

Christian Perspectives on Life in the Military

# COMMAND

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Getting Started in Your Career

Encourage

Equip

Embolden



## Beyond Butter Bar: Will It Be Luck or the Lord?

**T**hirty-one years ago, 2ndLt David Warner was unleashed on an unsuspecting Air Force, reporting in to Tinker AFB, OK. Shortly after my arrival, I was told to report to the auditorium. As I parade over as summoned, I cast my gaze among the other lieutenants and realize every one of the new “butter bars” is in attendance. In unison, we rise to our feet as the wing commander, a one-star general, enters the room and without pause begins to recite from memory his leadership philosophy. During his thesis on the subject, he startled the assembled mass by declaring there was no such thing as luck—he didn’t believe in it. He went on to provide us with his formula for luck:

“When preparation meets opportunity.”

As he broke it down, the light bulb in my head came on. Most of us have stood in amazement as we watched our contemporaries soar past us toward promotion, special assignments—you name the reward. How often have we exclaimed, “Man are they lucky!” or “What a lucky break!” What we probably didn’t notice was all the hard work that went into placing them in that particular situation in the first place.

Yet I can also recall seeing others get the “lucky” break but fumble it badly. Or others who have prepared diligently only to see opportunities slip away.

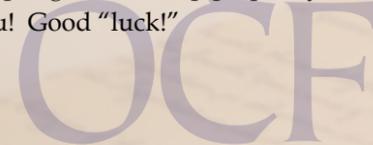
As I came to Christ, I continued to ponder this idea of “luck” until it finally dawned on me—it is our job to “prepare,” of which prayer is the key part, and then wait on the Lord for the “opportunity.”

Nehemiah is an outstanding example of one whom through prayer and petition sought to rebuild Jerusalem. In the presence of King Artaxerxes, he was given the *opportunity* to speak before the king. After a quick commo check with the Lord, Nehemiah laid his request before the king—and he was given all he asked for. Was this luck? No! When the king provided the opportunity, Nehemiah was ready. He had prepared.

For the new butter bars, the OCF staff representatives, local leaders, mentors, etc., have conspired to prepare you for your launch. For the past four years, we have prayed for you and equipped you for this moment. As you begin your race, remember what it means to prepare. Learn to be competent in your chosen profession as well as competent in your walk. Learn and discern Scripture—it’s vital.

We are proud of you for choosing to serve your nation and are honored to come alongside as you run this race the Lord has set before you! At every base, post, camp and station we have OCF members who desire to prepare you for the next step. Through one-on-one fellowships, home Bible studies, and discipling we can help prepare you to be ready for the opportunities the Lord has in store for you! Good “luck!”

David B. Warner  
Brigadier General, USAF, Retired  
Executive Director



## OCF Newly Commissioned Officers



U.S. Military Academy



# 2011

## Equip



U.S. Air Force Academy

### **Biblical Theological Seminary/Naval Chaplaincy School and Center**

LTJG John M. Quay, CHC, USN, Command Chaplain, JB Charleston Naval Weapons Station, SC

### **The Citadel-Military College of South Carolina**

ENS Joseph Washington III, USN, Division Officer USS *Roosevelt* (DDG 80), Naval Station Mayport, Jacksonville, FL, Jun 11

### **East Carolina University**

2ndLt Kurt L. Carlson III, USAF

### **Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University**

OT Joseph M. Camp, USAF  
2ndLt Rachael Nutting, USAF

### **Liberty University**

2ndLt Amanda Persons, USAF

### **Ohio State University**

ESN Matthew T. Endres, USNR, FT, Pensacola, FL, Oct 11  
2ndLt Austin D. Pickrell, USAF, INT, Goodfellow AFB, TX

### **Seattle Pacific University**

2LT Jared Hampson, USA, AR BOLC

### **Texas A&M University**

2ndLt Dexter J. Webb, USAF

### **Troy State University**

\* 2ndLt Lee Jordan, USAF

### **United States Air Force Academy**

2ndLt Lauren Allison, USAF, UPT, Vance AFB, OK  
2ndLt Kaylyn Arvidson, USAF, UPT, Vance AFB, OK  
2ndLt Josh Day, USAF, UCT—Cyber, Keesler AFB, MS  
2ndLt Krystal Glover, INT, USAF, Goodfellow AFB, TX  
2ndLt Bridgette Griffiths, USAF, PhT Doctorate, Fort Sam Houston, TX  
2ndLt Aimee Hammon, USAF, FS, Seymour Johnson AFB, NC  
2ndLt Paul Heins, USAF, UPT, Sheppard AFB, TX  
2ndLt Jessica Hildebrand, USAF, FM, Eglin AFB, FL  
2ndLt Caleb Howard, USAF, UPT, Columbus AFB, MS

2ndLt Parker Huge, USAF, UPT, Sheppard AFB, TX  
 2ndLt Alexander Jack, USMC, TBS (NFO), Quantico, VA  
 2ndLt Josh Johnson, USAF, UPT, Columbus AFB, MS  
 2ndLt Rob Lloyd, USAF, graduate school, Wright-Patterson AFB, OH  
 2ndLt Jacob Robertson, USAF, graduate school, Wright-Patterson AFB, OH  
 2ndLt Jordan Sheffer, USAF, UPT, Laughlin AFB, TX  
 2ndLt Stephanie Stanford, USAF, UCT—Cyber, Keesler AFB, MS  
 2ndLt Nicholas Stockdale, USAF, UCT—Cyber, Keesler AFB, MS  
 2ndLt Gray Thompson, USAF, UPT, Columbus AFB, MS  
 2ndLt Brooks Waugaman, USAF, UPT, Laughlin AFB, TX  
 2ndLt Zack Williams, USAF, Naval Post Grad/UPT, Monterey CA/  
 Columbus AFB, MS

**United States Coast Guard Academy**

ENS Zachary N. Ballard, USCG, CGC *Alex Haley*, Kodiak, AK  
 ENS Nathan D. Barnes, USCG, *CGC Tahoma*, Portland, ME  
 ENS Robert D. Carsey, USCG, *CGC Jefferson Island*, South Portland, ME  
 ENS Aaron M. Garnier, USCG, CGC *Willow*, New Bedford, MA  
 ENS Elisabeth A. Haines, USCG, Flight School, Pensacola, FL  
 ENS Walter Hutchins, USCG, Sector, Charleston, SC, Jun 11  
 ENS Amy J. Kelley, USCG, *CGC Jarvis*, Honolulu, HI  
 ENS Brenden V. Kelley, USCG, *CGC Rush*, Honolulu, HI  
 ENS Jennifer R. Midyette, USCG, *CGC Northland*, Portsmouth, VA  
 \*ENS Michael J. Mrkvicka, USCG  
 ENS Timothy G. Nicolet, USCG, Flight School, Pensacola, FL  
 ENS Alexander T. Schmidt, USCG, *CGC Stratton*, Alameda, CA  
 ENS Andrew M. Simpson, USCG, *CGC Bear*, Portsmouth, VA

**United States Military Academy**

2LT Eric Anderson, USA  
 2LT Kenton L. Brown, USA  
 2LT Stacie Burak, USA  
 2LT Samuel R. Calvert, USA  
 2LT Loyd C. Clemons, USA  
 2LT Grant B. Durham, USA  
 2LT Benjamin A. Flanick, USA  
 2LT Matthew J. Frazier, USA  
 2LT Joseph L. Gelinas, USA  
 2LT Arrio D. Granum, USA  
 2LT Jessica Huggins, USA  
 2LT Jonathan D. Jones, USA  
 2LT Josephine H. Kim, USA,  
 EN BOLC, Fort Leonard Wood, MO, Jul 11; 130<sup>th</sup> EN BDE, Schofield, HI  
 2LT Judith Li, USA, MI BOLC, Fort Huachuca, AZ, Aug 11; Germany  
 2LT Nancy J. Lightfield, USA  
 2LT Maren H. Lowrey, USA  
 2LT Tyger T. Lyons, USA  
 2LT Bryce A. Martens, USA  
 2LT Duncan E. Michel, USA, AR BOLC, Fort Benning, GA, Sep 11; 2SCR, Vilseck, Germany  
 2LT Judson D. Noel, USA  
 2LT Janet Noreen, USA  
 2LT Danielle Norman, USA  
 2LT Willem J. Pretorius, USA  
 2LT Jonathan C. Rodgers, USA  
 2LT David E. Rylander, USA  
 2LT Stephanie M. Sims, USA  
 2LT Casey R. Thome, USA  
 2LT Eric Whitley, USA, AG BOLC, Fort Jackson, SC, Jul 11; 12th AV BDE, Germany, Oct 11  
 2LT Sam M. Yoo, USA, AV BOLC, Fort Rucker, AL, Jul 11

U.S. Military Academy



The Citadel

**United States Naval Academy**

2ndLt Daniel Abney, USMC, TBS, Quantico, VA, Jul 11; FT, Pensacola, FL  
 ENS Ariel Baltis, USN, FT, Pensacola, FL, Jul 11  
 ENS Devin Bezold, USN, FT, Pensacola, FL  
 ENS Carie Boothe, USN, FT, Pensacola, FL, Oct 11  
 ENS Ashley Boykin, USN, SW, USS *Essex* (LHD 2), Sasebo, Japan, Jun 11  
 2ndLt Max Caggiano, USMC, TBS, Quantico, VA, Jul 11  
 2ndLt Kyle Delahooke, USMC, TBS, Quantico, VA, Mar 12  
 2ndLt Erin Fawcett, USMC, TBS, Quantico, VA; FT, Pensacola, FL  
 ENS Andrew Hanko, USN, NPS, Charleston, SC, Sep 11  
 ENS Chris Kaps, USN, SW, USS *Cole* (DDG 67), Norfolk, VA, Jul 11  
 2ndLt Eric Kroeger, USMC, TBS, Quantico, VA, Jul 11  
 2ndLt Nathan Liversedge, USMC, TBS, Quantico, VA  
 ENS Eric McCreery, USN  
 ENS Shaun Molina, USN, FT, Pensacola, FL  
 ENS Craig Moore, USN, Surface Nuke, USS *Mustin* (DDG 89), Yokosuka, Japan  
 ENS Grant Morgan, USN, graduate school, University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN; NPS, Charleston, SC, Jun 13  
 2ndLt Taylor Paul, USMC, TBS, Quantico, VA; FT, Pensacola, FL  
 ENS Ryan Ponders, USN, SW, USS *New York* (LPD 21), Norfolk, VA  
 ENS Justin Rogers, USN, NPS, Charleston, SC, Sep 11  
 ENS Aaron Rosa, USN, FT, Pensacola, FL  
 2ndLt Maryanna Sheck, USMC, TBS, Quantico, VA  
 ENS Jonathan Williams, USN, FT, Pensacola, FL  
 ENS Brian J. Wilson, USN  
 ENS Matt Wissmann, USN, FT, Pensacola, FL, Jul 11  
 ENS Jiatian Yue, USN, SW, USS *Pinckney* (DDG 91), San Diego, CA

**University of Central Florida**

\*2ndLt Heather R. Burns, USAF  
 \*2ndLt Kate A. Thielemann, USAF  
 2LT Joshua P. Yates, USAR  
 2ndLt Kathryn Yates, USAF

**University of Colorado**

2ndLt Alexander G. Foos, USAF

**University of Colorado—Colorado Springs**

2LT Jonathan D. Munday, USA

**University of Dubuque**

\*2LT Benjamin J. Christians, USAR

**University of Idaho**

2LT Thomas J. Westall, USA

**University of Mississippi**

2LT Mark L. Smith, ARNG



Valley Forge Military College



U.S Naval Academy

**University of Northern Colorado/ USAF Officer Training School**

\*2ndLt Clare Reynolds, USAF

**University of South Carolina**

\*2LT Jesh Plumb, USA, BOLC B, FA BOLC B/B BTRY/1st BN, 30th FA, Fort Sill, OK, Jan 11; 214 FA BDE, Fort Sill, Sept 11

**Valley Forge Military College**

2LT John Bridges, USA

**Western Carolina University/Appalachian State University**

2ndLt Jonathan A. Hallman, ANG, Combat Systems Officer School, Det. 2, 66th Training Squadron, NAS Pensacola, FL, May 11; C130 Combat Systems Officer, 156th Airlift Squadron, Charlotte, NC

**Various Universities**

OT Walter E. Cochran IV, USAF  
 2ndLt Steven W. Koehler, USAF  
 \*2ndLt Mathew W. Lehman, ANG  
 WO Robert J. Marquardt, USMC  
 OT Ellis R. Moser, USAF  
 \*2ndLt Amanda N. Sugg, ANG

**Legend**

\*Late 2010 graduate

**U.S. Air Force**

EN—Engineer  
 FM—Financial Management  
 FS—Force Support  
 INT—Intelligence  
 NFO—Naval Flight Officer  
 PhT—Physical Therapy  
 UCT—Cyberspace Training  
 UPT— Undergraduate Pilot Training

**U.S. Army**

2SCR—2D Stryker Cavalry Regiment  
 AG—Adjutant General  
 ANC—Army Nurse Corps  
 AR—Armor  
 AV—Aviation  
 BDE—Brigade  
 BN—Battalion  
 BOLC—Basic Officer Leadership Course  
 B BTRY—B Battery  
 CH—Chaplain  
 CM—Chemical  
 EN—Engineer  
 IN—Infantry  
 MI—Military Intelligence  
 MP—Military Police  
 OOB—Ordnance Officer  
 OBC—Officer Basic Course  
 PL—Platoon Leader



U.S. Coast Guard Academy

**U.S. Coast Guard**

CGC—Coast Guard Cutter

**U.S. Marine Corps**

TBS—The Basic School

**U.S. Navy**

DLI—Defense Language Institute  
 FT—Flight Training  
 JB— Joint Base  
 NAS—Naval Air Station  
 NPS—Nuclear Power School  
 SW—Surface Warfare



# OCF Groups and You

by Beth Dowty

DoD photo

Summer is an exciting time of change in military life. For those of you who just commissioned—hallelujah! You're already at or are looking forward to your first assignment. Or some have completed ACSC, while others are PCSing.

Many of you left a great OCF group behind, and you like OCF—but there's no study where you are, or the study is very different. Now what? What can/should OCF look like in this new place?

OCF can look like a lot of things—there is no “authorized” cookie cutter model. But we first must admit that many of us need a paradigm shift in perception. We must change from being merely a *consumer* to an *owner*.

Many of us first encounter OCF where there are full time staff members and large existing groups, such as at the military academies, with fellowship, Bible studies, and service programs for groups of generally homogenous cadets and midshipmen all under the OCF banner.

Others experience OCF in the smaller venues of college ROTC programs, voluntarily led by retired, active duty, even college-age OCF members. In both instances, all the cadets/mids have to do is easily fit into the existing group, becoming *consumers* of OCF's “product.”

Then reality hits at the first duty station where OCF looks nothing like it did before, which can be daunting. In this environment the question is not, “where is the OCF group I can join?” but rather “what kind of OCF group needs to be at this location and what should I do about it?”

Remember—you are OCF. Your level of involvement and leadership is the determining factor in the success of OCF where you are now. Here are some looks of meaningful OCF groups in differing environments:

- Home Bible study—officers, enlisted, retirees, or civilians meeting in someone's home, using DVD, inductive, or topical Bible studies.
- Deployed group—an ad hoc group that meets for prayer and Bible study, often ending when deployment ends.
- Lunchtime workplace—a mixed group of active duty,

reserve, guard and civilian contractors meeting at lunch for Bible study.

- Pair/Spiritual Battle Buddies—two people praying/studying the Bible together; great discipleship opportunity.
- Church affiliated—varied people meeting for fellowship prayer study as a formal ministry of a local church, cooperatively with OCF.
- Specialty group—any of the models above but created specially for singles, women, senior officers, or whatever salient demographic at that location.

Certainly even more possibilities would work as OCF Bible study groups, with tremendous freedom in the amount of felicity an OCF group can have.

Since *you* are OCF, your group will be what *you* make it at your duty station. Determine the need and start working to fill it. OCF's website has great resources for starting/leading groups and finding other OCF groups near you: <http://www.ocfusa.org/find-ocf/>. Or contact the home office link-up program for assistance.

Let the home office know if you do begin a group, and encourage others in your group to actually join OCF—not just participate in an OCF group—so they can enjoy the camaraderie and benefits of formal membership.

Keep the future of the group in mind once it's well established—from possibly dispersing after the leader moves on. And make mentorship part of your group's culture. OCF also has resources for that.

Enjoy the unique camaraderie we have through OCF—connecting in fellowship with other military people who love Jesus, to support, equip, and encourage each other in God's Word.

Beth Dowty served as a personnel officer in the United States Air Force from 2000-2004. She is now serving as a military wife and homeschool mom.



# Taking Ownership of Your Faith, Your Portion of OCF

by Karen A. Fliedner,

OCF Communications Associate Editor



Army nurse Alysa Angel in training as a newly commissioned officer in a “mock” mass casualty drill in a combat support hospital.

Like many academy or ROTC graduates who leave vibrant OCF fellowships, 2LT Alysa Angel, USA, arrived at her first duty station where there was no established OCF group. And those in the University of Central Florida OCF Bible study she left behind were nothing less than “family” to her.

OCF local leaders LTC Kevin and Dorothy Pilgrim, USA (Ret.), and Alysa's fellow OCF cadets had come alongside to support her during an “emotionally draining” period of caring for an ill aunt. When that aunt unexpectedly died, then she had to juggle her military obligations along with planning a funeral that took place mere days before her commissioning.

“They surrounded me and my family with prayer. The Pilgrims had us over for dinner; they came to my aunt's funeral. They would talk with me; they would listen,” said Alysa.

Her first foray as a newly minted officer into the distinctive demands of the military life was at Walter Reed Medical Center in Washington, DC, with continually changing, around-the-clock nursing shifts. And no familiar OCF group to immediately plug into for encouragement.

It's at that point where officers (and not just newly commissioned ones), facing on-the-job challenges to their Christian faith and lacking the support from Christians they had in their previous OCF groups, can “get caught up in the struggles and start losing their faith,” says Alysa.

And active participation in OCF, let alone meeting with a battle buddy to hold each other in Christian accountability, falls to the wayside.

“If you don't stay involved and connected you will drown,” Alysa says. “Satan's trying to destroy in small subtle ways, and he starts with things like isolating people so they are not held accountable for their lifestyle and actions.”

To stay connected and afloat in her military Christian walk, Alysa contacted the OCF home office to get linked up to fellowships near WRMC, where more than a dozen groups under the umbrella of OCF's National Capital Region, and

overseen by OCF staff reps (CH)MAJ Mark and Deb Benz, USA (Ret.), meet regularly. She tapped into that support system with several local leaders—some of whom she's never met—by maintaining regular e-mail contact.

And taking ownership in her portion of OCF—with the blessing of the chaplains she first went through—Alysa started an OCF Bible study for inpatients.

The 2009 graduate has several points of encouragement for newly commissioned officers to stay the course in their faith walk:

- Accountability. If you don't have it, you don't grow. The Pilgrims, my church, other Christians along the way—they held me accountable.
- Take ownership of your faith, with a sure foundation on Jesus Christ alone. Just going to church is not enough. Your parents' faith is not enough. It must be your own faith.
- Find a chapel or church and get involved.
- Stay/get involved in OCF. They can help you find other OCF groups or find a church.
- Look for mentors. Surround yourself with fellow believers who will hold you accountable.
- Know who you are—not your rank or your military career, but your identity in Christ.
- Be a Christ-like example in and out of uniform. People will find you.
- Hook up with retired military who have “been there, done that.” They are more than happy to take time, even to meet for lunch.
- Stay in prayer always.

# How Are You Going to Spend Your Pay Raise?

by Major Jonathan Dowty, United States Air Force

The Class of 2011 has recently ascended into the somber requirements of professional officership, having accepted the immense responsibility that comes with being a commissioned officer.

For many second lieutenants and ensigns, this may be the first time in your lives you have both personal *and* financial freedom. In addition to now being free from Academy or college structures, you've experienced the significant pay jump from cadet to O-1. Now is the time to figure out how you're going to handle it.

It's time for a *budget*.

It's hard to be a good steward when you don't even know where your money is going. A budget will give you the freedom to contribute to God's work, disciplined control of your finances, and will help you *enjoy* the fruits of your labor.

The simple place to start: Give to God, pay your taxes, and save.

## Tithes and Offerings

There are many opinions on Christian giving, but the universal truth is Christians should contribute a portion of their income back to God's work. However you choose to do it—a check in the offering plate each week, an automatic debit at the beginning of the month, or something else—your gift to God's work should be a priority in your budget.

A simple place to start budgeting—aim for 10% of your base pay, before taxes.



## Pay Your Uncle

Life's certainties, as the adage goes, are death and taxes. Jesus conquered death, but even He had to deal with the ancient version of the IRS.

Don't be too quick to complain about paying taxes. These funds sustain much in the United States, from roadways to the military protecting our liberties—and we should be willing to support the public infrastructure from which we benefit.

Each person's individual finances will differ slightly, but a new O-1 will pay about 22% of his paycheck back to Uncle Sam, a necessary part of any budget.

## Savings and Debt

Many financial advisors recommend saving 10% of your income, which is fairly easy with automatic monthly transfers into a savings account. Beyond this basic saving, it is wise at this point in your career to begin to save for larger expenses you see in your future.

It's also important to pay down your debt, which many new officers have from either lingering college credit

If you start out your career with a decent budget framework, you will lay a strong foundation for a life of good stewardship

card bills or new graduation purchases (how's that new car?). Eliminating those debts quickly is a fine display of financial stewardship. At the same time, avoid incurring new debt by purchasing only what is affordable and necessary.

## What's Left

After budgeting for giving to God, taxes, savings and debt, now you need to budget for daily living expenses—groceries, gas, clothes, etc. There's a happy medium between Starbucks every morning and Ramen noodles every night. Those "small" expenses may quickly add up to large debt, even for those who otherwise have control of their finances. If you're challenged by budgeting for these basic expenses, there are some excellent Christian financial management books and resources that can help.

## The One Constant: Change

Believe it or not, you'll use your budget less than six months before you have to update it. Why? In January of each year, you'll probably get a pay raise from the new Department of Defense budget. You can also expect to see a pay raise every two to four years because of time in service and promotions.

Modify your budget every time you get a pay raise, sticking with the consistent philosophy of tithe/offerings, taxes, savings, debt, and major expenses. Want a simple way to do that? Increase each budget category by the same percentage of your pay increase.

You've now successfully budgeted for giving to God, taxes, savings, debt, and daily necessities. You can use the remaining money as you wish, with one simple guiding rule: Don't spend more than you have. With a written budget and that simple rule, you'll have a strong financial foundation upon which to build.

As you update your finances through the years, try to create a budget where you never "see" the money from your pay increases. Instead, increase your charitable giving and savings so your "spending money" remains the same.

This will keep you from growing accustomed to a more expensive lifestyle every time your pay increases, and it can give you the financial freedom for amazing opportunities, including making significant contributions to God's work and growing substantial savings.

Your cost of living will rise through the years, and certain life changes—buying a house, getting married, having children—will require you to modify your budget. But keeping your cost of living fairly constant

by shunning lifestyle increases can help keep you from focusing on—or worrying about—money.

Your budget doesn't need to be complex: As a lieutenant I started a simple computer file that added income and subtracted expenses. That same file of basic arithmetic has been updated many times over the years, but I still use it. Though tweaked for moves, promotions, TDYs, marriage, children, and a host of other life changes, the foundation remains the same.

If you start out your career with a decent budget framework, you will lay a strong foundation for a life of good stewardship and without significant financial worry. It won't always be perfect, but you'll always have a starting point and a plan.

*Jonathan is an Air Force OCF member who will soon be saving to buy his wife new jewelry, once she reads this article and realizes she's been living on a lieutenant's salary.*



# On to Declaring God's Power to the Next Generations



## The Heritage House Dedication

by Commander Clay Thomas, United States Navy, Retired

YES!!—A midshipman and a cadet shear off the ceremonial ribbon amidst shouts of joy: Heritage House is open!

Dedication emcee—Ray Johnson (center), former WSS director, greets attendees to the historic OCF event.

On a perfect day—sunny, warm, cloudless—in the midst of a week of rain, over 500 OCF members from across the country gathered on 30 April to give thanks to God at the dedication of the new Heritage House at White Sulphur Springs.

The Lord's presence was evident as tears of joy and thanks freely flowed among old friends sharing reunions and remembrances and young people being challenged to carry the torch. It was an amazing family gathering under a huge tent as we declared "God's power to the generations to come."

CDR Ray Johnson, USN (Ret.), former WSS director, emceed the day celebrating the past, present, and future of Officers' Christian Fellowship. Following Ray's remembrances, Joy Thomas Nelson sang "The Star Spangled Banner," including the moving last verse exhorting us all, when "blessed with victory and peace" to "praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation."

Chairman of the WSS Advisory Committee, COL Eric Kail, USA, asked God to move among us as we enjoyed the celebratory day. COL Al Shine, USA (Ret.), offered a brief historical perspective focusing our attention on

three chords of the strand that is today WSS: the land—its timeless beauty; the tradition of service—demonstrated by all the former proprietors (the Colvins and Cochran's); and the spiritual heritage we share in OCF. OCF Council president, MG Jim Coggin, USA (Ret.), emphasized the importance of conference center ministry and the need of Heritage House as a refuge for today's military families. Executive Director Brig Gen David Warner, USAF (Ret.), directed our thoughts to the future and Heritage House's real purpose in declaring the Lord's power to the generations to come.

Keynote speaker Lt Gen Loren Reno, USAF, underlined the importance of using the new Heritage House as a place of restoration and resiliency, of building relationships and creating memories in the kingdom of God—a place where our members are equipped to serve Christ and our country with excellence.

Resource Development Director Dave Rowland recognized representatives of Heritage House's twelve sponsored guest rooms, as well as the more than 1,800 donors whose generosity brought reality to the vision. He also recognized LTC Joe Orosz, USA (Ret.), whose project manager efforts put feet to the building project, and Somerset Steel Erectors representatives, general manager

Jim Cunningham and architect Brendan Taylor.

Former Executive Director Lt Gen Bruce Fister, USAF (Ret.), prefaced his dedication prayer by saying, "When I see a midshipman or a cadet, I don't see them; I see their children and their grandchildren all being raised in the ways of the Lord."

Joy Thomas Nelson and Paul Lundblad sang a beautiful rendition of "Invade," asking Jesus to occupy the rooms and halls of this special place and to touch people's hearts. As Ray Johnson closed the ceremony, we were invited to witness the cutting of the ribbon at the front pillars of Heritage House. The honor of wielding the huge shears, in representation of the generations to come, was given to Midshipman Hugh Mitchell and Cadet Chris Moropoulos.

After the ceremony, guests were invited to a reception in the partially completed dining room and also to the dedication of The Pettijohn Room, the Heritage House's multipurpose meeting room. There we gave thanks for the late Paul Pettijohn, former Executive Director of OCF, with his widow, Lorraine, and daughters Anne Borcharding and Lisa Wilson in attendance. General Warner presented Lorraine with a replica of the bronze plaque honoring their service to both OCF and Military Ministry. Speakers giving tribute to Paul's memory were CAPT Mickey Garverick, COL Don Snider, Ron Holden, Brig Gen Dick Abel, Brig Gen Warner, COL Don Martin, Maj Mike Piirto, and myself.

What a day it was! I feel so privileged to stand along with my wife, Marty, at the "helm" of White Sulphur Springs, at this key time in OCF's history. What was once only a gleam in the eyes of many for years, and launched in faith with the purchase of the Caleb Project in the early 1990s, is now a wonderful reality.

Heritage House will take our conference center ministry into a new era. Change is always difficult, but God is faithful and will demonstrate His glory as we exalt his Son Jesus Christ in our future ministry.

What a heritage we have received from the saints of old to pass on to succeeding generations! May we be faithful until He calls or comes!



Reunions and remembrances—the "amazing family gathering" of longtime OCF members heard speakers and singers praising the Lord's faithfulness.



Tireless capital campaign champion Bruce Fister—Under his executive director leadership, and through the generosity of devoted donors, the legacy of fruitful ministry skyrockets into new strata.



"Feet" to Feet Jim Coggin (left) and David Warner (right), presented a plaque to Joe Orosz for his project management efforts that "put feet" to the construction.



Photo of Heritage House by Michael Edwards, all other photos by Christie Halvorson

The Pettijohn Room ceremony—Clay Thomas presents Paul Pettijohn's widow, Lorraine, with a plaque at the unveiling ceremony of the new multipurpose room named for the former executive director.



# OCF Council News



OCF Council President  
MG James A. Coggin, USA (Ret.)

## OCF Council Elections & Constitution Change Vote

OCF members are invited to exercise their right to vote in this year's OCF Council elections, now underway at the OCF website. This year's election also asks members to vote on a change to the OCF Constitution.

- Voting runs 1 August—16 September at: [www.ocfusa.org](http://www.ocfusa.org)
- Members qualified to vote will need their **voting ID** (your OCF member number—found on the COMMAND address label) and your **voting password** (your zip code).
- Members who cannot/prefer not to vote online may request a hard copy from Susan Wallis at the OCF home office, 800-424-1984.
- Vote for as many as five candidates.
- Check the website for expanded bio info on each nominee listed in COMMAND and additional election info.
- Vote **Yes** or **No** for the proposed OCF Constitution change. At the spring council meeting in April at White Sulphur Springs, the Council passed the following motion to amend the Constitution:

**Motion:** That the following amendment to the OCF Constitution be submitted to the membership for approval:

*“Replace the current OCF Statement of Participation with the following language (changes to current statement indicated in red):*

**‘I am committed to the Purpose of OCF: to glorify God by uniting Christian officers for biblical fellowship and outreach, equipping and encouraging them to minister effectively in the military society. As an expression of my commitment to the Lord Jesus Christ and to His work in the military society, I will participate actively and prayerfully in the ministry of OCF with my time, talents, spiritual gifts, and financial resources. I further commit, by God’s grace, to live my life as an example consistent with biblical guidelines.’”**

This change to OCF’s Statement of Participation, contained in Article V of the OCF Constitution, reaffirms our commitment to minister to the entire military society and ensures we, the members of OCF, live our lives consistent with biblical guidelines, so as to reflect Christ in every aspect of our life and be effective witnesses for Him.



# OCF Council Elections!

Note:  
Full bio info at  
[www.ocfusa.org](http://www.ocfusa.org).

## Council Nominees for the Class of 2014



**LTC Erik ‘Sparky’ Anderson, USA**

**Education:** USMA, BS Political Science, 1993; LIU-C.W. Post /SAMS, MMAS Leader Development & Counseling, 2001/2006

**Present assignment:** Leadership Instructor, US Army Command & General Staff College

**Ministry involvement:** OCF assistant lay ministry, area coordinator, Bible study/group leader; parish council, Sunday school teacher, AWANA, worship/youth leader.

**Personal testimony:** Always active in youth programs at church and considered myself a Christian. But it wasn't until facing personal and professional adversity that I recognized I couldn't always solve everything on my own and realized God wants me committed to following Him.

**Challenges within OCF:** Connect with/foster OCF's next generation in an era of persistent conflict by recognizing the unique challenges others face. Mobilizing OCF's resources while maintaining the local fellowships' grassroots nature. **Nominated by:** LTC Barry Bazemore, USA (Ret.); COL Richard Goldsmith, USA (Ret.);

MAJ Benjamin Jordan, USA (Ret.); LTC Sanford Sheaks, USA (Ret.)



**Lt Col Tom Falconer, USAF (Ret.)**

**Education:** University of Southwestern Louisiana, BS Management, 1975; AFIT, MS Logistics Mgmt., 1980

**Present assignment:** Retired active duty

**Ministry involvement:** Spring Canyon Advisory Council, Capital Campaign church relations committee chair; USAFA cadet ministry team, UCCS ROTC ministry, Sunday school, youth group, cell leader.

**Personal testimony:** Raised in the Methodist church, I came to know Christ as Savior my senior year in high school through Young Life. Not until participating in an OCF Bible study did I fully surrender to serve Christ.

**Challenges within OCF:** Foundational to our ministry's growth is how well our members learn to integrate their faith and profession in the military society as officer Christians and servant leaders. Dialog in article series/online resources to help our members develop their own style/confidence. **Nominated by:** LTC Tom Austin IV, USA (Ret.);

COL James Meredith, USA (Ret.); MAJ Dean Rizzo, USAR



**Capt Daniel W. Forman, USAF**

**Education:** Eastern Nazarene College, BA Religious Studies, 1987; Asbury Theological Seminary/Nazarene Theological Seminary, MA Historical Theology & M.Div. W/Specialization in Chaplaincy, 1995/2002

**Present assignment:** Chaplain, Vance AFB, OK

**Ministry involvement:** OCF groups; church pulpit supply, youth work, church boards, associate youth/discipleship minister

**Personal testimony:** Raised in the church of the Nazarene, accepting the Lord as Savior at age seven, fully following Him as “my own” since age thirteen.

**Challenges within OCF:** Critical to our nation's military health is the “challenge of balance” — assisting chaplains and military personnel in keeping the First Amendment from becoming an idol of religious authority. Assist Christian chaplains to maintain a healthy balance between multi-faith facilitation, the Christian message, and ministry to Christians. Cultivate more “care for caregiver” programs/studies among its members. Serve as a tool to assist the chaplaincy and other military members in keeping a healthy balance between the law of the land and the spirit of the Gospel. Adapt supportive ministry with budget stresses, etc., while funding/making time for supportive ministries. **Nominated by:** Col Kim Hawthorne, USAF; Col James Martin, USAF (Ret.); Ch(Maj Gen) Cecil Richardson, USAF



**MAJ Anthony D. Gray, USA**

**Education:** Virginia State University, Public Administration, 1996; Florida Institute of Technology, Logistics Management, 2005

**Present assignment:** Third Infantry Division, Fort Stewart, GA, Division Health Services Materiel Officer, Division Surgeon Section

**Ministry involvement:** Oversaw prayer ministry and preached at gospel services while in Iraq, published daily inspiration for division staff members, Bible study leader, established online *Get To Know Him* ministry.

**Personal testimony:** Came to the Lord through parents' godly example, raised in a Bible-based church that believed/taught/lived God's Word. The godly seeds eventually took root in my life.

## Gray Cont...

**Challenges within OCF:** Proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ in an increasingly secular/politically correct society and military community. Continue support of chaplaincy. Develop strategic information/marketing campaign to military installations for OCF, an organization positively affecting the community for the glory of God. **Nominated by:** MAJ Charles Gray, USA; LTC Tom Schmidt, USA (Ret.); MAJ Jon Shine, USA



### MAJ(P) Vaughn Hathaway, USA

**Education:** University of Southern Mississippi, BA Criminal Justice, 1994

**Present assignment:** Operations Officer, Fort Sill, Oklahoma 214<sup>th</sup> Fires Brigade S3

**Ministry involvement:** OCF post coordinator, Bible study, Anchor Points; Sunday school teacher, youth pastor, deacon

**Personal testimony:** Raised in the doctrines of grace by a Presbyterian pastor and his wife, realizing my need for Christ from childhood, I cannot remember a day that Jesus Christ was not a part of my life.

**Challenges within OCF:** Advance Christ's kingdom in a hostile world that rejects/resists the truth of Jesus Christ/His Word. Leaders must be unashamed of the Gospel, willing to fight the good fight and represent Christ in churches/chapels/Bible studies. We must show the world the true resiliency/victory that comes with Christ's salvation. **Nominated by:** LTC Barry Bazemore, USA (Ret.); COL Richard Goldsmith, USA (Ret.); MAJ Benjamin Jordan, USA (Ret.); LTC Tom Schmidt, USA (Ret.); LTC Sanford Sheaks, USA (Ret.)



### CDR Stephen L. Hoffman, USN

**Education:** USNA, Economics, 1991; Naval Post Grad school, MS Leadership & Human Resources, 1999; Industrial College of the Armed Forces, MS National Resources Strategy, 2010

**Present assignment:** Project officer—Defense Threat Reduction Agency

**Ministry involvement:** OCF Council, local leader, area coordinator; ACCTS, USNA chaplain/chapel, military ministry

**Personal testimony:** Raised by parents who followed Jesus, never knowing a time of not knowing Christ as Lord. The reality of Christ's role in my life has been a journey and a relationship that continues to develop.

**Challenges within OCF:** For the Navy, limited resources have caused more chaplain reliance on local churches and less emphasis in chapels. OCF needs to partner with local churches to develop lay ministries. Continue to overall refine how the Great Commission should be lived out through its members.

**Nominated by:** CH(MAJ) Mark Benz, USA (Ret.); MAJ Jon Shine, USA; CDR Rob Turner, USN



### MAJ John Hoyman, USA

**Education:** Wheaton College, BS Mathematics, 1992; Wheaton College Graduate School, MA Christian Formation and Ministry, 2006

**Present assignment:** Detailed Inspector General, US Army Reserve Command, Fort Bragg, NC

**Ministry involvement:** OCF Council, team leader, cadre advisor, White Sulphur Springs youth/program director, OCF/Valor liaison; Midwest ROTC retreat

**Personal testimony:** Both parents converted, influenced by the ministry of Al and Sandra Shine, and with their examples accepted Jesus as Savior at age seven. The godly examples in my life were mostly military. I have endeavored to provide the example I enjoyed as a youth to my family and the rising generation.

**Challenges within OCF:** Spiritual leadership. Leadership training at the conference centers/other critical locations—equipping, encouraging, challenging, and maturing the over 300 documented OCF leaders in a transitional period for our Armed Forces—is critical. The success of these lay leaders, the lifeblood of OCF, is dependent on their vital connection to Jesus Christ, true biblical fellowship, other OCF field staff/leaders.

**Nominated by:** COL Richard Goldsmith, USA (Ret.); LTC Greg Lane, USAR (Ret.); LTC Marvin Westenburg, USA (Ret.)



### LTC James B. Karr, USA (Ret.)

**Education:** Elmhurst College, BS Business, 1973; Florida Institute of Technology, MBA, 1977

**Present assignment:** Retired active duty

**Ministry involvement:** OCF Director of Resource Development, Council, capital campaign events, Bible study leader, local/area rep; volunteer, National Wheelchair Sports Fund (NWSF)

**Personal testimony:** Accepted Jesus at age eight at Willerup Bible Camp. Christ has been the constant in my life, my bedrock through many toils, trials, heartaches and triumphs.

**Challenges within OCF:** Remain relevant with and reaching the young officer with the message of Christ through a coordinated, multifaceted approach utilizing electronic and social media (Internet, blogs, chat rooms, etc.). Permeate the ranks; enlarge our military membership/presence. **Nominated by:** LTC Jim Duncan, USA (Ret.); LTC Arnold Sanderlin, USA (Ret.); LTC Tom Schmidt, USA (Ret.)



### COL Stuart McRae, USA

**Education:** Eastern Montana College, BA Mathematics, 1987; US Army War College, MSS Strategic Studies, 2011

**Present assignment:** Student, USAWC

**Ministry involvement:** Bible study, church volunteer, disciplined son-in-law

**Personal testimony:** Raised in a godly home, coming to the Lord at an early age, in my teenage years I gave the Lord permission to make me more in Christ's image. He taught me to find my identity in Him rather than in the Army.

**Challenges within OCF:** Ability to connect with young officers. With so much distracting them, developing a thriving relationship with Christ may be more an inconvenience than the joy that it should be. Senior-to-junior mentoring relationships are paramount. **Nominated by:** COL Hunt Kerrigan, ARNG; COL Ray Porter III, USA (Ret.); COL Al Shine, USA (Ret.)



### COL Laurence Martin Mixon, USA

**Education:** USMA, BS Engineering Mgmt., 1986; University of Virginia, ME Systems Engineering, 1996

**Present assignment:** Deputy Chief of Staff G2, US Army I Corps, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, WA

**Ministry involvement:** Spiritually Smart Family conferences speaker; Bible study leader, men's study/accountability group, PWOC/PMOC events, worship leader, prayer breakfast speaker/prayer leader, memorial service/keynote speaker

**Personal testimony:** God saved my wife and me, placing people along my path to disciple me. I committed my life to the Lord Jesus Christ in 1994—and will never turn back. He restored my marriage, opened my wife's womb to conception, delivered me from alcohol/other flesh issues, used my brokenness to help me have compassion on the hurting/lost and to counsel Soldiers in difficult issues.

**Challenges within OCF:** Growing fear/reticence among many Christian officers to live out their faith/present Biblical truth to those they lead, afraid to publicly stand up for their faith in fear of offending/violating the uniform code. Need willingly to speak biblical truth/share the hope/peace that comes by faith in Christ. Expand existing programs to educate/equip junior officers especially during pre-commissioning/officer basic training, giving them the tools to legally/effectively live out their faith in the military. **Nominated by:** MG Thomas Cole, USA (Ret.); CH(COL) James Edgren, USA (Ret.); Col James Martin, USAF (Ret.); Col Larry Simpson, USAF (Ret.)



### MajGen Melvin Spiese, USMC

**Education:** University of Illinois, BS Civil Engr, 1976; University of Southern California/SAMS, MS Sys Mgmt./MMA, 1981/1999

**Present assignment:** Deputy Commanding General, I Marine Expeditionary Force; Commanding General, 1st Marine Expeditionary Brigade

**Ministry involvement:** OCF Council/steering committee member, led Rocky Mountain High; lay Eucharistic minister, local church adult forum, high school groups, Sunday school teacher, service worker, vestry member

**Personal testimony:** Practicing Catholic, changed to Anglicanism as an adult. Questioned about my faith/challenged to make a non-ritual profession while attending a chapel-sponsored program hosted by COL King Coffman. It changed my life as I finally understood/met the living Lord.

**Challenges within OCF:** Transition into the current age to meet our population/their needs where anchored in local Bible studies; catch new technology/meet young people in the way we do business. Expand to meet our senior leaders' needs as they become more necessarily isolated. I believe I can contribute to the steering committee to achieve this need, and hope to continue.

**Nominated by:** Mr. John Bishop; Maj Andrew Dirkes, USMC; LtCol Todd Ferry, USMC; COL Richard Goldsmith, USA (Ret.); LtCol Karl Johnson, USMC



### Lt Col Richard Steele, USAF

**Education:** University of Texas-San Antonio, History, 1994; AFIT/Liberty University, MA Logistics/MA Theology, 2008

**Present assignment:** Director of Ops, 12<sup>th</sup> Ops Support Squadron, Randolph AFB, TX

**Ministry involvement:** OCF local leader/rep/contact

**Personal testimony:** Graciously saved by God's mercy and love despite my sinfulness and rebellion. He has shown Himself great since then, sanctifying me to love others for His glory.

**Challenges within OCF:** Losing sight of the mission. We are not about God's business if we become distracted by the world. I hope to do my part to continue the legacy of leadership focused on spiritual excellence and love. **Nominated by:** Lt Col Robert Renner, USAF (Ret.); Col Houston Waring V, USAF; Mrs. Tamara Waring



**CPT(P) Elijah Ward, USA**

**Education:** Virginia Military Institute, BA History, 2001

**Present assignment:** Command Rear Detachment, 1-320<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division (Air Assault), Fort Campbell, KY/On orders: U.S. Army Field Artillery School, Fort Sill, OK, instructor

**Ministry involvement:** OCF group leader/host; church-military outreach, Mid-Atlantic ROTC retreat attendee/panelist

**Personal testimony:** Raised in a loving Christian home, accepted Christ at thirteen. Developed independent faith at VMI through OCF ministry/mentors (Jim Park, Ron Baldwin, Roy Hammond) who kept me connected with OCF as I deployed for the first of four deployments.

**Challenges within OCF:** Seek God’s guidance on maintaining our relevancy to the officer corps and military. Remain focused on equipping military Christian members to impact the world around them. Examine outreach methods and handover of members as they transition from pre-commissioning OCF programs to active duty ones. **Nominated by:** CDR Roger Pinkley, USN (Ret.); LTC Greg & LTC Lucy Lane, USAR (Ret.)



**Maj Warren “Blair” Watkinson II, USAF**

**Education:** USAFA, BS Computer Science, 2000; Ohio State University, MA Computer Science, 2001

**Present assignment:** Chief, Air Refueling Programs, Directorate of Strategic Plans, Requirements & Programs, HQ Air Mobility Command

**Ministry involvement:** OCF team/local leader; AWANA, Bible study, men’s ministry, youth leader, hospitality coordinator, Sunday school teacher, enlisted outreach, chapel parish advisory council president

**Personal testimony:** Attended church growing up, but developed post-modern views of believing many ways to heaven by college age. USAFA OCF cadet ministry/leaders lovingly confronting my heresy and I accepted Jesus as Savior during my senior year. Baptized at Spring Canyon.

**Challenges within OCF:** Continued higher operations tempo. Fellowship among military Christian individuals and families is increasingly fractured while deployed fellowship thrives. Strengthen ministry at home by training/raising up ministry leaders who can reproduce themselves within OCF. Support military chaplains: local fellowships, conference centers, church community partnerships.

**Nominated by:** Lcdr Douglas Baillie, USN; COL Richard Goldsmith, USA (Ret.) MAJ John Hoyman, USAR; Col William Hudspeth, USAF (Ret.); MAJ Thomas Matelski, USA; Lt Col Luis Morales, USAF; COL R. Michael Tesdahl, USA (Ret.)

**Council member accepts position as Fort Hood OCF staff member**

OCF member and current council vice president COL Aaron Zook, USA (Ret.), and his wife, Joyce, were recently selected as OCF field staff representatives at Fort Hood, Texas.

COL Zook has served OCF in many capacities—including OCF Council, Bible study leader and area coordinator, while stationed in various locations including Hawaii, Germany, and Alabama.

A graduate of Penn State University with a bachelor’s degree in music education, COL Zook has a MBA from Tarleton State University and a Master’s in Strategic Studies from the U.S. Army War College. Joyce served as president of Protestant Women of the Chapel in Europe, and enjoys helping and coaching women as they apply biblical principles in their daily lives.

The Lord has graciously paved the way to make this happen. However, we ask for continued prayers as Aaron and Joyce sell their home and make preparations to move to the Fort Hood area! They will have oversight of an OCF presence at active duty and ROTC units/installations at Fort Hood and in South Texas.



**Living Generously**

**Standing Up To The Test**

by *Dave Rowland,*  
*OCF Director of Resource Development*



**O**ne reward of my position is seeing folks grow in generosity toward God and expressing that in cheerful giving. That life change is always thrilling to see.

When we give we also need the wisdom of a wise steward. Do you remember the Bible’s caution about testing? *Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world (1 John 4:1).*

We test spirits because we can be fooled by false teaching or charismatic speakers. I want to share some thoughts about testing something else—ministries that ask for your support—including OCF.

We used to think anyone “doing the Lord’s work” was good. Then came scams like New Era, a foundation that swindled millions from good ministries in a Ponzi-type scheme. Dozens of televangelists and other “professional” Christians got involved in everything from immorality to outright fraud.

So how do we “test” to avoid these traps? First we must **pray**, asking God for wisdom. Then check the group’s **mission**. Seems obvious, but some folks don’t really know what a particular ministry does. Is it a valid mission that is worthy of your support? Is the group still pursuing that mission? You must understand what you are supporting.

Next look at the group’s **programs**. Do they contribute to accomplishing the mission? You’d be surprised to find that isn’t always the case. Sometimes “pet” projects are started and somehow get a life of their own. Before you know it, they’re consuming significant resources.

Then check the ministry’s **financials**. These are not as much a measure of success as they are an indicator of how ministry is conducted. Is there lots of debt? If so, is that debt needed for building projects or similar things? What percent of income is spent on administration and fundraising? You can find this information easily. Most ministries file Form 990 with the IRS annually. It can be accessed through the IRS or other places like the organization’s website. OCF’s is available at:

<http://www.ocfusa.org/about/finance>

Finally, look for **references**. That could be your friend who has supported the group for years, your church’s missions committee, or a charity watchdog like Guidestar or Charity Navigator. (Be careful—each operates differently.)

The best independent reference is the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability—the “gold standard” among Christian non-profits, and OCF is a Charter Member. OCF is also listed with newcomer Intelligent Philanthropy. You’ll find the ECFA and IP seals on our website.

As you develop your giving strategy, **pray**, including for the groups you want to support.

Then **test**. If you do both, you’ll likely remain a cheerful giver.

Front cover photo: Sideboys render a salute to Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus aboard the aircraft carrier *USS John C. Stennis*. U.S. Navy photo by Petty Officer 3rd Class Crishanda K. McCall



## NAS Whidbey Island, Washington



LCDR Mike Thompson, USN, one of the NAS Whidbey Island OCF leaders, hoists the Lombardi Trophy while sporting some of the diamond-encrusted rings of the Super Bowl champion Green Bay Packers. Several Packers were aboard the *USS Carl Vinson* when Thompson returned from a combat mission flight.

## Pensacola, Florida

Exemplifying OCF's quest to "glorify God by uniting Christian officers for biblical fellowship and outreach," the Pensacola OCF group gathered for Wednesday night Bible study at OCF staff reps Mike and Arden Patterson's home.



## Fort Hood, Texas OCF

The season of fellowship lasted less than a year, but it was sweet—With every one of the active duty members deploying or moving, the Fort Hood/Harker Heights OCF met for one last time of fellowship and prayer before heading out to new assignments.

## University of Central Florida

U of Central Florida OCF, led by (right) LTC Kevin and Dorothy Pilgrim, USA (Ret.), took advantage of a warm, sunny day to take in a baseball game between the Atlanta Braves and St. Louis Cardinals.



## Bolivia 13th Regional South American Conference of Military and National Police

Bob and Bille Jean Reifsnnyder, OCF members who serve as South American regional staff for ACCTS, participated in this conference in Cochabamba, Bolivia.

Left: Bob (center right) with AMCF President, General Lee, Pil Sup, South Korean Army (Ret.) at his right.

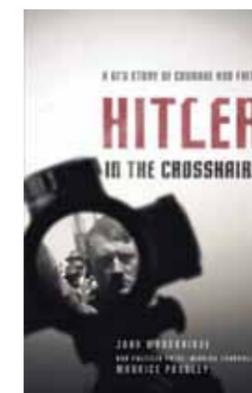
## Book Note

### A GI's Story of Courage and Faith Hitler in the Crosshairs

Love letters, an Illinois pawnshop gun, Adolf Hitler and a future OCF leader—what appears as an unlikely composite for a book has been fleshed out in a true-life adventure story, *Hitler in the Crosshairs: A GI's Story of Courage and Faith*, published by Zondervan.

Written by John Woodbridge, PhD, and Pulitzer Prize winning reporter Maurice Possley, it chronicles the story of early OCF member and key leader, COL Ira A. "Teen" Palm, USA, on a secret assignment that took him directly in the Fuehrer's Munich compound.

Stay tuned for an excerpt from the book in an upcoming issue of COMMAND.



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## Births

**Micah Bacon**, born 7 April 2011, son of LT Jonathan and Michelle Bacon, USN, Oak Harbor, WA.

**Kenzie Elizabeth Balog**, born 30 January 2011, daughter of CPT Todd and Rachel Balog, USA, Fort Lewis, WA.

**Ellie Kathryn Chandler**, born 15 June 2011, daughter of Dailey and Katie Chandler, Manns Choice, PA.

**Henry Blake Dillon**, born 15 February 2011, son of LT Ryan Dillon and Janneh Dillon, USN, Lemoore, CA.

**Hudson William Olmstead**, born 14 January 2011, son of Capt Roland and Jill Olmstead, USAF, Pope AFB, NC.

## Weddings

**Julia Brown** married LTJG Michael G. Chandler, USCGR, 19 February 2011. Their home is Washington, DC.

**2LT Luke Keller, USA**, married **2LT Ashley Morgan, USA**, 10 October 2010. Their home is Raeford, NC.

**2ndLt Rachael Nutting, USAF**, married **2ndLt Alex Nutting, USAF**, 31 December 2010. Their home is Oak Harbor, WA.

**LT Stacy Pommerenck, USCG**, married **Clay Rogers**, 11 December 2010. Their home is Saint Simons Island, GA.

**ENS Aaron Rosa, USN**, married **Lauren Friend**, 29 May 2011. Their home is Annapolis, MD.

## Taps

**COL Harold R. Kennedy, USA (Ret.)**, 4 May 2011, Clermont, FL.

**Nancy Spoede**, 2 March 2011, wife of MAJ Robert M. Spoede, Ph.D, USA (Ret.), College Station, TX, and mother of Paula Halvorson, Manns Choice, PA.

# Spring Canyon Colorado



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