

# Family Fiesta Night – Ole!



The Salvation Army was pleased to host a "Family Fiesta Night" on February 12 at Kiser School. Over 400 parents and children attended the evening celebrating Hispanic culture. Neighbors enjoyed entertainment, prizes, storytelling, burritos, churros and capped off the night with a rousing game of piñatas. Be sure to come to the next Family Night this spring – YOU are invited!



The Salvation Army  
138 S. Wilkinson St.  
Dayton OH 45402

## DOING THE MOST GOOD

"... For service is our watchword, and there is no reward equal to that of doing the most good to the most people in the most need." –Evangeline Booth

# Family Picnic Night

**Come one, come all! The Salvation Army cordially invites you to our Family Picnic Night. Family activities, food, entertainment, games and prizes. And, it's all FREE!**

**Date: Thursday, July 30  
Time: 5 PM to 8 PM  
Place: Claridge Park**

**Tell Your Neighbors  
See You There  
Be Sure To Bring  
Your Own Lawn Chair!**



# The Kroc Center Report



Volume 4, Issue 8, Spring 2009

## Memories of Camping Lead To Salvation Army Gift: The Mark and Gwen Freese Family Foundation

You just never know how a long-ago experience will shape the future for others.

It all started before Mark and Gwen even knew each other. As a young boy, Mark Freese attended the YMCA camp in Steubenville. Clear across the state of Ohio in Germantown, Gwen Stingley spent the summers learning to swim at summer camp. Mark and Gwen met each other while attending The Ohio State University, married and had three sons – Marc, David and Michael.

The Freese family often talked about how much they enjoyed their camping experience.

"Mark and I had such great memories of being at summer camp. The cabins, the bunk beds, all the activities, and getting to meet new people. The counselors were wonderful," says Gwen Freese.

Remembering how much fun they each had at camp, the Freese's sent their sons to Camp Kern each summer. When their sons had children, they decided to continue the tradition and sent their four grandchildren to summer camp.

"And then, when the grandkids got too old to go to camp, Mark and I decided we wanted to donate



Reggie Winters - Salvation Army Business Manager; Gwen Freese, Joe Baldasare - The Dayton Foundation Vice President, Development

"Camp is such a wonderful experience for kids. I wish I could send all the kids in Dayton to The Salvation Army's camp."

Gwen Freese

money to an organization and sponsor a child to go to camp," recalls Gwen. "We had been long time supporters of The Salvation Army – giving clothes and money for over 30 years. We had read that the Army was one of the best organizations to give to because donors can be assured that their money is going directly to the needy. We started by sending one child to the Army's camp, the next summer we sent two children and it just grew from there."

In 2007, the Mark and Gwen Freese Family Foundation was established so that lots of kids

could attend The Salvation Army's camp. This past summer, the Freese's gift enabled 25 children to attend camp on full or partial scholarships!

Dr. Marcus (Mark) Freese passed away in 2001. He served the Dayton community for many years as a gastroenterologist, and was instrumental in selecting the very first Dean of Medicine at Wright State University.

Gwen adds, "My only sadness is that my husband is not here to enjoy our gift to the Army. He felt strongly about camp, and I know he would be pleased to hear about what great experiences the kids are having at Camp Swoneky."

Summer Campers with Major Barbara Duperree



## A Message From The Majors



Barbara and Tom Duperree

We like to think that we have a fairly broad understanding of winter weather. Major Barb grew up experiencing the harsh winters of Warren, Ohio where the brisk Lake Erie winds would sweep over the land, delivering bone

chilling temperatures, and the skies above would dump several feet of snow upon the frozen ground below.

Major Tom, however, grew up in the city known the world 'round for its proficient, prognosticative prowess. The city hailed as the Weather Capital of the World. The great metropolis of ... Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania. Last month, Punxsutawney Phil forecasted an additional 6 weeks of blustery, winter weather before we can even hope to see the signs of a blossoming spring.

The seasons of life are a marvelous thing to behold – especially winter! Clothed in the garb of cold and frigid weather, winter brings a necessary death to all of nature so that newness and life can spring forth in the next cycle. What a thought! Life springing from death!

## My Lands! We Found The Deeds!

A real treasure is sitting on the property where the Kroc Center is being built – the Duncarrick House. The Salvation Army is restoring this nationally-significant home, and it will eventually house Administrative Offices, a Welcome Center, Board Room, Meeting Rooms and an Old North Dayton Museum.

We were really excited to find the original deeds to the house, signed by President Franklin Pierce! Wright State University kindly preserved the deeds, and we thought you'd like to see a photo.



One day while speaking of His imminent death, Jesus said to His disciples:

*"I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds." John 12:24 N.I.V.*

That particular law of nature runs counter to our own personal logic, but that's just the way it is. Bury a seed in the ground, allow it to die, bathe it with water and the warmth of radiant sunlight and watch it blossom into a living organism!

We marvel at the amazing work God is doing through the construction of The Salvation Army's Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center here in Dayton. A 175-acre property, once overrun by wild honeysuckle and scrub trees, is now bursting forth with signs of new life, new hope and new possibilities. And, as we emerge from the winter season, spring will reveal increasing progress toward the completion of this beautiful Center, scheduled to open in the summer of 2010.

As you enjoy the articles and the photographs in this issue of *The Kroc Center Report*, know that you, too, can experience a fresh new life in the person of Jesus Christ who promised us in Revelation 21:5:

*"Behold, I make all things new."*

God Bless You!

## It's Your Community Center

The late Joan B. Kroc, heiress to the McDonald's restaurant fortune, bequeathed more than \$1.5 billion to the national Salvation Army. Her will stipulated that the money would be used to build and sustain state-of-the-art community centers all across the United States. Dayton, Ohio was one of the cities selected to house a new Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center.

The Center will be located on 175 acres at the intersection of Webster and Keowee Streets and is scheduled to open in the summer of 2010.

The Salvation Army looks forward to providing a full range of worship, education, sports, recreation and social services. Together, we can have a positive impact – on our children and on our community.

Instead of the sketch you usually see in this spot, we wanted to share some actual photos of the Kroc Center – in progress!



**We are very interested in your comments and suggestions about this newsletter and about the Kroc Center. Please contact Major Tom Duperree at 222.1435 or tduperree@use.salvationarmy.org.**

## Future Engineers Learn Robotics

Seventh and eighth grade Kiser School students are exploring the worlds of science and engineering through the Kiser Robotics Program. Four senior students from the University of Dayton's Mechanical Engineering school – all volunteers – work closely with Kiser teachers and staff to bring this type of education to children who may not be exposed to all aspects of engineering. The team uses the Lego Mindstorms Robotics platform to teach the students how important math and science are in their daily lives, and how valuable engineering can be to their future. "It's really rewarding to see students presented with a challenge, stepping up to the plate and performing beyond their own expectations," says Doug Smith, UD volunteer and project leader.

Kiser also offered a two week intersession camp where students constructed Solar Cookers and cooked their own hot dogs, built bottle rockets soaring as high as 200 feet, constructed bridges that help up to 450 pounds and took a field trip to UD's School of Engineering.

## Get To Know Our Advisory Board

### David K. Adkinson

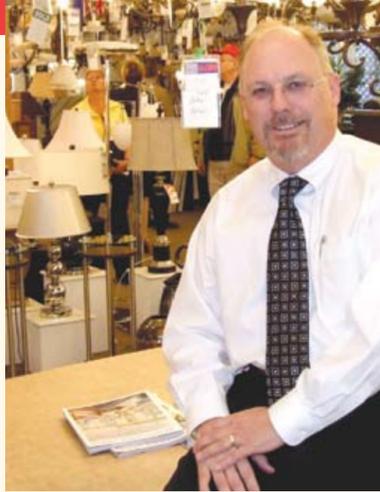
For the last 18 years, David Adkinson has been a Member of Dayton's Salvation Army Advisory Board. In 1991, while attending classes at Antioch College, David met Business Manager Reggie Winters and the rest is history. He has served as Board Treasurer and, when the Kroc Center became a reality, expanded his duties to include Co-Chairman of the Construction Committee.

David is President of Becker Electric Supply, a regional firm with 12 branches that provides commercial and industrial customers with electrical supplies, controls and lighting. He has been with this family-owned business for 38 years. David and his wife Jean have three grown sons – Michael, Chris, Brian – and four grandchildren. He also thoroughly enjoys a round of golf when he can squeeze it into his busy schedule.

### What has been the most fulfilling part of being a Board Member?

"It is really wonderful being around such high quality, dedicated people as Majors Tom and Barbara Duperree and Reggie Winters. These folks walk the talk. They are difference-makers in our community and they do it quietly and humbly. The other group that inspires me is our Advisory Board. This is an enthusiastic group of community leaders committed to assisting The Salvation Army help the less fortunate in our area.

I believe the Army fills a huge need in the community by housing the homeless and feeding the hungry."



David K. Adkinson

### What impact do you think the Kroc Center will have on our community?

"The Kroc Center is going to be a fantastic addition to the Dayton area! The city has taken several shots to the bow in the past few years, namely the closing of the GM plants and the like. It is time for something positive to happen and the Kroc Center certainly fills the bill. The Center has spiritual, education, technology and athletic components – and all will be available free of charge! This is a great opportunity for our entire area. It is still unbelievable to me that the Kroc Family bequeathed \$1.5 billion to the Army for the express purpose of building these community centers. We are really fortunate that Dayton was chosen as a site."

### In closing, is there anything else that you would like to add?

"For me, my service on the Advisory Board has been a labor of love. Once inside, you see that the Army is the real deal. Army officers do the right things right and do them for the right reasons. Simply put, I have really enjoyed my association with this great organization!"