

The Kroc Center Report

Literacy = Learning = Success!

First Books is a non-profit organization that has distributed over 110 million books to 90,000 schools and organizations across the country. Their mission is to put new books in the hands of the children who need them most. To date, the Dayton Kroc Center has received close to 1,000 FREE BOOKS!

“There are a lot of children who do not have access to books like other kids do – they may not have the money to buy books, or the transportation to get to a library,” states Director of Education Beth Zientko. “Many parents don’t have an education and don’t know how to help their kids. We are trying to break the cycle of illiteracy and get parents and students interested in books. The First Books program is such a blessing for us and you can be sure we will put these books to good use.”

Here’s how: The Army will be hosting a **Book Fair** in late spring. Children and parents will have the opportunity to select books – for free and for keeps. And, teaming up with the Dayton Metro Library, our **Summer Camp** programs will feature literacy programs where kids can read books and magazines on their own, listen to a book, or participate in a book club. Many more plans are on the horizon, and we’ll keep you updated.

“Reading skills like comprehension and critical thinking are necessary for everything we want to do in life. We strive to give children a step up in this area so that they can be productive members of society,” says Beth.



Beth Zientko

Beth Zientko, our new Director of Education, is an Alter High School graduate and long-time resident of Centerville OH. She obtained her teaching degree from Bowling Green State University, and her master’s degree in literacy from the University of Dayton. She has spent her entire career teaching, and is passionate about children’s literacy. Beth is married to Todd, and they have three children: Josh (13), Ben (11) and Will (9).

A Message From The Majors



Barbara and Tom Duperree

On a September morning last year, right after Sunday worship here at The Salvation Army, Barb and I grabbed a quick lunch and drove to the DAYTON airport to catch a flight to Chicago. We were attending a national conference for Kroc Center administrators and key staff. Barb stopped in the bookstore to find something to read - anything to

take her mind off the fact that she would be on an airplane (even if it was only for 60 minutes).

The book was Laura Vanderkam's "*What The Most Successful People Do Before Breakfast.*"

The author's point is that some of our most productive hours belong to the early morning before most of the world has even climbed out of bed. Vanderkam found that whether the early morning regimen included physical exercise, prayer, meditation or even reading the newspaper, the most successful people are able to accomplish more by devoting themselves to such a routine, *thereby making the most of every opportunity in life.*

Not surprisingly, Jesus was an early riser too! The gospel narratives bear witness to the Savior's ritual of rising before dawn and being by Himself so that He could spend time in prayer.

The late Joan Kroc embraced the idea that every Kroc Center would be a beacon of hope. She imagined centers of excellence which would provide a welcoming opportunity for children to explore their potential in a variety of arenas like education, recreation, the arts, technology or any number of character building activities - thereby finding their destiny! She wanted the underserved and underprivileged to have access to the same amenities of life afforded to her, *thereby making the most of every opportunity in life.*

As The Salvation Army's Kroc Center in DAYTON prepares to mark its 4th year of service, we can share only a portion of our story within the pages of this newsletter. The story is best understood by visiting our campus and experiencing first-hand the many wonderful opportunities for young and old alike. We guarantee there's no place like it in DAYTON. If you've never been here then I have to ask, "What are you waiting for?"

We'll look for you ... right after breakfast!

Commanding Officers Report: 2013

Thanks to your generosity, the Red Kettle Campaign generated \$1,007,384 in donations this Christmas Season. Your donations fund Christmas assistance and enrichment programs throughout the year.

- ▶ Volunteers visited 42 nursing homes and distributed 3,980 gifts
- ▶ 4,220 families received Christmas food assistance
- ▶ 130,307 meals were served in 2013
- ▶ 96,008 individuals participated in 4,237 character-building and recreational programs
- ▶ And much, much more ...

"Be generous and share your food with the poor. You will be blessed for it." – Proverbs 22:9 (LB)



Please visit our web site at dayton.salarmykroc.org

STITCHES

Success Takes Involving Teachers and Caregivers with Helping to Educate Students

In partnership with Our Lady of the Rosary School, The Salvation Army has introduced STITCHES - a series of programs that focus on helping parents understand the educational needs of students. Parents will be given information to assist with creating evening routines, helping with homework, study skills, class projects, technology, and summer resources. In many cases, parents do not know how to help their children because of language and literacy barriers. And, consequently, have not had good experiences dealing with teachers or administration.

The first program focused on homework and study tips and was attended by 20 parents and their children. Dinner was provided, and the kids participated in a dance lesson while Beth Zientko, Kroc Center Director of Education, talked with the parents about the Army's after school program, tutoring help and homework charts. The second program will focus on introducing both parents/guardians and their children to educational websites which can facilitate learning in a stimulating and interactive way. The third program will cover summer enrichment activities. A translator attends all sessions, and materials are provided in both English and Spanish. Teachers are available to address specific concerns and offer additional information.

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We're doing our best to help parents help their children!

Stitches form a chain-like pattern used to hold together and/or reinforce materials.

In this case, the students of Our Lady of the Rosary School are the material.

Teachers and caregivers are the thread creating the stitches supporting and strengthening each student as they achieve academic success.



The Ministry of Music

Star Lake Musiccamp in Bloomingdale NJ is a premier music conservatory operated by the Eastern Territory of The Salvation Army. It specializes in the mastery of brass, percussion, vocal, timbrels and piano. Competition is fierce, and only those members who go through a rigorous selection process are accepted. We are proud to report that two of our children – Melyndee White and Eric Hawkins – attended the camp this past summer. Melyndee is a 7th grader and specializes in dance and vocals, and 8th grader Eric focuses on brass and vocals. Major Barb Duperree remarks, "This highly-regarded camp emphasizes the discipline of learning music and the ministry of it as well. Once you master it, then it becomes your ministry. It's learning what your gifts are, and using them to get closer to the Lord and to your community."



Melyndee White, Eric Hawkins

You Are Invited!

If you are an event and/or meeting planner, we cordially invite you to come to the Kroc Center to learn more about our meeting and banquet facilities. We will be hosting a free tour and luncheon on Thursday, May 22 from 11 AM to 1 PM. To learn more, please contact Rachel DuFour by May 15 at 937.528.5131 or rachel.dufour@use.salvationarmy.org. Reservations are required!





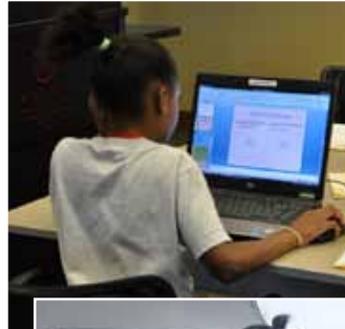
On a very, very cold night last November, over 1,000 members of the Dayton community came out to the Kroc Center for an evening of free family fun. Along with the tree lighting ceremony, there were carriage and train rides, a craft fair, children's activities and a special performance by the Carillon Brass.

When we think of Christmas, we think of the generosity of the Miami Valley. Thank you for your donations and for helping to brighten up the lives of your neighbors. We are also indebted to our corporate partners who help us in countless ways during the giving season.



Here's What We've Been Up To ...

From ice skating to basketball and technology to fitness, there is always something going on at the Kroc Center. Thank YOU for making a difference in our community!



In Memoriam: Charles "Chuck" Allen

We mourn the passing of Charles "Chuck" Allen, a member of the Salvation Army Advisory Board since 2003. Chuck was a 1960 graduate of Patterson Co-op High School. He attended Ohio State University and proudly served in the Army Air Force Reserves. After working for Hobart Corporation in Troy, Chuck started Advanced Machinery Concepts in 1978 and, 36 years later, it continues today as a thriving family business. Chuck loved his family above all else. He retreated back to Ohio after a short retirement to Florida when he realized the warmth and sunshine were nothing compared to the hugs and kisses of his grandchildren. He led by example and was generous beyond measure. Chuck was active in his community and served countless organizations. He served on the board at Miami Valley Golf Club where he was an active, devoted member for over 25 years. He was past president of the Jaycees and served as a JCI Senator. He co-chaired the St. John's Catholic Church building committee fundraising drive, and was a proud Mason. He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Kathryn Hilt Allen, as well as his children and grandchildren: Matt and Amy Allen, Davis, Jake, Sophia (Kettering); Pete and Rebecca Schinaman, Walker, Kate, Charlie, Otto (Tipp City); Mark and Gina Allen, Renee', Jonathan, Jeannette (Copley). We will miss Chuck, and will be forever grateful for his service to The Salvation Army.

Chuck Allen



Jim Murphy

Get To Know Our Advisory Board: *Jim Murphy*

After graduating from high school in Chicago, Advisory Board Member and current Vice Chairman Jim Murphy enrolled at the University of Dayton. After UD, Jim made the decision to carve out his career here and not return to the Chicago area. Well, Chicago's loss has been our gain - for Dayton and for The Salvation Army!

Jim learned about the Army from his good friend, Sam Lumbly. "Sam is a Board Member and Past Chairman and he never missed a chance to tell me about all of the good services and programs the Army provides for our community. I was asked to consider Board membership in 2008 when the Kroc Center was rapidly becoming a reality. One look at that master plan and I was hooked. And, with their commitment to youth programs, I was convinced that this organization was one that I wanted to be a part of. I'm a firm believer that if we can make a positive impact on young lives, we have a unique opportunity to uplift those individuals for a lifetime."

The Salvation Army's Senior Business Manager Reggie Winters states, "Jim has been a wonderful addition to our Board. He not only brings great insight into property management, but has sound overall business judgment as well. He does a stellar job in keeping us fiscally responsible while not losing sight of our stated mission. Suffice it to say, Jim is a real asset."

The Army's Kicks for Kids program is one in which Jim has been actively involved. Every December since 2009, 125 needy children are treated to a new pair of shoes that they pick out with a little help from parents and volunteers. "I just love to see the expressions on the children's faces when they find just the right pair of shoes. It's very heartwarming," Jim said.

Jim recently retired as a Partner in The Connor Group after a long and successful career in the property ownership/management business. Service to others runs deep in the Murphy family – Jim's daughter Meredith is a social worker in Chicago helping troubled teenagers.

Thank you, Jim, for your service to The Salvation Army. We look forward to continued success under your stewardship.

Welcome!

We are pleased to welcome our newest Advisory Board Members, **Melanie Henness** and **Kevin Hurst**. Your participation is greatly appreciated!

“The Salvation Army is the place where I got to know my God.”

That’s how Nereida Rodriguez feels about the Army, and all of the good people God has put in her life. “This is where my kids learned about God, and that has made all the difference in their lives.”

Nereida and her daughters, Letisha (18) and Bianca (16), have been involved with the Army since 2000. When the Kroc Center opened in 2010, they were a little skeptical because it was so much bigger than the original downtown location. “But, once we got here, we realized it was the same people and we would still be a part of The Salvation Army family. It’s been a good transition,” says Nereida.

“This new Kroc Center has turned out nice,” says Bianca. “It has broadened our horizons and helped us to spread the word of the church. I’m involved in praise dance, the church, and youth bible study. My family has been on quite a journey and the Army has helped me so much. I’ve learned a lot of life lessons and I am thankful for that. Recently, a friend of mine from school took her own life. I didn’t know what to do, and wondered why I deserved to live. The Army helped me to see

my worth. I am an example for others and can help them by reaching out. The Army is my family.”

“I love the Kroc and am excited by all of the new features,” says Letisha. “I play basketball and love the two gyms, all of the computers and especially the church with the HUGE cross. They’ve watched me grow up here. I can’t ever be in trouble because I’m always in church! I’ve learned to hang out with the right people, and how to make good decisions. People look up to me and I like to set an example for younger people. I’m on the dance team and part of the Corps Cadets. It’s a five year program where I’ve learned about the history of the Army and the bible. When I graduate this spring, I will receive college scholarship money from the Army. I’m going to major in sports management and will go to Urbana University or Cincinnati Christian.”

Nereida participates in bible study, prayer meetings and serves as an usher at Sunday services. For the last nine years, she has been a manager at The Salvation Army store, and is proud to share her story with us. “God led me to the Adult Rehabilitation Center and that’s where I met Majors Tom and Barb Duperree. They took me in and made me feel welcome. They’ve worked with me through a lot of circumstances and I have gotten to know Jesus the Lord. The Army changes lives and I am a prime example of that. I don’t know where my daughters and I would be without The Salvation Army. It’s been a journey and the Army has walked it with us.”



Bianca, Nereida, Letisha

“WinWholesale is a lot like The Salvation Army. We both help others help themselves.” *Rick Schwartz*

It is hard to believe that just four short years ago, what is now the Kroc Center campus was then a 17-acre forest surrounding a mansion. To turn the original business and construction plan into reality, it took the imagination and generosity of early adopters to step up and lead the way.

“WinWholesale got involved for three reasons,” says Rick Schwartz, CEO and Chairman of the Board, WinWholesale. “The opportunity to leverage local funds raised against the Kroc bequest; the historic nature of the mansion and the plans to renovate it; and, the momentum that had been displayed by the Advisory Board. As it ended up, the timing was perfect because the recession hit right before the Kroc Center opened and we saw demand bloom for the types of services The Salvation Army could offer to the needy.”

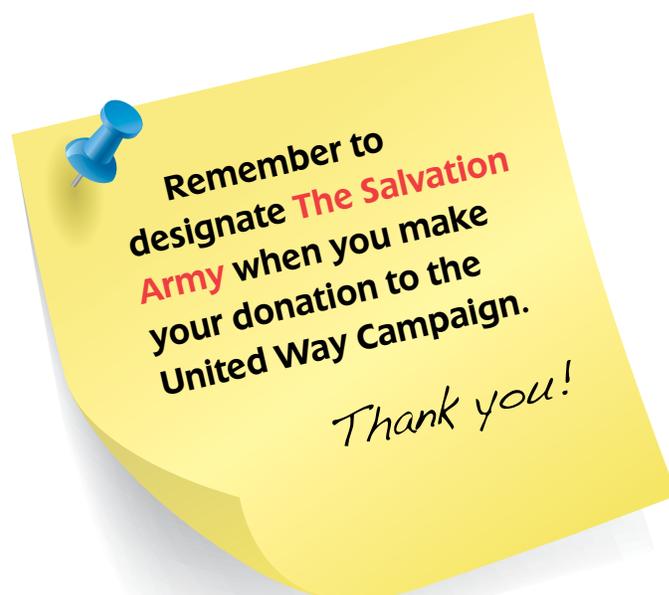
Rick knows a thing or two about helping others – in his case, entrepreneurs. WinWholesale is a leading nationwide supplier of domestic and industrial supplies and materials. It consists of wholesale distributors of plumbing and heating supplies; hydronics, industrial pipe, valves and fittings; heating, ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration equipment; electrical equipment; industrial and commercial fastening hardware; waterworks and utility supplies; domestic, commercial and industrial pumps; and turf irrigation and landscape supplies. The company’s philosophy is to offer unique entrepreneurial opportunities to individuals, who are then backed up by WinWholesale resources. This model has worked exceptionally well. WinWholesale has more than 550 locations in 45 states.

“It’s about empowering those people who want to be entrepreneurs, but don’t have the capital,” says Rick. “We take some of the risk away, and they provide the link to the local community. In addition to helping them financially, we provide services in areas such as accounting, payroll and insurance to help them do what they do best. We call it ‘The Spirit of Opportunity’ – a singular combination that lets them draw on the resources of our national organization while they enjoy the independence to lead their own company.”



Rick Schwartz

Rick sees many parallels between WinWholesale and The Salvation Army. “We get a lot of satisfaction from seeing our entrepreneurs do well. I imagine the Army feels the same way when they see people grow and mature. We offer a support structure - a safety net - and so does the Army. I also know that the Army asks members to contribute something, even if it is very small. It’s the same way with us – we believe that giving things away, with no investment from the entrepreneur, ends up hurting them in the long run. WinWholesale is a lot like The Salvation Army. We both help others help themselves.”



Ahhhh – The Spa!

Over 140 women participated in the third annual Women's Spa Night at the Kroc Center. Makeovers, facials, manicures and chair massages were just a few of the services offered to help our ladies feel special and loved. The evening also included devotions, a string quartet, meditation station, heavy hors d'oeuvres and tea tasting. "God created the earth in six days and felt the need to relax on the seventh. As women, we think we can go on and on, but we need to take a lesson from God and make time for ourselves," says Major Barb Duperree. Many thanks to Square One Salon, Miami Jacobs School of Massage, Mary Kay Cosmetics, Stivers School for the Arts and Papparazzi Jewelry for their support.



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

You Can Make A Difference!

Please join us in our mission to make certain that all of the wonderful opportunities at the Kroc Center will be enjoyed by everyone. The Salvation Army has established a Sponsorship Program with the express purpose of funding scholarships and programming for needy children and families. This Program will ensure that those in need will only have to pay a minimal amount per month to partake of all that the Kroc has to offer. **All will be welcome and no one will be turned away.**

To make your tax deductible donation, mail your check made out to The Kroc Center to: The Salvation Army, 1000 N. Keowee St., Dayton OH 45404.

If you have any questions, please contact Reggie Winters, Senior Business Administrator, at 937.528.5100. Thank you very much!

Please help us make the Kroc Center a Beacon of Hope for the entire Miami Valley!

Yes, I would like to be a part of the Kroc Center's "Sponsors Row"

Yes, please include me in "Sponsors Row." My check for \$1,000 or more is enclosed.

I am unable to donate \$1,000, but I want to help.

\$120 sponsors a family of four for one year.

\$60 sponsors an adult for one year.

\$36 sponsors a minor for one year.

Other \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____



RAY & JOAN KROC
CORPS COMMUNITY CENTER

DAYTON

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Dayton OH 45404