

# REPORT OF THE PACIFIC REGION CHAPLAIN



REPORTING PERIOD 2008-2009

SUBMITTED BY:

CHAPLAIN, LT COL, PAUL WARD, CAP

It has been my privilege to serve as the Pacific Region Chaplain since October 1, 2008. My predecessor, Chaplain Whit Woodard, served in this capacity from 2004 until his appointment as National Chief of the Chaplain Corps. Upon assuming the responsibility, a staff was assembled to assist in providing resources to the Chaplain Corps personnel within the Pacific Region. The following serve with me:

Chaplain, Maj, Charlie Sattgast – Deputy Region Chaplain  
 Chaplain, Lt Col, Bob Ledden – Professional Development Officer  
 Chaplain, Maj, Debra Prosser – Protocol Officer  
 1<sup>st</sup> Lt Adelle McKinney – Public Affairs Officer

Wing Chaplains assignments within the Pacific Region are as follows:

Alaska Wing – Chaplain, Maj, Franklin Blodgett  
 California Wing – Chaplain, Lt Col, George Dawson  
 Hawaii Wing – Chaplain, Maj, James Merritt  
 Nevada Wing – Chaplain, Maj, Elizabeth Tattersall  
 Oregon Wing – Chaplain, Maj, Randy Potter  
 Washington Wing – Chaplain, Maj, Danny Riggs

**1. GENERAL DATA:** From the Form 34As (Wing Chaplain Statistical Report) submitted by the Wing Chaplains, the following information about the PCR Chaplain Corps was gathered (1/1/09-6/30/09):

Number of reports submitted by the PCR Chaplain Corps personnel: 75  
 Non-reporting: 27

According to the Form 34As submitted, there are currently 58 Chaplains and 46 Character Development Instructors serving in the PCR.

<b>SQUADRON COVERAGE WITHIN THE PCR</b>							
<b>Type</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>With Chaplains</b>	<b>With CDIs</b>	<b>1 Chaplain/ 1 CDI</b>	<b>2 Chaplains/ 2 CDIS</b>	<b>2 CDIs</b>	<b>3 CDIS</b>
<b>Cadet</b>	32	8	9				
<b>Composite</b>	109	33	25	7	1	3	1
<b>Senior</b>	17	5	3				

Nearly 48% of the squadrons in the PCR are not covered with either a Chaplain or CDI. An interesting observation: where we have strong chaplains' programs in place we are drawing people to assist - so it is common now to see a Chaplain/CDI team in some of our squadrons.

From January through June the PCR Chaplains and CDIs reported participating in 2,120 activities, spent 9,066 hours, traveled 75,888 miles and invested \$31,256.94.

In regards to the training Levels completed by members of the PCR Chaplain Corps:

LEVEL OF TRAINING	CHAPLAINS	CDIs
I – Orientation	22	8
II – Benjamin O. Davis	7	14
III – Grover Loening	10	8
IV – Paul E. Garber	11	12
V – Gill Robb Wilson	8	4

**2. REGION CHAPLAIN CORPS STAFF COLLEGE:** The PCR CCRSC was comprised of a student body of 36 CAP Officers (16 wore a staff member hat). Students from five of the six wings attended (due to distance, Hawaii was not represented). One student from Colorado (RMR) attended. Four wing chaplains were in attendance. This year the majority of students drove to the school due to the location in the Pacific Northwest. Students traveled as far as Alaska and Colorado with the largest number from California. There were 20 Chaplains and 13 Character Development Instructors in attendance. Three senior members who were not part of the Chaplain Corps were in attendance to receive the Critical Incident Stress Management training.

**PCR CCSC Theme:** Beginning with PCR CCSC 1999, and planned to continue indefinitely, a yearly theme has been selected to inspire both students and staff to enhance their professional development process by extending the lessons learned during PCR CCSC to their respective roles and responsibilities in all aspects of their CAP life. The PCR CCSC Director, in consultation with the Dean, selected the PCR CCSC theme, “Committed-Available-Prepared” to inspire both students and staff.

**PCR CCSC Focus:** For a number of years the Pacific Region has felt the need to include chaplain Corps personnel in the formation of CISM teams, yet for a variety of reasons most of our chaplains did not qualify according to CAPR 60-5. Many of those within the PCR Chaplain Corps who received credit for the Group Crisis Intervention module took the class long enough ago that it does not count according to CAP's rules, and they are barred from participation in CISM by CAP.

Lt Col Sam Bernard, National Team Leader of the Critical Incident Stress Management Program for Civil Air Patrol, a certified instructor, was invited to McChord making Group Crisis Intervention the main curricular thrust for the 2009 college. Having the instruction and certificate from the International Critical Incident Stress Foundation brought our chaplain corps personnel into compliance with CAP's CISM team rules so that the chaplain corps could have a ministry presence in CAP's official crisis intervention efforts.



**Pacific Region Chaplain Corps Staff College  
McChord AFB – 16-19 March**

### **Plans for the 2010 PCR CCSC:**

The tentative dates for the 2010 PCR CCSC are Monday afternoon, March 8 to Friday early afternoon, March 12, 2010. Alternate dates could be either February 22-26 or March 22-26. The location will be Nellis AFB, Las Vegas, NV.

We plan to have H. Norman Wright, a prominent authority in spiritual and emotional health, present a teaching track on “Grief, Loss and Compassion Fatigue.” The subject matter is highly relevant to the work of Chaplain Corps personnel and reaches far beyond emergency services into every other area of life in CAP as we help our members deal with inevitable losses that are a part of life. We also plan to conduct a table-top ES mission (with an exercise mission number) to help our Chaplain Corps personnel maintain ES currency.

Plans are also underway to conduct a Squadron Leadership School concurrently with the CCSC. The SLS will be conducted on Monday afternoon, Tuesday – Thursday evenings, and Friday morning. Oversight for this course will be provided by Wing Chaplains and staff for this course will be comprised of qualified Chaplain Corps personnel and local CAP members.

**3. MENTORING:** Several approaches to mentoring and developing junior chaplains for eventual assignment as Wing chaplains and the development of wing chaplains for assignment as region chaplains have been utilized. Among them are:

--- Publicizing the mentoring program developed by the former National Chief of CAP Chaplain Corps – Chaplain, Col, Charles Sharp.

--- Encouraging the current Wing Chaplains to look for potential replacements and mentor them by bringing them on staff is an approach is one of the most common in the

PCR Chaplain Corps and has been successful in the CAWG, NVWG, ORWG and WAWG. It is the practice of the majority of Wing Chaplains (and the Region Chaplain) to keep the deputy chaplain in the loop via phone calls and the inclusion in e-mail exchanges. Though this approach is informal, it has proved effective. Of course, the practice of providing either a continuity book or a transmittal file should always be a part of mentoring one's successor.

--- "So You Are the New Wing Chaplain," a handbook written by Chaplain, Lt Col, Paul Ward is available on the PCR Chaplain Corps web-site. It is also sent to new Wing Chaplains upon their appointment.

#### 4. ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

##### Accomplishments:



Chaplain, Lt Col, Tim Spiller retired following 29 years of faithful service to San Bernardino Senior Squadron 5 (CAWG). On May 26, 2008, a flying squadron gave a great man a flyer's honor. Though not a pilot, he was given a "Fini Flight" by those whom he has served so long and so well. During the Squadron 5 Awards Banquet held on June 20, 2009 at March ARB, Chaplain Spiller received several awards including the Meritorious Service Award.

The "WESTERN WATCH" – PCR newsletter was re-issued after a two-year hiatus.

##### Activities:



Ch, Maj, Franklin Blodgett served on the AKWG Encampment Staff.

Ch, Maj, Franklin Blodgett and Maj John Erickson were on staff for a UCC conducted for the AKWG

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1<sup>st</sup> Lt Michael Lynch, Maj Karen Nahrstadt, Ch (Maj) Richard Nelson, and Maj Kathy Neubauer served on staff of the Basic Cadet School/Air Training School conducted at March ARB, June 19-21, 2009.



Ch, Maj, Richard Nelson served on the Chaplain staff for the 2009 CAWG/NVWG Encampment with Ch, Maj, Elizabeth Tattersall.

There was a good representation of the CAWG Chaplain Corps at the Annual Gill Robb Wilson Memorial Observance conducted at the Covina Hills Forest Lawn on Memorial Day.



No activities reported.

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Ch, Capt Ralph Camp, participated in two separate Memorial Day events in the Reno/Sparks area.

Ch, Maj, Elizabeth Tattersall served as the Chief Chaplain for the 2009 CAWG/NVWG Encampment at Camp San Luis Obispo.



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Ch, Lt Col, Bob Ledden served as Chaplain for the ORWG Encampment in 2008 and 2009. There were 2 National Cadet activities which were conducted at the Evergreen Aviation and Space Museum: The Michael King Smith Aviation Business Academy and the National Cadet Competition. Chaplain Ledden was the chaplain for each of these activities. He also served as a Mission Chaplain for the 2009 Evaluated SARX and received an Outstanding rating. The CISM section received an Excellent.

Ch, Maj, Randy Potter was Course Director for the Oregon Wing SLS and taught at a CLC in 2008. He also was an instructor at a SLS this year. The ORWG had an evaluated SARX in 2009. Chaplain Potter served on the Mission Staff.

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Ch, Lt Col, Don Starr served as Mission Chaplain for the WAWG evaluated SARX. The Mission Chaplain section received an Excellent rating.



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Ch, Maj, Charlie Sattgast served as Chaplain for the ORWG Encampment in 2008 and plans to serve as chaplain for the 2009 winter encampment. He participated in several SAREXs in 2008 and the ORWG Evaluated SARX in 2009. The Mission Chaplain section received an Outstanding rating and the CISM section received an Excellent.

Ch, Lt Col, Paul Ward was on staff for the 2008 NSC and for a SLS/CLC for the CAWG in 2009. He also served on the Chaplain Staff for the joint CAWG/NVWG 2009 Cadet Encampment.

Chaplain Corps personnel from the CAWG, NVWG, ORWG and WAWG participated in the “Wreaths Across America” project.

### **Awards:**

Ch, Maj, Franklin Blodgett was named the 2008 AKWG Chaplain of the Year.

Chaplain, Maj, Richard Nelson was named the 2008 CAWG Chaplain of the Year

Lt Col Richard “Dick” Brown was named the 2008 NVWG Character Development Instructor of the Year.

Ch, Maj, William Adam was named 2009 WAWG Chaplain of the Year

1<sup>st</sup> Lt Michael Lynch of the CAWG was named 2009 National Character Development Instructor of the Year.

### **5. MILITARY SUPPORT:**

AKWG – no report

CAWG – Ch, Lt Col, George Dawson provides services at Travis AFB.

Ch, Capt, William Hampton is a retired Navy chaplain.

Ch, Maj, Harlan Confer is a retired Army chaplain.

There are possibly 3-4 other chaplains who meet the educational requirements of the DOD/USAF Chaplain Corps. 18 Chaplains came in on waivers.

HIWG – no report.

NVWG – All of the NVWG Chaplains were waived. However, Chaplain Ralph Camp, has extensive experience in ministry to the military (missionary outreach center to military personnel), and hopes to have more opportunities to serve the military in the future. Chaplain, Lt Col, Tom Miller has on occasion assisted the chaplain personnel at Nellis AFB.

ORWG - Six chaplains were not waived, possibly a seventh. Three chaplains were waived. Chaplain, Maj, Randy Potter recently concluded two years of service as Chaplain for the Oregon Army National Guard. He attended monthly training with them nearly every month, and Annual Training for two years, provided counseling services, assisted with death notification, performed funerals, and performed weddings. He still provides counseling services upon referral, and conducts funerals and weddings.

Chaplain (Lt Col) Father Robert Van Sickler served as Chaplain to the Air Force National Guard in Klamath Falls, Oregon, for several years, until he retired from his parish about a year ago. He is now in the South Coast Squadron, and provides Chaplain services to US Coast Guard personnel stationed there.

WAWG – The AMC/HC at McChord AFB has not acknowledged the Chaplains of the Civil Air Patrol and there have been no request for support from either of the bases in the State. Chaplain, Maj, Danny Riggs and Chaplain, Capt, Steven Hetrick both served as USAF Chaplains.

**6. CONCERNS:** These concerns were submitted by Wing Chaplains:

“One of the concerns I have is support given to veterans in terms of funerals. The Air Force is not required to supply a Chaplain for veterans or for those who are retired. Therefore, they can not request support for a service they are not required to provide. However, honoring our veterans is a community service and should have a place on the reporting form. Currently you are either giving support to the Air Force or military or not and most of our Chaplains in this State are on a wavier. What do they do if asked by the family to provide a service for the deceased veteran? Active duty deaths will be handled by an active duty Chaplain regardless of location of the funeral.”

“I have heard for the past six years that more Flight Time lessons and books were being developed. I understood at one time that instead of publishing in books they would be available on the internet as a publication, but have not seen anything yet. Is anything being planned in this area?”



## EXPLANATION OF THE PCR CHAPLAIN CORPS LOGO/PATCH

Heraldry is defined as “a system in which inherited symbols, or devices, called charges are displayed on a shield, or escutcheon, for the purpose of identifying individuals or families”

(<http://www.4crests.com/herdef.html>).

Heraldry dates back to medieval times and was a source of identification in an age of illiteracy. There were 2 basic metals (gold and silver) on which crests were emblazoned. Nine basic colors (“tinctures”) were used in the design for shields which knights carried into battle. Each color had significance. Modern day heraldry, likewise, is designed as a way of providing identification and even communicating mission.



The shape selected was the USAF/CAP Command Shield depicting our culture; belonging to the organization. The yellow (or) outline speaks of loyalty to our mission and the honor that is bestowed upon the appointment to the CAP Chaplain Corps.

The crest is that of the USAF/CAP Chaplain Corps. This speaks of our mission. The rays of yellow (or) depict our pursuit of excellence in what we do and the wisdom that is shared to those to whom we serve. The hands of silver (argent) represent charity and faith – that which we offer to those we serve. The field of blue (azure) speaks of devotion and strength. The black (sable) outline depicts dignity and determination. Attributes in which we conduct our service. The banner in white (argent) represents integrity and purity. While based on the CAP motto, “Semper Vigilans”, additional words were added to form the motto of the PCR Chaplain Corps: “Semper Vigilans ad Dei Gloriam” (“Always Vigilant for the Glory of God”) which reminds us of the “what”, the “how” and the “why” of our ministry. These words are in black (sable) as well as the banner’s outline. Again signifying the determination and dignity in which we are called and committed to serve. The six stars of blue (azure) and white (argent) represent the six wings that comprise the Pacific Region. Again the colors speak of devotion and integrity. Notice that Wing abbreviations have been removed symbolizing our collective service as a team rather than individual Wings, emphasizing our service together. The crest, stars, and motto are in a field of red (gules) which depicts passion. It is a passion for service to God and to others that motivates us to perform our mission.

Finally, the scroll is a field of blue (azure) and letters of white (argent) that corresponds to the six stars displays our name: Pacific Region Chaplain Corps.

The logo speaks of our culture, our mission and our commitment to serve God in our service to others. That service is done in a spirit of loyalty to one another and in devotion to the One who called us to serve. We do so as people of integrity, in an attitude of vigilance, determined to pursue excellence so that we can provide quality service to others and in doing so, bring glory to God.