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We’ve used the phrase “ignite creativity.” What are some other ways of looking at this? Thought about this picture for brain functions for different times and places. To get creative, either unleash the hidden right brain in existing workers (jwes, hard work) or seek out people who show strong right-brain traits and match them up with left-brainers so the ideas get follow-through. (Aha—the body of Christ celebrating different gifts rather than judging them? Read 1 Corinthians 12:4-31)
Newly accepted candidates

Shannon Forney
St. Louis Gateway Citadel, Mo., Corps
Midland Division

I grew up a fourth-generation Salvationist and officers’ child. I began a personal relationship with Jesus when I was six and started serving at my corps. I’ve taught Sunday school, timbrels and dance team. During the summers I worked at Salvation Army camps, including music camp faculty for the last two years, and served on two summer mission teams. I also was a ministry intern at the Belleville, Ill., Corps.

I heard the call to officership three years ago while living in the Western Territory. A phone conversation with a friend helped me realize I didn’t have to give up my dreams to follow God’s will for my life. I could achieve everything I wanted through ministry in The Salvation Army. It is with great joy and excitement that I’ve begun this new chapter of my life.

Shannon’s corps officers were Majors Kirk and Carol Schuets.

Cristian and Brook Lopez
Albert Lea, Minn., Corps
Northern Division

We are extremely blessed and excited to move forward in our calling to officership. When we accepted Christ into our hearts and answered God’s call on our lives, everything started to change in astonishing ways. Doors opened, and God’s blessings reached our souls.

We each accepted Christ separately in 2008. Cristian during a Baptist church service, and Brook at the Albert Lea Corps when Captain Lee Brickson’s message of salvation spoke to her heart. After tornadoes struck the area in 2009, Cristian began volunteering for the corps and felt God calling him to serve people as an officer.

In June 2010 we answered our call to officership together during commissioning weekend.

The Lopezes’ corps officers were Captains Jim and Lee Brickson.

Curtis Lunnam
Ypsilanti, Mich., Corps
Eastern Michigan Division

I was raised by wonderful Salvation Army parents at the Wichita West, Kan., Corps, where I was saved as a child. I ended up in the “life-saving” business, joining the U.S. Army and then becoming a Kansas law enforcement officer, volunteer fire fighter, 911 dispatcher and sheriff.

In the fall of 1998 I began volunteering with Salvation Army emergency disaster services. During that time I fell in love with Lt. Laura Schultz, we eventually were married, I reconfirmed my life to the Lord and began serving and living for Him. I realized all the work I did meant nothing if I couldn’t lead others to the saving knowledge of Jesus. This was true “life-saving.”

Serving the last two years at the Pontiac, Mich., Corps, I saw God move mountains for me to fulfill this calling. I claim Jeremiah 29:11 for myself and my family. While my son, Michael, 19, has stayed in Kansas, Christopher, 11, and Nathaniel, 5, have come with us to Chicago.

Curtis’ corps officer was Envoy Jim Buelt.

Crystal Sherack
Springfield, Mo., Corps
Midland Division

Though I grew up in a non-Christian home, my mom always made sure my sister and I attended church. When I was 12, we were invited by the corps sentiment major in Jacksonville, Ill., to attend Sunday school and character-building programs at the corps. I was saved at age 13 while attending girl guard camp.

Two years later at youth councils, I heard the call to officership during a Future Officership Fellowship luncheon. Throughout high school I acknowledged my calling to officership and prepared; I believed every class eventually would be helpful. I even was on my school’s speech and drama team to develop confidence in public speaking.

To further my preparation for officership, I attended Southern Illinois University for two years, during which time I felt even more affirmed in my calling. This year I served as a ministry intern in Springfield, Mo.

Crystal’s corps officers were Majors Norman and Claire Graunger and Major Normaleane Daniels.

International Leaders Conference

Continued from page 1

commissioner Barry C. Swanson, the last working session reviewed recommendations from the small groups and plenary sessions where the eight papers had been discussed. Many of the action points and promises will be for the personal attention of individual leaders. Others concerning the global Army were either accepted by the General or will be given further detailed consideration through the due processes of International Headquarters, including the International Management Council, chaired by the General.

In her final message, General Bond referred to the prayer of Christ that they may be one as we are one” (John 17:11). She highlighted the significance of the mercy seat in the spiritual life of the Army and declared, “The ground is level at the foot of the cross and that is the place where we can truly be as one.” Leaders responded to her call as the General referred them to the declaration of intention and commitment which had been prepared for the occasion.

With a heart full of gratitude for the presence, guidance and direction of God the Holy Spirit throughout this conference, and in a spirit of unity, I pledge to regularly review the action promises I have made and to ensure, by God’s grace, that they are fulfilled.

In promoting the global vision of One Army, One Mission, One Message, I firmly embrace the part I am called to play and will do so through example, influence and the encouragement of those within my spiritual care.

I pray this in the strength and grace of my Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, to whom I owe everything.

Compiled from International News Releases
Hot days, cool fun

by Stephanie Denton

This summer the Grand Rapids, Mich., Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Store offered a bevvy of free, friendly outdoor activities.

Family Movie Night events feaured a giant slip and slide, entertainment, and popular movies like Dolphin Tale and The Muppets. The Kroc Center concession stand served up hot dogs, beverages, and other treats for purchase. Additionally, on select Saturday afternoons through August, children and adults could experience the Kroc Center’s giant outdoor slip and slide.

“Our goal is to keep families, especially children, cool and active this summer in a safe and fun environment,” said Major Marc Johnson, Kroc Center senior officer. “We’re excited to be able to offer free events to our community.”

The Grand Rapids Kroc Center is a 105,000-square-foot facility that sits on a 20-acre campus and encompasses a holistic approach to recreation, worship, arts and education for everyone in the community.

Buildng mighty bridges

Twenty-six years ago, the Warren, Mich., Kroc Corps figuratively opened its door to people in crisis through its shelter. Now its door is literally open.

“When we arrived last year, the door to our adjoining shelter facility was always kept locked,” said Major Kevin Van Zee, corps officer. “We now keep it open whenever possible to help build relationships between residents and corps members. We’ve had a marked increase in residents attending on Sunday mornings,” he continued.

“It’s a great blend of adults and young people, from long-time soldiers to first-time visitors from the shelter, community programs and social services,” Kevin added, noting three teens were enrolled as senior soldiers earlier this year.

The Van Zees were involved in shelter ministries in four prior appointments. “Our experiences taught us to love people in their uniqueness,” said Christie. “We’ve seen how God has used all of our experiences to train, develop and grow us as leaders.”

Flyers for corps programs and events are posted in the shelter, and the shelter director’s office was moved to the corps’ administrative wing to increase traffic. Corps members are encouraged not only to welcome residents but to reciprocal visits to the shelter’s common areas.

Corps youth activities attract 60 kids, from preschoolers to teens, each Tuesday night for character-building groups, tutoring, supper, a chapel service and open gym. Wednesday nights bring corps cadets and two Bible studies, Thursday nights are for women’s ministries, focus groups and praise team practice, and Friday nights bring youth sports leagues.

By 6:00 p.m. opening day, the new store had raised $20,000. It is merchandised so shoppers can continue to fund our drug and alcohol treatment, and popular movies like Star Wars, the Grand Budapest Hotel, and Slide. We’ve been struggling for the last 15 years to continue to fund our drug and alcohol facilities. I’m praying that this helps open the door to a whole new way of things.”

By 6:00 p.m. opening day, the new store had raised $20,000. The ARC and other centers, such as the Harbor Light, in Indianapolis were able to help nearly 2,300 men and women struggling to overcome substance abuse in 2011. For avid resale shopper Tina Dixon, who was one of the first in line, the story beyond the cash register was new. She said, “It’s nice to know that the money stays in the community.”

Yecks’ noble service

By Craig Dirkes

Majors Doug and Linda Yeck were honored for 32 years of service during a retirement celebration at the Noble Corps in Brooklyn Park, Minn.

The Yecks entered the School for Officers’ Training in Chicago in 1978, seven years after they were married. They held a rainy day in their hometown of Muskegon, Mich., in the mid-1960s. They were commissioned in 1980 with the Proclaimers of Salvation session.

Their first appointment as officers was in Bushville, Ind., followed by four years serving overseas in Singapore. In Singapore, the majors adopted a daughter, Elizabeth, who was living at The Salvation Army Kuching, Malaysia Children’s Home. Elizabeth is now married and has two children.
very month since
November 2011, the Bay City, Mich., Corps has held a food giveaway event ben-

The Bay City area was hit hard
by the economy, according to
Majors Mike and Shirley Myers, corps officers. “Providing extra food
helps families budget their money
more effectively for other neces-
sities, such as rent, mortgage pay-
ments and utilities,” said Mike.

Supported by local donations and
the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan,
the event is also made possible by the
faithful work of two dozen
Salvation Army volunteers each
month, some of whom are also food recipients. According to Mike, dis-

by Craig Dirkes

The Salvation
Army in St Paul,
Minn., this sum-
mer opened a
youth shelter.

The Booth
Brown House
shelter includes
11 beds for
homeless youth
ages 18-21. For
up to 30 days
youth may sleep,
est and regroup
from street life at
the shelter. Staff
members evaluate
their health
needs and help
them find a
home, job or
enroll in school. The shelter hopes
to engage volunteers in tutoring,
life-skills training and cooking.

The shelter fills a rising need.
The number of homeless youth in
this age bracket in Minnesota has
grown 57 percent since 2006,
according to an October 2009 study
by the Wilder Foundation in its
most recent report.

The shelter is funded by a three-
year grant from the Otto Bremer
Foundation.

“Booth Brown House, along with
five other service providers, is
working in collaboration with the
Otto Bremer Foundation to take
youth off the streets,” said Major
Arnel Ruppel, Booth Brown House
administrator. “We want to help
youth find help, a home and hope.”

by Megan Gandee

Sadly, today many aging
Americans suffer from
hunger, poverty and
loneliness. In fact, a
recent study, “Senior
Hunger in America in
2012,” revealed the
threat of hunger
for U.S. seniors has
increased 78 percent
in the last 10 years.
And with the 55-
plus age group being
one of the fastest
growing, Salvation
Army older adult
ministries are more
important than ever.

D.D. Launderville, senior services
director in Omaha, Neb., is passion-
ate about her work, and rightfully
so. She’s been invested since the
day she helped open Durham Booth
Manor, a residential home for low-
income seniors, as well as the Dora
Bingel Senior Center 16 years ago.

Durham Booth Manor boasts 47
one-bedroom apartments and is
home to 51 residents, averaging 79
years in age. The entire facility is
managed and operated by only two
employees!

There’s so much loss. Loss could
be losing children, a spouse, health,
eyesight, hearing, or even the abili-
ty to drive. So, we find ways to cel-
ebrate life,” D.D. explained.

Birthdays, memorial services and
holidays are never missed, and
theme parties are common. For
instance, during the royal wedding
last year, they enjoyed wedding
cake. Outside of the parties, games,
regular movie viewings and “quick
trips” to places like the ice cream
carousel, the center has educational
opportunities such as ceram-
ics classes, quilting and tai chi.

In addition to emotional
support, many seniors
attend simply for a good
meal. According to D.D.,
the average annual income
of the residents is a meager
$10,900. Thankfully,
Durham Booth Manor
provides a solution for them.

“We meet them where
they are, and we see mira-
cles here all the time. These
people are accepted, they
thrive and they really shine.
That’s the celebration of life
again, and I am so blessed
that these folks are here,”
said D.D.

The Omaha Senior Services staff: seated (l to r) Mary Savaged, D.D.
Launderville; standing (l to r) Phyllis Butkus, Cindy Schlach Momentum,
Tallissa Estwick, and Lisa Rainbolt.
Since the Western Michigan and Northern Indiana Division set a goal last October in the new STEPs (Strategic Tool to Engage Potential) process to enroll soldiers in every corps, 51 senior and 30 junior soldiers have joined the ranks of God’s Army. The emphasis is simply called OneMore4Jesus. Here are three stories of how corps are growing in this wonderful division led by Majors Tom and Jackie Bowers.

A surge in corps growth, including six new families, at the Michigan City, Ind., Corps has resulted in the enrollment of nine senior and two junior soldiers, report Majors Brian and Lee Ann Burkett, corps officers. And, there’s a potential of five or more new soldiers at the end of their next recruits’ class.

The Burketts were particularly thrilled to enroll their son, Evan, as a senior soldier. “Evan has been called to officership, and God is using him right now in our growth among young people,” said Lee Ann. “We’re a small corps; our attendance had averaged around 30 people, but over the last six months, we’ve been averaging more than 50!” she continued. “We believe people are looking for something to be a part of that’s making a difference, not only in our community but in the world. Obviously that is The Salvation Army.”

The Burketts encourage corps ownership by its members. “We tell our people, ‘This is your corps; we’re just here temporarily,’” said Lee Ann. “We have wonderful people and local leadership. We all work hard to reach out into our community, but it’s our corps members who’ve assumed responsibility for follow-up. It makes a big difference when newcomers realize they’re not just being loved by the pastors.”

Lee Ann has never before met soldiers who are so eager and proud to wear their uniforms. “Folks get real excited about it, even our teens and junior soldiers,” she said. When asked, one soldier said it’s just as crucial for soldiers to wear uniforms because “we’re as important to God’s mission as are officers!”

A Sunday morning breakfast club, prepared and financially supported by corps members, is open to anyone. “Our breakfast guests are invited to come as they are, and they’re encouraged to stay for the worship service after the meal,” said Lee Ann. The corps also offers well-attended youth programs, special-activity nights, corps cadets, a men’s fellowship and three women’s ministries groups.

“We strive for all activities to be inclusive of our community,” Lee Ann added. Plans include the start of several Bible studies for men, women and teens, as well as a fellowship ministry for special-needs children and their mothers. A soldier’s granddaughter challenged with disabilities has long been welcomed and loved by the corps. “Although Ciana doesn’t understand a lot, it was just as important for her to be wheeled onto the platform for her junior soldier enrollment as any other child,” Lee Ann concluded.

A small-group Bible study at the Michigan City, Ind., Corps.

New senior soldiers.

Corps cadets assist with the Sunday-morning breakfast program.
**Sturgis on the rise!**

Envoy DeWayne and Pam Duskin, Sturgis, Mich., corps administrators, are pleased to report the 14 junior soldiers, seven senior soldiers and three adherents enrolled this year began attending the corps not only because of its various ministries but because friends invited friends.

“We believe any person who attends our corps, even a first-time visitor, is a potential soldier,” said DeWayne. “We need to engage them quickly!”

Some of the new soldiers came through youth programs, women’s ministries, weekly Bible studies or a daily feeding program. Others, who’d been attending the corps for a while, decided to join after simply being asked by the Duskins, who arrived in Sturgis in 2011.

“I prepared a list and began working to spiritually challenge and grow these individuals,” said DeWayne. “And, they responded to our invitation to become soldiers or adherents.”

Qualities that have attracted and kept people coming to the corps include a caring family atmosphere, a diversity of ages and worship services that aren’t allowed to become stagnant.

When the “OneMore4Jesus” emphasis was introduced last year, DeWayne saw it as simple and realistic. He says he felt it met five key steps: achievability, a challenge requiring effort, commitment across the board, good research and an action plan.

“It was a goal we knew we could achieve with effort and commitment,” he added. “In our case having only one junior soldier at the time was disturbing and a call to action!”

Average attendance of Sunday morning worship at the corps has more than doubled to 50, and recruits’ classes are offered quarterly.

The corps has effectively incorporated community outreaches, such as summer gospel concerts in the public park band shell and a monthly “singspiration” night which recently attracted a record 90 people. Women’s ministries recently completed its first outreach, a mother and daughter tea that attracted 50 guests, more than half of whom were first-time visitors.

**Youth seek to serve**

This year an exceptional group of seven teenagers have been enrolled as senior soldiers at the Holland, Mich., Corps. Though young, they have become servant leaders in their corps.

“Many of these kids go into the kitchen to ask the staff if they can help out,” reported then Corps Officer Major Betty Grindlein in reference to Wednesday night youth program dinners. “A lot of these kids are also involved in school sports and performing arts, but they never use this as an excuse not to be involved in corps activities. They feel it’s an important part of their lives.”

During spring break all seven of the teens spent their vacation serving in the corps’ “staycation” program. Similar to vacation Bible school, “staycation” was a daily camp for children. Organized activities went on all day. The teens helped with Bible class, recreation and crafts. They assisted with kitchen clean-up, and one afternoon made the kitchen into a “concession stand” for a movie activity.

One teenager in particular, Christian Tummel, has shown exceptional leadership. When a key music leader in the corps took a year off to serve in Africa, Christian—a talented musician—offered to cover as praise team leader. It’s a big responsibility and a lot of work, but he’s putting in the time and it’s making a difference. “The team is seeing him as the leader and following his direction,” said Betty.

Adding “TSA Outdoors” to the vacation Bible school curriculum also has proven to be popular, as are periodic DVD-based Bible studies by Max Lucado, Peter Briscoe and other Christian authors.

**Envoy Pam Duskin (l) welcomes Major Debra Pacos and her daughters, Melissa and Jessica, to the corps’ mother-daughter tea.**

**Envoy Pam Duskin (l) at the corps’ mother-daughter tea.**
t the age of 12 Tasha’s mother died, causing her to lose her main source of support, encouragement and love. During the next five years, she moved four times. At each new family member’s home she felt less cared for and started running away. One day on the run, Tasha met Sarah who told her she could provide for herself and have a place to live. She was introduced to Sarah’s “daddy” and told she could “try out” the life for a couple of weeks. She saw no other option.

Since 2006 the Metropolitan Division’s Family and Community Services Department has been helping people trapped in a lifestyle like Tasha’s through its growing and increasingly effective STOP-IT Initiative Against Human Trafficking program. STOP-IT provides comprehensive case management to victims of human trafficking, or a person who has been induced by force, fraud or coercion into commercial sex or forced labor.

Although the commercial sex trade is more prevalent, the STOP-IT program helps a broader range of trafficking victims including those involved in forced labor. Take Sandra, for example. She was a successful woman with a PhD living in the Philippines. She was content with a good job and beautiful family until she was approached by a company that offered her a job in the United States. This job would pay more than she would ever make at home and pay for the higher education of all of her children.

When she arrived in the U.S. the situation changed. She signed a contract which she believed to be binding for a job that offered very little pay and withheld money from what little she received. She was threatened with beatings, deportation and financial consequences. In her own words, Sandra was trapped in slavery.

STOP-IT provides a means of escape. In addition to a 24/7 hotline for victims and referrals, STOP-IT functions to identify victims, aid in their safe exit and connect them with much needed services. “Our outreach workers assist clients one-on-one to help them find a place to stay, a job and secure necessary items and services from state IDs to birth certificates to an attorney,” said Erin Knowles, STOP-IT program manager.

STOP-IT—along with other agencies in the Chicago area—has put Chicago on the map in the fight against human trafficking. In an unprecedented relationship, law enforcement, social services, governmental and medical agencies are collaborating with one common goal: to stop human trafficking in Chicago.

Part of Erin’s job is to educate people about human trafficking and the ways they can help. For more information or training possibilities, call 773-433-5738.

Chicago collaborates to STOP-IT

Seventh Annual International Weekend of Prayer & Fasting for Victims of Sexual Trafficking

SEPTMBER 28-30, 2012

The Salvation Army, the Initiative Against Sexual Trafficking (IAST), and the Faith Alliance Against Slavery and Trafficking (FAAST) invite you to join with them in observing the 7th annual International Weekend of Prayer and Fasting for Victims of Sexual Trafficking. You can join the observance by praying and fasting individually, and by organizing workplace or church-based events of prayer and fasting on behalf of those exploited in the commercial sex industry. Please join with us as we lift our petitions to God to free the captives and loose the chains of injustice.

So we fasted and petitioned our God about this, and he answered our prayer. — EZRA 8:23

Get Ready:
✓ Mark your calendars
✓ Pray and fast in advance
✓ Get materials at: www.traffickingprayerandfasting.org
✓ Educate yourself and others
✓ Partner locally
✓ Plan prayer and fasting events
Morning worship is conducted in Spanish and English, and Sunday English with Spanish translation. As a result, Sunday worship is one body of Christ,” said Jim.

Guardsmen and women’s ministries are offered to Hispanic men’s and women’s congregations, we wanted to blend both cultures as much as possible. Until recently, our Hispanic attendees entered already thriving corps ministries.

“Instead of having two separate congregations, we wanted to blend both cultures as much as possible into one body of Christ,” said Jim. As a result, Sunday worship is up by 35 people, the majority of whom are of Hispanic descent.

To accommodate the different language needs, adult Sunday school classes are offered in Spanish and English, and Sunday morning worship is conducted in English with Spanish translation. However, the mid-week worship service is conducted in Spanish with English translation.

Sunday morning attendance averages 80 people, and mid-week services attract an average of 45. Additionally, there are Spanish-language men’s and women’s ministries groups.

“Both language groups are working hard together to narrow the communications gap,” said Jim. “We recently had our annual Sweethearts Dinner, where all the men prepared and served a plated meal to the ladies of the corps and then did all the clean up. And, we’ve added some Hispanic cultural events to attract un-churched families. Earlier this year we celebrated Epiphany, also known as Three Kings Day.”

“Some local leadership is emerging,” said Jim. “And, we’re seeing spiritual growth in the families themselves. This ministry is growing fast, and we’re thankful to God for the experience.”

The corps recently enrolled its first Hispanic soldiers, Marcos and Lydia Torres.

Eyes of a child

At the Minneapolis, Minn., Harbor Light earlier this year, Envoy Don LaMar, director of corps ministries, watched his daughter, Athena, be enrolled as a junior soldier. “It was overwhelming with emotion,” said the envoy whose 11-year-old son, Isaiah, is also a junior soldier. “I have watched Athena become a Christian by asking Jesus into her heart, and I have been blessed to hear about the many times she has shared God’s love. She is an amazing example of a Christian to everyone around her, especially me.”

Athena shared the gospel with a friend on the playground. She later told her father she and her friend were talking about Easter, and that the boy didn’t know what it really meant.

Victorious service

by Carol Shoults

The Hoskins are flanked by Colonels Dennis and Sharon Strissel and Major Toni Dorell. The Hoskins’ children Peter and Heather are flagbearers.

A retirement celebration was held at Central Territorial Headquarters to recognize the victorious service of Majores James and Mary Hoskin, who retired as territorial risk management secretary and retired officers’ bureau director.

Commissioned in the Western Territory with the Victorious session in 1971, the Hoskins transferred to the Central Territory in 1985. They served in corps and divisional appointments in both territories. Jim also served his country in Viet Nam prior to officership.

Their retirement service highlighted the many connections made throughout the years. Mary was noted for her gifts of hospitality and encouragement. Jim was noted for his sense of humor and infectious joy.

Both Jim and Mary were saluted for the way they care for people and for their continued involvement in frontline corps ministry, when appointed to headquarters positions. They have represented Christ and the Army with dignity and skill, leaving a trail of optimism.

Their four grandchildren participated in the service by suggesting things they’d like to teach their grandparents in retirement, like how to text!

As a last minute add-on, their preschool grandson asked if he could have the microphone and recited 1 Timothy 4:12: “Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.”

It was a perfect verse describing two dedicated officers who’ve lived their lives setting a Christ-like example.

New Commitments

April - June 2012

219 Senior Soldiers

85 Adherents

226 Junior Soldiers
Canada calls!

Majors Philip and Sheila Davison—who were already in close proximity to Canada while most recently serving as the Port Huron, Mich., corps officers since 2009—have been appointed to Booth University College, Winnipeg, Manitoba, in the Canada and Bermuda Territory! Philip is the associate dean for extended learning, and Sheila is serving as the spiritual life coordinator.

Booth University College, operated by the Canada and Bermuda Territory, serves students on its Winnipeg campus, national officers and the international Army in 35 countries. The international aspect is among those that excite the Davisons the most.

"Booth University has several undergraduate programs for on-campus and online distance education students, in addition to certificate-level courses to strengthen Salvationist leadership in overseas territories," said Philip. As associate dean, he’s responsible for officer continuing education, as well as online coursework and developing new programs in the coming years.

The Davisons had worked with the college in developing an officer continuing education certificate program while they were serving in the South America West Territory a few years ago.

Sheila will be developing her role (a new position) along the lines of a university chaplain. "I’m looking forward to working with the staff and faculty in chapel services, small-group studies and discipleship and spiritual formation opportunities," she said. As an added bonus, their youngest child, Julia, is transferring to Booth to complete her degree in social work!

On a mission

We salute the six official global, divisional and corps teams through August of this year.

Global Mission Team to Handbury Children’s Home and Windsor Lodge, Jamaica
Women’s Global Mission Team to Kenya West Territory
Northern Divisional Mission Team to Turks and Caicos
Oakbrook Terrace Corps Mission Team to Freeport, Bahamas
Madison Temple and Madison Genesis Corps to Eleuthera, Bahamas
Chicago Mayfair Community Church (Korean Corps) to Windsor Lodge, Jamaica

General Linda Bond led the 75th anniversary celebration of the Army’s work in Mexico.

More than 1,200 delegates gathered in Mexico City for a weekend of joint meetings—and rallies for women, men and children—featuring performances of every type, from folk dancing and tumbrels, to mariachi and brass bands, along with re-enactments of the Mexican Salvation Army’s early days!

General Bond enrolled 97 junior and 94 senior soldiers from across the Mexico Territory, and upgraded four of its eight outposts to corps status, for a total 52 corps.

More than 500 people made commitments to Christ during the celebration. The general encouraged the territory to thank God for the past, be committed in the present and believe for the future!
b clear as a bell
by Major Curtiss Hartley

M
ine has always been a simple faith. So it was no big deal when seven years ago my wife and I said to our leaders, "Sure, you can send us overseas sometime, somewhere, if the Army really needs us."

There! We had done the deed. We had responded. Sometimes that’s all God asks of us, right? I mean, we weren’t ‘talled in the mission field." We never sensed God telling us to go to a far country. We aren’t bilingual, sometimes struggle being unilingual. But God said, "Make yourselves available."

Let me digress a bit, and blame it on Commissioner William Francis, who spoke at the International Publishing and Literary Conference in Alexandria, Va., a few years back. I don’t remember a lot of what he said (it was seven years ago), but one tiny concept jumped out clear as a bell. It was a fresh, new, interesting twist. He talked too.

started talking, and we both felt God telling us to go to a far country. It was a fresh, clear as a bell. It was a fresh, new, interesting twist. He talked too.

Turns out Sandy heard that bell, too.

On our way home that night we started talking, and we both felt God was asking us to make our willingness to go somewhere, some time known to the Army. We decided to pray about it, and sure enough, after a couple of days of prayer and consideration, that bell was still ringing. So we wrote a letter. Our leaders thanked us for our willingness to be sent, and each year we simply checked the box on our annual comments sheet that declared our willingness. That was it.

We never prayed about a future appointment or sought an opportunity to go overseas. But we did pray God would use us where we were, and prepare us each new day—for whatever opportunities He would bring our way.

Then last fall our divisional commander called us into his office to talk about some small matter and then said, "Now, the real reason I’ve called you in. Would you be willing to let HQ submit your names for possible service in Papua New Guinea?"

After a befuddled moment of awkward silence, we asked if we could take some time to discuss it and pray. Sure, he told us, you have two days.

We prayed. We talked. We Googled. We asked our parents and our children. The overwhelming message, loud and clear, was that we should say yes.

It’s an exciting and scary adventure. But it comes down to this: we put our lives in God’s hands years ago when we said "yes" to becoming officers, and we know that we can trust Him with our lives—even as far away as Papua New Guinea.

ing to the earthquake survivors and is taking a key leadership role in leading a national effort to build this national chaplaincy team. It is exciting to see how God is opening amazing doors to minister to a hurting nation during and after this horrific national tragedy. The implementation of this chaplaincy program is urgent as another major earthquake is expected to have a devastating impact in the Tokyo area in the near future."

Japan chaplaincy program
continued from page 1

strategic plan for training and building disaster chaplaincy teams across the nation. It is critical the curriculum be carefully adapted to the Japanese culture in order for it to be effective. "A common mistake is for Westerners to go into another culture with the assumption that what we do here in the U.S. works well in other cultures," said Kevin. "It is absolutely imperative that we help the Japanese take ownership for their chaplaincy program and make the curriculum work for them."

The curriculum was introduced to the Japanese leadership of a variety of churches, and the response was positive. In addition to using the Emotional and Spiritual Care in Disasters curriculum used by the International Critical Incident Stress Foundation as well as The Salvation Army National Disaster Training Program, they are working with Abingdon Press to translate the book Kevin wrote titled, The First 48 Hours: Spiritual Caregivers as First Responders.

Additional trainings are being scheduled this fall and next year.

"The Salvation Army in Japan is doing an incredible job of minister-
Growing together

As the new chapel in the St. Cloud, Minn., Corps came together, many ministries (including the 64-person shelter) grew and prospered in anticipation of the changes this chapel would bring.

Youth programs, in particular, have blossomed, and interest in soldierhood has increased. This past Easter Major Steve Koehler, then corps officer, enrolled seven new junior and senior soldiers.

Character-building classes have grown from two to 30. “Our staff has remained consistent and persistent,” said Steve. “I’ve seen the efforts of Lt. Lynn Lopez [then associate corps officer] bear much fruit in a short amount of time.”

The popular teen and young adult group meets every Sunday afternoon and, out of enthusiasm for the Gospel, call themselves the Jesus Freak Disciples, or JFDs for short.

Promoted to Glory

Major Walt Winters

Major Walt Winters was promoted to Glory on June 20, 2012. He was 83 years old.

Walt was born to Salvation Army soldiers Walter and Anna in Grand Rapids, Mich. He committed his life to Christ at six during a decision Sunday service. By the time he was in the ninth grade, he knew he couldn’t be happy as anything but an officer.

Commissioned in 1948, it wasn’t long before he met Joyce Thomson at Central Bible Leadership Institute. They were married and blessed with five children. The majority of their officerhood was spent doing what Walt loved most—being a corps officer. He was able to share his passion and vast experience in corps work in his last appointment at the College for Officer Training. They retired to Rockford, Ill., in 1995.

In retirement Walt worked several years in the restorative ministry of the Rockford Adult Rehabilitation Center, and enjoyed nature, family and his hobbies of hymnology and gardening. He’ll be remembered as an outstanding, respectful man, who lived to win souls for the Lord.

Walt is survived by his wife, children David (Diana), Doug (Kim), Rick (Kari), Carol (Ron) Shoults and Cheryl (Jeff) Berresford; 15 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Major Beverly Collet

Major Beverly Collet was promoted to Glory on Valentine’s Day 1939. She was born during a corps meeting at the age of nine and immediately felt a desire to share the gospel. She witnessed to a little boy in her school, and he invited her to receive Christ right then and there.

As a teenager Beverly felt her call to officerhood, and after high school graduation assisted at a corps in Michigan before entering training. She was commissioned in 1962.

Beverly’s first appointment was to assist at the Hazel Park, Mich., Corps. From there she served at the Detroit Children’s Home and then many other corps in Michigan. She retired from active service in 2004 but continued on with a service mentality.

Beverly is remembered as being conscientious, hardworking, dependable and positive.

Promoted to Glory

Major Robert Boone

Major Robert Boone was promoted to Glory on June 18, 2012. He was 68 years old.

Born to third-generation officers, Majors Kenneth and Gladys, Robert gave his heart to the Lord at a young age and felt his call to officerhood as a teenager. He was commissioned in 1966 and appointed to assist the Detroit Temple, Mich., Corps where he built relationships with local teens.

In 1967 he married Captain Elaine Roush, and together they were appointed as corps officers of Detroit Temple. Robert continued to build faith into the lives of the teenagers he loved, and in nearly every subsequent appointment teens gathered around him.

The Boones were blessed with two children. They held corps appointments from Kansas to Indiana. They also served at three adult rehabilitation centers and retired from the Lincoln, Neb., Corps in 2009.

During his days in the hospital, he used every opportunity to witness to staff and visitors. He loved preaching and was a talented musician.

Robert is survived by his wife, children Rob (Christine) and Wendy, and four grandchildren.

Major Charles Duskin

Major Charles Duskin was promoted to Glory on June 17, 2012. He was 90 years old.

In 1921 Charles was born in Alliance, Neb., to parents Ira and Nellie Duskin. He started attending Salvation Army Sunday school at age 10, was enrolled as a junior soldier and then became a corps officer.

Charles took classes in high school to prepare him for officer training. In 1942 he was commissioned and sent to assist the Watertown, S.D., Corps. After several other appointments he married Lurline Finley, whom he had met in training.

Charles and Lurline served in corps throughout the territory; they were also blessed with three children. In 1978 they were appointed as corps officers and city coordinators in Davenport, Iowa. Later they served in social services, retiring in 1983 as administrators of the Booth Residence and Social Services in Omaha, Neb.

In retirement Charles faithfully taught the adult Sunday school class at the Holland, Mich., Corps. Charles is survived by his wife of 67 years, children Envoy DeWayne (Pam), Majors Paul (Mary) and Miriam (Kevin) Cartwright; eight grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

On Easter Sunday eight soldiers and one adherent were enrolled in St. Cloud, Minn.