

From Our Council President

Dear Friends,

If I were to ask six different people what OCF is, I might get six different answers. To a cadet at a military academy, OCF is a group of peers that meets weekly to worship and learn about the Lord, led by mature adults who mentor and care for them. To a young officer, OCF is the conference center where he or she is refreshed and challenged through a weekend retreat or a summer program. To an officer going through a training center at Fort Leavenworth (or Maxwell or Quantico), OCF is a home Bible study group that welcomes military families and then sends them to their new post as stronger Christians. To the spouse of a deployed service man or woman, OCF is the new book *Thriving Not Just Surviving* that provides strength during a difficult time. To a military couple struggling with their marriage and family, OCF is a Spiritually Smart Family Conference that helps them begin to communicate again. To a service man or woman serving on an overseas deployment, OCF is the group that meets during their free time for prayer and fellowship. To me, OCF is an excellent military ministry that exists to help its members know Christ Jesus and make Him known.

The vast majority of OCF's ministry is accomplished by volunteers who have a heart for the Lord and want to see Him transform the lives of those in the military. The OCF ministry is made possible through your participation in OCF groups, your volunteer hours, your donations, and your prayer support. And with over 500 groups meeting regularly, that's a lot of ministry!

Yes, OCF has some great staff representatives who are carrying on powerful work in the field—encouraging and training volunteer leaders. And we have a small, accomplished staff in the Denver area—handling the everyday work of finances, publications, and member services. But these few are not primarily OCF. *You are OCF!* The staff of OCF—and the volunteers who serve on the council—are honored to work alongside *you* to make the OCF ministry happen.



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

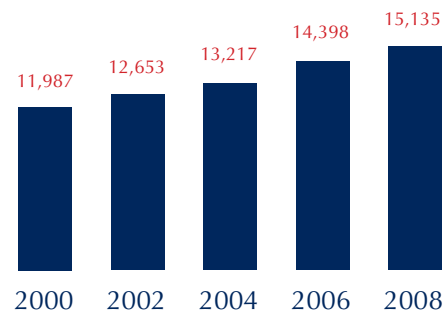
Who is OCF?

The Officers' Christian Fellowship (OCF) of the U.S.A. was formed in 1943, in the midst of World War II. God has used OCF powerfully for His purposes ever since, in peace and in war. Today we are Christians from all branches of the U.S. Armed Forces who are united by our faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. We are committed to living out our faith in the military society.

OCF members and their families form local fellowships on military installations, in neighborhoods, at academies and ROTC detachments, on board Navy and Coast Guard vessels, and while deployed on operations and exercises. These fellowships help participants grow in their love for God, integrate that love into their personal lives, discover God's direction, follow that direction, and glorify God in all that they do.

Purpose: To glorify God by uniting Christian officers for biblical fellowship and outreach, equipping and encouraging them to minister effectively in the military society

OCF Membership Growth



CFC #10531
OCF is a 501(c)3 non-profit
3784 S. Inca St.
Englewood CO 80110
800-424-1984
www.ocfusa.org



2008 Annual Report

Officers' Christian Fellowship

Building Christian

Leaders...

Families...

Fellowships



From Our Executive Director

Dear friends,

The year 2008 was another year in which OCF was blessed to be able to proclaim the gospel of Christ more widely within the Armed Forces and to provide strong support for the families of our deployed troops.

While our operating budget has grown slowly, we have made steady progress in the capital campaign which will enable the expansion and improvement of the reach and impact of the ministry at our two family conference centers. These two locations, one in Colorado and one in Pennsylvania, have become ever more important as military families return from deployments and desperately need to reunite and relax in a fun, nurturing, Christian environment. The staff at these conference centers has done a magnificent job of serving and ministering while coping with aging facilities.

"I look upon the spiritual life of the soldier as even more important than his physical equipment... the soldier's heart, the soldier's spirit, the soldier's soul are everything."

—General George C. Marshall
Former Chief of Staff of the Army, Secretary of State, and the third Secretary of Defense

The heartbeat of OCF remains strong in the hundreds of Bible study groups organized and led by our members wherever the military resides—in the USA, deployed in a war zone, or elsewhere. The mutual support and outreach that happens in these small groups changes people's lives and enables them to cope with the stresses of family separations, moral temptations, and cultural challenges. May God richly bless each Soldier, Sailor, Airman, Marine, Coast Guardsman, and each military family.

Standing on the Rock,

Bruce L. Fister
Lieutenant General, USAF, Retired
OCF Executive Director



2008 Overview of Your OCF Ministry

Building Christian Leaders...

We are Christian officers teaching and learning to be ambassadors for Christ in the military.

- ★ Over 15,000 members including active duty officers, spouses, and retirees
- ★ Staff Representatives located at the military academies, education centers, and larger military population centers
- ★ Partnership with Valor to reach ROTC cadets in colleges across the country



Families...

We are military families growing together in Christ and sometimes having to cope with the absence of a loved one.

- ★ The Spiritually Smart Family Conferences and the Heroes on the Homefront program minister directly to families coping with military stresses.
- ★ Our two Christian conference centers support the ministry of our many fellowship groups and provide rest, recuperation, and spiritual comfort, as well as active fun for all family members.
- ★ Our many neighborhood Bible study groups enable individuals and families to grow, bond, and support each other.
- ★ Our new book, *Thriving Not Just Surviving*, shares deployment perspectives for today's military families.



Fellowships

We are Bible study fellowships that meet in homes, chapels, and the workplace to encourage and equip each other.

- ★ Over 500 fellowship groups meet weekly wherever the military is stationed for prayer, Bible study, and Christian support.
- ★ Many new fellowships in Iraq and Afghanistan



"As ambassadors to the military, our professional excellence is witnessed in our lifestyle, our words, our social awareness, our relationships, and the strength of our commitments."

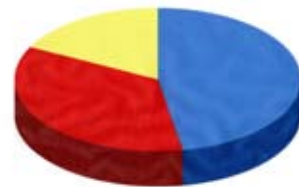
—Colonel R. Michael Tesdahl, USA (Ret.),
OCF Director of Operations

OCF Council

LtCol Anthony D. Abernathy, USAF
 MG James A. Coggin, USA (Ret.)
 LCDR Josh E. Dittmar, USN
 Col Philip J. Exner, USMC (Ret.)
 CH(LTC) Marc S. Gauthier, USA
 MAJ Bryan N. Groves, USA
 Col Clifford Henning Jr., USAF (Ret.)
 MAJ John A. Hoyman, USAR
 LTC James B. Karr, USA (Ret.)
 LTC Hunt Kerrigan, ARNG
 LtCol Scott Nowlin, USAF
 MAJ Jonathan A. Shine, USA
 LTJG Sarah L. Smith, USCG
 MajGen Melvin G. Spiese, USMC
 Capt Timothy R. Strabbing, USMC
 CDR Robert J. Turner, USN
 COL V. Phil Visser, USA
 LT Christopher L. Wallace, USN
 LtCol G. Houston Waring V, USAF
 COL Eric J. Wesley, USA
 COL Aaron M. Zook Jr., USA

Finances

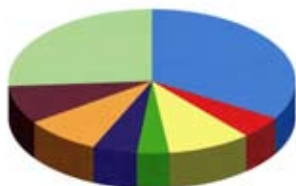
From 01 JAN—31 DEC 2008



Total Revenue \$5,030,522

- 47.1% Contributions
- 35.4% Capital Campaign
- 17.5% Revenue
 - 11.5% Conference Centers
 - 0.3% Regional Ministries
 - 5.7% Other

Total Expenses \$3,334,077



- 26.1% Conference Centers
- 8.7% Academies & ROTC
- 8.4% Field Ministries
- 5.1% Publications
- 3.7% Education Centers
- 9.2% Administration
- 5.0% Fundraising
- 33.7% Change in Net Assets



Growing & Building Campaign



After reviewing the progress of both fundraising and construction planning, the Capital Campaign Executive Committee is excited to endorse moving ahead with the Heritage House project. It is felt that we have sufficient funds to go forward with the major design work and ultimately begin construction.

With eighty-seven percent of the required funds pledged or on hand, and with participation by over ten percent of the membership, we are confident that the Lord will provide the remaining funds and hopeful that more members will join the effort. We estimate that it will take just under two years to complete the design and construction of Heritage House.

With the donation of a large gift specified for the Hemingway Operations Complex at Spring Canyon, that project is underway. Elements of it are complete prior to the 2009 camping season.

