



# The *Transmitter*

The Official Newsletter of the Civil Air Patrol Chaplain Service

Winter 2009

## *From the Chief of the Chaplain Service.....*

The sincerity and intensity of the speakers was evident as they outlined their concerns and laid them before the assembled distinguished guests. For the most part the large Pentagon conference room was filled with retired military chaplains who now represent their respective faith groups and denominations as endorsers. Those who were chosen to lead the chaplain corps of the United States military offered the briefings, sponsored by the Armed Forces Chaplain Board (AFCB). One was struck by the growing concern for the care of wounded warriors whose ranks were increasing daily from the lingering wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. The need for chaplains, both at home and abroad, was starkly evident to everyone present. First the Navy, then the Army and finally the Air Force Chiefs of Chaplains opened their heart and outlined their burdens and appreciation for the overworked cadre of devoted men and women appointed to care for the warriors of our armed forces.

As I looked about and took in the setting of the gathering, I sensed with renewed vigor the value of chaplaincy and appreciation for the opportunity to have even a small part in providing missions for America. The uniform that identified me as a CAP chaplain took on an even deeper meaning as I visited with active duty and reserve chaplains from all the branches. I was pleased to report with satisfaction the assistance provided them by the Air Force Auxiliary and, on behalf of all of our Chaplain Service, received their thanks.

For the previous three days, NCMAF (National Conference on Ministry to the Armed Forces) had met in nearby Arlington, VA to welcome and equip new endorsers, train in matters affecting military and VA chaplaincy, renew contact with active duty and reserve chaplain recruiters, offer mutual encouragement in the provision of new chaplains, and receive this briefing from the AFCB. In the semi-darkness of the early morning we boarded busses for the short drive to the Pentagon. Arriving at the rear of the building mercifully avoiding much of the long walk required of most visitors, we yet traversed on foot a bridge over the freeway in the biting cold of Winter. In the near distance, the new Air Force Memorial rose in silver splendor marking the flight path of the aggressor on 9-11. The subsequent additional security precautions were evident as we emptied our pockets and were admitted through a strategically placed metal detector, given visitor passes and passed on to an escort. At the end of a long corridor we were ushered into the large conference room where breakfast refreshments (and later a fine lunch) were waiting. The AFCB was an exemplary host.

As Chaplain (MGen) Cecil Richardson, the Air Force Chief of Chaplains, concluded his remarks, I was thrilled by his lengthy and sincere reference to our CAP Chaplain Service. He implored the endorsers not to forget CAP when considering chaplains for service. He spoke glowingly of the assistance provided to the Air Force by our chaplains, and listed several ways that we are serving the Air Force Chaplain Corps. Several endorsers later commented to me that they had not heard such an endorsement before. Without question, our CAP chaplaincy is on the map with the Air Force Chaplain Corps.



Ch (Col) Whit Woodard

## From the Chief of the Chaplain Service...

(cont'd)

I want to share Chaplain Richardson's appreciation with you in a paraphrase of his remarks: "When my son (now 28) was a teen, his greatest weaknesses were leadership and self-confidence. Today they are his greatest strengths. What made the difference? He joined Civil Air Patrol. It's one thing when your father is a chaplain, but quite another when a CAP chaplain encourages and cares for your well being and progress."

That testimony is a tribute to the effective ministry of CAP chaplains everywhere, and I thank you all for it. It also reminds me of the importance of chaplains staying connected with our cadet program. Though much of our attention is drawn to emergency services and military support, we dare not neglect our cadets who are our future warriors and leaders. You never know when your ministry touches a life in a meaningful way. I can assure you that the Air Force is not unaware of the importance of our cadets, nor of our chaplains and character development instructors.

***Semper Vigilans ad Dei Gloriam***

Chaplain (Col) Whit Woodard, CAP  
Chief of Chaplain Services

*CAP National  
Commander*

**MG Amy Courter**

*Executive Director*

**Don Rowland**

*CAP-USAF  
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*National Chief of  
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The Transmitter is the official presentation of the CAP Chaplain Service office, NHQ. Published quarterly, it provides a forum for Chaplain Service leadership to share matters of current interest. Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily represent those of the USAF or the Civil Air Patrol Corporation.

## MARK THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR

***2-6 September 2009***

Ch (Lt Col) James Sickmeyer – NCR HC, is an instructor for the QPR program which specializes in Suicide Prevention, Intervention, and Postvention. QPR stands for "Question, Persuade, and Refer." Chaplain Sickmeyer will be providing QPR training during the break-out sessions at National Board in San Antonio, Texas.

## Welcome Aboard .....

The following are newly appointed HCs and CDIs:

Ch (Lt Col) Thomas Atkins - FLWG  
1st Lt Kevin Garland - CAWG  
2nd Lt Maureen Grey - MAWG  
Ch (Maj) Dean Kellerhouse - NYWG  
2nd Lt Eric Milles - KYWG  
2nd Lt Dennis Mohr - NYWG  
2nd Lt Linda Poland - MOWG  
Maj Charlyne Walker - FLWG  
2nd Lt Joseph Wingo - FLWG

## New Assignments .....

The following are newly assigned Wing HCs:

Ch (Lt Col) Edco Bailey - MDWG  
Ch (Maj) Rollin M. (Chip) Steele - OHWG  
Ch (Maj) Randy Potter - ORWG  
Ch (Lt Col) Gene Walters - PAWG

The following are newly assigned Region HCs:

Ch (Lt Col) Paul Ward - PCR  
Ch (Lt Col) Robert Whitley (Interim) - SWR

## National Conference on Ministry to the Armed Forces – January 2009 Washington D.C.

From the recent NCMAF (National Conference on Ministry to the Armed Forces) meeting. Chaplain (Col) Whit Woodard meets with endorsers.

From left to right: Dr. W. Robert Johnson III, of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church; Bishop Samuel F. Morgan of the Church of God in Christ (NER Chaplain Van Don Williams' endorser); Pastor Robert M. Green of Calvary Christian Church in Washington D.C.; Chaplain (Col) Whit Woodard, CAP Chief of Chaplain Services.



MCA Executive Director Gary Pollitt presents CAP/HC, Chaplain (Col) Whit Woodard with a copy of *Days of Anguish, Days of Hope*, the story of Chaplain Robert Preston Taylor's ordeal and triumph as a POW in World War II. Chaplain Taylor was the first Air Force chaplain assigned to Civil Air Patrol and went on to become the Air Force Chief of Chaplains.



### HAVE YOU JOINED THE "MILITARY CHAPLAINS ASSOCIATION" YET?

Some of our CAP chaplains may not be aware that membership in the Military Chaplains Association of the United State of America is open to them and strongly encouraged. The MCA is the Congressionally chartered organization to represent and support military chaplaincy in and through the Army, Navy, Air Force, the Air Force Auxiliary CAP and the Veterans Administration.

CAP enjoys a significant presence in MCA with representation on the Board of Directors. Currently, MER/HC Chaplain (Lt Col) Rob Edwards is serving on the Board. Former CAP/HC, Chaplain. (Col) John Murdoch served a term as President. Each year, MCA presents a Distinguished Service Award to a chaplain from the Army, Navy, Marine Corps Civil Air Patrol, and Veterans Administration in recognition of notable service.

Chaplain Woodard has arranged for CAP chaplains who join MCA to receive a free copy of *Days of Anguish, Days of Hope*, the story of Chaplain Robert Preston Taylor's ordeal and triumph as a POW in World War II. Chaplain Taylor was the very first Air Force chaplain assigned to Civil Air Patrol, and he went on to become the Air Force Chief of Chaplains. This inspiring book has been reprinted by the MCA and is in limited supply. While they last, you may contact Chaplain Woodard for your membership application and gift book.

## National Veterans Day Observance – 11/11/08 Arlington National Cemetery

The 55th Annual National Veterans Day Observance was held at Arlington National Cemetery on Tuesday, Nov. 11, 2008.

The Secretary of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, the Honorable James B. Peake, M.D., the Commanding General of the Military District of Washington, Maj. Gen. Richard J. Rowe, Jr. and the Superintendent of Arlington National Cemetery, John C. Metzler, Jr., hosted the event which honored all past and present members of the U.S. Armed Forces who served and continue to serve in defense of our nation.



Chaplain (Lt Col) Rob Edwards, MER HC, and Chaplain (Lt Col) Gary Hedges, TNWG, represented the CAP Chaplain Service in the Chaplains' Honor Cordon during this observance. Both men also serve on the Executive Committee of the Military Chaplains Association.

Photos from Department of Veterans Affairs: (L) Chaplain Hedges is fifth from front in the line on the right side of the photograph, and Chaplain Edwards is sixth from front on same side. (R) Chaplain Hoffmann bearing the U.S. flag.



Chaplain (Lt Col) John Hoffmann, National Capital Wing Chaplain, carried the United States flag and led the Procession of Flags into the Arlington National Cemetery Amphitheater. He continues a tradition begun by the late Chaplain (Col) Alva Appel, former Chief of Chaplains, CAP. Chaplain Hoffmann is retired from the Chaplain Corps, US Army; hence he is in his Army uniform for this ceremony.

### CAP CORE VALUES

-- Integrity

-- Volunteer Service

-- Excellence

-- Respect



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## CHAPLAIN SERVICE REGION STAFF COLLEGES - 2009

### GREAT LAKES/NORTHEAST

4-8 May, 2009  
Wright-Patterson AFB, OH

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### MIDDLE EAST

26-29 May, 2009  
Naval Amphibious Base  
Norfolk, VA

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### SOUTHEAST

4-7 May, 2009  
Fort Benning, GA

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### NORTH CENTRAL

20-23 April, 2009  
Columbian Fathers Retreat  
Bellevue, NE

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### SOUTHWEST

11-17 July, 2009  
Kirkland AFB, NM

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### ROCKY MOUNTAIN

20-24 July, 2009  
Peterson AFB, CO

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### PACIFIC

16-19 March, 2009  
McChord AFB, WA



## FOUR CHAPLAINS DAY February 3

The Four Chaplains were four United States Army chaplains who gave their lives to save other soldiers during World War II.

The chaplains, who all held the rank of lieutenant, were the Methodist Reverend George L. Fox, the Jewish Rabbi Alexander D. Goode, the Roman Catholic Priest John P. Washington and the Reformed Church in America Reverend Clark V. Poling.

The four chaplains were sailing on the USAT Dorchester troop transport on February 3, 1943 when the vessel was torpedoed by the German submarine U-223. As the vessel sank, the four chaplains calmed the frightened soldiers and sailors, aided in the evacuation of the ship, and helped guide wounded men to safety. The chaplains also gave up their own life vests when the supply ran out. 230 of the 902 men aboard the ship were rescued.

On December 19, 1944, all four chaplains were posthumously awarded the Purple Heart and the Distinguished Service Cross. The Chaplain's Medal for Heroism was authorized in 1961 and posthumously presented by the President of the United States to the families of the chaplains.

The chaplains were also honored with a stamp, issued in 1948 and by an act of Congress designating February 3 as "Four Chaplains Day."

For more details on this amazing story of heroism, check out the following links:

<http://www.homeofheroes.com/brotherhood/chaplains.html>

<http://www.fourchaplains.org/story.html>

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## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AWARDS

These members of the CAP Chaplain Service attained the following awards in the Senior Member Professional Development Program. We are proud of their accomplishments.



### Level 2 – Benjamin O. Davis

Ch (Maj) James Roberts - AZWG  
Ch (Capt) Robert Smith - AZWG  
Ch (Capt) Kenneth Young - AZWG  
Capt Elizabeth Caldwell - COWG  
1st Lt Robin Wojtcuk - CTWG  
1st Lt Robert Maxey - FLWG  
Ch (Maj) Marcia Strahl - ILWG  
Capt Patricia Kidd-Jordan - INWG  
Capt Arthur Grover - KSWG  
1st Lt Ronald Fenn - MIWG  
1st Lt Jennifer Smity - MIWG  
Ch (Maj) Burt Benson - NDWG  
1st Lt Diane Lambert - NHWG  
Ch (Capt) Ralph Camp - NVWG  
Ch (Capt) William Boldin - VAWG  
Ch (Capt) Bruce Miller - VAWG  
Capt Michael Peters - WIWG



### Level 3 – Grover Loening

Capt Greg Williams - CAWG  
Capt Nancy Woodard - CAWG  
Ch (Maj) Jeffrey Johnson - COWG  
Ch (Maj) Gordon Rourk - COWG  
Maj Gilberto Tomas Aguiar - FLWG  
Maj Marcos Rodriguez - FLWG  
Ch (Maj) Harvey Gainer Jr - GAWG  
Capt Megan Gallagher - GAWG  
Maj Carolyn Irby - NVWG  
Maj Lucy Stamatinos - NYWG  
Maj Eric Schuelke - PAWG  
Maj Massimo Lombardo - RIWG  
Ch (Maj) William Picking - VAWG  
Maj Howard Humphrey - WAWG  
Capt David Snyder - WIWG



### Level 4 – Paul Garber

Ch (Maj) Larry Killian - ARWG  
Ch (Capt) Donald Seaman - ARWG  
Lt Col David Putnam - GAWG  
Ch (Capt) Ralph Cole Sr. - IAWG  
Ch (Lt Col) Vance Veazey - KSWG  
Ch (Lt Col) James Williams III - MDWG  
Maj Paul Pieper - MNWG  
Ch (Maj) George Guyer III - NJWG  
Maj Geraldine Meiners - OHWG  
Ch (Lt Col) Gene Walters - PAWG  
Ch (Lt Col) George Klett - TXWG



### Level 5 – Gill Robb Wilson

Ch (Lt Col) George Dawson - CAWG HC  
Lt Col Christine Rinn - MIWG  
Ch (Maj) Kenneth Pollock - MSWG HC  
Ch (Lt Col) David Bobbey - NCWG HC  
Lt Col Anna Scheidly - NJWG  
Ch (Maj) Charlie Sattgast - PCR HCD  
Ch (Lt Col) Robert Scheidly - NJWG HC  
Lt Col Scott Meyer - NVWG  
Maj Yvonne Demyan - OHWG  
Ch (Maj) Ronny Whitt - TXWG HC

To appreciate what these members have accomplished, here are the percentages for Senior Milestone Completions (Nat'l. data dated 3/7/07): Level 1: 87.7% - Level 2: 29% - Level 3: 21.5% - Level 4: 11.2% - Level 5: 4.6%. For guidance in pursuing your Professional Development, consult the CAPR 50-17.