



DOING THE MOST GOOD

The Salvation Army / 2901 North Clinton Street / Fort Wayne, IN 46805

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THE BRIDGE BUILDER

April 2013

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Major Harold Poff, Allen County Coordinator, Corps Officer/Major Lynnetta Poff, Corps Officer/Captain Sonja Jenkins, Assistant Corps Officer

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From the Major's Desk

"All Thy works with joy surround Thee; earth and heaven reflect Thy rays, Stars and angels sing around Thee; center of unbroken praise; Field and forest, vale and mountain, blossoming meadow, flashing sea, Chanting bird and flowing fountain call us to rejoice in Thee."

Henry van Dyke

It's spring!! Not only is it April, but, I watched my first official baseball game yesterday. It must be spring!

It's been a long, cold winter this year and for those of us who are

prone to arthritis and other bone/joint discomfort, we have all felt it. There's been plenty of snow and it has been cold.

But, the signs are becoming evident. It's spring.

New life is beginning to show. Trees are beginning to bud. Early flowers are beginning to poke up through the ground. The sun is up longer and on some days, it's even warmer.

It's time to take a look at our spiritual lives as well. Do you see signs of growth in your spiritual life?

It's easy to slack off going to worship and Bible study during the winter. We have an easy excuse. It's either too cold or too dark, or even too snowy.

We're afraid we might slip and fall. We can't see well enough to drive.....and so on!

But, now it's time to get back into the swing of things!! I had the chance to watch the opening of the Major League baseball season. Of course, the players have been in training camp since mid February, but it was still evident that they need to "get back into the swing" of their game. In many cases, literally!! It will take them a few days to get it all back and, it takes us a little time to do so as well.

I hope you have a blessed and enjoyable spring, but don't forget to have a blessed and enjoyable springtime in your soul!

God bless you!!
Major Harold Poff

Finding



Indiana Divisional Women's Camp

May 17-19, 2013 @

Hidden Falls Camp

Registration is \$60.00 and due to Major Lynnetta Poff no later than Monday, April 29.

Weekend Preview

- * Market Place to benefit World Services
- * Inspirational Speakers and Workshops
- * Saturday Night Dinner Theater
- * Fabulous Food, Fun and Fellowship! Surprises!

Older Adult Spring Luncheon Wednesday, May 15

Indiana's Older Adult Spring Luncheon will be held at the Indiana State Fairgrounds in Indianapolis, IN.

If you are 55 years old or older, you are welcome to attend by paying only \$7.00 each.

Registration, with payment, is due by Monday, April 22, 2013.

Please contact Captain Sonja Jenkins at (260) 744-2311 or by email: Sonja_Jenkins@usc.salvationarmy.org for more information and to register for this annual event.



A time for creativity and fellowship.



Retired Major Margaret Quinn and her daughter in law, Melissa Quinn, made greeting cards at the retreat.

The Fort Wayne Corps held its first annual Scrapbooking Retreat on March 8-9 2013 . There were 21 women in attendance; ladies came from Peru, Warsaw, Divisional Headquarters in Indianapolis and even one woman came from Territorial Headquarters in Chicago.

Several women stayed overnight and slept on cots provided by the corps. Others chose to go back home for the night and returned on Saturday. It was so good to have the corps together, for fun and fellowship. I'm looking forward to next year's Scrapbook Retreat.

Captain Sonja Jenkins

Update on The Salvation Army's Character Building programs

The Fort Wayne Salvation Army offers Character Building activities on Thursday afternoons during the school year, for youth in first-12th grades. Girl Guards (girls in grades 6th-12th), Sunbeams (girls in grades 1st-5th), and Adventure Corps Explorers, for boys in 1st-8th grades, meet for one hour. Youth have the opportunity to learn more about God and earn badges for the skills they master.

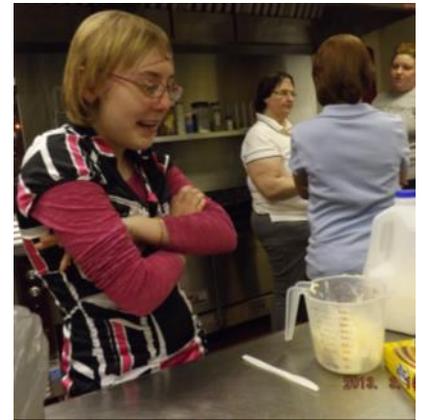
The corps also offers a time for 'life-lessons' for young men in middle through high school. These young men learn what it means to be a man from a Christian point of view.

Immediately after the groups meet from 4:30-5:30 pm, a light dinner is served for the youth.

There is no cost for these programs and all Allen County youth are invited to attend.



Girl Guard leader, Captain Sonja Jenkins assisted the corps' Girl Guard Troop when they made dinner on Thursday afternoon after Character Building activities. The girls served hot dogs, macaroni and cheese, peaches, carrot sticks and lemonade. These Girl Guards were working on their Confident Cook Badge. Pictured are Jamie Gruber (foreground) and Erica Dennis.



Cindy Pickelheimer ponders which ingredients to use next.



Captain Jenkins took this opportunity to teach the girls how to prepare meals in a safe and sanitary manner. Justice Gruber (left) and Erica Dennis are wearing hair nets and put on gloves when they handled the food.

Sunbeams thank firefighters

Fort Wayne's Sunbeam Troop chose a very special group to thank for their service project in March. The girls wrote thank you cards and presented the 36 firefighters from Station 1 (closest station to the corps) with a box of healthy snacks and two large rolls of Nestle Chocolate Cookies to bake.

Firefighter, Chris Duba, let the girls feel how heavy the nozzles are on the hoses on their trucks and showed them the 'jaws of life', explaining how they work. The first thing Sunbeam, Olivia Durant, said was, "Those are creepy."

As we were leaving, Station 1 received an emergency call and one of their trucks turned on its lights and quickly left the building. Duba explained their goal is to arrive at the scene within four minutes of any call. The troop and their leaders stopped and said a prayer for the firefighters going out on the call. Meeting the firefighters made what they do each day for us a little more real. All of them deserve our thanks and prayers every day.



Firefighter, Chris Duba, showed Olivia Durant (left) and Autum Brandebury (right) around the station. He showed the girls his rip away tennis shoes and the fire gear laying ready for the firefighters to jump into. Their equipment is at the foot of the door of the fire truck they are assigned to for their shift.



The boys in the corps' Adventure Corps Explorer troop made new bird feeders while working on their Bird Badge this spring. Last year's feeders were made from pinecones, peanut butter and bird seed.

Four installed as Salvation Army Junior Soldiers



Pictured left to right (front row): Erica Dennis; Isabella Woods; Major Lynnetta Poff; Justice Gruber; Jamie Gruber. Pictured left to right (back row): Tasha Hunt and Ayla McLinn. Tasha and Ayla are currently Junior Soldiers and participated in the ceremony along with John Woods, III (pictured between Justice and Jamie Gruber). All soldiers need weapons to 'slay the enemy' and the girls received their new swords (the Holy Bible).

The Salvation Army installed four girls as Junior Soldiers during a special ceremony held on Easter Sunday, March 31, 2013. Erica Dennis, Isabella Woods, and Justice and Jamie Gruber made the promise to commit their lives to Jesus Christ and The Salvation Army.

Junior Soldiers are ages 7-14 and initially attend a six week course, taught by Young Persons Sargent Major (YPSM) Ronda Woods, before they make this life long promise. As Junior Soldiers, the girls will attend weekly classes and continue to learn more about The Salvation Army and its history, as well as continuing to learn more about God's word in the Bible.

Thankful in all things



This is a picture of Sarah in January 2013, holding her stuffed bunny.

Whose eyes don't begin to well up when thinking of the loss of their pet? Whether a dog, cat, horse, etc. we can't fathom living without them. Our pets depend upon us day in and day out and if we are responsible pet owners, we are right there to take care of them. Pets look forward to seeing us when we arrive home; they are warm, they cuddle with us, provide us with a reason to laugh and sometimes we believe they are our reason for living, especially when we are alone. Those who have never owned a pet may not understand the profound grief pet owners feel when their pet dies. Sadly, they also have not felt the love our pets give us.

I put my 11 year old Golden Retriever to sleep on Monday, March 11. Sarah had three operations within six months and was facing a fourth because of a large hematoma on her ear. On Monday morning I saw the pain in her eyes and realized putting her down was the most humane and least selfish thing I could do for her. Her appointment with the veterinarian was at 4:00 pm, so I had the whole day to hold her and cry.

My supervisor is a big dog lover, as are most

of the people around The Salvation Army. My personal day away from work was approved. Staff members provided kind shoulders to cry on and one person gave me a sympathy card.

I never asked God why he took Sarah from me. As a Christian, I was able to tell myself He had a reason. I told people God would give me another dog to love when He was ready.

I realized I had an 'Our Daily Bread' devotional book on my desk Tuesday when I returned to work. I opened the page to the March 11 lesson and saw it was titled, "Thankful in all Things".

The lesson from 'Our Daily Bread' referred to 1 Thessalonians 5:18, "Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." This reminded me of the day I was saved. I was in the midst of reading Merlin Carothers' book, "From Prison to Praise", when I felt the Holy Spirit change me forever. Carothers was an Army Chaplain who always told those he counseled to, "Praise the Lord whenever something bad happens."

I broke down crying again Wednesday evening in my driveway. I called Major Lynnetta Poff before Bible Study and asked her for prayers. I was trying to thank the Lord for the situation with Sarah, but was confused as for what I was to be thankful.

Was I to be thankful for putting her to sleep, for my love for her, how happy she made me? I really didn't know, but I prayed. I prayed and cried such deep, anguishing tears. I prayed and cried so hard my stomach ached. I could feel the prayers said for me at church. I soon felt calmer and my tears dried on my cheeks. I did what Christ asked of me, I thanked Him for everything.

The next day I began to think of Sarah without crying. I found joy in leading our Sunbeam Troop. I talked to a young volunteer about Christ and saw her eyes light up when we discovered we shared many things. I've found joy in helping others rather than thinking of my loss. I am happy again and I know it is because I obeyed Christ by thanking Him, despite experiencing this heartbreak. Knowing He is with me has made this event so much easier to accept. Through this experience I hope to encourage others to trust Him when He says to, "Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." Whether He provides me with another pet is no longer as important, because I've found a deeper love and appreciation for Jesus and His Word.

Roxanne Albrecht
Corps Secretary

THE SALVATION ARMY

2901 N. CLINTON ST.

FORT WAYNE, IN 46805

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PAID

FORT WAYNE, IN

PERMIT NO. 636

REGULAR SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

“Return Service Requested”

SUNDAY

9:30 am United Sunday School Opening
9:45 am Sunday School
10:45 am Worship Service
6:00 pm Open gym and game night (first Sunday of the month)

WEDNESDAY

6:00 pm Adult Bible Study
6:00 pm Singing Company (for youth 7-12 yrs. old)
7:00 pm Women’s Ministry and Band
7:30 pm Praise and Worship

THURSDAY

4:30-6:00 pm Character Building activities (Sept. through May)
6:00-7:00 pm Junior Soldiers and Corps Cadets (September through May)

SOCIAL SERVICES EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE HOURS

Food Pantry-Tuesdays & Thursdays from 1:00-3:00 pm
CURF- Tuesday morning walk-ins (call for more information)
Other assistance provided by appointment (744-2311)

YOUTH PROGRAMS

After-school programs-please check the calendar for other events.



The Salvation Army, an international movement, is an evangelical part of the universal Christian church. Its message is based on the Bible. Its ministry is motivated by the love of God. Its mission is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His name without discrimination.



Contestants prepare for Queen of Charities Pageant

The fourth annual Queen of Charities pageant will be held on Sunday, April 28 at 6:00 pm. Tickets for the event are \$3.00 for adults and \$1.00 for children.

The Allen County Salvation Army created the Miss Queen of Charities fundraiser; an event designed to engage youth in community involvement while celebrating inner beauty. The Miss Queen of Charities pageant is a non-glitz, community pageant where girls (and now boys!) from all walks of life come together to showcase their poise, personality and charitable works within the community. 100% of all proceeds go to needy families in Allen County through The Salvation Army’s Social Service programs.

You may vote for your favorite contestant on our Facebook pages. (Check out www.safortwayne.org for links.) Each contestant is raising donations for The Salvation Army at www.safortwayne.org. To donate, ‘click here’ on your favorite contestant’s name. Donations through on-line kettles will be accepted until Monday, April 22.



“Solid Rock” Summer Day Camp

is a positive and safe environment for your child’s heart. Your child will experience a caring camp community, helping them learn to be an important part of a larger group, but always valuing them as individuals. We will learn about our world in the way kids learn best – hands-on. Campers enjoy a minimum of 2 field trips per week (included in the reasonable tuition cost). Breakfast, lunch and a snack each day is also included. Your child will have a great time on-site playing in the game room, gym and computer room. They’ll meet new friends and learn about Jesus, their best friend and “Solid Rock”.

Children Eligible

Campers entering 1st grade through 6th grade this fall

Camp Dates

June 10th to August 2nd

Cost and Hours

Regular Hours 9:00am - 3:00pm - \$75.00 per week*

Extended Hours 8:00am - 5:00pm - \$90.00 per week*

CCDF / CANI vouchers accepted

(Cost is for 1st child, \$10.00 discount for each additional sibling)

*Includes: Breakfast, Lunch and Snack and 2 Field Trips per Week

Registration forms are available on our website

www.safortwayne.org

where you will also find what parents have said about The Salvation Army Solid Rock Summer Day Camp.

Space is Limited.