help of God, friends and family, we landed in Ghana this summer.

Arriving, we were immediately surrounded by children in wheelchairs or using walkers. Some had braces on their legs; others scooted along the ground on their knees or backsides. Yet, they all were smiling and calling out "Akwaba, Sister Monica" (Welcome, Sister Monica) in their tribal language, Twi.

Monica smiled and reached out to shake waving hands or to pat small shoulders. During two weeks in Begoro, she made many new friends through arts and crafts, music and sharing Bible stories. She giggled with a little girl named Zinabu as they sprinkled glitter on a gluey heart. She ran out of breath chasing



a boy named Vincent as he kicked a soccer ball with his crutches in the African sun. She sang praises to God in a foreign tongue with some coaching by a young teenager named Angela, who had the voice of an angel. She blushed when the mother of little Jeffef asked her to return one day as an adult to marry him. He sat nearby beaming ear-to-ear.

Monica still prays. She prays for her new brothers and sisters in Africa—that the Lord would lead them and protect them from those who might take advantage of them. She asks God that *you* would know their stories and that He would do something *for you through them* in a mighty way.

The Begoro Clinic is one of many sponsorship opportunities awaiting you!

Update from Hannover

by Sarah Kistler

Captains Tim and Camie McPherson have been serving in Hannover, Germany, for the last six years. They've experienced much change in that time, both in their corps and family.

In addition to holding worship services, home league, Bible study, senior citizen group, feeding the homeless, distributing clothes and running a thrift store, Tim and Camie have started Sunday school and a children's and parent's group that meets twice weekly to help draw families into the corps. Supporting young families not only enriches the corps community, but it is much-needed fellowship for Tim and Camie, who are raising a young family of their own.

Zachary, an energetic boy who already speaks German and English, turned two in May. His brother, Nathanael, was also born in Germany in August 2007. The little boys bring immense joy to their parents and to everyone else they encounter.

Tim and Camie love their corps people and their captivating histories. One of their ladies, a soldier for 71 years, was arrested and imprisoned by the Gestapo for wearing her uniform when it had been outlawed by the Third Reich.

"We love working with the people



we serve. Our members tend to be older and many of them lived through World War II. To listen to their stories and how God helped them through those dark times is very inspirational," Camie said.

Although not as dramatic, the McPhersons have faced their own dark times as finances tend to be a constant struggle; sometimes they've even gone without their personal allowance.

"Trusting in God and relying on His care has been a persistent theme in our ministry here. Often we don't know how certain things will be paid or how we can make ends meet. We still don't know all of those answers. Trusting in God has been the easiest and hardest lesson for us to learn. Easy because we need to learn it and hard because we have no choice in the matter," they said.



The best kind of gift



sponsorship

We all have that friend or family member who we never know what to get for Christmas. Give the gift that gives all year and reflects the love of Christ. Sponsor a children's home, school or center in your friend's or family's name. Or give a one-time gift in their name. Make sponsorship part of your Christmas this year! Contact Sarah Kincaid at missions@usc.salvationarmy.org or (847) 294-2065 or 10 W. Algonquin Rd., Des Plaines, IL 60016.



Make it Christmas year 'round!

Remember Central Territory officers and lay people serving in overseas appointments this Christmas!

Send cards and encouraging emails not only during the holiday season but throughout the year. Check out our *Get Connected* website for names and addresses.



A work of faith

Eastern Michigan Divisional Band visits Ghana

You might think that a divisional band trip to Ghana might be fun and exotic with a couple of concerts along the way. It turns out God had much more in store for the 20-member band from the Eastern Michigan Division (EMI). The 10-day trip confirmed the blessing of our worldwide Army and God's provision.

It began when Major Norman Marshall, EMI divisional commander, received a call from Colonel Dennis Strissel, a Central officer who leads the Ghana Territory. The Asokore Corps had been praying for 15 years that God would provide them with a roof. Within a year, the EMI Band was on its way to help construct the roof and participate in meetings. The 18 bandmen were led by Tom Hanton, divisional music and gospel arts director, and equipment manager Captain Matthew O'Neil—a construction expert!

Participating in Ghana's commissioning, they played with the Ghana Territorial Band, which received instruments and music stands from the Dearborn Heights and Flint Citadel corps bands and music books from EMI. It was exciting for Salvationist musicians from two sides of the world to play together!



Each day bandmen worked on the roof alongside corps members and contractors, developing friendships and sharing a cooperative spirit that impacted the entire community. People passing by stopped in amazement. The workers were shielded from the blazing sun by overcast skies and kept from illness or injury. In the evenings the band participated in a two-hour praise meeting.



With the roof completed quickly, they turned attention to the building's dirt floor. They leveled it and mixed rock, concrete and sand to make a cement floor. Though hard, long work, it was completed before worship on Sunday.

Despite different languages and cultures, Salvationists communicated through work and music, formed friendships and accomplished much to God's glory.



Never missed a beat!

by Major Mary Reinking

Valerie Dobney has retired from the music ministry of the Dearborn Heights Citadel, Mich., Corps after 43 years. Val was one of the musicians recognized at the 2007 Festival of Worship Arts. In addition to her ministry with the corps songsters, she accompanied soloists at the Eastern Michigan Music Camp and at Central Music Institute, from beginners to some of our territory's best musicians.



Valerie started

music lessons at the Royal Academy for Music in England. When her family moved to Detroit she continued her studies at the Conservatory for Music. Her first experience accompanying a soloist was for her father when she was just 10!

All her children and grandchildren are Salvationists and participate in music ministry. Three generations are in the bass section of the Dearborn Heights Band: her husband Bill, her son Russell, who's also the corps sergeant-major, and her grandson, Brian.

Flint band fights hunger

This month the Flint Citadel, Mich., Band will present its 76th annual Thanksgiving concert at a performance center not only to celebrate God's blessings but to help fight hunger in Genesee County. In light of today's tough economy, tickets for this year's concert, which also will feature a 100-voice community choir, will be free and available through the theater's box office. However, a freewill offering will be taken to purchase food for struggling families.

A study by the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan revealed 76 percent of its clients have no food

resources other than aid programs; almost half don't receive food stamps and 44 percent had to choose between food and housing, 40 percent between food or medicine and 34 percent between food and utilities.

The Salvation Army in Genesee County is at the forefront of providing food to thousands each month. In cooperation with the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan, plans are underway to build a "Choice Pantry and Food Distribution Center," which will increase the Army's feeding efforts 100 percent in a friendly, dignified and well-stocked environment including fresh and frozen foods.



Vision enters second decade

Since 1893, the Flint Citadel, Mich., Corps has been fulfilling its evangelistic mission by adapting to fit the times. At one time, it was highly effective to use open air meetings on downtown streets for evangelism. But, times change...

In 1999, after much prayer, consideration of scripture and seeking of the Holy Spirit's direction, an evangelistic CD package, titled "Amazing Grace," was developed. A booklet containing a concise presentation of the gospel with insightful questions and answers based on God's Word formed the heart of this evangelistic tool. On the accompanying CD were 22 compositions recorded by the Flint Citadel Band and Songsters to reinforce the gospel message through music. Since 2000, more than 3,000 of these CD packages have been distributed free as an outreach tool.

Now almost a decade later comes a re-mastered and redesigned version of the original package called "Amazing Grace—The Next Generation." The production of this new version was made possible by a grant from the

Alice Rule Flint Citadel Band Income Trust and the Central Territory Fighting Force Fund.

The new CD package was dedicated during a Sunday morning worship service. Corps Officer Captain Jon Augenstein asked soldiers, adherents and men from the Flint Adult Rehabilitation Center to write down the names of people they hoped to reach with the evangelistic tool on a slip of paper. The names were then laid at the altar as the congregation sang, "Lord, lay some soul upon my heart." More than 120 names were collected and put on a special prayer list.



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National honor for Tutewiler

by Sarah Kistler

Major Ed Tutewiler, Metropolitan Division correctional services chaplain, has been honored with the National Award for Excellence in Corrections.

For the past eight years, Ed has acted as chaplain at the Cook County Jail, Stateville Correctional Center, and a 175-bed Salvation Army community corrections program. Much of his time is spent teaching classes he developed. The Life Learning program provides spiritual, educational and life-skills teaching while the Long Timers Group is intended for men who serve long sentences, many of them for life. He has a passion for discipling these men.

Ed is dedicated to helping meet physical needs as well. He coordinates around 150 volunteers for the Christmas Toylift program, which distributes about 5,000 toys to children of incarcerated parents every year. He also supervises a bus min-



Pictured (l to r): Kevin Tomson-Hooper, national corrections committee chairman; Majors Ed and Diann Tutewiler; and Major Betty Israel, national social services secretary.

istry that takes family and friends to visit their incarcerated loved ones in northern Illinois institutions.

Whether teaching men how to cope with the stress of incarceration or leading a Bible study, Ed "serves with competence, good humor and humility," Metropolitan Correctional Services Director James Van Dyke wrote in his nomination of Ed. "Animating his ministry is the overall vision of helping to bring Christ to those involved in or affected by the correctional system. Whether acting as an individual or collaborating with others, Major Ed creates programming that can further this vision even if he is no longer involved."

Photo by Major Daniel Hudson

Starting over

The Metropolitan Division's correctional services department gives men and women in prison and those being released a chance to start over again.

"Being incarcerated for many months or years takes a toll on a person," explained James Van Dyke, divisional director of correctional services. Since 1975, around 100 dedicated correctional services employees have provided guidance to these men and women as they re-enter society.

"We serve about 800 people a year just with our residential programs," continued James.

The department provides three ministries to help those who currently are or have been incarcerated:

Community Corrections Center—The center operates under a contract with the Federal Bureau of Prisons. With 175 residents and 40 more on home confinement, it's the largest facility of its type in the nation. Programs help people make the transition to lawful, productive citizenship.

Family Gathering Home—Since 1995, this youth home funded by the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services accommodates seven juveniles from unstable or dysfunctional families. Residents receive spiritual, physical, mental

and emotional guidance.

Chaplaincy—Pastoral services are offered year-round at Cook County Jail and Stateville Correctional Center. Spiritual and life skills programs are offered at Cook County, along with voluntary reading, writing, and math classes. At Stateville, Bible studies, worship services and employment coaching are provided.

During the Christmas season, the Cook County Juvenile Detention Center, Dixon State Correctional Center and Federal Metropolitan Correctional Center are added to the mix for uplifting holiday programs conducted by officers, employees and more than 100 volunteers. At Stateville, Dixon and Federal, volunteers collect names and addresses of prisoners' children in the fall for the Christmas Toylift program. Gifts are purchased, wrapped and mailed to the children on behalf of the incarcerated parents. Approximately 5,000 gifts are mailed annually.



The War Cry goes to prison

While there are nearly 720 correctional facilities in the Central Territory only 53 are receiving *The War Cry* on a regular basis. In order to extend the reach of this publication's salvation message, National Headquarters, along with the territorial correctional services, created *The War Cry to Prisons* program.

Your corps can participate in this wonderful ministry opportunity by sharing a portion of its



biweekly *War Cry* order with a correctional facility in your division. Although charged for their full order, the corps designates a portion to reach those inmates who The Salvation Army may not normally have a chance to visit. The donated portion of the corps order is sent directly to the correctional facility.

Corps officers interested in participating in this program should contact their divisional or general secretary.

Discoveries for a lifetime

by Sarah Kistler

Discovery Camp is just that—a place to discover. Around 125 kids with incarcerated parents gather for three days to discover the love of Jesus, emotional healing and the restoration of family. They even discover that police officers, who serve as counselors, are their friends.

For the past five years, the Kansas and Western Missouri Division's correctional services has been developing this program into a highly effective ministry. Praise and worship, life-skill classes, fun outdoor activities and powerful messages make up the camping experience. Intense love and hard work make a life-changing difference.

Ernest Jones, divisional correctional services director, has poured his heart into making the camp a holistic ministry.



"I see God restoring community and the people who make up the community because restoration is happening with the officers, the children, the counselors, the incarcerated parent, and the parent left behind. I see God restoring everyone because everyone that is involved is exposed to the Gospel," Ernest said.

Murder suspect prays at Harbor Light

by Craig Dirkes

The Salvation Army Harbor Light in downtown Minneapolis is known for demonstrating Christ's forgiveness to everyone—including drug dealers, prostitutes, gang members and other criminals. Now the list has expanded to include an alleged murderer-on-the-loose.

One Sunday Harbor Light Administrator Envoy Bill Miller was leading morning worship when he noticed a man kneeling at the altar. While Bill knew him, the individual had never come to the altar before. On top of that, the man was sobbing uncontrollably. Then Bill discovered something alarming.

"He had fresh blood on his hands," Bill said. "I asked him what it was about, but he just kept crying and crying."

Bill embraced the man and prayed with him. The envoy is widely known among Minneapolis' homeless population for the charismatic and uplifting worship services he leads. He's known for embracing and praying with men and women who have terrible sins to confess. But this time, he was praying with a man whose sin—if not for Jesus—was unforgivable.



"He said to me, 'Envoy, I have never asked you for anything. I know you are a good man. Please just tell me I am forgiven,'" Bill recounted. "I prayed the prayer of forgiveness with him."

The man allegedly had murdered another man just before coming to the Harbor Light. He was taken into custody after police followed a blood trail there. According to a local paper, he confessed to killing a 47-year-old homeless man.

"We are a stabilizing force in the most unstable of environments. We will stop at nothing to show God's love to everybody, no matter how dreadful their sins," said Bill. "We will fight to save every person we possibly can... Never, ever give up on anybody."

Seasons of a woman's life

by Cadets Paula Poff and Christina Cooper

Maybe you feel perpetually stuck in winter? Perhaps you feel like you skipped the spring of your life and are out of sync. No matter what season of life you're in—age or circumstance—women's ministries can make a difference to you. This was the message at the women's ministries seminar hosted at the College for Officer Training and presented by the territorial women's ministries department



Pictured are Cadets Chrissy Cooper, Amanda Hellstrom, Paula Poff, Kristina Sjogren and Jayme Wubben who were enrolled as women's ministries members.

team. Cadets and staff officers were privileged to attend sessions stressing the importance of the different seasons in women's lives and how to minister effectively to them in each one.

Led by Major Carol Wilkins, associate territorial women's ministries secretary, this highly educational, interactive and fun-filled day of fellowship presented the program and its possibilities. Major Barbara MacLean, territorial assistant secretary for women's ministries, introduced cadets to a plethora of resources and tools, many on the Internet, for women's programming. Later she presented guidelines for the program, while Linda Faye Jones cleverly covered other important foundations like statistical reporting.

By far one of the most moving moments was shared by Major Carol Wilkins who



described when a loving and compassionate ministry finally made sense to her through the experience of a man expressing gratitude for her Christian love. She also inspired cadets with the rewarding story of the Decatur, Ill., women's ministries' phenomenal growth while she was the corps officer.

Following the morning's meetings, cadets and officers shared a wonderful luncheon. The short program included the enrollment of five cadets as women's ministries members by Major Candy Curl and a talk by Commissioner E. Sue Swanson, territorial president of women's ministries, who described the absolute need for a balance of seasons in one's life.

The afternoon featured informal exhibits on Bible studies, fundraisers, themed programming, ladies night out, and special events where cadets received in-depth information and discussed the topics with experts in these areas. Many resources were gathered for future use.

Around the Territory



SOUTH BEND, IND.—More than 700 residents received a glimpse of what would replace a west-side park at the "Rock Around the Kroc" celebration event. The exact dimensions of the facility were outlined on the ground so guests could visualize the future St. Joseph County Salvation Army Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center. Exciting things to come were represented by a dunk tank on the site of the future aquatic center; athletic games and a rock climbing wall on the future double-gym, and a health mobile with educational and fun activities on the future Kroc health center. Refreshments, inflatable fun houses and other activities added to the excitement.

CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA—The stars of *Disney on Ice* held a surprise story time reading for children involved in Salvation Army youth programs. Afterwards a check presentation was made to The Salvation Army for its flood relief program in the region, which was devastated by severe flooding earlier this summer.

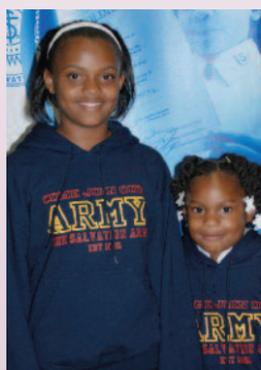


CHICAGO, ILL.—Chicago's 39th Ward Alderman Margret Laurino and The Salvation Army joined forces to distribute clothing and other items to residents in Chicago's Albany Park community after widespread flooding in September.

DES PLAINES, ILL.—Fifty-two women—employees and officers at Central Territorial Headquarters—walked a total of 8,046 miles this summer in response to a challenge issued by walking-enthusiasts Majors Barbara Maclean and Flora O'Dell. The individual walkers with the most mileage were (pictured l-r) Heather Friedrich, with 870 miles; Tiffany Vandermyde, with 728 miles, and Diane Brandt, with 301 miles.



ST. PAUL, MINN.—More than 200 Northern Division staff and volunteers recently attended a leadership development conference held at the St. Paul Citadel Corps. The event included 14 workshops focused on equipping and empowering individuals to minister at the corps level, like how reading programs can be used as an effective community outreach. "Our goal with each workshop was to equip people with real tools they could use at their corps to make a difference," said Sherrie Trucker, divisional spiritual outreach coordinator.



LEONARD, MICH.—Eastern Michigan junior soldiers attended a retreat with a two-fold approach for these young people to invite their friends to "Come Join Our Army" and to each get involved in their corps' ministry. United sessions focused on the parables of Jesus, while workshops were held on witnessing to friends, discipleship, and the Donut Girls—where they actually made donuts! Junior soldier preparatory classes also were offered. A makeshift museum featuring unique historical Salvation Army items and uniforms the kids could try on and a trip to an apple orchard were big hits!

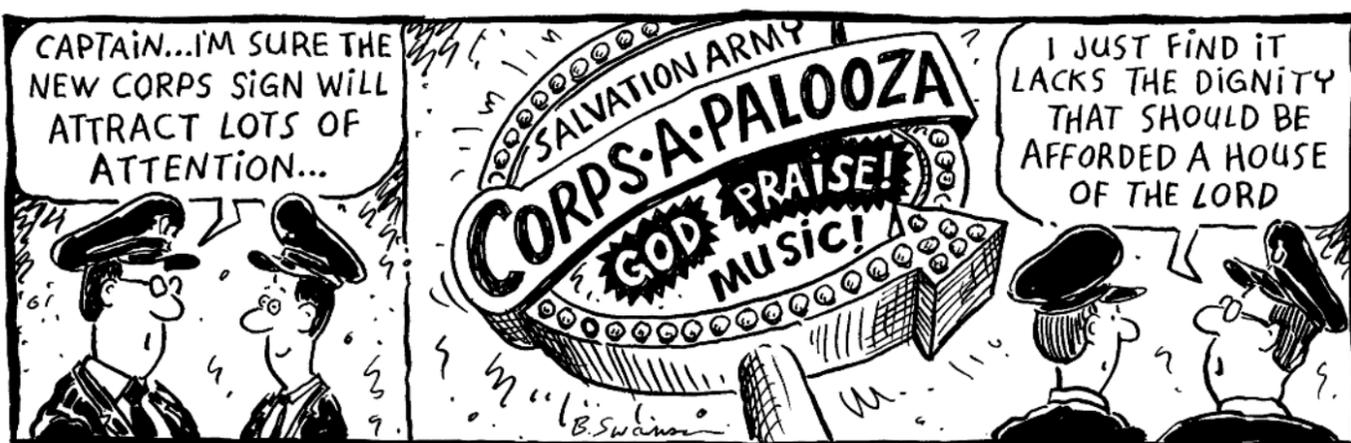


DECEMBER 2008

PRAY FOR:

- 1 Discipleship and soldier development in the Indiana Division
- 2 The Elkhart, Ind., Corps
- 3 The valuable ministry to older adults in your community
- 4 Territorial evangelists Captains Kerry and Jil Kistler and their family
- 5 Captains Timothy and Camie McPherson serving in Germany
- 6 The Begoro Clinic in Ghana
- 7 Jesus to reveal Himself as Mighty God in your life
- 8 The territorial multicultural department
- 9 The Social Services Commission in Alexandria, Va.
- 10 Christmas visitation at the Cook County Jail, Chicago, Ill.
- 11 The Aurora, Ill., Corps
- 12 The health of Salvation Army officers, employees and volunteers
- 13 The WIBC radiothon fundraiser in Indianapolis, Ind.
- 14 A new perspective of Jesus as Everlasting Father
- 15 Candidates for the 2009 Ambassadors of Holiness cadet session
- 16 The Chicago Temple, Ill., Corps
- 17 Recipients of toys and food baskets from The Salvation Army
- 18 Territorial leaders Commissioners Barry C. and E. Sue Swanson
- 19 The Ottumwa, Iowa, Corps
- 20 Community care ministries
- 21 Jesus the Prince of Peace to reign in your life
- 22 Families traveling during the Christmas season
- 23 Missionaries serving worlds apart from family and friends
- 24 Those celebrating Christmas at soup kitchens and shelters
- 25 Jesus' name to be proclaimed on this Christmas Day
- 26 Reviving rest for corps officers, staff and volunteers
- 27 The Flint Citadel, Mich., Corps
- 28 The presence of Jesus our Immanuel
- 29 The Salvation Army in Wichita, Kan.
- 30 Correctional services ministries
- 31 The Omaha, Neb., Kroc Corps Community Center

--Mustard Seeds--



Promoted to Glory

Major Mary Garrison

Major Mary Garrison was promoted to Glory on September 5, 2008, from South Bend, Ind.



Mary Katherine was born to Rosella and Samuel Garrison on February 18, 1933, in Moorhead, Minn. After her family moved to South Bend, Mary attended the corps and became a junior then senior soldier. She made a deeper commitment to Christ at a youth councils in Grand Rapids, Mich. After high school graduation in 1951, she did office work and transferred to the Mishawaka, Ind., Corps. Mary felt called to officership when a cadets brigade visited her corps. She entered the College for Officer Training in 1954 and was commissioned a probationary lieutenant a year later.

In her 38 years of officership, Mary served 27 years in social service appointments at children's homes, Booth hospitals, shelters and residential programs throughout the Central Territory. The dozen years before her retirement in 1994 were spent at the Metropolitan Divisional Headquarters.

Mary was industrious, conscientious and genuine. She was known for her sense of humor.

Mary was preceded in death by two brothers, Phillip and Walter. She is survived by two brothers, Harold (Wilma) and Melvin (June), and several nieces and nephews.

Mrs. Major Gertrude Ball

Mrs. Major Gertrude Ball was promoted to Glory on August 21, 2008, from Mountain View, Ark.



One of eight children, Gertrude was born to Lena and Earnest Johnson on January 8, 1931, in McCrory, Ark. She married H. Leilon Ball in 1947. After moving to Milwaukee, Wis., in 1954, the Balls met the Army and became soldiers in March 1955. They entered the College for Officer Training that fall and were commissioned with the Sword Bearers in 1956. They served in Wisconsin and Michigan corps, transferred to the Western Territory in 1979, then returned in 1983 to hold adult rehabilitation center appointments. They retired in 1988.

The Balls had four children but lost two as infants. Gertrude often testified that although this was a great tragedy, she and Leilon recommitted their lives and answered God's call to officership. She was compassionate, hard-working and loving. She mentored many youth, some of whom are now officers or corps leaders.

Preceding Gertrude in death were her daughter Barbara, son Louis and three brothers, Hersh, Homer and Luther. She is survived by her loving husband Leilon, daughter Synthia (Donn) Denamur, son Tim (Suzy), sister Ruby Woods, three brothers, Jimmy, Bill and Johnny, and two grandchildren, Matt and Trevor.

Brigadier Rodney Sharp

Brigadier Rodney B. Sharp was promoted to Glory on August 29, 2008, from Indianapolis, Ind.



Rodney Bernhard was born to Agnes and Bernhard Sharp, Scandinavian immigrant Salvation Army officers, on October 9, 1918, in Duluth, Minn. Rodney became a junior then senior soldier while his parents were stationed at the Grand Haven, Mich., Corps.

He entered the College for Officer Training in 1937 and was commissioned a probationary lieutenant a year later with the Enthusiasts session. Rodney served in Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin corps before marrying Mary Louise Zook in 1941; he'd met Mary while he was a cadet on spring campaigns. They had one daughter.

The Sharps served in corps appointments throughout Illinois, Michigan, Missouri and Wisconsin until they retired in 1974. After retirement, Rodney put his experience in capital campaigns to work for the Hammond/Munster, Ind., Corps for four years.

Rodney excelled in public relations and was particularly proud of the two facilities built under his watch in Centralia, Ill.

Rodney was preceded in death by his wife, Mary Louise, and a brother. He is survived by his daughter, Linda; two sisters-in-law, Mrs. Marguerite Farmer and Mrs. Lt. Colonel Ulla Lindstrom Rose, and three nieces.

God-given gifts

by Katie Casey

We all have our cross to bear, and this is mine," came the soft-spoken words from under the green canopy outside The Salvation Army Corps in Madison, Wis., on a warm summer morning. I had to listen closely. I didn't want to miss a word. I smiled at the contrast—such quietness from a life that had been anything but.

Ricandou is an artist. He's had his share of "hard knocks" and has faced struggles with addiction, homelessness, incarceration, a devastating stroke and terminal lung cancer. He came to The Salvation Army about seven years ago through the Sunday breakfast program and stayed for Sunday school and worship service.

Major Paul Moore, corps officer, noticed Ricandou's talent and asked him to paint a large piece during Sunday morning meetings as a form of worship and to hold the diverse crowd's attention.



His latest piece is taking shape under the green canopy. His canvas is a cement half-wall off the corps' parking lot facing an apartment complex. It's a story of hope and personal redemption. It depicts footsteps out of a grim urban neighborhood into a scene of fantasy bubbles showing people like Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

In the center is a self-portrait. Ricandou bears a cross of art supplies such as paint brushes and pencils. He said his God-given gift has sometimes been like a cross to bear: a blessing and yet a burden because with gifts comes responsibility. His responsibility has been to create works to be enjoyed by others. He hopes they also will be inspired to use their own gifts.

Yonkers, here we come!

by Commissioner Birgitta Nilson

Chicago Temple, Ill., Corps Cadets recently invaded Yonkers, N.Y. Twenty-one strong, the Chicago teens and their leaders joined forces with the Yonkers Corps to engage in a one-week ministry using the leadership skills of teaching, role modeling and mentoring while interacting with children, teens and youth



leaders in this corps 852 miles away from their own. Yonkers Corps Officers Captains James and Tricia Brennan and Young People's Sergeant-Major Shane Bolton minister to a vibrant active faith community.

The trip was on the corps cadets "dream list" for months and was the focus for bake sales, car washes, house chores, as well as bartering. Chicago youth labeled their adventure the RAMP Tour (Righteous Ambassadors Moving Powerfully) and prayerfully set off, under God's empowering and direction, to share Christ in what was to them a "foreign land."

While adult leaders lent emotional and occasional dish washing support, the corps cadets undertook tasks of designing and administering the ministry week—teaching the Bible, running energetic recreation classes, providing de-stressing craft learning moments, along with rousing, fun singing. They became friends with the Yonkers teens and adult leaders.

Highlights included Sunday worship at Harlem Temple, a concert with CeCe Winans (along with 6,000 others!) at The Brooklyn Tabernacle, and touring NYC landmarks.

While many skills were acquired, perhaps the most significant lesson was that they can be perceived as capable contributors to a vital corps ministry.



Thinking outside the box

by Major Mary Corliss
Territorial Community Care
Ministries Secretary

It's that wonderful old-fashioned idea that others come first and you come second. This was the whole ethic by which I was brought up. Others matter more than you do; so don't fuss, dear; get on with it.

—Audrey Hepburn

This simple but profound idea was at the heart of our recent meeting of divisional community care ministries (CCM) secretaries with the theme *Fashionably Caring, Thinking Outside the Box*. That's just what CCM is: getting on with it and putting others first. We are bringing a new style to community care.

Our discussions spotlighted innovative ministries: what's working, what's not and what can we do to make it better. It covered areas like community services, league of mercy, prison ministries, services to corps fellowship, telephone reassurance and veterans' affairs voluntary service.

Junior CCM is vital to our program. Our leaders tomorrow are our

young people today. We need to train, mentor and educate them!

Accessorizing CCM involves promotional and event ideas, brochures, flyers and bulletins. We hope to have our own webpage up within the next year. Pictures and articles help us share the good things that are happening.

Recruiting and training must be continuous.

Community Care Ministries is designed to motivate, mobilize and train soldiers, adherents and other volunteers to effectively carry out Christ's commission to care for those in need. Ministries are diverse, responding to changing needs.

We need to get connected in our community, be innovative in our approach and get back to the basics. William Booth's community care ministries took him through the streets of London brainstorming and implementing programs that brought about social change.

You, too, can make a difference. Join CCM and be amazed how your life can be changed by reaching out and fashionably caring for others.

