

Global View

NEWS OF SOUTHERN OFFICERS AND LAY PERSONNEL SERVING AROUND THE WORLD

OCTOBER 2010

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USA Southern Territory

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More information can be obtained about our overseas personnel on the internet at www.salvationarmymissions.org

THE GOD OF SURPRISES (by Commissioners Paul and Jajuan Kellner)



It's been nearly ten years since we retired from our life as "active" officers of The Salvation Army so it may be a good time to reflect on that part of our period of service to the Lord, and in particular to those thirteen-plus years we lived and served in locations outside the USA. While the details of those years grow ever more fuzzy, their meaning seems to come into sharper focus with the passing of time. One thing is clear to us. The ultimate outcome of the years we served in those four countries, Jamaica, Haiti, Zimbabwe (twice), and Congo (Brazzaville), was not what we expected at all, and certainly not what we had in mind when the whole adventure started.

In looking back, it is obvious to us now that any ideas we had about teaching them, "helping" them, or showing them how to do anything were futile. Any N. American feelings of superiority or smugness were quickly dashed on the rocks of daily reality. Those wonderful people whose lives we shared were every bit as capable as we were, every bit as intelligent (if not more so), every bit as dedicated to God, and even more enthusiastic about their Army service than we were. On top of this, they had a huge advantage in understanding their own cultures, historic values, ways of doing things, and, most importantly, the complex relationships which were the basis of everything in their lives.

After more than 13 years of daily observation and experience with them, we were just beginning to scratch the surface in understanding what was really going on. The best we could hope to do was come to the realization that all this was just a matter of having had our pilgrim path merge with theirs for a short while; walking hand-in-hand with them in Christian life and service, of growing and maturing together in Christ, and then of moving on as our paths again diverged. The best part of this aspect of those years was that, finally, the "they" and "we" became "us". We felt we were truly one in Christ together.

Even more startling, however, is the additional reality of what God seems to have been up to the whole time. It looks upon reflection, as if the whole experience was designed by Him, not for what we were going to do for Him or for the people, but what He was going to do for us. Our practical impact, in all the places we served, was no more than a grain of sand in the ocean. But the life-changes and spiritual understandings that God wrought in our own hearts were gigantic as far as we were concerned.

God used every day of each of those years to provide a platform for the growth of our own deep personal character and personal spiritual values. He was teaching us about the meaning of grace, the value of patience, the crucial need for self-control, the ability to read others through eyes of mercy, and the untold blessing of a forgiving heart. He was ever shining His searchlight on any vestiges of sinful pride in us, moving us on toward true humility of heart. God chipped away at us, sometimes pounded us, but eventually softened us. The people and places we lived in and served are little changed for our passing through, but we ourselves are totally different people.

Thank You, faithful Heavenly Father, for Your perfect wisdom and direction through all the days of our lives.

FROM THE MISSIONARY BOOKSHELF

Recommended reading for anyone interested in missions.

The Poisonwood Bible, by Barbara Kingsolver, is a novel set in the mid-twentieth century turmoil of the Belgian Congo. The devastating conflict, the complicated culture and the mysterious jungle are all described. But the disintegration of the missionary's family and the contrasting ways missionaries deal with their task can help anyone interested in missions to avoid some mistakes. One reinforcement officer called the book "a how-not-to-be-a-missionary manual." Don't be put off by it having been chosen for "Oprah's Book Club." Published by HarperTorch, used copies in good condition can be found in almost any Thrift Store.

I must take the glad Evangel
To the lands of darkest night;
Witnessing to every creature,
Pointing sinners to the Light.

—Oswald Smith

PRAYER CONCERNS: After you pray, why not drop the person or persons prayed for a line or send an email of encouragement and blessing. More information can be found at www.uss.salvationarmymissions.org.

MAJORS RON & CAROL BUSROE (HAITI): Pray for them as they settle in to their new responsibilities as Recovery and Development Directors. ron_busroe@car.salvationarmy.org Carol_busroe@car.salvationarmy.org

MAJORS BRAD & ANITA CALDWELL (REPUBLIC OF GEORGIA): Pray for them as they return to the states for a much needed furlough and for the officers who will hold on in their absence. caldwell_eec@yahoo.com

CAPTAIN MAUREEN DIFFLEY (UKRAINE): Pray for her as she contemplates her future service overseas. maureen_diffley@hotmail.com

CAPTAIN NANCY FABAL (KENYA): Remember the officers as they face fierce spiritual battles and for the leadership on every level. Nancy_Fabal@KYA.SalvationArmy.org

MAJORS MIKE & TERESA HAWLEY (DUBAI): Pray that they may, with God's help, develop an Army strong enough to meet the needs of the ex-pats as well as put down roots which allow ministry among the indigenous. Mike_hawley@uss.salvationarmy.org

MAJORS DAVID & CLARA HODGE (SWITZERLAND): Pray for them as they endeavor to focus on a teenage ministry trying to reach those who are caught up in alcohol and drugs. Remember their daughters Claudia, Marjorie and Ingeborg. david_hodge@swi.salvationarmy.org

COLONELS KENNETH & PAULA JOHNSON (EASTERN EUROPE): Pray for them as they give leadership in Eastern Europe. Pray for the beginnings of self-support initiatives in the corps and remember the young people whom God is calling to full-time service. Kenneth_johnson@eet.salvationarmy.org

LT. COLONELS WILLIAM & DEBRA MOCKABEE (SRI LANKA): Pray for them as they begin their service and adaptation to a new culture.

MAJORS ALLEN & ESTHER SATTERLEE (JAMAICA): Pray for the financial situation which is crippling to the work. Pray for the officers that they may find ways to be more self-reliant. Pray for candidates. allensat@hotmail.com

MAJORS VICTOR & ELLEN TIDMAN (RUSSIA): Pray for them as they end furlough time and return to their duties in Russia. vtdman@pitersa.ru (note this is a new email)

CAPTAINS MATTHEW & REBECCA TRAYLER (TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS): Pray for God's guidance as they lay the ground work for the Army. Pray for their children Hannah, Aubrey and Mason. Matthew_Traylor/BAH/CAR/SArmy@CAR

CAPTAINS ROBERT & GLENIS VIERA (KUWAIT): Pray for them as they prepare to return to the states. Pray for daughter Alana Marley born August 23. Robertviera10@yahoo.com

LT. COLONELS AL & MARY WARD (BRAZIL): Remember their new T.C. and his wife (Colonels Oscar & Ana Rosa Sanchez). Pray as the Army transitions to more after school programs instead of traditional children's homes due to government restrictions. Al_Ward@bra.salvationarmy.org

MAJORS DON & JEAN WILSON (EL SALVADOR): Pray for funding, ministry to YP, FOF, for those caught up in human trafficking. Pray for safety from gang violence. Donald_Wilson@uss.salvationarmy.org

CAPTAINS LUIS & LAURA MELENDEZ: Pray for them as they wait to go to Jamaica to take up appointments on the Training College staff in the Caribbean Territory. Luis_Melendez@uss.salvationarmy.org

CAPTAINS LUIS & LUZ VIERA (S. AMERICA EAST): Pray for them as they prepare for their new appointments in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Luis as TYS & PR and Luz as Candidates Sec. as well as Education Sec. effective November 1.

CAPTAINS BOBBY & ANN WESTMORELAND will be taking overseas appointments soon. Pray for them and their preparation.

Please share these needs with others as your prayers do make the difference.

SPECIAL DATES COMING UP

(Birthdays unless otherwise noted)

OCTOBER

- 15 Hannah Trayler
Turks & Caicos (10)
- 23 Captains Trayler, anniv.
Turks & Caicos

NOVEMBER

- 1 Lt. Colonel William
Mockabee
Sri Lanka
- 8 Lt. Glenis Viera
Kuwait
- 13 Lt. Colonel Mary Ward
Brazil
- 20 Major Mike Hawley
UAE
- 23 Colonel Paula Johnson
Eastern Europe

DECEMBER

- 1 Major Anita Caldwell
Georgia
- 6 Major Ron Busroe
Haiti
- 19 Majors Hodge, anniv.
Switzerland
- 25 Captain Maureen Diffley
Ukraine
- 27 Lt. Colonels Ward, anniv.
Brazil

JANUARY

- 2 Majors Satterlee, anniv.
Jamaica
- 3 Major Teresa Hawley
UAE
- 9 Major Carol Busroe
Haiti
- 17 Major David Hodge
Switzerland
- 18 Marjorie Hodge
Switzerland (17)

THE NEXT ISSUE OF GLOBAL VIEW WILL BE AVAILABLE IN JANUARY 2011.