

# THE BRIDGE BUILDER

Summer 2014  
Volume 15, Issue 6

Major Harold Poff, Allen County Coordinator, Corps Officer/Major Lynneta Poff, Corps Officer

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## From the Major's Desk

*"Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God."*

*I John 4:7 NKJV*

We are in the middle of another summer. There is probably some disagreement about the long-range forecast this summer. Some feel it may be cooler than normal. Others, I'm sure, have a different opinion on the subject.

Summer is an awesome time of fun, picnics, cook-outs, ballgames, watermelon, water balloons, and all sorts of cooling, fun games and activities. It is also a time for summer camps and camp outs.

Camping and hiking are also part of a fun summer adventure.

It's an easy time to forget about loving one another. In fact, as the weather gets hotter and the air conditioner works a little harder, our tempers often begin to flare. It's easy to allow the kids or grandkids to get on your nerves, especially as it gets too hot for them to play outside. It's also a time when family disagreements can become bitter and even violent, as the heat works on our souls and on our conscience.

With school being out on summer break, we can find ourselves almost too confined within the house and it's simply more tolerable to turn to other things to keep us calm and collected with all of this going on around us.

So, as you enjoy your summer, let us love one another. Let us look at opportunities to show love to those around us, especially our families and other adults who are around us day in and day out. Let this summer be a time of loving one another and of enjoying all that God has for us this summer!!

God bless you!!  
Major Harold Poff



## New ministry opportunity born from need

The Peterson family came to The Salvation Army for assistance shortly after the premature birth of their daughter. The baby had been diagnosed with a somewhat rare blood infection and required an extended stay in the NICU.

With another young child to care for and the family's income now down to one (not to mention staggering medical costs that were not completely covered by insurance) the family found themselves in need of assistance for the first time.

They were unsure of how to proceed or what questions to even ask, as they had always been on the giving end of charity rather than the receiving side.

The Salvation Army's "Charlotte Ministries" program arranged a delivery of groceries,



The Peterson's beautiful baby girl.

diapers, baby clothing, and even gift cards so the family could grab a ready-made meal as they were driving to and from the hospital.

"Charlotte Ministries" is the Fort Wayne Salvation Army's NICU Assistance program inspired by a staff member's struggle with having a baby in the neonatal intensive care unit.

For more information, please contact Jama Smith at [jama\\_smith@usc.salvationarmy.org](mailto:jama_smith@usc.salvationarmy.org), 260-744-2311, or find us at [www.safortwayne.org](http://www.safortwayne.org)

## TO GET INVOLVED:

We are constantly in need of donations for Charlotte Ministries!

We are currently accepting:

- Gently used and new infant clothing
  - Diapers
  - Wipes
- Grocery Gift Cards
- Restaurant Gift Cards (NICU families often have to grab food on the go or take food back to the hospital.)
- Gas Cards (Many of our families drive to and from the NICU several times daily and gas costs alone can be staggering.)
  - New Baby Hygiene Items

Donations can be delivered to the reception desk at The Salvation Army, 2901 North Clinton, Fort Wayne, MON-FRI 8:30 am -4:30 pm.

**Pageant enthusiasm continues to grow**

The Salvation Army's 2014 Queen of Charity Pageant took place on May 3, 2014.

An event that began five years ago with 12 contestants and raising only a few hundred dollars has grown to over 40 contestants who raised over \$41,000 for families in need in Allen County.



Jaslina, age 4 (right), raised \$2,600 for The Salvation Army. This is the most raised by any Queen of Charities pageant contestant in 2014. Jama Smith, dressed as Scarlet O'Hara from Gone with the Wind, is sitting with Jaslina at the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner.

**2014 Queens and Kings of Charities Winners**

- Toddler Miss Queen of Charities – Charis Lechleidner
- Mini Miss Queen of Charities – Jaslina Yarbrough
- Little Miss Queen of Charities – Regan Vowles
- Little Mr. King of Charities – Joseph Truelove
- Junior Miss Queen of Charities – Summer Ann Miller
- Pre Miss Queen of Charities – Samantha Smith
- Miss Queen of Charities – Taylor Zalenski
- Mrs. Queen of Charities – Deidre Golden

Please join us for:

**The Salvation Army's "Back to Childhood" Older Adult Camp!\***

**September 5-8, 2014  
Hidden Falls Camp-Bedford, IN**

**The cost for camp is \$60.00 (\$10.00 extra for a Lodge Room) and will be due Sunday, August 17, 2014**

*\*Older Adult Camp is for adults who are age 55 years and older.*



**My camp experience**

This is the third summer I have attended camp at Hidden Falls. I won 2nd place in vocals and 2nd place in my main track of studies at Music Camp this year.



(left to right) Jamie and Justice Gruber at Character Building Camp in 2012.

including T.C. Snawder and Paula Poff. I want more youth to learn about God and get closer to Him and most importantly make new friends.

When we celebrated The Salvation Army's 149th birthday, I suddenly began really missing camp. Hidden Falls Camp really makes me feel good and it is because the people here really believe in God.

I want to thank Major Harold and Major Lynnetta Poff for introducing me to camp. It has really made an impact on me.

Justice Gruber

I might get tired at camp, but I'm sad each time I leave because I love camp so much. I also love spending time with my friends,

**Heat and humidity brings on need**

**The Salvation Army is now collecting fans and air conditioners for our Operation Cool Breeze program.**

These items are given to low-income individuals with critical medical conditions who must stay cool during the heat of summer. New fans, working air-conditioners, and monetary donations can be dropped off at The Salvation Army office, located at 2901 N. Clinton Street, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. If making a monetary donation, please indicate that the funds are to help with "Operation Cool Breeze."

Timothy Smith, Social Services Minister for The Salvation Army adds, "Individuals with critical medical conditions desperately need to stay cool during the summer. It can be a matter of life and death. Please help us provide this much needed relief for them."

If you are in need, you can contact The Salvation Army to apply to receive one of these fans. In order to be eligible, you must have a **critical** medical condition aggravated by the heat. This needs to be verified by a doctor. In addition, if you have received cooling assistance from us before, you will not be eligible this year.



**Women's Ministry schedule**

Meetings are on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm unless otherwise noted.

- July 16:** Lucy Night/popcorn-Major Quinn
- July 23:** Worship-Sonja Bailey
- July 30:** Quarterly Birthday Party-Major O'Dell
- August 6: 6:00 pm** Picnic in the Park Brown Bag Lunch (Men invited)
- August 13:** Craft-Major Poff
- August 20: 6:00 pm** Picnic in the Park in Columbia City with other area corps (Men invited)
- August 27:** Block Party Preparation Book Club book night

**Volunteers recognized for exceptional service**

The Fort Wayne Salvation Army held their annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner to thank our hundreds of volunteers for their service on April 22, 2014.

The theme of the 2014 volunteer dinner was 'Gone With The Wind'. Approximately 180 volunteers were in attendance and enjoyed a great 'down south' BBQ dinner from Shigs in Pit.



Thelma and Ben Cox (far left and far right) received the Christmas Spirit Award from Rhett Butler and Scarlet O'Hara (Tim and Jama Smith).

Fort Wayne volunteers gave over 12,000 hours of their time in 2013 in our various programs. A list of volunteers who received special recognition are:

- Outstanding Individual Volunteer Award** – Kayla Murphy
- JoAnn Stoker Social Service Award** – Barb Clifton and Vanessa Hagler
- Generous Giving Award** – Bruce Dye
- Fashionable Heart Award** – Elevation 138

**Culver's Restaurant raises money for Honor Flight**

Culver's Restaurant on Washington Center Road held a Day of Giving on June 11<sup>th</sup> to support Honor Flight Northeast Indiana. Bob Gilbert and his daughter Dot, who volunteer for The Salvation Army during Christmas, were interviewed at Culver's by WFFT Fox News. Bob went on Honor Flight #5 in June 2011. His daughter Dot served as his guardian.

Bob Gilbert is a WWII veteran and was a member of the 764<sup>th</sup> Squadron, 461<sup>st</sup>



Scott Welch and his class from New Haven High School received the Christmas Spirit Award.

- Christmas Spirit Award** – Scott Welch & Class, Mary Joe Birely, Lutheran Hospital and Ben & Thelma Cox
- Pageant Ambassadors Award** – Jody Lepley, Lauren Wagoner, Amarra Nester, Julian Young, Seth Young, Grace Vowles, Canaan Roach, Aurora Kulp and Hanna Smith



The Fashionable Heart Award was given to Blair from Elevation 138, for their generous sponsorship of the pageant and fashion show, as well as their volunteer efforts.

- Christmas Kettle Award – Organization Raising the Most** – Central Lions (\$1,297.59)
- Christmas Kettle Award – Church Raising the Most** – Trinity Presbyterian Church (\$1,064.45)



Major Harold Poff (right) and Roxanne Albrecht recognized Joe Stellhorn as the Army's Outstanding Volunteer Bell Ringer of the Year. Joe volunteered 118 hours and raised \$4,294.49.

- Christmas Kettle Award – Family Raising the Most in Two Hours** – Eric & Nicole Beuchel Family (\$247.80)
- Christmas Kettle Award – Most Raised in One Hour** – Channel 21 Melissa Long, Curtis Smith and Tommy Schoegler (\$402.11)
- Christmas Kettle Award – Outstanding Kettle Volunteer** – Joe Stellhorn

Bomb Group of the 15<sup>th</sup> Air Force as the ball turret gunner on a B-24 Liberator during the war. Bob's other daughter, Deb, is the Fort Wayne Salvation Army's Administrative Manager.



WFFT Fox News interviewed Bob and Dot Gilbert as they ate at Culver's Restaurant.



(Left to right) Jim and Mary Meredith, Sonja Bailey, and Pat Ludy enjoyed an afternoon in May at Solomon Farms.

**THE SALVATION ARMY**

**2901 N. CLINTON ST.**

**FORT WAYNE, IN 46805**

Major Harold Poff, Allen County Coordinator, Corps Officer  
Major Lynnetta Poff, Corps Officer

**REGULAR SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**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**

4:30 pm Band  
5:00 pm Theory and Singing Company  
6:00 pm Bible Study  
6:30 pm Praise Team  
7:00 pm Women's Ministry

**THURSDAY**

4:30-6:00 pm Character Building activities (Sept. through May)  
6:00-7:00 pm 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.

Volunteers needed for Tools for School. You may attend training on either August 5th or 6th at 10:00 am.

NONPROFIT ORG.

U.S. POSTAGE

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FORT WAYNE, IN

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**“Return Service Requested”**

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.



*It is time to prepare area students for success*

The Salvation Army will be collecting school supplies this summer to distribute to students of financially struggling families. The Tools for School program is designed to provide basic school supplies for children whose parents cannot afford the items necessary for their children to succeed in school. The Salvation Army Tools for School program helps to compensate for some of these basic expenses by supplying children with book bags, notebooks, pens, pencils, etc., for students in grades K – 12.

This program operates because of the charity of the Allen County community that donates needed supplies during the summer months, along with partnerships with various local organizations.

Any donation will be appreciated and will be given to a child in Allen County. If you are in need of assistance, supplies will be distributed August 12th and 13th. Please visit [www.safortwayne.org](http://www.safortwayne.org) or call 744-2311

**Neighborhood**



**Block Party**

**The Salvation Army**

**Everyone is Welcome!**

**2901 N. Clinton St. (parking lot)**

**Saturday, August 30, 2014**

**3:00 –8:00 pm**

The Fort Wayne Salvation Army is holding a Neighborhood Block Party on Saturday, August 30th from 3:00 pm-8:00 pm. We are inviting the neighborhoods surrounding our corps which include Brookview Civic, Irvington Park, Park Place Condos, Oak Knoll and North Triangle to our outreach event. We will encourage residents to worship with us and become active in our programs. These neighborhoods represent approximately 500 households.

Many activities are planned for the day including inflatables (Moonwalk, etc.); puppet shows; tours of the building; carnival games; door prizes; face painting; and a visit by Marc's Arc. We will serve hot dogs, chips and popcorn.

Each household will receive a goodie bag filled with brochures describing the corps and our programs, a back scratcher and a Kleenex pack.

We will need many volunteers to help with the events, talk with our guests, and have a good time while enjoying the last Saturday of the summer vacation season.

For more information about the event and how you can help, please contact Major Lynnetta Poff at (260) 744-2311 or email her [Lynnetta\\_Poff@usc.salvationarmy.org](mailto:Lynnetta_Poff@usc.salvationarmy.org).