“Messengers of the Gospel” welcomed

The 24 members of the “Messengers of the Gospel” session were greeted by the territory with a public welcome at the Chicago, Ill., Mayfair Community Church (Corps) where they—and the rest of those in attendance—were issued a challenge by guest speaker Commissioner Sue Swanson to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ.

Basing her remarks on the fifth chapter of Mark, the commissioner talked about Christ’s instruction to those people. He had healed to “go tell others.” Alluding to her visit to the Trinity College Museum in Dublin, Ireland, she compared Christ’s charge to them with the efforts of Irish monks to do likewise during the Dark Ages. She said the monks painstakingly preserved the Bible by copying its text by hand onto parchment sheets, which were then bound not only into the beautifully illuminated Book of Kells on display in the museum but also into smaller books destined to be carried in leather shoulder bags by monks who disseminated the gospel message to England and the rest of Europe, many parts of which had not seen God’s Word in centuries.

“These men, with their messenger bags strapped across their bodies, were referred to as warrior monks. They knew they were going into exile, never to see their homelands again, but their commitment to Christ’s charge was even stronger,” she continued. “When we received God’s grace, Christ gave each of us a messenger bag. He called us to speak up. Where do you need to take your bag?” the commissioner asked.

During the entrance of the new cadets, their officer and soldier mentors were recognized as they followed them down the center aisle to the foot of the platform to stand with their divisional leaders and divisional candidates’ secretaries. Soon the front of the platform was packed with people representing seven divisions. After each group gathered for a final prayer and blessing, the new cadets joined the second-year “Joyful Intercessors” session already seated on the platform.

Continued on page 4

General calls Salvationists to mobilize

Salvationists around the world have spent the last two years unified in prayer and reading the Bible. Now we are being called to action by the General with The Whole World Mobilizing. This third phase of the Boundless initiative begins in January 2017.

“Basically the campaign is a call to get out of our buildings and into our communities and reach people for Christ,” said Major Carol Wurtz, territorial corps mission and adult ministries secretary.

General André Cox’s vision is to mobilize the global Army to go forward in mission, where every officer, soldier, adherent, employee, youth and child is actively spreading the good news of the gospel, reaching out in practical ways, ministering to the needs of their community and daily putting their faith into action.

The united worldwide campaign to fulfill the Great Commission builds not only on the The Whole World Praying and The Whole World Reading but on the momentum from the Boundless International Congress last year that drew together 15,000 Salvationists from 127 countries.

The Whole World Mobilizing is intended to train and equip Salvationists in skills and strategies for outreach, encourage creative local mission expressions, support and build upon the mission strategies and visions already being implemented, celebrate the work of God in individual Salvationist lives, corps, divisions and territories, encourage and equip children and youth to participate in mission, create momentum leading up to a dedication weekend in October 2017, and cultivate a global awareness of The Salvation Army’s ministry and mission.

The campaign is structured into six movements. The first will be the development of a responsive website where mission endeavors and resources are integrated. The second will seek to encourage and inspire Salvationists to get involved and participate in the campaign. The cultivation of skills and strategies in order to engage in mission will comprise the third movement, while the fourth encourages Salvationists to get actively involved in mission in their community and beyond. The fifth movement of celebration will highlight God’s work, and the last will bring the campaign to a climax, celebrating victories and providing an opportunity for Salvationists to dedicate themselves again to the expansion of God’s Kingdom.

The campaign will incorporate a mobilizing march whereby Salvationists collectively will march around the world with Salvation Army flags in one year. Each territory will be given a GPS device to attach to a flagpole which will allow their flags to be tracked and miles marched recorded. The mobilizing march will act as a catalyst to get Salvationists into their communities. Salvation Army units also are encouraged to hold mobilizing events throughout the year.

The Boundless logo has been modified for the campaign, with two central stars representing the Blood and Fire to symbolize the expanding growth of the Army; red, yellow and blue epauletts to symbolize diversity of Salvationists around the world; and eight outward pointing arrows (visible in negative space) to symbolize the mobilization of an Army going forward in mission.
Prepared to serve vigorously

by Commissioner Paul R. Seiler
Territorial Commander

If you look in a thesaurus for synonyms for vigorously, you’ll find a long list: actively, boldly, eagerly, earnestly, firmly, forcefully, healthily, passionately, quickly, resolutely, robustly, sincerely, strenuously, wholeheartedly, zealously, decidedly, devoutly, fearlessly, forcibly, hardly, powerfully, purposely, vibrantly, effectively, energetically.

Undoubtedly, some people are likely to interpret the principle “serve vigorously” as “work harder.” But that’s not the picture these other words paint. Reading the list, I want to be drawn into something that captures my imagination, robustly engages me and makes my days purposeful. Our mission could not be more meaningful than working on behalf of God’s redeeming love. But serving vigorously is not synonymous with losing our joy or physical health.

In fact, for us to be a fighting force that retains the Army’s vigor, we must remember to be “spiritually nourished, emotionally mature, relationally healthy and physically prepared…” as stated under the serve vigorously point in Creating a Shared Future. We have to take care of ourselves holistically as we minister to others. We need energy for devotion and fearless communication of God’s saving love. We need resilience in order to passionately and wholeheartedly seek ways to come alongside the hurting.

Being spiritually nourished means we digest and internalize God’s Word. Nourishment comes from “chewing on the concepts,” reading a commentary alongside the scripture, studying the Bible with questions and research, and applying God’s truths daily.

Being emotionally mature means each of us knows who we are and understands that our upbringing and experiences influence our perspectives and responses. It means we make choices about our behavior so we grow in conformity to Christ’s image as the Holy Spirit works in us, healing us and refining us. We grow emotionally and seek help if our thoughts and behaviors get in the way of honoring God.

Being relationally healthy means our families get in the way of honoring God. Our families get appropriate boundaries in our ministries, work and relationships. Our families get appropriate time and priority. Though it might feel gratifying in the short-term when people depend only on us and not God, it’s unhealthy for everyone.

Being physically prepared means we get appropriate sleep, nutrition and exercise and that we seek attention for physical problems. We can’t serve God if we “go down in flames” physically and aren’t able to finish the race set before us.

Holistic elements contribute to vigor and keep us enthusiastic about the mission of salvation and transformation which we’re privileged to be a part. May you have abundant and vigorous life, in His name.

The following locations have been paired with commands in the Central Territory for the exciting 20 New Corps initiative. Find which location you’re working with and look for more updates soon!

Adult Rehabilitation Centers Command Eastern Europe Territory
College for Officer Training
Eastern Michigan Division
Heartland Division
Indiana Division
Kansas/Western Missouri Division
Metropolitan Division
Midland Division
Northern Division
Western Division
Western Michigan/Northern Indiana
Wisconsin/Upper Michigan Division
Territorial Headquarters

Indonesia South Eastern Territory
Kenya East Territory (2 projects)
Hungary (Switzerland, Austria and Hungary Territory)
Mall Region
Latin America North Territory
The Philippines Territory
Latin America North Territory (2 projects)
Caribbean Territory (2 projects)
Kenya West Territory (2 projects)
Caribbean Territory
Tanzania Territory (2 projects)
India South Eastern Territory (2 projects)
Mexico Territory

In an ongoing effort to raise funds for World Services/Self-Denial, more than 200 Salvationists and friends in the Eastern Michigan Division participated in a 5K walk/run at beautiful Belle Isle Park in Detroit, Mich. They raised more than $15,000! Awards were presented to the top fundraisers and the first three finishers in four categories: men, women, boys and girls. Hot dogs and fixings were served by the emergency disaster service teams, and water stations dotted the course. “The event drew a lot of outside interest—a modern day open-air of sorts!” said Jill Johnson, Eastern Michigan program and outdoors specialist. The 5K was part of an event called The Gathering which was attended by more than 400 people earlier this year at this 365-acre state park which is an island in the Detroit River between the U.S. and Canada. In addition to the 5K, there were activities under the pavilion, a meal and devotional.
Green Bay Kroc Center marks five, looks forward

The Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center in Green Bay, Wis., celebrated its fifth birthday with an Olympic-themed community event that not only provided lots of fun like food trucks and bounce houses but kept the center’s staff busy providing information and education.

Heading into its sixth year, some strategic changes were put in place as the Kroc Center launched its fall program schedule. “We had been working behind the scenes in years four and five building infrastructure, changing and clarifying policy, transforming membership and renewing marketing strategies,” said Major Lisa Mueller, senior Kroc Center officer. “These changes have been affirmed by positively trending statistical reports and member feedback. Now we are pleased to embark on programmatic transitions that we are confident will both increase the value of memberships and strengthen our financial stability.”

Knowing how much of Joan Kroc’s vision focused on youth and families, the Green Bay Kroc Center is proud that more than 60 percent of its members are youth and families, allowing it to be a true family wellness center.

“A newly revised Kroc Academy of the Arts is in place this fall which offers creative and performing arts discounts as an added membership benefit value. Select youth sports programming will be free to members as we strive to develop more opportunities for physical activity for our youngest members,” explained the major.

There are some facility changes planned that will thrust the dance studio into a high-profile, attention-grabbing location sure to attract even more toe-tappers and ballerinas. And the Kroc Center hopes soon to begin outdoor development needed to help it become a year-round family destination. Another introduction is a community life department which among other things will serve older adults, a quickly growing population that already makes up 30 percent of the center’s membership and has become a vital area of investment and ministry.

Since opening, the Kroc Center has had more than 13,000 memberships, averaging 3,000 annually, with people daily availing themselves of a full array of opportunities from swim and sculpting classes to seniors programs.

“Building on the last five years, we believe as we strengthen membership numbers and add value to the entire experience of becoming part of the Kroc family, mission integration will follow as a natural result of relationships that are supported by people’s needs being met. So each new program, plan and activity provides an opportunity for new relationships to be formed, whether with a senior, a family or a budding musician,” said Major Lisa.

She concluded, “Though some might feel this is non-traditional, I do not consider it unlike how William Booth first approached the public. He fed their stomachs in order to begin to share the Bread of Life. We are meeting people at their point of physical need, personal health or family enjoyment knowing that abundant life comes only through a relationship with Jesus Christ.”

Plan now to attend the Forward Together Congress led by General André and Commissioner Silvia Cox June 9-11 2017 at the Sears Centre in Hoffman Estates, Ill.

Commissioning of the “Joyful Intercessors”
Inspiring meetings • Activities for the entire family Territorial Youth Councils • Territorial Officers’ Councils Music by the Chicago Staff Band • Massed Singing Company Retirement of Commissioners Paul R. and Carol Seller

Campaigning for the future

This fall the territory concluded a series of four capital campaign seminars with the Fund Raising School at Indiana University. Nearly 200 people, representing all divisions and the Adult Rehabilitation Center Command, have attended the seminars over the last two years.

“I hope the seminars have helped officers, advisory board members and divisional staff understand the processes of capital campaigns and how they can be successful,” said Major Alan Wurtz, territorial capital campaign consultant. “I think one of the key takeaways for people in The Salvation Army has been how instrumental it is for the elements of social services, property and development to work in alignment to move the process forward.”

At this juncture he is pleased with the progress that not only includes educating a broad spectrum of people but rewritten guidelines, a streamlined process, financial incentives from territorial headquarters, and new building schematic prototypes that can significantly shorten the timeline and cost. “The prototypes already address many concerns like Safe from Harm and, therefore, accelerate the process,” he explained.

Now the major is turning attention toward additional ways to educate and resource the territory. For instance, he plans to establish an IBM Connections community for capital campaigns that will host the campaign guidelines, essential forms and other items like a series of videos on a range of topics from how to make an “ask” to selecting the next consultant. He also plans to introduce a periodic electronic newsletter.

Currently, there are nine capital campaigns being conducted in the territory, with two more locations in the preparation stage conducting feasibility studies.
Powers marks one off his bucket list!

The Today Show visited the Freedom Center in Chicago, Ill., earlier this year to surprise Major Merrill Powers, administrator, with the morning show’s Bucket List giveaway. Celebrity chef Bobby Flay came to the campus to judge the major’s barbecue pork and chicken, declaring them perfectly cooked, and then made a potato salad.

Butterball got in on the excitement as well and will donate 150 turkeys every Thanksgiving for the next 10 years so Major Merrill can continue providing turkey dinners for clients at the Freedom Center and those served through the homeless programs.

Major Merrill was nominated by his wife, Major Nancy Powers, who said, “I wanted him to see himself through my eyes. He is the most giving person I know. He works constantly to ensure that the Harbor Light and Freedom Center operate not just well but at the highest possible level.”

It’s hardly surprising that the major’s reaction was, “That was really nice. Now, don’t ever do it again!”

The Powers came into The Salvation Army from Kansas City, known throughout the nation for its fabulous barbecue. When they were appointed in Chicago and unable to find the barbecue they loved, Merrill decided he would just have to learn to make it and in 2001 purchased his first smoker. The seller of the unit happened to be pitmaster Gary Wiviot, who became good friends with the Powers and a supporter of the Army, doing many cookouts for the people in their ministry. In 2005 Major Merrill started entering barbecue competitions and participated for nine years until it became cost prohibitive. Now, he uses his “mad skills” for family, friends and Salvation Army clients, combining his calling to ministry and passion for cooking.

The Harbor Light serves a community dinner to 500 people both at Thanksgiving and Christmas. Staff and volunteers also take a full holiday meal to another 1,200 homeless on the streets and to about 200 seniors in apartments who do not have food service.

Major Merrill concluded, “The beauty of being here is we see miracles every day.”

“Messengers of the Gospel”

Continued from page 1

Major Cherri Hobbins, College for Officer Training principal, said in her introduction of the new session that 17 of the 24 members are first-generation Salvationists. Half of the session received Christ through Army ministries, six members are children of officers, two are fifth-generation Salvationists and 10 members are single. The average age of the session is 32.

While presenting the session flag to Cadet Christopher Nicolai, the major expounded on the significance of flags as signal devices that identify its bearer as well as its mission or intent, whether it be war or peace. “The Army flag identifies it as a Movement with a mission and message that we are all involved in the great salvation war,” said the major as she explained how the colors and symbolism on the flag illustrate the Army’s doctrines. “Our flag is not sacred; we don’t revere it, but we respect its testimony,” she added.

Cadet Makayla Broer shared how she met the Army in college by accompanying a Salvationist friend on a short-term missions trip. After graduation, she attended a Mission and Purpose conference and entered the Ministry Discovery Program even though she didn’t believe God was calling her to be a preacher. Two months later she realized God could speak through her and answered the call to officership.

First-year cadets Jack Huffman and Jenny Moffitt read Isaiah 40:1-8 while sessionmate Derek Jung read it in Korean. More international flair came from three second-year cadets—Kenneth Alip from the Philippines, Anil Kumar Kandamala from India and Vathiven Thammavongsa from Laos—who presented a skit supporting the cadets’ World Services/Self-Denial fundraising efforts.

Cadets in a praise team led congregational songs and a united chorus sang “Here am I, my Lord,” while the Chicago Staff Band, led by Bandmaster Harold Burgmeyer, provided music throughout the meeting.
The Journey
Walking the Road to Bethlehem

Follow the footsteps of Mary, Joseph, the shepherds and others to gain insight into our own journeys with Christ this Advent season.

See your corps officer for more information.

Mountaintop experience on the plains

by Major Darlene Harvey

The mountaintop, life-changing experience of the National Seminar on Evangelism (NSE) is spreading across the nation now via seminars held in divisions. The Kansas and Western Missouri Division (KWM) hosted the first in the Central Territory this fall led by Lt. Colonela David and Naomi Kelly and Major Donna Leedon from National Headquarters. It has been their vision to take the NSE experience in Glen Eyrie, Colo., to more soldiers and officers across the country.

More than 300 adults and children gathered for a wonderful weekend of teaching on relational evangelism during the KWM Pilgrimage. Adults attended united sessions, while children and teens received age-appropriate training led by Majors Amos and Cyndi Shills and Majors Joseph and Lotts Wheeler.

Just Walk Across the Room by Bill Hybels focuses on relationship-building with the challenge for Christians to leave their comfort zones and go to where people are. Just like at NSE, the curriculum’s four themes served as focuses for united sessions which were opened by a praise team led by John Stewart and incorporated interactive teaching and videos. During the weekend delegates could visit a prayer room, organized by Majors Jim and Peggy Mungai, to make deeper commitments in their relationship with God.

Saturday focused on being willing to go wherever God calls. An international food fair raised $2,200 for World Services/Self-Denial and the evening program included a farewell for Major Evie Diaz, then divisional commander, who has demonstrated her willingness to follow God’s call internationally. She encouraged delegates to engage in friendships with those who are different than them in looks, actions and even beliefs so that they might have the opportunity to share God’s love.

Prior to morning worship delegates met as corps groups, just like at NSE, to make action plans with goals for implementing evangelism at their corps. The seminar concluded with a time of commitment where delegates knelt at a table in the form of a cross and wrote names of people for whom they are praying to find salvation.

The joy of obedience

by Sara Johnson

A few months later I loaded my car and set out for St. Louis, Mo. I arrived full of excitement. I was about to live my dream: living and working in the city, communal living, transforming a neighborhood. I’d been waiting for this since college.

Looking back, God has humbled me. It’s now clear God didn’t send me to St. Louis to transform the Benton Park West neighborhood. He sent me to St. Louis to transform my own heart.

I moved into my neighborhood with the assumption I had something more to offer my neighbors than what they could offer me. This arrogance grieves me now as I have endless stories of neighbors supporting, loving and challenging me to be better.

You see, God’s Spirit dwells in my neighborhood. He was here before me and will be here after I leave. I see His Spirit in the curiosity of children working in the garden, the support and camaraderie among local business owners, and in the caring and concerned neighbors Joe and Steve have for the safety of those who dwell on our block. God invites me daily to join His mission, and I do my best to accept the invitation. I engage in mission as I:

- Honor the people around me by listening to their stories with an open, humble heart that seeks to understand.
- Practice faithful presence in my neighborhood by walking instead of driving, sitting on my front porch instead of the back, sharing meals with neighbors instead of eating by myself, and staying in town when I could leave.
- Grow a garden with young people and make space for them to share their hopes and dreams for our neighborhood.

The joy of being with God.

Almost three years ago God woke me up to the joy of obedience. In a quiet moment at Central Bible Leadership Institute, I told God I would go anywhere and do anything He asked after years of resisting. I went home knowing change was on the horizon because I’d meant what I’d said.

On the plains of insight into our own journeys with Christ this Advent season. See your corps officer for more information.
On April 17, 1917, President Woodrow Wilson declared war on Germany which ushered the United States into World War I (1914-1918). Evangeline Booth, national commander of The Salvation Army in the USA, wired the president offering her Army for overseas duties writing, "Our Salvationists stand ready, trained in all necessary qualifications in every phase of humanitarian work, and to the last man will stand by the President for execution of his orders."

Upon President Wilson’s acceptance, The Salvation Army dispatched its officers to the frontlines to do what they could materially and spiritually for the men who were fighting and dying. The first group of officers sailed for France on the Espagne on August 12, 1917, to begin their ministry in the trenches.

National Commander Evangeline Booth's initial offer of providing humanitarian aid to the troops was rejected by President Wilson since the Red Cross and YMCA already had made arrangements with the federal government.

Not accepting defeat, she sent Lt. Colonel William Barker for an interview with Joseph Tumulty, private secretary to the president. He arrived to find Tumulty in conversation with a prominent attorney who had caused a sensation in New York society with his conversion through The Salvation Army's industrial home ministry. After Barker stated his case, the attorney urged, "Joe, give the colonel what he wants and make it good. The boys over there will need help..."

Barker eventually met with General John J. Pershing, commander of all U.S. Armed Forces. Pershing, too, had been aided by The Salvation Army after a fire killed his wife and children in 1915. He granted Barker, and The Salvation Army, open access.

Barker cabled Evangeline: "SEND OVER SOME LASSIES." Colonel Barker’s cable to Commander Booth concerning overseas war workers said to include "lassies," single young women. To recruit volunteers, advertisements were placed in The War Cry, noting women who were "tourists or butterflies" need not apply. Those who answered Commander Booth’s call were assigned to Salvation Army huts near the frontlines. She told the recruits, "You are going overseas to serve Christ. You must forget yourselves, be examples of His love, willing to endure hardship, to lay down your lives; if need be, for His sake. In your hands you hold the honor of The Salvation Army and the glory of Jesus Christ...I promise you nothing!"

Their duties included spiritual ministry, aiding the injured, preparing and serving refreshments, repairing soldiers’ uniforms, arranging for transfer of soldiers’ pay home, writing condolence letters, visiting hospitalized soldiers, decorating graves and more.
Looking after the Troops at Home

Hutments, also called huts, were erected by The Salvation Army on or near stateside United States military camps to provide servicemen the comforts of home including nourishing meals, a place to write letters, clothing repair and most importantly, spiritual enrichment.

A standard hut measured around 65 feet wide by 120 feet deep. The ground floor contained large social halls supplied with writing desks, tables, a library, and an auditorium where religious services and entertainment were held. Servicemen had magazines, games, a Victrola and piano available. A ‘Coffee Ann’ provided refreshments, including donuts, for a small charge. The second floor was living quarters for staff along with furnished bedrooms for visiting soldiers’ relatives.

Seven huts were in operation on bases in the Department of the West, the precursor to the Central Territory, and included Camp Grant in Rockford, Ill., and Camp Travis in San Antonio, Texas. Altogether 13 huts and hostels were in operation stateside.

Life on the Frontlines

Salvationists faced continual peril and strife while serving near the frontlines. Having no formal military training and only helmets and gas masks for protection, Salvationists accomplished their work without suffering any deaths in the line of duty. With their faith forefront, it was proclaimed in a 1917 War Cry, “God’s in the trenches, all’s well with us here!”

Personal accounts by Salvationists and published articles revealed their daily conditions. Adjutant Margaret Sheldon wrote, “The rats made such a noise over our heads, we didn’t get to sleep. Made 76 pies this morning.”

Commandant Joseph Hughes recounted, “Here I was alone in a dugout… I did not know enemy guns from our own… I found myself in a land of darkness with visions of sudden death all around me… I was here to get next to the need of the boys and to serve them.”

War Relief Work

Upon receiving Colonel Barker’s report to “Send over some lassies,” Commander Booth borrowed $25,000 to begin funding The Salvation Army’s war efforts since there was no money to support it.

After six months of vainly trying to raise funds, Major Fletcher Agnew of Chicago had the unique idea of having postal carriers solicit one evening for the war work. In one night $49,267.25 was raised. Evangelist Paul Rader volunteered to tour cities in the Department of the West, holding meetings followed by postal carrier drives. By March 2, 1918, a total of $200,670.89 had been collected with $124,503.27 being attributed to postal carriers. Businessmen started to support the campaign as well. By December 1918, the Department of the West had raised two and a half million dollars for war work.

WWI officially ended with the signing of the Treaty of Versailles on June 28, 1919, although fighting ceased at 11:00 a.m. on November 11, 1918, when the armistice was implemented. The triumph of The Salvation Army and its war efforts also was celebrated by all who experienced it. Praises in the forms of letters, print media and word of mouth abounded creating a newfound respect, appreciation and support for the Army’s mission which continues today, a century later.
Larry Trout found The Salvation Army at the lowest point of his life. It was 1985, and he’d suffered a massive stroke. No longer able to be a truck driver, he picked up small, temporary jobs through a local job service, but bills piled up and eventually his wife left him and took their daughter.

He heard that The Salvation Army in his hometown of Williston, N.D., needed volunteers and began doing the odd job in summer, helping at the thrift store and pitching in with janitorial work over the next year. Eventually, there was a job opening for which he was hired. “When I first started working at The Salvation Army, I was down in the dumps. I felt like I had nothing left in life,” Larry recalled.

But one Sunday morning during worship at the corps, Larry got a new lease on life.

“We sang the song ‘We are standing on Holy Ground’ at church that morning. The song ushered in the presence of God and brought me back to life. It helped me to wake up and realize I could start over again,” Larry explained. “It made me see that it was time to start living again and that it was time to move on. The Salvation Army inspired me to start serving others instead of focusing so much on myself and my circumstances.”

And that’s just what he has done for the last 28 years while working for the Army in Williston. “I love that we help our community,” said Larry, whose favorite time of year is Christmas. In lieu of having children and grandchildren to spoil at the holidays, Larry focuses on those who come to the Army for help.

“When you see kids who wouldn’t have otherwise had Christmas gifts receive them from The Salvation Army, you can’t beat that feeling!”

He also has liked sitting and visiting with those waiting to see a case worker for assistance. “I’ve been through many hard times and difficult circumstances, and I try to help others with their own personal struggles,” said Larry.

Larry says he’s learned to hear God’s voice, whether having the words to say to people or a prompt to check on something at the building. “It can be very challenging to keep our old building in shape and working properly. I’ve always liked going the extra mile to keep things around our building in shape and running smoothly because I know we need our facility to be in good working order to help people and make a difference in their lives.”

After nearly three life-changing decades—for himself and others—Larry has retired, but if you’re at the Army in Williston, there’s a good chance you’ll still see him volunteering, especially at Christmas.

Remembering 9/11

The Des Plaines, Ill., Corps, led by Captains David and Shannon Martinez, held its Sunday morning meeting at Lake Opeka in Des Plaines on September 11. Supported by the local chapter of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) with a ceremonial flag lowering and 21-gun salute, the congregation remembered those who perished on 9/11. More than 200 gathered in the park to hear and watch the corps band, praise team, timbrels, hymn singing, Hispanic dance and a message by Major David Dalberg, who recounted his first-hand experience of ministry at Ground Zero. Captain David Martinez encouraged those in attendance and passersby who stopped to listen that we have a loving God who is with us even during life’s most perplexing times. The service was followed by lunch served from a Salvation Army emergency disaster services canteen.

Ideas for hope, healing

In response to the flood of violence and negativity reported in the news over the past year, the St. Louis, Mo., Adult Rehabilitation Center (ARC) held a town hall-style meeting for its beneficiaries and former residents to discuss the issues.

One former beneficiary said, “We’re rehabbing our lives; now we want to rehab our community.”

St. Louis ARC Council Member John Edwards documented the evening’s discussion, which resulted in the formulation of 10 ideas for hope and healing based on the concepts of belief, prayer, respect, love, family, ownership, patience, appreciation, change and communication. (See our “Get Connected” website)

“We must get back to the basics; our nation must come together,” Major Kendall concluded. “We’re proud of our residents who’ve decided to change their lives mentally, spiritually and physically. The ARC gives them the structure and discipline; prayer gives them the strength and hope.”

After Major K. Kendall Mathews, the center’s administrator, observed how negative images, words and actions were affecting people, causing them to lose happiness, hope and faith to embrace anger, fear and hate, he felt led by the Holy Spirit to provide a forum for venting frustrations so God’s truths could shine through.

“God calls on us to find a better way because we’re better made through His grace. We all impact each other,” said the major.

Having gone through recovery themselves, meeting participants realized they were in a unique position to offer ideas, advice and solutions for hope and healing.

The Chicago Staff Band

The Chicago Staff Band with Boston Brass

For 30 years, Boston Brass has set out to establish a one-of-a-kind musical experience and have performed in 49 states and 30 countries. From exciting classical arrangements to jazz standards, Boston Brass treats audiences to the best of original brass quintet repertoire with lively repartee, touched with humor and personality, to delight audiences with a combination of great music and boisterous fun.

Saturday, November 26, 2016 – 7:00 pm
Edman Chapel – Wheaton, Illinois (Not a function of Wheaton College)

For FREE tickets contact: The Salvation Army, Music Dept.
5550 Prairie Stone Pkwy, Hoffman Estates IL 60192 (847) 294-2134

www.chicagostaffband.org

Dr. Harold Burgmayer, bandmaster
Quincy Kroc Center celebrates five years

by Kent Embree

The Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center in Quincy, Ill., celebrated its fifth year of service with an open house allowing the entire community to enjoy members-only areas such as the aquatic center, gymnasium and fitness areas free of charge.

Featured during the day were free group fitness classes, informational tables and many activities for children, such as arts and crafts projects with The Building Artist (a local art studio), making toolboxes from kits donated by Home Depot, caricatures by another local artist and a red kettle bounce house. The brass ensemble performed two concerts, the first of which was introduced by the premiere of Quincy’s new promotional video, “No Such Thing as Impossible,” a fun music video shot with the Kroc staff illustrating that nothing, including the building of a multimillion dollar community center, is impossible when you trust God.

Officers and representatives from Midland Divisional Headquarters and Central Territorial Headquarters attended and with many others enjoyed barbecue by the Quincy Kroc Cafe catering staff which served a steady stream of visitors until early afternoon.

The main event later that day was a performance by Christian comedian Kay DeKalb Smith. Local teen magicians Z & N Magic opened the show and warmed up the crowd of almost 250 people. Kay’s unique brand of family-friendly comedy in the style of Carol Burnett entertained a diverse crowd, and she was kind enough to bring her comedic ministry back on Sunday for a special fifth anniversary service at church. In addition, Lt. Colonels Dan and Dorene Jennings, Midland divisional leaders who previously led the Me tropolitan Division Board’s quarterly meeting, took part in a panel discussion, “the best interest of the St. Joseph corps officiers and long-time community members.”

The award was presented in recognition of more than 35 years of service and leadership on the St. Joseph, Mo., Salvation Army Advisory Board, Casey Meyers was presented with the William Booth civic award, one of the Army’s highest honors.

Army Chairman William Burke

Casey’s service on the board has been exemplary, leading, advocating for and participating in various activities from winter coat collections, kettle kick-offs and hours of bellringing to ensuring Christmas dinner (with his wife, Carol, serving as chef) was provided each year for 250 seniors and people with disabilities,” said Major Abe Tamayo, St. Joseph corps officer.

“Casey’s expertise as a successful businessman served the Army well in our property and finance board committee as he helped guide Salvation Army programs and administration in the best interest of the St. Joseph community. His logical thinking was an important factor in many decision-making discussions,” the major continued.

The award was presented by Majors Mark and Terri Martzolf, former St. Joseph corps officers and long-time friends of the Meyers, at a luncheon hosted by the board in Casey’s honor at the corps. The event received local television news and press coverage.

Chicago hosts National Advisory Board

by Jacqueline Hacnev

The Metropolitan Division hosted the National Advisory Board’s quarterly meeting for two days. Board members and representatives from national and territorial headquarters met to discuss ongoing strategic planning and Christmas 2016.

In addition to meetings, the division planned several events to highlight the services in Chicago and the surrounding suburbs, as well as introduce board members and representatives to staff and clients.

A leadership breakfast was held at the House of Blues, bringing leaders from the corporate and philanthropic worlds to network with the board members. While attendees feasted on the famous House of Blues breakfast buffet, the Adult Rehabilitation Center Mass Choir performed several songs and lifted spirits. Shortly afterward, “Jake and Elwood Blues” took everyone “On a Mission from God,” sharing the breadth of the Quincy Kroc Center, brought the Word of God and participated in a dedication of the Quincy Advisory Board with current Quincy Kroc officers Majors Andrew and Cheryl Miller.

The Kroc Center opened in Quincy with a three-fold slogan, “Inspire, Instruct and Involve,” which evolved into “More than fitness... We are a community.” In five years it has fulfilled much of that intention. Membership has grown annually to 5,563 individuals, many of whom take part in more than just fitness or aquatic activities.

Victoria Huntley and her brother, Gary Johnson, are a prime example. Victoria began as a Kroc member taking part in group aquatics and fitness classes. She found the social aspect of the Kroc Center suited her and soon began volunteering with the women’s auxiliary’s Easter Dress-Angel project. Victoria then began leading a ministry support group for breast cancer survivors and this year helped plan and lead a new fall fashion and style auction. In addition, the Quincy Kroc Center has become a sanctuary for Victoria’s brother, Gary, who suffers from Parkinson’s disease and comes nearly every day to swim and find solace in the center’s unique, welcoming environment.

Other Kroc programs and ministries have grown as well in five years. Camp Kroc summer day camp, Kroc Academy afterschool and youth developmental assets programming during the school year all have grown significantly—as much as three to four times their original scale—and have touched many lives.
**Witness in marriage and service**

Roger and Rose Sellen, soldiers at the Norfolk, Neb., Corps celebrated their 50th anniversary this year. Roger and Rose met when they attended Grace Bible College in Grand Rapids, Mich. They married on June 16, 1966, in St. Louis, Mo. Roger followed a calling to the ministry, moving to Colorado, California and Oklahoma, pastoring at local churches and earning his master of divinity degree.

In 1982 they moved to Norfolk where they left the pastorate to pursue secular work. They began searching for a church where they could use their skills as lay leaders. They were invited to visit The Salvation Army, fell in love with its mission and were enrolled as soldiers in 1991.

Through the years they have been Sunday school teachers, children’s ministry leaders, active participants in women’s and men’s ministries and community care. “We are honored to have Roger and Rose serving with us as active ambassadors for Christ in the Norfolk Corps and community,” said Captain Miranda Duskin. “Roger is a dedicated worker at our thrift store constantly sharing his witness for Christ and inviting people to fellowship with other believers in worship. In our soup kitchen six days a week, he is well-known by everyone for his friendliness.”

The captain continued, “Rose is a very determined soldier who is dedicated to service. Besides holding secretarial positions for advisory board and women’s ministry, she is active on corps council, teaches Sunday school and vacation Bible school, volunteers as our office receptionist and teaches at Club 316, our character-building program.”

**Hard truth of holiness**

**by Lt. Colonel Daniel Sjögren**

**Territorial Ambassador for Holiness**

Il of us would like to have perfect love, greater power and more joy, but few if us are willing to die to sin and to self. It’s our human nature. Even during Christ’s time of ministry there were groups of people content and happy as long as they could hold on to what they had and receive more. However, Christ said in order to follow Him they must die to themselves.

Then he said to them all, ‘Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.’ (Luke 9:23, NIV) Were they willing to give up their sins and die to themselves? This was the determining factor in discipleship. Today, as I teach on holiness it’s the main objection I hear.

We struggle when we are asked to die to sin, surrender our wills and give up our own plans and ambitions, but if we are to receive power, joy, peace and blessing, we must practice this hard truth.

**Prison prayer warriors**

**by Melody Rosa**

When territorial headquarters was in the process of moving last year, tables were used to amass piles of giveaways. At first it was interesting to see what was available but as time went by items became seemingly invisible. Then one day something caught my eye: a purple box resembling a small filing cabinet. Though I could think of no useful purpose, I took it back to my office in the correctional services department where I serve as Bible correspondence director.

Since the late 1920s thousands of prisoners’ lives have been transformed through the Bible correspondence lessons originally written by Central Territorial Prison Secretary Lt. Colonel John Habkirk. Now used by all four U.S. territories and Canada, the courses are reviewed and revised every decade by a national committee.

Our office offers the courses in English and Spanish at no cost to men and women incarcerated in more than 700 Midwestern correctional facilities. The introductory course, The Life of Christ, guides the student through the harmony of the four gospels showing who Jesus is and why He matters.

The next four courses review the Old and New Testaments, and the final “survey” course asks students to express highpoints of the Bible in their own words.

As for the purple box? It found a purpose as my “Prayer Warrior” box which holds hundreds of handwritten notes from inmates who’ve discovered new life through Christ, along with testimonies of rekindled faith and requests for prayer. We have 15 volunteers who pray for the inmates’ requests and write notes of encouragement to them.

Some prayer requests concern pending sentences, parole decisions and pardons. However, most are for those closest to them like parents, spouses and children who’ve been damaged by their actions. We also receive prayer requests for the wellbeing of other inmates and for prison staff. And, some ask that we pray for those they’ve victimized.

Since the start of our “Prayer Warrior” project last year, more than 200 men and women responded to our invitation for prayer mailed to the 900 inmates who requested courses during that time. More than 80 received Christ and over 20 rededicated their lives to Him.

**Double your joy!**

**by Viki Payton**

I can never decide what my favorite part of Christmas is: nightly advent devotions by candlelight, gift giving, or being a part of a church that reaches out to serve people in need. And it’s difficult to even narrow it down to just those three!

What brings you joy at Christmas time? Is it caroling, making cookies, ringing the bell at kettle, watching your children open gifts on Christmas morning, throwing or attending parties? Here in the United States we enjoy this holiday so many ways. It is definitely a season of joy.

Announcing the birth of our Savior Jesus to the shepherd, the angel said: “Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which will be for all the people...” Ever since that night Christmas has been a season of sharing joy with all the people.

Today, The Salvation Army serves children in need in 127 countries, but for many Christmas is just an ordinary day. They have never experienced the celebrations we take for granted, but you have an opportunity to change that through Share Your Christmas Joy. With your help, the Central Territory World Missions Department will send $100 to as many Salvation Army homes and schools as possible so they can prepare a Christmas celebration for children in their care.

This year double your joy by helping to make Christmas special for children around the world. Give and invite your extended family, friends, coworkers and small groups to give! You can even find a Christmas idea for your character-building groups that earns emblems while raising funds for Share Your Christmas Joy at centralyouthnetwork.com/share-christmas-joy/

Send your designated donation to: The Salvation Army, Sponsorship Office, 5550 Prairie Stone Pkwy., Hoffman Estates, IL 60192 or donate online at: http://centralmissions.org

**Bible Correspondence Director Melody Rosa** (center) with staff members Fernanda Archila and Jeffrey Fewell
Connecting women

A new leadership training module has been developed to connect women who graduate from adult rehabilitation centers and harbor light centers with women’s ministries. It was created to provide additional support to women coming out of addiction treatment which is key to continued successful recovery.

“One of the greatest problems we found is that many of these women do not feel comfortable attending meetings with women they do not know,” said Major Joyce Gauthier, territorial assistant secretary for women’s ministries. “Sometimes it is because of their insecurities; however, we feel educating our leaders in understanding addictions and addictive behavior can help leaders create an environment where the women can feel included and loved, and then hopefully they will want to be a part of women’s ministries. The result will be two-fold: reaching more women for our groups and helping women in recovery to be successful.”

The training encompasses three sessions. Session one focuses on understanding what the Bible says about helping those in need and what The Salvation Army says about how we can be used by God in redemption and restorative care.

Session two tackles understanding addictions and learning what we can do to help. Session three helps make the concepts more tangible through a guest who may share her testimony or who may speak on topics like faith in God and recovery.

The new leadership training module is being distributed this fall with the God’s Masterpiece promotional materials to women’s ministries groups in the Central Territory.

Correction

In the Pathway of Hope awards list in the October issue, the Fargo, N.D., Corps was listed in Minnesota. We regret this error.

“...they’re leaving for the bears—viking game as soon as they’re done Kettling...
Carol Scott, a faithful soldier of the Grand Island, Neb., Corps and a staunch volunteer for its Veterans Administration Volunteer Services (VVS) activities since 1967, has been recognized as the Central Territorial VVS Volunteer of the Year.

"I enjoy helping people, always have," said Carol. "They know me well at the VA. I’ve been there a long time." Carol has volunteered at least twice a month over the last 50 years at the Grand Island VA Hospital visiting patients, serving coffee or working at its reception desk. In addition she assists with other corps VVS activities such as hosting picnics and holding fundraisers.

Carol is well known around the Grand Island Veterans Hospital and greets everyone with a warm smile and a hug.

Major Brenda Rhoads Herival, territorial veterans services bureau director and national VVS deputy representative, said: "Dedicated to meet Carol and learn of her faithful and loyalty.

What Did God Do?

Major Richard and Beth Trimmell celebrated their ministry as officers with a retirement service at the Billings, Mont., Corps. The theme “What God did” set the tone for a joyous event with much music, laughter and tears. Beginning with a Beethoven string duet by their daughters Angie and Joye, the service was interspersed with violin and cello solos, a moving tribute by their daughter Theresa on her parents’ ministry influence on her life, stories by the majore of God’s intersection throughout their 32 years of officership, and a delightful rendition of “The body of Christ” in five-part harmony.

The Trimmells were called into Army ministry following seven years of ministry in another holiness denomination. They served as corps officers in Grand Island, Neb., Sioux City, Iowa, Independence, Mo., and Grand Rapids, Mich. During those years they built three new buildings and opened two homeless shelters and began an art/music program for underprivileged school children among other ministries.

For five years Richard served as divisional secretary and Beth as divisional youth secretary, then women’s ministries and community care secretary, in the Western Division. Richard was then assistant principal at the College for Officer Training, while Beth served as family care center director. Their final appointments were as area coordinator and director of special services in the Columbia, Mo., region.

The Trimmells have retired to the Omaha area, where they have a large garden, have begun volunteering and are looking forward to what God will do next.

A double celebration

More than 100 friends, family and fellow officers joined Majors Lee and Melody Morrison in celebrating not only their retirement (after 62 years of combined service as corps officers in three divisions) but their 45 years of marriage!

Lt. Colonels Paul and Renae Smith were commissioned as the “Followers of Christ” session in 1974. Their first appointment was as corps officers in Ecorse, Mich., followed by appointment as corps officer in Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota and North Dakota. The Morrisons purchased their retirement home in Escanaba, Mich., where they were privileged to serve as corps officers for six years.

Although we loved all of our appointments, Escanaba held a special place for us," said Major Melody. “In Escanaba we have the opportunity to serve at one of the best corps in the Central Territory and are already involved as members of the brass band and teaching the beginners band.”

Major Lee concluded, "Our ministry was one of service to our congregation and our community. It has been and continues to be our goal to present Jesus as the one and only true light of the world.'

Promoted to Glory

Major Charles Baer

Major Charles Baer was promoted to Glory on August 12, 2016, at age 81.

When Charles was 15 he was enrolled as a senior soldier at the Kansas City Temple, Mo. Corps. Three years later while driving a Salvation Army collection route, he realized how many people had yet to hear about Jesus and felt called to officership.

Upon commissioning in 1957 his first appointment was assistant corps officer in Independence, Mo. After two more appointments he married Second Lt. Joyce Harris. Their marriage was blessed with two children.

The Baers served in eight corps appointments before being appointed to Indiana Divisional Headquarters where Charles trained in finance. He then served in the territorial audit department for a year before being appointed divisional finance secretary in the Wisconsin and Upper Michigan Division. Transferred back to corps work, the Baers led the Evansville Asplan Citadel, Ind., Corps before concluding their officership at territorial headquarters (THQ) with Charles as territorial auditor.

Charles was known for his integrity, friendliness and gentleness. While serving at THQ for 11 years, he was a model officer soldier who was very involved at the Oakbrook Terrace Corps in unassumingly but important roles. For instance, each December he took vacation to count kettle money and minister to the workers.

Major Charles was preceded in death by his wife, Joyce. He is survived by his daughter, Rae, son, Gary (Pamela), and granddaughter Amanda.

Major Daniel Boyer

Major Daniel Boyer was promoted to Glory on July 5, 2016. He was 100 years old.

Daniel was born to Robert and Marie Boyer in Baltimore, Md., and was baptized in the Lutheran Church.

He met The Salvation Army in St. Louis, Mo., in 1950 when a man from the Harbor Light Corps invited him to a Sunday meeting. This led him to accepting Christ, taking a job at the Harbor Light and becoming a soldier.

In 1953 he was commissioned with the “Heralds” session and served in corps appointments before marrying Second Lt. Joyce Ramsdale in 1955. Given his conversion at the Harbor Light, Daniel especially had a heart for this ministry, and with Joyce served for 18 years in harbor lights, where he developed and expanded alcohol treatment programs.

In 1973 he attended the International College for Officers in England.

The Boyers concluded their officership with a posting at Eastern Michigan Divisional Headquarters where Daniel served as general secretary. They retired to Florida where Dan ministered in corrections, homeless services and at the Lakeland, Fla., Corps.

Major Dan is remembered as a devoted family man and compassionate officer. He is survived by his wife, daughter Carol and three grandsons.

Major Londa Board

Major Londa Board was promoted to Glory on September 2, 2016, after several years of battling cancer which she faced with a positive and persistent faith. Despite her illness, she was active in ministry at two corps and was a strong witness for Christ until the end of her life.

Londa was born to Earl and Artie May Board on May 27, 1935, in Horsebranch, Ky. Her first contact with The Salvation Army came when she was eight and a neighbor invited her to Sunday school. At age 11 she knelt at the corps’ altar and accepted Christ. Two years later as Londa listened to a cadet’s testimony, she felt called to officership.

She was commissioned with the “Sword Bearers” session in 1956. Her officership was a blend of mainly corps and social services appointments. Her eight corps appointments were broad based in Missouri, Illinois, Michigan and Iowa, and with kindness but a keen business sense she ministered in many social service settings with increasing responsibility.

In 1978 she attended the International College for Officers in London, England, and perhaps her most unique appointment came in 1992 when she was transferred to serve on the ICO staff. Returning to the U.S., she served at Central Territorial Headquarters in the finance and then the officer and employee services department. She retired in June 2000 as city planning coordinator at the Wisconsin and Upper Michigan Divisional Headquarters.

Major Londa is survived by her sisters Reba and Diana Board, brother Myrl (Camille) and two nephews.