

NORTHWEST CHAPLAIN'S CONNECTION

Chaplain Jim Crowley
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Thanksgiving

I watched the sun rise recently to the applaud of colors and silence – it was beautiful. My son said, Dad, you better go look at the sunrise and I replied – I did! It was soft and then turned distinct with a deep red and light pinks etched across the skyline out my front door – it looks east as much as a front door can look! It was silent for that moment and still as if someone had orchestrated the mood to draw attention to the dawn of the day. A bird came by and began to sing breaking the silence and it was over. I stopped and for that little moment simply said Thank You Lord. The prayer readjusted my disposition and the tune for the day began – God is Great and Greatly to be Praised. The day seemed to lay firm on the foundation that it was good to give thanks. I challenged myself to give thanks for all of the little things and I started – I won't bore you with my list but it began to grow until in the rush of activity that I was eddied into I heard my son once again challenge me – you better look out the backyard Dad at the sunset. I hadn't – so up out of the chair away from the computer I made it just in time. It was awesome and removed me from the business of my activity to remind me again that God is Bigger than What's the Matter! Thank You Lord for the petals and the thorns, the hummingbird with his brilliant florescent green and red they are all a reflection of your beginning and your end. I am just glad that I was alerted to make sure that I caught your majesty – it helped me to be thankful again. I am Thankful – What Do You Say?

Chaplain Jim Crowley ICPC NW Regional 2 Director

Regional Training Seminar News

Jim is at this moment dressed like a bush and lurking around the central Oregon forest in search of the ever elusive trophy elk. Our Oregon Rep, Chaplain Todd Pynch, is jealous. That means it is September. It seems like the kids just got out of school a week ago and now they have finished their first week back in school. We had a great summer on the Oregon Coast this year, but it was much too short.

We also have just a short time until we meet in Cannon Beach again for the 2012 Regional Training Seminar (RTS). You should have received the 2012 RTS brochure in an e-mail. If you haven't, please let me know. Our RTS occurs before any others in the nation. We have been told by ICPC presidents and past presidents that it is one of the best. I believe that is true for several reasons.

First, all the activities occur in the same building in which you sleep, if you register early. The other sleeping facilities are right next door and they are all at the beach. These facilities provide an excellent venue for learning and fellowship. In addition, as last year's survey of facilities in the NW indicated, it is the most economical, even when attending with your spouse. The food is great, of course, but education is what ICPC is about. However, fellowship is equally important. Last year, being my first year working behind the scenes, I was amazed at all the time chaplains spent together after training sessions and well into the wee hours of the morning. New chaplains picked the brains of our most experienced chaplains, trying to get a handle on just what chaplaincy is about. Experienced chaplains, having been through the fire, were embraced by their peers in times of

healing.

Second, we are blessed to have a large number of experienced chaplains that are willing to and effective at teaching. In my opinion, the level of training received at the RTS is equal to or better than at the ATS. Our class sizes are smaller and the instructors are more available for one-on-one time. For chaplains new to ICPC, we offer six of ICPC's twelve basic classes at each RTS. If you cannot attend any other training, this allows you to receive a Basic training certificate in two years.

Third, is the level of expertise and excellence of our chaplains. I know this is obvious, but our chaplains take their ministry seriously.

(continued on page 2)

Regional Training Seminar News (con't)



(continued from page 1)

As a result, when they gather together in January, they expect things to happen. Their standards are high which continually raises the bar of our RTS.

I would like to pass on a few tips regarding the RTS. Take the time to read the brochure carefully and register early. If you are concerned about the cost, the easiest way to lower costs is to share a room. The more people in a room the cheaper it is. It also maximizes fellowship. Make sure you know which rooms you are requesting. A few of them are quite small and it is difficult to change once you arrive. If you will be using a departmental purchase order, get the process started early. Come prepared for a variety of weather. It ranges from snow on the beach to my wife and I walking on the beach in short sleeves on Christmas Eve. Rain is common.

My last bit of advice, there is no requirement to

attend every class. If you have already completed the basic classes you do not need to attend them unless you just want a review. The reason I say that is because we pack the RTS with training opportunities, but, if you need a walk on the beach or quiet time away from all the responsibilities of your home chaplaincy, please feel free to take the time. The RTS is for you. If you have any questions, please contact me.

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“There is no replacement for Excellent Training.”

“There is no replacement for the way. This seasons RTS – January 9th – 12th 2012 is no exception to our DPSST – Department of Safety Standards and Training facility meeting with a group of passionate CISM – Critical Incident and Stress Management – team members when I heard the previous statement echoed amongst a group of trained individuals. It seems like we are always having training somewhere. I must confess that I go to a lot of training and I have the privilege to train others at times. I am constantly reminded of the need for more along the way. This seasons RTS – January 9th – 12th 2012 is no exception to some great training opportunities. I can tell it will be a great time when registrations from Nevada and California start coming. I have received contact from some of the chaplains down south and they are very excited about the training at our RTS. Our opening sessions will be full of humor, leadership challenge and passion with Retired Chief Bob Vernon. I want to encourage you to please get your registrations in as soon as you can. Somebody from Nevada or California might try and take your place!!! I am really looking forward to this time to be with our ICPC Family and welcome a great group of new chaplains this year as well. Please go to the website – www.icpcnw.org and link to the registration information. If you have questions or needs regarding the process contact Chaplain Jerry Gaidos - clatsopchaplain@yahoo.com for up to date info and registration. Looking forward to seeing you there – jim

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ICPC Regional Training Seminar 2012

We are pleased to announce our special guests for the 2012 RTS; Retired Chief Bob Vernon will be our special speaker along with Noel Meador.



Visit icpcnw.org for Registration Information

ICPC Annual Training Seminar 2012

July 7-13, 2012

Spokane, WA

Visit icpc4cops.org for Registration Information

Pacific Northwest Disaster Response Team

Please contact Chaplain Russ Guppy at russguppy@gmail.com if you are interested and able to be on the Pacific Northwest DRT.

NW Region 2 Election Results

In recognition of the counsel of our Regional Executive Team and the Executive Administrator for ICPC International and due to all nominations resulting in the only nominees for election being the same as our present officers the election has resulted in Jim Crowley continuing to serve as the Regional Director and Jerry Gaidos will continue to serve as our Treasure/Secretary for another term of two years. We thank you for your support and encouragement during this time. It is an Honor for both Jerry and I to serve the chaplains of our Region.

God Bless - jim

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Honor Begins at Home

Four men, one calling: To serve and protect. As law enforcement officers, Adam Mitchell, Nathan Hayes, David Thomson, and Shane Fuller are confident and focused. Yet at the end of the day, they face a challenge that none of them are truly prepared to tackle: fatherhood.

While they consistently give their best on the job, good enough seems to be all they can muster as dads. But they're quickly discovering that their standard is missing the mark.

When tragedy hits home, these men are left wrestling with their hopes, their fears, their faith, and their fathering. Can a newfound urgency help these dads draw closer to God ... and to their children?

Riveted moviegoers will once again find themselves laughing, crying, and cheering as they are challenged and inspired by everyday heroes who long to be the kinds of dads that make a lifelong impact on their children.

Protecting the streets is second nature to these men. Raising their children in a God-honoring way? That's courageous.

Go to: <http://www.courageousthemovie.com> for more information about the movie Courageous.



International Conference of Police Chaplains

Northwest Region #2

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Remember to visit our website at www.icpcnw.org for information and resources

Northwest Chaplain's "Connection"

The purpose of the Northwest Chaplain's "Connection" is to provide a point of communication to share training opportunities in our region, and to provide support and encouragement for one another.

Please send your brief articles, dates to remember, and suggestions to jbcrowley@bendbroadband.com by the 10th of each month.