



Central Connection

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

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

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October 2012

A terrific first year for Quincy Kroc

by Kent Embree

The Quincy, Ill., Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center marked its first year anniversary with an open-house featuring free fitness classes, rock wall climbs, refreshments and prizes, and an auction benefitting Kroc scholarships. The event celebrated many of the things the



community of 40,000 has come to love about the center, including the welcoming, Christ-centered atmosphere and wholesome environment for families.

In the year the Quincy Kroc Center has been open, more than 6,200 individuals have joined. Membership remained strong despite the typical spring and summertime losses many fitness facilities see. The center's downtown location provides a place for business

people to eat lunch, and several local businesses hold large luncheons for employees and clients in "The Meadows" conference room. A typical day sees hundreds of people using the facility in some way, shape or form, with youth, fitness buffs and business people co-mingling throughout the main foyer of the facility.

The Youth Asset Development Initiative (YADI) has played a major role in the way the Quincy commu-



nity perceives the center. Lieutenant Rich Forney heads this area and created an "adopt-a-school" effort which has allowed hundreds of elementary school children access to the facility. Many of these kids also participated in summer day camp. One happy parent said the reason her child liked the day camp was because he got to talk about Jesus!

The past year has seen growth in many areas of the Kroc Center. The staff has grown from 35 to 177 employees, ranging from lifeguards to day camp staff. Events, such as the "Diamond Dive" and "Anniversary Auction," have been developed to support Kroc scholarships. The center also successfully took on the Joe Bonansinga Summer Music Institute, a decades-long program formerly hosted by the park district.

Continued on page 12



The Orchard takes root

by Christina Tamayo

Sometimes you just want more. You need more substance, more depth, and more excitement. In some cases, that could be a bad thing. In this case, it was good.

Last October a group of young adults from the Northern Division met together and discussed their discontentment and vision for change. We soon realized God was placing the same desire in all our hearts. We were longing for more: more accountability, more spiritual depth, and more support. We wanted to go deeper into God's Word.

These shared desires helped launch a new ministry called The Orchard. It's a Christ-centered community of young adults committed to



cultivating deep roots in God's Word and pursuing His will. We selected the idea of the orchard because in it trees are intentionally planted and looked after; the roots go deep into the soil, and the trees bear good, pleasing fruit.

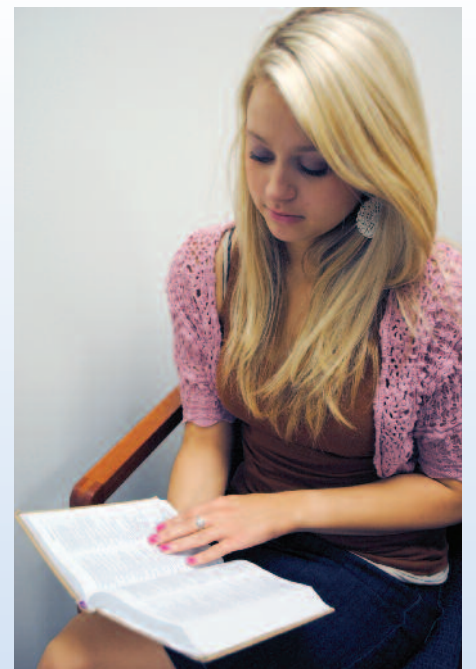
Since our division is geographically spread out, we wanted to find a way

for everyone to be a part of The Orchard. Everyone who joined was given a one-year Bible to read, encouraged to do the same daily readings, and invited to connect with the others in this ministry. Reading and discussing the same scripture is a big link.

We also started an Orchard Facebook page to be able to discuss our daily readings, share prayer requests, and offer support.

From the beginning we knew this wouldn't be for everyone because of the commitment and accountability. Yet, we didn't want to disregard these important components and water down the program. We wanted to set a standard for spiritual growth and to begin a pursuit of holiness by young adults in our division.

While the concept of small groups and Bible studies isn't new, what makes The Orchard special is that it grew out of the same desire God



placed in many of our hearts. We hope that as young adults grow deep in their relationship with the Lord they become an unstoppable force for God's Kingdom.

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If your Sunday school's gone, your future's gone!

by Commissioner Paul R. Seiler
Territorial Commander

A nice part of summer vacations (do they already seem a long ago memory?) is catching up with family. As a result of distance, such opportunities seem fewer these days. Of course, for us these visits are especially important because our grandchildren are growing up far too quickly, as Facebook confirms.

Visiting with my brother and his wife who are Presbyterians, I was a bit taken back when my sister-in-law exclaimed, "Everyone knows if your Sunday school's gone, your church future is gone!" While I might expect these words from an energetic divisional youth secretary, a thoughtful corps officer or a

retired officer benefitting from experience, it came as a bit of a surprise from, of all people, a Presbyterian. I guess I expect Presbyterians to be more traditional and staid.

Growing up, my interest in sports originated with my brother and father. It was further developed by playing sports, including high school varsity basketball when I was much faster and more athletic. One of the lessons of quality school sports programs is the intentional development of young boys and girls in school and community athletic leagues. Failing to do so, a school system will not have highly competitive teams by the high school level. A comparison can be

made with musical groups. A solid future means continually training and engaging young players.

In "Creating a Shared Future," a key part of the first principle, Pursue Mission, is growing saints. There is no better way for God's people to grow in their understanding and love for God than by studying His Word. One of the best ways for Salvationists to mature in their faith, both children and adults, is by participating in good Sunday school classes at their corps. May I continue to encourage you to recruit and develop teachers who will give their best to this important responsibility? May I also challenge you to break out of the Sunday school stereotype?

We are currently in the middle of a singing company initiative in this territory. If you don't have this musical activity in your corps, consider starting it. Your Sunday school children may have music classes in school, so they'd be used to the concept of singing in a group, and most kids think singing is fun. Music is a universal language which generally transcends cultural barriers, is gender-inclusive, and can be a valuable teaching tool. Think about it: how did you learn the alphabet? By singing it, right? So if you teach your Sunday school children how to sing Bible verses, those truths from God's Word will be buried deep in their hearts. It's a win-win!

I consistently meet Salvationists in the Midwest who want to pass on a better Army to the next generation. I believe teaching God's Word in Sunday school is one of the ways to accomplish that hope.



Pathway of Hope rolled out in 27 more corps!

Pathway of Hope, a new initiative to help vulnerable families break the intergenerational cycle of poverty, is being introduced to 27 more corps in our territory.

The first clusters of corps to implement Pathway of Hope this fall are in the Eastern Michigan, Heartland, Indiana, Metropolitan and the Kansas and Western Missouri divisions. The program will be introduced to more clusters of corps early next year, and the goal is that by 2016 all corps and service centers will be part of the program.

The largest corps cluster is in the Kansas and Western Missouri Division (KWM), with a high concentration in the Kansas City area. It is being funded in part by a generous three-year, \$3 million grant by the Hall Family Foundation.

"The Hall Family Foundation Board of Directors saw the Pathway of Hope project as a well-organized new initiative for Kansas City that could have major impact in our local fight against poverty, particularly in these challenging economic times," said Angela Andersen McClelland, Hall Family Foundation vice president.



Angela Andersen McClelland and Major Charles Smith

According to Linda Brinker, territorial project manager for Pathway of Hope, comprehensive training is a critical component for the program's success and the life-changing impact it can have for families. To help

ensure success, 16 hours of training are required by corps officers, case-workers and other key members of corps where Pathway is introduced. An intensive schedule of training began this summer.

In addition, the territory is making funds available to hire regional

program coordinators at the divisional headquarters for five years. The coordinators will work collaboratively with Linda to support implementation of the program's objectives, including ongoing training, collection of data and reporting on outcomes.

New corps on the Pathway of Hope

Eastern Michigan

Ann Arbor, Mich.
Dearborn Heights, Mich.
Plymouth, Mich.
Royal Oak, Mich.
Ypsilanti, Mich.

Heartland

Canton, Ill.
Cedar Rapids, Iowa
Champaign, Ill.
Pekin, Ill.
Peoria, Ill.

Indiana

Anderson, Ind.
Indianapolis Fountain Square, Ind.
Kokomo, Ind.
Marion, Ind.
Warsaw, Ind.

Kansas and Western Missouri

Kansas City Bellefontaine, Mo.
Kansas City Blue Valley, Mo.
Kansas City Citadel, Kan.
Independence, Mo.
Kansas City Northland, Mo.
Olathe, Kan.
Grandview Southland, Mo.
Kansas City Westport Temple, Mo.

Metropolitan

East Chicago, Ind.
Hammond-Munster, Ind.
Chicago Midway Citadel, Ill.
Chicago Temple, Ill.

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Field Day Fun



More than 900 youth and 100 adults from 15 day camps in the Eastern Michigan Division descended upon Camp Echo Grove in Leonard, Mich., for an action-packed field day. It included popular activities such as swimming, pontoon boat rides and arts and crafts. The event was sponsored by McDonald's. Pictured is the group from the Saginaw, Mich., Corps.

Get Connected!

Check out our complementary material on the web.
www.usc.salvationarmy.org/getconnected

Resources/Links

Resource Connection
General Larsson's website
World Missions webpages
Officer Candidates' webpages
KaBoom! Website

Web exclusives

CMI full awards list
More on the SA in Trinidad and Tobago



Leadership changes in the Central Territory

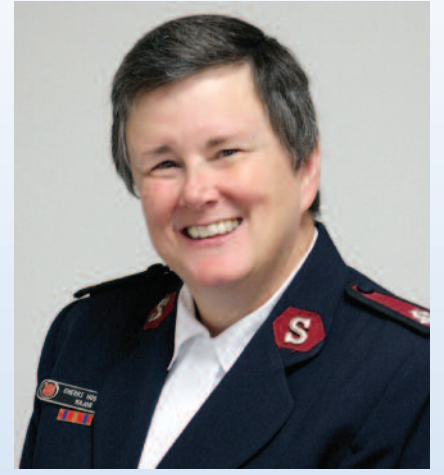
This month significant leadership changes are taking effect for the Central Territory. Please pray for the following individuals as they take up their new appointments.

Lt. Colonel Richard Vander Weele has been appointed as assistant chief secretary.



Majors Paul and Renea Smith have been appointed territorial secretary for program and assistant territorial secretary for personnel, respectively, with the promotion to Lt. Colonel.

Majors Paul and Paula Fleeman have been appointed as divisional commander and divisional director of women's ministries, Western Division.



Major Cherri Hobbins has been appointed as training principal at the College for Officer Training.

South Bend Kroc makes inroads

by Meg Sauer

It's pretty safe to say almost everyone in America has been to McDonald's. We also can assume most people are familiar with The Salvation Army, at least its red kettles and bellringers. So when Joan Kroc, wife of the founder of McDonald's, bequeathed the largest single gift in charitable history to The Salvation Army, you'd think everyone would know about it. Well, not really.



is super clean and safe, instructors mature and highly certified, and prices comparable or less than others. Half of those who register for lessons are not members. So, this is a chance not only to show off our pool but everything else in the center.



Theater productions

theater, "Aladdin," and "Bye, Bye Birdie," in which even Major Bob Webster, senior Kroc Center officer, played a part!



Town Hall Meetings

When shootings in the neighborhood grabbed the attention of local news crews and residents, ESPN analyst and former Notre Dame basketball Coach Digger Phelps brought hundreds of people into our building to find solutions to youth violence. The meetings led to an after-hours basketball league coached by ministers and police officers to help keep kids off the streets at night.

Community partners

Every week local organizations are finding us, and their business meetings bring many new people into the Kroc Center.

We consistently track visitors, add these new contacts to our email blasts, and make follow-up phone calls because if they get involved it can be life-changing.



lead story on the local newscasts. We rode the excitement for about eight weeks. During that time, hundreds of people waited in line to sign up for memberships.

Then spring came to Indiana. The weather was beautiful, unusually warm and dry, and people wanted to be outside. Our work was cut out for us. How could we get them back inside?

Tours and events

The Kroc Center continues to offer free tours at the top of the hour. Whether two or 20 people are waiting, they get a personal tour and a dynamic sales pitch.

We typically have five to ten events each week that raise funds. Just as valuable are the new people the events bring into the center. Our birthday parties especially have been a hit. Other celebrations include anniversary and graduation parties, wedding receptions, school fieldtrips, and much more. Party goers get a "Krocperience" that includes world-class customer service, yummy homemade pizza, and our event staff takes care of all the details, including clean-up!

Swimming lessons

Swimming lessons at the center are simply a stroke above anywhere else. We try to keep our classes small and individualized. Our pool



The South Bend, Ind., Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center, led by Majors Robert and Collette Webster, is one of the largest building projects in recent years. It is uniquely spectacular and open to everyone. Yet for community members who don't venture to "that side of town," it doesn't exist. But if we can get them through the doors, they'll come back. Really.



This was certainly true with our grand opening at the start of the year. Thousands of people walked through the center, and it was the

4 teams, 6 weeks, an eternal difference

This summer four young adult teams from the Central Territory ministered across the world. Here they share some of their moving experiences.

Hearts for the Ukraine

by Melissa Hulett

Through many different experiences during six weeks of ministry in the Ukraine, the thing that struck us most was the unconditional love of the Ukrainian people to us. One family in particular stole our hearts.

When we arrived in Kharkov we spent our first week running a day camp at the Pesochin Corps. On the first day we met Dima, a sweet, 13-year-old boy who was attentive to the Bible story. The following day he brought his twin sister, Lena. On the third day, they accepted Christ! We rejoiced.

Throughout the week we developed relationships with these beautiful children and later met their mother, Viola. She graciously served us lunch in her home. When



we left the Pesochin Corps, Dima and Lena followed us to the next one and participated in day camp and English club there. When our three weeks in Kharkov were over, Viola and Lena met us at the train station at 6:00 a.m. to bring us breakfast and say goodbye. We were so blessed.

Faith at work in Hungary

by Megan Polsley

God is at work in Hungary and using The Salvation Army to build His Kingdom. We met wonderfully welcoming soldiers and caring and courageous officers. Captains Béla and Erikő Vescey especially made an impression.

They were devastated when they were young and doctors said they'd never have children. Despite the ominous prognosis, they eventually had a son, then twin boys and twin girls! Even though they didn't profess faith in the Lord, they believed their children were miracles from God. With their large family, however, they began to struggle to make ends meet and turned to The



Salvation Army for help. Eventually they accepted Christ and became officers.

God is so good and is using The Salvation Army to meet the physical and spiritual needs of people in Hungary.

Caribbean praises

by Andres Villatoro

Our time in Jamaica culminated with a beautiful worship session at the School for the Blind in Kingston. We participated in a "Pajama Praise Night," a special service for the children who were about to leave for summer vacation. In the comfort of our pajamas, we experienced how close God is to the "poor in spirit." Although the world might be quick to pity these children, we saw their joy and love as they praised the Lord with all their hearts. Without the need of sheet music, the student musicians enthusiastically played their guitars, piano and drums. Among them was Sanjei, a master guitarist, and Nigel, who has a bluesy voice.



As we sat, absorbing the talent, beauty and joy of these children, we were struck by their love for the Heavenly Father. We left Jamaica with uplifted hearts and still carry their spirit with us.

Kenya East sacrifices

by Jamison Taube

Serving in Kenya changed our perspective on sacrificial living. We were blessed to see how Salvationists work together and the sacrifices they make.

One of the inspiring individuals we met is 27-year-old Lt. Patrick Munywoki, who is not only a corps officer but oversees Salvation Army schools and is the divisional youth secretary.

After a long day of teaching he invited us for tea at his home, simply a small house behind the corps/school, and shared his testimony. When Patrick was single and God called him to officership, he obeyed and pursued his calling without the help or support of a spouse. Though he had to leave his home, friends and family and learn a new language, he felt there was



no greater pleasure than to follow God. He would happily take up any burden to further the gospel.

Getting to know Patrick as a brother in Christ made us ask ourselves if we were truly giving a sacrifice worthy of God. Are you?

Apply now for an experience of a lifetime!



If you're a Central Salvationist, age 18-28 (as of June 1, 2013), consider applying for a 2013 Summer Mission Team. Check out the requirements online at www.smt.centralmissions.org, then email missions@usc.salvationarmy.org to request an application. Don't delay! Completed applications must be submitted by January 17, 2013.

Ezehs farewell from Haiti

After serving more than a decade in Haiti, Captain Dr. Felix and Major Violet Ezeh have been appointed to the Trinidad and Tobago Division in the Caribbean Territory. In addition to serving as divisional secretary and men's fellowship secretary, Felix will be the corps officer for Tragarete Road Corps in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad. Violet has been appointed as the divisional women's ministries secretary with the additional responsibilities of matron of the Josephine Shaw House, a hostel for young working women in Port-of-Spain.

Their 10-year-old son, Matthew, will be leaving the only home he's known in Fond-des-Negres, where Felix and Violet were the administrators of Bethel Clinic in this mountainous region of southern Haiti.

"We've experienced many blessings over the years, and God's faithfulness in meeting the many challenges," said Violet.



CBLI: putting faith into action

Nearly 500 campers met at Camp Wonderland to rest, enjoy fellowship and experience growth at Central Bible Leadership Institute (CBLI). CBLI's purpose is to nurture and prepare Salvationists engaged in mission to be able to preach the gospel and meet human needs. Special track guests for the 10-day encampment included Dr. Roger Green, who led the adult track through the Kingdom of God; Lt. Colonel Janet Munn, who shared spiritual disciplines with young adults; and Majors Larry and Janet Ashcraft, who challenged teens to be followers instead of fans. Highlights of evening programs included summer mission teams in their Hungarian, Kenyan, Ukrainian and Caribbean Salvation Army uniforms and a hymn sing with songs ready to be plucked from a clothesline. On youth night CBLI Kids, Jr CBLI and Impact tracks (tween) presented the cutest babies and children as pirates. Strong and heart-felt singing led by The Singing Company, the terror-

ial praise band, marked times of worship throughout CBLI.

The International Day of Prayer for Children featured the Temple Dancers of the Chicago Temple Corps, a spell-bound crowd watching and listening to Jasmine McCoy using Godly Play to share the Gospel of John's story of the good shepherd, and an interview with PROMISE anti-trafficking initiative's Frank Massolini.

Several times during CBLI people responded to evening program and Sunday worship messages from

Colonel Munn, Dr. Green, Major Larry Ashcraft, Major Evie Diaz and Colonel Merle Heatwole; 170 seekers prayed at the altar, as well as many others throughout the Wonderland Chapel.

CBLI mornings and afternoons were filled with concentrated teaching for the Adult, Young Adult Community and Encounter (teen) tracks. Majors Bill and Sue Dunigan from Camden, N.J., shared their experiences in urban mission, while Colonel Munn led young adults in disciplines such as fasting, spiritual warfare and community. Silence was practiced one day with a strangely quiet lunchtime at the famously noisy Wonderland dining hall. Especially popular were Dr. Green's Theology of William Booth and the Bible sessions of Linda Himes and Major Cheryl Lawry. Valuable training took place in youth development,

suicide intervention, pastoral care, leadership and personal development.

After the evening programs CBLI nightlife included afterglows, Baggo tournaments, water balloon battles, glow stick games, dancing to sweet DJ mixes in the Sharp Center (ask teens about the Black and White Night!), half night of prayer and young married couples discipleship.

Throughout the week CBLI raised funds to purchase tin roofs to help officers in the Papua New Guinea (PNG) Territory stay dry during the extensive rainy season. (See sidebar.) Majors Jim and Marcia Cocker of the Eastern Territory School for Officer Training, recently returned from PNG, shared their story of the Army and personal journey of obedience. "God will use us powerfully when we say yes to Him," Marcia said.

On the final Sunday, Chief Secretary Colonel Merle Heatwole challenged campers preparing to return home to put their faith into action by prayerfully considering, "Where are you with God? Who are you praying for? What is God calling you to do?" Some answers may be expected at CBLI 2013.

Fundraising jump-start

Delegates raised \$13,362.25 for World Services/Self-Denial this summer at Central Bible Leadership Institute for roofs in Papua New Guinea.

The funds were raised through the sale of pins, barrettes and key chains, which were constructed and sold by campers throughout the week.

You can make and sell these inexpensive and easily replicable crafts at your next corps World Services/Self-Denial fundraiser, too!



For instructions and other resources we'll link you through Get Connected.



Fulfilled in their calling

When cadets sign their covenant and are ordained and commissioned, they don't know where they will serve or what awaits them as officers. What they do know is that God has called them to this life of meaningful ministry and He will use them. In the Central Territory, there are currently more than 700 active officers. Here are just four we thought you should know.

"Pulled" to the Army

Commissioned this past June, Lt. Esteban Pommier received his call to officership in May 2010 while working with wife Karen at the Rockford Temple, Ill., Corps as Hispanic ministry directors. Three months later, they found themselves with their two sons at the training college! (Their third son was born a year later.)

"We joked about becoming officers but never took it seriously," said Esteban, who'd been considering other avenues of ministry without realizing God's path was lying right in front of him! "Our corps sergeant-major once said, 'Here are our pastors. They don't know it yet, but they're our future officers!'" he added.

Esteban met the Army through friends who encouraged him to look



into fulltime ministry opportunities. Graduates of Moody Bible Institute, Esteban and Karen already were committed to serving God fulltime.

"I'd been offered a position with an international relief organization but felt 'pulled' to the Army," said Esteban, who first worked for the Army at the East Chicago, Ind., Corps while he finished his graduate work at North Park University.

Now corps officers in Warsaw, Ind., the Pommiers served as cadets in charge of the Warsaw Corps throughout their second year of training.

Raised by Christian parents, Esteban became rebellious in his teen years. "I tried to escape God's presence but couldn't," he said. Esteban surrendered his life to Christ at age 17 after being confronted by a godly man and the truth of a simple song, "My only hope is You, Jesus."

Through his leadership experiences, Esteban has learned to wait on God. "I can do my part and work hard, but at the end of the day, it's God who moves it all," he said. "I'm also learning to take care of our marriage, especially during these first years of officership. We promised each other to remain strong and never stop working on becoming one."



Building strong foundations

God has gifted Major Jerry O'Neil with the talent of building relationships, not only within his corps but in the surrounding community. It's been said Jerry could run for mayor—and win!

"We work hard to get involved instead of waiting for people to come to us," said Jerry, corps officer with wife Vangie in Kankakee, Ill. "It's not rocket science; you join a service club, participate in the chamber of commerce, meet the executive directors of United Way and other organizations and, before long, you're well known!"

The oldest of nine children, Jerry learned to be a good steward from his mother. He met the Army at age 11 through an afterschool Bible study at an outpost of the Minneapolis Temple, Minn.,

Corps. There he discovered a God who loved him and wanted to have an intimate relationship with him.

"I met amazing people," said Jerry. "The men would take me to father and son dinners and make sure I was included in all of the activities. I learned how to play a brass horn and had a great time going to camps and youth councils, at which I responded to every altar call!"

Knowing God wanted him to be an officer, Jerry first enlisted in the Air Force, which taught him discipline and attention to detail. He planned to enter the training college a month after his 1990 discharge. When it



came six months earlier than planned, Jerry had the invaluable experience of working as a corps helper in Grand Forks, N.D.

Now an officer for two decades, Jerry believes the secret to contentment is to live where you are, not in your last or next appointment.

"The greatest lesson I have learned is to love your people unconditionally. People don't care how much you know, until they know how much you care!" Jerry concluded.



Relationships at heart



Lt. Brianne Bowers with her husband and two sons.

When Lt. Brianne Bowers arrived in Watertown, S.D., fresh out of training with her husband, Anthony, one-year-old son, Aiden, and a baby on the way, she didn't realize the adventures ahead. This urban couple, who'd lived in Chicago and Milwaukee for the majority of their lives, walked into a different world; one of spurs, boots and trucks.

Not more than two months after they arrived, Brianne gave birth to their second son, Josiah, and shortly thereafter she was back on her feet planning, singing and ministering. In the midst of so much activity Brianne found herself wondering how, with her city background, she could connect to a lovely, but altogether new, rural community.

"Growing up as an officers' kid in the Army I thought I had a deep understanding of what I would be doing each day as a Salvation Army officer," said Brianne. "However, as a new, young officer I quickly realized, despite my background, I'd be learn-



Lts. Bowers recently enrolled two new junior soldiers.

ing so much more on the field."

Regardless of the everyday challenges of balancing ministry and having young children, Brianne began connecting with her people. Over time she discovered what really spoke to her congregation. "The relationships I've formed with the corps people have really stolen my heart," said Brianne.

In the past year the corps has grown, specifically in men's fellowship and women's ministries. Brianne reports more women are attending the meetings. "All the women on the roster are faithfully attending women's ministries and are even bringing their friends!" she exclaimed.

Now pregnant with her third child, Brianne shares that she is enjoying her appointment, reaping the blessings of raising her children in the corps and looking forward to the ongoing ministry in Watertown.

A time like this

Lt. Lynn Lopez became a Salvation Army officer at 48. It wasn't easy after being independent for so long to go to training, but with God's strength and His clearly directed purpose she embarked on a new path.

Lynn describes her life before Christ as a "train wreck." One day she'd had enough, dropped to her knees and gave her heart to Jesus.

"I felt the Holy Spirit wash over me. Wash me clean," she said. "I've never gone back to my old way of life since. It was a miracle."

Right then and there God also told Lynn she was to become a Salvation Army officer. "I had some experience as a social service client, but I didn't know The Salvation Army was a church!" She called the corps nearest to her home, became involved and within a few years was headed to training.

As an officer, Lynn feels a yearning to reach Native Americans for the Lord. Her father is from the eastern Cherokee nation, and this heritage is dear to her heart. She spent many days of her life on her father's reservation. "The body of believers is not



complete without native people," said Lynn.

Lynn's first appointment landed her at the St. Cloud, Minn., Corps as the associate corps officer. When Lynn came through the doors of the St. Cloud Corps building and shelter, her vision was to fill the hallways with children. Lynn actually walked the halls of the shelter encouraging young people to join corps activities. It took time, prayer and a lot of hard work, but in the end youth programs grew by 50 percent. Lynn now serves as the corps officer in Emporia, Kan.

"I tell young people the decisions they make now can affect the rest of their lives," said Lynn. "I didn't have people telling me that stuff. Some kids who come into our corps are floundering, and all I want to do is let them know that there is another way. God is the answer."



Lynn with Lt. Colonels Daniel and Rebecca Sjogren.



Lynn and some of the St. Cloud, Minn., youth group members after a long day's work.

Everyday evangelism a mindset

by Caleb Sjögren

Jesus commissioned His followers to go and make disciples, an order that still stands. This simple directive sometimes seems intimidating, but the National Seminar on Evangelism (NSE) exists to demystify the process, training and inspiring Salvationists to share the gospel of Jesus Christ.

For more than 40 years, soldiers—and now officers—from across the U.S. have attended the seminar. This year more than 150 delegates and staff convened at Glen Eyrie Conference Center in Colorado Springs, Colo., to study the Bible, worship, pray and encourage one another to share the Good News.

There are many methods and techniques for sharing, but these are only effective when believers step out and connect with those who need Christ. The seminar's



curriculum, based on Bill Hybels' book *Just Walk Across the Room*, focuses on sharing Christ as an outpouring of genuine relationships with others, often starting as simply as stepping out of our circles of comfort, extending a hand to a stranger, and entering the "zone of

the unknown." Delegates were exhorted to develop deep friendships with people who don't know Christ, to discover their stories, and to heed the promptings of the Holy Spirit.

NSE attendees were challenged to heed General Linda Bond's exhortation to be one united Army with one mission and one message of salvation for the world. Delegates practiced making contact with people during evangelistic outings. These interactions were reminders that expressing the grace of Jesus Christ involves establishing relationships, listening to another person's story, and eventually sharing



the story of what He has done in our own lives.

So how can soldiers and corps implement their own atmosphere of evangelism? One person at a time, starting with the contacts they already have in their community and neighborhood. Evangelistic events and programs are part of the process, but sharing Christ ultimately depends on believers' everyday lifestyles and attitudes. NSE reminds delegates that expressing the gospel is a mindset, not a program. It goes beyond attendance and participation, calling for a change in the believer's approach to people and openness to moments when the Holy Spirit interrupts one's agenda.

Jesus has commanded us to make disciples. The harvest is ready, and we're the ones He has sent. And it starts by walking right across the room, the parking lot, the street.



Photos by Captain Antonio Romero

"Ingage" engages youth



For the last four years, Phil Barrett, corps administrator of the Brown County, Ind., Corps, and the pastors of two other churches (New Life and Hoosier Harvest) have combined their youth forces for "Ingage," a three-day discipleship training program aimed at young people in grades six through twelve. This year 80 young people participated in training sessions each day and attended praise and teaching meetings each evening.

Phil's sessions were on personal evangelism, a key component of which included writing and presenting succinct testimonies of faith. To put these new-found skills into practice, Phil obtained permission to hold an open-air meeting on the Brown County courthouse steps in the central square of Nashville,

Ind., a charming, old-fashioned town. Ringed by gift stores, boutiques, restaurants and specialty shops, the square attracts many tourists, said Phil.

The youth, although nervous, rose to the occasion magnificently, Phil reported. Alternating musical performances with testimonies, they did "an amazing job."

Phil said, "They weren't preaching at people but merely sharing what God had done in their lives."

As the crowd formed, some people stayed for the whole meeting. Others listened for a while. One woman wept the entire time.

The summer open-air proved to be so successful, repeat meetings will take place during the popular fall-colors tourist season, this time with adults ready to pray with people!

A focused ministry

Majors Dan and Marty Hudson retired this year after nearly five decades. Their officership was marked by a deep commitment to correctional ministries and a life-long learning mentality.

Commissioners Raymond and Merlyn Cooper conducted their retirement ceremony, which took place in St. Louis, Mo. A brass ensemble played while Lt. Colonel Gordon Spicer welcomed guests. Chief Secretary Colonel Merle Heatwole gave the invocation.

Highlights of the afternoon included reflections from the Hudsons' daughter, Caressa, and grandson, Brandan. Guests also enjoyed a luncheon, music and scripture reading.

Dan and Marty met while cadets at the School for Officers' Training in Atlanta, Ga., and were commissioned in 1966. They came to the

Central Territory—for what was supposed to be no longer than five years—about 30 years ago. After a few corps appointments, they served 17 years at Midland Divisional Headquarters in prison ministries.

In 1994 Marty was honored to attend the International College for Officers. In the appointment from which Marty retired, she maintained a volunteer base of over 80 people who faithfully wrote to over 300 inmates. In every appointment Marty was appreciated for her joyful spirit and upbeat personality.

Over the last 21 years Dan has continued his education, earning a bachelor's degree in corrections ministries and theology, a masters in counseling and religious education, doctorates in religion and psychology and counseling.

The Hudsons retired to Lake Sherwood, Mo.



Majors Dan and Marty Hudson with Commissioners Raymond and Merlyn Cooper and flagbearers Major Joyce Wakefield and Captain Fred Wakefield.

STEPs value for my corps

by Major Rose Eagle

When the Logansport, Ind., Corps was selected as a pilot site in our division for the STEPs (Strategic Tool to Engage Potential) program, I thought, "Well great, here we go again with another new evaluation tool." I wondered if it would be just one more thing to add to my already busy schedule.

But as I learned about it, I started to get excited. Our corps had begun growing since moving to our new location a few months earlier, and I wondered if STEPs could bring old timers and new comers together for continued growth.

It didn't take long to realize I was being handed a valuable gift as the corps officer. The process wasn't about what I was doing or what I thought could be done, but what the corps as a whole could achieve.

My husband and I participated in training, and dates were set for a divisional headquarters (DHQ) team visit. I still had reservations since past reviews took many hours of work before a DHQ team arrived. However, I found STEPs different. Yes, I had work to do, but it was a matter of making copies for team members and answering their questions.

We held three meetings before our DHQ team arrived. The first provided the corps STEPs team the paperwork with an explanation of how to fill out each section; the second covered specific questions; the third gave the team the final numbers that had been tabulated and selected the areas our corps would focus on.

The DHQ team was super. They helped us set goals and put an action plan in place. The process was unbelievably valuable—and fun! As team members shared ideas, they were written on poster board and hung on the wall. This encouraged people to share freely. From this resource our goals and action plan emerged.



One of the things I like best about STEPs is that no matter its size a corps can select and customize two or three goals for the year. This helps us see tangible results sooner and keeps our corps motivated.

Each month our corps council reviews our goals to see how we're doing. Our STEPs partner from DHQ contacts me every two to

three months to hear about our successes and challenges and to see how DHQ can help. One of our goals this year was to offer more

leadership opportunities for corps members. I am thrilled two corps members attended Central Bible Leadership Institute for the first time, we have two new Sunday school teachers, and a sign-up sheet for worship service participation has been well received. People who've never participated are now leading the call to worship, praying and reading scripture.

I am excited about what will happen in the next few years through the STEPs process and believe, based on what I've seen, it will help us grow and better serve our community.



Lakewood Temple KaBoom!ed

by Cadet Gregory Ehler

The early morning quiet in Maplewood, Minn., was shattered by an army of volunteers. They had converged, 248 strong, to brave high temperatures and, in one day, build a playground for the Lakewood Temple, Minn., Corps. With a day camp and before and afterschool programs averaging 60-70 children daily, an enclosed outside play area was sorely needed.

Majors Jim and Candy Curl, corps officers, contacted the KaBoom! organization, which, with Foresters life insurance company, raised the majority of the \$70,000 needed, organized weekly conference calls, and helped to organize volunteers. After meeting with the children at Lakewood Temple, the KaBoom! planners designed the playground the kids had drawn and prepared to build.

Thursday was prep-day: lumber was cut and organized by job, post holes were dug, materials were

delivered, including a 53-foot trailer of mulch and tons of ready mix concrete, and the first supports were put in place. The farthest traveling volunteers—from Alaska—arrived.

On Saturday, 248 volunteers, divided into teams, attacked the materials like a well-trained force. They made benches, slides, shade structures, an outdoor classroom, garbage can enclosures, and a tri-cycle path.

In only six hours, the backyard of the corps changed from a muddy spot by the street to a brand new playground. A fence was installed on Monday, and the playground was open to the children on Tuesday. What a blessing!



Army "a perfect fit!"

The adventure into officership for Majors John and Margaret Crampton began and ended at the Royal Oak, Mich., Corps, which provided a meaningful setting for their retirement service.

Majors Thomas and Jacalyn Bowers, Western Michigan and Northern Indiana divisional leaders, conducted the ceremony for the Cramptons, who retired from their last appointments as the La Porte, Ind., corps officers. Participants in the service included Majors Matt and Patricia Grindle and Majors Timothy and Debra Pascoe. Debra expressed her deep appreciation to the Cramptons for their friendship and making her family part of theirs when they came to the division five years ago.

Salvationists John and Margaret married in 1966 and had two daughters. John's U.S. Air Force career meant the family had to move several times. Hoping to provide his family with some stability after his discharge, John earned a bachelor's degree in religion and psychology.

Soon after graduating in 1981, John received two job offers: one from a church, the other from a corps. God's directional guidance came individually through the



Cramptons' devotions: John's was on "being a good soldier," while Margaret's read, "If the shoe fits, there's no room for growth!"

The Cramptons assisted at the Royal Oak Corps as envoys, then at the Pontiac Corps before spending the next several years leading the corps in Farmington Hills, then Midland, Mich., as auxiliary captains. In 1991 they became captains and served as corps officers in Missouri. Ten years later they were promoted to majors and continued serving as corps officers in Minnesota, Michigan and Indiana. Additionally, the Cramptons served as officer counselors from 2006 until 2010.

Recipe for Living

by Carol Shoults

Conventional wisdom would indicate that Central Music Institute (CMI) would be all about music, but CMI 2012 offered so much more. During a summer of severe drought, the torrential downpour that descended on Camp Wonderland during registration was refreshing. Even the ensuing two-hour power outage didn't dampen the enthusiasm and excitement during the enrollment of 215 students.

By the end of registration day, students were auditioned and placed into six bands and two choirs, as well as tested and assigned to dozens of theory, technique and creative arts electives, including Bible, dance, praise band, drama, visual arts, conducting, beginning keyboard, instrument repair, leadership, Glee-M-I and the ever popular CMI-TV.

Typical of CMI, there were daily opportunities for spiritual growth as students and faculty studied Romans 12:9-21 which provides a precise recipe for Christian living. A CMI tradition for more than three decades, "Sealed Orders" presented a time each day for a quiet and personal encounter with God.

CMI also provided many opportunities for new friendships within the Central Territory and beyond as 27 students came from Argentina, Bolivia, Denmark, England, Korea, Panama, Sweden, and Switzerland (via Haiti). Language challenges

were easily overcome as students and staff used the international language of music to "live in harmony with one another."

From welcome night to the final Sunday service, CMI was blessed by guests Canadian Salvationists John and Jane Lam, passionate music educators who spiritually inspired and musically challenged virtually every instrumental and vocal student and instructor.

Saturday evening guest artist night drew a packed house to hear the popular Christian band, Gungor. While even the most discerning musician would be impressed by their virtuoso skills on guitar, keyboard, cello and drums, everyone was blessed by the lyrics conveyed through masterfully contagious melodies. To say Michael Gungor and company were exciting would be an understatement!

weeks earlier. As two Sikhs shared their experience and attitude of forgiveness, listeners were filled with compassion and then united in prayer.

The final weekend came all too quickly. At the Saturday awards festival, territorial leaders

Commissioners Paul R. and Carol Seiler honored student achievements with trophies, special recognitions and a host of CMI Alumni scholarships. [See box.]

"I am impressed with the wonderful giftedness of this group, which gives me a sense of peace for the future of the Army," said Commissioner Paul Seiler.

On the last Sunday, the territorial commander's message focused on being overcomers in faith by following God's recipe for living. Displaying a watery jar of his homemade peach jam that hadn't jelled because he didn't follow the directions exactly, he drove home his point. "If we follow the recipe for our lives found in Romans 12:9-21 we will bring honor and glory to God," he said. Many responded during the time of commitment.

"We have spent our time together drawing close to God, while we have learned how we can use our musical gifts better to praise and honor Him," Bandmaster Himes reflected as CMI 2012 came to a prayerful close.

Interspersing his sermon throughout the first Sunday morning worship service, Bandmaster William Himes explored Romans 12:11: "Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord."

He identified three conditions for maintaining spiritual fervor. First, strength comes from the Lord, not ourselves. Second, it is up to us to stay connected to God's power, and third, it's essential to stay in fellowship with God's people.

On Wednesday evening CMI experienced a real life application of Romans 12:15, "Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn," as CMI chaplain Captain Tom McComb welcomed a delegation from the Sikh Temple in Oak Creek, Wis., which had been attacked by a gunman who killed six of their members just two



Photos by Carol Shoults, Caitlyn Tennyson, Laura Allan, Rick Vogeneity and Chard McDonald

CMI awards



Camp Lake Band (1st Place)
Josiah Sell (Bismarck, N.D.)
 Rachel Grindle-Phelps Scholarship

Shagbark Band (1st Place)
Janneth Poma (Bolivia)
 Frank and Gladys Botu Award

Temple Band (1st Place)
Caleb Sanchez (Lakewood Temple, Minn.)
 Ruth Hatfield Scholarship

Hilltop Chorus (1st Place)
Christiana Kmecheck (Marinette, Wis.)
 Victor Danielson Scholarship

Tabernacle Band (1st Place)
Dakota Reeves (Oak Creek Centennial, Wis.)
 Paton Family Scholarship

Citadel Band (1st Place)
Morgan Marinelli (Norridge Citadel, Ill.)
 Donald Hanton Scholarship

Booth Chorale (1st Place)
Angelyn Montanez
 (Wichita West Orchard, Kan.)
 Douglas Norris Scholarship

Wonderland Band (1st Place)
Manuel Munoz (Waco, Texas)
 William and Katherine Scarlett Scholarship

Ernest and Mary Miller Vocal Soloist Award
Alex Miller (Rochester, Minn.)

Marjorie Marshall Piano Award
Goeun Woo (Korea)

Flint Citadel Uden-McDougall Percussion Award
Zane Koehler (Oakbrook Terrace, Ill.)

Ray Wright Tuba Award
Jesse Luhn (Oak Creek Centennial, Wis.)

Earle Hanton Euphonium Award
Taylor McComb (Oak Creek Centennial, Wis.)

John R. Cheyne Trombone Award
Ed Mylechreest (United Kingdom)

Howard Chesham Horn Award
Richard Borsella III (Kansas City Northland, Mo.)

Ron Rowland Cornet Award
Manuel Munoz (Waco, Texas)

Harry Strissel Most Improved Musician Award
Shane Byrns (Princeton, Ind.)

Ramsdale-Jaudes-Boyer Rookie Award
Caleb Sanchez (Lakewood Temple, Minn.)

Fischer Award
Richard Borsella III —Conducting
 (Kansas City Northland, Mo.)

David Hellstrom —Conducting
 (Rockford Temple, Ill.)

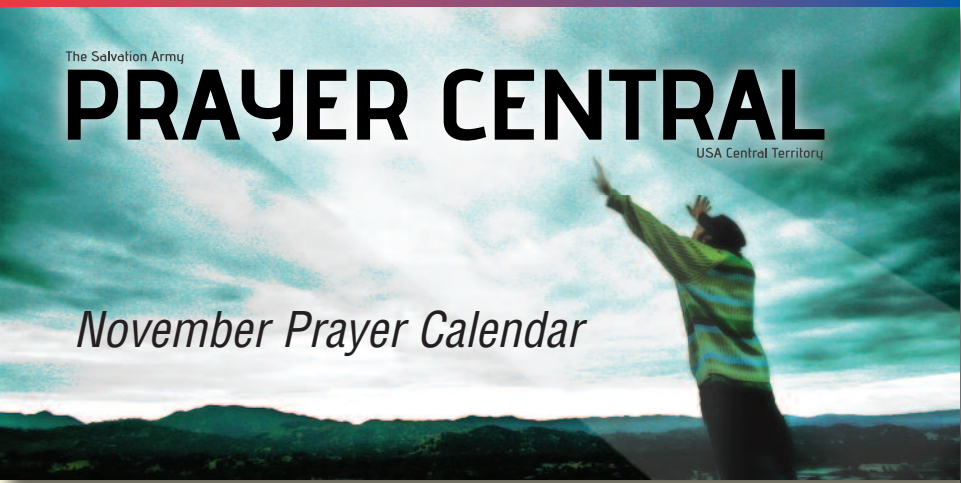
Bernard Smith Conducting Award
Ed Mylechreest (United Kingdom)

Majors William and Jean Stuart Award
Fred Mbesi (Royal Oak, Mich.)

Lois and Len Duguay Spirit of CMI Award
Kelly McBride (Norridge Citadel, Ill.)

Ben Merritt Award
Clayton Cox (Oakbrook Terrace, Ill.)
 Arthur Shoults Scholarship

Crosby O'Neil Cornet
Oak Creek Centennial, Wis., Corps



My Prayer List	Day	Bible Reading	Pray for The Salvation Army
	1 Thursday	Ecclesiastes 3-4	Milwaukee, Wis., ARC*
	2 Friday	Zephaniah	Flint Citadel, Mich., Corps
	3 Saturday	Acts 11-12	Madison Genesis, Wis., Corps
	4 Sunday	James 4-5	Galesburg, Ill., Corps
	5 Monday	Deuteronomy 1-3	Indianapolis Eagle Creek, Ind., Corps
	6 Tuesday	2 Chronicles 33-36	Kansas City Citadel, Kan., Corps
	7 Wednesday	Psalms 128-130	Cicero Templo Laramie, Ill., Corps
	8 Thursday	Ecclesiastes 5-6	St. Louis, Mo., Booth Manor
	9 Friday	Haggai	Caribbean Territory PIM
	10 Saturday	Acts 13-14	Hibbing, Minn., Corps
	11 Sunday	1 Peter 1-3	Kearney, Neb., Corps
	12 Monday	Deuteronomy 4-6	Metropolitan DHQ**
	13 Tuesday	Ezra 1-5	Jackson, Mich., Corps
	14 Wednesday	Psalms 131-133	Madison Temple, Wis., Corps
	15 Thursday	Ecclesiastes 7-8	Major Michelle & Captain Deon Oliver (Australia)
	16 Friday	Zechariah 1-7	Minneapolis, Minn., ARC
	17 Saturday	Acts 15-16	Hillsdale, Mich., Corps
	18 Sunday	1 Peter 4-5	Iowa City, Iowa, Corps
	19 Monday	Deuteronomy 7-9	Indianapolis Fountain Square, Ind., Corps
	20 Tuesday	Ezra 6-10	Kansas City Northland, Mo., Corps
	21 Wednesday	Psalms 134-136	Crystal Lake, Ill., Corps
	22 Thursday	Ecclesiastes 9-10	Thank God for the blessings He gives!
	23 Friday	Zechariah 8-14	Jacksonville, Ill., Corps
	24 Saturday	Acts 17-18	International Falls, Minn., Corps
	25 Sunday	1 John 1-2	Lincoln, Neb., Corps
	26 Monday	Deuteronomy 10-12	Kalamazoo, Mich., Corps
	27 Tuesday	Nehemiah 1-4	Manitowoc, Wis., Corps
	28 Wednesday	Psalms 137-139	Livingston County, Mich., Corps
	29 Thursday	Ecclesiastes 11-12	Kankakee, Ill., Corps
	30 Friday	Malachi	Christmas Kettle Campaigns

* = Adult Rehabilitation Center
 ** = Divisional Headquarters
 PIM = Partners in Mission

Go to www.prayercentralusa.org for prayer updates.

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



General John Larsson plays *Glory!* and *The Blood of the Lamb*

The third in the series of CDs featuring General John Larsson playing piano arrangements of songs from the Gowans and Larsson musicals has been released. The CD highlights music from their two musicals based on Salvation Army history and comes complete with a 32-page book of the lyrics by General John Gowans.

Glory! brings to the stage the classic stories of early-day Army life told by Edward Joy in *The Old Corps*, and features songs like "There is a message," "When the glory gets into your soul" and "As high as the sky."

The Blood of the Lamb is based on Vachel Lindsay's epic poem "General William Booth enters into Heaven," and, very fittingly in this the centenary year of the Founder's promotion to Glory, portrays William Booth leading into Heaven the great multitude he has won for Christ. Songs include "There's only one flag for me" and "They shall come from the east, they shall come from the west."

For sample tracks and further information about the series visit www.johnlarsson.com

John Larsson plays Glory! and The Blood of the Lamb is available from Resource Connection at 1-800-937-8896 or www.shop.salvationarmy.org — as are the first two CDs.



--Mustard Seeds--



EDS on scene of Sikh shooting

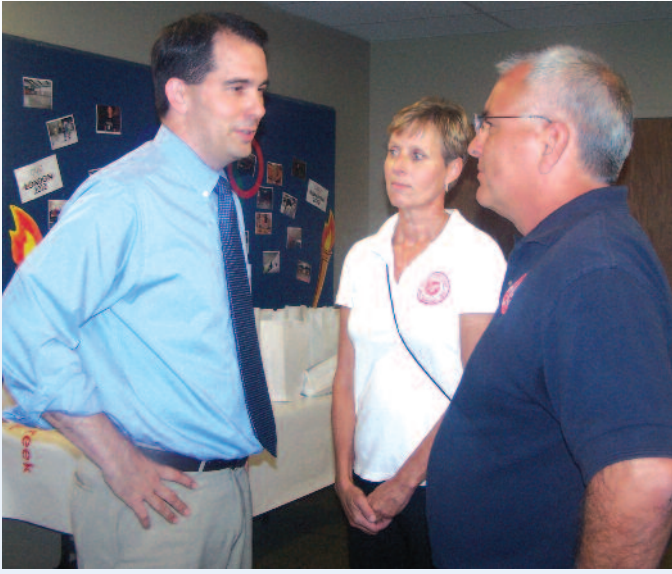
Salvation Army emergency disaster services (EDS) personnel were quickly on the scene August 5, 2012, after a gunman killed six people before losing his own life at a Sikh Temple in Oak Creek, Wis.

"The local police received their first call here about 10:30 a.m. The Oak Creek Corps is less than a mile from the Sikh Temple, and they were quick to respond," said Stan Kelley, Wisconsin and Upper Michigan development director. "A canteen from the Waukesha, Wis., emergency disaster services team responded and was at the scene by 11:00 a.m."

Since there was no clear motive for the shooting, the scene was treated as a domestic terrorism incident, with investigators from several agencies and emergency services converging rapidly on the site. It was secured by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) until shortly after 6:00 p.m., during which time The Salvation Army provided food, drinks and emotional and spiritual support to responders and survivors.

"I was deeply moved at the warmth and compassion of the Sikh community, not only for each other, but also for the aid workers. Some showed concern for the family of the gunman, wanting to make sure there were people to counsel with them as well," said Captain Tom McComb, Oak Creek corps officer. "We pray that God continues to comfort them and help them through this time of tremendous loss."

Sikh Temple leaders held a press conference the next day at the Oak Creek Centennial, Wis., Corps to



Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker (l) thanks Terri Leece, Wisconsin and Upper Michigan (WUM) disaster services director, and Tom Thuecks, WUM divisional service extension director, for the support and comfort provided after the shooting.

share their sorrow over the senseless shooting and express their gratitude to Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker, Oak Creek city officials and police department, federal agencies, first responders and the community-at-large for the outpouring of support.

At Captain McComb's invitation eight members of the Sikh community came to the Wednesday night meeting at Central Music Institute (CMI), where he was the chaplain. After Tom interviewed two Sikhs about their religion and the recent tragedy, he expounded on the day's scripture—chosen months in advance—"Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn" (Romans 12:15, NIV). When he invited the delegation to stand indicating they were ready to be used by God to minister to others in all situations, the response was unanimous.

This fall Oak Creek Corps soldiers and members of the Sikh Temple will join together in taking an EDS curriculum course in disaster preparedness.

"I anticipate the day will come when we'll serve side-by-side together in the future," said Tom.

Photo by Faithie Colias

Noble Corps adds dynamic Korean ministry

by Craig Dirkes

The Noble Corps in Brooklyn Park, Minn., this year spawned a new Korean ministry that has almost tripled in attendance and has produced two new soldiers who hope to become officers.

South Korea natives Danny Lee and Christine Bae were enrolled as soldiers during the Northern Division's annual pilgrimage at Northwoods Camp in Finlayson, Minn. The couple and their 9-year-old daughter started attending Noble's Korean Outpost ministry when it began in January with 10 people. Weekly attendance is now approaching 30.

Danny and Christine "have a passion for God and a heart to serve others," said Captain Alex Lim, who leads the Noble Corps with his wife, Captain Chris Lim. "They are very talented in music and performing arts."

The couple have years of experience serving in Korean ministries in both South Korea and America, with an emphasis on helping the homeless and underprivileged children. Alex recently hired Danny as a part-time youth worker at the Noble Corps.

"Their goal is to get trained under us for a year and then go to officer training college next fall," said Alex. "I personally believe they have great potential to become good officers."



Lt. Colonel Daniel Sjögren, Northern divisional commander, enrolls Christine Bae and Danny Lee, supported by their corps officers Captains Chris and Alex Lim as flagbearers.

Promoted to Glory

Captain Dean Sanders

Captain Dean Sanders, 76, was promoted to glory on July 12, 2012. His wife and sons were by his side.



Dean was born to Wilbur and Mildred in Lincoln, Ill., in 1936. He was invited as a child by Captain David Amick to Sunday school, where he became involved in The Salvation Army and accepted Christ as Savior.

He married Bonnie Lane in 1959, and they were blessed with three children. They were soldiers in Lincoln until 1985 when Dean and Bonnie left to be envoys in Ludington, Mich. In 1987 they became auxiliary captains, leading three other corps in Michigan and receiving the full rank of captain in 1999.

After retiring in 2002 the Sanders led Salvation Army operations at the service extension center in Lincoln.

Before Dean ministered fulltime in The Salvation Army, he proudly served in the U.S. Army.

Dean is survived by his wife, children Anthony, Timothy and Jeane (Anthony) Davis; seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Lt. Colonel James Davis

Lt. Colonel James Davis was promoted to Glory on August 7, 2012. He was 83 years old.



Born to Salvation Army soldiers in 1928, James was the eleventh of 12 children. His parents made sure James went to Sunday school, and as a small boy he committed his heart to Jesus.

He struggled during his teen years but recommitted his life to Christ, and in so doing felt a calling to fulltime Christian service.

James was commissioned in 1949 with the Peacemakers Session and served at corps in Indiana before marrying his sessionmate Lt. Jean Elliott in 1951. Together, they served at corps in Indiana, Iowa and Michigan.

In 1976 he was appointed to the territorial legal department and retired as territorial legal and legacy secretary in 1993.

James valued higher education, enjoyed music and even worked as a certified piano teacher before entering training. He also loved to travel and was a member of "Who's Who" among U.S. Executives for 1989.

James is survived by his wife, children Susan (Cary) Ell, Stanley and Joyce, and two grandchildren.

Quincy Kroc

Continued from page 1

The Kroc Center has enabled the corps to share the gospel with more people, many of whom otherwise may never have attended church.

"It amazes me to consider what God has accomplished through the generosity of Joan Kroc, the dedication of our staff and the buy-in from our community," said Major Dan Jennings, senior Kroc Center

officer. "We set out to become a place where people are inspired to reach higher, invited to become more deeply involved, and instructed by God's Word. Countless blessings have been seen as a result of those efforts. And, we are only getting started. Wait until you see what we will attempt for God's Kingdom in year two!"

