



Reflections

From the D13 Chaplain ~ June, 2017



FLAGS & FATHERS



About a decade ago, I watched a movie that left a great impression on me. It was directed by Clint Eastwood and called, "Flags of our Fathers" about the tremendous sacrifices made for our country and our flag that symbolizes what we stand for in this great nation. Next week, we will have the opportunity to celebrate both! As I grow older, I suppose it has an even greater meaning to me as I am ever reminded of the tremendous impact our good fathers have had on our personal lives and the most wonderful nation we enjoy. Our fathers, grandfathers and forefathers have all done something for us that if we are not careful, can easily slip into a fading chasm of ignorance at best and indifference at worse. It can happen because we were not there to suffer what they went through to protect our great flag of the United States of America. But what is that? Yes, for sure a unique piece of cloth sewn with many white stars on a background of blue ... many red and white stripes, making it into what we see today; but honestly, it is what it represents that makes it so special. It is not just a piece of material or even just a flag; it represents a belief of so many who have gone before us. They, like many of us serving today, believed that there are certain things worth fighting for, especially when those things are in jeopardy or threatened by those who do not hold the same precious values. Love, safety, freedom ... a way of life that gives each and every person of this great country the grand endeavor to strive for a chance at life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness! I still remember visiting another country one time in the Pacific where a small boy asked me to draw something. You know what it was? It was our United States flag! When I looked deeply into his eyes, it wasn't really the art that he was looking for ... it was the desire to have what we have. It was a desire for freedom! Shipmates and families, may we always appreciate what our flag stands for and the incredible fathers who have given so much to make it a reality. May God bless you all on our upcoming holidays ... Happy Flag Day and Happy Father's Day!

Food 4 Thought: *"Our flag means all that our fathers meant in the Revolutionary War. It means all that the Declaration of Independence meant. It means justice. It means liberty. It means happiness.... Every color means liberty. Every thread means liberty. Every star and stripe means liberty."* —Henry Ward Beecher

A Second Helping: *"He didn't tell me how to live; he lived, and let me watch him do it."* —Clarence Budington Kelland

Dessert with a Smile: *"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."* —The United States Pledge of Allegiance

D13 RESOURCES & OPPORTUNITIES

DISTRICT THIRTEEN Chaplains ... ***Always Ready***  ***Called to Serve***



LCDR Bill Stewart, Seattle, WA ~ William.M.Stewart@uscg.mil
Office: (206) 217-6995 Cell: (206) 850-3426

LT Tony Stallings, Astoria, OR ~ Anthony.D.Stallings@uscg.mil
Office: (503) 861-6225 Cell: (503) 791-3733



All communication with chaplains is strictly confidential!

Ripples



Would you like a Christian based inspirational writing each month from us chaplains? If so, please sign up for our email distribution at William.M.Stewart@uscg.mil and we'll get you on the list!



safeTALK

Suicide alertness training can be offered by your D13 Chaplains – Get a group of 10 or more together and we'll come to you and teach it ... it's an incredible training to help our fellow Shipmates stay safe! All materials provided free!

Upcoming CREDO Northwest Events These Events are Incredible ... and FREE!

Registration is required for all events!

Call 360-476-3793 or email: CREDO@navy.mil

They fill up fast so register now!

Like them on Facebook.com/CREDO.Northwest for event updates



Marriage Enrichment Retreats: JUL 14-16; AUG 4-6; SEP 8-10 (at Semiahmoo Resort in Blaine, WA)

Marriage Enrichment Workshop: AUG 26 @ Naval Base Kitsap (Bangor Plaza)

Family Enrichment Retreats: All Full, however you can call to be put on the standby list

Personal Resiliency Workshop: AUG 23 @ Naval Station Everett, Jim Creek Recreational Facility

ASIST 2-Day Suicide Intervention Workshops: JUN 27-28 @ Naval Base Kitsap (Bangor); JUL 18-19 @ NAS Whidbey Island; SEP 20-21 @ Naval Station Everett (Smokey Point)

safeTALK Suicide Prevention Awareness: safeTALK classes are regularly taught by CREDO at Naval Base Kitsap in Bremerton, Naval Air Station Whidbey Island and Naval Station Everett at the Smokey Point Chapel. Call for dates, more information or to sign up.

Care and Emergency Resources

HSWL (Health, Safety and Work/Life) Seattle – 1-800-872-4957 ext. 313

Coast Guard CG Support – 1-855-CGSUPRT (247-8778) ~ www.CGSUPRT.com

American Red Cross for Military – 1-877-272-7337

EMERGENCY – Please dial 911 immediately if you feel there is a life or death situation!

