



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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Discovering the great outdoors

SA partners with U.S. Forest Service to bring children to nature

by Jerrie Miller

Remember as a kid spending long hours outside playing games, exploring nature and hanging out with friends? For many of us the best part of child-

hood involved being outdoors, whether at a neighborhood park, a divisional camp or our own backyard.

Sadly, many young people no longer enjoy those opportunities. As our society becomes more urban and tied to technology, educators, physicians and parents are seeing a huge disconnect between children and nature. This disconnect, combined with inactivity, is result-



ing in serious long-term health issues for the next generation. It also puts the future of forests and public lands at risk. According to the National Forest Service, children must understand the value of nature in order to grow into citizens who support conservation and public resources.

The National Forest Service (NFS) Urban Connections Program in Minneapolis, Minn., is committed to getting kids back outside. In an effort to ensure children have an opportunity to experience the great outdoors, they partnered with The Salvation Army Outdoors (TSAO) to bring kids to Chippewa National Forest in Cass Lake, Minn. This summer a group of 17 boys and their leaders from the

Northern Division enjoyed fishing, swimming, wilderness camping and exploring the forest with the assistance of NFS specialists.

For most of the boys, this was their first adventure in the woods. Some came with apprehensions.

Any fear was soon forgotten in the excitement of swimming, fishing and exploring the woods. For Mary Nordeen, public affairs specialist for Chippewa National Forest, the best part of the week was seeing how quickly the young people relaxed and became comfortable in the woods. "I am so glad they are able to feel like they belong here," she said.

While the boys may have thought they were just having fun, they actually accomplished a lot. With the help of their leaders and forest service staff, they completed tasks required for many explorer and ranger emblems, including camping, wilderness survival, trees, hiking, fishing, orienteering, fire safety, cooking and reptiles. They left

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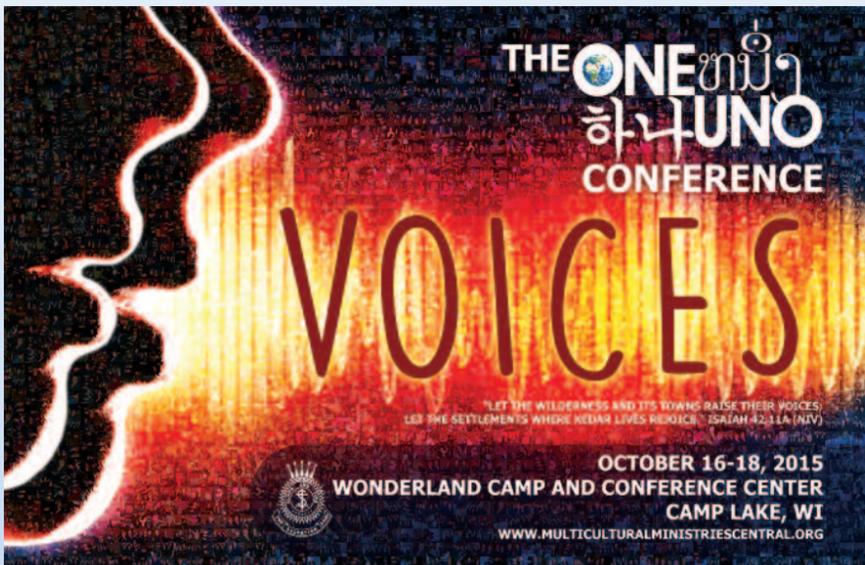
Multicultural conference aims to equip, empower

The territorial multicultural ministries department will be hosting "The ONE Conference: Voices" on October 16-18, 2015, at Wonderland Camp and Conference Center.

"This is a leadership conference designed to equip officers, lay ministry leaders and employees to meet the challenges of a culturally diverse and changing world," said Captain

Enrique Azuaje, territorial multicultural ministries secretary. "The themes will focus on understanding cultural diversity's impact on our communities and services; the biblical foundation for creating healthy, multi-ethnic communities; developing spaces for healing the divides that separate; multicultural worship and celebration."

Continued on page 12



General announces next Chief of the Staff

After a great deal of prayer, reflection and wide consultation with senior colleagues, General André Cox has appointed Commissioner Brian Peddle, currently the International Secretary for the Americas and Caribbean at International Headquarters (IHQ), as Chief of the Staff, effective November 1, 2015.



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Walk Wise

by Commissioner Paul R. Seiler
Territorial Commander



As another program year begins, hopefully we are thinking about mission effectiveness as Salvationists who remain convinced God's design for the Army is for us to continue to make an impact in our communities with the transforming message of God's salvation.

Recently while on vacation I attended my daughter's church. The message from the pastor spoke to my heart. He asked whether as a community of believers they should live

as a "subculture" or "counter-culture." A "subculture" recognizes they have different standards than the norm and so feel a need to separate from the world. They feel the need to retreat.

While a "counter-culture" lives with a similar awareness of differences, they are engaged in the world. It is neither a matter of taking sides nor a matter of living with one's "head in the sand." Counter-culture people swim in the mess, but they

swim upstream. They are aware of "sub-culture" tendencies, yet they thoughtfully lower impediments to engage people in conversations and relationships that allow transformation. Though we live in a world that resists God, we are to share the light of Christ in a dark world.

When you look at our history, Salvationists have been called to be "counter-culture" not "subculture." Going "to the Army" is not about a building but about being soldiers who are called to live for Christ. Indeed, to live as "counter-culture" people, we need to center our lives on Jesus. We are aided in this by holding high the authority of scripture, which is why I'm so glad that more than 5,300 soldiers and officers

in our territory have committed to regularly reading the New Testament this year.

So, as we interact with those around us we will be agents of God's love not only with those who are easy to love but with those whom we struggle to understand. We will invest in the young people in our corps because they are at a unique time when their hearts and minds are open to the gospel. We also will support moms and dads because vibrant marriages need encouragement in America more than ever.

Let's guard against a "subculture" mind-set. Instead, as an Army let's partner with Jesus to be "counter-culture!"

Chief of the Staff

Continued from page 1

Commissioner Rosalie Peddle, currently the Zonal Secretary for Women's Ministries, Americas and Caribbean Zone, IHQ, is appointed as World Secretary for Women's Ministries, also from November 1, 2015.

"It is of vital importance for the General of The Salvation Army to be supported in ministry and leadership by a trusted colleague who can effectively and efficiently fulfill the role of the Chief of the Staff," wrote General Cox. "I have been richly blessed thus far in my term as General to be supported in this way by Commissioner William Roberts. Commissioner Silvia Cox has appreciated the support of Commissioner Nancy Roberts in relation to the work of women's ministries. As the commissioners move towards the conclusion of their active service as officers, we salute them, thank them and pray for them God's richest blessing upon their lives as they continue to fulfill their lifelong calling to serve God."

The Peddles have served as officers since the mid-1970s, in a variety of ministry appointments (corps and divisional leadership, youth and training work) including service as divisional leaders in New Zealand and as chief secretary/territorial secretary for women's ministries in the UK. They led their home territory, Canada and Bermuda, with distinc-

tion and vision for a little over three years before coming to their present appointments in 2014.

"I believe that the Lord's hand is upon these godly comrades, and that as they once again lay their lives before the one who called and ordained them for ministry, they will experience a new touch of Holy Spirit power that will enable them for the increased leadership responsibilities to which they are now appointed," wrote the General. "Please join me in praying God's rich blessing upon Commissioners Brian and Rosalie Peddle as they take up their significant leadership roles at the heart of the worldwide Army."

The Chief of the Staff is appointed by the General to be second-in-command of the international Salvation Army. The first Chief was Bramwell Booth, eldest son of Salvation Army Founders William and Catherine Booth. Commissioner Brian Peddle will be the 26th Chief of the Staff, and only the second to have been born in Canada (the other being Bramwell Tillsley). Three other Chiefs were born in the UK but classed as Canadian Salvation Army officers because they entered training in Canada: Arnold Brown, William John Dray and John McMillan.

* From an International News Release

Heatwoles appointed to IHQ

Colonels Merle and Dawn Heatwole, Central Territory officers currently serving as National Chief Secretary and National Secretary for Women's Ministries in the USA, have been appointed to International Headquarters (IHQ), effective November 1, 2015. Colonel Merle Heatwole will be the International Secretary for the Americas and Caribbean. Colonel Dawn Heatwole will be the Zonal Secretary for Women's Ministries, the Americas and Caribbean. They will assume their new appointments with the rank of commissioner.

"Dawn and I are humbled, honored and excited to receive this new appointment," said Colonel Merle Heatwole. "We look forward to having the opportunity to see first-hand the wonderful ministry that is being carried out by The Salvation Army throughout the Americas and Caribbean Zone."



Taking the Heatwoles' place at National Headquarters are Colonels David and Sharron Hudson, who will serve respectively as National Chief Secretary and as National Secretary for Women's Ministries. Officers of the USA Western Territory, the Hudsons currently serve as Chief Secretary and Territorial Secretary for Women's Ministries in that territory.

Central Connection

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Web exclusives

Review of new Song Book by Major Christina Tyson

Three steps to starting Embrace at your corps by Sarah Micula

Lyrics to "When God comes near"

Embracing a new ministry

This year the territorial women's ministries department launched a program called Embrace. To date, more than 60 groups of six to eight women have been formed around the territory, with a unified vision to connect women of all ages and backgrounds in authentic community, solid friendship and faith in Christ. The monthly meetings include a meal or coffee and guided discussion.

Thought provoking yet simple questions are provided to leaders through the website: www.uscwomensministries.com/embrace. The questions aim to help women open up and be vulnerable about what is really going on in their lives.

Lt. Aubrey DeBaar, Branson, Mo., corps officer and Embrace leader, said, "After just a few minutes of catching up, our women slowly let their guards down one-by-one. Some wounds were shared. There were tears, prayers, encouragement and yes, even laughter. It was such a

bonding time for us."

Eastern Michigan Divisional Anti-Human Trafficking Initiative Director Ashely Bridge felt called to start a women's Bible study at the Denby Center, which shelters women who are coming out of difficult and dangerous situations. Embrace was a great fit.

"The desserts and conversation were overflowing as the ladies of Denby experienced Embrace for the very first time," Ashley reported. "Giving them an opportunity to share the things on their hearts seemed like such a simple idea, but the impact it has had on them, and ultimately me, is indeed profound."

Embrace leaders are amazed at how these groups seem to break down barriers of age and race while providing opportunities for social, emotional and spiritual growth.

"Embrace is a great ministry!" said Haley Vecllio, Fulton Heights, Mich., Embrace leader. "I've loved being able to get to know my ladies and have this extra support."



Women of the Royal Oak, Mich., Corps gather for fellowship and coffee.

Chaplains for times of crisis

The Milwaukee, Wis., Police Department has enlisted The Salvation Army to organize and lead a chaplaincy program in an effort to combat violence and bring encouragement to those affected by traumatic events in the area. With over 50 volunteers from a plethora of churches and organizations, this program is the first of its kind in the territory.

Trained volunteer chaplains are available to support, care for and pray with families and community members after violent or traumatic incidents. Their extensive training has included sessions held at the Milwaukee Police Academy on how the police department operates and a Spiritual and Psychological First-Aid class led by Kevin Eilers, territorial disaster services coordinator.

"It's a good fit," said Tom Thuecks, Milwaukee service extension director, who is coordinating this partnership. "Whether at the scene of a tornado, flood or violent crime, no matter the traumatic event, we can provide com-



fort to those who are hurting."

Chaplain volunteers are divided into teams by geographical area. When an incident occurs, police will call on teams to arrive with first responders. Not only will teams provide comfort, they'll help to build relationships. According to Tom, the program has two components: a reactive piece during an incident, and a proactive piece which includes meeting needs ahead of time through initiatives like community outreach events.

The next training seminar will be held in October.



International Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force holds first meeting

The first meeting of The Salvation Army's International Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force was held in London on July 7, 2015. The task force has been appointed by Chief of the Staff Commissioner William Roberts, who defined its purpose as "promoting, encouraging, supporting and coordinating an anti-human trafficking response within The Salvation Army around the world."

Responsibility for coordinating anti-human trafficking strategy across The Salvation Army rests with the International Social Justice Commission, whose deputy director, Lt. Colonel Eirwen Pallant, has been appointed to chair the task force.

Other members are: Commissioner Nancy Roberts, world secretary for women's ministries, International Headquarters (IHQ); Major Heather Grinstead, Middle East Region; Lt. Colonel Marieke Venter, Bangladesh Command; Commissioner Nemkhanching, IHQ; Captain Andrews Christian, India Western Territory; Lt. Colonel Ardis Fuge, USA National Headquarters; Lt. Colonel Sara Chagas, Mexico Territory; Major Lenah Jwili, Southern Africa Territory; Commissioner Florence Malabi, IHQ; Commissioner Dorita Wainwright, IHQ; Major Estelle Blake, Italy and Greece Command; Ms. Anne Gregora, United Kingdom Territory with the Republic of Ireland; Mr. Ben Gilbert, IHQ; and Major Bong Salcedo, The Philippines Territory.

Addressing the members, Commissioner Silvia Cox said The Salvation Army's response to human trafficking is faith inspired and that in order to combat this social evil Salvationists and colleagues around the world must work together. She said, "Our mobilization against this terrible evil comes because of our

belief that holiness and social justice are linked, they are in our DNA as a Salvation Army movement. We have a heritage, we have the vision of the world for Christ, and we believe that salvation means restoration into the image of Christ, through the blood of Jesus on the cross. All this has pushed us to 'do something' about it."

The commissioner emphasized the importance of using all possible opportunities to raise awareness and mobilize a global Salvation Army response to human trafficking. She noted the importance of accurate collection of response data and sharing information on training, program response and resources.

Making reference to Luke 4:18-19, Commissioner Cox concluded, "The mission of Jesus, which is also our mission, was to bring the good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free the oppressed and to announce that the time has come when the Lord will save his people."

The meeting heard from each member of the task force on three key areas:

- In my experience, The Salvation Army is effective in anti-human trafficking work when ...
- In my experience, the most useful resources in developing and sustaining anti-human trafficking work are ...
- The Salvation Army can be more effective in anti-human trafficking work if ...

Recurrent themes were identified. The task force will incorporate this learning into a strategy to enable The Salvation Army around the world to be more effective in combatting human trafficking.

* From an International News Release

Discovering the great outdoors

Continued from page 1

camp knowing how to pitch a tent, identify trees, make fishing lures and cook their own meals over fires started without the aid of matches or lighters. They learned about camouflage and the effects of human interaction on wildlife by playing games.

Most importantly, they learned about themselves. They learned they



are able to get along with others while waiting out the rain in an enclosed tent. They learned they needed to pitch in and help if they wanted to eat. They learned to make choices by deciding which ingredients go into a perfect s'more. They learned they can do hard things, get along, make a difference and go outside to play.

God came near

The life of Major James Birney, lyricist of the beloved Army song, "When God comes near," is a lesson in the value of persistence.

Born the youngest of five children to musician officers, Jim tried for years to master an instrument. Success eluded him until his dad needed a tuba player for the corps band. He offered to pay Jim 50 cents for every tune he learned.

realized Jim liked playing tuba!

At 15 Jim was shattered by the sudden death of his older brother, Bob, and struggled in his faith for years afterward. He was happy to leave home for college, but his partying and resultant poor grades made him "draft bait" for the U.S. Army and Viet Nam War. So, Jim enlisted in the U.S. Air Force.



Majors Jim and LaVonne Birney have been married more than 50 years!

"Back then 50 cents could buy two burgers and a pop with a nickel left over for candy!" said Jim. With five band performances each week, he made a small fortune until his dad

Stationed near Minot, N.D., Jim played in the corps band and met his future bride, LaVonne. "Banding always drew me back to the Army even when I wasn't living for the Lord," said Jim. After getting married, Jim made the military his career and once again achieved success. The Birneys had two daughters by the time Jim was sent to Topeka, Kan., where the family joined the corps and Jim taught beginners band.

By the late 1960s Jim had served twice in Vietnam and was offered a plum assignment in Japan upon reenlistment. But, God called the Birneys to officership. Commissioned in 1971, they served in corps appointments, and Jim was long-time faculty for the Northern



Major Jim Birney continues to play E-flat bass (tuba) among other brass instruments.

Division's music camps.

In 1993 he was asked to compose one of his usual "funny poems" for the camp finale, but again God had something else in mind. When Jim began writing, the words for "When God comes near" came pouring out.

"I felt like He was pushing the pen. I almost had to shout out, 'Lord, slow down! I can't write that fast!'" said Jim. Three years later William Himes, territorial music and gospel arts secretary, set the words to music.

"I was so honored. I still have to pinch myself and ask, 'Did I really write that?' But, I know I did because I've experienced the words." Jim believes the experience was sparked after hearing a cadet preach on loving God's Word and realizing he didn't have a true passion for it. Since then, he has devoured his Bible.

After retiring, the Birneys returned to Topeka where Jim launched a beginners' band with members' ages spanning seven decades!



Connecting armies

by Samantha Hyde

For seven days this summer, Hidden Falls Camp in southern Indiana had a new look featuring military vehicles, camo netting and kids marching in formation to activities. Thanks to the efforts of Indiana Divisional Commander Major Bob Webster and his team, a new partnership has been formed between the Indiana National Guard and The Salvation Army. As a result, Kids AT South, a summer camp for the children of military personnel, took place at a non-military property for the first time in its 23-year history.

Anne Tedore, Indiana National Guard state youth coordinator, spent the week with campers, who ranged in age from nine to eighteen. "We're marrying both The Salvation Army's Hidden Falls mission and programming with the Indiana National Guard Family Programs mission and ideas," explained Anne.

One hundred and forty-seven campers were greeted with a military fly over during registration, where they were divided into four "battalions" for the week. The campers proudly carried their colored guidons (unit flags) throughout camp, taking part in



activities like mountain biking, map reading, high ropes and climbing courses, swimming, team building activities, archery, fishing and more. Over 50 military staff volunteers joined Hidden Falls camp staff to lead special activities like map reading, cadences, and combatives (military-style self-defense instruction).

Kids AT South helps kids understand what their parents do when they're serving their country. It also helps them connect with other military kids.

"A lot of these campers don't go to other camps, so this is their only summer enrichment activity," said Anne. "When the kids go home and tell their parents about familiar military activities, it builds a bridge for the families themselves to better communicate."

Indiana National Guard Camp Commander Lt. Colonel Lisa Kopczyński oversaw the transition to Hidden Falls. She worked extensively with Salvation Army staff and officers to ensure they could make full use of the facilities, gear and expertise of both organizations.



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Garringtons hit the road

It was a case of "something old, something new" as Majors James and Judith Garrington took on the roster of already scheduled events for 2015 as the new territorial evangelists and spiritual formation secretaries.

New campaigns under development by the Garringtons include "Jesus for Skeptics" for which they'll ask Salvationists to bring at least one non-Christian.

"In this age of post-modernism and militant atheism, we'll offer active skeptics a rationale for why it's reasonable to have a reasonable faith," said Major Jim.

A long-time advocate of lifestyle evangelism, the major said he has learned "being precedes doing precedes telling." He's also excited to explore the spiritual formation aspect of the appointment, particularly in challenging those he described as "baby Christians for the last 48 years!"

The Garringtons bring a unique perspective to their new appointments after serving for many years as corps officers in the former Eastern and Western Germany before the country's reunification, as well as in corps appointments in the U.S. They also spent several years traveling and counseling corps officers as territorial pastoral care officers.

"With all of the expectations placed on busy corps officers, we see this ministry as an opportunity to come alongside and help teach their congregations," said Major Judy. "Teaching has always been an intrinsic part of our officership as we've trained our corps people on how to get into God's Word and apply it to their lives."



Reporting they were surprised and overjoyed to receive these appointments, the Garringtons are incorporating a number of the programs developed by their predecessors, Majors Joseph and Lois Wheeler, such as budgeting, Christian living and evangelism, with their own unique perspectives and experiences. For example, in Major Judy's most recent appointment as territorial community care ministries secretary, she identified the need for more focused training in that area and added it to the Christian living module.



Pictured are Veronica Garcia (l) and Betty Hanson.

The influence of the 2015 Boundless Bible-reading Challenge at the Belvidere, Ill., Corps started with a flourish and has continued to grow, reported Lts. Tomas and Martha Valladares, corps officers.

"When the challenge was issued, corps people said this was a great opportunity for new or 'stalled' Christians to begin reading God's Word and for others to re-read their Bibles," said Lt. Tomas, who held a Sunday-morning dedication service for each person with their Bibles and study guides.

"Since then people throughout the corps have been spontaneously discussing what they've been reading each week," he continued. "We've particularly been seeing the effects of the challenge on our corps' Bible studies. You can tell who's been faithfully reading their Bibles and using their study guides!"

At a recent Metropolitan divisional event, a new corps member shared a powerful testimony of how God used

the Bible-reading challenge to completely transform her life. She reported now walking "side-by-side with God," asking Him to direct all of her decisions, and experiencing an unprecedented peace in her heart.

"This woman has been a boost for everyone at the corps; she's actively involved, loyal and not afraid to exhort others in their faith," Lt. Tomas added.

Average Sunday attendance at this growing, bi-lingual corps has reached 75, with about 70 percent of the people rooted in the Hispanic culture. "But, the congregation sees itself as one entity," Lt. Tomas said. "People go the extra mile to communicate even if it's as basic as a smile or a hug."

The Valladares are particularly gratified when older, long-time soldiers of the corps express their support and excitement on seeing new things happening at the corps, its evolving culture and enormous sense of love and family.



PATHWAY of HOPE

Connected for success

by Rachel Fjelman

After losing her job Pamela came to the Norridge Citadel, Ill., Corps for assistance and was enrolled in Pathway of Hope (POH). She worked with the case manager to set goals and was introduced to the corps' full array of programs. She and her family began attending the corps regularly, and her children participated in youth programs.



er was able to connect her with POH in that area.

Although her new situation did not prove as easy as she'd hoped, Pamela remained steadfast in her determination to provide for her family and improve her life. She worked tirelessly at her job search, and ultimately it paid off. Pamela

became a licensed mortgage loan originator in Wisconsin and found a job. She has been able to pay down her debt to improve her credit score.

Finally, because staying connected with The Salvation Army and continuing to address her spiritual needs are important to Pamela, she and her family have visited the Oak Creek Centennial, Wis., Corps, where she has received pastoral care.

Pamela concluded, "This was my first ever experience with The Salvation Army, and it has completely changed my life."

"When I first began Pathway of Hope, I thought I was seeking relief and assistance; however, what I received was so much more than that. I was steered back onto my journey with the Lord."

After much consideration Pamela determined her family should relocate to the Milwaukee area to be closer to family as a network of support. She also hoped she could obtain employment more easily. Despite moving Pamela wanted to stay involved with POH and The Salvation Army. So, her case manag-



PATHWAY of HOPE

Update

Pathway of Hope was launched in 2011 by the USA Central Territory. It has been initiated in the other three U.S. territories. Now in more than 240 corps in our territory, here's where we stand and what clients are saying.

Central Territory Outcomes

- Over 1,000 families with 2,220 children have been served since 2012
- 53% have increased economic stability
- 42% of their barriers have been reduced
- 30% have increased hope for their future

Clients say

- I've found strength I never knew I had.
- I'm learning to let go of anger.
- I'm breaking free of bondage.
- Now allowing God to take control.
- My children see me differently.
- Finding my self-worth.
- I've gone back to finish my high school diploma.
- I contacted an Army, and in return my family got salvation.

Volunteers: on the frontlines

This year more than 138,000 people have volunteered in our territory. Far from just seasonal support, they are on the frontlines every day with us achieving the Army's mission. They're not only helping change others' lives, but their own lives are enriched as well as you'll see from the 2015 volunteers of the year.

Serendipitous service

Joan Rothwell—lifetime

If you met Joan Rothwell, you'd never guess the hardships she's overcome or the heartbreaks she's endured for her smile lights up a room and she often talks of her blessings. Truth be told, she's a blessing to others.

She found The Salvation Army rather serendipitously 20 years back after breaking her leg in a bicycle accident that precluded her continuing to work as a nurse's assistant at the local hospital. Walking down the street one day she met two women who invited her to home league. She visited the Sheboygan, Wis., Corps and has never left.

In the last two decades, there isn't a program for which Joan hasn't volunteered, and as new programs are introduced she's the first in line to help. Just sign her up and show her what to do. She began with the food pantry. Within a few years, she was volunteering as the cook for the emergency lodge, a youth group leader, the receptionist and coordinator of food pantry appointments, a community meal host/monitor, and janitor. In addition, she supports other corps activities like Bible studies and women's ministries with her attendance. She also volunteers at a nursing home and her own church—most recently this summer at a vacation Bible school with nearly 100 children!

"I didn't want to sit around and dry up," explained Joan. "Plus, I'm a



people person."

According to Lt. Cherie Mangeri, Sheboygan corps officer, at age 83 Joan has more energy than most 20 year olds!

"I've always had a lot of energy, but I find the Lord gives you more energy when you're doing things for Him," she said.

But Joan doesn't brag about her good health or complain about her circuitous route to the Army or the sometimes menial tasks, neither does she dwell on the loss of her husband or all three of her children to cancer.

"I've never been mad at God for anything," she said. "I miss my kids, but I'm not sorrowful because they all knew the Lord and that was the main thing for me."

This faith is at the heart of her service and joy of her life, which by the way still includes riding a bike!



Reporting for duty

Life Skills Class—organization

Arriving with smiles on their faces, students with special needs from Peoria Heights High School work tirelessly each time they volunteer at the Peoria, Ill., City Social Services offices.

"This group is great at helping when I issue a call for volunteers," said Susan Moore, Greater Peoria volunteer coordinator who nominated the students for the Volunteer of the Year Award in the organization category. "As long as the city buses are running and the weather isn't too bad, they tell me they're coming."

Learning to cope with cognitive, learning, emotional or social disabilities, the students are part of a life-skills class at their high school taught by Bethany Medlin, who's thrilled her students won the award. Since January 2013 the group has been volunteering to make and bag sandwiches for the men's homeless shelter and pack grocery bags for the food pantry.

"Our kitchen goes through many sandwiches each week," said Susan. "Having this group here to make sandwiches helps our staff tremendously so they can work on other tasks."

Volunteering has helped the students find ways to complete a project or task beyond their initial struggle to learn it, continue to work even when they want to stop, respect others and be more empathetic toward those in need. "I like to help make sandwiches for people who

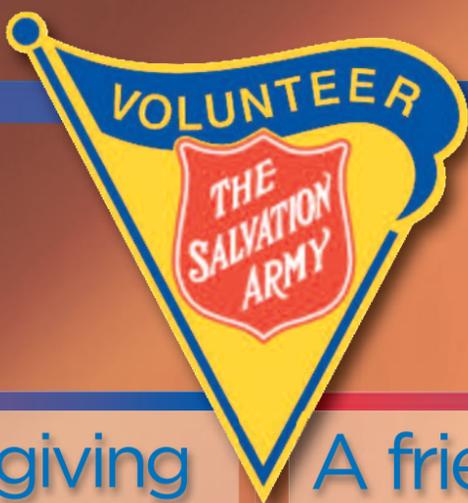
don't have enough food," said one student.

The students also are learning skills that will assist them in future employment, such as following hygiene guidelines while making sandwiches and cleaning their work areas, as well as socialization skills, such as learning how to make small talk with others.

Susan said the students are a wonderful help in the fall when it's sometimes hard to get volunteers for the Toys for Tots drive. They've been involved in purchasing toys, loading and unloading, doing inventory and set up, then helping on distribution day.

One of the student's parents said, "I love the progress I see in my son day-to-day with the opportunities he has. He loves to volunteer, and I hope he can continue after graduation."





of service

Starting a legacy of giving



The Tuckers—family

Frequently volunteering at the Plymouth, Mich., Corps is the Tucker family—parents Joseph and Raelene and sons Anthony and Alex. Although their favorite volunteer opportunities occur during the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons, the family comes to help many other times of the year, reported Sandra Kollinger, the corps' volunteer and special events coordinator.

The Tuckers enjoy volunteering because it allows them to serve together, whether it's all four or fewer family members who are able to report for duty. Joseph said he couldn't think of a better way to demonstrate the spirit of the holiday season to his family a few years ago than to start donating time and effort to help others. Raelene added, "It's given my children an opportunity to see how the less fortunate live just to survive each day in the world."

Anthony and Alex particularly enjoy assembling and distributing Thanksgiving food baskets; they fill shopping carts with food for recipients then help them load the food

into their vehicles. Sandra observed, "One of the boys said he realized how fortunate he is because his parents can give him the things he needs."

Another favorite family activity is bellringing. All four Tuckers enjoy talking to people and singing Christmas songs for kettle donations. Collectively they raised just under \$1,500 and were among the corps' top-ten kettle earners.

The family also assisted with the corps' Rock 'n' Roll Easter outreach event by running one of the craft and activity stations and assisting with karaoke. They even brought along several props, such as a guitar and microphone, to help the karaoke singers get into character!

"It's no secret this family understands the true meaning of volunteering, and the children find it rewarding," Sandra concluded. Through volunteering, the family views life a little differently now and have even befriended a homeless woman, visiting her several times a month for well-being checks and to bring food, socks, an occasional blanket and other necessities.

A friend in Fergus Falls

Melanie Carlson—individual

If you lived in Fergus Falls, Minn., you'd no doubt know Melanie Carlson. She has helped folks in the community with everything from gasoline to food and clothing, even opening her home to those without one. You would also find her in the Fergus Falls Corps' kitchen on Sunday mornings preparing for the fellowship dinner following the worship service.

She came to the corps in 2006 with her husband, Charlie, and daughter, Chelsea, and served wholeheartedly. But in 2008, on Mother's Day, tragedy struck. Charlie passed away in a car accident traveling home from work.

"I was worried this would destroy them and turn them away," said Lynne Verhaah, Fergus Falls community relations and youth director who also nominated Melanie for the award. "Instead, something beautiful happened. Our volunteer grew even closer to the Lord and her Salvation Army family."

Without Melanie's help, many duties at the Fergus Falls Corps would go unaccomplished. She works a fulltime job, and yet at the end of her tiring shift, Melanie

walks a mile each day to the corps to help with the afterschool program, making sure all of the kids are fed and the kitchen is cleaned up.

"I love helping kids," said Melanie. "They teach me more than I could teach them. I love knowing them, helping them and reminding them they are loved."

In addition to the afterschool pro-



Melanie with (l to r) David Wahl, Ave Wahn and Kylie Bernhard

gram Melanie is the moon beam leader and helps with junior soldiers and corps cadets. She rings bells at kettles at Christmas, delivers quilts to nursing homes, and is always a strong shoulder to cry on, sharing her story of how God's love saved her from the brink of despair.

"She would do anything within her power for anyone," said Lynne, "and if it was outside of her power, she would add it to her prayer list because she knows everything is within God's power."

Giving with gusto

Saloni Rao—teen

Seventeen-year-old high school senior Saloni Rao has two clear passions: singing opera and serving with The Salvation Army. She's articulate, mature, people-oriented, self-motivated and has served with gusto since

she was a middle school student.

It started with her family who values helping others, and her mom who connected Saloni with a Salvation Army ministry in Milwaukee, Wis., called "Feed the Kids," where volunteers make lunches for children during the summer.

"It's a completely different experience to hand out thousands of sandwiches to children who would otherwise go hungry," Saloni said. "Putting it in their hands—it's a very tangible experience and opened my eyes to the world of people in need."

After helping to man a state fair booth, wrapping gifts for the prison toy program and ringing bells at kettles, her desire to serve snowballed into the summer of 2014 when she independently developed and implemented a program to fos-



Saloni (right) volunteers regularly for "Feeds the Kids."

ter a fondness for classical music in children at the Milwaukee, Wis., Emergency Lodge.

"I wanted to do something else to help others," said Saloni. "I thought of my other passion, which is opera, and wondered, why not combine them?" Many young people left the lodge with a heightened awareness of the arts and an understanding of the discipline and sacrifice it takes.

Perhaps Saloni's most impressive contribution has been launching a high school Red Kettle Club, for which she recruited more than 130 students to join the Army's mission. In a short time the club has

raised funds not only at kettles but through a "Pay it forward" challenge, where teams were given seed money to multiply. They more than doubled it!

"I believe in the Army, and I'm passionate about spreading that to other members of my generation," Saloni said.



Saloni and two of her friends sang carols and rang bells at kettles.



Your dollars at work worldwide

Giving to World Services/Self-Denial helps people from around the world in many tangible ways. From accessing fresh, clean drinking water to receiving essential educational tools and reducing operational costs, here are just three examples of your generosity in action.

Equipping the blind

There was a severe shortage of

braille machines at the Caribbean Territory's School for the Blind and Visually Impaired in Kingston, Jamaica, even though they're essential to properly teaching visually impaired students how to read, a skill necessary for them to succeed in school and life.

With dollars from the Central Territory, the school purchased 88 new braille machines, enabling each student to have their own machine and for teachers to function efficiently. School faculty reported immediate improvements in reading and comprehension. Now these young people can be equipped to eventually enter the marketplace and support themselves.

Quenching thirst

At the Kenya East Territory's Kabete Compound a 10,000 liter water tower was installed thanks to the generosity of the Central Territory. Prior to this the supply of water to hous-

es in the compound had been erratic, leaving many people without water for days at a time.

Not only does the new water tower provide relief when there is a water shortage, the system also may be controlled to ration water so it's not used at once, and in extreme circumstances, tanks can be filled by purchasing water from a company which will bring water by truck.

Soldiers, officers and staff on the compound now have a healthier, happier and less-stressful living environment.



The new water system at the Kabete Compound in Kenya



There are more cadets at the Kenya East Training College than ever.



A student uses his new braille machine.

Covering costs

At the Kenya East Territory's Officers Training College (OTC), there has been a significant increase in cadets over the last three years resulting in soaring operational costs. Over the last two years our territory's World Services giving has helped cover the ongoing operational costs as well as help to reduce it by partnering with the OTC as part of a journey toward being self-supported.

For example, recently the college used funds to plant a large vegetable garden so the OTC can grow some of their produce, harvesting ingredients for meals instead of purchasing them.

Your giving matters!



Will you stand in the gap?

by Viki Payton

There is a new, urgent need for child sponsorships. A territory which has been a large contributor to the child sponsorship program has had to cease due to new tax restrictions in its country. This has caused a financial crisis for the 26 territories it was sponsoring.

Temporary financial support is needed until new permanent sources of income and sustainability are found. We hope you'll help stand in the gap.

"Our children's homes are totally run through sponsorship funds... We shall not be able to meet their education. Feeding them will be a problem, and this may cause these homes to be closed," wrote the Kenya East Territory.

The Kenya West Territory indicates those most affected will be girls and children with disabilities whose one opportunity for an education has been provided through child sponsorships. It anticipates children, who currently board at an educational facility because their home life is not



acceptable or safe or because they are stigmatized due to their disability, will have to return home.

The Zambia Territory worries many students will have to drop out of school because most families can't afford to send them without assistance. They anticipate an increase in illiteracy in these communities.

"This money has also been used to provide nutritional food and medical services, etc., to those children we have in our centers," wrote the Uganda Territory. "We will not be able to feed our children and care for them."

You can make a difference. Would you make a one-time donation or become a regular sponsor (just \$25 a month) to help bridge the gap? Send a check or money

order for any amount or your request to become a sponsor to: Sponsorship Office, The Salvation Army, 10 W. Algonquin Rd., Des Plaines, IL 60016, or e-mail us at missions@usc.salvationarmy.org. You can also visit our website (www.centralmissions.org) to donate online. Specify: Emergency Sponsorship Gap.



WorldServices
partners in mission
the salvation army centralmissions.org

"Children are a gift from the Lord; they are a reward from him." —PSALM 127:3

Self.Denial.
The Salvation Army World Mission Fund

Sights set on bullseye

"The vision for archery is coming to life," said Major Monty Wandling, territorial youth secretary. "First, we got the camps involved and created interest, and now we're bringing that back to the corps as an ongoing experience, getting people trained and supplying the equipment."

Over 200 people in the territory are now trained as basic archery instructors to teach archery at community-based archery clubs. Additionally, 15 others in eight divisions have been certified as basic archery instructor trainers, meaning they can train people to train others. The territorial youth department hopes to have certified instructors in all divisions within the next year and a territory-wide tournament in the future.

Through The Salvation Army Outdoors (TSAO), the Central Territory has been offering archery at camps throughout the territory for several years. It originated out of a grant from Safari Club International Foundation, which has provided nearly \$130,000 for equipment to benefit camps, and now, corps.

One of the blossoming clubs is at the Rockford Temple, Ill., Corps, where five men are basic archery instructors. Their weekly practice takes place on Wednesday nights in conjunction with character-building activities. Twenty young people, ages 10-23, are registered, and girls outnumber boys!

"There has been a lot of interest in the club," said Bryant Erickson, one

of the corps' instructors "We keep it light and fun. Sometimes we just shoot; other times we play games."

Bryant reports a new family who attended the corps' block party in the fall has started attending the archery club. "It's a great way to get



Rockford Temple, Ill., Archery Club instructor Tim Zahn helps a student to pull back on the bow.

people in the building," he said.

At the Pekin, Ill., Corps attendees raised the funds needed for archery equipment by selling food at the community's carnival. Captains Rick and Kim Ray are certified instructors as is their son, Tim, who has taken



Rockford Temple, Ill., Archery Club target practice

on leadership of the club.

The club meets on Saturday mornings and is open to youth, ages 8-17. Although it's a newer club, it's gaining popularity quickly. They anticipate the club to max out with 25 people from the corps, but as popularity grows, they hope to expand

and offer different practice times for other community groups to borrow the equipment.

Tim plans on holding a tournament in October with other corps clubs in the area including Champaign, Canton, Peoria and Burlington. "Each team will shoot in their respective corps, and then post the scores online," said Tim.

If your corps is interested in starting an archery club, visit the www.Centrallyouthnetwork.com website to learn how to apply and register your group.



The Pekin, Ill., Archery Club

Vintage salute for Williams

The retirement of Majors John and Dianna Williams was celebrated by officers and soldiers attending an Eastern Michigan divisional gathering that featured a vintage "soup, soap and salvation" theme. The meeting's motif was a perfect metaphor for the Williams' faithful service and dedication to the Army's holistic mission.

The meeting was held at the Pontiac, Mich., Corps not only to salute the Williams' more than 20 years of service but to recognize significant corps anniversaries in the division. Lt. Colonels Mickey and June McLaren conducted the majors' retirement ceremony.

The Williams entered the College for Officer Training in 1984 after prayerfully seeking the Lord's direction in their life. They were commissioned two years later with the

"Proclaimers of the Gospel" session. Their diverse appointments have taken them throughout the territory, from corps and adult rehabilitation centers to various headquarters positions. Most recently Major John served as service extension assistant at Eastern Michigan Divisional Headquarters, and Major Dianna served as chaplain for the Denby Campus of the Detroit, Mich., Harbor Light System. The majors said the most rewarding aspect of their service over the years has been witnessing the spiritual growth of others and being part of God's work.

The Williams look forward to being soldiers at a corps and spending time with their three children, Jerry (Jennifer), Larry (Sandy) and Traci, as well as their six grandchildren and first great-grandchild!



Majors John and Dianna Williams (l) with Lt. Colonels Mickey and June McLaren

EXPECT CHANGE

NATIONAL ADVISORY ORGANIZATIONS CONFERENCE 2016

Phoenix, AZ | April 21-24, 2016 | expectchange2016.org



730... AND BEYOND



9,500 days and counting

by Major Darlene Harvey

In 2009 before the Kroc Center opened, we were renting a school for our services. At the end of one worship service, I prayed with a woman named Linda who wanted a fresh start with the Lord. When I asked for her address in completing her contact card, she paused, hesitated and bashfully confessed she lived in an abandoned house.

My heart ached. I felt compelled to ask her if she struggled with addictions. She admitted she did but wanted a new beginning. Having remembered the Chicago Central Adult Rehabilitation Center (ARC) was starting a new women's program, I called to see if we could bring her. Though they didn't usually do intake on Sundays, they'd make an exception. She said she needed to talk to her "husband," and after a few minutes came back to say she didn't want to go. Though I tried, I couldn't persuade her.

The next Sunday she returned to church and said she was ready to go to the ARC. She explained, her "husband" had spat in her face, and she couldn't stay with him any longer. I would pick her up in the morning from her aunt's house. I will never forget how confidently and happily she walked out of the house carrying all of her belongings in a duffle bag with a broken strap. At the ARC I was able to see her new room. Tears came to my eyes as I saw the humble but cheery, clean dormitory room and thought how it compared to the abandoned house she must have snuck in and out of.

Linda did get a clean and fresh start at the ARC. While she was in the program, our corps people visited



periodically. Our singing company performed at their sobriety celebration, and all of the children made her cards to let her know we were praying for her. Eventually, I learned she had graduated and was in the adherent class. The last time I talked with her she had moved out of the ARC, had her own apartment and was working at a thrift store.

It's a blessing to see how God changes lives that have been wracked with addiction. In 1998 my father was murdered by a person addicted to drugs. Being around people in recovery demonstrates God's grace and power to me but also is part of a continual healing process in my own heart.

I love how Linda's story shows we work together in different Salvation Army ministries to serve people in our communities. It also shows how we need each other to meet needs holistically. When I reflect on my officership, this is what it is really about: using our programs and facilities to bring people to a fresh start with Christ and in life.

**Have you ever considered fulltime ministry?
If so, the Candidates 730 and Beyond weekend
event may be just the opportunity for you!**

Held September 25-27, 2015, the event is geared toward various levels of interest in officership and offers three unique tracks:

Discovery

Looking to learn more about officership? Spend Saturday in ministry experiences around the Chicago area.

Exploring

Sensing a call to officership? Engage in workshops and meetings with officers who will share their experiences.

Candidate

Headed to training in 2016? Spend the weekend fully engaged at the College for Officer Training.

For more information contact Major Tricia Taube at officercandidate@usc.salvationarmy.org.

Joyfully in His Service

Majors Paul and Mary Duskin's retirement celebration opened with a video presentation created by their son, Christopher, called "Joyfully in His Service." The service at the Holland, Mich., Corps was filled with music and memories.

Highlights included reflections from family members Major Linda Yeck, Mary's sister, and Envoy DeWayne Duskin, Paul's brother, as well as from sessionmates Majors Norm and Claire Grainger. Major Andy Miller presided, and he and his wife, Cheryl, presented the Duskins with their retirement certificates.

"We loved serving God in this way," said Major Mary about their officership. "God is good. He called us to this work and has blessed us beyond measure. Being in partnership with God changes lives for the better."

The Duskins met at Little Pine Island Camp in the Western Michigan and Northern Indiana

Division, where she was a camper, and he was a life guard. Each felt a calling to officership in their teen years, but it wasn't until after college—he studied accounting and she became a registered nurse—marriage, and three kids that they entered training.

Commissioned in 1989 with the "Ambassadors for Christ" session, the Duskins served as corps officers in Wisconsin, Kansas and South Dakota, before appointments at Heartland and Eastern Michigan divisional headquarters, where he served primarily in finance and she in community care and older adult ministries. In 2012 the Duskins returned to corps work at the Holland, Mich., Corps, the appointment from which they retired.

Majors Duskin retire to Hutchinson, Kan., where they look forward to spending more time with family including the five grandchildren who will live nearby. Major Paul also expects to have more time to golf!



Majors Paul and Mary Duskin are flanked by Majors Andrew and Cheryl Miller and flagbearers son Christopher Duskin, and daughter Michelle Smith.

Surrounded by love

Surrounded by their congregation, family and friends, Majors Paul and Sue Moore celebrated their retirement during a Sunday morning worship service at the La Crosse, Wis., Corps, where they'd been serving as corps officers since 2011.

The retirement ceremony was conducted by Major Dan Jennings, Wisconsin and Upper Michigan divisional commander, who also presented the morning's message. Major Dorene Jennings, divisional director of women's ministries, read scripture as did the Moores' children: Sally LaFave, Jody Dalberg and Adina Moore. Sons Peter and Andrew Moore were flagbearers, and the majors' grandchildren performed special music.

A member of the "Joyful Evangelists" session, Paul and his first wife, Geri, were commissioned and appointed in 1979 to Traverse City, Mich. Tragically she was killed in a 1983 traffic accident.

With three young children, Lt. Paul was appointed to the Chicago, Ill., New Town Corps, where he met Sue Dalberg, a former officer with two sons. Sue had been commissioned with the "Undaunted" session in 1970 and had served in corps and



divisional appointments in the Heartland and Metropolitan divisions.

Two years after their marriage, God opened a door for the Moores to lead the Waukegan, Ill., Corps as envoys in 1986. They were reinstated as captains in 1988, the year their blended family was joined by a sixth child, Adina.

The Moores served as corps officers in the Wisconsin and Upper Michigan Division and ministered as territorial officer counselors from 2006 to 2014. After earning a doctorate in ministry, Major Paul taught in the Army's continuing education program for 10 years.

Newly accepted candidates



Matthew and Virginia DeGonia
Granite City, Ill., Corps
Midland Division



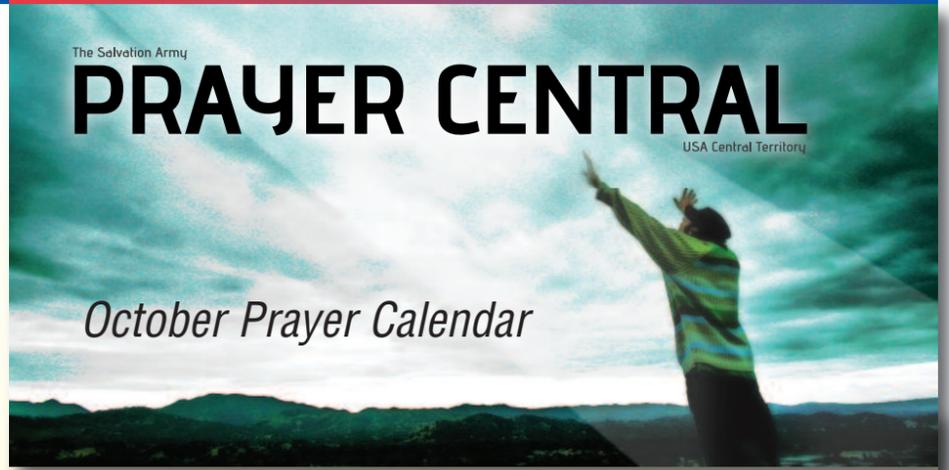
Matthew and I met in December 2007. He had attended The Salvation Army his entire life, while I did not start attending until January 2008.

Matthew received his calling to officership at age 15. Mine came while working at Camp Mihaska the summer of 2008.

Through the years we convinced ourselves that volunteering at the corps was enough, but we would leave the door to officership open. We both worked fulltime at a dental lab and held many positions at our corps. Matthew taught the teen Sunday school class, led rangers, the teen/young adult group and praise team. I taught the 4-6th grade Sunday school class, led girl guards and helped with the teen/young adult group.

At Regeneration 2015 God showed us now is the time for officership. We realize God has been preparing us for this in ways we didn't recognize, and we are ready.

Matthew and Virginia's corps officers are Majors Dale and Mary Hunt.



My Prayer List	Day	Bible Reading	Pray for The Salvation Army
	1 Thursday	Numbers 22-24	Janesville, Wis., Corps
	2 Friday	2 Chronicles 11-15	Indianapolis, Ind., ARC*
	3 Saturday	Psalms 117-118	Farmington Hills, Mich., Corps
	4 Sunday	Proverbs 28	New life in Christ on this Decision Sunday
	5 Monday	Jonah	Dubuque, Iowa, Corps
	6 Tuesday	Acts 3-4	Huntington, Ind., Corps
	7 Wednesday	Hebrews 5-7	Kansas City Blue Valley, Mo., Corps
	8 Thursday	Numbers 25-27	Blue Island, Ill., Corps
	9 Friday	2 Chronicles 16-20	East St. Louis, Ill., Corps
	10 Saturday	Psalms 119	Grand Forks, N.D., Corps
	11 Sunday	Proverbs 29-30	Harvest Festival Sunday
	12 Monday	Micah	Hastings, Neb., Corps
	13 Tuesday	Acts 5-6	Kansas & Western Missouri DHQ**
	14 Wednesday	Hebrews 8-10	Grand Rapids Fulton Heights Citadel, Mich., Corps
	15 Thursday	Numbers 28-30	Kenosha, Wis., Corps
	16 Friday	2 Chronicles 21-24	Territorial multicultural ministries conference
	17 Saturday	Psalms 120-121	Kansas City, Mo., ARC*
	18 Sunday	Proverbs 31	Youth character-building programs
	19 Monday	Nahum	Global mission team to Kenya East Territory
	20 Tuesday	Acts 7-8	Flint Beecher, Mich., Corps
	21 Wednesday	Hebrews 11-13	Freeport, Ill., Corps
	22 Thursday	Numbers 31-33	Women's ministries mission trip to Argentina
	23 Friday	2 Chronicles 25-28	Kansas City, Kan., Harbor Light Village
	24 Saturday	Psalms 122-124	Chicago Temple, Ill., Corps
	25 Sunday	Ecclesiastes 1-2	Women's ministries throughout the territory
	26 Monday	Habakkuk	Granite City, Ill., Corps
	27 Tuesday	Acts 9-10	Huron, S.D., Corps
	28 Wednesday	James 1-3	Austria, Hungary (Switzerland/Austria/Hungary Territory) PIM
	29 Thursday	Numbers 34-36	Holland, Mich., Corps
	30 Friday	2 Chronicles 29-32	Majors Robert & Rae Doliber (Haiti) PIM
	31 Saturday	Psalms 125-127	La Crosse, Wis., Corps

Go to www.salarmycentral.org

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

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



New song book debuts



A new Salvation Army Song Book was released this summer at the International Congress. Originally envisioned by General Shaw Clifton (Rtd.), this edition is intended to meet the needs of today's Salvation Army worship around the world.

The new song book includes:

- 1,041 songs sub-categorized in three sections (The Eternal God, Our Response to God, Benedictions)
- 200 new arrangements
- Music for piano and brass and guitar chords to provide easier and more accessible accompaniments for congregational worship
- Index geared to assist leaders in worship planning
- Bible references above every song
- The New Testament and Psalms in personal-use editions

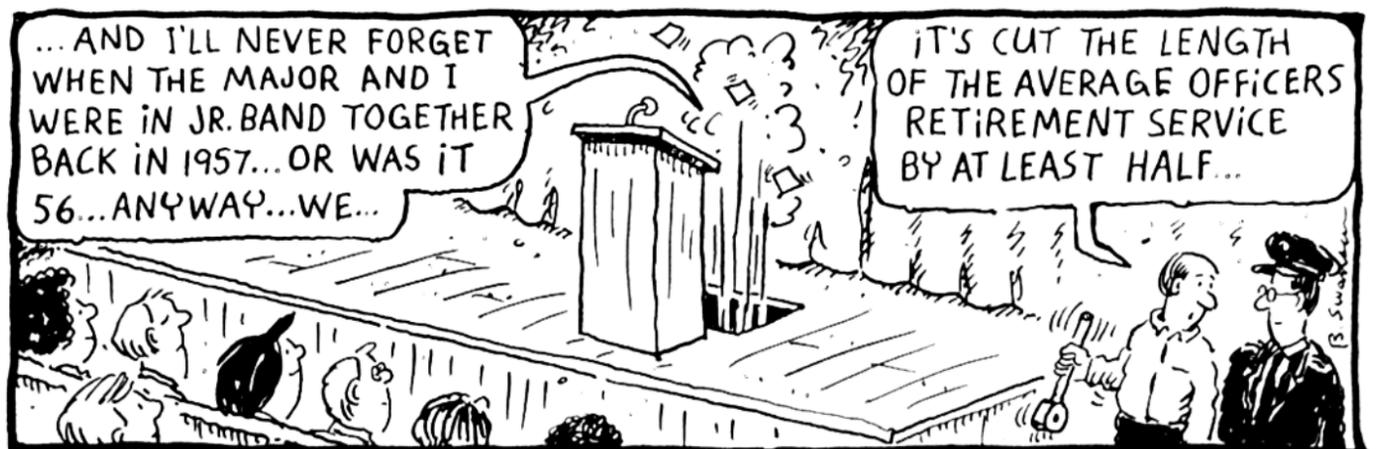
"Music has always played an enormous role in the worship of God's people," said General André Cox. "It touches the soul in a unique way and can lift and inspire. God has gifted The Salvation Army with great poets

who have a unique ability to express in words some of our deepest emotions, desires, devotion and love for God, which many of us would struggle to do without their special talents. As well, *The Song Book of The Salvation Army* is a repository containing much of our doctrinal teaching, making it an essential tool for the development of our faith."

For a review, visit us online.



--Mustard Seeds--



Fresh developments

A ribbon cutting and dedication ceremony attended by divisional and local dignitaries and more than 100 guests celebrated the remodeling of the Grand Island, Neb., Corps and commemorated the generosity of a couple who'd made it all possible because they admired the work of The Salvation Army in their community.

In 1995, local businessman Earl Grimminger purchased and donated a former grocery store, built in the 1950s, to house the corps. The 14,400-square-foot space was divided with curtains into a chapel, meeting rooms and even a thrift store.

"The facility was usable, but certainly not conducive to worship or programming, especially for youth," said Captain William Mealy, corps officer with his wife, Captain Ann. A few years later Earl's widow, Myrtle, bequeathed funds to remodel the corps inside and out.

"To have this completed facility with welcoming, well-marked entrances gives us great excitement and a sense of relief," said Captain Ann. "We now have a place to call 'home' as a church family and have seen increased attendances in corps programs and services because more people now know we're here. Families can bring their children to enjoy youth activities in a designated area, and adults have a classroom for Bible study and fellowship. It allows us to envision new youth pro-

grams, such as afterschool tutoring and summer day camps."

Also new are client waiting areas for social services, new bathrooms, a nursery and meeting rooms plus a fully furnished kitchen and a bright, welcoming dining room for the corps' feeding program. "People can cool off in summer and warm up in winter while receiving nutritious meals twice a day, and community groups can meet here in the evenings," Captain Ann continued.

The now-walled chapel features a platform with podium, media/sound booth and comfortable seating for 72 with adjacent meeting rooms that can be opened to accommodate a total capacity of 135.

The corps' exterior facelift included new signage and attractive landscaping. "It dressed up our corner and made the corps look inviting to the community," said Captain Bill. The corps plans to hold a block-party festival as part of its "reintroduction" to Grand Island.

Since the Mealys' arrival two years ago, average attendance at the corps has risen from 14 to 40, and an exciting development that increases attendance to 90 has been united meetings with a Hispanic congregation, which meets in the corps during the week. The Hispanic church is considering joining the Army, which would benefit both congregations, Captain Bill concluded.



Captain William Mealy cuts the ribbon with Major Greg Thompson (r), Western divisional commander, and Lt. Colonel Daniel Sjögren.

At the ready

Visiting Mackinac Island with her friends from the +55 ministries group of the Cottage Hill Baptist Church in Mobile, Ala., Alice Harvill fell off her bike and fractured her hip.

"There was nothing on the island, and we needed a wheelchair quick," said Pastor Ronnie McC Carson, who was heading up the trip. "I started thinking about how The Salvation Army could help, and that is how we ended up talking to Gregory Bock."

Gregory oversees day-to-day operations of The Salvation Army's Cheboygan, Mich., Service Extension Unit. When he received the phone call, he snapped into action. Not only did the thrift store have a wheelchair, but he could bring it to the island for free because he also works for the ferry company. "It was a God thing," Gregory said.

After getting the wheelchair Alice was able to safely travel home,



where she had surgery.

"Not only did Greg bring the wheelchair, he prayed with us. We were taken aback by his willingness to go the extra mile—literally. He represented the Army in a great way," said Ronnie.

This act of service has engendered a greater appreciation for church members toward The Salvation Army in Mobile.

Multicultural Conference

Continued from page 1

A unique conference format will promote dialogue on critical issues facing the Church in modern times. Eight workshop tracks, including 32 sessions, will focus on worship and biblical foundations, cultural intelligence for cross-cultural leadership and ministry development, justice and reconciliation, the new immigrant, youth and young adult ministry and ministry with Asian and Hispanic populations. Workshop presenters will include pastors, pioneers and practitioners within multiethnic and multicultural settings.

With the themes of justice, hope, freedom and praise, a panel presentation will feature divisional leaders who will speak to multicultural ministry in their areas—the challenges,

growth and opportunities. Delegates also will benefit from inspirational plenary sessions and will enjoy an afternoon of recreation and friendly game competition

Saturday evening is sure to be a highlight of the event with a spectacular multicultural festival showcasing the wide variety of music groups from corps throughout the territory and featuring territorial leaders Commissioners Paul R. and Carol Seiler as speakers.

In addition to registering for the entire conference as individual delegates or as groups, Salvationists also have the option of registration for a day. Cost per person is \$230 for the entire conference or \$75 for one day.

Promoted to Glory

Major Jerry Sword

Major Jerry Sword was promoted to Glory on June 5, 2015. He was 72.

Born and raised in Eldora, Iowa, Jerry felt called to ministry at the young age of 12 after watching a television broadcast of a Billy Graham Crusade. While visiting Dayton, Ohio, he was introduced to The Salvation Army and soon felt a call to officership.

Jerry was enrolled as a soldier at age 18 and entered training a year later with the "Heroes of the Faith" session in 1962. There he met his future wife, Cadet Jeanette Evans.



After commissioning Jerry served as an assistant corps officer at three corps in Indiana and then was appointed as Linton, Ind., corps officer. In 1967 he married Lt. Jeanette, and they were blessed with three boys.

The Swords served together as corps officers in Michigan, Nebraska, Iowa, Missouri and Illinois.

Due to illness in 1985 the Swords served for two years as associate officers in Waterloo, Iowa, and completed their officership as Minneapolis, Minn., Adult Rehabilitation Center chaplains, retiring in 1996.

Major Sword is survived by his wife, and sons, William, Jerry and Mark, and 13 grandchildren.

New Members

April - June 2015

115 Senior Soldiers
57 Adherents
98 Junior Soldiers

COME JOIN OUR ARMY