



# Western Watch

## PCR CHAPLAIN SERVICE STAFF

**Chaplain (Lt Col) Paul Ward**  
Region Chaplain  
[hc@pcr.cap.gov](mailto:hc@pcr.cap.gov)

**Chaplain (Lt Col) Charlie Sattgast**  
Deputy Region Chaplain/Webmaster  
[hed.pcr@verizon.net](mailto:hed.pcr@verizon.net)

**Chaplain (Lt Col) Bob Ledden**  
Professional Development Officer  
[B\\_bledden@msn.com](mailto:B_bledden@msn.com)

**Chaplain (Maj) Debra Prosser**  
Protocol Officer  
[dprosser14@yahoo.com](mailto:dprosser14@yahoo.com)

**1<sup>st</sup> Lt Adelle McKinney**  
Public Affairs Officer  
[wfji@aol.com](mailto:wfji@aol.com)

**WING CHAPLAINS**  
**Chaplain (Maj) Franklin Blodgett**  
Alaska Wing Chaplain  
[revfnb@msn.com](mailto:revfnb@msn.com)

**Chaplain (Lt Col) George Dawson**  
California Wing Chaplain  
[chaplaincap@psyber.com](mailto:chaplaincap@psyber.com)

**Chaplain (Maj) James Merritt**  
Hawaii Wing Chaplain  
[jcm7@netzero.com](mailto:jcm7@netzero.com)

**Chaplain (Maj) Elizabeth Tattersall**  
Nevada Wing Chaplain  
[flcg@nanosecond.com](mailto:flcg@nanosecond.com)

**Chaplain (Maj) Randy Potter**  
Oregon Wing Chaplain  
[rpotter@bendcable.com](mailto:rpotter@bendcable.com)

**Chaplain (Maj) Danny Riggs**  
Washington Wing Chaplain  
[Riggs1949@aol.com](mailto:Riggs1949@aol.com)

## FROM THE HC...

"*Attention to Detail*"...a phrase that is oft repeated at a Cadet Encampment. It is applied to small simple things such as uniforms and insignias, "gig line", polished shoes, rolling shirts and socks, making hospital corners on racks, and drill and ceremonies training. Senior members put this phrase into practice in powered and glide flights, mission communications, serving on ground teams or as a mission pilot/observer and/or scanner. We are aware of situations where a lack of attention to detail could potentially be hazardous to either yourself or others.

But there is another aspect of this phrase that impacted me recently. A fellow chaplain sent a Christmas card and in it expressed appreciation for something which I had done. What struck me was that thing he remarked about was something -- a small detail -- that to others might seem small or insignificant. But what he did not know it was something that I had spent a great deal of time trying to develop. And the fact that this fellow chaplain recognized "this detail" and commented on it was reaffirming to me. This got me to thinking. How often do we

pay "*attention to detail*" with those with whom we work with in the workplace, or in the squadron, or even with our friends and families?

What little thing that might seem insignificant in the eyes of others should we recognize and often words of affirmation? The words expressed by a fellow chaplain brought a lift that day. He saw something, commented on it, and brought encouragement.



Ch. Paul Ward

What he did that day is something that I am endeavoring to do in my relationship with others -- pay "attention to detail". Affirming someone else by looking for some thing which they have done is an easy thing to do and the benefits are beyond words. In this issue is another wonderful account of how a simple act of affirmation brought great blessing.

In Service Together,

*Paul*

Ch (Lt Col) Paul Ward, CAP  
PCR HC



**Col Ernest C. Pearson, Commander**  
*Pacific Region, United States Air Force Auxiliary Civil Air Patrol*  
**PCR HEADQUARTERS**

P.O. BOX 4718, 1525 W. Winton Ave, Hayward, CA 94540-4718  
PCR Chaplain Service Web-Site  
<http://pcr.cap.gov>



## Notice To Readers

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Ch (Lt Col) Paul Ward, P.O. Box 5245, San Luis Obispo, CA 93403 ([hc@pcr.cap.gov](mailto:hc@pcr.cap.gov))  
P.O. Box 5245, San Luis Obispo, CA 93403 ([hc@pcr.cap.gov](mailto:hc@pcr.cap.gov))

The newsletter is distributed to Pacific Region Chaplains and Character members, and interested parties.



# PCR Chaplains Service

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



**BENJAMIN O. DAVIS AWARD—LEVEL 2**  
CH. (CAPT) RALPH CAMP—(NVWG)



**GROVER LOANING AWARD—LEVEL 3**  
CAPT. NANCY WOODARD—(CAWG)



**GILL ROBB WILSON AWARD—LEVEL 5**  
LT. COL. SCOTT MEYER—(NVWG)  
CH. (LT.COL) TOM MILLER—(NVWG)

**LT COL RICHARD "DICK" BROWN OF THE NELLIS COMPOSITE SQUADRON RECEIVED CDI OF THE YEAR 2008 FOR NV WING.**

**CHAPLAIN MICHAEL MCKINNEY AND CDI1 LT. ADELLE MCKINNEY BOTH RECEIVED THE PRESIDENTIAL VOLUNTEER AWARD FROM PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH 2008**

## PROMOTIONS....

**CHAPLAIN RICHARD NELSON (CAWG) - FROM CAPT TO MAJ  
CHAPLAIN MICHAEL MCKINNEY (CAWG) - FROM MAJ TO LT. COL.**

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THOSE WHO HAVE RECEIVED AWARDS AND PROMOTIONS.**



### **CLIMB, COMMUNICATE AND COMPLY**

**As the saying in flying goes "Climb, Communicate, Comply!" So it should be in life's struggles; Climb (make heaven's portal your ultimate goal), Communicate (pray regularly for your needs and those of others), and Comply (listen to what a righteous Heavenly Father directs for a successful lifelong flight).**

***Chaplain (Lt Col) Tom Miller, NVWG HC Emeritus***

# AROUND THE REGION



NVWG - Half Nevada's chaplains and CDIs attended the NV Wing conference held Jan 9-11, 2009 in Reno, NV.



CAWG – Chartering of Squadron #802. On January 14, 2009 The California Aerospace Composite Squadron # 802 received their charter. They are the only squadron in California Wing that is a School Enrichment Program Squadron under the Civil Air Patrol's Drug Demand Reduction Program.

The ceremony included the charter presentation by Lt. Col. Mike Prusack USAF (Ret.) who is the USAF State Director for California Wing. Squadron Commander, 1Lt. Joyce Pennybaker, is a long time member of Civil Air Patrol and has been instrumental in forming and organizing this new unit. They have the largest contingent of cadets in the wing (approximately 70 +). They are the only unit that is an integral part of a charter school.

The event was attended by several dignitaries from the community including a representative of Congressman Dan Lundgren, and County Supervisor Roger Dickinson. Northern California Group 5 was represented by the Deputy Group Commander, Lt. Col. John Aylesworth. Much of the support and several members came from Col. Aylesworth's Sq. 14. In addition, several Senior Members were promoted, as was the Cadet Commander, Brian Adlao to Cadet Captain.. One cadet received the Earhart Award, and one the Yeager Award.

The event was held in the California Aerospace Museum at McClellan Park, CA (formally, McClellan AFB). It was well attended by members of the area squadrons and many parents and friends.



Ch (Lt Col) George Dawson, CAWG HC, brought the invocation and benediction.



## 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 then 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 belts 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>

## **“MAKING THE MOST OF EVERY OPPORTUNITY”**

*Submitted by Ch (Maj) Richard Nelson, Squadron 47 – CAWG*

There are rare moments in one's life, when are given an opportunity bless another human in a significant way. Upon reflection let me say that there are many opportunities to bless others, but rare moments that we actually recognize them. One such occasion crossed my path last week, in my daily appointments. Approaching the house I noticed the flag flying proudly, and a sign in the window which said, "Support Our Troops."

I commented on the sign when entering, and volunteered that I was a member of the Civil Air Patrol, and was happy to see their support of our troops. The gentleman (I will call him Capt.) then related to me that he had been in CAP a long time ago. In 1950, he had been instrumental in starting the Silver Springs, Maryland squadron, and had helped put together some planes. His unit produced the first cadet from Maryland to enlist in the USAF. He wished that he could still fly.

What I haven't told you yet, is Capt. \_\_\_\_\_ had just been put in hospice care, and his days on earth will soon end. I knew immediately that it was up to me, to honor this man in his dying days. Upon arriving home, I went to my computer and prepared a certificate. It read: "Captain \_\_\_\_, thank you for your pioneering service in the Civil Air Patrol. From Composite Squadron 47, Camp Pendleton, CA." On drill night every member in attendance signed the certificate, and the next day I framed it. I also emailed the Maryland Wing to inquiry if they had any information on Capt. or his unit. Col. Trick, former Wing CC wrote back that he did not, but to thank Capt. for his service.

A few days later I called Capt. \_\_\_\_\_'s wife and asked if I might come over to present a little surprise. Dressed in uniform, I entered the home, and made the presentation. Even in the few days since the first visit, I could see a worsening of his condition. After a couple of minutes of conversation, Capt. \_\_\_\_ asked if he could stand. I helped him up, and he presented a salute. As we shook hands for a minute or two, he was overcome with emotion. His wife sat in the corner with tears in her eyes, saying this was the nicest thing that had happened to her husband in a long time. At that point I had to pull out my handkerchief. If I had stayed longer it would not have been enough. I left my number with Mrs. and told her to call me if she needed anything, that I was her Chaplain. As I left I presented a salute, and Capt. straightened up to attention, returning the same.

All of the awards and ribbons that I have received, pale in comparison to the gift that I was given, when I simply paid attention to the prompting of the Holy Spirit, and wrapped my arms around someone who needed encouragement. In a busy world, it is not always easy to pay attention to details, but this time I think I got it right. It is a moment that I will never forget.



The Alaska Cadet winter encampment was held the week of December 28, 2008 to January 3, 2009. Fortyone cadets from around the State of Alaska and several from other states attended the encampment which was held at the Birchwood Camp outside Eagle River, Alaska. In total six wings were represented. Chaplain (Maj) Franklin Blodgett (AKWG HC) served as the Encampment and conducted the Character Development session.

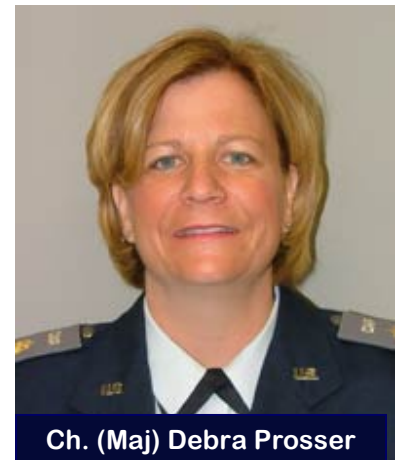
**Picture:** Cadets at AKWG Encampment enjoying lunch before Character Development session.



# Prosser's Protocol

Greetings,

Let's continue from the last article with the proper way of wearing of the uniform. It is my intention during this article to inform some and remind others of the importance of making a great first impression! Even before we put our uniforms on, there are certain questions that I need to ask myself before I have the honor and privilege of wearing the AF-Style uniform. The first question I ask myself is, do I meet the weight standard to wear the AF-Style uniform? Here is a link for your convenience. [http://level2.cap.gov/documents/M39\\_1\\_atchs.pdf](http://level2.cap.gov/documents/M39_1_atchs.pdf)



Ch. (Maj) Debra Prosser

Does that mean if I am male standing 5'8" and weighs 210 lbs., that I should not wear the AF-Style uniform. Correct! Until you work off some Christmas goodies and weigh less than 202 lbs., you should wear a CAP DISTINCTIVE UNIFORM, as set out in Chapter 4 of the CAPM 39-1 The CAP Uniform Manual. Provided below. [http://level2.cap.gov/documents/u\\_082203102943.pdf](http://level2.cap.gov/documents/u_082203102943.pdf)

The second question I would ask is do I meet the grooming standard? We are still referring to wearing the AF-Style uniform. For the men, your hair may NOT touch your ears or your collar! Your mustache must be neatly trimmed and must not extend below the lip line of the upper lip or extend sideways beyond the vertical line drawn upward from the corner of your mouth. No beards or goatees. For women, it is very important to keep your hair above the bottom collar of your shirt. This is why I kept my hair short for years. :) It is also important for women to use the same color bobby pin and ponytail holder as your hair color!

Next article, we will go through each uniform item and discuss proper placement on the uniform! I know that the Pacific Region Chaplains Staff College is right around the corner, so if you have any question on proper placement, or questions concerning grooming/weight standards, please don't hesitate to email me at [DProsser14@yahoo.com](mailto:DProsser14@yahoo.com). Let's continue making the Pacific Region Chaplain Service the best looking in the Nation!

Blessings,

*Debbie*

Ch (Maj) Debra Prosser, CAP  
Protocol Officer  
PCR Chaplain Service

*The Western WATCH*

## February

25 Christianity Ash Wednesday

## March

2 Christianity (Orthodox) Great Lent Begins (Clean Monday)

9 Islam Mawlid al-Nabiy

10 Judaism Purim

11 Hinduism Holi

11 Sikhism Holla Muhalla

21 Baha'i Naw Ruz (New Year's Day)

21 Zoroastrianism Norouz (New Year's Day)

26 Zoroastrianism Khordad Sal (Birth of Prophet Zarathustra)

27 Hinduism Bikrami Samvat (New Year's Day)



# AROUND THE REGION

Continues...



## **WELCOME ABOARD... ORWG HAS NEW WING CHAPLAIN**



“NO PHOTO AVAILABLE”

In December of 2008, Ch (Maj) Randy Potter joined the senior chaplain leadership of the Pacific Region Chaplain Service.

Randy was appointed as the ORWG Chaplain, succeeding Ch (Maj) Charlie Sattgast who was transferred to Region Staff.

Chaplain Potter joined CAP in 2003. As an instrument rated private pilot his initial goal was to work in SAR. He has GES, UDF and Radio certifications. He has served as Deputy Commander for Seniors, and the Aerospace Officer for the High Desert Composite Squadron in Central Oregon. Randy is a Mission Scanner, Transport Pilot, Mission Observer and Mission Chaplain. He received his Chaplain appointment in 2005. For the last two years, he served as the Deputy Oregon Wing Chaplain.

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Living as we do in a changing world, it's important that we as chaplains and character development instructors try to keep up. That's not an easy task. Many of us are at an age when the most important thing we want to do is sit back, take it easy and reflect on our accomplishments or lack thereof.

But as active members of Civil Air Patrol, we have opted to be involved with the younger set of our society. And because we are in places of leadership with them, it behooves us to be as competitive and up-to-date as they are. If we are to do that, we can never "rest on our laurels". If we don't learn something new everyday, we are out of step with those we are charge to help develop into responsible, creative and contributing people.



LT. Col. Robert Ledden

There was a time when we as chaplains could advance in rank almost by virtue of our position and a minimum of effort. Thankfully, for me, that is no longer the case. Our requirements for advancement are the same as for every other senior member of CAP.

I will be happy to sit down with anyone and discuss what it is that you need to fulfill requirements and catch up with the rest of our senior members.

Let's keep on learning.

Ch (Lt Col) Bob Ledden, CAP  
Director of Professional Development  
PCR Chaplain Service

**CSRSC 2009 - MCChord AFB - March 16-19 "Committed - Available - Prepared"**