



**The Washington Department
of Fish and Wildlife**
and
The Washington State Patrol



Police Chaplaincy
Senior Chaplain Mike Neil

November 2012

Connection

*Thank you for your patience.
This has been a wild year.*

Our new foundation is called:

The Washington State Troopers and Fish and Wildlife Police Care Foundation.

Confidential - Our chaplains are ordained or licensed ministers, and in all conversations, they cannot be forced to disclose the content of privileged communication in a court of law.

Accountable - By their faith our chaplains answer to a higher power and thus try to live by their faith in Him.

Reliable - The Chaplain Program has a commitment to encourage the development of lasting relationships with employees that they can come to trust in and rely on for personal counseling and family care needs.

Essential - In times of crisis, both with the public and with all department employees and their families, the chaplain is an essential part of maintaining an even keel throughout a persons career. They are also there to help commissioned personnel in the difficulties of dealing with the public who are victims of tragedy. The chaplain plays an essential role when making a next-of-kin notification.



In addition to the important acronym the word **CARE** represents, not only does it say that we care for our employees, but through the support of this chaplaincy is a way that you can reach out and care for the public in their tragic time of need.

All this said, I want to extend my thanks to the Washington State Troopers Association, the Washington Game Wardens Association, and the WSP Senior Managers Association for stepping in and paying the \$850 filing fee required to register the foundation with the IRS as a 501(c)3.

2012 started out quickly for this chaplaincy on January 1st with the murder of U.S. Park Ranger Margaret Anderson



at Mount Rainier. Ranger Anderson set up a traffic block to intercept a vehicle that failed to stop at a chain-up checkpoint in the park just past Longmire. Just below Paradise the driver of the vehicle stopped, exited the sedan, and opened fire with an assault rifle, killing her, then fleeing on foot into the woods. He was found dead of exposure the following morning. Margaret, age 34, worked at Mount Rainier for 3 years. She was a professional and very respected and loved by everyone on the mountain. She is survived by her husband Eric, who was also a Mount Rainier Park Ranger, and their two young children. Margaret is credited with putting herself

between a murderer and over a hundred visitors on the sledding slopes at Paradise. Your Senior Chaplain was on the scene shortly after this tragedy occurred, working with a Critical Incident Team led by Chief Ranger Dirk Wiley from Cumberland Gap, Kentucky, to debrief with the employees and Park Rangers and helping them work through the loss of their friend.

Just as the steam began to clear from the Mount Rainier tragedy, the Washington State Patrol (WSP) had their own. It started for me on February 23rd with a 1:30 a.m. phone call from Chief John Batiste.



Trooper Tony Radulescu was shot while making a traffic stop near Port Orchard. He had radioed in his location and the pickup truck's license plate to dispatchers. When they were unable to make radio contact, they sent a deputy to check on him, and he discovered him lying wounded by his patrol car. Tony was transported to Tacoma where he was pronounced dead at the hospital. The vehicle was found abandoned approximately three hours later, and when officers approached the registered owner's home, the suspect committed suicide.

Trooper Tony, as everyone knew him, was 44 years-old and a U.S. Army veteran. He had served with the WSP for 16 years and is survived by his son Erik, and Tony's beloved girlfriend, Gina Miller.



On June 21st, NPS Climbing Ranger Nick Hall fell 2,500 feet to his death down the face of the Emmons Glacier on Mount Rainier. He was involved in a rescue attempt of four climbers that had fallen into a crevasse on the glacier and they were working under the wash of a helicopter in high winds. Hall did not respond to attempts to contact him and his GPS locator was stationary after the fall. Climbing rangers assisting in the rescue of the four climbers were able to reach Nick several hours later and found that he was deceased.

I met with the family and worked with park employees who I had come to know during the Margaret Anderson tragedy, and was asked by the family to conduct the memorial service at the Paradise Visitor Center the following week.

These two deaths at Mt. Rainier were in sharp contrast to each other. Margaret was taken on January 1st, nearly the shortest day of the year, and Nick left on June 21st, the longest day of the year. One a murder, which is something no-one could have imagined in Paradise, and one the result of natural events that everyone understands and prepares for. In this situation Nick was there to teach others about the dangers and to help rescue them when they got in trouble. All three, Margaret, Tony, and Nick gave their lives trying to help and protect others.

On September 4th a Fish and Wildlife co-worker, Steve Quinnell, collapsed at his desk in Olympia. Surrounding staff called 911 and stayed with Steve until the EMTs arrived. He underwent emergency open-heart surgery at St. Peter's Hospital, but unfortunately did not survive the surgery. Steve's brother Jeff, mother, and sister were at the hospital during the surgery. Steve had been with the agency for over 30 years and worked as a biologist for the past 20 years in the Marine Resources Division on our Puget Sound Ecosystem Monitoring Program (PSEMP). Steve was a skilled field biologist who knew how to implement complicated and logistically challenging studies in Puget Sound, often under difficult conditions. Steve was an active member of his church, and his consistent good nature and optimism were an

inspiration to all. I participated in a debriefing with his co-workers with the Employee Assistance Program in Olympia, and it was a pleasure to hear about Steve and his life, and to comfort his co-workers.

King 5 News did a remarkable piece on our Chaplain Program last April. They highlighted both the Washington State Patrol and the Department of Fish & Wildlife Police and explained why officers were in need of a chaplain. Here is a link to the video, or a simple Google search for: **king5 states chaplain tested** will get you there.

<http://www.king5.com/news/local/States-chaplain-program-helps-troopers-Fish-and-Wildlife-officers-146746305.html>

This joint program is also highlighted in a video produced by the WSP posted on YouTube.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AsPljPYNuSc>

There has been a lot of effort put forth in recruiting chaplains around the state. In addition to Frank Gillock in Pacific County and Ken Bailey in Kitsap, we have added ten new chaplains bringing the total to twelve.



Ginger (Mama) Passarelli hosted a dinner for our new chaplains to get acquainted in August at her restaurant in Black Diamond. Pictured here from left to right are Chaplains Rick Karjalainen (Island County), Ginger Passarelli (Black Diamond/King County), Thom Hawkins (Elma/Grays Harbor), Retired WSP Detective Darrell Russell (Burien/King County), Pat Ward (Mukilteo/Snohomish County), Frank Gillock (Ocean Park/Pacific County), Senior Chaplain Mike Neil, Ken Bailey (Poulsbo/Kitsap), Mike Boisture (Puyallup/Pierce County), Mark Hoeffner (White Salmon/Skamania County), and Dwayne Smithgall (Ellensburg/Kittitas County).

Not pictured and unable to make our dinner were Chaplains Tim Snyder (Royal City) and Flip Eland (Longview).

Chaplain Ken Bailey serving in Kitsap County has been married to his wife Bobbie for 48 years. He has been a chaplain in Kitsap County since 2007 serving Poulsbo Fire and Police and the Kitsap County Sheriff's Department. Ken has been an ordained pastor since 2004 and is a graduate of the Chaplain Police and Fire Academy in 2007. Bobbie is a Fire Chaplain in Poulsbo and they often go on calls together. They have four grown children and four grandchildren.

Chaplain Mike Boisture serving in Pierce County lives in Puyallup. Mike has been a chaplain for five years working with Central Pierce Fire & Rescue and for the last four years for Puyallup Police. He and his wife Debbie have been married for 40 years. Mike works on staff at the Puyallup Nazarene Church taking care of their finances and pastoral care. Mike and Debbie love to cruise on their time off in their 63 foot boat on Puget Sound. They have four children and six grandchildren.

Chaplain Frank Gillock and his wife Beverly will celebrate 35 years of marriage in November. Their children are all grown and they have six grandchildren. In January they are expecting a great-grandchild. Their son Daryl lives with his family in Kenosha, WI, son Ron and his family live in Vancouver, WA and daughter Julie and her family live in Milwaukie, OR. Their oldest son Cary went to be with the Lord in 1984 as the result of an accident. Frank began his chaplain experience in 2004 with the Coast Guard when he earned a Masters in Chaplaincy at Liberty Seminary. He began serving the WSP in 2008 and is the Associate Pastor at Peninsula Baptist Church in Ocean Park.

Chaplain Tom Hawkins is retired and serves as a Deacon in the Catholic Church. He has been a long time chaplain working with the McCleary Fire Department. He and his wife Sadie live in McCleary and have been married for 45 years. They have two daughters and five grandchildren, age 21 to 7 years-old. Sadie retired from the Office of Fiscal Management as the Senior Assistant Director in Olympia, and their daughter Julie is a WSP Trooper and K9 handler. Tom graduated this month from the Fire and Police Chaplain Training Academy in Burien where he was elected president of his class. Sadie attended with Tom and graduated, and she is hoping to become a chaplain as well.

Chaplain Mark Hoeffner has been married to his wife Janell for 34 years. Mark has a long history of pastoring CB (Conservative Baptist) churches after graduating from Western Conservative Baptist Seminary. He is currently the Executive Director of CB Northwest, the regional office covering Oregon, Idaho, Washington, and Alaska. Their offices are located in Portland, Oregon. Mark and his wife have one biological daughter and have adopted six special needs kids. Mark is currently the Teaching Elder at Grace Church in White Salmon along with his role at CB Northwest.

Chaplain Ginger Passarelli has been a chaplain since 2006 and serves with the Black Diamond Police Department. She started a ministry called *the Soup Ladies*. This is a group of dedicated volunteers who respond to tragedies and feed first responders. Ginger and her husband Harvey have been married ten years and have five children and five grandchildren. Ginger and Harvey own an Italian restaurant in Black Diamond. Mama Passarelli's is open Thursday to Saturday at 4 p.m. and is a great destination and wonderful and quaint place to eat. Visit their website at <http://www.mamapassarelli.com/index.php>.

Chaplain Darryl Russell retired as a WSP Detective in 2001 and is now with King County Metro Transit as a Safety & Health Administrator. Darryl is an Ordained Minister and brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to our Chaplain Program. He and his wife Dolores have been married for 19 years, and she is a certified counselor. The Russell's have five children and 11 grandchildren. Darryl graduated from the Police and Fire Chaplain Training Academy last May.

Chaplain Dwayne Smithgall has been the associate pastor at the Mercer Creek Church (of the Christian and Missionary Alliance) in Ellensburg for the past 16 years. He and his wife Shelise have been married for 18 years and they have two children: Lannea who is 11 years-old and Curtis who is nine. Dwayne is a Reserve Ellensburg Police Officer and serves as a school police officer one day a week. He is very excited to have now been called as a police chaplain with our program and just this month graduated from the Chaplain Fire and Police Training Academy in Burien.

Chaplain Tim Snyder is the senior pastor of the Royal City Church of the Nazarene and works full time for the Washington State Department of Corrections as a chaplain. Tim and his wife Sena have been married for 27 years. They have three children: one is in college, and two with special needs are still in high school. Tim graduated with a Bachelor of Arts from Northwest Nazarene University in 1984 and received his Masters of Divinity from Nazarene Theological Seminary 1991. Tim has been a volunteer chaplain with the Royal City Police Department since 1997.

Chaplain Pat Ward is licensed with the Foursquare Church and is a graduate of the Chaplain Academy. She has volunteered with Mukilteo Fire and Police and Lake Stevens Fire since 2006 after her husband passed away. Her son, Jon Ward, his wife Laura, four-year-old grandson August, and six-year-old Tessa live in Ellensburg. Jon teaches film-making at the U of W Ellensburg campus where he took his master's degree this year. Pat is very excited to be a part of this program.

Chaplain Flip Eiland has served with Cowlitz County Police, Fire & EMS Chaplaincy since 2008 and is a graduate of the Police & Fire Chaplain Training Academy. He and his wife Crystal have been married for 40 years. They have a son and daughter who also live in Longview. Their son Jason is a police officer for the City of Ridgefield. They have two grandchildren: Jessie, a freshman at WSU, and Alex, a freshman in high school. Flip was ordained as a Southern Baptist Minister in 1985 and has served as a bi-vocational pastor in both California and Washington. He has been an active member of Cowlitz County Search & Rescue since 2003 and is a Chaplain/EMT at Fire District 6 in Castle Rock. Flip works full time at the Georgia Pacific, Wauna Mill in Oregon.

Chaplain Rick Karjalainen has been married to his wife Debi for 38 years. He has been the senior pastor of Coupeville Community Bible Church for the last 10 years. He is the supervising chaplain for the Island County Sheriff's Office where they have eight volunteer chaplains in the county covering all the first responders and the county jail. Rick and Debi have four grown, married children and have been blessed with 11 grandchildren. One of their sons is a Professional Firefighter/Paramedic/Arson Investigator for the Port Angeles Fire Department. Rick spent 10 years as a Professional Firefighter and Fire Marshal.

As you are probably well aware, the state is not able to provide any wages, benefits, or stipends to support this program. This has turned into a full-time job and without your support it would be very difficult to continue. Because you have the ability to give...I am able to serve.

If you would like to support our program go to: <http://mdneil.com/donate/> for more information. Or you can contact Senior Chaplain Mike Neil.

The Washington State Troopers and Fish & Wildlife Police Care Foundation



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It is a privilege to serve you.
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