

**The Salvation Army USA Central Territory  
World Missions Bureau**

**An Angel at the Airport**  
by Chris Shay

On Sunday evening, August 2, our home hosted four Ghanaian young adults preparing to pack for the trip home the following morning. Titus and Jerry had spent the past two months on a Summer Mission Team. Claudia and Jacob served on the Midland Camp Mihaska staff. The house was filled with laughter as the many things the young people picked up during their two month ministry in the States were organized: gifts for family and friends, new backpacks, and much more, not to mention clothes! The scale was out and we all worked hard to distribute the weight in a way that would allow everything to be taken on board the plane. At the airport in the morning more shifting of supplies occurred. But in the end the bags were just too heavy and too many. So it was with delight that we realized upon check in that the associate allowed extra weight to go through without penalty. But the next test would be even more stressful as extra packs and two donated instruments needed to be



Chris Shay with Titus and Jerry

a part of their carry-on items. That is when we all agreed an “angel” was sent as the security agent. This woman was delighted to see the four young adults in their Salvation Army uniforms, and she waved everything right on through, patiently helping the young people work their way through the security screening process. Her co-worker was Ghanaian, and she was thrilled to meet others from that country. She then came over to those of us waiting on the side and with great joy announced that she was fourteen

years, three months and eleven days “clean and sober,” quoting Scripture and praising God. It turns out that over fourteen years ago this woman found herself at 1515 West Monroe Street in Chicago at the Salvation Army Harbor Light program. So while we felt that God had sent us an angel to help our young international friends, our “angel” praised God that He had saved her through a Salvation Army program many years ago. What a great God, Who sees us and cares for us in every situation!

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# Joyville and Bethany Children's Homes

by Sarah Kincaid

At the Joyville Children's Home, three hours outside the Capital City of Manila, Philippines, children of all ages, from different backgrounds and locations in the Philippines giggle and run joyfully around the grounds of this refuge they call home. During my visit at Joyville, along with the Summer Mission Team, the home administrator Captain Debbie Messenger took time to explain a bit about the children, the home, and the family atmosphere at Joyville. The stories she shared about how the children came to live at the home were humbling, emotional and encouraging. But the story of brothers Ronny and Alexis is the story that struck me the most.

A few years ago, Ronny, now over 18 years old, was sold into the hands of human traffickers. His family didn't know

where he was or if he was safe or in danger. The Salvation Army rescued him from the



situation and placed him in the Joyville Home. One of the objectives of the Joyville Home is to maintain or rebuild the relationships between the children and their families. After many efforts the home was able to connect with Ronny's family. As soon as Captain Debbie and Ronny docked on the beach of the remote island where Ronny was from, Captain Debbie spotted a Ronny 'look-a-like' and knew they had found Ronny's family. As Ronny reconnected with his family, Captain Debbie started to learn more about this family and their situation. Alexis, the Ronny 'look-a-like,' was indeed Ronny's younger brother. At the age of 13, Alexis had never been to school. Seeing the growth, development and future opportunities that existed through Ronny's life at the children's home, their mother agreed to allow Alexis to live at the home, too. Upon arriving at the home Alexis did something he had never done before in his life—put on his first pair of shoes. When Alexis put these foreign objects on his normally bare feet he had a difficult time stepping forward, almost as if the shoes were made of lead. It was unnatural to move with something so unfamiliar attached to his feet. But



Alexis and Ronny

as Alexis continues to encounter new experiences and acquire skills, he also learns more about our Savior Jesus Christ, a promising future, and eternity that is in store for him and for the other beautiful children of the Joyville Children's Home!

Another location the Summer Mission Team and I were able to visit was the Bethany Children's Home in Manila, Philippines.

The Salvation Army Bethany Children's Home works and ministers among the sexually abused children ages 9-18 years old. The girls coming in are referred to The Salvation Army by the Department of Social Welfare and Development, Local Government Unit and Regional Trial Court in Metro Manila. They are all victims of incestuous rape perpetrated either by their biological fathers or brothers, or victims of sexual molestation and rape by stepfathers, other relatives, grandfathers and neighbors. Most of the victims' parents have to work hard to sustain their daily living and leave their children at home where they are not safe. Some of the girls are from broken families.

These children have low self-esteem and unhealthy personal interactions resulting from their traumatic experiences. They are placed in the children's home for temporary shel-



Dorm at the Bethany Children's Home

## Joyville and Bethany Children's Homes (continued)

ter and protective custody because they have parents who can't ensure their protection, parents who are negative in thinking and unresponsive to the plight of the victims, or because they are at risk in the community where they are from.

These young girls have many needs that require much attention to enable them to grow normally and improve their self-image, regain self confidence and to help them formulate their values. Their needs come in various forms and degree. They include shelter, clothing, opportunities for emotional and intellectual development, the need to belong and spiritual needs such as aspiring



Girls from the Bethany Children's Home

for higher values and development as true Christians.

Initially upon meeting, the girls from the home were shy and uncertain about the American guests. But as the team made efforts to interact with them they warmed up quickly, holding hands and practicing the English they knew. Many giggles ensued along with dozens of pictures being taken with the girls.

Bethany Children's Home aspires to

responsibly adapt its service to its client's psychosocial and physical needs.

Please lift up these girls and the staff of the home in your prayers!

### Would you like to sponsor a Salvation Army children's home?

The Salvation Army Central Territory offers the opportunity to support our brothers and sisters overseas financially and prayerfully through sponsorship. New sponsorships of \$25.00 per month will help provide nourishing food, a safe environment, educational opportunities, health care and personal development for the children of a Salvation Army home, institution or school. For more information or to become a sponsor, contact Sarah Kincaid at (847) 294-2065 or [Missions@usc.salvationarmy.org](mailto:Missions@usc.salvationarmy.org).



## Mile of Pennies: A World Services Fundraising Idea

**Submitted by Steve Johnson, Pontiac, MI Corps**

We have started a new World Missions Fund Raiser in our congregation at the Pontiac, Michigan Salvation Army Corps. Our goal? To have "A Mile of Pennies!" When the pennies are lined up, it will take 84,840 of them to make a mile! Each week there is a bottle at the front of

the chapel and, during the service, the congregation is invited to come forward and drop their pennies into the container while march music is playing. If they want to drop in coins other than pennies they may do so, but we will exchange them for pennies. Once we have collected the pennies we will have a day where the pennies are laid out in the gym to be photographed before de-

livery to the bank. As of August we have collected 61,504 pennies. When we reach our goal we will have raised \$848.40.

How is your corps raising money for World Services? Let us know by sending an email to [Missions@usc.salvationarmy.org](mailto:Missions@usc.salvationarmy.org).

## Putting Love into Action

by Major Beth Petrie

This Spring Della Miler, Administrative Assistant and lifelong soldier of Des Moines Citadel Corps, noticed an article in the Central Connection newsletter about the Love in Action Valentine's Day projects offered by the THQ Sponsorship Office.

"Wouldn't this be a great alternative to buying our traditional Easter Honorarium/Memorial Lilies that only last a couple weeks?" she asked. "It would have a great deal more meaning!"

This project promotes giving specific items to help those in developing countries. For example, uni-

forms which are required for any child to attend school are carefully preserved and handed down time and again until threadbare. \$30 will provide a uniform! Farm animals give milk, meat, and often an ongoing income for a family in desperate circumstances. \$30 can supply goats, chickens, pigs or other livestock.

We began to promote the idea. We recently added a corps Facebook page, so it made sense to include info about Love in Action there as well as at the corps. I did this by posting the document as a photo on that page and then tagged as many people as I could who I thought might be interested in participating.



This resulted in lots of people from all over looking at the document and considering the project.

The response from our corps people has been amazing! Fifteen individuals and families participated for a total of \$1,410.00 – the total we usually get for lilies is about \$100!! On Easter Sunday, we handed out representational visuals for folks to hold up showing the number of items they had provided.

A number of people who participated did so out of their own poverty, while another gave from her annual bonus. Family members, both living and deceased, were honored in this unique manner. The sacrificial giving was inspiring – the corps will be doing this again!

For more information about the Love in Action initiative or to donate, contact Sarah Kincaid at (847) 294-2065 or [Missions@usc.salvationarmy.org](mailto:Missions@usc.salvationarmy.org)



## Kids Helping Kids

by Jonathan Taube

"Kids helping kids." That's the heart of the Tri-City Corps' newest sponsorship effort. The After School Program at the corps in St. Charles, IL began raising funds for the Dandora Nursery School in Kenya, Africa. By educating themselves about the problems facing the young people in Kenya, and looking at the Biblical

basis for supporting those in need, the children of the After School Program have learned to give selflessly in order to bless their new friends in Africa. The After-School Program is comprised of



about thirty children, many of whom come from low income families, but they are learning to share what they have with those who have even less.

Since April they have raised over \$130.00 and will continue to remember Kenya each day at snack time, as they reach into their pockets and drop their money into the sponsorship jar with a prayer.

# A Cord of Three Strands is Not Quickly Broken

In April another Global Mission Team took off to participate in a work project, this one being a team of seven to the Republic of Georgia. Two corps, Tbilisi Central and Rustavi, received new windows and painting. Rustavi Corps also received a beautiful new roof. The team was happy to find their place in part of the project in Rustavi, while funds were also used to

hire many local workers for aspects of the projects. Seeing so many at work in a country where unemployment is very high and men stand outside all day hoping to be hired, was gratifying. But the trip brought another blessing through Don Fay, a team member from the Beloit Corps



The Georgia GMT with Regional Commanders Captains Salarishvili

in the Wisconsin/Upper Michigan Division, and his son Major Bob Fay, then stationed at Green Bay. They brought along a simple machine that made ropes out of sturdy twine. Don had made the machine following directions from an old Boy Scout magazine, and Major Bob saw it as a good way to

reach past the language barriers to the children of Georgia. He was right: the kids in Lagodeki Corps and the Digi Digomi Children's Center loved choosing colorful twine for their own ropes. They were not alone however, as the adults also wanted their own ropes, many choosing the red, yellow and blue colors of the Salvation Army flag. The machine was such a hit that Don made six more of them for the Summer Mission Teams to bring all over the territory and the world. Each was painted red, yellow and blue and sported a proud Salvation Army shield with "The Salvation Army" written in Georgian. The teams



The Central Blue Summer Mission Team uses the rope maker made by Don.

used the Scripture found in Ecclesiastes chapter four: "Two is better because they have a good return for their work...a cord of three strands is not quickly broken." This Scripture was used to bring the message of Christ as the third strand to dozens of children and adults worldwide.

God clearly had more in mind for the Global Mission Team to Georgia, and the humble and kind way that Don and Bob contributed their gifts for His glory has brought joy to many and will continue to impact others for the Kingdom.



Don makes ropes for children in Georgia



Major Bob uses the rope maker in Georgia

## Updates from our Missionaries in Africa

### Commissioners William and Nancy Roberts

Territorial Commander / Territorial Leader of Women's Ministries

On March 1, 2009 Commissioners William and Nancy Roberts were pleased to be able to celebrate the first anniversary of the birth of the Kenya West Territory. All 331 corps and 914 outposts joined in celebrating God's goodness to and blessing on the territory during its first year.



Many different programs have been established in the Kenya West Territory, but the WORTH program holds a special place in Commissioner Nancy's heart. This program is meant to empower women by teaching them to read and write, helping them to create income-generating projects, and enabling them to become self-reliant by utilizing skills they already have. At the same time they are able to raise income to support their families. Currently there are



Women involved in The Salvation Army's WORTH program.

about 10 clusters of women around the territory, each cluster with 25 women, engaged in this work, contributing to their communities, raising their own standard of living, and allowing them to feel good about themselves and what they are doing.

Commissioner Nancy is also involved in the promotion of anti-sex trafficking education, creating awareness and sensitization, and providing opportunities for women caught up in this evil, to earn money in more productive, safe, and healthy ways. Sex trafficking is especially prevalent along the border between Kenya and Tanzania, and Nancy has met in that area with Salvationists to determine how best to combat the situation. A small corps near Kakamega, again in an area where this kind of activity exists, has opened a beauty salon, staffed by women formerly victims of the streets, who can now earn income in ways they did not think were possible.

Another exciting historic event occurred in Kenya West in mid-April during the territorial Self Denial In-gathering, where funds were received for the world-wide work of The Salvation Army. In that meeting, the territory was very pleased to receive from the divisions and districts a total offering of 3,123,570 shillings (about US\$39,000). What makes that number meaningful is the offering received in 2008 totaled 1,959,773 shillings, so there was an increase of nearly 60%. And what makes that number significant, is when considering the value of the Kenya shilling this year compared to its value last year, the increase in terms of the value of what was given is even more dramatic. In other words, considering what West Kenyan Salvationists earn and live on, what was given to the international work of the Army represented 39,000 days of living for the

people of the Kenya West Territory. Commissioners Roberts write, "Please continue to pray for us, for the work we are doing, for the leadership we are trying to give, and pray for those who we are serving – the Salvationists of Kenya West Territory. They are indeed God's people. Know as well that we pray for our family and friends around the world."

*(Article compiled from information included in Commissioner Roberts' newsletter)*

### Justin Rose

Youth Worker in Kenya West

Having lived in Kakamega, Kenya for over 5 months, Justin Rose continues to feel more and more at home in his new environment. He is getting increasingly involved with his Salvation Army corps as well as continuing to travel around the Kenya West Territory leading youth seminars. In his blog he recounts one of his experiences in leading a youth seminar:

"This past weekend, I had an opportunity to lead a youth seminar in Kapsabet District. We arrived on Friday to see all of the officers (pastors) and youth workers waiting for us. The place where we were told to arrive was called 'Dangerous Forest' so we were a little bit scared of what was before us. But they were anxious to have us come and teach



Justin learns a Kenyan dance

## Updates from our Missionaries in Africa (continued)

them so that they can grow in youth work. Kapsabet is a brand new district (only one year old) and they are facing a lot of financial problems, yet their leaders felt it was important for a youth seminar to take place and the corps were able to fund the whole weekend. I am very happy to see a District within the Army that is so dedicated to youth work."

Please continue to pray for Justin as he works and ministers in Kenya. He has requested prayer for the following:

- Territorial Finances
- The Divisional Youth Officers
- Our garden and crops
- For me to continue to adapt to the new language and culture
- My family in the US
- My corps (in Kenya and the US)

### Colonels Dennis and Sharon Strissel

Territorial Commander / Territorial President of Women's Ministries

The Strissels' love for Africa goes all the way back to 1977 when they first felt God calling them to serve overseas. A letter had been circulated that The Salvation Army was looking for officers for the Island of St. Helena. Though the little island country was a British colony, The Salvation Army ministry was supervised by the Southern Africa Territory. After being selected Dennis and Sharon

and their two young children arrived on the island in October 1980. They spent four glorious, and lonesome, years there before being invited to serve an additional four years in Southern Africa. They accepted the offer and served two years near Johannesburg and two years in Cape Town.



In 1989 they returned home to introduce their children to American living. Over the next decade and a half, the Strissels held many different appointments and assignments with The Salvation Army in the Midwest, but they still hoped and prayed that the Lord would open a door for them to return to their adopted home, Africa.

In February 2007, the Strissels returned to Africa to serve as the Territorial Leaders in the Ghana Territory. This summer the Strissels were pleased to be able to help arrange for four young adult Salvationists from Ghana to work and minister in the United States for several months. While the experiences these young adults had greatly impacted them, those who encountered them were also blessed by their servant's hearts

and enthusiasm for sharing the gospel. The Strissels have truly been instrumental in helping to establish a two-way partnership between the USA Central and Ghana Territories.

Colonels Strissel were also able to enjoy some time in the States this summer as they attended the Territorial Commissioning weekend and spent furlough time visiting with friends and family. They have now returned to Ghana to continue their leadership in that territory.

### Do you want to Share Your Christmas Joy?

*Share Your Christmas Joy* is a unique opportunity to give a little extra to those in need overseas for the Christmas Season. Last year donors helped beat the goal of \$10,400.00 to send \$100.00 to over 100 children's homes overseas to help them celebrate Christmas. The actual amount raised and sent overseas for *Share Your Christmas Joy* in 2008 was \$11,110.00! This year the NEW goal is to raise \$11,100.00. Giving further during this time of year will give the administrators and staff of the homes and schools a chance to give to the children in a way the children have never received: first Christmas gift, first Christmas meal, the joy the holiday season can bring to a young child. And for you, there is the joy of giving. Please consider *Sharing Your Christmas Joy* this year by sending donations in before October 31, 2009. Be watching for a flyer in the mail or visit [www.centralmissions.org](http://www.centralmissions.org) to share.



### 3rd quarter birthdays & anniversaries

**July**  
17—Heidi Bailey

**August**  
12—George Katchanov  
12—Brad & Heidi Bailey  
16—Nathanael McPherson (2007)  
21—Valerie Carr  
21—Jeff & Valerie Carr

**September**  
12—Karen Holness  
25—John Mowers  
30—Cassie DeJesus

## USA Central Territory Missionaries

**Lt. Colonels Brad & Heidi Bailey**  
**Chief Secretary / Territorial Secretary for Women's Ministries**Ejército de Salvación  
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**Birthdays** 5/4 (Brad), 7/17 (Heidi)**Anniversary** 8/12**Captains Jeff & Valerie Carr**  
**(Bramwell & Jonas)****Corps Officers**

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**Birthdays** 3/20 (Jeff), 4/16/07 (Jonas), 8/21(Valerie), 11/7/05 (Bram) **Anniversary** 8/21**Major Eliana Cristi**  
**Social Program Projects Officer**

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**Email** mjecristi@hotmail.com**Birthdays** 11/26**Captains William & Cassie DeJesus**  
**(Alejandro, Michael)****Territorial Youth & Candidates Secretary /****Corps Officer**

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ARGENTINA

**Email** DeJesus4321@aol.com**Birthdays** 2/11/01 (Michael), 9/30 (Cassie),

12/5 (William), 12/18/98 (Alejandro)

**Anniversary** 12/30**Major Violet (Doliber) & Captain Dr. Felix Ezeh**  
**(Matthew)****Clinic Administrators**

Armee du Salut

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11/22 (Felix)

**Anniversary** 5/19**Majors James & Judith Garrington****Corps Officers**

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**Birthdays** 1/25 (Judy), 6/28 (Jim)**Anniversary** 1/13**Majors Richard & Brenda Herivel**  
**Territorial Secretary for Mission Resource /****Russia Divisional Secretary**

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(Karen)

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**Birthdays** 8/12**Captains Sergey & Tanya Katchanov**  
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Sergey and Tanya Katchanov

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**Email** raduga71@yahoo.com**Birthdays** 1/16 (Sergey), 2/2 (Tanya)**Anniversary** 4/11**Captains Timothy & Camie McPherson**  
**(Zachary & Nathanael)****Corps Officers**

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(Nathanael), 10/5 (Camie), 11/3 (Timothy),

**Anniversary** 10/12**Majors John & Nancy Mowers****Training Principal / Asst. Training Principal**

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**Birthdays** 8/21**Major Cindy Shellenberger**  
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**Birthdays** 11/23**Aux. Captains Albert & Darlene Simmert**  
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**Birthdays** 2/19 (Albert), 10/9 (Darlene)**Anniversary** 3/5**Colonels Dennis & Sharon Strissel****Territorial Commander/****Territorial President of****Women's Ministries**

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